

## History of Cooper County Missouri by W. F. Johnson

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**Charles L. Vollrath**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Charles L. Vollrath, for years president of the City Council at Boonville, and until quite recently secretary-treasurer of the Sombart Milling Company, was born on July 10, 1858, son of Nicholas and Mary Elizabeth (Brenneisen) Vollrath, natives of Germany, whose last days were spent here, both dying while their son Charles was still a child. Nicholas Vollrath was born at Frohnlach, in the Saxon duchy of Saxe-Coburg, Aug. 28, 1814, and came to this country with his brother, George, and engaged in the milling business at Boonville until they sold their mill to the Sombart Milling Company, which has ever since been carrying on the business. Here, Nicholas Vollrath married Mary Elizabeth Breneisen, who was born at Bruchsaal, Gross Hernogthum, in the grand duchy of Baden, Aug. 31,

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1830, and who was but a girl when she came to this country with her parents, Reinhart and Mary E. Brenneisen, the family coming to Missouri and locating at Boonville. Reinhart Brenneisen was born in Milan, Italy, Dec. 24, 1800, and was trained there as a manufacturer of silk. Upon taking up his residence in Boonville he became engaged in the general mercantile business and continued until his death, one of the best known of the earlier merchants of that city. He died at Boonville, July 16, 1878. Nicholas Vollrath died at Boonville Feb. 29, 1867 (this is incorrect as 1867 was not a leap year and thus there was not a 29 Feb in the year 1867). His wife died Dec. 5, 1865. They were the parents of six children, as follows: H. W., deceased; Mrs. George J. Weber, a widow, Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. C. C. Greenlease, also of Kansas City; Charles L.; Fannie R., deceased; and Mary A., deceased.

Charles L. Vollrath was but a child when he was bereft by death of his parents, and he was reared at Boonville by kinsfolk, supplementing the schooling he received in the schools of that city by a course in the University at St. Louis. Upon returning from the university he took employment with his elder brother, H. W. Vollrath, who was engaged in the stoneware and pottery business at Boonville, and some time later began clerking in the general store of his uncle in that city, later taking employment in the Brockmeyer store, and thus became thoroughly familiar with the details of the mercantile business. In 1892, Mr. Vollrath began his service with the Sombart Milling Company, having acquired an interest in the same, and was made secretary-treasurer of the company, a position he occupied until in January, 1919, when he retired from business. Mr. Vollrath is a republican, and has for many years been regarded as one of the leaders of that party in Cooper County. For 13 years he was a member of the Boonville Board of Aldermen and president of the City Council, and on several occasions was urged to become a candidate for mayor of the city, but he always declined. He has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows since 1883, and of Boonville Lodge, No. 91, Knights of Pythias, since 1884. He is a member of the Evangelical Church, in the faith of which he was reared, and his wife is a member of the Catholic Church.

Jan. 24, 1884, Charles L. Vollrath was married to Pauline C. Kratz, of Boonville, and to the union one child has been born, Bertha C., wife of H. Goodman, who is engaged in the furniture business at Boonville. Mrs. Vollrath was born in Boonville, March 24, 1858, daughter of Christian C. and Elizabeth Cecelia (Beha) Kratz, natives of Germany, who became residents of Boonville in their youth, they having accompanied their respective

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parents to this country many years ago, and whose last days were spent in that city. Christian C. Kratz, who was born in the duchy of Nassau, now Wiesbaden, a district of the Prussian province of Hesse Nassau, in 1836, died at his home in Boonville, July 5, 1866, at the age of 32 years, 9 months and 26 days. His widow died in Boonville, Jan. 12, 1913. She was born in the grand duchy of Baden on Nov. 19, 1827.

**Judge Herbert J. Hoff**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Judge Herbert J. Hoff, former county judge for the western district of Cooper County, and a well-known and progressive farmer of Pilot Grove Township, was born Dec. 4, 1875, son of Jacob and Jacobanna (Felton) Hoff, the latter whom also was born in this county, and both of whom are still living. Jacob Hoff was born in Eppenbrumen, Germany, May 12, 1842, and in his young manhood came to the United States going to Michigan. He soon afterwards came to Missouri and located in Cooper County, where he worked as a farm hand and presently was married here. After his marriage he bought the farm which he still owns in Pilot Grove Township, and there continued to reside until his retirement and removal to Pilot Grove, where he and his wife are now living. Mrs. Hoff was born in this county in 1853, daughter of Hubert Felton, further mention of whom is made in this volume. To Jacob Hoff and his wife were born eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the second in order of birth.

Reared on the home farm in Pilot Grove Township, Herbert J. Hoff received his schooling in the local schools, and from boyhood has been engaged in farming. In 1899 he bought the farm of 76 acres on which he is now living, and has made many improvements on the place. He carries on general farming and stock raising. Judge Hoff is a democrat and is one of the leaders of his party in Cooper County. In 1914, he was elected county judge for the western district, and in that important capacity served the people for two years. He and his family are members of the Catholic Church, and he is a member of the Knights of Columbus.

May 23, 1899, Herbert J. Hoff was married to Helena Weber, and to this union five children have been born Gertrude, Herman, Cecelia, Clara and Anna M. Mrs. Hoff was born at Tiptop, Mo., July 29, 1875, a daughter of Godfrey and Gertrude (Lutz) Weber, natives of Germany, who settled in Moniteau County many years ago and are now deceased.

**Anthony Vollmer**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Anthony Vollmer, one of the well-known and substantial farmers of Pilot Grove Township, was born on a farm in Clear Creek Township, March 16, 1866, son of Leo and Mary Vollmer, both of German descent, the farmer of whom died at 30 years of age, when his son Anthony was but

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eight years old. Leo Vollmer and his wife were the parents of four children: Anthony; Joseph, Pilot Grove Township; Sophia, wife of Joseph Sellers, Clear Creek Township; and Frank, Clear Creek Township.

Anthony Vollmer was early thrown upon his own resources, and from the days of his youth has made his own way in the world. Thirty years or more ago he rented a farm in Blackwater Township. His affairs prospered, and in 1893 he was enabled to buy a farm of 190 acres in Pilot Grove, where, after his marriage in the spring of 1896, he established his home, and resided there until 1911, when he sold that farm and bought 190 acres where he is now living and which he has greatly improved, erecting a residence and making other improvements. He carries on general farming and stock raising, and has prospered. Mr. Vollmer is a republican, and he and his

family are members of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Pilot Grove, and he is a member of the Catholic Knights of America, while his elder son, Leo, belongs to the Knights of Columbus.

April 21, 1896, at St. Martin's Church, Anthony Vollmer was married to Mary Bonen, and to this union have been born seven children; Leo H., assisting his father on the home farm; Minnie M., Anna E., Raymond J., Sophia T., Bernardine M. and Edna M. Mrs. Vollmer was born in Pilot Grove Township, Jan. 2, 1874, daughter of Henry and Mary (Vonderheil) Bonen, both natives of Germany who came to this country with their respective parents in their youth, the Bonen and Vonderheil families locating in this county. Henry Bonen and wife, both now deceased, were the parents of seven children, of whom Mrs. Vollmer was the fifth in order of birth.

### **Stonewall Jackson Coleman**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Stonewall Jackson Coleman, who died at his farm home at the edge of the village of Pilot Grove, in the spring of 1915, was born on April 13, 1868, son of James S. and Margaret Ann (Cockrell) Coleman, the latter of whom was a cousin of the late United States Senator Cockrell, of this State, and both of whom spent their last days in this county. James S. Coleman was born in Fairfax County, Va., Jan. 6, 1830, and was but eight years of age when he came to Missouri with his parents, Dr. Samuel and Sarah (Gunnell) Coleman, in 1838, the family settling on the farm now owned by the widow of S. J. Coleman, near the site on which the village of Pilot Grove sprang up. The town received its name from a grove which was on this farm. This place thus having been in the Coleman family's continuous possession now for more than 80 years. Though giving considerable attention to the development of his farm, Doctor Coleman continued the practice of his profession after coming here, and for

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years was one of the best known pioneer physicians in these parts. His son, James S. Coleman grew up on that farm, and after his marriage to Margaret Ann Cockrell continued making his home there, carrying on the farming operations until his death, which occurred July 4, 1897. His widow died March 19, 1898. She was born in Frederick County, Va., Oct. 21, 1830. To James S. Coleman and wife were born nine children, four of whom are living, namely: Samuel W., of Kansas City, Mo.; General Lee, lives at Sedalia, and is a teacher in the Northeastern High School, Kansas City; Major B., Kansas City; and Mary E., wife of D. Grover, Kansas City.

Stonewall Jackson Coleman completed his schooling in the old Pilot Grove College, at that time being conducted by W. F. Johnson, author of this history, and upon leaving school continued his place on the farm, later assuming management of the same, and in 1899 bought the other heirs' interests in the place. He made extensive improvements on the place and enjoyed one of the most comfortable suburban residences in the county. He was a staunch democrat and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church (South), as is his widow, and their sons have been reared in that faith.

July 12, 1893, Stonewall Coleman was married to Hortense Hardy, who was born at California, Mo., and to this union were born two sons, James Hardy, born on Aug. 6, 1894, and Charles William, May 18, 1896. James Hardy Coleman in 1918 married Sarah Morris, of Centralia, Mo., and lives on the home place. Charles William Coleman was inducted into the National Army during the World War, and after preliminary training sailed in August, 1918, for overseas service, and is now at Camp Mills, N. J., having returned to the United States, June 23, 1919. Mrs. Coleman is a daughter of the Rev. James M. and Elizabeth (Duncan) Hardy, the former born in Tennessee and the latter in Virginia. The Rev. James M. Hardy was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church (South), and his last days were spent in Moniteau County, for many years one of the best known clergymen in that county. His wife was widow when he married her, her first husband having been Allen Hammond, who years ago was the editor of the Boonville Observer, the forerunner of the present Advertiser.

## **Walter J. Kraus**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Walter J. Kraus, proprietor of an excellent farm in Pilot Grove Township, and one of the progressive young farmers of Cooper County, was born Jan. 30, 1889, son of Frank and Julia (Wittman) Kraus, the former of whom is still living at Pilot Grove, retired. Frank Kraus was born

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on a pioneer farm in Clear Creek Township, Dec. 15, 1858, and grew up to the life of the farm, afterward buying the farm now owned by his son, Walter, and there resided until his retirement. His wife, who was born on Nov. 2, 1859, died July 4, 1915. She was a member of the Catholic Church, as is her husband, and their children were reared in that faith. There were six of these children, as follows: Walter J.; Herman, who in the spring of 1917 was inducted into the National Army and after preliminary training sailed in April, 1918, for overseas service with the 89th Division, and was in France until June 12, 1919, when he returned to the United States and is now living at Columbia; Fred, who also participated in the World War, in the naval service, and recently received his honorable discharge at the naval station at Pensacola, Fla. now mail carrier, Pilot Grove; Regina, deceased; and Bernardine and Rosaline (twins), the former of whom is living with her father at Pilot Grove, and the latter is deceased.

Walter J. Kraus was reared on the home farm, receiving his schooling in the schools of Pilot Grove, and when 21 years of age began farming on his own account on a rented farm, continuing thus engaged until 1917, when he bought his father's farm of 104 acres, the place on which he is now living. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Kraus gives considerable attention to the breeding of Poland China hogs and is meeting with success. His place is well improved, and he carries on his operations in accordance with up-to-date methods. Mr. Kraus is a republican. He and his wife are members of the Catholic Church, and he is a member of the Knights of Columbus.

April 10, 1918, Walter J. Kraus was united in marriage to Martha Esser, who was born in Pilot Grove Township, daughter of Lawrence and Margaret (Martin) Esser, both of whom were born in Pilot Grove Township. Lawrence Esser was born in 1851 in Pilot Grove Township, and is now living retired in Boonville, Mo. His parents were natives of Germany. Mrs. Margaret (Martin) Esser was born in 1857, and died in May, 1914. Seven children were born to them, of whom Mrs. Kraus is the youngest.

## **Henry G. Lammers**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Henry G. Lammers, proprietor of "Hickory Grove" farm in Pilot Grove Township, a substantial farmer and stockman, was born in St. Louis, May 15, 1877, son of Henry and Wilhelmina (Vonderhaar) Lammers, who were born in Germany and were married in St. Louis in 1868. In that city they remained until the summer of 1877 when they came to Cooper County with their children and settled on a farm in Pilot Grove Township,

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where they spent the remainder of their lives. Of the children born to Henry Lammers and wife six grew to maturity and five are still living, all residents of Cooper County.

Henry G. Lammers was but an infant in arms when his parents came to Cooper county and he grew to manhood on the home farm in Pilot Grove Township, receiving his schooling in the district school. In 1900 he began farming on his own account and in the fall of 1903 he settled on the

farm where he is now living, beautiful "Hickory Grove" farm, formerly known as the Eads farm, where he has a well-improved place of 276 acres. He raises pure-bred Poland China hogs. Mr. Lammers is a republican. He and his family are members of the Catholic Church and he is a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Oct. 20, 1903, Henry G. Lammers was married to Mary C. Schuster, a member of one of Cooper County's pioneer families, and to this union have been born seven children, Roy, Raymond, Ona, Robert, Estella, Marvin and Ernest. Mrs. Lammers was born in Pilot Grave Township, daughters of William and Christina (Felten) Schuster, both now deceased. The late William Schuster was twice married and his widow, who before her marriage was Anna Vollrath, is living on the old home farm.

**Dr. John Sinclair Parrish**  
(Transcribed by Laura Paxton)

Dr. John Sinclair Parrish, physician and druggist at Pleasant Green and president of the bank at that place, where he has been engaged in practice for nearly 30 years, is a native of Cooper County. He was born on a farm near Speed, March 6 1863, son of David and Elizabeth (Sinclair) Parrish, both of whom died in the days of his childhood, leaving him to be reared by kinsfolk in this county.

