

# BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF CITIZENS OF HOLT COUNTY, MO.

## R. H. RUSSELL.

JUDGE RUSSELL is now the oldest settler living in Holt county, and has resided here since August, 1838. He was born in Clark county, Ohio, April 7th, 1818. In 1836 he left Ohio, and lived for two years at Lafayette, Indiana. In the spring of 1838 he left Indiana and started for the Platte Purchase, and the circumstances of his coming to Holt county are narrated elsewhere in the county history. On the organization of Nodaway township, (now Holt county) he was made constable. He has previously filled the office of first post-master in the county. On the formation of Holt county, R. M. Barkhusen was appointed first sheriff by the governor, but on the first general election in 1842, Judge Russell was chosen to that position. He served four years in that office. In 1851 he removed from the farm which he had originally settled (and which is now occupied by Simon Conn) to Oregon. For two years before the war he was assessor of Holt county. Gov. Gamble appointed him county judge in 1861, and he was afterward chosen to that office by the people. He was elected probate judge in 1870, and was re-elected in 1874. He has always been a Democrat in politics, and cast his first vote for President for Polk, in 1844. He was a Union man throughout the war. In 1841 he was married to Mary Crowley, who died in 1860. In 1861 he married Susan Bishop. He was one of the members of the expedition from Holt county to California in the days of the gold excitement, leaving the county in May, 1849, and returning in 1851.

## T. C. DUNGAN.

T. C. DUNGAN, one of the leading members of the Holt county bar, is a native of Colerain, Belmont county, Ohio, and was born on the 3d of April, 1840. His father's name was R. Ellis Dungan, and his mother's name before marriage was Sarah S. Fox, the daughter of Josiah Fox, an Englishman, who emigrated to America, and was for a period naval constructor at Washington. Both his father and mother were of Quaker descent, and were early residents of Ohio.

Mr. Dungan was raised in his native county in Ohio. His education he received mostly in the common schools, which in the neighborhood where he lived were of an unusually good character. He afterward attended an academy at Ashland county, Ohio, and was a student there till the sessions of the academy were suspended by the breaking out of the war of the rebellion. He taught school for a time in Belmont county, Ohio, and for a short period was in an Ohio regiment, serving in the Union army. The study of law, to which previously he had given some attention, he commenced actively in 1865 with the Hon. William S. Kennon, of St. Clairsville, Ohio, a member of Congress and judge in that judicial district. His admission to the bar occurred on the 12th of September, 1866, and within a few days afterward he came to Missouri and located at Oregon, in Holt county, opening a law office in partnership with Thomas J. Hawthorne, who had come with Mr. Dungan from Ohio. Thomas H. Parrish was also a member of this law firm, which maintained two offices—one at Oregon and one at Rockport. His partnership terminated in the spring of 1867. In July, 1869 he formed a partnership with William R. Kelly, which continued till July, 1871, from which time Mr. Dungan has been engaged in practice by himself, and has acquired a high standing among the lawyers of Holt county.

He was appointed county attorney in 1868, and served several years in that office. On the formation of the twenty-ninth judicial circuit, he was chosen circuit attorney at a special election held in April, 1871, and served in that capacity till January, 1872; and then entered in a two years' term of service as prosecuting attorney, an office to which he was elected in November, 1871. In his political sentiments he has always been attached to the Republican party; and was raised a believer in the old Quaker doctrine of opposition to slavery, and hence comes naturally by his decided Republican convictions. He is known as a lawyer of industry, energy, and ability. He is the possessor of a complete set of abstracts, the compilation of which he began in 1836, and has performed a large share of real estate transactions in the county.

## ADAM KLIPPEL.

THIS gentleman, formerly editor and publisher of the *Holt County Sentinel*, is a native of Germany. He was born at the village of Wackerheim, near the city of Meutz, on the Rhine, November 1st, 1828. His father, Philip Klippel, was the owner of a vineyard and a small farm. In the year 1838 the family emigrated to America. There were eight children, six boys and two girls, of whom Adam was the fourth. Landing in New York city in September, 1838, from that point they moved directly to West Virginia; but not receiving a favorable impression of that country, proceeded down the Ohio river in the fall of 1839 to Cincinnati, and there Mr. Klippel grew up to manhood.

In 1840 he began learning the printing business in the Western Methodist Book Concern. He was then twelve years of age; and he was employed in the Book Concern till 1849, principally engaged as a compositor on books, work, and thoroughly learning the printing business. The printing-office was his school-room, and the only means of education he enjoyed except when for a short time he was a student at Woodward college at Cincinnati. After his father's death in 1844, he assisted in supporting the family. It was his good fortune to form the acquaintance of Salmon P. Chase, who in various ways befriended him. In 1849, when the California gold fever broke out, he left Cincinnati with the intention of going to the Pacific Coast. He reached St. Joseph, Missouri, en route, and there learning of the immense number of people seeking the newly discovered gold fields, he with other members of the company concluded to stop in the Platte Purchase. He secured employment on the *St. Joseph Gazette*, and for three years was a compositor on that paper. In July, 1852, he married Elizabeth Snider, the daughter of Philip Snider, now of Oregon.

The summer of 1852 he left the printing business, and engaged in the work of the ministry, in connection with the German Methodist Episcopal Church. He filled appointments in different parts of the state of Missouri, at Jefferson city and Booneville; and had charge of a circuit embracing Cooper, Moniteau, Osage, Cole, Morgan, and Pettis counties. From the fall of 1854 till 1859 he was engaged in preaching in Illinois, and was on the Petersburg circuit in Menard county; the Abrenville circuit in Cass and Morgan counties; and for two years was stationed at Springfield. He here formed the acquaintance of Abraham Lincoln. In 1861 Mr. Klippel accepted an appointment as railway postal clerk on the Chicago and Alton railroad, between Chicago and St. Louis, a position which he retained for eight years. In this interval he was appointed a delegate by convention of railway postal clerks, held at Chicago, to visit the Postmaster General and lay before him the action of that body. It was on this occasion that Mr. Klippel received from President Lincoln a note of introduction to Montgomery Blair, then Postmaster General, which reads as follows, and which he still warmly cherishes:

"Postmaster-General.—Please see and hear Rev. Adam Klippel, who, it seems is an agent of yours, and certainly is an old and valued friend of mine."  
ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Early in 1869 he resigned his position in the mail service, and at the solicitation of friends and relatives in Holt county, came to Oregon, and assumed charge of the *Sentinel*. He succeeded in making it a popular and influential newspaper. In his political beliefs he has always been an earnest Republican—a member of that organization from the very birth of the party. He took an active part in the political canvasses, and in various campaigns labored with voice and pen for the success of Republican principles. He disposed of the *Sentinel* in November, 1870. He is widely known throughout the county, and commands the confidence of the people.

## DANIEL ZOOK.

WITH one exception, Mr. Zook is the oldest member of the Holt county bar. The family from which he is descended was of German origin. His parents were from Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and at an early period he moved to Ohio, where in Wayne county the subject of this sketch was born. Daniel Zook, which was also his father's name, in the spring of 1842 emigrated from Ohio to Holt county, Missouri, and settled three miles south of Oregon, in East-Lewis township. Mr. Zook obtained his education partly in the common schools, but the greater part of it through a private instructor, the Rev. Mr. Raney, a Presbyterian minister at Oregon. He undertook the study of law, which he pursued chiefly at home, with the assistance of James Foster and Col. John W. Kelly—the two members who then composed the entire Holt county bar. He was admitted to practice in 1848, and established himself as a lawyer at Oregon.

The profession of law has since claimed his attention. He resided in Oregon till the fall of 1857, when he removed to Forest city, where he resided till the fall of 1863, at which date he returned to Oregon, where he has since lived. He was married in 1852 to Cordelia Dozier, of Holt county. Her death occurred in August, 1874. He was at first a member of the old Whig party, but since the dissolution of that organization he has been a Democrat, and is earnest in his support of the principles of the Democratic party. During the years 1863 and 1864 he served as prosecuting attorney of Holt county. In 1865 he formed a law partnership with E. Van Buskirk, which continued till the spring of 1874, when he became the law partner of Thos. H. Parrish, with whom he is still practicing law. Mr. Zook with one exception is the oldest practitioner at the Holt county bar, and he has a long and consistent residence in the county, extending back to the year 1843, he has been intimately and honorably identified with its interests.

## E. VAN BUSKIRK.

THE ancestors of Mr. Van Buskirk were originally from Holland, and among the early Dutch settlers of America. His grandfather removed from Maryland to Pennsylvania, and from the latter state his father, Lawrence Van Buskirk, emigrated to Ohio. The subject of this sketch was born in Richland county, Ohio, on the 25th of February, 1822, and lived in the state of his nativity till past nineteen years of age. He laid the foundation for a substantial English education in the instruction he received at the old log school-house in Ohio, which he attended in his youthful days.

When in the twentieth year of his age he left Ohio, and accompanied his uncle, Daniel Van Buskirk, to Andrew county, Missouri. In Andrew county part of the time he was employed on a farm, but mostly worked at the printing business which he had learned in Knox and Lorraine counties, Ohio, in the office of William E. Ellis, then an editor in Ohio, but now the publisher of a newspaper in Missouri. Mr. Van Buskirk was connected with the first newspaper ever published at Savannah, in Andrew county—the *Savannah Western Empire*, putting that journal into operation for L. D. Nash, the publisher. Working on that paper for a short time, he then went to Platte county, Missouri, and became the publisher of the *Weston Empire*, at Weston in that county. It was in 1847 when he became a resident of Weston, and the following year he returned to Savannah and became editor and proprietor of the *Western Empire*, of which he remained in charge till 1849.

In the spring of 1852 Mr. Van Buskirk came to Holt county, and in 1853 was elected clerk of the circuit court. This position he held for a term of six years, and was then re-elected to the same office, which he filled till the 5th of May, 1865. While in the office of circuit clerk he had an excellent opportunity to prosecute the study of law, and was admitted to practice at the Holt county bar, in the month of August, 1865. He at once established himself in the practice of his profession at Oregon, and his standing among the lawyers of Holt county is too well known to need comment in these pages. For about nine years he was a partner of Daniel Zook, but since the spring of 1874 he has been in practice by himself.

Previous to the war he was a Benton Democrat, and is still a member of the Democratic party. During the progress of the Rebellion he was an unconditioned Union man, and was elected a member of the Missouri state convention which convened in the early part of the year 1861, "to consider the then existing relations between the United States, the people and government of the different states, and the government and people of the state of Missouri," and to consider what steps should be taken by Missouri. This convention held Missouri in the Union, and voted down the ordinance of secession, to which position Mr. Van Buskirk gave his hearty support. He had offered himself as a candidate to this convention before the people as a Union man, and he steadily opposed the principle and policy of secession. Since the war he has acted with the Democracy. He was married on the 25th of December, 1844, to Eliza J. Hart of Andrew county, Missouri, by whom he has had six children, of whom four are now living. He is widely known throughout Holt county, and from his first residence in it has been prominently before the people, either as a public official or as an energetic and able lawyer.

## R. D. MARKLAND.

His ancestors were among the pioneers of Ohio, emigrating from Pennsylvania in 1790. R. D. Markland was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, June 25th, 1816; was educated at Pleasant Ridge, Ohio; at the age of twenty-five began the study of law; and was admitted to the bar at Cincinnati in 1848. He began practice at Cincinnati, and after two years removed to Kokomo, Howard county, Indiana, where he practiced till 1853. The spring of that year he became a resident of Oregon, Holt county, Missouri, and with two exceptions is now the oldest member of the Holt county bar. He was a Union man through the war, and for eight months was captain of a company of militia, in service under Gov. Gamble's call for troops. He was subsequently lieutenant-colonel of militia. He was married in March, 1838, to Mary Calvin, of Hamilton county, Ohio, by whom he has four children living. Previous to the war he was a Democrat, and has since acted with the Republican party. November, 1870, having received the Republican nomination, he was elected representative from Holt county in the 29th General Assembly, where he served with credit to the county.

## LEVI OREN.

MR. OREN, now serving his fourth term as treasurer of Holt county, was born in Clinton county, Ohio, February 22nd, 1842. His grandfather was one of the earliest settlers of Ohio, moving there from York county, Pennsylvania. His parents were Ephraim and Elizabeth (Frazier) Oren. In 1844, when he was two years old, his father moved to Randolph county, Indiana, and settled in a new country, only one family living within two miles of the place where he located. September 6th, 1869, he married Fannie Moore, who is a lineal descendant of the Earl of Antrim, an Irish nobleman. December, 1863, Mr. Oren enlisted in the 9th Indiana cavalry, and served till August 26th, 1864, in the armies of the Cumberland and the Mississippi, taking part in the battles of Franklin, Nashville, &c. While in the army his wife and her father had removed to Holt county, Missouri, and on being discharged from the service Mr. Oren came also to Holt county and began farming in Nickel's Grove. In politics he has always been a Republican, in which he has followed in the footsteps of his father, who was an old anti-slavery man. In 1870 Mr. Oren received the Republican nomination for treasurer of Holt county, and was elected to that position. The duties of his office he discharged in a prompt, efficient, and satisfactory manner, and he has been three times re-elected—in

1872, 1874, and 1876. Since 1874 he has also been in the drug business at Oregon, in partnership with Dr. Reuben King, and has carried on a large business under the firm name of "King & Oren." Mr. Oren has four children. He is a man who in his business transactions, and as a public officer, has retained the confidence and good-will of the people.

## WILLIAM A. GARDNER.

THE circuit clerk of Holt county, William A. Gardner, was born at Northville, Wayne county, Michigan, August 8th, 1846. His father, Abraham A. Gardner, was born in Vermont, graduated at the Castleton Medical College in that state, and emigrated to Michigan. He practiced medicine three or four years at St. Clair, Michigan, and for thirty years at Northville. Abraham A. Gardner removed to Kansas in 1860; returned to Michigan at the breaking out of the war; in 1867 removed to Missouri, and his home is now in the vicinity of Oregon. Mr. Gardner's mother's name was Jeannette C. Russell, born at Hoosac Falls, New York.

The subject of this sketch lived in Michigan till 1869, and then accompanied his parents to Kansas. When his parents returned to Michigan he remained in Kansas; attended Highland University in Doniphan county till 1864; and then at the age of seventeen enlisted in the 17th Kansas regiment, and served till the close of the war. In 1865 he crossed the Plains, and subsequently taught school in Andrew county, Missouri. In 1866 he was mostly in Michigan, but returned to Missouri and taught school at Graham, in Nodaway county; in Holt county; and at White Cloud, Kansas. During 1868 and 1869 he sold goods at Graham. December 28th, 1870, he married Annie E. Springer of Holt county, Missouri. His first wife died February 24th, 1875. His second marriage was on the 1st of June, 1876, to Mary L. Springer, a sister of his former wife. He became connected with the Christian Church in 1866 in Kansas, and in 1871 began preaching—an occupation which he proposes following permanently. In 1873 he became pastor of the Christian Church at Oregon, and also of the Fairview church. He is at the present time also pastor of the Mound city and Chambers School-house congregations. While in charge of the various churches throughout the county about 200 have been added to the Christian denomination. In 1874 he was elected circuit clerk of Holt county, as a candidate of the Republican party, to which he has always belonged. A view of his residence is shown elsewhere as an illustration to this work.

