

History of Cooper County Missouri by W. F. Johnson

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James Henry Gunn

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

James Henry Gunn, cashier of the Bank of Otterville, is one of Cooper County's well known and successful business men. He was born on a farm in Morgan County, Nov. 1, 1875, son of Judge Ephraim F. and Sallie A. (Madale) Gunn, both members of pioneer families.

Judge Ephraim E. Gunn was a native of Tennessee, born in Cumberland County, Nov. 7, 1838, and in 1840 his parents, Starling and Jemima (Marshall) Gunn, came to Missouri and settled near Versailles, Morgan County, where they spent the remainder of their lives. On that farm Ephraim F. Gunn grew to manhood and became a farmer and landowner, a man of influence. An earnest member of the primitive Baptist Church, he was licensed to preach and became widely known exhorter of the faith. He also took an active interest in political affairs, was one of the leaders of the Democratic party in his home county and for some time served as judge of the eastern district of Morgan County. He had a good farm and in addition to his general farming, for 21 years operated a threshing-rig. Judge Gunn died on Jan. 1, 1889, and his widow died Jan. 2, 1910. She was born in Kentucky May 5, 1837, and was but a child when her parents, Samuel and Sarah (Ross) Madale, also natives of Kentucky, came to Missouri and settled in Morgan County. Judge Gunn and wife were the parents of nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the eighth in order of birth and six of whom are still living.

James H. Gunn was reared on the home farm in Morgan County and received excellent schooling, completing his studies in Barnett Academy and in the high school at Versailles, after which for four years he was engaged during the winters as a teacher in the public schools of his home county. He early began to turn his attention to commercial pursuits and in 1899, in association with his brother, John R. Gunn, who then was cashier of the Bank of Otterville, became engaged in the agricultural implement business at Otterville. In 1902 he was elected assistant cashier

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of the Bank of Otterville and in 1909 was elected cashier of that institution, a position he since has occupied, one of the best known bankers in Cooper County. Mr. Gunn also is a stockholder in the Boonville National Bank and in the Boonville Trust Company. He owns a tract of 40 acres of land in this county and has other investments. He is a Democrat and is a member of the board of directors of the Otterville public schools. He is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, a Royal Arch Mason, a member of the chapter at Sedalia and of the council, Royal and Select Masters, at Centralia of the Order of the Eastern Star, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Knights of the Maccabees. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church (South) at Otterville and he is a member of the board of stewards of the same. Mr. Gunn also has long been interested in Sunday school work, is superintendent of the Sunday school of his church and is vice-president of the Cooper County Sunday School Association. He has for years given much earnest thought to local historical matters and is an active member of the Missouri State Historical Society, in the affairs of which society he takes a warm interest, a valued contributor to its archives.

Dec. 4, 1912, James H. Gunn was married to Ids May Potter, who was born at Otterville. Mrs. Gunn is a daughter of Samuel W. and Ids May (Amick) Potter, both now deceased. Samuel W. Potter was a graduate of the University of Missouri and was for years engaged in the drug business at Otterville, one of the most influential factors in the commercial life of that town. He

also owned an excellent farm. Mr. and Mrs. Gunn have a pleasant home and take an active interest in the general social affairs of their home town.

Edwin Price Harned
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Edwin Price Harned, manager of the Bunceton Telephone Company, a director of the Bunceton High School, owner of a fine farm of 230 acres in Palestine Township and in other ways interested in the affairs of Cooper County, is a native son of this county. He was born on a farm in Kelly Township Dec. 8, 1865, son of George and Marcia A. (Posh) Harned, natives of Kentucky, who became residents of Cooper County in Civil War times and whose last days were spent here.

George Harned was born in Nelson County, Ky., April 8, 1829. He was a son of Benjamin Harned and wife, the latter of whom was a Blanford, both of whom were born in Christian County, Ky., who spent most of their lives in Nelson County, where they died and are buried. Benjamin Harned and wife had a large family, but of their numerous children George was the only one who located in Cooper County. Two of the latter's

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brothers, Lee and Ack. L. Harned, served as soldiers of the Confederacy during the Civil War, the former losing his life at the battle of Shiloh and the latter being so seriously wounded that one of his arms had to be amputated. In 1859 George Harned and wife came to Missouri, locating in the southeastern part of the state, where they remained until Feb. 1865, when they came to Cooper County, where he bought 1,000 acres of land in Kelly Township and establishing there in that same year a great herd of Shorthorn cattle, being the third person in this county to undertake the breeding of Shorthorns. For ten years he maintained this herd and became widely known among stockmen as an exhibitor at county fairs, his herd attracting much attention. He developed a fine farm and lived to be past 70 years of age. He died in 1900. His widow died March 24, 1912. She was born at Cox's Creek, Nelson County, Ky., April 11, 1832. George Harped and wife were the parents of four children: William P. Harned, living on the old home place in Kelly Township; Benjamin Harned, who lives five miles east of Bunceton; Edwin P. and Huldah, who married Walter Williams and is now deceased.