David Parrish was a North Carolinian, born in 1807, who came to Missouri in his young manhood and settled on a farm on Lone Elm Prairie, Palestine Township, this county, later moving to a farm near Speed, where his last days were spent. During the rush of gold seekers to California in 1849, he made the trip across the plains with others from this section. He presently returned and was content to remain here for the rest of his life. He became a substantial farmer and died at his home near Speed in 1872. David Parrish was twice married. By his first wife, who was a Miss Waller, he was the father of seven children. After the death of the mother of these children he remained a widower for 20 years, when in 1860, he married Elizabeth Sinclair, who was born in Illinois. To that union five children were born. Of these Doctor Parrish was the second in order of birth.

Dr. Parrish received excellent scholastic training for the arduous profession to which he early devoted his talents, and has for many years

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been the best known physicians in this county. Reared on the home farm near Speed, which, after the death of his parents, was retained in the possession of the family, his early schooling was received in the district school. He then attended the old Parrish Institute at Bunceton, and thus prepared by preliminary study, entered the State Normal School at Warrensburg, and after his graduation from that institution was for five years engaged in teaching school during the winters, continuing farming in the summers. In the meantime, he had been devoting his leisure to the study of medicine and in 1888 entered Beaumont Hospital Medical College at St. Louis. From this institution he was graduated in 1891 and began the practice of his profession at Jamestown MO. He had been there but a few months, however, when he returned to Cooper County and located at Pleasant Green, where he has since resided. In 1895, Doctor Parrish opened a drug store at Pleasant Green and has since been carrying on the business in addition to the wide practice he has enjoyed all these years. He was one of the organizers of the Pleasant Green Bank and upon its organization was elected president of the same. He is a democrat. Though reared in the Christian Church, has for years been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church (South). He is affiliated with the local lodge of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

April 29 1895, Dr. John S. Parrish was married to Martha Elizabeth Rissler, who was born in Pettis County, daughter of John C. Rissler and wife, the latter of whom was a Miss Longon, both natives of Virginia and to this union two children have been born, Mary, born February 10 1897

and John R., born in 1898 and died in 1907. Mary Parrish married James W. Stephens, who was born in this county and who was with the American Expeditionary Forces in France and was discharged June 11 1919 and now at home.

### **Robert Lee Dunn**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Robert Lee Dunn, one of Blackwater Township's substantial farmers, was born in Blackwater Township, Aug. 12, 1867, son of Joseph William and Nancy Dunn. Joseph William Dunn was born in Logan County, Ky., of Irish parentage, both of his parents having been natives of Ireland, who first made their home in Kentucky after coming to this country, but later came to Missouri and settled in Cooper County; where they spent the remainder of their lives. During the Civil War, Joseph W. Dunn served in behalf of the cause of the Confederacy until the close of the war. Upon his return he resumed farming in this county and became well-to-do, continuing his farming until his death in 1890, he then being 65 years of age. His widow, who was born in the city of Cincinnati, died

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in 1901, aged 75 years. They were members of the Baptist Church, and their children were reared in that faith. There were six of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch, now the only survivor, was the youngest, the others having been as follows: Rebecca, married J. Hamilton; Mrs. Eliza A. Potter; Bettie, married P. D. Smith; and Thomas and Charles.

Reared on the home farm in Blackwater Township, Robert Lee Dunn received his schooling in the local schools and from his boyhood has devoted his attention to farming. Upon beginning operations on his own account he rented a farm, continuing his operations as a renter until in 1918 when he bought from his niece, Orpha Dunn, of Kansas City, the farm on which he is now living, and where for years he had been making his home. Mr. Dunn has his place well improved and is prosperous. He is a staunch democrat, and is affiliated with the Woodmen of the World.

Jan. 2, 1902, Robert Lee Dunn was united in marriage to Mrs. Eliza A. (Barnhart) Stone, widow of Henry Stone, and to this union have been born two sons, Warner and Sylvester. By her first marriage, Mrs. Dunn was the mother of two children; the first born died in infancy, and the other, Mada Stone, is living. Mrs. Dunn was born in Osage County, Mo., daughter of William and Sarah (Morris) Barnhart, both of whom were born in Maries County, Mo., and who many years ago came to Cooper County and settled in Saline Township, where they remained until their retirement from the farm and removal to Boonville, where they now live. To Mr. and Mrs. Barnhart were born four children, of whom Mrs. Dunn was the second.

### **Henry Kraus**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Henry Kraus, one of Clear Creek Township's most substantial farmers and the proprietor of an excellent farm in that Township of 230 acres of land, was born on that farm June 23, 1864, son of Francis M. and Mary Ann (Remspeacher) Kraus, natives of Germany, who were married in this county, and whose last days were spent here. Francis M. Kraus was born in Ratheim, Germany, June 25, 1812, son of Jacob and Katherine (Eries) Kraus, who spent all their lives in their native land. When he was 24 years old, Francis M. Kraus came to the United States, and shortly afterwards came to Missouri and located in this county. Here he began working as a farm hand. In 1858 he entered from the Government the tract of land now owned and occupied by his son, Henry, and developed an excellent farm where he spent the rest of his life. He died Nov. 23, 1892, he then being 80 years of age. His wife died Sept. 18, 1890. She also was born at Ratheim, July 6, 1827, and was nine years of age when she came to this country with her parents, Anthony Remspeacher and

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wife, who settled in this county, Anthony securing from the Government a grant of land in Clear Creek Township. The original certificate of this grant, issued during the administration of President Taylor, is now in the possession of Henry Kraus, as is the certificate of the land grant issued to his father, Francis M. Kraus, during the administration of President Buchanan. Francis M. Kraus and his wife were Catholics, were among the first members of St. John's Catholic Church, and their children were reared in that faith. Of the children born to them 10 were reared to maturity, of these the subject of this sketch being the ninth in order of birth.

Reared on the farm on which he was born in Clear Creek Township, Henry Kraus received his schooling in the local schools, and from boyhood devoted his attention to the labors of the farm. He married in the spring of 1891, and after his father's death in 1892 bought from the other heirs to the estate their respective interests in the home farm of 180 acres, and has since continued to reside there. He has made many improvements on the old home place. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Kraus gives considerable attention to the raising of live stock. Mr. Kraus is a republican, and has served as director of schools in his district. He and his family are members of St. John's Catholic Church.

April 15, 1891, Henry Kraus was united in marriage with Elizabeth blessing, who also was born in this county, and to them four children were born: Frances K., wife of H. T. Young, New Lebanon Township; Daniel F., who is at home looking after the interests of the farm; Florence M., wife of B. Felton, and Matilda, at home. The mother of these children was born on Feb. 24, 1869, and died March 5, 1905. She was a daughter of Anthony and Katherine (Twenter) blessing, natives of Germany, who many years ago settled on a farm in this county and spent the remainder of their lives here.

### **Jacob F. Muessig**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Jacob F. Muessig, proprietor of a well-kept faun in Pilot Grove Township, this county, and long accounted one of the progressive farmers of that section, was born at St. Louis, on April 18, 1857, son of Ludwig and Elizabeth (Stabeline) Muessig, and has been a resident of this county since he was seven or eight years of age. Ludwig Muessig was a native of Germany, born in Baden in 1831, who came to this country when he was 23 years of age, and in St. Louis married Elizabeth Stabeline, also a native of Baden, born in 1832. To this marriage were born two children: Jacob F., and one died in infancy. Ludwig Muessig died and his widow married William Reuter, who died as the result of an accident in St. Louis, leaving two children, William J., Clear Fork Township, and Minnie, now

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a nun in Conception Convent, Clyde, Mo. After the death of William Reuter his widow married Philip Meisenheimer. Two children were born to this union: Peter G., of Cooper County, and Mrs. Mary A. Bonen, of Penis County. The family came to Cooper County and settled on a farm in Clear Creek Township in 1866. On that place Philip Meisenheimer and his wife spent the remainder of their lives, the latter dying in August, 1910, and the former in March, 1912.

Jacob F. Muessig was but a lad when he came to this county with his mother and his stepfather from St. Louis in 1866, and he was reared on the home farm in Clear Creek Township, receiving his schooling in the schools of that neighborhood. From his boyhood he was trained to the ways of farming, and after his marriage at the age of 23 rented a farm and began operations on his own account. He prospered and soon bought a farm of 80 acres in Clear Creek Township. Later he bought an adjacent tract in Pilot Grove Township, and now has an excellent farm of 145 acres,

which he has improved, and on which he makes his home. Mr. Muessig is a republican, and he and his family are members of the Catholic Church.

Oct. 19, 1880, Jacob F. Muessig was united in marriage to Anna A. Kraus, who was born in Clear Creek Township Feb. 12, 1860, and died Feb. 23, 1905. She was a daughter of Francis Kraus and wife. To Jacob F. and Anna A. (Kraus) Muessig were born nine children, namely: Clara E., widow of F. Klenken who is now housekeeper for her father; Frank L., is farming in that Township; Mary M., wife of Frank Stoecklein, Pilot Grove Township; Johannes, deceased; Martha, deceased; Anselma L, wife of William Kemp, Pilot Grove; Pauline, deceased; Robert J., who is now (spring of 1919) with the American Army in France, and John J., who is at home assisting his father in the operation of the farm. Robert J. Muessig, the soldier son, was born May 27, 1896, and was a farmer when he was inducted into the National Army for service in the World War. After a period of military training in this country he sailed for overseas service in September 1918.

### **James M. Haley**

(Transcribed by Laura Paxton)

James M. Haley, one of the well-known older residents of Palestine Township, was born in Howard County on March 12 1848, son of Thomas A and Elizabeth (Benson) Haley, who were the parents of 10 children, of whom James M. was the fourth in order of birth.

Thomas A. Haley also was a native Missourian, born in Boone County December 19 1820. He grew up a farmer, married March 2 1841, in Moniteau County where his wife was born March 26 1827, resided for a

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while in Howard County and later in Moniteau County and from the latter county moved to Cooper County in 1865 and located on a farm near Boonville, where he died in 1898. His wife died November 22 1877. He was a Republican and he and his wife were members of the Baptist Church.

James M. Haley was 17 years of age when he came to this county with his parents from Moniteau County in 1865, and here he remained until his marriage at the age of 21, after which he moved to a farm in Jasper County. In 1872, he returned to Cooper County and bought a farm near Boonville. In 1884 he bought the farm on which he is now living in Palestine Township and has since made his home on that place.

January 7 1869, James M. Haley was united in marriage to Mary M. Batton, who also was born in Howard County and to this union eight children have been born; two first born died in infancy; Minnie married F W Babbitt, Walsenburg Colorado; Mrs. Mattie Roberts, Prairie Lick; Maud, wife of Peter Schlotzhauer, Palestine Township; Emma, wife of Joseph Schlotzhauer, Clear Creek Township; Arthur and Leslie who are operating the home place in Palestine Township. Mr. & Mrs. Haley have 10 grandchildren, in whom they take much delight.

Mrs. Mary M. Batton Haley died April 3 1919. She was born December 24 1848.

### **Sylvanus Masel**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Sylvanus Masel, a veteran of the Civil War and one of the well-known farmers of Clear Creek Township, was born on a farm in Palestine Township, April 3, 1841, son of John George and Elizabeth M. (Mueller) Masel, both of European birth, who became early settlers in this county, and here spent their last days. John George Masel was born in Switzerland in 1803, and was

there trained to the art of cabinet making, at which trade he worked there until 1837, when he came to Missouri and settled on a farm in Palestine Township, this county, where he died in 1845. His widow, who was born in Bavaria in 1807, married George Weber, and died in 1882 without issue of that union. By her first marriage she was the mother of five children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth, the others being Mary, married Christian Schupp and is now deceased; John C., deceased; Fredericka, married John Schlotzhauer and is deceased, and one who died in infancy.

Sylvanus Masel was but four years of age when his father died, and he early undertook to face the responsibilities of life "on his own hook." The meager schooling he received in the days of his boyhood was obtained in the little old log school house in the neighborhood of his home, and when 14 years of age he began working on the farm of a neighbor at \$5

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a month, and when 15 years of age he was driving oxen to a "breaking" plow at 20 cents a day. He recalls distinctly an incident in May, 1856, while he was driving oxen for Henry Schlotzhauer, when the oxen became so annoyed at the flies which then were a perfect scourge that they ran away, making a break for a clump of shade trees and dragged behind them, boy, plow, and all. On Aug. 12, 1862, Sylvanus Masel, then 21 years of age, enlisted in the Union Army, and went to the front, a member of Company A, 29th Regiment, Missouri Volunteer Infantry, and with that command saw much active service, first in the Mississippi campaigns and later on the march with Sherman to the sea. At the battle of Arkansas Post he had a narrow escape when a bullet struck his belt. After the Atlanta campaign, Nov. 1, 1864, his regiment was mounted and he thereafter served as a cavalryman in the 15th Army Corps, and was mustered out at Washington, D. C., June 12, 1865, the war then being over.

Mr. Masel returned to his home in this county and resumed farming on rented land until 1870, when he bought the farm on which he is now living. At one time he owned there a tract of 95 acres, but some time ago he sold 40 acres of the place to his adopted son, Frank Wilfred Masel, who is living on the place. Mr. Masel is a member of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic and he and his wife are members of the Evangelical Church.

Feb. 22 1870, Sylvanus Masel was united in marriage to Josephine Schupp, who was born in Clear Creek Township, this county, Feb. 10, 1852, a daughter of Henry and Dorothy Schupp. Mr. and Mrs. Masel have no children of their own, but years ago they adopted a son, Frank W., who was born in 1872. Frank W. Masel has been twice married. By his first wife, Mary Organbright, was born one child, who died in infancy. After the death of his first wife he married Mary Saner, and to this union four children have been born, namely: Matilda, Louisa, Rebecca. One, the oldest, died in infancy.

Mr. Masel was justice of peace of Clear Creek Township for 16 years, and was again elected in 1919, but declined to serve.

