HISTORY

OF THE

CITY OF EVANSVILLE

AND

VANDERBURG COUNTY

INDIANA

By FRANK M. GILBERT

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Samuel Cox

BIOGRAPHICAL

SAMUEL ORR.

While Samuel Orr was one of the most successful business men of Evansville, his attention being given to the management of projects which constitute important elements in the material progress of the city. There were other phases in his life as pronounced as his business ability. He was well known for a benevolent spirit that found joy in generous giving and many an individual and public project benefited by his liberality. While twenty-eight years have come and gone since he was called to his final rest, he is yet remembered for the good which he did and for the beneficial effect of his life upon the development of the city.

He was born in Newtownards in County Down, Ireland, in the year 1810, and acquired his education in the schools of that country. After attaining man's estate, he wedded Miss Martha Lowry, also a native of the Emerald isle, and in 1833, with his young wife, he came to America, landing at Baltimore. From that city they proceeded to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where Mr. Orr obtained employment in a store. His financial resources were very limited but he possessed strong determination and his ability, integrity and industry soon attracted the attention of Messrs. James and Alexander Laughlin of Pittsburg, who in 1835 induced him to come to Evansville as their representative. Here he established a pork packing and general merchandise business, which from the beginning proved profitable. In 1836 he was admitted to a partnershinp and for many years was associated with the Messrs. Laughlin in the conduct of a wholesale grocery business and also in the iron trade. In 1855 the two interests were separated and in the grocery department Mr. Orr's son, James L. Orr, and Matthew Dalzell were admitted to a partnership under the firm style of Orr, Dalzell & Company, under which name the business was transacted successfully until the outbreak of the Civil war. The iron business was carried on under the name of Samuel Orr until 1866, when he was joined by James Davidson and James L. Orr, under the firm style

of Samuel Orr & Company, which was continued until the death of the senior partner in 1882. The business was then continued by James L. Orr, Edward H. Mann and Ben H. Griffith, under the style of Orr, Griffith & Company. On the 1st of January, 1900, Mr. Griffith retired from the firm and from that time until the present the business has been carried on under the style of the Orr Iron Company, consisting of James L. Orr, Edward H. Mann and Samuel L. Orr, the last named being son of the senior partner, Under capable management was developed one of the oldest and largest iron houses in the west. The business grew in volume and importance being based upon the most substantial commercial principles.

Mr. Orr possessed a genius for organization and his initiative spirit and untiring energy found scope in the establishment and conduct of business interests which have been of the utmost benefit to Evansville. As the years passed the trade relations of his two interests reached out over a broad field and brought back rich returns. Moreover, the imprint of Mr. Orr's individuality is found on nearly all of the great enterprises of the city. He was one of the incorporators of the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad, early recognizing the necessity and value for rapid transportation as a factor in business activity. Moreover, his name became a prominent and honored one in banking circles. He was one of the promoters of the Evansville branch of the Bank of the State of Indiana, was one of the original directors of the Evansville National Bank, presiding as its chief executive officer until his death.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Orr passed away in 1882, the former on the 8th of February and the latter on the 9th of October. In their family were three children but only one is now living: James L. Orr, who is his father's successor in business and one of the most prominent residents of Evansville.

The parents held membership in the Walnut Street Presbyterian church and following their death one of the appropriate memorials erected by their children to commemorate their lives and work was the beautiful parsonage of the church in which they worshipped. For a quarter of a century Mr. Orr served as one of the elders of the church and not only gave liberally to its support but also labored with hand and heart for its spiritual and temporal welfare. It was largely through his instrumentality that the church indebtedness was lifted about two weeks before his death. For many years he was a trustee of Wabash College, to which he left a bequest in aid of the library.

Mr. Orr was, moreover, a man of most philanthropic spirit and as he prospered gave generously of his means for the benefit of others. His life was never self-centered but reached out into the broader fields where the general interests of society were involved and where progress and advancement are stimulated. He never regarded business as the sole aim of life but rather as but one phase of existence and as he prospered he made generous division of his success that others might enjoy with him the fruits

of his labor. His generosity was never prompted by a sense of duty but rather by a deep interest in his fellowmen and it was ever a pleasure to him to assist the unfortunate and the needy. His word was accepted with absolute confidence and reliance. Truth and honor were so clearly disclosed in his daily transactions that no man doubted the one or assailed the other. One of his biographers has said of him: "In many humble homes widows and orphans who had for years enjoyed his benefactions mourned the loss of a loving friend when he was called to his final rest. Into his large heart he took the children and all suffering ones. Much they missed the sunny smile and welcome gift that always marked his coming. In spirit he stooped to the lowliest and bound to his loving nature all classes up to the highest."

FLETCHER M. DURBIN.

The spirit of progress has been dominant in no field to a greater extent than in the development of transportation facilities. In this era of rapid living time is considered money and there is on the part of the public a demand for rapid transit and well organized railway service. Into this field of business Fletcher M. Durbin has directed his efforts and since 1907 has been manager of the city and interurban railway lines of Evansville, giving careful supervision to each detail of the business and studying the possibilities for improving the service. His work in this connection has been of value not only to the company which he represents but to the general public as well.

A native of Anderson, Indiana, he was born April 25, 1879, and is the only child of Winfield T. and Bertha (McCullough) Durbin, residents of Indianapolis, where the father is conducting manufacturing interests.

Fletcher M. Durbin was educated in public and private schools. He supplemented his early opportunities by a course of study in Williams College from which he was graduated in 1902. Since that time he has been continuously connected with street and interurban railway interests. For five years he was connected with the railway lines of Indianapolis, winning promotion as his experience and ability fittted him for advancement. When he severed his connection with the company he was assistant superintendent. In 1907 he came to Evansville as general manager for the city and interurban lines and has since occupied that position, in which connection he has done much for the improvement of the service, his efforts being followed by practical results. He is also secretary of the Indianapolis & Cincinnati Traction Company, nor is he unknown in financial circles, being a director of the Mercantile National Bank of Evansville and also of the Citizens State Bank of Anderson, Indiana.

Mr. Durbin, still in his teens, at the outbreak of the Spanish-American war enlisted for service in the One Hundred and Sixty-first Indiana In-

fantry and became second lieutenant of Company A with which he was engaged on active duty in Cuba. His political support has always been given to the republican party but without desire for office as a reward for party fealty.

On the 20th of November, 1907, Mr. Durbin was married to Miss Hazel West, a daughter of M. Thornton West, of Indianapolis, and they now have one child, Elinor. The family residence is at No. 300, Chandler avenue, and there Mr. and Mrs. Durbin extend a hearty welcome to their many friends whom they have gained during the period of their residence in this city. Mr. Dubin in one of the most self-masterful because one of the best balanced of men, not given to extremes and yet not without that contagious enthusiasm which is a promotive element in many public interests.

MADISON J. BRAY, M. D.

Activity in the field of medical science was promoted most largely through the efforts of Dr. Madison J. Bray, a distinguished physician and surgeon and one of the founders of the Evansville Medical College. His creative spirit and his broad investigation were manifest in improved methods of practice, as well as in his contributions to medical literature. He was born in Androscoggin county, Maine, January 1, 1811, a son of Captain William and Ruth (Cushman) Bray. The father commanded a company of cavalry during the war of 1812 and in days of peace devoted his attention to merchandising. While the period of his boyhood may have been a happy one, it was nevertheless a busy one for Dr. Madison J. Bray. He attended the village schools in the winter seasons and in the summer months worked in a carding mill until sixteen years of age, when he began teaching, following the profession for eight years. He regarded this, however, merely as an initial step to other professional labor.

It was his desire to become a physician and while teaching he gave his evening and other leisure hours to the study of medicine. Subsequently he pursued three courses of medical lectures, one at Dartmouth College of New Hampshire and two at Bowdoin College, Maine. He was graduated from the latter institution in 1835 and in the fall of that year left home to establish himself in a field where he believed his professional labors might prove profitable. His objective point was Louisiana but upon arriving at Louisville, Kentucky, he found his funds exhausted and in order to obtain the money necessary to continue his travels he applied for a school. Before he was accepted, however, he overheard a conversation in which Evansville, then a little hamlet, was mentioned. This is but another evidence of the fact that it is ofttimes what seems a trivial incident that changes the entire course of life for an individual.

W. J. Bray, M. D.

Abandoning his former plans Dr. Bray engaged passage on a boat bound for Evansville and on the 25th of November, 1835, arrived in the city. He was practically penniless but he had been well tutored in his chosen profession, possessed energy, determination and courage. Dr. William Trafton was at that time the only physician in all this region and, learning that a young man of the medical profession had arrived, sent for him. That he was impressed with the appearance and ability of the young man is indicated in the fact that he at once proposed a partnership, which was gladly accepted. Dr. Bray therefore entered upon the practice of his profession here and while in earlier years it involved the hardships that come to the pioneer physician, his business grew in volume and importance as time passed on and the country became more thickly settled. For many years he devoted his attention largely to surgery and was recognized as one of the most able and distinguished surgeons of Indiana. He became a prominent member of the State Medical Society and in 1856 was honored with election to the presidency. He was also a member of the Tri-State Medical Society, and wrote for it a history of surgery in Vanderburg and adjoining counties. For years he served as a member of the board of health and at all times he urged the acceptance and utilization of preventive methods. In 1847 he became associated with others in procuring a charter for the Evansville Medical College and in that institution filled the chair of surgery from the organization of the school until the opening of the Civil war.

In 1862 Dr. Bray resigned a large and lucrative practice to aid in the organization of the Sixtieth Regiment of Indiana Infantry, of which he was commissioned surgeon. He went to the front with that command, doing arduous duty upon the fields and in the hospitals in connection with the regiment, but at the end of two years he was obliged to resign because his own health had become undermined. At the close of the war he was appointed surgeon of St. Mary's Hospital in Evansville and following his military experience he was again called to the chair of surgery in the Evansville Medical College and occupied it until his health forced his retirement. He was also surgeon for the Marine Hospital at Evansville under appointment of President Van Buren, from 1847 until the Civil war. Aside from his practice he was known as one of the incorporators of the Canal Bank, now the First National Bank, and his name was ever an honored one upon commercial paper.

In 1838 Dr. Bray was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Johnson, a daughter of Charles and Ann (Tate) Johnson. They became parents of a son and daughter, Madison J. and Elizabeth, but the latter is now deceased.

Such in brief is the life history of one of the most honored among the pioneer settlers of Evansville, who passed away August 25, 1900, in the ninetieth year of his age. The work that he did was not only beneficial to his patients but also for many years constituted a standard for professional

service in Vanderburg county. His ability was pronounced and advancing years chronicled his increasing skill and ability, the result of thorough research, close investigation and broad experience. He was most conscientious in the performance of his professional duties and in fact throughout his entire life carefully fulfilled every obligation that devolved upon him.

JOHN A. REITZ.

The important part which the German element has played in the upbuilding of Evansville is perhaps not thoroughly understood or appreciated, but careful consideration of the history of the city shows that the sons of the fatherland have contributed in large measure to the growth and advancement that has here been achieved. In this connection due recognition should be paid John A. Reitz. What Evansville would have been without his cooperation it is hardly possible to determine. Mastering the lessons of life day by day, his post-graduate work in the school of experience at length placed placed him with the men of eminent ability and he long figured prominently in connection with Evansville and southwestern Indiana, imbuing with his own progressive spirit all of the business interests with which he became associated.

In the town of Dorlar, Prussia, Mr. Reitz was born December 17, 1815, his father, Francis Joseph Reitz, there owning large estates. His ancestors were noted for longevity. His grandmother reached the remarkable old age of one hundred and sixteen years and following her husband's death, when she was eighty-one years of age, she took up the management of the salt manufacturing business which he had established and successfully conducted it for thirty years.

Careful home training imbued John A. Reitz with principles which were manifest throughout his entire life. At the age of twelve years he was sent to Esloh, one of the important educational centers of Prussia, where he pursued his studies for four years under a capable tutor. The next five years were devoted to active work at home, bringing him to the period of his majority. His interest in America was awakened by reports which he had heard and, hoping to enjoy life under republican government and to find opportunities for business advancement on this side the Atlantic, he sailed for the United States. Up to that time no resident of his native village had come to the new world but difficulties vanished before determination and courage and although breaking home ties was unpleasant, he resolutely turned his face toward the land of promise nearly four thousand miles away. All ocean-going vessels were then propelled by sails and on one of these slow-going ships he made his way to Baltimore. However, he still felt that the land of promise was beyond and crossed the Alleghenies with Louisville, Kentucky, as his destination. He was induced to establish

a pottery at Evansville, where clay adapted to the purpose had been discovered. At that early period, in a sparsely settled country, there was little demand for this ware and he had burned only one kiln when he realized that the venture could not be made a paying one. A year was then spent in Louisville, after which he made permanent location in Evansville in 1838, securing a situation in a saw and planing mill owned by Judge Stephens. The plant, however, was soon afterward destroyed by fire and he obtained a position in another sawmill. When a few years had gone by he utilized the capital saved from his earnings in building a sawmill in connection with his half brother. They conducted the business successfully for about a decade, when the brother retired. Soon afterward the mill burned but almost immediately a new mill rose phoenixlike from the ashes. His business grew so that in 1873 the mill was rebuilt and enlarged and in time became one of the most extensive, substantial and profitable manufactories of this city. His sons were admitted to a partnership under the firm style of John A. Reitz & Sons and in the manufacture of hardwood lumber their firm probably exceeded any other in volume of business in the country.

Mr. Reitz's business ability and resources were by no means limited to one field, however, many enterprises being stimulated by his judgment and promoted by his cooperation. In 1857 he formed a partnership with John A. Haney for the purpose of carrying on a foundry business and after twenty-four years' successful operation of that industry the enterprise was profitably sold. Mr. Reitz was also well known in financial circles as one of the organizers of the Crescent City Bank in 1856. His service as director was followed by election to the vice presidency, while afterward he became president and contributed largely toward making this one of the most substantial banking institutions of the state, carrying on business until the passage of the national bank law. It was then succeeded by the Merchants National Bank, of which Mr. Reitz became director. He afterward transferred his interest to the German National Bank and after serving as one of its directors for several years was elected vice president and afterward president, continuing at the head of the institution until his death on the 12th of May, 1891. His activity and success as a manufacturer and banker would alone entitle him to rank with the leading business men of this part of the state, and yet in other fields he attained equal prominence. Transportation facilities were greatly promoted through his cooperation. He became one of the incorporators of the Evansville, Carmi & Paducah road and was president of the company. This is now the St. Louis division of the Louisville & Nashville system. He was for years a director of the Nashville division of the same system from Evansville to Nashville, Tennessee. When the town of Lamasco was incorporated in 1846 he became its chief executive officer and managed its affairs with ability until it was consolidated with Evansville. While president of its board of trustees he was largely instrumental in advancing the interests of the Evansville & Crawfordsville (now the Evansville & Terra Haute) and the Straight Line Rail-

roads. He was associated with Willard Carpenter in the conduct of extensive real-estate enterprises which netted handsome profits.

While preeminently a capable and successful business man, his splendid capacities and powers in this direction were permeated with the leaven of charity, prompting him to the generous division of his wealth with the unfortunate. He indeed deserves to be classed with the philanthropists of Evansville, for he constantly befriended the poor and needy and gave liberally wherever material assistance was needed. As a memorial to his daughter Louise, who died in California a number of years ago, he built a large home for the aged on a site selected for its beauty and pleasant surroundings and presented this to the Little Sisters of the Poor in order to insure the proper care of the inmates. The home provides for about one hundred, nor is admission limited to those of Roman Catholic faith. There is no sectarianism in the home, for the deserving poor who are incapacitated for earning a livelihood are here welcomed and cared for without regard to creed or nationality. While a devout Roman Catholic, his membership being in the church of the Holy Trinity, he also gave freely to Protestant churches. He built at his own expense the church of the Sacred Heart and presented it to the bishop as a place of worship for the Irish Catholics. He was a liberal contributor to the building and maintenance of Evans Hall, dedicated solely to the cause of temperance. The public projects of Evansville instituted for the benefit and upbuilding of the city counted upon and received his endorsement and cooperation. His humanitarianism was broad, his spirit democratic, and the humblest as well as the highest could depend upon his sympathy and his friendship. It is true that he was remarkably successful in business and gained a generous share of the world's goods, yet his prosperity was not due to any fortunate combination of circumstances. Sound judgment—the result of experience and careful consideration—guided him in his business undertakings and he never stopped to grieve over a loss but bent his whole energies to the further accomplishment of his purpose. At times the unscrupulous took advantage of his bounty but he always preferred that several unworthy individuals should receive from him rather than that one should be turned away empty handed who needed aid.

In 1839 Mr. Reitz was married to Miss Gertrude Frisse, whose birthplace was not far from her husband's childhood home. Of their ten children, two have passed away—the daughter Louise, who died in California in 1886, and a son who was drowned in Colorado in 1892. To Mr. Reitz home was the center of his universe, yet he never allowed parental indulgence to interfere with the careful training of his children, knowing that certain lessons of life must eventually be learned. That he instilled into their minds certain principles is evidenced in the fact that the policy which he inaugurated in connection with the manufacturing business has been maintained by those who succeeded him. The relation between himself and his employes was always cordial and sympathetic and though he employed many men, the business was never interrupted by a strike. Mutual confidence was

firmly established there and this condition has always existed, being manifest today under the present management as well as when John A. Reitz was at the head of the enterprise. Moreover, the men who have grown old in the service are not discharged by reason of their advancing years; their names are continued on the pay rolls at the same wages they received in the prime of life.

Mr. Reitz's recognition of the obligations of citizenship was never overshadowed by his other activities and interests and his cooperation was again and again given to further public projects which were instituted for the welfare of the city. He was elected and served as a member of the city council and in 1862 was sent to the state legislature as a joint representative from the counties of Vanderburg and Posey, serving during the memorable session of the following year. He was a stalwart democrat yet did not place partisanship before the general good nor personal aggrandizement before the welfare of the commonwealth. In this respect he was not a partisan. He was, however, firm in support of his honest convictions and from the course which he believed to be right nothing could swerve him. He never reached his opinions hastily, his ideas upon many questions being the result of careful deliberation and mature judgment. When his advice was sought concerning business affairs, as was frequently done, he gave a conservative and honest opinion and his advice, if followed, usually led to desired results. He had a horror of debt and never incurred financial obligations. He was never afraid to face a fellowman, for he owed no man anything. He never took the cares of business into his own household but sought to give expression there to the best traits of his character and his relation in his family was largely that of the ideal husband and father. His wife possessed a most charitable disposition and he gladly gave her the means to support liberally churches and worthy benevolent objects. They were always one in interests and in purpose, their mutual love and confidence growing as the years passed. The name of John Reitz is indeed a synonyn in Evansville for that which is honorable and progressive in business, yet he never allowed personal interest or ambition to dwarf his public spirit. His breadth of view not only saw possibilities for his own advancement but for the city's development, and his lofty patriotism prompted him to utilize the latter as quickly and as effectively as the former.

JOSEPH ROLLET.

Joseph Rollet, a representative of the farming interests of Vanderburg county, was born in Strasburg, Germany, August 15, 1840, a son of Joseph and Catherine Rollet. While spending his youthful days in his parents' home in the fatherland he began his education, which was largely acquired in that country. At length he came with his parents to America and for

two months was a pupil in the schools of Evansville. The greater part of his life has been devoted to general farming and since the 5th of May, 1854, he has lived upon the place in Perry township which is now his home. Here he has improved eighty acres of land, transforming it into a valuable tract by bringing the fields under a high state of cultivation and adding substantial buildings and modern equipments. His life has been characterized by unfaltering diligence and industry, which in time has been crowned with success.

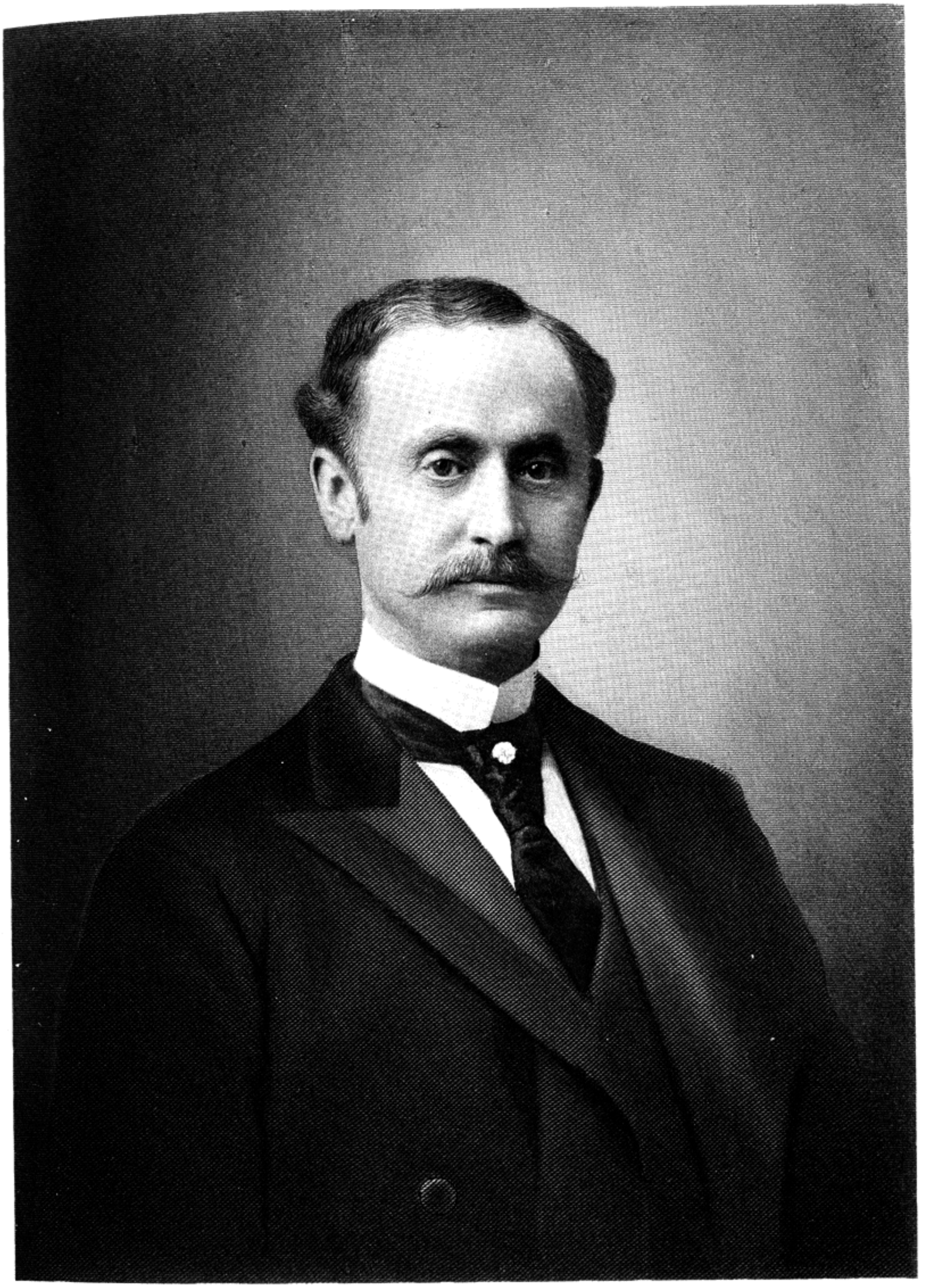
On the 3d of May, 1865, Mr. Rollet was married in German township, St. Joseph, Indiana, to Miss Sophia Spitzer, a daughter of Lawrence Spitzer, who fought in the French wars under Napoleon. Coming to America, he was for many years a resident of this part of the state, his death occurring in November, 1909, when he had reached the very venerable age of ninety-seven years and eight months. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rollet have been born five children. Thomas and John, twins, married Kate and Mary Speaker, sisters. Unto Thomas and Kate have been born two children, Maggie and William, while John and Mary Rollet have three children: Julia, Rosie and Andrew. Henry Rollet wedded Elizabeth Matz and their children are Francis, Sophia, Celia and Henry B. Lena Rollet became the wife of August Hartman and has two children, Joseph and Julia. Elizabeth Rollet is the wife of John Matz and their children are Annie, Delia and Josie.

For fifty-six years Joseph Rollet has lived in this county and upon the farm which is now his home and is therefore largely acquainted with the history of this region, its progress and upbuilding. He has been deeply interested in all that has been accomplished and has borne his full share in the work of development, especially along general agricultural lines.

GEORGE W. BEMENT.

George W. Bement was born in Evansville in March, 1859. His parents, Charles Russell and Mary C. Bement, had but recently removed to this city from Terre Haute Indiana, and the father became an active and influential factor in business life here, his labors constituting a forceful and resultant element in business activity and progress. He was well known in connection with mercantile and banking interests, having been the organizer and almost continuously the president of the Merchants National Bank up to the time of its liquidation in 1885. He belonged to that class whose well balanced capacities and powers of keen judgment constitute them the stable element in the community, their labors actuated by a spirit of progress that, however, tempers enterprise with a spirit of safe conservatism.

Reared in his native city, George W. Bement supplemented his public school training by a preparatory course at an academy in Norwalk, Connecticut, before entering Yale. His college course was pursued within the



G. W. Romney.

classic walls of the New Haven university and to his college training he added the broader knowledge that comes through extensive travel. At different times, both in his young manhood and in his later years, he went abroad, visiting the many points of historic, scenic and modern interest in different countries of Europe. While family connection secured him his first position in the business world, it was individual merit that led him onward and his initiative spirit make him a factor in the organization and development of business enterprises of large value to the city. He was first connected with the Merchants National Bank but later became interested in the firm of Behme & Seitz, wholesale grocers. Opportunity for the enlargement of his activity and the scope of his business led him to organize the Bement-Seitz Company, with which he was connected until the time of his death. It became one of the most important wholesale interests of the city and for the accommodation of the business he erected on Water street the fine building which stands as a monument to his enterprise. In its erection he manifested his faith in the city and his cooperation with various projects he contributed in substantial measure to the general work of upbuilding.

Mr. Bement was also widely known because of his deep interest and support of our national game of baseball. For two years he was the president of the Central League Baseball Club. He owned the Evansville Club for a year and a half of the existence of the old Three I League, and after the withdrawal of the Evansville and Terre Haute clubs from that league he was instrumental in organizing the Central League.

On the 24th of March, 1896, Mr. Bement was married to Mrs. Myrtle Walker Hathaway, of this city, and occupied a beautiful suburban home on St. Joseph avenue, where man has vied with nature in producing all that is beautiful in flowers and shrubbery as an adornment to a well kept lawn. There Mrs. Bement has continued to make her home since the death of her husband on the 29th of January, 1908. He was then in his forty-ninth year—a man in the prime of life, too young, it seemed, to answer the final summons, for his activities and interests made him a valued and representative resident of his native city. An engaging personality and social qualites rendered him a favorite with all and those with whom he came in contact cherished his friendship.

ANDREW MOLL.

There is no rule for achieving success and yet there are certain elements which are indispensable in the attainment of prosperity. These are close application, industry and reliable business methods, all of which find expression in the life work of Andrew Moll, who is now engaged in merchandising in Stringtown. Vanderburg county numbers him among her native sons. He was born in October, 1874, of the marriage of John B. and Katherine Moll, who were natives of Germany and of Indiana respectively. They

became residents of this county in 1872, settling in Scott township, whence they afterward removed to Center township. In early life the father learned the woodworker's trade and followed that business continuously until his death, which occurred in March, 1898. His widow still survives him and now makes her home with her son Andrew, who remained with his parents through the period of his boyhood and youth, acquiring his education in the public schools and in the Catholic schools of this city. For a time he attended St. Mary's Catholic school of Evansville and was graduated from St. Anthony's Academy in June, 1888. At the age of twenty-two he left home to undertake the solution of life's problems independently. To provide for his support he secured employment by the month, being thus employed for about a year. He then returned home and worked for his father for some time, gaining expert skill in that line. Following his father's death he operated the shop for the mother for five years, when he bought out the business, added other stock and started independently. A year later he opened a mercantile store at Stringtown, where he has since carried on business. He has a well selected line of goods to meet the demands of general trade and has succeeded in securing a liberal and growing patronage.

In 1902 Mr. Moll was united in marriage to Miss Frances Wemhener, a daughter of William and Frances Wemhener, who were natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Moll attend the Catholic church and he gives his political allegiance to the democratic party but does not seek or desire office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs, in which he is meeting with substantial success. He has two large fish ponds upon his property, furnishing a fine place for game fishing. His enterprising spirit has brought him into important business relations and the passing years chronicle his success, for he is making steady progress toward the goal of prosperity.

CAPTAIN OTTO F. JACOBI.

Honored and respected by all, there is no man who occupies a more enviable position in commercial and financial circles in Evansville than Captain Otto F. Jacobi, the president of the Central Trust & Savings Bank. This is due not alone to the success which he has achieved but to the honorable and straightforward methods which he has always followed. He early recognized the fact that promotion is won through a service, not of time, but of talent—the utilization of one's powers for the benefit and interests of those whom they represent, and because of this his loyalty and energy were ever manifest in the service of those whom he represented until he passed from the ranks of the employed to that of the employer, his progression at length bringing him to the prominent place which he now fills in the banking circles of Evansville. He was born in Meiningen, Saxony, Ger-

many, November 28, 1835. His father Gottlieb Jacobi, was a graduate of the University of Breslau and for many years held an official position under the Duke of Saxe-Weimar. His wife, Mrs. Fredericka Jacobi, was a descendant of the Von Oswalds, a prominent family in military and literary circles in Germany. The death of Gottlieb Jacobi occurred in 1849, while his wife passed away in 1841.

Captain Otto F. Jacobi, the eldest son in a family of four children, was about thirteen years of age when left an orphan. He was educated in the schools of his native country, and in 1852, when a youth of seventeen, came to America, settling first in Philadelphia. In 1855 he enlisted in the regular army, becoming a member of Company D, First United States Infantry, in which he attained the rank of first sergeant, acting in that capacity for many years. When the Civil war broke out he was with his regiment at Fort Cobb, in the Indian territory. He remained with the regular army until 1863, when he received a commission as first lieutenant in the Tenth Tennessee Volunteer Infantry. Faithful service won him promotion to the captaincy of Company G on the Twenty-third of July, 1864, and in the following year he was appointed assistant commissary of musters by the secretary of war and assigned to duty with the First Cavalry division of the department of the Cumberland. He continued to act in that capacity until after the close of hostilities, when in July, 1865, he was honorably discharged.

Following the close of the war Captain Jacobi took up his abode in Evansville, where he established a wholesale tobacco and cigar business. In 1869, however, he sold out and in 1870 accepted the position of bookkeeper in the H. F. Blount Plow Works. The value of his services won him appointment to the position of financial manager and he was admitted to a share of the profits in 1883. He has long been numbered among the representative business men in this city, and extending his efforts into banking circles has ever maintained a most honored name and prominent connection therein. For years he was vice president of the Central Trust & Savings Bank, and on Jan. 1, 1901, was chosen to the presidency. He is also director of the First National Bank. To the solution of involved financial problems he brings sound judgment, keen sagacity and long experience. By his work he has reared for himself a magnificent testimonial and an indestructible compliment to his management and financial genius. He is one of that class of representative and successful men who seem to find the happiness of life in the success of their work, yet his activities have been by no means confined to interests which bear alone upon individual prosperity. His public trusts have been many and all have been faithfully executed. On various occasions he has been a moving factor in projects which have been of distinct value to the city and he is now one of the trustees and treasurer of Oak Hill cemetery and a trustee and treasurer of the Willard Library.

Captain Jacobi was married in 1862 to Miss Mary E. Sawyer, of Corinth, Mississippi, and unto them have been born five children, but only two are now living, Otto F. and Sidney F. The spirit of enterprise which caused

Captain Jacobi to leave his native land at the age of seventeen and seek the opportunities of the new world has ever been with him a dominant characteristic. He has never regarded any position in business as final, but rather as the starting point for further effort towards successful accomplishment. At the age of seventy-five years he is still an active factor in financial circles in Evansville, honored and respected by all who know him and most of all where he is best known.

ROBERT R. WILLIAMS.

The path of opportunity is an ever broadening one and the way becomes easier as one progresses, for there is less competition the higher one goes. Each forward step brings a wider outlook and greater advantages, and with firm step and unalterable purpose Robert R. Williams has continued along this path until he has attained a position of prominence in the business circles of his adopted city, being now general manager, secretary and treasurer of The Indiana Tie Company of Evansville. He was born in Morganfield, Kentucky, December 20, 1870, and is a son of H. R. and Mary E. Williams, being one of their four surviving children, the other three being Ella M., Elizabeth A. and Leslie Williams.

The father was born in Smith county, Tennessee, January 10, 1846, and the district schools afforded him his early educational privileges, after which he had the benefit of instruction in a Nashville college. When his college days were over he returned to the home of his father, who owned a large plantation and was also proprietor of a general mercantile store. H. R. Williams then worked for his father until the latter's death. In 1869 he removed to Morganfield, Kentucky, where he engaged in the building and contracting business until 1879. That year witnessed his arrival in Evansville, where he was also closely, actively and successfully identified with building operations up to the time of his retirement in 1900. The liberal patronage that had been accorded him brought him a comfortable competence, enabling him to put aside the cares of active business life, and he is now spending his days in well earned rest.

Robert R. Williams was a lad of seven or eight years when the family settled in Evansville, and he received his education in the public schools of this city. Seeking a position in business circles, in 1887 he engaged as messenger in the accounting department of the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad. Gradually he worked upward, winning his promotions through merit and ability, and when he severed his connection with the railroad company, he was holding the responsible position of traveling auditor. He afterward entered the service of The Indiana Tie Company as chief clerk and in 1902 he was elected secretary, treasurer and general manager. As an officer of that company he has contributed much to the success of the

enterprise, capably controlling the interests of the company and managing its trade connections in such a manner that successful results are achieved.

On the 15th of October, 1901, Mr. Williams was united in marriage in Mount Vernon, Illinois, to Miss Ellanora Fitz-Gerrell, daughter of James J. and Sarah M. Fitz-Gerrell, one of the most prominent families in southern Illinois. They have one child, Robert Fitz-Gerrell, born September 10, 1906. The family attend the Christian Science church. Mr. Williams belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and two of the prominent social organizations of the city, the Country and Crescent Clubs. His political allegiance is given to the democratic party but without desire for office as a reward for party fealty. While his business career has none of the spectacular features of the military or political leader, it is none the less important, nor none the less successful in the results achieved.

ANTHONY REIS.

In the year 1855 Anthony Reis became identified with the business interests of Evansville, and in 1857 became connected with the leather trade, with which he was associated for many years thereafter. He was born in Cincinnati, May 11, 1829, and is of German parentage, as the surname indicates. Habits of industry were early developed and from his youthful days until his demise he was dependent upon his own resources, becoming a self-made man. While yet a boy he entered the tannery of his brother-in-law and afterward served a regular apprenticeship that he might learn the trade of a tanner and currier. Later he was employed as a currier for two years. In time he became actuated with the ambition of engaging in business on his own account and bent his energies to the accomplishment of this hope. Eventually he found opportunity to carry out his plan and was engaged in business in Cincinnati, Ohio, until 1855, when he disposed of his interests there and came to Evansville.

Here in 1857, Mr. Reis opened a leather store and later established a tannery in connection with the sale of leather. In the conduct of this enterprise he displayed marked business ability, for when he purchased the tannery it was a small and inconvenient plant and had but little machinery. He applied his practical knowledge and experience previously obtained to the production of leather and to the development of the plant, as well as to the enlargement of his patronage, and finally had one of the best establishments of its kind in the country, equipped with the latest improved machinery and conveniences for carrying on the trade. He not only produced an excellent product but was also careful and systematic in the management of his business, never following fictitious methods but stuck to that which is honorable, laborious and true in winning success. His record has proved that an honestly conducted business in accordance with the great

laws which control all legitimate trade will grow and devleop and return rich reward. In 1876 he admitted John Shumacher to a partnership under the firm name of Reis & Shumacher. Gradually enlarging their plant and at all times watchful of every detail of the trade, their business at length extended in large measure over the west, northwest, the south and the east.

In 1852 Mr. Reis was united in marriage to Miss Magdalen Keyser and unto them were born two children: Isabel, who became Mrs. Schumacher and died leaving one daughter, now Mrs. Emma Mann; and Clara, the wife of Dr. Jerome of Evansville. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Reis has continuously occupied the beautiful home on First avenue, which he erected. Mr. Reis passed away on the 1st of January, 1884, but his name is yet honored by those with whom he came in contact while an active factor in the affairs of the world. He took a helpful interest in the Catholic church, served as one of its trustees, contributed generously to its support and aided in establishing a church for colored people in Evansville. He was always very charitable, giving freely to the needy and extending a helping hand to those who deserved assistance.

WILLIAM O. FERGUSON.

Among the young business men of Evansville who are numbered with her native sons and whose life work is a source of satisfaction and pride to the city is William O. Ferguson, who was here born on the 12th of June, 1873, a son of James Russell and Ella Frances (Lyon) Ferguson, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. His education was acquired in private schools of this city and in Bethany College of West Virginia. He left college at the age of nineteen years and went to Detroit, Michigan, where he was employed by Isaac C. Baxter, of the Detroit Gas Company. After spending two years in that city he returned to Evansville and here started in the insurance business with the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company. Gradually he has been advanced in this connection, as he has given proof of his business ability, sagacity and sound judgment, until he is now general agent for Southern Indiana of the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company of Philadelphia. When he took hold of the business there were only about twenty thousand dollars insurance written. Today the policies represent over two million dollars. The success of the enterprise is attributable to the close application and unfaltering industry of Mr. Ferguson, who has carefully systematized the various departments of the work and gained success by a persistency of purpose and honesty of method that is above question. In addition to his activity in insurance lines he is now receiver for the Chandler Coal Company.

On the 17th of December, 1895, Mr. Ferguson was united in marriage to Miss Meta M. Decker, who passed away on the 14th, of April, 1905,

leaving an only son, Russell Owen, now eleven years of age. Mrs. Ferguson was a daughter of Frederick G. and Elizabeth Decker. Her father is a well known representative of commercial interests, being engaged in the insurance business under the name of Decker & Ferguson.

Mr. Ferguson holds membership in the First Christian church and is prominent in various fraternal and social organizations. A Knight Templar Mason, he belongs to La Valette Commandery, No. 15; is a charter member of the Evansville Country Club; and also holds membership with the Crescent, Press and Gridiron Clubs. One of the leaders in the ranks of the democratic party in Evansville, he was president of the Young Men's Democratic Club for four years and built it up from a membership of fifty to over six hundred. His opinions carry weight in the local councils of his party and he is a young man whose strong character, business and executive ability and whose high purposes are such as to win for him a large personal following.

NICHOLAS KEIL, JR.

Both mercantile and agricultural interests claim the attention of Nicholas Keil, Jr., a native son of Vanderburg county, his birth having occurred in Evansville, November 28, 1865. His name indicates his German lineage and in his life record are displayed some of the sterling traits of his Teutonic ancestry. His parents were Nicholas and Elizabeth Keil, both natives of Germany, whence they crossed the Atlantic to America, settling in Vanderburg county when the work of general improvement and progress had been carried forward here to only a slight extent. Mr. Keil opened a store in Evansville and continued in the business for about eighteen years, when he removed to Center township and bought one hundred and three acres of land. With characteristic energy he began the development of the farm, carrying on general agricultural pursuits for a quarter of a century, when, feeling that his capital was sufficient to enable him to live retired, he put aside business cares and returned to Evansville, where he is now making his home with his daughter, Mrs. Barbara Whittmer. His wife died in April, 1901.

Nicholas Keil, Jr., was reared in Evansville and upon the old home farm, remaining with his parents up to the time of his marriage, which important event in his life was celebrated on the 1st of December, 1887, the lady of his choice being Miss Katherina Adler, a daughter of Mathias and Maggie Adler, both natives of Germany. Having been reared to the occupation of farming, Nicholas Keil turned his attention to that pursuit in order to maintain the little home which he set up following his marriage. He rented sixty acres of land and began the cultivation of the fields, which because of his careful and practical methods brough forth good crops an-

nually. He also engaged in the dairy business for about eight years but on the expiration of that period came to Stringtown and opened a store which he has since conducted, being one of the leading factors in the promotion of commercial activity in this community. About seven years ago he bought the old home place, which he has since been operating and thus both commercial and agricultural interests claim his time and attention. In business affairs his judgment is sound, his insight keen and his enterprise unfaltering and thus he is making steady progress along those lines to which he has elected to devote his energies.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Keil have been born seven children, namely: Otto N., twenty-two years of age; Edward, twenty years of age; Frank, eighteen years of age; Christ, who died in 1894; Julius, who has reached the age of fourteen years; Theodore, who passed away in 1898; and Henry, a lad of ten years. Mr. Keil and the family attend the Lutheran church and he makes liberal contributions toward its support. His political views are in accord with the principles of the republican party and his fraternal relations are with the aerie of Eagles at Evansville. His entire life has been passed in Vanderburg county, where he is now well known, and his strongly pronounced traits of character are such as have gained for him the friendly regard and good will of those with whom he has been brought in contact.

WILLIAM D. DANIELS.

Throughout the period of his manhood William D. Daniels was a resident of Indiana and from 1891 until his death made his home in Evansville, where he was widely known in connection with the lumber trade. He was born in Marietta, Ohio, September 11, 1834, and had back of him an ancestry honorable and distinguished. On each side there were names that figured prominently upon the pages of history. His grandfather was sailing master on the sloop Hornet when she captured the English brig, Peacock, in the war of 1812 and history says it was due to the skilful handling of the Hornet by its commander that the victory was achieved. Stephen Daniels, the father of William D. Daniels, was a railroad bridge builder who through much of his life was connected with the operative branch of the service. He married Sophia Warren, a direct descendent of General Joseph Warren, the gallant commander and hero of Bunker Hill. She was, however, directly related to one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence..

Spending his youthful days in his parents' home, William D. Daniels attended the public schools of Ohio and when a young man came to Indiana, settling at Princeton, where he joined his brother Joseph in building bridges. They continued in that business for a number of years and had

the contract for constructing many of the bridges in Vanderburg and adjoining counties. At length Mr. Daniels established a lumberyard at Princeton and as he prospered in that undertaking extended the field of his activities to include the conduct and management of lumber enterprises in Kentucky and Arkansas and the operation of sawmills in those states. He was the first man to introduce piling into this section of Indiana and met with a high degree of prosperity in that branch of his business. In 1891 he came to Evansville to live that he might better look after his piling work in Kentucky, the management of which occupied his attention until his demise. Whatever he undertook he carried resolutely forward to successful completion. His diligence was unfaltering, his judgment sound and his sagacity clear. Studying the indications of the piling trade he met the demands of the public and by honorable dealing secured an extensive and gratifying patronage.

In 1873 in Gibson county, Indiana, Mr. Daniels was united in marriage to Miss Katherine B. Hudelson, a daughter of James Hudelson, a merchant of that county, who later engaged in shipping produce to New Orleans. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Daniels was born one child, Bessie, now the wife of George Kruger.

In politics Mr. Daniels was always active as a supporter of the republican party, recognizing that it was the duty as well as the privilege of every American citizen to exercise his right of franchise in support of measures which he deemed most beneficial to the general weal. He was charitable and benevolent, ever ready to extend a helping hand and realizing from his own experience, for he was a self-made man, the difficulties of working one's way upward; he often spoke an encouraging word or gave substantial assistance to those who were endeavoring to secure honorable advancement. He died August 7, 1905, and Evansville mourned the loss of a representative and valued citizen, widely recognized as a man of honor and of strong force of character. He had passed the seventy-first milestone on life's journey and the years allotted to him were filled with good deeds and honorable acts.

JOSEPH H. BRANDIS

A residence of more than half a century in Vanderburg county has made Joseph H. Brandis well known to its settlers, and friends and neighbors regard him well worthy of their esteem and good will. He has made farming his life work and is carefully cultivating his fields, comprised within the boundaries of a well kept farm in Perry township. It was in this township that he was born September 27, 1858, his parents being Joseph H. and Maria Brandis. No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for him in his boyhood and youth. As his age and strength per-

mitted he worked in the fields, following the plow or gathering the harvest in the summer months, while in the winter seasons he attended the public schools, acquainting himself with those branches of learning which are regarded as indispensable factors in the conduct of business. After reaching man's estate he began farming on his own account and his time and energies are now devoted to the further development and improvement of a tract of land of forty-two acres, which he owns. In early spring he plants the seeds that in late autumn are gathered in a bounteous harvest. His work is diligently carried on and whatever success he has achieved and enjoyed is the result of his own labors.

On the 13th of March, 1888, Mr. Brandis was married to Miss Anna Sommers, a daughter of William and Mary Sommers, and unto them has been born a son, Walter S. Brandis, born October 30, 1889. Both Mr. and Mrs. Brandis are well known in the community and have the kindly regard of all with whom they have been brought in contact. His political faith is that of the democratic party but, while he always votes for its men and measures, he does not seek office.

EDWIN C. HENNING.

Edwin C. Henning, a member of the Evansville bar since 1900 and a representative of the legal profession in Indiana since 1894, was born in Cannelton, this state, January 20, 1874. His father, William Henning, was a native of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, born on the 17th of December, 1824. He was educated in Germany, after which he returned to America at the age of twenty-two years, and, settling in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, he there engaged in the practice of law until 1866, when he removed to Cannelton, Indiana. Opening his law office in that place he was soon established with a good clientage that enabled him to figure prominently in connection with the work of the courts of this state. His keen insight, his careful analysis, his inductive reasoning and his logical conclusions were strong forces in his success. His death occurred in 1899.

Spending his youthful days in his parents' home, Edwin C. Henning devoted his time largely to the acquirement of an education in the public and high schools, completing the course there by graduation with the class of 1887. He then attended the University of Michigan, pursuing his studies in both the literary and law departments and was graduated LL. B. on the 24th of June, 1894. Immediately afterward he returned to Cannelton and was admitted to practice in the district and supreme courts of Indiana and in the federal courts. He joined his father, with whom he was associated until the latter's death. He continued in practice in Cannelton until 1900, when he removed to Evansville, where he has since been accorded a large and distinctively representative clientage. He has made a

EDWIN C. HENNING

specialty of corporation and insurance law, and few men are better qualified in these departments of jurisprudence. His ability, his strength of character and his high qualifications are manifest in the results which follow his work in the courts, nor is his ability limited to the strict path of his profession, for in other business lines his judgment is sound, his discrimination keen and his plans practical. He is now president of the Webster Stone Company, of Webster, Kentucky, and one of the directors of the Newman Sewer Construction Company.

Mr. Henning belongs to the Vanderburg County Bar Association. His connection with the republican party and with St. Paul's Episcopal church indicate something of his interests in citizenship and the principles that govern his life. His time and talents have been used advantageously and his record is being written in tangible currents of success.

WILLIAM DAVIDSON.

Scotland, the land of the crag and glen, of mountain peak and mountain lake, of lowland hills and plains, of liberty, poetry and song, of religious educational zeal, the home of Wallace and Bruce, of Scott and Burns, whose heroes and airs have honored Britain's flag on every battlefield, has also been the ancestral home of many of America's best and most distinguished men. The conditions of today do not call for the heroism that was displayed on battlefields or in contests of clan with clan, but the same dominant spirit of loyalty, enterprise and perseverance are today manifest in the sons of bonny Scotland. These are the characteristics that were recognized as strongly marked traits in William Davidson, whose business ability brought him to a prominent position in the industrial circles of Evansville, where he continued his residence to the time of his death on the 22d of May, 1908.

His birth occurred in Perthshire, Scotland, December 19, 1831, his parents being William and Janet (Mitchell) Davidson. He continued a resident of his native country until after the death of his parents, when with his brothers and sisters he came to America in 1866, coming direct to the home of his uncle, Robert Mitchell of Princeton, Ind. He entered the shop of Josiah Tichenor, at Princeton, where he learned the machinist's trade, and after completing his apprenticeship moved to Evansville. Here his ability, natural and acquired, enabled him to secure employment under Henry F. Blount, of the Blount Plow Company, and that he was capable, efficient and loyal is indicated by the fact that he remained with that house for thirty years, filling various positions from that of the subordinate helper to one of the managers. He was given a position of management in 1886 and he contributed not a little to the success of the business through his inventive genius and his recognition of the needs of the agricultural world. at times anticipating such needs and therefore meeting them as they arose.

He studied every phase of the business and the conditions bearing upon the trade, and the company recognized his work in the promotion given him.

In 1874 Mr. Davidson was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Ruston, a daughter of William Ruston, who came from England when a young man and engaged in the grocery business in Evansville, spending the remainder of his days in this city. Here he married Miss Martha Peck, also a native of England. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Davidson there were born four sons and two daughters: William R., a practicing physician; Harry R.; John M.; Tom R.; Mrs. William E. Baker; and Mrs. Harry Johnson.

Mr. Davidson was always recognized as a noble Christian, whose life was in consistent harmony with his profession as a member of the Walnut street Presbyterian church. He was active in the welfare of the city, cooperating in many measures for the general good, and while he was a worker in political circles in support of the republican party, he was never an aspirant for office. His labors were given freely in support of the principles in which he believed, his rectitude of character, his unfaltering diligence, his loyalty to friendship all combining to make him one of the valued and respected residents of his adopted city.

OTTO L. KLAUSS.

Otto L. Klauss, filling the office of county treasurer, to which position he was elected in 1906, is one of Evansville's native sons, whose life record stands in contradistinction to the old adage that a prophet is never without honor save in his own country, for Mr. Klauss has so directed his efforts and energies here that his fellow townsmen accord him confidence and respect and proved their willingness to trust him with important public duties by electing him to the office which he now fills.

His parents were Captain Martin and Fredericka Klauss. The name indicates the German origin of the family. The father was born in the Rhine province of Germany in January, 1836, and pursued his education in that country. In accordance with the military laws of his native land he served in the German army and in 1848 came to the United States, choosing Evansville as his place of location. He became identified with the business interests of the city as proprietor of a hotel at the corner of Seventh and Locust streets and continued in that field of labor until the outbreak of the Civil war in 1861, when he organized the First Indiana Battery. His previous military experience now served him in good stead and enabled him to soon develope discipline and skill among new recruits. He served until 1865, participating in some of the hotly contested engagements of the war, and throughout the entire period never faltered in his allegiance to the cause he espoused. Following his return home he became one of the active factors in political circles and held some of the local offices, including that of justice

of the peace, in which position he continued until his death in 1891. His decisions were strictly fair and impartial and made his record as judge of the justice court a most creditable one.

At the usual age Otto L. Klauss entered the public schools, wherein he pursued his studies until he left the high school at the age of sixteen years to enter the old National Bank as messenger. There he worked his way upward to the position of teller, in which capacity he was serving when, in 1890, he resigned and went to St. Louis, where he became receiving teller in the Continental National Bank. After four years he returned and for four years filled the office of deputy under County Treasurer Laval, also under Philip Euler until 1898 and four years under John P. Walker. In 1906 he was elected to the position of county treasurer and has since continued in the office, for which he was well qualified by his years of previous experience as deputy. He has proved himself a most faithful custodian of the public funds and during his term interest has been turned back to the city and county, amounting to fifty thousand dollars or more, so that the office is now much more than self sustaining. He has been allied with the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise and while he possesses a laudable ambition, which is the incentive for faithful service in public office, he is also a believer in that ideal party organization which has its root in the belief that such an organization should be formed of those who band themselves together for the promotion of the common good.

On the 29th of June, 1904, Mr. Klauss was married, in Evansville, to Miss Myrtle Stewart. They attend the Protestant churches of the city and Mr. Klauss is a member of the Masonic and Elks lodges, his affiliation being with Reed lodge, F. & A. M., and Reed chapter, R. A. M. With the exception of a brief period spent in St. Louis he has remained continuously a resident of this city, and the record which he has made throughout the entire period is such a one as has engraved his name creditably and honorably upon the pages of business and political history in Vanderburg county.

CHARLES E. LAUGHLIN, M. D.

A capable member of the medical profession, the work which Dr. Charles E. Laughlin is today accomplishing as medical superintendent of the state insane asylum at Evansville entitles him to more than passing notice and recognition. The special study which he had made of mental disorders well qualified him for the work which he undertook, and in its accomplishment he has constantly manifested a progressive spirit that has placed the institution in advance of many which are caring for this class of unfortunates. He was born in Lawrence county, Indiana, October 12, 1855. His father, Dr. Edmund D. Laughlin, still living at the age of eighty-

three years, was one of the pioneer physicians of Orleans, Indiana, who, after graduation from the Miami Medical College and Bellevue Hospital Medical College, practiced for years at Orleans but is now living retired. His wife died only a few months ago at the age of eighty years.

Dr. Charles E. Laughlin, after mastering the branches of study in the public schools of Orleans, began preparation for the profession, which he is now following, as a student in the Miami Medical College, and later was associated with his father in practice until the 1st of June, 1903.

On that date he came to Evansville, having been solicited to take charge, as medical superintendent, of the state insane asylum. He found the institution in bad shape, but the work of change and improvement was at once begun, according to a high standard which he had set up. He had made a study of insanity and recognized that many former methods of treatment had become antiquated and should be relegated to the regions of the past; that study and investigation have brought to light new truths concerning the treatment of the mentally disordered and that surroundings contributing to the upbuilding of the general health must of necessity constitute a feature in the cures which it is hoped may be effected. He at once changed the old order of serving meals to the patients in the wards by establishing a congregate dining room, installing two new dining rooms which are modern in every respect, each seating three hundred and twenty people at one time. He improved the entire heating system, installing a first class steam heating plant. He also installed a new power plant and this with the heating plant has a ten hundred and fifty horse power engine. Electrical appliances and dynamos for lighting have been introduced and two new direct motion pumps, each pumping one hundred and seventy-five thousand gallons of water daily through a softening tank. He built a model laundry in which the work is done by electrical machinery, even electric irons being used. He built a fine new modern bakery, supplied with electrical mixing machines, while all baking, roasting, etc., are done here. He likewise installed a septic sewage disposal plant, using bacteria consumption, and plans are now completed for the erection of a new hospital for the sick with appliances for the application of modern treatment for acute cases of insanity, an appropriation of sixty thousand dollars having been made for this purpose. Dr. Laughlin has also let a contract for a model sanitary dairy, plans to purchase a herd of Holstein cattle which he will place upon an eighty acre tract of land that has been added to the farm for this purpose, and has constantly been building to and improving the institution since coming here. He has built a sanitary pig pen, which has entirely done away with sickness among the hogs. In fact he has put forth every effort to promote health conditions that every available aid to the care of the patients may be used.

In 1878, in Mitchell, Indiana, Dr. Laughlin was married to Miss Emma Brown, and they now have three chilren and two grandchildren. Their daughter Ruth is the wife of Michael Mayer, of Covington, Indiana. Their

son, Dr. Edmund Laughlin, is a practicing dentist of Evansville, and the younger daughter Genevieve is at home.

The family are members of the Christian church and Dr. Laughlin is a republican in his political views, always giving stalwart support to the party. He stands as a splendid representative of that class of physicians to whom the profession makes strong appeal from other than the commercial side. He is in thorough sympathy with the movements to disseminate knowledge that shall prevent disease and hasten its extermination, and the humanitarian principles which prevail in the Evansville asylum mark him as one whose sympathy for his fellowmen is of a deep and practical character.

JOSEPH H. MILLER.

The constant watchfulness and executive ability which Joseph H. Miller displays as general superintendent of the Blount Plow Works has won him classification with the representative business men of Evansville. He has been thus connected with industrial interests in this city since June 20, 1908. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, December 4, 1868, and is a son of Joseph H. and Catharine Miller, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, the former born in Lancaster and the latter in Reading. The father removed from the Keystone state to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1861 and became superintendent for the house of Altman, Taylor & Company, manufacturers of engines and harvest machinery. Later the plant was removed to Mansfield, Ohio, and he continued in connection therewith until his death, which occurred when he was forty-seven years of age.

Sent as a pupil to the public schools, Joseph H. Miller therein continued his studies until he had completed the high-school course at the age of seventeen years. Going to Canton, Ohio, he was employed at the grain elevator of John Patten for four months and later secured a position in the foundry of the Bucher & Gibbs Plow Company. Realizing the fact that there is no excellence without labor, he determined to win promotion by making his services of value to his employers. He thoroughly mastered every task assigned to him and his efficiency and faithfulness gained him advancement from time to time until he was made superintendent, acting in that capacity until 1908. The latter year witnessed his arrival in Evansville, where he became general superintendent of the Blount Plow Works. His service in this connection has been entirely satisfactory to the officers of the company, which manufactures a line of plows and riding cultivators. In this connection Mr. Miller has supervision over one hundred workmen. Under his care the conditions of the factory have been greatly improved, new machinery has been installed and the company is now adding to its present line of implements, extending its output to include riding and walking sulky plows. Their business extends all over the United States and into foreign

lands as well. Mr. Miller's practical experience in mechanical lines well qualifies him to direct the labors of others who are engaged in such work. Moreover, he has the ability to harmonize discordant elements and to coordinate forces, and in his management he loses sight of no detail of the business.

On the 19th of April 1892, Mr. Miller was married in Canton, Ohio to Miss Wagoner, and they have two children, Laura Louise and Joseph H., aged respectively ten and four years, the former now a student in the schools of Evansville.

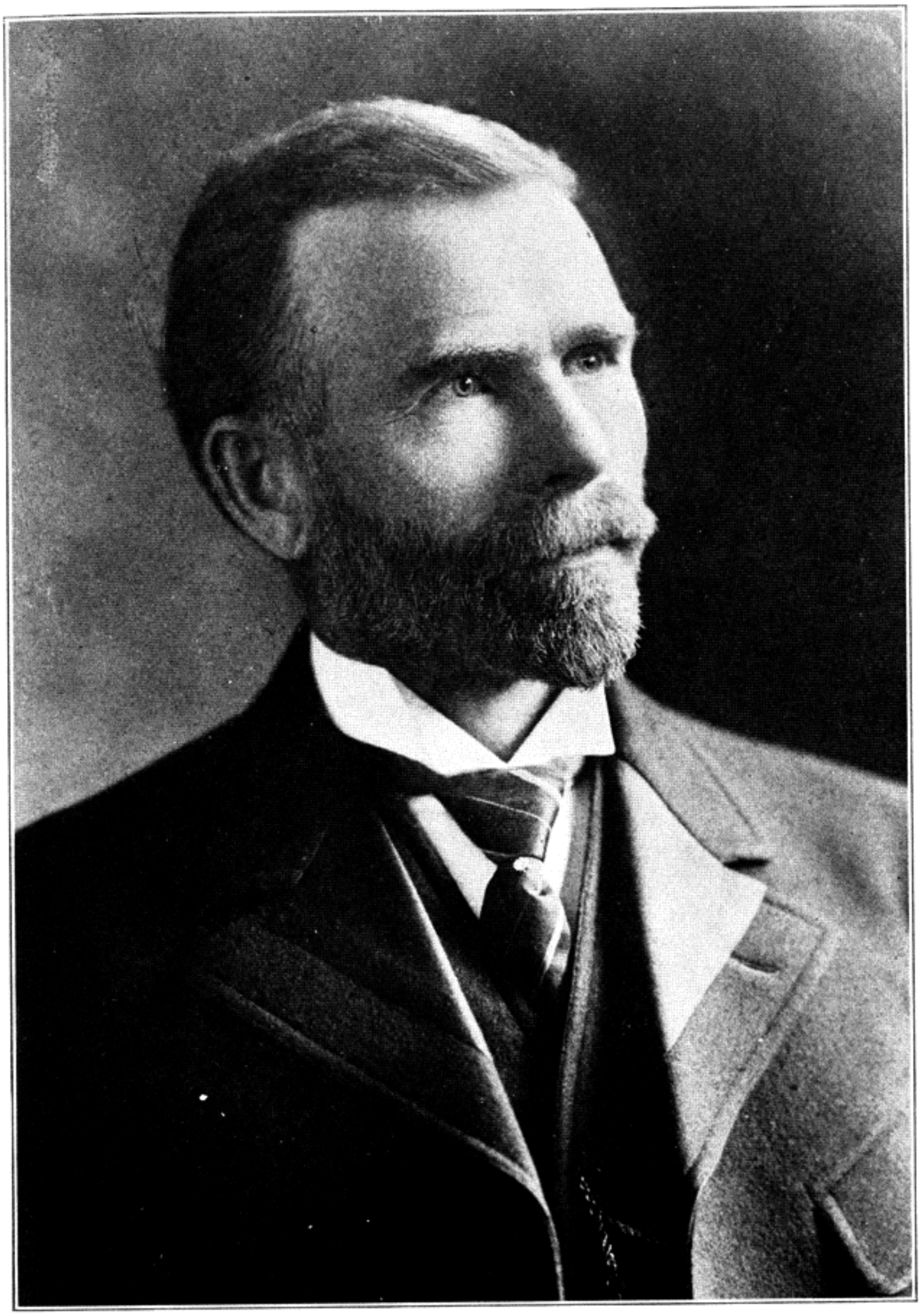
The parents have become well known here during their brief residence in the city and have already gained many friends. Mr. Miller belongs to Reed Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and also holds membership relations with the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Foresters. Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise he has voted with the republican party and believes that its principles contain the best elements of good government. The position to which he has attained in the business world represents the fit utilization of his time, talents and opportunities and proves that success is ambition's answer.

HON. JOHN W. BOEHNE.

The life of the Hon. John W. Boehne stands in contradistinction to the old adage that "A prophet is never without honor save in his own country," for in the county of his nativity, where he has always resided, Mr. Boehne has so directed his labors and improved his time and purpose that he has gained an enviable position in the public regard and has won honors that are only conferred in recognition of true worth and merit. He is today a prominent factor in both business and political circles, being vice president of the Indiana Stove Works and member of congress from his district.

His birth occurred in Scott township, Vanderburg county, on the 28th of October, 1856, his parents being Gerhard and Elizabeth Boehne. The father was born in Hanover, Germany, November 2, 1824, and in 1842 came to America with his parents, crossing the Atlantic in one of the old time sailing vessels, which dropped anchor in the harbor of Baltimore. From that point they proceeded westward, going by canal to Pittsburg and then floating down the Ohio river with Evansville as their destination. Soon afterward they settled in the northern part of the county and Gerhard Boehne there became the owner of land upon which he lived and carried on general farming until his death, which occurred on the 1st of June, 1886. He was one of the early settlers of the county and for more than four decades was associated with its agricultural interests and development.

John W. Boehne pursued his education in the district schools and in the parochial school of the Lutheran church until fifteen years of age, when



JOHN W. BOEHNE

he began work upon his father's farm. In vacation periods he had previously become somewhat familiar with the labors of the fields and he continued to assist his father until sixteen years of age, when, believing that he would find city life and commercial interests more congenial, he came to Evansville in June, 1873, and secured a position in a grocery store, acting as driver on the delivery wagon and also as clerk. He received in compensation for his services ten dollars per month and his board until 1875. He then secured a more lucrative and responsible position with Thomas Scantlin & Son, who were engaged in the foundry business, Mr. Boehne remaining with them as bookkeeper until 1881, when his initiative spirit found expression in the organization of the firm of Shrader, Fischer & Boehne for the purpose of manufacturing stoves. This business has since been carried on although reorganized under the name of the Indiana Stove Works. Mr. Boehne was elected vice president in January, 1887. He has since bent his energies to administrative direction and executive control and the growth and success of the enterprise is attributable largely to his well formulated plans, his initiative spirit, and his careful direction of the interests of the house both in the operative and sales department.

For many years Mr. Boehne concentrated his energies upon his business affairs with no thought nor desire for public office, and it was a matter of surprise to him when, in 1897, he opened a local paper which contained an account of his nomination as candidate for the position of councilman at large. This expression of a public desire for his service in office awakened his sense of public obligation and he entered the race and was elected. At the close of his term he was reelected in 1899 and in 1901 he was chosen president of the council. He presided over its deliberations and exercised his official prerogative in support of every measure and movement which he deemed of significant value to the city's welfare. In 1901 he received his party's nomination as mayoralty candidate but at the election was defeated by eighty-six votes. In 1905 he was renominated and defeated his opponent by a vote of one thousand five hundred and ninety. He thus served from January 1, 1905, until March 1, 1909, when he resigned as chief executive of the city to take his seat in congress, to which he had been elected in the fall of 1908. His political service has demonstrated the fact that the trust reposed in him was well merited. He has ever manifested a public-spirited devotion to the general good that none have questioned, and his advocacy of many progressive measures has proven of material benefit to the city.

On the 26th of November, 1885, in Evansville, Mr. Boehne was united in marriage to Miss Emilie Ide, and with the passing of the years their home has been blessed with five children, namely: Elizabeth and Esther, both of whom are proficient in art and music; Laura, attending high school; and J. W., Jr., aged fifteen years, and Edna, both students of the high school. All are yet under the parental roof.

Mr. Boehne is a member of the Lutheran church, and his life has ever been guided by principles which require no explanation and seek no disguise. He has won well earned fame and distinction, possessing much natural ability, and has used his talents not only for his own advancement but for the welfare of the city and district in which he makes his home. His party fealty is not grounded on partisan prejudice, and he therefore enjoys the respect and confidence of all of his associates, irrespective of party.

JAMES RUSSELL FERGUSON.

A record of the representative citizens of Evansville would be incomplete were there failure to make definite reference to James Russell Ferguson, who for forty-two years has resided in this city, during which period he has been closely associated with its business enterprise and activity and many of its progressive public measures. He was born in Coahoma county, Mississippi, September 3, 1847, a son of Thomas Campbell and Lucinda D. (Carr) Ferguson, natives of Livingston county, Kentucky, and Lauderdale county, Alabama, respectively. The father died about 1849, when only thirty-four years of age, and the mother passed away in Mississippi, April 21, 1885, having survived her husband for thirty-six years.

James Russell Ferguson began his education in the country schools of his native state and afterward attended the public schools of Helena, Arkansas, and Evansville, Indiana. He came to this city in 1868 and for ten years thereafter was associated with the firm of N. F. Carr & Company in the capacity of bookkeeper and commercial traveler. Subsequently he engaged in the grocery business for two years and then sold out, after which he turned his attention to manufacturing interests as a member of the Crescent City Chair Company, with which he was associated for three years. On the expiration of that period he was called to public office, being elected city clerk in 1884 by a majority of five hundred. He was again chosen to the office in 1887 by a majority of thirty-five. That year there was a republican landslide in Evansville and the personal popularity of Mr. Ferguson and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow townsmen were indicated in the fact that he was the only man elected on the democratic ticket. In 1890 he was again chosen to the office and received endorsement of his capability and fidelity during his two previous terms in a majority of twelve hundred. After nine years' service he retired from the position as he had entered it—with the confidence and good will of all. Again becoming an active factor in the business circles of the city, he was connected with the Heilman Plow Company, now the Vulcan Plow Company, and in March, 1896, he turned his attention to the fire insurance business, in which he is now engaged. He stands as one of the prominent representatives of insurance interests in this

city and has developed a business of large proportions as the result of his close application, keen sagacity and unfaltering energy. His standing in the business circles of the city is indicated in the fact that for two years he was elected to the presidency of the Evansville Business Association, serving as chief executive officer in 1907 and again in 1908.

On the 26th of September, 1871, Mr. Ferguson was married to Miss Ella Frances Lyon, a daughter of Matthew S. and Sarah (Frost) Lyon. Mrs. Ferguson was born in Kentucky, on the 18th of January 1846, and her parents were also natives of that state. On the 29th of August, 1884, Mrs. Lyon's mother and two sisters were lost on the steamer Belmont, which was capsized during a cyclone in transferring passengers from Evansville to Henderson. Mrs. Ferguson is a descendant of General Lyon and others of the name who were early settlers of Kentucky. Her ancestors were the founders of the town of Eddyville and also of Lyon county. Mrs. Ferguson has been very prominent in the social circles of Evansville and for a quarter of a century has been president of the Ladies Aid Society of the First Christian church, which position she stills fills. She has also been president for many years of the Fitzhugh Lee Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy, the only chapter north of the Mason and Dixon line. Any good work done in the name of charity or religion is sure to receive her support and cooperation and her liberal culture and innate refinement well qualify her for the position of leadership which she occupies in good works and also in the social life of the city. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson have been born three children of whom two are living, William Owen and Glenn. The latter is the wife of Charles A. Ecker, of Terra Haute, Indiana. A little daughter, Fannie, died at the age of four years. The parents are members of the First Christian church and have ever been most helpful in the various lines of church work.

Mr. Ferguson also belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity and is a stalwart advocate of democracy. He is today regarded as one of the foremost citizens of Evansville and while he has made a place for himself among the successful business men his poularity is due to his genial manner, cordial disposition, deference to the opinion of others and genuine personal worth.

THOMAS J. ROLLET.

Thomas J. Rollet is a representative of one of the old families of Vanderburg county, represented here for more than half a century. He was born in Perry township, April 3, 1866, and is a son of Joseph and Sophia Rollet, who are mentioned elsewhere in this volume. When about six years of age he became a pupil in the district schools near his father's home and the pleasures of the playground and the work of the fields also claimed a part of his time and attention. He learned the value of industry, economy and

integrity as factors in business success when in early manhood and these have always constituted elements of his business life. In connection with general farming he has engaged in contracting and building, having much mechanical ability that found expression in the mastery of the carpenter's trade. He is likewise a factor in financial circles, being now one of the directors of the Howell Bank.

On the 28th of November, 1890, Mr. Rollet was married to Miss Kate Speaker, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Speaker. Unto them were born two children, William and Maggie, but they had the misfortune to lose their little daughter. Their religious faith is that of the German Catholic church and in his political views Mr. Rollet is a democrat. He has lived continuously in this county nor sought success in other districts, for he believes that good advantages are here accorded and that this is so is evidenced in his own success. Gradually he has worked his way upward in business lines and whatever he has undertaken has brought to him good returns by reason of his perseverance and capable management.

WILLIAM REISTER.

The period of sixteen years which covers the connection of William Reister with the Vanderburg county bar chronicles his steady rise in the profession until at the present time he enjoys a large and distinctively representative clientage. He was born in Gibson county, Indiana, April 3, 1866, and is a son of Christian and Katharine Reister. The father was born in Baden, Germany, April 25, 1824, and was a young man of twenty-five years when in 1849 he crossed the Atlantic to America, landing at New Orleans, whence he made his way up the Mississippi river to St. Louis. He enlisted in the regular army, becoming a member of Company E, Second Regiment of Artillery, and at the outbreak of the Civil war in 1861 he was commissioned captain of Company D, Thirty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which he was connected until 1865, when he was honorably discharged by reason of the close of the war. His was a creditable military record, characterized by the faithful performance of every duty whether called to the picket line or to the firing line. After the war ended he returned to Gibson county, Indiana, where he engaged in the manufacture of brick and in contract work of that character, continuing in the business until his death, which occurred in March, 1907.

Reared in his native county, William Reister was a pupil in the public and high schools to the time of his graduation from the latter with the class of 1882. He then went to Cynthiana, Indiana, where he was associated with his brother in a general mercantile store until 1892. Going to Bloomington, Indiana, he entered upon preparation for the practice of law as a student in the law department of the state university, from which he was

graduated LL. B. in 1894. Admitted to practice in the state and federal courts upon passing the required examination at Indianapolis, he at once opened an office in Evansville and has been very successful in his profession. He manifests unfaltering loyalty to the interests of his clients and in the preparation of his cases is very thorough, while his logical arguments, clear deductions and sound reasoning are the elements of his success at the bar.

In May, 1889, Mr. Reister was united in marriage at Mount Vernon, Indiana, to Miss Mamie Dunn, who died in January, 1908. He was married in Evansville, in November, 1909, to Miss Mamie Goodge. His five children are Ruth, now Mrs. Pfeffer, of Mount Vernon, Indiana; Wilma, a high school student; Hilda and William, who are attending the public schools; and Isabel, at home.

Mr. Reister is a democrat in his political views and a Cumberland Presbyterian in religious faith. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp, to the Court of Honor and to the National Union and through these associations has broadened his acquaintance and won the high regard of his fellow members.

WALTER S. WILLIAMS.

There was a period in the latter half of the nineteenth century when it seemed that the great majority of young men were turning from the farms to the cities, feeling that greater opportunities could be had through the commercial and industrial business interests as well as the professions to be practiced in the more congested centers. In later years, however, there has seemed to come a reaction and many young men are convinced of the fact that there is no better investment to be made than in farm property. They are therefore turning their attention to agricultural pursuits and in the conduct of the business are applying scientific principles.

In the latter class is numbered Walter S. Williams, who was born in Evansville, October 22, 1873, a son of George and Eliza J. (Scott) Williams, both natives of this state. The father is an engineer and worked at that trade for about twelve years, after which he withdrew from industrial circles and took up his abode in Scott township, Vanderburg county, where he purchased forty-four acres of land. It was covered with timber, which it was necessary to clear away that the regular farm work could be carried on. When that was accomplished he tilled his fields and has since successfully carried on general agricultural pursuits upon a tract of land which adjoins the home of his son Walter. He has erected a comfortable residence, good barns and outbuildings and now has a well improved property, which indicates his careful supervision and the practical methods which he follows in its cultivation. He is regarded as one of the

leading and representative citizens of the community. His political faith is that of the republican party and his religious belief that of the Methodist church.

Walter S. Williams spent his youthful days with his parents to the age of nineteen years, when he returned to Evansville, securing a position in connection with the dairy business. He was thus employed for three years, at the end of which time he purchased a dairy and began business on his own account. He has since continued in that line and, removing to Scott township, he rented seventy-five acres of land from his aunt, Miss Mary Scott, since which time he has cultivated his fields. He is also the owner of two threshing machines and actively carries on the threshing business. His life is indeed a busy one, owing to the various interests which claim his attention and which are carefully conducted by him. Upon his farm he keeps eighteen head of cows, four horses and four mules and he is conducting a most excellent dairy.

In April, 1897, Mr. Williams was married to Miss Annie Wetchsky, a daughter of Charles and Helen Wetchsky, who were natives of Virginia. They now have five children: Howard, Marion, Helen, Belle and Edith Marie. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Williams votes with the republican party, thus following in the political footsteps of his father. He is now serving as one of the trustees of Scott township and is active in community affairs, supporting all measures which he deems beneficial to the district and county at large. Fraternally he is connected with the Woodmen of the World and the Modern Woodmen of America, his membership being in the lodges of Evansville.

JOHN F. KUHN.

John F. Kuhn, whose business activity contributed in large measure to the substantial development of Evansville, was numbered among the self-made men of the city, his record proving the force and effectiveness of industry, determination and honorable dealing in the attainment of success. His birth occurred on Christmas day of 1833 in the beautiful little town of Gettysburg, amid its setting of green hills. His parents were Jacob and Eliza (Hepperly) Kuhn, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, the father engaging in business at Gettysburg as a carriage-maker. In 1848 the family removed to Peoria, Illinois, and John F. Kuhn there started out in life for himself at the age of eighteen years. He was employed by others for two years and at the age of twenty established an independent business. He continued his residence in Peoria until 1881, when with his family he came to Evansville, making his home in this city until his death. He was identified with its interests in many helpful ways, his labors proving a substantial element in its progress and upbuilding. For a long period

he was a member of the firm of Bartlett, Kuhn & Company, grain dealers, and build up an extensive trade in that connection. Other interests also claimed his attention and profited by his cooperation and discriminating judgment.

Mr. Kuhn was married in 1856 to Miss Elizabeth Ann Davis, of Lebanon, Ohio, a daughter of Joshua M. and Rhoda (Evans) Davis, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Warren county, Ohio. Her father was well known as a stock dealer, largely engaged in buying and shipping cattle. A short time prior to his death Mr. Kuhn purchased a beautiful home on Upper Second street, which his widow now occupies. The success which he had achieved in business enabled him to leave Mrs. Kuhn in very comfortable financial circumstances. During the last fifteen years of his life he was in ill health yet he kept in close touch with his business which he directed from his home.

The simplicity and beauty of his daily life as seen in his home and family relations constituted an even balance; his splendid business ability resulting in the establishment of one of the largest grain trades of the county. Such was the regard entertained for his business ability and discernment that his advice was frequently sought upon business matters. His progressiveness was tempered by a safe conservatism that permitted no false steps. He was at all times a public-spirited citizen and sought by every means possible to promote the welfare and upbuilding of Evansville. He was extremely anxious that the Big Four Railroad should be extended to this city and put forth earnest effort in that direction but did not live to see the fulfillment of his hopes, although his labors were certainly an effective element in accomplishing the result. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, and he was entitled to wear the Grand Army button from the fact that he enlisted from Peoria at the time of the Civil war and did active duty at the front in defense of the stars and stripes. He was one of the organizers of the Elks lodge in Evansville but in later years his health forced him to discontinue active connection therewith. He died March 5, 1907, to the deep regret of all who knew him. The world instinctively paid him that tribute of respect and esteem which is accorded to the self-made man whose success is the evidence of his strong character, his ability and unassailable business principles.

HENRY A. WIMBERG.

Henry A. Wimberg, general manager of one of the branches of the Evansville Brewing Association, the duties of which position he assumed on the 2d of June, 1902, was born in Evansville, on the 9th of June, 1877, his parents being Henry C. and Elizabeth Wimberg. His youthful days were spent in his father's home, during which period he attended the parochial schools of the Catholic church until fourteen years of age. He after-

ward spent one year as a student in the Jasper College at Jasper, Indiana, and a year in the Notre Dame University. On putting aside his text-books he returned to this city and for two years was employed by the Evansville Brewing Company in the engineering room. As his ability and fidelity were recognized he was promoted and filled positions in different departments and in the malt house for three years. On the expiration of that period he went to Chicago, where he spent four months in the employ of the Wahl Brewing Company. Returning, however, to Evansville, he accepted the superintendency and general management of the brewing plant of which he now has charge. This is a well equipped enterprise of the kind. Employment is furnished to thirty-five men, eight wagons are utilized in the delivery and the capacity of the plant is fifty thousand barrels annually. Mr. Wimberg gives undivided attention to the business and works to secure the highest standard of excellence in the output.

In his political views Mr. Wimberg has always been a democrat since age conferred upon him the voting privilege. He has fraternal relations with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, belongs to the Liederkranz and is a communicant of the Catholic church. His entire life having been passed in Evansville, he is well known here and among those whom he has met in business and social relations he has made many friends.

JOHN MOLL.

A goodly proportion of the citizens of Vanderburg county are of German nativity or lineage and the sterling traits of the Teutonic race have constituted an important element in the upbuilding and progress of this section of the state. John Moll is numbered among the German-American residents of Center township, his birth having occurred in the fatherland in January 1845. His parents, Henry and Eva M. Moll, were also natives of that country, where they remained until 1849, when the hope of improving their financial condition led them to cross the Atlantic. They did not tarry on the eastern coast but proceeded at once into the interior of the country and became residents of Vanderburg county, Indiana, the father purchasing a tract of land in Scott township. Here he at once began farming, his unfaltering energy being manifest in his careful cultivation of the fields up to the time of his death, which occurred in June, 1884. His wife survived him for about a year and died in April, 1885.

John Moll was only four years of age when the family made the long voyage across the briny deep. His youthful days were therefore largely spent upon the home farm and he remained with his parents until nineteen years of age, when he went to Evansville, where he began learning the trades of blacksmithing and plow making. He was afterward employed in a carriage factory and learned that business but later returned to plow mak-

ing at a salary of six dollars per day—a fact which indicates his expert workmanship. He followed that line of business for about a year, at the end of which time he removed to Center township and bought land. It was his purpose not only to give his attention to general agricultural pursuits but also to carry on blacksmithing and he erected a shop for that purpose, continuing both lines of business until 1902, when he turned over his interests to his son Henry. He is the owner of sixty acres of fine land under a high state of cultivation and well equipped with modern improvements which he has placed thereon.

On the 7th of February, 1871, Mr. Moll was united in marriage to Miss Lena Theirse, a daughter of George and Kate (Deimert) Theirse, both of whom were natives of Germany. This marriage has been blessed with ten children: Kate, who is married and resides in Pigeon township; Mary, likewise married, who makes her home in Kratsville; Maggie, who is married and lives in Evansville; Henry J., who passed away on the 5th of December, 1876; Henry, who is married and resides in Stringtown; Peter, who is married and makes his home in Montana; George, who is married and lives in Evansville; John, who is married and resides in Armstrong, Indiana; James who resides in Montana with his brother; and Joseph, at home.

The parents are communicants of the Catholic church and Mr. Moll is a democrat in his political views. He has supported the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise but has never been an office seeker, feeling that the demands of business should be his first consideration. His life has been one of diligence and perseverance and his success is the merited reward of his labor.

JOSEPH W. KNOWLES.

One of the finest country homes of Vanderburg county is the property of Joseph W. Knowles, a prominent agriculturist of Center township. His home stands in the midst of a valuable farm of two hundred and seventy-two acres, equipped with all the modern accessories and conveniences of a model farm of the twentieth century. He is one of the oldest native residents of this part of the state, his birth having occurred in Scott township, Vanderburg county, on the 26th of December, 1832. He has therefore witnessed the growth and progress of this region for seventy-eight years and has taken active part in the work of general development. His parents, Charles and Mary Ann Knowles, were natives of England and on coming to this country settled in Evansville in 1818. Indiana had been admitted to the Union only the year before and the work of progress and improvement seemed scarcely begun in this region. The father was a butcher by trade but on coming to the United States turned his attention to farming, purchasing land which he cultivated and improved for about a half century.

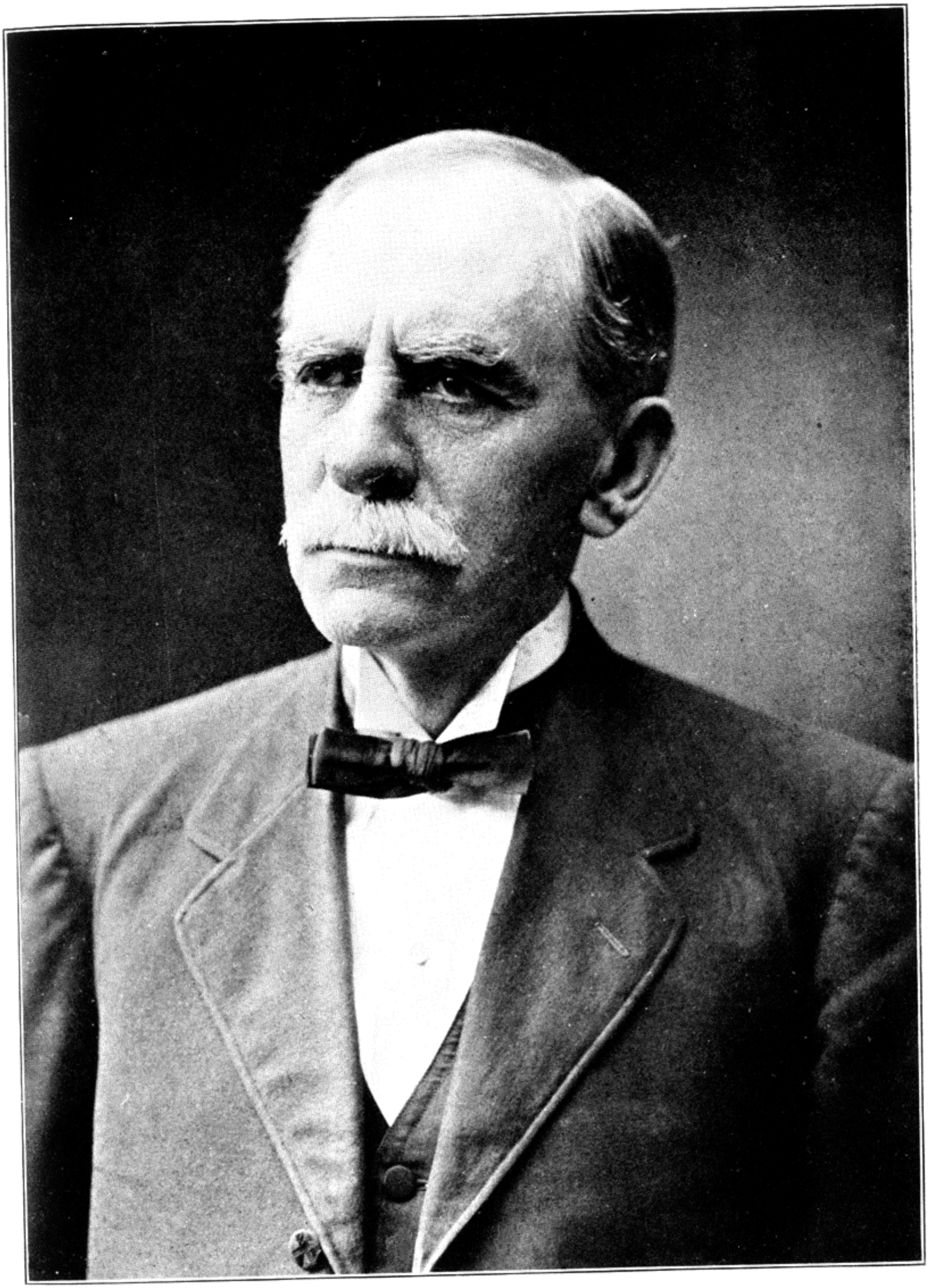
He died in the year 1873, having for two years survived his wife, who passed away in 1871.

Joseph W. Knowles, born and reared on the old homestead, remained with his parents throughout their lives and afterward took charge of the home farm, which he has since operated. In 1880 he purchased seventy-five acres of land in Center township, improved this place after the most modern methods and now has one of the finest residences in Vanderburg county. All of the other buildings and equipments are in keeping with the home and his possessions aggregate two hundred and seventy-two acres of as fine farm land as can be found in Indiana. The soil is rich and productive and annually returns generous harvests for the care and labor bestowed upon the fields.

On the 1st of January, 1857, Mr. Knowles was married to Miss Mary Ann Peck, a daughter of John and Esther Peck, who were natives of England and in 1820 came to Vanderburg county, settling in Scott township, where the father secured land and carried on farming until his death. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Knowles have been born two sons and three daughters, namely: Charles A., who is married and lives in Evansville; John R., who is likewise married and makes his home in Evansville; Clara, who resides with her parents; Gertrude Van Winkle, living in Evansville; and May, who died in infancy. The parents are members of the Episcopal church and have guided their lives by its teachings. Mr. Knowles votes with the republican party and is interested in its welfare but has never sought the honors nor emoluments of office. His success has come as the legitimate reward of his earnest labor and his life record is a proof of the fact that prosperity and an honored name may be won simultaneously.

HENRY REIS.

The banking business of American history has developed men of prodigious mental force and, it seems, almost indestructible physical energy—men who have ranked the financial system of this country with the foremost among the nations of the earth. A man's genius asserts its force in the mastery of his work, the completeness of his undertaking. The strength and force of the character of Mr. Reis are manifest in the success which he has achieved. His history is a part—a potential part—of the banking and business history of commercial Evansville. The steps in his orderly progression are easily discernible. From youth working for his living and dependent on his own hands for whatever the world was to bring him of enjoyment or honors, he has reached an enviable place of business prominence and also of exalted social position. He started with nothing and now has almost everything that men covet as of value, and he has won it all by his own unaided exertions.



HENRY REIS

Mr. Reis was born near Mayence (Mainz), Germany, February 15, 1847, a son of Peter and Elisabeth Reis, who in the year 1849 sailed for America with their family, settling in Posey county, Indiana. The father was a farmer by occupation and died in Parkers settlement in Posey county in the year 1856.

Deprived of a father's care and support at the age of nine years, Henry Reis was early thrown upon his own resources. In his youthful days he attended the common schools until, at the age of fifteen, he secured a position in a drug store. Working in the day time, he attended Behm's Commercial College at night in order that a broader and more thorough education might better qualify him for the practical duties of life, and was graduated with the class of 1864. He also attended the night school of Professor S. K. Leavitt. A boy of less determination and ambition would have devoted his leisure hours to rest and recreation, but Mr. Reis recognized that he must depend upon his own exertion and ability for advancement and utilized every opportunity that led to promotion in business lines. For about three years he was employed in a drug store and then entered the bank of W. J. Lowry & Company in a minor position, remaining with that firm from the 8th of March, 1865, until 1872. In the latter year he became connected with the bank of which he is now the president and which was then called the Evansville National Bank. In 1885 a reorganization was effected under the name of The Old National Bank and in December, 1904, the name was changed to The Old State National Bank. From his earliest connection with the banking business Mr. Reis made rapid progress through close attention and hard work. He was appointed assistant cashier in 1873, was made cashier in 1875, was elected vice president and cashier in 1902 and in 1908 was called to the presidency. Unfaltering industry and unassailable business integrity brought him success and he stands today in a most prominent and enviable position in the banking circles of Evansville, with which he has been connected from his boyhood, covering a period of forty-five years. He is not only a stockholder in this institution but also in the City National Bank of Evansville and is vice president of the Evansville Clearing House Association.

When he was called to the presidency of the institution of which he is now the head one of the local papers said: "The election of Henry Reis to the presidency of The Old State National Bank comes as an honor to a man who has won it by long and faithful service in the banking institutions of Evansville. The selection of Mr. Reis for this important post will be hailed with delight by every depositor as well as stockholder of the bank. Few men in Evansville have had as long experience in the banking business as he has and none more successful. Since 1865 he has filled various positions in the banks of the city, going to The Old State National when the city was in the flush of its first growth. In all these years, in whatever capacity, Mr. Reis has ever maintained those valuable qualifications that make for popularity of an institution of such moment to the

community. Under his management there is no doubt that The Old State National will maintain its strong place among the banking institutions of Evansville and be known as 'Old Gibraltar' in the future as in the past. The election of H. H. Ogden as cashier some months back gave a strong impetus to the business of the bank and now that the presidency has been filled so well there is no doubt of the bank's future."

Another of the Evansville journals, commenting upon his promotion, wrote: "The election on Thursday of Henry Reis to be president of The Old State National Bank furnishes a theme of inspiration to the young man who aspires to high positions. Starting in as paying teller of the bank at a modest salary, diligent services and work well executed procured promotion until the vice presidency of the bank was reached. Mr. Reis' long and valued labor for the institution and his high standing as a gentleman and a banker have now secured for him the election to the presidency. Courteous, experienced, a helper and encourager of young men, filled with civic pride and irreproachable in character, Mr. Reis is a fit man to head the institution. No young man can analyze the secret of the new president's success without reaching the decision that, by the man who is willing to work and believes that genius is hard work, high positions can be attained."

On the 9th of September, 1869, in Evansville, Mr. Reis was married to Miss Caroline Blass, of Erie, Pennsylvania. She is a member of a large family who came from Germany in 1860 and settled in Erie, where her parents and some of the older members of the family have since died. Mr. and Mrs. Reis have five children living: Olga, now the wife of Graham F. Denby, of Evansville; Alma, the wife of Sidney B. Mitchell, of New Orleans, Louisiana; Katherine, the wife of Owen H. Jean, of Evansville; Henry, who is with the National Bank of Commerce of St. Louis, Missouri; and Alvin C., a student in the State University at Madison, Wisconsin. Two children died: Arthur, in 1876; and Walter, in 1889.

Mr. Reis is never unmindful of his duties of citizenship nor of his obligations to his fellowmen and in both fields his labors have been effective forces for good. He votes with the republican party, deeming its principles indispensable agents of good government. His benevolent spirit is manifest in his helpfulness toward many individuals and also in the fact that he is serving as treasurer of the Rathbone Memorial Home for Old Ladies. He is a consistent member of St. John's church. In more strictly social lines he is connected with the Country Club, while fraternally he is a Mason and a member of the Court of Honor. He manifests practical activity as a member of the Evansville Business Association and belongs to that class who seem to find the happiness of life in the success of their work. In demeanor he is modest, seeking no notoriety, and his influence is perhaps all the more potent because it is moral rather than political and is wielded for the public good rather than for personal aggrandizement. Every business day finds him at his desk save in summer when he takes a

short vacation with his family. His business integrity and uprightness of his methods is indicated in the fact that he has no enemy. While he has written his name in the terms of success, it is spoken by his fellow townsmen only in the terms of respect. Such a record should serve as a source of encouragement to young men, for by unremitting diligence and unassailable honesty he has advanced from the lowest to the highest position in the bank and has gained thereby the honor and esteem of his fellowmen.

JOHN O'DONNELL.

The growth and prosperity of a community are never due to a single individual but result from the combined efforts of many, each of whom bears his part through the capable conduct of individual interests. Well known as a factor in industrial circles in Evansville, the enterprising spirit and intelligently directed activities of John O'Donnell have at length brought him to a prominent position as secretary and treasurer of the O'Donnell Steam Heating Company. He was born in Pennsylvania, September 4, 1864, a son of John and Helen (Connor) O'Donnell, whose family numbered seven children, namely: J. S., who is a building contractor of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Thomas S., who is with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company in Pittsburg; Mrs. Mary J. Hayes, also a resident of Pittsburg; Mrs. A. J. Townsend, of Sharon, Pennsylvania; Mrs. Kate Brady, of McDonald, Pennsylvania; Julia, who is living in Butler, Pennsylvania; and John, who completes the family. The father devoted his life to the occupation of farming until his labors were ended by death, about seventeen years ago. His widow long survived him, passing away about four years ago.

In the country schools John O'Donnell pursued his education to the age of fifteen years, spending about four months each year in mastering the elementary branches of learning. The remainder of the year was devoted to such farm work as he was fitted for, his labors and responsibilities increasing as the years passed on. Leaving school at the age of fifteen, he went to Pittsburg, where he was employed in a glass factory for two years. He afterward learned the trade of steam fitting in the house of Kelly, Jones & Company and subsequently went to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he followed his trade for a year. He then returned to Pittsburg where he continued for two years and then made his way westward to Kansas City, Missouri, where he spent two and one-half years. In 1889 he came to Evansville and has since been identified with the business of this city in the line of his chosen occupation. He had charge of the work on the court house and for six years was connected with the Tennessee Range & Iron Company, the successors of J. T. Foley & Company. In 1896 he embarked in business on his own account, forming a partnership with H. G. Rotzel,

with whom he had been connected for two years when he purchased his partner's interest. Four years ago he incorporated the business under the name of the O'Donnell Steam Heating Company, with August Koring as president, while Mr. O'Donnell is secretary and treasurer. The trade of the house extends over western Kentucky, southern Illinois and southern Indiana and the name of the company has become a familiar one in the largest and smallest towns of those districts. His business interests have now grown to extensive proportions owing to the capable management, keen discernment and unfaltering determination of one who from the outset of his career has been imbued with the laudable ambition to attain honorable success.

In his political views Mr. O'Donnell is a democrat and fraternally is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. He also belongs to the different trade organizations, to the Builders Exchange, and is constantly alert to note opportunities for improvement not only in his individual busiess affairs but in the commercial and industrial conditions which exist in Evansville and upon which the prosperity and growth of the city must depend.

CHARLES EULER.

For more than sixty years Charles Euler has resided in Vanderburg county. It was here that he was born, his natal day being February 28, 1849, while his birthplace was in Center township. He has always continued in this section of the state and has lived a life of thrift and industry, being now the owner of a model little farm of thirty-four acres which has been brought to a high state of cultivation. His parents were Henry and Mary (Steinmetz) Euler, both of whom were natives of Germany. The year 1837 witnessed their arrival in America, and at once they came to Evansville, soon after completing arrangements whereby a farm of eighty acres in Center township was purchased. Mr. Euler bent his energies to the task of developing and improving this farm, continuing its cultivation until his death, which occurred in 1861. For eleven years thereafter the mother traveled life's journey in her widowhood, and in 1872 was called to the home beyond. They had crossed the Atlantic in one of the old time sailing vessels and they were closely, actively and helpfully associated with the pioneer development of this part of the state.

Charles Euler was reared on the old homestead and in his youthful days attended the district school, pursuing his studies through the winter seasons while the summer months were devoted to farm work. At the age of eighteen he left home and went to Evansville, where he learned the blacksmith trade, which he followed for eleven years. By the terms of his father's will he inherited thirty-four acres of land, and at that time aban-

doned blacksmithing and took up his abode upon his farm. It was unimproved as far as buildings were concerned, so that he erected there a comfortable house, also a barn and sheds. His attention has since been given to the development of his property, and the modern and progressive methods which he follows have made his fields very productive.

On the 21st of October, 1876, Mr. Euler was united in marriage to Miss Barbara Seoser, a daughter of Simon and Eva Seoser, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Switzerland. Mr. and Mrs. Euler have become the parents of five children, as follows: Eva, who lives at home; Simon H., who is married and resides in Evansville; Maggie M., employed in Evansville; Edward, who passed away in October, 1904; and Anna W., who resides at home and is engaged in teaching school.

In his political views Mr. Euler was a republican, finding that the principles of that party are the best embodiment of his views concerning governmental policy. He was elected and served as road supervisor of Center township for two terms, but has had little ambition for office holding. He was formerly a member of the Knights of Honor, and is now a member of the Evangelical church. His entire life has been passed in this locality and the fact that many of his stanchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time indicates that his course in life has at all times been honorable and upright.

THOMAS E. SMYTH.

Thomas E. Smyth is the owner of one of the best improved farms of Vanderburg county, and although the active work is now being carried on by his son, he still gives supervision to the management of the place. He was born in Wadesville, Indiana, in 1861. His father, Dr. Richard Smyth, was a graduate of Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia. A native of Ireland, he had come to America in early life and following his preparation for a professional career practiced medicine for many years in Princeton, Indiana.

It was in the schools of the latter city that Thomas E. Smyth pursued his education until, putting aside his text-books, he secured a clerkship and devoted his attention to mercantile pursuits for a few years. The opportunities of the western country then attracted him, and in 1881 he went to Kansas to try farming. There he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land upon which he made some improvements, giving his attention to the general cultivation of the fields for three years. He was convinced in that time, however, that Indiana was a better farming state, and, returning, settled on a farm in Knight township. Here he has since occupied one hundred and sixty acres of land, upon which he has made all of the improvements that now constitute it one of the best farms in this section. Its buildings are large and substantial, its machinery modern and the fences well kept. The stock,

too, is of good grades, and everything indicates the progressive spirit of the owner. He has turned over the active work of the farm to his son, but his judgment still constitutes a factor in its successful operation.

In 1884 Mr. Smyth was united in marriage to Miss Emma Wilson, who was born in Canada and is a daughter of Samuel Wilson, a resident farmer of Vanderburg county. They have three children: Richard, now living in Duluth, Minn., and John and Marie, upon the farm. The family are well known here, having for more than a quarter of a century lived in Vanderburg county, where their good qualities have won them favorable recognition. Mr. Smyth votes for the republican party which he has supported since attaining his majority, and in all matters relative to the public welfare he takes a deep and active interst.

DAVID S. BERNSTEIN.