Edwin P. Harned was reared on the farm on which he was born near Vermont and received his schooling in the Bunceton schools. As a young man he became engaged in mercantile business at Vermont and was thus engaged for nine years. In 1900 he began farming two miles west of Bunceton on a farm which his father had given him and has thus occupied that place for nineteen years, making his home there during the summers and living at Bunceton during the winters. This is an excellent farm of 230 acres, well improved and profitably cultivated. In 1913 Mr. Harned became one of the leading stockholders in the Bunceton Telephone Company and in 1915 was made manager of that concern, a position he has since occupied, his administration of the affairs of the company having done much to extend the service of the telephone plant throughout the territory it covers. Mr. Harned is also a member of the board of directors of the Bunceton High School. He is a democrat and he and his family are members of the Christian Church.

Nov. 8, 1894, Edwin P. Harned was married to Harriet McDonald and to this union four children have been born: Virginia, Howard, McDonald, Harriet H. and William S., all at home. Mrs. Harned was born in Howard County, a daughter of Strother and Virginia (Turner) McDonald, natives of Virginia, who came to Missouri many years ago. Strother McDonald died in 1876 and his widow resides with her daughter, Mrs. Harned.

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John Leonard Spillers

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

John Leonard Spillers, former county collector for Cooper County and a well known business man of Otterville, is a native of Cooper County. He was born on a farm in Lebanon Township, May 23, 1876, son of Henry T. and Nancy E. (Thomas) Spillers. Henry T. Spillers was born in Randolph County, Ind., Aug. 6, 1850, and was but a boy when his parents, William and Mary (Harris) Spillers, came to Missouri with their family and settled on a farm in Lebanon Township, where they spent the remainder of their active lives, moving to Otterville upon their retirement from the farm and there spending their last days. William Spillers was born in Ohio and his wife in Indiana. Henry T. Spillers grew to manhood in Lebanon Township and followed farming until about 1906, when he moved to Otterville and there became engaged in the implements business. He died June 24, 1913. His wife died Jan. 18, 1901. She was born in Ken., March 27, 1848. To Henry T. Spillers and wife were born five children as follows: John L.; William, Kansas City; Thomas O., Otterville; Margaret, wife of Solomon Rothgeb, Lebanon Township, and May, wife of Jesse Favorite, Blairstown.

John L. Spillers was reared on the home farm in Lebanon Township and completed his schooling in Otterville College. He married when 21 years of age and thereafter continued farming until his election in 1903 to the office of county collector. He was re-elected to that office and thus served for two years. In 1909, he moved to Otterville and engaged in the hardware business, buying a store which had already been established for some time. In 1915 he sold that store and opened a furniture store and undertaking establishment and has since been engaged in this business. In order properly to prepare himself for the exacting profession of funeral director, Mr. Spillers entered the Williams School of Embalming at Kansas City and after a full course at that institution was graduated and was then licensed under the laws of the state. Mr. Spillers has for years taken an earnest interest in the cause of education in that state and is a member of the board of regents of the Missouri State Normal School at Warrensburg. He is a Republican and is one of the leaders of that party in Cooper County. He is a York Rite Mason, affiliated with the Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, at Boonville, and the Commandery, Knights Templar, at Boonville; is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Otterville and of the Knights of the Maccabees and the Woodmen of the World. He and his family are members of the Baptist Church and take a proper interest in church work.

Oct. 12, 1897, John L. Spillers was married to Pauline Starke, who

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was born in this county, a daughter of Judge Starke. Mr. and Mrs. Spillers have two children, Guy E., who is now a student in the Missouri State Normal School, and Agnes E., who is a member of the junior class of the Otterville High School. During the last registration in 1918 under the selective service law Mr. Spillers and his son, both of whom were eligible for service, registered together, this being the only such instance of father and son registering in Otterville, and they properly regarded it as quite a momentous occasion in their lives. In the Spillers family there is carefully preserved a photograph of four living generations in the male line, the value of the picture being further enhanced by the fact that each of the persons thus pictured was the first born son in his respective generation. This picture was taken of course during the childhood of Mr. Spiller's son Guy, his father and his grandfather then both being alive, and represents William Spillers, the pioneer, Henry T. Spillers, John L. Spillers and Guy E. Spillers, a photograph certainly worthy of preservation as a most interesting memorial for future generations of the family.