#### **Robert H. Jeffress** (Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Robert H. Jeffress, one of the substantial citizens of Pilot Grove Township, was born on a farm in Boonville Township Oct. 17, 1863, son of John R. and Isabel (Laurie) Jeffress. Robert H. Jeffress received his schooling in the public schools, and from boyhood has devoted his attention to farming. For some time he worked a rented farm and then bought a farm east of Boonville. In 1908 he sold that place and bought

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the farm on which he is now living in Pilot Grove, which he has greatly improved. Mr. Jeffress has an excellent farm of 265 acres. He is a member of the board of directors of the Citizens Bank of Pilot Grove, of which he is the secretary. In civic affairs he has long been accounted one of the leaders in his neighborhood. In 1913 he was made democratic central committeeman for Pilot Grove Township, and in 1919 was reelected to that position. He and his family are members of the Baptist Church, and he is one of the deacons of the same. Mr. Jeffress is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of the Maccabees.

June 25, 1892, Robert H. Jeffress was married to Sophia Baker, and to them have been born six children: Ruth, Henry, Mable, Mildred, Robert B., and one died in infancy. Mrs. Jeffress was born near Alton, Ill., daughter of Charles and Rebecca (Hill) Baker, the latter a native of Kentucky, now living in Stone County, Mo., at the age of 82 years. Charles Baker was a native of England who came to this country in young manhood. During the Civil War he served in the Union Army, a member of an Illinois regiment, and in 1873 came with his family to Missouri and settled on a farm near Boonville, in this county, where he spent the remainder of his life.

### **John W. and Henry L. Richey**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Richey Brothers (John W. and Henry L. Richey), who have been farming together in this county for the past 25 years, and who are the owners of an excellent farm in Pilot Grove Township, were born in this county. John W. Richey was born Sept. 27, 1867, and Henry L. Richey Jan. 1, 1871. They are sons of John H. and Rebecca N. (Kirkman) Richey, both of whom are now deceased, the latter dying on Jan. 12, 1913, and the former, Dec. 14, 1918.

John H. Richey was a Kentuckian, born on June 6, 1837, and was but two years of age when his parents, William and Diamy (Tinsley) Richey, also natives of Kentucky, came to Missouri and settled in Hickory county. In that county, John H. Richey grew to manhood, afterward coming to Cooper County and locating on a farm east of Speed. Here he married Rebecca N. Kirkman, who was born in Pilot Grove Township on Oct. 31, 1839, and after his marriage bought a farm in that Township, where he made his home and where he was residing when the Civil War broke out. He enlisted in the Confederate Army, participating in some severe engagements until he was captured by the enemy and taken to the military prison at Rock Island, Ill., where he was kept a prisoner of war until the close of the war. Upon his return home, Mr. Richey resumed farming

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in Pilot Grove Township and there remained until his retirement from the farm and removal to Pilot Grove, where his last days were spent. He was a democrat, and he and his wife were members of the Baptist Church. They were parents of nine children, as follows: Emma, married F. Waller and is now deceased; Mary Ellen, married B. H. Meredith and is deceased; Elizabeth, wife of Charles E. Wilson, Pilot Grove; Sarah, wife of William Sharp, Palestine Township; John W.; Lucy, wife of Charles Jeffress, same Township; Henry L.; Anna, is living with her brother in Pilot Grove Township; and Cora, married James Gosnell and is now deceased.

John W. and Henry L. Richey grew up together on the home farm in Pilot Grove Township, and received their schooling in the district school. From the days of their boyhood they have devoted their attention to farming and early decided to "stick together" in their operations along those lines, and thus for 25 years have been in partnership. In 1918 they bought the Thomas Sims farm of 120 acres in Pilot Grove Township and are making extensive improvements. They entertain similar political views, both being democrats, as was their father; and, as were their parents, both are members of the Baptist Church. The younger brother, Henry L. Richey, is unmarried, but the elder brother, John William Richey, was married on April 28, 1917, to Edverda Barnes, who was born in Saline County.

**James H. Schlotzhauer**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

James H. Schlotzhauer, a substantial farmer and stockman, and the owner of an excellent farm in Clear Creek Township, has been a resident of Cooper County all his life. He was born on a farm in Palestine Township, Oct. 27, 1862, the eldest of the children born to John and Fredericka (Masel) Schlotzhauer, who were prominent among the residents of that community.

James H. Schlotzhauer completed his schooling in the school at Pilot Grove, under Professor Eichelberger and C. M. Johnson, and for a while thereafter remained at home, farming for this father. In 1885, he bought 130 acres in Clear Creek Township, proceeded to improve the same, and for 21 years made his home there. In 1906, he sold that farm and bought the farm on which he is now living, formerly known as the A. W. Walker farm, and which when he bought it, consisted of 350 acres, 122 acres of which he later sold to his son, Harry. Mr. Schlotzhauer has made extensive improvements on the place, including the erection of a large silo and a set of farm buildings for his son, Harry. Mr. Schlotzhauer has for many years made a specialty of feeding live stock for the market and in his operations has done well, long having been regarded as one of the

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leading farmers in that part of the county. He is an independent republican, and for two years served as a member of the School Board in District No. 54. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church (South).

Mr. Schlotzhauer has been twice married. March 3, 1885, he was united in marriage to Christina Back, who was born in Clear Creek Township in 1862, daughter of Daniel and Christina (Yost) Back, and who died on June 24, 1894. To that union five children were born, namely: Harry, who is living on the home farm, a part of which he now owns; Elizabeth, who married B. Cordrey, and who is now deceased; Oscar, who is engaged in the automobile business at Boonville; James H., Jr., who also is engaged in the automobile business at Bunceton, and one who died in infancy. Dec. 23, 1895, Mr. Schlotzhauer married Mrs. Louie (Carson) Pounds, and to this union three children have been born, Hazel, Virgil, and one who died in infancy. Mrs. Schlotzhauer was born in Morgan County, and has been a resident of this State all her life.

**David Brownfield**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

David Brownfield, proprietor of an excellent farm in Pilot Grove Township and one of the most substantial farmers and stockmen in that section of Cooper County, was born Oct. 4, 1848, son of John and Catherine (Brownfield) Brownfield, Pennsylvanians, who came to this county in the '40s and here spent their last days, the latter living to a ripe old age. John Brownfield was born in 1820 and in young manhood came West and settled in this county. He took a trip across the plains and on his return settled on his farm in Pilot Grove Township, where he died Oct. 4, 1856. His widow died Feb. 24, 1919. John Brownfield and his wife had two children, the subject of this sketch and Mrs. Margaret Elizabeth Graham, now deceased.

David Brownfield received his schooling in the district schools. When 20 years of age, in 1868, he bought the farm on which he is now living. Mr. Brownfield has a well improved farm of 265 acres, and in addition to his general farming he raises high grade live stock. The Brownfields have a pleasant home. Two of the sons of the family served with the American Army in France during the World War. Mr. Brownfield is a republican, but has not been an office seeker.

Oct. 3, 1871, David Brownfield was united in marriage to Christina Schupp, who was born in Clear Creek Township, this county, and to this union 11 children have been born, namely: Joseph, deceased; Curry, who is living in East Pilot Grove; Jacob, of that same place; Margaret, wife

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of F. Gerling, of Pilot Grove Township; Daniel, who is now living in Wyoming; Grover, deceased; Veit, who was with the American Army in France, taking his part in the World War, now at home; Arthur, who is at home assisting in the operation of the farm; Catherine, who married G. Meredith and is now living in Omaha, Neb.; Silas, who went overseas for service in the aviation corps of the United States Army and is now in the United States; and Opal, wife of F. Neeley, who makes his home with the Brownfields and is assisting in the operation of the home place. Mrs. Brownfield is a member of one of the pioneer families of Cooper County.

**Charles A. Stites**

(Transcribed by Laura Paxton)

Charles A Stites, one of Pilot Grove Township's substantial farmers and stockmen, was born Aug 5 1870, son of Prof. Joseph M and Amanda (Hail) Stites, Tennesseans, who came to Missouri with their respective parents, and who after the Civil War settled in Cooper County and the latter living at Pilot Grove.

Professor Joseph M Stites, who for many years was recognized as one of the leading educators in this part of Missouri, was born in Wilson County, Tennessee, Feb. 3 1834, and was about four years of age when his parents, Levi and Mary (Adamson) Stites, who were born in North Carolina and in Tennessee, respectively, moved to Illinois in 1838. Two years later they came to Green County Mo. where they spent the remainder of their lives. It was thus that Professor Stites had his rearing and his early schooling in Green County, this state, he having been but six years of age when his parents took up their residence there. That was in 1840, and the schools of that region were not organized on the high plane that today marks Missouri's schools, but he made the most of his opportunities and became qualified to enter upon his long career as a teacher, a profession which he followed for 25 years of more. On Feb. 28, 1858 Professor Stites married Amanda Hail, who also was born in Tennessee and in 1863 came to Cooper County and settled on a farm in Pilot Grove Township. HE followed farming and teaching spending his winters very usefully in that important calling. Professor Stites died in 1891. To Pr. and Amand (Hail) Stites were born five children, as follows: Prof. Horace L Stites, who is now carrying on his educational labors in the State of Oklahoma; Fannie, wife of George Judy, Pilot Grove; Miss Mattie Stites who is engaged in office work at Pilot Grove and Charles A.; Bertha, who married R S Harriman and is now deceased.

Charles A Stites was reared on the home farm in Pilot Grove Township and received his schooling in this county, the same being supplemented

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by the careful home instructions he received from his father. From his boyhood he has devoted his attention to farming, a vocation which he has followed with considerable success, for he is now the owner of a well-improved farm of 240 acres and is one of the progressive citizens of his community. He is a shareholder in the Citizens Bank of Pilot Grove. He is a democrat and he is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Ancient Masons.

In February 1911, Charles A Sties was united in marriage to Emma Davis, daughter of J C Davis and wife, and to this union two children have been born Winifred and Ellen.

**James Lewis Painter**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

James Lewis Painter, a prominent farmer and stockman of Palestine Township, was born on a farm in Clear Creek Township, Jan. 27, 1857, son of William and Eliza (Long) Painter, Virginians. They settled in Clear Creek Township and here spent the remainder of their lives. It was from Loudoun County, Va., that William Painter and his wife and the two children came to Cooper County. Their third and last child, James L., the subject of this sketch, was born after they came here. William Painter did not live many years after his arrival here. He died about 1861. His widow continued to make her home in this county and died in 1902. Besides the subject of this sketch she had another son, Charles Painter, her first born, now living in California, and a daughter, Alberta, who married A. Workman and is now deceased.

Having been but a child when his father died, James L. Painter was early thrown pretty much on his own resources, and thus early learned the great secret of self-reliance. He completed his schooling in Pleasant Green, and when 18 years of age began working as a farm hand at \$12 a month. He afterward rented a farm and later he bought 85 acres in Palestine Township and continued farming that place until 1906, when he bought his present farm, the old Doctor Evans home place, and has since resided there. Mr. Painter has a well-kept farm of 244 acres, maintains one of the best farm plants in the Township. He is giving considerable attention to the raising of high grade live stock. He is a Democrat. He and his family are members of the Methodist Church.

On Feb 1, 1884, James L. Painter was united in marriage to Mary Babbitt, who also was born in this county, and to this union three children have been born: Edna, who married Lester Worts, living near Bellaire, Mo.; Lester, Palestine Township; and Lloyd, is cashier of the Bank of Speed, at Speed, Mo. Mrs. Painter was born in Palestine Township, Dec.

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31, 1862, daughter of William and Mary (Burnham) Babbitt, both of whom died while she was a small child, and she was reared by a relative, Mrs. Sarah Stewart Babbitt.

**Peter L. Muntzel**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Peter L. Muntzel, a successful farmer and stockman of Palestine Township, was born on a farm in Clarks Fork Township, May 25, 1872, son of Fred and Doris (Senholt) Muntzel, who came to this country after the close of the Civil War. Fred Muntzel was born in Hanover in 1832, and there grew to manhood and married Doris Senholt, who was born in that country about 1842. In 1865 he came to this country. Six months later he returned to his native land to get his wife, and upon their return located at St. Louis, where for two years he was employed in a butcher shop. He came to Cooper County with his family in 1868, and bought a 40-acre tract of land in Clarks Fork Township. His affairs prospered there, and in time he moved to Palestine Township, where he bought a farm of 190 acres, and there spent the remainder of his life. He died in January, 1904. His widow died in January, 1918. Fred Muntzel and his wife were members of St. John's Evangelical Church at Billingsville, and their children were reared in that faith. There were nine children, of whom six are still living, as follows: Anna, Billingsville; Adolph, Boonville Township; Peter L.; Amelia, wife of Thomas Grathwohl, Billingsville; Fritz, farming the home place, Palestine Township; and Martha, wife of W. Helmrich, Little Rock, Ark.

Peter L. Muntzel has from the days of his boyhood devoted his attention to farming, and has prospered. He received his schooling in Palestine Township and remained at home until 1903, when he bought an 80-acre farm in Palestine Township and there made his home until 1905, when he sold that place and bought his present place in that same Township. Mr. Muntzel has a

well-improved farm of 301 acres, and follows general farming and raising of high-grade live stock. He is a republican. He and his family are members of the Evangelical Church.

Aug. 5, 1903, Peter L. Muntzel was united in marriage to Jessie Eichelberger, who also was born in this county, daughter of Washington and Mary Elizabeth (Merritt) Eichelberger, and to them have been born five children: Dorris, Ona, Lawrence, Anna May and Helen Marie.

