

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

Of Citizens of Jackson County, Missouri.

REV. J. J. ROBINSON.

THE REV. Mr. Robinson, a well-known citizen of Brooking township, first came to the county in 1840. He was born in Scott county, Kentucky, December 6th, 1821. Both his grandfathers were soldiers in the Revolutionary war, one serving as private and the other as captain in the American army. His father's ancestors were from Virginia, and his mother's from Pennsylvania. The subject of this sketch was the eldest of a family of eleven children, of whom seven are now living of Jesse Robinson and his wife Nancy, whose maiden name was Jones.

When he was quite young his father moved with the family from Scott to Shelby county, Kentucky, and Mr. Robinson received his education principally at a seminary at Simpsonville in Shelby county, within a mile and a half of which he lived. He came to Missouri in the year 1840, with the purpose of looking at the country and selecting a favorable location for future settlement, and at that time visited Jackson county. He was married September 1st, 1843, to Matilda J. Campbell, of Shelby county, Kentucky. Immediately afterward he came to Jackson county, Missouri. In 1846 he moved to the farm which he now occupies in section 34, township 48, range 32. His farm comprises 500 acres of land.

When a boy of about twelve years of age he became connected with the Baptists in Shelby county, Kentucky, and soon after his marriage he began preaching, and has been engaged in the work of the ministry more or less from that time to the present. When he became a resident of the part of the county where he now lives, the West Park Baptist Church had just been organized, and in the county there were then only four Baptist Churches in existence. He has been actively engaged in his ministerial labors, and has been instrumental in the organization of about one-half the Baptist Churches in the county. He has been closely identified with the interests of the denominations and labored untiringly for its welfare. He preached for many years for the West Fork, Blue Ridge and Lee's Summit congregations, and with one exception has preached in every Baptist meeting-house in Jackson county.

In his political affiliations he was formerly an Old Line Whig—a fact not surprising when it is recollected that he was born in the banner state of Whiggery! He retained his attachment to the Whig party after coming to Missouri, and for twelve years voted the Whig ticket in Jackson county before he succeeded in voting for a successful candidate—the Democrats in those days invariably carrying the elections. He voted for Bell and Everett in 1860, and in principle was opposed to the doctrine of secession when the question arose of the withdrawal of the Southern States from the Union. Exposed to a position of great danger on the borders of Kansas, he still remained at his home through the civil war that followed, till the issue of "Order No. 11," which compelled the removal of all families from the county. His active labors in connection with the Baptist ministry have made him widely known. He has been actively interested in enterprises affecting the progress and prosperity of the county. He was influential in organizing Brooking township, and suggested the name it now bears in honor of Judge Brooking, one of its most prominent citizens. Mr. Robinson has shown himself to possess decided ability as a terse and vigorous writer, and his contributions to the newspaper press largely on financial, though frequently on religious topics, have attracted general attention for their sound views and intelligent appreciation of the needs of the community.

W. C. ADAMS.

THIS gentleman, a leading citizen of Blue township, and the youngest son of Lynchburg Adams, a sketch of whose life appears below, was born on the 13th of March, 1836, at the place where his father first settled on the Missouri river in the northeast corner of Blue township. He was raised in that part of the county. His education was partly received in the common schools, which at that date were not of a character to compare with the present, and were commonly held only about three months in the year. For about eight months he attended Chapel Hill College in Lafayette county, an institution then enjoying a prosperous existence under the care of the honorable President. For a short period he also attended William Jewell College at Liberty. About the time he became of age he began teaching school—first in the neighborhood of Lee's Summit, and then in the vicinity of where he was born.

He was living at home at the breaking out of the war of the rebellion, and in the summer of 1861, joined a company of militia raised in Jackson county in response to Gov. Jackson's call. His company was known as the Independence Blues, and was attached to Col. Rosser's regiment; Mr. Adams was made first lieutenant. He took part in the battle of Lexington, and afterward lay sick on the Osage river and subsequently returned home. In December, 1861, he joined Gen. Price's army in Southwest Missouri, and was first lieutenant in the First Missouri Brigade. The captain of the company was killed at the battle of Corinth, and Mr. Adams was promoted to that position. He was also wounded by a spent grape shot in this battle. He took part in the battles of Port Gibson and Champion Hill, and the day after the last battle was captured by the Federal forces, and for nine months was held a prisoner on Johnson's Island in Lake Erie. He left this place of imprisonment February 12th, 1864, and about a month afterward was exchanged at Point Lookout, Maryland. He was forwarded to Richmond where he proceeded to join his old command, which was then under Gen. Joe Johnston north of Atlanta. He served under Johnston till that General was succeeded by Hood, and then under Hood till the close of the war. He was present at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, and in the rapidly succeeding engagements which formed almost one continuous battle, by which the Confederate forces strove to arrest the march of Sherman from Atlanta to the sea. His command was captured at Mobile, and in April, 1865, after Lee had laid down his arms in Virginia, he surrendered at Memphis, and on the following first of May he set out for Missouri.

He arrived in Jackson county May 16th, 1865, and was the first regular Confederate soldier to make his reappearance in the county subsequent to the war. He went to farming on the old homestead where he has since been living. He was married April 9th, 1868, to Miss Sarah J. Herd. In his political opinions he has been a Democrat. He has, however, recognized the necessity of a currency adapted to the wants of all alike, and in the campaign of 1876 he stood on the platform offered by the supporters of Peter Cooper for President. In that campaign the Independent and Greenback party of Jackson county, made him their candidate for State Senator, though of course he scarcely expected success in a contest so exciting in its character and where the line were so closely drawn between the old parties. Personally Mr.

Adams is known as a progressive and public-spirited citizen, and a man entitled in every way to the favorable estimation with which he is regarded by the community at large. Below, we append a sketch of his father, Lynchburg Adams, at the time of his death the oldest settler of Jackson county.

LYNCHBURG ADAMS.

THE father of William C., and James M. Adams of Jackson county, was born near Lynchburg, Virginia, February 23d, 1804, and received his name from the town in the vicinity of which he was born. A few years later the family moved to Kentucky, and in the year 1819 from Kentucky to Missouri. The fall of 1819, and the succeeding winter he passed in the vicinity of Boone's Salt Works, near Cooper's fort, and in the spring of 1820, moved up the Missouri river crossing at Arrow Rock. March 2d, 1820, they camped at the foot of the hill just east of Fire Prairie creek, and just over what is now the east line of Jackson county. The family made a settlement near Fort Osage. John and Joseph McKee in the summer of 1821, planted and tended about twenty acres of corn, just above the mouth of Fire Prairie creek, and in the fall Mr. Adams assisted in gathering this corn, receiving three pecks a day for his labor. This was the first corn raised by permanent settlers in what is now Jackson county. The settlers in those days had to go to mill to the Miami bottom in Carroll county. In the summer of 1822, with John Ross and his son Mike, he camped and lived under a shelving rock, a mile below Mize's ferry, and near the old Burrhill place. The party chiefly followed hunting. Game of every description was to be found in abundance. Deer were more easily killed than rabbits now are, and Mr. Adams was accustomed to relate that he had seen many as large as those now are. Bee trees were so plenty, that from six to twelve could be found in a day; the wax was sold for twenty-five cents a pound. The price of ammunition was so high that a turkey was never shot unless the settlers wished to change their diet from the prevailing dish of venison. These settlers lived almost alone, till the emigrants began to arrive along in 1824 and 1825.