## W. F. TAYLOR.

THIS gentleman, recorder of deeds, is a native of the Platte Purchase, and was born in Buchanan county, Missouri, within four miles of St. Joseph, October 18th, 1845. His father, G. W. Taylor, was a native of Middle Tennessee, and married Nancy Galagan, who was born in the state of Alabama. Mr. Taylor's father was one of the earliest settlers of the Platte Purchase, and moved from Tennessee and settled in the neighborhood of Old Sparta, the first county seat of Buchanan county, in 1838. When the subject of this sketch was about eight or nine years of age, his father moved from Buchanan to Holt county, and settled in Union township, two miles east of Craig, on the farm now occupied by Daniel Van Wagoner. Mr. Taylor was principally raised in that neighborhood. At one time his father owned the place at Mound city, now occupied by Jacob Groesbeck, embracing the land on which Mound city is now built. His education he obtained in the common schools, with the exception of one year when he attended a seminary at Fillmore, in Andrew county. He taught school five years in the neighborhood where he was raised. In November, 1874, he was elected recorder of deeds of Holt county, and entered on the discharge of the duties of that office January 1st, 1875. He was elected on an independent ticket composed of Republicans and Democrats, and largely supported by the farmers of the county. His marriage took place on the 4th of January, 1876, to Mary Heltzell, of Holt county. Mr. Taylor is one of the young men of the county who have grown up in this part of the state, and whose interests have been wholly identified with the county. He makes an efficient public officer, and has discharged his duties as recorder in a manner satisfactory to the people.

## J. H. C. CURTIS.

THE present county clerk of Holt county, J. H. C. Curtis, was born in Jefferson county, West Virginia, on the 1st of January, 1829. His father, Jacob Curtis, was from the state of Pennsylvania. The grandparents of his mother, Harriet Chenoweth, were from England.

Mr. Curtis was raised in the neighborhood of the place of his birth, and up to the time when he was twenty-one years of age lived in Jefferson and Berkeley counties, West Virginia. In the spring of 1853 he removed to Butler county, Ohio, and there learned the trade of a millwright which he followed in Butler county for two years. On the death of his father in 1855 he returned to Virginia. May 29th, 1857, he married Margaret Allynbaugh, and the same day left Virginia for Illinois. He located at Kalesburg, in Knox county of that state, and worked at millwrighting till April, 1858, at which date he came to Holt county, Missouri, arriving at Oregon on the 17th of April. He was employed at his trade of a millwright till he was elected county clerk. The Republicans nominated and elected him to this position in 1874. While living in Virginia he was a Whig in politics. He cast his first vote for President for Fillmore in 1856; at the election of 1860 voted for Lincoln, and has since been a hearty and consistent Republican.

## S. W. MORRISON.

MR. MORRISON, who is now filling the office of collector of Holt county, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. His parents and grandparents were residents of the same part of that state, his ancestors having come to Pennsylvania at an early date. The subject of this sketch spent his early days on a farm about twenty miles southeast of the city of Lancaster, and resided there till the time of his emigration to Missouri. In the war of the rebellion, during the campaign in which Lee invaded the state of Pennsylvania, and the battle of Gettysburg was fought, Mr. Morrison was for a short time in the volunteer service in the Union army as a member of the 43d regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteer Militia.

February, 1869, he removed from Pennsylvania to Missouri, and came at once to Oregon in Holt county. During the summer of 1869 he was engaged in farming, and during the summer of 1870 he was a resident of Aitchison county. In July, 1871, he accepted the position of deputy county clerk under Albert Roecker, and was so employed till the last of March, 1872. August, 1872, he went into the office of M. M. Smith as deputy collector, and served as such till the expiration of Mr. Smith's term of office, and then held the same position under his successor, W. G. McIntyre. In occupying these positions he showed himself a man of superior business capacity, and in 1876 the Republicans of the county nominated him for county collector, to which office he was chosen at the November election, and which he is now creditably filling. He has always been a Republican in his political sentiments.

## HOLT COUNTY SENTINEL.

THIS influential newspaper, which has been largely instrumental in promoting the interests of Holt county, was founded on the 30th of June, 1865, by Charles W. Bowman, who published the paper with material formerly used by the *Holt County News*, the publication of which was suspended during the rebellion. Bowman had charge of the paper till February 5th, 1869, when A.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF CITIZENS OF HOLT COUNTY, MISSOURI.

Raley became editor and proprietor. June, 1869, he was succeeded by Sam Klippel, under whose control it remained till November, 1876, when it passed into the hands of the present management. W. W. DAVENPORT, now editor of the Sentinel, has been intimately identified with the Republican newspaper press of Missouri. He is a native of the state and was born at Columbia, in Boone county. At an early age he became connected with the Columbia Statesman, then as now edited by Col. William F. Wizler. He subsequently became editor of the North Missouri Messenger, published at Mexico, and was connected with the paper till 1867. The spring of 1868 he purchased the St. Charles Cosmos of which he was editor and proprietor for four or five years. He resided at St. Charles till June, 1876, when he became managing editor of the St. Joseph Herald. He sold his interest in that journal November of the same year to take charge of the Holt County Herald. He is an able and vigorous writer, a thorough and experienced journalist, and an earnest Republican. The political sentiments of the Sentinel accord with those of a majority of the people of Holt county; but although warmly attached to the doctrines and principles of the Republican party, it is welcome visitor to every family (whatever their politics) interested in matters concerning Holt county. Its local department is unsurpassed, its editorial columns vigorous and original, while it warmly advocates every project calculated to forward the growth and development of this part of the state.

JAMES LIMBIRD.

The prosecuting attorney of Holt county, James Limbird, was born at Bicker, Lincolnshire, England, on the 24th of July, 1843. He emigrated from England to America with his father and two brothers and a sister in 1853, and the family settled in Allen county, Ohio. His father died at Toledo, Ohio, before reaching Allen county; his mother had previously died in England, and the subject of this sketch was accordingly left to shift for himself at an early age; and with the exception of three or four months' schooling had no opportunities for an education after coming to America. From the time he reached Ohio he worked on a farm in various parts of Ohio till eighteen years of age, in 1861, when he enlisted as a private in the 27th Ohio Infantry. He was disabled at Corinth; and a veteran went into McLamb's squadron of cavalry in which he served till November, 1865. From April till November, 1865, he was chief clerk in the Adjutant-General's office, of North Carolina. While in the army he participated in twenty-four battles besides taking part in the three months' fighting around Atlanta. Returning to Ohio in the fall of 1865, and teaching school the following winter, the spring of 1866 he removed to Carroll county, Missouri, and there taught school, and also in Mercer county, where in March, 1867, he married Josie Arubelke, a native of Ohio. He returned to Carroll county in the spring of 1869, and in 1870 began the study of law. July, 1872, he was admitted to the bar at Carrollton, and began practice at Norfolk in Carroll county, February, 1874, he came to Oregon, Holt county, Missouri, and established himself in the practice of his profession. November, 1874, he was chosen prosecuting attorney of the county, and in 1876 was re-elected to the same position. He is a Republican.

WILLIAM KAUCHER.

MR. KAUCHER has been a resident of Oregon since 1855. He was born in Berks county, Pennsylvania, November 22d, 1831. When he was but six months of age his parents removed to Germantown, Montgomery county, Ohio. His father was a machanic, and he followed his father's trade, and worked at that occupation at Germantown, Ohio, till the time of his removal to the West in the spring of 1855. He first located at Leavenworth, Kansas, and was living there during the progress of the troubles which preceded the admission of Kansas into the Union. July, 1855, he first came to Holt county, and followed his occupation of a millwright, and built several mills in this state and Kansas. He was elected sheriff of Holt county in 1862, and filled that office for two terms, or four years. In 1867 he was appointed Assistant United States Assessor, and held that position for nearly four years. After leaving the United States Assessor's office he engaged in the real estate business, and acted as agent for the purchase and sale of land in Holt county. July, 1874, in company with John M. Hasnes, he started the Missouri Valley Times, a paper, Republican in politics, the publication of which he conducted successfully till August, 1876, when the office was purchased by other parties. He was formerly a Whig, and cast his first vote for President for Fillmore in 1856. He was a Republican before the war, voted for Lincoln in 1860, and is still a member of the Republican party. His first marriage was in the year 1858, to Sarah E. Watson, of Holt county, whose death occurred August 9th, 1872. His present wife was formerly Miss Lucy S. Christian, who became Mrs. Kaucher on the 26th of May, 1873. Much of his leisure devoted to meteorological observations, and he has taken a warm interest in the affairs of the county, especially in matters concerning its early history. Most of the articles recently published concerning the history and resources of Holt county have come from his pen, and we are indebted to him for materials employed in the history accompanying this work. He was elected by a meeting of citizens held in the summer of 1876 to prepare the Centennial history of Holt county, read at the celebration at Oregon of the one hundredth anniversary of American Independence.

DR. A. GOSLIN.

DR. GOSLIN, who has been practicing medicine at Oregon since June, 1869, is a native of Ohio, and was born in Clermont county, of that state, February 24th, 1830. He was raised in Ohio. In 1852 he entered a High School at Felicity, in the same county, and attended school there till 1854, when he became a student in Andover College, Ohio, then under the presidency of the distinguished Horace Mann. He quit that institution in 1856 to begin the study of medicine at Felicity. During the winters of 1857-58 and 1858-59 he attended medical lectures at the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati, from which he graduated in the spring of 1859. He began practice at Felicity, Ohio, where he remained till 1859, when he removed to Carmi, Illinois, and was also there engaged in the pursuit of his profession. In September, 1861, he enlisted in the Union army, and served as captain of company II, 48th Illinois regiment, till April, 1862, after the battle of Shiloh, when he was promoted to the position of surgeon of the regiment, in which capacity he acted till the expiration of the term of service for which he had enlisted—on October 30th, 1864. He was then appointed acting staff surgeon, and had charge of the 15th Army Corps hospital till the close of the war in 1865. From June, 1865, till May, 1869, he was a resident of Olney, Illinois. At the latter date he located at Oregon, Holt county, Missouri, and established himself in his profession. He has acquired a reputation of being an able surgeon and physician, and during his army practice he performed with success some of the most difficult and complicated surgical operations on record. He is a Republican in politics. He has interested himself in educational matters, and is now president of the Board of the Northwest Missouri Normal School. He was married at Felicity, Ohio, in the year 1855 to Miss Sarah A. Quinn.

HOLT COUNTY PRESS.

THE PRESS is the successor to the Missouri Valley Times, which was founded in the latter part of July, 1874, by William Kaucher and J. H. Hasnes. Under this management the politics of the paper was Republican. In August, 1876, Henry Shuts bought the paper, and began the publication of the Holt County Press, the politics of which is Democratic. The paper has already secured a wide circulation, and the ability and vigor with which its columns are edited have made it popular and interesting. As a Democratic paper it appeals to the support of a large class of the population of the county which, previous to its foundation, had no representative in any home journal.

HENRY SHUTTS.

HENRY SHUTTS, editor of the Holt County Press, and mayor of Oregon, was born in Columbia county, New York, December 29th, 1843. His father removed with the family to Illinois in September, 1855, when the subject of this sketch was thirteen years of age. He received an academic education, and was living at Joliet, Illinois, till May, 1864, when he came to Missouri. He

first taught school at Forest City, and resided at that place about one year. In 1865 he became a resident of Oregon, and began the study of law with Daniel Zook. He was admitted to practice in 1869, and commenced his professional career at Oregon. The latter part of the year 1870 he removed to De Soto, Johnson county, Kansas, and till 1873 was engaged there at practicing law and teaching. Returning to Oregon, in 1873 he was solely occupied in the practice of law till August, 1876, when he purchased the Missouri Valley Times establishment, and began the publication of the Holt County Press. In April, 1875, he was elected Mayor of Oregon, and re-elected in the spring of 1876. In the political campaign of 1876 he was the Democratic candidate for representative in the state legislature from Holt county, but of course was defeated, the county being largely Republican. His marriage occurred on the 6th of May, 1868, to Tillie Collins, the daughter of S. C. Collins, one of the old residents of Holt county.

GEORGE MEYER.

GEORGE MEYER, one of the largest farmers of Holt county, was born within three miles of Mülheim, Baden, Germany, March 5th, 1827. His father, Andrew Meyer, was a cabinet-maker by trade, but followed the occupation of a farmer. His mother's name before marriage was Mary Adolph. There were nine children in the family, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth; four older and four younger than himself. In 1834, when Mr. Meyer was seven years of age, the family emigrated to America, landing in New York city, and proceeding from there to Wayne county, Ohio. To some extent Mr. Meyer attended school in Wayne county (where the family lived ten years), but had little opportunity in this direction, and his education is mostly the result of his own efforts. In 1844 his father removed with the family from Ohio to Missouri, coming directly to Holt county, and settling in Lewis township two miles northwest of Oregon. He lived with his father, and was engaged in farming till 1849, when, in common with hundreds of others, he was seized with the gold fever which pervaded Missouri on news reaching the state of the wonderful gold discoveries in California. He was one of the first to leave Holt county for the Pacific coast. He set out in company with his brother Andrew and Judge McIntyre, and their wagon was the first from Holt county to cross the Missouri at Iowa Point—the crossing usually selected by emigrants from Holt county. They left the Iowa and Sac Agency, May 1st, 1849, and reached Hangtown, California, the 13th of the following August, heading the main body of emigrants from Holt county who had started three days afterward (on May 3d) by more than a month. In California he worked mostly on American river, a greater part of the time within two miles of where Sutter and Marshall made the original discovery of gold. He started back to Missouri in September, 1850, selecting the route home by water across the Isthmus of Panama, and by the city of New York. Returning to Holt county he was married the following spring, April 2d, 1851, to Mary Ann Kunkel, the daughter of Jacob Kunkel. Mrs. Meyer is a native of the present Morrow county, Ohio, and came to Missouri about 1845. He purchased the farm where he now resides, on section 7, township 59, range 32. This was one of the first settled farms in the county, and the site of the first store ever opened in Holt county, established by George and Augustus Borchers, in the fall of 1840. He first purchased one hundred and sixty acres in his home farm and eighty in the timber. Subsequent to the war he bought two hundred and seventy additional acres, and now in all owns one thousand one hundred and twenty-five acres of land; four hundred and forty-five in his home farm, and six hundred and eighty in the upper part of the county. He has been engaged in general farming, and also to some extent for several winters has fed stock. He is one of the prosperous citizens of the county, and enterprising and progressive in his disposition. He has made the raising of fruit a specialty, and has perhaps the choicest variety of fruit to be found in the county. His display has taken not only the premiums at Holt county fairs, but the two hundred dollars premium at the first grand Exposition at St. Joseph offered for the best display of fruit, and open to the whole state. The extent of his farming operations may be judged from the fact that in 1876 he raised two hundred and seventy acres of corn averaging from forty to fifty bushels to the acre; nine hundred and fifty bushels of fall wheat, and one thousand bushels of oats. At the date of this writing he is feeding forty head of cattle, and during the winter of 1875-76 fattened one hundred head of hogs principally of his own raising.

In his political affections he was formerly a member of the Democratic party, and in 1848 cast his first vote for president for Lewis Cass. In 1860 he voted for Stephen A. Douglas, though he wavered on the election of Lincoln (contrary to his usual principles, for he is by no means a betting man), and had faith that the Illinois statesman would occupy the presidential chair. He was a strong Union man through the war of the rebellion, served several times in the militia, and since the war has been a decided Republican. He celebrated his silver wedding, April, 1876, and on that occasion had a photograph of a family group taken, in which appear Mr. and Mrs. Meyer and their nine children, all of whom are living at home. The names of the children in the order of their births are as follows: Jacob S., Julia A., May Alice, Daniel, Peter, Fanny Ellen, Solomon, and Ida and Ada. The two last and youngest are Mrs. Meyer is representative of that class of intelligent and enterprising citizens who do credit to any country. He has been a member of the German Methodist church at Oregon for the last twenty years, and has also his wife. His father and mother are both buried in the Oregon cemetery.