**Charles P. Mitzel**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Charles P. Mitzel, a well-to-do farmer of Palestine Township, was born on a farm in Pilot Grove Township, May 19, 1868, son of Fenton W. and Cora (Simmons) Mitzel. Fenton W. Mitzel was born in Morgan County, Ohio, Dec. 2, 1848, and came to Missouri with his parents. Peter Mitzel and wife, in 1858, the family settling in this county. Reared on a

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farm, he early began farming on his own account, and prospered, becoming a large land-owner and an extensive dealer in live stock, buying over a wide radius and selling in the markets. Though now practically retired Mr. Mitzel still maintains ownership in a tract of 90 acres at the edge of Pilot Grove, and there has a very pleasant home, which is now presided over by his daughter. On May 22, 1867, Fenton W. Mitzel was united in marriage to Cora Simmons, who died on March 5, 1883. To that union were born six children, of who four are still living: Charles P.; Elizabeth Matilda, who lives with her father; James F., living retired at Pilot Grove, and Louie May, wife of Waldo Talley, of Pilot Grove Township.

Charles P. Mitzel has successfully followed farming for years. He completed his schooling in the Pilot Grove Academy, of which at that time W. F. Johnson was the principal, and in 1889 began teaching school, a profession which he followed for 12 years, in the meantime continuing his farming operations during the summers. The first farm he bought was a tract of 200 acres in Pilot Grove Township, and that place he farmed for 17 years, when he sold it and in 1910 bought his present farm of 164 acres in Palestine Township, paying for the same what was said at the time to have been the highest price ever paid for farm land in Cooper County. Mr. Mitzel has made extensive improvements, and has one of the best farm plants in the county. He is quite extensively engaged in cattle feeding. He recently bought the house, with its surrounding lot, in which Governor Crossley was born at Bellaire. Mr. Mitzel is an independent republican. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church (South), and he is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. His father was a member of the Pilot Grove lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

March 7, 1894, Charles P. Mitzel was united in marriage to Vira A. Grigsby, of this county, and to this union three children have been born: Mary Corrine, who was graduated from the Boonville High School with the class of 1917; William Roy, who in that same year was graduated from the Bunceton High School, and Charles Harold, who is now a student in the Bunceton High School. Mrs. Mitzel was born at Landmark, Howard County, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Blanton) Grigsby, who came to this county with their family about 1884 and located at Pilot Grove. Mrs. Grigsby was born in Missouri, a member of one of the pioneer families. She died July 30, 1919. Her mother was a McCrary. Henry Grigsby was born in Ohio and came to Missouri in young manhood. He became engaged in the shoe business at Pilot Grove and there spent his

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last days, one of the leading merchants in that place, with his son, Edward M. Grigsby, who is now conducting the largest shoe store of Livingston, Mont.

## **Michael Myer**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Michael Myer, a leading farmer and stock raiser of Pilot Grove Township, was born on a farm in Hamilton County, Ohio, near Cincinnati, June 13, 1859, son of Adam and Margaret (Fullmar) Myer, both of whom were born in Germany, and the latter of whom spent her last days in Cooper County, she having come here with her children after the death of her husband. Adam Myer was born about 1821 and grew to manhood in his native lands. As a young man he came to this country and first worked as a farm hand in Hamilton County, Ohio. There he married, and rented a farm there for some years, when he moved with his family to Indiana and settled on a farm in Jennings County, where he died about 1877. After his death his widow disposed of the farm in Indiana, and in 1880 came to Missouri with seven of her children and located in Cooper County, where she died about 1894. She was born in Germany about 1822. Of the children born to Adam Myer and wife nine grew to maturity, and seven of these accompanied their mother to Missouri in 1880. Of these children the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being the following: Mary, wife of George Miller, of Boonville Township; Lena, married Chris Young, and is living in Indianapolis, Ind.; Barbara, married Adam Kirsch, also living in Indianapolis; Louis, deceased; Jacob, now living at Pilot Grove; Charles, Kansas City; Joseph, Pilot Grove, and John is a bridge worker for the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company.

Michael Myer came to Cooper County with his mother and other members of the family when he was 21 years old, and he began farm work. In 1887, he bought a tract of 80 acres and proceeded to improve the same. As he prospered he added to his original tract until he became the owner of 280 acres. His original "80" he recently sold to his son, Jacob N. Myer, and still owns 200 acres. He has made excellent improvements on the place, and has one of the best faun plants in the neighborhood. He is a stockholder in the Pilot Grove Bank of Pilot Grove. He is an independent democrat. He and his family are members of the Catholic Church.

Michael Myer has been twice married. In 1885 he married Anna Dorfiinger, who was born in this county and who died without issue 14 months after her marriage. In 1887 Mr. Myer married Katherine Hoff,

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who was born in Germany and came to this country with her parents, and to this union five children have been born; Jacob N.; Rosa, deceased; William, deceased; Minnie, wife of H. Foser, of Boonville Township, and Hubert, at home.

## **Charles E. Wilson**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Charles E. Wilson, now living in Pilot Grove, is a native Missourian, born in Jasper County on March 23, 1859, son of John M. and Eliza (Beebe) Wilson, who were the parents of 12 children, nine of whom are still living. About 1867 John M. Wilson and his wife came to Cooper County with their family and settled on a farm in LaMine Township, where they remained until their retirement, after which they made their home with their children. John M. Wilson died at Sedalia in 1914, he then being 91 years of age. Iris widow died in 1915, she then being 81 years of age.

Charles E. Wilson has always been a farmer, and though he recently sold his farm and moved to town he is even now casting about for another farm to suit him. He was eight years of age when his parents moved from Jasper County to Cooper, and his schooling was acquired in the schools of LaMine Township. As a young man he started farming on his own account, renting a farm, and continued until 1894, when he bought a farm near Clifton City. He improved it and sold to advantage. He then bought 175 acres in Pettis County, where he lived for four years, when he

sold that place and in 1912 bought 120 acres in Pilot Grove Township, where he lived until he sold that place early in 1919 and moved to Pilot Grove. Mr. Wilson is independent.

March 13, 1887, Charles E. Wilson was united in marriage to Elizabeth Richey, of this county, and to this union two children have been born, Charles L. Wilson, at home, and Anna May, who married Ricie Beaman, of Heaths Creek Township, Pettis County. Mrs. Wilson was born in Cooper County in 1863, daughter of John and Rebecca (Kirkman) Richey.

### **William A. Betteridge**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

William A. Betteridge, proprietor of "Crestmead Farm," in Clear Creek Township, this county, and one of the best known breeders of high grade cattle in Missouri, is a native of England. He was born in Shropshire, England, Jan. 7, 1858, son of George and Ann M. (Jones) Betteridge, and was the eldest born of the six children, four of whom grew to maturity. In 1863 George Betteridge moved with his family from England to Canada and there remained until 1888, when he and his wife came to Cooper County, their son William having settled here, and here

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George Betteridge is still living, being now in his 85th year. His wife died here in 1899, she then being 65 years of age.

Having been but five years of age when he came to America with his parents in 1863, William A. Betteridge was reared in Canada and there received his schooling. When he was 16 years of age, in 1874, he came to the United States, and two years later came to Missouri and located in Cooper County, where he ever since has made his home, and where he has for many years been engaged in farming and in the breeding of purebred cattle. In 1888, Mr. Betteridge began the breeding of Scotch Shorthorn cattle, and the herd he then established has been for years widely known throughout the West, shipments from "Crestmead" being made to various parts of the country. "Crestmead" is a well-improved farm of 340 acres in Clear Creek Township, and is recognized as one of the model stock farms in this section of Missouri. Mr. Betteridge is a member of the American Shorthorn Breeders' Association, and has for years taken an interested part in the deliberations and activities of that body.

Oct. 22, 1890, in this county, William A. Betteridge was united in marriage to Ada M. Amick, and to this union has been born one child, Verne K. Betteridge, born on May 27, 1896, near Bellaire, this county, who upon leaving the Boonville High School, entered Robins Business College at Sedalia, and was graduated from that institution and is now a valued assistant to his father in the operations of "Crestmead Farm." Mrs. Betteridge was born in this county, daughter of Leander and Melissa (Lampton) Amick. Mrs. Betteridge and her son are members of the Baptist Church.

### **George Schupp**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

George Schupp, a progressive farmer and stockman in Clear Creek Township, and a member of the board of directors of the Citizens Bank of Pilot Grove, is a native son of Cooper County. He was born on the farm where he is now living in Clear Creek Township, June 8, 1859, son of Christian and Mary (Masel) Schupp, natives of Germany. Christian Schupp was born in Nassau, and was about 20 years of age when he came to this country with his parents, following the revolution of 1848, who settled in Cooper County. Here Christian Schupp married Mary Masel, who also was born in Germany, and who was but a child when she left there with her parents, the Masel family also settling in this county. After his marriage, Christian Schupp established his home on a farm in Clear Creek Township, the place now owned by his son, George, and there he

spent the rest of his life. He died in 1911, he then being 82 years of age. His wife had preceded him to the grave about six years, and she

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was 65 years of age at the time of her death. They were the parents of 14 children, of whom ten grew to maturity, and of whom the subject of this sketch was the sixth in order of birth.

George Schupp received his schooling in the district schools, and has always retained his interest in farming, a vocation which he has followed with much success. He bought his first farm in 1882, and on that place built a house and barn, and made other improvements, and there resided until 1893, when he bought the old home place. His eldest son, August Schupp, is now residing on the first named farm. As he prospered in his affairs, Mr. Schupp bought more land, until now he is the owner of 708 acres, all lying in Clear Creek Township, save a tract of 265 acres in Pilot Grove Township. In addition to this he is the owner of some business buildings in Pilot Grove, and is a stockholder in the Citizens Bank of Pilot Grove, and a member of the board of directors of this institution. Mr. Schupp is a republican. He and his family are members of the Evangelical Church.

Feb. 16, 1882, George Schupp was married to Minnie Walje, who died June 5, 1914, and to that union four children were born, namely: Mrs. Catherine Eichelberger, Clear Creek Township; August, farming in Clear Creek Township; Walter, farming in Pilot Grove Township, and Reinhart, who is at home assisting his father. Mrs. Minnie Walje Schupp, mother of these children, was born in Germany, Nov. 7, 1856, and was about 10 years of age when she came to this country with her parents, Ernest Walje and wife, the latter of whom was a Miss Voglepohl, and settled in Penis County. A year or two later, in 1868, they came into Cooper County, and settled in Clear Creek Township, where the parents spent the remainder of their lives.

#### **Walter Cyrus West**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Walter Cyrus West, contractor and builder at Pleasant Green, was born on a farm in Clear Creek Township, Aug. 21, 1879, son of John William and Mary Elizabeth (Robertson) West, both of whom also were born in Missouri, and the latter of whom is still living, she and her son Walter making their home together at Pleasant Green.

John William West was born near Manchester, in St. Louis County, Mo., March 14, 1838, son of Thomas West, a native of Kentucky, and came to Cooper County, arriving here on Oct. 8, 1855. Upon coming here he bought a tract of 128 acres of timber land in Clear Creek Township. This he proceeded to clear and render tillable, and after his marriage established his home on that place and there remained until his death,

March 15, 1908, he then being one day past 70 years of age. Mrs. Elizabeth

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West was born in this county, Sept. 7, 1848, daughter of George Robertson and wife, the latter of whom was a Mann, natives of Kentucky, who had come to this county with their respective parents. Mrs. West. was left an orphan at an early age. Her mother died and her father later went to Indian Territory and was never again heard from, the presumption being he was killed by Indians. John William West helped build the Methodist Episcopal Church (South) at Pleasant Green, and was for a number of years one of the trustees of the same. He was married Aug. 29, 1878. Four children were born to this union, of whom Walter Cyrus was the eldest born, the other being: Thomas P., deceased; George H., a farmer, Clear Creek Township; and Anna F., deceased.

Walter C. West received his early schooling in the local schools of Clear Creek Township and the Otterville High School and a short course at the State University. He continued farming until 1903,

when he became engaged working on the Midland interurban bridge at St. Charles, and while thus employed became so interested in the carpenter's trade that he ever since has been engaged working at that trade, gradually developing in business for himself as a building contractor, and since returning from St. Charles in 1903 has erected many of the houses and barns in Pleasant Green and vicinity. In 1918, Mr. West was employed on the new Baptist Church at Syracuse, Mo. In 1906, he spent the year working on the structure at old Ft. Supply in Oklahoma, which has been converted into a hospital for the insane. Mr. West is a democrat, and he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Sedalia. He is a stockholder in the Pleasant Green Bank.

**Charles W. Oglesby**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Charles W. Oglesby, a member of the board of directors of the Bunceton Bank, as well as a stockholder in the Pleasant Green Bank, and who for years has been recognized as one of the leading farmers and stockmen in Palestine Township, was born on the farm on which he is now living, May 13, 1862, son of Henry F. and Martha C. (Nichols) Oglesby, both of whom were born in Cooper County and who spent all their lives here.

Henry F. Oglesby was born on May 13, 1836, a son of Pleasant G. and Millie C. (Wollery) Oglesby, the latter of whom also was born in this county, daughter of one of the early settlers, her father having entered a good deal of land in what afterward came to be Palestine Township. Pleasant G. Oglesby was born in Kentucky March 12, 1804, and came here with his parents. He married here and engaged in farming on the place now owned by his grandson, Charles W. Oglesby. He died July 1, 1845..

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His widow died Nov. 2, 1882. She was born here Nov. 14, 1814. They had five children. Henry F. Oglesby grew up on the farm on which he was born, in time became owner of the same and there spent his life. He died Jan. 27, 1888. He was twice married. April 14, 1859, he was united in marriage to Martha C. Nichols, who was born in this county Sept. 10, 1840, and died June 7, 1869. To that union were born four children: Charles W.; Mollie, wife of C. W. Cordrey, Palestine Township; George P., deceased, and Martha, deceased. Nov. 23, 1871, Henry F. Oglesby married Nancy E. Wollery, who was born in Palestine Township, Feb. 26, 1839, and died Sept. 19, 1887. To that union three children were born, Hamilton, died in 1874; Mattie Hamilton born May 23, 1875, now living with his half brother Charles, and Robert F., born March 13, 1878, Stoneton, Colo.