Adams was a man of energy and resolution, and though he was seriously afflicted by a distressing lameness, he managed by dint of close economy to pay for 120 acres of land, which he held by recognized claim in the bottom of the Little Blue. By great exertion he gathered around him the comforts of a home, when the great flood of 1844, in the Missouri river completely inundated his farm, and swept away the labors of many years. Undaunted by this misfortune, he began work again with renewed efforts, and succeeded in acquiring a fine estate and raised a worthy family. His death occurred on the 6th of December, 1873. He left the record of an honest and conscientious man—one of the early pioneers who had fought his way upward through adversity, with resolute pluck and determination. His career and success are illustrative of the difficulties and disadvantages under which the early settlers labored, and what may be accomplished by fortitude and perseverance. His boyhood was marked by the absence of every advantage with which the youth of the present day are favored. At quite an old age he learned to read, and in his declining life enjoyed a satisfaction and consolation which those only can fully appreciate who have suffered under like disadvantages with him. At the time of his death he was regarded as the earliest settler of Jackson county. For many years he was a consistent member of the Methodist church.

JAMES M. ADAMS.

MR. ADAMS is one of the well-known citizens of Fort Osage township, and a son of Lynchburg Adams, one of the earliest pioneers of the county, a sketch of whose settlement will be found elsewhere. James M. Adams was the next to the youngest of a family of five children, three of whom grew to maturity and are now living—John, now a resident of California, James M., and William C. Adams.

James M. Adams was born in the Little Blue Bottom in the northeast corner of Blue township, on a farm which his father settled at an early day, and on which he lived till it was inundated by the great flood of '44. The date of his birth was November 13th, 1833, a night memorable from the circumstance of the "falling of the stars." Receiving a primary education in the common schools he then entered Chapel Hill College in Lafayette county, and for two years was a student in that institution. He afterward attended the State University at Columbia, and then Jones' Commercial College in St. Louis, from which he graduated in the spring of 1859. Returning to Jackson county he was married April 5th, 1859, to Miss Anna E. Nottingham, who was born and raised in Jackson county. He then went to farming in the Blue Bottom, taking charge of the farm which his father occupied, and which he managed till the time of his enlistment in the Confederate army, December, 1861. At that date he accompanied his brother to Southern Missouri and joined Price's army. He was a member of Col. Reeves' regiment, 1st Missouri Brigade, in which he served till after the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas. The day subsequent to the Pea Ridge fight, he suffered a severe attack of the measles and lay for two weeks in the hospital at Little Rock. On his recovery all means of communication with the east side of the Mississippi had been cut off by the Federals, and Mr. Adams accordingly returned home in July, 1862, but not being suffered to remain in Jackson county he went to Clay county, where he was principally engaged in teaching school till the conclusion of the war, when he returned to the old homestead farm.

In the year 1866 he had become interested in the mercantile business at Pink Hill, and in 1868 removed to that locality. His partner was James U. Ewing, and the business was conducted under the firm name of Ewing and Adams. In 1870, however, the firm dissolved, and Mr. Adams, in partnership with Isaac H. Wood, and the firm of Adams, Wood & Co., transacted a large business. Buying out Mr. Wood's interest he conducted the business alone till 1871, when he sold a one-half interest in the store for the farm which he now occupies, and the style of the firm was made Adams & Darnall. The business was carried on in this manner till the spring of 1876, when the affairs of the firm were wound up, and Mr. Adams has since given his attention wholly to farming, a pursuit which he had also followed while carrying on the mercantile business. His residence is on section 35, township 50, range 30, and a view of it is given among the illustrations to this work.

Mr. Adams is widely known as having been actively identified with the interests of the Democratic party in Jackson county, to whose success he has endeavored to contribute by every possible means. For several years he has been a frequent newspaper correspondent of the *Kansas City Times* and Independence *Sentinel* under the sobriquet of Mr. Comet—a namesingularly appropriate from the circumstance of the meteoric display which occurred on the night of his birth. These letters have justly attracted attention by reason of their sound views, and on many important topics have reflected the matured sentiments of a large and intelligent part of the population of the county. Mr. Adams is not a man whose name is unfamiliar to the people. He was elected magistrate before the war, and is now also serving as justice of the peace. He is a person of honest and avowed convictions, whose integrity was never doubted, and is a gentleman whose popularity rests on a substantial basis.

GEORGE W. EVENS, D.D.S.

DR. EVENS, who has been engaged so successfully in the practice of dentistry at Independence, was born at Albany, New York, June 13th, 1814. His ancestors were among the early settlers of New England, emigrating from Wales to America in the seventeenth century. His father, Platt Evens, was born at Waterbury, New York, and was a soldier in the war of 1812, taking part in the battle of Plattsburg. He married Elizabeth Sprague, who belonged to a family of English descent, the same of which the Spragues of Rhode Island are members. The subject of this biography was the only child by this marriage.

In 1817 his father removed to Cincinnati. He was one of the pioneer merchants of that city, and for forty years carried on a large and prosperous business. He was intimately connected with the business interests of Cincinnati till his death, in November, 1873. Dr. George W. Evens attended the preparatory department of the Miami University in Ohio, and his education was so conducted under private instruction in Cincinnati. When in his nineteenth year, he began the study of medicine, and attended the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati and the old Transylvania University at Lexington, Kentucky, from the dental school of which he graduated. He began the active practice of dentistry in 1835 in St. Louis, and has since followed the profession in many of the large cities of the West and South. In 1836 he was stationed at New Orleans, Vicksburg and Grand Gulf; the following year he returned to Cincinnati, and soon moved to Mayville, Kentucky, and subsequently to Lexington in the same state. In the year 1851 he received the appointment of Professor of Dental Chemistry, Hygiene and Therapeutics, in the Transylvania School of Dental Surgery. While residing in Lexington in 1851, the death of his first wife occurred, formerly Miss Julia Wilson, whom he had married in 1840, at Mayville, Kentucky. After this event he moved to southern Kentucky. His second marriage took place at Cincinnati in 1854, to a lady whose maiden name was Elizabeth Bennett, and who was born at Brooklyn, New York.

He practiced dentistry successively at Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Springfield, Illinois; and in the fall of 1858 came to Missouri with the intention of locating at once at Independence. He made the journey in the winter, and his progress up the river being stopped by ice he halted at Jefferson City, and continued to reside there till the spring of 1860. He then became a resident of Independence. He went to Booneville, Missouri, in 1863, and was afterward in Howard county till the close of the war. He was subsequently four years in Kentucky, returned to Independence, practiced his profession at Kansas City and in Southwest Missouri, and is now a permanent resident of Independence, where he has purchased property and has charge of an extensive practice.