Ernest L. Hite

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Ernest L. Hite, president of the Farmers Club in his home district, is one of the best known and most progressive young farmers in that section of the county. He was born on a farm in Page

County, Va., July 15, 1880, son of Isaac M. and Mary A. (Gander) Hite, both born in that county and the latter of whom is living with her son, Edward W. Hite, in Lebanon Township.

Isaac M. Hite was born in 1835 and grew to manhood in Virginia, where he was living when the Civil War broke out. He at once enlisted in the Confederate army, serving four years, and for quite a period of this time serving as the personal body guard of Gen. Robert E. Lee. After the war he settled down in his home county, married and continued to reside there until in 1885, when he came with his family to Missouri and located on a farm in Lebanon Township, this county, where he spent the remainder of his life. He died Sept., 1898. Mr. Hite was a substantial citizen and at the time of his death was the owner of 300 acres of land in this county. To Isaac M. Hite and wife five children were born. Of these the subject of this sketch was the last born; the first born died in infancy and the others are as follows: Edward W., a substantial farmer of Lebanon Township; Ella, wife of Charles C. Murray, Washington, D. C., and Dr. Henry Ashby Hite, a physician and surgeon now practicing at Greenridge, Mo.

Ernest L. Hite was but five years of age when he came to this county with his parents in 1885 and he grew to manhood on the home farm in

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Lebanon Township, attending the schools of that district. During the winter of 1898-99 he attended the State Normal School at Warrensburg and the following winter attended the State University at Columbia, where he served as a private in the cadet corps for five months. In 1904, he established his home on the farm on which he is now living. Mr. Hite has 230 acres which he has improved. Early in the present year (1919) he helped to organize the Farmers Club in his home district and upon the organization of the same was elected president. Mr. Hite is a demotrot and for the past two years has been president of school district No. 64. In addition to his farm he owns a good piece of business property in Pleasant Green.

Dec. 28, 1904, Ernest I. Hite was married to Frances Connell, who was born in Saline County, and to this union two children have been born, Cecil C, and Earl Lee. Mrs. Hite is a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Smith) Connell, the latter of whom also was born in Howard County. The late Joseph Connell was born in Page County, Va., but had long been a resident of Missouri, a substantial cattle feeder in Saline County. He and his wife were the parents of 12 children.

Judge Joseph Minter

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Judge Joseph Minter, vice-president of the Bank of Otterville, former judge of Cooper County now living at Otterville, was born in Harrison County, Va., June 22, 1844. He is a son of Jacob and Clarecy (Neely) Minter, both members of Colonial families and Revolutionary stock. Jacob Minter was born in Fairfax County in 1800 and died in 1868. His grandfather, Jacob Minter, was a Hollander who had been in this country but two years when the Revolutionary War broke out. He organized a company to fight in defense of the cause of the colonists and served throughout the war as captain of that company. Clarecy (Neely) Minter, mother of Judge Minter, was born in 1803 and died in 1871. Her father, John Neely, also was a soldier of the Revolution, serving as a lieutenant. During the war he was captured by Indians in the service of the British and for four years was held as a prisoner of war. At his death he was buried with military honors. Jacob and Clarecy (Neely) Minter were the parents of six children, three sons and three daughters, of whom Judge Minter is now the sole survivor.

In 1870 Judge Minter came to Missouri. He had been engaged in the East in railway construction work and came here to help construct the dyke across the Missouri River at Boonville for the passage of the M. K. & T, railroad. Upon the completion of this job he continued his railway construction work and was for twelve years thus engaged, this

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service taking him into various states. In the meantime, however, he had become so much "taken" with Cooper County that in 1874, he bought a farm near Otterville and after his marriage here two years later established his home there. On that place, which he continued to improve and which contained 320 acres of fine land, Judge Minter continued farming and stock raising until 1909 when he sold the place, retired from farm life and moved to Otterville, where he since has made his home. For the past 17 years has served as vice-president of the Bank of Otterville. He is a republican and is one of the leaders of that party in Cooper County. In 1906 he was elected county judge from his district and served for four years.

Judge Minter has been twice married. In 1876 he was married to Fannie Ross, who was born in Otterville and who died in June, 1907, without issue. In Nov., 1909, the Judge married Belle Starke, who was born in Otterville, daughter of Squire Thomas J. Starke, Judge and Mrs. Minter are members of the Presbyterian Church. He is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

H. Roger Starke

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

H. Roger Starke, a well-known live stock buyer at Otterville, is a native son of Cooper County. He was born on a farm in Lebanon town, ship, Oct. 24, 1881, son of the Hon. John D. and Mary A. (Stratton) Starke. The Hon. John D. Starke was for many years one of the leading men in this county. He was the first judge of the eastern district of Cooper County and in Nov., 1882, was elected county collector, an office to which he was re-elected, thus holding it for two terms. In 1886 he was elected to represent this district in the upper house of the Missouri General Assembly and rendered conspicuous service in the State Senate. From 1897 to 1901 he occupied the position of warden of the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City and upon the completion of that term of public service returned to his old home in this county and here spent the remainder of his life. He and his wife were the parents of nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the last born.