Charles W. Oglesby received his schooling in the district schools. After the death of his father in 1888 he bought the interests of the other heirs in the home tract of 197 acres and has added to the same by purchase of adjoining land until he now owns 210 1/2 acres. His improvements including the erection in 1907 of a fine new and modern farm house. His wife is the owner of a tract of 78 acres in Lebanon Township, which also is well improved. In 1904 Mr. Oglesby became engaged in the breeding of Shorthorn cattle, starting his herd with select stock from the celebrated Betteridge herd in this county, and is one of the best stockmen in that neighborhood. He is a stockholder in the Bunceton Bank and in the Pleasant Green Bank and is a member of the board of directors of the first named institution. Mr. Oglesby is a staunch Democrat. He and his family are members of the Baptist Church

Oct. 8, 1889, Charles W. Oglesby was united in marriage to Eva E. Cordry, who also was born in Cooper County, and to this union four children have been born, namely: Anna E., born May 7, 1891, married Charles McCutcheon living near Pilot Grove; Mattie Ellen, born Sept. 21, 1895, is a Cooper County teacher; Daphn Alberta, Jan. 26, 1900, is a teacher in grade school, Hartsburg, Mo., and Charles Kenneth, Aug. 22, 1902, is attending school at Boonville. Mrs. Oglesby was

born on a farm in Lebanon Township Sept. 1, 1865, daughter of James and Anna E. (Robinson) Cordry, the former born in Kentucky and the latter in this county and both now deceased.

**Edward B. Windsor**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Edward B. Windsor, proprietor of "Airy View Farm" in Palestine Township, a progressive farmer, was born on a farm in Lebanon Township June 19, 1861, son of Henderson and Icybindia (Coleman) Windsor, Virginians.

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Henderson Windsor was born in Fayette County, Va., in 1818 and his wife was born in that same county in 1831. After their marriage they located in Jackson County and came to this county in 1860 and located on a farm about three miles south of Pleasant Green. There Henderson Windsor died in May, 1900. His widow survived him until 1903. They were the parents of eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being: Sallie, deceased; Dorcas, married M. Tavner and is now deceased; Emma, wife of James W. Coe, Lebanon Township; Mrs. Jennie Woolery, of Sedalia; Mrs. Mattie Cruse, deceased; Mrs. Susan Read, deceased, and Mrs. Margaret Heim, Pleasant Green.

Edward B. Windsor was reared on the farm on which he was born, receiving his schooling in the district schools. In 1893, he bought the farm on which he is now living and there established his home. Mr. Windsor has made extensive improvements, including a fine modern farm house, and he and his family are very pleasantly situated on his place of 240 acres. Mr. Windsor has for years raised graded Polled Angus cattle and has an excellent herd. He is a Democrat, voting the ticket "straight".

Feb. 15, 1893, Edward B. Windsor was married to Kate R. Davis, who also was born in this county, and to this union four children have been born, namely: Arlotta, wife of Sidney A. Lusk, Bunceton; Helen W., wife of Speed Boulware, Lebanon Township; Grovner D., who is at home assisting his father, and Edward B., Jr., also at home. Mrs. Windsor was born in Boonville Township, a daughter of Daniel G. and Ruth M. (Brereton) Davis.

**Morgan Broe**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Morgan Broe, who died at his home in Clear Creek Township in the fall of 1906 and whose widow and several members of the family are still living there, was for many years one of the best known citizens of that part of Cooper County. He was born in Ireland Feb. 3, 1848, and came to Cooper County in 1872. His parents, Patrick and Margaret (Fitzsimmons) Broe spent their lives in Ireland. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom Morgan was the youngest. Several of these children had come to the United States and when he was 14 years of age, Morgan Broe came to join them. Here he learned the stone cutter's trade and had worked at that trade for some years in various parts of the country, when in March 1872, he became employed as a stonecutter on the M. K. & T. railroad bridge which then was being constructed across the LaMine River between Clifton and Pleasant Green. When the bridge was completed he located at Boonville, where he was employed at his trade until

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in 1874, when he rented a farm in Clear Creels Township and engaged as a tenant farmer until 1879, when he bought a farm of 160 acres in that Township and spent the remainder of his life there, one of the substantial members of the community. He died Oct. 21, 1906. Mr. Broe was a

democrat and always took an active interest in local politics. He was a member of the Catholic Church, as is his widow, and their children were reared in that faith.

July 29, 1872, Morgan Broe married Eliza Sweeney, of this county, and to that union seven children were born, namely: Mary M., wife of Frank Clevorn, of Clear Creek Township; Timothy E., on the home farm, giving particular attention to the live stock interests; Anna A., who also is at home with her mother; William M., now living at St. Louis; Eliza C., wife of A. C. Mayfield, a hardware merchant, Pleasant Green; John H., at home and who in partnership with his brother Timothy, under the firm name of Broe Brothers, and Elsie L, wife of T. W. Stratton, a grocery merchant, Bunceton. Mrs. Broe was born in St. Louis County, Mo., Feb. 7, 1855, and was but an infant in arms when she became a resident of Cooper County, her parents, Dennis and Mary (Quail) Sweeney, having come here in the spring of 1856 and settled on a farm in Lebanon Township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Both Dennis Sweeney and his wife were natives of Ireland. They had two children, Mrs. Broe and Mary, wife of William Quirk, of Enon, Mo.

### **Frank C. Stegner**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Frank C. Stegner, one of Palestine Township's well known and substantial farmers and the proprietor of an excellent farm was born in Pilot Grove Township on Jan. 23, 1874, son of George J. and Theresa (Richard) Stegner, both now deceased. George J. Stegner was born in Saxony and was 12 years of age when he came to this country with his parents and settled in this county. Here George J. Stegner grew to manhood on a farm and became a farmer. He was twice married. By his union with Theresa Richarp, who was born in this county, he had four children: Frank C.; Charles L., Palestine Township; Julius H., Bathe Township, and Ada, deceased. The mother of these children died in 1886, at the age of 30 years, and Mr. Stegner later married Katherine Schreck, who was born in Moniteau County and died in 1917 at the age of 66 years. To that union four children were born, namely: Minnie, deceased; Joseph, who was with the American Expeditionary Forces in France, now living at Boonville; Hannah, wife of H. Schwitzsky, Boonville, and James C., of Boonville. Joseph Stegner, the soldier son, was born Jan. 27, 1887. He was inducted into the National Army and after a period of training sailed

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in September, 1918, for overseas service in the World War, a member of A Company, 351 Regiment of Infantry, 88th Division of the United States Army.

Frank C. Stegner received his schooling in the public schools and not long after he had attained his majority he rented a farm from his grandmother and began farming. Later, in association with his brother, Charles L., he bought 60 acres and as his affairs have prospered he has added to his original purchase until he is now the owner of a fine farm of 185 acres in Palestine Township, where he is engaged in farming and stock raising. He is a stockholder in the Pilot Grove Bank. He is a republican and takes an active interest in local civic affairs, having been one of those who helped to organize the last special road district. He and his wife are members of the Evangelical Church.

Mr. Stegner has been twice married. In 1902 he was married to Clam Dumolt, who also was born in this county and who died in 1913. To that union was born one child, who died in infancy. Aug. 10, 1915, Mr. Stegner married Lillian L. Kinser, who was born in Logan County, Ill., daughter of William and Amanda (Robinson) Kinser, and to this union has been born one child, who died in infancy.

### **William D. Cole**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

William D. Cole, who is a member of one of the real pioneer families of Cooper County, has an excellent farm of 207 acres in Palestine Township and in addition to his general farming gives considerable attention to the raising of Duroc Jersey hogs. He was born on a farm in this Township March 13, 1863, son of Stephen and Josephine (Bryant) Cole, both of whom also were born in this county, both the Cole and the Bryant families having been represented here since the early settlement. Stephen Cole was a farmer and was one of the well known residents of the community. He and his wife were the parents of six children, one of whom died in infancy and of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being, Ada, married D. Homer and is now deceased; Holbert, Palestine Township; George, living in Morgan County, and Irving, also a resident of Morgan County.

William D. Cole received his schooling in the district schools and when 21 years of age began farming on his own account. He rented land until 1886, when he bought seventy acres in the section in which he now lives; later he added to that farm, later sold his original tract of 70 acres and bought more land until now owns 207 acres, which is well improved. Mr. Cole is a democrat and takes an interest in local affairs.

March 18, 1892, William D. Cole was married to Catherine Reed, whom he had known since the days of her childhood, and to this union

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three children have been born, Noel, Clarence and Carl, all of whom are at home. Mrs. Cole also was born in Palestine Township and has lived there all her life. She is a daughter of James and Evaline (Ewing) Reed and was born on Feb. 22, 1874.

#### **George H. Schlotzhauer**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

George H. Schlotzhauer, a well known farmer of Palestine Township and one of the leading orchardists of Cooper County, was born in Pilot Grove Township March 17, 1870, son of Chris and Louie (Morrow) Schlotzhauer, the latter of whom was born in Scotland and died in this county in 1880, she then being 29 years of age. Chris. Schlotzhauer is one of the leading farmers of Pilot Grove Township. He is one of the sons of Henry Schlotzhauer, a pioneer of Cooper County. George H. Schlotzhauer was educated in the district schools and attended the Pilot Grove Academy. Shortly after attaining his majority he bought the place on which he is now living in the spring of 1896. Mr. Schlotzhauer has an excellent farm of 150 acres and has the same improved in admirable fashion. He has a fine apple orchard of 20 acres and has long been regarded as one of the most successful orchardists in Cooper County, as his father was before him, for on his father's place there also is a very fine orchard of 20 acres or more. Mr. Schlotzhauer is a republican. He is affiliated with Bunceton Lodge No. 456, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and the Woodmen of the World at Speed. He and his family are members of the Methodist Church.

March 10, 1896, George H. Schlotzhauer was united in marriage to Ella Babbitt, who also was born in Pilot Grove Township, daughter of William and Sarah (Stewart) Babbitt, both now deceased, and to this union give children have been born, namely: Elizabeth B., wife of L. Gander, Lebanon Township; Hallie C., who recently returned from army service, and Eugene, Arthur and Mary E. Mr. and Mrs. Schlotzhauer have reared two of the children of William Babbitt, Mrs. Katie Haley and Lester Babbitt both of Pilot Grove Township. Hallie C. Schlotzhauer, the soldier son, was born Aug. 2, 1899. In Oct., 1918, young Schlotzhauer enlisted for service in the celebrated "Tank" Corps of the United States Army and was sent to Camp Dix, N. J., for training and was there when the armistice was signed, when his corps was demobilized.

#### **Leslie F. Cordry**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Leslie F. Cordry, a prominent farmer of Palestine Township, was born on a farm in Lebanon Township on Sept. 2, 1873, son of William F. and Dora (Hutchison) Cordry, both natives of this county, reared on the home farm in Lebanon Township, Leslie F. Cordry was educated in the district school and in the Otterville High School. He remained on the home farm until the spring of 1900, when he bought from his father the tract

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of 120 acres on which he is now living. Since taking possession of that place Mr. Cordry has made extensive improvements on the same, these improvements including the erection of a new and modern farm house and other buildings in keeping with the same. His farm is in a high state of cultivation and his operations are being carried on with constantly increasing profit, he having demonstrated to his own satisfaction that progressive methods pay. Mr. Cordry is a republican. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Feb. 14, 1900, Leslie F. Cordry was united in marriage to Maggie A. Fritts, who was born in Lebanon Township, this county, Oct. 3, 1873, fifth in order of birth of the eight children born there to John W. and Patsy (Reese) Fritts, the latter of whom is still living, making her home with Mr. and Mrs. Cordry. She was born in Audrain County, May 8, 1843, and came to Cooper County with her parents, this having been her home when she married in 1863. Mr. Fritts was a Virginian, born Oct. 9, 1836. When he was 24 years of age, he came to Cooper County. After his marriage to Patsy Reese he settled on a farm in Lebanon Township and there spent the remainder of his life. He died Feb. 1, 1888, aged 52 years. Mrs. Fritts is now in her 72nd year and can tell many interesting tales of conditions in Missouri as she knew them in her girlhood.

Christopher Schlotzhauer, a progressive citizen of Pilot Grove Township, who is a well known farmer, and one of the most successful orchardists in central Missouri, is a native son of Cooper County. He was born on a pioneer farm in Palestine Township, June 21, 1848, a son of Henry Schlotzhauer and wife, well known in that section in their generation.

#### **Christopher Schlotzhauer**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Christopher Schlotzhauer was early trained in the ways of farming, and has followed that vocation all his life. He received his schooling in the local district schools, and when little more than a boy served for three months as a member of the Missouri State Militia, during the Civil War. When he attained his majority, he began farming on his own account. His father deeded him 120 acres long before his death, and since coming into possession of the same he has made extensive improvements to the same, for years having had one of the best farm plants in that neighborhood. About 20 years ago, Mr. Schlotzhauer set out an apple orchard of 20 acres on his place, and has for years been recognized as one of the most successful orchardists in Cooper County, though of recent years he has not given the attention to this branch of his operations that he formerly did. He also has another orchard on a farm in the vicinity of Pilot Grove. During the years in which he gave special attention to

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his orchards he was an active member of the Fruit Growers Association, and some years ago shipped in one season 13 carloads of apples from his place. Mr. Schlotzhauer is the owner of 320 acres of land, which is well improved and profitably cultivated. He is a republican. He and his family are members of the Methodist Church.