Dr. Evens is one of the pioneers in Dentistry in the west. At the time he entered on the profession, its practice was not diffused generally among the common people, but was confined mostly to the wealthy aristocratic classes of society. He has since the profession advanced and developed in a wonderful degree, and has been instrumental in making it general and popular. He has been a progressive student of his profession, and has taken advantage of the results of the latest researches in chemical science, practicing dentistry on scientific principles, with all the improvements of the times, and has thus earned a brilliant and widely extended reputation. In the year 1875 he purchased the property at the corner of South Main and Kansas streets, Independence, formerly known as the Burford property, built about 1840, of live oak and black walnut, and which is now one of the oldest and most solid buildings in Independence. When this building passed into Dr. Evens' possession it was an old-fashioned and rambling structure, inconvenient in its arrangements, but he went immediately to work to remodel the house, and has now made it one of the best arranged dwellings in Independence. He has changed the entire plan so that the original structure could scarcely be recognized, and has made it a model of neatness and comfort. It is painted throughout in the best manner, and its internal arrangements will compare favorably with those of any other house of similar character in the state. In the yard are the largest pine trees to be found in that part of the state, and the pure and sparkling water is near to the tips of their tops.

Dr. Evens is an Episcopalian in his religious belief, and has been intimately identified with the church of that denomination in Independence. Perhaps it should be mentioned also, that he comes from a family remarkable for its vigor and longevity. His great-grandfather came directly from Wales, and arrived in Massachusetts when thirty years of age. He lived there ninety years, died at the age of one hundred and twenty, and lies buried at Pennfield, Massachusetts.

DR. LYDDALL W. TWYMAN.

THE name of Twyman has been intimately associated with the medical profession in Jackson county for a considerable number of years. Dr. Leo Twyman, father of the subject of this sketch, was formerly a prominent physician of Independence. The Twyman family was originally from Virginia, and members of it were among the earliest pioneers of Kentucky. Dr. Leo Twyman was born in Scott county, Kentucky, January 23d, 1799, and was educated at Bardonia in the same state. In Franklin county, Kentucky, in the year 1819, he married Julia Ann Payne, a native of Woodford county, Kentucky. He began the practice of medicine in Kentucky about the year 1826; removed to Illinois and there for a short time followed his profession, and in 1827 came to Missouri and settled at St. Charles, where he lived till 1844. In addition to a medical practice, Dr. Leo Twyman carried on a large mercantile business at St. Charles, and when the St. Charles College was established under

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the auspices of the Methodist Church, he erected a large boarding-house in connection with the institution, which proved, however, a financial failure.

Dr. Lydall W. Tryman was born on the 28th of February, 1823, in Woodford county, Kentucky, and was between two and three years of age when he came with his father to Missouri. He received his education at the St. Charles College, and studied medicine with his father both at St. Charles and after coming to Jackson county. The family moved from St. Charles to Jackson county in 1844. His father first began practice at Westport. He removed to Independence in November, 1845, where he was occupied in the pursuits of his profession till his death, April 23d, 1872. Dr. L. W. Tryman began the practice of medicine on the 5th of September in 1846. Shortly afterward he removed to Pleasant Hill, in Cass county, where he was engaged in the duties of his profession till 1850, and then removed to his present residence in Fort Osage township, section 14 of township 30, range 31. The Dr. has since been peacefully employed in the practice of his profession at this point, except during the war, when he was compelled to leave under the provisions of Order No. 11, issued by Gen. Ewing in August, 1863, by which peaceable inhabitants were driven from their homes and the country depopulated. He then located at Missouri City, where he followed his profession till the early part of 1865, when he returned to his former home. He is known as an able physician and a man of blameless reputation. He has never been an active politician, but is of course Democratic in his sympathies. While living at Pleasant Hill he was married to Miss Fanny C. Frisbie, by whom he has had seven children: Julia, the oldest daughter, died in the year 1864 in the eighteenth year of her age. The other children are William, Thomas, Richard L., Joseph P., James L. and Frank C. Both Dr. Tryman and his wife are connected with the early settlers of Missouri, and Mrs. Tryman's father,

JUDGE RICHARD M. FRISTOE.

was one of the earliest and most prominent citizens of Jackson county. The members of the Fristoe family in America are all said to be descended from three brothers of that name who emigrated from England previous to the Revolutionary war. Richard Marshall Fristoe was born in North Carolina in the year 1789. He was married in the state of Tennessee, and removed to Missouri in the year 1817 and settled at Lexington. He remained there two or three years, and then came to Jackson county, and was one of the first pioneers of the county, settling in it when there were only two or three families permanently residing within its limits. He located about a mile and a half southeast of Independence, and assisted in building the first house ever erected at the county-seat. As the county increased in population he became a man of recognized influence in the community. He was one of the first judges of the Jackson county court. In 1834 he was chosen a member of the State Legislature, and served honorably in that body. For several years he was postmaster of Independence. In 1844 the Governor appointed him a member of the court, and his term of office expired before the expiration of his term of service. He had been closely identified with the county, and his loss was deeply regretted. He had been a soldier under Jackson in the war of 1812, took an active interest in political affairs, and was an earnest and uncompromising Democrat.

JOSIAH REEVES.

JOSIAH REEVES is one of the farmers of the county who have moved in from other states and who have contributed not a little to the development and growth of this part of Missouri. He was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, on the 12th of February, 1812. He was the first of his ancestors who came to Virginia. His father was born in Culpepper county in that state, and in the year 1807, when about twenty-one, he moved to Ohio, and was one of the earliest settlers of Pickaway county. He married Anna Hayes, who was born in Montgomery county, Maryland, and whose family had emigrated to Ohio in the year 1808. Josiah Reeves was raised in Pickaway county. He attended mostly the subscription schools, and had the opportunity of only going two terms to the free schools after their establishment. He was brought up in a heavily timbered country, and of course experienced the disadvantages which a new population in such a district were compelled to encounter.

He was first married in the year 1833, to Eliza Mosser, after which event he went to farming for himself in this county. The death of his first wife occurred in 1854, and in 1856 he was united in marriage to Rachel Radcliff, who was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, in the year 1814. Mr. Reeves was employed in farming in Ohio till the fall of 1865. He had been industrious and energetic, and had acquired the ownership of a valuable farm comprising 422 acres of land. But after the close of the war he made up his mind to emigrate to Missouri, and in November, 1865, he reached Lafayette county. In February, 1866, he settled on the farm which he now occupies, lying in sections 32 and 33, township 50, range 29. He here owns 480 acres of land, and has carried on farming operations with success. He is a man who believes in bringing intelligence and enterprise to the pursuit of agriculture, and considers that if rightly conducted farming may be made as pleasant and attractive as any other occupation, and in a fair degree profitable. His farm presents a neat and beautiful appearance, and he has surrounded himself with the modern arrangements and conveniences calculated to facilitate farming operations. On another page may be seen a view of his residence.

He has nine children; one in Ohio, one in Illinois, and the remainder in Missouri. In his political opinions he was originally an Old Line Whig, and became in favor of a protective tariff for the purpose of building up a home market, from reading the speeches of Henry Clay—the great champion of the doctrine of Protection to American Industry. His first vote for President was cast for Henry Clay, and he continued to vote the Whig ticket as long as that party was in existence. He was never at any time an abolitionist, nor desired to interfere with the institution of slavery in the states where it was already in existence, but was an original free soiler, was opposed to the farther spread of slavery, and acted with the Republican party from the date of its organization. He is not, however, a man radical in his views on any subject. He is by nature a man of even-tempered disposition, has always been a conservative, and the radical men and measures of neither political party have ever received his support. He is a gentleman of good business habits, and belongs to that class who wherever found are always influential in improving and building up a country.

JAMES B. YAGER.