Some men seem born for leadership in business and no obstacle can prevent them from attaining the object of their ambition. It matters not whether such men are born in poverty or in affluence they win their way to the top and nothing short of death can long retard their advancement. They have resources within themselves and do not depend upon others to find positions for them, but make positions for themselves. To this class belongs David S. Bernstein, a leading manufacturer of clothing and store fixtures and also identified with other business interests.

He was born in Germany, January 2, 1871. In the public schools of his native land he received an education that prepared him for the larger responsibilities and at fourteen years of age he bade farewell to the fatherland and came to America. He spent eight years in New York city, becoming acquainted with the language and customs of this country and also receiving his first introduction to the mercantile business. In 1894 he left the Atlantic coast and established himself in Evansville as a manufacturer of clothing. Ever since that time he has continued in a business for which he has shown remarkable adaptibility and which is one of the established industries of Evansville. He is president of the Old Reliable Store Company at Fulton avenue and Franklin street and also president of the Evansville Store Fixtures Company. He is a stockholder in the Old State Bank and has been actively identified for a number of years with various business interests, in all of which he has displayed a keenness of insight and a sound judgment which gained the respect of his associates.

On the 10th of April, 1894, Mr. Bernstein was united in marriage to Miss Nannie C. Paul, a daughter of Robert Paul, of Evansville. Two children have blessed this union, Jessie M. and Rosallie Gertrude.

Mr. Bernstein is greatly interested in fraternal organizations and is a member of the local Masonic lodge of Evansville; Lodge No. 116, B. P.

D. S. BERNSTEIN

O. E.; and also of the Knights of Pythias, having passed through the chairs of the last named order and attained the rank of past chancellor. As is to be seen by the above brief review, Mr. Bernstein is an earnest and progressive citizen, who generally accomplishes what he sets out to perform He is a worthy representative of the Teutonic race—a race that is making its presence felt in every country of the world. His success in Evansville in comparatively a few years is evidence that he made no mistake in selecting this city as his theater of operations, although it is plain that a man of his natural ability and energy would have succeeded anywhere.

MOSES SMITH.

On memory's hall there hang many pictures that time cannot dim and which are never overshadowed even by the glowing colors of the present. Who cannot remember the school in which he began his education, be the building humble or pretentious? It was in the old school building on Second between Main and Locust streets that Moses Smith began the mastery of those elementary branches of learning which constitute the foundation for all later knowledge. He was at that time a little lad of six years—years that had been spent in Evansville, for he was born in this city March 1, 1845, a son of Robert and Mary (Skinner) Smith, both of whom were natives of Chatterass, England. Leaving that country on the 1st of April, 1833, as passengers on a westward bound sailing vessel, they landed at New York with a cash capital of five dollars, and from the eastern metropolis walked all the way to Evansville, the mother carrying an infant child in her arms. As opportunity offered the father worked while on the way in order to meet the necessities of life, and found himself a dollar ahead when he reached his destination, his labors having enabled him to meet the expenses incurred on the trip and also add to the little sum which he had on reaching America. He earned his first money in Evansville by carrying plaster for bricklayers, but was not content with such an occupation and eagerly availed himself of the opportunity of cultivating on shares a section of land owned by John Mitchell, at that time a banker of Evansville. Following the death of Mr. Mitchell he continued farming on shares under the administrator, John Engle, ten years being given to the improvement of that farm. Mr. Smith then took up a farm of one hundred and twenty-five acres and, stimulated to further effort by the knowledge that the land was his own, and that he should derive all of the benefits of his labors, he bent every energy to the improvement of the property, carrying on his farm work along progressive lines. He not only carefully cultivated his fields but also raised good grades of stock and was associated with John Morgan in introducing the first Jersey bull into Indiana. After many years devoted to general farming and stock-

raising he retired from active business but continued to live upon his farm near Evansville until his death in 1864. His wife passed away in 1863.

Moses Smith was at that time a young man of twenty years and in the meantime he had pursued his education until, at the age of sixteen years, he left the Carpenter street school to take up the cares and responsibilities of business life, working with his father upon the home farm until the latter's death.

It was about that time, on the 28th of April, 1864, when nineteen years of age, that Moses Smith was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Jane Blackburn, a daughter of Harvey Blackburn, a native of South Carolina, and Jane (Price) Blackburn, who was born in Virginia. The latter was a daughter of Levi Price, who was appointed postmaster of Evansville, August 25, 1827, by John McLean, then postmaster general of the United States. The young couple began their domestic life upon his father's farm and for many years thereafter Moses Smith was closely associated with the agricultural development of Vanderburg county. Prospering in his undertaking, he invested in land and at one time owned the largest dairy and stock farm in the vicinity of Evansville. In 1874, however, he sold his home place to the city and it now constitutes the Locust Hill cemetery. At that time he engaged in the sewing machine business, which he followed for two years, when he again became connected with agricultural pursuits, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land in Warrick county, Indiana, upon which he lived for eleven years. He then disposed of that property and took charge of the nine-mile house, but eventually traded it for a farm in Warrick county, Indiana, which he still owns. On leaving the nine-mile house he removed to the city of Evansville, where he opened a real-estate office and is now numbered among the successful real-estate men of the city. He has thoroughly acquainted himself with property conditions and values here, understands the possibilities of sale and purchase and is thus capable of attending to the interests of his clients, who are numerous.

As the years have passed there have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith twelve children, of whom William Harvey and Byron, the two oldest, are now deceased. Mary Jane has become the wife of Samuel Newman, of Evansville. Moses, Jr., is residing in St. Paul, Minnesota. Sarah is the wife of Albert McCool, residing on a farm near Evansville. Kernie is in the employ of the Hercules Buggy Company of this city. Elmore and Dora both died in infancy. Daisy is the wife of Charles Harmon, an Evansville attorney. Pearl is the wife of Henry C. Rueter, who is employed by the Evansville Dry Goods Company. Mildred is the wife of Emerson Gomez, a machinist with the Illinois Central Railroad of Evansville. Arvilla is the wife of Clyde Hudson, a traveling salesman living in Evansville. The family is well known and prominent in the city and county, and Mr. Smith has been closely connected with public affairs. He well remembers that at the time he was attending school the city was bounded by Division street on the north, Canal, which is now Fifth street, on the east, Walnut street on the

south and the Ohio river on the west. Great changes have since occurred and the Evansville of a half century ago bears little resemblance to the city of the present. In 1868 he was elected road supervisor, which position he filled for six years, and during his term of office he made a gravel road from Locust Hill cemetery to Fulton avenue, which was certainly much needed at that time, for no street paving had been done at that time in the city. His ideas concerning the question of public policy and politics are sociological. He believes in the right of the masses rather than of classes and has been a close student of sociological and economic conditions so that his opinions are based upon a careful consideration of the questions involved.

MILTON C. BRANDON.

The life work of Milton C. Brandon became an integral element in the development of Evansville. His was the record of a strong individuality, sure of itself and stable in purpose, quick in perception, swift in decision and energetic and persistent in action. His rise from the humble position which he occupied when as an eleven-year-old boy he started out for himself, to the presidency of a company conducting an extensive commission business, covers a wide range of experience. He was born on the 12th day of January, 1856, in Dover, Stewart county, Tennessee, and was the eldest son of Newton and Martha Brandon. The father died about the time of the close of the Civil war and Milton C. Brandon, then a youth of eleven years, became the support of the family. It was a heavy burden for young shoulders to assume, but he bravely took up the task, utilizing his time and talents to the best advantage. His ability developed with the passing years and at the age of seventeen he came to Evansville to accept a position with the commission house of Martin, Eichel & Morris Company. Several years' connection with the firm brought him experience and an understanding of the business that well qualified him to conduct a similar enterprise on his own account, and about 1889 the firm of Holt & Brandon was organized, Mr. Brandon continuing in active connection therewith to the time of his demise, serving for a number of years prior to his death as the president and treasurer. Under his directing influence the trade of the house steadily increased and the business became a growing and profitable one.

In 1896 Mr. Brandon was united in marriage to Miss Mary H. Gleichman, and unto them were born two daughters who are yet living, Martha and Milton, aged respectively twelve and eight years. Mr. Brandon was devoted to his family and it was in his own household that his loss was most deeply felt, yet his death brought a sense of bereavement to all who knew him.

His engaging social qualities, his rectitude and reliability in business and his progressive public spirit all combined to give him firm hold on the affections of his fellow townsmen. He was a very popular member of the

local lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and was loyal to his membership relations in the Grace Presbyterian church. He was always appreciative of the kindness shown him on the part of his friends, and availed himself of every opportunity to reciprocate. Failing health caused him to go to Miami, Florida, in the hope of being benefited, and with his wife and two daughters he proceeded southward. Another stroke of apoplexy caused his family to be fearful for the worst, and they started home, hoping that his last hours could be spent in Evansville, but death came to him while the train on which the family were passengers was crossing his native state on the 12th of March, 1909. He was yet in the prime of life, well fitted for all the responsibilities which he had assumed, and it was the hand of sorrow that wrote the word finis at the conclusion of his life work.

FREDERICK W. COOK.

Various corporate interests have felt the stimulus of the spirit of enterprise which has dominated Frederick W. Cook in all of his business transactions. His ability to formulate and execute plans, to coordinate forces, to carefully systematize interests has led him to a prominent position in the business circles of Evansville and this section of Indiana. Something of the extent and importance of his interests is indicated by the fact that he is now the president of the F. W. Cook Brewing Company; president of the Evansville, Newburg & Rockport Railway Company; president of the F. W. Cook Investment Company; and a director of and investor in various other prominent business interests of this city.

A native of Washington, D. C., Mr. Cook was born February 1, 1832. Shortly after his birth his parents removed to Port Deposit, Maryland but subsequently went to Cincinnati, Ohio, while in 1836 they arrived in Evansville, Indiana. Frederick W. Cook therefore pursued his early education in the schools of this city and was provided with further advantages when sent as a student to the Anderson Collegiate Institute at New Albany. About a year after the family arrived in Evansville his stepfather, Jacob Rice, in connection with Fred Kroener, bought property in Lamasco (now the west side of Evansville) and erected a brewing plant—the first in southern Indiana—and years later Frederick W. Cook became connected with this business. He made his initial step in the business world, however, as a clerk in the dry-goods store of L. W. Hebard, but two years later his brother died and he was called home by his parents. Soon after this he began learning the brewing business and in 1853, in connection with Louis Rice, a brother of his stepfather, he built the City Brewery on the site where the F. W. Cook Brewing Company is now conducting business. At that time the district was a corn field but the keen sagacity

FREDERICK W. COOK

of Mr. Cook foretold its later value. The capital of the new firm was three hundred and thirty dollars. Mr. Rice assumed the management of the brewery, while Mr. Cook looked after the business details. From the beginning the enterprise grew and prospered and after three years Mr. Rice sold his interest to his brother Jacob. About that time a beer cellar was installed and the company began the manufacture of lager beer. An exclusive malt house was also added to the plant. The death of Jacob Rice, the stepfather and partner of Mr. Cook, occurred on the 3d of May, 1872, and the mother of Mr. Cook passed away November 6, 1878. He thus became sole heir to the property and conducted the business under the old firm style of Cook & Rice until 1885, when it was incorporated as the F. W. Cook Brewing Company, with F. W. Cook as president. He has since remained at the head of the business which, under his direction, has constantly increased in volume and importance. The 3d of December, 1891, the brew house and offices were destroyed by fire but were immediately rebuilt and by March, 1893, the company had one of the most complete brew houses in the United States, with a capacity now of six hundred thousand barrels yearly. This has become one of the largest productive industries of Evansville and its product is shipped to foreign countries as well as to most parts of this country. Mr. Cook is a member of the National Brewers Association and has constantly studied modern methods and processes whereby the interests of his business may be promoted and the excellence of the product advanced.

Quickly recognizing favorable business opportunities, Mr. Cook has extended his efforts into various fields, all of which have profited by his co-operation, his energy and capable management. Becoming connected with the Evanston, Newburg & Rockport Railway Company, he was elected and is still its president. He is also president of the F. W. Cook Investment Company, which owns Cook's Park, and he is a director of the Citizens National Bank, of the Ohio Valley Trust Company, the Evansville Trust & Savings Company, as well as many other important corporations which are factors in the material growth and business development of this city.

In 1856 Mr. Cook was united in marriage to Miss Louise Hild, who was born in Louisville, Kentucky, and died in February, 1877. In November, 1879, Mr. Cook wedded Jennie Himeline, of Kelley's Island, Ohio, who died in January, 1885.

In the year of his first marriage Mr. Cook was also elected councilman of Evansville, from the fifth ward and in 1863 was elected to represent the eighth ward in the city council. The following year he was again chosen for the same position, but before the expiration of his term, resigned in order to accept a seat in the Indiana legislature, to which he had been elected in the fall of 1864. Later he represented the fourth ward in the city council and as an alderman has done important service to further the material interests and promote the welfare and progress of the city whose

upbuilding has been attributable in no small degree not only to his official service but also to his business capacity. He has maintained a fixed and unalterable purpose throughout all of his business life and the attainment of success represents with him the fit utilization of the innate powers and talents which are his.

HIRAM M. LINDLEY.

From all those regions in which his friendship was cherished by those who had at one time or another been associated with him through business or social relations, there came at the time of the death of Hiram M. Lindley messages, all of which bore the same tenor of thought—deep regret at the passing of one who stood as a man among men. He attained the heights of greatness in the beauty and nobility of his character, in his lofty conception of friendship and of Christian service. Born in Vevay, Indiana, February 23, 1839, his life record covered the intervening years to the 1st of January, 1901, when he passed away in Evansville. His parents were Francis and Rebecca (McKittrick) Lindley, well known early residents of Vevay. The father was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, where he lived until twenty-one years of age, when he removed to Switzerland county, Indiana, and was among the first to establish homes in the county seat. There he opened a tanyard, remaining a resident of that place for a half century. Subsequently he removed to Greensburg, Indiana, where he resided until his death, which occurred in 1875, when he was eighty-four years of age. His wife, who was born in Lexington, Kentucky, in 1800, died in 1839. Both were devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Hiram M. Lindley, one of a family of nine children, mastered the preliminary branches of learning in the public schools of Switzerland county and in Moores Hill College. In 1859 after leaving college he and his brother, J. F. Lindley, became partners in the dry-goods business in New Albany, where they successfully conducted a store for more than a decade. In September, 1870, they removed their business to Evansville, where they continued actively in trade until 1895, establishing one of the foremost commercial enterprises of this city. His prominent place in business circles was never won at the sacrifice of another's interests. He sought prosperity along the lines which govern unflagging industry and strict and unswerving integrity. One who knew him well said of him: "In his business life he was distinguished for upright dealing. Once it was the case that no better advertising could be done by a business man than to deal honestly and faithfully by his patrons. When once a man's reputation for fair dealing was established; when it was known that his word might be implicitly trusted; then a steady patronage might be counted upon. He held the old

fashioned creed as to the conduct of business; and during his long career he maintained an enviable reputation for the strictest integrity; his unimpeachable commercial probity won for him the confidence not only of intimate friends but of a large acquaintance among the business men of southern Indiana." The Evansville business was conducted under the firm style of J. F. Lindley & Brother until 1895, when they retired from business at this point and for three years Hiram Lindley was not connected with commercial interests. He then removed to Hazelton, Indiana, where he again engaged in business, meeting with success there until failing health forced him to leave Hazelton, at which time he shipped his goods to Evansville and placed his business affairs in the hands of his brother-in-law, Elisha H. Stephens. He never recovered his health, gradually growing worse until the end came.

At the time of the Civil war Mr. Lindley's sympathies were entirely with the Union cause and he enlisted for service to protect Vanderburg county at the time of the Morgan raid. Public-spirited, he was deeply interested in everything that pertained to the welfare of the community and his cooperation could always be counted upon to promote the public good.

In 1862 Mr. Lindley was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Stephens, a daughter of Robert and Carrie (Falconer) Stephens, the latter a native of England, while her father was of Scotch descent, coming to this country from Roderick, Scotland. For a considerable period he was engaged in the hat business in Washington, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Lindley never had any children of their own but reared two nieces, Mrs. Enola L. Gardner and Lydia J. Stephens, who took the place of daughters in the household. Mr. and Mrs. Lindley were always one in their interests and sympathies. Both were particularly active in the work of the Home of the Friendless, Mr. Lindley as a member of its board of trustees for seventeen years, while Mrs. Lindley has been on the board for thirty years. She was president of the Orphans Asylum for eighteen years, and Mr. Lindley was for thirty-one years a member of the board of trustees of Trinity church. They gladly shared with the unfortunate the success which had come to them, extending a helping hand wherever it was needed, or speaking the necessary word of cheer and encouragement. Their lives were an expression of Christian service and in the work Mrs. Lindley still continues. When the final summons came and Hiram Lindley passed on to the reward prepared for the righteous, there came to his widow words of sympathy from all parts of the country. Bishop John H. Vincent, then in Zurich, Switzerland, wrote: "Mr. Lindley was a true man, kind, cheerful, hospitable and generous." From Bishop Cranston, of Portland, Oregon, came the following: "The sad intelligence of the death of my friend and your beloved husband (Mr. Hiram Lindley) has just reached me. While it grieves me to learn of his going away and to know how deeply you mourn his absence, I am none the less assured that all is well with him. His was a true heart. I have never forgotten his brave stand by my side when I was contending for righteous-

ness in the long gone days. He gave no uncertain vote when the test came that tried the integrity of church officials. As to my high regard for him during all these years you need not be told. A genial spirit has been your companion for a life time."

Dr. Joseph Gardner, of Bedford, Indiana, wrote: "When one has gone away with no expectation of returning; those who have loved, those who have been friendly, and those who have had business dealings, all feel as if something had been personally lost. The degree of loss is in proportion to the interest that had been. Some are born to command; others are the bearers of silver and gold; others stir the hearts of men by their eloquence. There is yet another class that find a way into your heart. There is no command in this swinging back of the inner portals of the soul. It comes as the sweet, silent benediction of the dew to the opening flower. It comes as the warning sunshine of spring. It comes with the blessedness of love. The barriers are melted away. Friendship is to the one pining for it. The wisdom of good counsel is for the perplexed soul needing it. Love is for all who worthily treasure it. Of this last, was Hiram Lindley. His cheerful soul has gone to the everlasting habitation that Christ planned for such as followed in his way. That is the blessed means provided for the best work of the loving heart of the sweet souled follower of Christ. And when we think of the warm hand shake, the winning smile, the genial words of cheer that we always had, when our friend and brother was here, we cannot be blamed if sadness marks our memories. There is a void; a void in his home, which was a place of love; a void in his social circle, where his presence was always welcome; a void in the societies, where great moral truths are given; a void in the Sabbath school; a void in the congregation of the Lord."

The funeral services were conducted by the Knight Templars, for Mr. Lindley had been prominent in Masonry, holding membership in Reed Lodge, No. 316, A. F. & A. M., Evansville Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M., and La Valette Commandery, No. 15, K. T. He also took the degrees of the Scottish Rite. Of him a fellow member of the craft said: "His genial smile and hearty hand shake were always an inspiration to his brethren and companions in the lodge room, and although never aspiring to exalted positions he was satisfied to do his share of the work on the floor among the craft. His upright and well shaped Christian character made him a model Mason and one to whom the teachings of the order meant much."

Rev. J. H. Talbott said in his funeral oration over the remains of Mr. Lindley: "He was of a cheery, sunny temper. Discontent never sat as a guest at his fireside. It may be fairly supposed that he had some desire for a competency which would raise him above anxiety and would relieve him from the burden of constant toil. But if he had such desire, its failure of full realization brought no blight to the joy of his life. He was so utterly unenvious of the better portion which may have fallen to others, that he could sincerely rejoice in their good fortune. Having an abiding faith in

life's compensations—under the administration of righteousness—for honest industry, he went his way cheerfully content. His cheeriness of disposition did not rest upon the fact that he was unacquainted with care; nor did it rest upon a superabounding health; nor upon uninterrupted prosperity. But there was something in his make-up, not given to us all, that enabled him to find the glowing side of the day and to spend more time there than in its shadows. He set great store by the friendships of his life. Friendship seemed a sacred thing to him. It is often the case that they who are, so to speak, promiscuous in their friendships, fail of discerning its highest claims and seem to lack the power to be in the deepest sense the friend of any. But it was not so with him. Whilst his circle of friends was unusually large, and they were held always in loyal esteem, yet there were some to whom he clung with never failing grasp. His enjoyment in the society of these was unmarred. I really think that with his family and a few chosen friends about him he could have been happy in a wilderness living upon the barest necessaries. How he loved them! To do them a service was an unmixed joy, and his loyalty to them had something of the charm of chivalric devotion. Upon the members of his household—this clear sighted, faithful, patient, home making woman, the partner of his life, and the niece, loving and beloved as a daughter—he bestowed the warmest affection of his heart; and in their society he was unspeakably content. Those who were casually members of the household were admitted to most delightful association by this genial gentleman. In return for his devotion he received the equal devotion of the hearts that could understand his highest qualities. The charm and good cheer of this Christian home, as of some gracious benediction, abides with me—having shared its blessing for some brief time. Here in this household he was happiest; here he will be missed the most; here his memory will not fade. His social relations were of the most satisfactory kind. As a citizen, a neighbor, he was exemplary and respected. This man was a Christian man. I have purposely reserved this as his last designation today, since it is the very crown of a human life. The world has never seen—will never see any other thing half so beautiful as the character of Jesus Christ as outlined in the four Gospels. Strength, gentleness, power and tenderness are so blended as to form a character surpassing human conception. To be a Christian is to follow this matchless One, and in some measure to be imbued with His spirit. Our friend was a Christian. United with the Methodist Episcopal church in 1861 at Washington in this state, he was henceforth a stanch and faithful member of that communion. He loved her doctrines and polity, honored her ministry with his cordial support and unvarying love, rejoiced in her glorious achievements, gloried in her great history and her far-reaching enterprises. For more than thirty years he was an honored official member of Trinity church of this city, trusted and loved by his brethren in official relations and by all the membership as well. But he was something more than a Methodist. He could not be a narrow sectarian; his nature

was too broad for that. He was a Christian in a wide and generous sense; loving the Lord, honoring Him before men. He was never demonstrative in his religious life. He could never have paraded himself before the world in any wise. But his religion gave direction to the governing principle of his life and therefore reached to the foundations of his character; his religious life was even, faithful, exemplary. For many years he was a teacher in the Sunday school; some of those who were in his class are doubtless here today. Living a blameless life, he has left a goodly heritage to his friends and has gone to a good man's reward."

FRANK J. HAAS.

Success wherever we find it is generally the result of ambition and wisely directed energy. It is not the result of accident, especially when it is attained after many years of earnest labor and self-denial. There is no better illustration than is presented in the life record of Frank J. Haas, secretary of the Evansville Gas & Electric Company. Eighteen years ago he became connected with the company and during that period has been continuously in its service, advancing from one position to another until, in 1907, he was elected secretary, an office which he fills to the satisfaction of the stockholders of the company and the people of the city.

Mr. Haas was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, December 2, 1877. He came with his parents to Evansville when a child and here he grew up and attended the public schools, completing his early education in the high school, where he proved an apt and attentive pupil and gave evidence of abilities that have since marked his course in life. At the age of fifteen he began his battle with the world, which in his case has not been accompanied by the fluctuations so often witnessed. He entered the service of the Evansville Gas & Electric Company as meter repairer. After continuing in this capacity for a year he was advanced to the position of collector and, after discharging this responsibility in a way that met the approval of the officers of the company and also the public with whom he became a general favorite, he was given a position in the office as a bookkeeper. This position he occupied until 1907, when he was made secretary of the company and placed in charge of responsibilities through which he has been able to increase the efficiency of the service and thus meet the approval of patrons.

In 1904 Mr. Haas was united in marriage to Miss Emma Seiffer, a daughter of Gustave and Elizabeth Seiffer. Two children, Madeline, four years of age, and Virginia, six months, is the result of the union. Mr. Haas is well known in social circles and is an active member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Travelers' Protective Association, having many friends and associates in those organizations. In religious belief he is a Catholic and he and his wife have always con-

F. J. HAAS

tributed liberally to the charities and educational work which are such prominent features of the church. Thoroughly equipped by long years of experience for the business in which he is engaged, Mr. Haas makes a constant study of promoting its efficiency and extending its scope. He brings to his duties a lively appreciation of the possibilities of a public service corporation and an understanding of the importance of rendering a reasonable value for value received. By the conscientious discharge of his obligations he has won the confidence of all who know him and it would be difficult to find a young man better equipped for the work to which he devotes his best energies than Frank J. Haas.

FRANK R. LAUGHLIN.

The process of evolution has been no more marked in any field than in the business world. Systematic organization is everywhere manifest and carefully formulated plans wisely executed. Every enterprise of magnitude too, has its promoter—he whose work is that of bringing to the public notice that which is ready for the public use or consumption. The evolution of business is strongly manifest in the methods of real-estate operation at the present day. It is within the memory of many men of the present age when realty transfers were largely made owing to the fact that someone wished to purchase property and sought that which would meet his demands. The intermediary services of a real-estate agent were scarcely known. Today the cities largely owe their upbuilding and progress to the real-estate men who have practically reduced the building of towns to a science. They have come to recognize the needs of modern civilization in city building and their work is prosecuted along lines that contribute to convenience, utility and duty. We are led to this train of reflection in contemplation of the life work of Frank R. Laughlin, who is preeminently a business man and one who has wielded a wide influence. The organizer, and promoter of the Laughlin Realty Company, he has not only engaged extensively in the real-estate business in Evansville but is also operating in the south.

He was born in Evansville, November 3, 1877, a son of James Laughlin, who died in 1895. The father was a native of Pittsburg, Penn., and married Miss Mina Hudspeth, whose birth occurred in Boonville, Indiana.

The education of Frank R. Laughlin was completed in the high school of Evansville and after putting aside his text-books he crossed the threshold of business life as an employe of a dry-goods firm, which he represented as stock man. Gradually, however, he worked his way upward, each successive promotion bringing him broader outlook and wider opportunities, and when he discontinued his connection with that house he was manager of the notion department. His service there covered a period of over ten years, but, thinking that broader opportunities were offered in the real-estate field, he

organized the Laughlin Realty Company and later took over the Sonntag Investment Company, since which time he has been engaged very extensively in the real-estate business, handling large property interests in Evansville and also in Florida, where he is platting and building a town in accordance with the most modern and progressive ideas. He opened up the Laughlin place, also the Willard addition and Park place, and his undivided attention is given to business.

While he ranks with the most prominent real-estate men of this section of Indiana, Mr. Laughlin has also labored effectively and successfully in other fields and is now president of the Wolflin Luhring Lumber Company, a member of the board of directors of the Missouri Fruit Company and a member of the Oolitic Stone & Marble Company of Heltonville, Indiana, where he is engaged in quarrying stone. He is likewise a director of a railroad which is being built on the east coast of Florida.

In 1904 Mr. Laughlin was united in marriage to Miss Helen Cook, a daughter of F. W. Cook, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume. They have one child, Frank, Jr. In his fraternal relations Mr. Laughlin is an Elk. In politics he is an independent voter, supporting the candidates whom he thinks best qualified for office, but while not giving undivided allegiance to any particular party he keeps well informed on the vital questions and issues of the day and in all matters of citizenship takes a progressive stand, his in behalf of Evansville being effective and far-reaching factors in promoting the city's interests and improvement.

VAL J. SCHMITT.

Whatever the success which has crowned the life work of Mr. Schmitt, it is well known that it is due to his own labors. He started out in business well supplied and is yet a young man with opportunity for further progress in the field of labor which he has chosen as his life work. He is now giving his attention to general agricultural pursuits, making his home in Center township.

He was born in Armstrong township, this county, in September, 1880, and is the son of Adam Schmitt, a native of Germany, who, at the age of eighteen years, bade adieu to friends and fatherland and sailed for the new world in company with his parents who crossed the continent to Vanderburg county and located upon a farm. At the father's death Adam Schmitt received the farm by the terms of his father's will and continued its cultivation and development until about three years prior to his demise, which occurred in August, 1890. He was numbered among the enterprising agriculturists of the community and won success through his well directed business efforts. His wife passed away in 1885.

The youthful days of Val J. Schmitt were spent upon the old home farm and his experiences in youth were those that usually fall to the lot of farm boys. He attended the public schools of Evansville and also the Catholic schools of that city. In his youth he began providing for his own support by working for some time as a farm hand by the month. Later he turned his attention to the saloon business in Evansville, where he remained for three years, at the end of which time he retired and took up his abode in Center township, where he invested in a farm of thirty-four acres. This he is now operating in connection with land which he rents. The fields are well tilled and yield good crops annually. His farm is now finely improved and upon the place he keeps five head of horses and mules which are used in working the farm.

On the 27th of November, 1901, Mr. Schmitt was married to Miss Stella Schaum, a daughter of George and Elizabeth (Beckman) Schaum, both of whom are natives of Indiana. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Schmitt has been born a daughter, Bernice E., who was born October 19, 1909.

Mr. Schmitt gives his politcal support to the democratic party, while of the Order of Eagles he is a faithful member, being associated wtih the local lodge at Evansville. He has always lived in this county where he is well known. Persistent and diligent in business, he is constantly working his way upward and is meeting with well merited success which indicates that his progressive course will continue in the future.

ALBERT DOERSCHLER.

Prominent among the enterprising, energetic and successful business men of Evansville stands Albert Doerschler, who since 1881 has been connected with the furniture industry of this city and since 1900 has been president of The Specialty Furniture Company. His preliminary training was thorough and his experience broad, and when he became the chief executive head of an enterprise he bent his energies to its development and growth with the result that the company of which he is now the head controls one of the most productive industries of this section of the state.

Albert Doerschler was born in Rhineland, Germany, December 23, 1858, his parents being William and Caroline Doerschler. The father, also a native of that locality, was a plush weaver in Germany and followed that pursuit in the land of his birth until 1881, when he crossed the Atlantic and made his way direct to Evansville, where the later years of his life were spent in honorable retirement from business, his death occurring in April, 1904.

Albert Doerschler was a public-school student until the age of fourteen years, after which he put aside his text-books to learn the more difficult lessons in the school of experience. He worked with his father in weaving

and farming until the family bade adieu to friends and native land and sailed for the United States. Following his arrival in Evansville, in 1881, he entered the employ of the Evansville Furniture Company as a cabinet maker and was thus engaged until 1890. In that year he became a partner in a newly organized business enterprise called The Specialty Furniture Company. The undertaking proved successful and in 1900 the business was incorporated with Mr. Doerschler as the president; M. W. Braeger, as vice president; and Henry G. Rusche, as secretary and treasurer. From a small beginning the business has grown and developed until the plant is an extensive one, well equipped with modern machinery, while one hundred skilled workmen are employed. A general line of furniture is manufactured, including chamber suites, dressers and chiffoniers, which in style, finish and workmanship are of standard quality and which are shipped throughout the United States. A reasonable profit is secured and the business has become one of the leading industrial concerns of Evansville.

Mr. Doerschler has been married twice. On the 24th of September, 1890, in this city, he wedded Miss Annie Stoltz, who died in October, 1908, leaving two children: Walter, eighteen years of age, who is now bookkeeper for the Holzey Ice Pick Company; and Olga, sixteen years of age, attending the high school. On the 20th of April, 1910, Mr. Doerschler was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Maggie Loetcerch.

He is independent in his political views nor casts his ballot according to party dictation. He belongs to St. John's church and is a member of the Liederkranz. His identification with the city covers twenty-nine years, a period characterized by continuous progress in business, so that he has left the impress of his ability and individuality upon the commercial development of the city. His life has been preeminently that of a business man who recognizes his possibilities and so utilizes his powers that success is attained without the sacrifice of the rights of others.

FERDINAND GROTE.

The story of honorable success always excites interest and admiration. To the superficial thinker it would seem that the successful man is not the exception to the rule. This opinion may be due to the fact that it is the successful men who are in the public eye while little is said or written about the others. Statistics, however, show that the vast majority of men meet failure and that only about three per cent achieve that which they undertake. It is therefore worthy of favorable comment when the record of an individual is marked by continuous progress whereby he gains a position in advance of the great majority of his fellows. This Mr. Grote has done and is now a prominent factor in the business circles of Evansville as president of the Grote Manufacturing Company. Not only in the field of

machinery building but also in the realm of invention has he done creditable work.

Mr. Grote was born in Germany, May 4, 1847, as were his parents, William and Laura Grote. The maternal grandfather came to the United States about 1850 with all of his family except Mrs. Grote who, in 1855, started for the new world with her children, consisting of four daughters and a son, Ferdinand Grote being the second child. She did not tarry on the Atlantic coast but made her way at once to Vanderburg county, where her remaining days were passed at the "white house" three miles from Evansville.

Ferdinand Grote was but eight years of age at the time of the emigration to the new world. He went upon a farm with his uncles and there remained until sixteen years of age, when he took up his abode in this city and secured the position of engineer at the mill of Kramer, Heukes & Green, having previously obtained a knowledge of machinery while on the farm. He was particularly interested in the engines which were used in shelling corn and he manifested considerable mechanical ingenuity and skill even in his youthful days. After coming to Evansville he remained at the mill for several years and then entered the employ of Christian Decker, the proprietor of the first wagon shop of Evansville that was operated by steam. Mr. Grote continued in that service for several years, after which he was employed in a woolen mill for a year. Having carefully saved his earnings, he invested in a threshing machine outfit and turned his attention to the business of threshing, in which he continued for three years. It was about that time that the waterworks of Evansville were being built and he entered the employ of the Halley Manufacturing Company which had the contract for the construction of the waterworks. After acting as machinist for a year he was appointed engineer and continued in that connection until 1876, when he started in business on his own account, opening a shop on Mulberry street for the manufacture and repair of machinery. Later he consolidated his interests with Frank Hopkins and in 1888 organized the business under the name of the Novelty Machine Company, now the Grote Manufacturing Company. From a small beginning the business has grown until it is today one of the mammoth industrial concerns of Evansville. The company manufacture freight and passenger elevators, steam and water heaters and machinery for tobacco packing plants. They also take contracts for driving wells and securing a water supply for large manufacturing plants.

In 1890 Mr. Grote obtained the water for the insane hospital when all the experts had failed. He was one of the first to use electricity for pumping water, his efforts in that direction creating considerable attention, a representative from the Engineering Record, a trade journal of New York, coming to investigate the work which he later commented upon in the paper. As Mr. Grote has continued in his manufacturing interests he has seen the possibilities for improvement at various times and has brought out a num-

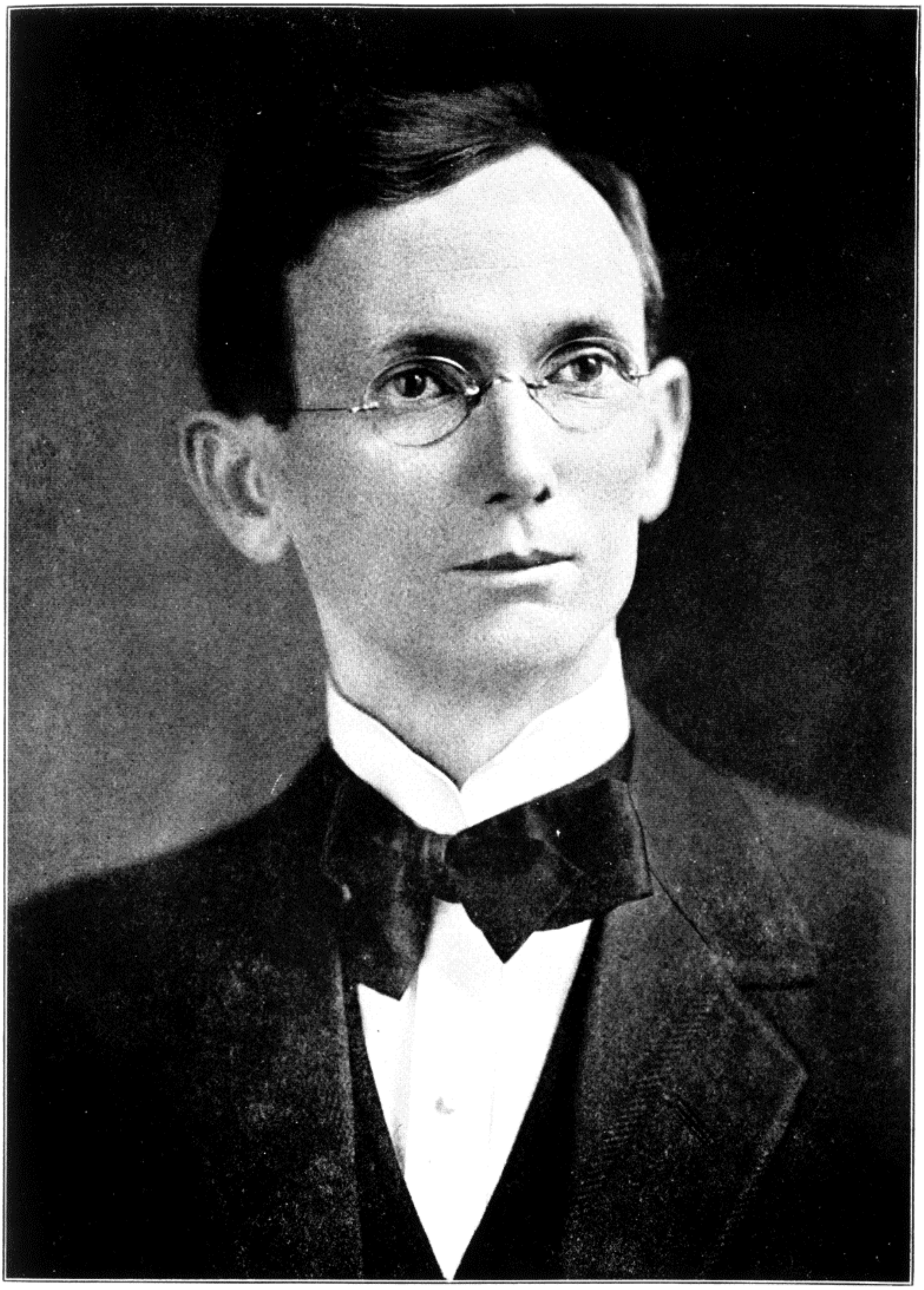
ber of patents on heating appliances and machinery. He patented a system of filtering water through the bed of a river and the system is proving a most practical and economical one. He has installed this system at Owensboro, Kentucky, where it has been tried with success for five years. The Grote Manufacturing Company employs about sixty people and is planning in 1911 to erect a fine plant at the old Miller club house, where Mr. Grote has purchased four and one-half acres of land. He is president and treasurer of the company with J. D. Caramody as vice president and Laura Grote, his daughter, as secretary. In addition to his other interests, Mr. Grote served on the waterworks board for seven years and as engineer for six years.

On the 29th of June, 1875, Mr. Grote was united in marriage to Miss Matilda Rahn, and unto them were born five children: Emil, who is in the foundry; Ernst; Fred; Laura; and Edwin. Mr. Grote holds membership in the Code of Honor and with the Tribe of Ben Hur. He enjoys the companionship of his friends and recognizes at all times his duties and obligations to his fellowmen. He is not neglectful of the duties of citizenship but prefers to give his undivided attention to business affairs and in his chosen field of labor has made continuous progress. Starting out in a humble capacity, he has developed his latent powers and energies until he is recognized as an expert in mechanical engineering work of his class. His ability is manifest in the extensive business which he has built up and which is one of the important industrial concerns of the city. What he undertakes he accomplishes, allowing nothing to deter him if industry and honorable effort can overcome the difficulty. Training and experience have continually heightened his ability and he occupies today a prominent position in the industrial circles of Evansville.

JAMES Y. WELBORN, M. D.

The name of Welborn has figured prominently in connection with the medical profession in Evansville for more than half a century, three generations of the family having been representatives of the medical fraternity, successful in practice and active in upholding the highest standards of the profession. Dr. William Welborn, a native of Mount Vernon, Indiana, and a member of one of the honored families of the state, was graduated from Evansville Medical College with the class of 1853 and practiced in this city and in Stewartsville, Indiana, until the time of his death in 1871. Early in the '60s he volunteered to enter the army but failed to pass the physical examination.

His son, Dr. George W. Welborn, who was born in Evansville, was for a short time a student in Asbury College but put aside his text-books in order to join the Union forces who were protecting the Federal interests



DR. JAMES Y. WELBORN

in the Civil war. He served throughout the entire period of hostilities with the Sixty-first Indiana Infantry and was captured by the Confederates at Murfreesboro. He acted as hospital steward during the greater part of his connection with the army, for some time he was hospital steward of the old hospital on the banks of the Ohio, and when the war was over he took up the study of medicine and entered into active practice at Stewartsville, where he remained an honored and successful member of the medical fraternity until his death, which occurred in 1905. He had married Miss Martha Stennette, a native of Todd county, Kentucky, born in 1841.

Dr. James Y. Welborn was born in Stewartsville, January 28, 1873, and after pursuing his early education in the schools of that town, entered De Pauw University of Greencastle, Indiana. His interest in the profession to which his father and grandfather had devoted their energies led him to begin active preparation for the practice of medicine. He attended the Marion Sims Medical College of St. Louis, Missouri, where he won his M. D. degree in 1899 and since that time he has pursued a post-graduate course at Harvard University, at Johns Hopkins University, of Baltimore, and in New York city. He has been a close and discriminating student of all that bears upon the practice of medicine and surgery, and while he adopts any new idea or method which he believes will prove of practical value, he is never hasty in discarding the old and time-tried method, the value of which has been proven through long years of experience.

Dr. Welborn is now the owner, in partnership with Dr. Edwin Walker, of the Evansville Sanitarium, a liberally patronized institution wherein much good work has been done. In addition he has a large private practice and his ability is widely recognized not only by the general public but also by representatives of the medical fraternity. In 1905 he was appointed city health officer of Evansville to serve for a four years' term and in 1909 was reappointed to that office. He was also the organizer and was made manager of the Anti-Tuberculosis Society, which has now been in existence for three years and at the present writing is building an open air hospital. No profession is so little commercialized as is the medical, which is indicated in the fact that practitioners are continually seeking out preventative methods to which they give publicity through the profession and the general press, that the world at large may follow a course in life that promotes health. Anything which tends to solve the complex problems which confront the physician is of interest to Dr. Welborn, and his reading and research have been most wide and comprehensive.

On the 22d of October, 1902, at Inglefield, Indiana, Dr. Welborn was married to Miss Mamie Ingle Begley, a daughter of Dr. Baxter Begley, formerly of Evansville. Two children have been born of this marriage: Susannah Jane, now seven years of age; and James York, Jr., a little lad of two summers.

The parents hold membership in Trinity Methodist church, and Dr. Welborn is popular in the local organizations of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, with all of which he has membership relations. He is likewise a member of the Hendricks Club, which he organized in 1905 for reform in politics and elections, becoming its first president. He remains a stalwart democrat, but believes that the organization should be a party of principle and that it should not exist primarily to make particular individuals the incumbents in office, but rather to make vital certain principles essential to national salvation and progress. While deeply interested in his profession, his life has been by no means self-centered but has touched and benefited those activities which affect the general interests of society.

LOUIS EISSLER.

Louis Eissler has devoted his entire life to farming and lives upon the old family homestead which he now owns. Vanderburg county is the place of his nativity, the date of his birth being in October, 1862. His parents were Jacob and Mary Eissler, both of whom were natives of Germany. Coming to America in early life, Evansville was chosen as their place of location and the father worked out by the month for some time in order to meet the immediate needs of the family. He was ambitious, however, to engage in business on his own account, and as soon as possible rented a farm which he continued to cultivate for several years. During that period he carefully saved his earnings until the sum was sufficient to enable him to purchase sixty-six acres in Center township. He had new impetus for continued effort when he owned the property, and bent every energy to the development of the place and to the further improvement thereof. It was a tract of timber land when it came into his possession, and much arduous labor was required to clear it and place it under cultivation, but from acre after acre he cut down trees and in time planted crops which brought forth generous harvests. He continued to engage in farming upon that place until his death, which occurred in July, 1891. His wife died in January, 1888.

The educational opportunities afforded Louis Eissler were those of the common schools. He was born and reared upon the old homestead farm and from an early age aided in the work of the fields. He was trained to habits of industry that have constituted the source of his success throughout his entire life. He was thoroughly acquainted with the best methods of tilling the soil when, after his father's death, he purchased the interest of the other heirs in the old home farm and began its cultivation on his own account. His fields are now well tilled and he gathers rich crops. Everything about

the place is neat and thrifty in appearance and indicates his careful supervision and progressive methods.

In February, 1887, Mr. Eissler was united in marriage to Miss Katie Miller, a daughter of George and Clara Miller, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Kentucky. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Eissler has been blessed with six children, all of whom are yet under the parental roof, namely: Marion, twenty-two years of age; Daisy, aged twenty-one years; Owen, twenty years; Elmer, fifteen; Dorothy, nine years of age; and Bernice, a little maid of five summers.

Mr. Eissler and his family are well known in this community and have the warm regard of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. They hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Eissler gives his political support to the democratic party. He is a stalwart advocate of its principles and upon this ticket was elected road supervisor, in which position he acceptably served for six years.

GEORGE HARMS.

Through the years of an active business life George Harms, now deceased, was largely connected with the drug trade, but in other fields, too, his labors were of worth, for he gave to the world violins of superior workmanship, whose strings responded vibrantly to the touch of the master hand. He possessed the love of music characteristic of the people of his race, for George Harms was a native of Germany, born in the year 1845. When a small boy he was brought to this country by his father, George M. Harms, who purchased a farm in Armstrong township, Vanderburg county, and became a prominent and influential citizen of that locality, for some years serving as justice of the peace.

George Harms acquired his education in the schools of Indiana and was trained amid the healthful environment and stimulating influences of country life. When a young man he came to Evansville and became an apprentice in a drug store where he applied himself closely to mastering the business. Later he was employed by the firm of Leich, Vierling & Carlstadt, wholesale druggists, and afterward was associated with Lemcke & Company, druggists, whom he represented as a pharmacist until his death. He had thoroughly acquainted himself with the medicinal properties of remedies, and in compounding medicines displayed marked pharmaceutical skill.

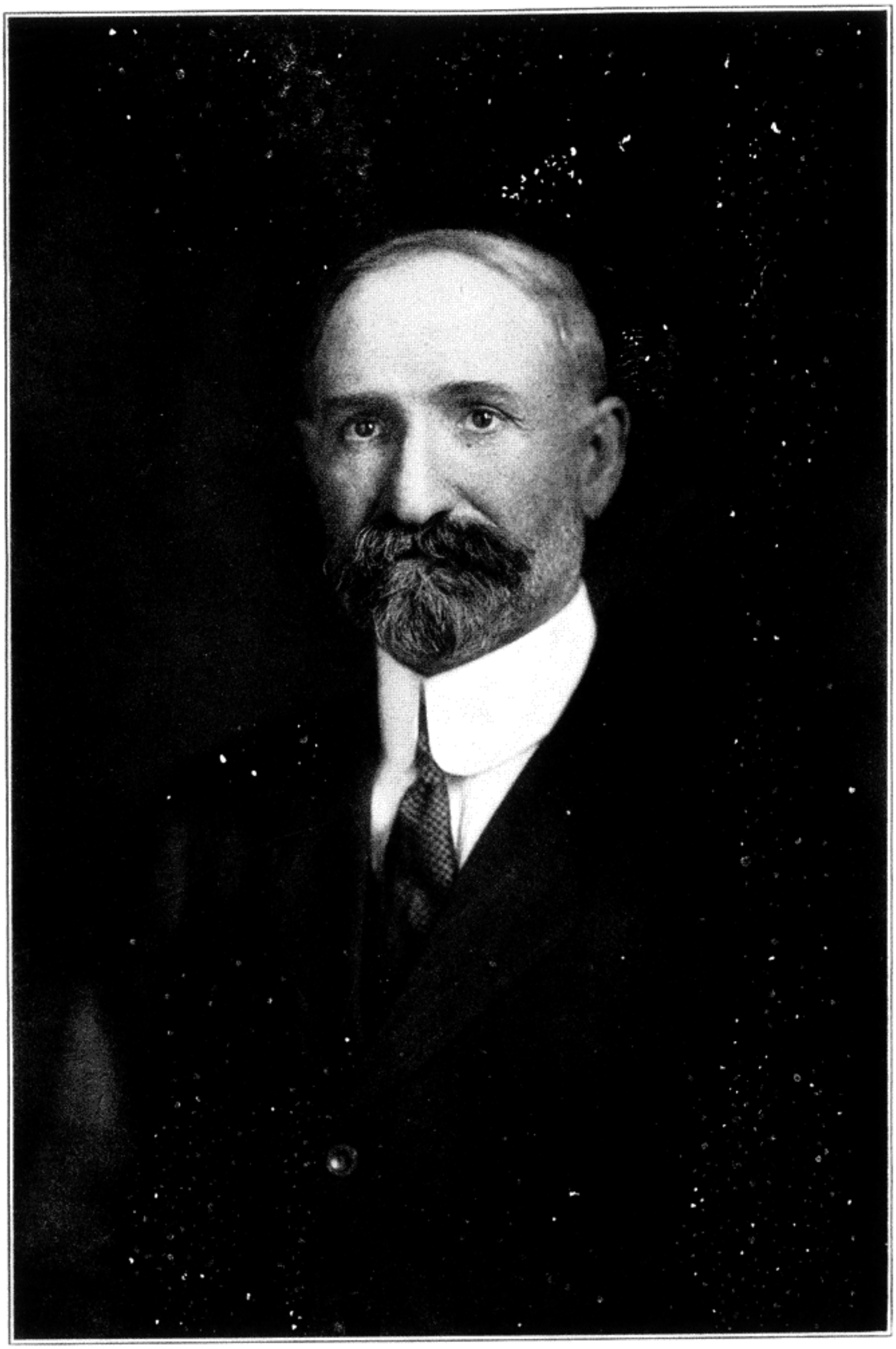
Mr. Harms studied music and although he was not an expert performer, he became recognized as an excellent musical critic, appreciative of the finest harmonies and most classical work of the masters. He was the maker of a number of violins, his work in this particular winning him international reputation. One of these instruments was used by August Wilhelmy, the violinist, in public performances.

In 1872 Mr. Harms was united in marriage to Miss Emily Leich, a daughter of Henry Leich, a native of Germany and a cabinet-maker by trade, who died two years after coming to the new world. The death of Mr. Harms occurred in Evansville, September 9, 1890. He was a Lutheran in religious faith and a republican in his political belief. He strongly desired the success of the party, for he considered its principles most conducive to good government. He was ever active in behalf of the welfare of the city and never allowed personal interests or ambitions to dwarf his public spirit or activity.

GEORGE W. VARNER, M. D.

Among the most eminent physicians of southern Indiana is Dr. George W. Varner, of Evansville, who is also recognized as a public-spirited citizen, a scholar of rare endowments and a man whose influence for good is felt wherever his name is known. Dr. Varner was born in Spencer county, Indiana, July 7, 1862. He is a son of Isaac and Ida M. (Alley) Varner. His father was a representative farmer of Spencer county and is now deceased. His mother is still living. Five children were born to them, three sons and two daughters. The daughters are still living but two sons have been called away.

George W. Varner received his preliminary education in the common schools. He early showed an aptitude for books and fixed his attention upon the medical profession as his chosen field. In the meantime he attended the National Normal University at Lebanon, Ohio, an institution under the noted teacher, Alfred Holbrook, which attracted thousands of ambitious young men and women from many states. After graduating from this school he engaged in teaching, devoting his leisure hours to the study of medicine. He matriculated in the Kentucky School of Medicine, at Louisville, Kentucky, and was graduated in 1886, with the degree of M. D. and also with the highest honors of his class in general proficiency. He also received highest honor in anatomy and was awarded two gold medals in recognition of his ability in the same. Still another award was granted—appointment as interne, or house physician, in the Louisville City Hospital for a period of one year. This was a position greatly to be desired, as it gave opportunity for practical application of teachings received during the medical course. At the close of his duties at the Louisville City Hospital Dr. Varner was invited to New York city as interne in the New York Hospital for the Relief of Ruptured and Crippled Children. Here he continued for a year, gaining a fund of useful knowledge and coming into personal contact with many of the leading physicians and surgeons of the metropolis. In 1895 he took a post-graduate course in New York and Vienna, Austria, paying special attention at Vienna to surgery and gynecology under some of the masters of world-wide reputation. Pos-



DR. G. W. VARNER

sessing advantages of the highest character and bringing to his work a mind trained by observation and experience, he was well prepared to enter upon a successful career in the noble art which has made the profession a synonym for beneficence and philanthropy.

In 1888 Dr. Varner located in Evansville and established his office on the west side. His practice has grown until it embraces a large part of southern Indiana and often taxes his strength to the limit of its capacity. He is surgeon at St. Mary's Hospital and of the Vanderburg County Orphans Home. He is medical examiner for a number of fraternal and beneficiary orders, among them the Royal Arcanum, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Woodmen of the World, the Degree of Honor and several old line insurance companies. He is widely recognized by members of the profession as a consultant and is a member of the American and Indiana State Medical Associations. Dr. Varner is an indefatigable worker and a student who never spares any pains or time in the attempt to solve the many difficult problems arising in the course of his practice. He has one of the largest and best selected medical libraries in the city and has also made an extensive collection of the best books relating to science and literature. Being a lifelong student whose habits of careful inquiry were early formed, he is an investigator whose interest never tires and he is recognized as one of the energetic and progressive men of the profession who will always be found on the advance line and whose powers of discrimination and judgment may be depended upon in all emergencies.

Although his time is mainly occupied by the demands of his chosen calling, Dr. Varner is identified with various business interests. He was one of the organizers of the West Side Bank and is its vice president. He is vice president and a member of the board of directors of the West Side Insurance Real Estate Company, and a director of the West Side Building, Loan & Savings Association and the Evansville Pure Milk Company. He is a member of the West Side Business Men's Association and was for two years its president. His most recent activity in the field of business has been in the organization, in association with other prominent Evansville men, of the American Bankers Life Insurance Company. Its incorporators were C. Howard Battin, Melvin H. Lockyear, Dr. George W. Varner (medical director), Albert W. Funkhouser, H. Fred Riechmann. Francis M. Van Winkle and William E. Stinson, all prominent in business circles in this city. The home office is at No. 304 Furniture building in Evansville. The purpose is to conduct a pure life insurance business according to plans and at rates that are attractive. These rates are protected by an adequate reserve fund which guarantees the future stability of the company, and with such well known business men at the head as the incoporators, there is no reason to feel any doubt concerning the growth and success of the business. Politically Dr. Varner is identified with the republican party but he has in no sense been a seeker for political honors. During 1893-1895 he served as a member of the city council at large. For

many years he has been a member of the Methodist church and is recognized as one who is ever ready to lend a willing ear or extend a helping hand to any worthy individual or cause.

On the 24th of June, 1891, Dr. Varner was united in marriage to Miss Olive L. Edmond, of Vanderburg county. Mrs. Varner is a daughter of John F. Edmond, one of the pioneer farmers of the county and a man of sterling characteristics. Five children have been born of the union, all of whom are living at home: Olin E., Victor I., Marguerite O., Earl and Norman L.

Dr. and Mrs. Varner are highly popular socially and their home radiates an influence whose beneficent effects are felt by young and old in the community. Dr. Varner has long recognized that every human being, whether he knows it or not, is a missionary for good or evil. He recognizes that there are no neutral characters in the great drama of life and each leaves an impress that we are taught goes on forever. Guided by wise teachings and worthy examples, Dr. Varner has attained a reputation for fidelity to his profession and honorable discharge of responsibility that are worth more in the final summing up than great riches.

MAURICE L. WILLIAMS.

Maurice L. Williams, who owns a well improved tract of land comprising sixty acres in Center township, devotes his attention to the pursuits of farming and dairying with excellent success. His birth occurred in Fort Branch, Indiana, on the 15th of September, 1878, his parents being George and Eliza Jane Williams, both of whom were likewise born in this state. The father, who came to Scott township, Vanderburg county, at an early day, has since been successfully engaged in general agricultural pursuits and has resided on his present place for more than forty years. He has gained many friends here and is widely recognized as one of the substantial and respected citizens of the community.

Maurice L. Williams remained under the parental roof until sixteen years of age and then began providing for his own support by working on a dairy farm by the month. After being thus employed for about four years he purchased a tract of sixty acres of land in Center township and embarked in business as a dairyman on his own account, having since built up an expensive and profitable enterprise in this connection. His farm is well improved in every particular, all the buildings thereon being of a substantial and up-to-date character. He has won a gratifying measure of success in both his agricultural and dairying interests and is well entitled to recognition among the prosperous and representative citizens of the community.

In September, 1896, Mr. Williams was united in marriage to Miss Eleanor Euler, a daughter of Jacob and Louise Euler, both of whom are natives of Indiana. Since his arrival in Vanderburg county the father has been actively engaged in general agricultural pursuits. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Williams have been born seven children, as follows: Louise E., who is nine years of age; Ethel E., a little maiden of six years; Amala K., who is five years old; Leslie M. and Gladys M., who are three and two years of age respectively; and Ella N. and Elsie M., twins, who are in their first year.

In politics Mr. Williams is a republican, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the German Lutheran church, to which his wife also belongs. The young couple enjoy a wide and favorable acquaintance in the locality where they reside and the hospitality of the best homes is cordially extended to them.

MAJOR JULIUS F. BLUM.

Long experience with the grocery trade has well qualified Major Julius F. Blum for the conduct of the business in which he is now engaged—the sale of fancy groceries, delicatessen goods, wines and liquors. In this he is in partnership with Alex. L. Hardigg and under their capable management the enterprise is proving a profitable one. Major Blum was born in Evansville, July 22, 1858, and is a son of Robert and Margaret Blum. The father was born in Switzerland and in 1850 came to the new world, settling in Evansville, where he was employed as a machinist until 1880. He then engaged in the sale of periodicals and newspapers, having the agency for a number of German publications up to the time of his death which occurred in 1884.

In the public schools Major Blum pursued his education to the age of sixteen years when it seemed incumbent that he should provide for his own support and he secured a position as delivery boy for William Caldwell, a grocer of this city, with whom he remained for three years. He was afterward connected for six months with the wholesale grocery house of Ragon Brothers and then became a clerk in the employ of Davis Brothers, retail grocers, with whom he continued until 1896. In that year he became a clerk for the Cook Grocery Company, whom he thus represented for eleven years, or until 1907, when he was made manager of the concern. In 1908 he joined Mr. Hardigg in purchasing the business which they have now conducted for two years, a large trade being accorded them. They draw their patronage from many of the best citizens of Evansville and from the beginning theirs has been a profitable venture.

On the 29th of May, 1888, Major Blum was married in Evansville to Miss Josephine Oswald and unto them have been born four children:

Oswald R., twenty-one years of age, who is now in the United States army; John and Clarence, aged eighteen and sixteen, who are pupils in the high school; and Lillian, nine years of age, attending the public schools. The family are well known in the city and the Blum household is a hospitable one.

Major Blum gives his endorsement to the republican party and supports its candidates at the polls. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias and with the Modern Woodmen of America and his life history contains an interesting military chapter through his connection with the National Guard, for he is now commander of the First Battalion of the First Infantry. Indeed, he has long been identified with military affairs in Evansville. He assisted in organizing Company E and was enrolled as a private on the 5th of October, 1887. On the 1st of November of that year he was made corporal, becoming sergeant on the 11th of December, 1887, and on the 7th of May, 1888, was made second lieutenant. Promotion to the first lieutenancy followed on the 8th of April, 1889, and on the 11th of March, 1892, he became captain, resigning that position, however, on the 1st of January, 1894. He then gave his attention to the work of raising Company M and was commissioned captain May 29, 1895. He served as commander of the company through the war with Spain, entering the United States service on the 12th of May, 1898, and continuing therein until mustered out November 23, 1898. Following the war he was commissioned captain of the reorganized company formed of members of both Company E and Company M. This company was unassigned when he received his captaincy on the 26th of April, 1899. He was made captain of the Fifth Separate Company, January 20, 1900, and when the First Regiment was reorganized he was commissioned captain July 3, 1900. As an officer he has attended every encampment held from 1888 until 1900 inclusive. He has stood for a high standard of proficiency in the National Guard, believes in careful organization and thorough discipline and at all times has commanded the respect and loyalty of those who have served under him. His varied interests have brought him a well rounded development and he is recognized as a forceful and honored citizen of Evansville.

HENRY STEINMETZ

A well improved and valuable property of one hundred and four acres indicates in its attractive appearance the practical and progressive methods which its owner, Henry Steinmetz, pursues in its cultivation. Moreover, it is the visible evidence of his business ability and his well directed thrift. He was born in this township February 23, 1838, his parents being Fred and Elizabeth (Smith) Steinmetz, both of whom were natives of Germany. The development and improvement of this section of the state were largely

attributable to the discerning efforts of those citizens whom the fatherland has sent to Vanderburg county. They have not only exhibited the sterling characteristics of the Teutonic race, but have also shown marked adaptability in utilizing the advantages which surround them here. Fred Steinmetz, attracted by the favorable reports which he heard concerning America, crossed the Atlantic to New York in 1837, and from the eastern metropolis proceeded westward by way of the canal. Eventually he reached Evansville and from that village, as it was then, made his way into Center township, where he purchased eighty acres of land from Mr. Clinton. He at once began cultivating and improving this and continued the operation of the fields for a number of years, his energy and earnest labor bringing to him substantial success in the undertaking. At length he sold out and invested in two hundred acres elsewhere. From that time forward until his death, which occurred in September, 1903, his attention was given to the improvement of the latter property with a result that he made it one of the fine country places in his township. His wife passed away ten years before his death.

Henry Steinmetz reared to farm life and has always been engaged in general agricultural pursuits. He remained with his parents until twenty-two years of age, and then married Miss Olive Blackburn. This was in 1861, at which time his father gave him forty acres of land. He at once began farming and it was an arduous task that confronted him, for the tract was mostly covered with timber. Slowly it was cleared as the monarchs of the forest fell before his sturdy strokes. The brush was burned, stumps were grubbed up, and, in the course of time, the land was put into cultivatable condition. Then the plowing and planting were done and in course of time good harvests were gathered, for the soil was naturally rich and productive. While working in the fields he also had care for the stock, building good barns and substantial outbuildings for its shelter. He also built a substantial home upon his place and as time has passed on has added modern improvements. Prospering in his undertakings, he has extended the boundaries of his farm until he now owns one hundred and four acres—a valuable and richly cultivated tract.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Steinmetz have been born five children, namely: Barney, who is married and lives in Evansville; Schuyler, a locomotive engineer of the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad, who is married and makes his home in Evansville. Charles and Fred, who assist in the affairs of the home farm, and Mrs. Ella Laubscher, also of Evansville. The wife and mother died in September, 1905, her death being the occasion of deep regret among her friends as well as in her immediate family. Mr. Steinmetz and his children hold membership in the Methodist church and his political opinions are in accord with the principles of the republican party. Three times he has been called to the office of road supervisor of Center township and has capably and faithfully discharged his duties. His has been an honorable and upright life, characterized by the faithful performance of all the duties that have devolved upon him. He has never been known to take

advantage of the necessities of his fellowmen in any business transaction nor has he sought to shirk his responsibilities in other connections. His worth is widely acknowledged and he has reached the evening of life with an untarnished name. Few men of his age can claim to be be native residents of Vanderburg county, but for more than three score years and ten he has lived here, witnessing the many changes that have occurred as the district has been reclaimed from a western wilderness and converted into one of the richly improved sections of the state. He has seen many changes, too, in the methods of living, particularly in farming, for the old crude farm implements have been replaced by modern machinery that greatly lightens labor and enables the agriculturist to accomplish many times more in a day than he could do when the old methods were in vogue.

MARCUS S. SONNTAG.

The career of Marcus S. Sonntag, a leading financier and business man of Evansville, is a striking instance of results that may be accomplished by a life of energy and integrity, having as its incentives a worthy ambition. Mr. Sonntag is a native of Evansville and all his life has taken a lively interest in its growth and in the welfare and prosperity of its citizens. He has been instrumental in securing the establishment of many new industries at Evansville and no one has done more toward beautifying and building up the suburbs. Any man who devotes years of his life to the upbuilding and improvement of the homes in the community in which he lives is worthy of respect and honor.

Marcus S. Sonntag was born at Evansville, February 17, 1859, and is a son of John H. and Ellen Sonntag. He was educated in the public schools of Evansville, there receiving an impetus for the acquisition of knowledge which has been strengthened and broadened by extensive travel, close observation and personal contact with men of affairs. For fifteen years he was a traveling salesman. During this time he gained much information in regard to the conduct of business affairs and made many observations which have proven of practical benefit in large enterprises in which he has since engaged. For ten years he was connected in the insurance and real-estate business in Evansville with his brother, John H. Sonntag, Jr., under the firm name of Sonntag Brothers. The business proved highly successful and developed from year to year under the fostering care of a management thoroughly trained in all the details of modern methods. The active management of this business was in the hands of the subject of this sketch, who in its conduct demonstrated his capacity for larger duties and in an unusual degree won the confidence and esteem of the business men of the community.

M. S. SONNTAG

During the period of his activities as member of the firm of Sonntag Brothers, he became president of the Union Investment Company, which position he still occupies and in which company his activities have been quite extensive. This company has within the past ten years erected and sold more than three hundred homes in Evansville and has been one of the important factors in enlarging and beautifying one of the most attractive cities of Indiana. In the suburbs especially the work of the company is to be seen in beautiful homes amid attractive surroundings and provided with all the comforts and improvements regarded as essential in modern life. The policy of the company has always been in the direction of encouraging worthy citizens to own their own homes, and its liberality and accommodating spirit has enabled very many to gain this end.

On December 5, 1901, he was elected a member of the board of directors of the Old State National Bank to take the place of late Captain John Gilbert and has since been actively identified with that institution.

On December 4, 1904, largely through the energy, activity and public esteem of the subject of this sketch, the American Trust & Savings Company of Evansville, Indiana, was organized, in which he launched one of the substantial financial institutions of this city. Upon the organization of the company he became its vice president and within one year thereafter became the president of the institution which position he still occupies. The company has a capital and surplus of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars and the confidence of the public is shown by deposits of a million dollars. The company owns the handsome building at Sixth and Main streets which is valued at one hundred thousand dollars, and it is generally considered that no institution is more ably and conservatively managed.

Mr. Sonntag is one of the vice presidents of the American Bankers Association. He is director, secretary and treasurer of the Evansville Railways Company, and in all positions and trusts has shown a clearness of grasp and promptness of action which has commanded the respect of his associates and the confidence of investors.

Mr. Sonntag has twice served as member of the school board of the city of Evansville. His first appointment was for a term of five years from May 7, 1901. On the 1st of January, 1910, he was again appointed and is now serving on this board. He is chairman of the Play Grounds Commission and has taken great interest in securing permanent play grounds and swimming pools. Although never an office seeker Mr. Sonntag has taken the interest of a patriotic citizen in political affairs and has been identified with the republican party. He was sent as delegate from his district to the national republican convention in Chicago in June, 1909.

On February 12, 1884, Mr. Sonntag was united in marriage with Miss Genevieve M. Cook, of this city. Two living children are the result of this union: Marion and Jeanie. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Sonntag is one of the happiest in the city and is a welcome center for the gathering of

friends and relatives. Mr. Sonntag is a director of the Young Men's Christian Association. It is the teaching of the best thinkers that man has something in him higher than the pursuit of pleasure, and the career of Mr. Sonntag is an exemplification of the truth of this conclusion. Early he became imbued with worthy ideals, not only in business affairs but in the many responsibilities of society, friends and family and it has been his aim to discharge them manfully, leaving the result with an inscrutable wisdom and power that controls the universe. That he has been in an important degree successful in his career is attested by the confidence and love of those who know him best, and by the universal esteem in which he is held in the city of his birth by his fellow citizens.

GEORGE L. MILLER.

George L. Miller, whose labors constitute an important element in the improvement of Evansville through his operations in the field of building activity, is now well known as the leading contractor of the city, notwithstanding the fact that he started out in life empty-handed, with no advantages save those which the public schools offer. He was born in this city, October 15, 1867, and is a son of Peter and Margaret (Muth) Miller. His father was born in Niederengelheim, Hesse, Germany, in the year 1828, and his life record covered the intervening years to 1894. In early life he learned the cabinet-maker's trade and at the age of eighteen he became a resident of the United States. Settling in Evansville, at an early day, he resided for nearly forty years in this city and was not only well known in business circles but was also a prominent factor in the German societies here. His wife, who was born in Pennsylvania, in 1840 passed away on the 7th of August, 1882.

George L. Miller spent his youthful days in his parents' home, and was sent as a pupil to the public schools when six years of age, continuing his studies until, feeling the necessity of providing for his own support, he began learning the iron molder's trade, which he followed until 1894. He was only fifteen years of age at the time of his mother's death. Diligence and enterprise were early developed in his business experience and gradually he worked his way upward until with the capital saved from his meager earnings he was enabled to engage in business on his own account. He turned his attention to general contracting and in this field has prospered. He now makes a specialty of buying unimproved property, erecting residences thereon and selling them on the easy payment plan. He originated this course and in the conduct of his interests has not only furthered his individual prosperity but has also made it possible for many to secure homes who could not do so if an entire cash payment had to be made. He builds according to modern styles of architecture with all the later day im-

provements, and his business has grown along substantial and broadening lines.

On the 23d of November, 1893, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Mary Miller, who though of the same name, was not a relative. Her parents were William and Elizabeth (Schaefer) Miller, natives of Germany and early residents of Evansville. Her father died in 1905 at the age of seventy-two years, having long survived his wife, who passed away on the 13th of July, 1887, at the age of forty-three years. Her father was one who braved the dangers and difficulties of crossing the plains in 1849 to seek gold in California, and his labors in the mines were quite successful. Both Mr. and Mrs. William Miller were prominent in the German societies of this city, holding membership in the German Benevolent Society and other organizations. Their many good qualities gained them warm friends who entertained for them the highest respect. Unto Mr. and Mrs. George L. Miller have been born two children: Sylvester L. and Elder L.

Mr. Miller gives his political support to the republican party but without desire for office. The family attend the Presbyterian church and are well known socially in the community. That Mr. Miller is prominent in the trade circles of the city is indicated by the fact that he has been honored with the presidency of the Master Builders Cooperative Association and that he is also the vice president of the Master Building Association. His life has been one of unremitting diligence, crowned with gratifying and honorable success.

DAVID A. COX, M. D.

David A. Cox is a representative of the medical profession of Vanderburg county now living in Howell, where he has practiced continuously since 1890, largely making a specialty of surgery. He is, moreover, active in other lines of business and his efforts likewise touch the general interests of society wherein the welfare and progress of the community are involved. The county numbers him among its native sons and he has the honor of being a representative of the first family of Evansville.

His paternal grandparents were Colonel James and Frances (Miller) Cox, the latter a member of a family that came down the river to the present site of Evansville in a boat. There they found a partially completed log cabin. The probability was that the Indians had killed the owners before they had completed their pioneer home. The Miller family, therefore, finished the building and occupied it, but several times were obliged to take their boats and escape the redmen by going out upon the river. This was the first house within what is now the corporation limits of Evansville, and stood under the shelter of the old elm tree on Water street. It was a daughter of this family, Frances Miller, who became the wife of Colonel James Cox, also one of the pioneer settlers of southern Indiana.

They made their home in Perry township where, on the 8th of September, 1830, was born unto them a baby boy, who was afterward prominently known in the community as Major Joseph B. Cox. Reared amid the surroundings of pioneer life, he enjoyed the educational advantages offered in this locality, and afterward attended high school in Cincinnati, Ohio, for one term, also spending one term in St. Xavier's at Cincinnati. In 1849 he was graduated from Bacarus Business College, and was thereafter engaged in steamboating between Cincinnati and New Orleans until 1857. This gave him splendid opportunity to meet and mingle with the travelers and business men upon the docks, and he became an excellent judge of men, his ready discernment in this particular constituting a factor in his success in later life. Soon after leaving the river he was elected a trustee of Perry township and subsequently he entered the sheriff's office as deputy, serving until the outbreak of the Civil war. He organized and was elected captain of Company F, Sixtieth Regiment of United States Volunteer Infantry, and a few months later was promoted to the rank of major. On the 8th of October, 1862, in the battle of Perrysville, he received orders from his brigade commander to proceed with three companies to a certain point and hold the position until a certain hour, after which he was to report with his troops to the general headquarters. The orders were faithfully executed, but when he reported, the general in an angry tone, inquired: "Major, did you know that your services with your men were badly needed on the firing line?" He answered: "From what I could see and hear I did." "Then sir," said the general, "why did you not bring your men up?" Major Cox then confronted his senior officer with his own order, and said emphatically: "This order from you commanded me to hold another important position, and I obeyed." The general looked at the paper and said: "Major, you have done your duty," and issued a new order which Major Cox faithfully carried out at once. For thirteen months he was in active service and was then detailed to return home because of impaired health. Soon afterward he was appointed chief deputy county treasurer, and throughout the period of his residence in Evansville was recognized as a prominent and influential citizen of the community. He served for six years as deputy sheriff and afterward held the position of collector of customs at Evansville during Cleveland's administration. His duties as a civilian were performed with the same fidelity that marked his military service.

There was still another phase of his character which perhaps was the most important, for his Christian faith, permeated his life and was an influencing factor in all of his relations, public and private. For many years Major Cox was a leading and influential member of the Liberty Baptist church and assisted in the organization of this association. He took an active interest in every department of the church work and did whatever he could to further its interests and extend its influence. Through three decades he was regarded as the most prominent member of the general home mission board. He assisted in the organization of the Oakland City College and was ever one

of its stalwart champions, giving freely of his means and his labor for the welfare of that institution. For some years after the death of Dr. Williams he served as president of the college. He was not only a good man but was a forceful citizen his labors constituting an effective element for progress and improvement. His patriotism was no less marked in days of war than in days of peace; his loyalty was no less pronounced in public affairs than in private life. His was an upright, noble Christian manhood. Major Cox was twice married. He wedded Miss Amanda Sirkle, who died in 1868, leaving one son, Dr. D. A. Cox, of this review. In 1871 Major Cox wedded Miss Martha J. Angel and they had two sons, Robert M., now deceased; and Dr. Joseph B. Cox.

Dr. David A. Cox, whose name introduces this record, was born in Union township, October 1, 1865, and after mastering the elementary branches of learning in the district schools continued his education in the Evansville High school and in Indiana University, which in 1888 conferred upon him the degree of Bachelor of Arts. His literary course completed, he began preparation for a professional career and is numbered among the alumni of the Ohio Medical College of Cincinnati of 1890. Immediately afterward he located for practice in Howell, where he has since remained, and although he has been accorded a large general practice he specializes in the field of surgery, wherein he has gained notable skill. For years he has been surgeon for the Louisville & Nashville Railroad and he has also been surgeon at the Deaconess Hospital for a number of years. At the same time he displays excellent business ability in other directions. The family still owns three hundred acres of land in this vicinity, of which Dr. Cox has the rental. In 1906 he became one of the organizers of the Howell State Bank, which was capitalized for twenty-five thousand dollars and of which he has been the president since its organization. His associate officers are E. J. Young, vice president, and F. C. Baugh, cashier, the latter succeeding E. M. Roland, who was made cashier on the organization of the bank. A fine building has been erected to accommodate the business which is conducted along general banking lines, and has already reached large and gratifying proportions.

Prominent in Masonry, Dr. Cox has attained the Knight Templar degree and is also a member of the Mystic Shrine. He likewise belongs to the Evansville Lodge of Elks, is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters, and is physician of the Foresters for the state of Indiana. He is likewise a member of the Court of Honor at Evansville. Important business and fraternal relations do not exclude his active participation in community affairs, for he has figured as a prominent factor in the public life of Howell since early in the organization of the town government. Since that time he has served on the town board and labors earnestly and effectively for public progress, reform and improvement. His politcal views accord with the principles of the democratic party.

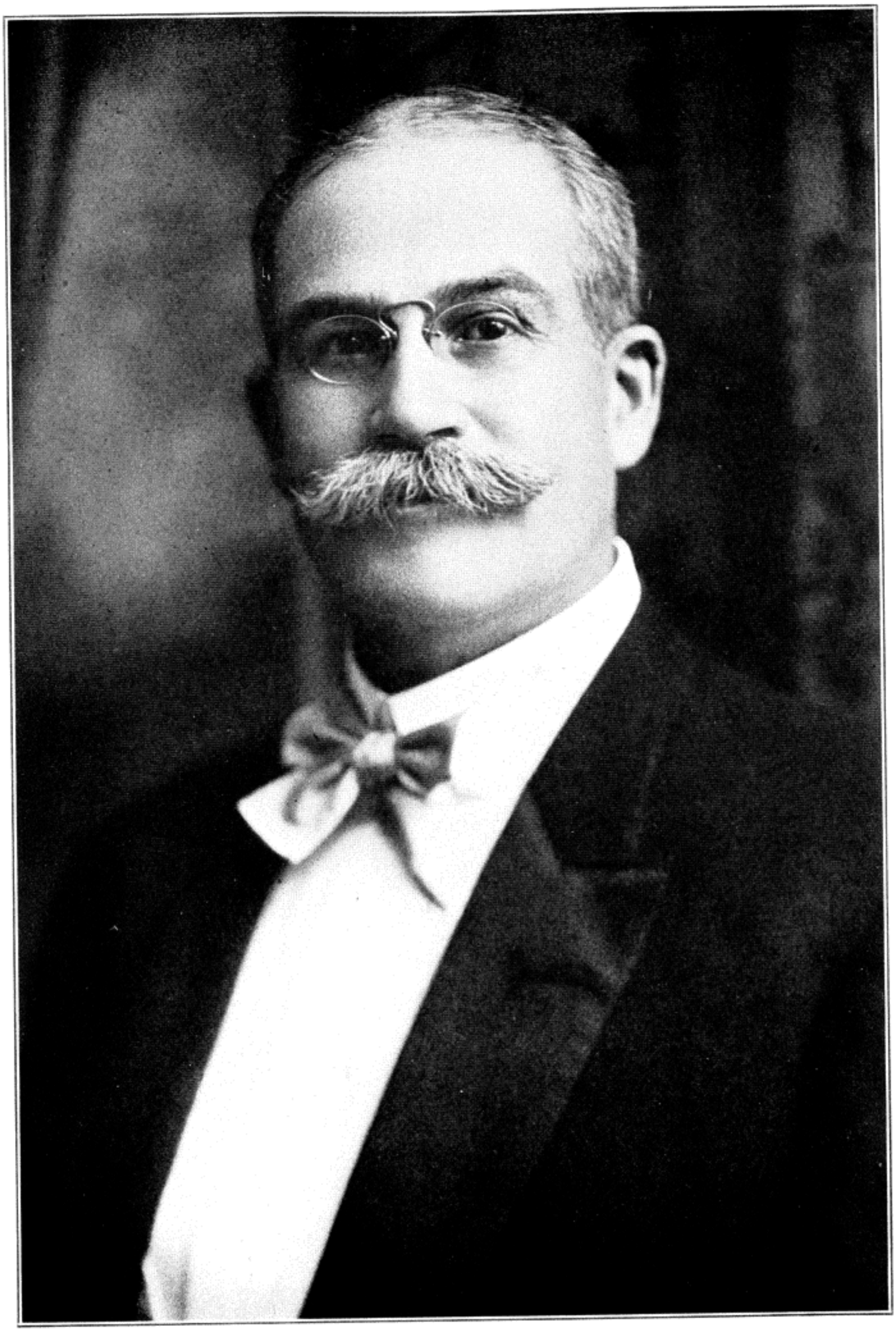
In 1894 Dr. Cox was married to Miss Gertrude Walsh, a native of Memphis, Tennessee, and a daughter of Thomas Walsh, master mechanic at

Howell for the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. Dr. and Mrs. Cox hold membership in the Baptist church and he is serving on the board of trustees of the Baptist College of Oakland City. His life has touched many lines of activity and in all he has continued the work which was instituted by his ancestors, who as early settlers of Vanderburg county began the initial development and improvement of this section of the state.

W. H. McCURDY.

While a resident of Evansville for a little more than seven years, W. H. McCurdy is recognized as a dynamic force in the business circles of the city, the extent and importance of his operations in the industrial field placing him in a prominent position in the ranks of the city's representative business men. His initiative spirit, his executive force and his keen discrimination have combined to gain him a position among the capable and resourceful men who, in modern parlance, are termed captains of industry. Moreover, in the establishment and conduct of the business carried on under the name of the Hercules Buggy Company he has contributed an enterprise of distinct value to the commercial and manufacturing circles of the city. In other fields, too, he has given proof of his capacity for successful management, and his cooperation is sought in those fields where sound judgment and business talents of the first rank are needed.

Mr. McCurdy was born near Washington, Pennsylvania, in 1853, and descends from Scottish ancestry. He was educated in the common schools and an academy, and, being of a mechanical turn of mind, was apprenticed to a millwright, showing a proficiency that soon made him the most skillful workman in the shop. In much less time than usual he mastered the trade, at which he continued until twenty-two years of age. A spirit of unrest, however, took possession of the young mechanic, and he was seized by an irresistible longing to see the world. He closed his tool chest, never to be opened by him again, and resigned his position and started out to seek a fortune under new conditions and amid new surroundings. As a traveling man he proved especially successful, having a confidence in himself which inspired respect and being gifted with the happy ability to make friends and retain them. In 1879 he settled at Kansas City, then on the eve of great real-estate speculation, which extended into the surrounding state. There he engaged in the insurance and real-estate business, making a success in those lines as he had in everything he had undertaken. In 1889 Mr. McCurdy returned eastward and located in Cincinnati, where he became interested in the Favorite Carriage Company, of which he was secretary for five years. In 1894 he resigned that position to engage in business for himself. He organized the Brighton Carriage Company and then entered upon an independent career, which has made his name widely



W. H. McCURDY

known in manufacturing circles as one of the important factors to be reckoned with by all operators in his department of activity. Beginning with a small capital he became one of the captains of industry.

Facilities at Cincinnati being inadequate, owing to a rapidly growing business, Mr. McCurdy found at Evansville a location that seemed to meet existing and future demands and in 1902 he removed his business to this city. Here he erected a factory according to the most approved modern ideas, equipped with every device for turning out on time the best vehicle the market demands. The name of the company was changed to the Hercules Buggy Company, of which Mr. McCurdy is principal owner. The plant has a floor space of nearly seven acres and a capacity for the manufacture of fifty thousand vehicles per year. The Hercules Buggy Company gives employment to over one thousand men and is one of the important agencies in maintaining the prosperity of Evansville. It is difficult for the uninitiated mind to comprehend the magnitude of an enterprise so large as the one presided over by the subject of this review. Such a plant did not grow up in a day. It required years of practical experience in manufacturing and business affairs, a wide grasp of possibilities as to manufacture and distribution, and large financial resources. The success of the enterprise is a great gratification to many who have noted its progress from the beginning. Mr. McCurdy has gathered about him a corps of assistants who are able and energtic and who gain much of their inspiration from one who possesses these qualities in an unusual degree.

At the time of this publication in 1910 Mr. McCurdy has been a resident of Evansville seven years. In that time he has figured prominently in many business enterprises. He was elected a director in the Old State National Bank the first year of his residence in the city. He was one of the organizers of the American Trust & Savings Company, which is now doing a thriving business with a capital and surplus of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and is still a director in this institution. He has also figured prominently in the new traction lines coming into the city and is now president of the Evansville & Eastern Electric Railway and the Evansville Railways Company. He is a leading member in a syndicate which now owns and controls the street car lines in the cities of Owensboro and Henderson, Kentucky.

On the 25th of June, 1880, Mr. McCurdy was united in marriage to Helen E. Hess, of Cincinnati, who is a most estimable lady and has proven to her husband a constant source of encouragement and support. Their home is one of the most attractive in the city.

Mr. McCurdy is a public-spirited and patriotic citizen in the best sense of the term. From sturdy ancestry he inherited physical vigor and mental endowments of a high order. Eminently fitted by ability and experience for the discharge of large responsibilities, he easily occupies a place in the front rank of the leading men of Evansville. The real upbuilders of the city are not those who handle the reins of government but who give

their influence to continuous municipal progress and who found, promote and control extensive business interests. Laudable ambition, ready adaptability and a capacity for hard work are essential elements of success and in none of these has Mr. McCurdy ever been found lacking.

HENRY J. RUSCHE.

The success which Henry J. Rusche has attained makes his business principles and methods of interest to the public and investigation into his life record shows that he has justly won the proud American title of a self-made man, in that he started out on his own account as a youth of fifteen years and has since been dependent entirely upon his own resources. Moreover, his record also proves, as does that of a great majority of men, that advancement depends entirely upon unremitting effort intelligently directed. Today he is secretary and treasurer of the Specialty Furniture Company, twenty-one years having been devoted to the duties of the dual office, his executive force and administrative direction constituting important elements in the growth and prosperity of the house.

Mr. Rusche was born in Oldenburg, Germany, December 23, 1862, and is a son of Herman and Magdalena Rusche, who were also natives of that country. The father, who was born in 1837, was engaged in farming in Germany until he came to the new world in 1867, making his way direct to Evansville, where he accepted the position of pipe man in connection with the gas works. On his retirement from that position he was made inspector of the city waterworks and later became a stockholder in the Southwestern Broom Company, thus becoming associated with the industrial and commercial interests of the city. He continued a factor in business circles until 1904, when with a comfortable competence acquired through his labors he retired to private life.

Henry J. Rusche was only five years of age when his parents came to the United States and since that time has lived in Evansville. As a public school pupil he pursued his education to the age of fifteen years and then sought the available opportunities of business life, learning the cabinet-maker's trade with the Evansville Furniture Company, with which he was connected until 1898. During that period he made steady progress in knowledge and skill in the business which he had chosen as his life work and his ability won him promotion from time to time until he had attained a position of large responsibility. Desiring, however, to engage in business on his own account, he withdrew from connection with the Evansville Furniture Company, organizing the Specialty Furniture Company, with Albert Doerschler as president, Mike Breger as vice president and himself as secretary, treasurer and general manager. His long experience well qualifies him for the active control of the business in its operative department

and from its inception the house has enjoyed a growing success. The output finds a ready sale on the market, because of durability, style, finish and general workmanship as well as reasonable prices.

On the 22d of May, 1889, in Evansville, Mr. Rusche was united in marriage to Miss Rosetta Reitz and unto them have been born six children: Matilda, at home; William, sixteen years of age, who is attending Lockyear's Commercial College; Sylvester, fifteen years of age, a student in the public schools; Robert and Henry A., aged respectively thirteen and eleven years, now pupils in the parochial schools; and Herman, three years of age. The parents are communicants of the Catholic church.

Mr. Rusche is a worthy representative of the class of foreign born citizens whose adaptability has enabled them to recognize and improve the opportunities furnished in the new world. From the outset of his business career his progress has been continuous and through the development of his latent powers and talents he has gained a creditable position in the manufacturing circles of Evansville.

JOHN N. ADLER.

John N. Adler started in business life as a carpenter, but is now the owner of a fine farm property, in the midst of which he has erected a commodious and modern residence of attractive style of architecture. The other buildings and improvements upon the place are in keeping with the home, and the property is a valuable one, indicating the industrious and enterprising life which Mr. Adler has lived.

He was born in Vanderburg county on the 14th of January, 1859, and, like many of the sterling residents of this part of the state, comes of German ancestry. His parents were Mathias and Maggie (Knaub) Adler, both of whom were natives of Germany, and on coming to this country settled in Vanderburg county in 1854. The father possessed the national love and talent for music and for a number of years gave his attention to that art as a source of livelihood. Finally he turned his attention to general farming, purchasing a thirty-acre tract of land which he owned and cultivated for twelve years. He then sold out and invested in one hundred and twenty-five acres in Center township, carrying on that farm until 1902, when he divided the place among his children, his son John receiving twenty-five acres as his share. In addition to that property the father also owned one hundred and sixty acres in Gibson county, Indiana. He was a man of marked energy who in business affairs carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook.

The youthful days of John N. Adler were spent under the parental roof, the district schools affording him his educational privileges, while the summer months were devoted to farm work that made him well acquainted with the

requirements of modern agricultural life. On attaining his majority, however, he thought to follow another occupation than that to which he had been reared and began working at the carpenter's trade, which he followed for seven years. At the age of twenty-eight he was united in marriage to Miss Maggie Klein, a daughter of Adam and Kate Klein, both of whom were natives of Germany. At the time of his marriage Mr. Adler rented a tract of land from his father-in-law and continued its cultivation for fifteen years, during which period he carefully saved his earnings. He then invested in fifty acres of land in Center township and has since lived upon this farm, although he has extended its boundaries until it now comprises sixty-eight acres. The soil is rich and productive and responds readily to the care and labor which he bestows upon it. He has erected a good house that is thoroughly modern in style and equipment, has also built a large barn and a number of large buildings, so that the improvements upon the place are modern and attractive. He has a fine vineyard and other fruit growing on his place keeps him busily employed, his labors, however, being rewarded by good crops.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Adler have been born five children: Kate, Edward, Mamie, John and Arthur, aged respectively, twenty-one, twenty, eighteen, sixteen and twelve years, all of whom are yet at home. The parents and children attend the Evangelical church and are interested in its work and upbuilding. Mr. Adler is a republican in his political views and in matters of citizenship is progressive, giving his allegiance to measures and movements which are instituted for the general welfare. He displays in his life many sterling traits of character and all who new him hold him in warm regard.

ALBERT F. KARGES.

An eminent statesman has said: "In all the world the thing supremely worth having is the opportunity coupled with the capacity to do well and worthily a piece of work, the doing of which shall be of vital significance to mankind." To Albert F. Karges has come this opportunity, and Evansville recognizes the fact that in its utilization the public at large has been benefitted. He has been connected with various business interests of importance in the industrial, commercial and financial circles of the city, his enterprise proving a factor in the development of substantial trade relations.

Mr. Karges was born in German township, Vanderburg county, November 3, 1861, and is the second in a family of four children whose parents were Ferdinand and Rosina (Dulty) Karges. His father, who was a pioneer furniture manufacturer of Evansville, died in the year 1891, having long survived his wife who passed away in 1869.

Albert A. Karges

At the usual age, Albert F. Karges entered the public schools, but began work when thirteen years of age. In the meantime the family had removed to Memphis, Tennessee, but later returned to Evansville. His first service was as collector with the Evansville Furniture Company at a salary of one dollar and a half per week. He afterward occupied a position as clerk in a tailor shop for three years and received three dollars per week when in the employ of Fred Brokamp, who is still a resident of this city. Subsequently Mr. Karges was employed by William Hughes for six years in the capacity of bookkeeper, after which he embarked in business on his own account in 1885. He had carefully saved his earnings until his industry and economy had secured for him a capital of six hundred dollars, when he started out independently. For nine months he was engaged in the lumber business as a partner in the firm of Goeke & Karges, and afterward began the manufacture of furniture in a small warehouse as a partner of Henry Stoltz, under the firm style of Stoltz & Karges. For three years they conducted the business there successfully, their trade growing rapidly until the business reached large proportions. At the end of that time Mr. Karges purchased his partner's interest, and in February, 1889, organized and incorporated the business under the style of the Karges Furniture Company. The output is sold all over the world, and the trade is constantly growing. Mr. Karges is practically sole proprietor of the business, which, carefully systematized and well managed, has become one of the most important productive industries of the city. The plant is splendidly equipped, and the utmost care is taken to keep the goods up to the highest standard in manufacture, durability, finish, workmanship and style.

Mr. Karges has proven his worth in active management and as a directing force his cooperation has been sought in many other fields. He is now the president of the Globe Furniture Company, which was organized in the latter part of 1899, and manufactures a different class of goods than that turned out by the Karges Furniture Company. He is likewise president of the Karges Wagon Company and is a director of the Bosse Furniture Company, the World Furniture Company, the Crescent Stove Works, the Evans Mirror Beveling Company, and the City National Bank —which are among the most important of the manufacturing, industrial and financial interests of the city. He is also extensively interested in real estate, having made judicious investments in Evansville property. To the field of railway operations he has also extended his efforts, and is now chairman of the board of directors of the Evansville Railways Company and president of the Evansville Terminal Railway Company. He is a director of the Jourdan Loesch Furniture Company; the Evansville Metal Bed Company; and the Metal Furniture Company; and is president of the Furniture Manufacturers Building Company; and of the National Furniture Association.

In December, 1885, Mr. Karges was married to Miss Lizzie Hauck of this city, and they have three living children and have lost one. Those who survive are: Albert, eighteen years of age; Edwin F., who, at the age of fourteen years is a high school student; and Esther K., twelve years of age, also attending school. The family residence is at No. 1517 South Second street.

Mr. and Mrs. Karges are active and prominent members of the Presbyterian church, in which he has served for many years as elder. He is also prominent in the Young Men's Christian Association, in which he is serving as director and second vice president. He usually votes with the republican party, but does not consider himself bound by party ties. His life in its varied phases and connections commends him to the confidence, esteem and honor of his fellowmen. His business interests have been extensive and of an important character as factors in the commercial and industrial circles of the city, and in positions of responsibility he has displayed keen executive force, bending his energies to constructive efforts which have resulted in the development of large and profitable concerns. He regards business, however, as but one phase of life, nor allows it to warp his finer sensibilities or claim his attention to the exclusion of outside interests. He fully recognizes his obligations to his fellowmen and meets every responsibility that devolves upon him.

JACOB B. HENN.

Jacob B. Henn, secretary of the Peerless Tank and Seat Company, which business he established in 1905, was born in the state of New Jersey, June 25, 1858. The name indicates his German origin. His parents, John and Lena Henn, were both natives of the fatherland and after coming to America in 1848, lived for a time in the east but are now residents of Evansville. The father is a carpenter by trade, devoting his entire life to building pursuits.

Jacob Henn is one of a family of seven children, all of whom are yet living. His youthful days were devoted to the acquirement of an education in the public schools until he reached the age of eighteen years when he started out to earn his own living and secured a position as grocery clerk. He was employed in that way until he reachead the age of twenty-two years, when he went upon the road as a traveling salesman for a grocery house. Later he took out a special line of goods, representing a Cincinnati firm, Potter, Parlan & Company, his territory covering Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois. For fifteen years he continued upon the road in that connection and his long identification with the house indicates satisfaction on both the part of employer and employe. He succeeded in building up a good trade and wherever he went made friends among his patrons. Through the influence of his younger brother, William A. Henn, who made some inventions

along this line, Jacob B. Henn turned his attention to his present line of business in connection with the Sanitary Manufacturing Company of Hamilton, Indiana, his brother being at that time superintendent. Jacob B. Henn occupied the position of manager and superintendent for about seven years and then resigned to come to Evansville in 1905, in which year he organized the Peerless Tank and Seat Company. In the intervening years the business has grown steadily and rapidly until the trade now extends all over the United States and Mexico and the plant is being operated to its full capacity. The house is ever found reliable in all its business transactions and the honesty of its methods is undoubtedly one of the factors of its success.

In 1884 Mr. Henn was married to Miss Louisa Eisel, a native of Ohio, and they have become the parents of two daughters, Gertrude, now the wife of Julius H. Schuttler, and Margaret, at home. Mr. Henn presents in his life many of the sterling characteristics of his Teutonic ancestry, having the firm purpose and persevering spirit which have ever characterized the German race. He also seems imbued with a spirit of enterprise which has ever dominated the middle west and has so controlled and managed his business affairs that he is now at the head of a profitable manufacturing concern.

JOHN LAVAL.

While John Laval was widely known in Evansville through his business relations, his activities were never self-centered but reached out to those lines which touch the political, social, intellectual and moral progress of the community and work for the good of mankind. A man of broad mind and of public-spirited citizenship, Evansville availed herself of his cooperation in many ways to further her growth and promote her upbuilding. His judgment was sound, his insight keen and his sagacity far reaching, and his influence was such that his name in support of any public project was the influence which drew to it the support of many others.

Mr. Laval was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, on the 24th of May, 1826, and had therefore passed the seventy-third milestone on life's journey when he was called to his final rest on the 2d of September, 1899. His youthful days were spent under the parental roof in his native land. His father, who was forest master, died in the year 1841, after which the family removed to the city of Mainz. There he learned the druggist's trade and had gained an expert knowledge of the business when he sought the opportunities of the new world, coming to Evansville in 1849. The following year he opened a drug store on Main street and later removed to the location where the business is still conducted by his sons. For almost forty years he continued successfully in the trade in Evansville, remaining as proprietor of the establishment until 1889, when he retired. He also engaged in the practice of medicine for twenty years and had comprehensive

knowledge concerning the use of medicinal properties as well as expert skill in compounding them. He not only carried a large stock of goods but also maintained a store which was neat and attractive in its arrangement. His attention, however, was not confined merely to the drug trade, for in financial circles he was widely known and in 1870 was elected treasurer of the People's Savings Bank, which position he filled for seven years. At different times he invested in real estate until he was the owner of considerable property, including two large business blocks which he erected—the well known Laval building and another on West Franklin street. His judgment was seldom, if ever, at fault in matters of business and the same keen discrimination was manifest in the conduct of the duties of public offices to which he was called by his fellow townsmen. He served as county commissioner in the '80s and for four years before his death filled the position of trustee in the Willard library.

Mr. Laval was united in marriage to Miss Mary Krou, of Evansville, and they became the parents of eleven children, eight of whom are now living, namely: Mrs. George Brose; Henry, who is engaged in the drug business; William, a member of the medical profession; Mrs. Tom Brose; Mrs. Fred Geiger, Jr.; Mrs. Ed Nesbit; Otto, who is engaged in the real-estate business; and Ed. One son, Charles F. H., who reached mature years, is now deceased, and George and Emma have also passed away.

The family attend St. John's church, of which Mr. Laval was also a communicant. His political allegiance was given to the republican party but while probably not without that ambition which is the incentive for faithful service on the part of public officers, he regarded the pursuits of private life as abundantly worthy of his best efforts. He was, however, always active in the interests of a greater Evansville and his rare aptitude and ability in achieving results made him constantly sought and often brought him into prominence in public connections. There is probably not a man of large private interests in this city that has felt a more hearty concern for the public welfare.

VALENTINE SCHENK.

Valentine Schenk is the owner of a good farm of fifty acres in Center township. It is in this township that he was born on the 25th of February, 1871. He is of German descent, as the surname indicates, his parents having been Valentine and Gertrude Schenk, both of whom were born in Germany. Indians were still living in this section of the state when they crossed the Atlantic and took up their abode in Vanderburg county. The land was nearly all wild and unimproved and many districts were covered with a dense forest. The father purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land from the government, paying the usual price of a dollar and a quarter per acre. Not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made upon

the place, but with characteristic energy he began its development and converted it into a good property, upon which he made his home until his death, which occurred on the 12th of October, 1880. He is still survived by his widow, who is now living with her son Valentine. The father was an enterprising farmer and a respected and worthy citizen.