Mr. Schlotzhauer has been twice married. In 1869 he was married to Louie Morrow, who was born in Scotland, and who died at her home in this county in 1880, at the age of 29 years. To that

union were born four children, namely: George, a farmer, of Bellaire, Mo.; Margaret, who makes her home with her brother, George; Lloyd, Morgan County, Ohio; and Arthur, deceased. On Feb. 11, 1883, Mr. Schlotzhauer married Margaret Ferguson, who was born in Pettis County, and to this union five children have been born. Of these the fourth in order of birth died in infancy. The others are as follows: Myrtle, married Fred Harris, LaMonte, Mo.; Charles, Pilot Grove; Horace, who is at home assisting his father; and Grace, wife of James Verts, farming near Boonville. Mrs. Schlotzhauer was reared in Pettis County, where she was born. She is a daughter of Samuel and Lucretia (Smith) Ferguson, who spent their last days in Pettis County. Samuel Ferguson was born in that county, and his wife was born in Kentucky.

**Robert E. Downing**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Robert E. Downing, one of Cooper County's best known real "old-timers;" was born in Palestine Township March 28, 1847, son of Robert E. and Lucy (Boulware) Downing, and was the second in order of birth of the three children born to that parentage, he having had two sisters, Mrs. Lucy Harness, now deceased, and Agnes, who died in infancy. Robert E. Downing, Sr., was born in Northumberland County, Va., and came to Missouri in the early '40s and settled on a farm west of the site of Bunceton. In 1849 he joined that great band of fortune hunters which streamed across the plains seeking gold in California. Not finding conditions there as his fancy had painted them, he started home, taking vessel to return by way of Cape Horn, but was taken ill and died before many days out and was buried at sea. He was twice warned and by his first wife, Eliza Bell, who also was born in Virginia, had two sons, Everett S., and Samuel W., both now deceased. His second wife, Lucy Boulware, also was born in Virginia. She died at her home in this county in 1875, being then 55 years of age.

The earliest recollections of Robert E. Downing have to do with the efforts he early recognized to help his widowed mother. Of his father

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he has no recollection, for he was little more than an infant when that unfortunate man started on his ill-fated quest for gold. He grew up on the little farm which his mother retained, west of Bunceton, and his schooling was received in a little old log school house more than three miles from his home and to which he walked to and from during the winter periods of from three to four months in which school was "held." His boyhood was given over to farm work until he was 18 years of age, when, in 1865, he became employed by the government as a "bullwhacker" for the supply trains of ox-teams plodding across the plains to Ft. Union in New Mexico territory, and during this period of employment underwent some interesting experiences. Upon the completion of this service, Mr. Downing resumed his place on his mother's farm and continued in charge of the same until her death in 1875. In the meantime, a few years prior to that event, he had married; moved to Cass County. After three years, he returned to Cooper County and formed a partnership with Green Walker in the live stock business and was for three years thus engaged. At the end of that time he moved back to the old home farm, then owned by T. J. Wallace, and formed a partnership with Mr. Wallace in the operation of the place which lasted for three years, when, in 1886, he bought 80 acres of the farm now owned by E. B. Windsor in Palestine Township. Mr. Downing resided there for about 20 years, when he sold it and bought the quarter section on which he is now living. In addition to his general farming operations, Mr. Downing has been engaged ever since his return from Cass County in the buying and selling of mules and has long been recognized as an expert in mule values. Although Mr. Downing is widely known as one of the "safest" buyers in the country, he says the days of former profits in the mule market seem to have gone forever. Mr. Downing is a democrat and has since the days of his young manhood taken an interested part in local civic affairs. For the past 20 years he has been the clerk of the school board in his home district and during that time has done much to help elevate educational standards, it having been during his incumbency that District No. 49 became famous as the seat of the highest-priced school plant of any country school district in Missouri, a distinction it held

from the time it achieved the same until six years ago, when the banner was won away by another district; however, District 49 still claims the best country school in Cooper County. The Downings are members of the Baptist Church.

Dec. 24, 1872, Robert E. Downing was united in marriage to Martha Paxton, who was born in Nichols county, Ky., Sept. 12, 1846, daughter

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of Thomas and Margaret (Orr) Paxton, both of whom were born in that state. Thomas Paxton died in Kentucky and his widow later came to Cooper County, where her daughters resided, and here spent the remainder of her life. To Robert E. and Martha (Paxton) Downing five children have been born: William B., superintendent of schools of Cooper County; Lutie May, who died in infancy; twins, who died in infancy, and Martha, wife of W. H. Streitt, of Lebanon Township. Mr. and Mrs. Streitt have two children, Wade H., Jr., and Margaret.

Prof. William B. Downing, county superintendent of schools, began his educational career when, at the age of 16 years, following his graduation from the Otterville High School, he was granted a certificate to teach school, his examination papers receiving the highest grade accorded in the county in that year. Though but a boy, his initial effort was successful and he ever since has continued as a teacher, and is recognized as one of the leading educators in this part of the State, and in Jan., 1919, was elected superintendent of schools for Cooper County. Professor Downing makes his home with his children in the household of his parents, his wife having died in 1906, leaving three children, Lucy, Dorothy and Lewis. The mother of these children was Grace Parrish, who was born in this county, daughter of Robert Parrish and wife, the latter of whom was a Waller, and who died in 1906 at the age of 32 years.

#### **John M. Putnam**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

John M. Putnam, manager of the Nelson farms in Kelly Township, was born on a farm in Palestine Township June 27, 1863, son of Darius and Mary (Jeffress) Putnam, both deceased. Darius Putnam was born in Worcester County, Mass., and was but a child when his father died. His mother married again and he left home and came West, arriving at Boonville when he was 12 years of age. There, under the instructions of George Sahm, he learned the shoemaker's trade, which he followed the rest of his life and in which he was successful, making considerable money, which he lost in unfortunate investments. He entered business in Boonville, that being a time when custom-made boots were generally worn, and after some years moved to Bunceton, where he set up in business and bought a farm on which his sons were reared and trained in the ways of farming, and there he spent the rest of his life, dying at the age of 56 years. His widow died in 1881, aged 71 years. She was born in Tennessee and was married in this county. Darius Putnam was a stalwart democrat and ever took an active interest in political affairs, serving for some time as constable and later for years as justice of the peace in and for Palestine Township. He and his wife were the parents of nine

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children, of whom but two are now living, the subject of this sketch having a sister older than himself, Mrs. Elizabeth Blackburn, Alhambra, Calif.

Reared on the home farm in Palestine Township, John M. Putnam was from the days of his boyhood given an excellent training in the ways of practical farming. He received his schooling in the local schools and when 21 years of age began farming on his own account, renting a portion of the Nelson tract. Early in 1888 he married, thereafter continuing his farming as a renter until in 1891 he was made sole manager for the Dr. Arthur W. Nelson farms, a position he ever since has occupied, now having under his charge 3500 acres of land in Kelly Township. Mr. Putnam is a

stockholder in the Traders Bank of Tiptop, Mo. He is a democrat, as was his father. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church.

Feb. 22, 1888, John M. Putnam was united in marriage to Elizabeth Ranz, of this county, and to this union five children have been born, namely: Florence, wife of C. E. Hutchinson, Lebanon Township; George, Palestine Township; Frank, Morgan County; Arthur W., Kelly Township, and Thomas, who has but recently returned from service in the United States Army, having received his honorable discharge on Feb. 7, 1919. He was in training at Camp Funston, and was a corporal in the headquarters company of the Tenth Division, Infantry, when the armistice was signed. Mrs. Putnam was born in Tennessee and was but four years of age when she came to Missouri with her parents, Jacob and Elizabeth Ranz, the family locating in this county. Here Jacob Ranz spent the remainder of his life. His widow is now living in Moniteau County.

### **Joseph R. Koontz**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Joseph R. Koontz, one of Kelly Township's successful farmers, was born in Page County, Va., Feb. 21, 1863, son of Lewis and Elizabeth (Hutchinson) Koontz, both of whom also were born in that state, the latter in Shenandoah County, and who died there. Lewis Koontz was born in 1821 and died in 1899. Many years ago he made several trips west and bought land both in Illinois and in Missouri as an investment, but never farmed the same. He made three trips into Cooper County, coming once by boat and twice by wagon, to look after his investments here, but could not make up his mind to make this his place of residence, as many other Virginians, who came here about the same time, did. He and his wife were the parents of 10 children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the seventh in order of birth.

In 1883, Joseph R. Koontz came to Missouri to look after some land investments that his father had made in Cooper County and he ever

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since has resided here. He settled on the place where he is now living, 238 acres of which he bought in 1885, and which he has well improved. This farm is the site of the old John Roatcap flour mill, which stood there in pioneer days and the products of which were known for miles about, the early settlers driving from far distant points to get their "grist" done there. In those days there was a big spring near the mill and the waters of which had a wide celebrity among the pioneers.

Dec. 21, 1886, Joseph R. Koontz was married to Lida Funkhouser, an adopted daughter of Eli Funkhouser, and to this union four children have been born, namely: Lewis, now a resident of St. Louis; Russell, farmer, Kelly Township; Frank and Josephine, at home. Mr. Koontz is a democrat, and he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

### **Charles S. Phillips**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Charles S. Phillips, a veteran of the Civil War and one of the leading farmers of Kelly Township, was born in Washington County, Ohio, Aug. 6, 1843, son of John and Czrina (Buchanan) Phillips, both of whom also were born in Ohio, the former in Athens County and the latter in Morgan County. John Phillips died in Washington County when about 45 years of age. His widow survived him many years and her last days were spent in Grundy County, Ill. They were the parents of six children, of whom two are still living, the subject of this sketch having a brother, Walter Phillips, Morris, Ill.

Charles S. Phillips was reared on a farm and educated in the public schools. When the Civil War broke out, he enlisted in the Union Army, and went to the front as a member of Company D, Fourth Virginia (afterward West Virginia) Cavalry, with which command he served for six months, when he re-enlisted as a member of Company A, 36th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until mustered out at Wheeling, W. Va., in 1865, the war then being over. During this service, Mr. Phillips participated in the battle of Medaly Gap as a cavalryman and after joining the infantry took part in several of the important battles and engagements of the war, including Meadows Bluff, Lynchburg, Winchester and Cedar Creek. At the battle of Winchester, July 24, 1864, he was severely wounded by a minnie ball, which went through his right leg below the knee. After the war, Mr. Phillips returned to his home in Ohio and remained until 1867, when he came to Missouri and located in St. Louis County. In 1871 he returned to Ohio, but in 1875 came back to Missouri and located in Cooper County, beginning here by renting a farm in Pilot Grove Township and was thus engaged there until 1880, when he moved to Kelly Township, rented of James Nelson the farm. In 1893 he bought his present farm. Mr. Phillips has been successful in his farming

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and stock raising and has added to the acreage until now he is the owner of 238 acres and has one of the best improved farms in the neighborhood. Mr. Phillips is a republican, but has not been a seeker after office. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic at Tipton. Formerly he was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church (South).

March 4, 1880, Charles S. Phillips was married to Matilda Barnhart, who was born in Illinois in 1853, and to this union four children have been born: Charles S., Kansas City; Clarence E., Lebanon Township; Orville H., at home, and Mary, wife of Harry Hegmire, Kelly Township.

#### **James N. Blythe**

(Transcribed by Laura Paxton)

James N. Blythe, formerly and for many years a well-known blacksmith at Pleasant Green was born on a farm in Otterville Township March 20 1858, son of William and Nancy (James) Blythe, natives of Kentucky, who had come here some years prior to that date and had settled on a farm in Otterville Township. William Blythe also was a blacksmith and the forge he set up on his farm was a great accommodation to his neighbors. He continued to make his home on that place and there died in 1907, he then being 66 years of age. William Blythe was twice married. His first wife, Nancy James, whom he married in Kentucky died in 1864. By that marriage he was the father of seven children, of whom James N. was the sixth in order of birth. Following the death of the mother of these children, William Blythe married Mary Fink and to that union seven children also were born.

Reared on the home farm in Otterville Township, James N. Blythe received his schooling in the district schools and was early trained by his father not only in the ways of farming but in blacksmithing, to which latter vocation he gave particular attention and about 40 years ago set up as a blacksmith on his own account. He married in 1881 and not long thereafter moved to Pleasant Green where he bought a tract of 35 acres at the edge of the town, and set up his blacksmith shop and for many years worked there at his trade, one of the best known smiths hereabout. In 1913, Mr. Blythe bought a tract of land adjoining his home and has since then been devoting the greater part of his time to the breeding of Poland China hogs and to the buying and selling of stock and has met with success. He owns a well kept farm of 151 acres. He also is a stockholder in the Pleasant Green Bank. Mr. Blythe is a democrat and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a member of the Methodist Church and his wife is a Baptist.

Mr. Blythe has been twice married. December 24 1881, he was married to Margaret Campbell who was born in Polk County MO and who died

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without issue in 1890, at the age of 41 years. December 28 1891, Mr. Blythe married Sarah W. Woolery, who was born in this county, a daughter of Taylor and Eliza (Berry) Woolery, both members of pioneer families in Cooper County and both of whom are living on their farm, east of Pleasant Green.

**William F. Cordry**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

William F. Cordry, one of the progressive farmers of Lebanon Township, was born near the farm on which he is now living, Nov. 8, 1846, son of William L. and Polly Ann (Weir) Cordry. William L. Cordry was born in Todd County, Ky., Jan. 15, 1816, and was but 14 years of age when, in 1830, he came with his parents, James Cordry and wife, to Missouri, the family driving through with both oxen and horses and settling on land which James Cordry had entered from the Government, in Lebanon Township. There a log cabin was erected. The nearest market at that time was at Boonville and conditions of living were somewhat rough and primitive. The little old log cabin which sheltered the family for years and in which children were born and reared, is still standing on the old home place, a most highly valued relic of pioneer days, and is being carefully preserved. It was on that pioneer farm that William L. Cordry grew to manhood and laid the foundations for his after success, for in time he became one of the most substantial farmers and landowners in that community. In the spring of 1838 he married Polly Ann Weir, who was born in Howard County, Sept. 28, 1819, and after his marriage established his home in Lebanon Township, where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. Both lived to be past 80 years of age and at their passing left good memories as a legacy to their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. William L. Cordry died in 1902. His wife died Oct. 14, 1900. They were the parents of eight children, as follows: Samuel J., now deceased, was a soldier of the Union Army during the Civil War; James N., a farmer in Kelly Township; William F.; Thomas N., Pilot Grove; Charles W., Palestine Township; Robert D., Lebanon Township; Mrs. Alice Eichelberger, Fulton, Mo.; and Margaret Ids, wife of Peter F. Smith, Lebanon Township.