JUDGE YAGER, who for several terms has been a member of the Jackson county court, and once represented the county in the State Legislature, was born in Washington county, Kentucky, on the 19th of July, 1807. The family from which he is descended is of German descent, but his ancestors lived in Virginia before emigrating to Kentucky. Judge Yager spent his youthful days in his native county of Washington, and had comparatively few advantages. At nine years of age he was put to the plow, and was compelled to work hard from that time on. He was married in Washington county, Kentucky, in the year 1835, to Miss Mary J. Berry. Her father, Richard Berry, had moved to Missouri in 1820, and had settled in Callaway county. Miss Berry was on a visit back to Kentucky at the time of this marriage. Judge Yager served three years in Washington county, Kentucky, as one of the two deputy sheriffs of the county who had charge of the transaction of all the official business.

In the year 1837 he moved to Missouri and settled in Jackson county. He made a permanent settlement in the High Blue country above Hickman's mill, in the year 1840, and lived there till 1850, and then moved five miles southeast of Westport, where he resided till the time of the war. Since the war he has lived three miles and a half southwest of Independence. He has been a Democrat in politics his whole life, imbibing the doctrines of that party from an aunt with whom he lived in his boyhood; she was a very sensible old lady, an earnest Democrat, and a strong supporter of Jackson, for whom she inspired a strong veneration in the youthful mind of Judge Yager, and when he came to vote, he cast his first vote for President for the Hero of New Orleans. He has voted for every Democratic candidate for President from that time to the present, and has been a strong advocate of the principles of the party of Jefferson and Jackson, to which have belonged many of the best and most illustrious statesmen of the Republic.

His first election as member of the county court occurred in 1842, and he

served till 1844, when he sent in his resignation, and that year was a candidate for the Legislature on the Anti-Benton ticket, but was defeated. In the year 1854 he was elected a second time as member of the county court, and served till the expiration of his term in 1858. At the election of 1858 he was chosen a representative in the State Legislature, and served during the sessions of 1858-59 and 1859-60. In these various public positions Judge Yager discharged his trusts with fidelity, and maintained a firm hold on the confidence of the people. In 1868 he was elected a third time as county judge, and served as such till 1874, when he was re-elected; he drew the short term of two years, and served till 1876, when he was again re-elected, making the fifth time that the people of the county had chosen him to the responsible position of county justice. For several years he acted as presiding justice of the court.

He had three children, who have grown to maturity, viz: Richard F., who is now deceased; Rachel M., the wife of Henry C. Harper, of Westport; and Louisa M., who married W. B. Hamilton, a resident of Colorado, in which state he has been State Senator. Judge Yager is a man who has been elevated to positions of public trust and honor speak louder than can any words of ours of the estimation in which he is held by the people of the county. Ability and integrity have marked the discharge of his public duties, and he has exhibited a strict honesty and impartiality which would do credit to the better side of the Republic. Few men in the county have received such repeated expressions of the popular favor. Personally Judge Yager is an old-time gentleman—one whose honor can be implicitly relied on, and whose word is as good as his bond.

HENRY C. BROOKING.

BROOKING TOWNSHIP was so named in honor of JUDGE ALVAN BROOKING, one of its earliest settlers and best citizens, who died in November, 1857. Judge Brooking was born in Scott county, Kentucky, March 10th, 1797. His father had been one of the early pioneers of Kentucky, and had emigrated to that state from Virginia. Alvan Brooking was raised in Scott county, Kentucky, and resided there till 1838, when he came to Missouri and settled in Clay county. In the spring of 1839 he came to Jackson county, and located in section 33, township 49, range 32, where he lived till the time of his death. He reached a prominent position in the community, though he was a man who never aspired to personal popularity, and sought only to do his duty as a good citizen. He was originally a Whig, but he scarcely could be called a politician, and was rather averse to mingling in political affairs. He was not a strong partisan, but was conservative and liberal in his sentiments, and was consequently a man who enjoyed to the fullest degree the confidence of the people.

The first public position to which Judge Brooking was chosen, was that of County Judge, the duties of which office he discharged with ability and fidelity, and in a manner which fully met the requirements of the people. About the year 1850 he was elected State Senator for the district in which Jackson county was embraced, and in this position also, he endeavored to serve as best he could, the interests of his constituents. He was closely identified with the Missionary Baptist Church, and was one of the original founders of the West Fork Baptist Church in Brooking township. He was baptized in Kentucky in 1828 by Elder Silas M. Noel, and was a member of the Baptist Church at Stamping Ground, Kentucky, till the time of his removal to Missouri. Assisting in founding the West Fork Church, he was mainly instrumental in building the "Old Stone Church" in which the West Fork congregation worshipped for many years, and which was one of the first churches built in that part of Jackson county. For many years Judge Brooking was Moderator of the Blue River Baptist Association, and was prominent in the affairs of the denomination in this part of Missouri. He was twice married, the 18th of September, 1817, to Bernia Brooking of Scott county, Kentucky, who died June 18, 1826; and August 18th, 1838, to Frances Herndon, also of Scott county, Kentucky. Judge Brooking was universally esteemed throughout the county for his many good qualities as a citizen, and he left behind him the record of a good and useful man. His death occurred on the 30th of November, 1857. There are three children of whom any are now living; Henry C. Brooking, and Serena M., the wife of Logan Pendleton.

CAPTAIN HENRY C. BROOKING.

was born in Scott county, Kentucky, April 24th, 1822. He was about six years old when he came with his father to Missouri. In May, 1849, when just past seventeen, he started among the earliest emigrants to California. He was five years on the Pacific coast. For three years and a half he was mining gold, principally in the Sierra Nevada mountain region, but traversing at different times all the gold fields of California. For the last year of his stay he was engaged in selling goods. He reached Jackson county on his return on the 26th of June, 1854. He remained in the county till the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion, when he enlisted in the Confederate army. He was first in Col. Martin's regiment of cavalry, Gen. Raines' Brigade, Missouri State Guards, and on going into the regular Confederate service became a member of the 16th Missouri Infantry, Gen. Parsons' Brigade, First Army of the Confederacy, the entire war in the Trans-Mississippi department of the Confederacy, and took part in nearly every battle of importance fought west of the Mississippi. He was elected First Lieutenant of Company A, 16th Missouri Infantry, at the time of the organization of the company; was promoted to Captain in December, 1862, and held that rank till the conclusion of the war. He was severely wounded at Prairie Grove, Arkansas, in December, 1862, and for a month or more lay in the hospital. After the surrender he remained in Texas and Louisiana till the fall of 1866, and then returned to Jackson county, where he occupies the old farm which his father originally settled. He was married June 30th, 1868, to Miss Vyra Laws, daughter of Alfred Laws, of Jackson county.

GEORGE S. HEDGES.

The Hedges family is of English origin, and the subject of this sketch traces his ancestry back to Sir Charles Hedges, his great, great-grandfather, who was an Englishman, and figured conspicuously in the first quarter of the eighteenth century. This Sir Charles Hedges was greatly noticed by the king, and was entrusted with many responsible and lucrative positions which he became wealthy. He died about the year 1732.