Valentine Schenk was reared under the parental roof to the age of eighteen years, attending the public schools in the winter months while in the summer seasons he assisted in the work of the fields. At the age of eighteen he started out in life on his own account and has since provided for his support by earnest, persistent and honorable labor. He began by working as a farm hand by the month and was thus employed for about two years, when he returned home and purchased the old homestead, which he has since been cultivating. He has made a number of improvements upon the place and now has fifty acres of land devoted to the raising of the crops best adapted to soil and climate. He annually gathers good harvests as the reward of his labors and is persistently and energetically carrying on business.

In August, 1901, Mr. Schenk was united in marriage to Miss Lena Ochsner, a daughter of Frank and Lena Ochsner, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Kentucky. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Schenk have been born three children, Raymond, Rosie and Catherine, aged respectively eight, seven and five years. Mr. Schenk makes it the purpose of his life to provide a good living for his family and to this end he is carefully cultivating his farm. He gives his political allegiance to the democratic party, but never seeks nor desires office. Both he and his wife attend the Catholic church and it was in the German Catholic schools that he was educated. They are rearing their children in that faith, for they are loyal adherents of the church. Mr. Schenk has always lived in Vanderburg county and those who have known him from boyhood recognize the fact that his his life has displayed many sterling characteristics which have merited the warm regard in which he is uniformly held.

WILLIAM S. FLEENER.

William S. Fleener started in business for himself by renting land. Now he is the owner of a good farm which is proof of the fact that his life has been well spent, his energy and industry bringing him to a position among the well-to-do residents of Center township. He was born in this state July 13, 1858, and his parents, John J. and Eliza (Bilderback) Fleener, were also natives of Indiana. The father was widely and favorably known as a leading merchant of Pleasantville, Indiana, for about thirty years, but at length withdrew from commercial circles and turned his attention to farming. In this connection he dealt largely in tobacco but at the present

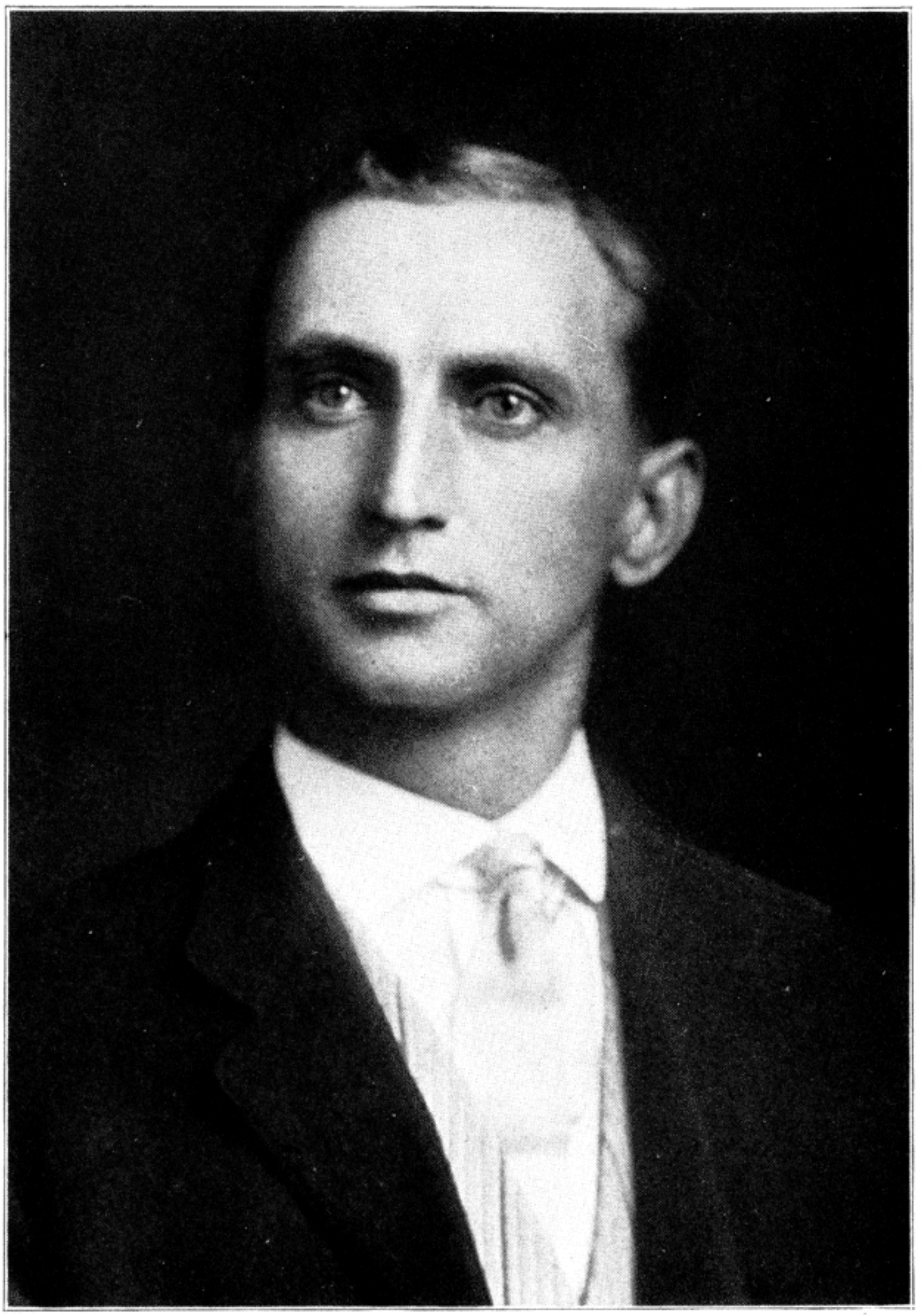
time is living retired, although he still makes his home on a farm near Pleasantville, Indiana. His wife died in the year 1890.

The youthful days of William S. Fleener were spent under the parental roof, and the lessons of energy, economy and industry which were instilled into his mind by his father's foresight, have since borne rich fruit. At the age of twenty-three years he left home to establish a home of his own in his marriage to Miss Martha M. Moye, a daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Campbell) Moye, both of whom were natives of North Carolina. The young couple began their domestic life upon a tract of land which he rented, and for ten years he continued to cultivate leased land, but during that period carefully saved his earnings until his economical expenditure and industry made it possible for him to purchase a farm. He then invested in land in Pike county and about the same time his wife inherited a farm in Posey county. They took up their abode upon the latter and there lived for a number of years, after which they removed to Evansville, where they remained for three years. On the expiration of that period Mr. Fleener bought a farm in Water county, and operated it for six years, after which he traded that property for another farm and in 1909 purchased forty-one acres of land in Center township. His time and attention are given to the cultivation and improvement of this property and to the work of the ministry. He became an ordained minister of the Baptist church in 1903, and has since been preaching, dividing his time between the work of the farm and his efforts to promote the interests of the church.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fleener have been born three children: Ida L., who is married and lives in Evansville; Minnie M., who is married and lives at home; and Louise, who died in 1892. Mr. Fleener has always voted with the democratic party, believing that its principles are most conducive to good government. His family are members of the Baptist church and his efforts are proving of considerable potency in extending the influence of the church in this part of the state. All who know him entertain for him the highest regard because of his upright, honorable life and his devotion to duty.

CHARLES E. JETT.

Charles E. Jett, president and general manager of the Jett-White Electric Company, dealers in electrical supplies and machinery, was born in Lawrence county, Illinois, September 5, 1877, and is a son of J. B. and Amanda Elizabeth Jett. While spending his boyhood days in his parents' home he pursued his education in the public schools, continuing his studies until he reached the age of eighteen years, when he began traveling for the Western Union Telegraph Company, thus making his initial step in the business world. He was employed in installing telegraph stations and



CHARLES E. JETT

building telegraph lines for three and a half years and on the expiration of that period went to Cleveland, Ohio, where he engaged with the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company as construction foreman for five years.

The succeeding year was spent as a vacation at his home in Lawrence county, Illinois, after which Mr. Jett went to Vincennes, Indiana, where he was connected with the Vincennes Light & Power Company as manager of the electric department for two years. Later he came to Evansville and engaged with the D. E. Berry Electric Company as general manager for two and a half years. Mr. Jett then succeeded Mr. Berry in business, admitted Elmer S. White to a partnership, and under the firm style of the Jett-White Electric Company they have since conducted a profitable business as manufacturers and wholesale and retail dealers in electric supplies and machinery, with offices and plant at No. 30 Main street.

On the 13th of October, 1900, in Cleveland, Ohio, Mr. Jett was united in marriage to Miss Iva Harvey, and they have three children, Thelma, Catharine and Charles Melburn, aged respectively nine, five and three years. In his political views Mr. Jett is a republican and while he cares nothing for office is always loyal in his support of the principles in which he believes. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, while his religious faith is manifest by his membership in the Baptist church. His life has in a way been quietly passed but it has been characterized by fidelity to duty and by the honorable improvement of opportunity, and in that way he has gradually worked upward in the business world.

LEO KEVEKORDES.

With aptitude for successful management, Leo Kevekordes is now controlling the interests of the Buehner Chair Company as its president, to which position he was called in July, 1907. He was born in Cologne, Germany, August 7, 1849, and is a son of Clemens and Catharine Kevekordes. The father, also a native of Germany, died in 1882.

After pursuing his early education in the public schools to the age of fourteen years, Leo Kevekordes attended a trade school for nine months and then came to America, seeking the broader business opportunities of the new world. He made his way direct to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he followed cabinet-making until 1869, when he came to Evansville—a young man of twenty years. With the trade interests of this city he has been closely identified for many years, excepting only a brief period spent in Vincennes. On his arrival here he engaged with the Armstrong Furniture Company as cabinet-maker, occupying that position until 1874. He afterward became an employe of the Joseph F. Reitz Furniture Company, having charge of the plant until 1879. In the latter year he went to Vincennes, Indiana, as

foreman of the factory of the Spiegel & Roberts Furniture Company for two years. Returning to Evansville, Mr. Kevekordes with others organized the Indiana Furniture Company, of which he was general manager. Later he was elected secretary and manager and so continued until he sold out in December, 1906. In July, 1907, he became extensively interested financially in the Buehner Chair Company, of which he was elected president. This enterprise has since been successfully conducted and now furnishes employment to sixty-five men in the manufacture of straight and rocking chairs. Their product is shipped to all parts of the United States and their business has grown along substantial lines, making theirs one of the important industries of the city. Every well regulated and honorably conducted business enterprise is a benefit to the community in which it is located and the source of the city's commercial prosperity and Mr. Kevekordes as president of the Buehner Chair Company is now classed with the prominent and valued business men of the city.

On the 17th of June, 1874, in Evansville, Mr. Kevekordes was united in marriage to Miss Catharine Schrader, who died in December, 1886, leaving four children: Clemens, now thirty-three years of age; Theodore, aged thirty-one; Mrs. Margaret Stahlman; and Leo, who died when twelve years old. In June, 1887, Mr. Kevekordes was again married in Evansville, his second union being with Mrs. Louise Weber, and they now have three children: Louis Puster, twenty-three years of age, who is shipping clerk for the Buehner Chair Company; Carl, seventeen years of age, also with the company; and Minnie, a young lady of sixteen years, now attending high school.

In his political views Mr. Kevekordes is a republican and in religious faith a Catholic. He became a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity in 1876 and he belongs to Lessing Lodge of Masons. His energy and enterprise are unfaltering and along lines of well directed business activity he has advanced far toward the goal of success.

WILLARD CARPENTER.

On the roll of Evansville's honored dead appears the name of Willard Carpenter, who in every relation of life bore himself with signal dignity and honor. His activity in business contributed to the material development of the city and as he prospered he experienced the joy of generous giving, for his open-handed liberality constituted a beneficial factor in the existence of various charities and benevolent institutions. A native of Vermont, he was born in Strafford, March 15, 1803. His father, Willard Carpenter, Sr., was born April 3, 1767, and died on the 14th of November, 1854. He was married in Woodstock, Connecticut, February 23, 1791, to Miss Polly Bacon, whose birth occurred March 15, 1769, and who passed away on the 4th of

March, 1860. Their family of twelve children were all born and reared on the same farm. Mrs. Polly Carpenter lived to have around her twelve children, fifty-two grandchildren, fifty-three great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild—one hundred and eighteen lineal descendants.

The life history of Willard Carpenter, of this review, is the thrilling story of a man who carved out his own fortune. Endowed by nature with strong mentality, possessing the thrift and energy characteristic of New England, combined with great powers of physical endurance and pluck, he gradually advanced from a place of poverty through the stages of successful financial development until he obtained not only the plane of affluence but also that of wealth. His youthful days were spent upon the home farm with the three winter months devoted to the acquirement of an education in the little log school house near his father's home. He remained under the parental roof until eighteen years of age, and even in his boyhood days manifested the strong and admirable business qualifications which wrought for success in later years. His first earnings—twenty-five cents—were secured by digging snake root. This money he put out at interest until it amounted to seven dollars. He then determined to go west and, slinging his possessions in a bundle over his shoulder, he made his way to Mohawk and on through Troy, New York, about the time of the great fire in that city in 1822. Upon reaching Albany he invested his little capital in notions and with his stock in trade worked up the Mohawk valley toward Buffalo. He then proceeded westward along the lake shore of Ontario and of Erie as far as Salem, Ohio, where, having disposed of his notions, he rested for a time with an uncle. Indolence and idleness, however, were truly foreign to his nature and as he could not content himself without some work to do, in the summer and autumn of 1822 he was employed in the woods and with two companions cleared eight acres of forest land. His wages for this labor were five dollars per acre, but owing to the scarcity of currency he was given notes of hand, payable in grain. After disposing of his notes he turned to the profession of teaching, taking charge of a district school. By spring his salary amounted to one hundred and forty dollars and he was again paid in grain notes. About that time he began learning the tanner's and shoemaker's trades, but six months convinced him that the pursuits were not congenial to his taste. He then went back to the state of New York and secured a position in connection with the building of the Erie canal. The wages and work were satisfactory, but the accommodations furnished were so poor that he gave up that position and accepted a school at Glenfield Corners. In 1824 his father, in order to induce him to return home, offered him a farm and six hundred dollars, but this he refused, being determined to make his own way unaided. Two years later he visited his father and with his brother John went to Troy, New York, where they engaged in merchandising. This partnership was afterward dissolved, and with another brother, Willard Carpenter continued in the business for ten years.

The year 1837 witnessed the arrival of Willard Carpenter in Evansville, whither he came at the solicitation of A. B. Carpenter, whom he joined in the wholesale dry goods and notion business. Success attended the new enterprise for a period, but like hundreds and thousands of other firms they were caught in the wide-spread financial panic of 1837. Mr. Carpenter, who had returned to Detroit to settle up his business interests there, found things in a deplorable condition when he again came to Evansville, but his quick action and business ability enabled him to realize on most of his accounts. From that time forward he was closely associated with the development and progress of Evansville. At a public meeting which was called in 1842 it was resolved to ask an appropriation of lands to aid in the completion of the Wabash & Erie canal. Mr. Carpenter circulated the petition for this in seventeen different states and through five different legislatures, personally meeting the expenses connected therewith. His zeal in behalf of beneficial public interests was, perhaps, the predominant feature in his life. He was actuated by a spirit of loyalty to the welfare and progress of the community that none questioned, and his labors on the whole were extremely effective, far-reaching and beneficial. In 1849 he was one of the principal factors in promoting the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad, subscribing largely to the movement and taking more stock than any two men in the country. In 1853, after he resigned his position as a director of the railroad company, he with ex-senator O. H. Smith, entered into an agreement to build a railroad from Evansville to Indianapolis, later known as the "Straight Line." Mr. Carpenter concentrated his energies upon this work. His strong intellect was called to solve the problems in connection with the undertaking and his energy faltered not in the prosecution of a project in which he had firm faith. Mr. Carpenter himself subscribed sixty-five thousand dollars of the sum raised for the road, amounting to over nine hundred thousand dollars. The work progressed and fifty-five miles of the road bed was completed. Mr. Carpenter then went to Europe to purchase rails, but while he was abroad a pamphlet was issued misrepresenting conditions among bankers and rail makers in London, Paris and Wales. His work was therefore, temporarily brought to a standstill. Every avenue of opportunity seemed closed but after much hard work he finally called upon Vorse Perkins and Company, of London, who had a branch in New York, and the purchase was consummated, but the Evansville city council vetoed the bonds which he was to give in security for the rails and the project of building the road therefore fell through, after Mr. Carpenter had spent thousands of dollars in its behalf. The city later learned with regret the mistake that it had made in thus blocking the progress of the enterprise.

Not alone along the line of material development but also in the field of charity and benevolence Mr. Carpenter put forth earnest effort. His donation was made in 1865 led to the founding of the Christian Home, the object of which was to provide a home for and secure the reform of homeless girls who had gone astray. He gave in all about ten thousand dollars to this

work and his donations to various churches for specific needs amounted to at least fourteen thousand dollars more. In 1840 he erected a building on his own land and established a poor house system whereby the paupers were maintained at a great saving to the county. This was accomplished during his five years' service as county commissioner, and he proved the practicability as well as the economy of the project.

In public office as well as in private life Mr. Carpenter accomplished results that were of value as progressive agents in the upbuilding of the commonwealth. In 1851 he was elected a member of the state legislature and while serving in the house was instrumental in securing the passage of various important bills. His name thus became indelibly impressed upon the pages of Indiana's history. Moreover there stands as a splendid monument to him the Willard library, a most magnificent gift. The institution was endowed by him and was the crowning work of a noble life. His later years were devoted almost entirely to philanthropic and charitable purposes. While he prospered, becoming owner of large tracts of land in Evansville and vicinity, he regarded himself but as the steward in charge of these estates and rendered a strict account for that which had been entrusted to his care.

In February, 1838, Mr. Carpenter was united in marriage to Miss Lucina Barcalow, of Saratoga, New York, who at all times was a helpmate to him in her generous sympathy for and assistance in the work which he did for the benefit of the unfortunate and the needy. The death of Mr. Carpenter occurred November 6, 1883, and his wife passed away June 30, 1884. They became the parents of five children, including Albert W. Carpenter, who married Miss Ida May Pattison, a daughter of Colonel Robert Pattison, who died at the home of Mrs. Carpenter in this city, April 30, 1885. For years he was numbered among the distinguished residents of this section of Indiana. He was born in Belfast, Ireland, in 1825, and at his death left a widow and three children; George A. Pattison, E. Pattison, and Mrs. Carpenter, all of Evansville. Colonel Pattison was a man of marked intellectual force and of splendid physical development, his powers being used for the furtherance of interests which were of benefit to the community at large as well as a source of individual advancement and success.

The Carpenter home was for many years the most imposing residence in this section of the state. It was located at No. 13 Carpenter street, the work of construction being begun in 1848. It was ready for occupancy in 1849, and Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter went to New York where they purchased elegant, magnificent and tasteful furnishings that are still to be found in the house. Its genial and warm-hearted hospitality is also one of its most attractive features. Mr. Carpenter never measured friendship by worldly possession. True worth could always win his high regard, and no man had greater appreciation for the qualities of nobility and honorable manhood. His strong mentality, his unfailing sympathy, his kindly spirit and his genial disposition made him the friend of the highest and of the humblest. It was

thus that he left notably impress upon Evansville, causing his memory to be revered and honored by all who knew him. Although more than a quarter of a century has come and gone since he has passed away, he is of

"The choir invisible,
Of those immortal dead who live again
In lives made better by their presence."

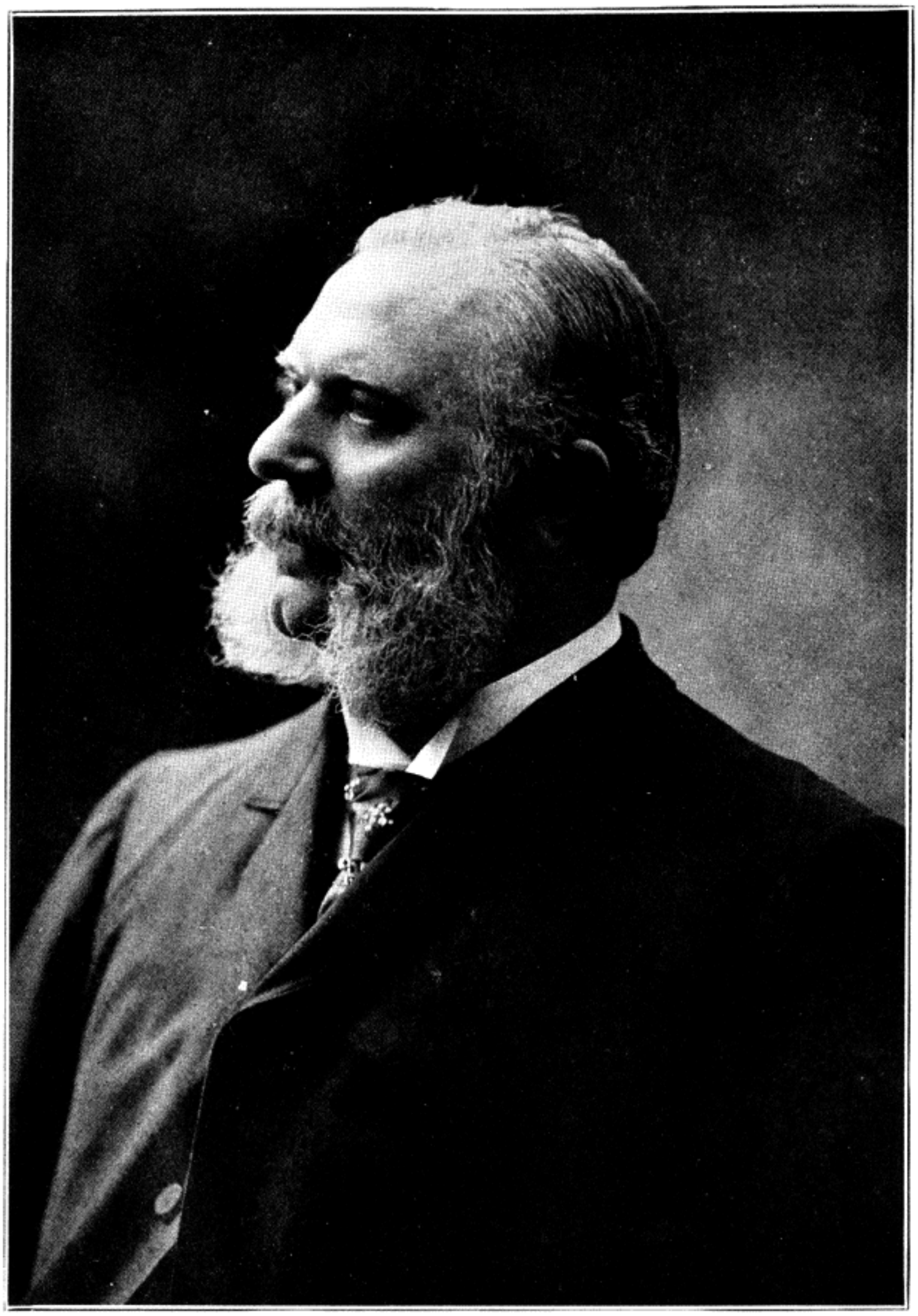
FRIEDRICH LAUENSTEIN.

Friedrich Lauenstein, who departed this life in this city six years ago in the midst of a useful career, was well known in the newspaper circles of Indiana and gained many friends in the course of a long career during which he administered to the happiness and permanent welfare of others in an important degree. He was born at Hanover, Germany, September 10, 1845, the son of William and Wilhelmina (Reinecke) Lauenstein, and was educated and grew to manhood in the fatherland. His brother, Dr. Carl Lauenstein, had come to this country and located at Evansville. In 1868 he purchased the Evansville Demokrat and at once invited his brother Friedrich to come to this city and take charge of the paper. The invitation was gladly accepted and the latter became permanently identified with Evansville and in a few years gained an established reputation in newspaper and business circles in this portion of the state. He was also for a time in charge of the Evansville Courier, which he conducted with an energy that produced highly satisfactory results. The Demokrat is now owned by Frederick W. Lauenstein, and is under his efficient management. The son seems to have inherited many of his father's traits as a newspaper man.

Mr. Lauenstein possessed excellent business capacity, and for a number of years was a member of the board of directors of the Citizens National Bank. He was also a member of the school board but although frequently urged to enter political life, always declined to do so, his tastes leaning in the direction of business rather than politics. He was a consistent advocate of the platform of the democracy but in local affairs often supported men who were not of his party affiliation, but whom he admired on account of their ability and character.

On the 16th of February, 1871, at Evansville, Mr. Lauenstein was united in marriage to Miss Constanze Scheller, who proved to him a worthy and loving companion. Four children were born of this union, one of whom died at the age of four years. The surviving children are: Anna, now Mrs. George Fink; Minnie E., now Mrs. Herman C. Frick; and Frederick W., who married Elizabeth Fares.

Mr. Lauenstein died July 12, 1904. Although born and reared in Germany, until he was twenty-one years of age, he early adapted himself to



FRIEDRICH LAUENSTEIN

the customs and manners of a new country and no citizen was more upright or more willing to make sacrifices for the public welfare. For many years he occupied a prominent position in Evansville and contributed in no small degree toward the upbuilding of the city. He was a man of genial and lovable disposition, and the beautiful home on Washington avenue now occupied by the family, one of the most attractive residences of the city, is a visible evidence of his character and of his love for those to whom he was bound by ties that the passage of years cannot efface. He inherited the noblest instincts of the Teutonic race and by many acts of kindness and charity he demonstrated his sympathy and helpfulness for others, which is the dominating characteristic of a true gentleman.

JOSEPH MARX.

Through a period of forty-four years Joseph Marx has lived in Vanderburg county. This covers his entire life, so that he is yet comparatively a young man. That he has used his time to good advantage is indicated in the fact that he is now the owner of a well improved property of one hundred and seventy-two acres situated in Center township, all of which has been acquired through his own labor. He was born in March, 1866, and is a son of Peter and Elizabeth Marx, both of whom were natives of Germany. On coming to America the father settled in Vanderburg county, being among its earliest residents. The conditions of pioneer life were here to be found at that time. With persistent energy he labored to develop a farm, purchasing two hundred and seventy acres of land which was entirely wild and unimproved when it came into his possession. His diligence soon wrough a marked transformation, however, and as the years passed his labors were rewarded with good crops, making him in time one of the substantial citizens of the community. He continued a worthy and respected resident of Vanderburg county until his death, which occurred April 28, 1906. His wife had passed away on the 8th of November, 1897.

Joseph Marx was reared as a farm boy with the usual experiences that come to those who spend their youthful days amid an agricultural environment. The Catholic schools afforded him his educational privileges and the summer months were largely devoted to the work of the fields. He remained with his parents until 1890, when he established a home of his own, being at that time united in marriage to Miss Annie Enkenhausen, a daughter of Conrad and Franziska Enkenhausen, natives of Germany.

Following their marriage the young couple took up their abode in Center township, Mr. Marx purchasing eighty-seven acres of land. His attention was devoted to its improvement for some time, during which period he prospered, so that he was able to purchase an additional tract of forty acres. Still later he added forty-five acres more and is now the owner of

a valuable and extensive farm of one hundred and seventy-two acres, which he carefully cultivates and from which he secures good crops. He has made excellent improvements on his land and his is one of the fine farm properties of the township. He has remodeled the house, has erected barns and outbuildings and has secured the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields.

As the years have passed eight children have been added to the household; Albert, fifteen years of age; Frank, thirteen years of age; Celia, aged ten; Fronie, aged eight; Henry and Tony, twins, five years of age; Edward, three years; and Raymond, who is in his first year. Mr. Marx belongs to the lodge of the Woodmen of the World at McCutcheonville and he gives his political support to the democratic party. He and his family are communicants of the Catholic church and he is accounted one of the progressive business men and farmers of the community whose diligence and determination constitute the basis of his business advancement.

CHARLES F. DIEKMANN.

Charles F. Diekmann, the secretary and treasurer of the Crescent Stove Works, is one of the young business men of Evansville who is rapidly forging to the front by reason of a spirit of enterprise and a strong and determined purpose that will brook no obstacles but pushes resolutely forward along the path of success.

He was born in this city, September 29, 1880, and is a son of Charles and Anna Diekmann, who were natives of Germany. Coming to the new world, they arrived in this city about 1860 and the father became superintendent of the Evansville Foundry Association, in which business connection he remained until his life's labors were ended by death in June, 1901. His widow still survives him and makes her home here. In their family were eight children, of whom Charles F. is the eldest son. The others are: Emma and Elizabeth, both at home; Mary, now the wife of William Bockstege, of Evansville; Emilia, now Mrs. A. C. Franke, living in Albert, Kansas; Anna, at home; Fred A., who is bookkeeper for the Globe Bosse World Furniture Company; and Edward F., who is traveling salesman for the Crescent Stove Works.

Charles F. Diekmann obtained his education in the public schools and in a business college, where he pursued a two years' course, thus becoming familiar with commercial methods. At the end of that time he accepted a position as stenographer in the office of the John G. Newman Company, where he remained for four years. On the expiration of that period he became bookkeeper for the Globe Furniture Company, in which office he remained for four years, and then came to the present firm in 1905. He is one of the stockholders of the Crescent Stove Works and was elected

secretary and treasurer of the company. The steps in his orderly progression are easily discernible and his progress marks the extent of his ability, industry and close application. He deserves much credit for what he has accomplished, as he has worked his way upward unaided. He is today the real head of the concern, the trade of which extends far to the south, southwest and southeast, while at the plant in Evansville employment is furnished to fifty-five men. He is also interested in the new Globe Bosse World Furniture Company and the characteristics which he has already displayed in the business field indicate that he is ready for larger opportunities and that they will come to him.

In his religious faith Mr. Diekmann is a Lutheran and in political belief a democrat. His friends—and they are many—speak of him in terms of high regard. They recognize the fact that throughout his life he has not been afraid of earnest, arduous work and that faithfulness to duty has ever been one of his strong characteristics.

THEODORE A. ADLER.

Theodore A. Adler was a representative of one of the old families of Vanderburg county, and the name has ever been synonymous with industry and reliability in business. He was born in Center township, October 22, 1862, his parents being Mathias and Maggie (Knaub) Adler, both of whom were natives of Germany. On coming to this country they settled in Vanderburg county, arriving here in 1854. The father possessed the national love and talent for music and for a number of years gave his attention to that art as a source of livelihood. Finally he turned his attention to general farming, purchasing a thirty-acre tract of land which he owned and cultivated for twelve years. He then sold out and invested in one hundred and twenty-five acres in Center township, carrying on that farm until 1902, when he divided the place among his children. In addition to that property the father also owned one hundred and sixty acres in Gibson county, Indiana. He was a man of marked energy who in business affairs carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook.

Farm work largely occupied the attention of Theodore A. Adler in his boyhood days, together with attendance at the public schools. In this way he qualified for life's practical and responsible duties. He also enjoyed the pleasures of youth but was ready to take up the responsibilities of manhood when he attained his majority. He continued upon the old home farm until twenty-six years of age, when he married and began farming on his own account renting a tract of land of one hundred acres which he carefully cultivated for five years. His success in that period enabled him then to purchase the property and with renewed energy he continued its development, transforming it into one of the fine farms of the county. He erected

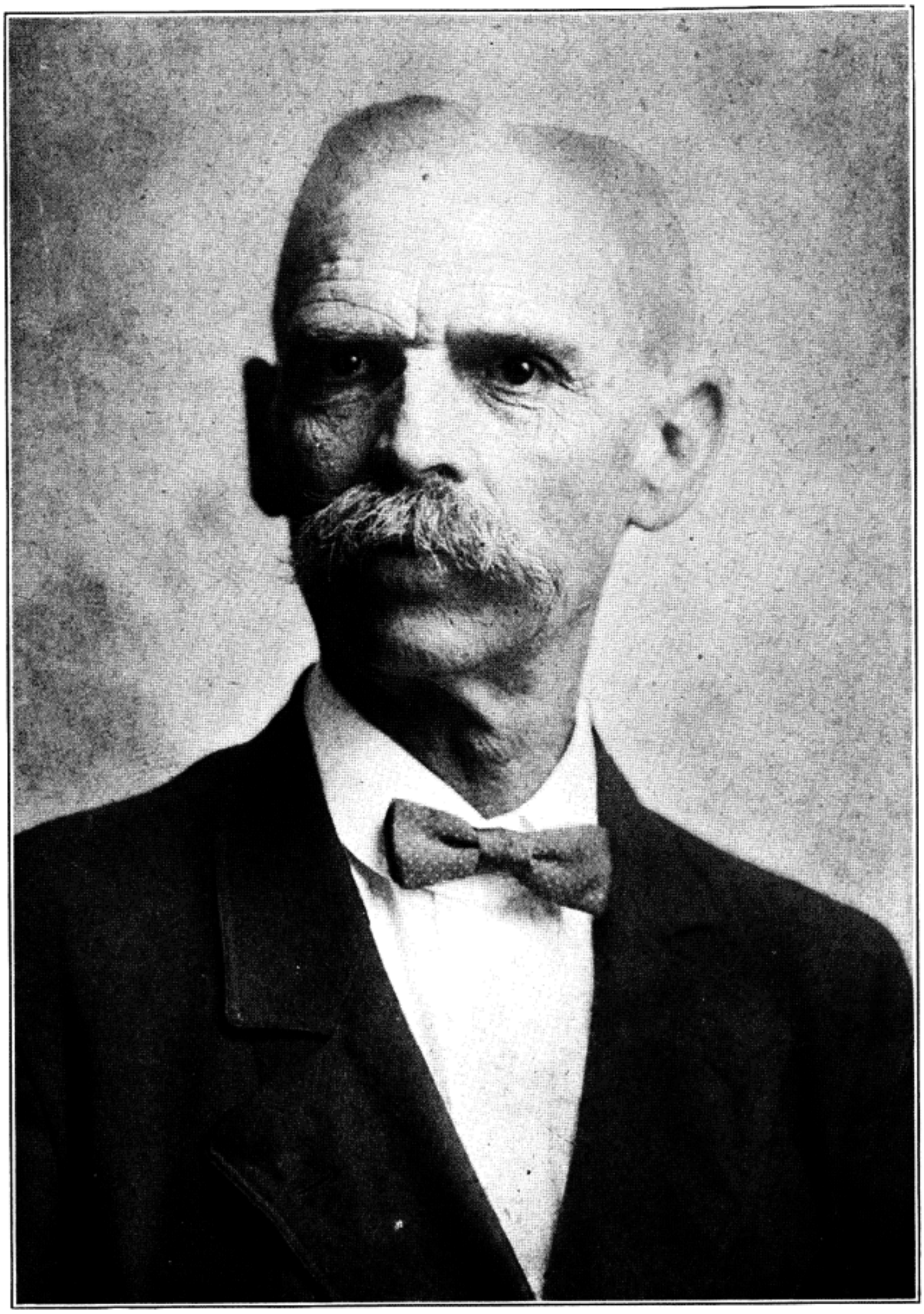
thereon a large and commodious residence and in the rear he built a big barn and other outbuildings necessary to shelter grain and stock. He operated this place until his death, which occurred on the 29th of March, 1910, to the deep regret of all who knew him.

It was on the 17th of October, 1888, when twenty-six years of age, that Theodore A. Adler was united in marriage to Miss Katherine Keil, a daughter of Nicholas and Elizabeth Keil, who were natives of Germany. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Adler were born two sons and a daughter: George M., a young man of good business ability, twenty-one years of age, who is operating the home farm for his mother; Amelia J., fifteen years of age; and Mathew, a lad of twelve years, now in school. Mr. Adler was ill about a year prior to his death, and although everything possible was done for him the dread result could not be staid. He was a member of Ben Hur lodge and Crescent City court of Evansville, and at one time belonged to the Knights of Honor. His study of the political issues and questions of the day led him to give his support to the democratic party, while his religious faith he evidenced in his membership in the Evangelical church, which his family also attend. In his life he displayed many sterling traits of character and at all times measured up to the full standard of honorable manhood. He was diligent and trustworthy in business; faithful in citizenship, and devoted to the welfare of his family, and to them he left the priceless heritage of an honorable name.

LYMAN S. FORD.

Lyman S. Ford, prominent in real-estate circles of Evansville, where he has conducted business for a half century, was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, July 30, 1845, a son of Charles and Catherine (Halsted) Ford, who were natives of Connecticut and Pennsylvania respectively. Each removed westward in childhood days and they were married in Ohio, where they remained for twenty-five years. They then removed to Sullivan county, Indiana, where they resided until 1868, and then came to Evansville. The father followed farming throughout his entire life, continuing active in the development of the fields until his death in 1879. His widow afterward returned to Sullivan county, where she spent her last days, passing away there in 1903.

After mastering the branches of learning taught in the common schools, Lyman S. Ford pursued a college course in Merom, Indiana, and also a course in a commercial college in Indianapolis, receiving business training in that institution for a year. He then returned to the farm in Sullivan county, Indiana, and has devoted more or less attention to general agricultural pursuits to the present time. Other business interests, however, have also constituted a source of revenue for him. In 1872 he removed



LYMAN S. FORD

to Mount Carmel, Illinois, where he opened the office of the Adams Express Company and likewise engaged in the farm implement business in association with his younger brother, Harvey. While there residing he was married in 1872 to Miss Ella Jones, who was born and reared in Mount Carmel.

After four years' residence in that city Mr. Ford returned to Evansville and in 1885 established the real-estate office which he has since conducted, at the same time supervising his farming interests in Sullivan county. At the present time he ranks with the prominent and prosperous real-estate dealers of Evansville, handling much property, while his decisions concerning the value of realty are largely accepted as final.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ford have been born five children: Ida May, now the wife or Corliss Jordan, formerly of Evansville but now a resident of Lewiston, Maine; Nell T., who was married in this city to Charles Hufford and is now residing in Tacoma, Washington; George L., who is auditor for the Evansville Street Railway Company; Herbert C., who was formerly employed in the office of the general passenger agent of the Southern Railway Company in Nashville, Tennessee, but has recently been transferred to Elko, Nevada; and Earl, who is an assistant in the traveling passenger agents' office of the Louisville & Nashville R. R.

Mrs. Ford is a member of the Methodist church and a lady of many estimable qualities. Mr. Ford gives his political endorsement to the democratic party but has never been active in political circles. Business affairs have always claimed his undivided attention, and yet he is not remiss in the duties of citizenship and no man feels keener interest in the work of improvement and development that is being continuously carried forward in Evansville, gaining for the city recognition as one of the leading manufacturing centers of the Ohio valley.

DANIEL M. FAIRCHILD.

Daniel M. Fairchild, an expert auditor and accountant, with offices in the Intermediate Life building in Evansville, was born in this city, December 4, 1873, and is a son of R. F. and Margaret Fairchild. The father was born in Vanderburg county in September, 1837, and after attaining his majority became a painting contractor, in which business he continued until the time of his death in 1908.

In his youthful days Daniel M. Fairchild pursued his education in the graded and high schools until sixteen years of age, when he entered the Evansville Commercial College for a six months' course, his training being in preparation for the profession which he has since followed. After leaving the school he engaged with the Bank of Commerce in the capacity of bookkeeper for five years and afterward spent three years as bookkeeper in

charge of the office of the Mechanics' Foundry. Later he was engaged as bookkeeper and cashier at the Heilman Machine Works, one of the largest manufacturing concerns in the county, which position he filled for five years; but, thinking that greater profits might be derived from his labors if he worked independently, he opened an office for himself as accountant and auditor and in that field has been very successful. A liberal patronage has been accorded him, his clients including some of the most important concerns in the state, and his expert work insures him the continuance of a business that is large and gratifying. He is a pioneer in his line, establishing and now conducting the only office of the kind in southern Indiana.

Mr. Fairchild was married in Evansville, on the 31st of March, 1897, to Miss Lillian Townsend. He is widely known and popular in various fraternal organizations and has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite, belonging to Reed Lodge, No. 316, F. & A. M.; Evansville Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M.; Simpson Council, No. 23, R. & S. M.; La-Valette Commandery, No. 15, K. T.; Evansville Lodge of Perfection of the Scottish Rite; and Hadi Temple of the Mystic Shrine. He likewise holds membership with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Press Club, and his social qualities and personal worth are such that those who know him are glad to call him friend.

JAMES R. GOODWIN.

James R. Goodwin, a representative of the industrial interests of Evansville, has been both the architect and builder of his own fortunes. During the first week of his connection with the business interests of this city he earned but four dollars and seventy-five cents and his life record proves conclusively that the path to prosperity is open to all who have the willingness and determination to walk therein. With a nature that could not be content with mediocrity, he has met every opportunity that has come to him, nor has he waited advantageous conditions, having, on the contrary, made his opportunities where none have existed. Gradually, therefore, he has progressed and is today one of the leading manufacturers of Evansville. He was born in Mississippi county, Missouri, June 18, 1853. His father, William M. Goodwin, a native of Washington, Indiana, became a saddler and followed the trade for many years in Charleston, Missouri, and Leavenworth, Indiana. He served as a soldier of the Civil war from the beginning of hostilities until the close and was a sergeant in the First Indiana Cavalry. He married Marietta Wilbur, a native of Leavenworth, Indiana.

James R. Goodwin pursued his education in the public schools of Leavenworth, Indiana, at Cave in Rock, Illinois, and in the high school at Louisville, Kentucky. During the vacation periods in his youthful days he

had assisted his father and about the time he attained his majority was admitted to a partnership, joining his father in the restaurant business, in which he continued for a short time. He then turned his attention to industrial pursuits, engaging in skiff building at Cave in Rock, Illinois. The skiffs were built in the fall and winter, floated down the Mississippi river at the time of the high waters in the spring and sold at southern points. Mr. Goodwin continued in that businsess for about a year and in February, 1878, removed to Evansville, where he spent about three weeks in search of work. At length he obtained a position at gluing bedsteads for the Armstrong Furniture Company, working for two weeks at a salary of only four dollars and seventy-five cents per week. Such a position would, of course, not content a man of his ambitious nature and he sought other employment which he found in the Southern Chair Works, at the corner of Fourth and Division streets. There he was engaged in rolling logs and wheeling sawdust at one dollar a day. After six weekes spent in that way he entered the employ of the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad Company, loading freight for two months. He next solicited advertising for Tom Groves, to be inserted in the county fair catalog, working in the territory around Evansville for two months. At the end of that time Mr. Morse, who conducted a bankruptcy shoe store, arranged with him to go to Henderson and take charge of a branch store at that place. He remained there for six months, at the end of which time the stock was removed to a new building erected at the corner of Fourth street and Market place in Evansville where it was closed out. Mr. Goodwin next secured a position as salesman in a dry goods store conducted by Miller Brothers where he remained for three years, and on the expiration of that period turned his attention to the insurance business in which he prospered so that he was able to save considerable money. The capital thus acquired was invested in a jeans pants manufactory, the product being known as buckskin breeches. In this enterprise he was associated with Mr. Pleasant and afterward with Mr. Harrison, who in turn was succeeded by Wallace Cook. Mr. Goodwin continued in that business for fifteen years and found it a profitable source of income. In January, 1904, he began the manufacture of plumbers' woodwork, bought out the patents in Chicago of the never-split seat and removed the business to Evansville where H. P. Bennighof and Samuel Jacobson joined him in the conduct of the business now conducted under the name of the Never Split Seat Company. Mr. Jacobson and Mr. Bennighof have been succeeded by E. O. and J. S. Hopkins. Mr. Goodwin is president of the company with John S. Hopkins as secretary and treasurer. From the beginning the business has grown steadily until it has reached extensive proportions. The output is sold all over the United States and in many foreign countries, including France, England, Panama, Australia and the Philippines. For manufacturing purposes the company uses a large building three hundred by sixty feet with a wing

one hundred and sixty by sixty feet. The plant is splendidly equipped with the latest improved machinery for turning out work of this character and the substantial quality of the output brings a ready sale and makes the enterprise one of the important and profitable productive industries of Evansville.

On the 5th of January, 1876, Mr. Goodwin was united in marriage to Miss Alice M. Cook, a native of Crittenden county, Kentucky, and they now have three children; Walter C., who at the age of thirty years is associated with his father in business; Percy E., twenty-eight years of age, who is conducting a moving picture show in Missouri; and Grace G., now the wife of Leslie Williams, of Detroit, Michigan.

Mr. Goodwin belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity. He has been very active in politics for more than twenty years, although he devotes less time to it now than formerly. He remains, however, an interested witness of the political movements of the country, keeping thoroughly in touch with the questions of vital import. He has served as a member of the city council and was a delegate to the national convention in 1896 when William Jennings Bryan was first nominated for the presidency. His business, however, leaves him little time for outside interests and activities, demanding almost his entire time and attention. Gradually he has worked his way upward and his own capacities and powers constituted the foundation upon which he has built his success. Untiring industry, faithfulness to every trust reposed in him and enterprising methods have been the dominant factors in an active life, whereby he has gained recognition as one of the leading and worthy business men of Evansville.

GEORGE M. DAUSSMAN, JR.

George M. Daussman, Jr., sole agent for Indiana for the F. W. Cook Brewing Company of Evansville, was born in Evansville, January 28, 1883, a son of George M. and Anna Daussman. At the usual age he was sent to the public schools and mastering the lessons of successive grades eventually entered the high school, from which he was graduated with the class of 1901. Throughout his business career he has been connected with the F. W. Cook Brewing Company, entering the service of that corporation as clerk in the bottle shop office at one dollar per day. He continued to fill that position for two years, after which he was placed in charge of the city bottle business and so continued until January 1, 1910. From that day he became a licensed dealer of these bottle products in the city and state of Indiana and has since met with excellent success in placing the goods upon the market. Something of the growth of his business is indicated in the fact that he now uses nine wagons in delivering and employs twelve men.

Mr. Daussman was married in Evansville to Miss Amelia Gamble, the wedding being celebrated on the 26th of June, 1907. Mr. Daussman attends St. John's Lutheran church and is a member of several fraternal societies including the Ranchman and the Eagles. He is well known in various German societies including the Liederkranz, the Turners and the Concordia Society.

ERNEST C. MEYER.

For twenty-one years Ernest C. Meyer has resided upon the farm of sixty-acres in Center township which he now owns and operates. It is a well developed tract of land and moreover it is the visible evidence of a life of well directed energy and thrift. He was born in Germany, October 12. 1841, and is a son of Frederick and Mary Meyer, who were also natives of that country. The father followed the occupation of farming in Germany and continued in his native land throughout his entire life, being called to his final rest in 1873. For about six years he had survived his wife, who died in 1867.

It was previous to this time that Ernest C. Meyer left Germany for the new world. His education was acquired in the schools near his father's home, and in his youth he had been trained to habits of industry upon the home farm. On attaining his majority he determined to test the truth of the reports which he had received concerning the business conditions and advantages to be found in the United States. Accordingly he crossed the Atlantic and, making his way into the interior of the country, settled at Elberfield, Indiana, where he remained for six months. On the expiration of that brief period he came to Vanderburg county, taking up his abode in Evansville, where he secured employment in the tailoring shop of Mr. Feldman, for whom he worked for two years. He had learned the tailoring business in Germany and was therefore well qualified for the position which he secured. He was ambitious, however, to engage in business on his own account that he might receive the direct reward of his labors, and in 1867 he opened a tailoring shop, carrying on business for twenty-one years. He enjoyed throughout that period a good trade, for the work which he turned out was always satisfactory. He employed competent help, carried an attractive line of materials and in style and workmanship his product was in keeping with that turned out in the larger cities. In 1889 he withdrew from the tailoring business and removed to Center township, purchasing sixty acres of fine farm land on which he has since resided. He has erected a large barn here and has made other improvements, and twenty-one years have now been devoted by him to general agricultural pursuits, in which business he has met success similar to that which he won at his trade.

In August, 1865, Mr. Meyer was married to Miss Caroline Schulte, a daughter of Henry and Louise Schulte, both of whom were natives of Germany, in which land the father spent his entire life. The mother afterward came to America and here her remaining days were passed, her death occurring in 1898. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Meyer have been born eight children: Louise, aged forty-five years, residing in Evansville; Matilda, who is married and also resides in Evansville; Ernest, who in conducting a tailoring business in that city; Frederick, who passed away in 1900; Henry, who died in infancy; Edward, who at the age of thirty-two years, resides at home and assists his father in the cultivation of the home farm; Annie, aged twenty-eight years, also at home; and Charles, who passed away in infancy.

Politically Mr. Meyer is a republican and as every true American citizen should do keeps well informed on the leading questions and issues of the day, so that he is able to support his position by intelligent argument. He and his family attend the Lutheran church and he is a member of the Central Labor Union. His life has been characterized by unfaltering diligence, determination and perseverance. These have been the dominant qualities in his business career and in time have brought him a comfortable competence, making him one of the substantial citizens of his adopted county. He has never had cause to regret his determination to come to the new world, and no native born citizen of Indiana is more loyal to the best interests of the state and nation.

THOMAS N. BEIDELMAN.

Thomas N. Beidelman is operating successfully in the field of real estate, in which connection he has been well known in Evansville since 1888. During this time he has negotiated many important transfers, and it would be difficult to find one who is more thoroughly informed concerning the real-estate market and conditions in this part of the state than he. His birth occurred in the neighboring state of Illinois, Mount Carmel being the place of his nativity and the date July 15, 1850. His parents were George L. and Jane (Ulm) Beidelman, the latter a great-grandaughter of Edward Ulm, a Hessian soldier, who was among those hired by the British troops to aid in crushing out the "rebellion" among the American colonists in 1776. A number of the Hessian soldiers afterward deserted, among them Edward Ulm, who, on learning of the real condition here, did not care to wage warfare against the Americans. Pleased with the new world, he settled in Maryland and afterward resided in southern Illinois. George L. Beidelman was a cabinet maker by trade, continuing in that business until his life's labors were ended in death in 1871, when he was forty-six years of age. At the time of the Civil war he enlisted, in 1861, at Spring-

field, Illinois, as a member of the Thirty-second Illinois Regiment, and served for three years. He then reenlisted and became a first lieutenant of the Sixth Mississippi Colored Regiment afterward known as the Fifty-eighth United States Infantry. He contracted illness during this time which later resulted in his death. His widow is now living in Union county, Oregon, in her eighty-first year.

Thomas N. Beidelman pursued his education in the public schools and in a private school in Fairfield, Illinois. He was but eight years of age when the family left Mount Carmel, going to Albion, Illinois, whence a year later a removal was made to Grayville, Illinois. Another year passed and they returned to Mount Carmel in 1860, there continuing until 1866, when the family home was established at Jeffersonville, Illinois. Three years later they removed to Fairfield, Illinois, where Thomas N. Beidelman completed his education and after leaving school began work at the cabinet maker's trade with his father. Thinking that he might have better opportunities in one of the states west of the Mississippi, he went to White Cloud, Kansas, where he remained for two years. Returning to Illinois, he settled at Carmi, where he had the contract to erect all of the buildings on the fair grounds thirty-one years ago. In 1880 he began the operation of a sawmill, establishing the largest enterprise of that character in the town. He was meeting with substantial success in the undertaking and had a large number of logs in the river above the state dam at New Haven, but the farmers in that vicinity banded against him and one night some unknown person or persons blew up the dam, letting all the water out, so that his logs were ruined by dry rot and worms. He then entered suit against the state for eighteen thousand dollars. At that time there was no court of claims in Illinois, but his efforts to recover damages led to the establishment of such a court in the year 1888. Mr. Beidelman's attorney was then appointed one of the members of the board of the court of claims and was thus forced to turn his client's case over to another. Mr. Beidelman's suit still stands before the board and, with the interest for the length of time that has intervened, thirty-five thousand dollars is now due him.

In August, 1888, he left Carmi and came to Evansville, where he opened a real-estate office. For two years thereafter he was a partner of L. S. Ford, a very prominent real-estate dealer of this city. He has since operated alone and is one of the leaders in this line of business in Evansville. He is thoroughly acquainted with property conditions, understands values and knows what is purchasable, so that he can ably attend to the wants of his clients.

When in Fairfield, Illinois, in 1869, Mr. Beidelman married Miss Susan B. Fitzgerell, her father being at that time a prominent merchant of Fairfield. Both he and his wife are now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beidelman have been born a daughter and son. The former is now Mrs. Maud E. Tinker, of Evansville, while the son, I. L. Beidelman, married Ada

Bullock, of this city, in 1895 and has become the father of one son, Edward Thomas. I. L. Beidelman is now connected with the offices of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company.

In the face of conditions which would have utterly discouraged many a man of less resolute spirit Mr. Beidelman has established for himself a profitable and growing business, and made for himself an honorable name in the business circles of his adopted city.

(Since the above was written Mr. Beidelman died suddenly December 6, 1910).

W. VARNEY DIXON.

W. Varney Dixon, secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Evansville Bookcase & Table Company, has since the outset of his business career placed his dependence upon the substantial qualities of energy, determination and perseverance. In the exercise of such qualities difficulties and obstacles vanish like mists before the morning sun, and therefore Mr. Dixon has gradually worked his way upward until called to his present responsible position in September, 1910.

He was born in Evansville, December 16, 1867, and is a son of George L. and Mary J. Dixon. The father was born in Parkersburg, West Virginia, in 1832, and removing westward to Vanderburg county, Indiana, settled in Union township, where he secured employment on a farm. Here he remained until 1849, when he removed to Henderson, Kentucky, where he was connected with general merchandising until 1862. In that year he returned to Indiana and took up his abode in Evansville, establishing a wholesale shoe business, in which he continued for thirty-six years, or until his death in 1898. Throughout that period he was accounted one of the foremost merchants of the city, promptly executed well formulated plans and at all times conducted his interests in strict conformity to a high standard of commercial ethics.

Born and reared in Evansville, W. Varney Dixon attended the public schools until graduated from the high school with the class of 1884. His business training was received under the direction of his father, for whom he went upon the road, representing the shoe business as a traveling salesman for twelve years. He then turned his attention to the men's furnishing goods business, in which he continued on his own account for five years. His enterprise and ability then received public recognition in his election to the position of secretary of the Evansville Business Association, in which position he remained for five years. At the end of that time he was chosen secretary and treasurer of the Evansville Bookcase & Table Company and in this connection is contributing in substantial measure to the growth and development of the business. His experience as secretary of the Business

Men's Association has made him thoroughly familiar with the conditions of trade here so that he is well qualified to assume active control of one of the important industrial interests of the city.

On the 12th of April, 1898, Mr. Dixon was married in Salem, Illinois, to Miss Edith Merritt, and they have two children; George L., eight years of age, who is attending the public schools; and Thomas Merritt, five years of age who is now a little pupil in the kindergarten. The parents are prominent socially and theirs is a hospitable home in which a cordial welcome is ever extended to their many friends.

Mr. Dixon's political endorsement is given to the democratic party. He belongs to the Evansville Business Association, to the Travelers Protective Association, to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Masonic fraternity. He is loyal in his support of each and in fact it is characteristic of Mr. Dixon that he is always a stanch adherent of any cause to which he pledges himself. His cooperation can be counted upon in matters of progressive citizenship and in business transactions his reliability is above question.

PHILIP EULER.

Philip Euler, deceased, was one of the best known insurance men of Evansville and this part of the state and his engaging personality made him a popular and esteemed citizen. He was born in Germany in 1837, a son of Philip and Barbara (Breneis) Euler, who were also natives of Germany. When the son was fourteen years of age, the parents crossed the Atlantic with their family to the new world and after a year spent in Cincinnati removed to Evansville, where the family home was established. Here the father engaged in business as a wholesale wine dealer, importing wine in casks from Europe. He was a man of remarkable strength and weighed three hundred and ten younds. He continued a resident of Evansville until his death, which occurred when he was seventy-two years of age.

Philip Euler acquired his early education in the schools of Germany and after coming to America took up the study of bookkeeping. He also learned the saddler's trade and continued in that line of business until after the outbreak of the Civil war. During the period of hostilities he joined the army for one hundred days' service and held the rank of lieutenant. He first became connected with the insurance business as a representative of the firm of Drew & Bennett and from time to time was continuously connected with insurance interests until his demise. In 1876 he entered the service of the Springfield Fire & Marine Insurance Company as a field worker, the western department of the company being established at that time. He was capable, earnest and energetic, was thoroughly acquainted with every phase of the insurance business and succeeded in building up

an extensive clientage. The high regard in which he was held by the company that he represented is indicated in the fact that on the 11th of July, 1881, following his death, the company passed resolutions concerning his efficiency and the respect entertained for him as a man.

In 1861 Mr. Euler was united in marriage in Evansville to Miss Susanna Elles, a native of this city, and unto them were born six children: Mrs. Helen Cramer, Frank, Mrs. Tecla Henry, Philip and Herman, all of Evansville; and August, deceased. Mr. Euler reared a fine family and was proud of his children and what they accomplished. He was indeed a most devoted husband and father, finding his greatest happiness in the welfare of his family, in whose interests he put forth earnest and untiring effort. He was, moreover, a public-spirited citizen who cooperated in many movements for the general good. He belonged to St. John's church and his life was an upright and honorable one, winning him the high regard of all with whom he was associated. His success was attributable entirely to his own labors and the visible evidence of his life was found in the property which he owned here. His life in all respects measured up to the highest standards of honorable manhood and although almost three decades have come and gone since he passed away his memory is yet dear to many who knew him.

HENRY ERHARDT.

A well-improved farm property of sixty acres pays tribute to the care and labor which is bestowed upon it by its present owner, Henry Erhardt, now a well known and representative farmer of Center township. Vanderburg county has largely been settled by German residents and those of German descent. To the latter class belongs Henry Erhardt, who was born September 19, 1858, in German township—that section of Vanderburg county which indicates in its name the fact that it was developed by the sons of the fatherland. His parents, John and Elizabeth Erhardt, were both natives of Germany and established their home in German township, this county, at a very early period, the father purchasing forty acres of land. It was entirely wild and unimproved, but he at once began clearing away the timber, grubbing up the stumps and plowing and planting the fields. In due course of time this tract was transformed into a cultivable property, and year by year the fields returned good crops up to the time of his death, which occurred September 6, 1872. His wife, also well known in the community, passed away in 1889.

The youthful days of Henry Erhardt were spent upon the old homestead farm to the age of fifteen years, when he began providing for his own support by working by the month as a farm hand in the locality. He was diligent and reliable, so that he readily secured employment, and thus

time passed until he attained his majority, when he felt it incumbent upon him to make some arrangement whereby his labors would more directly benefit himself. He, therefore, rented land and in this way carried on farming for eighteen years, during which period he carefully saved his earnings. He then bought sixty acres of land in Center township and with renewed courage and determination began the cultivation of the place. He has made substantial improvements thereon, supplying the farm with many modern accessories.

In 1882 Mr. Erhardt was united in marriage to Miss Josephine Ehkofer, a daughter of George and Christina Ehkofer, who were also natives of Germany. This marriage has been blessed with six children: Christina, who died in 1883; Henry G., who follows carpentering and lives at home; Josephine, twenty-three years of age; Katy F., twenty years of age; Aurelia E., a young lady of sixteen years; and Evelyn, ten years of age. The living children are all yet under the parental roof. Mr. Erhardt is independent in thought and of liberal tendencies. He is a believer in the spiritualist faith and in socialistic doctrines—not the doctrine of anarchy but that which recognizes the rights of others and seeks a just and equitable division of material and political rights and interests.

WILLIAM STORTON.

While steam had been introduced as a propelling force in navigation in the middle of the nineteenth century, yet the greater part of the trans-Atlantic vessels were still propelled by sails. It was on one of the old time sailing vessels that William Storton left England for America. Sixty days passed—days of storm and of fair weather, ere the ship on which he sailed dropped anchor in the harbor of New Orleans. He was then a youth of fourteen years, his birth having occurred in the town of Sumersham, in the district of Huntington, England, October 16, 1840.

After a brief period spent in the Crescent city Mr. Storton continued his journey up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to Evansville, and from that time afterward was a resident of this city, although his business interests kept him much of the time away from home. He had first accepted any employment that would yield him an honest living, but improved every opportunity for advancement and at length entered the service of James Steele, who conducted a planing mill on the site of the Foster home on upper Second street. There he remained until he became connected with the Evansville Journal. He was with that paper for thirty years before his death, associating himself with the business department in 1866, from which time afterward he contributed in no small degree to the success of the paper. His original position was that of mailing clerk and collector. He did efficient work in that connection for a few years, when he was appointed to the more

responsible position of soliciting for the job and binding departments and general advertising. In that connection much of his time was necessarily spent upon the road in the interest of the business, and in his travels he made many warm friends in Kentucky, Tennessee, Illinois and Indiana. He also gained a goodly business for the house, his long connection with the paper indicating the regard entertained for him and his ability by the company which he represented.

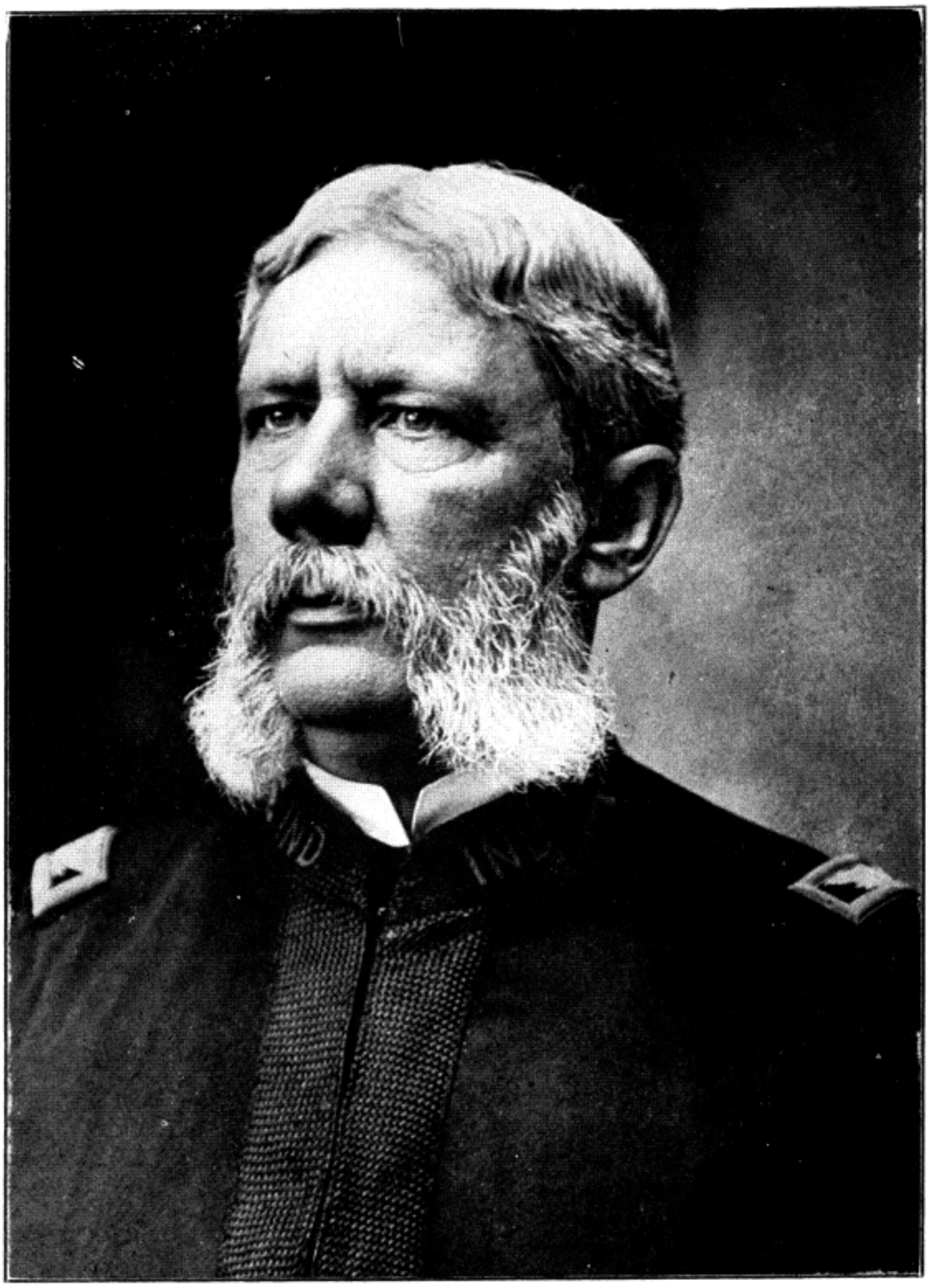
On the 12th of December, 1865, Mr. Storton was married to Miss Margaret Clark, and unto them were born three children, Allen, Frank and Carrie. Mr. Storton was ever devoted to the welfare of his home and family and found his greatest happiness in administering to their welfare and comfort. He was also loyal in friendship and his social nature, genial manner and engaging personality won him friends wherever he went. He was a member of the Trinity Methodist Episcopal church and ever held to a high moral standard in all of his social and business relations. Wherever he extended the trade of the house his word became recognized as thoroughly reliable and if he ever made mistakes they were errors of judgment and not of the heart. He had a kindly feeling for all mankind and in his life proved the truth of the Emersonian philosophy that, "the way to win a friend is to be one."

COLONEL CHARLES C. SCHREEDER.

Colonel Charles C. Schreeder, republican representative from Vanderburg county to the Indiana legislature, has the distinction of being the only citizen of the state ever elected for five consecutive terms to the general assembly, thereby becoming the dean of the sixty-sixth session of the law-making body of the state. He was first called to office when but twenty-one years of age and almost continuously since has been connected with the public service, a fact indicative of fidelity to duty, of loyalty to principle and to promise and of capability in the discharge of the official tasks that have devolved upon him.

Mr. Schreeder was born in Berlin, Germany, January 19, 1847, and was but five years of age when brought to America by his widowed mother, the father having died during the infancy of his son Charles. In 1853 he became a resident of Evansville and a pupil in the public schools, therein pursuing his studies to the age of fifteen years, when aroused by the spirit of patriotism that was spreading throughout the north, he enlisted as a private soldier in the Union army, doing active duty at the front until the close of hostilities.

After the close of the war Mr. Schreeder returned to Evansville and in the year in which he attained his majority was elected city assessor. Later he was chosen to the office of township assessor and subsequently



COL. C. C. SCHREEDER

to the office of city clerk, and the prompt and faithful discharge of his duties won for him high commendation. In 1876 he removed to Huntingburg, Dubois county, Indiana, where he served as postmaster during the administration of Presidents Hayes, Garfield, Arthur and Harrison. From early boyhood he has taken a deep interest in political affairs and has been active in his advocacy of party principles. He organized the first republican county central committee in Dubois county, which was the democratic stronghold, and served for twelve years as its chairman. In 1880 he established the first republican newspaper in that county and remained its publisher and editor until his return to Evansville in 1894. Long before he took his seat in the legislature as one of its duly elected members, he was a familiar figure in the house for in 1887, during the fifty-fifth session of the general assembly, he was principal doorkeeper of the house of representatives. In 1892 he was commissioned colonel on the staff of Governor Chase and was again commissioned in 1897 on the staff of Governor Mount. In 1901 he was recommissioned on the staff of Governor Durbin and again in 1905 by Governor Hanly.

In 1900 Mr. Schreeder was elected joint representative to the legislature from the counties of Vanderburg, Gibson and Knox and in 1902 was reelected from Vanderburg county and again in 1904, 1906 and 1908, thus being five times consecutively a member of the house and was renominated for the sixth term in 1910, an honor which has not been conferred upon any other citizen of the state under the present constitution. By reason of these elections he served in the Sixty-second, Sixty-third, Sixty-fourth, Sixty-fifth and Sixty-sixth sessions of the general assembly and of the last was termed "dean." He has served on many important committees, including the ways and means, appropriation, banking, fees and salaries, the military and other committees. He is the author of several important bills which have become laws, securing the passage of a bill appropriating twenty-eight thousand dollars for the erection of twenty-two monuments on the battlefield of Shiloh in memory of the Indiana troops who participated in the engagement there; another appropriating ten thousand dollars for the erection of a monument at Andersonville, Georgia, in memory of the Indiana soldiers who suffered and died in the Confederate prison stockade at that place; and an appropriation of fifteen thousand dollars for erecting monuments and markers on the battlefield of Antietam, Maryland, in memory of the Indiana troops who fought for the Union cause at that point. During his legislative career four United States senators have been elected. In 1903 he supported Hon. Charles W. Fairbanks, in 1905, Hon. A. J. Beveridge and Hon. James A. Hemenway and in 1909 voted for the reelection of Mr. Hemenway. Colonel Schreeder has always been an active worker in the Grand Army of the Republic and has held numerous prominent positions in that organization.

Colonel Schreeder was married in Huntingburg, Indiana, on the 12th of April, 1868, to Miss Louise C. Behrens, a daughter of an early merchant

of that place. She died April 28, 1892, leaving two children: Emma Mary, now the wife of E. W. Nash of New Harmony, Indiana; and Walter D., at home. On the 27th of March, 1894, in Evansville, Colonel Schreeder was married to Mrs. Rebecca Keller, widow of the late Charles Keller, a prominent merchant here.

In whatever relation we find him—in government service, in political circles, in business or in social circles,—he is always the same honorable and honored gentleman whose worth well merits the high regard which is uniformly given him. That he is a man of broad intelligence and genuine public spirit has been shadowed forth between the lines of this review. Strong in his individuality, he never lacks the courage of his convictions, but there are as dominating elements in this individuality a lively human sympathy and a sterling integrity which have naturally gained for him the respect and confidence of men.

JAMES CAWSON.

Among the citizens of Evansville who have passed from the scene of earthly activities since the opening of the twentieth century was James Cawson, who died on the 30th of June, 1900. He was then seventy-five years of age, his birth having occurred in Devonshire, England, in 1825. The schools of his native country afforded him his educational privileges and he came to America in the later '40s in response to the desire of his aunt, Mrs. James Cawson, who after her husband's death sent for his nephew and namesake and his sister to come to the new world and make their home with her.

After arriving in Evansville James Cawson of this review entered the book store of a Mr. Connington, there remaining for a few years. Later he removed to Mount Vernon, Indiana, where he opened and conducted a book store on his own account and through the careful management and able direction of his business met with substantial success. His commercial methods were ever honorable and his well formulated plans were carefully and systematically executed. He possessed determined purpose that enabled him to carry forward to successful completion whatever he undertook.

During his residence in Mount Vernon Mr. Cawson was married to Miss Wannegs, a daughter of Dr. Wannegs, but she only lived for a few years. For his second wife Mr. Cawson chose Miss Ellen J. Knowles, who was born in Scott township, Vanderburg county, a daughter of Charles Knowles and a grandaughter of William Knowles, who came to the United States from England when sailing vessels were used in crossing the Atlantic and when practically all westward travel across the continent was made by the water route. So wild and unsettled was the state that there

was but one house in Evansville when he brought his family here. People tried to influence him to buy land now included within the present site of the city but it was so low and swampy that he regarded it as worthless and went back up in the hills and woods in Scott township. There he erected a log cabin and cleared a farm, continuing its development until his death, the place also remaining the family home for many years. He was indeed one of the pioneer settlers of this locality and aided in laying a broad foundation for the later development and upbuilding of this section of the state.

His son, Charles Knowles, was reared amid pioneer surroundings and received but limited school privileges. His education was largely acquired through his own efforts, by private reading and study and by observation and experience as well. He was reared to the farm life, early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and carried on general agricultural pursuits for many years. Moreover he became a prominent factor in the affairs of the community and his influence was ever found on the side of right and progress. Having reached years of maturity, he wedded Miss Mary Ann Maidlow, whose father, G. F. Maidlow, also came from England in an early day and settled in Scott township, where he cleared a tract of land and improved a farm. Mrs. Cawson, daughter of Charles and Mary Ann (Maidlow) Knowles, has been a lifelong resident of Vanderburg county and has lived in Evansville since 1895, when Mr. Cawson retired from business and removed to this city.

He was a member of the Episcopal church and his political belief was indicated in the loyal support which he gave to the democracy. He did not seek nor desire office, however, as a reward for party fealty, being content to give his allegiance to the party because of his firm belief in its principles. From the time he came to America he continuously made his home in Indiana and in every relation of life his record measured up to the highest standard of honorable manhood.

THE KELLER-CRESCENT COMPANY.

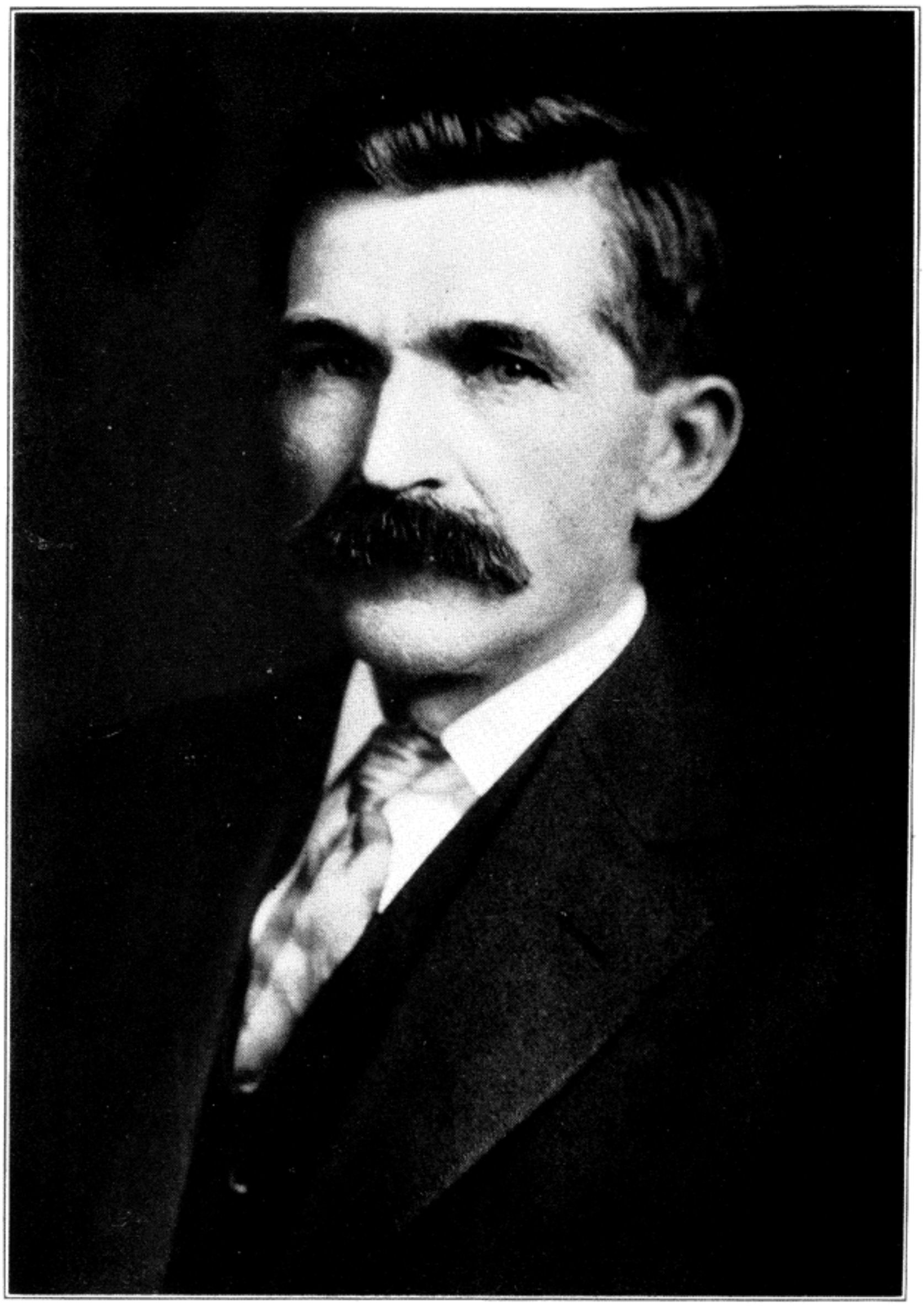
The Keller-Crescent Company, one of the most extensive and important printing enterprises of Evansville, is now conducted under the above name. The business was founded by Captain W. H. Keller about twenty-five years ago and has grown from a small beginning to extensive proportions. At the outset there was but a small plant and limited quarters; today the firm has one of the best equipped plants in the state of Indiana and employs seventy-five people in the conduct of the business. The house is prepared to turn out work of the highest order and the catalogue and label work done by the company is shipped over a large territory. The company own their own building, which was erected especially for their purposes and therefore meets the demands of the trade.

Emil Weil is the president of the company, a position to which he has attained through successive promotions from that of office boy. Entering the house in the latter capacity, he has made himself master of every branch of the business, thoroughly understands the work of the operative department as well as that of the office from which point the business interests are managed, and upon the death of Captain Keller, in 1898, he became president. His partners in the enterprise are W. G. Burkert and H. B. Walton. The former became associated with the business as a young man of twenty years in the capacity of bookkeeper and has been advanced to the position of secretary. Mr. Walton entered the house about six years ago as bookkeeper and upon the death of Captain Keller was made treasurer. Theirs is the only plant in the state that does its own half-tone and color work. The presses and other equipments are of the latest models and the company ever sustains the highest standard in the excellence of its output and in the character of service rendered to the public.

HENRY KORFF, SR.

Among the successful operators of Evansville, Henry Korff occupies a position as a man who won his way by his own exertions to the enviable place he occupies. He is a native of Unterlüebbe, by Prois Minden, Germany, born December 24, 1857. There he was educated but after arriving at the estate of manhood he yielded to the promptings which have urged so many young men to seek their fortune in a new country and came to America, landing in New York in October, 1878. He arrived in Evansville a few days later, having previously decided to make this city his home.

Here he was engaged in the brick and tile business for two years, at the end of which time he entered the teaming and coal business, with which he was identified for many years. In 1898 he associated with C. C. Thomas in operating a coal mine at Clay, Webster county, Kentucky. This enterprise proved a total loss, but Mr. Korff had learned not to become discouraged on account of difficulties and he organized the Banner Coal Company, in which he attained a measure of success but closed out his interest and began mining on his own account near Boonville in Warrick county, this state. He owns the property on which these mines are located and under his efficient management the business has grown to very handsome proportions. He also owns a great deal of property in Evansville and is identified with the lumber and sawmill business. He also has an improved farm of one hundred and thirty-three acres in Vanderburg County. As the result of many years of application and industry Mr. Korff has attained comparative financial independence and can truly sympathize with young men who are striving to attain the same end.



HENRY KORFF, SR.

In 1882 Mr. Korff was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Griese, who was born in Germany in the same region from which he came. Their living children are: Henry Korff, Jr., who married Lenora Schwiersch; Fred, who married Julia Boehne; and Carrie Louise Charlotte and Walter B., who are twins. Walter B. is superintendent of his father's mines, while Carrie is secretary to her father and has charge of his books and personal affairs.

Mr. Korff belongs to the Evangelical Lutheran church, and is a member of that branch of the denomination worshipping at St. Paul's church in Evansville. By his sterling integrity and rectitude of character, he has gained a high reputation in the community—a reputation that is worth in the end more than all that money can buy. The foundation of his success was established in a strong determination and unfaltering enterprise that would not admit of failure, and a confidence in himself that no disaster can shake. Such a foundation is invincible.

JOSEPH HUMMEL.

Earnest and persistent labor has brought Joseph Hummel to a position among the representative and successful farmers of Center township. His labors have at all times been practical and the spirit of progress has characterized him in all of his work. He was born in Bavaria, December 27, 1846, and his parents, Lawrence and Ernestine Hummel, were also natives of that country, where they resided until 1851, when they came to the new world, hoping to enjoy better opportunities on the western hemisphere. They landed at New York city and there remained for some time. The father was a wagon maker by trade and followed that pursuit in the eastern metropolis until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when he felt that his chief duty was to his adopted country and joined the army, serving for three years in defense of the Union. During that period he participated in a number of important battles and made a creditable military record. When the war was over he returned to his home in the east and in 1869 brought his family to Indiana. Here he resumed work at the wagon-making trade, which he followed for eleven years, when his life's labors were ended in death in September, 1880. About ten years later his wife passed away, her death occurring in April, 1890.

Joseph Hummel was a little lad of four summers when his parents left the fatherland for the United States. The schools of New York city afforded him his educational priviliges and in his teens he began working at the wagon-maker's trade and afterward entered into partnership with his father in that line. Their business relations continued until 1877, when they dissolved partnership and Joseph Hummel started alone in business. For twenty-eight years he continued to engage in wagon making in the

east and then came to Evansville, where he worked at his trade for a few years, but the opportunities of the agriculturist interested him and believing that he would find farm life congenial and the cultivation of the fields profitable he removed to Center township, where he purchased eighty acres. He at once set about clearing the land, erected a house thereon and also put up barns, sheds and other outbuildings necessary for the shelter of grain and stock. Each year has witnessed changes for the better in the appearance of his place, which is now a finely improved farm, equipped with all modern accessories and conveniences. The carefully tilled fields respond in goodly harvests and he also keeps high grade stock upon his place.

At the time of the Civil war Mr. Hummel was found among the boys in blue, for four years wearing the nation's uniform as he participated in the long hard marches or met the enemy in battle in defense of the Union cause. It was in December, 1861, that he enlisted and in December, 1865, he was honorably discharged, having in the intervening years experienced all of the hardships and rigors of war.

In October, 1875, Mr. Hummel was united in marriage to Miss Annie Tempel, a daughter of John and Dorothea Tempel, who were natives of Germany. Her father died in 1906, but her mother is now living in Perry county, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Hummel have become parents of twelve children; Mary, a resident of Vanderburg county; Rosalia, who died July 10, 1895; John, living at home; Maggie, of Evansville; Charles, twenty-seven years of age, who aids in carrying on the home farm; and Aurelia, twenty-five years of age, Josephine, twenty-three, Catherine, twenty-one, Annie, nineteen, Caroline, seventeen, Joseph, fifteen, and Frank eleven years of age. The family are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Hummel is a republican in his political views. He is as true and loyal in the discharge of his duties of citizenship today as when he followed the old flag upon southern battlefields. However, he deserves much credit as one of the veterans of the Civil war and is, moreover, deserving of respect because of his well spent, active and useful life.

CHARLES F. SCHMIDT.

Music touches a responsive chord in the breast of almost every individual. It is a universal language through which individuals may speak to those of alien race. It is the most universally understood and cultivated of all the arts and every community recognizes its debt to those who promote musical taste and talent, or contribute to public pleasure through this avenue. Prominent not only in the musical circles of Evansville but throughout the state, Charles F. Schmidt is numbered. This city claims him as one of her native sons, his birth here having occurred October 27, 1854. His youthful days

were not marked by any event of special importance, being largely devoted to the tasks assigned to him as a public school student.

At the age of sixteen Mr. Schmidt entered the employ of the Merchants National Bank, but the routine of this life was obnoxious to him and after several years devoted to clerical work he entered the field in which he was destined to rise to prominence and fame. A musical paper called "Trumpet Notes," published in August, 1886, designated him as "one of the best known band masters in the country—a gentleman whose intelligent efforts and phenominal success in his chosen calling have gained him the significant and well earned appellation of 'the Gilmore of the west.' . . . Although the youngest of band masters in the country," the paper continued, "his career has been one continuous line of unbroken success and his record for the past seven years is one of which many veterans in the work would be proud to boast. At the age of seventeen years he was occupying a prominent position in a leading banking house, but his predilection for a musical life overcame his mercantile instincts and he abandoned his lucrative position to enter a music store at a considerably reduced salary. There he remained for a year and at the same time was leader of a small but good orchestra of six pieces. At the age of twenty years he purchased and established a music business and thus started out for himself. At that time he was a proficient performer on any band instrument, but his preference was for the cornet, which he had no difficulty in playing the first time that he touched it." It was not long after this that Mr. Schmidt organized and instructed a band of ten pieces, the members developing so rapidly in skill under his direction that soon the band ranked second to none in this section. Although a fine theoretical and practical musician, his immense energy and executive ability found their greatest scope in the series of annual band tournaments which he instituted in Evansville, and which have served to make his name so widely known among western band men. He planned for the first of these tournaments in 1880, and although only four bands participated, it was a creditable and enjoyable occasion. That the initial performance attracted wide attention is indicated by the fact that in 1881 eight bands were in attendance, while in 1882 there was a still larger number. It was about that time that he formulated the plan of massing them all together. His next tournament, held in 1883, attracted widespread attention from the public press, and was a leading topic of discussion in musical journals throughout the country, sixteen well trained western bands participating. Still he had not reached his ideal in this field of work. In 1884 the greatest tournament ever seen in the west was held, eighteen bands and two hundred and seventy-eight men participating. The street parade alone was over one mile long and the music rendered on that occasion was of the highest possible order. Another tournament was held in 1885 at which time three hundred and fifty dollars in prizes were given. The occasion of these tournaments constituted a gala period in the life of Evansville, and not only gave proof of the city's musical talent and love for the art, but also served to bring the city in other

connections into public prominence, attracting here a large number of visitors. Professor Schmidt's ideal did not stop short of perfection. He believed that each year should see greater progress in the musical organizations over the country, and he constantly stimulated the members of his own band by his zeal, interest in and devotion to the art.

In August, 1878, Professor Schmidt was united in marriage to Miss Maggie Elles, a daughter of Captain August Elles, one of the oldest citizens of Evansville. Professor Schimdt's fraternal relations were with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, and the Masons, and in the latter connection he became a Knight Templar. He also belonged to St. John's church. There are those who have contributed to the material upbuilding of Evansville through business operations, but none have contributed more largely to the joy and pleasure of her citizens than did Professor Schmidt, whose death on the 19th of November, 1886, was received as a public calamity. Almost every Evansville citizen felt a sense of personal bereavement. They had long been interested in his life work and felt that he belonged to them. It is a question if he whose art uplifts men above the drudgery of the workaday world does not do more for the race than he who ministers to material comfort through the development of extensive business projects.

HENRY W. KUHN.

Henry W. Kuhn is the owner of one of the model farm properties of Vanderburg county. His home is situated in Center township and he is a practical, progressive farmer, his intelligently directed labors bringing him substantial success. He was born in Evansville, May 28, 1871, and is a son of John J. and Charlotte (Tilius) Kuhn, both of whom were natives of Germany. On coming to the United States in 1854 they landed at New York city and there remained for a brief period, after which they sought the opportunities of a growing western country and came to Evansville, arriving here in 1858. Here Mr. Kuhn began work in a flour mill and followed that business for about fifteen years. He was also employed by George Start in the commission business for a number of years and had experience in that line before engaging in the milling business. Later he again took up milling and continued in that work until his death, which occurred on the 1st of March, 1909. He had been a resident of Vanderburg county for more than a half century, had witnessed much of its growth and development and had borne his full share in the work of public progress. His wife died February 28, 1904.

While spending his youthful days in his parents' home Henry W. Kuhn attended the public schools of Evansville and many of the friendships which he formed during his school days have continued to the present time. Later

he pursued a course in bookkeeping. He was nineteen years of age when he made his initial step in the business world, beginning work in a flour mill, in which he was employed for eight years. His long connection with that industry proved his worth and fidelity. He never sought to shirk a responsibility or to cast upon another the duty which he should discharge. At length he took up his abode in Center township, purchasing fifty-one acres of land, which he has improved to the present time. The property is now regarded as one of the model farms of the district, each acre is tilled to good advantage and by practicing the rotation of crops he keeps his land rich and arable. Sound judgment characterizes him in all of his work and his practical management of the place is manifest in the success which has come to him.

On the 4th of January, 1893, Mr. Kuhn was united in marriage to Miss Mamie M. Schultz, a daughter of Julius and Marian Schultz, both of whom were natives of this state, where the father died April 17, 1891, and the mother was called to her final rest on the 12th of July of the same year. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Kuhn have been born two children: Mamie I., now seventeen years of age; and Wilhelma K. H., now thirteen months old. Mr. and Mrs. Kuhn belong to St. John's Evangelical church and their sterling qualities have gained for them warm friendship and kindly regard. Mr. Kuhn is a member of the Knights of Honor and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and is inclined to support socialistic principles. He keeps in touch with the questions of vital interest that affect public welfare and his influence is always on the side of progress and reform.

WILLIAM HENRY KLUSMAN.

It seems a far distant period when the flat boats were sent down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, carrying the produce of these valleys to the New Orleans market, and yet many a time did William Henry Klusman load such a boat and go down the river to the Crescent city. In other ways he was closely connected with many of the early important happenings of Evansville. His birth occurred in Germany in 1824, and he was only four years of age when brought to America by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernst Klusman, who settled first in Cincinnati but soon afterward came to Indiana, locating near Princeton, where he resided until about 1856, when he disposed of his land and came with his family to Evansville. Here he built a large foundry—one of the early industrial enterprises of the city—which was later sold to the Blount Plow Company. In his later years he lived retired.

William Henry Klusman acquired a good education in the public schools of Princeton, and in young manhood was associated with his brother in loading the produce from the farm upon flat boats and then going down

the river as far as New Orleans, selling at different points, however, along the way. At one time he was engaged in the grocery business at Nashville, Tennessee, and was well known in Evansville in connection with the foundry business, which he developed to extensive proportions. He was prominent among the early representatives of industrial life here and for many years continued in business, his well directed energy and intelligent effort bringing him a gratifying measure of success.

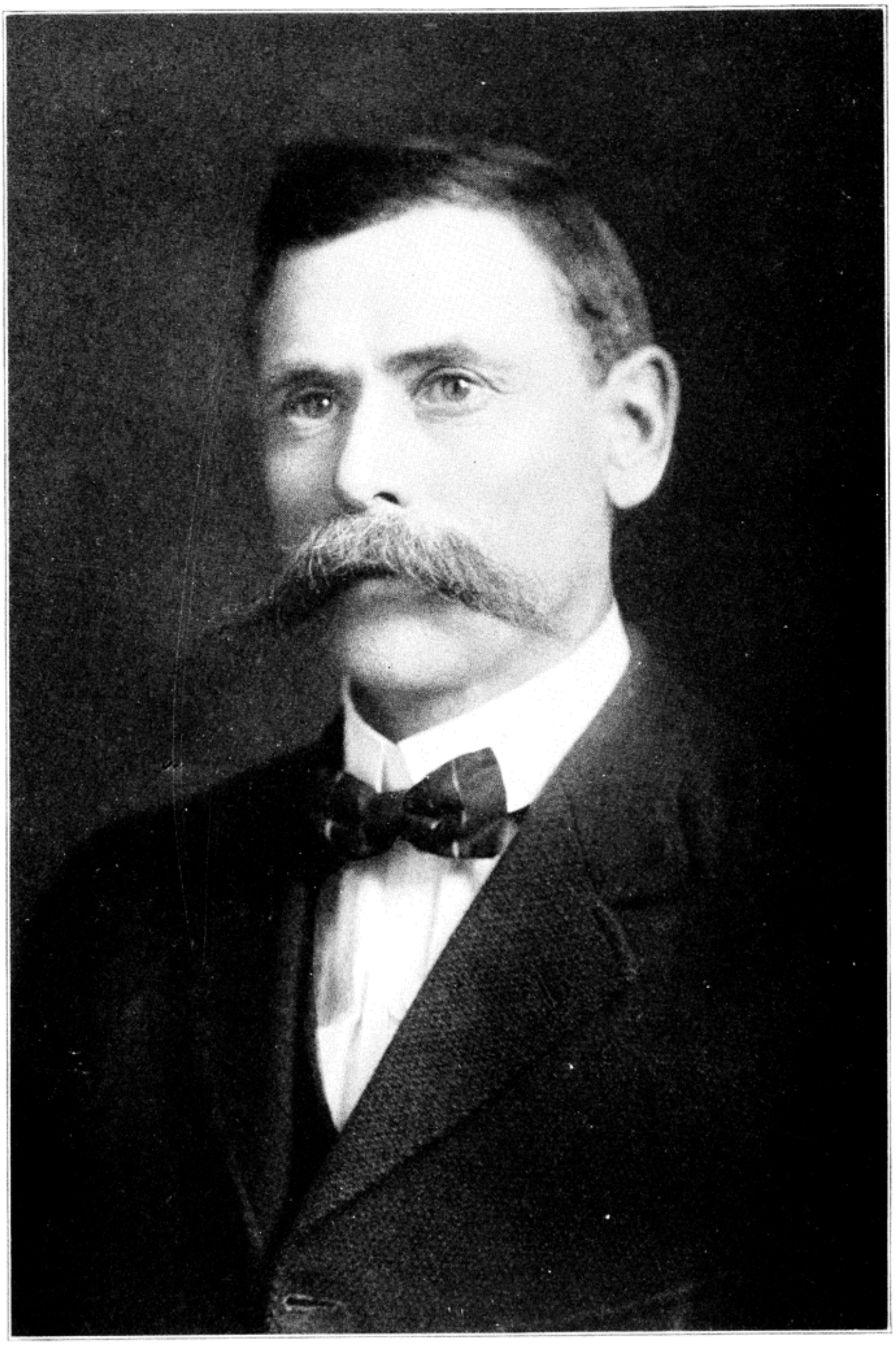
In 1858, in Evansville, Mr. Klusman was married to Miss Therese Seigel, a native of France, who came to the United States when nineteen years of age. Their only child, Anna, is now the wife of William Kratz, and she has one son, Frederick W. Kratz.

About 1860 Mr. Klusman purchased a home on Bond street, where his family still reside. He had maintained his residence there for ten years when he was called to his final rest. He was one of the most liberal men of Evansville where the welfare of the city and its people were concerned, putting forth strenuous and effective effort to promote the upbuilding and advance municipal interests. He was ever anxious to see water works installed here but died just before this was accomplished. He was engineer of the old Lemasco fire department, a volunteer system, and was associated with Mr. Binkenmeyer in the building of the first little brick church in his section of the city. For long years he was active as a member of St. John's church, doing everything in his power to promote its growth and extend its influence. The democratic party found him among its active supporters and frequently he went upon the rostrum, making campaign speeches in defense of the party candidates and principles. For a number of years he served as one of the councilmen of the city and exercised his official prerogatives in support of many measures which have proved of lasting benefit to Evansville. He was prominent in the public life of the community and his labors at all times partook of a practical, helpful character that made him one of the most valued and honored residents of the city. Mrs. Klusman is well known here and has an extensive circle of friends.

ROBERT LINCOLN HARWOOD.

Robert Lincoln Harwood, a highly respected farmer of Union township, is a native of Vanderburg county and has always lived in the region where he was born. He is known as one of the substantial farmers of the county and in addition to operating a large farm, which he conducts on up-to-date principles, he is the owner of a steam threshing machine, which he operates for several months each year with marked success and thus assists his neighbors in preparing their grain for the market.

Mr. Harwood was born in Union township, June 18, 1864, and is a son of Jeremiah Dale and Jane (Chapman) Harwood. The father, who was



R. L. HARWOOD

born January 29, 1832, was a farmer and a pioneer and died March 3, 1909. The mother of our subject was born August 29, 1839, and departed this life April 11, 1886. In their family were six children: Mary, who married Samuel Adcock; Carrie, now Mrs. George Melborne; Eliza; George; James, deceased; and Robert Lincoln.

Educated in the public schools and reared upon the home farm, Robert Lincoln Harwood early became thoroughly familiar with the duties to which he has devoted his life. He has never married and at present is renting a large farm, from which he is securing substantial returns. He has to some extent engaged in buying and selling live stock, but it is as a general farmer and not in any special line that he has attained his present standing. For many years he has been a member of the Methodist church, whose teachings he recognizes as a fair interpretation of holy writ. He is interested in political affairs and the principles which he supports are those of the republican party. Although not an aspirant for office of any kind, he is now serving as township trustee to the general satisfaction of the people of the township. He is a man of earnest convictions and in all points of business or conduct where there is reason to doubt, he aims to select that side which is just and true.

FRED M. HARMAN.

Fred M. Harman, actively engaged in truck farming and in dairying, is finding that industry constitutes the key that unlocks the portals of success, for in his chosen field of labor he is meeting with good results. He was born in Davis county, Indiana, July 17, 1875, his parents being Joseph H. and Keziah (Allen) Harman, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of the Hoosier state. In the year 1871 Joseph H. Harman came to Indiana, establishing his home at Odon, Davis county, where he followed blacksmithing for eight years. Thinking to find agricultural pursuits more congenial and profitable, however, he turned his attention to farming, renting a tract of land which he cultivated for about three years. On the expiration of that period he bought two acres of land and built a blacksmith shop, resuming work at his trade, in which he continued until his death, passing away in May, 1905. His widow is still living, her home being now in Odon.

Fred M. Harman was with his parents until twenty-five years of age, and his youthful days were devoted to the acquirement of an education in the public schools, to the pleasures of the playground and to the performance of such duties as parental authority assigned him. He made arrangements for having a home of his own in his marriage on the 19th of March, 1901, to Miss Catherine Kimbel, a daughter of Daniel and Catherine (Smith) Kimbel, both of whom were natives of this state. At the

time of his marriage Mr. Harman purchased fourteen acres of improved land and turned his attention to truck farming, which he followed for two and a half years. He then removed to Evansville, where he accepted a position in a grocery store, but after a short time entered the street car service as motorman and devoted three and a half years to that work. Subsequently he removed to Center township and invested in twenty-four acres of improved land, since which time he has been engaged in raising garden products and in dairying. Both branches of his business are proving remunerative. He cultivates vegetables of large size and fine quality, for which he finds a ready sale on the market. His dairy products are also of equal excellence and the most sanitary conditions prevail in the dairy.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Harman has been born one child, Daniel J., now eight years of age. Mrs. Harman is a member of the German Lutheran church. Politically Mr. Harman is a republican, exercising his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the party, but never seeking office as a reward for party fealty. He is a young man, ambitious and energetic, and by the improvement of his time, talents and opportunities he is working his way steadily upward.

SIMON V. LEVI.

To say of Simon V. Levi that he has risen by his own efforts to rank among the foremost merchants of southwestern Indiana would seem trite to those familiar with his life record, yet it is but just to say in a history that will descend to future generations that his record is such as many a man might be proud to possess, for his advancement is attributable to his own exertions and at all time he has followed methods that will bear close investigation and scrutiny. Moreover, in the development of his business he has also contributed to the commercial progress and prosperity of the cities in which he operates, for he is conducting department stores in both Evansville and Oakland City.