W. H. POYNTER.

MR. POYNTER, now one of the substantial farmers of Forbes township, is a Kentuckian by birth. He was born in Barren county, Kentucky, December 27th, 1824. His grandfather, William Poynter, was at first a resident of North Carolina, and emigrated to Kentucky, and settled in Garrett county where now stands the town of Staunton. His father's name was James Poynter, and his mother's maiden name Ruth Alderson. When the subject of this biography was two years of age his father removed to Hart county, Kentucky, and there Mr. Poynter was principally raised. His education was in the ordinary subscription schools common in that day to country districts in Kentucky. On the 13th of January, 1850, he married Frances H. Asbury of Green county, Kentucky. He was farming in Hart county till 1858 and then removed to Missouri. He came at once to Holt county, considering it the best part of the state in which he could settle. The first year he rented land, and then settled on the farm which he now owns and occupies on section 9 of township 59, range 37. He here has a farm of 150 acres in 1862, and his second marriage was in 1863 to Elizabeth Vaughan of Holt county. She was the daughter of John Vaughan, and was born in what is now Rappahannock county, Virginia, and came to Missouri in the year 1854. Mr. Poynter has five children. He was originally a Whig in politics, and acted with that party while he lived in Kentucky. He left the Whigs in the days of know-nothingism (with which he had nothing to do) and has since been a sound Democrat. February 4th, 1864, he enlisted in the 9th Missouri Cavalry in the Federal army and was orderly sergeant of Company C. He served principally in North Missouri during the rebellion, and on the 13th of July, 1865, after the war was over and the rebellion ended. He was once taken prisoner by the rebel general, Jeff. Thompson, but was shortly afterward paroled. He has since lived peaceably and comfortably on his farm, and has been employed in general farming, and is known as one of the best citizens of Forbes township. There are not so many Kentuckians in Holt county as in many other portions of the state, but wherever they are generally known as a noble and hospitable class in their sentiments, and among the best citizens of the community in which they live. The best compliment, therefore, we can pay Mr. Poynter is to say that he is a good old-school Kentuckian.

DR. GALEN E. BISHOP,

OF ST. JOSEPH.

Among the distinguished physicians of Buchanan county the name of Dr. Bishop stands in the list of the foremost. He is now one of the oldest practitioners in the Platte Purchase. He began practice in Platte county in the spring of 1846, and has since been occupied in the active pursuit of his pro-

fession—for nineteen years in Platte county, and for eleven years in St. Joseph. His birth occurred in the town of Somerset, Pulaski county, Kentucky. His ancestors came to Kentucky from Virginia and Maryland, and were of English descent. While the thirteen colonies were yet subject to Great Britain members of the Bishop family resided in New Hampshire, took an active part in the Revolutionary war, and after American independence was achieved settled in Virginia. His grandfather emigrated from Virginia to Kentucky about the year 1800, and settled in Nelson county of that State. His father, Jacob Bishop, was born in Virginia, and was a small boy when he came to Kentucky. He married Elizabeth Elliot, whose father was from Maryland. Dr. Bishop's uncle, Dr. Galen Elliot, was one of the pioneer physicians of Somerset, Kentucky. In 1843 his father emigrated to Missouri, settled in Platte county, and died there in the year 1851.

From his earliest recollections Dr. Bishop had resolved on medicine as his profession—a predilection probably formed from association with his uncle, Dr. Elliot. As soon as he had opportunity he began his medical studies, and first established himself in practice at New Market, Platte county, Missouri. The natural bent of his mind peculiarly adapted him to his profession, and his natural nerve and genius for surgical operations soon gained him a wide reputation as an accomplished and successful physician. He practiced medicine in Platte county for nineteen years, during which period his time was closely occupied by the demands of a large general practice devoted to all branches of the profession. On account of threatened lung disease induced by exposure incident to a rough country practice, and also with the object of seeking a more central and metropolitan location which his numerous patients from a distance might reach with greater ease and convenience, he determined to remove to St. Joseph.

He located in this city in the spring of the close of the war—that of 1865, and at once established himself in an office practice, making his specialties largely in the diseases of the chest. Eminent success is always regulated by well-known laws dependent on natural causes, and no one can hope to secure any lasting reputation without a solid foundation of sterling worth and merit. Dr. Bishop's success has been merited by his attainments as a physician, and his splendid facilities for the practice of his profession. He has founded an institution which adds reputation to the city. His buildings on Third street are extensive, beautiful in architectural design, and arranged with every modern convenience. On another page of this work will be found an illustration of Dr. Bishop's Academy of Medicine, showing an interior view of the library. His thousands of surgical operations, some among them the most difficult known to the surgical science, have been more successful than it would be credible to suppose, and none but the most incurable cases of disease refuse to yield to his scientific and potent treatment.

He has been a thorough student of medicine from his youth, and his leisure time has been closely devoted to the prosecution of medical research. Originally an allopathic physician, he has thoroughly acquainted himself with the principles of the eclectic systems, and has not hesitated to adopt any that he considered reasonable and good, regardless of country, in which it was found, or the writers by whom it has been advocated. His views have none of that narrowness and prejudice that characterize the zealous advocates of particular dogmas who believe that the *ecce homo bonum* is comprehended in their doctrine, and that all is false beside. In his large and extensive library (by the way, one of the finest general libraries in the Western country) the best works of the leading writers of all schools are found. Ancient and modern authors stand side by side, and long rows of shelves are crowded with the best authorities in medical science of every age and country. His practice, therefore, is confined to no special system, but he believes that some good and some foundation of truth exists in all systems, of which every intelligent and progressive physician should avail himself in his practice. His buildings have been erected with a special reference to the needs of his practice. In connection with his office he has an infirmary where patients from a distance may be treated with as much comfort as at their own homes. All classes of surgical operations are performed. His reputation is not confined to St. Joseph and its immediate vicinity, but extends over a wide scope of country, and he has numerous patients from Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska, as well as a large and constantly increasing practice in Missouri. His reputation is linked with that of St. Joseph, and his loss would be keenly felt in the community. He is, however, in the prime of life, full of intellectual vigor and activity, and will doubtless add still greater laurels to the reputation of St. Joseph as a city of able physicians, and with unsurpassed facilities for performing any operations or effecting any cases known to medical or surgical skill.

DANIEL KUNKEL

Was born in York county, Pennsylvania, May 1st, 1815. When he ten years of age his father removed to Richland (now Morrow) county, Ohio. His younger days were principally employed in chopping wood and rolling land. He was naturally a genius in the use of tools, and worked at all kinds of occupations. He was married, when twenty-one, to Varonica Beeler, of Richland county, Ohio. In 1847 he came to Missouri, and settled where he now lives, a mile east of Oregon. The first season after coming to Holt county he made fifty wheel cradles, and other articles of a similar kind. Though he had previously known nothing about the mill business, in 1847 he began building the mill near his residence, and in 1849 had it in operation. In 1861 he put up a woolen mill, which is now the only mill of that kind in operation in Holt county. He has made several inventions which have proved of great utility. He has patented a blacksmith's tongs, drill extractor, and two different improvements on washing machines. His washing machine has taken the premium at every fair at which it has been exhibited, including the highest award at the great Centennial exhibition, at Philadelphia, and is doubtless the best thing of the kind ever invented. His first wife died in September, 1853. His second marriage was on the 16th of August, 1856, to Elizabeth Hener, of Holt county. He has six children each by his first and second marriages. He has always been a strong Republican.

V. J. GRAHAM.

MR. GRAHAM, now of Forest City, is well known throughout the county as having been prominently connected with the Grange interests. He was born in Richland county, Ohio, on the 9th of April, 1836. The Graham family was originally from Scotland. His father, John Graham, was from Bedford county, Pennsylvania, and emigrated, when twenty-one years of age, to Richland county, Ohio, and there married Ruth Sanders, who was a native of the state of New Jersey. The subject of this biography was the next to the youngest of a family of thirteen children. He was raised, principally, in Richland county, Ohio; and in Knox county, of the same state, was married in 1861, to Hannah X. McDonald. He learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner, which he followed in Knox and Morrow counties, Ohio. Leaving Ohio, in October, 1868, he came directly to Holt county, Missouri, where he has since resided. In the winter of 1868-69 he had his home at Nickell's Grove, and the following spring bought a farm at the Union school-house, four miles north of Oregon. He was engaged in farming in East Lewis township three years, and in the fall of 1873, he came to Oregon, and in the fall of 1874 to Forest City, where he has since lived. Mr. Graham was one of the first men in the county to interest himself in the Grange, or farmers' movement, and has been intimately identified with the progress of the organization, known as the Patrons of Husbandry. He gave his attention toward projects for bettering the prospects of the farmer, and was chairman of the first county meeting ever called in Holt county, in the interests of the farmers. This meeting was held in the early part of the summer of 1872. September, 1872, he was appointed county agent, and he has since been actively engaged in disposing of farm products, and purchasing supplies under the auspices of the Grange organization. He shipped the first load of grain from the county three months after entering on his duties as county agent, and for three years handled the greater part of the grain and stock shipped from Holt county. He obtained good prices, and gave general satisfaction to the agricultural classes. He also extensively purchased farm supplies, and made the farmers' movement a success throughout the county. He is now engaged in the manufacture of cement and cooper stuff, and is connected with the Forest City Cement and Stave Factory. The firm is composed of himself, Philip Sulder, and Philip Schlotzhauer. The factory is lo-

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF CITIZENS OF HOLT COUNTY, MISSOURI.

cated on the Kansas City, St. Joseph, and Council Bluffs railroad, two miles below Forest City. This one of the best locations of a cement works in the county. The factory turns out as good a quality of cement as can be produced anywhere in the United States, and extensive shipments have been made. Personally, Mr. Graham has always been a Democrat, though he has been conservative in his sentiments and never willing to sacrifice principle to party. His connections with the Patrons of Husbandry, as county agent, brought him into intimate business relations with many of the farmers of the county, and he is well known as an energetic and capable man of business.

## DANIEL McDONALD.

MR. McDONALD, now carrying on the banking business at Forest City, as a member of the firm of Frazer and McDonald, has been a resident of the county since 1873. He is a native of Buchanan county, Missouri, and was born at St. Joseph, in March, 1844. His father, Dr. Silas McDonald, emigrated from Kentucky to Missouri, in 1830; first settled in Howard county, and in 1838 removed to the southern part of Buchanan county, and was thus one of the earliest residents of the Platte Purchase. He was also one of the early citizens of St. Joseph, and practiced medicine there for a long term of years.

The subject of above sketch was raised in St. Joseph, and received a thorough English education in the private schools of that city. The war of the rebellion breaking out and interfering with his proposed course of study, in 1862 he entered a drug store at St. Joseph, and began the study of medicine. During the winter of 1864-65 he attended the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, and in the spring of 1865, graduated from the Long Island Medical College, at Brooklyn, New York. He returned to St. Joseph, and in the fall of 1866, undertook the drug business with his father, in which he continued till May, 1869.

At that date he accepted a position as book-keeper and teller in the State National Bank, (now the State Savings Bank) of St. Joseph. He was connected with that institution for three years and a half, and had an excellent opportunity of thoroughly learning the banking business at one of the best institutions of the kind in the state. Having formed a partnership with Mr. B. B. Frazer, formerly a well-known citizen and merchant of Holt county, and now a resident of St. Joseph, he came to Forest City in 1873 to establish the banking institution of Frazer and McDonald. The firm transact a general banking business, for which they have unsurpassed facilities. It is the only bank at Forest City, and with one exception, the only one in the county. Mr. McDonald sustains an excellent reputation as a business man, and the bank is one of the popular institutions of the county. He was married September 1st, 1869, to Miss Landis, of St. Joseph.

I approve of above sketch for publication in Atlas Map of Holt county.  
D. McDONALD.

## GEORGE ANDERSON.

JUDGE ANDERSON, now serving as member of the Holt county court, was born at De Kalb, in Crawford county, Ohio, on the 10th of June, 1838. His father was from Indiana county, Pennsylvania, and came to Ohio in the year 1824. The subject of this sketch was raised in Ohio. In the month of February, 1861, he married Rebecca T. Cammings, of Crawford county, Ohio. His father was a farmer and merchant, and sold goods at De Kalb for a long number of years; and when Judge Anderson was a young man he was employed part of the time in clerking in his father's store. In 1864 he began the merchandising business on his own account, at Gallon, Crawford county, Ohio. He had first visited Holt county, Missouri, in 1863, while the war of the rebellion was still in progress, and was the first Union man to purchase property in Holt county, and locate after the war. In 1863 he bought what was known as the Belt farm, east of Oregon. Closing out the store in Ohio, in 1865 he emigrated to Missouri to make it his permanent residence, and arrived in Holt county on the 26th of June of that year. He was a pioneer in the new emigration which poured into the county after the war, and which has done so much toward the development and growth of the county. September, 1866, he established a hardware store at Oregon, the first one ever opened in the town. He carried on the hardware business till 1867, and then improved a farm property south of Oregon. January, 1874, he removed to his present residence, half a mile east of Forest City, on the Oregon road. In politics he is a Republican. He cast his first vote for Lincoln, in 1860, and on National issues has voted the Republican ticket ever since. November, 1872, he was elected a member of the Holt county court, and in that responsible position has served in a manner to entitle him to the confidence of the people.

## J. W. BRIDGEMAN.

AN old settler of Bigelow township, was born August 1st, 1811, in Wythe county, Virginia. When seven years old he moved to Campbell county, East Tennessee, and when sixteen to Alabama. In Alabama he was employed in driving a stage, and after two years went to Walker county, Georgia. He resided two years in Georgia, and then went to the Hiwassee Purchase in Tennessee. In Tennessee he married Lucinda Gibson, the daughter of George Gibson. His marriage took place in the month of May, 1834, and immediately afterward he started for Missouri, but coming to the Ohio river, and not being able to get across, he rented a farm in Kentucky, and remained there one year and then came on to Missouri. He settled in Buchanan county in the spring of 1838. In 1845 he moved to Clay county, and in 1847 he came on to Holt county, settling on the Missouri river in East Lewis township. In 1850 he went to California and returned to Missouri in 1851. He went a second time to California in 1854, and came back the following year. In 1857 and 1858 he was farming in Brown county, Kansas. The latter year he came to Bigelow township. He has been a Democrat all his life, and voted for Jackson in 1832. He drove cattle twice from Buchanan county to Pennsylvania. That was in the days before railroads. He has nine children all living.

## HENRY C. LONG.

MANY of the settlers of Missouri were men whose ancestors were originally from North Carolina, and removed from the old "North State" at an early period to Tennessee, and from Tennessee came on to Missouri. The settlers of Southwest Missouri were largely made up of this class. Of this number comes Esq. H. C. Long, who in the capacity of justice of the peace dispenses the law to the people of Bigelow. His father was from North Carolina, and emigrated to Tennessee, marrying a lady who was a Tennessee by birth. Henry C. Long was born in Powell's valley, Claiborne county, Tennessee, on the 20th of January, 1810. His boyhood was spent partly in Tennessee. Although an old country, the schools were only of an ordinary character. Free, public schools were unknown, and the old-fashioned subscription schools furnished the rising generation of that period the only chance in the way of securing an education.

He lived in Claiborne county, Tennessee, till the year 1832, and then emigrated with his father to Morgan county, Illinois, and settled on a farm in the immediate vicinity of Jacksonville. Esq. Long was about thirteen years of age when he came to Illinois, and grew up, and lived there till he came to Missouri. On the 4th of June, 1840, he married Susanna Matthews, who was born in Chillicothe, Ohio. He engaged in farming. In 1850 his father and younger brother emigrated to Texas. Esq. Long remained in Illinois till 1855, and then removed to Missouri, arriving in Holt county, on the 6th of April of that year. He settled in Benton township four miles south of Mound city along the bluffs which bound the Missouri river bottom. He was in the militia service during the war of the rebellion, and assisted in organizing one of the first companies of militia ever raised in Holt county for co-operation with the Federal forces.