The family was represented in the next generation by Joseph Hedges who emigrated from England to America some time prior to the year 1732, and it is thought settled in Frederick county, Maryland, which was the home of the family for several generations. This Joseph Hedges died in Maryland in the year 1740, and his son Charles Hedges was the great-grandfather of the subject of this biography. His son in turn was Joseph Hedges who emigrated from Frederick county, Maryland, at an early day to Kentucky, and settled on Strode's creek, in Barton county. Joseph Hedges, the father of George S. Hedges, was born in Frederick county, Maryland, and was not yet grown at the time of the removal of the family to Kentucky. He married Nancy Shortridge, and the second of seven children by this marriage was George S. Hedges. It is important to retain the particulars in regard to the descent of the family for the reason that there is now in England a large fortune belonging to the Hedges family, and availing any heirs whose lineal descent can be clearly established.

George S. Hedges was born about ten miles from Paris in the neighborhood of North Middleton, Bourbon county, Kentucky, on the 19th of February, 1811. He gained an education in the ordinary subscription schools of Kentucky, which, however, in that locality were of a good character, for that day and time. In April, 1827, he was married to Martha Gaiskill, of Clark county, Kentucky. He left Kentucky in September, 1839, and emigrated to Missouri coming directly to Jackson county, and settling three or four miles northeast of Independence. He resided in that vicinity till 1856, and then moved to Johnson county, Missouri, where he lived through the war. The spring of 1866 he removed from Johnson county back to Jackson county, bought a tract of farm south of Hickman's mill. This farm, which lies in section 12, township 47, range 33, is a fine and valuable property, and is situated in the midst of as beautiful and fertile an agricultural region as there is in Jackson county. Mr. Hedges has been employed in general farming and stock raising.

The death of his first wife occurred on the 22nd of May, 1850. June 23rd, 1853, he was united in marriage to Mrs. Elizabeth Yanke, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Hayes. She was born in Virginia, but was raised principally in Johnson county, Missouri. Mr. Hedges has had eleven children: Maria, the oldest daughter, is the wife of Paul Ligger; Silas, the oldest son, died in September, 1876, on the Gulf of Mexico while returning from Mexico where he had been employed as an engineer in the construction of a railroad; James is living in Utah; Henrietta is the wife of William H. Colgan; Emma married John Henry Kemper; and Ambrose died in November, 1872. The children above mentioned are by Mr. Hedges' first marriage. Those by his second marriage are: Willis, residing at Bonham, Texas; Edward, now living in Kansas City; Dora, now a student at the Normal school at Warrensburg; Anna and Robert.

Although Mr. Hedges' father was a Democrat he himself was formerly a Whig in the old days of the Whig and Democratic parties, and cast his first vote for president for Henry Clay. He continued to vote the Whig ticket long after he came to Missouri, and as long as the Whig organization was in existence, but of course since the war has acted with the Democrats, and in the presidential election of 1876 cast his vote for Peter Cooper. He is a man who has enjoyed the confidence of the people, and has filled several public positions. He acted as deputy sheriff under Sheriffs Buchanan and Thompson. The county court appointed him county assessor, and he acted as such one year by their appointment. He held the office two years by election of the people, and again filled the position one year by appointment. As deputy county clerk under John R. Swearington for about two years he discharged the duties of that office in an acceptable and creditable manner. He is now acting as notary public by appointment of Govs. Brown and Hardin. Mr. Hedges is a man well known throughout the county, and stands well in the estimation of every one as a peaceable and law-abiding citizen, an intelligent and substantial farmer, and a capable business man. For twenty years he has been a member of the Christian church, and has been careful to discharge every duty as a neighbor and a citizen. In another part of this work will be found a view of his comfortable and attractive residence in the neighborhood of Hickman's mill.

HON. JOSEPH W. MERCER.

This gentleman, formerly state treasurer of Missouri, has resided in Jackson county from the period of his birth. On his father's side his ancestors were from Scotland, emigrating from that country to Tennessee; and were among the earliest residents of that state. His father, Thomas W. Mercer, was born in Tennessee, and in the state of Virginia married Henrietta Dukes, who belonged to an old Virginia family. About the year 1832, Thomas Mercer emigrated from Abington, Virginia, to Missouri, and settled at Independence in Jackson county, where he became engaged in the business of contracting and building. In 1844 he removed to Platte city, Platte county, Missouri, to reside there while engaged in the construction of a bridge across the Platte river, for which he was contractor; and while there occurred the birth of his son, Joseph W. Mercer, on the 25th of February, 1845. When about a year old, his father moved back to Jackson county, and settled on a farm ten miles south of Independence. Mr. Mercer received his primary education in the common schools of the county, and at the age of thirteen was sent to Chapel Hill College, in Lafayette county, then a flourishing educational institution under the care of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of that place.

He was a student at this college for three years, and was in the institution at the time of the breaking out of the war. At this period he was sixteen years of age, but promptly enlisted, in June, 1861, in Captain Windsor's company raised in Lafayette county. His company was attached to General Price's division of the regular Confederate army, and was known as the 10th Missouri cavalry, and was commanded by Col. Emmet McDonald, and afterward by Col. Laughter. The subject of this sketch had enlisted as private, was promoted to third sergeant, and so served in the ranks till the battle of Pine Bluff, in Arkansas, on the 25th of October, 1863, where he received a severe wound in the right arm from a sharp rifle ball. After suffering from this wound about eight weeks it was found necessary to amputate the arm, and when he was ready to take the field again it was with the loss of this important member. He was appointed post-commissary with the rank of captain, and served in that capacity at different points in the Trans-Mississippi department of the Confederate army, principally in Arkansas and Texas, till the close of the war.

In the summer of 1865, the Confederate cause having been abandoned, he returned to Jackson county with one arm and the marks of hard service. During part of the years 1867 and 1868 he attended Jones' Commercial College in St. Louis, and subsequently taught school for one session in Jackson county. In 1869 he established himself in the real estate and insurance business at Independence, which he carried on up to the time of his election as county treasurer. In 1871 he was chosen a member of the city council of Independence, and served one year in that position. November, 1872, he was elected county treasurer, and while serving in that office received the nomination, at the hands of the state Democratic convention, for state treasurer of Missouri. At the time of receiving this nomination he was only twenty-nine years of age, and on his election in November, 1874, was the youngest man ever elected to a state office in Missouri. The duties of his responsible position at Jefferson city he discharged in a manner satisfactory to the people of the state, and on the conclusion of his term he returned to Independence, where he is now connected with the banking firm of Brown, Hughes & Co.

His marriage occurred in May, 1870, to Miss Laura Greene, of Jackson county. In politics he has always been a Democrat, and has invariably supported the principles and candidates of that party. He is known as a man firm and decided in his convictions, though liberal in his sentiments, and is being thoroughly identified with the interests of the county, of which he is one of the most distinguished citizens.

HON. D. S. TWITCHELL.

was born in 1834, in the township of Scio, Washtenaw county, Michigan. He was educated at the Michigan State University, and graduated in the Law Department, with his first-class in 1861. For the period of four years, he practiced his profession at Ann Arbor, during which time he was elected to the office of Circuit Court Commissioner and Prosecuting Attorney, for Washtenaw county of same state. In May, 1865, he removed with his family to Kansas City, where he now resides and practices law in the Courts of Missouri and Kansas. In 1869, he was Attorney and Counselor for Kansas City. In 1872 and 1876, he was the Republican nominee for Congress, in the 8th congressional district of Missouri, and in 1874, he received the nomination for the office of Attorney General, on the People's ticket for the state. The subject of this brief biographical sketch, is a man of decided literary mind and culture, and as a speaker in court or on the rostrum, has no superior in Western Missouri.