Reared in Lebanon Township, William F. Cordry attended school in the little old log school house which was serving the district in the days of his boyhood, but which before his school days were over was supplanted by a small frame structure with oak slabs for seats. He was but 15 years of age when the Civil War broke out, but he was enrolled for service, thought it never became necessary to call him out to active duty. In 1871, his father gave him the "80" on which he established his home and on which he is still living. As his affairs prospered Mr. Cordry

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bought more land adjoining and now has an excellent farm of 250 acres, besides which he has given land and money to his children. Mr. Cordry has lived to see many wonderful changes in the methods of agricultural operations since the days of his boyhood and has been progressive enough to adopt the new ways, and he has prospered thereby. Mr. Cordry is a republican, but has not been included in the office-seeking class. He and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Jan. 12, 1871, William F. Cordry was married to Madora Hutchinson, who was born in that same Township, Dec. 17, 1851, daughter of L. M. Hutchinson and wife, the latter of whom was a Cordry. L. M. Hutchinson was born in Page County, Va., and his wife was born in Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Cordry have four children, namely: Leslie L., a farmer of Palestine Township; Oliver L., a Lebanon Township farmer; Owen E., also of Lebanon Township, and Bessie, wife of John Streit, in Otterville Township.

## **Michael and Andrew Davin**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Davin Brothers, Michael and Andrew Davin, extensive farmers and stock raisers in Pilot Grove Township, and the latter of whom served for three terms as county judge for the western district of Cooper County, and is vice-president of the Pilot Grove Bank, and vice-president of the Elliott & Chapman Furniture Company of that place, have resided in this county since 1877, and have for years been among its most progressive and substantial citizens. Michael Davin was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, Dec. 2, 1854, and Andrew Davin was born across the Ohio River, in Covington, Ky., June 29, 1860, sons of Michael and Ellen (Ryan) Davin, natives of Ireland, who came to this county after their marriage, and after a some time residence in Cincinnati and Covington, came to Missouri with their family and settled on a farm in Pilot Grove Township, where they spent the remainder of their lives.

Michael Davin, the father, was born Jan. 6, 1816, and grew to manhood in Ireland, where on Feb. 8, 1837, he married Ellen Ryan, who was born in 1817. He and his wife remained in their native land until 1848, when they came to the United States. At that time they had several small children and others were born to them after they came to this country. They first went to Cincinnati, but later moved across the river to Covington and there remained until the spring of 1877 when they came to Cooper County, arriving here March 17 and settled on a farm in Pilot Grove Township, which place is still in the family and there they spent the remainder of their lives. Michael Davin died on July 9, 1891, and his widow died July 27, 1899. They were members of the Catholic Church

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and their children were reared in that faith. There were twelve of these children, of whom two died in childhood, the others besides the subjects of this sketch being as follows: Thomas, born in Ireland, March 1, 1838, died July, 1898; Mary, married John Kirwin and is deceased; Bridget, wife of Thomas Woods, St. Louis; Jeremiah, deceased; John, deceased; Ellen, with her brothers on the old home place; Margaret, who also is at home, and James, deceased.

Of these children, Michael was the seventh in order of birth and Andrew the ninth. The former had passed his majority when the family came to Cooper County and the latter was about 17 years of age. Thus both were able assistants in the labors of developing and improving the farm on which the family settled. Following the death of their father, the brothers continued operations on the home place and now have an excellent farm of 480 acres, on which they are profitably carrying on general farming and stock raising. They are republicans and in 1908 Andrew Davin was elected county judge for the western district of Cooper County and by successive re-elections served in that important judicial capacity for three terms. He is a member of the board of directors and vice-president of the Pilot Grove Bank as well as vice-president of the Elliott & Chapman Furniture Company of Pilot Grove. The Davin brothers and their sisters are members of the Catholic Church and Michael and Andrew Davin are members of the Knights of Columbus.

## **William R. Phillips**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

William R. Phillips, one of Clear Creek Township's well-known farmers, is a native son of Cooper County, member of one of the real pioneer families. He was born in Clear Creek Township, Feb. 18, 1847, son of Martin G. and Susan (Huff) Phillips, both of whom were members of pioneer families in this county and who spent their last days here.

Martin G. Phillips was born in Alabama in 1814 and was but eight years of age when his parents, Jeremiah and Ann (Brown) Phillips, came to Missouri with their family and a few years later settled on Government land near Buffalo Prairie in Clear Creek Township, where they spent the

remainder of their lives. Jeremiah Phillips was of Irish stock and was a soldier of the War of 1812. On that pioneer farm in Clear Creek Township, Martin G. Phillips grew to manhood and after his marriage to Susan Huff, who was born in Kentucky and who had come to Missouri with her parents, settled on a farm in that same neighborhood and there he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. Martin G. Phillips died in 1894, at the age of 80 years. His widow died in 1896. She was born in 1818. They were the parents of 11 children, of whom five are

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still living, as follows: William R.; James W., Yukon, Okla.; George W., of Hughesville, Mo.; Jennie, widow of J. Parrish; and Addie, wife of C. F. Smith, Clear Creek Township.

William R. Phillips, from the days of his boyhood, gave his attention to farming. He received his schooling in the local schools of his home neighborhood and remained at home until his marriage in the spring of 1873, when he rented a farm. He continued as a renter until 1888, when he bought the farm where he has since made his home. Since taking possession of that place, Mr. Phillips has improved it in substantial fashion. In his political views he is a democrat. He and his family are members of the Baptist Church.

April 8, 1873, William R. Phillips was married to Catherine Gentry, who also was born in this county, and to this union five children have been born, namely: George, deceased; Jennie, wife of John J. Potter, Clifton; Martin G., Palestine Township; Margaret, deceased, and Riley, who is at home assisting his father on the farm. Mrs. Phillips was born in Pilot Grove Township, daughter of William and Margaret (Roe) Gentry, who for years were among the well-known residents of that part of the county.

In May, 1919, Mr. Phillips retired from the farm and moved to Pilot Grove, where he bought property. His son, William Riley, Jr., is conducting the farm.

#### **Daniel R. Brubaker**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Daniel R. Brubaker, a veteran of the Civil War and one of the well known and substantial farmers and stockmen of Lebanon Township, was born in Page County, Va., Feb. 14, 1844, son of Gideon and Nancy (Rothgeb) Brubaker, both also natives of that state and who spent their lives there. Gideon Brubaker was born in Page county, Va., Aug. 28, 1806, and died in 1892. He was a son of Peter and Barbara Ann (Kaufman) Brubaker, both natives of Virginia. The Brubakers are of Swedish stock and have been established in this country since 1700, when the first of the name on this side of the water settled in Virginia. Gideon Brubaker was married four times and had children by three wives. By his union with Nancy Rothgeb, mother of the subject of this sketch, he had six children, of whom Daniel R. was the first born.

Reared on the farm on which he was born in Page County, Va., Daniel R. Brubaker was living there when the Civil War broke out, he then being 17 years of age. He enlisted in the Confederate Army at Luray, Va., and served until finally mustered out. At the battle of Malvern Hill -the seven days fight-he was wounded in the eye and sustained other

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wounds from bursting shells. In the spring of 1866 he married and settled down in his home county, where he remained until Feb. 22, 1873, when he left Virginia with his family and came to Missouri, settling in this county. Here he bought a tract of 90 acres, a part of the farm on which he is now living in Lebanon Township. As his affairs prospered, he added to the same until he now owns 440 acres. Fifty years and more ago, back in his old home county, Mr. Brubaker taught a term of school and has ever retained the liveliest interest in school affairs. For some time he

served as director of his local school district and also has served as clerk of the school board. He maintains an independent attitude on political questions.

March 29, 1866, in Page County, Va., Daniel R. Brubaker was united in marriage with Frances E. Gander, who was born in that county, and to this union 10 children have been born, namely: Edgar, Sedalia, Mo.; Lizzie, wife of V. L. Biedler, of Rockingham County, Va.; Hubert L., Chicago, Ill.; Henry M., who is at home with his father; Ashby W., Kansas City; Elmer J., Kelly Township; Ella M., wife of J. C. Cordry, Kelly Township; Homer V., of Lebanon Township; Nettie L., wife of W. P. Coe, Sedalia, and Bessie P., wife of T. H. Coe, Sedalia. Mrs. Brubaker, mother of these children, was born on July 18, 1844, daughter of Henry and Mary Coffman Gander, who were born in what is now known as Page County, Va. Three years ago Mr. and Mrs. Brubaker celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

**William H. Glasgow**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

William H. Glasgow, a successful young stock breeder of Kelly Township, was born on Oct. 10, 1894, son of William H. and Belle J. (Gates) Glasgow, both now deceased. The senior William H. Glasgow, who died at Syracuse Oct. 30, 1901, was born in this county, Sept. 23, 1849, son of James H. and Harriet (Cranmer) Glasgow, who were among the pioneers of Cooper County. James H. Glasgow was born in Delaware, Jan. 5, 1807, and came to Missouri when Government land still was available for settlement in Cooper County. He was a slave holder and bought from the Government for \$1.25 an acre the land upon which he settled, later increasing his holdings until he became the owner of a plantation of 800 acres. He died at his home in this county Dec. 5, 1885. His widow died Oct. 5, 1902. She was born in Kentucky Nov. 10, 1816, and came to this county with her parents, the Cranmers having been among the early settlers here. Of the four children born to James- H. Glasgow and wife, William H. was the second in order of birth. He grew to manhood in this county and became an extensive farmer and influential. He organized

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the Cooper County Anti-Horse Thief Association, and was the first president and until his death one of the leading spirits. William H. Glasgow, Sr., died in the fall of 1901 and his widow died March 14, 1917. She was born at Memphis, Tenn., June 25, 1860, and was past 57 years of age at the time of her death. She was a member of the Gates family, which came from England to this country in Colonial days and of which now widely scattered family there is a complete genealogy beginning in the 17th century and bringing the descent down to the year 1917. William H. Glasgow and Belle J. Gates were married at St. Louis, Oct. 5, 1892, and to that union three children were born. Of these the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth. The first born, Versalis H., died in infancy. The third, Clayton S. Glasgow, lives on the farm adjoining that of his brother William, a part of the old home place, in Kelly Township.

The junior William H. Glasgow was but seven years of age when his father died and the responsibility of carrying on the operations of the home place early fell upon his shoulders. He completed his schooling in Central College at Fayette and upon his return from college resumed his place on the farm, he and his brother carrying on the operations of the place jointly in behalf of their mother. After their mother's death, in the spring of 1917, the brothers divided the estate equitably, this division giving to each 210 acres. For some years past William H. Glasgow has been giving particular attention to the raising of Hampshire sheep and his breeding totes have attained more than a local reputation. He has made exhibits at the Bunceton Fair and in addition to the private sales which he conducts on his farm, he has received orders for the increase of his flock from several states. Mr. Glasgow is a member of the American Hampshire Sheep Association of Detroit, and a member of the local Sheep Breeders' Association, which confines its field of activities to Cooper and Moniteau Counties. He is a democrat.

Oct. 18, 1916, William H. Glasgow was married to Dora B. Kite, who also was born in this county, and to this union one child has been born, William H. Glasgow, III. Mrs. Glasgow was born in Lebanon Township, daughter of George W. and Emma J. (Buracker) Kite, the latter of whom is living in Lebanon Township. She was born in Page County, Va., Jan. 1, 1867. George W. Kite also was born in Page County, Va., March 27, 1857. He and his wife came to Missouri about 1887 and located on a farm in Lebanon Township, where he spent the remainder of his life. He

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died in 1905. To him and his wife were born five children, of whom three are still living, Mrs. Glasgow having a brother, Grover C. Kite, of Kelly Township, and a sister, Ruth V., who is at home with her mother.

**Clayton Stillman Glasgow**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Clayton Stillman Glasgow, one of the progressive young farmers and stockmen of Kelly Township was born on the place where he now resides, Aug. 27, 1896, son of William H. and Belle J. (Gates) Glasgow, both now deceased. The former died in 1901 and the latter in 1917. James H. Glasgow, a native of Delaware and the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, bought at an early day a considerable tract of land here on which to establish his home. This pioneer's son, William H. Glasgow, and his wife had three children, the first born a daughter, who died in infancy, Clayton S. Glasgow having an elder brother, William H., who lives on the farm adjoining him.

Reared on the home farm, Clayton S. Glasgow was from the days of his boyhood trained in the ways of farming, the operations of the home place early devolving upon his elder brother and himself due to the tact of their father's death when they were but boys. He completed his schooling in Central College at Fayette and in the University of Missouri and upon leaving the university returned to the home farm and there resumed his operations, he and his brother managing the place jointly in behalf of their mother, and after the latter's death in 1917 the brothers divided the estate, each receiving 210 acres of excellent and well improved land. In the following spring Clayton S. Glasgow married and established his home on that portion of the estate which came to his share and has since been making extensive improvements on the same. In addition to his general farming he has for some time given special attention to the raising of Shorthorn cattle and Shropshire sheep and has met with much success in this line. Mr. Glasgow is a member of local association of Shropshire breeders which confines its activities to Cooper and Moniteau Counties, has been an exhibitor at the county fair and is going into the breeding business in a way to bespeak his continued success and influence in that line, coming to be recognized as one of the wide-awake young stockmen of his county.