In 1864 he returned to Morgan county, Illinois, but after a residence there six months came back to Holt county, and moved to the Missouri river bottom, and settled five miles south of Bigelow, where he bought an interest in a steam mill which he was engaged in running from 1866 to 1867. After disposing of his interest in the mill he went to farming in the same neighborhood. In 1869 he removed to the neighborhood of Bigelow, soon after the founding of that town, and settled where he now lives three-quarters of a mile west of the place. The death of his first wife occurred on the 25th of Feb-

rury, 1866. His second marriage took place in October, 1868, to Mrs. Ruth Thus, who departed this life in the fall of 1871. He has been a good citizen, and the people of Bigelow township have chosen him twice to the office of magistrate. His first election occurred in 1870, and he was re-elected in 1874, and holds the position to the general satisfaction of the people of that part of the county. He has filled the office with ability, founding his decisions on law and justice, and they have almost invariably been sustained in the higher courts. This is not the only public office which he fills, for he holds the important position of postmaster at Bigelow. His commission as such he received April, 1875, under the administration of President Grant. In politics he was raised a Democrat, and brought up a firm believer in the traditional principles of the party of Jefferson and Jackson. He acted with the Democratic party up to the time of the inauguration of the rebellion, and has since been a Republican in his sympathies. Esq. Long stands well in the community.

## DR. J. L. JOHNSTUN.

DR. JOHNSTUN has been actively identified with the business interests of Craig since his residence in Holt county. He has been one of the leading physicians in the northern part of the county, and carries on an extensive drug business, and is also largely interested in dealing in grain.

He is a native of Hamilton county, Ohio, and his parents were among the earliest settlers of that state. His father, Robert Johnston, was born in Kentucky, and when a boy moved with his father to Ohio, and settled in the northern part of Hamilton county. This was in the year 1798, and the country, then in the neighborhood of the present city of Cincinnati, was a wilderness containing only a few scattering inhabitants. Robert Johnston married Mary White, the daughter of Capt. Jacob White, who had served in the Revolutionary war with the rank of captain. He settled in Hamilton county, Ohio, in the year 1793, and was one of the first two or three persons to locate outside of Old Fort Washington, when there were only four log-cabins where now is the city of Cincinnati. Captain Jacob White also built the mill from which was shipped the first load of flour that ever passed down the Ohio river from the then Ohio territory to New Orleans. This cargo of flour was shipped in the year 1800, and was the commencement of the large trade that has ever since existed between New Orleans and Cincinnati.

Dr. J. L. Johnston, the subject of this sketch, was born May 18th, 1818. He was raised in Hamilton county, Ohio. He received his education partly in the schools of Cincinnati, and afterward attended college at Oxford, Ohio. He began the study of medicine in the year 1841, with Dr. Alexander Duncan of Madison, near Cincinnati; and afterward attended medical lectures at the college at Cleveland, Ohio, from which he graduated in 1844. In 1846 he removed to Davess county, Indiana; and the following year entered on the practice of medicine, in which he was engaged at that place till the year 1856. At that date he returned to Cincinnati, and was practicing medicine in that city till the time of the breaking out of the war. During the progress of the war of the rebellion he was variously occupied. At one time, in the year 1863, he was engaged in trading in Tennessee, and while so employed was captured by the Confederate forces, and was held for six months as a prisoner, and finally escaped in November, 1863. He then returned to Cincinnati, and remained there till 1867, when he emigrated to Missouri.

On coming to this state he first located at St. Joseph, and in 1868 removed to Atchison county, where he resided till April, 1870, when he became a resident of Holt county, and located at Craig, where he has since lived. As a physician he had always been successful, having had ample opportunities for gaining rich professional experience; and since he has been located at Craig he has had at his command an extensive practice, and has had more calls for his services than he has had time to attend to. Several of the best years of his life have been ardently devoted to the practice of medicine, (by no means, in a country district, the most pleasant and easy pursuit that any one could follow) and he now feels inclined to retire from the active and laborious practice of his profession, and devote his time to other business matters. He is largely connected with the business concerns of Craig, and has been influential in developing the growth of the trade of that town—now universally conceded to be one of the most important business points in Holt county. He is a member of the firm of Johnston & Myers, who carry on an extensive drug business at Craig, probably the largest in that branch of trade in the county. This is a heavy grain business, and buys and sells more grain than any other single firm in the county. Johnston & Myers are also the proprietors of the only elevator in the county in active operation at the date of this writing. Both are active business men, energetic and enterprising, and have first-class facilities for dealing in grain, and offer to the farmers of the county the highest inducements warranted by the state of the market.

Dr. Johnston in politics has always been a strong and outspoken Democrat, and a firm supporter of the principles of that party from the time he first had anything to do with politics; and as he advances in years and sees the workings of the different political organizations, he is yet more strongly convinced that the principles of the Democratic party form the only sound basis for the successful carrying on of a Republican form of government. Dr. Johnston was married in the year 1865, to Mrs. Mattie Bowen of Ohio.

## FRED. MYERS.

FRED. MYERS, one of the prominent business men of Craig, has been a resident of the county since February, 1869. His birth occurred in Saxony, Germany, November 12th, 1839. When he was five years of age, he emigrated with his father to America, and the family settled at Joliet, Illinois. Mr. Myers was principally raised on a farm, and lived at Joliet till he was nineteen. In 1858 he went to Michigan city, Indiana, and was employed on a farm in that vicinity till the war broke out in 1861. In the summer of that year he enlisted in the 73d Indiana regiment, and served three years in the Union army. His regiment belonged to the army of the Cumberland, and he took part in the battles of Murfreesboro, Perryville, and several other smaller engagements. He enlisted as a private, and for the last two years of his term of service held the rank of second lieutenant.

After returning from the army he remained a short time in the neighborhood of Joliet, and then came to Missouri. November, 1865, he reached St. Joseph, and in that city and neighborhood was farming, dealing in wood, &c., till February, 1869, when he located at Craig, in Holt county, of which place he has since been a resident. In 1873 he commenced in the grain business, and has since been prominently connected with the business interests of Craig. In the year 1874 he formed a partnership with Dr. J. L. Johnston, for the purpose of dealing in grain, and the firm now transacts the largest business of that kind carried on by any single party in Holt county. More grain is shipped from Craig than from any other point in the county, and a principal part of this passes through the hands of Messrs. Johnston & Myers. Both gentlemen are good business men, by their enterprise and energy have built up a large trade, and their liberal system of doing business has made them the most popular business firm in the northwest part of Holt county. The firm opened a large drug store in 1875, and also carry on a very extensive business in that line of trade. They are proprietors of the only elevator in the county exclusively devoted to such purposes, and have excellent facilities for conducting the heavy trade which annually passes through their hands.

Mr. Myers is a Democrat in politics. In 1872 the Democrats of the county nominated him for their candidate for sheriff. It was of course an impossibility to overcome the heavy Republican majority which the Republicans have in the county, but Mr. Myers' popularity may be judged from the fact that he was defeated by only sixty one votes, while the Republican ticket was generally elected by a majority of between five and six hundred. Holt county in not electing him lost a good sheriff, but Craig retained a good business man, and in the hands of such enterprising men the firm with which he is connected is composed of the business interests of that town will not suffer. He is pleasant and genial in his manners, sociable in his disposition, and a popular man with whom to do business. Mr. Myers' wife was formerly from St. Joseph. Her name was Anna Lawrence, and the marriage took place on the 9th of April, 1872.

## JOHN W. STOKES.

THE only member of the legal fraternity at Craig, John W. Stokes, is a native of Caroline county, Maryland, and was born on the 25th of June, 1839. His ancestors were old residents of Virginia, and removed from that state to

Maryland. The subject of this sketch lived in Maryland till he was seven years of age, and then in 1846 removed with his father to Illinois, and settled at Bethel, in Morgan county. Mr. Stokes was raised in Morgan county, and received his education in the public schools. At the age of nineteen he removed from Bethel to Mercedosa, and at that place acted for several years as constable and deputy sheriff. He was married in the year 1859 to Sarah H. Parker, of Morgan county.

When the rebellion began he was living in Morgan county, and entered the United States secret service department, and was employed by the government most of the time through the war. He entered this service in 1862, and was so occupied till February, 1865, when he received a commission as captain of company K, recruited for the 28th Illinois Volunteers. His company was sent to Mobile, and joined the regiment at Spanish Fort near that city. After the rebellion was ended, the regiment was sent to Texas, and stationed on the Mexican frontier. He was discharged on the 6th of April, 1866. He became a resident of Missouri in the year 1867. He located in St. Louis county, six miles from the city of St. Louis, and was occupied in trading in stock. In 1869 he came to Holt county, Missouri, and engaged in farming in Lincoln township. After pursuing the peaceful pursuit of agriculture for two or three years, he concluded to try his fortune in the arena of the profession of law—a pursuit for which he had always had a special liking. He first began the study of law when quite young with John L. McConnell, Esq., of Jacksonville, Illinois, now deceased. He afterward studied with Hon. I. J. Ketchum, also of Jacksonville, and at the time of the commencement of the rebellion was pursuing the study of the legal luminaries, an acquaintance with which is commonly considered requisite to admission to the brotherhood of lawyers, when the war put a stop to his plans and precipitated him into another field of labor. He resumed the study of law on coming to Holt county, and in 1872 he was admitted by Judge Pike to practice at the Holt county bar, and located at Craig, where he has since been engaged in the practice of his profession. He has been successful as a lawyer, and has been connected with many important criminal cases.

He has taken an active part in politics, both during his residence in Illinois and Missouri. He cast his first vote for President for Stephen A. Douglas, the Little Giant of Illinois, in 1860, and has been connected in his political affiliations with the Democratic party. Since his residence in Holt county he has taken an active part in the various political campaigns, and has generally aided with his vote in the support of the Democratic candidates. In 1874 he was a candidate for prosecuting attorney, but in a county so largely Republican as Holt, the Republican candidate was of course elected.

## JOHN H. HOGREFE.

MR. HOGREFE, one of the substantial farmers of Lincoln township, was born at Waterloo, in Hanover, September 2d, 1816. He was raised on a farm, and lived in Germany till twenty-six years of age. In the summer of 1842 he emigrated to America, and landed at Baltimore on the 10th of August of that year, after a nine weeks' voyage across the ocean.

From Baltimore he went to Marietta, Ohio, remaining there till the spring of 1843, and then came to the city of St. Louis, Missouri. The succeeding fall he removed to Lexington, in Lafayette county, and was farming there till the spring of 1846. He had been connected with the German Methodist Church, and on leaving Lafayette county he went to St. Charles county, and as a minister of that denomination, and was employed in preaching there till October, 1846. He traveled as a Methodist minister in Howard, Chariton and Carroll counties, Missouri, between the years 1848 and 1850, and had charge of other stations in different parts of Missouri. He was stationed at Weston, in Platte county, and preached over a large circuit embracing Clay, Platte, Buchanan, Andrew and Holt counties. In 1850 he settled on the farm which he now owns in section 8, township 62, range 40. The bottom then was nearly a wilderness, and he was one of the few settlers who scattered here and there. Mr. Hogrefe has since been acting as a local preacher of the German Methodist Church, and has been engaged in farming. He owns 394 acres of land. He was married on the 19th of April, 1847, to Rebecca Trook, who was born and raised in Ohio, but was living in Andrew county at the time she was married. Mr. Hogrefe has six sons and one daughter, viz: Henry, Joseph, Abraham, William, Simon, George W. and Martha. He has also been a Republican in politics, and is still a member of that party. He is one of the earliest settlers of the bottom, and has been one of the best citizens of the county.

## HENRY A. DANKERS.

THIS gentleman, one of the leading residents and old citizens of Lincoln township, was born in the city of St. Luke, Kingdom of Hanover, on the 20th of May, 1835. His father, Henry Dankers, left Germany for the United States in the year 1814, when the subject of this biography was about six years of age. Landing at New Orleans, the family proceeded by steamboat up the Mississippi and Missouri rivers to Weston, in Platte county, where they parted with all their money in exchange for an old wagon, a yoke of oxen, and four cows, and set out for Holt county, where they heard that John H. Roselius had settled the previous spring. It was in the month of August, 1841, when they reached their destination. All that part of the county was then a tract of open bottom land, unbroken by any traces of civilization, except where Roselius had erected a cabin in the timber near the Missouri river. The Dankers were the only inhabitants, and shared the solitude with the wild game which was found everywhere in abundance. Mr. Dankers' father chose a location on section 36, of township 63, range 41.

There were of course no schools in existence at first in that part of the country, and the Dankers, as soon as possible endeavored to secure some kind of educational advantages for their children. The first school which Mr. Dankers attended was taught by a man hired by his father and John H. Roselius and Andrew Buck, and this was the first school ever taught in Lincoln township. In all he only went to school about nine months, and he was obliged to acquire the greater part of his education by study by himself. He left home in the spring of 1855, and in partnership with a man named Price kept a kind of grocery store along the Missouri river, at St. Stephen's, Nebraska. Not succeeding remarkably well in this undertaking, the following year, 1859, he returned to Holt county, and went back to farming, and also engaged in trading in ca. te.

He was married on the 29th of January, 1863, to Elizabeth Gunkel, who was born in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, but was living in Holt county at the time of the marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Dankers have six children whose names in the order of their births are Melinda, Andrew, Irvin, Rebecca, Anna and Frederick. He resided in the timber near the river till October, 1873, and then removed to his present residence on the farm adjoining the town of Cornig. He has built here a handsome brick residence, a view of which, furnished through the liberality of Mr. Dankers, is shown elsewhere among the illustrations to this atlas. He has been engaged in farming on a large scale, and is the owner of 1,340 acres of land lying in Holt and Atchison counties, about one half of the amount in each county. He has also been occupied in dealing in stock, which has been one of the means of placing him in his present comfortable circumstances.

In politics, as a Republican, and has acted with that party ever since he took an interest in political affairs. He is a firm believer in Republican principles, and considers that they are best calculated to subserve the interests of a free form of government, and perpetuate American institutions. His father died in August, 1870. Mr. Dankers was the second of a family of four children, and is now the oldest of the two now living, there being besides himself only a sister, now the wife of Fred W. Wilcox. He has grown up with Holt county, and is one of its most industrious and energetic citizens. In such a history as Mr. Dankers' the observing mind will pause to note the splendid advantages which America holds out to the people of all nations, and what may be accomplished by industry, thrift, and economy. Less than forty years ago he came with his father to Missouri, and settled down in a tract of wild bottom land, without means, and with little prospect of good fortune. He grew up with only such means of education as he was able to pick up here and there. But he was industrious, shrewd, and thrifty; and to-day he holds a place among the wealthy farmers of the county, a citizen respected for his intelligence and integrity, and surrounded by every evidence of a substantial prosperity. As our readers turn to the engraving of his residence on another page, they will call up the contrast with the humble cabin along the Missouri which was his first home in Holt county.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF CITIZENS OF HOLT COUNTY, MISSOURI.

## F. W. WALTER.

Among the old settlers and substantial citizens of that part of the county about Corning, the name of F. W. Walter deserves mention in this work. He was born near Berlin, Hanover, November 6th, 1834. His father was Conrad H. Walter, and his mother's name before marriage Catharine Votmer. Mr. Walter was the third of a family of four children.

In the month of October, 1844, his father left Germany, and emigrated with the family to America. After a nearly ten weeks' voyage across the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico they landed at New Orleans, on the day before Christmas. From New Orleans they came up the Mississippi to St. Louis, and from that city to Weston in Platte county. At this latter point they left the boat, and came by wagon to Holt county, and made a settlement in section 25, township 33, range 41, in the same neighborhood where a number of German families had settled three or four years previously. Mr. Walter's father is still living in the vicinity of the place first settled, though the original spot where stood their first house has since been swallowed up by the treacherous current of the Missouri.