FIELDING H. LANE.

This gentleman, one of the oldest and best citizens of Brooking township, was born in Clark county, Kentucky, December 28th, 1811. His ancestors were originally from Virginia, whence they moved to North Carolina, and from that state emigrated at an early period to Kentucky where they were among the first settlers. James Lane, his father, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and his mother's maiden name was Elizabeth Tugle. Fielding H. Lane was the oldest of a family comprising seven children. His opportunities of gaining an education were confined to the old-fashioned subscription schools which the boys and girls of Kentucky attended fifty years ago. The school-houses were built of logs, and split-log benches included about all the scanty furniture of the interior; but those schools, humble as they were, formed the only means of education to a large class of men who would do credit to any state.

When about eighteen he began trading in stock, etc., going to South Carolina, and also making several trips to New Orleans. He was married in the year 1836 to Elizabeth Larimore, who was born and raised in Madison county, Kentucky. After this event he engaged in farming in Clark county, Ken-

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF CITIZENS OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI.

tucky, where he resided till 1839; the year of his emigration to Missouri. He settled at once in what is now Brookings township, Jackson county, and in the spring of 1840 bought land in section 31, township 49, range 32. He is still the owner of the land which he first purchased, and still resides on the same section. He first bought 180 acres, and now is the proprietor of 678 acres, all lying in the neighborhood where he resides. Mr. and Mrs. Lane have five children living, viz.: William, the oldest son, who is married and is farming in Clay county; James, living in Brookings township; Fielding E., Sarah and John H., the last three still residing at home.

Mr. Lane was formerly an old line Whig in politics as were most of the old residents of Kentucky in the days of the Whig and Democratic parties. At the presidential election of 1852 he cast his first vote for president, and continued to vote the Whig ticket as long as that party was in active existence, casting his last Whig vote for Bell and Everett in 1860. Since the war he has acted with the Democrats. He has never aspired to public position, and has been rather content with the quiet of private life. He has been fully occupied with the management of his farm, and in attending to his own business affairs. He is well known as a farmer and stock raiser, and for the public spirit he has manifested in the advancement of the agricultural interests of Jackson county. He was the president of the Jackson County Agricultural and Mechanical Association, which for a number of years held its annual affairs at Independence, and in that position was efficient in securing its success. He is now one of the oldest residents of Brookings township, and no one has borne a better reputation as a good citizen and worthy member of the community.

DR. D. A. BRYANT.

DR. BRYANT, a leading physician of the southwestern part of Jackson county, is a native of Jessamine county, Kentucky, and was born October 18th, 1828. His ancestors were originally from Virginia, and were among the earliest settlers of Kentucky. "Bryant's Station," a prominent point of interest in the pioneer history of Kentucky, was so called from a member of the Bryant family who was a comrade of Boone and the other first occupants of "the dark and bloody ground."

The subject of this biography was the youngest son of a family of twelve children. He was raised in Jessamine county, Kentucky, and lived there till twenty-one years of age. His English education he received principally at Bacon College, at Harrodsburg in his native state. When seventeen he began the study of medicine with his brother, Dr. John Bryant, now a physician of Independence, but who was then practicing medicine in Kentucky. He attended his first course of medical lectures at the old Transylvania University at Lexington, Kentucky, and completed his medical education at Louisville, after the Transylvania University was removed to Louisville and established there under the name of the Kentucky School of Medicine. He received his diploma in the spring of 1850, and soon after his graduation he came to Jackson county, Missouri.

He located first at Independence, and there began practice. Remaining at the county-seat till 1855, he then settled in the neighborhood of Lee's Summit. In 1858 he removed to Hickman's mill, and has since been practicing medicine in that locality. His first marriage was to Miss Sarah Neer, of Independence, in June, 1851. She died in May, 1852. He was married the second time in May, 1853, to Miss Sarah C. Smart, whose death occurred in 1857. His present wife was formerly Miss Caroline Eaton, of Independence, and the marriage took place in the spring of 1858. He has three children living, viz.: James A., Anna S., and Frank L. He has always been a Democrat, though he comes from Whig ancestors, and has sustained an excellent reputation as a conscientious and careful physician, and his time has been closely devoted to the pursuit of his profession. When the famous "Or. No. 11" was issued in 1863, during the war, he took his family and went to Carson, Nevada, and from there proceeded to California. He returned by steamer to New York, and in the spring of 1866 reached Jackson county where he resumed his professional practice in the same vicinity in which he resided previous to the war.

J. S. ANDERSON.

AMONG the enterprising citizens of the county who have moved in since the war is Mr. J. S. Anderson, of Washington township. He was born in Belmont county, Ohio, August 27th, 1819. His ancestors were from Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, from which locality his grandfather emigrated to Ohio a few years after the opening of the present century. His father, Joshua C. Anderson, was born in Pennsylvania, but was married after his removal to Ohio.

Mr. Anderson was raised on a farm in Belmont county. December 7th, 1847, he was married to Susan Magee, of Belmont county, Ohio, whose ancestors were from Kentucky. August, 1847, he began merchandizing at Bellaire, Ohio, and was a proprietor of a store in that town till the year 1859. In 1856 he was elected sheriff of Belmont county, and filled that position for three years. From 1854 till 1863 he was engaged in the paper manufacturing business at Wheeling, West Virginia, and at West Wheeling, opposite on the Ohio side of the river, a short distance below Bellaire. At the death of his parents in 1863 he purchased the interest of the other heirs, and moved on the old home farm which he conducted till the time of his removal to Missouri.

At the conclusion of the war of the rebellion he determined to remove to Missouri. In the fall of 1865 he bought his present farm, situated in section 22, township 47, range 33, and commenced the erection of buildings and the further improvement of the property. He moved his family to Jackson county, in November, 1866, but resided in Independence from that date till March, 1868, and while living there conducted a store for the sale of agricultural implements and machinery. Since March, 1868, he has resided on his farm, and has been one of the enterprising and progressive citizens of Washington township.

In his political principles he has always been a Democrat, and was brought up a firm believer in the doctrines of that time-honored party. Though strongly urged by numerous friends to accept public position, he has led the life of a private citizen since residing in Missouri. His farm is situated in the midst of one of the finest and fairest agricultural districts in Missouri, and he has been busily engaged in its improvement. He has assisted materially in the development and progress of his part of the county, and has lent his influence in behalf of every measure calculated to forward its moral and material growth. He has interested himself in the building of schools, &c., and in short is a type of that class of citizens who are most influential in developing, improving and building up a country.

DR. J. W. STARNES.