Mr. Levi was born in Harrison county, Indiana, in 1858, play, work and study occupying his attention during his youthful days. He supplemented a district school course by a normal course, pursued at Paoli, Indiana, and when his education was completed he began teaching in the country schools, following the profession for five years. He believed that broader opportunity was offered, however, in mercantile fields, and in 1883 went to Oakland City, Indiana, where he opened a department store, which he is still conducting. It is today the largest establishment of the kind in Gibson county. Several years ago he came to Evansville. After deliberate and thoughtful consideration he found the section of the city where a business such as he proposed to establish was most needed. He decided on his present location at Nos. 505-507-509 Fulton avenue, secucing the large three-story building erected by William Heilman for a whole-

sale house. Stocking it with a large line of goods, he is now conducting what really deserves to be called a department store, for he has here thirteen complete departments and is handling an extensive line, meeting every demand of his customers. Progressive methods have been instituted and Mr. Levi has ever made a close study of the trade and of popular demand. He is therefore able to supply his customers with what they desire, and he handles the latest goods sent out by the different manufacturers.

In 1889 Mr. Levi was united in marriage to Miss Eva Baker, of Boonville, Indiana, and they have three children, two daughters and a son. The family hold membership in Trinity Methodist Episcopal church and in the work of the church Mr. Levi takes an active part, doing everything in his power to promote the social, intellectual and moral progress of the community. In this regard, as in the conduct of his private business, his ideas and his efforts are practical and resultant. He is a man of marked force of character, who accomplishes what he undertakes, laboring persistently and energetically for honorable success whether for the benefit of himself or for the community at large.

ANTHONY J. KLEIN.

Inflexible as the laws of nature is the rule which governs honorable success. It comes as the direct and logical result of earnest effort, intelligently directed, and the life history of Anthony J. Klein is another proof of this fact. He was born in Germany, July 23, 1855, a son of Anthony and Josephine (Hoffman) Klein. The father was a carpet weaver by trade and about 1867 sailed with his family for the new world, his son Anthony being at that time twelve years of age. Ere the period of his minority was passed he entered business circles as an employe in the factory of Anthony Reis, a tanner of Evansville, in whose service he was promoted through ability and fidelity until he reached the responsible position of bookkeeper. Ambitious, however, to engage in business on his own account that his labors should more directly benefit himself, he organized and established the Southwestern Broom Company, of which he was president. In this he instituted a productive industry that is still controlled by his family and which from the beginning proved a source of gratifying profit, owing to its continuous growth and substantial development. Mr. Klein was also an active member of the firm of Rosenberger & Klein, wholesale and retail grocers, and, moreover, was an active factor in the management and successful control of the Certain Cure Company, manufacturers of proprietary medicines. Turning his attention to financial interests, he became one of the organizers and also a member of the board of directors of the City National Bank, and his opinions formed a guiding factor in the institution throughout his remaining days. He was also a

stockholder in several other banks of Evansville and indelibly impressed his name on the business history of the city and the substantial development of Evansville resulting therefrom.

Mr. Klein was married in this city May 23, 1881, to Miss Mary Newhaus, a daughter of Henry Newhaus, a prominent pioneer resident here. They became parents of four children: Alfred A., a well known business man of Evansville; Mrs. Charles Bartholomay, of Fort Wayne, Indiana; and Mary A. and Lillian, at home. The children all attended the schools of Evansville and the son was also a pupil in Notre Dame University.

Mr. Klein gave his political allegiance to the democratic party but neither sought nor desired office. He belonged to the Knights of Columbus and was a charitable man, who understood "the joy of generous giving." He was devoted to the welfare of his family and erected for their comfort a beautiful residence on Wabash avenue, where his widow and children now reside. He passed away May 30, 1903, and in his demise Evansville mourned a citizen whose worth was widely acknowledged and whose example is well worthy of emulation.

HARRY H. SCHU.

Carefully formulated plans executed with dispatch and decision, sound business judgment and the recognition and utilization of opportunity, have brought Harry H. Schu to a leading place in the ranks of furniture manufacturers in Evansville. He is now secretary-treasurer of the Crescent Furniture Company, president of the United States Furniture Company, president of the Star Furniture Company and secretary of the Furniture Exposition, which are among the most important manufacturing enterprises of the city. He is also connected with other business enterprises and his labors are a valuable element in promoting progress along industrial and commercial lines.

Evansville numbers him among her native sons, his birth having occurred in this city, December 4, 1866. His parents are Anthony J. and Christina Schu. The former, born in Dansville, New York, on the 27th of February, 1836, came to Evansville in May, 1844, when a young lad of eight years, at which time the now flourishing and growing city was but a small town. In the early years of his manhood he engaged in the retail grocery business here and in 1859 became a lumber inspector. He was closely, actively and honorably associated with the business interests of the city until 1893, when he retired from active life to enjoy the rest to which his former labor well entitled him. He was married in this city, on the 7th of January, 1864, to Miss Christina Koehne and unto them were born five children.

This number included Harry H. Schu, who was educated in the Catholic parochial schools until he reached the age of thirteen years. He later spent three years in the public schools and one year as a student in the Wright & Rank Business College and, thus trained for the duties of commercial life, he accepted the position of assistant bookkeeper with the Mechanics Furniture Company, remaining in that connection for a year. He then went to Joseph F. Reitz, a wholesale and retail furniture dealer, having charge of the office for five years. This period served to demonstrate his business ability, his initiative spirit and his unfaltering enterprise. In 1889 Mr. Schu was one of the organizers of the Crescent Furniture Company, of which he became treasurer and general manager, and in 1900 he was also elected secretary. There is no larger furniture factory in the city and none has a larger output. In the opening year the sales amounted to fifty thousand dollars and the growth of the trade is indicated by the fact that the sales have now reached three hundred and fifty thousand dollars. They manufacture a general line of dining-room furniture, sideboards, buffets, china cabinets and bookcases and the office and factory are located on First avenue, from Franklin to Michigan streets. Francis J. Reitz is president of the company and H. H. Schu is the other executive officer.

The business ability which Mr. Schu has displayed has caused his aid and cooperation to be sought in other fields which have profited by his sound judgment and business discernment. In 1901 he aided in organizing and was elected to the presidency of the United States Furniture Company, manufacturers of mantel, upright folding beds and davenports, with office and factory at the junction of the Belt Railway and First avenue. His associate officers are Edward Kiechle, treasurer; Nestor Brentano, secretary; and Clemens A. Schu, manager. In 1907 he was elected to the presidency of the Star Furniture Company, wholesale dealers in chairs and furniture, located at Nos. 23 and 25, Lower Water street. The other officers of the company are L. C. Schweizer, vice president, and H. J. Sabel, secretary and treasurer. All three enterprises are a success and are among the important industrial and commercial interests of the city. Mr. H. H. Schu possesses excellent executive ability and powers of administration and his capable management and keen insight have been important factors in advancing the interests of the enterprises with which he is connected.

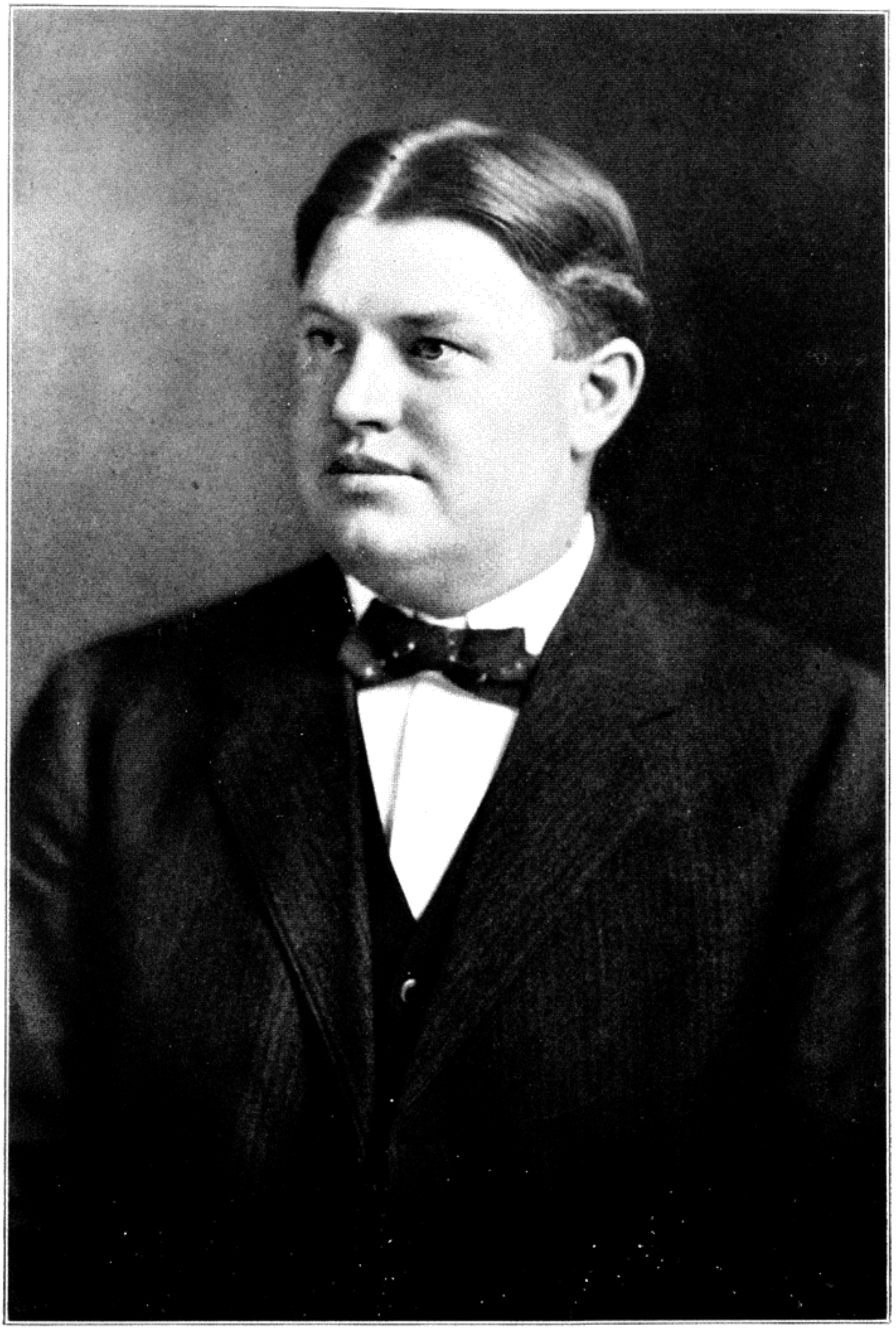
On the 4th of August, 1891, Mr. H. H. Schu was united in marriage in Evansville to Miss Mary Behme, by whom he has two children, Elmer and Jerome, who are eighteen and fourteen years of age respectively. His political endorsement is given to the democratic party and in religious faith he is a Roman Catholic, being a communicant of the Church of the Assumption. He is secretary of the Parochial Councilors and is identified with several fraternal organizations, including the Knights of Columbus,

the Red Men, the Travelers Protective Association and St. Michael's Benevolent Society. In a history of the men of Evansville whose business enterprise has brought them to a foremost position in commercial and trade circles, Mr. Schu well deserves mention. Thoroughness and close application have characterized his work from the outset of his career and at the same time he has manifested a public-spirited citizenship nor found necessity for a dividing line between religious principles and business relations.

BENJAMIN BOSSE.

Some men are born with business talent; others acquire it after years of struggle, leading through devious paths that finally conduct to victory. In the instance of Benjamin Bosse, whose name stands at the head of this review, a talent for business affairs very early became apparent and he has accomplished within comparatively a few years a greater work than is attained in a long life of activity by many men of good judgment and large business qualifications. Mr. Bosse was the prime mover in bringing about a consolidation of interests at Evansville, July 28, 1910, by which has been launched the largest furniture manufacturing company in the world, with a paid in capital of six hundred thousand dollars and a capacity at four factories of producing an output amounting in value to more than one million dollars yearly. It is estimated that the payroll of the company will amount to two hundred and fifty thousand dollars per year. The operations of this great organization will extend to all parts of this country and to foreign countries. Of this great combination Mr. Bosse is president, A. F. Karges is vice president, C. M. Frisse is secretary and Edward Ploeger is treasurer.

Benjamin Bosse is a native of Indiana, born on a farm in Scott township, this county, November 1, 1874. He is the son of Henry and Caroline (Schleusker) Bosse, both natives of Germany, who emigrated to America—a land of opportunity for many thousands of the sturdy Teutonic race who have found contentment and fortune. Henry Bosse settled on a farm and became one of the leading agriculturists in his part of the county. He was industrious, honest and energetic and a practical exemplification in his own family of the best characteristics handed down from a long line of worthy ancestry. An ardent advocate of republican institutions, he always took an active part in local political affairs. He departed this life August 15, 1908, mourned by his family and a wide circle of friends who will always regard his memory with reverence and esteem. Mrs. Bosse survives her husband and makes her home in Evansville. To the couple the patriarchal number of twelve children were born, eight of whom are now living. They were as follows: William; Louise, deceased; Mary, deceased; Frederick, deceased; John; Henry; Louis; Benjamin; George; Ella; August, deceased; and Amelia.



BENJAMIN BOSSE

Benjamin Bosse lived upon his father's farm until he was fourteen years of age. He attended the parochial schools during the winter and assisted in farm work in the spring and summer, thus laying a foundation in habits of industry and willingness to bear his share of the burdens of a large family, which has proven of the greatest benefit in later years. At the age of fourteen he came to Evansville and secured employment in the grocery business at ten dollars per month and board. He felt the need of more education than the parochial school afforded and by careful saving he accumulated enough money to pay for tuition at a business college, from which he graduated at the age of seventeen years. After leaving the college he was identified with a wholesale grocery house for two years. Being of an independent turn of mind, he was not contented to remain long upon a salary and at the early age of nineteen he decided to set up in business for himself. For him to resolve was to act, and he embarked in the retail grocery business, which he conducted for six years with the marked success that has characterized all his ventures. Seeing a wider field in the furniture business, he sold out his grocery and assisted in organizing the Globe Furniture Company, of which he became general manager, secretary and treasurer. This was in 1899 and he has ever since been intimately identified with an industry whose growth has been one of the marvels of recent years.

The activities of Mr. Bosse have by no means been confined to one line of business or to one organization. His energy has sought expression in many directions and the impress of his individuality is to be witnessed in many quarters. He has been president of the Bosse Furniture Company, of the Metal Furniture Company and the World Furniture Company. Since January 1, 1903, he has filled the office of president of the West Side Bank. He was one of the organizers of the Karges Wagon Company, of which he is a director, and as stockholder in a number of growing manufacturing concerns his advice and assistance have been eagerly sought. He was the originator of the plan which led to the organization of a company to erect the Furniture Exchange building, where all the show rooms of the manufacturers could be brought together under one roof. He is a member of the board of directors and has been treasurer since the organization of the company. He is also a member of the Evansville Business Men's Association, of which he is now president, the Evansville Manufacturers' Association and vice president of the Traffic Bureau of this city. It would be difficult to name any important movement for the upbuilding of the city during the last ten years with which Mr. Bosse has not been actively identified. He is regarded by associates and friends as one of the ablest advisers in matters pertaining to general business interests of Evansville and the wide region contributory to its manufacturing and distributing instrumentalities. In politics Mr. Bosse adheres to the democratic party. He has never sought political honors but has always extended an assisting hand to friends whose ambition lay in that direction. He served

with general acceptance under Mayor Boehne as president of the board of public safety and succeeded in accomplishing changes in the administration of the board which have been of permanent benefit to the city.

On the 2d of September, 1896, Mr. Bosse was united in marriage to Miss Anna Riechman, daughter of the late Frederick Riechman, of this city. Mrs. Bosse is a lady of refinement and culture and has proven a true helpmeet to her husband. She presides over a beautiful home where hospitality abounds and true worth always receives recognition. Mr. and Mrs. Bosse are members of the German Evangelical Lutheran church, a belief in which they were both reared. He is a member of the general board of supervision of the Lutheran church of the United States, this board having supervision of all the properties belonging to the church. It is one of the important factors in the organization in America.

Although scarcely yet at the doorway which opens to middle life, Mr. Bosse has accomplished a great deal of work which will stand as an enduring monument to his name. Inheriting from his father an honesty and integrity that has never been questioned, he is one of the fortunate men of large affairs who has made few mistakes and has had the foresight and judgment to avoid many of the pitfalls into which too many men, starting with high ambitions in the business world, have fallen. It is with true pride that we present this record of one who has won his way, starting as a simple country lad and attaining a place among the acknowledged leaders in honorable lines of business in Evansville.

HENRY MATHER SWEETSER.

Success and disaster both played a part in shaping the life history of Henry Mather Sweetser but through all there remained in him strong traits of character which did not unduly succumb to either influence. He recognized the fact that character building is the most essential thing in the world, and day by day he wrote in his life record an account that is worthy the reading. He possessed courage to overcome obstacles, resolution to continue in a course which he believed to be right, and thus his name ever remained an honored one in the community where he long made his home.

His birth occurred in Hartford, Connecticut, July 12, 1840. He was a son of Henry P. Sweetser, a native of Boston, Massachusetts, who in 1849 went to California, where he located valuable mining properties. He then returned to the east to secure machinery with which to operate his mines but became lost en route and died. The mother was a Mather of the Cotton Mather family, which possessed a coat of arms that dated back to 1602.

Henry Mather Sweetser was educated in the east. He was only nine years of age when left an orphan and was later reared by his grandmother. He was afterward employed upon the farm of an uncle through the summer

months, with the privilege of attending school in the winter seasons. During one of his vacations he was asked by Mr. Alfred to accompany him to Evansville on a business trip and to see the country. While here he met Willard Carpenter, who took a fancy to the lad and asked him to remain and enter his store, for Mr. Carpenter was at that time the senior partner in a general mercantile enterprise of this city. When the firm of Willard Carpenter & Company was succeeded by the Jewell-Newberry Company, wholesale dealers in dry goods. Mr. Sweetser went upon the road as traveling representative for that house, and as a salesman showed remarkable business talent. At length he left that company to become a salesman for the Mackey-Archer Company, which later became the Mackey-Nisbet Dry Goods Company.

Ambitious to engage in business on his own account, he carefully saved his earnings until his economical expenditure enabled him, in 1862, to establish the first wholesale notion house in Evansville. In this new enterprise he was wonderfully successful and built a large fortune. For years the firm of Sweetser, Caldwell & Company, at No. 124 Upper First street, was the largest wholesale notion house in the city. His field of success, however, was not limited to this line. He became a large stockholder in the Evansville, Cairo & Paducah Steamboat Company and later became president of the Tennessee Rivet Packet Company. Because of his large river interests he was called Commodore Sweetser and was so spoken of by friends until his death. The building of the railroads was followed by a depression in the steamboat business, causing heavy losses to Mr. Sweetser, followed by the failure of the Sweetser-Caldwell firm. With the courage and determination which always characterized him, however, Mr. Sweetser established a brokerage business in 1894, with an office on upper Third street, near Main. In this he again prospered, regaining much of the fortune he had lost.

In 1863 Mr. Sweetser was married to Miss Mary Caldwell, a daughter of Joseph M. Caldwell, a merchant of Evansville, who was one of the early settlers of this city and was a brother of William Caldwell, who was a grocer of Evansville. Mr. Caldwell always had a great fondness for boys and assisted many in gaining a start. He married Miss Du Puy and they had the Du Puy coat of arms from one of the best old French families. Her father was Benjamin Franklin Du Puy, a very early settler of this part of the state.

It was a short time before his marriage that Mr. Sweetser responded to the country's call for troops and enlisted for service in the Civil war as a member of the Twenty-fifth Indiana Infantry, with which he served with distinction. He was prominent in Masonry, belonging to Reed Lodge, No. 316, F. & A. M.; Evansville Chapter, No. 12, R. A. M.; and La Vallette Commandery, No. 15, K. T. The death of Mr. Sweetser occurred January 31, 1910. Coming to Evansville when a lad, he was identified with its business interests for over a half century, and throughout that period maintained an honored name and enjoyed the friendly regard of those with whom he was

associated. He brought with him to the middle west the thrift and enterprise characteristic of New England. His fellow townsmen soon recognized his trustworthy qualities, and he left the impress of his individuality upon the history of the city which for more than a half century remained his home.

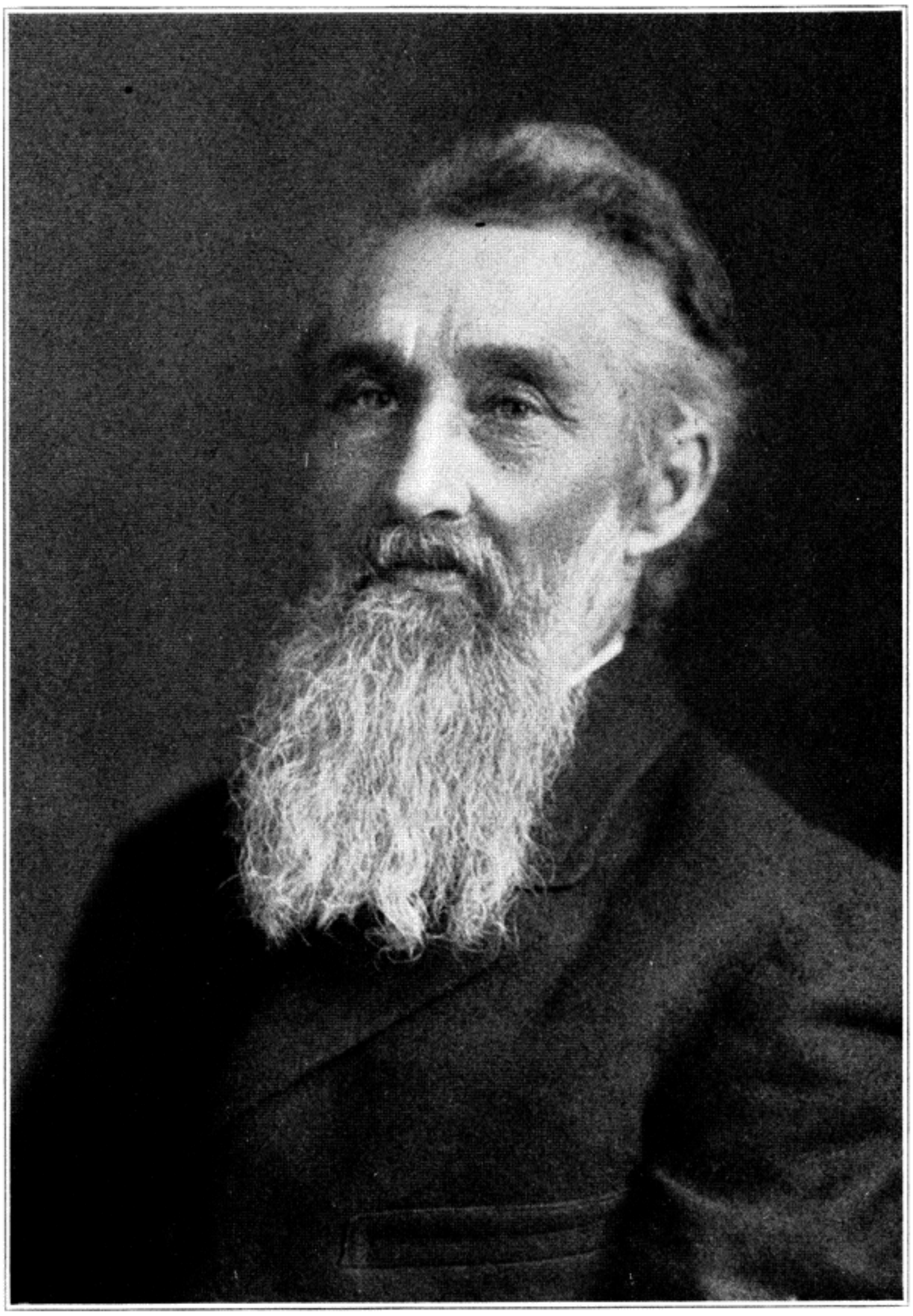
CHARLES J. HORNBY.

Charles J. Hornby has passed the Psalmist's span of three score years and ten and his entire life has been spent in Vanderburg county. He was born in Scott township, December 14, 1837, and through the intervening period of seventy-three years he has been an interested and observing witness of the progress that has been made in developing the county along modern lines of advancement and improvement. His memory forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present and he relates many interesting incidents of pioneer days.

His parents were Henry F. and Caroline (Mansel) Hornby, both of whom were natives of England, whence they came to America in childhood days with their parents. After arriving at man's estate Henry F. Hornby purchased land and began farming on his own account. The tract which he owned was originally covered with timber. This he cleared away and, preparing the fields for the plow, at length gathered good harvests as a reward for his industry and untiring labor. He also engaged extensively and successfully in land speculation and at one time owned over a thousand acres. He continued actively in farming up to the time of his death, which occurred in March, 1867, his wife surviving until 1868.

The youthful days of Charles J. Hornby were spent upon the home farm in the usual manner of boys of that period. There were difficulties and hardships to be borne that are unknown at the present time but there were also pleasures to be enjoyed, with which the young people of the present day are unfamiliar. He continued on the old homestead until twenty years of age, when his father gave him and his brother each one hundred and forty acres of land. He at once began to cultivate the farm, has erected thereon all of the buildings seen upon the place and in course of years has developed a productive and valuable property. As he prospered in his undertakings he extended the boundaries of his place until he is now the owner of two hundred and thirty-seven acres of fine land.

On the 21st of November, 1867, Mr. Hornby was united in marriage to Miss Sarah A. Minney, a daughter of George and Alice (Pauley) Minney, English people, who on coming from their native country settled in Vanderburg county. Here the father established a brickyard, which he conducted for a number of years, when he purchased a farm, continuing its cultivation until the time of his death in 1885. Mr. and Mrs. Hornby



CHARLES J. HORNBY

became the parents of five children: Mrs. Nellie McCutcheon, now living in Harrisburg, Illinois; George Frederick, who was born November 20, 1871, and died December 23, 1874; Mrs. Minney McCutcheon; Clara, who is a school teacher and lives at home; and Ernest R., who is married and lives in this township. The wife and mother passed away September 9, 1894, and her death was the occasion of deep regret to many who had known her and who recognized her many good and womanly qualities.

The Hornby family are well known in Center township and other parts of Vanderburg county and enjoy the high regard of those with whom they have been associated. Since attaining his majority, Mr. Hornby has given his political support to the republican party and has ever kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day. His life has ever been upright and honorable and has gained him the high regard of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact. While a resident of Vanderburg county many changes have occurred. Its forests have been cut down and the land converted into fine farms. Towns and cities have sprung up containing important manufacturing and industrial interests and progress along all lines has been conserved, making this one of the leading counties of the commonwealth. Mr. Hornby has ever cast the weight of his influence on the side of improvement and has stood for all that is for the best for the individual and the community.

HENRY WIMBERG.

Henry Wimberg, whose business ability has advanced him from a humble position in industrial circles to a place among the successful manufacturers of Vanderburg county, is now president of the Evansville Brewing Association. As the surname indicates, he comes of German lineage. His parents were George and Helen Wimberg, natives of Germany, and in the city of Oldenburg Henry Wimberg was born on the 31st of December, 1851. In his youthful days his time was largely given to the acquirement of an education in the Catholic schools until he reached the age of fourteen years, when he put aside his text-books and devoted the three succeeding years to work with his father, who owned a tavern. In the meantime reports reached him concerning America, for many of his fellow countrymen had crossed the Atlantic and had found opportunities for advancement and progress, and a spirit of laudable ambition prompted Henry Wimberg to attempt the same. At the age of seventeen, therefore, he made his way to the new world and without pausing on the Atlantic seaboard, came at once to Evansville, where he began learning the moulder's trade in the C. & H. Lindenschmidt foundry, where he continued for five years. That period brought him capital sufficient to enable him to engage in the saloon business, in which he continued for twelve years. He next undertook the teaming and transfer business, with

which he is still connected, finding in it a good source of revenue. His identification with the Evansville Brewing Company dates from 1891, in which year he was elected its president. Three years later this was consolidated with the John Hartmetz & Son Brewing Company and the Fulton Avenue Brewery under the name of the Evansville Brewing Association, which is today in control of one of the most extensive plants of this character in Southwestern Indiana. Their capacity is about twenty thousand barrels annually and they employ two hundred and fifty people. The plant is splendidly equipped for the conduct of the business along the most sanitary lines, and the matter of quality is never sacrificed to quantity. It is the excellence of the product that has insured a ready sale on the market making the trade a large and growing one.

In September, 1875, in Evansville, Mr. Wimberg was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Emge, and unto them have been born four children: Catharine, the wife of Wm. T. Drury, of Morganfield, Kentucky; Henry A., aged thirty-three years, general manager of the branch brewery of the Evansville Brewing Association; John G., aged thirty-one years, who is manager of Memphis, Tennessee, branch of the same concern; and Louis W., aged nineteen years, bookkeeper of the Evansville Brewing Association.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Wimberg is an Elk. He belongs to the Catholic church and gives his political allegiance to the democratic party. He is likewise a member of the Country and Crescent Clubs and of all of the different German societies of Evansville, and is prominent and popular among the German-American people of the city. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the United States, for he has here found the business opportunities which he sought and in their utilization has won success, the hope of which brought him to the new world.

AUGUST JAMES SCHLAEPFER.

The business interests of Evansville should occupy a prominent place in any work relating to Vanderburg county, for it is to these interests largely that the city and county owe their present creditable standing. In the list of important business concerns is that presided over by August J. Schlaepfer, a well known druggist, who was born in Evansville, July 12, 1867, and has been identified with this city ever since he entered his active career. On the paternal line he comes of Swiss stock. His father, Henry J. Schlaepfer was born in Switzerland, in 1837, and came to America with his parents at ten years of age. He established himself in the drug business at Evansville in 1861, continuing until 1903, when he was called away. The mother, Emma Smith before her marriage, was born in this country of English parentage and departed this life two years before her husband, in 1901. Mr. Schlaepfer, Sr., was a man of fine business capacity and for more than forty years was

connected with the mercantile life of a community where he was known as one of its stanchest citizens. He was greatly beloved by those with whom he associated and his death brought a deep sense of personal bereavement to a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

The subject of this review grew up under the favoring influences of a happy home and was educated in the public schools of Evansville, graduating from the high school in 1885. He became a student of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, from which he was graduated with the degree of Ph. G. in 1888. Returning home, he assisted his father until the death of the latter, when he succeeded to the business of which his father had been for many years the head. Mr. Schlaepfer is in charge of a large and well appointed drug store at the corner of Main and Second streets, which has long been one of the established institutions of the city and is favorably known not only in Evansville but throughout a wide region in southern Indiana. Patrons of this establishment feel assured that they will receive what they call for and that it will be the best of the kind that can be found in the market. It is this reputation for fair dealing that accounts for the prosperity of a house founded nearly fifty years ago, and which is more flourishing today than at any previous time in its history.

Mr. Schlaepfer is socially connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and with the Crescent and Country Clubs. He has never taken any active part in politics, as his attention is mainly occupied with the business to which he devotes the best energies of his life.

JOHN E. IGLEHART.

Devoting his life to a profession wherein advancement depends entirely upon individual merit, John E. Iglehart has gained distinction as one of the eminent members of the Evansville bar. He was born on the 10th of August, 1848, in Warrick county, Indiana, a son of Asa and Ann (Cowle) Iglehart. Judge Asa Iglehart was recognized as one of the leaders of the Indiana bar. The Igleharts were an old country family in Prince George county, Maryland, when Levi Iglehart, the grandfather of John E. Iglehart, came west about a hundred years ago. He settled first in Ohio county, Kentucky, and afterward removed to Warrick county, Indiana, where he reared his family and where throughout the remainder of his life he was recognized as one of the leading and influential men of the country, honored with various public offices. He held the office of county commissioner for many years, in early life was a magistrate and later a "lay judge" in the circuit or probate court.

John E. Iglehart supplemented his preliminary education acquired in the public schools by study in Asbury, now De Pauw, University at Greencastle, Indiana, where he was graduated in 1868. In 1871 his alma mater

conferred upon him the Master of Arts degree. Having qualified for the bar by a thorough course in Asbury, he at once entered upon practice and for forty-two years has devoted his attention to the work of the legal profession, making his home in Evansville since 1849. Prompted by laudable ambition, he applied himself earnestly to the mastery of the legal problems that came before him and soon gained recognition as a strong and forceful representative before the bar. His success in a professional way affords the best evidence of his capabilities in this line. He has always been a strong advocate with the jury and concise in his appeals before the court. He possesses a natural discrimination as to legal ethics and he is so thoroughly well read in the minutiae of the law that he is able to base his arguments upon a thorough knowledge of and familiarity with precedents and to present a case upon its merits, never failing to recognize the main point at issue and never neglecting to give a thorough preparation. His pleas have been characterized by a terse and decisive logic and a lucid presentation, rather than by flights of oratory, and his power is the greater before court or jury from the fact that it is recognized that his aim is ever to secure justice and not to enshrould the cause in a sentimental garb or illusion which will thwart the principles of right and equity involved.

On the 4th of November, 1874, in Evansville, Mr. Iglehart was married to Miss Lockie W. Holt, a daughter of Robert and Ann Holt. Her ancestors in the paternal line lived in Kentucky and Virginia and were descended from the family of that name well known in American and English history. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Iglehart have been born two sons and two daughters: Eugene H., who married Emily Powers; Ann, the wife of John Ingle; Lockie H., the wife of Charles A. Humphry; and Joseph H.

Mr. Iglehart holds membership in the Trinity Methodist Episcopal church and in all matters of public moment he is deeply interested. For three years, from 1887 until 1890, he was a trustee of the Evansville public schools but has never sought nor desired official prominence or political honors. His influence has been all the more potent perhaps from the fact that it is moral rather than political and is wielded for the public good rather than for personal ends. He stands for that which is just and progressive and as man and citizen no one in Evansville is held in higher regard.

HENRY E. DREIER.

For a period of ten years Henry E. Dreier has filled the office of county assessor and his official record is one over which there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil. Not only is he a capable and efficient public officer, but is also well known because of his force and enterprise in business circles and his activity in affairs which directly concern the interests of society and the community at large.

He was born in Evansville, February 4, 1867, his parents being Henry and Mary Dreier. His father was a native of Lippe-Detmold, Germany, born August 2, 1842. Crossing the Atlantic to America in his youthful days, he became a resident of Mount Vernon, Indiana, in 1859, and there engaged in the wagon-making trade in connection with his uncle. But after two years devoted to industrial pursuits he put aside business cares as his patriotic spirit was aroused by the attempt of the south to overthrow the Union. In 1861 he joined the army, becoming a member of the One Hundred and Sixty-seventh Indiana Cavalry, with which he served continuously until honorably discharged at the close of the war in 1865. During that period he had participated in some hotly contested engagements and had met the usual experiences of military life. At the end of the war he came to Evansville, where he engaged in the wagon-making business until 1869. He then entered the employ of C. Decker & Sons, for whom he worked as a wagon-maker for fifteen years, at the end of which time he turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits, locating in Perry township. Vanderburg county. He was there successfully engaged in farming until 1908, when with the comfortable competence which he had acquired through his persistent labors he retired to private life.

Henry E. Dreier was a pupil in the public schools of Evansville until twelve years of age, after which he attended the German Lutheran schools for a year. Subsequently his attention was given to the work of the fields and he was continuously identified with farming interests in Perry township until 1900, when his fellow townsmen elected him to the office of county assessor, in which position he has since remained, his reelection constituting proof of his ability and fidelity in office. No word of criticism has ever been heard concerning his official career, and he has no opposition save that which is occasioned by partisan loyalty. The value of his judgment in business affairs has been demonstrated in his connection with various important interests of the city and county. He is now the president of the West Side Insurance & Real Estate Company and in control of its interests displays keen sagacity and a spirit of unfaltering enterprise. He is likewise the president of the Forest Hill Real Estate Company and the vice president of the Farmers & Citizens Bank.

Nor are Mr. Dreier's activities confined to those interests which are a source of renumeration, for he is a director of the Anti-Tuberculosis Society and a director of the Associated Charities, connections which show that he is thinking out along the broadening lines of humane interests and individual obligation.

On the 15th of August, 1899, Mr. Dreier was married in Evansville to Miss Anna Wunderlich and they have two children, Walter and Grace, aged eight and six years, now students of the public schools. Throughout his entire life Mr. Dreier has maintained his home in Evansville and in Vanderburg county, so that his life history is largely familiar to his fellow

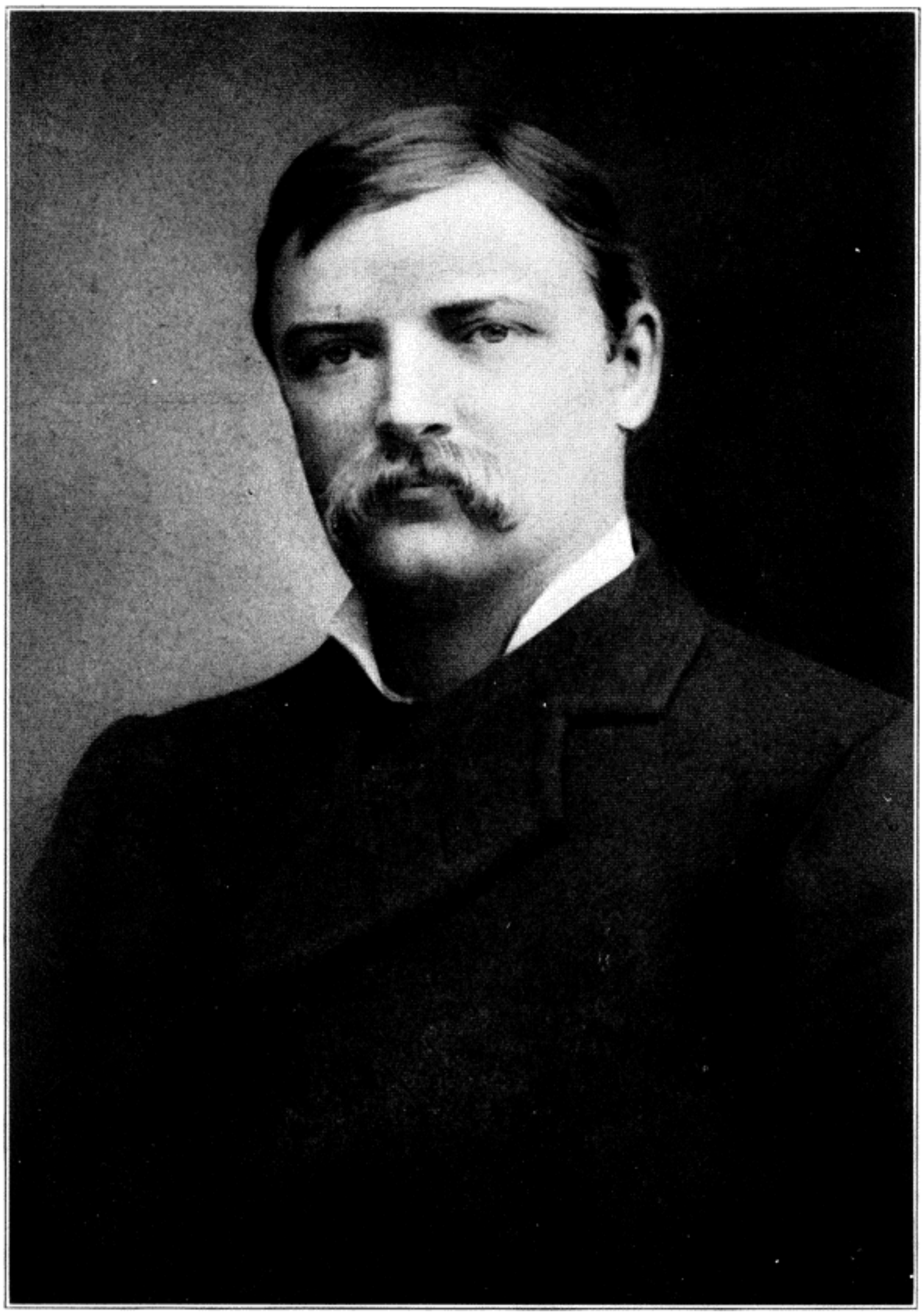
townsmen. The incumbent of a public office is constantly the target for criticism, if his acts do not measure up to the highest standard, and that Mr. Dreier is uniformly spoken of in terms of respect and admiration indicates that his course has ever been an honorable and straightforward one, not only in official but in business relations as well. He is concerned in those questions which are of vital significance to the age and is thinking out broadly along the lines which are of general interest.

JOHN M. LAUGHLIN.

A resident of Evansville from his boyhood days, John M. Laughlin as the years passed by, left the impress of his individuality upon the city through his business and social relations. He came with his mother and in his early youth undertook alone the solution of life's problems, necessity early forcing him to provide for his own support. He was first employed as a clerk in a store but could not be content with mediocrity, and gradually worked his way upward, proving his ability in his worth, fidelity, close application and unremitting industry. Gradually, therefore, promotion was accorded him until he became the head of a department in the store of Miller Brothers. He was thus associated for years with the business and contributed in no small measure to its success. He was considered an expert judge of silk and his knowledge thereof enabled him to so manage that department of the house that a large trade was enjoyed and satisfaction was at all times manifested by his patrons.

At the time of the Civil war Mr. Laughlin put aside business cares to espouse the cause of the Union, enlisting in the Fourteenth Indiana Regiment, with which he served throughout the period of hostilities, taking a part in many hotly contested battles, and at all times proving his valor and loyalty by his fearless defense of the old flag.

Following his return home, Mr. Laughlin was married in Evansville in 1867 to Mrs. Margaret Manning Fergus Byrne, who in early girlhood came to Evansville with her parents, both of whom died soon afterward of an epidemic. She was then adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fergus and reared as their own child. Her foster father was one of the pioneer residents of Evansville and was accorded rank with its substantial citizens, doing much to further the welfare and upbuilding of the community. His integrity and rectitude of character made him honored by all who knew him, and his Christian manhood constituted an example well worthy of emulation. His sympathetic nature made ready response to the need of the little girl who was left an orphan by the early death of her parents, and therefore into his home as his own child he received Margaret Manning. She was accorded exceptionally good educational privileges, attending St. Mary's of the Woods near Terre Haute, Indiana. On attain-



JOHN M. LAUGHLIN

ing womanhood she gave her hand in marriage to J. P. Byrne, a native of Kerry, Ireland, who when twenty years of age came to the new world, establishing his home in Evansville. Here he engaged in general merchandising, conducting a store on Main street. He was one of the early merchants of this city who traded in New Orleans when all shipments were made by boat. Evansville numbered him among her progressive and public-spirited citizens, for he was interested in her welfare and gave aid to many projects for the public good. His religious faith was that of the Catholic church. In 1861 he married Margaret Manning Fergus, but three years later was called to his final rest, leaving two sons, Thomas and John, both of Evansville. In 1867 Mrs. Bryne became of the wife of John M. Laughlin, and unto them were born six children, all of whom are yet living: Mrs. Blanche Elliott, Mrs. Marie Thomas, Mrs. Margaret Wheatley, and Isabella; and Robert and James, both of whom are in St. Louis.

For twenty years Mr. and Mrs. Laughlin traveled life's journey together and were then separated by the death of the husband in 1887. He was truly a self-made man, who had been not only the architect, but the builder of his own fortune. Whatever he achieved and enjoyed was attributable to his own exertions, and his life record is an indication of what may be accomplished when earnest and faithful purpose constitute the motive power. Mrs. Laughlin has resided in Evansville from her early girlhood and is widely known here, having an extensive circle of warm friends.

CHARLES M. FRISSE.

Charles M. Frisse, one of the younger business men of Evansville, whose life record has already demonstrated the fact that he possesses business qualifications and laudable ambition whereby he has attained to the position of secretary of Globe-Bosse-World Furniture Company, was born in this city, December 15, 1879, his parents being Fred and Elizabeth Frisse. His father was born in Germany near Liebstadt, on the 8th of August, 1849, and was a young man of twenty years when he determined to cross the Atlantic and seek the opportunities of the new world. Accordingly in 1869 he sailed for the United States and came at once to Evansville. Throughout his entire business life he was engaged in the manufacture of shoes, continuing in that field until his retirement in 1907.

Reared in Evansville, Charles M. Frisse was a pupil in the parochial schools until fourteen years of age and afterward attended the public schools for one year and the Lockyear Business College for six months. He made his initial step in business circles as bookkeeper for H. Schminke, stove manufacturer, with whom he remained for ten months, after which he accepted a position in the accounting department of the Evansville & Richmond Railroad, there remaining for one year and four months. He

then engaged with the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad Company in the accounting department, occupying that position for six years, when he became bookkeeper for the Globe Furniture Company, which he thus represented for three and one-half years. During that period he gained considerable knowledge of the furniture trade and when he left that house it was to assume the duties of secretary and treasurer of the World Furniture Company, to which he was elected in 1907. This company was consolidated with others August 1, 1910, under the name of the Globe-Bosse-World Furniture Company. The business is one of the important productive industries of the city, the consolidated factories employing six hundred men in the manufacture of a general line of furniture. They are continually bringing out new and attractive styles, and in design, durability and finish their furniture is equal to that produced by any house and sold at a similar figure. The steps in the orderly progression of Mr. Frisse are easily discernible, showing that he has been faithful to the trust reposed in him and that his constantly broadening experience has made his services of greater effect and value. He is today regarded as one of the forceful factors in manufacturing lines in Evansville and his initiative spirit and firm purpose are elements that promise success in the future.

Mr. Frisse is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Elks lodge and also belongs to the National Union and is a communicant of the Catholic church. He has social qualities that render him popular with many friends and has a wide and favorable acquaintance in the city of his nativity.

CHARLES WILLIAM LONG.

Charles William Long is engaged in the cultivation of two hundred and thirty-seven acres of rich land in Union township, of which he owns eighty-seven acres. He is yet a young man and the success he has already achieved indicates that he will make further progress in the future. He was born in the township which is still his home on the 5th of May, 1877, a son of Elias and Dora (Hills) Long, who are likewise natives of Union township and representatives of old pioneer families of the county. The father was born February 11, 1853, and the mother on the 13th of May, 1849. They have spent their entire lives in this locality, Mr. Long always following farming as a means of support for his family.

The youthful days of Charles W. Long were spent at the old homestead, where he was trained to habits of industry, economy and integrity. Practical experience in the work of the fields well qualified him to take charge of a farm of his own, for from early life he assisted his father and in his youthful days alternated his time between the farm work and the attainment of an education in the public schools.

After reaching his majority he was married on Christmas day of 1900, to Miss Amy King, a daughter of James L. King, a veteran of the Civil war, who served for three years as a member of Company F, Sixty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was afterward prominent in public affairs of the community, serving as justice of the peace and also as county commissioner. His decisions in the former office were characterized by absolute fairness and impartiality and his duties as commissioner were also discharged with equal faithfulness. At the time of their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Long began their domestic life upon a farm and as the years have passed their home has been blessed by the presence of two sons and one daughter: James, born August 3, 1902; Floyd, born November 26, 1904; and Grace Naomi, born October 3, 1910.

Both parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and their fidelity to its principles has made their lives of such value and worth to the community that they are numbered among the best citizens of Union township. Mr. Long votes with the democratic party and has been called to local offices, serving for the past two years as township assessor, while his incumbency in the office will continue for two years more. His attention, however, is chiefly given to his farm work and in addition to the property which he owns, comprising eighty-seven acres of fine land, he also rents and cultivates one hundred and fifty acres. The large farm of two hundred and thirty-seven acres makes extensive demands upon his time and energies and the excellent appearance of his place indicates the busy life he leads.

JOSEPH B. LINDENSCHMIDT.

Joseph B. Lindenschmidt, although one of the younger business men of Evansville, his native city, has already attained a creditable place in manufacturing circles, being secretary and treasurer of The Lindenschmidt Company, iron and bolt manufacturers.

He was born on the 3d of April, 1880, and while spending his youthful days in the home of his parents, Henry and Mary Lindenschmidt, he pursued his education in the public schools, which he attended until 1893. Then at the age of thirteen he started out in life for himself and has since been connected with business interests. The enterprise of which he is now a representative was established in 1883 by Henry and Goswin Lindenschmidt at its present location under the firm name of H. & G. Lindenschmidt. Ten years later Joseph B. Lindenschmidt entered the employ of the house, making it his purpose to master the business in all of its departments. The papers of incorporation were taken out in 1905 under the name of The Lindenschmidt Company. Henry Lindenschmidt has now retired, while Goswin Lindenschmidt is deceased.

This is a close corporation, the stock being owned by members of the family, Edward C. Lindenschmidt being now vice president. They manufacture builders' iron work, structural iron work, iron fencing, fire escapes and stairways and do all kinds of blacksmithing and machine work. Their patronage is largely local, although they ship to some extent. The plant is operated to its full capacity, twelve workmen being employed. Their building is a one-story structure, sixty by seventy-five feet. They have made many outside fire escapes, also ornamental gates for cemeteries and public grounds and their trade is satisfactory and profitable. Firmness of purpose, rectitude of intention and persistence in effort are the stock in trade of self-made men and these qualities have constituted the foundation upon which Joseph B. Lindenschmidt has reached the plane of success.

JOHN BROWNLEE.

For forty-four years the name of John Brownlee has appeared upon the court records of southern Indiana and figures in connection with many of the most important cases that have been brought to trial in the state and federal courts. His success is evidenced in the large clientage accorded him and the high regard entertained for him by his fellow members of the bar. He was born in Princeton, Indiana, August 23, 1847, a son of John and Jane (Harrington) Brownlee. The father's birth occurred in Lexington, Kentucky, in 1793, and in 1816 he removed to Princeton, Indiana, where he and his father opened a dry-goods store, in which he continued until his death in May, 1855. He was one of the pioneeer merchants of southern Indiana and his enterprise was a feature in the business development of this part of the state. The business is now carried on by Charles Brownlee, making a period of ninety-four years in which the family have been engaged in the dry-goods trade in Princeton, and the old homestead in that city has been occupied by members of the family for seventy-six years, it being now the residence of Charles Brownlee.

John Brownlee entered the public schools at the usual age, therein continuing his studies to the age of fourteen, when he responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting as a member of Company F, Fifty-eighth Indiana Infantry, with which he served for three years, participating in many of the hotly contested battles of the war, the long, hard marches and the strenuous campaigns which eventually crowned the Union arms with victory. He was one of the youngest among the Indiana soldiers at the front. The experiences of war, however, well equipped him for the duties of later life and John Brownlee returned to his home with an understanding of life, its purposes and responsibilities seldom held by a young man of his years. He attended a private school in Princeton for a year and then, in preparation for the bar, entered Albany Law School, at Albany, New York, from which he

was graduated with the LL. B. degree in 1866. The same year he was admitted to practice by the supreme court of New York. He entered upon his professional career at Mount Vernon, Indiana, here he continued in the private practice of law until 1870, when he was elected prosecuting attorney for a district comprising four counties. He filled that position for ten years and in the meantime removed to Evansville, where he began practicing. In 1887 he was called to the office of city attorney and served until 1890. He has been very successful, being ever regarded as an able minister in the temple of justice; ever careful to conform his practice to a high standard of professional ethics. He has never sought to lead the court astray in a matter of fact or law, nor would he withhold from it a knowledge of any fact appearing in the record. He has ever treated the court with a studied courtesy which is it due and has indulged in no malicious criticism because it arrived at a conclusion in the decision of the case different from that which he hoped to hear. He has given to his clients the service of great talent, unwearied industry and wide learning, yet he never forgets there are certain things due to the court, to his own self respect and above all to justice and the righteous administration of the law, which neither the zeal of an advocate nor the pleasure of success permits him to disregard.

Mr. Brownlee was married in Mount Vernon, April 2, 1877, to Miss Mittie Templeton and they have three children: Mrs. J. H. Deacon, of Evansville; Dalmar T., twenty-six years of age, who is a mechanical engineer now acting as superintendent of an automobile factory in Indianapolis; and Mrs. Jane Rash, a resident of Henderson, Kentucky.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Brownlee is a Mason, a member of the Tribe of Ben Hur, of the Court of Honor and of the Grand Army of the Republic. His political allegiance is given to the democratic party. He was a faithful soldier of the Civil war and he has ever since marched in step with that great army of loyal American citizens who seek the best interests of the country, the upholding of good government and the maintenance of individual rights and privileges.

ELI L. HART.

Eli L. Hart, general agent at Evansville for the American Express Company, was born in Calumet, Michigan, June 25, 1875, and is a son of James and Adelaide (Bourjet) Hart, both of whom were natives of Sorol, Canada, and of French ancestry. The father followed farming in his native country but became a contractor in Calumet following his removal to Michigan. As the years passed he gained substantial success and was recognized, moreover, as a prominent citizen whose identification with public affairs was of value in promoting general progress. He died on the 23d of February, 1907, at the age of seventy-five years, while his widow now lives with a married daughter in Duluth, Minnesota.

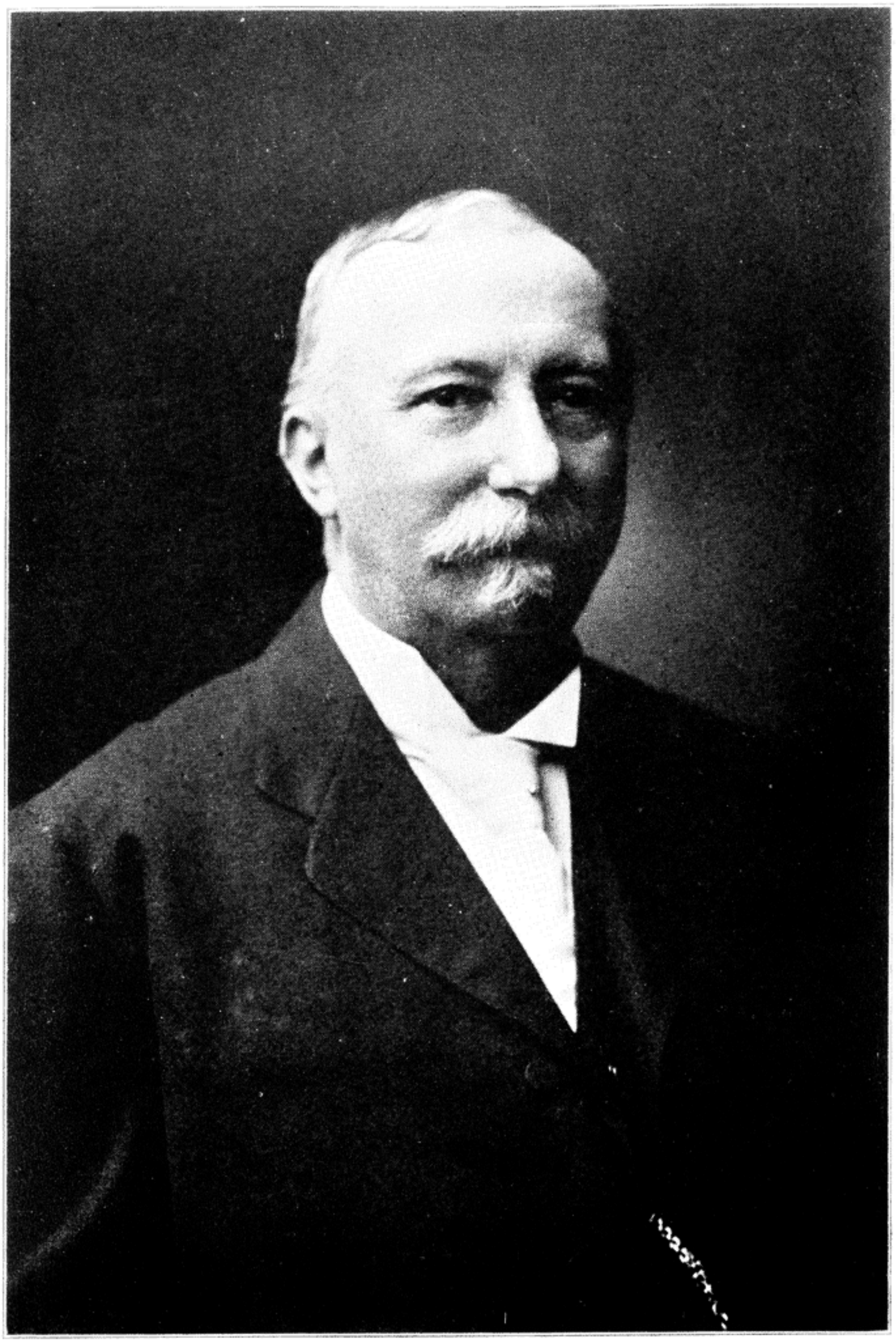
In his native city Eli L. Hart began his education as a public school student, and passed through consecutive grades until he entered the high school. He afterward matriculated in a commercial college, pursuing a general business course, and at the age of twenty years he entered the employ of the American Express Company as driver. Gradually his ability won him recognition and he was promoted to the successive positions of messenger, clerk and cashier at Duluth, Minnesota. His advancement came through his merit and his loyalty to duty. In 1903 he was appointed express agent for the company at Ashland, Wisconsin, where he remained for three years, and was then transferred to St. Paul, Minnesota, in the capacity of agent. In September, 1907, he came to Evansville as general agent, which position he has since acceptably filled.

On the 1st of September, 1901, Mr. Hart was marired to Miss Anna McKinnon, of Detroit, Michigan, a daughter of Angus and Mary (O'Neil) McKinnon. The father was a successful contractor of that city. Both he and his wife were natives of Prince Edward's Island but are now residents of Detroit, where Mr. McKinnon is living retired. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Hart has been blessed with one child, Francis Marion, born April 23, 1905. They attend the Catholic church and Mr. Hart is in his fraternal relations connected with the Royal Arcanum. There are no unusual chapters in his life record but it is the account of one who has been faithful to duty and whose loyalty and diligence have won him promotion. Such an example may well be followed, for it indicates the path to success.

GEORGE BROSE.

One of the best known millers of the Ohio river valley is George Brose, of Evansville. For forty years he has been identified with the milling business in this city and few men in the west have a more extensive knowledge of this great industry in all its bearings than has Mr. Brose. He is a son of Daniel and Christian Brose. His father was born in Germany in 1815, and being an ambitious man and therefore desirous of improving his condition, he came to America and located at Evansville in 1838. Two years after arriving in the city he was married to Miss Christina Jenner and ten children were born to them, five sons and five daughters: John; George; Thomas; Dr. L. D. Brose; Sarah, the wife of William Alexander, Sr.; Mary, the widow of F. W. Herrenbruck; and Emma, who is living with her sister Tillie, the latter the wife of Phil J. Klein. Two others are deceased. Daniel Brose was an enterprising business man and in addition to operating a dray line he was at the head of a flourishing grocery business. He was called to his reward in 1864.

George Brose was born in this city, January 9, 1847. He proved to be an apt pupil in the public schools and after he laid aside his books at the age of



GEORGE BROSE

fifteen he began to assist his father in the grocery store, where he gained practical ideas in mercantile transactions which he has ever since been able to apply successfully. He had two brothers, John and Thomas, with whom at various times he was associated in business. A short time after the death of the father he and his brother John established a grocery business on Water street, where they continued for six years, closing out in 1871 in order to build a flour mill, which they conducted most successfully. The relations with his brother were terminated by the death of John in 1878, and George Brose then united with his brother Thomas in building a new mill, which was quite an improvement upon any previously erected at this point. In 1880 Thomas Brose withdrew to engage in business for himself and since that time the mill has been operated by the subject of this review and is now one of the largest flour mills in Evansville, having a capacity of four hundred barrels per day. This flour finds a ready market throughout a wide region which is not limited to the confines of any one state.

In 1874 Mr. Brose was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Laval, a daughter of John Laval, a leading druggist of this city. One child, who died in infancy, was the result of this union. Mr. Brose has spent his entire life in Evansville and is recognized here as one of the captains of industry who has fairly won his honors, and also as a man who by his ability and public spirit has added materially not only to his own fortune but to the permanent welfare of the community. His interests have not been confined entirely to the milling business, as is indicated by the fact that for three years past he has been a director of the old State National Bank. He is an active member of the Evansville Manufacturers Association and has been for many years prominently connected with the Knights of Pythias, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. His influence has always been exerted in upholding the industrial and moral welfare of the city, and his record is one of which his friends are justly proud.

MAJOR HAMILTON ALLEN MATTISON.

Prominent in the history of the judiciary of Vanderburg county is written the name of Judge Hamilton Allen Mattison but his record on the bench is no more creditable than is that of his military experience, which brought him the well earned title of major, by which he is often called. For forty-four years he has continued in the active practice of law and as few men have done seems to realize the importance of the profession to which he is devoting his energies and the fact that justice and the higher attribute of mercy he often holds in his hands. His reputation as a lawyer has been won through earnest, honest labor and his standing at the bar is a merited tribute to his ability.

A native of Rensselaer county, New York, Major Mattison was born in South Berlin, September 23, 1832, his parents being Allen J. and Lucy (Thomas) Mattison. After acquiring his early education in the district schools, at the age of nineteen years he entered the New York Conference Seminary at Charlottesville and while completing his education in that institution he earned enough as assistant teacher to pay for his tuition and living expenses. He afterward matriculated in Union College and was graduated therefrom with the class of 1860. Taking up the profession of teaching he spent two years as principal of Bacon Seminary at Woodtown, New Jersey, but the continued attempt of the south to destroy the Union led him to feel that his first duty was to his country and in July, 1862, he enlisted in the Union army, raising a company which was afterward mustered in as a part of the Twelfth New Jersey Infantry, Mr. Mattison holding the rank of second lieutenant. His natural talent for military affairs and his strict adherence to duty led to his rapid promotion through the ranks, first lieutenant and captain to that of major. He served on the staff of Generals Alexander Hayes and Nelson A. Miles and was in twenty-five of the most important battles of the war. At Chancellorsville he was wounded three times and in the battle of the Wilderness had his horse shot from under him, was twice wounded and captured. Soon after his capture he was introduced to General Robert E. Lee on the field and has a distinct recollection of his conversation with the Confederate commander. He was taken first to Lynchburg, Virginia, then to Danville, and soon afterward to Macon, Georgia, where he was confined until the following July "on short rations." He was next sent to Savannah and was one of fifty officers taken from that city to Charleston and placed under fire of the Federal guns that were shelling the city from Folly Island. Some weeks later he was confined with other prisoners in a prison pen at Columbia, South Carolina, where with scant food, no shelter and ragged clothing he was kept until November 28th, when he and another prisoner, Rev. John Scamahorn, managed to make their escape. Notwithstanding that they were half starved and half naked they took to the woods, determined to intersect Sherman's army, then on its way to the sea. Traveling by night and concealing themselves by day, they succeeded in crossing the state of South Carolina and reached the Savannah river, where they procured a small boat. Managing to elude the Confederate guards and gunboats, they finally reached Savannah, which in the meantime had surrendered to General Sherman. Thus after tramping nearly fifteen hundred miles through the enemy's country they found themselves once more under the protection of the old flag. Major Mattison was sent home to recuperate and ordered to report to the Army of the Potomac as soon as he was able for duty. Accordingly he joined that army about March 1, 1865, and was engaged in all the military operations at Petersburg, Richmond and Appomattox until the final surrender.

Shortly after being mustered out, Major Mattison entered the Albany Law School and was graduated with the degree of LL. B. in 1866. He began practice in connection with Hon. Marinus Fairchild, at Salem, New York, and in 1868 came to Evansville. This was the year of the presidential election and in the campaign he took active part in support of General Grant. In 1870 he was appointed county attorney and in 1871 appointed prosecuting attorney in the county criminal court to fill a vacancy. The following year he was elected to the office for a two years' term and was soon afterward appointed register in bankruptcy by Chief Justice Waite, which position he held until the office was abolished. In 1887 he was appointed city attorney and served two terms, retiring from that office to become a member of the law firm of Mattison, Posey & Clark, which later became Mattison, Posey & Chappell. In 1896 he was elected judge of the circuit court for a term of six years, being the first republican ever elected to that office from the first judicial circuit. On his retirement from the bench he resumed the private practice of law in 1903 under the firm name of Mattison & Curry, and is now senior partner of the well known and prominent law firm of Mattison & Gore, with offices at 404 Furniture building. He is recognized as a man of wide general information and in this is found one of the strong elements of his power and ability as a lawyer and jurist. This broad knowledge, enabling him to understand life in its varied phases, the motive springs of human conduct and the complexity of business interests, combined with a comprehensive familiarity with statutory law and with precedent, made him one of the ablest judges who have sat on the circuit bench. To an understanding of uncommon acuteness and vigor he added a thorough and comprehensive preparatory training, while in his practice he exemplifies all the higher elements of the truly great lawyer. He is constantly inspired by an innate and inflexible love of justice and a delicate sense of personal honor which controls him in all of his personal relations. His fidelity to the interests of his clients is proverbial, yet he never forgets that he owes a higher allegiance to the majesty of the law. His diligence and energy in the preparation of his cases as well as the earnestness, tenacity and courage with which he defends the right as he understands it challenges the highest admiration of his associates. He invariably seeks to present his argument in the storng, clear light of common reason and sound logical principle.

In 1866 Mr. Mattison was married to the daughter of his first law partner, Marinus Fairchild. She died in 1873, leaving a daughter, who died in 1892. On the 7th of February, 1878, Major Mattison married Miss Henrietta M. Bennett of Evansville.

Since 1862 Mr. Mattison has been a member of the Masonic fraternity and he is a past master of Reed lodge; past high priest of Evansville Chapter, R. A. M.; past illustrious master of Simpson council, R. & S. M.; and past eminent commander of La Valette Commandery, K. T. Such in

brief is the life history of Judge Mattison, whose military experience, whose service on the bench and whose connection with the legal profession constitute important chapters in his life record, all characterized by an honor and fidelity that none question.

JAMES L. KING.

James L. King, who is known in Union township, Vanderburg county, as one of its successful farmers, owning a well improved place of one hundred and seventy-eight acres, which he has operated for many years, has at the same time assisted according to his opportunities in the upbuilding of the community. He is a native of Union township, born February 17, 1844. At that time a large part of the country north of the Ohio river was thinly settled and many of the advantages possessed today were lacking. Means of communication were uncertain and transportation was by wagon or boat and educational facilities were limited to the little schoolhouse where a teacher had charge of pupils ranging in age from six years to twenty and the birch rod was largely depended upon to maintain interest and discipline. The boys and girls grew up, however, in closer contact with nature than is possible under the conditions of today and they developed strong constitutions and a spirit of independence and self-reliance which are now often sadly lacking.

The father of our subject was John F. King and the mother before her marriage was Judith B. Neal, of Virginia. They were married about 1832. Mr. King was a pilot with headquarters in 1830 at Parkersburg, West Virginia, and he operated on the Ohio and Mississippi as far south as New Orleans. After his marriage he opened a store at Henderson Ferry in this county and later brought a farm, which he conducted until his death in October, 1879. There were six children in his family.

The subject of this review was educated in the district schools and trained under his father in the operation of the farm. Before he reached manhood the great Rebellion aroused the patriotic instinct of young men throughout the northern states and he offered his services to the Union, enlisting in Company H, Eighth Kentucky Volunteers, serving for one year in that command, at the end of which time he enlisted in the One Hundred and Twentieth Indiana Volunteers, continuing until the close of the war, when he was mustered out at Raleigh, North Carolina. He was a good soldier and his honorable discharge is one of the valuable possessions of the family. After leaving the army he returned to his native county and to the farm, which he conducted with a goodly measure of success, carefully cultivating the soil which year after year has yielded its wealth, so that he attained a position of comparative independence—a position to which all should aspire and one attained more generally by the farmer than perhaps by followers of any other occupation.

JAMES L. KING

On January 28, 1869, Mr. King was happily united in marriage to Miss Louise L. Long, a daughter of Simeon and Mary (Harrington) Long, the former of whom was a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Tennessee. Her father came to Vanderburg county in 1830 and here he took up land which he cleared and cultivated for many years. He attained a position of prominence in this county and served as a member of the board of county commissioners. To Mr. and Mrs. King were born the following children: Ida Mary, now Mrs. Richard Ely; Nettie A., who married William H. Watson; Ora, who died at the age of three years; and Amy L., the wife of Charles Long.

Mr. King has been a lifelong republican and is an earnest supporter of the principles of that party. While he has not sought public office, he was chosen county commissioner in the fall of 1886 and served with great credit for three years during the time that the new courthouse was being erected. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. In his private life Mr. King has adhered to the principles of patient diligence and conscientious discharge of every obligation and as the result he has the confidence and respect of the entire community.

GUILD C. FOSTER.

Guild C. Foster, clerk of the circuit and superior courts of Vanderburg county at Evansville, receiving the compliment in 1908 of the largest vote cast for any candidate on the ticket, was born in this city September 11, 1870, and is a son of James H. and Henrietta R. Foster. The father, also a native of Indiana, was born in Pike county, attended the Evansville high school and later continued his studies in the university of Bloomington, Indiana, from which he was graduated.

Guild C. Foster pursued his education in the Evansville schools until completing the grade work. At the age of sixteen he entered the employ of the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad Company in a clerical capacity but later business interests took him to the far west, when he accepted a position in the office of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company at San Francisco, California, there remaining until 1891. In that year he located at Chicago, accepting a position in the freight department of the Wabash Railroad Company, with which he was connected until 1894. Returning to Evansville, he was for one year in the freight department of the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad Company, at the end of which time he was called to public office in his appointment to the position of deputy clerk of the circuit and superior courts in 1896. Eight years of service in that capacity, bringing him intimate knowledge and experience in the duties of the office, well qualified him for the work which is now his and to which he has devoted his attention since 1904. It was in that year that he was

elected clerk of the circuit and superior courts for a four years' term, and in 1908 he received indorsement of his service in his reelection, his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him being indicated at that time by the largest vote given to any candidate on the county tickets. He has always been a stanch advocate of the republican party, holding closely to its platform and doing all in his power to secure the adoption of its principles.

Mr. Foster was married in Evansville to Miss Emma Heberer on the 14th of January, 1896, and they have two children, Henrietta and Edward, aged thirteen and ten years respectively. The daughter is now a high school student while the son is still doing the work of the grades. The family attend the Presbyterian church, of which Mr. and Mrs. Foster are members. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, his membership being in Evansville lodge, A. F. & A. M.; Evansville chapter; Knights Templar commandery; and Indianapolis consistory, in which he has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite. He is likewise a member of the Mystic Shrine at Evansville, and belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In more strictly social lines, which do not emphasize the fraternal spirit, he is connected with the Country, the Crescent and the Press Clubs. Much of his life has been spent in Evansville, his native city, and that his salient qualities commend him to the good will of those with whom he comes in contact is evidenced by the fact that many of his warmest friends are numbered among those who have known him from his boyhood.

WILLIAM A. CARSON.

Thorough technical training and broad experience qualify William A. Carson for his present prominent position in the business world—that of general manager of the Evansville Railways Company, to which he was elected on the 6th of July, 1908. He was born in Shelby county, Indiana, October 4, 1881, and is a son of Lafayette and Laura Carson. The father, who was born in Franklin, Indiana, in 1854, spent his early youth there and in 1864 became a resident of Shelby county, Indiana, where he was identified with farming interests for many years, removing to Indianapolis, in 1888.

William A. Carson was a lad of about seven years when his parents went to Indianapolis, where he pursued his education in the public schools, eventually becoming a pupil in the manual training high school, from which he was graduated with the class of 1901. Soon afterward he secured a position as bill clerk and timekeeper with the National Automobile Company of that city, being thus employed until 1903, when he went to the Indianapolis & Cincinnati Traction Company as chief clerk to the general superintendent, serving in that capacity until 1906. He was then assistant general manager

of the Indianapolis, Columbus & Southern Traction Company until July, 1908, when he came to Evansville and was made general manager of the Evansville Railways Company, a position for which his previous experience had well qualified him. On the 1st of July, 1910, he was appointed general manager of the Owensboro City Railroad Company and of the Henderson Traction Company, which properties were acquired by the principal stockholders of the Evansville Railways Company with a view of bridging the Ohio River and connecting Owensboro and Henderson with Evansville by electric line. The Evansville Railways Company comprises the Evansville & Mount Vernon Electric Railway, the Evansville Terminal Railway and the Evansville & Eastern Railway. In his position as general manager he has supervision of all of these interests and keeps abreast with the times in all that concerns electric railway transportation. He is sufficiently familiar with the work of the electrician and of the mechanic to know what is demanded along those lines and, moreover, possesses keen executive ability and administrative power. The combination of these qualities render him particularly well adapted for the work which engages his attention, and thus he has forged steadily ahead to a prominent place in the business circles of southwestern Indiana.

Mr. Carson was married in Indianapolis to Miss Vesta Ruth Hann in June, 1906. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Reed lodge. His study of the political issues and questions of the day has led him to give earnest support to the republican party, while his religious opinions are manifest in his membership in Grace Memorial Presbyterian church. He has attained an enviable position for one of his years, and the powers that he has displayed augur well for further success in the future.

HARVEY L. MEADOWS.

Perhaps no other country has contributed so much to the colonization and civilization of the new world as has England. Therefore her language became the tongue of the American people and her manners, customs and modes of thought have left their impress for all time upon the American nation. Among those who in the middle of the nineteenth century came to the United States from the mother country was Harvey L. Meadows, who was born on the merrie isle in 1823, acquired his education there and remained a resident of that land until 1854, when he crossed the Atlantic to the United States. Immediately afterward he continued his journey into the interior of the continent until he reached Evansville and in this city he was afterward identified with banking interests until his death. He was first connected with the old National Bank as bookkeeper for a few years and when Mr. Bement organized a bank he became the first bookkeeper in the new institution and later was cashier, filling that position until his demise in 1881.

Ere leaving England Mr. Meadows was united in marriage to Miss Jemima Peters, and unto them were born two children, Willis J. and Emily S. Following the death of the mother Mr. Meadows married again, Miss Cornelia Hatchett, of Henderson, Kentucky, becoming his wife in 1871. They had one son, Harvey H., now living in Atlanta, Georgia, who is married and has a son, Harvey H., Jr. Mrs. Meadows was a daughter of John A. Hatchett, a farmer residing at Henderson, Kentucky, and a sister of Dr. J. G. Hatchett, who was a very prominent physician of Evansville for many years, associated in practice with Dr. Walker. He died, however, in July, 1896.

Mr. Meadows possessed marked artistic taste and talent. His was a natural gift and although he never studied art, he devoted his leisure moments to painting and displayed such proficiency that when he sent some of his canvases to England the art judges of that country considered them worthy of a place in the National Gallery in London. He had the highest appreciation for beauty of coloring and symmetry in form and the effects of light and shade were to him a constant delight. Moreover he possessed the ability of transferring his impressions to canvas, his paintings certainly possessing high merit. During his residence in Evansville he took keen interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the city. In England he had been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He joined the Home Guards during the period of the Civil war, being ready to defend the interests of this state if military strength was thus needed. He belonged to the Presbyterian church and was one of the founders of the first library in Evansville. His public spirit was manifest in many tangible ways and his cooperation proved a valuable factor where projects of public moment were involved. The honor and respect which his fellowmen accorded him were a freewill and spontaneous offering—given in recognition of his personal ability and worth.

DR. ISAIAH HAAS.

No history of Vanderburg county would be complete without mention of Dr. Isaiah Haas from the fact that he was one of the earliest superintendents of the Western Union Telegraph Company in the Mississippi valley and afterward one of the successful dental practitioners of Evansville. He is justly classed with those whose labors have been an element in promoting the civilization and development of this section of the country.

Ohio claimed him among her native sons, his birth having occurred in Newark on the 22d of February, 1829. His father, Adam Haas, was born in Virginia on Christmas day of 1798 and in early manhood removed to Newark, Ohio, where he met and married Miss Christina La Pert, of New York. Later he went with his wife to Delaware county, Ohio, where he

began merchandising and in the year 1845 he crossed the boundary line into Indiana, settling at Wabash, the county seat of Wabash county, where he conducted a store until 1860.

In his youthful days Dr. Isaiah Haas acquired a fair education, after which he assisted his father in the store as bookkeeper and salesman. His identification with telegraphic interests was the result of chance rather than carefully formulated plans. In 1849, when the Morse electric telegraph line was being extended west, an office was opened at Wabash above his father's store and a teacher was sent to instruct a young lawyer of that place how to use the instrument. The lawyer being slow to learn, Dr. Haas was solicited by friends to go upstairs and learn to manipulate the key. To this he consented and in ten days he was able to receive and send messages. The next three or four years were devoted to his new position as operator. Soon, by sense of hearing, he read the faintest murmurings of the telegraph and became one of the expert operators of the west. About this time Ezra Cornell, of Ithaca, New York, the founder of Cornell University, had become lessee of nearly one thousand miles of telegraph line in the states of Ohio, Illinois and Indiana and made Dr. Haas superintendent of the line and all of the offices connected therewith. In this position he displayed excellent administrative ability and executive force, carefully managing the interests of a newly developing enterprise, which was to have immeasurable effect upon the history of the world.

It was while connected with telegraphic interests that Dr. Haas was married to Miss Adaline McHenry, of Vincennes, Indiana, who a few years later died of tuberculosis. Two children were born unto them but within three years mother and children had passed away.

Before severing his connection with telegraphic interests Dr. Haas' attention had been called to dentistry and he felt that it offered him a wider field and scope. He began studying with Professor A. M. Morse, of La Fayette, Indiana, as his first preceptor and later under Dr. Samuel Wardle, of Cincinnati. He learned dentistry prior to coming to Evansville and for seven years followed the profession in La Fayette before establishing his home in this city.

In 1857 Dr. Haas married Miss Sarah K. McHenry, a sister of his first wife, and to them were born eight children, six yet living. Two years after this marriage he started southward but on account of low water was unable to get a boat and was detained for two days in Evansville, where he unexpectedly met some old-time friends who insisted that he make this city his future home. A few weeks later and he had become a permanent resident here. He not only successfully practiced dentistry but also assisted Dr. Bray, from whom he rented his office, in his surgical operations and it was said that Dr. Haas had no superior in the state as an assistant in surgical work. Moreover, he was recognized as the most prominent dentist in the state because of his comprehensive knowledge of the

science and his practical workmanship, his high ideals in his profession being equaled only by his achievements.

Dr. Haas was also prominent in Masonry, serving as district deputy master for four years and as lecturer of the district for four years, and in his life he exemplified the beneficent spirit of the craft. He was one of those whose labors were an important element in the early development of Evansville and this section of the state and his close following of high ideals was an influence that worked for good among others. He departed this life in 1900.

J. J. GROENINGER.

Within recent years Evansville has become an important manufacturing center with large productive industries that not only constitute a source of gratifying revenue to stockholders but are also elements in the city's growth and progress, as they furnish employment to many workmen. Mr. Groeninger is connected with the industrial interests of the city, being now sole proprietor of tin and galvanized iron works. He was born in Evansville, February 5, 1864, and is a son of Fred and Justina (Holzhauer) Groeninger, both of whom were natives of Germany, whence they came to America in early life. They were married in Evansville, where the mother is still living. The father was a carpenter and contractor and did much building in and around Evansville, many structures in this district still standing as monuments to his skill and handiwork. In the family were two sons and two daughters, the brother of our subject being Henry F. Groeninger, also of Evansville. The sisters are: Mrs. Christiana Wolf, a widow; and Mrs. Lizzie Dennis, both living in Evansville.

At the usual age J. J. Groeninger entered the public schools but when thirteen years of age began working in a furniture factory, covering chairs. Two years were spent in that way, after which he secured a position in a cooper shop, where he was employed for about three years. He afterward began working for G. Puder & Company, proprietors of tin and galvanized iron works. Twelve years were spent with that firm, during which time he became familiar with the business in every department, thoroughly mastering every task and gaining therefrom a knowledge and experience which have well qualified him for his present undertaking. On the expiration of that period he started in business on his own account with capital which he had saved from his earnings, his careful expenditure enabling him to gather a sum sufficient to start out independently in business. It was on the 16th of June, 1892, that he opened his present establishment. For a time he had two partners but later purchased their interests and is now sole owner of the business, which is constantly growing in volume and importance. He owns the building which he occupies and employs from eight

J. J. GROENINGER

to twelve men. He belongs to the Masters Sheet Metal Workers Association and to the Builders Exchange, in which he was a director for some time. He is a stockholder in the Mercantile Trust & Savings Bank and has made for himself a creditable position and an honored name in the trade and financial circles of the city.

On the 1st of October, 1889, Mr. Groeninger was married to Miss Millie E. Brown, of Orange county, Indiana, and they now have two sons and two daughters: Fred H. and William E., who work with their father; and Eloise E. and Margaret J., at home. The family belong to St. John's Evangelical church and Mr. Groeninger is also connected with the Red Men and with the Haymakers. In politics he is an unfaltering advocate of democracy, and he takes an active interest in all public affairs, cooperating in the movements and measures which he deems of value to Evansville or regards as of vital significance to the country at large.

ALBERT J. VENEMAN.

Albert J. Veneman, engaged in the practice of law since 1898, a keen analytical mind enabling him to correctly determine the relative value of the points of his cases, is regarded as both a strong advocate and safe counselor and is accorded a liberal clientage. He was born in Evansville, December 31, 1870, a son of August and Julia (Reitz) Veneman. The father was born in Germany while the parents were temporarily sojourning there. Following their return to America he pursued his education in the schools of Evansville and after attaining his majority entered business circles in connection with his brother-in-law, conducting a mercantile establishment under the firm name of Reitz & Veneman. Later he became connected with the Ullmer & Hoedt Brewery and was associated with that enterprise until his death, which occurred in 1880.

At the age of six years Albert J. Veneman was sent as a pupil to the Catholic parochial schools, wherein he pursued his studies to the age of fourteen years. He was a lad of only ten years at the time of his father's death. On leaving school he secured a position as messenger with the Bradstreet Mercantile Agency, with which he was connected for two years. He then engaged with the Evansville Gas Light Company as collector from 1887 until 1890 and on the expiration of that period went to Chicago, where he entered the employ of the Ansonia Electric Company as traveling salesman. He also represented the Central Electric Company in the same manner and for two years was identified with those Chicago houses. Returning to Evansville, he entered the circulating department of the Evansville Courier and was thus identified with the paper until 1896. Desiring, however, to become a member of the bar, in January, 1897, he began reading law in the office and under the direction of Hon. H. M. Logsdon. In September of that

year he matriculated in the Indiana State University at Bloomington, where he pursued his studies for a year, after which he again entered the office of Mr. Logsdon and supplemented technical training by practical experience in assisting Mr. Logsdon as well as studying under his direction. In June 1898, he was admitted to the bar and in the twelve years of his practice has been very successful. In 1906 he was appointed city attorney. He has won for himself very favorable criticism for the careful and systematic methods which he has followed and as an orator possesses more than ordinary ability. The utmost care and precision characterizes his preparation of a case and has made him one of the successful attorneys of Evansville.

Mr. Veneman was married, in Bloomington, Indiana, in February, 1901, to Miss Anna Kelly. They are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Veneman is serving on the board of the parochial counselors of the Church of the Assumption. He belongs to the Knights of St. John and to the Knights of Columbus and is one of the officers of the latter organization.

Mr. Veneman's political allegiance is given to the democracy and he is recognized as one of the local leaders of the party, serving as chairman of the city democratic committee. Above all things else, however, he prefers to concentrate his energies upon his professional duties and his devotion to his clients' interests is proverbial.

MORITZ H. SCHELOSKY.

Evansville—growing and prosperous—numbers among its citizens many men of marked enterprise, whose business activity is contributing to the development and upbuilding of the city—men whose force of character and native ability have carried them from humble positions to places of prominence. To this class belongs Moritz H. Schelosky, the president of the Schelosky Table Company, in which connection he is the controlling factor is one of the important manufacturing industries of Evansville.

He was born in Breslau, Germany, March 30, 1848, and is a son of Friedrich William and Christiana Wilhelmina Schelosky. The father, also a native of Breslau, came to America in 1852 with a family of eight children, four sons and four daughters and made his way direct to Evansville. Soon afterward he took up farming in German township, Vanderburg county, and was thus identified with agricultural interests until his death.

Moritz H. Schelosky was but six years of age when he accompanied his parents on the emigration to the United States. The district schools afforded him his early educational privileges, his studies being continued until he reached the age of fifteen years, when he entered commercial circles, going to Owensville, Indiana, where he secured a clerkship in the

general mercantile store of W. A. Speck, with whom he remained for eight years. His broadening experience well qualified him for further responsibilities and upon his return to Evansville he entered the retail dry-goods house of Hudspeth & Miller, with which he remained as salesman for eighteen years. He afterward spent two years as a salesman in the employ of John Gilbert, a retail dry goods merchant, but laudable ambition prompted him to engage in business on his own account and when his industry and economy brought him sufficient capital to justify such a venture, he organized the firm of Schelosky & Company in 1882 for the manufacture of extension tables. He did not become an active factor in the management of the business, however, until 1891. The enterprise was established on a small scale, but the business has constantly grown and developed and the output today includes a general line of library and extension tables of high grades. The business has been remarkably successful, as is indicated by the fact that they now employ sixty men, besides being represented by twenty sales agents throughout the United States and Canada. The business was incorporated in September, 1907, under the style of the Schelosky Table Company, with Moritz H. Schelosky as the president; Adolph R. Schelosky, vice president; and O. A. Klamer, secretary, treasurer and general manager. The plant of the company is now an extensive one, splendidly equipped with modern machinery, and a large force of workmen are employed, so that the industry is one of material benefit to the city as well as a source of gratifying income to the stockholders.

Mr. Schelosky was married in Evansville on the 22d of November 1877, to Miss Elizabeth Grese, and their attractive home is the center of many delightful social functions. Mr. Schelosky gives his political allegiance to the republican party. He also holds membership in the Presbyterian church, of which he is a trustee and of which he has been elder. He belongs to that class to whom the world instinctively pays deference because of upright life and honorable purpose. At no time in the stress of business, in his relations as a citizen or in his associations in socal life does he ever forget the duties and obligations which he owes to his fellowmen, and his personal traits of character have won him high esteem.

CHRIST KANZLER.

A genius for organization and marked executive ability have gained for Christ Kanzler a prominent position in industrial and financial circles of Evansville. Many corporate interests feel the stimulus of his enterprise and cooperation but his time is given most largely to the interests of the Mechanics Planing Mill. Of the company operating this industry he is the president and he is also senior partner in the well known firm of Christ Kanzler & Son, leading contractors of Evansville.

A native of Baden, Germany, Mr. Kanzler was born on the 3d of January, 1850, and is a son of Charles and Marie Kanzler, also natives of that country. The father was born on the 1st of April, 1816, and in early manhood learned the cabinet maker's trade, which he followed throughout his entire life, his labors being ended in death on the 25th of February, 1886.

At the usual age Christ Kanzler entered the public schools, which he attended to the age of fourteen years in accordance with the educational lines of his native land. He afterward learned the cabinet making trade with his father, under whom he served an apprenticeship of four years, thoroughly acquainting himself with every department of the work and becoming an expert in that line. The favorable reports which he heard concerning America and its broader business opportunities led him, however, to seek a home in the new world and crossing the Atlantic he made his way direct to Evansville, where during five years he was employed by various contractors. On the expiration of that period he started in the building and contracting business in partnership with Jacob Pippus under the firm name of Pippus & Kanzler. This association was maintained until 1888, after which Mr. Kanzler was alone in business until 1904, when he admitted his son to a partnership under the firm name of C. Kanzler & Son. They conduct a general contracting business and have been identified with many of the important building operations of the city. Among the buildings they have erected are the Young Men's Christian Association building, the Louisville & Nashville Railroad depot, the Lincoln Cotton Mill, the Hercules Buggy Works, most of Cook's brewery, the building for the Sisters of the Poor, the courthouse at Spencer, Indiana, the postoffice at Jeffersonville, Indiana, and the roundhouse at Cairo, Illinois. In 1898 Mr. Kanzler was elected president of the Mechanics Planing Mill and as the chief executive officer has contributed much to the success of that enterprise which is one of the extensive, important and productive industries of the city. The plant is large and thoroughly equipped and the output finds a ready sale on the market. In addition to these interests Mr. Kanzler is a director of the American Trust Company, a director of the Evansville Railways Comany and a stockholder in the Advance Works. His recognition of favorable opportunities in business has been one of the strong forces in a progress that has led him constantly forward until he stands today in the front rank among the successful business men of Evansville.

On the 24th of April, 1873, in this city, Mr. Kanzler was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Singer and unto them have been born eight children, five still living: August, who is secretary and treasurer of the Mechanics Planing Mill; Amelia, now the wife of Henry Kollker, of this city; Margaret, a graduate of the high school and well known in musical circles; Louise and Bessie, who are also high-school graduates.

The family attend the St. John's Evangelical church, of which Mr. Kanzler is a member. He is also identified through membership relations with Lessing Lodge, A. F. & A. M., the Knights of Pythias lodge, the Lieder-

kranz and the Turners. His political allegiance has been given to the republican party since he became a naturalized American citizen, and his interest in public affairs is manifest by active and helpful cooperation in all those movements which he deems of benefit to the city. Coming to Evansville in early manhood, with no capital save a knowledge of his trade and firm determination, he has gradually worked his way upward and is regarded as one of the prominent men in business circles whose judgment is sound, whose insight is keen and whose business integrity none question.

SAMUEL G. RICKWOOD.

The commercial and financial concerns, the social, political and religious interests which constitute the chief features in the life of every city, have all profited by the spirit of cooperation of Samuel G. Rickwood. While he has been successful in business his life has never been self-centered, but has reached out to the broader interests which affect mankind, and at all times has cast the weight of his influence and aid on the side of progress, reform and improvement. He is today a factor in the successful control of a number of important business concerns in Evansville where the greater part of his life has been passed, although he was born at Chatteris, Cambridgeshire, England, October 1, 1858. His parents were Samuel and Sarah (Wright) Rickwood. The father came to the new world to investigate its opportunities and advantages, and believing that he might provide better for his family in this country than in his native land, he was joined by his wife and children and the grandfather, arriving in Evansville, Indiana, in 1859. In the meantime Samuel Rickwood had become connected with the Ingle Coal Company and was thus prepared to care for those dependent upon him for support.

Samuel G. Rickwood was not yet a year old when the mother crossed the Atlantic. At the usual age he entered the public schools and had become a pupil in the high school when, at the age of fifteen years, he put aside his text-books to enter upon an apprenticeship under George Brinkman, who was engaged in the monument business. He learned stone-cutting and at the age of twenty-four years formed a partnership with Adam Lannert, in the building stone business. They also engaged in contracting and erected many buildings which are still substantial structures in this city. The firm was succeeded by the Ohio Valley Stone Company, Mr. Rickwood and Mr. Lannert becoming the principal stockholders with headquarters at Pennsylvania and Oakley streets. The enterprise has been incorporated and they conduct a general stone contracting business, their trade now having reached extensive proportions. Mr. Rickwood has not limited his efforts to this field alone, however, but has become an active factor in the successful management and conduct of other business concerns. He was for four years engaged in the

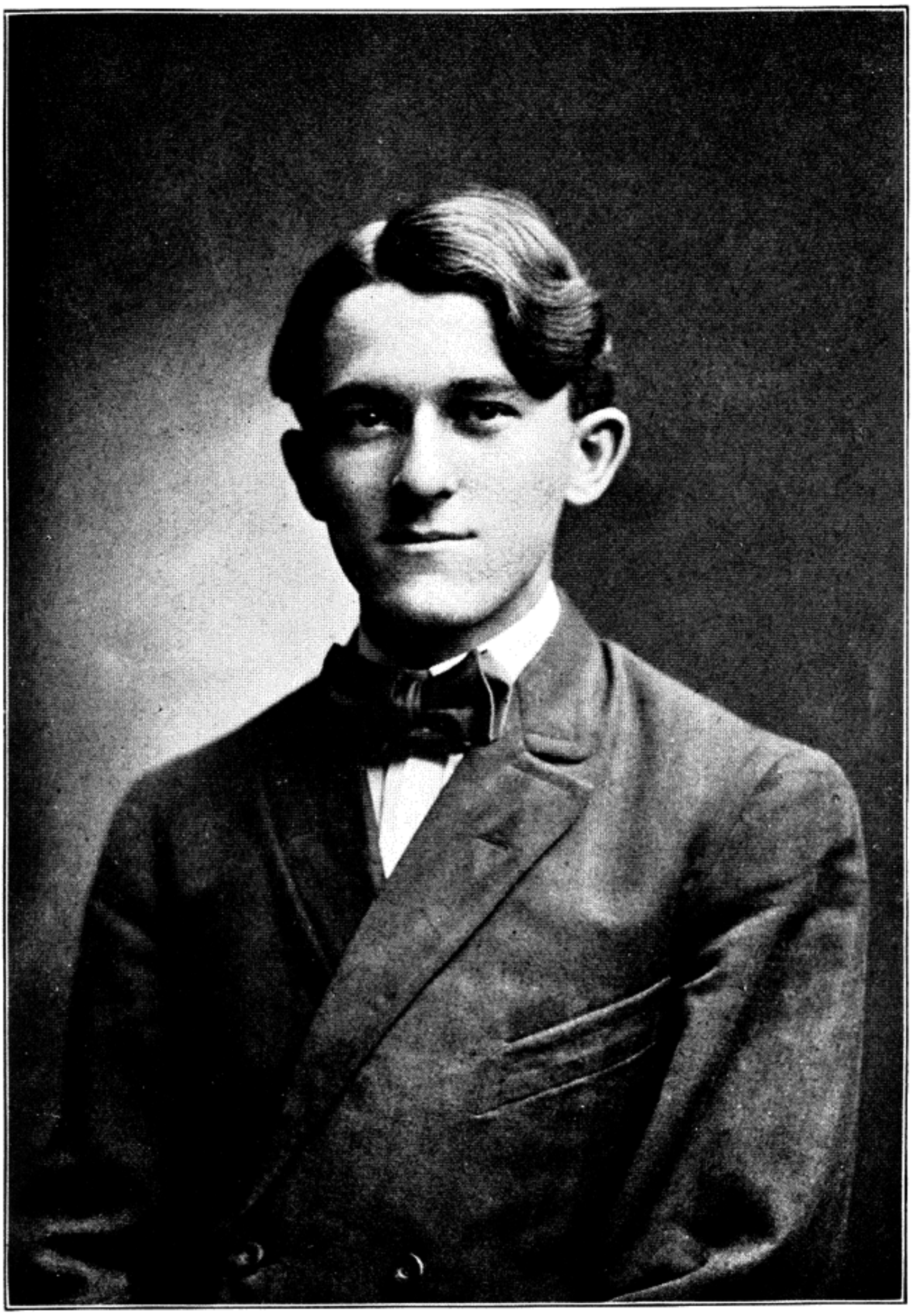
slate and tile roofing business and is vice president of the Ohio Valley Roofing Company. In positions of a more public nature he has done creditable service acting for the past ten years as secretary of the Evansville Manufacturer's Association, while for two years prior to that time he was its president. He was for three years president of the Builders Exchange but resigned in January, 1910, in order to accept appointment to a position on the board of public works of the city of Evansville, of which he is now president.

On the 6th of October, 1880, Mr. Rickwood was married to Miss Louise Alt, of Evansville, a daughter of John and Louise (Bastion) Alt. The family were pioneer people of Evansville, where for many years Mr. Alt continued business as a contracting painter. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rickwood have been born eight children, of whom two sons and two daughters passed away in childhood. The surviving members are: Mabel L., the wife of W. E. Miller, of Augusta, Indiana: Ruth A., who wedded Charles H. Hitch, of Patoka, Indiana; Roland L., born June 11, 1892, who is a high school graduate and is now in the employ of the Vulcan Plow Company; and Lela, who was born September 7, 1894, and is now a high school student.

The family hold membership in the Presbyterian church and Mr. Rickwood is also connected with the Tribe of Ben Hur and the Court of Honor. He is one of the directors and the first vice president of the Young Men's Christian Association and he gives his political support to the republican party. He has long been a close student of the sociological, economic and political condition of the country and is greatly interested in questions which he regards as of vital significance to the public. His interest in all concerns relative to the city's welfare is ever sincere and wherever substantial aid will further public progress it is freely given.

LOUIS FRITSCH.

Louis Fritsch, a popular and enterprising florist of Evansville, who is recognized by his business associates as thoroughly capable in his special line, is a son of Joseph and Johanna (Neu) Fritsch, the former of whom was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. There is a romance in the history of the family and one of the chief actors in this romance is at the head of the household where the subject of this review makes his home. The story begins at East Friesland, Germany, in 1835, when a girl was born whose father was an officer to the imperial government. The daughter grew to be a graceful and beautiful girl of fifteen, when she was married to Count Van Der Var, of noble ancestry, and started upon a life that gave promise of long years in the midst of affluence and luxury. The Count and his bride started upon a tour of the world and after visiting various places in Europe came to New York, finally arriving in Cincinnati, Ohio, where the husband was seized with a fatal illness and died, leaving his wife among



LOUIS FRITSCH

strangers and in a strange land. Dr. Ludwig Fritsch, a native of Bielefeld, Prussia, and a graduate of the medical department of the University of Bonn, was attending physician at the time of the husband's death and later he and the widow were united in marriage, Joseph Fritsch, the father of our subject, being the result of this union. The family came to Evansville, where the son was educated in the public schools and later he and his father established a florist business under the title of Ludwig Fritsch & Son. In June, 1900, Dr. Fritsch was called to his final rest and was succeeded in business by his son, who was the father of two children, Louis and Paulina.

Louis Fritsch grew up in Evansville and after the death of his parents he and his sister were adopted by Mrs. Dr. Fritsch, by whom they were educated. In 1908 he entered the business which his father had laid aside and in his work has been highly successful. Being a lover of plants and flowers and also a man of fine business qualifications, he has developed the business and enlarged operations until it produces substantial returns and is one of the well established institutions of Evansville.

CLIFFORD T. CURRY.

Clifford T. Curry, engaged in the practice of law in Evansville for thirteen years, being now an associate of Edgar Durre, was born in Bath county, Kentucky, in May, 1873, a son of George M. and Lou Curry. The father was born in Dearborn county, Indiana, in 1847, and was graduated at Morris Hill College and supplemented his literary education by study in the Ohio Medical College of Cincinnati, from which he was graduated with the M. D. degree. He afterward removed to Bath county, Kentucky, where he continued in the practice of medicine until 1890, when he became a resident of Lebanon, Ohio, where he is still successfully following his profession.

Spending his youthful days in his parents' home, Clifford T. Curry devoted much of his time to the acquirement of an education in the graded and high schools of his native city until seventeen years of age, when he entered the National Normal University at Lebanon, Ohio, and therein pursued his studies to the age of twenty-one. Determining upon the practice of law as a life work, he matriculated in the Columbian University now known as George Washington University of Washington, D. C., and was graduated in 1897 with the LL. B. degree. Having thus qualified for the practice of law he came to Evansville and opened an office in connection with two other young men who in that year had been admitted to the bar. In 1899 he was appointed deputy prosecuting attorney by Edgar Durre and so continued until 1901 when he received the appointment of city judge from Mayor Covert and served upon the municipal bench until 1906. His

decisions were strictly fair and impartial and on the whole won the endorsement and approval of the members of the bar. During this period Mr. Curry also practiced law in connection with Hamilton A. Mattison until March, 1910. In June following he formed a partnership with Mr. Durre and is now devoting his entire attention to the private practice of the law, in which connection he has gained a large and distinctively representative clientage. His devotion to the interests of those whom he represents in the courts is proverbial and yet he never forgets that he owes a still higher allegiance to the Majesty over all. He is strong and forceful in his pleadings and in argument, his deductions are logical, and his application of legal principles correct.