The subject of this sketch was raised in Holt county. Schooling for the period of nine months is all the opportunity he ever enjoyed for instruction in the English language, and what he failed to learn then has since been acquired by his own efforts. His father was a wagon-maker, and Mr. Walter principally attended to the farm while his father worked at his trade. On the 29th of January, 1860, he married Mary Dinkers, who was born in Weston, Missouri, and was the daughter of one of the oldest settlers of Lincoln township. Mr. and Mrs. Walter have four children living, Conrad L., Alice C., George Emmet and Andrew J. Up till the year 1872 his business affairs were united to those of his father, but the river washing him out at his old location along the Missouri, he moved to the immediate vicinity of Corning, and built a large and substantial brick residence—one of the finest dwelling-houses to be found in any part of Holt county. This house was erected in 1875. He has been engaged in farming and trading in stock, and is one of the largest land-owners in the county, having in his possession one thousand five hundred and forty acres of land, about one-half of which lies in Holt county, and about one-half in Atchison. In his political opinions before the war he was a Democrat, but when the rebellion broke out his sympathies were warmly on the side of the Union, and he served in the state militia. In 1864 he voted for Lincoln, and was a Republican till 1872, since which he has generally acted with the Democratic party, though he has always endeavored to support the principles and policy which promised best for the general interests of the country.

In speaking of Mr. Walter it is only necessary to state that he is one of the representative men among that thrifty and intelligent class of citizens of German descent who have contributed so much toward the development of the material interests of the northwest corner of Holt county. He has been one of the progressive men of the community. All his life he has been a man of industry, and has succeeded in reaching a position largely in advance of the one which the family first occupied when they came to Missouri. He has not much toward building up and developing a country, and the greater the number of such citizens the better for the solid prosperity of the country.

## HENRY ROSELIUS.

A LIST of the leading citizens of Lincoln township would be incomplete without mention of the name of Henry Roselius—farmer and merchant. His father was the first permanent settler of Lincoln township, and the son is one of its most active and prosperous business men.

He was born in the Kingdom of Hanover, near the city of Hanover, October 1st, 1838. He was the youngest of a family of three children, and is the only one of them now living. His father, John H. Roselius, left Germany with the family in the fall of 1840. They landed at New York city, but went from there to New Orleans, from that city up the Mississippi to St. Louis, and thence by river to Weston in Platte county. Obtaining a wagon at Weston, they came on up through Buchanan, Andrew, and Holt counties till a place on the Missouri was reached in the northwest part of Holt county, where there were no other settlers, and there the family halted and prepared to make a home in the wilderness. This was on section 16, township 62, range 42. The Roselius family lived alone in the bottom from the spring of 1841 till the following fall, when Dinkers and Peters arrived to keep them company.

Mr. Roselius was only two years and a half old when he came to Missouri, and consequently almost his entire life has been spent in Holt county. He attended the first school ever taught in Lincoln township kept by a man named Kesser, who was hired by Mr. Roselius' father, Henry Dinkers, and Andrew Buck. Most of his education he obtained, however, by his own efforts. He was farming with his father till the death of the latter, which occurred in the spring of 1868. After his father's death he was occupied in carrying on farming operations, and trading in stock—pursuits, which his energy and good business capacity made more than ordinarily successful. In December, 1876, he established a store at Corning, as a member of the firm of "Roselius and Hogrefe." This firm does the principal mercantile business in Corning, and few partnerships in the county are established on a sounder financial basis. He still carries on farming operations. He is the owner of seven hundred acres of land, full of which, with the exception of forty acres, lies in one body in Lincoln township. His place of residence is still on the farm, where he has one of the best framed dwellings in that part of the county.

He was married in June, 1861, to Miss Mary Schmitzer, of Holt county. He has three children, Edmond, Henry and Minna. He was at first a Republican in his political sentiments, and voted for Lincoln at the presidential election of 1864. Of late years he has commonly acted with the Democratic party, occupying, however, an independent and conservative position, and voting as he considers best for the state and country. Mr. Roselius has been a man of industry and energy. When the family came to the county they were without money, and began life in the wilderness, with industry and economy as the only means of bettering their condition. The result shows what may be performed by energy and good business habits. Mr. Roselius is now one of the substantial and wealthy citizens of the county. He is a man of good business capacity, is enterprising and progressive, and, though still comparatively a young man, has already reached a position among the substantial citizens of the county, which commonly falls to the good fortune of most men only later in life.

## DR. J. NOEL.

DR. NOEL, one of the old physicians of Holt county, was born at Harrisonburg, Rockingham county, Virginia, September 27th, 1817. He lived in Virginia till fifteen years of age, and then emigrated with his father to Richmond, Indiana. From Indiana, about the year 1833, the family moved to Niles, Michigan. His father was a physician, and also for a considerable period was occupied in the milling business. The subject of this biography began the study of medicine with his father, and first commenced practice in Michigan. In 1850 he came to Oregon, Holt county, Missouri, and in the vicinity of that town engaged in the milling business, which he had also learned with his father in Michigan. After running this mill for two or three years, he removed to Brownville, Nebraska. He was one of the first settlers of Brownville, and located there where it was a place of very small importance. After the close of the war, in 1865, he returned to Holt county, and settled at Hemme's Landing, on the Missouri river, west of Corning, then a place doing considerable business, where he again commenced the milling business, and at the same time followed the practice of medicine. As soon as the Kansas City, St. Joseph and Council Bluffs railroad was built through Holt county, and the town of Corning established, he located at Corning, and began his first load of lumber that ever came to Corning, and placed it within the town limits preparatory to building, and is therefore one of the oldest residents of the town. He has here been occupied in the practice of medicine, and holds a leading rank among the physicians of Holt county. He was married on the 31st of July, 1842, to Miss Mary A. Cotton, who resided near Niles, Michigan. In his political opinions he was formerly an Old Line Whig, and after the dissolution of that party, he became a Democrat. He is one of the oldest physicians in Holt county, it being now more than a quarter of a century since he first began practice in the neighborhood of Oregon. He has also been closely connected with the business interests of the county, and of Brownville, Nebraska, he was one of the pioneer business men.

## JOSEPH R. DODDS.

MR. DODDS, one of the active business men of Corning, was born near Burlington, Iowa, January 1st, 1841. He was raised near Burlington on a farm; he obtained his education in the common district schools; for a short time he was engaged in trading, but was principally employed at farming in Iowa, till the time of his removal to Missouri—varying the monotony of agricultural pursuits by corresponding with newspapers. February 7th, 1861, he was married to Sarah E. Mains, who resided near Burlington. In the year 1872 he came to Missouri, and accepted a position as express and station agent at Corning, in Holt county, a position which he has since occupied. In politics he has always been a Republican. He came into prominence in the year 1874 in a series of communications published in the *Oregon Sentinel*, in a discussion carried on with the editor of the *Mound City Star*, referring particularly to local politics. These articles were widely read, and gave their author a well-deserved reputation as a logical and vigorous writer. At the Republican convention for the first Senatorial district held in 1876, his name was strongly urged as the candidate for State Senator, and he only failed by one vote in receiving the nomination.

During the war of the rebellion he served three years and one day in the Union army. He enlisted in August, 1862, in the 14th Iowa regiment, and was employed in the department of the northwest against the Indians, his company being one of the three detailed from the 14th Iowa to relieve the regular troops stationed in the Indian country. While in this service he was through the Black Hills country, about which at that time little was known, and in 1863 wrote for the *Yankton Dakotian*, the first account ever published of that since famous region.

Mr. Dodds' ancestors were originally from Kentucky. His father, William R. Dodds, was one of the first pioneers of Iowa, emigrating to that state, then known as the Wisconsin Territory, in the year 1833. Mr. Dodds' brother, William D. Dodds, was the first citizen of Iowa born in that state.

## HORACE MARTIN.

THIS gentleman, a resident of Corning, came to Holt county in 1868. He was born at Ellington, Connecticut, December 11th, 1814. His ancestors were among the first Puritan settlers of New England who came over in the Mayflower and landed at Plymouth Rock, in 1620. In the early infancy of the subject of this sketch, his father emigrated to Cayuga county, New York, and there Mr. Martin resided till twenty-seven years of age. He is self-educated. He early developed a genius for mathematics, and when working on a farm for twelve dollars a month, was engaged to make astronomical calculations for almanacs published at Auburn, Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo. He was married in Cayuga county, New York, January 7th, 1841, to Eliza Close. The spring of 1842 he emigrated from New York to Crawford county, Ohio. He was employed as a farmer; for several years served as county surveyor; and for four years filled the office of justice of the peace. In 1848 he came to Missouri, and became a resident of Corning. He has served as justice of the peace in Lincoln township for two terms—once by appointment of the county court, and once by election of the people. For a number of years he has been observer for the United States Signal Service, and has kept a very complete record of valuable meteorological observations from the summer of 1869 to the present time, and has furnished reports to the Smithsonian Institute. Previous to the war he was a Democrat, but during and since the rebellion he has acted with the Republican party. His only son was killed at Martinsburg, West Virginia, while serving as a member of the 34th Ohio regiment, in the Union army. Mr. Martin was employed in Ohio as a civil engineer for a considerable time, and is thoroughly competent in any business he undertakes. He stands high in the estimation of the people of Lincoln township, as a good citizen and a valuable member of the community.

## CALVIN M. GULLIAMS.

WAS born in Powell's valley, Campbell county, Tennessee, December 7th, 1818, of ancestors, originally Welsh, and who formerly lived in Virginia. When nearly grown he removed with his father to northern Indiana. March 3d, 1840, he was married in Fountain county, Indiana, to Mary A. Creger, born in Virginia county, Missouri. Shortly afterwards he moved to Rock Island county, Illinois; then Fulton county, Illinois; and in 1849 came to Missouri, and in March, 1850, he settled on section 35, township 62, range 40, in the neighborhood of which he has since lived. He farmed and traded in stock. In 1869 he built a flouring and saw mill on the Big Tarkio creek, near his residence, known as Gulliams' Mill, and it managed that till January, 1877. In politics he is a Republican. He was a free-soiler before the war, voted for Lincoln in 1860, and has since acted with the Republican party. He has five children, viz.: Rufus M., Francis T., Calvin M. Jr., Daniel W., and Mary E.

## GEORGE W. GASKILL.

MR. GASKILL has resided in the vicinity of Craig since 1869. He was born in Greene county, Ohio, on the 17th of February, 1834. His ancestors were from the state of New Jersey, and moved to Ohio in 1833. The first sixteen years of Mr. Gaskill's life were spent in Ohio, and in 1850 his father removed with the family to Huntington county, Indiana. His education Mr. Gaskill obtained in the common schools of Indiana and Ohio. February, 1861, he came to Lincoln county, Missouri, and resided there till the following August. He returned during that month to Indiana, and September, 1861, in Huntington county, enlisted in the 47th Indiana volunteers for service in the Union army. He was in the service three years, and his regiment was principally engaged along the Mississippi river and in the Gulf States; was under Grant till the capture of Vicksburg, and was then attached to the command of General Buck, belonging to the 13th Army Corps. Mr. Gaskill was in the battles of Port Gibson, Champion Hill, the siege of Vicksburg, and other minor engagements.

At the expiration of his term of service he returned to Indiana. October 25th, 1866, he married Miss S. C. Fast of Huntington county of that state. Mrs. Gaskill was born in Jefferson county, Ohio. He was farming in that county till 1868, and then came to Missouri, and settled in Holt county on section 7, township 62, range 39, a short distance east of the town of Craig. In politics he has been a member of the Republican party; and indeed his political career may be said to be coincident with the progress of this powerful and successful organization. The first vote he ever cast for President was given in 1856 to John C. Fremont, the first national candidate of the Republican party. Though the young party of Republicanism was then unsuccessful, he has voted with that party ever since, and witnessed its control of the administration of the government for a period the length of which scarcely has a parallel in the history of the political parties of the Republic. Mr. Gaskill has two children, Frances J. and George W. During his residence in Holt county he has become favorably known to his citizens, and is a gentleman of intelligence, progressive in his disposition, and a worthy member of the community.

## DANIEL VAN WORMER.

JUDGE Van Wormer has filled the position of justice of the Holt county court since 1869. He is descended from an ancestry who were among the earliest Dutch settlers of New York state. These Dutch emigrants came over from Holland in the seventh century, laid the foundations on the island of Manhattan for the future great city of New York, and settled the lands of the Hudson and Mohawk valleys, leaving descendants who became wealthy and influential citizens of the Empire State, and who have since scattered throughout the rich farming lands of the Great West. Judge Van Wormer's father was Aaron Van Wormer, and his mother's name before marriage was Philetia Wagner. Daniel Van Wormer was born in Albany county, New York, on the 29th of July, 1829. He was brought up on a farm, and obtained a substantial education in the common schools. He resided in his native county till seventeen years of age, and then, in 1846, removed with his father to Miami county, Indiana. In 1851 his father went to Toledo, Ohio, but Judge Van Wormer remained in Indiana. His marriage took place on the 14th of April, 1853, to Martha Heltzell of Miami county, Indiana.

In the fall of the same year he left Indiana with the purpose of making his home beyond the Mississippi. He settled in Jackson county, Missouri, and lived there till the progress of the war of the rebellion compelled his removal

from that part of the state. He took no active part in the war except to serve for a time in the militia. From 1862 to 1864 he was principally living in Indiana and Ohio, Jackson county, Missouri, becoming almost depopulated and unsafe for residence for a considerable period during the war. He came to Holt county in the year 1859, and settled where he now lives on section 17, township 62, range 39, and has since been engaged in farming. Previous to the war he was a Democrat, in his political faith, and cast his vote for Douglas at the presidential election of 1860. He voted for Lincoln in 1864, and has since been a member of the Republican party and a firm supporter of the principles and policy of that organization. He is a man who enjoys the confidence of the people of the county, and in the fall of 1874 was elected a member of the Holt county court, and has since then, with few exceptions, been in the order of their ages, William, Albert, Philetia, Indiana, Jennie, Eunice and Martha.

Judge Van Wormer belongs to that class of citizens who have come into Holt county since the close of the war, and have been so largely instrumental in promoting the development and growth of the county. Though he has been a resident of the county for only a period of eight years, his selection, by the people to fill such a responsible position as justice of the Holt county court is evidence of the estimation in which he has been held by the citizens of his part of the county. He is a man who is respected as a good citizen, and during his residence in the county he has made many friends. He is plain and unassuming in character, and makes no pretension to anything except being a common farmer, a man of the masses, but an honest and straight-forward citizen.

## CHRISTIAN SHULTS.

MR. SHULTS, an old resident and leading farmer and stock dealer of Liberty township, was born in Owen county, Indiana, on the 9th of May, 1835, the second of a family of six children of George Shults and Elmira Bean. In the spring of 1852 his father moved with the family from Indiana to Missouri. George Shults still lives on the farm where he first settled, where he came to the county, section 22, township 62, range 33. Christian Shults was married on the 14th of June, 1855, in Morgan county, Indiana (where he had been principally raised and to which he had returned temporarily from Holt county) to Nancy Ellen Newton. Shortly after this occurrence he went to farming in Holt county on section 13, township 62, range 39, the farm now occupied by Judge Skeels, where he lived till 1870.