DR. STARNES, now practicing medicine at Mecklin, was born at Frankfort, Kentucky, May 22d, 1838. His father, Henry T. Starnes, was a native of South Carolina, was married there, and afterward moved to Kentucky. At the age of twelve the subject of this sketch left Kentucky, and subsequently located at Maryville, Nodaway county, Missouri. After spending two years at college he returned to Maryville in the spring of 1858, and began the study of medicine. The next fall he entered the St. Louis Medical College, from which he graduated in the spring of 1859. He at once began the practice of his profession at Maryville. In July, 1861, he enlisted in the 35th Missouri regiment in the Union army, and was mustered in as hospital steward; December, 1862, he was promoted to assistant-surgeon of the same regiment, and during the remainder of his three years' term of service served in that capacity. He was employed in the Department of the Gulf, and took part in twenty-seven general engagements, including among others the battles of Belmont, Helena, Arkansas; and Franklin, Tennessee. He was mustered out in July, 1865, and returned to Maryville, and the following September located at Mecklin, in Jackson county, where he has since been practicing. His professional attainments are of a high order, and he received a medal of honor for the ability and faithfulness with which he discharged his duties as surgeon in the army. He was married on the 29th of April, 1866, to Miss Sue Steele, daughter of Alexander Steele, of Mecklin.

BRITTON M. CAPELL.

BRITTON M. CAPELL, one of the oldest settlers now living in Sai-bar township, was born in Richmond county, North Carolina, October 31, 1819. In the spring of 1815, he emigrated with his father to Kentucky, and settled in Simpson county. December 16th, 1834, he married Sarah A. Clayton, a native of Kentucky. Mr. Capell moved to Simpson county, Kentucky, where he lived till 1839, and then moved to Jackson county, Missouri, and settled on section 34, township 49, range 30, where he has since lived. There are now only a few citizens of Sai-bar township who were living in it when he came. His wife died on the 12th of September, 1871. He has six children living, viz.: John O., Truman Polk, Bennie, Susan, wife of William Kirby; Mary and Martha, who married John Wright. His children are all living in the county. Mr. Capell has been a staunch Democrat in politics, and was a member of that party in the county in which he lived in Kentucky, where nearly every one else was a Whig. He cast his first vote for President for General Jackson in 1832, and has voted for every Democratic candidate for the Presidency since, including Tilden in 1876. Ever since 1833, he has been a member of the Methodist church, and is a citizen who stands well in the community, and has borne a blameless reputation as a good neighbor and an honest man.

ISAAC PEACE.

THIS gentleman, one of the old residents of Fort Osage township, was born in the city of Newport, Rhode Island, October 14th, 1803. The family from which he is descended came originally from the island of Barbadoes, and on emigrating to the United States settled at Charleston, South Carolina. His father, Joseph Peace, practiced law in South Carolina, and married Anna Maria Rudhall, who belonged to an old South Carolina family, while his parents were temporarily residing at Newport, Rhode Island, then as now a celebrated watering-place and seaside resort, Isaac Peace, the subject of this sketch, was born.

When Mr. Peace was very young his father took up his residence in Philadelphia, and lived in that city in the enjoyment of his wealth, he having amassed a considerable fortune. The subject of this biography obtained his education in the schools of Philadelphia, and for a while attended the University of Pennsylvania. When about twenty he entered the counting-room of a Philadelphia merchant, John C. Smith, and at the end of a year was sent as supercargo to China. After four or five months in that country, during which he had ample opportunity of studying the character and habits of the people, he returned to America. He continued to reside in Philadelphia till 1836, and then concluded to come West. His primary destination was Illinois, but after hunting three or four months in the Plains he settled in Jackson county, Missouri, and in 1837 took charge of the Blue Mills, in Fort Osage township. At that time the Blue Mills was a prominent business institution, and was widely known throughout the country. It was a noted point in the early history of Jackson county. Mr. Peace was connected with the Blue Mills for about twenty-three or twenty-four years. He was married about the year 1840, to Caroline, the eldest daughter of Michael Rice. Her father was a native of England, but Mrs. Peace was born in Saline county, Missouri, and at a very early day removed to Jackson county. Her death occurred about the year 1869.

A couple of years after his marriage he bought the farm on which he now lives, in section 23, of township 50, range 31. He now owns between 800 and 900 acres of land in the county, 280 of which lies in his home farm. This farm Mr. Peace has been managing though he can scarcely call himself a practical farmer, and has done little manual labor. Hunting has always been a favorite pursuit, and he has lost no opportunity of following this inviting pastime. He has five children, whose names are William R., George Edward, Washington S., Anna M., and Mary E. The oldest is married and the others are living at home. He has never taken an active interest in politics. His father was a prominent Whig in the old days of the Whig and Democratic parties, and in this respect he followed in the footsteps of his father. His first vote for President he cast for John Quincy Adams in 1824. Latterly he has voted Democratic. Mr. Peace is now one of the oldest and most respected residents of Fort Osage township. His life has been that of a private citizen, and with the exception of acting as treasurer of his township, the only public position he has held was that of postmaster at Blue Mills years ago, soon after he came to the county. The house in which he now lives was built in 1842 or 1843, and was at the time the best house in the county. A sketch of it is shown among the lithographic illustrations to this work.

P. I. WALLINGFORD.

MR. WALLINGFORD, one of the substantial farmers of Washington township, is a native Missourian, and was born in Platte county, February 24th, 1844. His father, William P. Wallingford, was born in Mason county, Kentucky, and moved to Missouri in 1837, and was one of the earliest settlers of the Platte Purchase, moving in, soon after that county was purchased from the Indians and opened up to the white residents. He settled near Weston in Platte county. The subject of this biography lived in Platte county till 1854, and then moved with his father to Pike county, Missouri, where the family resided till 1858, when they returned to Platte county. When about seventeen Mr. Wallingford went into a store at De Kalb, Buchanan county, and afterward was employed in the mercantile business at the same place with his father. He was married in May, 1868, to Miss Bettie Clasby, of Buchanan county, Missouri. He came to Jackson county first in 1867, and for one year was living in Kansas city. When he went to farming he located in Washington township, Jackson county, where he resided on a farm of 200 acres and owns additional land in the county. He has been employed in general farming and stock raising. In politics he has always been a Democrat, and has acted with that party from the time he had any opinions of his own on political subjects. Though still a young man he is known as an enterprising citizen of Washington township, and a wide-awake and progressive farmer.

DR. JOHN D. WOOD.

DR. WOOD, who, since 1866, has been practicing medicine at Pink Hill, was born and raised in the adjoining county of Lafayette. His grandfather, John Wood, was a Virginian, who at an early period emigrated to Tennessee and was one of the pioneer settlers of that state. He located there at a time when the white residents of Tennessee were compelled to live in forts for protection against the Indians, who were both numerous and frequently hostile to the white settlers. In one of these engagements with the savages he received a wound which necessitated the amputation of one of his limbs so that he carried to his grave this memento of the perilous times which surrounded the early settlers of Tennessee. Isaac H. Wood, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Tennessee and married Mary B. Satterfield. In the year 1838 the family moved from Sumner county, Tennessee, to Missouri, settling in the southern part of Lafayette county. The name of Isaac H. Wood is familiar to many residents of Jackson county as being a leading citizen of the neighboring county of Lafayette. He was formerly a Whig, but since the dissolution of the Whig organization has been a Democrat, and has been conspicuously identified with the public interests of Lafayette county. Previous to the war he served as State Senator, representing the district in which Lafayette county was at that time embraced. He occupied other public positions, and is still living in Lafayette county on the farm which he originally settled. The second of nine children of Isaac H. and Mary B. Wood, was John D. Wood, born in Lafayette county, Missouri, on the 15th of February, 1841. He was raised in his native county where also he received a principal part of his education. He attended Chapel Hill College, an institution in active operation, and situated in the vicinity of his own home. He afterward was a student in the Masonic college at Lexington, and for fifteen months attended the sessions of the Central College at Fayette, in Howard county. In the year 1862, when about twenty-one years of age, he began the study of medicine with Dr. A. B. Hereford, at that period an old physician in Lafayette county. Dr. Wood, after securing a thorough preparatory knowledge of his profession,

entered the St. Louis Medical College in the fall of 1863, from which he graduated in the spring of 1865. After his graduation he entered into a partnership with Dr. Hereford, his former preceptor, and commenced the practice of his profession at Mount Hope, in Lafayette county.