May 29, 1918, Clayton S. Glasgow was united in marriage with Velma G. Palmer, who was born on a farm near Greenville, Ill., June 15, 1897, daughter of A. L. and Alice (Betteridge) Palmer. A. L. Palmer m's native of Illinois and his wife of Connecticut. Upon coming to Cooper County from Illinois they located on a farm in Lebanon Township and are

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living there. Mr. and Mrs. Glasgow are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Glasgow is a democrat, as were his father and grandfather before him. To Mr. and Mrs. Glasgow have been born a son, Cecil Wayne, born April 27, 1919.

**George Barnhart**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

George Barnhart, one of Kelly Township's substantial farmers and stockmen, was born on a pioneer farm forty miles north Oskaloosa, Iowa, Dec. 15, 1857. He is a son of John and Sarah (Ashmead) Barnhart, natives of Pennsylvania, who settled in Cooper County at the close of the Civil War and whose last days were spent here, both living to a ripe old age.

John Barnhart was reared in Pennsylvania, his native state, and there married Sarah Ashmead, who also was born in that state. Not long after their marriage they moved to central Iowa, where they remained until 1866, when they moved to Missouri and located in Cooper County. Not long after coming here John Barnhart bought a farm south of Boonville and he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives there. John Barnhart died in 1894, he then being past 76 years of age. His widow died in 1909, being 76 years of age. They were the parents of nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth and three of whom are still living, Mr. Barnhart having two sisters, Matildia, wife of C. S. Phillips and Mrs. Laura Rockwood, near Pilot Grove.

George Barnhart was nine years of age when he came to Cooper County with his parents from Iowa in 1866 and his schooling was completed in the district school. When 22 years of age he rented a farm in Boonville Township and continued to make that Township his residence until 1899, when he bought the quarter section in Kelly Township on which he is now living. Mr. Barnhart has made numerous substantial improvements on his place. In addition to his general farming he has an excellent herd of Hereford cattle. He is a republican.

Feb. 12, 1884, that George Barnhart was married to Susan Wilson, who was born at Adair, Mo., daughter of James T. Wilson and wife, the latter of whom was a Jones, and who died Feb. 24, 1915, at the age of 53 years. To that union was born one child, a daughter, Laura, who married Earl Stahl and is now (spring of 1919) at home with her father during the continued absence of her husband in Europe as a member of the American Expeditionary Forces. Mr. and Mrs. Stahl have one child, a daughter, Ruth.

### **Thomas G. Hutchison**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Thomas G. Hutchison, a successful farmer and stockman of Kelly Township was born at Danville, Ky., May 30, 1847. He is a son of John

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G. and Sallie (Downton) Hutchison, who many years ago became residents of Kelly Township, and are buried in the cemetery at Syracuse, Mo. John G. Hutchison was born in Kentucky and there married and became a farmer and merchant. In 1856 he disposed of his interests and with his family came to Missouri, locating in Kelly Township, where he became a quite extensive landowner and where he spent the remainder of his life, living to a ripe old age. His wife died at Sedalia, ten years before her husband's death. A couple of years after John G. Hutchison had settled in this county his parents, Elijah and Isabel (West) Hutchison, disposed of their interests in Kentucky and also came here. Elijah Hutchison was a Virginian as was his wife. Upon coming here in 1858 he bought several thousand acres of land in Cooper and Pettis Counties and with the 200 negroes which he brought with him from Kentucky started in to create a great plantation with particular reference to the raising of cattle and mules, but the breaking out of the Civil War, a few years later, and the permanent consequences necessitated a complete revision of his plans, though he still maintained a considerable estate. John G. Hutchison and his wife lived to ripe old ages. Of the children born to them but two are now living, the subject of this sketch having a younger brother, Elijah Hutchison, now living at Independence, Mo.

Reared on the farm on which his parents had settled when he was nine years of age, Thomas G. Hutchison has continued to make that place his home. He married when twenty years of age and established his home on the place, in time coming into the inherited possession of 300 acres of the same. Of this tract he later sold fifty acres and thus now has 250 acres, the same being well

improved and profitably cultivated. In addition to his general farming Mr. Hutchison has for many years, given considerable attention to stock raising. In recent years he has been ably assisted in the management of the place by his son, Richard E. For nine years during the educational period of their son, Mr. and Mrs. Hutchison maintained a city residence at Sedalia, where their son went to school, Mr. Hutchison meantime, however, continuing to look after the farm. He is a democrat and he and his family are members of the Methodist Church.

Mr. Hutchison has been twice married. In 1867 he was married to Lucy E. Thompson, who was born in this county and who died leaving two children Mary E., wife of T. Bradley, of Boonville, and Segis Leslie, deceased. Oct. 17, 1883, Mr. Hutchison married Margaret Lenora Ellis, who also was born in this county, and to this union three children have

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been born, namely: Margaret, deceased; Richard Ellis, mentioned above, and Thomas G., Jr., deceased. Richard Ellis Hutchison married Julia Bridges and is making his home on the home farm in Kelly Township, being able thus to relieve his father of much of the detail of management. Mrs. Margaret Lenora Hutchison was born in Lebanon Township Sept. 28, 1849, one of the nine children born to Richard P. and Margaret V. (Ferguson) Ellis, the eldest of these children having been the late Mrs. Mary E. Harris, mother of Mrs. W. F. Johnson, whose name appears on the title page of this work. Richard P. Ellis was a native of Virginia, born in Orange County, in 1809. Nov. 25, 1830, he married Margaret V. Ferguson, who was born in Bath County, Ky. In 1836 he came to Missouri with his family and settled in Cooper County, where he was living when the Civil War broke out. During that struggle he was killed. His widow died at Pilot Grove many years afterward.

#### **William A. Mayfield**

(Transcribed by Laura Paxton)

William A. Mayfield, one of the large landowners and best known farmers and stockmen in the county, now living retired at Pleasant Green, was born on a farm in Clear Creek Township March 29 1852. He is a son of James and Elizabeth V (Linn) Mayfield, both of whom were born in Barren County KY and came to Cooper County nearly 70 years ago and settled in the Clear Creek section.

James Mayfield was born at Glasgow KY., March 4 1815, a son of one of the pioneer families of that section. The Mayfields are an old Colonial family, the first of this name in the country, having come here from Glasgow, Scotland, about 300 years ago, settling on the North Carolina coast, whence members of that state. September 3 1843, in Kentucky, James Mayfield married Elizabeth V Linn and there continued to reside until 1850, when he came with his family to Missouri and settled on a farm in Clear Creek Township, where he spent the remainder of his life. He died October 19 1892. His widow died Jan 25 1901. She was born August 28 1822. They were the parents of six children as follows: Louisa, married Capt. Zollinger and is now deceased; Emma who married W A Huyett and is deceased; Willia A.; Thomas, Vernon County MO; James, deceased, and David B. Mayfield a stockman in Otterville.

William A Mayfield was reared on the farm on which he was born in Clear Creek Township and received his schooling in the district schools. As a young man he began farming on his own account on rented land owned by his father, but in 1878 he bought a farm on which he made his

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home until he later sold it. He has from time to time made some excellent investments and has owned a great deal of alnd. At present he is the owner of 750 acres in this county and 480 acres near Amarillo Texas. During the progress of the various Liberty Bond sales during the World War Mr. Mayfield bought \$20,000 worth of bonds and was in other ways an active factor in promoting

the sale of these securities in this county. In 1910 Mr. Mayfield retired from the active labors of the farm and moved to Pleasant Green, where he is now very comfortable situated, his home being surrounded by a four acre tract. He is a democrat but has not been a seeker after office.

Feb. 20 1878, William A Mayfield was married to Laura J. Licklider, who was born in Ohio on October 20 1849 and who died at Pleasant Green SEptember 13 1917. To that union was born eight children, namesly: Maud E., deceased; Elsie wife of Dr. Hite, Green Ridge MO; James W., farming in New Lebanon Township; Cleveland, who is engaged in the hardware, grain and livestock business at Pleasant Green; Laura, at home with her father; Luella, wife of James Algaier, a hardware and implement merchant at Lincoln MO; Ruth at home and Anna B., wife of E Hurt of Pleasant Green. Ewing Hurt, a corporal in the 89th Division of the US army, attached to the Amercian Expeditionary Forces oversease and who is now (spring of 1919) in France with his command, was inducted into the army in 1917, and in 1918 sailed with his division for overseas service. He participated in the great battle of the Argonne Forest and other engagements.

**Joseph Clark Cordry**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Joseph Clark Cordry, a progressive farmer of Kelly Township, was born Nov. 30, 1874, son of Newton and Amanda (Woolery) Cordry, both members of pioneer families in Cooper County. Reared on the home farm, Joseph C. Cordry received his schooling in the district school and from his boyhood was a valued assistant in the labors of the home farm. When he had attained his majority his father gave him 80 acres, a part of the home place, and he then began farming on his own account, a Vocation he ever since has followed and with considerable success. That eras in 1895 and seven years later, he bought an adjoining 80 and has since been engaged in cultivating and improving his place of 160 acres until now he has an excellent farm, among these improvements being the erection of a new house and a new barn on the place. Mr. Cordry has hang given proper attention to the raising of live stock and has found

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that a profitable phase of his agricultural operations. Mr. Cordry dote not acknowledge unshaken fealty to any political party, preferring rather to maintain an independent attitude, particularly with respect to lots of issues.

June 5, 1900, Joseph C. Cordry was married to Ella May Brumaker, who also was born in this county and to this union four children have been born, Cletus Daniel, Jessie F., Agnes E. and Joseph C., Jr. Mrs. Cordry is a daughter of Daniel R. Brubaker and wife, members of pioneer families in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Cordry are members of the Baptist Church and have ever taken an interested part in church work.

**William H. Cordry**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

William H. Cordry is one of the well fixed farmers of Kelly Township and he has a pleasant home where he and his family are very comfortably situated. The youngest member of that household is Mr. Cordry's grandson, Arthur William Putman, a representative of the Cordry family in the fifth generation since that family came to Cooper County from Kentucky, the Cordrys being one of the real "old families" of this community. William H. Cordry was born on the old Cordry home place in Kelly Township, on a part of which he still resides. He was born Sept. 27, 1870, his parents being James Newton and Amanda L. (Woolery) Cordry. James Newton Cordry gave his son, William H., 80 acres of the home place when the latter attained his majority and that property not only has been carefully conserved but added to, the present owner long having been looked upon as one of the substantial farmers of that neighborhood. He had grown up on the home farm, had received his schooling in the public school and had from the days of his boyhood been a valuable

assistant on the home place. When he took possession of his farm there was no improvement save an old house which had been erected there many years before, thus all the present improvements, including the comfortable farm house, the ample barn and other buildings have been placed by the present owner. In 1904 Mr. Cordry bought an adjoining tract of 35 acres and now has an excellent farm of 115 acres, well improved and profitably cultivated.

Sept. 5.1893, William H. Cordry was married to Nora May Davis, who also is a member of one of Cooper County's pioneer families, and to this union one child has been born, a daughter, Mary G., who married A. W. Putman, who is living on the Cordry place, assisting in the operations of the same, and has one child, Arthur William, representative in the fifth generation of the Cooper County Cordrys. Mrs. Cordry was born in this county in Aug., 1872, daughter of George W. and Matilda (McMahan)

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Davis, both now deceased. George W, Davis in his younger days was a Santa Fe "trailer", an Indian fighter and a man thoroughly conversant with the hazard of Western frontier life, having often faced the most imminent peril and come through the same safely. But death came to him at last amid the calm pursuits of peaceful agricultural life at home. One day he was riding horseback across the fields when a prairie chicken whirred up from the grass directly in front of his horse. The frightened animal whirled and threw its rider. Mr. Davis' back was injured and he died from the effects. The Cordrys are members of the Baptist Church and Mr. Cordry is affiliated with the Masons and the Modern Woodmen of America.

#### **James M. Corson** (Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

James M. Corson, who died 9 at his farm home in Kelly Township in the spring of 1911 was born in Madison County, Ohio, Feb. 11, 1845. He was a son of John and Elizabeth (Blizzard) Corson, and was one of the eight children born to them.

Reared and schooled in his native county, James M. Corson learned the trade of blacksmith and upon finishing his trade came to Missouri and located in Henry County, where he had relatives. There he remained until 1876, when he came to Cooper County and took employment on the farm of the Mrs. Varner, a widow, in Kelly Township. A few months later he married the youngest daughter of Mrs. Varner, established his home on the place and thereafter continued in proprietary management of the same, spending the rest of his life there. He died April 12, 1911, he then being past 66 years of age. During his many years of residence in Kelly Township, Mr. Corson did well his part in the work of community betterment. He was a member of the Baptist Church and was a democrat.

Aug. 12, 1876, James M. Corson was united in marriage to Rose Varner, who was born on the farm on which she is still living and which she owns, Jan. 17, 1856, daughter of Daniel A. and Eustatia (Cordry) Varner, both long since deceased. Daniel A. Varner was a Virginian who came to Missouri and entered government land in Kelly Township, a part of his original tract being the farm which Mrs. Corson now owns. Here he married Eustatia Cordry, who was a member of the pioneer Cordry family from Kentucky, and was getting a good start along the lines of development on his home place when he died in 1861, he then being but 40 Years of age. His widow maintained the home place and survived him for many years, her death occurring on May 4, 1898. Of the six children born to Daniel A. Varner and wife, Mrs. Corson was the youngest,

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the others being as follows: Charles N., Benton County, Mo.; Asa, deceased; Barbara, married William Smith and is now deceased; John T., deceased, and Mary R., wife of Charles Hassett, Syracuse, Mo.

To James M. and Rose (Varner) Corson were born seven children, namely: Jesse B., who is now living in Canada; Elizabeth, of Kansas City; Levi, of Sedalia; Etta, of Kansas City; Nettie, wife of Cyrus Decker, of Morgan County; Marsh, deceased, and Bertie, at home with her mother. Mrs. Corson has a well improved farm of 80 acres and a very pleasant home. She is a member of the Baptist Church and has ever taken an interested part in church work.

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