During the war of the rebellion he served three years and a half in the Federal army. He was first for six months in the state militia, and then was three years in the Fourth Missouri Cavalry—one of the ten regiments belonging to the reserve troops of Missouri. He served principally in Missouri and Kansas, and participated in the various movements which marked the progress of the war in those states. The death of his wife occurred on the 4th of February, 1855, while he was yet in the army. He returned to his farm after the war, and lived on it till the Kansas city, St. Joseph and Council Bluffs railroad was put through the county. He then purchased a tract of 160 acres of land on which he laid out the town of Craig. His lumber was the first on the ground preparatory to building, and in December 1st, 1868, he opened the first store ever established in the town of Craig. He was selling goods, dealing in agricultural implements, in the grain business, &c., at Craig for several years, and finally in February, 1872, disposed of his store, and moved back to his farm along the edge of the bluff southeast from Oregon, on section 16, township 62, range 39, which he had first occupied in 1859. He has since been engaged in farming and trading in stock, and is one of the substantial citizens of that part of the county. He now owns 400 acres of land in Liberty township beside property in the town of Craig. His second marriage was on the 12th of July, 1865, to Mollie Barkhart, of Morgan county, Indiana. As a business man Mr. Shults is a gentleman of activity and enterprise. He was quick to see the advantages offered for a town on the site of Craig; and the importance to which that place has grown, and has benefited—the site of the present city—demonstrates the correctness of his judgment. A member of the Democratic party previous to the war of the rebellion, and casting his vote for Douglas at the memorable presidential election of 1860, he was a strong Union man when the attempt was made to destroy the government, and has since been a Republican.

## GEORGE P. SKEELS.

JUDGE Skeels, one of the leading citizens of Liberty township, was born in Seneca county, Ohio. He is descended from an English ancestry, who were early settlers of New England, and lived in the State of Connecticut. His grandfather, Jason Skeels, was in the revolutionary war, and served through the whole struggle for American Independence with the rank of Captain. His father, Silas Skeels, was born in New Haven, Connecticut, and in 1806 the family moved to Cayuga county, New York, and settled within six miles of Auburn, and immediately thereafter he was engaged in the present city of Auburn at that time being a complete wilderness. Silas Skeels was a soldier in the war of 1812, under Scott and Brown, and was in the Canada expeditions, and participated in the battles of Lunley's Lane, Fort George, and Fort Erie. His second wife was Nancy Bardsley, of Cayuga county, New York, who was a native of the state of Connecticut, and the mother of George P. Skeels, the subject of this sketch.

In the year 1832 his father removed from New York to Ohio, and settled in Scioto township, Seneca county, where he lived till his death, in January, 1833, at the age of nearly eighty-four years. In 1833 George P. Skeels was born. He was raised in his native county, and his education was obtained mostly at the Seneca County Academy, at Republic, Ohio. At the age of seven he began teaching school, and followed that occupation every winter while he remained in Ohio, and in the summer he worked on his father's farm. In the spring of 1856, then a young man of twenty-three, he went to Kansas, and located in Franklin county, twenty-two miles south of Lawrence. While living in Kansas he could not well avoid participation in the Border war, which was carried on in Kansas during 1856-57. He was in numerous skirmishes and engagements; was at Lawrence at the time Atchison and Stringfellow attempted to cross the river; was at the battle, with Titus, on Bull Creek; was near Osawatimie at the time that place was burned; and at Hickory Point received a bullet through one of his legs while attempting to dislodge the enemy from the log house which figured prominently in that conflict. During the summer of 1857, Judge Skeels was in the land office at Leocompton, Kansas.

October 26th, 1857, he came to Holt county, Missouri, and taught school the following winter. He was engaged principally in teaching till January 1st, 1860, when he was married to Serilda A. Caton, daughter of C. P. Caton, an old resident of Holt county. On account of his father's old age and sickness, he returned to Ohio after his marriage, and resided in Seneca county, Ohio, till after his father's death. April, 1864, he came back to Holt county and began farming in township 62, range 39. In 1866 he was elected a member of the Holt county court and was re-elected to the same office in 1868. He served till 1874, eight years in all, and made a good record in that responsible and difficult position. He has six children. In his political opinions, he has always been a Republican party, with which he has acted ever since the foundation of the Republican organization. His connection with politics commenced with the birth of the Republican party, and he was one of those who assisted in giving the large vote to Fremont, in 1856, which first demonstrated the strength of Republicanism, and forecast the subsequent brilliant record of the party.

## JOHN SCHRANTZ.

JOHN SCHRANTZ, the representative from Holt county, in the twenty-eighth General Assembly, is a native of Pennsylvania, and was born in Lancaster county, 1829. He was educated in that county, and in 1829 had been residents of Pennsylvania since the year 1753, the date at which the great grandfather of the subject of this biography emigrated to America. His father was Samuel Schrantz, and his mother's maiden name was Catharine Hull. In 1835, when Mr. Schrantz was six years of age, his father moved from Pennsylvania to Ohio, and settled in Stark county. His father was a prominent citizen of that part of Ohio, and for several years was judge of the common pleas court. Mr. Schrantz grew up to manhood in Stark county. The schools of that day were poor and deficient in character, and he had but scanty advantages in the way of gaining an education. When young, he was kept mostly

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF CITIZENS OF HOLT COUNTY, MISSOURI.

at home to assist in the labors of the farm, and his knowledge of the branches of an education was principally picked up as he had opportunity.

He was married in the year 1850 in Stark county, Ohio, to Mary E. Schreets. After his marriage he went to farming in the same county. In the spring of 1854, he removed from Ohio to Indiana, and settled in De Kalb county. In the fall of 1855 a universal sickness swept over that part of the state, which proved unusually fatal and malignant in its character. Inside of eleven days he lost his wife and two children, all the members beside himself, of his family. He still continues to carry on the farm, and in September, 1857, married, as his second wife, Susan Duch, of De Kalb county, Indiana. He enjoyed the confidence of the people of that county, and served with ability four years as justice of the peace, and two years as township assessor. Remaining in Indiana till the fall of 1865, he then determined to make his home in a newer country, and moved, with his family, to Holt county, Missouri, and settled where he now lives, on section 29, of township 62, range 39. This location is on the edge of the bluff, two miles above Mound City, where he owns two hundred and ninety acres of land. In the summer of 1876 he erected one of the most substantial farm dwellings in that part of the county, which forms a conspicuous object of attraction in a view of the line of bluffs above Mound City.

His political sentiments have conformed with the Republican party, whose principles appealed to his support when the Republican party was first organized, more than a score of years ago. He cast his first vote for President, for Franklin Pierce, in 1852, before the Republicans were numerous enough to form a national organization. In 1856 the Republican party had grown to be important and influential, and John C. Fremont was nominated for president, for whom Mr. Schrantz voted, and he has since invariably cast his suffrage for Republican nominees. In 1874, the Republicans of the county made him their candidate for representative. He served faithfully as a member of the House, made the record of an able and faithful member of the House; always working as best he could for the interests of his party and his constituents. He has two children living, whose names are Mary and A. B. Schrantz. He belongs to the representative citizens of the county, and to that class which has contributed most to its development and progress, and is a gentleman whose private character stands above reproach.

## JOHN H. GLENN.

This gentleman, one of the prominent citizens of Mound City, is a native of Ohio, and was born in Gallia county, of that state, May 23d, 1818. His ancestors were formerly residents of Virginia. His grandfather, William Glenn, at a very early period, emigrated from Virginia to Ohio, and was one of the pioneers of the southern part of the state, making his home there when that country was a complete wilderness, inhabited only by a few scattering pioneers. His father, George Glenn, was born in Virginia, and was a small child when he came to Ohio with his father. George's first married Nancy Carlisle, who was also a native of Virginia, and emigrated with her parents when only a few years of age. John H. Glenn was the oldest child by this marriage. He grew up in Gallia county, Ohio. The country was new, and of course the schools were not of a character to compare with the splendid educational facilities which the present day offers. Like most men who have grown up in a new country, Mr. Glenn was compelled to rely mostly on his own industry, and what little opportunities existed outside of school, for his education.

At the age of twenty-two, he was married (on the 1st of January, 1840), to Jane Dupre, who belonged to a family of French descent, and whose ancestors were said to have formerly resided on the Isle of Man. After his marriage he still continued to live in southern Ohio, and was engaged in farming and milling in the counties of Gallia and Highland, till 1839, when he determined on removing to the western country. That year he reached Missouri, and settling Holt county as the locality which offered the best inducements to new settlers, and promised to develop into the richest country, he purchased land in Whig Valley—then, as now, one of the most fertile and beautiful farming districts in the county. Mr. Glenn was living there ten years, or till 1870. He resided on his farm through the war, and took no part in the struggle which ended with the crushing out of the rebellion, except to aid, as far as his sympathies and influence would go, the Union side of the contest.

In 1868, he was elected the representative from Holt county in the General Assembly, and took his seat in the legislature at an important period in the history of the state. He served at Jefferson City during the winters of 1868-69 and 1869-70, and represented his constituents in a creditable and conscientious manner. In 1870 he gave up farming, and removed to Mound City, where he has since resided. He engaged in the mercantile business in connection with his son and son-in-law. He has had five children, four of whom are now living. Addison N. Glenn, the oldest son, lives at Mound City, and is engaged in the stock business. Sherazda Angelina, a daughter, is deceased. George P. Glenn, the next son, is professor in a high school in Indiana. Nancy J. is the wife of William Mackey, the present county surveyor, and an active business man of Mound City. R. H. Glenn is one of the proprietors of the drug store at Mound City, which is one of the finest business institutions in the county. Mr. Glenn's father is now living in Holt county, Clay township, at the age of eighty-three. He removed from Ohio in 1865.

Whether or not the name of "Whig Valley" offered any inducement for Mr. Glenn to settle in that locality when he first came to Holt county, the fact nevertheless remains that in politics he was originally an Old Line Whig, and an ardent supporter of Whig principles and policy as long as the party of Clay and Harrison remained in existence. He deposited his first vote for President, for General Harrison, the Whig candidate in the celebrated "log cabin and hard cider" campaign of 1840, when the whole country, particularly Ohio, the home of Harrison, was in the excitement of the log-cabin and hard cider processions and jovial barbeques carried the hero of Tippecanoe into the presidential chair. Mr. Glenn became a Republican on the formation of that party, and has since been one of its supporters, following the example of most of the old Ohio Whigs, in becoming the bone and sinew of the new Republican party. He has taken an active interest in political affairs, and contributed to the success of the Republican party in Holt county. He has been a leading citizen ever since his residence in the county, and served faithfully as a public officer in representing Holt county in the legislature, and is a citizen who has reflected credit on the county. His sons are among the leading business men of Mound City.

## DR. B. MEEK.

DR. MEEK is one of the oldest physicians of Holt county, and commenced practice at Mound City when that town was composed of a store, blacksmith shop and a single dwelling-house. His father, John Meek, was born in South Carolina, and when four years of age moved with his father to Duck river, near Nashville, Tennessee, and when eighteen came on to Kentucky, and married Temperance London, whose family was from Virginia, and whose grandfather was one of the pioneer settlers of Kentucky, and gave his name to Loudon's station in Henry county, Kentucky, one of the earliest settled places in the state. Dr. Meek was born in Henry county, Kentucky, on the 22nd of April, 1826, and was the sixth of a family of ten children. He was raised in his native county—the ordinary subscription schools of which afforded him the means of acquiring an education.

In the year 1852 his father moved with the family to Missouri, and settled in Holt county, a mile and a half southeast of Mound City. In 1856 the subject of this sketch began the study of medicine with Dr. Jabez Robinson, at that time a practicing physician of Oregon. He afterward attended lectures at the St. Louis Medical college under Dr. Charles A. Pope, and graduated from there in the spring of 1857. The same year he established himself in practice at Mound City, a place then comprising only a dwelling-house, store and blacksmith shop. April 19th, 1860, he married Elizabeth A. Sharpe, the daughter of William Sharpe, one of the earliest pioneers of Union township, after whom and his brother, Sharpe's grove received its name.

About eighteen months from the spring of 1865 till October, 1866, Dr. Meek was practicing medicine in Clay county, Illinois, but with that exception he has been residing all the time in Holt county, and occupied with the duties of his profession. From March, 1869, till March, 1873, he was a resident of Craig, but returned to Mound City, and resumed practice at the place where he first began his professional career. He has the reputation of being an excellent physician, and is as favorably known for his good qualities as a citizen as for his professional skill and attainments. He has had four children, viz.: John W., now deceased, Gertrude, Leonidas S. and Frances C. In his political

opinions he has always been a member of the Democratic party—a party to which his father belonged before him, and whose principles were inculcated in him in his boyhood. He cast his first vote, for President, for James Buchanan in 1856. Dr. Meek became connected with the Masonic fraternity in 1854, and is consequently one of the oldest Masons made in Holt county. He originally belonged to Oregon lodge, and has been a charter member of three different lodges, and is now a member of the Masonic lodge at Mound City.

For ten years Dr. Meek practiced medicine at Mound City without any rival in his profession, and was the only physician in that part of the county. He erected a brick dwelling-house at Mound City (in which he still resides), which at the time it was built was considered quite a wonder for the elegance of its appearance—there having been no such building constructed at that time in that part of the county. He has been thoroughly identified in his interests with the community in which he resides, and is well known by the old residents throughout the county at large.

## DR. JOHN M. TRACY.

DR. TRACY, one of the leading physicians of Holt county, has been practicing medicine at Mound City since June, 1866. He was born in Marion county, Indiana, December 9th, 1839. His grandfather was from the state of Virginia, and moved at an early period to Kentucky where James Tracy, the father of the subject of this biography, was born. James Tracy removed from Kentucky to Indiana, and in the latter state married Mary Custer, who was born in the same part of Kentucky as her husband. The second of a family of five children by this marriage was John M. Tracy, whose name stands at the head of this sketch.

He spent his younger days in Marion county, Indiana, and lived there till seventeen years of age. The rudimentary part of his education was obtained in the common schools of Marion county. He removed to Illinois in 1854, and after that date he was a student at the Heddington seminary at Abington, and in that institution had better facilities for securing the acquaintance of the necessary branches of a substantial English education. He came to Missouri in the year 1858, and located in Bates county. He taught school, and at the same time prosecuted the study of medicine (a profession which he had early resolved to adopt) under Dr. Kockwell, of West Point, Bates county, Missouri. After residing there about three years, that part of Missouri becoming depopulated and unsafe for residence by reason of the progress of the war of the rebellion which commenced in 1861, he went to Colorado, and was there engaged in several speculative enterprises. In 1864 he began in Colorado the practice of medicine, and followed his profession there till 1866, in June of which year he located at Mound City in Holt county.

Since coming to Mound City Dr. Tracy has been very successful in his profession, and is known as an able physician. He has been closely devoted to his professional practice, and has been active in the pursuit of the study of medicine, even after having thoroughly established himself in practice; believing, as he does, that constant study is necessary to the attainment of the highest success. His medical education he obtained at the Eclectic Medical college, at Cincinnati, one of the best institutions of the kind in the country, from which he graduated in the spring of 1873. His wife was formerly Miss Mary J. Collins, daughter of John Collins who settled at Oregon, Holt county, and was one of the early residents of the county. Their marriage occurred on the 5th of October, 1875. His attention and time have been devoted to his profession to the exclusion of active participation in the field of politics, and in his political sentiments he has been rather conservative and independent. He has acted, however, with the Democratic party, and is a believer in the cardinal principles of Democracy. Dr. Tracy is one of the leading Masons about Mound City, and is a member of Mound City lodge, No. 294, A. F. and A. M. with which he has been connected since 1871. He has taken all the degrees of Masonry capable of being conferred in Holt county, and is a member of Keystone chapter at Oregon. He is still comparatively a young man in his profession, and bids fair to reach a still more prominent position among the leading physicians of Holt county.

## W. W. FRAZER.

CAPTAIN FRAZER, one of the leading farmers and business men of Benton township, belongs to that class of citizens who have moved since the war, and whose activity and enterprise have been important elements in the prosperity and growth of Holt county. He is a Pennsylvanian by birth, his grandfather was from Scotland, and on coming to America settled on the Monongahela river, near Pittsburgh, in western Pennsylvania. At Brownville, in Fayette county, was born Andrew Frazer, the father of the subject of this sketch. Andrew Frazer married Anna Wilson, of Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, whose father had come to America, from Ireland. Soon after his marriage, Andrew Frazer moved to the Cumberland Valley in Pennsylvania, an old settled and beautiful district of country, and located on a farm within a short distance of Shippensburg, in Cumberland county, where was born W. W. Frazer, on the 27th of January, 1824. He was the third of a family of nine children composed of five boys and four girls.