On the 28th of July, 1900, Mr. Curry was married in Evansville to Miss Carolyn Reavis and unto them has been born a son, George, who at the age of nine years is a pupil in the public schools. The parents hold membership in the Presbyterian church and are interested in its work and upbuilding.

Mr. Curry gives his political allegiance to the republican party but while he is a stanch advocate of its principles, he has never sought office outside of the strict path of his profession. Fraternally he is connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Eagles and with Reed Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and is loyal to the teachings and purposes of these organizations. His friends, and they are many, find him a man of social, genial nature, while in his chosen field of labor he is recognized as a strong and able advocate and counselor.

CARL SCHULTZE.

Carl Schultze, president and general manager of the Evansville Broom Company and also identified with other business interests of this city, was born in Westphalia, Germany, June 30, 1857, his parents being Theodore and Frederica (Miller) Schultze. He was a pupil in the public schools until fifteen years of age, when he began learning the brass molding and casing business, in which he continued for three years. On the expiration of that period he came to Evansville, where he entered the employ of his uncle, who was senior member of the firm of Schultze, Thuman & Company. For seventeen years he remained with that house in the molding department and then turned his attention to the saloon business, in which he has been engaged since that time. In 1906 he became one of the organizers of the Evansville Broom Company and was elected to the vice presidency, being made president and general manager in 1910. This enterprise has proved a successful one, the growth of the business being manifest in the fact that twenty-five people are now employed. The output finds a ready sale in the local market and throughout the United States, and the plant

is thoroughly equipped with modern machinery to facilitate the work. Mr. Schultze is also a member of the executive board of the Advance Stove Works and is regarded as one of the progressive business men of this city, possessing the energy and determination that enable him to carry forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

In November, 1883, Mr. Schultze was married in Evansville to Miss Frederica Reiser, who died in January, 1901, and on the 30th of June, 1907, he was again married, his second union being with Miss Lottie Hausman. They have two children: Freda, two years of age; and Helen, who is yet in her first year.

Mr. Schultze is a member of several fraternal organizations. He belongs to the Elks Lodge, No. 116; the Fraternal Order of Eagles; the Knights of Honor; and the Knights of Fidelity. His political allegiance is given to the republican party. Dependent upon his own resources from the age of fifteen years, he has worked his way upward, and whatever success he has achieved in business is attributable to his own labors. He has been found diligent, determined and reliable, and gradually has gained a substantial measure of success since he crossed the threshold of the business world.

JAMES W. WILTSHIRE.

When Evansville was a small town of little commercial or industrial importance James W. Wiltshire cast in his lot with its early setters, arriving in the year 1848. He was then a young man of nineteen, his birth having occurred in Rockingham county, Virginia, in 1829. His father, Weeden Wiltshire, also a native of the Old Dominion, came to Evansville in 1858. He was a cooper by trade but did not engage in business after removing to Indiana. The mother, Mary (Travis) Wiltshire, was also born in the Old Dominion. They became the parents of fifteen children of whom only two are now living, Benjamin S. and Pembroke.

The public schools of his native state afforded James W. Wiltshire his educational privileges, and he afterward learned the cooper's trade, which he followed in the south until 1848. Arriving in Evansville, he at once engaged in coopering as a traveling man, and later entered into a partnership with Henry Kreipke, opening a shop at the corner of Third avenue and Pennsylvania street. Their trade grew rapidly and for many years they carried on a general cooperage business on an extensive scale. Mr. Wiltshire was also for a time engaged in the draying business with his son-in-law, John Peltz, but retired a few years prior to his demise, enjoying in his last days the fruits of former toil and carefully directed business affairs.

Mr. Wiltshire was married twice. He first wedded Miss Sarah Ann Knaus, who at her death left a family of one son and four daughters, namely: Smith Wiltshire, Mrs. John Peltz, Mrs. Theodore Pffling, Mrs. Laura Van Dyke, and Almire, the wife of Dr. Charles Evarts, of Indianapolis. For his second wife Mr. Wiltshire chose Elizabeth De Troy and they have three children, two sons and a daughter: Sadie, now the wife of Oscar Weiss; James D., of Indianapolis; and Blaine, a resident of Evansville.

The death of Mr. Wiltshire occurred November 25, 1906. Mrs. Wiltshire still resides in the old home on First avenue, where they have lived for many years. His political endorsement was given to the republican party and for two terms he served as a member of the board of public works under Mayor Aikens. He was greatly interested in the welfare and upbuilding of Evansville and his labors in behalf of the city were always of a practical and resultant character, given unselfishly for the benefit of the city. His life was a busy, active and useful one, and his rectitude of character and integrity of business gained him the honor of his fellowmen.

HENRY E. HODGKINS.

Centuries ago the Greek philosopher, Epicharmus, said: "Earn thy reward; the Gods give naught to sloth," and the truth of this admonition has been verified in all the ages which have run their course since that time. Realizing that he must labor if he would win success, Henry E. Hodgkins has throughout his entire life put forth earnest effort, and his well directed industry has at length brought him to a creditable position in the commercial circles of Evansville, for he is now president of the Attic Furniture Company and sole owner with his sons, Bennie and Elbert, having purchased the business from his former partners September 1, 1910.

His birth occurred in West Louisville, Kentucky, on the 14th of July, 1868, his parents being Joseph and Margaret Hodgkins. He attended the public schools of his native state until nineteen years of age and afterward engaged in clerking in a grocery store in Owensboro, Kentucky, until twenty-two years of age. He then bought a farm near West Louisville and carried on general agricultural pursuits for eight years, on the expiration of which period he returned to Owensboro and took charge of the boiler room of the Sellous War Ship Packing Factory, occupying that position for three years. He next came to Evansville, where he engaged as a cabinet-maker with the firm of Stoltz & Smith, furniture manufacturers, with whom he continued for thirteen years, the length of his service being indicative of his fidelity as well as excellent workmanship. Desiring,

HENRY E. HODGKINS

however, that his labors should more directly benefit himself, he embarked in business on his own account in the manufacture of kitchen cabinets and has since developed and conducted a growing and important industry under the name of the Attic Furniture Company, of which he is president. He is continually making improvements in his product and turns out various kinds of cabinets, from the most simple to the most intricate in design. These find favor with the thrifty housewife, who recognizes not only the convenience of the cabinet as an article of kitchen furniture but also the economy of time and labor which it promotes. A number of workmen are now employed and the output of the factory is sent to all parts of the country.

Mr. Hodgkins was married in February, 1888, in West Louisville, Kentucky, to Miss Fidelia Hungate, and unto them have been born the following children, namely: Elbert M., Ambrose, Ben Franklin, Mary Bertha, Melvin, Eddie and Alice Marie.

In his political views Mr. Hodgkins has always been a stalwart democrat since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. In his fraternal relations he is connected with the Tribe of Ben Hur and his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Catholic church. He may truly be called a self-made man, for he laid the foundation for his success in industry and determination and has builded thereon through perseverance and good management.

EMORY H. HANNETT.

Emory H. Hannett, general agent at Evansville for the International Harvester Company of America, was born in Shepherd, Michigan, March 10, 1872, and is a son of Thomas and Carolina E. Hannett. His preliminary education was acquired in the district schools, which he attended until he was sixteen years of age, after which he continued his studies in Alma College at Alma, Michigan, being graduated therefrom in 1889. He then returned to his native town and accepted a position as assistant cashier with Hannett, Ward & Company, bankers, with whom he remained until 1896. He then engaged as traveling collector in Michigan for the Deering Harvester Company of Chicago and so continued until 1898, at which time he was transferred to their Chicago office, where he had charge of collections for the state of Iowa for one year. At the end of that time, at his request, he was transferred to the sales department as blockman at Owosso, Michigan, and in 1900 he came to Evansville at general agent in charge of the Deering Harvester Company branch at this place, filling the position until 1903, in which year the International Harvester Company of America was organized, when he was transferred to Louisville, Kentucky, as collection agent for Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky. He occupied that position until 1907, when he again returned to Evansville as general

agent for the consolidated companies. In this connection he has been very successful, his territory covering sixteen counties in Kentucky, ten counties in Indiana and nine counties in Illinois. The company handles the Champion, Deering, McCormick, Milwaukee, Osborne and Plano harvesting machines as well as many newer lines of agricultural implements and employs at this branch from fifty to sixty people according to the season. Upon the recommendation and at the earnest solicitation of Mr. Hannett, the International Harvester Company of America recently erected a three story brick and basement office and warehouse building with an area of fifty-three thousand square feet of floor space and equipped with all modern improvements for the conduct of a business of this character.

On the 19th of August, 1902, Mr. Hannett was married in Evansville to Miss Maude F. Porter, and they have two children, Dorothy Virginia and Martha Alice, aged respectively six and four years. Mr. Hannett is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and is popular not only with the brethren of that fraternity but also with those whom he meets in other social and business relations. His long connection with the trade has made him thoroughly familiar with the different phases of the business which is under his charge and his administrative direction and executive ability are strong features in the success which is attending the Evansville house.

BANKING IN EVANSVILLE.

By Henry Reis.

In the year 1834 the first bank was established in Evansville, it being a branch of the Old State Bank of Indiana. Its capital was eighty thousand dollars, part of which was owned by the state and the remainder by individual stockholders. This bank later became the branch of the Bank of the State of Indiana; then, in 1865, it was merged into the Evansville National Bank, which later, in 1885, was succeeded by the Old National Bank, whose charter expired December 22, 1904, and was succeeded by the present Old State National Bank of Evansville.

The Evansville Insurance Company was organized in 1850, and its charter contained insurance and banking privileges of a liberal character, which enabled it, under the free banking law of Indiana, to do business in the name of the Canal Bank. In 1863 this bank was incorporated as the First National Bank of Evansville and in 1883 its charter was extended for another twenty years. In 1902 the First National Bank was succeeded by the City National Bank.

The Citizens National Bank commenced business in 1874, at 121 Upper First street, as the successor to the banking house of W. J. Lowry & Company, and later moved to its present quarters, corner of Second and Main streets.

The German National Bank obtained a charter in 1873 and later was changed to the German Bank, and in turn was succeeded by the Evansville Trust & Savings Company, the three organizations having occupied the same location, corner of Third and Main streets.

The People's Savings Bank commenced business on May 5th, 1870, at 222 Main street, and has made no change in location up to the present time.

The Ohio Valley Trust Company has taken the place of the Bank of Commerce and was located in the B. M. A. building, corner of Second and Sycamore streets; both are now out of existence.

The Merchants National Bank (owned largely by the Bements and Captain Gilbert) was organized in 1865 and went into voluntary liquidation after a very successful career.

The directors of the West Side Bank held their first meeting October 28, 1902.

The American Trust & Savings Company commenced business December 1, 1904.

The Commercial Bank opened March 10, 1906.

The Farmers & Citizens Bank, Howell, was organized June 18, 1906.

The Mercantile National Bank and the Mercantile Trust & Savings Company opened for business January 2, 1907.

The Bankers National Bank opened on December 9, 1907.

The Exchange Bank opened a short time then closed up its affairs.

Of the banks and bankers who did business in Evansville in days gone by, I would mention the Crescent City Bank, which had for its cashier a very able man, William Baker, who later became mayor of Evansville. Mr. Baker was the brother of the Hon. Conrad Baker, governor of this state during the '60s.

The palm of seniority among private bankers should be given, I believe, to Guild Copeland, the others being Messrs. W. J. Lowry & Company, M. Lyon, Theodore Venneman & Sons, (dealers in foreign exchange) and Messrs. Samuel M. Archer & Company. Should any name have been omitted in the haste of preparation the writer prays to be forgiven.

In order to illustrate the progress of Evansville as indicated by the published bank statements, I would say that the banks of Evansville had in 1880 a combined capital of $2,000,000.00; surplus $545,000.00; loans $4,027,193.39; deposits $2,193,037.45. In 1890 we find the capital to be $1,450,000.00; surplus $593,800.00; loans $4,300,545.83; deposits $4,737,170.49. In 1900 the figures were: capital $1,450,000.00; surplus $443,250.00; loans $4,341,937.95; deposits $6,024,859.97.

By referring to the statements of 1907 we find twelve banks in Evansville, the bank at Howell being included, with a combined capital of $1,780,000.00; surplus $655,000.00; loans $9,712,751.51; deposits $13,869,533.64.

Of the clearings of 1880 and 1890 we have no record. The clearings for 1900 were $47,279,043.70. The clearings for 1907 were $102,436,-094.34.

The figures speak for themselves. The increase in deposits from two millions to thirteen millions and the increase in the clearings from forty-seven millions to one hundred two millions in eighteen years are the best evidence of the prosperity of the people of Evansville and the certain approach of what we are all working for—a "greater and better Evansville."

As evidence of the friendly relations existing between the business associations of Evansville and its banks I have only to recall to your minds the voluntary and kindly resolutions passed by the E. B. A., the E. M. A. and the R. M. A. during the panic of 1907.

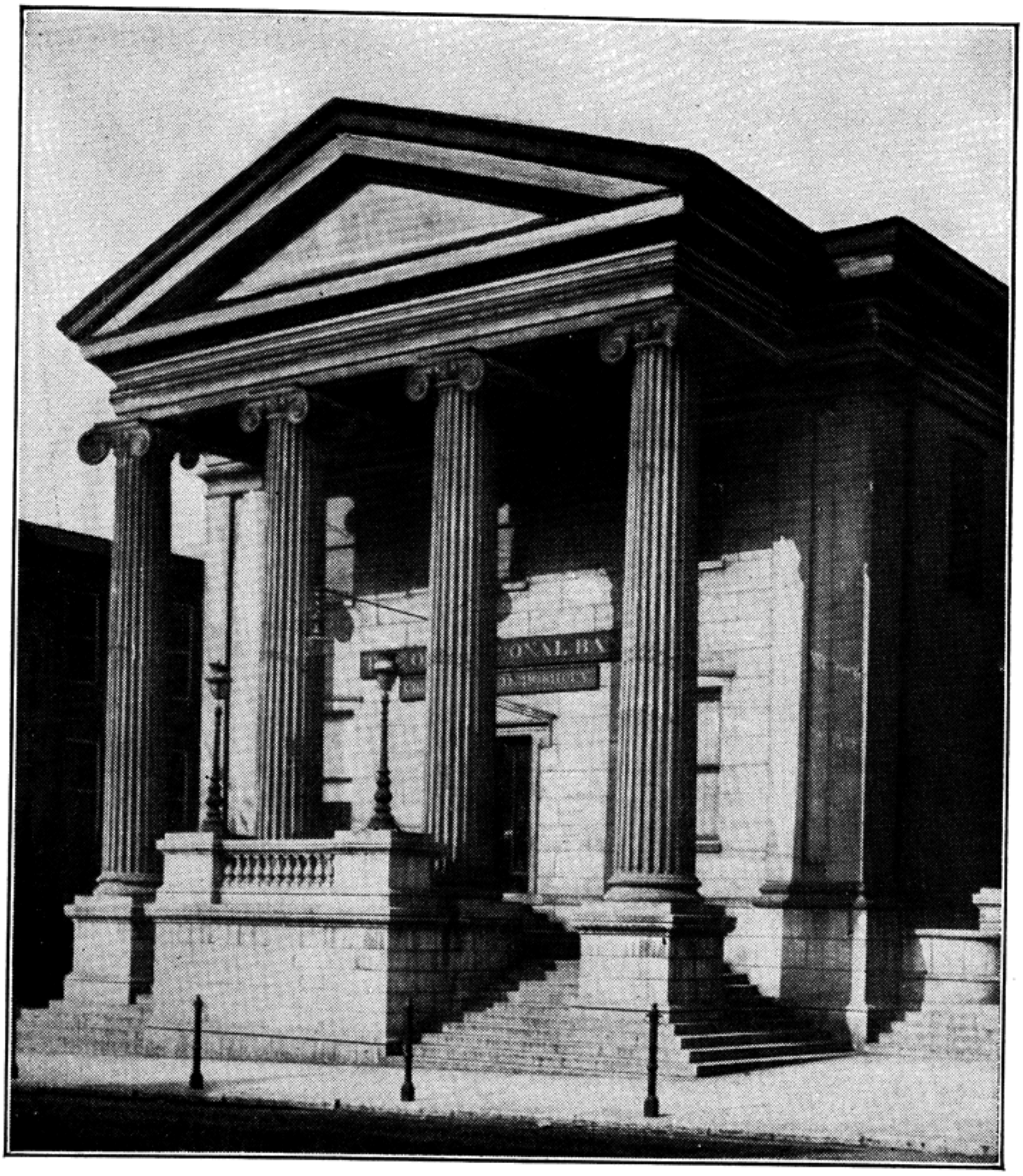
I will not attempt to give any new theories upon banking, only to say that in addition to our national banks there might be established a "central bank" with a large capital, which could be owned by the present national banks and held by them in amounts proportioned to their capital. This central bank, being a governmental bank, would have power to largely increase its circulation in times of great money stringency and thus be helpful to the national banks by rediscounting paper or otherwise rendering assistance as occasion might require. The central bank would not do business direct with the people but would confine its transactions to business with banks and thus prove of great benefit at all times, and by its helpfulness preventing panics and thus removing an element of recurring or periodical danger.

In this connection I would mention that in foreign countries this central bank idea largely prevails in some form, with charters granting various privileges, but in the main the general principles governing the business are the same.

As these central banks are largely under government control, and in some few countries are actually owned by the governments, it is therefore easily seen that a very large proportion of the government money finds its way into these banks and thus becomes available to some extent at least for assisting the smaller banks when these have a greater demand for money than they are able to supply.

THE OLD STATE NATIONAL BANK.

The Old State National Bank of Evansville, Indiana, which commenced business under its present name on December 23, 1904, is the successor of the Old National Bank, one of the oldest and best financial institutions in the state. It began business in 1834, when a charter was granted to the State Bank of Indiana. For the first three years the bank was located at the corner of Main and Water streets, but in 1837 it was removed to the



OLD STATE NATIONAL BANK

site now occupied by the present bank. The State Bank of Indiana was succeeded in 1855 by the branch of the Bank of the State of Indiana and the business was conducted under this name until 1865, when it was reorganized as the Evansville National Bank under the national banking act and chartered for twenty years. Upon the expiration of the charter the bank was again reorganized and rechartered as the Old National Bank, which occupied the same quarters at Nos. 20-22 Main street. For many years the bank has been recognized as one of the substantial concerns of the city of Evansville, and as the new institution is in good hands, it is safe to predict for it the same prosperity and conservatism that marked the career of its predecessors.

The capital of the bank is five hundred thousand dollars, surplus and undivided profits, two hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars. The officers of the new bank are: Henry Reis, president; H. H. Ogden, cashier. The directors are James L. Orr, Alexander Gilchrist, William H. McCurdy, Marcus S. Sonntag, Allen Gray, W. M. Akin, Henry Wimberg, Sidney L. Ichenhauser, George Brose, Henry Reis and H. H. Ogden. The bank has a larger capitalization than any similar institution in southern Indiana, has exceptional strength and established facilities. Its policy enables it to extend every accommondation for business consistent with sound methods and it is the depository for the United States, the state of Indiana, the county of Vanderburg and the city of Evansville.

LOUIS W. WINTERNHEIMER.

Louis W. Winternheimer, who for a quarter of a century has lived in Vanderburg county, now makes his home in Knight township upon one of its fine farms devoted to the cultivation of grain and to the raising of stock. In the latter connection he has become widely known, especially in the breeding of draft and coach horses. He was born in Posey county, Indiana, in 1861 and obtained his education in the schools of that locality while spending his youthful days upon his father's farm.

His father, Louis Winternheimer, Sr., came from Germany to America when a young man, settled in Posey county and through the careful conduct of business interests and judicious speculation became one of the richest residents of that locality, at one time owning a thousand acres of land. He was also the owner of a flour mill at Blainesville, Indiana, and always took an active interest in the affairs of his county, seeking advancement and progress along the lines where the best interests of the county were conserved. His earthly pilgrimage was a long one, terminated by death in September, 1903, when he had reached the age of eighty-eight years. His wife had passed away on the 22nd of September of the previous year, at the age of eighty-one. In their family were three sons and a daughter but the latter is deceased.

The usual experiences of farm life in Posey county constituted the record of Louis W. Winternheimer until he reached the age of twenty-four years, when in 1885 he came to Vanderburg county and purchased one hundred and ten acres in Armstrong township. With characteristic energy he at once began to clear the land, enhanced its productiveness by draining the fields and put many improvements upon the place. After living there for some time he sold the property and purchased a half interest in the Imperial Hotel in Evansville and also one hundred and sixty acres of land in Knight township, where he built a fine home and a large and substantial barn. It is upon this place, to which he has added other improvements, that he is now making his home and here he has since followed farming and stock-raising. He organized a company and sold imported horses and has the reputation of having raised some of the finest draft horses of the county, while his attention is now given to the raising of coach horses.

In 1885, in Posey county, Mr. Winternheimer was married to Miss Elizabeth Mann, a daughter of Martin Mann, a prominent and wealthy citizen of that county. They became the parents of four children: William L. and Edgar F., both of whom are in Evansville; Lena F.; and Martin J. The wife and mother died March 21, 1908, and her loss was deeply deplored by many friends as well as her immediate family.

Mr. Winternheimer belongs to St. John's church. In politics he has always been a republican and his personal popularity is indicated in the fact that he is the only man in his township that has been elected to office on the republican ticket in thirty-two years, he having been chosen trustee two years ago. While always interested in the political situations and keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day, he prefers to give his undivided attention to his business affairs and the twenty-five years of his residence in this county have proven the worth of his opinions and methods of business operation.

HARVEY C. WEBER.

Harvey C. Weber, city clerk of Evansville, is one of the promising young men whose life has been spent in this city and who occupies a position of honor and responsibility by the vote of many who have known him almost from his boyhood. He was born July 28, 1879, and is a son of August J. and Frances Weber. His father, now living in Evansville, is a native of Louisville, Kentucky, where he was born June 5, 1848. He was educated at Fort Wayne, Indiana, and in 1860 came to Evansville, having resided in this city for fifty years. He is a harnessmaker by trade and is now engaged in that business, to which he has devoted many years.

Harvey C. Weber received his education in the public schools and the high school of Evansville, graduating from the latter at sixteen years of age. He was an apt student and soon after graduating he entered the service of the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad as stenographer and thus continued for five years. He then joined his father in the harness business and became a partner in the firm, theirs being one of the long standing and successful enterprises of the city. For a number of years Mr. Weber has been interested in politics and his services were recognized in 1909 by his nomination on the republican ticket as city clerk. He was elected to this office in November, 1909, and since January 1, 1910, has filled the position with credit to himself and his supporters.

On the 15th of April, 1903, Mr. Weber was united in marriage to Miss Della Wahnsiedler, of this city, and two children have blessed this union: Florence Olga, now four years of age; and Mildred Louise, two years of age.

Mr. Weber is a member of the First Ward Republican Club and has for a number of years held membership in the Methodist church. In fraternal circles he is well known, being identified with the Elks, Eagles, Owls and Foot Lake Fishing Club. His connection with these organizations is indicative of social characteristics which are well developed and make him a prime favorite among his associates. In business circles of Evansville he is also favorably known on account of his recognized ability and a genial disposition, which makes friends wherever he is known.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN GILLETT.

Benjamin Franklin Gillett, deceased, was a representative of one of the early families of this city and his upright life gained him a firm hold upon the affections of his fellow townsmen. His name was ever an honored one for he guided his conduct in harmony with the teachings and principles of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he was long a devoted and consistent member. Though more than a third of a century has come and gone since he passed away, his memory is yet cherished and revered by all who knew him. One of the native sons of Evansville, he was born August 24, 1837. His father and grandfather were among the early settlers here and took an active part in the pioneer development and upbuilding of the city. The grandfather built a log schoolhouse on what is now upper First street—the first in the city, and with other work and events which have left their impress upon the history of Evansville the name of Gillett is closely associated.

At the usual age Benjamin F. Gillett entered the public schools, but when still quite young became a factor in business life and from that time afterward was dependent upon his own resources, labor and ability for

maintenance and success. He drove the first city express wagon in Evansville and for many years was connected with the postoffice service as mail carrier. He was always an active man, performing the duties that lay nearest his hand, and at the time of the Civil war he espoused the cause of the Union, joining the boys in blue of the Twenty-fourth Indiana Infantry, with which regiment he went to the front. Later he was transferred to the Fourth Cavalry, serving until the close of the war with the rank of corporal.

On the 3d of March, 1859, Mr. Gillett was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Crofts, a daughter of John Crofts, who came to America from England, his native country, and when a young man began to work for the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad Company, filling the position of night man at the depot for forty years. He was always faithful to his duty and enjoyed the unqualified confidence of the company which he represented. He married Hannah Skinner, and ere death claimed them they celebrated their golden wedding. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Gillett were born four children: Fannie, whose birth occurred February 11, 1860, was married in 1882 to William Fisher and died March 13, 1887, leaving a daughter, Ida Bessie, who is now the wife of Thomas Jordan and has one son, Thomas T. Jordan; Franklin, the only son, born October 10, 1862, is deceased; Katie Lillian, born April 30, 1868, became the wife of Jesse Ellis Clark on the 6th of May, 1896, and has one child, Bernice Gillett Clark, born November 1, 1900; Susie Gertrude, the youngest member of the family, was born February 22, 1870, and has now passed away. For about thirty-five years after the death of her husband Mrs. Gillett was employed as a nurse.

In his political views Mr. Gillett was always a stanch republican, joining the party soon after its organization, for at that time age conferred upon him the right of franchise. Socially he was connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His entire life was permeated by an uplifting religious faith, for in young manhood he joined the Methodist church, in which he became an earnest and untiring worker, acting as one of the first Sunday school superintendents of the Kingsley Methodist church. His life was ever noble in purpose, honorable in action and loyal to duty, whether in his relations to family, friends or the general public.

DAVID HEIMANN.

Through the successive stages of an orderly progression in business, David Heimann has reached a creditable position, having for seven years engaged in the electrical supply business, in which his labors are meeting with substantial results. Evansville is his native city and his natal day was May 20, 1857. His parents were Isaac and Louise Heimann, and the family name indicates the German nativity of the father, who on emigrat-

ing to the new world came to Evansville in the early '50s, walking all the way from New York, carrying with him a peddler's stock, which he sold en route. After reaching Evansville he established and conducted a lunch stand on the wharf and later engaged in the bakery business on Water street. Gradually his close application, energy and capable management brought him substantial reward for his labor and enabled him to extend the scope of his activities so that in 1853 he engaged in the wholesale and retail grocery business. In 1870 he moved to First and Vine streets, where he established a wholesale grocery and liquor business, meeting with success in the undertaking. Later he sold a half interest to S. Kahn and some time afterward disposed of his remaining interest in the business and retired to private life. His death occurred in 1894 and thus was closed the life record of one who had long been closely associated with commercial interests in Evansville and who by untiring thrift and diligence had gained for himself a creditable position in commercial circles.

David Heimann was a pupil in the public schools of Evansville to the age of fifteen years, after which he filled a clerical position with the firm of Bush & Hink, general insurance agents for a year and a half. He then joined his father in the grocery business and after working in the store for two years went upon the road as a traveling salesman, thus representing the house until 1879. He next engaged with the Adams Express Company as messenger on the Louisville packet Rainbow for four months, and later for nine and a half years on the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad as expressman and baggageman. In 1887 he began traveling for the Edgewood Distillery Company, which he represented until the fall of 1888, when he became messenger for the Adams Express Company and baggageman for the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad, filling the dual position until 1890. He afterward traveled for three different firms selling cigars and liquors until May 1, 1892, when he took a position with the Evansville Street Railway Company as time keeper and pay master, during the time of the change from mule cars to electric. He was the first superintendent of electric cars in this city and so continued until January 1, 1893, when he engaged as traveling salesman for Grill Brothers, wholesale cigar dealers, with whom he was connected until 1895. In that year he entered the service of H. Gumbert & Sons, wholesale liquor dealers, as salesman, and when six years had thus passed he went with The Thixton & Millet Wholesale Liquor Company, of Owensboro, Kentucky, as salesman. He spent a year in that employ and a similar period with the H. Straus Cigar Company of Cincinnati, after which he returned to Evansville and for six months was assistant water works clerk under Frank Calwell, water commissioner. He afterward worked as general utility man in the city hall for a year, at the end of which time he took up the general electric contracting and supply business, which he has conducted successfully for seven years, receiving a good patronage in this connection.

On the 15th of February, 1883, Mr. Heimann was united in marriage in Philadelphia to Miss Betty Joseph, and unto them have been born two children, Ella Louise, at home; and Beulah, who is attending the public schools. Mr. Heimann is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, gives his political support to the republican party and is of the Jewish faith. His life has always been a busy one, continuously occupied with the duties of the different positions which he has filled, and he seems now to have found an enterprise for which he is well qualified and in which he is meeting with substantial advancement.

GEORGE A. HOEFLING.

Among the well known farmers of Armstrong township, Vanderburg county, Indiana, is George A. Hoefling. He was born in the township where he now lives, October 13, 1860, and is the eldest son of George and Christina (Bohme) Hoefling, both of whom were natives of Bavaria, Germany, the former born December 26, 1829, and the latter in 1828. They came with their respective parents to America and located in Armstrong township, this county, about one mile south of Armstrong. Here the paternal grandfather of our subject located on one hundred acres of timber land and is remembered as one of the pioneers of the region. He cleared the land after much labor and our subject in his memory goes back to the time when his grandfather made use of wood shavings and lard as a means of illumination at night, this being before the days of the kerosene lamp. The grandfather passed to his reward at ninety years of age, in 1892, his wife having died eight years previously, at the advanced age of seventy-two years. Our subject's father, George Hoefling, removed from the farm to Evansville after the death of his wife and is now living retired, having by industry and thrift acquired a competence. He was a second time married and the lady of his choice was Miss Barbara Trunk, of German township. Two daughters and one son were born of this union.

George A. Hoefling received his early education in the parochial school at St. Joseph, Vanderburg county. At fifteen years of age he began to devote his attention to the farm, continuing under his father for seven years, when he started for himself by purchasing seventy-eight acres of partially improved land in the neighborhood. Later he bought fifty-five acres of improved land, making a total of one hundred and thirty-three acres, all of which is located on section 29, Armstrong township, and which he has brought under a state of cultivation that makes it highly valuable. As a general farmer and live-stock raiser Mr. Hoefling is one of the most successful men in this region. He also deals extensively in horses, mules, hogs and cattle, which he fattens for the market and in the handling of which he has displayed a well trained judgment.

On August 27, 1882, Mr. Hoefling was married to Miss Katherine Helfrich, a daughter of Peter and Appelone (Kissel) Helfrich, who are well known farmers of German township and natives of Germany, who came to this county in the early days. Her father died after becoming well established as a farmer in 1873 and the mother thirteen years later. Ten children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hoefling; George J., who is married and lives on his father's farm; Mary I., now Mrs. M. Lutterbach; Henry, who died at the age of three years; Margaret; Frank R.; Cecelia; Florence L.; Aurelia; Alfred J.; and Thelma O.

Mr. Hoefling early earned the money which made it possible for him to start in life, thus exhibiting a sturdy independence of character that is one of the most important elements in a successful career. By a continuance of the same spirit of self-reliance he has gained a permanent position as a leader in a farming community. He is an adherent of the principles of Thomas Jefferson as expressed from year to year in the platforms of the democratic party. In religious belief he is a Catholic and the sincerity of his faith is exhibited in an upright life and a helpfulness for others which is a beautiful characteristic inherited from worthy ancestors of the fatherland.

ERNST A. SCHOR.

Among the business men of Evansville who were born and reared here and have attained positions of responsibility in a community where they have all their lives been well known, may be named Ernst A. Schor, secretary of the Karges Furniture Company. He was born January 13, 1871, and is a son of R. F. and Mary E. Schor. His father whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work, was a native of Germany and came to Evansville before the Civil war, at the age of twelve years. As general bookkeeper he was connected with the First National Bank of Evansville for thirty years. He departed this life in 1889. He was a conscientious and conservative man, of unimpeachable honesty, and possessed many of the best characteristics that go to make up the ideal citizen.

Ernst A. Schor was educated in the public schools until sixteen years of age, when he entered the printing house of W. H. Keller, where he continued only six months, as a more favorable outlook appeared in the banking field. The First National Bank, with which his father was connected, needed a runner and this position he entered upon while in his seventeenth year. It was at the bottom of the ladder that he started but by application and faithful attention to the various duties he worked his way up until he became receiving teller. He resigned from the banking business in 1905, after having been connected with the bank for nineteen years, and he there gained an insight into finances and business methods which prepared

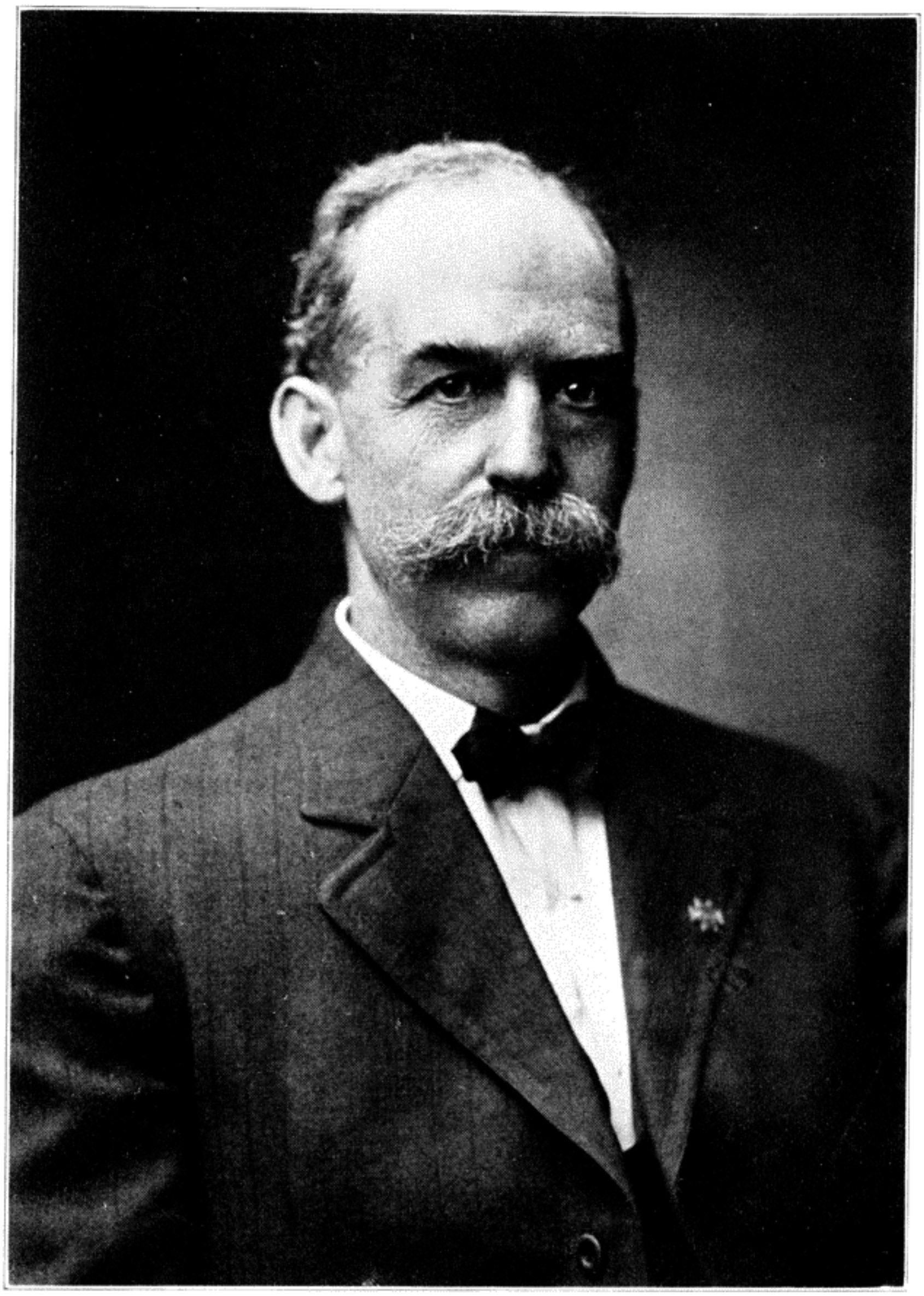
him for any responsibility he might assume. Since leaving the bank he has been actively connected with the Karges Furniture Company, and since March 1, 1909, has been secretary and treasurer of the company and has charge of its office. The business has shown a gratifying increase and Mr. Schor is recognized among his associates as a capable and energetic business man, of good discernment and with ability in an emergency to grasp the helm and guide the ship into smooth waters.

In May, 1893, Mr. Schor was united in marriage in this city to Miss Anna Karges. Two children have been born of this union: Esther, now fourteen years of age; and Anna Mary, twelve years of age, both of whom are attending the public schools.

Mr. Schor is an adherent of the principles of the republican party and of the Presbyterian church. He is actively identified with social and fraternal organizations and is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Royal Arcanum and the Accountant & Credit Men's Association. His record ever since he entered business life has been entirely clear and he possesses the friendship and confidence of a large circles of associates, who are among the best business men of Evansville. His influence is always in favor of law and the observance of those rules which experience has demonstrated are for the best interest of the state and of society.

WILLIAM A. BROWNING.

William A. Browning, head of the Browning Milling Company, one of the long established institutions of Evansville, first opened his eyes to the light of day at Inglefield, Indiana, April 30, 1860. He is a son of George B. and Margaret (Trimbell) Browning, both natives of Indiana. Richard Browning, the grandfather of our subject, came to Indiana at a very early day and settled at Inglefield, where he established a flour mill. The business of which he was the founder has ever since been carried on by the family and is recognized as the oldest business of the kind in the state of Indiana. He was a pioneer of this locality and when he began as a miller he made use of ox power and tradition tells us that the capacity of the original mill was one and one-half bushels of wheat per day. This seems almost incredible, but the pioneer miller soon took advantage of such improvements as came along and in 1838 he installed machinery for steam power and in 1858 he erected a fine new mill. He gained a reputation that extended far and wide as one of the best millers in the country and in 1840 was awarded the grand prize at New Orleans for exhibiting flour which was declared to be the best in the United States. Grandfather Browning inducted his son into the mysteries of the business and he in turn taught his sons how to make good flour and how to place it upon the market



WILLIAM A. BROWNING

so as to increase the reputation of the house. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. George B. Browning: Nellie, the wife of Walker A. Scott, of Evansville; William A., the subject of this sketch; John, who married Miss Mattie Litchfield and is living at Inglefield; Morris, a resident of Inglefield; and Joseph, who married the daughter of an old Kentucky family.

William A. Browning was educated in the public schools of Inglefield and also took a business course in the Commercial College at Evansville. At the age of eighteen he entered in the mill with his father, showing such aptitude that at twenty-one he was admitted to partnership in the firm. The business continued to grow from year to year and, larger facilities being necessary, the mill was moved to Evansville in 1894 and located at the corner of Iowa and Lafayette streets. Five years later a new and thoroughly modern structute was completed at No. 11 Kentucky avenue, and here operations are now being carried forward upon a more extensive scale than ever before.

Mr. Browning has been three times married. His first wife was Miss Mary Moffett, of McCutcheonville, Indiana, who died in 1892, and in 1893 Mr. Browning was married to Miss Hattie Johan, who was also called away. His present wife, to whom he was united in 1906, was Miss Ruth Saunders, a daughter of Isaac Saunders, a carpenter of this city.

Representing the third generation of the family at Evansville, Mr. Browning occupies a unique position and has acquitted himself as becomes a good citizen and a true friend of his fellows. He is a veteran of the Spanish-American war, in which he served with high credit for eight months. In his business career he has aimed to maintain the high standard that was inaugurated by his worthy grandfather and handed down by his father. As a public-spirited citizen of a growing community, he has recognized his duty to assist in all movements that have for their object the promotion of the welfare of this region and no citizen of Evansville deserves more prominent mention in this work than William A. Browning.

WILLIAM H. DEDRICK.

Working his way upward from a humble position William H. Dedrick has always improved his opportunities and is now serving his county in the responsible position of superintendent of the County Infirmary. Indiana numbers him among her native sons, his birth having occurred in Harrison county, November 4, 1856. His father, John A. Dedrick, was born in Germany and, coming to America in early life, settled in Indiana, where he met and married Miss Elizabeth Smyth, who was born in this state. He was a millwright by trade, but in early manhood purchased a

farm in Floyd county, Indiana, and devoted about ten years to the development and cultivation of that property. He then resumed work at his trade, which he followed for about twenty years, when he retired from active business life and removed to Henderson county, Kentucky, where he resided until his death in December, 1881. For a considerable period he had survived his wife, who passed away in October, 1870.

William H. Dedrick was a youth of fourteen years at the time of his mother's demise. From that time forward he has been dependent upon his own resources and his energy and determination have constituted the foundation upon which he has builded his success. He was first employed in a rolling mill, in which he learned the business. He also learned the millwright's trade and remained in the mill for six years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Evansville and was employed for about six months in a rolling mill, when it was destroyed by a severe wind storm. At that time he used his savings to pay his tuition in a business college at Louisville, Kentucky, for he had realized the need of education as a preparation for advancement in the business world. He was graduated in 1873 and afterward began work with his father as a carpenter and millwright, devoting five years to those lines of business. There have been few idle moments in his life, for he has always labored diligently and persistently, realizing that earnest, honest work is the basis of success.

On the 12th of December, 1878, Mr. Dedrick was married to Miss Martha Carleton, a daughter of Greene B. and Lucinda Carleton, who were natives of Indiana. At the time of their marriage Mr. Dedrick rented a farm in Vanderburg county and continued its cultivation for two years, at the end of which time he removed to Spencer county, Indiana, and invested in a tract of land. Four years were devoted to its further cultivation, after which he sold that property and returned to Evansville, where he began business as a contractor, continuing in that field of labor from 1892 until 1901. In the meantime he had been called to public office and had proven his trustworthiness by the capable and faithful manner in which he discharged his duties. It was in 1896 that he was elected county assessor, which position he filled for four years. He was then appointed superintendent of the Vanderburg County Infirmary, which is situated on the Stringtown road, and for the past ten years he has remained in charge here, capably managing the interests of the infirmary from the business standpoint and also from the standpoint of the welfare of its inmates.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dedrick have been born six children: Elmer E., who died in February, 1883; Ervin, who died on the 29th of October, 1896; Elbert M., twenty-five years of age, who is now a member of the regular army, stationed at Fort Egbert, Alaska; Effie, who passed away in 1886; Alger H., twenty-two years of age, living at home; and William S., twelve years of age, who completes the family.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Dedrick are members of the Methodist church, loyal to its teachings and liberal in its support. His broad humanitarianism has made him considerate of others and in addition to the good work which he is doing at the County Infirmary he is also connected with the Home of the Friendless. He belongs to the Elks Lodge, No. 116, of Evansville, while his political allegiance is given to the republican party. He has always lived in Indiana and much of his life in Vanderburg county or this portion of the state, and those who know him recognize in him those qualities which in every land and clime awaken admiration and merit emulation.

FRED W. MILLER.

Among the active young business men of Evansville, Fred W. Miller holds a responsible position and has proven himself to be the possessor of qualifications which his associates highly admire. He is a native son of Indiana and was born in Scott township, Vanderburg county, February 3, 1873. His father was Henry C. Miller and his mother Mary (Breckwinkel) Miller, both of them being natives of Germany and of that stanch character which seeks to improve its surroundings even at the expense of great labor and separation from early home and friends. The father of our subject located in Gibson county, this state, and he showed his devotion to his adopted country by enlisting in Company G, Ninety-first Indiana Regiment, when he was twenty years of age and faithfully serving through the entire war for the cause of the Union. At the close of the Rebellion he came to Scott township and bought a farm of eighty acres, which he cleared and improved and upon which he lived until his death, which occurred in November, 1889. His faithful companion was called from earthly cares in May, 1896.

Fred W. Miller was reared upon the farm and educated in the public schools, but after the death of his father he decided to devote his attention to business affairs and he accepted a position as clerk under W. D. Miller, of Inglefield, Indiana. At the end of six years of faithful service he became identified with the mercantile establishment of Michael Bauer, of Darmstadt, Indiana, but at the close of twelve months came to Evansville and entered the employ of the Bement & Seitz Company, wholesale grocers of this city. Here he continued for seven years, at the end of which time he formed a partnership with D. H. Stork and began in the furniture business under the title of the Stork Furniture Company, of which Mr. Stork is president, J. W. Stork, vice president, and Mr. Miller traffic manager. The firm is one of the substantial enterprises of the city and its business gives promise of continued growth as time passes.

On February 2, 1898, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Minnie F. Bauer, a daughter of Michael and Barbara Bauer, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Germany. Mr. Miller is actively identified with the Woodmen of the World and is clerk of the Hooppole Camp, No. 118, of Darmstadt. He usually gives his support to the candidates of the republican party and he and his wife are members of the German Evangelical church. Mr. Miller has been successful in his business career and is ably seconded by his intelligent and faithful life companion so there is little doubt that he will continue to prosper. He is justly entitled to the esteem in which he is held by associates and acquaintances, as he has attained his present position by his own exertions and not through influence of others. Such men become the leaders in every community.

FERDINAND FUNKE.

Ferdinand Funke is numbered among those who were at one time leading factors in the business activity of Evansville, their labors constituting an important element in the progress and business development of the city. Moreover, the methods which Mr. Funke pursued won for him the confidence and high regard of a circle of friends that was limited only by the circle of his acquaintances. He was born in Rüthen, a town in Westphalia, Germany, on the 8th of February, 1828. His father, Christolf Funke, was born in Germany in the year 1790 and after attaining adult age married Caroline Glahne, who was born in the same country in 1795. He never left the fatherland but after his death his widow and her two sons, Ferdinand and John, came to America in 1848.

Ferdinand Funke was at that time a young man of about twenty years. His education had been acquired in the schools of his native country. From time to time reports reached him concerning America, its business conditions and its opportunities, and the mother believed, too, that her sons would have better chances for business advancement on this side the water. Accordingly they bade adieu to friends and native country and in the year 1848 reached the new world, making their way soon afterward to Evansville, which was then a small town of little commercial or industrial importance.

Ferdinand Funke became identified with the business interests of this city as a gunsmith, opening a shop on Fulton avenue and First street. There he continued until 1859, enjoying a gradually increasing trade, which made his undertaking a profitable one. In the year mentioned he turned his attention to other pursuits, joining Henry Meyers in the establishment of a paper mill in Evansville, that has now had a continuous existence of more than fifty-one years and, conducted under the firm name of Ferdinand Funke Sons, is today one of the large and important productive in-

FERDINAND FUNKE

dustries of the city. Ferdinand Funke continued active in the conduct and control of that enterprise until 1893, when he retired, turning over the business to his sons. His remaining days, covering a period of two years, were spent in well earned rest, leaving him leisure for the enjoyment of such activities as were a matter of recreation and interest to him.

On the 23d of May, 1859, in Evansville, Mr. Funke was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ann Kuntz, also a native of Germany, born at Bibles-Hesse, on the 28th of October, 1835. She was a girl of six years when she accompanied her parents to the United States, and they journeyed westward by way of the Erie canal, settling in Evansville soon after landing in the new world. Mr. and Mrs. Funke became the parents of six children, three sons and three daughters: Caroline, John M., Ferdinand A., Anna M., Josephine and Joseph H. All are still living with the exception of Anna.

At the time of the Civil war Mr. Funke joined the Home Guards for the protection of local interests against the invasion of Confederate forces. He was a director of St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery Association and throughout his entire life was a devout member of the Catholic church. He never held to narrow or contracted opinions, however, being recognized on the contrary as a man of broad views and progressive spirit. He took a deep interest in all that pertained to public progress and in many ways cooperated in movements that promoted the welfare of his adopted city. That he made a wise step in coming to America is indicated in the excellent results which followed his efforts, for through his persistent and intelligently directed labors he worked his way upward from a humble financial position to one of prominence and affluence.

PETER H. REDDINGER.

It has been said that fortunate is the man who finds himself in a profession or a business for which he is naturally adapted, and doubly fortunate is he who enters a vocation at the beginning of his career which he can joyfully follow through life. Observation and experience show that most men go to their tasks because they are driven by the stern urge of necessity and not through love for the work.

But not so with the subject of this review. Born with the artistic talent, he was so fortunate as to have opportunity for its expression very early in his career and the results have far exceeded his early dreams. He is now at the head of a large wood carving establishment, where beautiful creations are produced daily and whose products as met with in homes of the land are evidences of culture and refinement.

Mr. Reddinger is a native of The Netherlands, Holland, where he was born September 20, 1872. He is a son of Harold and Grace Reddinger.

His father was born in Germany and engaged as a merchant tailor, but feeling that America presented more favorable opportunities than could be expected in the old countries he emigrated in 1880 with his family to the United States, locating in Grand Rapids, Michigan. There he was identified with the gents' furnishing business until his death, which occurred in 1898. A love for education is one of the dominating characteristics of the German people and this important element in success in life is not often lost sight of by the fathers and mothers after they arrive on the shores of the western hemisphere. Peter H. Reddinger was accorded the advantages presented by the public and high schools of Grand Rapids and, making good use of the opportunity, was at sixteen ready to begin his battle with the world. He was apprenticed to William Burking, manufacturer of furniture, and in this establishment he received a fair start on the road to ultimate financial independence. After two and a half years with Mr. Burking, he became connected with Nelson, Matter & Company, also manufacturers of furniture, and remained with this firm for a period of two years. By this time his ability as a wood carver attracted him to a wider field and for three years he acted as head of the carving department of the Mattoon Manufacturing Company of Sheboygan, Wisconsin. His next experience was as foreman of the Converse Manufacturing Company, at Newaygo, near Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he remained for a year, at the end of which time he was called to Shelbyville, Indiana, as foreman of the carving department of the Conry & Barley Table Company. This position incurred greater responsibilities than Mr. Reddinger had previously assumed, but at the close of a period of three years he resigned, believing the time had arrived for him to become an independent producer. He accordingly removed to Cincinnati and opened up a carving factory, which he successfully conducted until 1901, when the demands of a growing business induced him to locate permanently in this city as the most favorable spot in the Ohio valley for his line of industry. Until October, 1910, the work was carried on in the building owned by the Bosse Furniture Company, but in 1910 a two story brick building was erected, with a floor space of one hundred and thirty-eight by fifty feet, and provided with the most modern facilities as to engine, boilers, etc. A dry house stands twelve feet away from the main structure and no features have been overlooked in order to make the plant capable of meeting requirements for some years to come. The factory gives employment to fifty men and manufactures a general line of wood carvings. Through natural ability, discrimination and practical experience Mr. Reddinger has built up a business which is contributing in no small degree to the prosperity of Evansville and has established for himself a reputation as a capable and progressive business man.

On June 14, 1893, Mr. Reddinger was married at Sheboygan, Wisconsin to Miss Catharine Schuley. Mr. and Mrs. Reddinger have many friends in Evansville and are actively identified with the Indiana Social Club.

He is a member of Excelsior lodge, A. F. & A. M., Cincinnati, and also of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Liederkranz. In politics he affiliates with the republican party as the party which best accords with the spirit of modern life, and he holds membership in the Lutheran church. The work with which his life is identified is a beautiful art and ranks next to sculpture only because the materials used are not so enduring as bronze or marble. It represents in tangible form the ideal as it exists in the mind of the artist and its effects are always refining and elevating. Viewed in this light—which is the true one—men like Mr. Reddinger, combining the business and artistic instinct, are a benediction to the world and their works will continue to exert a civilizing influence even long after the living representative has departed.

HENRY W. KAMMAN.

The distinguishing characteristic of men in all branches of professional or business life in America is the power of initiative. No other country of the world has produced so many men having the ability to perceive the opportunity and bravely to assume responsibilities which in the older countries of Europe are the hereditary privileges of certain classes. Under the republic there is a free field and little favor, and any aspiring contestant may win provided he has within himself the resources to meet conditions as they arise and maintain his position in a race whose honors belong to the ablest and the strongest. The truth of the above facts are illustrated in numerous instances in the history of men in Evansville who are most prominent in public and business affairs. By their own effort have they made themselves what they are. Among those who have attained an honorable place is Henry W. Kamman, for ten years past a practicing attorney of this city.

He is a native of this state, having been born at Holland, Indiana, April 13, 1874, and is a son of H. W. and Sophie (Meyer) Kamman. The father was born at Osnabrück, Germany, August 15, 1839, but when he was five years of age his parents started for America, seeking for more favorable opportunities for themselves and their children. While at sea his mother was taken with a fatal illness and died before her eyes rested on the land to which she had fondly looked as a haven for her family. The ship's journey ended at the port of New Orleans and from that city the homeseekers came up the river by steamer to Cincinnati, finally locating in Jackson county, Indiana, where Mr. Kamman engaged in the manufacture of wooden shoes, for which there was quite a demand in the years previous to the Civil war. He prospered in his business and in 1858 he removed to Dubois county, Indiana, where he assisted in founding the present town of Holland, where the subject of this sketch was born. The father became connected with the sawmill business, continuing until 1876, when he

bought a farm and there he lived until he was called from earthly labors, June 29, 1904, at the age of three score and five years. The mother of our subject, who was born in Franklin county, Ohio, September 14, 1843, is still living on a farm near Holland.

Educated in the public schools, Henry W. Kamman began his active career as a district-school teacher. He taught for five years in Warrick and Posey counties, having in the meantime fixed his mind upon the law as his life profession. He became a student in the law department of the Indiana University at Bloomington, Indiana, graduating with the degree of LL. B. in 1900. He at once opened an office in Evansville, having been admitted to practice in the state and federal courts. From the beginning of his career at the bar he has shown an energy and ability which has attracted clients and been productive of an increasing measure of success. Having early been taught the lessons of self-respect, self-control and self-reliance, he has fairly won the position he has attained among the most respected members of the bar in Vanderburg county.

On November 13, 1901, Mr. Kamman was united in marriage, at Evansville, to Miss Rickie Koch. Two children have blessed this union: Henry T., now eight years of age; and Marie, four years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Kamman are members of the Lutheran church and are actively identified with social and religious movements whose aim it is to ameliorate the condition of those less fortunate than themselves. Mr. Kamman is an advocate of the principles of the republican party. His principal attention is devoted to his profession, in which he is in more than one respect successful and which calls for the undivided energies of every advocate who aspires to its higher honors.

JAMES W. KAMP.

James W. Kamp, residing in Union township, is known as one of the large farmers of Vanderburg county. He is the owner of three farms which he has brought from the original uncultivated state to a high degree of productiveness, thus showing a constructive talent that is one of the desirable traits in human nature and is absolutely necessary in the development of all important enterprises. Mr. Kamp is a native of Union township, born September 25, 1870, and is a son of Bethel and Susan (King) Kamp, the former of whom was born in Germany and the latter in this county. Bethel Kamp came to America with his parents when he was eight years of age, the family locating in Indiana, where the son grew up and received his education. At the opening of the Civil war, when the great wave of patriotism swept over the north, Mr. Kamp, then only sixteen years of age, presented himself to the recruiting officer and was accepted as a soldier for the Union. He served in the Indiana Volunteers

and valiantly performed his duty through the entire war, at the close of which he received his honorable discharge which should ever be retained as a priceless heirloom by his descendants. After laying aside the implements of war, with which he had become familiar through four long years of marching and fighting, he returned to his native state, where he has since been engaged in farming.

The subject of this review grew up under the protective care of kind parents and in the atmosphere of the farm—the best place in the world for the development of an American boy. He received his education in the country schools and early began farming on his own account, increasing his acreage as his financial resources permitted until he is now one of the prosperous farmers of the county, although he has only reached middle life.

On February 29, 1892, Mr. Kamp was united in marriage to Miss Emeline Stroud, and three children have been born of this union: Helen, King and Susie. Mr. Kamp in his religious faith is identified with the Baptist church, of which he is a consistent member. He is a supporter of the republican party but has not devoted much time to politics, as his interests have been largely absorbed in his own private affairs. He has attained unusual success in his chosen vocation by diligence and close application, although good judgment has assisted in a very important degree, as without this faculty continued advancement in any calling would not be possible. His youthful dreams have been more than realized and in their fulfillment we see the reward of well directed energy.

LAWRENCE B. FINKE.

The name of Finke has come to be recognized as a synonym for marked business enterprise and unusual activity in commercial circles in Evansville. While a young man, having but just completed his third decade, Lawrence B. Finke is now widely known as secretary and treasurer of the Finke Furniture Company. He was born in Huntingburg, Indiana, September 6, 1880, and is a son of William H. and Mary C. Finke, the former a native of Cincinnati, Ohio. While spending his youthful days in his parents' home Lawrence B. Finke entered the public schools of his native city and mastered the lessons taught in the consecutive grades until sixteen years of age.

He then came to Evansville and accepted the position of solicitor for the Lockyear Business College, in which connection he traveled through Indiana and Kentucky for two years. He afterward became division superintendent for the International Correspondence School of Scranton, Pennsylvania, and for three years of that time was also solicitor for the School. Five years brought him to his present connection with his brother, Charles E. Finke, who in that year established at No. 623, Main street, a store con-

taining a general line of household goods of which Lawrence B. Finke was made manager. Admitted to a partnership with his brother under the style of C. E. & L. B. Finke, they continued the business under that organization until 1907, when the Finke Furniture Company was incorporated with the elder brother as president and the younger brother as secretary and treasurer. This is a successful and growing enterprise and the progressive business methods of the partners well entitle them to the prosperity which they are enjoying.

Mr. Finke exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party, but the honors and emoluments of public office have had no attraction for him. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp of Evansville and is a prominent and active worker in the Cenral Methodist Episcopal church, serving for five years as its Sunday school superintendent. His attractive home life had its beginning in his marriage in this city on the 16th of November, 1901, to Miss Olive I. Daum. Unto them have been born two children, Harold, five years of age, and Mildred, in her first year. Mr. Finke is yet a young man with probably the greater part of his life before him and the salient characteristics which he has already displayed argue well for larger success in the future.

JOHN M. FUNKE.

Various corporate interests have felt the stimulus of the business enterprise and progressive methods of John M. Funke, and he is now associated with a number of the most important industrial, financial and commercial concerns of this part of the state. It is true that at the outset of his career he entered upon a business already established, but he did not rely upon parental influence to secure him promotion and in enlarging and controlling the industry of which he is now one of the owners he has given proof of his business sagacity, determination and honorable methods.

Evansville is proud to number Mr. Funke among her native sons. He was born here, July 14, 1865, a son of Ferdinand and Mary Ann (Kuntz) Funke, early German residents of Evansville, who are mentioned elsewhere in this volume. He attended the parochial school conducted in connection with the Trinity Catholic church under Professor Drewes and afterward became a student in the commercial college of Evansville, thus being trained for the active duties of a business life. At the age of seventeen he became identified with the paper manufacturing business which had been established by his father. He continued to work with his father and to familiarize himself with every department of the business until 1893, when the father retired and John M. Funke and his brothers took charge of the plant. Following the father's death in 1895 the business was re-

JOHN M. FUNKE

organized on a copartnership basis in January, 1896, under the firm name of Ferdinand Funke Sons. They have a well equipped paper mill, supplied with the latest improved machinery in their line, and the factory is now turning out an extensixe product and has a desirable reputation for the excellence of the output.

Into other business lines Mr. Funke has also extended his efforts, for he is a man of resourceful ability and his activity and ambition have sought scope in other fields. In 1904 he became the organizer of the Mount Vernon Straw Board Company of Mount Vernon, Indiana, of which he is the president and treasurer, with himself and brothers as the principal stockholders. He is also vice president of the Evansville & Mount Vernon Electric Railway and a director of the Evansville Railways Company. In banking circles he is well known as the president of the Commercial Bank of Evansville, to which position he was elected on its organization in 1906, and as a director of the Citizens Bank of Newburg, Indiana.

On the 12th of August, 1890, in Evansville, Mr. Funke was married to Miss Sarah Ann Margaret La Rue, a daughter of H. P. and Ann (Chambers) La Rue, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Attica, Indiana. They removed to Evansville from Attica. Mr. and Mrs. Funke are the parents of twelve children, five sons and seven daughters: John F., nineteen years of age; Henry C., seventeen years of age; Marie, fifteen; Cornelius, fourteen; Ursula, thirteen; Catharine, twelve; Paul, eleven; Laura, nine; Margaret, seven; Rudolph, six; Josephine, four; and Alberta, one.

The family are communicants of the Catholic church and Mr. Funke is a member of the German Catholic Federated Society, the Catholic Knights of America, which he has represented as state delegate to the national convention several times, the Knights of Columbus and the Knights of St. John. He is also identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and his military record covered service as first lieutenant in Company G, of the Indiana Legion, under Colonel Ewing. His interests and activities are sufficiently varied to make him a well balanced man and at the same time he occupies a prominent position in business circles, his native powers and well developed talents being evidenced in his initiative spirit and capable management.

BAXTER BEGLEY, M. D.

Among the prosperous and fortunate citizens of Vanderburg county, who apparently possesses the ability to make a success of anything he might undertake, is Dr. Baxter Begley. He was born in Henderson county, Kentucky, February 10, 1856, and is a son of John and Frances (Hughes) Begley, the former of whom was a native of Ireland and the latter of

Kentucky. John Begley arrived in America in quest of a home under the favoring conditions of a free government, in 1849, and located in Henderson county, Kentucky, where he bought two hundred acres of land which he at once began with great care to clear and improve. Here he erected a comfortable dwelling and other buildings of convenience in operating the farm and continued successfully until 1868 when he sold out and removed to Evansville, Indiana. When the Evansville Foundry Association was formed Mr. Begley became a stockholder and went upon the road as a traveling salesman, proving quite successful in this line of business, as in anything else he undertook. In 1882 he disposed of his interests in the foundry and entered the tobacco business at Cairo, Kentucky, where he was associated with his son-in-law for two years. At the end of this time he returned to Evansville and formed a partnership with Mr. Healey, as Begley & Healey, and bought out a brass foundry which was then in operation, continuing at the head of the firm until his death, which occurred in November, 1886. He was a man of sound judgment and good business ability and always made many friends wherever he was known. Mrs. Begley has survived her husband and at the age of seventy-nine years is still in fair possession of her faculties, making her home with the subject of this review.

Baxter Begley was reared in Evansville where he made good use of the advantages of education presented by the public schools, remaining at the parental home until he was twenty years of age. He matriculated in the Evansville Medical College and was graduated from that institution with the degree of M. D. in 1876. He located at Inglefield, Indiana, the same year and entered upon the practice of his profession in which he has ever since been actively engaged and in which he has been eminently successful. Preferring the country to city life, he lives upon a well improved farm of fifty-three acres and judging by the appearance of the farm he is as successful in the pursuit of agriculture as he has been in the practice of the healing art. He is a member of the American Medical Society, the Indiana State Medical Society, the Vanderburg County Medical Society, and the Ohio Valley Medical Association. Politically he is identified with the democratic party although, as a man of liberal tendencies, he recognizes merit even though it bear the stamp of the opposing party. He is a member of the board of directors of the Commercial Bank of Evansville and is secretary and treasurer of the Inglefield Milling Company. He is a stockholder of the Inglefield Creamery Company and holds membership in the Elks lodge of Evansville and the Knights of Honor, and in every movement that seeks to advance the interests of the community he is always to be found.

In 1877 Dr. Begley was united in marriage to Miss Susan Ingle, a daughter of Joseph and Nancy Ingle, both of whom were born in Indiana. The union has been blessed by the arrival of four children: Mary, now the wife of Dr. Welborn, of Evansville; Helen, who is married and lives

in Corydon, Kentucky; Cora, who is married and lives in the Panama Canal zone; and John, who died in 1886. Mrs. Begley, who was a member of the Methodist church and a true companion and helpmate to her husband during all the years of her married life, passed away in 1901.

Dr. Begley, the possessor of a fine home and commanding the respect of his fellowmen, has indeed much that makes life desirable. He is an independent gentleman of broad outlook and is always one of the first in the neighborhood to extend a helping hand to those less fortunate than himself. It is this type of men that reflect credit upon the state and assist most in advancing the permanent interests of society.

GUSTAV A. NONWEILER.

It is a noticeable fact that young men are coming forward in important lines of business and occupy places of honor and responsibility that in times past were held almost exclusively by older heads. The change is accounted for in many instances by the improved systems of education through which young men are early prepared for larger responsibilities. In other instances the sons have succeeded their fathers and are successfully administering enterprises which are firmly established and have become permanent factors in the business world. In the latter class belongs Gustav A. Nonweiler, head of the Evansville Furniture Company, one of the well known manufacturing enterprises of this city.

A native of Evansville, Mr. Nonweiler was born August 27, 1872, and is a son of Philip and Bertha Nonweiler. His father was born at Kirn, Germany, February 11, 1840; was educated in the fatherland; and came to America in response to the call that has induced thousands of the most active and promising sons of Germany to seek greater freedom and larger opportunity under the stars and stripes. He arrived at Evansville in 1860, just before the outbreak of the great rebellion, and found employment as clerk in the Stockfleth grocery. There he continued until after the call for soldiers to fight for the Union in 1861. He was made of good fighting stock and did not hesitate when his adopted country was in peril. He enlisted in the First Indiana Battery and served during the war without once asking for leave of absence from a post which he regarded as a post of duty, not to be relinquished until the enemy had been conquered. His faithfulness received recognition and he was advanced until he became first lieutenant of the battery.

Returning to Evansville, Lieutenant Nonweiler, who three years before was an untried German boy, starting out bravely to meet the world with all its temptations and difficulties, was now a soldier, tried and true. He had performed his part in establishing the perpetuity of the republic and

the freedom of men in the greatest and fiercest conflict the world has ever known. Like tens of thousands of patriotic citizens, he laid aside the trappings of war and began without delay to cultivate the arts of peace with the same earnestness he had displayed as a soldier. He first served as bookkeeper for Keller & White, druggists, and then engaged for several years in the same capacity with the Roelker Stove Works. He next entered the employ of the Blount Plow Works, continuing as bookkeeper and as manager until 1869. Having shown business capacity beyond the ordinary, Mr. Nonweiler was asked to identify himself with the Evansville Furniture Company. He served as secretary and manager until 1872 and was then elected president, continuing in that position until his death while visiting his old home in Germany in 1908. Mr. Nonweiler was a brave soldier, an energetic and capable business man and a citizen of which any municipality or state might justly be proud. It is an inspiration and a pleasure to know of the history of his life.

Gustav A. Nonweiler was educated in the public and high schools of Evansville and after graduating from the latter at sixteen years of age he attended Curnicks Business College for one year. He then acted as stenographer for the F. W. Cook Brewing Company for a short time and for one and a half years was stenographer and weigher for the commission house of William Fields. For a year he was bookkeeper for the Ashby Wharf Boat Company, and at the end of this period, having now gained much practical knowledge of various lines of business, he was made foreman of the packing room of the Evansville Furniture Company, of which his father was president. He advanced through various departments as shipping clerk, traveling man, stenographer in the office and assistant to his father and in 1906 was elected vice president. In 1907 he had full charge of the factory and after the death of his father was made president of the company. Having had thorough experience in all details of the business, from the purchase of the raw materials to the final disposition of the finished product, he was prepared to discharge any responsibility that might appear. This he has done and the business of the company has shown a gratifying increase. The company manufactures a line of chamber suites, chiffoniers and odd dressers that meet with general acceptance from the trade.

Mr. Nonweiler was united in marriage August 3, 1898, to Miss Frieda M. Frick, a daughter of Rev. J. Frick, formerly pastor of Zion church, Evansville. They have two children. Gustav P., now ten years of age; and Karl H., seven years of age.

Mr. Nonweiler is affiliated with the republican party and is a member of St. John's Evangelical church. He is an active worker in fraternity circles as is evidenced by membership in Lessing Lodge, No. 464, A. F. & A. M.; and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is also a member of a number of clubs and social organizations, among which

are the Country Club, the Crescent Club, the Turn Verein, Liederkranz, the Travelers Protective Association and the Indiana Commercial Men's Association. He finds recreation in golf and the automobile and is known among his friends as a genial and affable gentleman, who, like his father, endeavors to perform his part in anything he undertakes.

CHARLES F. ARTES.

The fact to which the casual observer has perhaps given little attention is that the Teutonic element has been an important one in the upbuilding and progress of the new world. Many are the native sons of Germany who have found available opportunities along business lines and in their improvement have contributed substantially to the commercial development of given communities as well as to individual success. To this class belongs Charles F. Artes, who for forty-six years has been connected with the jewelry trade in Evansville and throughout the entire period has maintained an unassailable reputation for the integrity as well as the progressiveness of his business methods.

He was born in Limbach, Saxe-Meiningen, Germany, March 31, 1847, a son of professor Casper F. and Catherine (Bierschenk) Artes. The father was born March 29, 1816, and was liberally educated in both literature and art. The development of his musical talents gained him high place in musical circles. His sympathies were with the revolutionists in the war in Germany in 1848-49 and, like many others who participated in that uprising, he sought a home in America when it was found that the liberties which they desired were to be denied them in the fatherland. He emigrated to the new world in 1851 and, locating in Henderson, Kentucky, became a teacher in a female academy there. A few years later he was appointed organist in St. Paul's church of Henderson and filled the position continuously for thirty years, being in attendance each Sunday during that period. He ever remained a most interested scholar in the field of music and attained a degree of proficiency that placed him among the masters in his part of the country. His last days were spent in Evansville, where he died in November, 1886. His wife was born in Germany, in 1821.

Charles F. Artes, brought to America at the age of four years, spent his boyhood in Henderson, Kentucky, and acquired his education in the public schools. He has been a resident of Evansville since 1864, coming to this city when a youth of seventeen years. He entered into active connection with the jewelry business and has continued in this line to the present time, gaining distinction in his chosen field. By careful study of the wants of his trade and his rare taste in the selection of goods he has won a reputation that is most enviable. His establishment would be a credit

to a city of much larger size and the integrity of his methods constitutes and example that might well be followed by any.

Mr. Artes seems to have inherited the intellectual strength of his father and a fondness for research. His attention, however, has been directed into other than musical fields. He has devoted much time to archeological research and he has a valuable collection of antiques and curiosities. His reading, research and investigation have been of a most broad character, covering the field of literature and art.

On the 22d of September, 1874, Mr. Artes was married, in Evansville, to Miss Medora Davidson, a native of this city and a daughter of William Davidson, one of the early residents here. They have become the parents of three sons, namely: William Artes, Charles Artes, Jr., and Oliver Artes.

The family are members of St. Paul's Episcopal church, Mr. Artes becoming one of the founders of Holy Innocents church, in the work of which he has taken a most helpful and active part. He is well known in Masonic circles, holding membership with the lodge, chapter and commandery. While in business he has made for himself a creditable position, he has never allowed his activities to center upon commercial pursuits to the exclusion of other interests and is today regarded as one of Evansville's citizens of worth—a broad-minded, cultured gentleman, with whom association means expansion and elevation.

HOLT-BRANDON ICE & COLD STORAGE COMPANY.

The Holt-Brandon Ice & Cold Storage Company originated with M. C. Brandon, who started in 1886 with three or four teams hauling coal from the Diamond coal mines and in 1888 he established an office on Main street in this city. During the summer of the same year he began shipping lake ice from Lake Maxincuckee, Indiana, and selling it in Evansville. In 1891 he established an office at No. 414 North Eighth street, continuing until October, 1894, when ground was broken for the erection of a plant in this city for the manufacture of ice. A large and increasing business having been developed and the time for further extension having arrived, the Holt-Brandon Ice & Cold Storage Company was incorporated in 1895 with Sterling R. Holt, of Indianapodis, as president, and M. C. Brandon as secretary and treasurer. The company began the manufacture of ice and also entered upon a general cold storage business. The original ice machine had a capacity of twenty-five tons per day, but six or seven years ago the machine was increased to forty tons per day and the ice storage capacity to three thousand tons. Last year, owing to additional demands, on account of the growing population and the increasing popularity of the system, the ice storage capacity was brought up to four thousand tons and another ice machine was installed by which the output

HARRY LOEWENTHAL

is more than doubled and the company is now able to meet all calls from whatever quarter.

In 1901 Mr. Holt sold his interest in the business to M. C. Brandon and Harry Loewenthal, Mr. Brandon becoming president and treasurer and Mr. Loewenthal secretary and manager of the company, in which positions they remained until the death of Mr. Brandon, March 11, 1909. Mr. Loewenthal is now the president and D. A. Jansen, who became associated with Mr. Brandon in the business in February, 1888, is secretary and treasurer. The principal object of the company is to supply the local trade and large shipments are also made to points in southern Indiana, northern Kentucky and southern Illinois. The company gives employment to forty-five or fifty persons, owns a complete outfit of wagons and teams and is thoroughly up-to-date in everything pertaining to the ice and cold storage business.

Mr. Jansen is a native of Evansville and was educated in the public schools. He is thoroughly acquainted with the business to which he has devoted more than twenty years and in which he has exhibited qualifications of a high order, winning the confidence and respect of his business associates. In 1908 he was happily married with Miss Lillian Gleichman and one child, Amy, is the result of the union.

Mr. Loewenthal was born at Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1863. He came to Evansville in 1880 and was for a number of years identified with the manufacture of clothing in this city. He became a member of the Holt-Brandon Ice & Cold Storage Company in 1901 and has since devoted his attention with remarkable success to this business. He is a son of Loewenthal, for many years well known as a dry-goods merchant, who retired from active life three years before his death, which occurred December 8, 1908. In 1895, at Evansville, Harry Loewenthal was united in marriage to Miss Julia Bitterman. They have four children: Edwin, Jack, Philip and Arthur. Mr. Loewenthal occupies an honorable position in social and business circles and is an active member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the city.

EDWARD MAHRENHOLZ.

Among the rising young farmers of Vanderburg county is Edward Mahrenholz, who lives upon a rented farm of thirty-three acres and by his energy and wise management has gained the confidence and good will of his neighbors. He was born and reared in this county and is a descendant of worthy German ancestry, whose characteristics of aspiration, perseverance and thrift he exemplifies in his life and action. He first saw the light of day in Perry township, October 21, 1884, and is a son of Christian Mahrenholz. The father came from Germany in the '60s and located in

Vanderburg county, which even then was a promising farming region but has since been developed on a large scale by many intelligent and competent agriculturists.

The subject of our review was educated in the district schools and immediately upon laying his books aside directed his undivided attention to the farm. He has from the beginning of his active career always taken the greatest interest in his work and is now regarded as one of the most competent farmers of his age in this region. That he has been successful is indicated by the position he occupies in the estimation of the community.

On September 19, 1906, Mr. Mahrenholz was united in marriage to Miss Lida Miller. Three children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Mahrenholz: Elsie, now three years of age; Rudolph, two years of age; and a third addition to the household, now eight months old.

Mr. and Mrs. Mahrenholz are members of the German Lutheran church and represent a harmonious family, their home being the abode of happiness which is known only as evidence of duty performed. Mr. Mahrenholz is affiliated politically with the republican party, believing this party to be the one that best subserves the farming interests. In his life he is governed by principles of industry and perseverance that seldom fail of their reward and the indications are that each year will witness new victories and he will attain the independence his father sought when he left the old world and faced an untried destiny under the stars and stripes of the American republic.

CHARLES E. FINKE.

Charles E. Finke, president of the Finke Furniture Company, and thus prominent in the commercial circles of Evansville, has worked his way steadily upward to the creditable position which he now fills. His start in business life was a most humble one but merit has secured his advancement until he is now at the head of a profitable and growing business. He is numbered among Indiana's native sons, his birth having occurred in Boonville, Sepember 13, 1867, his parents being William and Mary Finke. The father was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1840, and after coming to Indiana lived in Boonville, Huntingburg and other parts of the state.

Charles E. Finke attended the public schools of Huntingburg until fifteen years of age when he became a wage earner in a brickyard where he was employed for three years. On the expiration of that period he became connected with the restaurant business and for three years was a representative for the Southern News restaurant. Removing to Evansville, he spent six months in canvassing for a feather cleaner concern, at the end of which time he accepted the position of collector with the firm of Venneman & Rhodes, prominent representatives of the furniture trade of the

city, with whom he was connected for eleven years. At one time he was manager of the Union Furniture Company, a branch of the business of Venneman & Rhodes, but the ambitious man is seldom content to remain in the service of others. He seeks an independent field that he may direct his own interests and secure the profits of his own labors. To this end Mr. Finke rented a small storeroom at Nos. 320-322 North Fourth street, and began the sale of new and second hand furniture. Although he started the business on a small scale, his trade steadily increased and later justified the establishment of another store at No. 623 Main street. He placed his brother in the latter establishment as manager and made him a partner in the business. In 1907 the C. E. & L. B. Finke Furniture Company was organized, with the elder brother as president of the company and the younger brother as secretary and treasurer. Two stores are now conducted and the business is extensive and profitable. Charles E. Finke also bought out Joseph Muskawitz and reorganized the business under the name of the Handy Furniture Company, of which he is sole proprietor, handling a general line of new and second hand household goods and furnishings.

Mr. Finke was married in Evansville on the 16th of November, 1893, to Miss Amelia K. Herth, and unto them have been born three children, Ralph, Albert and Florence, now fifteen, nine and seven years of age respectively. The elder son is a high school pupil and the two younger children are also attending the public schools. Mr. Finke manifests justifiable pride in his little family and his home is a hospitable one whose good cheer is greatly enjoyed by the many friends that he and his wife have won during their residence here. Mr. Finke gives his political support to the republican party and fraternally is connected with the Royal Arcanum and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is an earnest and faithful member of the German Methodist church and is serving on the board of trustees of the Deaconess Hospital. His spirit of helpfulness is a manifestation of broad humanitarianism which prompts him to reach out in aid of all who need assistance.

ALBERT J. SHAFER.

An important line of business that has grown up in America as the population has gathered in the cities is truck farming. It is a business that requires close attention and no laggard can expect to accomplish any important results as a truck farmer, because such a farm flourishes only when weeds are not in evidence, and its financial management requires a head who recognizes the value of a dollar and how to collect the same when the products of his toil pass from his hands. A successful truck farmer is one who is wide-awake, energetic and prompt and efficient in making deliveries of his products after he has given his promise to do so. It is readily to be

seen that successful truck farming requires a man of good character and all-round effectiveness. Such a man is Albert J. Shafer, the owner of a flourishing truck farm of fourteen acres within convenient access of Evansville.

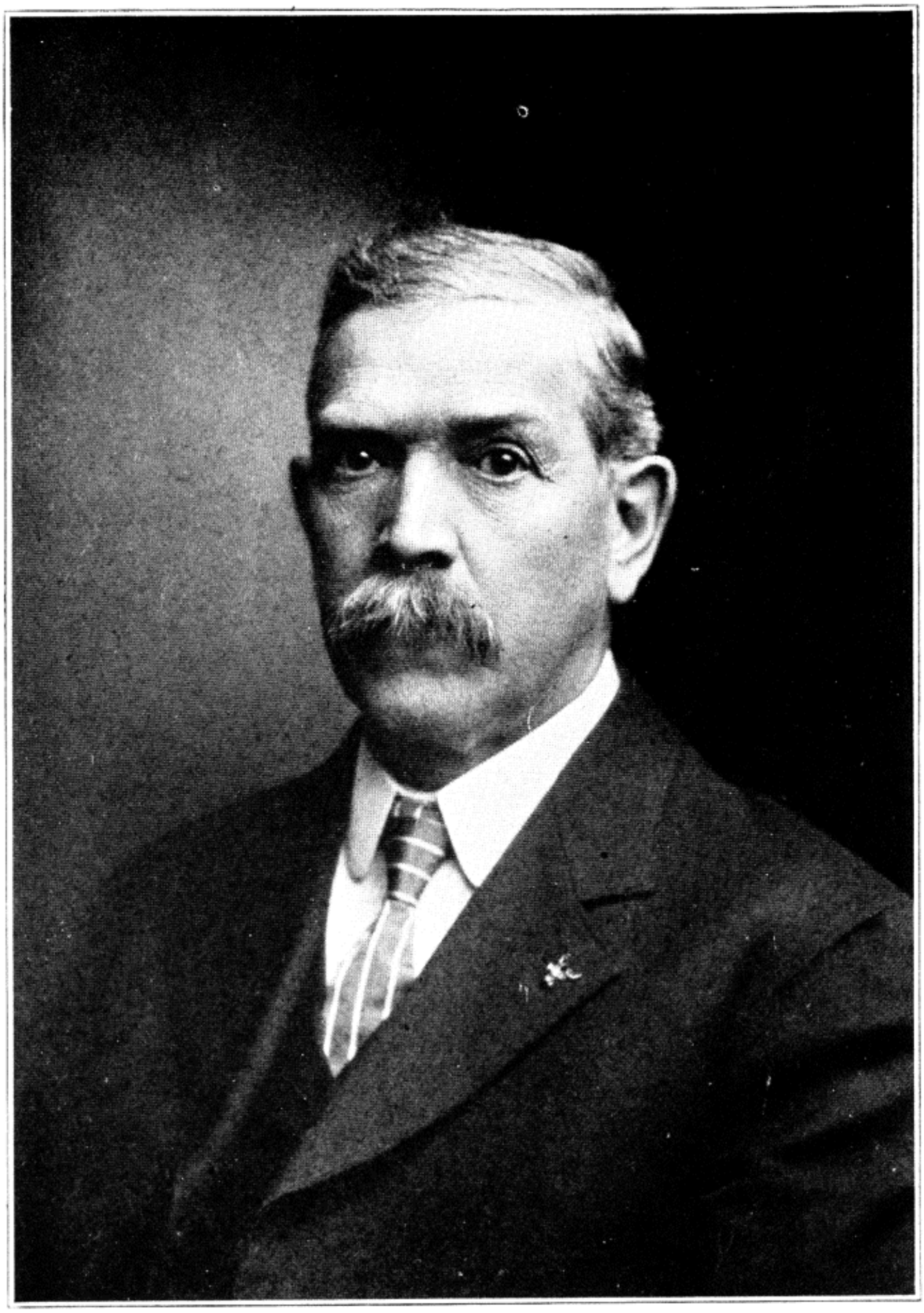
He was born in Vanderburg county in 1884, a son of John Shafer, who came to this county from Pennsylvania and located in Knight township. In the family were six children: John F., William C.; Henry; Albert J.; Annie, at home with her mother; and Carrie, now the wife of Henry Blunker, a well known concrete contractor of Evansville.

Albert J. Shafer has all his life been identified with farming operations. He was educated in a country schoolhouse and as a boy became familiar with the work which has since occupied much of his attention. The farm which he owns gives evidence of thoughtful care and is conducted in such a way as to make him financially independent.

In 1905 Mr. Shafer was united in marriage to Miss Adelia Hudson, the youngest daughter of Frank Hudson, of Evansville. Unto them has been born one child, Aline Caroline. Mr. Shafer is identified with the republican party and he and his wife are both members of the Presbyterian church and continue liberally to its support. By industry and good judgment he has acquired his farm and in a comfortable home, provided with all the requirements of a well regulated household, he and his family enjoy the well merited results of their self-denial and toil.

ABRAHAM S. FORD.

Abraham S. Ford, general manager at Evansville for the St. Bernard Mining Company, was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, in November, 1854, and is a son of Charles and Katharine Ford, the former a native of Ohio. At the usual age Abraham S. Ford entered the public schools and, mastering the studies in the successive grades, was promoted until he left the high school at the age of twenty years and became a factor in business circles. For a decade after completing his education he devoted his time and attention to general farming, which he followed in the vicinity of Evansville, but believing that he would find commercial pursuits more congenial and profitable, he left the farm and took charge of the Evansville interests of the St. Bernard Mining Company, a corporation of Erlington, Kentucky, dealing in coal, coke and anthracite. He has entire charge of the business at this point and has succeeded in building up a trade of extensive proportions. His energies are concentrated upon the development of the business with the result that his close application, industry and keen insight have secured for the company which he represents a large and growing trade in this section of the state.



A. S. FORD

Mr. Ford has been twice married, his first wife being Miss Elizabeth Laut, of Evansville, whom he married April 2, 1878, and who died February 16, 1898. In 1901 he was united in marriage to Miss Fannie Kelsey. They are well known socially in this city and the hospitality of many of the best homes is freely accorded them.

Mr. Ford belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, to the National Union and to the Supreme Court of Honor, and is loyal to the benevolent purposes and the fraternal principles which constitute the basic elements of these organizations. A review of the political situation and issues of the day has led him to give strong endorsement to the men and measures of the republican party and yet he does not seek office or desire political preferment for himself. He feels that his personal interests are best conserved through devotion to the business in which he is now engaged, and in which connection he has made a creditable name as a reliable and enterprising business man of Evansville.

GEORGE L. KRAUSS.

A self-made man is usually defined as one who wins his way to a position of responsibility without assistance from others and who is the happy possessor of a spirit of fearlessness and independence that would enable him to win anywhere in anything he should undertake. He must be brave, strong hearted and persevering and he must have the good sense to learn even from his own mistakes. A man who easily becomes discouraged can never become a self-made man; he will drift with the tide and will always occupy a subordinate position. It is not so with George L. Krauss, the subject of this review. He inherited characteristics that were almost certain in the course of time to bring him to the front in some line of business. He comes of vigorous Teutonic stock that is not easily cast down and is not afraid to fight and even to die for what it believes to be its rights.

Mr. Krauss was born in Edenheim, Germany, February 4, 1882, a son of George and Margaret Krauss, both natives of Germany. The father, came to America many years before our subject was born, in 1860, and soon after his arrival on the shores of the western continent the great Rebellion threw a shadow over the entire land and the armies gathered into their ranks tens of thousands of brave young men who willingly offered their lives for a cause which they believed to be right. Among this number was George Krauss. He served throughout the entire war as a faithful and true defender of the Union and after receiving an honorable discharge in 1865 he returned to his native country. This is one of the remarkable instances in which a man who was at that time not a citizen of the United States risked his life to uphold the stars and stripes. In his native land Mr. Krauss was married and engaged in the butcher business until 1884,

when for a second time he came to America, bringing with him his wife and children, having decided here to take up his permanent abode. He located at Evansville, where he pursued the trade that he had learned in the old country and where he departed this life in March, 1897. He was an industrious, worthy and useful citizen and in all respects a man who deserved the friendshinp and confidence of every lover of liberty.

George L. Krauss attended the public schools of Evansville until he was eleven years of age and, his assistance then being necessary for the support of the family, he entered the employ of the Indiana Egg Case Company as driver, continuing for one year. Although very young for such a position, he acquitted himself creditably. His next employment was with W. E. Vickery, the grocer, where he continued for some years, after which he was identified for seven years with the saloon business. However, he was not a man to be satisfied with any small responsibility and in 1909 he acquired the ownership of the Imperial Laundry, which he has conducted very successfully. He gives employment to twenty-five persons and is constantly extending the field of his operations, which up to the present time has been restricted to bundle and family work.

On August 1, 1906, Mr. Krauss was united in marriage to Miss Ida L. Vogt, and two children have blessed the union: George Benjamin, now three years of age; and Ralph William, one and one-half years of age. Mr. Krauss is an active worker in social organizations and holds membership in the Eagles, the Owls, the Ranchmen and the Knights of Fidelity. He votes the republican ticket but his inclinations lie in the direction of business rather than politics. He stands well among his business associates; has always met his obligations; and is known as "a man of his word." Into his new line of business he has infused an energy that gives large promise of gratifying financial returns.

ALEXANDER CRAWFORD.

A man who has been at the head of the same line of business in the same community for thirty-eight years and has not only seen his business grow and flourish but has retained the respect of his associates and of citizens generally has in an important degree attained success in life. By success we do not mean to accentuate the financial phase of the term, for it is entirely true that a man may attain great success and not be worth a dollar. True success is the development of an upright character. This is probably the greatest work in which any human being can engage and in this respect the well known citizen of Evansville, whose name stands at the head of this review is by no means lacking. He is recognized as a stanch and a reliable man, whose virtues coming in contact with the world have not tarnished and whose word is always as good as his bond.

Alexander Crawford is of Scotch ancestry and inherited from a long line of worthy members of the family the sturdy characteristics of the race. He was born at Otter Ferry, Argyllshire, Scotland, in 1840. In his home school he received the rudiments of an education which he has since greatly extended by reading and observation, and in 1869, a tthe age of twenty-nine years, he bade farewell to his native land and started out to seek his fortune in America. He first settled in Cincinnati, Ohio, where for three years he worked at the plumber's trade. Not entirely satisfied with his surroundings as a place for beginning business on his own account, he came to Evansville in 1872 and opened with Charles Newlands a plumbing and gas fitting establishment, with which he has ever since been identified. Four years later he purchased the interest of Mr. Newlands and admitted a brother, Peter, as a partner. Here he has continued during all the years that have elapsed and by industry and careful attention to the details of his business the firm has acquired a reputation second to no other in the same line in Evansville.

In 1897 Mr. Crawford was happily united in marriage to Miss Mary Craig, a daughter of Alexander Craig, who came to Evansville from Scotland. One daughter has been born to the union, Mary R., who is residing with her parents. Mr. Crawford has always adhered to the religious belief of his forefathers and is an active and efficient member of the Walnut Street Presbyterian church. The fraternal principles of the Masonic order have met from him a hearty response and he now holds membership in Reed Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of this city, and for several years filled the honorable position of master of Evansville lodge. As is indicated by this review, Mr. Crawford is a man of sturdy virtues, who is highly honored by his friends and acquaintances and respected by the entire community.

JOSEPH HAAS.

Some men are born for success and some apparently are intended by nature to be followers. The secret of this inequality has never been clearly explained but all observation shows that it exists. An illustration of the class first mentioned is presented in the subject of this review. For twelve years past Joseph Haas has been engaged in the grocery business in Evansville and by his friends he is given the unique distinction of being the wealthiest self-made man of his age in this city.

Mr. Haas is a native of Cincinnati, born in 1875, and is a son of Frank Haas. He came with his parents to this city when he was three years of age. Here his father engaged in the saloon business at the corner of Twelfth avenue and Franklin street, moving at the end of three years to No. 1204 Main street. Later he sold out and became local representative of the International Harvester Company, in which position he remained until his

death, which occurred in September, 1904. Mrs. Haas is still living and resides in this city. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Haas; Mamie, now the wife of Charles Seihler, postmaster of Evansville; Dollie, the wife of Captain Jeff. Williams; Frank, secretary of the Evansville Gas & Electric Company; and Joseph, of this review.

Joseph Haas received his education in the public schools and in a business college. At a very early age he gained his first knowledge of commercial affairs by acting as carrier for newspapers and he continued faithfully at this work for six years, until he was seventeen years of age, carefully laying aside his slender income until it was large enough to become the foundation of his present fortune. As a boy he was wide-awake, active and energetic and these desirable characteristics he has always retained. At the age of sixteen he entered the employ of the Evansville & Terre Haute Railway Company and so continued for seven years. It was in 1898 that he became identified with the grocery business, his first investment in this line being at the corner of Governor and Olive streets. Here he developed a highly lucrative trade and in 1904 acquired possession of his present location on Main street. Three years later he bought a store which he is now operating on Fourth street and in 1908 became the owner of a third store at No. 616 Main street. As the result of his attention to the grocery business he is now at the head of three flourishing stores. He also owns two well improved farms in Vanderburg county, is sole proprietor of the Utility Machine Shops and is the owner of four residences in this city. He is a stockholder in the steamer Francis and the owner of the pleasure barge Indiana.

In religious affiliations he is connected with St. Mary's Catholic church and although he is identified with so many business enterprises, he finds time to cultivate the social amenities and to devote attention to outdoor recreations of which he is very fond. On account of his remarkable administrative ability Mr. Haas stands very high in the best business circles and in the community, where his entire life since infancy has been passed, he is held in general esteem.

JOHN C. STASER.

Among the prosperous farmers of Scott township, Vanderburg county, may be named John C. Staser, who was born in the town where he now lives November 8, 1857. He is a son of John C. and Margaret (Clinton) Staser, the former a native of Germany and the latter of the state of Virginia. John C. Staser, Sr., at the age of seven years came to America with his parents, who were of the sturdy, independent Teutonic stock that always thrives best in the face of difficulties, locating in Center township, Vanderburg county. The family moved to Scott township in 1830 and entered government land of which a vast acreage in this and adjoining states was

then available at a very small cost. However, the land required to be cleared and improved and this called for years of earnest application. In the meantime the father of the family, being a man of scholarly attainments, was admitted to the bar and was a practitioner in the courts of the state until ten years before his death, which occurred in March, 1886, his wife having departed this life twenty years previous, in 1866. Mr. Staser proved to be a successful financier and at the time of his decease was the owner of a beautiful farm of one thousand acres in one of the best farming regions of the state. This farm he conducted so as to provide gratifying returns.

The subject of this review received his preliminary education in the district schools, later becoming a student in the public schools of Evansville. He remained with his parents always and upon the departure of his father came into possession of the beautiful homestead which he has still further improved by the construction of buildings, fences and all other accessories which brings the farm up-to-date and make it a most desirable place of residence. The home place contains one hundred and twenty-seven acres and here he keeps forty head of cattle and forty head of deer.

On October 19, 1885, Mr. Staser was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Major, a daughter of John and Anna (McDowell) Major, who came to this country from Ireland. Mr. Staser is identified with the democratic party and is one of those solid men whose word is considered as good as his bond and who can always be depended upon to do as he says.

WILLIAM J. ELLIOTT.

William J. Elliott, deceased, for many years a grocer in Evansville and later prominently identified with the show business, was born in New York, October 13, 1853. He was the son of Anger Livingston Elliott, who came to Warrick country, Indiana, during the Civil war and later removed to Evansville, where he followed the carpenter's trade and where his death occurred.

The education of William J. Elliott was principally that which is gained in the school of experience. He was early thrown upon his own resources and for a number of years operated on the Ohio river, where he became mate on a steamer and held other responsible positions. The railroads, however, interfered seriously with the river traffic and Mr. Elliott located in Evansville and engaged in the grocery business at the corner of Reade and Michigan streets. He attained a measure of success in his new vocation but he attracted the attention of the Walter L. Main Show Company and at their solicitation withdrew from his other interests and for fourteen years acted as privilege manager for the show company. In the course of time he traveled very extensively over the entire country and became a highly valued member of a large and growing organization.

In 1884 Mr. Elliott was united in marriage to Miss Eva Hausman, who is now living in Evansville and who came from Germany with her parents, locating in Posey county, Indiana, in 1865, and later at Blue Grass, where her father, Peter Hausman, was a prosperous farmer. There were no children born to Mr. and Mrs. Elliott but they adopted a daughter, Esther, now Mrs. Robert Chambers, of this city.

Mr. Elliott was a man of friendly and agreeable address and possessed more than ordinary business capacity. He made many acquaintances in various parts of the country in the course of his travels and he never allowed his energies to become so completely absorbed in the pursuit of money as to dry up the fountains of sympathy. Although he started out in life upon his own resources, he learned to utilize the opportunities that surrounded him and he became highly successful as a business manager, his employers placing the greatest confidence in his honesty and trained judgment. He was a member of a number of fraternal organizations, among which were the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Tribe of Ben Hur and the Eagles, the beneficent teachings of these orders having a perceptible effect upon his life. He died in Evansville February 9, 1906, and is survived by his widow, who still resides at the family home.

FREDERICK W. LAUENSTEIN.

Castle Lauenstein, the ancestral home of the family, still stands at Grieszan, Germany, and the ancestral history can be traced back through three hundred years. Friedrich and Constanze Lauenstein, both natives of Germany, were for many years residents of Evansville, where the former engaged in newspaper publication almost to the time of his death, which occurred July 12, 1904.

His son, Frederick W. Lauenstein, whose name introduces this review, was born in Evansville, February 6, 1879, and, after attending the public schools of this city until about ten and a half years of age, entered the Educational Institute of St. Louis, where he continued his studies for six years. In 1896 he matriculated in the Indiana University at Bloomington, completing his course there in 1899. In his youthful days he was much interested in athletics, particularly in football and baseball. Turning his attention to the more serious duties of life on leaving school, he became identified with newspaper interests and in that field has worked his way steadily upward, starting in a humble position and advancing as merit has gained him promotion. His attention has been given almost entirely to newspaper work and as editor of the Demokrat he ranks now among the leading journalists of southern Indiana. Taking active part in formulating the policy of the paper, he has kept it in touch with the most modern and progressive ideas of journalism, while as editor his writings have been

F. W. LAUENSTEIN

an influencing factor in molding public opinion by his intelligent and comprehensive discussion of vital questions of the day. Into the field of business he has also extended his efforts, being interested financially in many enterprises. He is now a director of the Citizens National Bank, also of the Tri-State Fair Association and vice president of the Evansville Suburban Land & Mining Company, all of which have profited by his keen business discernment and unfaltering enterprise.

On the 5th of March, 1902, Mr. Lauenstein was married to Miss Elizabeth Fares, a member of one of the oldest families of Evansville. They now have one daughter, Margaret Constanze. Mr. Lauenstein is a leading spirit in German circles and is, moreover, a prominent and valued member of the Elks lodge, the Liederkranz Maennerchor, the Germania Maennerchor, the Concordia Singing Society, the Turners Society and the German Society. He likewise belongs to St. John's Evangelical church and for three and a half years was a member of the school board, serving from April, 1906, until January, 1910, as the youngest man ever a member of that body. His political allegiance is given to the democracy but above and beyond all partisanship is his deep interest in public affairs resulting in the championship of every measure and movement which he deems of interest to Evansville and her upbuilding. His life work has been characterized by an orderly progression. Starting out without any vaulting ambition to accomplish something especially great or famous, he has followed the lead of his position, doing as best he could everything that came to hand and seizing legitimate advantages as they have arisen. He has never hesitated to take a forward step when the way was open. Possessing ability and character that inspired confidence in others, the simple weight of his character and ability has carried him into important relations with large interests.

ANDREW JACKSON SIRKLE.

The name of Sirkle has long figured on the pages of the history of Vanderburg county, for representatives of the family were among the first setlers in this part of the state and later generations have continued the work which they instituted in the development and upbuilding of this district. George Sirkle, the grandfather of Andrew J. Sirkle, was one of the first county commissioners of the county. He was also a soldier in the Indian wars under General Andrew Jackson. Andrew Sirkle, the father, was born September 26, 1824, devoted his life to farming and died on the 9th of December, 1862. He was one of those who rescued Dr. Trafton, one of the first physicians of Evansville, from a flatboat, from which he took him in a canoe to the shore. For three days he remained in the Sirkle home and was then taken to Evansville. The family name indicates their German ancestry.