Remaining in that locality about a year, on the 10th of April, 1866, he became a resident of Pink Hill, in Jackson county, where he has since been occupied with his professional duties. The neighborhood of Pink Hill has afforded the Dr. a field for a large practice, and his excellent medical training coupled with an energetic discharge of his labors, has enabled him to gain a merited success in his profession. On the 3d of March, 1872, he was married to Miss Jennie F. Wood, daughter of Robert H. Wood. She was born in Lafayette county, but when she was a child her parents moved to the neighborhood of Pink Hill, Jackson county, where Mrs. Wood was living at the time of her marriage. In politics, Dr. Wood has always been a Democrat, and as a citizen he has been enterprising, public-spirited and progressive. He has been thoroughly identified with the interests of his part of the county, and has stood well the test of professional criticism, and like all men of solid merit and real attainments is popular where he is best known. He has been connected with the Masonic fraternity for a number of years, and is a member of Christian Lodge, No. 329, A. F. and A. M., at Pink Hill, with which he has been identified from the time of its establishment. We give a place for this sketch of Dr. Wood as a representative man among the physicians of Jackson county—a class which numbers among its members many able and worthy gentlemen.

ROBERT DANIEL.

ROBERT DANIEL, now one of the oldest settlers of Blue township, was born in Middlesex county, Virginia, April 10th, 1798. His father, whose name was also Robert Daniel, died in October of the same year, and in 1812, when the subject of this biography was about fourteen, his mother moved from Virginia to Montgomery county, Kentucky. In that part of the state Mr. Daniel grew to manhood. The children of that day attended the old-fashioned subscription schools, held in log school-houses, and enjoyed poor educational advantages in contrast with the youth of the present generation. Mr. Daniel was brought up on a farm. September 5th, 1820, he was married to Catharine Hanline, who was born in November, 1798, in Montgomery county, Kentucky. Her father was from North Carolina, and was one of the earliest pioneers of Kentucky, emigrating to the state with Daniel Boone.

After his marriage he went to farming on fifty acres of land in Montgomery county, Kentucky, and resided there till 1836, when he made up his mind to emigrate to Missouri. He arrived in Jackson county in the fall of 1836, and settled where he now lives on section 29, of township 50, range 31. Several settlements had been made in the neighborhood at the time, but of those who were living in that immediate part of the county when Mr. Daniel came all are now gone, and he is the only survivor. With the exception of a period when he was compelled to leave during the time of the war he has continued to reside on the same farm where he originally settled. The home farm comprises 335 acres of land, and he owns an additional 100 acres at a distance of about two miles. Mr. and Mrs. Daniel have had eight children; three boys, Overton, Robert, and Albert died in Kentucky. The five children now living are Susan, the wife of William Allen; Robert, who is living near Sherman, Texas, and is engaged in farming there; Catharine, who married Rodney Miles; Jesse, who is farming in the St. Mile; and Julia, the wife of William Anderson. All are living in Jackson county with the exception of Robert, who resides in Texas.

Mr. Daniel is one of the oldest Democrats in the county, and has never belonged to any other party. The first vote he ever cast for President was for Andrew Jackson, and he has since voted the Democratic ticket from that time to the present, although while he lived in Kentucky he resided in a district of country where the Whigs were thick and Democrats were somewhat scarce than they are now to be found in Missouri. He has, however, taken no active part in politics, and his time has been closely devoted to his farming operations. He has borne the reputation of an honest citizen, and is a man who has always been noted for the cultivation of the community. His wife is still living, and Mr. and Mrs. Daniel have perhaps lived together longer than any other couple now residing in Jackson county. They were married in 1820, fifty-seven years ago, and having passed through the prime and vigor of life together are now spending their declining years in peace.

JACOB SWEANEY.

MR. SWEANEY was born in Summit county, Ohio, December 31st, 1824. In the year 1836 his father moved with the family to Ray county, Missouri. Mr. Sweaney lived in Ray county till twenty years of age, and then went to St. Louis where he went to school, and for a short time was employed as clerk in a hardware store. In the year 1848, he removed to Quincy, Illinois, where he pursued the study of law which he had begun in St. Louis. He was admitted to the Quincy bar in the year 1850, and was principally employed in the practice of law at Quincy till 1868. While a resident of Quincy, he also filled various public offices among them, that of county commissioner for seventeen years. January, 1868, he removed to Kansas City, and the following spring to his present farm in section 22, township 48, range 33. He has since been engaged in farming, and has had little to do with the practice of his profession. In politics he has always been a Democrat. He has been twice married, first in 1847 to Martha Matthews of Plymouth, Illinois, whose death occurred in June, 1858. His present wife was formerly Lydia M. Gault, of Adams county, Illinois.

J. M. HAVRON.

MR. HAVRON, now a citizen of Washington township, has been a resident of the county since the year 1868. He is a native of East Tennessee, and was born in Knox county, December 18th, 1825. The family from which he is descended is of Irish origin, and settled in Tennessee at an early period in the history of that state. His father's name was Henry H. Havron, and his mother's maiden name Aley Scarborough. His mother's ancestors were from Virginia. When the subject of this sketch was about sixteen years of age, he left Tennessee and settled in Indiana, first locating in Monroe county and afterwards in Lawrence. His education was partly received in the State University at Bloomington, Indiana. As soon as he grew up he engaged in various business enterprises. He shipped produce by flatboat down the White, Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi rivers to New Orleans—at that time a pursuit which was much followed by enterprising men, and which was generally productive of lucrative results. Mr. Havron also, to a limited extent taught school. He took an active interest in public affairs, and for four years was County Auditor of Lawrence county, Indiana.

In June, 1863, occurred his marriage to Mary L. Miller, the daughter of Charles and Elizabeth Miller, then living in Lawrence county, Indiana, but now residing in Washington township, Jackson county, Missouri. Mr. Havron continued to live in Indiana till the spring of 1865, and then removed to Missouri, and located near Tipton in Monticue county, where he continued to reside till 1868, and then came to Jackson county and settled where he now lives, on section 12, township 47, range 33. He has been farming since his residence in this state. In politics he was first a Whig, and cast his first vote for President for Henry Clay in the exciting and memorable campaign of 1844. He remained a Whig as long as that party was in existence, and and delegate to the National Convention of 1860, which nominated Bell and Everett, whom he supported in the important contest of that year. Since that war he has acted with the Democracy. In 1876, his friends brought forward his name as a candidate for the State Senate, and he is recognized as one of the representative citizens of the south-west part of the county.

DR. A. B. SPRUILL.

DR. SPRUILL, one of the leading physicians of Jackson county, now practicing in Kansas City, but formerly located in the southwestern part of the county, was born in Pickens county, Alabama, June 11th, 1824. The family from