He was raised in his native county, and the schools in the neighborhood of Shippensburg afforded facilities for acquiring a good English education. When he was about eighteen he commenced an apprenticeship to the tanning business, and after thoroughly learning that trade he removed to Newburg, in the same county of Cumberland, and began the tanning business on his own account, which he carried on successfully for a period of eighteen years. On the 4th of January, 1848, he was married to Mary Ann Macey, of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania. In his early life he served for several years as the captain and major of a company of Shippensburg volunteer troops, and thus acquired the title which he has since borne. During the progress of the war of the rebellion, he received the important appointment as United States Marshal for the ninth congressional district of Pennsylvania. He acted in that capacity from the beginning of the war till his resignation in the year 1864. He quit the tanning business in 1868, with the intention of removing to the West, and engaging in farming and dealing in stock. He chose Holt county as the most favorable location, reached the county in the fall of 1869, and the following spring settled where he now lives, in the immediate vicinity of Mound City. He has here been engaged in farming and the stock business, which he has carried on in a successful and business like manner. Instead of investing his capital in a large amount of land, he has kept it in stock, and has thus been able to receive quicker returns for his money—a system which if followed up in a county like Holt, with still good ranges for stock, by any man of enterprise, energy and good business habits, cannot help but terminate successfully. This plan Captain Frazer had followed, and with the most favorable results. He is known as a progressive citizen, and a good business man. He has eight children. He was originally an Old Line Whig in politics, and his first vote for President was cast for Gen. Taylor, at the presidential election of 1848. He was a Whig till the dissolution of that organization, when he became a Republican, with which party he has since been identified.

## LEVI DODGE.

EDWARD DODGE, father of Levi Dodge, came to Holt county, Missouri, in 1842, and fed cattle on the ranch which then covered the Missouri bottom. Levi Dodge was born in Waldo county, Maine, July 5th, 1814. The fall of 1814, the family emigrated to Athens county, Ohio, and in the fall of 1837, from there to Clinton county, Missouri. He was married in Athens county, Ohio, January 12th, 1834, to Sarah Hursey, born February 8th, 1813, daughter of Ariel Hursey, a Free Will Baptist preacher, who had moved to Athens county, Ohio, in 1814. Mr. Dodge was farming in Clinton county, till 1850, then moved to Fillmore, Andrew county; and in the fall of 1850, he settled in Holt county, on Squaw creek, on the farm now occupied by John Schrantz. During part of 1853 he sold goods at Graham, and kept the first post-office ever established there. Removing to Nebraska in 1854, he sold goods at the Falls of Nemaha. In 1856 he kept a trading-post on the old California trace. In 1857 and 1858 he was engaged in speculative enterprises at Winnebago, Nebraska, which proved unsuccessful. While living in Nebraska, Mr. Dodge practiced medicine, for which she had a strong natural inclination, and her success was fully up to the average of the learned practitioners of the present day. In the fall of 1859, Mr. Dodge moved back to Holt county. He has moved seventeen times in eighteen years, and has always been busy at something, and is now one of the enterprising business men of the county.

## M. M. SMITH.

AMONG the enterprising business men of Holt county are included a large number of men young in years who have already made their mark by energy, ability, and superior business capacity. The infusion of this younger blood and youthful energy into business circles has been the means of quickening trade, developing competition, and giving to the people of the county every mercantile and commercial facility warranted by the condition and progress of the country. Among these men who have been prominent in the county during the last few years is M. M. Smith, formerly sheriff and collector of the county, and now carrying on a large mercantile business at Mound City.

He is a native of Montgomery county, Ohio. His father was Samuel Smith, and his mother's maiden name, Mary Wilson. His parents were former residents of the state of Pennsylvania, but removed to Ohio, where in Montgomery county, was born M. M. Smith, the subject of this sketch, on the 31st of July, 1841. He lived in Ohio till the year 1855, and then when about fourteen years of age removed with his father to Indiana, and settled at Rockville, in Park county. In the common schools of this place Mr. Smith practically received his education. He first came to Missouri in 1860, and at that time resided in Holt county. He returned, however, to Indiana in 1861. The war of the rebellion broke out, and a call was made on the loyal citizens of the several states for aid in supporting the government and maintaining the perpetuity of American institutions, and in September, 1861, he volunteered his services and enlisted in the 31st Indiana Infantry. His term of service was about one year. He received his discharge in 1862 on account of disability, and then returned to Holt county. From 1862 till 1865 he was clerking in a store at Mound City, and thoroughly learned the mercantile business. In 1865 he went back to Indiana and was employed in a store at Rockville for about three years. In the fall of 1868 he returned once more to Holt county, and this time accepted a position at Oregon in the store of James L. Allen. Remaining as clerk about a year, in 1869 he bought the store of Mr. Allen, and embarked into the mercantile business on his own account. In the fall of 1870 he sold this store, his name having been presented as a candidate for sheriff and collector. To these offices he was chosen by a considerable majority in November, and he entered on a term of official service both creditable to himself and satisfactory to the people of the county. He filled the sheriff's office for two years, and also that of collector, and when these offices were divided in 1872, he was chosen a second time collector, in which position he served till 1874.

He has again gone into his old business of selling goods, with which several years of experience have made him familiar, and in which he has been successful. In partnership with M. S. Norman, under the firm name of "Smith and Norman," in February, 1876, he opened a store at Mound city, which has been one of the largest and most popular business institutions of that thriving city. This store has been under Mr. Smith's management, and he has made it a success. It contains a full assortment of goods of all kinds, and it has been the constant aim of the proprietors to keep up with the demands of the times. Mr. Smith, as a business man, is popular and accommodating. In politics he has always been a Republican, an active worker in the interests of the party, and has never voted any other ticket. He was married in September, 1875, to Miss Fannie Hart, of Petersburg, Indiana.

## WILLIAM HOBLITZELL.

THIS gentleman, one of the leading residents of Mound city and an old citizen of the county, was born in Richland county, Ohio, October 29th, 1833. His father, John Hoblitzell, was from Maryland. His mother, Elizabeth Dorland, was from Pennsylvania. When the subject of this sketch was about nine years of age, in the year 1842, his father moved with the family from Ohio to Plate county, Missouri. He was engaged in farming there till 1844, and then removed to Holt county, settling at first in the vicinity of Oregon, and afterward moving into the town. Mr. Hoblitzell had the advantages of a common school education, which his name having been presented as a candidate for sheriff and collector. To these offices he was chosen by a considerable majority in November, and he entered on a term of official service both creditable to himself and satisfactory to the people of the county. He filled the sheriff's office for two years, and also that of collector, and when these offices were divided in 1872, he was chosen a second time collector, in which position he served till 1874.

He first started in the business of selling goods on his own responsibility in the year 1855, when he opened a store at Brownville, Nebraska, in partnership with I. T. White. After carrying on business for himself at Brownville for three or four years, the store was given up, and Mr. Hoblitzell was employed in clerking till 1861, and then moved back to Oregon, and occupied a position as clerk in a store at that place. He first came to Mound city in 1854, and for six months carried on a store with James L. Allen—at that time the only store in existence at Mound city. In 1861 he removed to St. Joseph, and was engaged there as a clerk in a store. In partnership with Mr. B. B. Frazer, one of St. Joseph, in the year 1865 he opened a store at Mound city. This partnership was continued till 1873, when the interest of B. B. Frazer was purchased by Mr. Hoblitzell and T. D. Frazer. The firm, for part of the years 1873 and 1874, carried on a store at Bigelow, where Mr. Hoblitzell resided for about one year. The firm of S. B. Austin & Co., composed of Mr. Hoblitzell and S. B. Austin, was established in January, 1874, and carry on a large mercantile business at Mound city. They are among the enterprising merchants of the town, and by their liberal course of dealing and wide-awake business habits, have done not a little to give Mound city its reputation as a good business point. S. B. Austin & Co. have a well stocked store, and have the advantage of offering the most liberal inducements possible to purchasers, and the people of that part of the county will find it to their interest to patronize this reliable firm.

In connection with his brother, Mr. Hoblitzell is also carrying on the lumber business at Mound city, and has transacted a heavy business in this important branch of trade. [He is favorably known as one of the old and reliable merchants of the county, almost his entire life having been identified with the interests of this part of the state.] He commenced in the business of selling goods at a period before the war, when the population of the county was small, and there are not many of the old settlers of the county with whom he is not personally acquainted and has had business dealings. There is no stain upon his reputation as a business man, and during his whole career he has always tried to carry on business on business principles. He was married in 1856, to Martha Jane Burnett, of Oregon, Missouri. In politics he has been a Democrat, and believes in the principles of that party, which has numbered among its members some of the most distinguished statesmen of America. He is, however, rather conservative and liberal in his views, and has not hesitated on any occasion to vote for the best men for office regardless of politics.

## JACOB GROESBECK.

THE citizens of Holt county who have become residents of this part of the state within the last ten years, have generally been men of intelligence and enterprise, who have gone busily at work improving the county, and developing its rich agricultural resources. To them the county is indebted not a little for the position she occupies among the sister counties of the state. These new residents have brought capital into the county, have opened farms and improved lands, and have made it the order of the day to supplant the old, dilapidated structures which formerly served the purpose of farm buildings, by substantial barns and handsome and comfortable dwellings. Perhaps no part of the county has profited more in this respect than the vicinity of Mound city, and in this class of citizens is numbered Jacob Groesbeck, whose farm adjoins that town.

Mr. Groesbeck is a native of the state of New York, and was born in Rensselaer county, on the 28th of November, 1821. His ancestors were among the earliest Dutch settlers of New York, and belonged to the pioneers who emigrated from Holland, founded the city of New York, and settled in the rich valleys along the Hudson and Mohawk rivers, becoming the heads of families which have since scattered widely, and now include some of the best citizens of the Great West, as well as the state of New York. The name of Mr. Groesbeck's father was Herman Groesbeck, and his mother's maiden name was Mary Boyce. He lived in Rensselaer county, New York till the year 1825, and then when about fourteen, moved to Chautauqua county in the western part of the same state with his mother, his father having died when the son was seven years of age. In the spring of 1840, Mr. Groesbeck came to Spring-

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF CITIZENS OF HOLT COUNTY, MISSOURI.

field, Illinois, and was working in that town for about four years. He then went to Galena, Illinois, and began work in the lead mines in the vicinity. Up till the year 1851 he was living at Galena and Springfield, remaining at Springfield through the winter where his mother and brothers were living, and in the summer working in the lead mines. About 1851 he located permanently in Peoria county, Illinois, purchasing forty acres of land and engaging in farming.

He was married in May, 1851, to Mary Jane Darby, of Peoria county, Illinois. In the year 1857 he removed from Illinois to Nebraska, and settled in that state about three miles from Peru, and there also was employed in farming, and owned upwards of five hundred acres of land. In 1862 he became a resident of Atchison county, Missouri, and lived there till 1870 when he came to Holt county, and settled on his present farm on section 6, township 61, range 38. He here is the owner of 343 acres of land lying in one tract—one of the best farms about Mound city, and has been employed in general farming. Previous to the rebellion he was a member of the Democratic party, and on national questions voted with the Democracy. He was a strong Union man through the war, and has since been a Republican. He has seven children, three boys and four girls: the oldest daughter, Lizzie, is the wife of James Inks, of Mound city, and the others are Jacob Alonzo, Melissa, Harriet, William, Charles, and Luella. Mr. Groesbeck is one of the substantial citizens of Holt county. The farm on which he lives is one of the oldest settled in that part of the county. It was settled in 1840 or 1841. A post-office was formerly kept there by Andrew P. Jackson, and called Jackson's Point. It was afterwards known as North Point.

## FOUNTIN DONAN.

MR. DONAN'S grandfather was from Wales, emigrated to America, settled in the southern part of Virginia on the border of North Carolina, removed to Kentucky at an early date, settling first in Washington county, afterward in Green county, helping to clear the land on which the town of Greensburg now stands. Fountin Donan was born in Hart county, Kentucky, September 1st, 1830, the son of David C. Donan and Elizabeth Gillespie. He lived in Kentucky till the spring of 1850, and then went to California where he was mining gold on Deer creek and Yuba river. The fall of 1852 he returned to Kentucky where he was engaged in farming and distilling till the spring of 1856, and then came to Missouri, and in the fall settled in Holt county. He was surveying, dealing in land, etc., and in the fall of 1868 he started for Colorado where gold had been discovered the previous August, and reached that territory in advance of the great tide of emigration which soon set in. He was on the site of the present city of Denver, where a single cabin occupied the spot. July, 1859, he returned to Holt county, and began making improvements on his present farm situated on section 18, township 62, range 38. For about two years before the war he was deputy surveyor under Steve Collins, and in that capacity surveyed a considerable part of Holt county. He has also followed surveying extensively in Colorado and Montana, September, 1861, he enlisted in the Confederate army under Price, and was in the battles of Lexington and Blue Mills. January, 1862, he came back to Holt county. In 1863 he went again to Colorado, and the fall of the same year to Montana, and was mining in the neighborhood of Virginia City. He farmed one year in the Gallatin valley, and was variously engaged till 1867, when he returned to Holt county. September 10th, 1871, he married Mary Ashby, of Holt county, but of Virginia parentage. Mr. Donan is an earnest Democrat. He has had a life full of vicissitudes and adventures to which it would be interesting to refer more at length did space permit.

## T. W. MCCOY

Was born near Hagerstown in Washington county, Maryland, August 30, 1835. His ancestors had resided for five generations in Washington county, on a tract of land purchased by a member of the family on the first settlement of that country. The subject of this sketch was raised in his native county, and obtained his education at Hagerstown and vicinity. He came West in 1857, and to Missouri in 1858, and then returned to Maryland where he resided till 1866, when he removed to Missouri, and located in Holt county. He engaged in the milling business in a mill near Mound city, a mile from Eggelov, in partnership with his brother, E. D. McCoy. After sawing and dealing in lumber in the Missouri river bottom for several years, in 1872 he settled on the farm which he now occupies on section 8, of township 62, range 38, where he has followed farming and the stock business. His marriage occurred in January, 1872, to Laura Keedy, of St. Joseph, Missouri, the daughter of Dr. Daniel G. Keedy, one of the earliest settlers of that city. His home farm is composed of 720 acres, beside additional land in the Missouri bottom. He is a Democrat in politics, and one of the enterprising and progressive farmers of the county.

## RICHARD COLLISON.

JUDGE COLLISON has made an excellent record as member of the Holt county court where his superior judgment and business capacity have been displayed to advantage. His birth occurred in London, England, August 15th, 1831. He was raised in the city of London. His parents died when he was very young, and in his boyhood he lived with an uncle. At the age of fifteen he became an apprentice to the boot and shoe business. He had little opportunity of attending school, and his education was acquired mostly at night schools and by the aid of similar agencies in London while he was engaged as an apprentice. After learning the trade, he started in business on his own account, and kept a boot and shoe store in London till the year 1855. He was married in London, in 1854, to Mary Ann Rawlins.

In the spring of 1856 he came to America. He came directly West from New York city with the purpose of seeking a suitable location to begin farming. After traveling over Nebraska he located his farm in Holt county, and shoe business at Forest City, Missouri, where he resided till 1864. In that year he removed to a farm in Whig Valley, and has since lived in that part of the county.

Politically Judge Collison is a man of liberal tendencies, and a person who from early life has been attached to the principles which underlie a Republican form of government. His associations in London were such as to develop this trait of character. He was a member of the old Chartist organization, and of a society which was formed for the dissemination of Republican doctrines among the English people. His sympathies were warmly enlisted in favor of a republic, and this formed one of the reasons for his emigration to America. On coming to this country he became connected with the Republican party and has since acted with it. He was first elected a member of the Holt county court in 1870. After serving a term of six years he was re-elected in 1876. Since 1874 he has been presiding justice, and to his business habits and sound judgment is largely due the successful administration of county affairs.