Andrew Jackson Sirkle is a native of Union township and throughout his entire life has been connected with farming interests in this part of the state. That he has succeeded in his undertakings is indicated in the fact that he owns and has improved some six hundred acres of land. He is therefore one of the large landowners of the county and his methods of farming have at all times been practical and progressive, converting wild land into rich fields, from which he annually gathers substantial harvests. His life has been a diligent one and his record is written in the tangible terms of profit.

On the 8th of June, 1866, Mr. Sirkle was married to Miss Catherine Elizabeth Dusner, of Union township, a daughter of Phillip Dusner, and unto them have been born seven children: Amelia, Andrew Jackson, Lulu, William, Louise E., Frederick and Walter, all of whom are now married with the exception of two. The work instituted by his grandfather in pioneer days and later carried on by his father is now being continued by Andrew J. Sirkle, who, like his predecessors, has been faithful in the duties of citizenship and capable in his efforts to promote the general welfare. His individual success indicates his business ability and keen foresight and his business affairs have always been transacted in terms of honor.

WILLIAM SCHMIDT.

When the names of the prosperous and successful farmers of Knight township are mentioned that of William Schmidt always occupies a prominent place. He has stanch Teutonic blood in his veins and inherited from his father a fearlessness and energy that are such prominent characteristics of the sons of Germany and their descendants wherever they may be found. Indeed, it is very doubtful whether the American republic would be such a great world power as it is today were it not for the strong arms and valiant hearts that ever since the establishment of the Union have sought here the blessings of freedom of thought and action which the old world does not afford.

Mr. Schmidt is a true representative of this noble race. He was born in Knight township, Vanderburg county, August 6, 1862, and is the son of Jacob and Krausznthia Schmidt. His father was born in Germany in 1824 and upon arriving at maturity became a soldier of the German army, where he gained new ideas as to the world and, coming into contact with many other intelligent young men, he received an education which is not taught in the schools. He finally recognized that in the fatherland, where lines of caste are tightly drawn and a son is expected to follow in the footsteps of his ancestors, a young man, ambitious of advancement, has little opportunity to improve his condition, so he decided to bid farewell to his native country and to make his permanent home in America. After arriving in

this country he settled for a time in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, but not finding there the advantages that he expected, he came to Evansville and began in Vanderburg county as a farm laborer. As time passed he prospered and became the owner of sixty-two acres of land in Knight township, which he cleared and improved and upon which he dwelt until his death. In 1851 he was united in marriage to Miss Krausznthia Spitzmueller, a daughter of Charles Spitzmueller, a successful farmer of Knight township. Seven children were born of this marriage: William, of this review; Mary; Jacob, now deceased; Lou; Kate; Fred; and George.

William Schmidt as a lad received his first lessons in agriculture upon the home farm and in the neighboring schoolhouse was given a practical education in the fundamental principles of learning that has been of constant assistance to him in extending his sphere of knowledge and usefulness. As a young man he was active, energetic and efficient in his work and through years of faithful application he became the owner of a highly improved farm of one hundred and twenty-five acres in Knight township and also of a farm of eighty acres in Warrick county, this state. He conducts operations on both farms in accordance with methods that he has thoroughly tested and that have brought him liberal financial recompense. He is known as one of the respected members of the community who has fairly earned the honors that have come to him.

In 1888 Mr. Schmidt was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Schluter, a daughter of Fred Schluter, who is engaged in farming in Warrick county. Of this union four children were born: Robert, Nora, Albert and Helen. Mr. Schmidt is happy in his work and in his home and friends. He is a man of sympathetic nature who readily responds to the calls of distress and assists in any worthy enterprise that tends to advance the interests of the neighborhood.

HON. LOUIS H. LEGLER.

The subject of this biography is a man well known in southern Indiana, having a state-wide acquaintance through affiliation with the leading political party and membership in the legislative assembly of the state. He has been a resident of Evansville for forty-four years and has occupied positions of trust and responsibility in which he exhibited the sterling qualities of character than gain recommendation and commendation from all true citizens. His career has been along the path of patient and persistent effort and the reward is witnessed in the general esteem which is accorded even from members of political parties not in harmony with his own. In this country the lines in politics are not always sharply drawn and the good citizen and close adherent to party principles are often synonymous.

Louis H. Legler is a native of Ontario, Canada, where he was born on the 21st of December, 1855. He is the son of Dr. Henry T. Legler, who was born in Saxony in 1819 and served as a surgeon in the Union army from 1861 to 1866. Dr. Legler led a long and useful life and died in California in 1908 at the advanced age of eighty-nine years.

Louis H. Legler, the subject of this review, became a resident of Evansville in May, 1866. This was shortly after the close of the Civil war and the country had not yet become quieted after the great conflict in which the Ohio valley was the theater of many stiring scenes. As the years passed the country became more thickly populated and Evansville grew until it became one of the most important residence and business centers in the state. Educated in the public schools and later in a local commercial college, Louis H. Legler began his active business career at fifteen years of age as an employe in the dry-goods store of J. P. & S. A. Coolidge. Here he was inducted into the practical operations of the business, which he learned so thoroughly that in 1881 he was appointed deputy city treasurer. In this position he continued until 1883. In the meantime, on account of his knowledge as an accountant, he had been appointed deputy county auditor, discharging the duties of that position for eight years, from 1886 to 1894. In the latter year he was elected auditor of Vanderburg county for a term of four years and received endorsement for the capability, efficiency and loyalty which he displayed in his first term by reelection in 1898 for a second term of four years, so that he remained as the incumbent in the office until 1902. His record was entirely satisfactory to the general public and won him high encomiums from those best qualified to speak with authority thereon. The discharge of his duties brought him into daily contact with the public and he made many friends who enthusiastically rallied to his support as a candidate for the state legislature from Vanderburg county in 1905. Being elected to the lower house of that honorable body, he conducted himself in such a way as to gain the general approval of citizens of the county. He is now trustee of the Peoples Savings Bank of Evansville and holds the responsible position of loan secretary of the institution. As a business man he is known as conscientious and conservative, the possessor of good judgment and thoroughly trustworthy in everything he undertakes.

Mr. Legler was united in marriage at Evansville, October 10, 1888, to Miss Marion Bonnel, a daughter of Warren Bonnel. Two sons and four daughters have been born as a result of the union. Genial in disposition and possessing many pleasing social characteristics, Mr. Legler is identified with the Masonic order, the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Turn Verein. He is also a member of St. John's Evangelical church.

Whether in business, political affairs, social or domestic relations, Mr. Legler has always earned and retained the confidence and respect of those with whom he has been associated. He is deservedly popular and while he

is never self-assertive and has often yielded his own preferences in deference to others, he has never sacrificed principles. Fair in all his dealings, his upright character has never been questioned and one of the ambitions of his life is to retain what all honorable men aspire to gain—an unblemished reputation.

JAMES S. McDONALD.

James S. McDonald, a successful farmer of Armstrong township, who owns the farm on which he was born, first opened his eyes to the light of day August 26, 1862. He is a son of Samuel and Margaret (Calvert) McDonald, both of whom were also natives of Vanderburg county and identified with its farming interest during their entire lives. The father was born September 17, 1837, and died at the age of fifty-nine on April 7, 1896. Mrs. McDonald, who was a kind mother and a worthy helpmeet to her husband, was born December 2, 1843, and departed this life at the old homestead, November 8, 1897. The American ancestors of the McDonald family were of Scottish parentage and came to America in 1680 at the close of a war in their native country, which caused many of the sons of Scotland to seek a home in a strange land. Three brothers of the name settled in Virginia and it is believed that their descendants participated in the Revolutionary war under Washington. Samuel McDonald, the grandfather of our subject, came west in a flatboat down the Ohio river and landed at Evansville in 1829. He was born in the Blue Ridge mountains, Virginia, May 12, 1799, and was the first of the family to locate in Vanderburg county.

James S. McDonald was educated in the district schools and early decided to devote his life to farming. Under his father's instruction he gained a thorough knowledge of the business and after the death of the father he purchased the interests of the other heirs in the farm and now is the owner of a well improved place of two hundred and eight acres on section 5, Armstrong township. In various matters pertaining to his vocation he has exercised rare sense and judgment and the excellent condition of his farm is proof that in the race of life he has won. He is thoroughly familiar with the care and handling of live stock and few men in the county have any better judgment as to the value of farm animals and the best methods of placing them on the market.

On March 8, 1888, Mr. McDonald was united in marriage to Miss Lydia Williams, of Posey county, Indiana, a daughter of Harrison and Millvina (McReynolds) Williams. Her mother is now living in Posey county and is eighty years of age, but her father died thirty years ago. Mrs. McDonald has two sisters and a brother living in Posey county and three sisters are deceased. Mr. Williams was one of the pioneers of Indiana and he and his wife were both of Scotch ancestry, the early members of their families

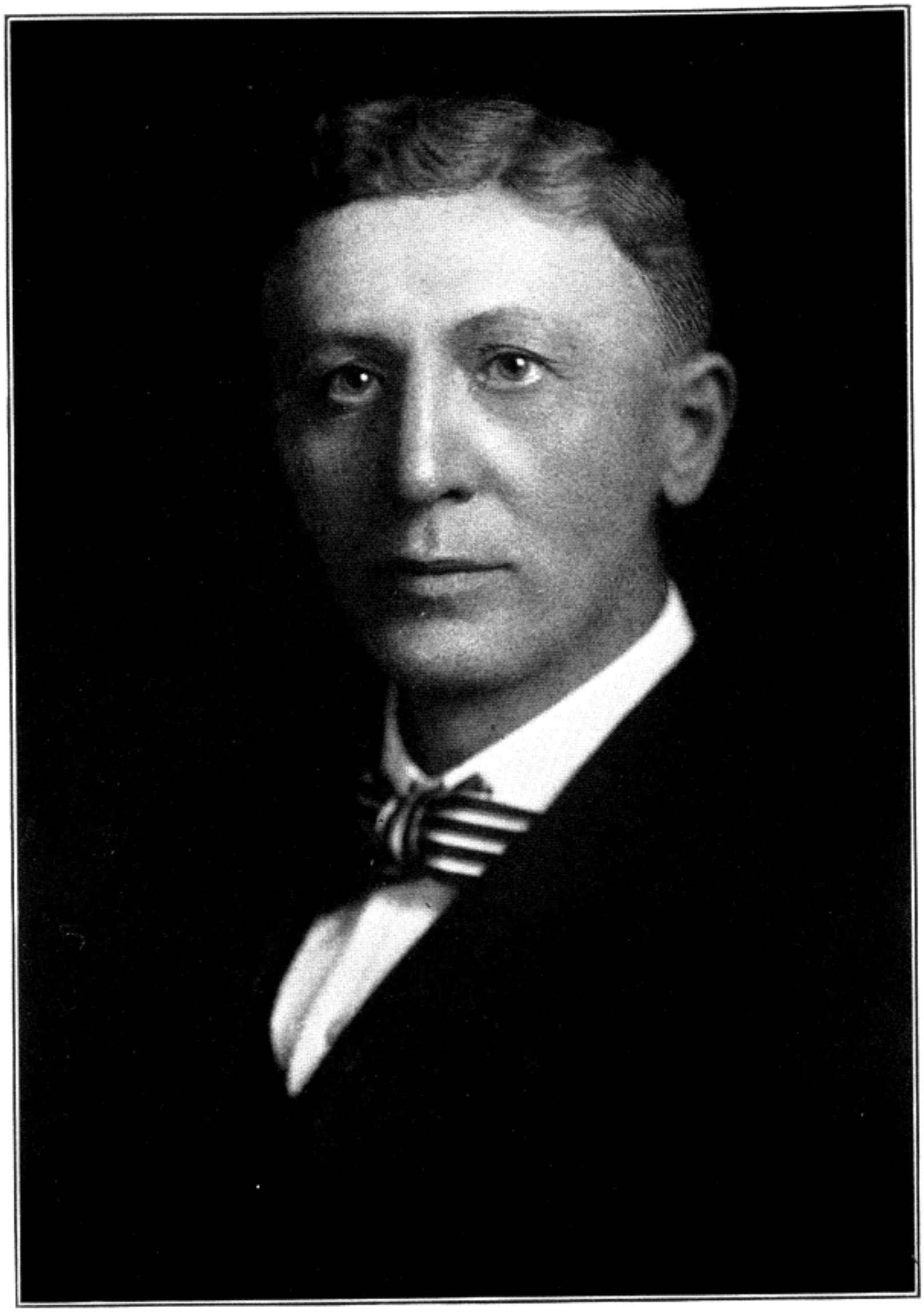
having settled in Tennessee. Two children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. McDonald: Deorda L., born January 22, 1889, who received a liberal education and is now teaching school; and Casey, who was born January 29, 1890. He received a good public-school education and later graduated from a commercial college with high honors and diploma recommending him as capable of entering any business as bookkeeper. He prefers the farm, however, to a business career and he is devoting his talents in the same direction as his father.

Mr. McDonald is of strong social tendencies and has a host of friends in Vanderburg county, who are welcomed by himself and wife at their hospitable home with a warmth of greeting that is not soon forgotten. His home is the abode of cheerfulness and good taste is exhibited in all its appointments. With true Scottish grit he adheres to the religious belief of his ancestors and is a stanch supporter of the Presbyterian church. In political affiliations he is allied with the democratic party as the one which in his opinion is best adapted to the perpetuity of free institutions. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and, while he is never a seeker for public office, he has served four terms as township trustee and in all responsibilities of a leading citizen of his community he has acquitted himself in such a way as to gain and retain the respect and esteem of all the people in the region where he or his family are known.

EDWARD H. MANN.

Gradually working his way upward, his varied experiences promoting his ability and calling forth his latent talents, Edward H. Mann is now a well known representative of industrial interests in Evansville as a partner in the Orr Iron Company. He was born in Jasper, Dubois county, Indiana, on the 19th of June, 1857, and is a son of John and Magdalena Mann. The father and mother were born near Mainz, Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, and accompanied their respective parents to the United States in early life, coming direct to Posey county, Indiana. Later John Mann removed to Jasper, Indiana, where he was engaged as clerk in a general mercantile establishment.

Edward H. Mann was a little lad of nine years at the time of the removal of the family to Evansville. He continued his education in the schools of this city until fourteen years of age, when he secured a position as office boy in the mayor's office, there remaining from 1871 until 1873. From that time forward for a number of years he occupied positions in various public offices. Leaving the mayor's office, he spent one year as bookkeeper in the office of the waterworks department and was then appointed deputy county treasurer, which position he filled acceptably for three years. He then left political office to become a factor in the industrial circles of the city, be-



EDWARD H. MANN

coming bookkeeper for the firm of Samuel Orr & Company in January, 1880. Two years later he entered into partnership relations with the house and for twenty-eight years has been a partner in the company, which is now known as the Orr Iron Company, controlling one of the important commercial industries of the city. He was one of the organizers of the Commercial Bank and is one of its directors.

HARRY J. PECKINPAUGH.

Prominent in the legal and political circles of Evansville, Harry J. Peckinpaugh has devoted his attention to the profession wherein advancement depends upon individual merit. The weight of a family name and the influence of friends can avail little in this connection, for the attorney at the bar must prove his own strength and capability in the work that he does. Through the careful preparation of cases and their forceful presentation in the courts Mr. Peckinpaugh has become recognized as an able lawyer and at the same time his qualities of leadership have gained for him a position in political circles.

He was born in Leavenworth, Indiana, November 6, 1866, a son of William Henry and Mary (Emick) Peckinpaugh. The father, who was an attorney at law, practiced for many years at Jasper, Indiana. His death occurred in 1875 but the mother is still living, her home being in Grand View, this state. During the period of the Civil war Mr. Peckinpaugh enlisted for active service in defense of the Union and was chosen captain of Company E, Forty-ninth Indiana Infantry, with which he served for three years and two months. He was with General Grant on the Tennessee River Expedition and participated in the battle of Shiloh, at which time he held the rank of lieutenant. He afterward resigned to organize Company E of the Forty-ninth Indiana Infantry, of which he was made captain. He was wounded at the battle of Missionary Ridge and his death was the result of the injuries which he sustained in the war. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Peckinpaugh were two children, the daughter being Mrs. James Gabbert, of Grand View, Indiana.

In his youthful days Harry J. Peckinpaugh devoted his time largely to the mastery of the branches of learning taught in the public schools and completed his education in the State University, of Indiana, from which he was graduated with the class of 1892, having completed a law course in that institution. His thorough equipment, combined with laudable ambition, soon established him in a good practice and Evansville numbers him among her able and successful attorneys. He has never specialized in any particular department but has given his attention to general practice and is at home in the various branches of the law. He prepares his cases with great care and thoroughness, seeming to lose sight of no detail, while at

the same time he gives due consideration to the more salient points of the case, never for a moment forgetting the vital point upon which the decision in every case finally turns.

On the 15th of May, 1894, Mr. Peckinpaugh was united in marriage to Miss Lola M. Huffman, of Spencer county, Indiana, and unto them have been born two children, Ruth Dale and Mary Helen. In his fraternal relations Mr. Peckinpaugh is connected with the Elks and with the Royal Arcanum. His political allegiance is given to the republican party which has ever found in him a stalwart advocate, laboring earnestly and effectively to promote its success. He is recognized as one of the local party leaders, and was appointed to the office of county attorney, which position he filled for five years. Previous to that time, in 1899, he had been chosen to represent his district in the state legislature and was made chairman of the committee on building and loan associations, in which connection he drew up a bill which in that session became a law and still regulates the building and loan operations in the state. It resulted in curbing a great many of the companies that were charging enormous interest, and withdrawal fees, some of them having to suspend busienss. The interests of the people were thereby protected and the public at large recognized the beneficial chaarcter of the measure passed. Mr. Peckinpaugh believes in justice and fair play not only in the courts but in all the departments of public life and his influence is given on the side of reform and progress.

CONRAD HAASE.

Evansville owes not a little of its advancement to the manufacturing interests established in this city and its vicinity, which are constant contributors to the growth and prosperity of the community. These interests cover a wide range of industries and they give employment to thousands of persons who are patrons of all lines of business and are most important factors in the permanency and prosperity of the city. Among the industries that are of long standing here is that of mattress manufacturing, in which Conrad Haase, whose name appears at the head of this review, is engaged. Mr. Haase inherited the business from his father, who was one of the early mattress manufacturers of this region and gained a wide reputation in his line, establishing a business which continues to flourish although its founder was called away years ago.

Conrad Haase, Sr., was a native of Erfurt, Saxony, Germany, where he was born in 1826. He was educated in his native town, but after arriving at manhood's estate he felt an irresistable desire to cast his lot in the new world, where opportunities were open for ambitious young men who were determined to improve their financial condition. Accordingly, Mr. Haase, in 1854, crossed the ocean and came direct to Evansville, which

was then a thriving village and already gave evidences of becoming an important city. Here Mr. Haase entered the employ of Mr. Hibbard, who was a mattress manufacturer. By patient application Mr. Haase in a few years became thoroughly familiar with all the details of the work, and in 1860 he began for himself in the 700 block on Main street, erecting the first frame structure in that block. Under his management the business flourished and later he removed to the spot upon which it has since been conducted. In this city he was united in marriage September 27, 1866, to Miss Caroline Weaver, whose parents were farmers on the Stringtown road, and three children were the result of the union: Rosie and Elizabeth, both of whom are now deceased; and Conrad, Jr., whose record is herewith given. The father departed this life in 1908 and the mother on March 23, 1910.

Educated in the public schools of this city and also at a commercial college, Conrad Haase, Jr., grew up in the midst of advantages which proved a constant source of benefit to him in after life. Upon laying aside his books he entered the mattress factory of his father, where he soon became familiar with the business, and since the death of his father has had full charge of its affairs. In his work he has been highly successful, not only making many improvements in the mattresses which are sent out from the factory but also largely increasing the sales. He is owner of the building in which the business is located and also of several valuable city lots and of twenty-five acres of fine farming land in Center township on the right of way of the proposed Olney & Mount Carmel Interurban Railway.

In 1897 Mr. Haase was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Elizabeth Kalkbrenner, a daughter of Frank and Helen Kalkbrenner, who were both born in the fatherland and emigrated to this country, locating at Evansville. Mr. Haase is known as a public-spirited and prosperous citizen, who always has at heart the best interests of the city and who has the confidence and esteem of his friends. As a representative citizen and as a native of Evansville he takes just pride in its continued advancement.

ALEXANDER LEMCKE.

A man of good business ability and a citizen whose death was a distinct loss to the city of Evansville, Alexander Lemcke will not soon be forgotten by many who knew and admired him for his genial manner and excellent qualities. He was born at Hamburg, Germany, July 2, 1834. He received a good education in his native country and came to America in 1852, locating in Posey county, Indiana, where he entered the general merchandise business. He later came to Evansville and became associated with Charles Leich in the wholesale drug business but retired from that enterprise after some years and went to Europe because of impaired health. Returning to

Evansville, he became interested in the woolen mills and was also again identified with Mr. Leich. At the time the Fulton Avenue Brewing Company met with reverses Mr. Lemcke was appointed receiver and discharged his trust with remarkable ability. He was a member of the board of directors of the First National Bank and for many years was a trustee of the Willard Library, acquiring a fortune in his business enterprises, of which he was a worthy and generous steward.

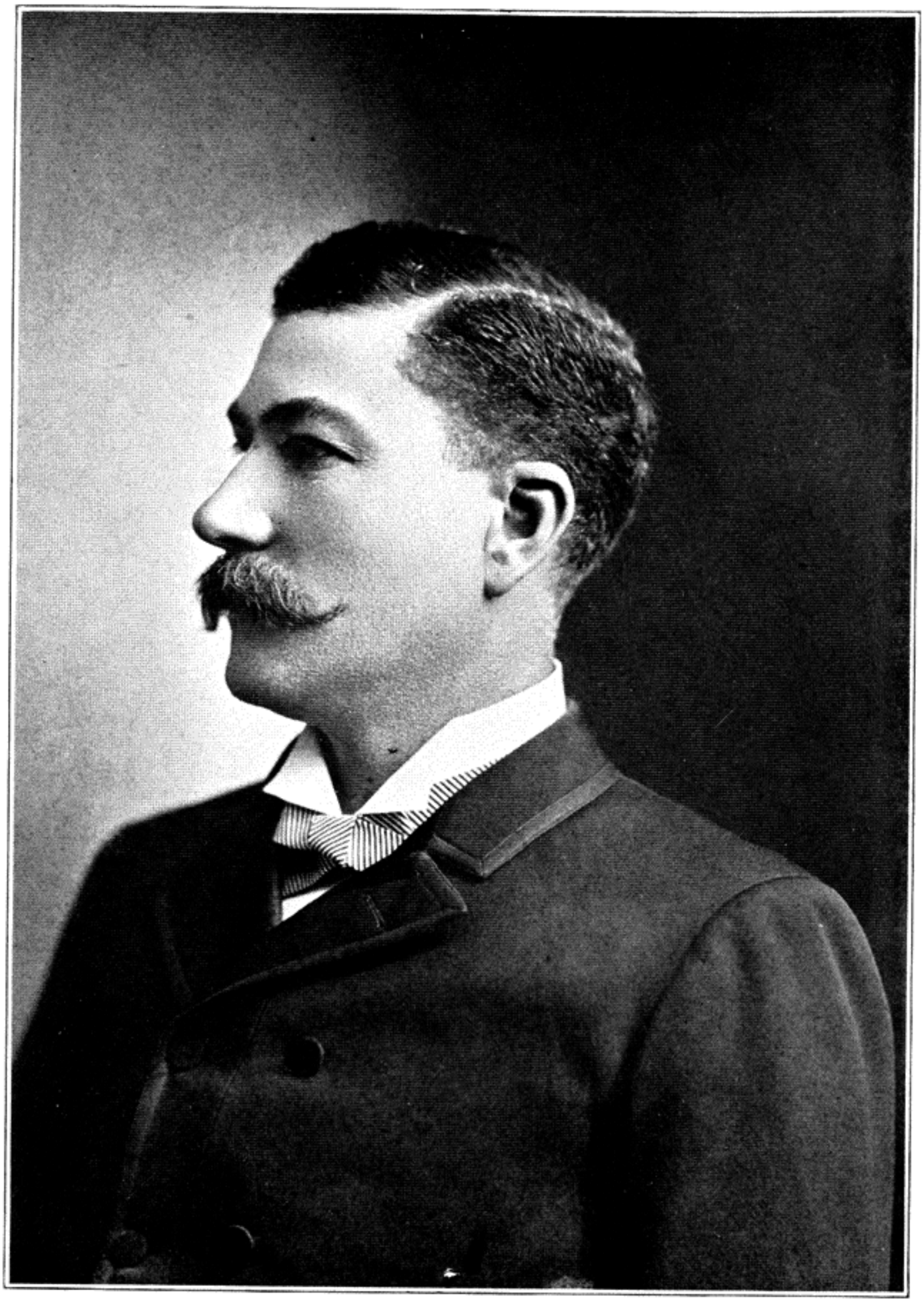
On April 3, 1868, Mr. Lemcke was united in marriage to Miss Anna Hardigg, of Cincinnati, who survives her husband and is making her home in Evansville. Mr. Lemcke was a brother of Hon. J. A. Lemcke, ex-treasurer of the state of Indiana, who is now living at Indianapolis.

A man of extensive reading and wide observation, Mr. Lemcke possessed many pleasing social qualities and made many friends during the course of a long business career. In announcing his death, which occurred January 31, 1896, a leading newspaper of Evansville, said: "Mr. Lemcke was one of the most esteemed gentlemen of Evansville. He prospered in business and was always found in the front ranks of those who worked to build up this city. He had a wide acquaintance and many will be grieved by the news of his death." In closing this brief review we will state that Mr. Lemcke was a typical prototype of the best class of business men. He always commanded the confidence of associates and he made an impression for good upon the younger generation that will continue to exert a beneficent effect long after his name has been forgotten, for there is nothing so lasting as the lesson of a noble human character.

HON. FREDERICK J. SCHOLZ.

Because of long connection with Evansville, because of his honorable activity in business and public life, Hon. Frederick J. Scholz has come to occupy a prominent position in public regard. His loyalty and his worth have both stood the test of time and he is numbered among those who have brought to the discharge of official duties the same spirit of enterprise, progressiveness and activity which characterizes the conduct of individual interests. A native of Nashville, Illinois, Mr. Scholz was born on the 11th of October, 1848, a son of the Rev. Frederick W. and Charlotte Sholz, both of whom were natives of Germany. They are now residents of Peoria, Illinois, and the father has devoted his life to the ministry.

Frederick J. Scholz supplemented his early educational privileges by study in the Theological Seminary at Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he remained for three years. His initial business experience came to him as clerk on the steamboat Indiana, running between Cincinnati and New Orleans. He was thus engaged from 1864 until 1866. His identification with commercial interests of Evansville has been unbroken since 1868, in which year he established a marble business that he has since conducted, its de-



FREDERICK J. SCHOLZ

velopment and growth making him one of the leading representatives of industrial activity in this city. He has lived in Evansville continuously since 1865 and his business headquarters are at Nos. 11 to 20 Third street, same has been conducted under the firm style of F. J. Scholz & Son since 1895. In 1906 he built the New Vendome Hotel, one of the finest buildings in the state, owned by a stock company now. This was built by Mr. Scholz following his return from Indianapolis and is a monument to his ability. Extending his efforts into other fields, he has become a stockholder in the Old State National Bank and the American Trust Company of Evansville; is a stockholder in the Claypool Hotel of Indianapolis; and is the possessor of considerable real estate in Evansville and elsewhere.

The success which Mr. Scholz has achieved in business and the importance of his work as a factor in the industrial circles of the city would alone entitle him to mention among Evansville's prominent men. In other fields, however, he has labored with equal success and has risen to eminence in the political field. He was first called to public office in 1876, when he was elected councilman from the fifth ward. He discharged his duties in such a manner that reelection continued him in the office for twelve years and his official prerogatives were ever used in support of measures which are of permanent value to the city. In 1890 he was appointed census commissioner of southern Indiana by President Harrison and made one of the best showings that Evansville has ever had. He was most careful and accurate in compiling the census, which in 1890 showed a population of fifty-one thousand, seven hundred and fifty-six, while the tenth census taken in 1880 showed but twenty-nine thousand. The work that he had done in behalf of the party and the creditable record which he had made in office led to his nomination for the position of state treasurer in the convention which was held at Fort Wayne in 1892, but with the other candidates on the republican ticket he was defeated at the ensuing election. In 1894, however, he was more fortunate. Again he received the nomination and popular suffrage called him to the office, to which he was reelected in 1896. Following his retirement from the position he became one of the directors and builders of the Indianapolis & Logansport Traction Line. A letter written by Governor Durbin to Hon. Frederick J. Scholz upon the expiration of his term of office as state treasurer reads as follows:

To Whom It May Concern:

Hon. F. J. Scholz, the bearer, was treasurer of the state of Indiana for two terms and while filling the office in the most acceptable manner the state debt was reduced about three million dollars. No predecessor has ever paid so much money in reduction of the state debt.

Mr. Scholz was an excellent officer. He was at all times courteous, considerate and alert. The interests of the state were well cared for during his terms.

I cheerfully commend him for honesty, ability and trustworthiness.

WINFIELD T. DURBIN,
Governor.

May 4, 1901.

Mr. Scholz, indeed, gave tangible proof of his interest in the welfare of the state and his loyalty thereto. He was a faithful custodian of the public exchequer and while he would not countenance useless or extravagant expenditure of the public funds he did not allow conservatism to hamper a wise progressiveness.

In 1870 Mr. Scholz was married to Miss M. Lindauer, and unto them was born a son, Charles J., who is now in business with his father. At his second marriage Mr. Scholz wedded Miss Amelia Grill, a daughter of Colonel John F. and M. Grill, and unto them were born five children, of whom three are living, Lydia, Minnie and Clara, all of whom are married. Minnie and Clara are now residents of Indianapolis, while Lydia makes her home in Boston.

Mr. Scholz and his wife belong to St. John's church. His fraternal relations are with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias. He belongs to Orion Lodge, No. 35, of the latter organization, and has taken the degrees of both the York and Scottish Rite in Masonry, being a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason, also a Knight Templar and Consistory Mason and likewise a member of the Mystic Shrine. He is today numbered among the distinguished citizens of Indiana, having impressed his personality upon its business development and its history, while at the same time he has aided in no unimportant manner in shaping the annals of the state. His abilities well fit him for public office or for the successful control of important business affairs. While undoubtedly not without that ambition which is always an incentive to faithful service in public office, he yet regards the pursuit of private life as abundantly worthy of his best efforts and in the direction of important affairs has displayed keen sagacity, sound judgment and an aptitude for successful management.

WILLIAM HOOKER.

William Hooker, who is a flourishing farmer of Knight township, Vanderburg county, belongs to the Teutonic race that has contributed so materially in its sons and daughters in upbuilding and extending this great republic. He was born in Germany, November 10, 1848. He is the son of Henry Hooker who came to America, leaving his family at the old home in Germany, for the purpose of finding a suitable location under the American flag, and then sending for his wife and child. However, he was not as successful as he expected to be and after two years of disappointment he died from homesickness. In 1852 Mrs. Hooker came with her son William and

her brother, John Ersick, to this country and settled on a farm in Knight township, Vanderburg county, Indiana. Four years later she was united in marriage to Christian Schiffer and of this union four children were born, only one of whom is now living, John Schiffer. With him the mother made her home in Knight township until her death, February 19, 1910.

The subject of this review was enducated in the district school and grew up under the direction of his stepfather, becoming well acquainted with the operations of the farm. By the exercise of thrift and economy he was able, in 1876, to purchase one hundred acres of land in Knight township. At the time of the purchase the land was unimproved. He erected a comfortable residence and other necessary buildings and his farm is recognized as one of the most productive in the neighborhood. Here he carries on general farming operations and each year adds to his financial resources through the profits from abundant harvests and the sale of live stock.

In 1878 Mr. Hooker was united in marriage to Miss Christina Wiggers, of Knight township, and six children were born of the union: William, a dentist, residing in Evansville; Jacob, a street car conductor, also of Evansville; Carrie, now Mrs. Harry Scheilds, of St. Louis; Julian, who is living upon the farm; and Nonie and Tonie, twins, who died in infancy. The family was deprived by the hand of death of its maternal head and in 1898 Mr. Hooker was married to Mrs. Lena Neusmeyer, widow of Henry Neusmeyer, who has proved to him a faithful companion.

Mr. Hooker is a member of St. John's Evangelical church, a faith in which he was reared and of which he is a worthy exemplar. He has always devoted his attention to his private affairs and by the concentration of his energies and the application of good judgment, he has become the owner of a productive farm and is sure of a comfortable income for himself and his family during the remaining years of his life. Such are the rewards of well directed energy.

CAPTAIN HARRY D. BALDWIN.

Death has been called by some "the king of terrors" and by others, "a gentle messenger" whose summons are to be regarded as an invitation to eternal joys. It may be comparatively easy at times to be reconciled to the messenger when his presence means the departure of one who has reached the limits of a career of usefulness, but when the summons is to one who is just in the midst of a busy life and who is looking forward to many years of continued advancement, death is a mystery whose solution is the deepest problem known to man.

Captain Harry D. Baldwin was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1861, and departed this life at Evansville, April 8, 1907, at the age of forty-six years. His father was a wealthy manufacturer and for many years was promi-

nently connected with the Cincinnati Cooperage Company, which was extensively engaged in the stave and hoop business. Captain Baldwin received his education in the public schools and after laying aside his textbooks, being of a vigorous and active temperament, he was attracted to the river transportation business. It was not many years before he was in charge of a fleet of tugs and he gradually extended his operations up and down the river until he was known in every port form Pittsburg to New Orleans. In 1891 he located at Paducah, Kentucky, continuing on the river and attaining a position as one of the most skillful men in his line of work.

In 1902 Mr. Baldwin accepted the position of manager of the Evansville, Ohio & Green River Transportation Company with headquarters in Evansville, but at the end of two years he purchased an interest in the Anchor Paving Company and retired from river life. After he became interested in the company its operations were greatly increased and in 1906 he acquired sole ownership of the Anchor Roofing & Paving Company. Here he displayed a business talent that gave bright promise for the future, but while directing construction work on the building of the Gas & Electric Light Company, his hand came in contact with a high tension wire and he received a shock which resulted in his death. By his sudden and unexpected departure the city lost a business man of the highest standing and of unusual ability. He was prominently identified with the Masonic order and held membership in the blue lodge, chapter, commandery and Shrine. He was also a member of the Travelers Protective Association and for many years before his death was an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal church. In his business dealings he was prompt, reliable and trusworthy, and all who knew him regarded him with the highest honor and respect.

JACOB KARSCH.

Jacob Karsch, deceased, for a number of years prominent in the business circles of Evansville, was born in this city in 1850. He was the son of John and Margaret Elizabeth (Espenschite) Karsch, a thrifty and substantial couple, who came from Germany to America and located in Evansville in the same year that their son Jacob was born. There were nine children in the family. The father engaged in the bakery business on Water street in this city until his death.

The subject of this review was educated in the public schools and took a course in a commercial college. He also assisted his father in the bakery and as he grew up devoted a large part of his time to supplying the boats which were then quite numerous on the river with bread and other necessities for the table. The family became interested in the mineral water busi-

ness, in which the father and sons attained a distinct success, putting up the water in an attractive style and having the ability to meet the public and to create a demand for a new commodity. In the course of years the business became the largest of the kind in the state of Indiana and was established as one of the permanent and valuable enterprises of the city. The firm was known as John Karsch & Sons and after the death of the father Jacob Karsch became sole proprietor. The business is now conducted by John Vogle & Sons.

In 1893 Mr. Karsch was united in marriage to Miss Clara Schultz, a daughter of Dr. Theodore Schultz, a review of whose life appears elsewhere in this work. Two children were born to them; the eldest of whom, Marguerite Schultz Karsch is still living, as is also her mother.

Mr. Karsch was a member of the republican party and gave earnest adherence to its principles, believing that they are best adapted in the maintenance of our form of government. Although he was essentially a business man, he cultivated social and fraternal relationships and retained his membership in the Knights of Pythias to the time of his death. He was also a member of St. John's church. He was known as a man of kind disposition and upright character and in the course of an earnest and purposeful life he built up an enviable reputation among his business associates, endearing himself to many friends. On January 17, 1898, he was summoned from earthly scenes and his remains repose in the cemetery of the city where he was born and where he passed all the years of his life.

WILLIAM BOWER.

William Bower, a successful farmer of Vanderburg county, now living retired, was born in Scott township, this county, February 5, 1836. He is a son of Thomas and Lucinda (Lee) Bower, his mother being a native of Scotland and his father of England. Mrs. Bower was the youngest sister of General Robert E. Lee, a leader of the Confederacy. The father came to America in 1835, believing that in this country he could have advantages unknown in the old world and this hope was quickly realized. He located in Vanderburg county, Indiana, where he bought one hundred and twenty acres of fine land, which he cleared and improved, erecting a comfortable residence and enhancing the value of the property to such a degree by his labors that at the end of twelve years he sold out at a good price. He then bought a tract of three hundred acres in Scott township and here he attained even greater success through his thrift and good management. He was called to his final rest after a long life of usefulness in 1877, his wife having preceded him about five years.

William Bower was a pupil in the common schools and grew up upon the home farm, where he became thoroughly acquainted with agricultural pur-

suits and also with stock-raising. From the beginning of his active career he was very industrious and, being of good habits, he purchased at twenty-four years of age an unimproved farm of one hundred acres, which he cleared and operated successfully until 1897, when he sold the place to his sons and retired from active labors. He is now living on the old homestead of one hundred and forty acres, Scott township which his sons are operating, and also owns a tract of forty-seven acres in Center township.

In February, 1860, Mr. Bower was united in marriage to Miss Martha J. Staser, a daughter of John C. and Margaret Staser, both natives of Indiana. He later married again and in his family are eight children: Margaret, now Mrs. Charles Vogel, of Boonville, Indiana; Clara, who married E. D. McAvay and lives in Evansville, Indiana; Annie, who became the wife of Wilber Blankenship and resides in Center township, this county; Daniel W., living at home; Martha E., also at home; Katherine, now Mrs. S. K. Challman, who resides with her father; and John H. and James C., both of whom live at home.

Mr. Bower has been for many years identified with the democratic party and has held some responsible public positions. For about six years he served as county commissioner of Vanderburg county and for several years as township assessor. He has always taken an active interest in advancing the cause of agriculture and is a member of the Farmers Institute and also of the American Society of Equity. He and his family are active members of the Methodist church and as he approaches the age of three score and fifteen years he looks back on a life well spent. He has always aimed to do right by others and he has no cause to regret any kindly act or helpful deed by which he was able to make his fellows happier or to prepare them better to meet life's responsibilities.

JOHN NUGENT.

The dominant qualities in the life record of John Nugent were such as commanded for him the respect, confidence and good will of his fellow-men. With comparatively few opportunities in youth, he not only worked his way upward in business lines but also constantly broadened his knowledge by wide reading and became a forceful and valued member of society, prominent in matters of public concern as well as active in individual business interests.

A farm in Ireland was his birthplace, his natal day being in February, 1838. His parents were James and Catherine (Tohill) Nugent, who came to America with their family during the childhood days of their son John. They settled upon a farm in Vanderburg county, where they lived until John Nugent, then seventeen years of age, induced them to remove to the city and the family home was set up in a small cottage on the west side.

JOHN NUGENT

The son believed that in the business circles of Evansville he might find lucrative employment. He was prompted by laudable ambition nor was his native diligence scared out by the arduous nature of the task. He at first was employed at odd jobs, doing any work that he could secure, and on pay days his earnings were turned over to his mother that she might use what was needed for the support of the family and save the balance for him in later life. In those early days rigid economy as well as untiring industry were practiced and in the course of years Mr. Nugent invested in property as his earnings permitted until at one time he owned nearly all of the land from Wabash avenue to the creek. He never for a moment forgot his filial duty and built a home for his father and mother. He cared for his parents as long as they lived and set a splendid example of filial devotion.

Mr. Nugent's first real work was in driving an ox team at four dollars per month and as soon as possible he purchased a team and began doing grading work for Mr. Lowry. At one time he also conducted a small store but his labors were mostly in the line of teaming until he found it possible to broaden the scope of his efforts. After a time he began taking contracts for street improvements and put through many of the early streets and roads in Evansville and the surrounding district. Gradually he extended his business until he became one of the leading contractors of the city. He was fortunate in securing a great many public contracts and by close application and economy succeeded in winning a comfortable fortune. As he prospered he invested in property, owning and erecting the Arcade building and also owning other realty.

In 1880 Mr. Nugent was united in marriage to Miss Mary L. Jenner, a daughter of Adam Jenner, who was born in 1810 and died April 10, 1890. He came from Germany, his native land, to America when nineteen years of age. He had previously learned the weaver's trade but as he could secure no work of that kind here, he followed different pursuits for a time. He was working in Washington, D. C., when twenty years of age. Subsequently he assisted in building the Evansville wharf and was also employed on boats running out of the town. He learned engineering in that way and occupied a position as steamboat engineer for some time. Later he was employed as engineer in the old Indiana mills until they were destroyed by fire, after which he went to Mount Vernon, Indiana, where he occupied a position as engineer for five years. He then returned to Evansville and in 1871 retired from active business life, enjoying well earned rest throughout his remaining days. Although his school privileges were limited, he was a great reader and became a well educated man. He held membership in St. John's church and his noble qualities of mind and heart won him the honor and respect of all. He married Louise Jenner, a native of Germany, who, though of the same name, was not a relative. She came to the United States when fourteen years of age and in early womanhood gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Jenner. Nine children were born unto them, of whom six reached years of maturity, while five are

still living: Mary L., now Mrs. Nugent; Thomas; Elizabeth; Rose, and Fred. Jacob and Sarah have both passed away. The death of Mr. Jenner occurred April 10, 1890, but Mrs. Jenner is still living.

Mr. Nugent was called to his final rest on the 24th of September, 1902, and thus passed from the scene of earthly activities one whose labors had been a forceful element in the work of public progress along many lines. He attended the Presbyterian church, was a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and was prominent in local political circles, giving stalwart support to the republican party. About 1882 he was a member of the city council and in 1888 was elected to the state legislature from what is known as the shoe string district. In 1895 he was appointed one of the trustees of the prison at Jeffersonville and was acting in that capacity when it was transformed into a reformatory. His helpful interest in public matters was of a tangible quality. His labors produced practical and substantial results, for he brought to bear in all public matters the same keen judgment and untiring industry which characterized him in the conduct of his private business affairs. The story of such a life is an inspiring one. The public always loves a conflict and sympathy is on the side of the one whose cause is righteous, whose labor is persistent. In the battle of life Mr. Nugent came out conqueror. Though hampered in his youth by straitened financial circumstances and lack of early advantages, he later overcame difficulties and obstacles and with "Excelsior" blazoned upon his banner, he marched steadily forward until he reached the goal of prosperity. The thrill of success was his and his life work elicited encomiums, for the record was at all times honorable.

ANTON TENBARGE.

Anton Tenbarge, a well known and highly successful farmer of Vandenburg county, was born in Armstrong township, February 10, 1867, the youngest son of John and Theresa (Brueger) Tenbarge, who were early settlers of this county, and prosperously identified with its farming interests. The father came to Armstrong township from St. Philip, Indiana, in 1866. He was a native of Holland, born in 1826, and about 1856 emigrated to Louisville, Kentucky, where he worked in a slaughter house for two years, at the end of which time he removed to St. Joseph, Vanderburg county, and engaged in the cooperage business. Two years later he located in St. Philip, where he conducted a general merchandise business and a saloon. Desiring to devote his entire attention to farming, he invested in two hundred acres of land, of which thirty-one acres were cleared. By patient labor the entire farm was made tillable and parts of it were placed under a high state of cultivation. Mr. Tenbarge departed this life January 9, 1900. His wife was a native of Prussia and came with her parents to Vanderburg county

in her girlhood. Here she met her future husband and they were married in 1865 at St. Philip. She died in 1868.

Educated in St. Wendell's parochial school until sixteen years of age, Anton Tenbarge grew up upon the home farm, assisting his father in its development and gaining a thorough knowledge of a business to which he has devoted his life. After arriving at maturity he became the owner of the farm on which he was born and his industry and good management are exhibited in the neat and commodious buildings, well kept fences and the general air of comfort and prosperity everywhere to be seen on the farm. His place is regarded in many respects as a model. It comprises one hundred and forty-seven acres on section 6, Armstrong township, and is conducted so as to yield a handsome yearly return and at the same time the land is not impoverished but improves in value from year to year.

On October 28, 1892, Mr. Tenbarge was united in marriage to Miss Katherine Hillenbrand, of Vanderburg county, a daughter of William and Katherine (Kissel) Hillenbrand, who were natives of Wheeling, West Virginia. The American ancestors of the family came from Germany about 1830 and were prominent and well-to-do people. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Tenbarge, four of whom died in infancy. The living children are: William, born August 26, 1896; Anton, May 5, 1899; Vincent, June 19, 1903; Edgar, October 6, 1904; and Henry, April 9, 1909.

Mr. Tenbarge is at the present time township trustee and is a believer in the principles of the democratic party and has voted that ticket ever since he cast his first ballot. He is a consistent member of the Catholic church and in discharging his obligations in life is governed by the same principles of justice and fair dealing that constituted a salient feature in the character of his father. His entire life has been passed upon the farm where he now lives and amid the scenes where he was born. By an upright and conscientious course he has earned the respect of all the residents of the township, who regard him as one of the substantial citizens, whose promise is as good as his bond and who always willingly lends his assistance in advancing any worthy cause.

RHINEHOLD F. SCHOR.

Rhinehold F. Schor, for a number of years bookkeeper of the First National Bank of Evansville, was called from earthly labors twenty-one years ago, but is still remembered by many with whom he was associated in business, social and family relations. He was born in Germany in 1844 and was the son of E. Gottlieb and Pauline (Boehmer) Schor, who came with their family to Evansville in 1853. The father was an intelligent man of good business ability and was connected with a German paper in this city for many years, continuing here until his death.

Rhinehold F. Schor possessed the advantages of a good education, which he received in the public schools of this city. After leaving school he was identified with the same paper as his father and later became connected with an insurance company then operating on Water street. For quite a number of years in the latter part of his life he was associated with the First National Bank in the capacity of bookkeeper, exhibiting an industry and faithfulness which would have gained success for him in any vocation to which he might have turned his attention.

He always took a great interest in muncipal affairs and as a member of the school board proved highly efficient in promoting the educational welfare of the growing generation. In politics he was in sympathy with the republican party to which he gave the interest of a true citizen, although he never sought public office or aspired for political honors. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the German Evangelical church and never permitted an opportunity to pass for promoting the comfort and well being of those about him. He was also a charter member of the Orien Lodge, K. P.

In 1868, at Evansville, Mr. Schor was united in marriage to Miss Mary Schmutte, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Abel) Schmutte, both of whom were natives of Germany. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Schor, of whom four are living: Mrs. Scott Haynes, Ernest, Anna and Arthur.

Mr. Schor was a man of scientific tastes and was especially fond of nature, of which he was a constant student and close observer. He made a practical use of his knowledge by collecting many insects and relics which are now to be seen in the city museum and indicate that had he possessed the advantage of a university education he would have attained prominence in the scientific world.

DANIEL G. TWEEDALL, M. D.

Dr. Daniel G. Tweedall, of Evansville, has made a practical demonstration of success, although he has been engaged in practice only seven years in a field where other physicians of long standing were well established. Application, perseverance and energy are the elements that have greatly contributed to his career, and in an important degree he possesses the good will of the community.

Dr. Tweedall was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1881, a son of Samuel Tweedall, who removed with his family to Evansville in 1893 and became identified with the Evansville Tool Works. The Doctor came with his parents to Evansville and was graduated from the high school of this city. Having early decided to devote his life to the healing art, he matriculated in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Chicago, which is a branch of the University of Chicago, and was graduated with high

honors in 1903, receiving the degree of M. D. In recognition of his ability and the faithfulness with which he attended to his duties, he was appointed house surgeon and during the last year of his attendance at the college was a resident of the hospital. This gave him the advantage of contact with many of the leading physicians and surgeons and an insight as to the actual workings of a difficult and trying profession, which has assisted him greatly in his career. After leaving Chicago he returned immediately to Evansville and has since been actively engaged in practice here.

In 1901 Dr. Tweedall was united in marriage to Miss Peresstrella M. Cody, a daughter of Bruce Cody, of this city. She is a lady of many accomplishments and has been a constant support and encouragement to her husband at the outset of what promises to be a highly successful career.

Dr. Tweedall is secretary of the United States pension examining board of this city and is also examiner for the Massachusetts Life Insurance Company, the Improved Order of Red Men, etc. In politics he is identified with the republican party although he is not an ardent politician, as his time and attention are devoted to his profession. He is a member of the Indiana State Medical Society, the Vanderburg County Medical Society, and by a courteous manner and a straightforward course has established himself in the confidence of all with whom he has been brought in contact. He is a thorough student of everything pertaining to his profession and to the best of his ability discharges every obligation as it appears. He belongs to that class of men who add worth and dignity to their calling and who represent the best product of modern life.

CHRISTIAN D. HELDT.

The soldiers of the Civil war who fought for the Union will always command the admiration and respect of every lover of liberty. Viewed at the distance of half a century, it is seen that the cause for which they fought was one of the noblest the world has ever known. By their sacrifices they established upon permanent foundations a republic which clearly stands out as a symbol of liberty and fraternity and awakens a response in the heart of every lover of freedom. The mission of America, as has been beautifully said, is to teach mankind the meaning of liberty and, notwithstanding all the faults that we may discover in our government, she is accomplishing that mission and is the greatest civilizer on the globe. It is to men like Christian D. Heldt, now a prosperous farmer of Knight township, this county, that the permanency of American institutions is due.

Mr. Heldt is of German parentage and was born at Rehme, Germany, in 1837. At seventeen years of age, after having received his education in the common schools and believing that America presented a more inviting field for an ambitious young man than his native land, he came to Evans-

ville and began as a farm laborer. He continued at this work until after the call to arms by President Lincoln, when, like a valiant and true-hearted man, he presented himself for enlistment under the stars and stripes and served through the entire war as a private in the Twenty-fourth Indiana Volunteers.

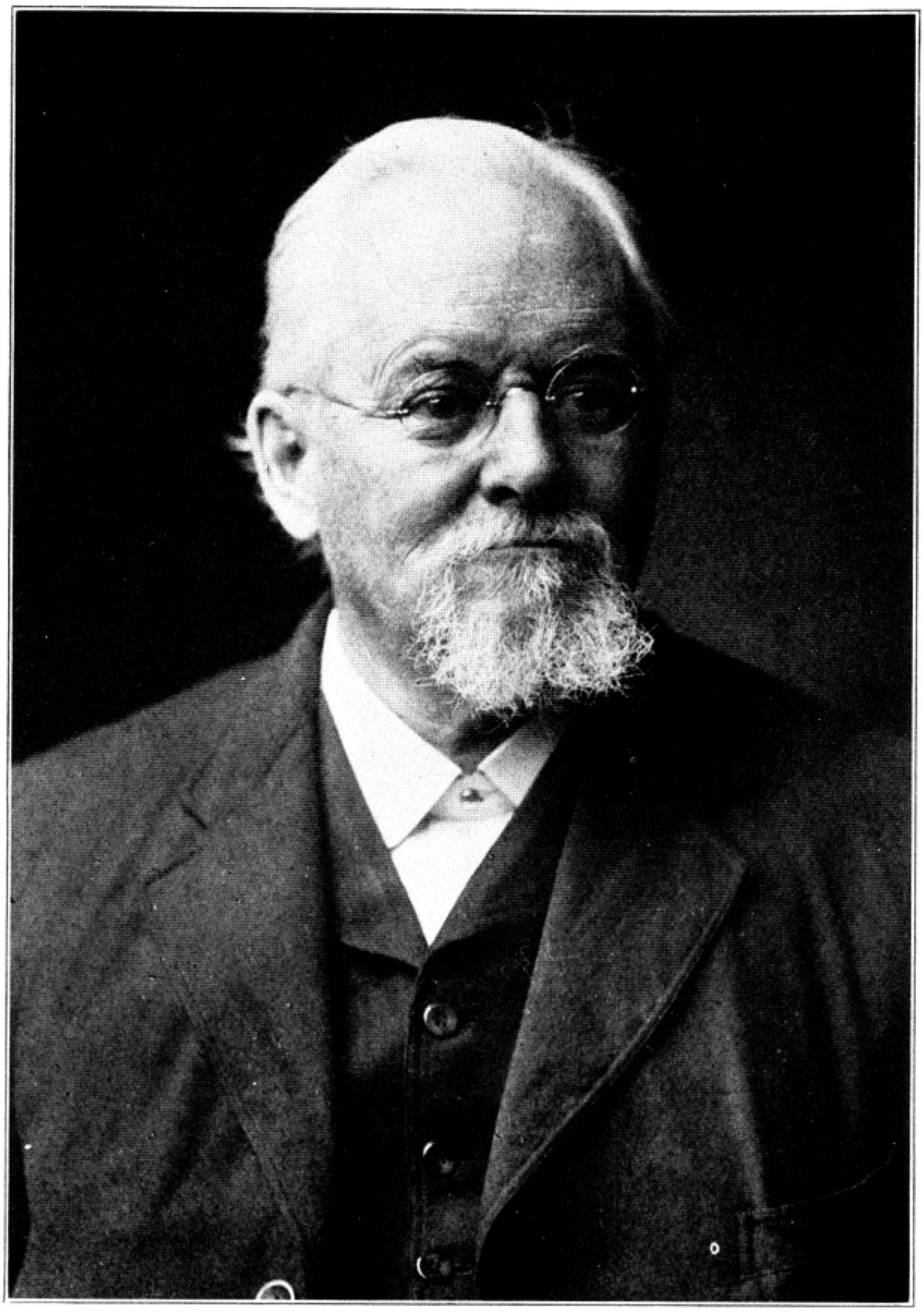
After returning from the army Mr. Heldt was a different man from what he had been as a recruit a few years before. The privations and sufferings through which he passed are known only to the soldier and many of his comrades who started out with high ambition and undaunted courage and are now at rest in the southland, where tens of thousands of brave men of both armies met their death. Hr. Heldt resumed his occupation as a farmer in Vanderburg county and is now living in comfort on a farm of two hundred and fifteen acres, which he redeemed from its wild condition and has made one of the best improved farms of the township.

In 1866 Mr. Heldt was united in marriage to Miss Mary Fickas, of Vanderburg county, and six children were born to this union: Humphrey; Mary, now Mrs. Joseph Haag, whose husband is a farmer of Knight township; Lizzie, the wife of Julius Wiggers, also a farmer of Knight township; Mattie, now Mrs. Elmer Hodson, of Evansville; Bismarck; and Frederick. Mr. and Mrs. Heldt have reared their children to the same habits of industry which they themselves have applied during their entire lives and have given them every advantage of society and education that the neighborhood affords.

Mr. Heldt often meets with his old comrades of the war and at Farragut Post, G. A. R., of which he is a member, the old soldiers gather to renew the friendships of years ago in recalling the thrilling scenes of the great event of their lives. Although the subject of our review has never urged his personal claims for public office, prferring as he does the duties of private life, the voters of his township selected him as a competent man for assessor and for thirteen years he filled that office to the satisfaction of the entire community.

EBEN C. POOLE.

One of the popular men of Evansville, who has by his genial qualities attracted the good-will and friendship of many of the best citizens of this city, is Eben C. Poole, born in Bangor, Maine, in 1847. He is a son of Eben and Hannah F. Poole and comes of sturdy and long-lived ancestry. He received his early training under favorable auspices in a happy home and was educated in the public schools of his native city. There he lived until he was sixteen years of age and then he was seized with the desire to migrate—a desire that has been one of the important elements in the distribution of mankind and the advancement of the race. He first went to



EBEN C. POOLE

Boston and there received induction into the drug business. The feeling of unrest, however, still prevailed and he responded to the invitation of a brother who was engaged in the meat business in Jersey City, New Jersey, where he joined him in that line of trade. Later he went to St. Louis and entered the service of the Pullman Company as a conductor, running between St. Louis and Houston, Texas. After an experience which extended over a number of years and in the course of which he operated in many parts of the country under the direction of the Pullman Company, he settled for a short time on an Illinois farm. However, he was called from the farm by an appointment as receiving cashier for the Monarch Palace Car Company and later entered the service of the Woodruff Car Company, continuing with this organization until its business was acquired by the Pullman Company and he found himself once more under the same general management in which he had started years before. Mr. Poole always had the confidence of his employers and he made a very extensive acquaintance among business men and others in his travels over the country.

At last, however, he retired permanently from the railway field and settled in Evansville, where he engaged in the oil business. About sixteen years ago he was elected to the office of justice of the peace in this city and at each recurring election has been returned to the same office, which he has conducted in such a manner as to meet the general acceptance of the people.

On the 20th of September, 1867, at Boston, Mr. Poole was married to Miss Ella C. Buzzell and one son, Samuel C., who now lives at Louisville, Kentucky, was born to them. His wife having been called away by the hand of death, he was united in marriage, at Jersey City, December 15, 1875, to Miss Margaret H. Mathews and five children resulted from this union: Helen F., now Mrs. W. M. Crabb; Ella M., now Mrs. Henry Feneman; Lillian M., who became the wife of George Bertelson; Edward Percy; and Harold M.

The father of Mr. Poole was a member of the old whig party, and ever since he arrived at voting age the son has given earnest support to the republican party, which succeeded the whig party in the '50s. He became a member of the Knights of Pythias in Boston in 1871 and was a charter member of the local lodge of Ben Hur and is past chief of the grand lodge of that order. He is a member of the Court of Honor and was first president of the Owls Club of this city. As is indicated by his fraternal affiliations, Mr. Poole is a gentleman of pleasing address, with pronounced social characteristics, and is an active worker in all matters tending to promote brotherly relations between men. Having had a large acquaintance with human nature in many of its phases, he is broad-minded in his views and easily makes friends wherever he is known. In his duties as a public officer he often adheres to the spirit rather than the letter of the law, leaning to the side of clemency when circumstances admit but at all times

shielding the public against the habitual lawbreaker. He believes that within certain limits the law may often be applied as a reformatory measure and it should not always be used as a means of chastisement. He is an independent thinker, a man of sound judgment and one who has in an eminent degree the confidence of those with whom he has been longest associated.

JOSEPH F. SCHENK.

An excellent farm of one hundred and eighty acres responds to the care and labor bestowed upon it by its owner, Joseph F. Schenk and its fine appearance is the result of his practical and progressive methods, improvement and cultivation. He has always been identified with agricultural life, his birth having occurred upon a farm in Perry county, Indiana, on the 2d of April, 1866, his parents being Joseph and Mary Schenk. The father was born in Germany but was brought to America by his parents when a little lad of seven years. At the time of his marriage he settled in Posey county, Indiana, where he followed general farming and also operated a sawmill. He was an industrious, energetic man and gained his success by reason of his untiring industry and determination.

While spending his youthful days under the parental roof, Joseph F. Schenk of this review pursued his education in the district schools in the winter months; in the summer seasons he was employed in the labors of the fields and gained practical experience which well qualified him to take up farming on his own account after attaining his majority. In his farm work he practices the rotation of crops and all the modern methods, which science sanctions and experience approves. Of his farm of one hundred and eightly acres he has himself cleared fifty acres, cutting down the trees, burning the brush and grubbing up the stumps until the land has been brought to a cultivable condition and now responds readily to the care and labor which he bestows upon it. As the years have gone by he has prospered in his undertakings owing to his close application and careful management and aside from his farming interests he has stock in the West Side Bank of Evansville.

On the 28th of March, 1894, in St. Boniface church, in Evansville, was celebrated the marriage of Joseph F. Schenk and Miss Julia Kleiderer, who was born on the 21st of July, 1877, a daughter of Charles H. and Elizabeth (Kold) Kleiderer. Her parents were both natives of Germany and came to America in the early '60s, Mrs. Kleiderer making her way direct to Vanderburg county, while Mr. Kleiderer took up his abode in Henderson, Kentucky. He was a tailor by trade and followed that pursuit in Henderson until after his marriage, when he removed to Evansville, continuing a resident of that city until his death, which occurred on

the 2d of January, 1886. His widow afterward married again, becoming the wife of Henry Schlomann, on the 27th of November, 1889. She is still living in Evansville.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Schenk has been blessed with seven children: Charles, now sixteen years of age; Clarence Lewis, aged eleven; Lillian Anna, nine years of age; Catherine Mary, seven years; Frances Caroline, three years, and Emma Julia, two years of age. They also lost one son, John Francis, who died at the age of thirteen years. The parents are members of the German Catholic church and are generous contibutors to its support.

Mr. Schenk gives his political allegiance to the democratic party and has served as township assessor. He is interested in all matters of progressive citizenship and gives his aid and cooperation to many movements for the general good. He has always lived in this part of the state and is a high type of the progressive agriculturist, who utilizes every legitimate means for the advancement of his business interests, keeping his farm at all times in good condition so that it constitutes one of the attractive features of the landscape.

THEODORE THEOPHILUS SCHULTZ, M. D.

Dr. Theodore T. Schultz, who will long be remembered as one of the honored men of Evansville, was born at Juliusburg in Schlesien, Germany, October 13, 1816, and was a son of Dr. Joseph Andreas Schultz, a practicing physician of Juliusburg, who was also noted for unusual proficiency in music and ability as a composer. Dr. Schultz possessed every advantage of a refined home during the formative years of his life. After completing the course in the public schools he attended the gymnasium and was graduated from the university. He read medicine under his father, who was a disciple of the homeopathic school, and adopted that profession as his life work. He was for some time connected in an official capacity with the German government, but, being ambitious for an independent career and having faith in the opportunities presented in America, he came to Evansville about 1854, where he soon acquired an extensive and lucrative medical practice. From the first he was a zealous advocate of homeopathy and during his entire life as a professional man he put forth every effort to advance the principles of medicine as enunciated by Dr. Hahnemann and his followers. By word and by pen he gave utterance to his sentiments on a subject that he considered of very grave importance and which engrossed much of his thought. He was an able and successful practitioner and attracted many patients from places distant from Evansville.

In politics Dr. Schultz was a born reformer and early adopted the system known as idealistic socialism, whose principles he believed would ulti-

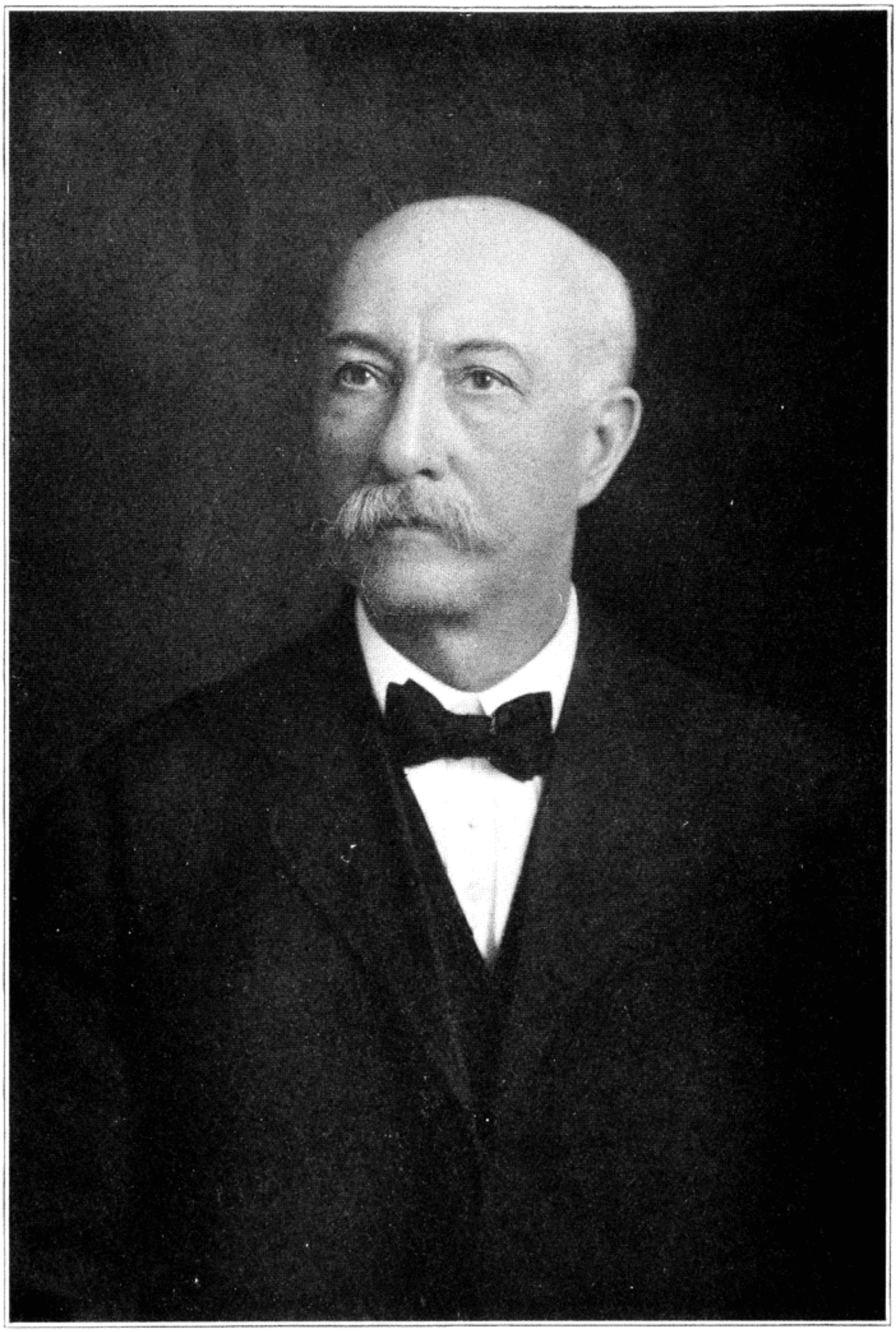
mately prevail in human government. He was also a pronounced free thinker. He had seen the effects of religious intolerance in the old country and was an uncomprising advocate of free speech. He was a great reader, not only of works pertaining to his profession but of those relating to philosophy, history, science and governmental subjects, and in the midst of a busy life he gained an unusual fund of knowledge pertaining to many subjects and was recognized by his associates as a scholar, whose opinion was always worth thoughtful consideration.

On the 22d of October, 1842, at New Zelle, Prussia, Dr. Schultz was united in marriage to Miss Louise Henriette Weber, whose father was a cloth manufacturer of that city. Ten children were born to Dr. and Mrs. Schultz, of whom three are now living: Mrs. Clara Karsch, the widow of Jacob Karsch, a review of whom is found elsewhere in this work; Mrs. Elfrieda Bragg, of Pittsburg, Kansas; and Mrs. Herman Glass Merritt, of Florida.

Dr. Schultz was called from earthly life on the 1st of October, 1904, at the age of eighty-eight years. His relatives and friends, knowing of his sterling qualities, will ever cherish his memory and the flowers that bloom each spring on his grave are a mute evidence of their unbroken affection. The family of which he was a worthy representative contained many noted physicans of special talent in the healing art, including Dr. Oscar Schultz, now deceased, of Mount Vernon, Indiana, who was a son of our subject and also his grandson, Dr. Oscar Schultz, professor of pathology in the Cleveland Medical College, and his daughter Elfrieda, who is a practicing physician in Kansas at the present time. It will be seen that the family presents a remarkable succession of talented members, all of whom have shown special ability in a profession that demands the very best judgment and also calls for discriminative powers of the highest degree.

EDWARD BOETTICHER.

If the individual could but know that success awaits him, even though the period be remote, such knowledge would greatly enlighten the labor which he performs as the years pass on, but between the present day and the future there is drawn an impenetrable veil and he must content himself with the faithful performance of daily duty without understanding what the outcome is to be. When a young lad of thirteen years Edward Boetticher became a clerk in a cigar store, little dreaming then that he would one day be the senior member of the firm of Boetticher & Kellogg, wholesale dealers in hardware and proprietors of the largest establishment of this character in Evansville. For fifty-three years he has been a resident of this city and throughout the entire period has been a representative of the hardware trade, yet his success has not been confined



EDWARD BOETTICHER

wholly to this line, for he has been connected with several important enterprises. He started upon the journey of life in Monroe county, Ohio, January 7, 1837, his parents being Frederick W. and Elizabeth (Weppler) Boetticher, both of whom were natives of Germany, born in 1798 and 1814, respectively. The father came to the United States in 1832, while the mother arrived in 1834. They were married near Wheeling, West Virginia, but afterward lived at various places owing to the itinerant customs of the ministry of the German Protestant church, which Mr. Boetticher represented. He died in 1849, however, after which his widow made her home with her son Edward.

Edward Boetticher spent the greater part of his early life near Cincinnati, Ohio, and acquired his education in private schools of that city. When a youth of thirteen he sought to provide for his own support by securing a position as clerk in a retail cigar store in Cincinnati, where he remained for two years. He then entered the hardware store of Tyler, Davidson & Company, where he remained for five years, and in 1857 he came to Evansville and accepted a position with Charles S. Wells, the association being maintained until the death of Mr. Wells in 1863. Mr. Boetticher afterward continued with the new firm of Wells, Kellogg & Company until 1864, at which time he was admitted to a partnership in the business. Three years later he and Mr. Kellogg took over the business under the firm name of Boetticher & Kellogg Company, which style is still retained. He was made president of the company in 1897 and has continued as its chief executive officer to the present time, covering a period of thirteen years. In the death of Mr. Kellogg, which occurred on the 8th of December, 1903, there was terminated a business association between them as fellow clerks and partners which had existed for over forty years. At that time O. H. Kellogg succeeded to the position of secretary and treasurer of the company. This is the largest concern of the kind in the city and the third largest in the state. The business has enjoyed a steady and substantial growth and its ramifying interests now reach out over a large territory, establishing in different localities the reputation of the house for reliability, for enterprise and prompt execution of orders. Boetticher & Kellogg Company are members of the National Hardware Association of America and thus keep in touch with the progressive thought which is bringing about thorough organization and careful management among all the representatives of the trade. Mr. Boetticher is also vice-president of the Evansville Trust & Savings Bank and a director of the Central Trust & Savings Bank, and his name is an honored one in financial circles.

On the 29th of November, 1859, Mr. Boetticher was married to Miss Amelia S. Beste, who was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, February 27, 1839, and is a daughter of Henry A. Beste. They have become the parents of eight children, of whom three are living, William H., Oscar and Frederick C. all of whom are now connected with their father in business.

The religious faith of the family is indicated in their membership in St. John's German Protestant church. Mr. Boetticher also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and to the Masonic fraternity. His political endorsement has been given to the republican party since its organization, and in 1874 he became a member of the city council, and later was chosen president of the board of sinking fund commissioners of Evansville. Regarded as a citizen, and in his social relations he belongs to that public-spirited, useful and helpful type of men whose ambitions and desires are centered and directed in those channels through which flow the greatest and most permanent good to the greatest number. He has cared little for public office, yet there is probably not a man of large private interests in Evansville that has felt a more hearty concern for the public welfare or has been more helpful in bringing about those purifying and wholesome reforms which have been gradually growing in the political, municipal and social life of the city. It is true that his chief life work has been that of a remarkably successful merchant, but the range of his activities and the scope of his influence have reached far beyond this special field. Unselfish and untiring, he prefers a quiet place in the background to the glamour of publicity, but his rare aptitude and ability in achieving results make him constantly sought and often bring him into a prominence from which he would naturally shrink were less desirable ends in view.

JAMES F. SAUNDERS.

Saunders is one of the well known family names of Vanderburg county; four successive generations of the family have been known here up to the present time. James F. Saunders, head of the Saunders Transfer Company of Evansville, was born in Perry township, this county, on the 15th of April, 1839, and is a son of William Carroll and Lydia (Faulkner) Saunders. William C. Saunders was also born in Vanderburg county and his father, Ezekiel Saunders, grandfather of our subject, was one of the first white man to settle in Perry township. He came to this region when it was a wilderness, built a log cabin and commenced farming. He was here at the time of the organization of the county and was one of the first county commissioners. He was also a Baptist preacher and early services of the church were held in his barn, which was the first frame barn erected in Vanderburg county. Ezekiel Saunders was a typical pioneer, a man of stout and rugged character, of great determination and a natural leader in his time. William Carroll Saunders, who was a worthy successor to a noted pioneer, spent his boyhood in clearing away the forest and improving the farm and later often rode on horseback to Vincennes to enter applications for homesteads at the government land offices for settlers who

were arriving from Germany and different states. He built the first saw and grist mill in this region and also had charge of a farm of two hundred and fifty acres, which he ably conducted until his death in 1853. His wife was a native of Maryland and a daughter of James Faulkner, who settled in German township in 1819 and there passed the last years of his life. Six children were born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Saunders, four of whom are now living: Richard; Ezekiel, of Mount Vernon, Posey county, Indiana; Henry, of Union township, this county; and James F., the subject of this sketch.

Educated in the early schools of his neighborhood, James F. Saunders grew up upon the home farm and then located in Union township, Vanderburg county, where he successfully engaged in farming and where he now owns a highly improved farm of three hundred and fifty acres. In 1890 he was elected county treasurer of Vanderburg county and was reelected in 1892, serving two terms. Eleven years ago he entered the transfer business by purchasing the outfit then owned by Mrs. B. S. Venneman. This business he has developed on an extensive scale and it is now known as the Saunders Transfer Company and includes hack line with buses to all hotels and transfer business generally. The company makes use of forty horses and employs thirty to thirty-five men and is one of the substantial paying institutions of the city.

On the 9th of March, 1870, Mr. Saunders was united in marriage, in this county, to Miss Haidee Uffield, a native of Ohio. Two children were born to them: George, now in business with his father; and Ruth. Mr. Saunders has for many years been identified with the democratic party and while holding the office of county treasurer he gave proof of many admirable traits as a public official. He is a man of frank and straightforward address, and contact with the world has broadened his mind and removed the prejudices that usually linger with those who have not similar opportunities. He is a member of the Methodist church and is recognized by all classes as a just and honorable citizen who has fairly attained a worthy position among his fellowmen by his own exertions.

FRED H. KUEHNE.

Fred H. Kuehne who, while he makes no pretensions, is recognized as one of the highly successful farmers and live-stock raisers in this county. He was born in German township, December 23, 1877, and is a son of Fred and Elizabeth (Aether) Kuehne. The father, who was born in Saxony, Germany, November 30, 1844, was drafted into the German army and participated in the war between Prussia and Austria in 1866. After its close, having had a glimpse of the great world and feeling a desire for freedom of action which he could not experience in his native country, he

decided to seek his fortune in a foreign land and came to America in 1867. After arriving in New York he proceeded westward, stopping in German township, Vanderburg county, Indiana, where he settled on eighty acres of partially cleared timber land, which he improved after a great deal of hard labor. He also purchased additional land until he was the owner of a farm of three hundred acres, which he sold in 1886, and bought a fine tract of two hundred acres in Armstrong township, upon which he established a permanent home. He was an ambitious, energetic and successful farmer and his example proved worthy of imitation by many younger members of the community. He departed this life June 5, 1899, and his remains are buried in St. Paul's cemetery, St. Joseph, German township.

Mrs. Kuehne, the mother of our subject, first saw the light of day in Doernbach, Rheinpfalz, Bavaria, Germany, April 15, 1835. She came to German township, Vanderburg county, with her parents in 1853, the family settling upon a tract of forty acres of timber land. Her father was a man of great industry and perseverance and his labors on the farm brought independence to himself and those that were dearest to him. Mrs. Kuehne was twice married. After the death of her first husband she wedded Fred Kuehne in 1871. Although well advanced in years she has retained in a remarkable degree her strength of mind and of body and now lives at the old family home in Armstrong township with her daughter. Ten children were born to her and her second husband, four of whom are married and are happily situated in life.

Fred H. Kuehne was educated in the district schools and having decided to devote his attention to farming, applied himself with such ability and diligence that after his father's death he purchased from the other heirs the family holdings and has since made his home on the farm where he was born. An evidence of his success may be expressed in the statement that his wheat crop for the season of 1910 amounted to four thousand bushels. As a general farmer and stock-raiser, taking into consideration the size of his farm, he has no superior in the county.

On September 2, 1902, Mr. Kuehne was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Ebert, of Armstrong township, a daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Keil) Ebert, both natives of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, and pioneer settlers of this county. Her father was called to his reward nineteen years ago but her mother is still living. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kuehne: Henry, born November 11, 1903; William, in October, 1905; Elizabeth, in February, 1907; and Fred, in March, 1909.

Mr. Kuehne, although his father was an ardent democrat and the neighborhood in which he was reared was strongly democratic, is independent politically and votes for the best and most progressive men rather than for any party ticket. He is a consistent member of the Evangelical church and is known as a wide-awake citizen, tolerant of the opinions of others and with a mind always open to the reception of truth from whatsoever

source it may appear. He is recognized by those who know him best as a worthy descendant of a sturdy ancestry, a man of high character and of patriotic spirit, who seeks not only the comfort and happiness of his own family but also the advancement of the entire community in which he lives.

WILLIAM E. SIEBEKING.

Among the industrious and respected farmers of Union township, Vanderburg county, may be named William E. Siebeking, who is a native of the township where he now lives and who has been identified all his life with its farming interests. He was born January 1, 1867, and is a son of Christian and Mary Ann (Edmond) Siebeking. Mr. Siebeking was a native of Germany, but like thousands of sturdy descendants of German ancestry, he found in the American republic a more favorable opportunity for advancement in the world than the old country could afford. His wife, the mother of our subject, was born in Union township, this county, and on the farm where she and her husband took up their abode they established a comfortable home and the head of the family successfully engaged in general farming and by habits of industry he gained the recognition and respect of the people of the neighborhood.

William E. Siebeking was born upon his father's farm and was educated in the little schoolhouse where the boys and girls of the district were instructed in the fundamental branches during the cooler months of the year, assisting on the farm or in the household during the remaining months. The parents taught their children to work and thus established in them a habit that is of the utmost importance in the early training of the younger generation. William E. Siebeking after leaving school devoted his entire attention to the farm and after he began farming on his own responsibility he showed a talent for agricultural pursuits that gave fine promise for the future. He assisted in clearing the land of the forest, guided the plow as it broke the virgin soil, and gained a knowledge of planting, harvesting and marketing so necessary in a farming pursuit. He also gained a great deal of information as to live-stock and the grades that bring the best prices, so that he has been able, as a general farmer, to meet the demands of buyers looking for choice animals for which there is always a market. He is now farming upon an extensive scale and is the owner of a well improved farm of one hundred acres, also renting a farm of one hundred and seventy-five acres which he is able to operate to good advantage. He makes use of the latest improved machinery and his farm residence and surroundings indicate the good judgment and careful management of one who is fully alive to the comforts and conveniences of the up-to-date farming establishment.

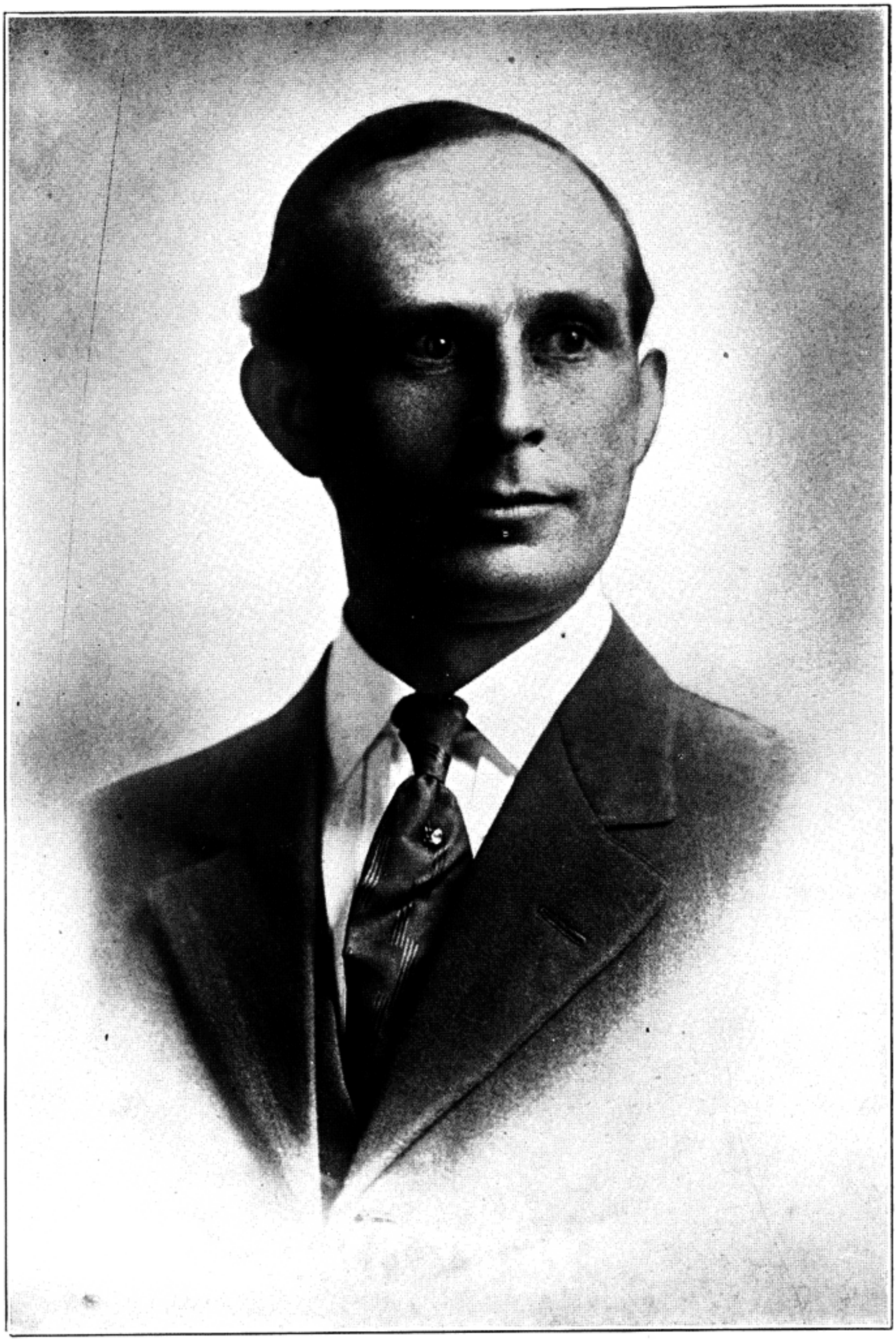
On February 12, 1889, Mr. Siebeking was united in marriage to Miss Louise J. Rouse, of Union township, a daughter of Michael and Sarah (Carter) Rouse, the former of Kentucky and the latter of Union township. Mrs. Siebeking has been indeed a helpmate to her husband, attending with greatest care to the duties of the household while he worked in the fields or directed others in the various operations of the well regulated farm where every month of the year brings new duties and responsibilities.

Mr. Siebeking is identified with the republican party and has always shown the interest of a patriotic citizen in voting for measures endorsed by that party, although he has never been a seeker for office for himself. He served, however, with general acceptance for four years as supervisor of the township. He is a member of the Baptist church and is in hearty sympathy with all movements, moral or religious, that aim to improve the character of the individual or to elevate the standard of society. Mr. Siebeking is happy in his life work and is a good example of an American citizen actuated by worthy ideas which he has successfully applied ever since he entered upon his active career.

ARTHUR H. MEYER.

Arthur H. Meyer, who since July, 1908, has engaged in the practice of law at Evansville, is a native of Indiana and has passed his life up to the present time in this state. He was born at Elberfeld, Warrick county, September 8, 1882, and is a son of George J. and Hannah Meyer. His father was born in Gibson county, Indiana, November 22, 1853, and devoted his attention to farming until 1889, having moved to Elberfeld some years previously. He engaged in the agricultural implement business from 1889 until 1900, when he closed out his establishment and entered the grain trade. In 1908 he retired and is making his home in Evansville.

Arthur H. Meyer attended the public schools until sixteen years of age. He then entered the high school at Haubstadt, Gibson county, pursuing his studies so assiduously that in two years, at the age of eighteen, he was graduated. Desiring to be self-supporting, he secured a teacher's certificate and for four years taught in the district schools of Warrick county. In the meantime he was preparing for advanced studies and had fixed his mind on the law as his life pursuit. He attended Oakland City College two terms and in the spring of 1904 matriculated in the Indiana University, from which he was graduated with the degree of A. B. in June, 1907. His next step was to the law department of the State University. In one year he completed the course, graduating in 1908, with the degree of LL. B. An ambition which took form at least ten years before this time was now realized and he was at once admitted as a practitioner in the state and supreme courts of Indiana and also in the federal courts.



ARTHUR H. MEYER

Bringing to his profession a mind trained under direction of some of the brightest educators of Indiana, and sharpened by actual contact with the busy world, Mr. Meyer has made a good start and has entered upon a career that gives promise, as the years pass, of increasing usefulness to himself and society. He recognizes that the young lawyer of today has many advantages not possessed by those of generations past, and while it is a profession in which a constant testing and sifting process is going on, nevertheless the survival of the fittest is to be observed here, as in every other department of life, and the young man who denies himself for years to obtain the best education the land affords is very likely to be found among the survivors. The same energy and persistence that store the mind with practical knowledge may generally be depended upon to land their possessor somewhere near the top of the ladder. Mr. Meyer is a logical thinker, a close observer and student, a good speaker, and has those genial qualities that make friends wherever their possessor is known.

The principles of the democratic party receive his support as those principles most conducive to the permanent welfare of a republican form of government. His religious faith is in harmony with the Evangelical church, whose teachings early appealed to his heart and mind. Mr. Meyer is unmarried and makes his home with his parents. His friends and associates at law are confident that in the years to come he will be able "to give a good account of himself" and that by word and example he will always represent what he feels to be just and true.

H. F. RIECHMANN.

One of the young men who has won a place among the financiers of Evansville is H. F. Riechmann, cashier of the West Side Bank, and a growing factor in financial and business circles of one of the principal cities in the Ohio valley. He is a native of Evansville, born February 18, 1877. His father, Frederick Riechmann, was born in Germany but was married in Evansville to Anna Harmeyer. Eight children were born to them, five of whom are living, namely: Anna, now Mrs. Benjamin Bosse; Mayme; H. F., the subject of this review; August, of Evansville; and George, also of Evansville.

Frederick Riechmann entered the grocery business upon taking up his residence at Evansville and continued in that line of trade during all of his active life, investing also in real estate. He was a highly respected and public-spirited citizen. In politics he adhered to the principles of the democratic party and was a candidate for the city council but was not elected. He was a consistent member of the German Lutheran church and his death, in 1899, at the age of fifty-five years, when he was in the prime of life, was greatly deplored by many friends and well-wishers. He was

a man of high ideals and one who deserved the esteem of a community that recognized in him a citizen whose work and character appealed to their highest regard. The father of Mrs. Riechmann was a pioneer of Indiana and settled in Dubois county. Mr. and Mrs. Riechmann reared their children under the protection of a kindly home whose influence has continued as a benediction through after years.

The subject of this review received his education in the public schools of Evansville and gained his first experience in business under his father. He continued for a number of years in the grocery business and then for two years acted as traveling salesman for furniture houses of Evansville. Wider acquaintance with the world broadened his views and prepared him to discharge acceptably the responsibility to which he was invited as assistant cashier of the West Side Bank. Three years ago he was advanced to cashier, succeeding H. H. Ogden. He filled that position to the satisfaction of officers and directors of the bank and has assisted materially in increasing the scope and popularity of the institution. He is treasurer of the West Side Building, Loan & Savings Association and also director of the Globe-Bosse-World Furniture Company, the West Side Real Estate & Insurance Company, and is a stockholder in several banks and corporations of the city.

Mr. Riechmann is a democrat but has devoted his attention to business rather than politics and has gained a reputation as a conservative young business man of good judgment and high character, giving every assurance of a successful and helpful career. There is no better illustration of the effect of right training and correct principles in the development of a useful life than is presented in this record.

ARTHUR C. KARGES.

Among the young men of Evansville who have demonstrated their ability to manage large interests may be named Arthur C. Karges, general manager of the Evansville Sash & Door Company. He was born at Blue Grass, Iowa, on the 5th of May, 1881, where his parents resided for some years, later returning to Evansville. He is a son of Henry Karges, who came to the United States from Germany previous to the Civil war and engaged in the grocery business at Evansville. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Gleichman, a native of Evansville and of German descent. Henry Karges did not confine his attention entirely to the grocery trade, but was one of the projectors of the old Hedrich Hotel and was a very active and energetic man in the earlier days of Evansville. He was called away from earthly duties and responsibilities as also was his wife when the son was about sixteen years of age, and from that time Arthur C. Karges has depended upon his own exertions for ad-

vancement. However, even as a boy he was the fortunate possessor of a stout heart and a desire to lead a life that would be a credit not only to himself but to his friends and associates. Any young man starting with this determination is almost absolutely certain to win. For a number of years he was in the employ of the Indiana Stove Works.

In 1906 Mr. Karges became connected with the Evansville Sash & Door Company as bookkeeper and was advanced until in January, 1910, he was made general manager for the company in this city. The Evansville Sash & Door Company is a branch of the Anson & Hixon Sash & Door Company of Merrill, Wisconsin, one of the largest concerns of the kind in the country. While only a limited amount of manufacturing is carried on at the Evansville plant, a very extensive supply of the finished product is here accumulated for distribution over a wide territory in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Florida. Three salesmen represent the house upon the road and the growth of the business from this point has fully kept pace with that in other lines since the plant was established at Evansville.

Mr. Karges has a sister, Lillian, and two brothers, Henry and Albert, who are also living in this city. Although his experience has been limited to a few years in the business to which he is devoting his attention, he has gained the confidence of his associates and in the responsible position he occupies has shown an ability which gives promise of a capacity to meet any emergency that may arise. His career has shown steady advancement and he is the possessor of the characteristics that command honor and respect wherever they are known.

JOSEPH A. SCHENK, SR.

Among the native residents of Vanderburg county who have attained prosperity and well earned independence as a farmer is Joseph A. Schenk, Sr. Mr. Schenk has engaged in general farming ever since his early manhood and by his industry and good management he has acquired a property that year by year increases in value and produces an annual revenue that is the result of skill and well applied labor.

He was born in German township January 4, 1850, and is a son of Adam and Susanna (Gonz) Schenk. The father was a native of West Farland, Germany, and served in the German army, but being ambitious of advancing and perceiving that there was little opportunity for a young man without financial resources, in the old country, he decided to seek his fortune elsewhere and early in the '40s he came to America and located in this county. Here his early dreams of independence were realized. He became a successful farmer and instilled into his children those principles of energy and perseverance that are so important in the accomplishment of any worthy aim.

The subject of this review was reared under favorable conditions and early became inbued with the idea that success is gained through self-reliance. He was educated in the common schools and as a young man was one of the most energetic farmers in the neighborhood. He is the fortunate owner of a farm of two hundred and fifty acres, part of which he has cleared and brought to a high state of cultivation. His farm is provided with a commodious and confortable residence, good barns and outbuildings, and is one of the most desirable in this region.

On August 13, 1878, Mr. Schenk was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Schoentrup, a daughter of John and Adeline Schoentrup. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Schenk eleven children have been born: Rosa, wife of Anthony Gerard; John; Lulu; Columbus; and Cecilia, who are now living; and Annie, Mary, Henry, Joseph, Albert and Adolph, who are deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Schenk are both active members of the German Catholic church and are conscientious in the discharge of the duties which they owe to their neighbors and the community where they have so long made their home. Mr. Schenk votes with the democratic party. He has inherited many of the sturdy characteristics of his father, among them his fidelity to his family, which is one of the important elements in establishing a home and thus forming a basis for civilized society.

ROBERT A. BRENNAN.

Success has usually attended the pathway of Robert A. Brennan, a well known real-estate man of Evansville, who is a native of Cincinnati. His parents, Michael and Elizabeth Brennan, were both born and reared in Dublin, Ireland, and on emigrating to the new world settled in Cincinnati about 1830. The father died when their son Robert was an infant and the mother afterward married James Tyrrell. They removed with the family to Kentucky, settling on a farm near Lexington. At the usual age Robert A. Brennan was sent to the country schools near his home but when a lad of twelve years he ran away. The Civil war was then in progress and, stirred by the events which were so rapidly shaping history in those days, he joined the Seventh Ohio Cavalry and was given a position in the quartermaster's department at Camp Nelson, Kentucky, serving from the fall of 1863 until the fall of 1865. After leaving Camp Nelson Mr. Brennan returned home and resumed work upon the farm but in 1868 came to Evansville and has since been identified with commercial interests. He first entered the employ of Sweetser, Caldwell & Company, wholesale dry goods merchants, whom he represented upon the road as a traveling salesman for fifteen years. He devoted the succeeding four years to the conduct of a country store at Poseyville, Indiana, after which he came to Evansville and opened a department store. When he closed out

that business he turned his attention to real estate and in this, as in all of his other ventures, has been successful. He is a believer in the old adage that honesty is the best policy and he also believes in the religion of hard work and close application if success would be attained.

In 1873 Mr. Brennan was married, in Evansville, to Miss Cora A. Messick, a daughter of Captain J. W. and Sarah Messick. Her father won his title in command of Company A, Forty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was captured at the battle of Chickamauga and held as a prisoner of war for seventeen months. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brennan were born two children but they lost their son, Harry S., at the age of sixteen years. Their daughter, Bessie, became the wife of Ernest Bishop and died a few years after her marriage, leaving a son, Bobbie Brennan Bishop, who was reared by and is now with Mr. and Mrs. Brennan.

In politics Mr. Brennan has always been a democrat and without desire for office. He is a past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias lodge, past master in the Woodmen lodge, a past grand in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and a member of Elks Lodge No. 116, of Evansville. His official preferment in fraternal organizations indicates his popularity with his fellow members and his loyalty to the principles for which they stand. He is a believer in the golden rule and thinks it much better policy to laugh that the world may laugh with you rather than to weep alone. His disposition is jovial, his manner cordial and genial and the circle of his friends is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

WILLIAM G. DOWNS, D. D. S.

Dr. William G. Downs, successfully practicing dentistry in Evansville since 1896, was born in Boonville, Indiana, August 1, 1871, a son of Thomas and Lydia M. (Williams) Downs. His father was born in Livermore, Kentucky, in the year 1834, and the mother, a native of Boonville, Indiana, was born in 1840. Mr. Downs engaged in the milling business and in general merchandising in Boonville for a number of years, becoming a prominent and influential citizen there. He died in 1893 but the mother still lives in her native city.

William G. Downs attended the public schools of Boonville and Evansville, and the University of Ohio at Cincinnati, and is a graduate of Vanderbilt University, of Nashville, Tennessee. Preparing for the practice of dentistry he completed his course there in 1893 and through the following year was associated with Dr. E. C. Bailey, of this city. He then engaged in the practice of his profession independently at Huntingburg, Indiana, from 1894 until 1896, returning in the latter year to Evansville, where he opened and has since conducted an office. In the intervening period of fourteen years he has built up a good practice, keeping in touch

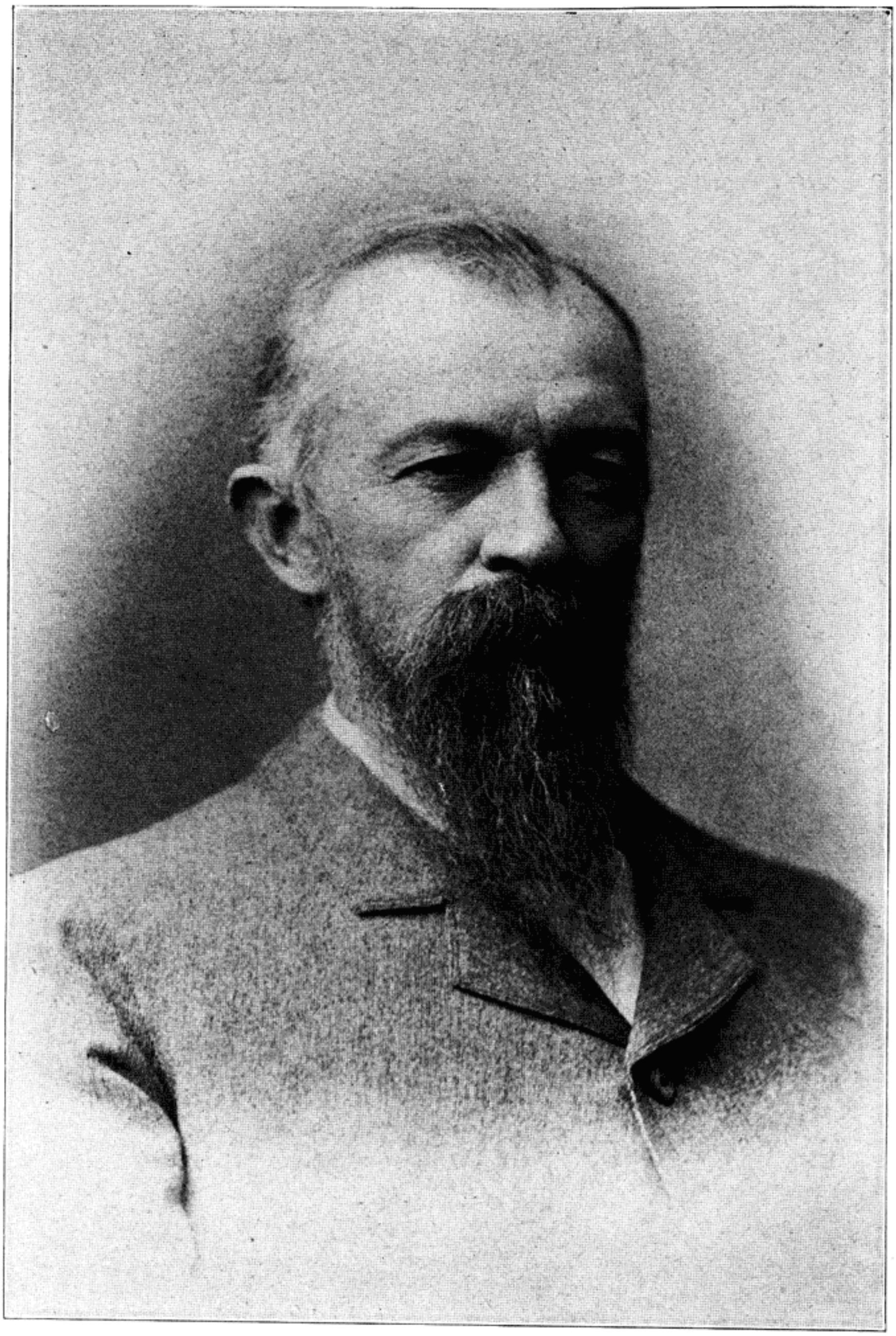
at all times with modern methods and the most advanced ideas of the profession. He has the mechanical skill, the scientific knowledge and the business discernment without which success in the dental profession is never attained.