## F. LIBBY.

THIS gentleman, one of the large and prosperous farmers of Clay township, is a native of the state of Maine, and was born in the city of Bangor on the 24th, of June, 1829. His ancestors were old residents of Maine, and had lived there from the period of the first settlement of that country. The subject of this sketch was raised in the neighborhood of Saco, and lived on a farm till he was fifteen years of age, and then went to sea. For four years he was employed on vessels trading with the West Indies, and his life partook of the vicissitudes common to a career on the ocean wave. Leaving the sea he resided in Maine till 1856 and then made up his mind to try his fortunes in the Great West. In the year 1856 he came to Indiana, and was occupied in assisting to build the Ohio and Mississippi railroad through that state. The following year he went to Kentucky and worked on the Lexington and Big Sandy railroad then being constructed.

He came to Missouri in 1858, and was engaged on the Hannibal and St. Joseph railroad, then in process of being built; part of the time at work on contracts, part of the time as superintendent, and also acted as wood agent. He subsequently became interested in the Platte county railroad, and laid the track from Weston to Savannah. The war interfering with railroad construction, he settled down on a farm four miles south of Graham, in Nodaway county, and was partly occupied in buying horses and mules for the government during the progress of the war. For a time he was proprietor of a livery stable at St. Joseph, and went from there to Atchison, Kansas, and

laid the first twenty miles of track on what was then known as the Atchison and Pike's Peak railroad. He afterward returned to Nodaway county, and engaged in farming, and for a period was proprietor of a hotel and livery stable in the town of Marysville, Nodaway county. He became a resident of Holt county in 1871, and located in Whig Valley, where he owns a large finely improved farm one of the best to be found anywhere in the county. He owns 573 acres of land in his home farm, and 855 in Hickory township. His farm improvements do credit to the part of the county in which he lives, and he makes it a point to keep in his stables some of the finest horses to be found in Holt county. In politics he has always been a republican, and has never voted any other ticket on state and national issues. His wife was formerly Lucy Ardery, of Savannah, Missouri.

Mr. Libby is well-known as a man of energy and enterprise. He has been actively concerned in numerous business operations, some of which have turned out successfully, and in others he has not been so fortunate. He has adopted the principle, "nothing ventured, nothing gained," and has not hesitated to embark in any undertaking that promised any show of success. He is progressive in his character, and there is nothing old-foggy about his disposition. He has shown a ready adaptability for any kind of business, and before the war, as a railroad contractor, hotel proprietor, livery stable keeper, and a farmer, he has been successful.

## E. F. WELLER.

MR. WELLER, proprietor of the store at Whig Valley, is a native of Germany, and was born in the Kingdom of Wurttemberg, within fifty miles of Stuttgart, on the 27th of July, 1845. When a little past eight years of age he emigrated with his father, Jacob Weller, to America. Landing in Philadelphia in the year 1853 the family proceeded to Louisville, Kentucky, and after living there for a year and a half settled in Clark county, Indiana. In the fall of 1855 he came to Holt county, Missouri, then twenty years of age. He commenced farming in Whig Valley on section five of township 62, range 37. In June, 1870, his father removed with the remainder of the family to Holt county, and is now living in Clay township.

December, 1874, Mr. Weller purchased the store-house erected by E. A. Boyer in Whig Valley, put in a new stock of goods, and opened a store devoted to the mercantile business. The store was formerly in section nine, but in 1876 he moved to his present location in section eight. The old store was small in size, but in the fall of 1876 he put up a new building, twenty by fifty feet in dimensions, which affords ample accommodations for carrying on a large business. He keeps a full and general stock of dry goods, groceries, etc., and the store has been a great accommodation to the people of Whig Valley, and that part of the county. January 6th, 1867, he was married to Ruth Jenking of Shelby county, Indiana, and has five children, all boys. In politics he has been conservative and independent, and has voted as he deemed best for the interests of the country. He is the Whig Valley postmaster. He is one of the parties who assisted in laying out the town of Whig Valley, and to his judgment is largely due the selection of the present advantageous location.

## E. ROZELL.

ESQ. ROZELL, now justice of the peace of Clay township, was born in Ross county, Ohio, April 26th, 1837. His grandfather was a native of France, and his father an early settler of Ohio. Esq. Rozell was raised in Ross county, Ohio, received an education in the common schools, and for one year attended a seminary at Danville, Illinois. He commenced teaching school when eighteen, and followed that profession for several years. September, 1860, he married Mary Ross of Ross county, Ohio. May, 1861, he enlisted in the 63d Ohio regiment. October 4th, 1863, he was wounded at the battle of Corinth, after which he was discharged and returned to Ohio. In the spring of 1864, he enlisted in the 149th Ohio regiment, and served in Virginia with the army of the Potomac till October, 1864, when he was captured in Shenandoah Valley, and for several weeks held a prisoner in Libby Prison, Richmond. He had enlisted as private in the 63d Ohio, and was made sergeant on the organization of his company. He was major of the 149th Ohio regiment. In 1870 he came to Missouri, and in the spring of 1871 settled in Holt county at his present residence in Clay township. In 1874 he was elected justice of the peace. He has always been a republican in politics.

## ANDREW MEYER.

ANDREW MEYER, one of the largest farmers and land-owners in Holt county, was born near Mühlheim, Baden, April 28th, 1821. Emigrating to America with his father in 1831, the family settled in Wayne county, Ohio. In 1843 he left Ohio for Missouri, and reached Holt county in May. The next August he went over to the Missouri river to the Iowa and Sac Agency, and first followed farming, and was then assistant blacksmith. In 1847 he enlisted in the Oregon Battalion for service in the Mexican war. He belonged to Col. Powell's regiment, was sworn in at Leavenworth, July 14th, 1847, and shortly afterward set out on an expedition across the plains, and reached Fort Kearney in the fall of 1848, the moon being ordered back to be discharged on account of the close of the war. During this trip he met with Brigham Young, who was then keeping a trading post on the Missouri river. In the fall of 1848 he came back to Holt county, and the next winter made a trip to Des Moines, Iowa, where he bought land. In company with his brother George, and Judge McIntyre, on the 12th of May, 1849, he left the Iowa and Sac Agency for California, and was the first to start overland from Holt county that season. The party reached California August 13th, and he was there till September 13th, 1850, digging gold on the American River, near Sutter's Mill, now Colusa. Coming back to Holt county, he married on the 20th of August 1851, Mary Sechrist. She was a native of Richmond, Ohio, and had been living in Holt county since the fall of 1849. Mr. Meyer went farming where he now lives (section 21, township 61, range 38), and now owns 2453 acres of land. He has eleven children, viz.: Annie E., wife of W. A. Long; James H., also married; Maggie M.; Alfred A.; Willard P.; Armilda C.; George W.; Robert S.; Emma J.; Charles E., and Marvin E. In 1891 he was appointed county judge by Gov. Gamble. In 1892 he was elected captain of militia, and was in active service about a month, stationed at Lexington. He voted for Douglas in 1860, was a strong Union man throughout the war, and has since been a republican. In 1876 he had 180 acres in with corn, 220 acres in small grain, raised 1,450 bushels of fall wheat, and has been quite extensively engaged in the stock business. His residence four miles southeast of Mound City, is one of the largest farm-houses in the county.

## URIAH BLAIR.

THE Blair family was the first to settle in Benton township. Uriah Blair was born in Indiana, March 22d, 1865. His father was John M. Blair, and his mother's maiden name was Billings. When he was two years of age his father moved to Pike county, Illinois, and was one of the first settlers of that part of that state. In 1836 the family moved to Iowa, and settled on Skunk river, where Mr. Blair's mother died. After the death of his mother he came to Pike county, Illinois; lived there till 1839, and then started for the Platte Purchase, Missouri, arriving in what is now Holt county, where the family settled in section 20, township 61, range 38, April 12th, of that year. At that time there were no persons living in Benton township, except Indians. The Baldwins, who came in the succeeding fall, were the next settlers. In the spring of 1849 he set out for California, in company with a large expedition from Holt county. The party left about the 10th of May. His brother, James Blair, formed one of the expedition, as did also his father, who died on the road, on Carson river, at the foot of the Sierra Nevada mountains, and was buried there. In California he was mining gold on the tributaries of the American River, and in the summer of 1850 he started back to Missouri, and his home has since been in Holt county. He was married December 16th, 1858, to Eveline Mackey, of Pike county, Missouri. He has been farming in Benton township, in the immediate vicinity of where his father first settled. He has five children; Alice, Calvin, Mary, Eva Zella, Frank and Rennie. Mr. Blair was a soldier in the Mexican War. He was sworn in the service of the United States at Leavenworth, July 4th, 1847, as a member of what was known as the Oregon Battalion, attached to Col. Powell's regiment. The expedition ascended the Missouri river, returned to what is now Nebraska City, where they

spent the winter of 1847-48, and the next spring set out across the plains for Fort Kearney. News reached them of the close of the war, and they were ordered back to Leavenworth, to be discharged. Mr. Blair was a Democrat before the war, and has since been a Republican. He is now one of the oldest settlers in the county, and has been a good citizen.

## S. R. YOUNG.

MR. YOUNG is one of the few men left in Holt county, who represented the county in the Legislature previous to the war. By birth, he is a Kentuckian, having first seen the light of day in Barren county, Kentucky, on the 8th of May, 1812. His father, Edward Young, was a Virginian, who emigrated to Kentucky at an early period. His mother was Keziah Hennis, the daughter of William Hennis, one of the earliest pioneers of Kentucky, who came from Virginia at the time of the first settling of the state, and lived for several years in a fort near Crab Orchard. When Mr. Young's ancestors came to Kentucky the Indians were numerous and troublesome, and but few white settlers were residents of the state. The inhabitants were compelled to live in forts for protection against the savages.

The subject of this sketch was the youngest of a family of ten children. He grew up to manhood in Barren county, Kentucky. In his boyhood there were no public schools, and subscription schools afforded the only means for gaining an education. His father died when he was about fifteen, and he then went to live with his brother, and learned the tanning business. After mastering that trade he carried on the business himself, near the town of Glasgow, Kentucky. He was married in December, 1839, to Matilda J. Paxton, of the same county.

Living in the State of Kentucky till the year 1854, he made up his mind to emigrate to Missouri; and wishing to settle in a new country, he came to Holt county, and selected the location which he still occupies, on section 15, of township 61, range 38. He has since followed farming and stock raising. He has taken an active interest in public affairs, and soon after his coming to the county was chosen a justice of the peace. In the fall of 1868 he was elected the representative from Holt county, in the Nineteenth General Assembly. He served in the regular session, an adjourned session and a called session, on section 15, of Jefferson City during the winter of 1858-59, and that of 1859-60, and was a member of the last general assembly that convened before the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion. He had run as a candidate for the Legislature as a Democrat, and in the memorable presidential campaign of 1860, gave his warm support to Stephen A. Douglas. When the country at last was precipitated into the rebellion, he took no part in that struggle, and stood on the same ground occupied by a large number of the old citizens of Missouri—opposed both to the secession of the Southern states and their attempt to disrupt the Union, and to the manner in which coercion was undertaken on the part of the Federal government. The latter part of the year 1864 he removed to Fremont county, Kentucky, and was resident there till the spring of 1868, when he returned to his old home in Benton township, Holt county. While in Iowa he acted as justice of the peace in Fremont county. He has six children, three sons and three daughters, all married excepting two of the sons, and all living in Holt county with one exception. Since the war he has acted in sympathy with the principles and policy of the Democratic party.

## RICHARD ACTON

WAS born in Richland county, Ohio, January 14th, 1828. His parents were from Maryland, and came to Ohio about 1826. Having been raised on a farm in his native country, he left Ohio in 1847 and reached Holt county, Missouri, July 14th of that year. He stopped for a time with Jacob Kunkel, in Nodaway township, and followed the carpenter's trade, which he had learned in Ohio. April 4th, 1850, he married Mary E. Brockman, who was born in Barren county, Kentucky. Her father, Willis Brockman, came to Holt county in September, 1843, and settled in Nodaway township. In 1851, Mr. Acton settled on the farm which he now owns, in section 17, township 60, range 37. For several years he followed carpentering, and afterwards devoted himself wholly to farming. He owns 250 acres of land. Previous to the war he was a Democrat, was a union man during the rebellion, and has since been a Republican. He has nine children living. He is a good citizen, and since 1862, has acted as justice of the peace in Nodaway township.

## JOSEPH ANSELMONT,

THE owner of Anselmont's Mill, in Nodaway township, was born about six miles from Karlsruhe, Baden, Germany, June 13th, 1816. In 1831 he emigrated with his father to America. Landing at Baltimore, the family proceeded to Marion county, Ohio, where he lived till he came to Missouri. January, 1845, he married Catharine Zoek, who was in the early part of the year 1831. His present wife, whom he married in December, 1854, was formerly Anna Stry, of Crawford county, Ohio. October 20th, 1866, he reached Holt county, Missouri. He owns 560 acres of land in Holt county, and 200 in Ohio. About five years ago he built a mill on Nickell's creek, which runs through his farm, known as the Nickell's Grove Mill. It is provided with both steam and water power, is a flourishing mill, does a large custom and merchant work, and is an accommodation to the farmers of Nodaway township. He has voted for every Republican candidate for President, including Fremont in 1856. He has nine children living, one in Ohio, one in Kansas, and the remainder in Holt county.

## JAMES L. ALLEN

WAS born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, September 11th, 1826. His parents were James W. Allen, born at Baltimore, and James (Kilgore) Allen, of Maryland. His father, James W. Allen, was a native of Pennsylvania. He emigrated to Missouri in 1857, settled at Oregon, and a few months afterward began selling goods, which occupation he followed till May, 1869. In 1871, he moved to his present residence, one mile north of Oregon, and improved out of wild land his present farm. This is one of the choicest farming properties in the county. The farm is composed of 160 acres of land, of which twenty is in with a choice variety of fruits. The residence is large, neat and commodious; there is an abundant supply of water, and on the farm is perhaps the finest hedge to be found in the county. The farm is highly improved, and its proximity to the county-seat makes it one of the most desirable residences in the county. Mr. Allen is one of the old, original Republicans in politics, and voted for Fremont for president in 1860.

## BUSINESS REFERENCES.

J. A. DEMUTH,  
Blacksmith and Machinist,  
FOREST CITY.

MR. DEMUTH has carried on the blacksmithing business at Forest City for eleven years; and the farmers and millers of Holt county will be glad to learn that he has put in operation a FIRST-CLASS TURNING LATHE, for turning all description of iron and steel work, etc. He is a practical machinist, and all repairs for farm or mill machinery can be executed as readily and cheaply by him as elsewhere else. His prices are low, and his work is of the highest and most satisfactory quality. This is the only establishment of the kind in the county, and, indeed, the only one between St. Joseph and Council Bluffs. He has made a large number of models for persons intending to take out patents for machinery, and his work has always stood the test for accuracy, neatness, and superior workmanship. Farmers and millers will find it to their advantage to call on him for all repairs to machinery, etc.

## WILLIAM BASKINS,

Dry Goods and Clothing Emporium,  
Northwest Corner of Public Square, Oregon, Holt Co., Mo.

Has also in connection with this a full stock of Hardware, Cutlery, and all kinds of Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, etc. Farming Implements of every description always on hand. Goods exchanged for Produce. Having carried on business for twenty or twenty-five years in Holt county, and for the last seven years at the above address, I offer the very best inducements to my patrons and the public generally, by selling goods at the lowest possible prices. All orders promptly attended to.