In 1894 Dr. Downs was united in marriage to Miss Anna Wilson, of Louisville, a daughter of John T. Wilson, a prominent horse man of that city. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Downs has been born a son, William G., whose birth occurred in 1897. The parents are members of Grace Presbyterian church and in his political views the Doctor is a republican. He has served as deputy state oil inspector for four years, but otherwise has held no public office. He is well known in fraternal circles, serving now as master of Evansville Lodge, No. 64, F. & A. M., of Evansville, and also as deputy grand chancellor of the Knights of Pythias. In strictly professional lines he is connected with the State Dental Society and the Tri-State Dental Society, and his conscientious service in the field of his chosen profession has gained him recognition as one of its prominent representatives.

FRANZ R. CADEN.

Franz R. Caden, deceased, will long be remembered as one of the public-spirited men of Evansville and also as one of the largest stone contractors of the country. He was born in Saxony, Germany, February 29, 1836, and received his education in the public schools of his native land. He was a son of William Caden, who came with his family to America in 1850. The father was a quarryman in Germany and after arriving in the United States he bought quarries at Buena Vista, Ohio, which he operated with the assistance of his sons.

Franz R. Caden was thus inducted into a vocation to which he devoted his life and in which he became eminently successful. After President Lincoln's call for troops in 1861 he enlisted in the Indiana Volunteers and served one and one-half years in the army, receiving his discharge on account of wounds. In the meantime he had become interested in quarries at Hadley, Kentucky, and, locating at Evansville, he became junior member of the firm of Albecker & Caden, which in the course of years gained a wide reputation on account of the large contracts taken in many parts of the country. The business at Evansville was originally located at the corner of Second Avenue and Division street, but later the yards were moved to the spot where the Manufacturers building now stands. The partners continued together until the death of Mr. Albecker, after which Mr. Caden assumed complete charge. A few years ago the firm was incorporated as the Caden Stone Company and continues on the same broad lines that were followed by its founders. They supplied the stone for many public and private buildings in Evansville and in principal cities of



FRANZ R. CADEN

the Union. Among its large contracts was the capitol of the state of Pennsylvania at Harrisburg and there appeared to be no contract that was too large for this firm.

On the 7th of March, 1864, Mr. Caden was married in Cincinnati, Ohio, to Miss Nancy Boldman, who is still living at the age of sixty-nine years of age. She spent the winter of 1909-10 in California, but continues to make her home in Evansville. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Caden eight children were born, of whom five are still living: Laura; Albert, vice president of the Caden Stone Company, who is married and has a daughter, Frances R., now five years of age; Dora, now Mrs. Edward Greiner; Anna, now Mrs. Edward Beck, formerly the wife of William Winstroth, who died leaving a daughter Mary then two years old but now thirteen; and Walter, who is also associated with the Caden Stone Company.

Mr. Caden was a man of large business capacity and always proved equal to any emergency which appeared in a business that grew to large proportions. He was a good judge of human nature and an able manager of men. While he did not possess the advantages of collegiate training, he readily acquired knowledge by contact with others. Some one has said that intelligent men of business are the most sensible men in the world, and this saying was exemplified in the life of Mr. Caden. He was courageous, self-reliant and energetic in a high degree, and he had few equals and probably no superiors in the country in his special line of work.

He was always ready to lend a willing hand to assist any movement that had for its object the advancement of the welfare of his adopted city. He was a strong believer in the platform of the republican party and for two terms he occupied a seat in the city council. While his business interests absorbed most of his time, he devoted considerable attention to Masonry and was a member of the blue lodge, chapter and commandery and at the time of his death was the oldest Mason in years of membership in the city. Mr. Caden was in many respects built upon a larger scale than we ordinarily meet with in men and if, as has been claimed, the object of our earthly existence is the development of upright character it may truly be said that in an important degree his was a successful life.

EDWIN WALKER, M. D., PH. D.

Dr. Edwin Walker, a distinguished representative of the medical profession in Evansville, and a successful medical educator, was born in this city, which is still his place of residence, May 6, 1853, and is a representative of one of its oldest and most prominent families. His paternal grandfather, William Walker, was in early life a resident of Salem, New Jersey, and near the town there still stands what is known as the Walker tree, under which he is said to have had his camp with a company of

soldiers who took part in the war of 1812 against England. Removing westward with his family, he lived for a short time in Cincinnati, Ohio, and then came to Evansville in 1835. When war with Mexico was declared he raised a company of volunteers and was killed at the battle of Buena Vista, in a charge at the Mexican lancers. He fell with many wounds. His wife bore the maiden name of Catherine Tyler and was in early life a resident of Philadelphia. Their four sons, James T., George B., John T., and William H., also spent the greater part of their lives in Evansville.

The eldest son, James T. Walker, arrived in this city in 1835. He was a lawyer by profession and served in the state legislature in 1844. He married Ann Charlotte Burtis, a daughter of Jesse Burtis, who was born in Vanderburg county, where she spent her entire life. George B. Walker, the second son, became a physician and a prominent member of a number of medical societies. He was one of the most active of the founders of the medical college of Evansville which flourished for several years, was dean of the institution and professor of obstetrics. He obtained his professional training in the Ohio Medical College, while extensive reading and research constantly broadened his knowledge in the field of his chosen profession. During the Civil war he served for three years as surgeon in various hospitals and was afterward president of the city board of health of Evansville for several years. His success, however, was not measured alone in the terms of his profession, as his activity extended to other fields. He became a director of the Evansville & Crawfordsville Railroad and was a director of the Evansville Branch State Bank. That he was not without influence in political circles is indicated by the fact that he was a delegate to the convention which nominated Franklin Pierce. He married Elizabeth Clark, and died September 6. 1887. John T. Walker, the third son, became a member of the medical profession and acted as surgeon of the Twenty-fifth Indiana Infantry in the Civil war. His son, William H. Walker, was adjutant and another son, Jesse W. Walker, was major in the same regiment. His children are all deceased now. William H. Walker, the fourth son, was also prominent in city affairs and did not a little toward shaping the public policy and molding the destiny of Evansville. He acted as mayor of the city at one time and for a number of years was county auditor. Through his connection with public interests he left and indelible impression upon the history of the county. His children have all removed from Evansville; a daughter of William Walker was Mrs. Hannah Welborn, the grandmother of Dr. James York Welborn.

In the family of James T. Walker, the elder son of William Walker, there were two sons, James T. Walker, Jr., and Edwin Walker, whose name introduces this review. The former is an attorney at law of the firm of Walker & Walker, his partner being Henry B. Walker. He, too, has figured in connection with public affairs, serving for about ten years as

school trustee while at the present writing, in 1910, he is a member of the board of safety.

Dr. Edwin Walker, pursuing his studies through consecutive grades, was graduated from the high school of Evansville with the class of 1869, and afterward devoted two years to a classical course in Hanover College at Hanover, Indiana. He began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. George B. Walker in this city in 1871, and at the same time attended three courses of lectures in the Evansville Medical College, from which he was graduated in the class of 1874. Following his graduation he at once opened an office in Evansville and in the same year was appointed professor of anatomy by his alma mater. In 1877 he attended a course of lectures in New York and two years later again entered the university in that city, from which he was graduated with honors, being awarded the prize for the greatest proficiency in diseases of the nervous system. Returning to Evansville he was appointed professor of diseases of women and diseases of the nervous system in the medical college here. In 1883 he attended a course of lectures at the New York Polyclinic and pursued a special course of study in diseases of women and diseases of the throat under the direction of Professor Bosworth. Two years later he spent two months in attending hospital clinics and in the fall went to Europe, where he remained until August, 1886, devoting his time when abroad to the study of diseases of women and surgery, receiving instruction from eminent members of the profession in Berlin, Vienna, London and Edinburgh. Since determining to make the practice of medicine his life work he has spent much time in studying in further preparation for the onerous duties which devolve upon the physician. His success is marked because his knowledge is comprehensive, his power of analysis keen and his diagnosis therefore correct. Moreover, he is most conscientious in the discharge of his professional duties and his ability has won him place in the foremost ranks of the medical profession in Indiana. From 1876 until 1878 he served as county physician and with others was active in establishing the City Hospital, in 1882; the Walker Sanitarium, in 1884, which he has since conducted; and the first training school for nurses in Evansville in 1887. Hanover College recognized his ability in 1888 by conferring upon him the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. He keeps in touch with the advancement of the medical fraternity through his membership in the Vanderburg County Medical Society, the Indiana State Medical Society, of which he has been president, also president of the Mississippi Valley Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

Dr. Walker was married in Evansville, in 1880, to Miss Capitola Hudspeth, who was born in Boonville, Indiana, in 1859, and is a daughter of George and Margaret (Smith) Hudspeth, for many years prominent residents of this city. The record which Dr. Walker has made in the field of professional service is one which reflects credit upon a name that has

long been an honored one in Vanderburg county. Moreover his experiences in life, travel and reading have placed him in that class where the most intellectual men of the city are wont to gather in the discussion of questions of significant and vital interest.

JOHN WILLIAM GLEICHMAN.

John William Gleichman is treasurer of the Anchor Supply Company, of Evansville, with which business he has been connected since its organization. It is recognized as one of the important manufacturing and commercial interests of the city. Throughout his entire life Mr. Gleichman has never feared that laborious attention to detail upon which success largely rests. His ability to coordinate forces and to recognize the value of each opportunity has been an element in the substantial advancement of an enterprise that has long been one of the profitable concerns of Vanderburg county. Evansville numbers him among her native sons, his birth having here occurred February 4, 1856. His parents were John M. and Emilie Gleichman, both of whom were natives of Germany, whence they came to the new world in early life. The father was for many years engaged in merchandising and in the insurance business in this city, and was numbered among its respected and valued residents. He died in February, 1909, having for only a few months survived his wife, who passed away in November, 1908. Five of their seven children are yet living and are residents of Evansville. Our subject comes of long-lived ancestry and very few families can claim the distinction of two golden weddings, but his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. William Rahm, Sr., celebrated their golden wedding May 30, 1884, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John M. Gleichman, celebrated theirs on the 1st of January, 1905.

John William Gleichman left the high school at the age of fifteen years to become a clerk in the store of William Rahm & Son, the partners being his grandfather and uncle. They conducted a general mercantile establishment, in which he acted as salesman for five years. He next became bookkeeper for Matthew Dalzell, a wholesale grocer, with whom he remained for three years, when he accepted a position of bookkeeper and manager with John J. Sinzich, conducting a boat, awning and tent business. He acted in that capacity until January, 1894, when he joined with Louis A. Daus and Peter Emrich in organizing the Anchor Supply Company, which bought out Mr. Sinzich. The business was incorporated January 13, 1894, with Mr. Gleichman as secretary and treasurer. He has been identified with business interests in this block for thirty-three years and thirty years in the same building. His success is attributable to close attention, unfaltering perseverance and energy that never flags. He has never been afraid to work and when the present company was organized

J. W. GLEICHMAN

each partner had specific duties, Mr. Daus managing the awning work, while Mr. Gleichman found his time fully occupied with the office work and the sales department. Gradually the business has been developed along specific lines until the trade of the house is now extensive and the income derived therefrom substantial and gratifying.

On the 13th of April, 1881, Mr. Gleichman was married to Miss Laura A. Myers, a daughter of Jacob Myers, of Evansville, and unto them have been born two sons and a daughter: Oliver C., who is connected with the Anchor Supply Company; Beulah, now the wife of Ernest E. Lee, who is in the government service, being assistant superintendent of mechanical and electrical engineering of the lock and dam construction of the Panama canal; and William A., who at the age of eighteen years is attending business college.

Mr. Gleichman is prominent in the Masonic order, with which he has been affiliated for fifteen years. He has attained high rank and has crossed the sands of the desert with the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He belongs to both the subordinate lodge and uniform rank of the Knights of Pythias, and was a captain in the latter. For twenty-four years he has been secretary of the local organization of the Royal Arcanum and is a very prominent, helpful and valued member in these different associations. He is equally loyal to his professions as a member of the Methodist church and is a stanch advocate of the republican party. He finds his chief recreation in fishing and an occasional vacation serves to counterbalance the pressure of continued business cares. Although he started out in life empty-handed at the age of fifteen years, he has attained enviable success in the business world, and, moreover, his business probity stands as an unquestioned fact in his record.

TRAVIS D. MUNDY.

Travis D. Mundy, engaged in the grocery business at No. 701 John street, was born on a farm in Warrick county, near Boonville, Indiana, November 7, 1864, and is the second child of Middleton K. and Eliza (Rhodes) Mundy, who were also natives of Warrick county. The father died while residing upon a farm in that county, in 1906, and the mother afterward came to Evansville, where she passed away in the spring of 1910. In their family were five children: Ida, now the wife of William B. Davis, a resident of Glasgow, Kentucky; Nellie, the wife of William M. Fisher, who is engaged in the real-estate business in Stanley, New Mexico; Andrew and Minnie, both deceased. The former died in 1890 at the age of twenty-five. Being in poor health, he went to Texas for a change of climate but in 1890 returned to Evansville and passed away in St. Mary's hospital. Minnie became the wife of Charles Webb and since her death her son Oscar has lived with his uncle, Mr. Mundy of this review.

In the common schools Travis D. Mundy began his education, which he continued in the high school of Boonville and in the State Normal School at Terre Haute, where he spent two terms. Taking up the profession of teaching, he followed that work through the winter months and attended school in the spring and fall. For thirteen years he continued teaching in the district schools of Warrick and of Vanderburg counties, after which he took the civil service examination, being one of the three who received the highest marks among the competitors at that time. He was afterward one of the first to receive an appointment as clerk in the postoffice of Evansville under Jack Nolan, postmaster, remaining for eight years in the postoffice, the last four years under the administration of James D. Parvin. At the end of that time he turned his attention to the grocery business, which has since claimed his time and energies. He bought out the stock of I. J. Neal on Walnut and Canal streets, remaining in that location for two years, after which he purchased his present location at No. 701 John street. He carries a large and well selected line of staple and fancy groceries, constantly replenishing with new stock and keeping on hand the best that the market affords. This fact, combined with the reliability of his business methods, constitutes the basis of the prosperity which he has attained as one of the merchants of Evansville. From 1907 until 1910 he was also interested in the Sargeant Coal Company of Evansville, of which he was secretary and treasurer, but in the latter year he disposed of his interest.

In 1888 Mr. Mundy was united in marriage to Miss Ella Still, a daughter of Jesse Still, a farmer of Warrick county, Indiana, now deceased. The mother makes her home with Mrs. Mundy. In his political views Mr. Mundy is a democrat yet does not hesitate to cast an independent ballot when he believes that the best interests of the community will be conserved thereby. He belongs to the Odd Fellows society and to the National Union lodge of Evansville and both he and his wife are members of the Olive Street Presbyterian church. Their interest is in those things which work for good for the individual and for the community. Along the legitimate lines of trade Mr. Mundy has achieved success, depending solely upon his own efforts for advancement, his diligence and reliability constituting the salient features in the progress he has made since entering business circles.

S. WYLE LITTLE.

For more than a half century S. Wyle Little was a resident of Evansville, and practically his entire life was spent in Indiana. He stood, therefore, as a splendid example of its progressive citizenship and his life record gave proof of the fact that America, as Emerson has declared, is another name for opportunity. Of Scotch-Irish lineage, Mr. Little was born in

Chester district of South Carolina, May 17, 1832, and was the youngest son in a family of seven children. He was about three years of age when his father came with the family to Indiana, establishing the home near Bloomington, in Monroe county. He was not satisfied there, however, and went to Iowa, where he remained until 1853, when he returned to Indiana, becoming a resident of Princeton.

The schools of Indiana and of Iowa afforded S. Wyle Little his educational privileges, and by improving these he qualified for the duties of business life. In 1856, at the age of twenty-four years, he left his father's home in Princeton and came to Evansville, where he became a partner in the old Canal Flour mill, there remaining for several years. The outbreak of the Civil war, however, temporarily terminated his business activities, for, with patriotic ardor, he enlisted in the navy, serving in the flotilla on the Mississippi river. When the term of his enlistment had expired he returned home and from that time forward until his death was associated with commercial and industrial interests in Evansville. He began manufacturing staves and shingles, and, broadening the scope of his business as he found opportunity, he built a saw mill in 1871, operating it successfully until it was destroyed by fire in 1880. He then rebuilt the mill on a much larger scale, but again conflagration claimed his business as its victim, not only the mill but also a large amount of lumber being thus destroyed in 1888. A short time previous he had purchased a large tract of timber land in Pike county, from which he cut the logs, shipping them to the mill in Evansville.

Seeing that coal had been found in that vicinity, he decided to investigate and on the 4th of July of that year discovered that his property was underlaid with a good coal vein. A small shaft was sunk in August and a mine that has since proved a paying proposition was opened. The works were greatly enlarged and more men employed, and with the development of the business Mr. Little became one of the foremost coal operators in this section of the state. In 1890 a depot was built on his place along the track of the Evansville & Indianapolis Railroad, thus establishing a station for the use of the men. Mr. Little opened a general store there, houses began to be erected and a schoolhouse was built, and almost as if by magic a small city sprung up. In honor of its founder and principal benefactor it was called Littles. Mr. Little ever had the welfare of the town at heart and cooperated in many movements for its improvement. In 1893 he built and presented to the town a model church. From the time that coal was discovered upon his place he conducted a profitable business in the development of the mine and the shipment of the product. In 1894 the S. W. Little Coal Company was organized with Mr. Little as the secretary and general manager. This company maintains two offices in Evansville and owns twenty-seven hundred acres of coal lands, and is operating several fuel producing mines, During his long residence in Evansville Mr. Little earned a reputation for business integrity that was

most enviable, and a proof of his enterprise and intelligent business methods was found in the success which crowned his labors.

In 1870 Mr. Little was married to Miss Mary E. Macer, of Evansville, a daughter of Thomas Macer, who lived in this city for many years. Unto them were born two sons: Dr. Charles S. Little, who is in charge of the mine at Blackburn; and Harry W. Little, who is president and general manager of the coal company.

Qualified to wear the Grand Army button, S. Wyle Little never ceased to feel a deep interest in his army comrades, and was a valued member of the Evansville post. He also belonged to the Walnut Street Presbyterian church and guided his life by its principles. His record not only proves that success is ambition's answer, but also that prosperity and an honorable name may be won simultaneously. He passed away September 27, 1907, after reaching the seventy-fifth milestone on life's journey, leaving to his family not only the substantial rewards of his labor and keen sagacity, but also the priceless heritage of an example that is indeed worthy of emulation.

MICHAEL BAUER.

Among the honored citizens of Vanderburg county Michael Bauer occupies a favored position. For more than forty years he has engaged in the mercantile business here and also with great success as a veterinary surgeon. He is a man of substantial character—one who gives strength and stability to a community. He was born in German township, in February, 1838, the son of Jacob and Elizabeth Bauer, who were both natives of Germany and came to America, the former in 1831 and the latter in 1832, with their respective parents. The Bauer family located at Evansville in 1834, remaining there for about six months, at the end of which time they moved to Center township, this county, and rented a farm. In 1837 the head of the family entered one hundred and twenty acres of land in German township, which he at once began to improve, erecting a comfortable house, barn and outbuildings. There he continued until his death, which occurred December 1, 1858. Mrs. Bauer survived her husband more than thirty years and was called to her rest in December, 1891.

Michael Bauer, the subject of this sketch, was reared upon a farm and educated at a neighborhood school. He early exhibited talent for veterinary research and even as a young man was sought by neighbors when the animals upon their farms, from accident or otherwise, demanded immediate attention. As a veterinarian he has always been a success, having been born with a talent which made the treatment of animals to him quite an easy affair. At twenty-eight years of age he bought a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which he operated for a year and then sold to his brother.

He moved to the spot on which Darmstadt has since been built, bought an acre of land and erected a large store building where he has ever since conducted general merchandise business. In the course of an active life he has become the owner of over two hundred acres of well improved land in Scott township. He also owns a fine farm residence in Evansville and his business returns him a handsome yearly income.

In 1865 Mr. Bauer was united in marriage to Miss Barbara Daudistel, a daughter of John and Katherine Daudistel, both of whom came to this country from Germany in 1854. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bauer: Lizzie, now Mrs. Charles Inderrieden of Boonville, Indiana; Katherine, now Mrs. Ed Meyer, of Evansville; Mena, now Mrs. F. W. Miller, of Darmstadt, Indiana; Annie, now Mrs. J. Wesley Stork, also a resident of Darmstadt; J. H. Michael, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this book; Gusta, now Mrs. Casper Grimm, of Darmstadt; and Julia, who died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Bauer are members of the German Evangelical church. He is a lifelong member of the democratic party but has never sought for office himself, although he has served as trustee of Scott township for two terms and as road commissioner for several years. The progenitors of Mr. Bauer were men and women of high principle and sturdy industry. He has proven a worthy descendant of a nationality that has contributed largely to American citizenship and he perpetuates the family name with dignity and honor.

JOHN H. M. BAUER.

John H. M. Bauer, a merchant and veterinary surgeon of Scott township, who in his business and profession is following in the footsteps of a worthy sire, was born in Vanderburg county, April 9, 1877. He is the son of Michael Bauer, a record of whom appears elsewhere in this work, and Barbara (Daudistel) Bauer, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Germany.

The subject of this review passed his boyhood days at Darmstadt, this county, and attended the district schools there, later becoming a student in the public schools of Evansville. After leaving the latter he entered Lockyear's Business College at Evansville, from which he was graduated March 25, 1898. After completing his education he returned home and continued in mercantile business with his father until he was twenty-nine years of age. From early years he was a student of the veterinary science under his father and as a practitioner, although pursuing other duties, he has been a marked success. In 1905 Mr. Bauer removed to Evansville and became connected with Harry Joseph in the clothing business, in which he continued for about six months. He then identified himself with

Vickery Brothers, grocers, but at the end of four years, in 1909, he returned to Darmstadt and has since been associated with his father in the mercantile business and also in a flourishing veterinary practice.

On September 23, 1903, Mr. Bauer was united in marriage to Miss Louise Weddeking, a daughter of Charles and Louise Weddeking, the former of whom was born in Germany and the latter in Indiana. Two children have blessed this union: Raymond W. M., now five years of age; and Louise B., aged two years.

Mr. and Mrs. Bauer are consistent members of the German Evangelical church of Darmstadt. In political affiliation Mr. Bauer is a democrat but he is a young man of broad views and his choice is not always limited to the ticket of the party which he supports in national affairs. Morally, socially and educationally he exercises a beneficent influence in the neighborhood and is now fairly launched upon what promises to be a long and useful career.

ADAM B. SODE.

Adam B. Sode, occupying a creditable position in the ranks of Evansville's leading business men, where he is successfully engaged in dealing in monuments, was born in Germany, November 18, 1858. Seven years later his parents, Henry and Catherine (Karges) Sode, came with their family to the United States with Evansville as their destination. Here the father worked as a stone cutter, having previously learned the trade in his native land. That occupation claimed his attention until his death, which occurred in 1874. Seven years later his wife passed away in 1881. Their family numbered four sons and a daughter. Our subject's brother, A. Fred Sode, resided in New York city, while his sister, Mrs. Julia Groscurth is the wife of John Groscurth, now of Evansville.

Adam B. Sode well remembers events connected with the long journey across the Atlantic made when he was but seven years of age. Immediately after reaching this city he was sent to the public schools and when he had completed his education he worked for a short time in a chair factory. Indeed, his initial step in the business world was made when he was but a young lad. When fifteen years of age he became an apprentice in the stonecutting business, to which he closely applied himself until his expert workmanship won wide recognition and constituted the basis of the success which has attended him since he started in business on his own account. It was on the 15th of February, 1883, that he became the senior partner of the firm of Sode, Brikman & Karsch. The relation was maintained for about twelve years, when, in September, 1895, he succeeded to the business which he has since conducted under his own name. He is one of the leading monument dealers in this part of the state, having

built up a business of large proportions. He has turned out some of the finest work to be found in the cemeteries of the city, it being both artistic in finish and design. He has ever been prompt in executing orders and his honesty in business transactions in unassailable.

In 1891 occurred the marriage of Mr. Sode to Miss Mary K. Baum, a daughter of Jacob Baum, who for many years, to the time of his death, was in the retail grocery business in Evansville. Mr. and Mrs. Sode now have one daughter, Ottilia, twelve years of age. The parents are members of St. Luke's church, and are prominent socially. Mr. Sode is a republican in his political views and fraternally is connected with the Woodmen of the World and with Lessing Lodge, A. F. & A. M. He is in thorough sympathy with the principles of the craft which he exemplifies in his life. His is the creditable record of a self-made man who has never held to any false standards; who has always placed his dependence upon the substantial qualities of industry, determination and reliability. Along these lines his success has been won and only words of good-will are said of him by those with whom he has had business relations.

JOHN F. SHAFER.

The dairy business is one of the flourishing industries of southern Indiana and it is in this business that John F. Shafer has attained a distinct success. As a boy he gained his first knowledge of farming operations and by practical application of the principles then acquired he has attained an independent position. He is also a live-stock dealer and is known as a good judge of live-stock. He is in close touch with the markets and is well informed as to the supply of stock in the county, its availability for market, the most convenient shipping points and all the details which go to make a wide-awake dealer. No man can know too much of the business he has chosen as his vocation and the subject of this review fully believes this and acts accordingly. Mr. Shafer is a native of Vanderburg county and was born in September, 1873. He was educated in the district schools and grew up in a home where the younger members of the family were taught habits of industry and where he learned many lessons that have been of constant assistance to him in his contact with the world. At the age of sixteen he began helping his father on the farm and ever since that time he has been intimately identified with various phases of farm life, including dairying and the successful handling of live-stock. Since 1902 he has confined his attention to the development of his dairy and the cattle business. He is the owner of a well kept farm of twenty acres in Knight township which contains a handsome residence, large barns and is provided with complete facilities to meet the requirements of the dairy business as it is known at the present time.

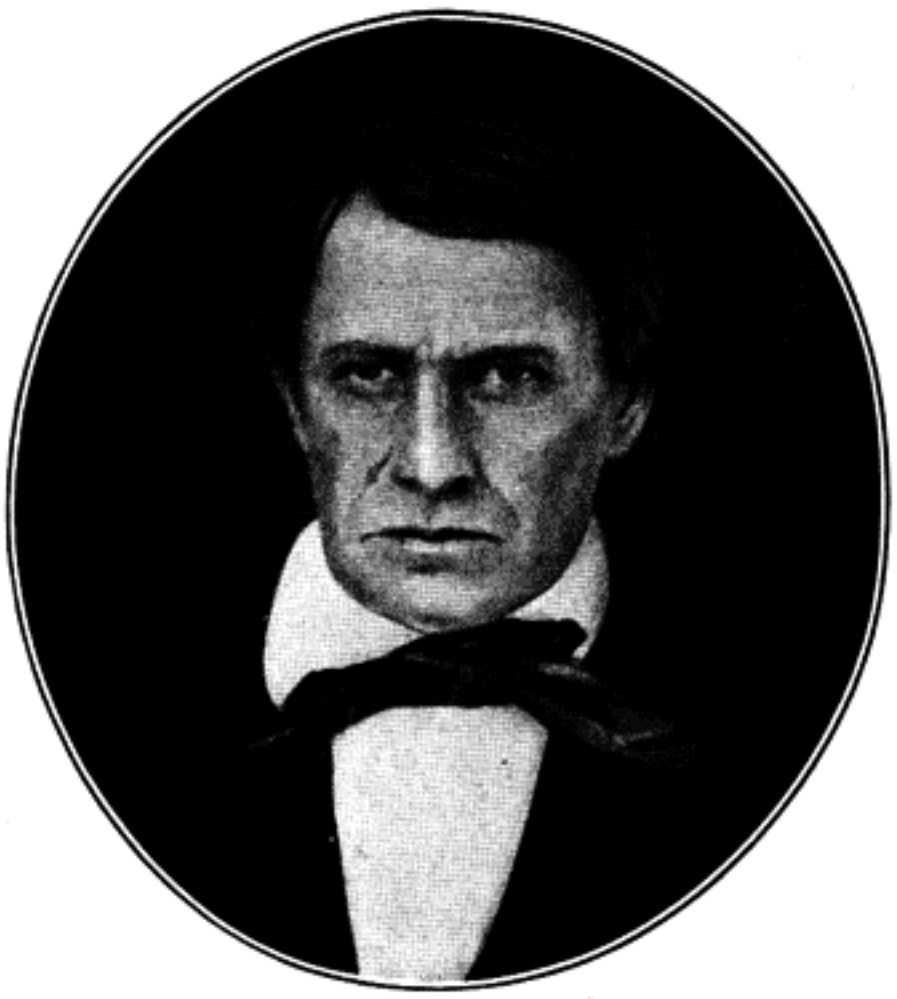
In 1898 Mr. Shafer was united in marriage to Miss Anna Boeke, a daughter of Henry Boeke, a farmer of Knight township. Mrs. Shafer has been known to her husband from her childhood, and she has proven to him indeed a blessing and has in an important degree aided, by her counsel and wise management, in forwarding the best interests of the family. Three children have been born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Shafer: Talitha, Matilda and John Henry.

Mr. and Mrs. Shafer are both members of the Presbyterian church and their aim is as nearly as possible to carry out the principles of the golden rule and thus to exemplify the teachings of the Great Master. Mr. Shafer is a republican and a member of the Woodmen of the World, holding membership in Hickory Camp at McCuthanville. He is a self-made man and by perseverance and attention to duty from day to day has attained the position which he holds in his township as a man of high principle who always does as he promises, who is true to his friends, and who is ever ready to do anything in his power to advance the permanent welfare of the neighborhood.

CRAWFORD BELL.

Crawford Bell, who is remembered as one of the first prescription druggists of Evansville and a gentleman whose admirable character made a deep impress upon all who claimed his acquaintance, was born in Ireland in 1819 or 1820. On his mother's side he was of Scotch descent and the sturdy characteristics of the Scottish race were apparent in his life. She gave to her son her maiden name of Crawford. At eighteen years of age he came to Evansville upon the solicitation of his brother William, who had previously located in this city. Here he began as clerk in a drug store, but later he and his brother entered the drug business for themselves, the subject of this sketch taking charge of the prescription department, while his brother attended to other work in the store. He soon demonstrated unusual adaptability in a position that calls for constant exercise of watchfulness and discrimination. He gained many friends not only among patrons of the store but among physicians of the city, and by unanimous vote he was made an honorary member of the Vanderburg County Medical Society. This is an honor seldom accorded and is an indication of the confidence and esteem in which Mr. Bell was held by those who knew how to appreciate his talents.

He was an ambitious and persevering man, who possessed an unimpeachable character and was actuated by the highest ideals. His life was largely controlled by the teachings of the Christian religion and he was a member of the Episcopal church. He was called from earthly scenes October 29, 1856, at the age of thirty-six years. His death, just as he was



DAVID NEGLEY

CRAWFORD BELL

MARY E. BELL

DAVID BELL

entering upon a highly successful career, was regarded as a distinct loss to the community, and the general expression of regret attested his worth in the city which he had adopted as his home.

In 1846 Mr. Bell was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Negley, a daughter of David and Martha (Lambert) Negley, who were then residing on Pigeon creek. Mr. Negley was of old Pennsylvania Dutch stock and came to Indiana very early from that state. He built the first water power grist and saw mill in southern Indiana. This mill proved of great assistance to many people living in southern Indiana, southern Illinois and northern Kentucky, and its proved a good financial investment. He built a sawmill on the opposite side of the stream and such was the demand upon it on account of the erection of new houses by incoming settlers that the mill was kept in operation night and day. He built a beautiful residence on Pigeon creek, where he resided until his death, which occurred in 1851, he having been recognized for years as one of the leading men in this part of the state. Mrs. Negley was a native of Kentucky and was married there before coming to this county.

Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Crawford Bell: David; and Jennie Crawford, who grew up to be a beautiful woman and was married to Edward Law, but is now deceased. She left four children: Mary Bell; Sarah; John; and James, who is deceased. Mrs. Bell is now eighty-five years of age and, although her husband died fifty-four years ago, her recollection of him is almost as clear and she is as faithful to his memory as though he had been called from mortal view not more than a year ago. She has been a witness of a great transformation in a region where she was born and where she has passed her life, and her store of reminiscences of early times would make a volume of surpassing interest. It is to the noble men and women of whom she is a worthy representative that the present generation owes the many blessings which are to be met with on every side, enhancing our happiness and revealing a world of utility and beauty which was unknown to the pioneers.

CHARLES H. JOHANN.

The name of Johann seems to be a synonym for business ability, enterprise and progression in Evansville, where the firm of Albert Johann & Sons Company has made continuous progress since the establishment of the undertaking business here many years ago. The younger element as represented by the sons has continued the same reliable business policy instituted by the father and the patronage accorded them makes for success.

He whose name introduces this review was born in Evansville, July 4, 1857, and at the usual age entered the public schools, where he passed through the consecutive grades in the acquirement of an education which

well qualified him to become a strong factor in business circles. After putting aside his text-books he worked at the carpenter's trade for four years, and on the expiration of that period engaged in the planing mill business for four years. In 1884, upon the change of the firm of Albert Johann to Albert Johann & Sons Company, he was made secretary-treasurer and has so continued to the present time. In more recent years he and his brother have largely relieved the father of business cares and are now managing the business, bringing to its control powers of keen discernment and unabating energy which are ever basic elements in success.

In 1899 was celebrated the marriage of Charles H. Johann and Miss Mary S. Wilson, a daughter of William Wilson, well known as a contractor of Louisville, Kentucky. They occupy a prominent position in the social circles of this city and their own home is justly celebrated for its warm-hearted and generous hospitality.

Mr. Johann has always adhered to the political faith in which he was reared, for his matured judgment sanctions the policy of the republican party, believing that its principles are best adapted to good government. He has served four years as coroner of this county, and held the position of deputy United States Marshal for four years in this district. He is a valued member of several fraternal organizations, including the Degree of Honor, the Masonic order and the Modern Woodmen of America. In disposition he is kindly, in manner genial and courteous, and his strongly marked characteristics commend him to the friendly regard and confidence of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

FRED KAUTZ.

Fred Kautz, who for twenty-six years has been a resident of Evansville, has been engaged in the wholesale paper business since 1888 and in this connection has developed one of the important commercial enterprises of the city, extending the trade relations of the house until the business covers a wide territory. Success has followed as the logical sequence of his close application, keen business discernment and reliable methods; and his record is alike creditable to Germany and America, the land of his birth and the land of his adoption. A native of Germany, he was born April 30, 1850, a son of Frederick and Sarah (Kramp) Kautz, who were likewise of German birth and lineage. Their family numbered six children, four of whom are now living. The family left Germany for the United States in 1852, imbued with the hope of finding business conditions that would lead more rapidly to the attainment of success. A settlement was made in Cincinnati, where the father undertook the task of providing a home and competence for his family, but death intervened in 1859. His wife survived him for many years, passing away in 1902.

Fred Kautz was but two years of age when the voyage was made across the Atlantic, so that practically his entire life has been passed on American soil, and in youth he became imbued with the spirit of enterprise that has been the dominant factor in the upbuilding of the middle west. Necessity forced him into the business world when he was quite young, so that his educational advantages were limited. He began providing for his own support by working at the carriage painter's trade, which he followed altogether for twenty-three years, spending two decades of that time in Cincinnati and the remaining three years in Evansville, where he located in 1884. He did not purpose to remain forever in the employ of others, however, and, ambitious to engage in business for himself, he wisely saved his earnings until his careful expenditure made it possible for him to engage in the wholesale paper business in 1888. He handles paper sacks, wrapping paper, paper buckets and other paper goods, having a large establishment in the wholesale district of Evansville, for the venture, begun on a small scale, has proved profitable and the growth of the business has made it one of the important commercial interests of the city.

On the 25th of August, 1875, Mr. Kautz was married to Miss Louisa Selbert, of Cincinnati, in which city the wedding was celebrated. Their home has been blessed with the presence of four daughters, Louisa, Edith, Norma and Lillian, the first named being now the wife of a Mr. Shelborn, of Evansville.

The family are members of St. John's church and take an active interest in its work. Mr. Kautz belongs to the Travelers Protective Association, to the Court of Honor and to the Knights of Pythias lodge of Lexington, Kentucky. His political views are in accord with the principles of the republican party, but political honors and emoluments have no attraction for him. He prefers to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs and the record of his commercial activity is written in the tangible terms of profit. The consensus of public opinion places him not only with the successful men of Evansville but also among those whose business records have at all times been progressive and honorable.

J. WESLEY STORK, M. D.

The career of Dr. J. Wesley Stork presents a rare illustration of a young man who has followed in the footsteps of his father and has attained an enviable record in a community where he passed the earlier years of his life. He was born at Evansville, April 17, 1871, and is a son of Dr. Henry and Christine (Finke) Stork, the former of whom was a native of Germany and the latter of the state of Kentucky. The father arrived in America with his parents, who left the familiar scenes of the fatherland behind them to seek more favorable conditions when he was

eight years of age. The emigrant party landed at New Orleans and Mr. and Mrs. Stork came up the river to Evansville, where they remained about a month, the head of the family looking about for a favorable location. He finally selected a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Dubois county, Indiana, where the family took up its residence, and Mr. Stork, the grandfather of our subject, set about vigorously clearing away the trees and improving the land for farming purposes.

There Henry Stork grew up and attended the public schools of the neighborhood, after which he became a student in a college at Cincinnati, Ohio. Having decided to become a physician, he began the study of medicine and matriculated at Evansville Medical College, from which he was graduated with the class of 1878. He at once began practice at Holland, Indiana, and faithfully attended to the duties of his profession almost to the time of his death, which occurred in June, 1910. Several years before his departure he was stricken with paralysis and at the end of two years suffered a second stroke which incapacitated him for active service and he lingered, an invalid, until called away. He served as postmaster of Holland under Presidents Arthur and Roosevelt and it was due to his interest and influence that Holland now enjoys two mail deliveries daily. He was a man of fine attainments and a citizen who did everything in his power to promote the welfare of others. In early manhood he united with the German Methodist Episcopal church at Holland and remained to the end a beloved and loyal member of the church and a Christian both by practice and profession, he having early found that "peace which passeth understanding," and attained a personal consciousness of salvation. Mrs. Stork was called to her final rest in October, 1875, when the subject of this review was four years of age.

Reared at Holland and educated in the public schools and under his father's capable guidance, J. Wesley Stork at the age of twenty years entered the Kentucky School of Medicine, at Louisville, Kentucky, from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D. in June, 1895. In August following he located at Darmstadt, Indiana, and began practice, bringing to his work a well trained mind and a fund of practical knowledge which have been of great assistance to him in the years that have since passed. Here he has gained a reputation which is by no means limited to the immediate neighborhood and has been acquired by years of patient study and practical application of the recognized principles in his profession.

In October, 1899, Dr. Stork was united in marriage to Miss Johanna B. Bauer, a daughter of Michael and Barbara Bauer, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Germany. Two children have been born to Dr. and Mrs. Stork: Jesse M. H., now nine years of age; and Urban F. D., aged four years. The family occupies a fine large home beautifully located upon an acre of ground and showing every evidence of taste and refinement.

Dr. and Mrs. Stork are members of the Salem Evangelical church and he holds membership in Hooppole Camp, No. 118, Woodmen of the World, of which he is council commander at the present time. He is identified with the republican party and is a member of the Vanderburg County Medical Society, the Indiana State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He has inherited many characteristics of the successful medical practitioner; has a carefully selected library of the best medical works and is thoroughly informed as to the advancements in the healing art, which have been so marvelous during the past decade and promise even greater marvels in the years to come. As a natural leader in the community where he lives he occupies a prominent place and he never lowers the standard which he erected as a young man and which has made him a most useful citizen in the county where he has lived ever since his birth.

ALBERT JOHANN.

Albert Johann, the senior member of the Albert Johann & Sons Company, was born in Prussia, Germany, July 16, 1831, and was the oldest child of Charles W. and Lisetta Johann. In the year 1848, at the age of seventeen years, he left his native country and on the 10th of May arrived in Evansville where he has now made his home for sixty-two years. There are few who have resided for a longer period in this city, and none who during so extended a time have enjoyed in fuller measure the confidence, good-will and high regard of their fellow townsmen.

During the early years of his residence here he worked at the iron molder's trade but subsequently learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for a number of years as one of the leading contractors of the city, forming a partnership with Conrad Farr under the firm style of Johann & Farr. The two were associated in business for some time and in 1866 extended the scope of their business by establishing an undertaking department. In 1867 Mr. Farr withdrew, Mr. Johann continuing the business alone. His attention was given to the dual interests of contracting and undertaking until 1872, when he abandoned the former in order to devote all of his time to the funeral business, which had greatly increased and demanded his entire attention. In 1884, upon the admission of his sons, Charles H. and Albert H., to an interest in the business, the firm style was changed to Albert Johann & Sons, and was conducted under this partnership relation until 1904, when it was incorporated under the name of the Albert Johann & Sons Company, with Albert Johann as president; Albert H. Johann as vice president; Charles H. Johann, secretary and treasurer; and J. H. Berges, superintendent. It is estimated that during its existence this firm has buried twelve thousand people. The com-

pany ranks second to none in the state and has every equipment for the careful and satisfactory conduct of funerals according to the most modern methods of caring for the dead.

In 1854 Mr. Johann was married to Miss Barbara Spies, and unto them have been born eight children: Amelia, the wife of John A. Fisher, of Chicago; Charles H. and Albert H., engaged in business with their father; Lydia, who passed away in 1880 while a resident of Evansville; Emma, who married Fred Strohm and makes her home in Evansville; Mamie, who passed away in Evansville in 1899; Edward W., who is married and is living in Memphis, Tennessee; and Eva, a resident of this city. The parents have traveled life's journey together for fifty-six years, sharing with each other in the joys and sorrows, the adversity and prosperity which checker the careers of all.

In his political views Mr. Johann has long been a stalwart republican, and several years ago was twice elected as councilman from the sixth ward at a time when that ward was considered democratic by a sound majority. The fact of his election is certainly an indication of his popularity and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow townsmen. During later years he has taken no active part in politics but is still enjoying good health and is one of the honored and revered patriarchs of the community, being now in his eightieth year. He possesses a retentive memory and has close and intimate knowledge of the upbuilding and history of Evansville, relating many interesting incidents of the early days and indicating by his conversation the progress that has been brought about and the changes which have been wrought, bringing Evansville to its present position of prosperity and prominence.

WILLIAM T. HOFFHERR.

Fifty-five years ago William T. Hoffherr was born in Vanderburg county and here he has passed his entire life. He first saw the light of day upon a farm and farming has been his occupation up to the present time. He is regarded by his neighbors as one of the best farmers of the township and, judging by the abundance of his crops for the year 1910, the high opinion entertained of his agricultural abilities is not misplaced. Mr. Hoffherr is a native of Armstrong township and his natal day was October 10, 1855. Here he grew up and in his boyhood attended to the duties of the farm and also received such education as was available in the district school. He was an obedient pupil in the school and an industrious worker on the farm, gaining a practical experience which he has been able to apply through many years with very favorable results. At the present time he is renting a farm of one hundred and forty acres, of which he was formerly overseer. This farm lies in the river bottoms and has

the richest soil that can be found in the township. By skilful management Mr. Hoffherr has approached a condition of financial independence and the present season promises more abundant return than ever before.

On the 10th of November, 1880, Mr. Hoffherr was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Bank, of Darmstadt, Indiana, a daughter of Henry Bank. By her advice and encouragement Mrs. Hoffherr has been a most valuable assistant to her husband. Mr. Hoffherr is affiliated with the democratic party. He believes that the individual should be given the largest liberty possible as long as he does not interfere with the rights of others. He also believes in a moderate tariff. He is an earnest member of the German Lutheran church and a willing contributor to its support. He has always been industrious, resolute and persevering in everything he has undertaken and in his life work as a farmer he has put these principles into successful practice.

SAMUEL BARKER BELL.

It is estimated that the Civil war cost a million lives and among this number were many of the most promising young men any nation has ever known. The survivors of the war, many of whom entered the service before they were twenty-one years of age, came home at its close with new ideas. Their outlook had been broadened and the years of marching, fighting and suffering made an impression upon their minds which they could never forget and which largely controlled their future career. Thousands of soldiers after laying aside the implements of warfare engaged in the pursuits of business with the same energy that they had displayed in upholding the country's flag, and the sons of these defenders of the nation are now taking their fathers' places and upon their shoulders largely rest the responsibilities of the nation.

Among the soldier sons is Samuel Barker Bell, a successful farmer of Union township, Vanderburg county and also identified with the business interests of Evansville. He was born at Decker, Indiana, February 16, 1876, a son of Henry S. and Mary Bell, the former of whom is now living, but the latter was called to her final rest in California in 1885. Henry S. Bell was one of the valiant young Americans who responded to President Lincoln's call, enlisting in the Union army and serving under the celebrated cavalry leader, General Phil Sheridan, one of the most daring commanders of modern times. He contiuued in the service until the fighting had been brought to a close and the army of General Lee had been paroled and sent home to start the battle of life all over again after four years of disastrous struggle. Mr. Bell was a true soldier and his honorable discharge entitles him to the confidence and respect of every lover of liberty. The stories of self-sacrifice and devotion to duty which he told

at the home fireside and of which he was a living exemplar, had a marked effect in shaping the life of his son.

Samuel Barker Bell was reared upon the home farm and educated in the district schools. He began as a boy to take an active interest in everything pertaining to the farm and this interest has never waned. He has devoted his energies to raising grain and his well cultivated fields have returned abundant harvests. He has a farm of one hundred and eighty-six acres and is known as one of the intelligent and progressive farmers of Union township.

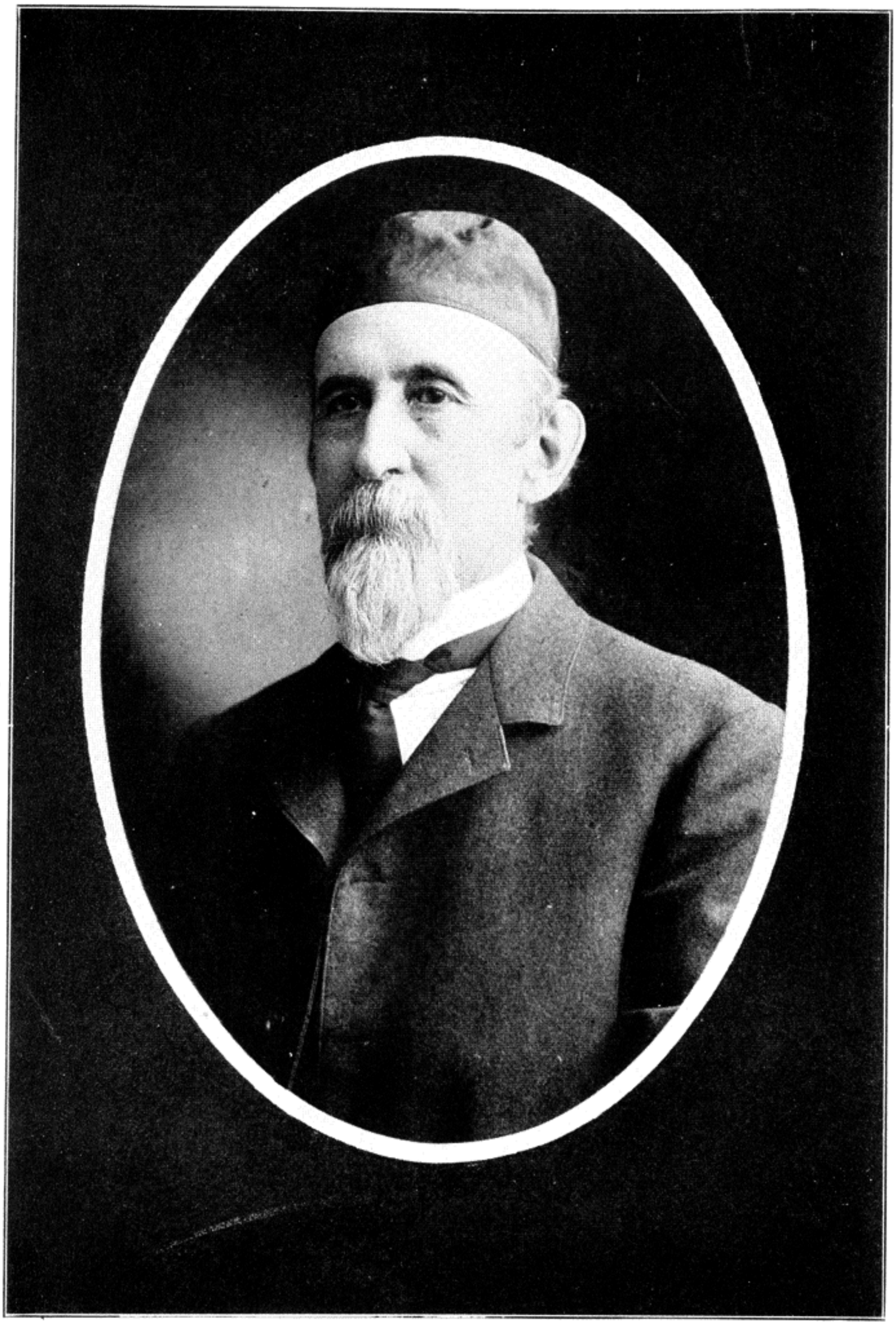
Mr. Bell was united in marriage to Miss Mabel Cecilia Smythe, a daughter of Henry and Emma (Stroud) Smythe. She was one of triplets. Her parents are both living and are natives of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Bell have a daughter, Henrietta, who is fourteen months old, and in their lives are controlled by the simple virtues, among which are industry and economy that always yield abundant returns for the time and energy employed. Their residence is one of the attractive homes of the neighborhood and here abide peace and harmony.

Mr. Bell is in hearty sympathy with the principles of the republican party, although in local affairs he does not permit party lines to interfere with his selection of a worthy candidate. Socially he holds membership in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and in religious affiliation is identified with the Methodist church as that branch of Christian fellowship that most nearly represents the teachings of the Great Master. As the head of a happy family, the owner of a productive farm and a man respected by those who know him, Mr. Bell occupies an enviable position, but in the opinion of his friends it is a position he has fairly earned.

SAMUEL G. EVANS.

Prominent among the enterprising, successful and far-sighted business men of Evansville stands Samuel G. Evans, whose mercantile interests constitute an important factor in the commercial activity and stability of the city. Throughout his entire life whatever his hand has found to do he has done with all his might and with a sense of conscientious obligation, and industry and honor, therefore, have constituted the salient features in his business career.

He was born in Jackson county, West Virginia, March 19, 1839, and is a son of E. S. and Ruami (Wright) Evans, natives of Virginia and Pennsylvania respectively. The father, who was born in Morgantown, Virginia, in 1800, was a gentleman farmer of the old school but while carefully managing his business interests was never so occupied therewith that he had no time for the courtesies of life. He died in his native state in



S. G. EVANS

1876, and his wife, surviving him for about six years, passed away in Jackson county, West Virginia, in 1882.

Samuel G. Evans was reared upon his father's farm and after studying in the local schools continued his education in Washington College of Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated with the class of 1861. For a short time afterward he studied law and then came to Evansville as an employe of the Adams Express Company. In 1864 he secured a position in the dry-goods house of Jaquess, French & Company, there remaining for about two years, when he became junior member of the firm of Jaquess Hudspeth & Company. He remained a member of that firm until 1876, when he joined D. J. Mackey in opening up business at 211 Main street, under the firm style of S. G. Evans & Company. The business prospered for four years and in 1880 Samuel G. Evans became the senior partner in the firm of Evans & Verwayne, which was organized in that year. Their trade rapidly increased and in 1895 Mr. Evans acquired the interest of his partner and removed to his present location on Fourth and Main streets. Here he has since carried on business as sole proprietor of an enterprise that is conducted under the name of S. G. Evans & Company. He carries a large and carefully selected stock and has surrounded himself with an able corps of assistants. His house has ever maintained a high standard in its personnel, in the character of the stock and in the services rendered to the public, and at all times the business methods employed have been in closest harmony with the strictest commercial ethics. He is a director of the Evansville Trust & Loan Company.

In 1867 Mr. Evans was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Hornbrook, who was born in Vanderburg County near Darmstadt in 1842 and is a representative of one of the old, prominent and honored pioneer families of this county. Her father, Colonel Philip Hornbrook, was a son of Saunders Hornbrook, who engaged in the manufacture of woolen goods at Devonshire, England, in which city Philip was born on the 16th of March, 1810. The family sailed for America in 1819 and proceeded westward by water and by wagon train to Evansville, where they arrived on the 20th of December, the grandfather of Mrs. Evans purchasing a large tract of land and at one time being the owner of fourteen quarter sections in Scott township. For many years he remained a prominent factor in the business circles of the county, not only conducting a store but also operating a wool and carding machine and a cotton gin. His business grew to extensive proportions and he became one of the leading factors in industrial, manufacturing and commercial circles here.

In 1837 Philip Hornbrook was united in marriage to Miss Mary Simpson, formerly of Boston, Massachusetts. Following his father's death in 1839 he succeeded to the mercantile and farming interests and was engaged in business in Scott township until 1848, when he removed to Evansville, where he established a grocery and bakery business, thus becoming a factor in the commercial development of this city. He was also prominent in

public affairs and from 1853 until 1860 served as one of the trustees of the schools. For several years he was secretary of Vanderburg County Agricultural Association and from 1861 until 1865 he was military agent of the state of Indiana with the rank of colonel. In 1869 he was appointed surveyor of customs and collector of the port at Evansville, and in the discharge of his official duties was ever found prompt, faithful and reliable.

Mr. Evans has always given his political support to the democracy and keeps well informed on the vital questions and issues of the day, but has never sought office as the reward for party fealty. He is an exemplary representative of the Masonic fraternity and has attained the Knight Templar degree. For years he has been a trustee of the Willard Library and belongs to the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Indiana Academy of Science. He cooperates with the Business Men's Association in their efforts to promote the growth of Evansville through the extension of its trade relations, and at all times has been ready and willing to do the duty that lies closest his hand, whether for the promotion of individual interests, municipal affairs or intellectual progress.

JOHN HIRSCH.

It is not everybody who can become a successful farmer. To attain that enviable distinction a man must not only possess habits of industry and perseverance but he must also have good judgment, and unless he is early in life given a thorough training in all matters pertaining to the farm he will experience great difficulty in attaining a position of recognized standing among experienced agriculturists. The true farmer, as in all other callings, is born to the vocation and accomplishes many things easily which others may never be able to accomplish at all. To this class belongs John Hirsch, owner of a beautiful farm of two hundred and seventy acres in Knight township, Vanderburg county, and for many years a leader in the township as a farmer and stock-raiser.

Mr. Hirsch first opened his eyes to the light of day on a farm in the township where he now lives on the 17th of November, 1859. Here he passed the days of his boyhood, attending the district schools and performing various duties about the farm. He also possessed the advantages of further education at St. Mary's school in Evansville and the mental training which he received under competent teachers has assisted him very materially during all the years of contact with the world. He early chose agriculture as his favorite pursuit and no young man in the township was more earnest in his work or produced more favorable returns from the time and energy employed in cultivating the farm and raising live stock than the subject of this review. He has always been recognized as an intelligent, progressive and enterprising man, ever ready to adopt any reason-

able suggestion that could be applied successfully upon the farm, and an observer and student who has always been well informed and who has kept fully abreast of the times, so that he has been able to add from year to year to his financial resources. In addition to the highly improved farm upon which he lives, Mr. Hirsch is the owner of a third interest in sixteen hundred acres of land in Illinois, his brothers Leonard and Jacob owning the other two-thirds.

In 1889 Mr. Hirsch was united in marriage to Miss Mary Titzer, of McCutchanville, Indiana, who departed this life a few years later. One child was the result of the union. This child died in infancy. In 1893 Mr. Hirsch was again married, his second union being with Miss Gertrude Guetling, of Spencer county, this state. They have five children: Amelia, now fifteen years of age; Stella, thirteen years of age; Louisa, twelve years of age; Leo, ten years of age; and Tillie, eight years of age.

Mr. Hirsch is a member of Trinity Catholic church and also of St. Joseph's Society. Politically he is allied with the democratic party. He has devoted his attention mainly to his farming interests and has never aspired to public office. In the course of his life he has demonstrated that success depends largely upon sound judgment, backed by rightly directed ambition. A prominent citizen of his section, he has by an upright life, extending through a long period of years, gained and retained the respect of all who know him.

HENRY R. DUNAVAN.

Henry R. Dunavan is vice president of the wholesale grocery company of Ragon Brothers, a name that in Evansville is synonymous with merit and enterprise, progressive methods and the highest standards of trade. For twenty-eight years Mr. Dunavan has been connected with the house and was called to the position of second executive officer in 1902.

INTERMEDIATE LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The Intermediate Life Assurance Company, whose home office is in Evansville, Indiana, was organized in 1904 and is operating under Indiana's rigid legal reserve compulsory insurance deposit law, being the only company doing business under this statute south of Indianapolis.

The company's assets aggregate over one-half million dollars, consisting of first mortgage loans on unincumbered real estate loaned at fifty per cent of the appraised value, loans within the reserve to its policy holders, and the magnificent, home office building located at the corner of Third and Main streets.

The motto of this company has been and will be in the future, to issue nothing but the most modern and liberal policy contracts, realizing that the public would appreciate policies of this character. Much of the success of the company is attributed to this feature.

The stockholders of the Intermediate Life Assurance Company are some of the most prominent and reputable citizens in their community. The company is officered by: Madison J. Bray, president, Evansville; W. F. Weyerbacher, vice president, Boonville; Fred Baker, secretary-treasurer, Evansville; Dr. Edwin Walker, medical director, Evansville; and directors H. H. Ogden, Evansville; Sidney Ichenhauser, Evansville; Frank Lohoff, Evansville; J. W. Richardson, Boonville; Charles H. Howard, Hazelton.

The company's business is now confined strictly in Indiana. During the year 1911 its business will be extended into Kentucky and Illinois and within the very near future its business will be further extended in nearly every state in the Union.

The present status and standing of the Intermediate Life Assurance Company indicates that it is fast developing into one of the strongest financial institutions in southern Indiana. The law that the company is operating under guarantees the public that the funds of the company are as safe as a national bank note or government bond, thereby enabling this company not only to issue a liberal and modern policy contract but one as safe and secure as any can be obtained by any of its competitors.

The Intermediate is strictly an old line legal reserve company and was built up upon that theory which has stood the test of one hundred and fifty years of actual experience and is recognized by all standard authorities including actuaries and insurance commissioners of the various states as being safe, sane, sound and perpetual.

F. L. DAVIS, M. D.

Dr. F. L. Davis came to Evansville from Greencastle, Indiana, in 1866. He was but a young lad when his parents died and he was left to shift for himself. Through the travail of ambitious, hard working boyhood he made his way, securing such employment as he might and utilizing his leisure hours for study that he might educate himself and prepare for more valuable service in a broader field of labor. He took up the study of medicine and in 1862 began to practice. Ambitious to advance as far as possible in his profession, he has since availed himself of every opportunity of broadening his knowledge and promoting his efficiency. During the winter of 1864 and 1865, therefore, he attended lectures in Cleveland and in 1870 he was graduated from the Cleveland Homeopathic Medical College. Since locating in Evansville, in 1866, he has practiced here continuously and by study has kept abreast of the times, being one of the foremost members

of the medical fraternity here. The advanced thought of the profession has found him an interested student and he eagerly embraces the methods which are promoted and which his judgment sanctions as of real worth in practice. He has specialized to some extent in the field of vibrotherapy and read a paper upon the subject before the Ohio Valley Medical Association in 1908. In this he makes the statement that: "Mechanical vibrotherapy is capable of '(1) increasing the volume of blood and lymph flow to a given area or organ; (2) stimulating secretion and increasing nutrition; (3) improving the respiratory process and function; (4) improving muscular and general metabolism and increasing the production of animal heat; (5) stimulating the excretory organs and assisting the functions of elimination; (6) softening and relieving muscular contractures; (7) relieving engorgement and congestion; (8) facilitating the removal, through the natural channels of the lymphatics, of tumors, exudates and other products of inflammation; (9) inhibiting and relieving pain.' " His paper attracted widespread attention and his methods of practice in this regard have received the endorsement of many members of the profession. He is a member of the Homeopathic State Medical Society and Round Table of Evansville, the Indiana State Medical Society. The American Institute of Homeopathy, the Vanderburg County Medical Society, the Ohio Valley Medical Association and the American Medical Association.

Dr. Davis is allied with the Masonic fraternity and is in thorough sympathy with the spirit of mutual helpfulness and brotherly kindness which underlies the craft. In politics he has been a stalwart republican since the organization of the party, but has largely confined his activities to his practice, wherein he has made continuous and satisfactory progress, winning the good will and confidence of other members of the medical fraternity in his close conformity to a high standard of professional ethics.

BENARD H. RIETMAN.

The history of the present deals with business problems, the development and conduct of important manufacturing and industrial interests and the utilization of the natural resources which have been provided in various sections of the country. The men, therefore, who are most prominent in community life are those who establish and control important business interests, in which connection Benard H. Rietman was well known, having for a number of years been a member of the firm of the Rietman & Schulte Lumber Company, dealers in hardwood lumber.

He was born in Evansville May 14, 1864, and his early experiences were such as usually fall to the lot of the lad who is reared in a growing and enterprising middle-west town. His early education was acquired in the public schools of Evansville and later he attended the University of

St. Louis, Missouri. He early began to learn the lumber business in the sawmill of Rietman & Schulte, the senior partner being his father, who for many years was a resident of Evansville, closely associated with its industrial interests as a manufacturer of lumber. The early experiences of Benard H. Rietman in the lumber mill gave him comprehensive knowledge of the business and made him an expert in the valuation of lumber and constituted a forceful element in the attainment of success in later years. Eventually he became a member of the well known firm of Rietman & Schulte, dealers in hardwood lumber, in which connection they developed a trade of large proportions, owing to the reliability of their business methods, their promptness in executing orders and the spirit of progressiveness which dominated them in all their transactions.

Mr. Rietman was united in marriage to Miss Lillian M. Bartholome, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Simon Bartholome and a representative of one of the old families of this city. Her father, who was a soldier of the Civil war, is still living in Evansville, but her mother passed away on the 21st of January, 1906. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rietman was born a son, Henry B., on the 22d of February, 1891. He attended the public schools of Evansville and also the parochial school of St. Anthony, completing his education, however, at Worcester, Massachusetts. He is now acting as assistant bookkeeper for one of the largest firms in Evansville.

Mr. Rietman belonged to the Knights of St. John and to St. Anthony's Catholic church, in which he served as a trustee. He was regarded as one of the city's substantial young business men, always ready to lend his aid and influence to further the public good or to promote progressive measures. He was found reliable and enterprising in all of his dealings and straightforward in every relation of life, and his death was, therefore, the occasion of deep and wide-felt sorrow when on the 1st of October, 1901, he passed away at the age of thirty-seven years. Mrs. Rietman occupies a beautiful home at No. 614 Oakley street, which is one of the finest residences in Evansville.

WILLIAM H. BOETTICHER.

Among the earnest men whose depth of character and strict adherence to principle incite the admiration of his contemporaries William H. Boetticher is prominent. Throughout his business career he has steadily worked his way upward by reason of indefatigable industry and has at length reached a prominent position in commercial and financial circles. His business interests, extensive and varied, have ever been of such a nature that while promoting his individual success they have also advanced the general prosperity, by increasing commercial activity and by inaugurating a financial policy that has done much to further business stability. He is perhaps best known as vice president of the Boetticher & Kellogg Com-

pany and president of the Advance Stove Works, although he has other interests.

He was born in Evansville December 6, 1860, a son of Edward and Amelia Boetticher. After mastering the branches of learning taught in the public schools of this city he prepared for the onerous and responsible duties that were to come to him in later life by pursuing a course in Ranks Business College. He was a youth of seventeen years when, in 1877, he secured a clerkship in the hardware store of R. H. Kellogg, with whom he remained until 1880. During the two succeeding years he was shipping clerk for Boetticher & Kellogg Company, and was then sent upon the road as traveling salesman, thus representing the house in the development of its trade interests until 1904. In that year he was made assistant buyer. His present official connection with the Boetticher & Kellogg Company is that of vice president, in which connection he is largely giving his supervision to the management of affairs relating to the development of the business and to executive control. Proving his worth and ability in commercial circles, his cooperation has been sought in other fields and at the present time he is the president of the Advance Stove Works, one of the most important business enterprises of the city, and also a director of the Beach & Fuller Basket Company.

On the 28th of February, 1890, Mr. Boetticher was married to Miss Ida T. Griener, a daughter of R. and A. Griener. Theirs is an attractive home, its hospitable spirit being greatly enjoyed by their many friends. Mr. Boetticher gives his political support to the republican party which he has indorsed since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias lodge and to the United Commercial Travelers, and during its existence was a member of the Evansville Rifles, a company of the State Militia.

He is a man of distinctive ability and his character is one which is above the shadow of reproach. He has ever been faithful to the positions to which he has been called and is widely known and respected by all who have been in any way familiar with his honorable and useful career.

HENRY L. COOK.

The life record of Henry L. Cook covered fifty-five years, the greater part of which period was spent on this side the Atlantic, although the accident of birth made him a native of Germany. He was born in 1845 and when a small boy crossed the Atlantic. It was a wonderful voyage to him, passing from the environment of his little German home to the scenes and experiences of ocean travel and of further journeyings across the country to Evansville. He was a pupil in the public schools of this

city and as he approached manhood he sought employment that would yield him a comfortable living. Becoming connected with the First National Bank, he diligently and earnestly applied himself to the tasks assigned him and his prompt and intelligent discharge of his duties eventually brought him to the position of cashier, which he occupied at the time of his demise. In business circles he was looked upon as a forceful man, thoroughly reliable, and at all times obliging in his treatment of the patrons of the bank. These qualities made him esteemed and honored by all.

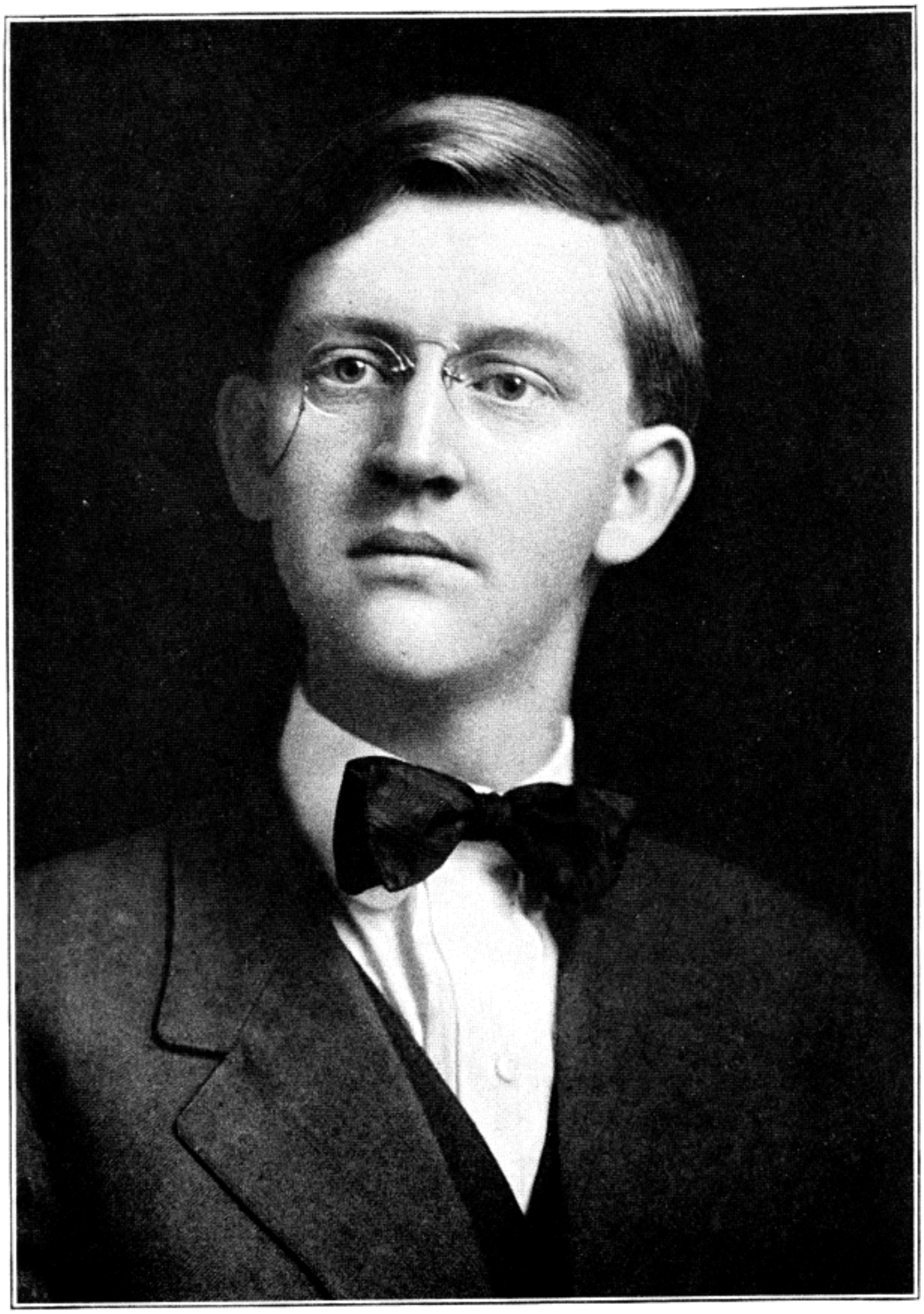
In 1867 Mr. Cook was united in marriage to Miss Eva Dausmann, who was also a native of Germany, but was only a year old when brought to this country. Unto them were born two children but the only one now living is Bertha, the wife of A. F. Decker, of Evansville. The wife and mother passed away in 1890, and on the 15th of December, 1891, Mr. Cook married Lena Dausmann, by whom he had three children: Arthur J.; Irma M.; and Edwin H., who died August 26, 1899, at the age of six years. Mrs. Cook is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dausmann, who were also natives of Germany, but came to the United States many years ago. Her father died in 1885, and her mother July 2, 1909, and both were buried in Evansville.

By his ballot Mr. Cook supported the men and measures of the republican party but never cared for political honors. At one time he was a member of several fraternal organizations, including the Masons, but after his second marriage dropped all lodges, preferring to devote his time to his home and family. He was an earnest member of St. John's Evangelical church, to which his widow also belongs, and for many years he served as deacon.

ELMER S. WHITE.

Elmer S. White is engaged in the electrical supply business in Evansville and although his experience is comparatively brief, because he is yet a young man, he is nevertheless forging to the front in his chosen field. He was born in Sorgho, Kentucky, July 10, 1887, and is a son of Willis G. and Rebecca Jane (Dearinger) White. His father, also a native of Sorgho, engaged in farming and in blacksmithing, continuing actively in business to the time of his death, which occurred in 1891.

In the Sorgho public school Elmer S. White began his education and at eight years of age removed to Owensboro, Kentucky, and entered the public schools, where he continued through successive grades until he left high school at the age of eighteen years. After putting aside his text-books he engaged in the electrical business as an employe of D. E. Berry & Company, with whom he remained one year. He was then transferred to the Evansville branch of their house, acting as manager for a year in this city. Later



ELMER S. WHITE

he became manager for the Thompson Electric Company and for the Kollker Electric Company, his services as manager with the two concerns covering three years. Desiring to engage in business on his own account, he joined Charles E. Jett in purchasing the business of the D. E. Berry Electric Company and is now junior partner of the firm of Jett-White. He is very popular and has been very successful in the electrical business, being credited with some of the largest and most scientific electrical installations in the city of Evansville, and also handles a general line of electrical supplies. Study of the wants of the public in his line, combined with enterprising business methods and honorable dealing, constitute the source of the progress that he is making.

EDWARD N. HILL.

With resolute spirit Edward N. Hill has progressed in business life and is today one of the leading merchants of Evansville, conducting an extensive men's furnishing, hat and tailor business. His success is such that his methods are of interest to the commercial world. Much has been written concerning success and its attainment, but this generalization has little effect. Such a history as that of Edward N. Hill, however, speaks in no uncertain terms and proves that unremitting industry, keen insight and utilization of opportunities will lead to substantial and satisfactory results.

Mr. Hill is a native of Louisville, Kentucky, as were his parents, Frank and Alice (Newland) Hill. The father served as a captain in the Union army during the Civil war and was a strong opponent of slavery. Living in the south he recognized the evils of the system, and did all in his power to abolish it.

In the public schools of Louisville, Edward N. Hill pursued his education until he was graduated from the high school at the early age of fourteen years, having displayed special aptitude in his studies. He then went to Indianapolis, Indiana, where he was employed as a clerk in a clothing store, gaining the initial experience which qualified him for the successful conduct of the business which he is now carrying on. That he was diligent, faithful and adaptable is indicated in the fact that he continued with one firm for eleven years, being promoted from time to time to positions of larger responsibility and greater remuneration. He next went to Denver, Colorado, where he was engaged as buyer in the same line for four years, on the expiration of which period he came to Evansville and was employed in the same capacity, by the Progress Clothing Company for a number of years.

In the meantime he carefully saved his earnings until his capital justified his embarkation in business on his own account, and on the 17th of

March, 1910, he opened a store, which with few exceptions, is the finest men's hat, furnishing and tailor shop in the United States. His success has been remarkable. His long experience as a salesman and buyer, however, well qualified him for the conduct of the business, bringing to him a comprehensive knowledge of the trade, the demands of the public and the advancement in styles. He utilizes every inch of space in his store and is fast securing a trade which in volume and importance has eclipsed enterprises of similar character long established here. Mr. Hill has two hobbies, namely, that of humanizing his business, he believes in the men around him and in the goods he sells; the other is newspaper publicity, never using any other medium for putting his store to the front, experience seems to have taught him that he must have dependable merchandise first, and then tell about the merit his wares have in a forcible way. He believes that advertising is the searchlight that reveals the character of the management of any business, and the sign board pointing to the inner man.

On the 26th of December, 1907, Mr. Hill was united in marriage to Miss Ella McNeely, who is at present half owner of the Evansville Journal News, being a daughter of Hon. James H. McNeely, one of the former proprietors and editors of that paper and a representative of one of the leading families of Indiana, of which mention is made elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Hill gives his political endorsement to the republican party and as every true American citizen should do keeps well informed in the issues and questions of the day, so that he is able to support his position by intelligent argument. He holds membership with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Evansville and with the Knights of Pythias. His manner is genial, his disposition cordial and kindly, and his sterling and dominent traits of character are such as have gained for him the warm regard and confidence of his fellowmen. In business circles he has proven his force and enterprising spirit and along the lines of progressive, modern development he is meeting with success and classed as a leader.

C. HOWARD BATTIN.

Time tests the merit of all things, whether it is the worth of a product or the ability of an individual. The strength or weakness of each will be evidenced as the years go by. Personal progress, therefore, is attained when industry, adaptability and trustworthiness have been proven. These qualities have constituted dominant elements in the life of C. Howard Battin and have brought him to the present enviable position which he occupies in business circles as vice president of the Tennis Company and secretary of the Evansville Railway Company.

A native of Ohio, Mr. Battin was born near Kensington, Columbiana county, on the 18th of June, 1871, and is a son of Franklin and Jane Battin, also natives of Ohio. His parents were of Quaker ancestry and were connected with the Hicksite branch of the Society of Friends. His father was of Welsh lineage in the paternal line and of Irish descent in the maternal line. His wife's people were Scotch. He devoted his life to farming until his death, which occurred about 1904. His wife passed away in 1895. In their family were four sons and a daughter, of whom two sons are deceased, one son having died in infancy. The brother of our subject is W. L. Battin, a resident of Greenfield, Iowa, and the sister, Adella, is also living in that place.

C. Howard Battin, the youngest of the family, was educated in the public schools and in a commercial college at Rochester, New York. He afterward engaged in teaching school for three years and then turned his attention to commercial pursuits, establishing a grocery store at Akron, Ohio, where he continued in business for three years, and then sold out. From that time he has largely been connected with urban and interurban interests. He was first employed as a conductor on the interurban line between Akron and Cuyahoga Falls, operating under the name of the Rapid Transit Company. Three months later he was promoted and became road foreman, in which capacity he served for two years. He then moved to Cincinnati, and was made superintendent of the Cincinnati, Laurenburg & Aurora lines, his identification therewith continuing until 1900, when he became associated with Charles C. Tennis, of the Tennis Company, in railroad construction. He was elected vice president of this company, which is operating exclusively in the field of interurban railway building. He has also been secretary of the Evansville Railways Company for two years, and recently joined H. M. Lukens in organizing the firm of H. M. Lukens & Company for the conduct of a stock and bond brokerage business. He is well qualified in this latter connection, thoroughly understanding the value of commercial paper of this character, and the enterprise, determination and progressive spirit which he has displayed in every business connection argue well for success in the latter field which he has adopted.

On the 27th of October, 1892, Mr. Battin was married to Miss Mae W. Bradford, a daughter of Thomas S. Bradford, of Akron, Ohio, who is of English descent. In the maternal line Mrs. Battin can trace her ancestry through three generations born in Akron, Ohio. One of her ancestors was the first white child born in this city. Mr. and Mrs. Battin are now the parents of three children: Vera, born September 2, 1893; Leland, June 6, 1899; and Dalton W., January 10, 1909.

Mr. Battin usually votes with the republican party yet does not consider himself bound by party ties. He holds to no narrow creed or doctrine in religious belief but gives his support to the Universalist church. For ten years he has been dentified with the Masonic lodge and is also a mem-

ber of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He has social qualities that render him popular among friends and business associates alike, and at no time in the stress of business, in his relations as a citizen or in his associations in social life has he ever forgotten the duties and obligations which he owes to his fellowmen, while his personal traits of character are such as have won for him high esteem.

EDWARD R. SMITH.

The business world is constantly attracting to its ranks the best talent of the country and many of the feats accomplished by business men of modern times have required keener generalship than was exhibited by victors on scores of historic battlefields. The business manager is the general of today, and his army is to be seen in the willing workers whose presence is felt all over our country and whose products are distributed in the most distant regions of the world. It is to the practical business leader that the mind turns as the one who will ultimately solve the problems of city and state and whose counsels are always in favor of what is just and fair between them.

Among the practical business men of Evansville is Edward R. Smith, vice president and general manager of the E. Q. Smith Chair Company. He is a native of Evansville, born August 17, 1866. His father, E. Q. Smith, who was a chair maker by trade, was born at Hunter, Greene county, New York, and there engaged in the business before coming to Evansville in 1857. The E. Q. Smith Chair Company was established in Evansville by him. In 1887 the firm was incorporated and he became president of the company, continuing in that position until his death, which occurred March 10, 1903. He was a thorough business man and as an expert in his line had few superiors anywhere.

Until the age of seventeen years Edward R. Smith was a student in the public or high schools. Having shown a tendency for the same line of business as his father, he received his introduction to his future career as traveling salesman for the house, remaining in that department for three years. He then entered the factory and gained a knowledge of its operations by starting at the bottom and working through the various departments, devoting six years to the acquisition of a complete understanding of an industry which he had chosen as his life work. At the age of twenty-six years he was made general manager and since 1892 he has been vice president of the company. Under his management the business has grown until it is one of the most flourishing industries in Evansville. The product turned out by the factory represents a complete line of chairs of all grades, up to the leather covered diners and rockers of the finest workmanship and most elegant design.

Mr. Smith was united in marriage at Evansville, June 11, 1889, to Miss Amelia Neekamp, and three children were born to them: Edward H., now eighteen years of age and a traveling salesman for his father; Floyd N., sixteen years of age, in the office of the E. Q. Smith Company as bookkeeper; and M. Wallace, now five years of age.

Mr. Smith is a member of Trinity Methodist Episcopal church. He has been for many years actively identified with the Masonic order and is deeply versed in its teachings. He is past master of Evansville Lodge, No. 64; past high priest of Evansville Chapter, No. 12; a member of Simpson Council, R. A. M.; of La Vallette Commandery, No. 15, K. T.; and of Hadi Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. In political, social and business circles Mr. Smith is recognized as one who shirks no responsibility, and, like his father before him, he does not hesitate to perform his duty as he sees it. A pleasant companion and a genial gentlemen, he has many friends. He is bringing up his sons in accordance with principles which he himself has found most effective and which are expressed by the words truth, sincerity, energy, capability, tenacity and confidence in one's self. It requires no argument to prove that any young man who is actuated by these elements and balanced by the saving grace of common sense is absolutely sure to win.

FRED W. KRIEGER.

Fred W. Krieger is a well known representative of the German-American element, which has played such an important part in the business development and upbuilding of Vanderburg county. He is now living upon a farm of one hundred and thirty-nine acres in Center township, which he purchased in 1907. His birth occurred in Germany, December 4, 1862, his parents being Charles and Louisa (Busse) Krieger, who were likewise natives of that land where they spent their entire lives. The father died March 7, 1901, while his wife's death occurred in March, 1904.

Fred W. Krieger spent his youthful days under the parental roof, remaining at home until he reached the age of eighteen, when the opportunities of the new world proved to him an irresistible call and he crossed the Atlantic. He first settled in Washington county, Illinois, where he remained for eight months, when he came to Vanderburg county, Indiana, and began a contracting business, having previously learned the carpenter's trade. He followed that pursuit for a year and to some extent still does contracting, but the greater part of his time and attention are given to his farming interests. He purchased his present place in 1907 and now has a well developed tract of one hundred and thirty-nine acres, having brought the fields under a high state of cultivation. He has also built fences and outbuildings and expects soon to commence work on a barn

thirty-four by sixty-six feet. Thus he has put forth earnest effort in the line of general improvement and his farm has become a paying property.

On the 29th of November, 1888, Mr. Krieger was united in marriage to Miss Christina Kuester, a daughter of Charles and Louisa Kuester, both of whom were natives of Germany. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Krieger has been blessed with three sons, Charles, Arthur and Freddie, aged respectively, nineteen, seventeen and seven years, and all yet under the parental roof.

Mr. Krieger is a committeeman in the Home Storm Insurance Company. His political allegiance is given to the democratic party and he and his family attend and support the German Lutheran church. His life has been a busy and useful one, devoted to the business interests to which he has felt himself adapted, and as the years have passed he has made steady progress. He may truly be called a self-made man, for when he came to America his capital was limited. He recognized the fact, however, that opportunity is open to all and by the improvement of the advantages which are afforded in the business life of the new world he has steadily worked his way upward.

EUGENE PFÄFFLIN.

Eugene Pfäfflin, local agent at Evansville for the Anheuser-Busch Brewing Association of St. Louis since April 15, 1900, was born in this city, December 4, 1865, his parents being Adolph and Mary (App) Pfäfflin, whose surnames indicate their German nativity and ancestry. The father entered the Union service during the dark days of the Civil war and organized Company A of the One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Coming to Evansville in 1856, he was for some time engaged in the hotel business as proprietor of the Washington House, which stood on the corner of Third and Main streets, where the Nathan Grass clothing store now stands. He was called upon to serve as city clerk and also county sheriff and representative to the state legislature, filling these responsible positions with credit to himself and honor to the city and county. He was also a member of the school board for several years. After a useful and well spent life, he passed away November 20, 1879, and his wife died August 3, 1895.

Spending his youthful days under the parental roof Eugene Pfäfflin attended the public and high schools until he reached the age of sixteen years, when he crossed the threshold of business life by accepting the position of bookkeeper in the planing mill of George Mutchler, with whom he remained for two years. He then engaged as bookkeeper for Koerner, Kuehm & Koerner, proprietors of a planing mill, by whom he was em-

ployed for three years. His next position was with E. S. Babcock, capitalist, by whom he was sent to California as timekeeper and paymaster on the erection of the Coronado Hotel. After two years spent on the Pacific coast he returned to Evansville and embarked in the retail grocery business, with which he was connected for two years. He afterward engaged with Val M. Schmitz & Company, a retail clothier, with whom he was associated as bookkeeper for three years. On the expiration of that period he became bookkeeper at the local branch of the Anheuser-Busch Brewing Association and so continued until 1900, when he was appointed general agent of the Evansville branch and has since successfully managed their interests in this city, building up for the St. Louis house an extensive trade. His business methods are progressive and effective and under his guidance the patronage of the Evansville branch has continually increased.

On the 1st of December, 1887, Mr. Pfäfflin was married in Evansville to Miss Katie Hahn, and unto them have been born seven children: Adolph, nineteen years of age, who is now engaged with the Evansville Trunk Company; Carl, seventeen years of age, who is also with the same company; Eugene, fourteen years of age; Theodore, twelve years of age; Arnold, aged ten, and Edward, aged seven, all pupils in the public schools; and Catharine, two years of age.

Mr. Pfäfflin gives his political allegiance to the republican party but does not seek nor desire office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs and social interests, the forces which contribute to his support and his pleasure in life.

FRANK P. FUCHS.

Frank P. Fuchs, cashier of the Citizens National Bank and popular in the social circles of the city, was born in Evansville September 6, 1875. His father, Jacob Fuchs, a native of Germany, is still living here and was one of the first free delivery mail carriers of Evansville. In recent years he has turned his attention to merchandising and is now engaged in the grocery business at No. 109 High street. He married Sophia Eggert, also a native of Germany, and her death occurred in December, 1907.

Frank P. Fuchs is the eldest in a family of four children, all of whom are living in Evansville. He began his education as a public school student and afterward pursued a course in a commercial college. On leaving that institution in January, 1890, he looked about him for a favorable opportunity for entrance into business life and in May of that year he secured a position as messenger in the Citizens National Bank. Through successive promotions he has risen to the office of cashier, to which he was elected on the 27th of January, 1910. He is a popular official, obliging and courteous, and yet never neglectful in the least of the best interests of the institution which he represents.

Mr. Fuchs is a republican, although somewhat independent in his political tendencies. He belongs to the Zion Evangelical church, Reed Lodge, No. 316, A. F. & A. M., and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is interested in all manly athletics and outdoor sports, was one of the organizers of the Central Turners, and is secretary, treasurer and one of the most active members of the Recreation Gun Club. He also belongs to the Grand Chain Fishing Club and several bowling clubs.

ORA HERBERT ROBERTS.

O. H. Roberts is an able and distinguished Evansville lawyer who passed his youth amid ungenerous and cheerless surroundings and by the weight of his own character and ability, as represented in the utilization of every opportunity that has come to him, has worked his way upward to his present enviable position. His birth occurred in Vanderburg county, May 4, 1884. At an early day his paternal grandparents came to Indiana from North Carolina, of which state they were natives, and settled in Spencer county, while his maternal grandparents were born in Warrick county, Indiana, the family being established there in pioneer times. The Frisbies, however, were originally from North Carolina. His father, Britton Roberts, was born in Spencer county, December 4, 1854, and after attaining adult age was married to Miss Eunice Belle Frisbie, whose birth occurred in Warrick county, March 7, 1855. He devoted his life to farming but spent his last days in Evansville, ill health compelling his retirement for about twenty years. He died four years ago.

O. H. Roberts acquired his early education in the public schools. At the age of thirteen years he went to work in the Evansville Cotton Mills and was afterward with the H. Hermans Manufacturing Company of Evansville. When still quite young he spent two years in St. Louis. He learned the machinist's trade and during that period, anxious to secure a better education than had been accorded him, attended night school. Later he went to Denver, Colorado, where he spent nine months in the Leyner Engineering Works. The southwest was his next field of labor and in Houston, Texas, he had charge of the tool room for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company. Laudable ambition prompted him to seek a broader field for his energies and determination—his dominant qualities—and in 1904 he went to the capital city, where he entered George Washington University, from which he was graduated in 1907 with the LL. B. degree. The following year the Master of Law degree was conferred upon him. When in Washington he worked in the navy yard as a mechanic and in that way paid for his education, at the same time supporting his mother.

Mr. Roberts returned to Evansville to engage in general practice and his progress in his profession has been most gratifying and satisfactory.

O. H. ROBERTS

No dreary novitiate awaited him. Almost from the beginning he was accorded a liberal clientage and his law business is now extensive and of a most important character. He most carefully prepares his cases and enters the court room equipped for defense as well as for attack. His deductions are logical and his arguments forceful, and he has proven again and again that he is well qualified to cross swords in forensic combat with the ablest members of the Evansville bar. He never confines his reading to the main points but also prepares for the unexpected which happens quite as frequently in the courts as out of them. He is, therefore, never surprised by the attack of an adversary and has justly won the reputation of being one of Evansville's most able and successful lawyers.

In his political views Mr. Roberts has always been a democrat and is recognized as one of the active workers of the party, whose opinions carry weight in its councils, and yet he has never sought nor desired the rewards of office for party fealty. He is serving as chief of Evening Star Court, No. 231, of the Tribe of Ben Hur, his term expiring January 1, 1911. Religious activity also finds a prominent place in his life. He is one of the ushers and clerk of the First Baptist church and is president of the young men's class of the church. His is a strong character developed through hardships and adversity, which are often found to be the best incentives for effort and ambition. Unfaltering determination has enabled him to overcome all the difficulties in his path and the consensus of public opinion now places him in a most enviable position as a representative of the legal fraternity in Evansville.

G. MICHAEL DAUSSMAN.

G. Michael Daussman, secretary and treasurer of the T. W. Cook Brewing Company, is a native of Germany, born in 1847. He is a son of Jacob Daussman, who was a cooper and brewer by trade and who came to America with his family in 1855 on a sailing ship, locating in Evansville, where he followed his trade until his death in 1896. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Eva Feibert, who survived her husband seven years and was called to her final rest in 1903. Seven children were born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Daussman: Phillipina, now Mrs. Fred Steiman; Eva, now Mrs. Sam Kamm; Kate, now Mrs. Sam Zeigler, of Chicago; Gertrude, now Mrs. Albert Scholtz; Louisa, who became Mrs. Stockwell and is now deceased; and Catherine, who died in infancy.

G. Michael Daussman, the only son, received his education in the public schools of Germany and at the age of eight years came with his parents to Evansville which has since been his home. In 1866 he became identified with the F. W. Cook Brewing Company first as bookkeeper and then as traveling salesman and afterward in various capacities, making him-

self so useful that in 1885 he was elected secretary and treasurer and has since continued in those positions. By ability and inclination Mr. Daussman is adapted for a business career and during all the years in which he has been connected with the company he has contributed in an important degree in building up its reputation and in extending the territory over which the products of the plant are distributed. He is thoroughly acquainted with the various details of the business, which has grown to large proportions within recent years.

In 1880 Mr. Daussman was united in marriage to Miss Anna Platz, a daughter of Charles Platz, of Evansville, and unto them have been born eight children: Bertha, who died in infancy; George M.; Ida; Louise; Elsie, now Mrs. Walter Holtzgrafe, of Memphis, Tennessee; Arthur; Oscar, and Grover.

Mr. Daussman in the earlier days of his manhood showed a great interest in all matters pertaining to music and became prominent as a member of various German singing societies. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the E. B. A., and was one of the charter members of the local lodge of Knights of Pythias. He has for many years been actively connected with the Evansville Manufacturers Association and holds membership in St. John's church. For over forty years he has been connected with the company of which he is an officer. He long ago demonstrated his ability as a business man and no citizen of Evansville is more earnest in urging the advantages of the city as a place of business or residence. Since early boyhood he has made America his home. He has given to this country the same fealty that, if he had remained in Germany, he would have given to his native land. As the head of a large family and the center of a circle which is made up of many friends and acquaintances, he is kindly and helpful. As a man among men he has through his business career attempted to discharge his responsibilities according to his best judgment and among the German citizens of Evansville he is recognized as a leader and in his party activities he has shown himself to be a capable and progressive citizen.

JUDGE PETER MAIER.

Judge Peter Maier has engaged in the practice of law since 1860, and the half century of his connection with the Indiana bar has been characterized by continued advancement in his chosen field of labor. With a mind naturally analytical and logical, his deductions are sound, his reasoning clear and his arguments forcible, while in his application of a legal point, principle or precedent, he is seldom at fault. He has therefore gradually risen to the position which he has now occupied for a long period as a leading member of the Vanderburg county bar.

His birth occurred in the province of Hohenzollern, Prussia, August 1, 1834. At the usual age he was sent to the public schools, where he continued his studies until his fourteenth year, when he crossed the Atlantic to the new world with his mother and the family of his uncle. They went direct to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he found work, being thrown on his own resources. Realizing the need of further education if he would make substantial advancement in the world, he worked steadily and acquired English sufficient to enable him to attend the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio. When his money gave out, he taught school to improve his finances. The first school he taught was eight years after he came to this country. Returning to college, he graduated in the scientific course with the class of 1858. After graduating he commenced the study of law in the office of Sweetser & Hall in Delaware for two years. He then applied for and got the position of principal of the common schools at Delaware and in August, 1860, applied for admission to the bar and after passing his examination was admitted. He at once started for Evansville, where he arrived September 1 and entered upon active practice. In 1864 the democrats of Vanderburg county, being without a German paper, persuaded him to commence the publication of a party organ in the German language, which he did, the first issue being in the latter part of May and was called the "Evansville Demokrat." He continued its publication for over two years, when not wishing to give up his practice he sold the paper to Dr. Carl and Fred Lauenstein, who succeeded in making it the leading German paper of Indiana.

In 1865 the democrats of this district nominated him for judge of the common pleas court. Being an off year and only a few county officials were to be elected and the election being held at the beginning of October when the farmers, who composed the bulk of the democratic voters, failed to turn out, he was beaten in the four counties composing the district, and Judge John Pitcher of Mount Vernon was elected by a small majority. In 1872 the democrats nominated him for judge of the criminal court of Vanderburg, but this was the Greely campaign which proved disastrous to the democratic party and he went down to defeat with the balance of the ticket. He has since been connected with the profession in this city and his record has at all times indicated his splendid qualifications for the life work he has chosen and the ability which he displays in the presentation of his cases before the courts. He was connected with much of the important litigation tried in this district during a half century, and in 1890 he was elected judge of the superior court, serving on the bench until 1894. He was then renominated but was defeated. In 1874 he was appointed by the city council as city attorney of Evansville and served until 1875. Again he filled that position from 1882 until 1883. While undoubtedly he is not without that honorable ambition which is so powerful and useful as an incentive to activity in public affairs, he regards the pursuits of private life as being in themselves abundantly worthy of his

best efforts. The success which he has attained is the reward of enterprise. The zeal with which he has devoted his energies to his profession, the careful regard evinced for the interests of his clients and the assiduous and unrelaxing attention given the details of his cases have brought him a large business and made him very successful in its conduct.

Judge Maier was married in Delaware, Ohio, to Miss Eliza M. Willey, on the 9th of June, 1864, and they have become parents of six children. They are members of the Episcopal church and Judge Maier has always been a democrat in his political views. Coming to the new world when a youth of fourteen, hoping to have better opportunities on this side of the Atlantic, he has made continuous progress. A man of broad learning and liberal knowledge, he ranks with those who have been prominent in molding public opinion and in shaping public thought and action. His cooperation has been given to progressive measures which constitute the impetus for the city's advancement and in the discussion of important public questions his opinions have carried weight.

PAUL YOUNG.

A man of sturdy instincts and strong will power, Paul Young has bravely borne up in the face of difficulty that would have overcome a man of less fortitude and he is recognized as one of the stanch citizens of his community. He was born in Scott township, Vanderburg county, where he has passed his life, June 4, 1874, and is the son of John and Susan H. (Reimann) Young, both of whom were born in Germany and came to this country with their parents when they were children. The father was left an orphan at eight years of age and made his home with a man named Greiger. He grew up as a farm boy and was educated in the common schools, attending school in the winter and devoting his attention to the farm with an assiduity that marked all agricultural pursuits in the earlier days. As he became older he worked out by the month and at twenty-one years of age he was able to purchase a farm of eighty acres which he improved by earnest labor. By the purchase of additional land he increased the size of the farm to one hundred and twenty-one acres and this he operated with gratifying success until he was called away August 30, 1904. Mrs. Young and her daughter Carrie are making their home, as they have for some time past, with the subject of this review.

Paul Young continued at the parental fireside until he was nineteen years of age, having in the meantime made good use of the opportunities offered at the district school and having also become well acquainted with the pursuit of agriculture. Seeking for better educational facilities than were afforded in the district school, he became a student in Lockyear's Business College at Evansville, from which he was graduated with the

class of 1902. At nineteen years of age he began to earn money for himself by hiring out to neighbors and later traveled with a threshing machine for several years. For five years he was connected with a general store at Daylight, Indiana, at the end of which time he resigned his position and bought four acres of land in town, where he is now erecting a fine modern residence.

Mr. Young is unmarried and his mother and sister have charge of the household. He is at the present time township assessor and has held this office for six years past to the general satisfaction of the tax payers. In 1896 Mr. Young suffered from an attack of rheumatism which developed into what is called white swelling, causing great pain for two years, when it was necessary to have the limb amputated. He bore up bravely and instead of proving a disaster, the ordeal has made of him a stronger and nobler character than would have been the case had he never been called upon to pass through this trying experience. He is a member of the Church of Latter Day Saints and as is indicated by the official position he holds, he possesses the respect and confidence of all who know him.

THOMAS E. GARVIN.

The legal profession has always embraced many of the brightest minds in America, and it has often been remarked that this republic is governed by lawyers. Countries of the old world are governed by families or by the aristocracy but here the lawyer has from the start borne a leading part and it is in a large degree through the influence and efforts of the members of the legal profession that the ship of state has been enabled to stem the current and ride safely into a secure harbor. The law has irresistible attractions under free institutions to the most promising young men, and when the subject of this review began to look about him as he started out upon his business career, he decided to cast his fortunes with the law.

Thomas E. Garvin was born at Gettysburg, Adams county, Pennsylvania, September 15, 1826, and the place of his birth several years later became the scene of the decisive conflict of the Civil war when the advancing army of the Confederacy was turned back by the forces of the Union. Mr. Garvin was the son of John and Providence Garvin, both of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and after a preliminary education in the schools of his native town, he matriculated at Mount St. Mary's College, a famous old institution of Emmettsburg, Maryland, where at the age of fourteen he entered upon a systematic course of study leading to graduation in 1844. He was a diligent student and showed himself to be the possessor of a logical mind which readily grasped the principles of any subject to which he directed his attention. Soon after graduation he removed to Evans-

ville, where he has since resided. Few men now living have witnessed so many changes in the valley of the Ohio. In 1844 Evansville was a small river town—only one settlement of many on the Ohio river, having apparently equal advantages. As the years passed the city grew in trade and population far surpassing many other towns of more pretentious claims. One of the most important elements in the growth of Evansville is to be found in the character of the men who there located, whose energy and ability are indelibly impressed on one of the most prosperous and beautiful cities to be seen in the entire length of the Ohio.

The young citizen from Pennsylvania lost no time in the preparation for the legal profession. He began study in the office of Hon. Conrad Baker, ex-governor of Indiana and one of the ablest members of the bar in the entire west. Being in need of funds, Mr. Garvin taught school for a time but on March 27, 1846, after an examination for admission, he was duly licensed as an attorney. Upon the invitation of his preceptor they became associated in practice under the firm name of Baker & Garvin. This partnership, which proved pleasant and profitable, continued for eleven years, the firm being identified with many of the most important cases in the state. Mr. Garvin gained an enviable reputation as a cogent reasoner who appealed with directness and force to both judge and jury. During his active years at the bar he was considered a most careful and vigilant attorney in whose hands it was safe to entrust the most intricate and important litigation. His clients have been among the most influential citizens of the city and county. Of late years he has gradually withdrawn from active participation in important cases, but his interest in friends and in developments, both public and private, has continued. He is interested in real-estate litigation although his private affairs demand a large part of his time. He has been connected with many enterprises as attorney, adviser, officer or stockholder and has contributed largely toward the advancement which has been witnessed in Evansville and throughout the surrounding country. He was one of the original promoters of the First National Bank of Evansville, and for many years was a member of the board of directors. He was also one of the original trustees of the Willard Library and a member of the board to which the property was deeded. Although not a seeker for political honors, Mr. Garvin has taken a lifelong interest in all matters pertaining to city, county, state or nation. He was elected to the state legislature as a representative from Vanderburg county in 1862 and performed his duties to the general acceptance of his constituency.

On November 11, 1849, Mr. Garvin was united in marriage to Miss Cornelia M. Morris at Pen Yan, Yates county, New York. She is a direct descendant of the Morris family of Morristown, New Jersey, which gained an enduring reputation through the patriotic services of Robert Morris, the noted financier of the Revolution, and others of the same name.

The career of Mr. Garvin is a striking example of a self-made man who has accomplished a noble mission in life by adherence to principles founded upon truth and justice. His high character met with due recognition from his alma mater in 1876 when Mount St. Mary's College conferred upon him the honorary, degree of LL. D. To this honor he was justly entitled not only by his distinguished law record but on account of his rare attainments in history and polite literature. Respected and honored by many friends and acquaintances, he looks back upon a life of activity and usefulness which has few regrets and many pleasing memories.

JOSEPH F. REITZ.

Carefully conducted business interests brought Joseph F. Reitz to a prominent position in mercantile circles and gained for him the honor and respect of his fellowmen. He is now giving his supervision to his real-estate interests but otherwise has retired from active life. His name indicates his German lineage. He was born in Westphalia, Germany, in 1837 and was about seven years of age when the family came to the new world. His father, Francis Joseph Reitz, also a native of Germany, came to Evansville in 1842.

Brought to Evansville in his early boyhood, Joseph F. Reitz pursued his education in the parochial school of the Trinity Catholic church on Third street. For more than two-thirds of a century he has been a resident of this city. In 1860 he went to California, where he spent five years in gold mining. On his return to Evansville, in 1865, he engaged in the sawmill business with his brother, John A. Reitz. In 1870 he established a furniture and manufacturing business and was for twenty-five years located on Main street, conducting a wholesale and retail enterprise which is still in existence. In the '90s, however, Mr. Reitz sold out to the Jordan & Loesel Furniture Company, since which time he has given his attention to his real-estate investments. While engaged in merchandising his activities conformed to the highest standard of commercial ethics. He carried large and well selected lines of goods both in the wholesale and retail departments. He became one of the foremost representatives of the trade in Evansville, which in recent years has become an important center for the manufacture and sale of furniture. As he prospered and his financial resources increased he made investment from time to time in real estate until his property holdings are now quite extensive and return to him a gratifying annual income.

Mr. Reitz was married in 1874, in Sainte Marie, Jasper county, Illinois, to Miss Louise Picquet, who was born at Boersch, Alsace, then a province

of France. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Reitz were born four children but only one is now living, Mrs. Charles Reitz Rudd.

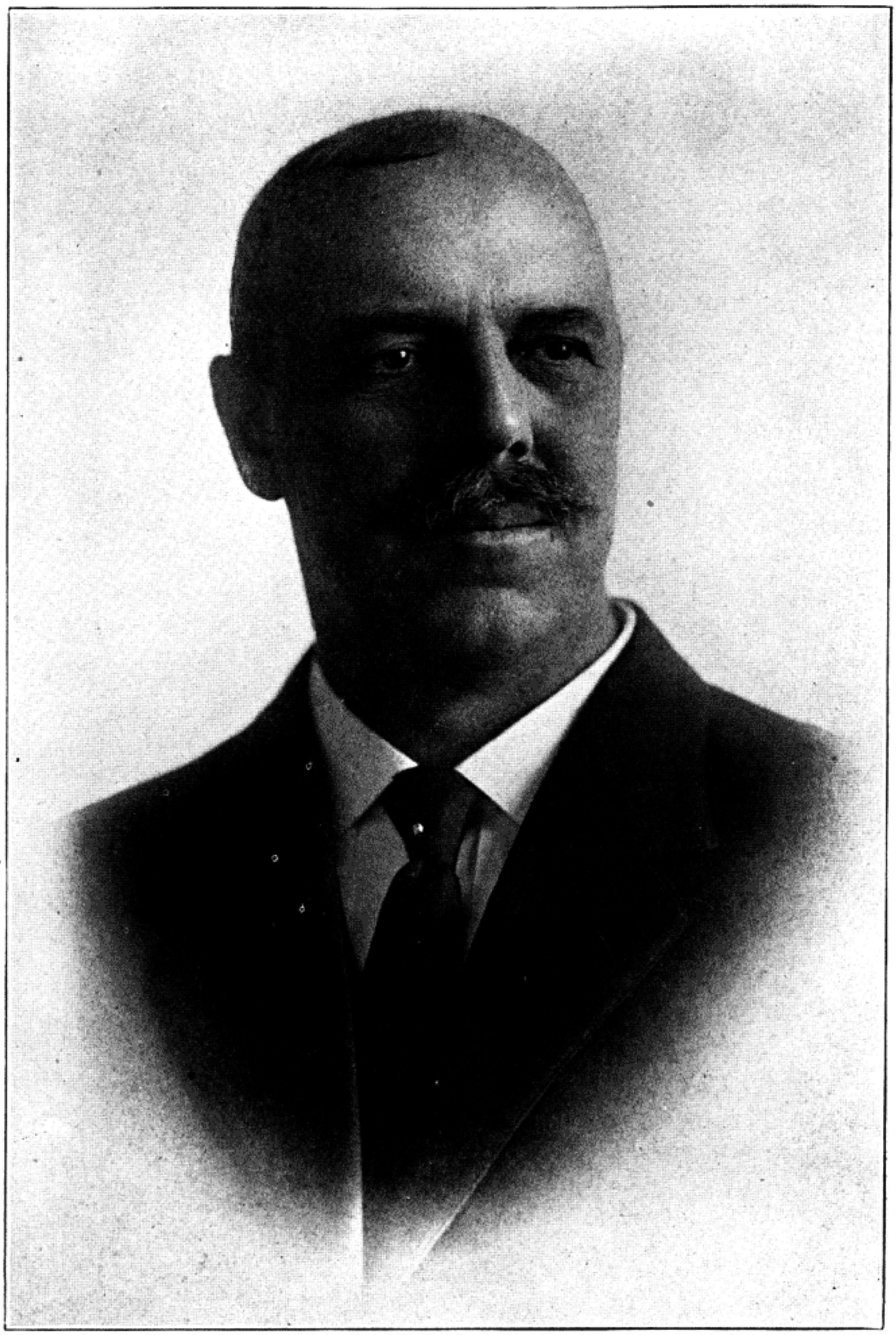
The parents hold membership in the Assumption church, in the work of which they take active and helpful part. In the city where he has so long lived Mr. Reitz has ever been regarded as a man of well balanced character who has learned to correctly judge of the values of life and of those things which go to make up life's contact and experiences. Actuated by a laudable ambition, he has followed the path of progress to the goal of success, and honor and esteem have been accorded him all along the way.

LOUIS A. DAUS.

Louis A. Daus was one of the founders and promoters of the Anchor Supply Company and is the strong center of the business community in which he moves. He has developed an enterprise of extensive proportions hardly exceeded by any undertaking of similar character in the world and, moreover, his business balances up with the principles of truth and honor.

Mr. Daus is a native of Cleveland, Ohio, born September 1, 1862. His parents, August and Wilhelmina Daus, were both natives of Germany. The father came to this country when seventeen years of age and the mother when a maiden of twelve summers. They were married in Cleveland, Ohio, and unto them were born twelve children, of whom Louis A. is the eldest. Spending his youthful days in his parents' home, he was sent at the usual age to the public schools of Cleveland, won promotion through the various grades and also spent one year as a student in the high school. His initial step in the business world was made as an apprentice to the sailmaker's trade and when he had mastered that pursuit he followed it in different parts of the United States, continually advancing in ability and experience.

Following his arrival in Evansville in February, 1888, Mr. Daus took charge of the tent and awning department of the business of John J. Sinzich. He remained in that connection for four and a half years, at the end of which time he engaged in the tent and awning business on his own account, carrying on the undertaking successfully for about eighteen months, when he became associated with others in organizing and incorporating the Anchor Supply Company, with which he has since been connected as vice president and as president. He has not only watched it grow from a small beginning to one of the largest establishments of the kind in the world but has been a most important factor in its continued development and in the extension of its trade connections until its ramifying interests reach out to all parts of the country. The plant has been enlarged to meet the growing demands of the trade and at all times has been equipped with the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work. Cor-



LOUIS A, DAUS

rect business principles and close conformity to the highest standards of business ethics have, moreover, been strong features in the success of the undertaking. While Mr. Daus confines his attention largely to the management of the interests of the Anchor Supply Company, he was also a director and the vice president of the Mercantile National Bank for two and a half years after its organization and then became its president, so serving from July 1909, until it was merged into the Mercantile Trust & Savings Company in July, 1910.

Mr. Daus was married in Evansville on the 11th of July, 1888, to Miss Lavinia L. Biszant, who was born in Marietta, Ohio, a daughter of Philip and Lavinia Biszant, who came to Evansville when their daughter, Mrs. Daus, was only about thirteen years of age. She has been a very prominent church and society worker, being a recognized leader in the social circles of the city. By her marriage she has become the mother of two sons, Frank A. and John J. Daus.

In politics Mr. Daus is a republican, although not an active party worker. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the Royal Arcanum and in Masonry he has attained the degrees of Knight Templar and Noble of the Mystic Shrine. He is also a member of the Country Club and is a trustee of Grace Memorial church. He was a member of the National Guard of the state of Ohio for three years and acted as guard on the line of march during the progress of the funeral of President Garfield. He was also on duty guarding the body while it lay in state in the public square at Cleveland. Since coming to Evansville he has proved his worth as a citizen by his active cooperation in many projects for the public good, for he is interested in all that pertains to the material, intellectual, social and moral upbuilding of the community. He is, however, preeminently a business man with a genius for organization and an aptitude for successful management.

HON. CHARLES G. COVERT.

It has been said that one of the secrets of success in life is a good start; but all thinking minds will agree that good judgment, honorable character and an abundant supply of energy go a long way toward the accomplishment of a well rounded career. It is to all of these desirable elements that may be ascribed the enviable position occupied by the subject of this review in the estimation of the people of Evansville and Vanderburg county. A native of the Hoosier state, his parents also belonging to this state, he grew up under the favorable influences of an advanced civilization and right worthily has he acquitted himself of the duties and responsibilities involved.

Charles G. Covert was born at Washington, Daviess county, Indiana, September 4, 1864, a son of Jacob and Maria Catherine (Gooldy) Covert.

His father was born in Wells county and his mother in Lawrence county. Jacob Covert first saw the light of day August 13, 1837, and is said to have been the first male white child born in Wells county. He had the following children: Harriett, now Mrs. Grant L. Austin, of Washington city; Charles G., our subject; Martha, now Mrs. Charles P. Beard, of Evansville, and William H., of Washington, D. C. Jacob Covert was a well known newspaper man of Indiana. He was the founder of the Evansville Tribune, which he conducted for many years. Later he moved to Washington city, where he held a lucrative position in the government printing office in 1905.

When he was about five years of age the parents of Charles G. Covert took up their residence at Evansville and here he has since made his home. He attended the public schools and was graduated from the high school, but a large part of his education has been acquired in the printing office —accredited as being one of the best schools the world has known—and in contact with actual affairs of life. He learned the printer's trade in his father's office and after leaving school, at the age of sixteen, he "held cases" in the office of the Evansville Journal, continuing there for several years. He left the Journal in 1887 to become city editor of the Tribune, remaining with that paper for more than seven years, the last five years as managing editor. In the fall of 1894 he was nominated by the republican party as sheriff of Vanderburg county and, having been elected to the office, resigned his position on the newspaper and entered upon his official duties in January, 1895. Having administered the affairs of the sheriff's office to the general acceptance of the people of the county, he was reelected in 1896 and served two terms, making a total period of four years. At the time of his first election he was twenty-nine years of age and the records show that he was the youngest man up to that time elected to the responsible position of sheriff in Vanderburg county. He proved a courageous and safe executive officer and won and retained the respect of officers and judges of the courts and all right-minded citizens. In 1899 he was the republican nominee for mayor of Evansville but was defeated by a close margin of fifty-two votes. Again in the spring of 1901 he was presented as a candidate for the office and this time he won by a majority of eighty-eight votes. As mayor of the second city of the state he added to the reputation he had already gained as a man of good judgment even in matters pertaining to politics and one who has always aimed to perform his whole duty to the best of his ability. He is a successful business man, being identified in an official way with several Evansville enterprises.

Mr. Covert was happily married October 26, 1887, to Miss Grace L. Tucker, of Paris, Illinois, and three daughters have been born to them. Mr. Covert is a prominent factor in social and fraternal circles as well as in political affairs. He is a member of many organizations, among them the Masons, the Knights of Pythias, the Elks, Red Men, United Workmen, Royal Arcanum, Ancient Essenic Order of Buffaloes and the For-

esters of America. In these organizations his social qualities have found expression and through these and other channels he has found opportunity of extending a helping hand to many less fortunate than himself. At the age of forty-six the subject of our record is just in the prime of a useful life and it is the opinion of his friends that as the years pass he will add new honors to those already acquired. It is evident that no record of Vanderburg county would be complete without the name of Charles G. Covert.

JAMES D. SAUNDERS.

James D. Saunders is engaged in civil engineering, a business with which the name of Saunders has been connected through more than a half century. He was born in Bloomington, Indiana, December 4, 1853, a son of James D. and Mary Saunders. The father was born in Manchester, England, November 2, 1829, and crossed the Atlantic to America in the period of early manhood, establishing his home in Bloomington, Indiana, in 1851, being engaged as engineer in the construction of the New Albany & Salem Railroad. After three years of residence there he removed to Evansville in 1854, as engineer of the proposed Evansville & Cleveland Railroad, known as the Straight Line Railroad. He was elected city engineer in 1857 and held that office almost continuously until his life's labors were ended in death on the 6th of June, 1880.

James D. Saunders was a pupil in the Evansville schools to the age of seventeen years, when he became assistant to his father, under whose direction he learned civil engineering. The thorough training and experience which he gained in that connection well qualified him for the position of county surveyor, to which he was elected in 1876. That his course in office was commendable is indicated by the fact that in 1878 he was reelected for a second term and in 1880 he was appointed city engineer by the city council and was elected to that office uninterruptedly until 1887. Subsequently he followed his profession independently until 1889, when he was elected city engineer and filled the office until 1891. He afterward engaged in the engineering and contracting business on his own account for two years, when he was appointed a member of the board of public works and was again in office for four years, or until 1897. Through the succeeding eight years his attention was devoted to engineering and contracting in the field of his chosen profession, during which he was a member of the firm of James D. & M. S. Saunders, civil engineers, and of the contracting firm of Stinchfield & Saunders. He did the engineering work for the Princeton Railway Company and the surveys for the Evansville & Rockport Railway Company. He also constructed the mound for the city water works and executed several contracts for street work.

In 1906 he was again appointed to the position of city engineer and continued his incumbency in the office until January, 1910, his appointment coming in recognition of the excellent service which he had previously done in the same position. On his retirement from the office he once more began contract work on his own account and in the field of civil engineering with his brother Miles S. Saunders, under the firm name of J. D. & M. S. Saunders, has met with substantial success. Thoroughness, promptness and reliability have been salient features in his progress and they have become recognized as one of the most faithful and capable firms of civil engineers of this state.

On the 13th of October, 1886, Mr. Saunders was married in Evansville to Miss Elizabeth McQuigg, a former resident of Ironton, Ohio, and they have become parents of four children: Mack, twenty-three years of age, who is now connected with the engineering department of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company; Betty, at home; J. Daniel, eighteen years of age, now attending business college; and Mary, who died in early childhood.

In the midst of a busy life Mr. Saunders has found opportunity for social enjoyment. He recognizes the obligations as well as the privileges of citizenship, and, keeping well informed on the political questions and issues of the day, gives his endorsement to the democratic party, for he believes that its platform contains the best elements of good government. He has been county chairman of that party twice, in 1892 and 1904. He has always been a resident of Indiana, and from early youth of Evansville. In his life he has manifested the enterprising spirit which has ever been a dominant factor in the upbuilding and progress of the middle west. He has never placed his dependence upon fortunate circumstances or favorable environment, but has sought success in the field of earnest effort, unfaltering diligence and capability in the line of his chosen life work.

PHIL COLTON GOULD.

Among the progressive citizens of Evansville Judge Phil Colton Gould occupies an honorable place. Although only thirty years of age, he has won high standing in a profession which calls for the choicest ability in the land and demands a most arduous service. In his various acts he has shown wise discrimination and good judgment, and it is the opinion of his friends that no young lawyer of southern Indiana has greater possibilities of usefulness in his profession or of success in the various duties of life.

Phil Colton Gould comes from a long line of English ancestry and was born at Evansville, January 11, 1880. He is the son of Charles F. and Jane (Colton) Gould, both of whom were natives of England, where they were united in marriage, later removing to America. Charles F.

Gould was a lawyer and newspaper man and one highly esteemed by his friends and devoted to his family. He departed this life at Evansville, February 10, 1904, and is survived by his widow and daughter, Rose Cave, both living at Evansville, besides the subject of this review.

Phil Colton Gould received his preliminary education in the public schools of Evansville and completed an elective course in the high school in 1898. Turning his attention to the study of law, he matriculated at the law school at Valparaiso, Indiana, from which he was graduated June 1, 1901. He was admitted to practice before the supreme court of Indiana and before the federal court in June, 1901, and has since been actively engaged in his profession. From January 1, 1908, to July 1, 1909, he practiced in partnership with Daniel H. Ortmeyer, but at other times has practiced alone. On account of close application to his work, his health became impaired in 1908 and he spent three months traveling through California and Old Mexico, returning greatly improved in health and with broadened understanding of the country and its possibilities.

Previous to attending law school, Judge Gould served for almost one year as deputy coroner under John P. Walker, his term of office extending from December 1, 1898, to September 1, 1899. Although the duties of his profession have drawn largely upon his time, Judge Gould has, since reaching the age of maturity, taken an active interest in politics and has been an ardent advocate of the principles of the republican party. While not a self-seeker for office, he believes that every patriotic citizen should hold himself in readiness to perform public duties when called upon by the proper authority and after his nomination by the republican convention for city judge, he entered the campaign with characteristic energy and was elected to the office in November, 1909, for a term of four years. He assumed the duties of his position on January 3, 1910, and has discharged its responsibilities in such a way as to meet with the hearty approval of the best class of citizens. He is a strong advocate of providing employment for chronic offenders while they are incarcerated in the county jail and has inaugurated a movement that may result in instituting a modern system in this regard. In cases where offenders have been found guilty of previous violations of the law, Judge Gould calls for the police court record of each offense since January 1, 1906, and in his decisions is governed largely by the previous record of the individual. He believes that habitual offenders should be more severely punished than those arrested for the first time—a class often amenable to reformation by light sentences. He has found that about half of the offenders at Evansville are "habituals," some of them having been arraigned before the city court as many as eight times a year for four years. The study which Judge Gould is making of the criminal classes is also being pursued along similar lines in many cities and results of great practical benefit to society are expected. He believes that the courts can assist in many ways in restraining evil-doers and in inculcating respect for law and or-

der. This, however, calls for careful discrimination on the part of the court and the infliction often of severe penalties upon persistent offenders.

Judge Gould was united in marriage at Chicago, July 14, 1909, to Roah (Archer) McCallister, widow of Alfred G. McCallister, of Mount Union, Indiana. Mrs. Gould was born at Battle Creek, Michigan, May 30, 1887, and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Archer. She is a graduate of the Battle Creek public schools and is a lady possessing many graces of heart and character and a most attractive personality. Her parents were of English and French lineage. The home of Judge and Mrs. Gould is at No. 1112 Washington avenue.

Judge Gould is identified with a number of social organizations, being a member of the Evansville Driving Club, the Central Turn Verein, the First Ward Republican Club and the Elks. He has taken a great deal of interest in athletics and at one time was the owner of the Evansville Baseball Franchise, keeping it from being lost to Evansville in the season of 1907. He organized a corporation with Harry Stahlhoefer as president, himself as vice president and six other public-spirited citizens, and succeeded in retaining the franchise during the season. Generally at the front and alive to the importance of all movements looking to the public good, he has taken a keen interest in the growth of healthy sentiment in the community and has attempted to contribute his share toward the permanent welfare of the city. He is a representative of the stalwart young men in America, who are coming forward into positions of responsibility as successors of worthy progenitors who made possible the present unexampled opportunities for larger usefulness.

ROBERT A. ANDRES.

Among the enterprising and progressive citizens of Evansville, Robert A. Andres occupies an honorable place, not only on account of the business interests he represents but also on account of his public spirit and the use he has made of his opportunities to advance the welfare of those with whom he is immediately surrounded. As president of The Andres Company, he is widely known in the mercantile world and occupies an important position in a city noted for the ability and energy of its business leaders. He was born in Monroe county, Illinois, March 25, 1865, and is a son of George and Frances Andres. His father was a native of Alsace-Lorraine, Germany, born in March, 1822, and at the age of eighteen he came to America, locating in Monroe county, Illinois, where he was a wine grower for many years. His death occurred in October, 1866.

Robert A. Andres attended private and public schools at Springfield, Missouri, until twelve years of age and then became a student at St. Mary's

College, St. Mary's Kansas, continuing for three years. At the age of fifteen he returned to Springfield and began his business career as clerk with the Charles H. Heer Dry Goods Company. From the beginning he showed special adaptability to the dry-goods business and at twenty-three years of age he was elected a director of the company and four years later was made its secretary and treasurer. Mr. Andres is not a man to be satisfied with a mediocrity of success. He belongs to the advance guard of the great army which never stands still and has supreme confidence that "just beyond" lies a fruitful country that is awaiting the magic touch of hand and brain to make it blossom as a garden of roses. In casting about for a wider field he discovered possibilities at Evansville that less discerning eyes had overlooked. Accordingly, in 1903, he removed to this city and bought out the dry-goods firm of the Hennessy-Robinson Company. The new firm was very soon incorporated and Mr. Andres was elected president. Under energetic and capable management the business of the company grew rapidly and in 1908 extensive changes were made, among which was the extension of the store so as to make use of the second floor of the building, previously occupied as offices. At the same time the name of the company was changed to The Andres Company, of which Mr. Andres became president; F. X. Heer, of Springfield, Missouri, vice president; and R. C. Smith, secretary and manager. The company is now operating the largest exclusive dry-goods store in the state of Indiana and specializes in ready-to-wear garments for women and children. Branch offices are maintained at No. 14 Lispenard street, New York; No. 41, Cheapside, E. C., London, England; and 21-23 Rue d'Hauteville, Paris. The foreign offices are made necessary on account of the fact that the company is a direct importer of costumes and European-made goods, for which there is a constantly increasing demand in this country.

In leaving Springfield, Missouri, for Evansville, Mr. Andres did not dispose of his business interests in the former place but retained them and is secretary of the Charles H. Heer Dry Goods Company of Springfield, as well as secretary and treasurer of The Heer & Andres Investment Company, also of that city, a corporation handling real estate, stocks, bonds and securities.

On January 30, 1901, Mr. Andres was united in marriage to Miss Virginia Ferguson, of Springfield, Missouri. They have two children: Louise, now seven years of age; and Mary Elizabeth, six years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Andres are members of the Roman Catholic church and are among those most responsive to the numerous calls connected with the beneficences of that great organization. Mr. Andres is also a member of the Knights of Columbus, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Crescent and Country Clubs of Evansville and still retains membership in the Springfield Club of Springfield, Missouri. As may be seen, he has many responsibilities and is a man of unusual keenness, not only in the rare faculty of foreseeing the possibilities in his special line of business, but in that other

rare faculty of supplying the demands of a large and discriminating body of purchasers, after the demands have once been created. Herein is to be found the secret of the success of the leading business men of America.

JACOB W. JENNER.

Jacob W. Jenner, who was a prominent and widely known citizen of Evansville, devoted the greater part of his life to the banking business, wherein his ability won him promotion, while his uniform courtesy and obliging manner made him popular with the patrons of the old First National Bank, whch he represented as cashier. A native of Indiana, he was born in the year 1851. He was of German lineage, a son of Adam Jenner, who came to Evansville from Germany when but nineteen years of age. In his native land he had learned the weavers' trade but as there was no employment of that kind to be obtained here, he worked at whatever he could secure. When twenty years of age he worked for a time in Washington. With many events of early progress in Evansville he was closely associated. He assisted in building the wharf in this city and for a time was employed on boats running out of Evansville. In that way he learned engineering and continued in active connection with steamboat interests for some time. He afterward accepted the position of engineer of the old Indiana mills until they were destroyed by fire, when he went to Mount Vernon, Indiana, where he occupied a position as engineer for five years. He then returned to Evansville in 1871, remaining one of the worthy and respected residents of this city until his death. He was a great reader and in this way educated himself, constantly broadening his knowledge, while his ready adaptability enabled him largely to use his learning in the practical affairs of life. He was a member of St. John's church, a man of great honor and respected by all.

Adam Jenner married Louise Jenner, who, though of the same name, was not a relative. She, too, was born in Germany and when fourteen years of age came to the United States. They were the parents of nine children, of whom seven reached adult age, while those still living are: Mrs. Mary L. Nugent; Thomas of Evansville; Elizabeth, of this city; Rose, the wife of Thomas Kerth, of Cairo, Illinois; and Fred, of Newburg, Indiana. A daughter, Sarah, reached womanhood but is now deceased.

The other member of the family to attain adult age was Jacob W. Jenner of this review. His early life passed without special event to differentiate it from that of most American youths. Study, work and play occupied his attention. Early in life, however, he manifested decided aptitude for business and remained throughout his life a forceful factor in those fields wherein he labored. His success and advancement were attributable to close application, unfaltering loyalty to the interests which he represented and prompt-

JACOB W. JENNER

ness in the discharge of all of his duties. When a young man he became an accountant in the old National Bank, where he was afterward made receiving teller, and filled that position for thirty years, so continuing until his health compelled his retirement from active business. In the meantime, as his financial resources had permitted, he had operated to some extent in the field of real estate and had contributed to the improvement of Evansville in the erection of a large, fine apartment building at No. 507 West First street, a building largely used for doctors' offices.

In 1879 Mr. Jenner was united in marriage to Miss Adeline Tenney, and they became the parents of a daughter and two sons: Irene, at home with her mother; Will, now in Chicago; and Lawrence, who is in this city.

During the later years of his life Mr. Jenner was in poor health and on the 21st of February, 1910, passed away. His business connections had brought him a wide acquaintance, which was further extended in his social relations and wherever known he was held in high regard. He possessed a kindly spirit, a genial disposition and cordial manner and was rich in those qualities which develop warm and enduring friendships.

ROBERT S. RUSTON.

Robert S. Ruston, deceased, was for several years one of the active business men and highly esteemed citizens of Evansville. His early home was on the other side of the Atlantic, for he was born in Chatteris, Cambridgeshire, England, in 1812, and was one of a family of five sons whose father was John Ruston. He acquired a good practical education in the common schools of his native land and was eighteen years of age when he came to the United States. He at once made his way to this county and first worked on the farm of his uncle, Mr. Peck, whose place is now occupied by the Oak Hill cemetery. Later he engaged in farming for himself in Blue Grass and for some years conducted the only tavern on the Springtown road, now the site of the Country Club. At one time he owned and operated a hay press at Inglefield, Indiana, and while engaged in that business met with an accident which resulted in the loss of both arms. It was in 1848 that he became a resident of Evansville and embarked in the wholesale and retail feed business on Water street. During the Civil war he did a large business with the government and acquired considerable property in this city, but reverses overtook him and he lost much of his real estate. He then turned his attention to other lines of work and did heavy hauling on a very extensive scale in Evansville.

Mr. Ruston was three times married, his first wife being Isabel Whitehead, of McCutchanville, who died on the 22d of September, 1843, and of the three children born to them John G. is the only one now living. For his second wife Mr. Ruston wedded Mrs. Mary Childs, of Evansville,

who died soon after her marriage. On the 23d of October, 1860, he was united in marriage to Miss Miriam White, who came to Evansville from London, England, and they became the parents of four children, namely: Walter, now deceased; Edgar A., a resident of Davenport, Iowa; Isabel; and Edith.

By his ballot Mr. Ruston supported the men and measures of the republican party and took an active interest in the welfare of his adopted country. He was a faithful and consistent member of St. Paul's Episcopal church and also was identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Although handicapped, he made a success of life and gained the confidence and high regard of all with whom he came in contact either in business or social life. He passed away in 1881 but is still remembered by a host of friends in Evansville and the surrounding country.

HON. JAMES H. McNEELY.

The leaders are few. The great majority of men are content to follow in the paths which others have marked out rather than to put forth the effort and exercise the courage that are always concomitants to original, definite action. Mr. McNeely, however, was of the class who mould public opinion and gained a large following because of the confidence placed in his ability—an ability that he himself developed through the exercise of effort, and a deep and continuous consideration of vital questions affecting the welfare of the majority. He came to be known as one of the leading editorial writers of the middle west, and his attitude upon certain questions of government control led to his appointment to official positions in which it was evident that his interest in the public good surmounted all partisanship or desire for personal advancement. With the early history of Pennsylvania and of the middle west the names of his ancestors, the Hamiltons and the Laugherys, were closely connected, figuring prominently in the development and upbuilding of those sections of the country. Like his ancestors. Mr. McNeely in time played an important role on the stage of public action.

His life work found its expression in journalism, which shares with the platform the honor of being the most potent element in molding public opinion and shaping public destiny. Like the majority of men who attain prominence and success, his start in life was humble. He was apprenticed to the printer's trade in Lawrenceburg, Indiana, his native city, and after mastering the business to some extent went to Cincinnati, Ohio, and was among the early printers of that city who came into prominence later in life as a newspaper writer. Even while engaged on mechanical construction of journals of that day his time and thought were in a measure centered upon contributions to magazines, and he was making of his mind a store

house of wisdom from which he drew liberally in later years. From Cincinnati he went to Indianapolis and secured the position of foreman of the composing room on the Indianapolis Journal. His ability was attracting attention, however, and successive promotions brought him to the position of city editor of that paper. He was also connected with other printing enterprises and the force of his individuality and his original thought were being made manifest.

The telegraph, too, was becoming an important feature in the business development of the west and Mr. McNeely was one of the first to take up the study of telegraphy with the Morse key, becoming one of the pioneers of the profession.

On coming to Evansville, Mr. McNeely joined with his brother, the late John Hamilton McNeely, and with F. M. Thayer, also now deceased, in the purchase of the Evansville Journal, which in time was sold to Claud G. DeBruler, at which time James H. McNeely, became half owner in the Richmond (Indiana) Palladium. After continuing in that connection for a time Mr. McNeely took charge of the Terre Haute Express as managing editor and business manager, remaining with the paper for several years. He then returned to Evansville and purchased the interest of Mr. Thayer, the newspaper then becoming the sole property of himself and his brother.

From that time forward he remained half owner of the Journal-News and as editor in chief of the paper he wielded a trenchant and facile pen. His interest in public affairs was not merely that of a casual observer. He was a close student of the signs of the times and looked beneath the superficial to find the real meaning of the work that was being accomplished and the purposes actuating it. He stood fearless in support of a project which he deemed beneficial to the community, and advocated strongly the cause of one whom he believed to be working for the general good. On the contrary, he was equally strong in his opposition of men or measures when he believed they were inimical to the welfare of the community or the state.

It was not alone, however, in the field of journalism that his influence was widely exerted, for in many other ways his efforts promoted public progress or conserved the general good. He was prominent in affairs of the state as early as 1852, when the constitutional convention was called to give to Indiana its present organic law. He was acquainted, as few others have been, with the history of the state in detail, as well as in its more important features, and his memory of men and affairs was most retentive. He consented to hold but few public offices, his ambition being in other directions, but those which he filled were adorned by his presence, their duties being most promptly, capably and faithfully executed. At different times he served as postmaster of Evansville, assessor of internal revenue, and supervisor of construction of the Federal building. His work in the later connection was notable. Upon the completion of the building he returned nearly thirty thousand dollars of the money appropriated by

the government for its construction. The records show that this is the only instance where such an act has been performed. It stands, moreover, as positive proof of his integrity and honor in matters of public trust. Following the inauguration of President McKinley and the convening of congress, he was made a commissioner under the Indian bureau to contract with the Indians in the northwest for the sale of land. His work there was commented upon by the officials of the interior department as being of the best ever performed. Shortly before his death he was sent by the department to the state of Washington to act as government agent in the condemnation of the land for the purpose of extending traction lines through Indian reservations. Completing his work there, he was sent to Muskogee, in the Indian Territory, for the performance of a similar work, and while thus engaged the illness developed that eventually terminated his life, on the 6th of April, 1902.

Mr. McNeely came into political prominence with the organization of the republican party. He had been a close student of the political situation of the country and felt that nothing was to be accomplished through the old organizations. He it was who penned the first editorial suggesting Abraham Lincoln of Illinois for the presidency; was a member of the convention which resulted in the nomination of Lincoln and from that time forward to his death attended every republican national convention, serving as a delegate to several, including that at Minneapolis, when General Benjamin Harrison was renominated. He also attended many democratic national conventions and gained a clear insight into the position of the opposing party. Politics never interfered with his personal relations and it is safe to say that he had as many warm friends among the prominent democratic leaders of the state as among the republicans. His position on any vital question was never a matter of doubt, for his opinions were expressed clearly and forcibly, if concisely, and the logic of his position usually attracted wide attention.

Mr. McNeely was married to Margaret Park, a daughter of the Hon. Elah Park, of Lorain county, Ohio, and to this union there were four children born, the only survivor being Mrs. Edward N. Hill.

While his duties in later years kept Mr. McNeely away from home it seemed that his interest in Evansville and her affairs was heightened, and again and again in his letters to the Journal-News he discussed city affairs and spoke of his longing to return to take part in the activities of Evansville. While he was not a member of any religious organization he believed in the teachings of Christianity and its beneficent influence on the world and said: "Religion, whatever any one may think of it, is the balance wheel of humanity. It saves the world from anarchy and without it we would all be barbarians. Chaos would reign." With Mr. McNeely friendship was inviolable and no service that he could perform for a friend was ever regarded as a burden. He lived beyond the allotted three score years and ten, nor did he live in vain, for his influence was at all times a potent ele-

ment for progress, reform and improvement. He was a man of action rather than of theory and accomplished results while others were dreaming or laying their plans. In the consensus of public opinion he ranks high among those men whose lives have been an ornament and a blessing to the state.

JOHN GEORGE POTTS.

John George Potts, one of the best known farmers and citizens of Vanderburg county, was born October 14, 1824, and died November 12, 1908, having spent his entire life on the farm upon which he was born and which is known as the Plympton place. He was the son of George and Mary Ann (Maidlow) Potts. The father was a native of Lancashire, England, and in 1817 came to America, purchasing the homestead on which the son resides. In 1820 he wedded Mary Ann Maidlow, a lady of sterling character. He was better known as Dr. Potts. In the early '20s he went to New Orleans. Knowing full well the dangers of the dreaded yellow fever, he provided himself with the necessary preventatives which, however, he gave to an afflicted comrade, whose life he thus saved but lost his own for lack of medicine.

John G. Potts was a man of most excellent character and habits, thoroughly honest in every way and charitable in every good cause. He fully realized the benefits of education and frequently gave prizes to scholars in the schools of his township for excellence in their studies, thus stimulating them to earnest effort and close application in the work of the schoolroom. For more than twenty years he served as treasurer and trustee of the Erskine Benevolent Fund, was a director of the old State National Bank for almost a half century and served as township trustee for a number of terms. Being a self-educated man and of studious turn of mind, he read law and was admitted to the bar of Vanderburg county but never practiced.

Those who have not lived to advanced years can have no accurate conception of the changes witnessed by Mr. Potts. The state was in its infancy, the wilderness was almost unbroken, wild animals and game were abundant and the trail of the savage was still to be seen during his early youth here, but with the years there came roads, farms and better conditions. The home of Mr. Potts was one of the fine old places of the county where through his many years the simple life was lived and hospitality was generous and genuine but without ostentation. He was a very valuable citizen, never seeking the public eye nor the prizes of official life. He kept no inventory of his virtues but his life was the incarnation of personal integrity. He was ever jealous of his country's honor.

In the fall of 1851 Mr. Potts was united in marriage to Susan Stephens, a daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Stephens. Mrs. Potts was born in

Dartmouth, England, March 22, 1822, and with a brother emigrated to America in 1849, locating in this county where their uncle and aunt, James and Esther (Weeks) Causon, settled in 1818. The latter emigrated to America the year previous but were detained in Pennsylvania, being ice-bound during the winter of 1817-18. In the spring the ice broke up, destroying their boat and in consequence many of their effects were lost. A second boat was constructed and set afloat. In the same year they landed in Evansville and made their settlement in Scott township, where they continued for a number of years, remaining in this county until death. However, they made several removals and in later life visited their native England. A short time after Miss Stephens and her brother came to this country she was married to Mr. Potts. To them were born four children, Esther, Edith, John and Causon. Of these Edith and John died in infancy. Esther was married to William H. Gudger, attorney-at-law. Causon was born December 2, 1856, and died December 27, 1893. He was a graduate of De Pauw University and was married in 1878 to Jennie F. Hall. Of Mr. Potts it can be truthfully said:

None knew him but to love him,
None named him but to praise.

WILLIAM CLARKE.

For more than a quarter of a century William Clarke has been connected with the house of Ragon Brothers, of which he is now secretary. Individual business ability and laudable ambition have brought him to his present enviable position, and he deserves much credit for what he has accomplished. He was born in County Cork in the south of Ireland, a son of William and Mary (Bateman) Clarke. The mother died during the childhood of her son William and the father, who for many years was engaged in the shoe business, passed away in 1869.

In the common schools of his native land the subject of this review pursued his education and in 1869, following his father's death, he crossed the Atlantic to the new world and resided with his brother in Cincinnati for a short time. Coming to Evansville he secured the position of bookkeeper for the firm of Vickery Brothers, with whom he remained for thirteen years, representing that house for a part of the time at its branch in Vincennes. In 1884 he became a representative of the wholesale grocery firm of Ragon Brothers, being appointed bookkeeper, in which capacity he displayed such capability, industry and fidelity that promotion followed and advancement has now brought him to the position of secretary of what is one of the most important commercial concerns of Evansville. One of his salient characteristics is the thoroughness with which he masters every duty that devolves upon him and as he has advanced in his busi-

ness career, each forward step has brought him a broader outlook and wider opportunities. In his present position he has bent his energies to administrative direction and executive control and in constructive work is proving an element in the upbuilding of the house and the extension of its trade relations.

In 1873 Mr. Clarke was united in marriage to Miss Rebecca Dunkel of Vincennes, Indiana, who died in 1906. They were the parents of four sons and a daughter. The four sons have all died, one in infancy, but the other three grew to manhood. They were educated in the public schools of Evansville and were filling responsible and lucrative positions at the time of their death. Samuel K. was assistant cashier with the Pennsylvania Railroad Co., at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, at the time of his death in January, 1903. Will F., the eldest, died at home in 1907, and George, the youngest, died at Denver, Colorado, in 1908, and was buried in Evansville. Fannie, the daughter, is now living at home. The family residence is at No. 1117 Washington avenue.

Mr. Clarke is a member of the Masonic fraternity, with which he has been identified from the age of twenty-one years, and is a past master of the blue lodge. He belongs to Trinity Methodist Episcopal church and guides his life by its teachings. His has been an honorable record, characterized by fidelity to duty in every relation. In his business affairs he has never regarded any position as final but rather as the starting point for further achievement. Thus gradually he has progressed until he today occupies a prominent position in commercial circles, being active in the affairs of one of the leading commercial enterprises of Evansville.

ALBERT J. ROSECRANS.

Albert J. Rosecrans, who has devoted his entire life to farming, is now engaged in the cultivation of a tract of two hundred and thirty acres in Union township. He was born in Perry county, Indiana, on the 17th of October, 1870, and his parents, Adam Francis and Elizabeth (Wheatly) Rosecrans, were also natives of the same locality, where much of their lives was passed. Both are now deceased, the father having been called to his final rest in 1894, while the mother's death occurred in August, 1891. Mr. Rosecrans had followed farming throughout his entire life save for the period of his service in the Civil war. In response to the country's call for troops his patriotism prompted his enlistment and he joined Company K of the Eighty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, doing active duty at the front until wounded at the battle of Chickamauga.

Albert J. Rosecrans acquired his early education in the schools of Kentucky and afterward attended the schools of Perry county, Indiana. He was reared to farm life and early became familiar with the best methods of

cultivating the soil and caring for the crops. His attention has been given to farm work from early boyhood and after his marriage he began farming on his own account. He now rents and cultivates two hundred and thirty acres of land, which he has brought under a high state of improvement. His methods are practical, his industry unfaltering and his well directed labors have brought him substantial returns.

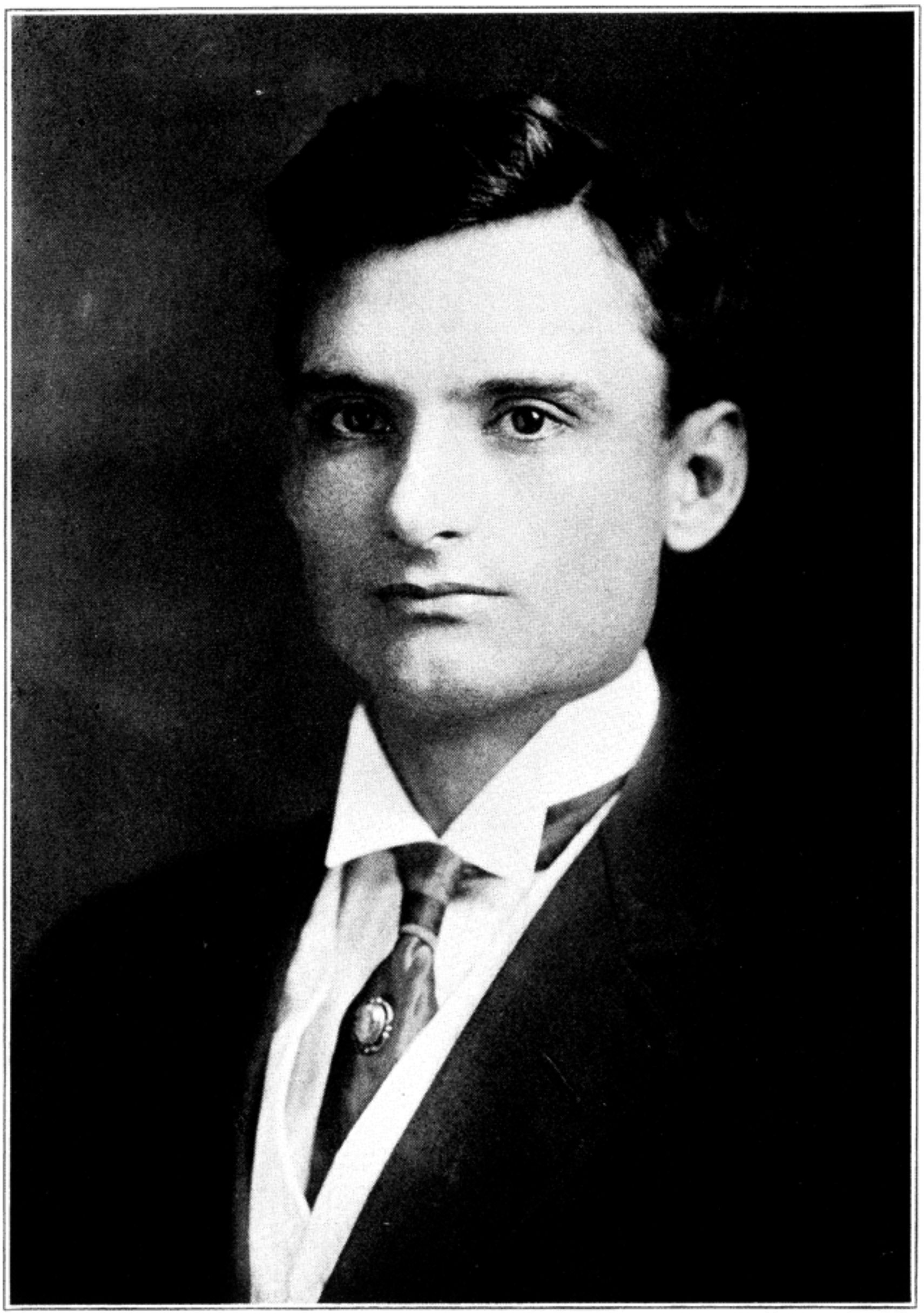
On the 7th of October, 1897, at Rockport, Spencer county, Indiana, Mr. Rosecrans was united in marriage to Miss Ida M. Stevens, a daughter of Edward and Sarah (Butt) Stevens. The father, a native of Kentucky, is still living but the mother has passed away. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rosecrans have been born three children, two daughters and a son: Blanch, eleven years of age; Hazel, a little maiden of ten summers; and Albert J., five years of age. The family have lived in Vanderburg county since 1898 and are well known in this community where they have a large circle of warm friends.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Rosecrans attend the Methodist Episcopal church and are loyal to its teachings and generous in its support. His political views accord with the principles of the republican party but he has neither sought nor desired office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business interests. Whatever success he has achieved is due to his own labors for he has had no assistance from others depending entirely upon his industry and capable management for the attainment of prosperity.

WILLIAM B. LE MASTERS.

William B. Le Masters has been a member of the Vanderburg bar since June, 1905. He was born at Boonville, Cooper county, Missouri, November 27, 1879. He is the son of Christopher C. and Sarah Le Masters and a grandson of Benjamin, a French pioneer of the Northwest Territory. The father is a native of Pike county, Indiana, while the mother's birth occurred in Pulaski county, Kentucky. In 1870 they removed to Kansas City, Missouri, where the father was engaged in business, while later they removed to Boonville, Missouri, where Lee, as he is familiarly known, was born. In 1882, the father's health becoming bad, they removed to the father's old homestead in Pike county.

In 1890 our subject removed with his parents to Evansville, where he has since resided, having been educated in the city schools. When the Spanish-American war broke out he was a student in the Evansville high school. His patriotic spirit aroused, he responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting for service in Company E, One Hundred and Fifty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Near the close of the war he was furloughed on account of illness, never rejoining his command. The four years following the war with Spain he spent in the west. Since his marriage in



W. B. LE MASTERS

June, 1904, to Miss Lena W. Cuny, he has resided continuously in Evansville.

On the 1st of January, 1908, he was appointed deputy prosecuting attorney for the first judicial circuit. At the expiration of his term (January 1, 1912,) he will have served four years as assistant to Hon. O. R. Luhring. He is appreciative of the duties as well as of the privileges of citizenship and his cooperation can be counted upon as a factor in promoting projects and measures destined to improve and upbuild the city and county.

GUS KANZLER.

The business development of Evansville is attributable to the efforts of such enterprising men as Gus Kanzler, the secretary and treasurer of the Mechanics Planing Mill and also a partner in the contracting business conducted under the name of C. Kanzler & Son. He is numbered among those men who in the rapid and marvelous development and growth of the city have come to the front because of their recognition and utilization of opportunities which have arisen in connection with the substantial expansion of industrial, commercial and financial interests here. The impossibility of placing fictitious values upon industry, determination and perseverance at once proves the worth of the individual who must base his rise upon these qualities. These elements have constituted the salient features in the advancement of Mr. Kanzler, whose experience has been of wide range as he has advanced from the outset of his business career to his present creditable position.

A native of this city, he was born October 5, 1876, and is a son of Christ and Margaret Kanzler. He was a pupil in the public schools to the age of seventeen years and afterward attended the Evansville Commercial College for a year and a half. He then engaged with his father in learning the building contracting business and in 1903 was admitted to a partnership under the name of C. Kanzler & Son. They have been very successful, doing a general line of building contracting, erecting the Hercules buggy works, the Lincoln cotton mills, the Louisville & Nashville railroad station, the Southern Stove Works and the fine residences of William Cook and Edward Keichle. They now have in course of construction a one hundred thousand dollar courthouse at Spencer, Indiana. They have recently completed a five-stall roundhouse, boiler and engine room for the Cairo & Thebes Railroad at Cairo, Illinois, and are engaged on the construction of a sixty thousand dollar postoffice building at Jefferson, Indiana. In 1905 Mr. Kanzler was elected secretary and treasurer of the Mechanics Planing Mill and is thus closely associated with the industrial activities of this city.

On the 18th of October, 1899, Mr. Kanzler was married in Evansville to Miss Lilly Yost. They are members of St. John's Evangelical church

and Mr. Kanzler belongs to Reed Lodge, No. 316, A. F. & A. M., the Elks, Red Men, the Liederkranz and Turner societies. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and, as every true American citizen should do, he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, but aside from that takes no active part in politics, feeling that his business affairs make full demand upon his time and energies. He is alert to the opportunities offered in the fields in which he is operating and as the years have gone by he has achieved substantial success therein.

FRANK P. CONN.

Frank P. Conn, devoting his time and energies to general farming in Perry township, was born in Wheeling, West Virginia, on the 12th of May, 1844. His father, Dr. Isaac T. Conn, was a native of Beaver, Pennsylvania, who, after mastering the branches of learning, took up the study of medicine with Dr. Barker of Beaver as his preceptor. Later he was graduated from the Virginia Medical College, after which he continued in active practice until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he offered his services to the government as a surgeon and went to the front with the First Indiana Heavy Artillery. Dr. Conn, however, was engaged in active hospital service most of the time and after the close of the war returned to Evansville, where he continued in practice until his death in 1873. He wedded Miss Mary Jane Porter, of Beaver, Pennsylvania, who, surviving him for almost twenty years, passed away in 1892.

Frank P. Conn of this review was a youth of fifteen when his parents removed from his native city to Evansville. His education, begun in the public schools of Wheeling, was continued in this city. Later he engaged in teaching school in Vanderburg and Posey counties for a number of years, proving a capable educator whose labors were an important element in advancing the educational interests of the state. For a time he occupied the position of deputy in the office of the state superintendent of schools. In 1874 Mr. Conn was elected county superintendent of schools in Vanderburg county, filling the position for eight years, during which period he instituted many needed reforms and progressive measures. His labors were at all times practical and produced satisfactory results. He was reporter on the Courier for some time and also a contributor on educational and political topics. In 1886 Mr. Conn took up a tract of unimproved land in Perry township, four miles west of Evansville, and by patient industry cleared it and erected a comfortable home thereon. This place, on the Red bank, (then an unfrequented road) is one of the most eligible and attractive situations about Evansville—a city noted for many lovely sites among the hills north and westward.

In September, 1877, in Evansville, Mr. Conn was united in marriage to Miss Anna Burbank, a daughter of Bradford Burbank, a native of Hartford, Connecticut. Her father was engaged in the wholesale mercantile business in Evansville and was a prominent figure in commercial circles. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Conn have been born two sons and two daughters: Charles B., now a resident of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; Virginia, at home; Isaac P., also in Pittsburg; and Helen M., at home.

The family attend the Christian church. Mr. Conn gives active political support to the democratic party. He has been a cooperant factor in many progressive measures for the general good, has been active in extending the city limits of Evansville on the Perry township side and his labors have at all times been of a helpful and valuable character. He is widely known and his sterling qualities have gained him high regard.

JACOB H. WEBER.

Among the young men who are forging their way to the front in business circles of Evansville, winning a creditable place and name through energy, ability and determination, Jacob H. Weber is numbered. He is now the secretary of the Forest Product Manufacturing Company, to which position he was chosen December 29, 1909. He was born in Evansville, July 22, 1883, his parents being Fred W. and Catharine Weber. Like a large majority of the citizens who came to Evansville in the middle of the nineteenth century, he was of German birth, his natal day being August 1, 1854. He arrived in Evansville in 1866 and afterward established a beer bottling business, the first of the kind in the city. In this he continued successfully until 1889, when he turned his capital into other channels and became foreman of the Evansville Hoop Company, with which he was associated until 1907. In that year he became one of the organizers of the Forest Product Company, of which he was elected treasurer and is still active in the management and conduct of that business, being a worthy representative of the German-American citizens who have been the upbuilders and promoters of Evansville's business development.

Jacob H. Weber attended the Catholic parochial schools until fourteen years of age, at which time he became a pupil in the Spencerian Business College, where he continued his studies for two years, thus qualifying by thorough training for the duties which come as one commences business life. He then accepted a clerical position in the local freight office of the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad Company, with which he was connected for seven years, his long continuance in the position proving his capability, efficiency and faithfulness. At the end of that time he became a salesman for the Evansville Hoop & Stave Company, with which he was associated until December, 1909, when he was elected secretary of the Forest

Product Company. This has been very successful from the beginning, the trade growing along substantial and healthful lines, bringing a good return for the capital invested and for the industry put forth.

On the 16th of January, 1907, Mr. Weber was married in this city to Miss Minnie Boyer, and they have one child, Mary Denis, now a year old. Mr. Weber is a Catholic in religious faith and holds membership with the Knights of Columbus. In political thought he is independent, nor holds to the leading of any party but casts his ballot as his judgment dictates. He is a young man well known in Evansville and has many friends with whom he has been acquainted from his boyhood days.

JOHN F. GILMAN.

Seventy years ago John F. Gilman, who is a well known real-estate man and builder of Evansville, first saw the light of day. He was born in this city in a house that stood at the corner of Main and Second streets in 1840. Few men now living are better acquainted with the development of the city and the wonderful changes which have taken place on the Ohio river, which was formerly the great artery over which floated the products of the early factories and mills on their way to market at St. Louis, New Orleans and the intervening cities. Over this route, in boats which they had built with their own hands, came thousands of settlers who established homes along the water courses or at the edge of the prairie in Indiana and Illinois, many pushing their way westward until they found a resting place on the shores of the Pacific. Mr. Gilman has watched Evansville grow from a village to a thriving city and has seen the rude log cabin of the pioneer transformed into a modern dwelling with all the comforts and elegancies that appeal to the cultivated taste of the present day. He saw the steamboat superseded by the locomotive, the prairie schooner by the Pullman palace car and the hand sickle and cradle, so common in the harvest fields of the pioneer period, succeeded by the wonderful reapers and binders that have assisted so materially in making scientific farming a reality and have marked a new era in the peaceful achievements of men. Here as a young man he saw the soldiers going to fight for the Union; he saw them return and resume the vocations of peace that have changed a vast, undeveloped country into the most flourishing portion of the globe. Through all this experience has he lived and in the same degree has he been of it a part.

The parents of our subject, John and Mary Gilman, came to Evansville in 1832. They gave their son the advantages of an education in the public schools and later he became a student in a business college where he was inducted into subjects of practical application in his future career. After leaving school he became self-supporting as a clerk and bookkeeper, but for

many years he has been engaged in handling real estate and also as a building contractor. By diligence and good judgment he acquired a competence and he is now enjoying the fruits which are usually the results of conscientious application.

In 1864 Mr. Gilman was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Alice Spencer, a daughter of Hon. Charles Spencer, of Memphis, Tennessee. Before her marriage she was principal of one of the public schools of Memphis. Two daughters were born of the union: Ursula and Theo.

Mr. Gilman is recognized as a substantial representative citizen by those with whom he has long been associated and one who has always been deeply interested in the material, mental and moral welfare of the community. By his integrity and honesty in all business dealings he attained a standing which is to any man of inestimable value and in the long run is worth much more than all the honors that could be purchased by the use of money.

GAINES A. CONDIT.

Gaines A. Condit, vice president and general manager of the Central Mutual Insurance Company, was born in Boonville, Indiana, December 17, 1864, his parents being Rev. Byram E. L. and Asenath Condit. The father was born in 1832 upon a farm at Livermore, Kentucky. He was sixteen years of age when his parents died. He then went to the home of an uncle at Millersburg, Indiana, and afterward served as mail carrier on the old canal. His education was largely acquired through his own efforts without the assistance of others. While acting as mail carrier he took up the study of theology, for he had determined to devote his life to the work of the Christian ministry, and in 1862 he was ordained in the Baptist church. On the 3d of August, 1851, he had married Asenath Osborn, who was born near Boonville, Indiana, in 1833. His ancestors came to this country about 1678, settling first at what is now Newark, New Jersey, while later representatives of the family went to Ohio and afterward others went to Kentucky. Both the Rev. B. E. L. Condit and his wife are still living, and in many places where they have resided their labors have proven a most potent element in moral development and progress. For many years the father officiated as minister of the Pleasant Ridge Baptist church near Boonville, Indiana.

As a public school student, Gaines A. Condit mastered the lessons that constitute the common curriculum, and at the age of twenty years he took up the profession of teaching, which he followed for two years in Tennessee. Returning to Indiana, he located first in Warrick county and taught in the district schools of Owen, Lane, Pigeon and Boone townships for ten years. Coming to Evansville, he has been continuously identified with insurance interests in this city. He was first with the Prudential Life In-

surance Company as agent for a year, and was afterward made assistant superintendent at Evansville, so continuing until 1904. He then organized the Union Mutual Insurance Company, of which he was elected vice president in 1905. This company consolidated with the Central Mutual Insurance Company of Evansville, and of the new organization he was chosen vice president. The company has met with substantial success, the business growing each year and its continued development is assured from the fact that it is carefully organized, is based upon well formulated plans and has at its head men capable of executing such plans.

On the 27th of April, 1890, Mr. Condit was married in Boonville, Indiana, to Miss Esther McCool and unto them have been born two children, Inez and Forrest, aged respectively eighteen and ten years, the former a student in the high school and the latter yet in the grades. The family attend the Baptist church and are well known socially in this city, the hospitality of many of the best homes of Evansville being freely accorded them. Mr. Condit votes with the democratic party and is ever loyal to its interests, but does not seek nor desire political preferment. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, and manifests not only in the organization but in other relations of life, those genial qualities which win friendship and kindly regard.

CHARLES SCHOENBACHER.

Charles Schoenbacher, one of the prominent and successful dairymen of Vanderburg county, conducting a good business in Center township, was born in Switzerland, September 14, 1853, his parents being Joseph and Mary Schoenbacher, who were also natives of the land of the Alps. The father died in that country, after which the mother came with her son Charles to the new world, settling in Evansville.

Charles Schoenbacher was at that time twenty-eight years of age. His education was acquired in the schools of his native country and in early manhood the desire to come to the new world grew in him as he heard favorable reports concerning the opportunities and advantages here offered. His brother had preceded him to the United States and after reaching this county he entered his brother's dairy and was employed in connection therewith for about ten years. During that period he carefully saved his earnings until 1891, when he felt that his capital was sufficient to enable him to engage in business on his own account. He then opened a dairy in Highland, Center township, and has since successfully conducted the business with the exception of a period of two years when he was engaged in buying cattle. He now has a fine building and is conducting dairying interests on an extensive scale. His brother died in 1906.

Mr. Schoenbacher has never married and has always made his home with his brother and his wife. He adheres to the religious faith of the

family, being a communicant of the Catholic church. He also belongs to Eagle Lodge, No. 427, of Evansville, and his political endorsement is given to the men and measures of the democratic party. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the United States with its broader business opportunities, for as the years have passed he has progressed along the path of prosperity and is now at the head of an extensive and profitable business.

WILLIAM EISSLER.

Center township, within whose borders William Eissler now makes his home, was also the place of his birth, and his natal day was March 13, 1859. He has always followed farming and his perseverance, enterprise and determination have made him a representative agriculturist of the community. His parents were Jacob and Mary (Steiger) Eissler, both of whom were natives of Germany. On coming to America they chose Evansville as a favorable place of location, arriving here in early days. The father purchased a farm of sixty-six acres and at once began to clear away the native forest growth with which his land was covered. It was an arduous task, but persistently he continued his labors until the work was accomplished and the place was divided into productive and well tilled fields. In the midst of his farm he erected a good residence and other buildings, and as time passed on he added to his place a tract of eighty-six acres. His life was a busy and useful one, given to general agricultural interests until his death, which occurred in August, 1887. His wife passed away in 1884.

The experiences of farm life were those which came to William Eissler in his youth. His time was divided between the work of the fields, the duties of the schoolroom and the pleasures of the playground. In the summer months he aided his father and after leaving school continued to work with him until twenty-five years of age, when he was married and started out independently. At that time he purchased forty acres of land, which he at once began to clear and improve. The results of his labors are seen in the fine crops which he gathers. He has extended the boundaries of his farm until it is now a tract of fifty-two and a half acres, equipped with modern conveniences. He uses the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields, and the entire place presents an attractive, neat and thrifty appearance. In the midst of the farm stands a comfortable residence, a good barn and outbuildings that shelter grain and stock from inclement weather.

It was in 1884 that Mr. Eissler was united in marriage to Miss Anna Sweitzer and unto them have been born eight children: Maggie and Clara, both of whom are married and live in Evansville; Willie, twenty-one years of age, who is now working as a farm hand; George, Edith, Lorin, Oliver

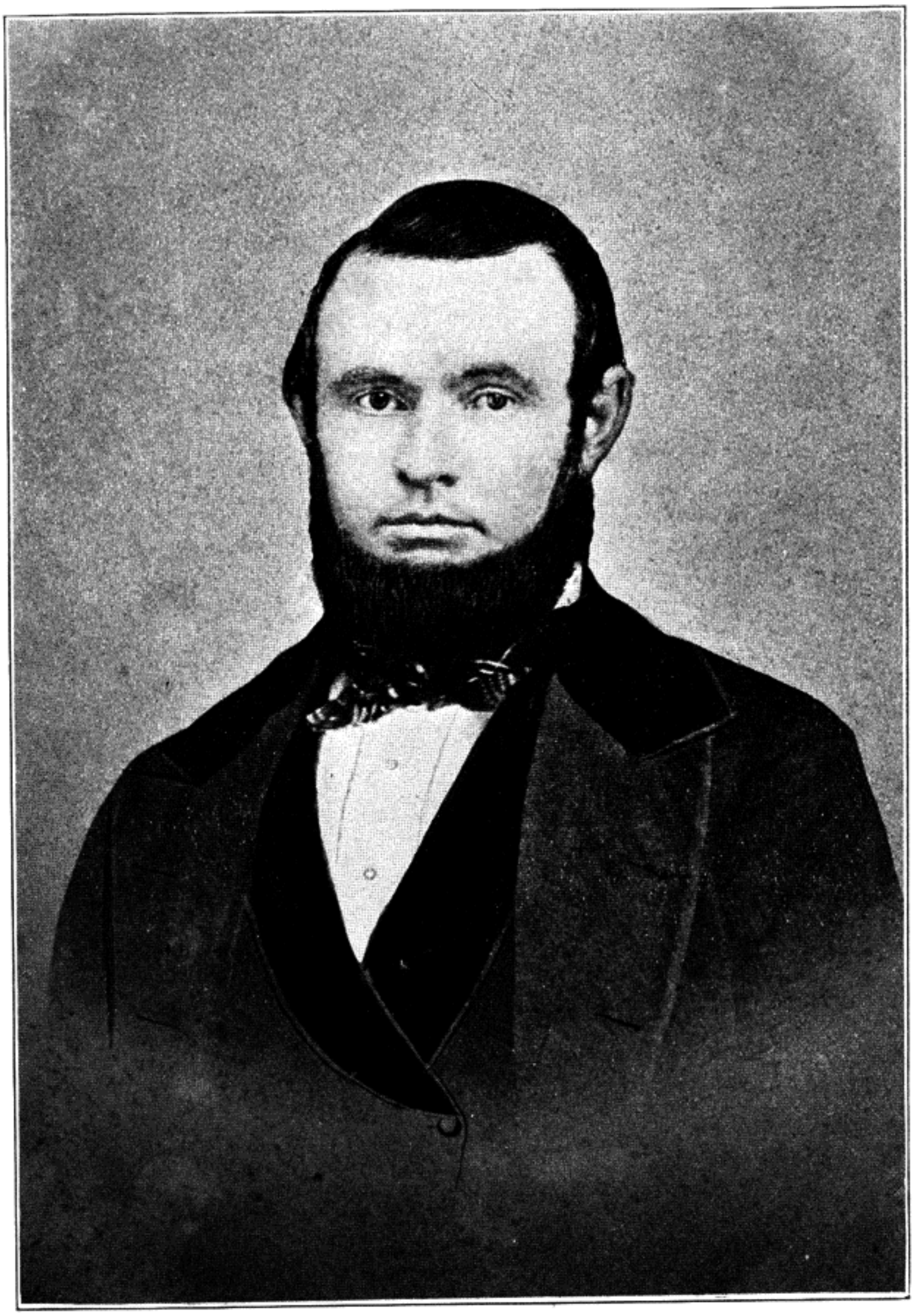
and John, aged respectively nineteen, seventeen, fifteen, thirteen and eleven years, and all yet at home.

The family are members of the Christian church, in the work of which they are active and interested. Mr. Eissler has guided his entire life by its teachings, and is regarded as an upright, honorable man, well worthy the high esteem which is uniformly accorded him. His political allegiance is given to the democracy, but he has never sought nor desired office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs.

NAPOLEON B. HAYWARD.

A man of strong character and marked individuality, Napoleon B. Hayward left his impress upon Evansville in its business development and in its factors of public concern. He was born in Jefferson county, Kentucky, in 1825, and his life record scarcely covered a half century, for he passed away in 1874. His father, James Hayward, was a native of England and came to America, making his home for many years in Kentucky, removing from Jefferson county to Smithland. He was a man of broad education and of wide reading, prominent in the community where he made his home, and his great admiration for "the Little Corporal of France," is indicated by the name which he gave to the subject of this review. His business was that of buying and shipping cattle.

Following the removal of the family to Smithland, Kentucky, Napoleon B. Hayward, then a small boy, soon afterward began his education in the schools there. He was still young when his father died and was thus left to shift for himself. Moreover, the responsibility of aiding in the support of his family devolved upon him. He early learned the trade of an engineer and followed engineering and kindred pursuits on the Tennessee river and its tributaries for many years. When the division of the country concerning the slavery question arose, his sympathies were with the north, and the unpleasant conditions thus brought about made him leave his native state in 1868 and come to Evansville. Here he became a member of the firm of Harper, Hayward & Summers, wholesale dealers and manufacturers of tobacco on First street. But the river had long been his life, and he longed to get back to it. Accordingly he sold his mercantile interests in Evansville and became owner in partnership with Captain Thomas and Alfred Edwards of the steamer Glasgow, running on the Ohio and Cumberland rivers. It would be difficult to find a river man more thoroughly familiar with those streams. He knew every shoal and every turn, and to him there was a fascination and pleasure in that life which no commercial enterprise could afford him. He was, however, connected with Evansville's business interests as one of the organizers of the first



N. B. HAYWARD

building and loan association here, known as the Evansville Building & Loan Company.

Mr. Hayward first married Eliza Randall, by whom he had one daughter, Mrs. S. A. Smith, now a resident of Shreveport, Louisiana. In Louisville, Kentucky, in 1857, he was married to Miss Virginia Quertermous, a native of Louisville and a daughter of T. J. Quertermous, a contractor of that state. Unto them were born eight children, of whom six are living: Mrs. L. Flickner, of Evansville; Walter S., who is in the west; James T., of Seattle, Washington; Charles W., of this city; Bertha and Ruby, both at home. Mrs. Hayward and her family have made their home in Evansville since her husband's death, and are well known socially in this city.

He took an active interest in the welfare of the community in which he lived and was a devoted member of the Trinity Methodist Episcopal church. He held membership in Reed Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and his father attained high rank in that order. His political endorsement was given to the democracy and he never faltered in his allegiance to a cause or principle in which he believed. He attained a comfortable share of this world's goods, being considered a wealthy man in his day. His strong character commanded respect, his genial qualities awakened admiration and regard, and his sterling traits gained for him the confidence of all with whom he came in contact.

WILLIAM V. COOPER.

William V. Cooper, filling the office of deputy county treasurer, was born in Vincennes, Indiana, July 7, 1872, a son of Elder and Hannah Cooper. His father, who was born near Dublin, Ireland, in July, 1837, came to Evansville in 1857 when a young man of twenty years.

William V. Cooper pursued his education through successive grades in the public and high schools of Vincennes and Evansville until 1887, after which he attended the Cumick & Rank Business College for a period of nine months, acquainting himself with methods in vogue in the business world. He afterward became a salesman for the firm of Switzer, Calwell & Company, wholesale dealers in notions, with whom he remained for three and a half years. He next entered the employ of William Hughes, who was engaged in the wholesale millinery business, acting as salesman of that house for three years. The succeeding period of four years was devoted to service as deputy state oil inspector, and for two years he was with the A. P. Henrickson Hat Company as salesman. On the expiration of that period he was appointed by O. L. Klauss to the position of deputy in the county treasurer's office and has since continued in this position, discharging his duties with capability and fidelity that leads to his retention in the office.

Mr. Cooper belongs to the National Union, to the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, and to the Methodist church, while his political allegiance is always given to the republican party. His has been a well spent life, and sterling worth and attractive social qualities as well as his business ability have gained him a firm hold on the regard of many friends.

ALBERT E. SWOPE.

Albert E. Swope is the proprietor of the Elm Grove Stock and Poultry Farm, a valuable property equipped with modern improvements and devoted largely to the raising of fine stock and poultry. He is a business man of practical ideas and enterprising spirit and his firm determination enables him to carry forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. He was born in Evansville, December 16, 1870, and is a son of Albert and Sarah A. (Hornby) Swope, who were likewise natives of Vanderburg county, where the family has been represented from an early day. When a young man, the father learned the carpenter's trade, and eventually engaged in contracting, but afterward returned to agricultural life, purchasing one hundred and ten acres of land in Center township. It was covered with timber, but with characteristic energy he began to clear away the trees, burning the brush and preparing the fields for cultivation. His labors were soon manifest in the excellent appearance of the place, which indicated the careful supervision of a practical and progressive owner. He erected thereon a fine residence, substantial barns and commodious outbuildings and carried on farming with success until 1893, when he returned to Evansville and again engaged in the contracting business. His skill and knowledge in that line enabled him to command a liberal patronage and he always employed good workmen, so that in the execution of contracts he met the desires of his patrons and won satisfactory returns. He continued in that business until his death, which occurred in January, 1904. For more than a quarter of a century he had survived his wife, who died in 1875. They were numbered among the highly respected residents of their native county, their good qualities gaining them the friendship of all with whom they came in contact.

Albert E. Swope remained at home until seventeen years of age, when he entered Wabash College at Crawfordsville, Indiana, attending school there for two terms. He then returned to Evansville and secured a position in the postoffice, where he was employed for four years. At the end of that time he fell heir to one hundred and fifty acres, all in Center township, and took up his abode upon the farm, which he has since owned and operated. He has doubled the value of his land by tiling and draining, thus greatly enhancing its productiveness. He has also put up good outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock and his place, known as the Elm

Grove Stock and Poultry Farm, is considered one of the model properties in every respect. He gives his attention largely to the raising of high grade stock and poultry, and in this connection has done not a little to improve the grade of stock handled in the county. His farm is lacking in none of the modern accessories, and the machinery which he uses is always of the latest pattern.

Mr. Swope was united in marriage to Miss Katie M. Young, a daughter of Benjamin and Harriet Young, natives of England and Indiana, respectively. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Swope have been born seven children: Mary A., nineteen years of age, who is now engaged in teaching school; Ralph, aged seventeen years, who is learning the jewelry trade in Terre Haute, Indiana; C. Elnora, fifteen years of age; Laura H., aged ten; Katherine S., seven years; Alice E., four; and A. Isabelle, two years of age.

Mr. Swope and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he and his wife hold membership. For eighteen years he has been a member of the Woodmen of the World, and he is also active and prominent in other public interests, being now chairman of the Vanderburg Farmers Institute, a position which he has filled for four years, while for six years he was its secretary. In this connection he puts forth every effort possible to stimulate an interest and pride in the farm and its methods of progressive development. Politically he is a republican and for four years served on the township advisory board. His interests have never been self-centered, but have reached out into those fields where the social, intellectual, material and moral welfare is involved, and his aid and cooperation are always given on the side of reform, improvement and progress.

RAGON BROTHERS.

Around the name of Ragon Brothers centers much of the commercial history of Evansville, for the firm has long occupied a leading position in the business circles of the city, conducting an extensive wholesale grocery house. Their establishment is indeed one of the landmarks of Evansville, and the name has long been regarded as a synonym of enterprise, business integrity and excellence.

The Ragons are among the oldest families of Evansville. They came from Kentucky after the war and established a wholesale grocery house under the firm name of Ragon Brothers, the founders and partners being Edward G. and F. H. Ragon. They were both men of undaunted energy and unfaltering perseverance, and they established the business along safe, conservative lines which have since been followed, the policy which they inaugurated having been continued throughout forty-five years, in which without a day's interruption this house has gone steadily forward. Ferd.

H. Ragon died a number of years ago, but his brother continued at the head of the business for a quarter of a century and then passed away on the 27th of February, 1902. Not only did he rank with the city's most enterprising and progressive business men but was always a willing contributor to any project or movement which he deemed of value in promoting the city's welfare.

Since his death Chester L. Ragon has become the active head of the house, and in 1902 the business was incorporated. The officers are C. L. Ragon as president; H. R. Dunavan, vice president; and William Clarke, secretary. All have been connected with the business for many years, so that long experience made them familiar with the most advanced commercial methods, with the demands of the public and the possibilities for the enlargement of the trade.

MAJOR ALBERT C. ROSENCRANZ.

Major Albert C. Rosencranz, president of the Vulcan Plow Company of Evansville, Indiana, is no more widely and favorably known because of his business interests, which, however, are extensive and important, and constitute a prominent element in the industrial activity of Evansville, than for his philanthropy and public spirit. He was born in Baerwalde, near the city of Berlin, Prussia, October 26, 1842. His father, C. F. Rosencranz, was a watchmaker by trade and a man of some prominence in the affairs of his native village. He left Prussia on account of his connection with the revolution of 1848 and came with his wife and children to America in 1850, settling first near Evansville, Indiana, while later he became a resident of the city and resumed work at his trade. His love for his native land, however, led him to return to Europe in 1867, and he passed away there twenty years later, having for about three years survived his wife, Mrs. Dorothea (Nohse) Rosencranz, who died in 1884.

Albert C. Rosencranz acquired his education in private schools, and in his youthful days was taught the watchmaker's trade by his father. At the outbreak of the Civil war he assisted in organizing Company A of the First Regiment of the Indiana Legion, of which he was made orderly sergeant, and on the 4th of August, 1862, was mustered into the United States service, having been commissioned first lieutenant of Company F, Fourth Cavalry (Seventy-seventh) Regiment Indiana Volunteers, for three years' service. He was promoted to the captaincy February 25, 1863, and was commissioned major May 1, 1865, but was never mustered in with the rank of major. His muster out was at Nashville, Tennessee, June 29, 1865. His military record is a highly honorable one. He was in command of General Ebenezer Dumont's bodyguard from September, 1862, until January, 1863; in March, 1863, he was detailed for courier service under General Rose-

crans between Nashville and Murfreesboro, and Murfreesboro and Woodbury, Tennessee, and acted in that capacity until June, 1863. He next took part in the Tullahoma and Chattanooga campaigns, terminating in the battle of Chickamauga, and afterward moved with his regiment in pursuit of General Wheeler's forces and then proceeded to the relief of General Burnside in East Tennessee. His command spent the winter in that locality, holding the advanced position in all the cavalry movements and engaging in numerous skirmishes, notably at Mossy Creek, Talbot's, Dandridge and Fair Garden, where Captain Rosencranz commanded the Second Battalion of the Fourth in most gallant manner. While in East Tennessee the regiment was forced to live off the devastated country for two months and nearly starved to death. In March, 1864, the command was ordered to join Sherman's army and took part in the famous Atlanta campaign. Captain Rosencranz was wounded in the foot and captured six miles north of Dalton, Georgia, on May 9, 1864, being in command at the time of a battalion of five companies of his regiment engaged in making a reconnoissance as part of the Second Cavalry Brigade under command of General O. F. LaGrange, who was also taken prisoner. He was held a prisoner for ten months at Macon and Savannah, Georgia; Charleston and Columbia, South Carolina. When at Charleston he was one of the six hundred federal officers whom the enemy designed to keep within the range of the Union fire for three months. He was afterward sent to Columbia, South Carolina, and was finally held at Charlotte, North Carolina, until March, 1865, when he was paroled at Goldsboro and once more entered the federal lines near Wilmington, North Carolina. He was then sent home from Annapolis on a thirty days' furlough, reporting at Camp Chase, Ohio, where he was eventually exchanged May 3, 1865. He then rejoined his regiment on the march in Georgia and was mustered out with it in June, as above stated.

Upon leaving the army he returned to his home in Evansville, where he engaged in the jewelry business until 1868. In that year he married Miss Mary, daughter of William Heilman, and became office manager for the William Heilman Machine Works, which position he retained for five years. Confinement to office work, however, impaired his general health, and in 1873 he went to Missouri, where he engaged in stock-raising. Losing both of his children within four weeks at Kirksville, Missouri, he leased his interests there in December, 1876, and returned to Evansville. Here, on the 1st of January, 1877, he took charge of the Heilman-Urie Plow Company and two years later bought out the Urie interests, the business being continued under the name of the Heilman Plow Company until the death of Mr. Heilman in September, 1890. The factory was a small concern when he assumed control, but he has since more than quadrupled the capacity of the plant, adding the manufacture of chilled plows to their steel products. Upon the death of Mr. Heilman, his father-in-law, in 1890, his interest was inherited by Mrs. Rosencranz and the works were incorporated

under the name of the Heilman Plow Company, with Major Rosencranz as president. He has held the office since that date, and in 1898 changed the name to the Vulcan Plow Company. He is planning extensive improvements in the works and recently increased the capital stock from one hundred and fifty thousand to four hundred thousand dollars. Improvements are planned for many years to come and will be vigorously prosecuted, making the enterprise one of the most important industrial interests of the Ohio valley. The business has long since become recognized as one of the leading undertakings of this character and its rapid and substantial growth in recent years is attributable to the efforts and sound business judgment of Major Rosencranz.

Though his extensive business interests have occupied much of his time, Major Rosencranz is an exceedingly public-spirited citizen and in various ways has contributed to the general welfare and to public progress. He has never sought political office, yet served as a member of the city council from the fifth ward and was made chairman of its finance committee, in which connection he materially assisted in bringing about a satisfactory adjustment of the city debt. He also served as chairman of the waterworks committee. He is a member and ex-president of the Business Men's Association and also a member and director of the Manufacturers' Association. He contributed most liberally toward the erection of the building for the Young Men's Christian Association in 1890, served as treasurer of the building committee, and has since been treasurer of the board of trustees. In 1909 he provided a home for the colored Young Men's Christian Association at the corner of Seventh and Cherry streets, which was dedicated to Major and Mrs. Rosencranz, and from a small community this has grown rapidly with great prospects of doing much good among the colored people. This, together with the splendid work of the colored manual training school and the enlarged domestic science course for the colored girls, will make the coming generations more useful and happy. Major Rosencranz is a zealous member of Trinity Methodist Episcopal church, yet there is no narrow sectarian bias in his religion, and he is deeply and helpfully interested in various projects which are the embodiment of humanitarianism and Christianity. He belongs to Indiana Commandery of the Loyal Legion; Farragut Post, No. 27, G. A. R., of which he has been commander; La Vallette Commandery, No. 15, K. T.; and takes an active interest in promoting the welfare of all these organizations. In the matter of politics he is affiliated with the republican party.

Major and Mrs. Rosencranz have three living children, Olive, Richard and Gertrude, each of whom has received every advantage arising from a cultured home and university training. Major Rosencranz has always been deeply interested in the cause of education, and since 1906 has been president of the school board of Evansville. During that time notable advance has been made for the extension of industrial training and for the concentration of the seventh and eighth grades of the present high school. Suit-

able buildings have been erected and the interest aroused in the school system has brought about good work in modernizing the sanitary system and in adding to and improving the school grounds. After seven years spent in urging the addition of a manual training school without enlisting the support of the community, Major and Mrs. Rosencranz donated from their own funds the cost of establishing the manual training school, and today several hundred students are being instructed in that splendid institution. He is deeply interested in all the grave and important problems—political, sociological and economic—which are attracting the attention of the best thinking men of the age. During the last two years he has given especial attention to the problem of furnishing better homes to people of moderate means and building apartment houses to be rented at low rates. More of the same work is being planned on lines similar to that which is being carried out in Washington, D. C., and New York, by General Sternberg and others. Major Rosencranz is also making investment of considerable sums of money for the working girls' association. Last year he purchased a home for this association in a suitable location—the Setchell homestead on Second street. Mrs. Rosencranz is very actively connected with him in this work. They have recently purchased the George Lorenz homestead, adjoining the other, and are now planning to greatly extend the facilities of the association. Few men have seemed to recognize so fully the obligations and responsibilities of wealth. Believing in the brotherhood of mankind, Major Rosencranz has put forth most effective effort to alleviate the hard conditions of life and to give to the workers of the world opportunity for advancement, for usefulness and for happiness. His labors find their monument in many tangible results as seen in the lives of those who have been benefited by his efforts.

JULIUS NIEDNAGEL.

Julius Niednagel, a successful florist of Evansville, and a student of nature who has devoted his life to the cultivation of her most beautiful forms, is of German parentage and was born in Kaleb, Baden, Germany. He was educated in the public schools, and even as a youth, was attracted to the study of floriculture, in which he has attained a remarkable proficiency, very largely through his own observation and experience. While he was still in his boyhood he began learning the florist's business in his native village and in 1869, when he came to America, he had already decided to devote his life to that pursuit. He remained for a time in New York, engaging in different vocations, but in 1887 came to Evansville, where he entered the employ of J. D. Camody, on Water street, continuing in that connection for two years.

Having become thoroughly acquainted with the situation and believing that the time had arrived to establish himself permanently, he became as-

sociated with a Mr. Halback in the florist and greenhouse business, performing his part with such ability that four years later he had acquired sufficient capital to establish a greenhouse for himself on Walnut Hill. Here his success was even more pronounced, and in 1901 he purchased a tract of seven acres at his present location, No. 927 Lincoln avenue, where he built greenhouses and where he now maintains one of the most extensive plants of the kind in the city. The air of neatness and order that prevails throughout the entire plant and the many facilities that are at hand for assisting in carrying forward the business, indicate good management and thorough attention to every detail.

In 1873 Mr. Niednagel was united in marriage to Miss Johanna Meta Meyer, and they became the parents of nine children. The three sons are following in the footsteps of their father and assist him in his business, while the daughters are living at the family home. Eight years ago, in 1902, Mr. Niednagel met with the greatest sorrow of his life in the death of his faithful companion.

In the various duties of householder, citizen and business man, Mr. Niednagel has always attempted to perform his part. His business interests have been of such a character as to add materially to the beauty of the city and to enhance the happiness of every lover of nature, increasing not only his individual fortune but adding to the permanent welfare of a large community. He does not belong to that class of men who require their work to be laid out for them. He is an originator, and as a leader would have attained an enviable reputation in anything that engaged his attention. He belongs to a race that for hundreds of years has done a large part of the original thinking for the world, and in applying his own ideas in the course of his business, he has uniformly met with gratifying returns. His life has been characterized by principles that command respect, and in all his dealings he has shown a probity that reflects upon him the highest credit.

FREDERICK BOCKSTEGE.

Evansville is fast becoming one of the centers of furniture manufacturing in this country. Its business interests of this character have increased manifold in the last few years, and the men who are at the head of such industries may well be counted among the promoters and upbuilders of the city. Diligent and determined, Frederick Bockstege since entering business life has steadily worked his way upward, and since 1901 has occupied the position of president of the Bockstege Furniture Company. He is numbered among the worthy citizens that Germany has furnished to the United States. His birth occurred in Prussia, April 16, 1862, his parents being Henry and Elizabeth Bockstege, who were also natives of the same

locality. The father was born in 1825 and became a miller by trade. Subsequently he took charge of the washing of coal in the mines and lived the life of an industrious, hard working man. His death occurred in 1900.

Frederick Bockstege was a pupil in the public schools of Germany to the age of fourteen years and then started out in life on his own account, so that whatever success he has since achieved is attributable entirely to his own labors, justly entitling him to the proud American title of a "self-made man." He served an apprenticeship of five years at the cabinet-maker's trade and then sought the opportunities of the new world in business lines. Crossing the Atlantic, he made his way to Akron, Ohio, where he was employed as carpenter for four months. He afterward spent four months as a cabinet-maker in St. Louis, and on the expiration of that period came to Evansville. Here he secured a position as cabinet-maker in the furniture manufacturing house of Joseph F. Puty, with whom he remained for three years, while later he was connected with the Smith & Holtman Planing Mill for two years. For one year he was in the employ of the firm of Stuhls & Karges, and at the end of that time he joined Mr. Karges in organizing the Karges Furniture Company, of which Mr. Bockstege was the president until January, 1910. In 1901 he organized the Bockstege Furniture Company and was elected its president, since which time he has remained as its chief executive officer. They employ seventy men in the manufacture of fine tables, and the product which they turn out, because of its excellence, finds a ready sale upon the market. The record of the business is written in terms of profit, and Mr. Bockstege is regarded as a valuable asset in business circles in Evansville. Other business interests have also profited by his keen discernment and capable direction. He is now financially interested in various corporate enterprises and is vice president of the Globe Furniture Company, a director of the Crescent Stove Works, a director of the Huser Battery Company, vice president of the Auto Travelers' Association, and a director of the Evansville Beveled Glass Company.

In August, 1887, Mr. Bockstege was married in this city to Miss Mina Seeger, and they have become the parents of nine children: Clara, twenty-three years of age, at home; Fred, twenty-two years of age, who is secretary of the Bockstege Furniture Company and manager of the exhibit in the furniture building; Herman, twenty years of age, who is with the Adams Express Company; Henry, eighteen years of age, who is with his father in the office; John, sixteen years of age, who is learning the trade of furniture manufacturing; Ida, Anna and Benjamin, aged respectively thirteen, eleven and seven years, all pupils in the public schools; and Mary, four years of age.

While the stress of circumstances forced Frederick Bockstege to become a factor in life's activities when but fourteen years of age, no mere environment or condition was strong enough to keep him in the back-

ground. Through the inherent force of character and his marked ability he gradually advanced in business circles until his position as one of the leading manufacturers and business men of Evansville is established by his own worth and by the consensus of public opinion.

U. H. SEILER.

U. H. Seiler, secretary-treasurer of the West Side Insurance & Real Estate Company, now operating extensively and successfully in those lines indicated by the title of the firm, was born in Bradford, Harrison county, Indiana, in 1868, and there attended the district schools. In 1889 he came to Vanderburg county and for eleven years thereafter was identified with educational interests as a teacher in the schools of. Perry township, this county, his work being satisfactory and resultant from the fact that he considered it purely from the standpoint of the individual. Moreover, he imparted readily and clearly to others the knowledge that he had acquired.

Feeling that the teacher's profession offered too limited opportunities for success, he turned his attention to the real-estate business and became one of the organizers of the West Side Insurance & Real Estate Company, which was formed in 1908, its present officers being: Henry Dreier, president; G. W. Varner, M. D., vice president; U. H. Seiler, secretary-treasurer; and E. L. Craig, counsel. The company, incorporated under the state laws of Indiana, has a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars and Mr. Seiler has since acted as general manager. They conduct a general real-estate and insurance business and, although operating in all parts of the city, make a specialty of west side property. They are now developing three new additions, Poplar Grove, Grandview and Varnerton, which they are making very attractive, equipped with all modern improvements. The insurance business is also an important department, for they handle every kind of insurance and represent many of the most substantial companies. They also buy and sell property for others as well as develop their own, and their business is now reaching large and satisfactory proportions. Mr. Seiler is also secretary-treasurer and general manager of the West Side Building, Loan & Savings Association, with which he has been connected for several years. This company has made it possible for many working people to own their own homes. He was likewise one of the organizers of the West Side Business Association and was one of a committee of three, his associates being E. L. Craig and George Koch, appointed to report on the advisability of organizing the association. They reported favorably and Mr. Seiler, George Koch and E. L. Craig were then named as a committee to provide by-laws, resolutions, etc. This association has done excellent work, especially in securing factories and other business enterprises for the west side, contributing much to the development and upbuilding of

that section. Mr. Seiler optioned and reoptioned over a quarter of a million dollars' worth of land adjoining the city in connection with the industrial move which has done so much for the city in bringing new industries, etc., having sold more than one-eighth of the lots himself.

In 1896, in Harrison county, Indiana, Mr. Seiler was married to Miss Mary Stemm, of Bradford, Indiana, and they have two children: Orwic E., twelve years of age, now a pupil of the high school; and Cecil Lawton, ten years of age, also attending public school.

Mr. Seiler belongs to Orion Lodge, No. 35, of the uniformed rank of the Knights of Pythias and has filled all of the chairs in the local organization. He is likewise a charter member of Waukee Tribe, I. O. R. M., and also belongs to West Side Council, No. 1143, National Union. He is identified with many other institutions, including the west side branch of the Young Men's Christian Association. He is a typical business man of the present day, alert and enterprising, seeking out new opportunities for the enlargement of his business and at the same time recognizing the obligations of citizenship.

FRANK R. AUSTIN.

Frank R. Austin, auditor of the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad and associated lines, was born in Evansville, Indiana, February 3, 1868. Therefore Evansville numbers him among her native sons. His parents were Thomas and Sarah Austin. The father was born in Northamptonshire, England, on the 30th of December, 1832, and remained a resident of his native land through the period of his boyhood and youth, coming as a young man of twenty-five years to Evansville. Arriving in this city in 1857, he turned his attention to the nursery business, in which he engaged until 1861, when he took up draying. That business claimed his attention until 1880, when he removed to a farm in the vicinity of Evansville and gave his attention continuously to general agricultural pursuits until 1902. The care and diligence which he displayed in the cultivation of his fields brought him a measure of success that has enabled him to live retired through the past eight years, which period he has spent in Evansville, where he now makes his home. The mother was also born in England, on the 2d of April, 1840, and came to Evansville with her parents when five years old.

Reared under the parental roof, Frank R. Austin was a pupil in the public and high schools of Evansville to the age of seventeen years. He afterward spent two years in assisting his father upon the home farm and then, in preparation for the practical duties of a commercial career, entered the Curnick & Rank Business College, in which he pursued his studies for a year. On the completion of that course he engaged with the Evans-

ville & Terre Haute Railroad Company, accepting the position of clerk in the ticket department. The fidelity and capability which he displayed won him promotion through the various positions in the accounting department until in March, 1906, he was named as the successor of W. K. Allen, who was auditor for the Evansville & Terre Haute, the Evansville & Indianapolis, and the Evansville Belt Railway Companies. Having thoroughly mastered the duties which had previously devolved upon him, he was well qualified to assume the new position and his service in this connection has given entire satisfaction to the companies which he thus represents.

In July, 1891, Mr. Austin was married to Miss Addie M. Snyder, of Evansville, and unto them have been born two children, Frank Marvin and Eunice Mildred. The son, now seventeen years of age, is a pupil in the high school, while the daughter, a maiden of thirteen, is a pupil in the graded school. Mr. and Mrs. Austin hold membership in the Presbyterian church and he is further identified with the National Union, a fraternal organization. His political support is given to the republican party. Throughout his entire life he has been a resident of Vanderburg county, and the fact that many of his warmest friends are those who have known him from his youth to the present time is an indication that his record has always been a creditable one.

LENERD HIRSCH.

Of all the occupations known to man that of the farmer is to be preferred. Especially is this the case in regions of the United States where soil and climate are favorable and markets are convenient. Under such conditions a man may lead a life of independence which he can find in no other occupation. There was a time not far in the past when unfavorable weather often had a disastrous effect on farming operations but at the present time the skilled farmer plants a variety of crops and also raises live stock, so that although he may be a loser in one direction he gains in another and at the close of the year he generally finds that the gains are greater than the losses. Such a farmer is Lenerd Hirsch, owner of one of the best improved farms in Knight township, Vanderburg county. Here he has lived all his life and, having early been thoroughly trained to everything pertaining to the farm, he started right and thus avoided the costly blunders that are often so discouraging to a beginner.

Mr. Hirsch was born in Knight township in 1856. He is a son of Jacob and Mary Eva (Goelz) Hirsch. The father was born in Rhinebarn, Germany, and after growing up came to America, as many other enterprising young men of the fatherland have done, in order that he might take advantage of the wonderful opportunities presented by the great re-

public. Here he became a successful farmer and many of his dreams were realized, showing that he made no mistake when he sought a fortune among strangers. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hirsch: John, Jacob P., Lenerd, Mary, Katherine, Anna, Elizabeth and Helena.

After pursuing the usual studies in the district schools, during which he gained a reputation as one of the bright boys of the neighborhood, Lenerd Hirsch turned his attention to the farm and under his father's direction became fully acquainted with the details of its operation and management. The father was a man of great industry and he taught his sons to work and direct their efforts so as to produce good crops. They also learned how to raise and care for horses, cattle, hogs and the smaller farm animals so as to receive the highest market prices. This education is of the greatest practical value to boys expecting to devote their attention to the farm, and Lenerd Hirsch became one of the most expert farmers in the neighborhood. He was united in marriage to Miss Tressa Zehner, whose father was a farmer of Warrick county. Eleven children have blessed this union —seven sons and four daughters, all of whom make themselves useful either in the household or on the farm.

Mr. Hirsch is affiliated with the democratic party and believes that his party represents better than any other the principles on which this government was founded. He votes the democratic ticket in state and national elections, but in local affairs he is not so particular as to party as he is in regard to the character of the individual. He is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters and since his childhood has been connected with the Catholic church, whose doctrines of brotherhood he heartily endorses. As the head of a large family, Mr. Hirsch has responsibilities which the ordinary man knows little about, but it is the principle of his life to perform each duty as it appears and not to worry over troubles which may never come. He is happy in his home, in his associations and in the work to which as a boy he decided to devote his life and in which, by the exercise of good judgment, he has attained marked success.

NICHOLAS ELLES.

The success and prominence of Nicholas Elles in the business world is indicated by the fact that he was honored by election to the presidency of the State Millers' Association. He continued for more than a quarter of a century in active connection with the milling business and built up an enterprise which was not only a source of individual profit but was also an element in the city's commercial growth and development. He regarded business, however, as but one phase of existence nor allowed it to interfere with his obligations of citizenship or the faithful discharge of his duty to his fellowmen. He was a representative of one of the old families of Vander-

burg county and was of German lineage. His father, August Elles, was born in Wachenheim, Germany, in 1814, and was a young man of twenty-six years when in 1840 he emigrated to the United States. Making his way at once to Indiana, he settled in Armstrong township, this county, and became identified with the business interests of Evansville. He had learned the butcher's trade in his native land but taking up his abode here in 1845 he embarked in the retail grocery business, in which he continued with growing success until 1862. In the latter year he began the operation of a mill and met with prosperity in that undertaking, to which he devoted his energies untiringly until his life's labors were ended in death in 1871. The Canal Mills, by which name his enterprise was known, soon became a well known industry and their proprietor, because of his activity and reliability in business, is remembered as a useful and valued citizen. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Marguerite Schmitt, was born in Germany in 1820.

Nicholas Elles, the third child in his father's family, was a native of Armstrong township, born on the 28th of March, 1844. His education was acquired in the schools of Evansville, his mastery of various branches of learning winning him promotion through successive grades until his mental training well equipped him for entrance into the business world. He was first employed in his father's grocery store and from that time forward was connected with his father in business. Following the sale of the grocery store in 1862 he became identified with mill enterprises and in the course years was recognized as one of the leading millers of the state of Indiana. Inflexible integrity and straightforward dealing characterized all of his business transactions and his progressive spirit kept him abreast with the times in all that pertained to advancement along milling lines. He was for years a prominent member of the Indiana Millers' Association, and in 1881 was elected to the presidency of that organization. The state organization elected him to the national association at Buffalo, New York, in 1889. While he conducted an enterprise of considerable importance and gained more than local fame in connection with his business interests, he yet found time and opportunity for cooperation in affairs of general moment and did effective work along the lines of public progress. He was also deeply interested in the work of the Business Men's Association, doing all in his power to promote the trade conditions of the city that its prosperity might be augmented.

In 1867 Mr. Elles was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Krau, who was born in Evansville in 1848. Her father, Frederick Krau, was a native of Germany, and when a young man crossed the Atlantic to the new world, and for years engaged in the grocery business at Evansville, at the corner of Second and Main streets. He became a well known merchant of the city, prominently identified with the commercial activity here. He married Miss Elizabeth Decker, who had come to Evansville when nine years of age. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Elles were born three children, Louis

F., Adelia V. and William M. Mr. Elles was ever devoted to the welfare and happiness of his family, and counted it his greatest pleasure to minister to the interests of his wife and children.

In 1865 Mr. Elles became a Mason, and in 1866 attained the Knight Templar degree in the commandery. He held membership in the Presbyterian church, guided his life by its principles and passed away in that faith on the 2d of November, 1888. The entire period of his life had been passed in Vanderburg county, and during the greater part of the time he had been a resident of Evansville, so that his interests were closely allied with the city. His influence was at all times on the side of progress, improvement, justice and truth. His course was never an equivocal one, and he ever stood fearlessly in defense of his honest convictions. Measured by the standards of honorable, upright manhood, he well deserved the high regard in which he was uniformly held.

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