Reared on the home farm in Lebanon Township, H. Roger Starke's early residence was divided between that place and Boonville and Jefferson City on account of his father's official residence in the cities during his public service, and his schooling was thus somewhat interrupted, being completed by one term in the high school at Jefferson City, a year in Missouri Valley College at Marshall and a year in the Missouri State Normal School. As a young man he continued giving attention to the affairs of the home farm and after his marriage in 1908 he formed a part

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ownership with his father in the live stock business, maintaining his base of operations on the home farm until 1916, when, after his father's death, he moved to Otterville and has since carried on his operations from that point, making his home there. Mr. Starke is a democrat, as was his father, and has long given his attention to local civic affairs, at present serving as a member of the town council and as a member of the school board at Otterville. He owns a good little farm of 80 acres, is a stockholder in the Bank of Otterville, and has other investments besides his extensive dealings in the live stock market.

Nov. 28, 1908, H. Roger Starke was married to Gladys Lee Huff, who was born at Syracuse, Mo., daughter of J. T. and Bettie Lee (Johnson) Huff, who also were born in this state, and to this union one child has been born, Jennie Lee. Mr. and Mrs. Starke have a pleasant home at Otterville. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church (South) and take their part in church work. Mr. Starke is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

James S. Bane

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

James S. Bane, a well-known and progressive business man of Otterville, was born in Lewis County, Mo., Feb. 4, 1864, son of Robert and Martha (Goodwin) Bane. Robert Bane was born in that part of Virginia now comprised in West Virginia and was there married to Martha Goodwin, who also was born in that part of Virginia. In the days before the Civil War, he and his wife came to Missouri and settled in Lewis County, but in 1866 they disposed of their interests there and moved to Morgan County, settling on a farm, where Robert Bane died not many years later. His widow survived him until 1901. She was 75 years of age at the time of her death. They were the parents of five children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth and all of whom are living, save one who died in infancy.

Reared on the home farm in Morgan county, he having been but two years of age when his parents moved there, James S. Bane received his schooling in the district school and in a select school at Otterville. He remained on the home farm until after his marriage in 1886, when he began farming on his own account, renting land for two or three years, when he bought a farm in Morgan County. In 1893 he sold that farm and came to Cooper County and bought a farm of 155 acres in Otterville Township, near Otterville. In 1918 he bought the garage at Otterville, which he is now conducting and at the same time engaged in the general sale of automobiles and accessories. Mr. Bane has a well-equipped and up

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to date place and is doing well in his new business. He still resides on his farm, although he rents the land. He is a stockholder in and a member of the board of directors of the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Otterville and gives his earnest attention to the general business conditions of his home town. He is a democrat, and is affiliated with the Knights and Ladies of Security and he and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Dec. 1, 1886, James S. Bane was married to Rose L. Smith, a member of one of Cooper County's old families, and to this union three children have been born, namely: Loren Ardee, a soldier in the American Army; Irma, wife of Thornton Ware, of Otterville, and Vivien Pearl, wife of Gus Ware, also of Otterville. Loren Ardee Bane, the soldier son, was born on Aug. 30, 1889, and completed his schooling in Otterville College. After his marriage he became engaged in farming in Arkansas and was living there when he has inducted into the National Army and after a period of training, sailed for Europe as a member of Company C, 156th Infantry, 89th Division, with which command he saw much active service and was engaged in some important battles before the armistice. In April, 1919, he was returned to this side with his command and was discharged at Louisville, Ky., April 21, 1919, at Camp Taylor. L. A. Bane married Nancy E. Monroe, of Otterville, who died, leaving a son, Loren Edwin, who is now being cared for by his paternal grandparents at Otterville.

Alfred G. Hansberger

(Transcribed by Laura Paxton)

Alfred G. Hansberger, one of the substantial farmers and stockmen of Otterville Township, as born on a farm in Bowling Green Township, Pettis County, June 5 1864, son of Emanuel & Cordelia (Stephens) Hansberger. Emanuel Hansberger was born in Rockingham County Virginia about 1825 and in 1853 came to Missouri and located near Bunceton. Later he moved to Pettis County where he settled on a farm and became a substantial farmer. He died in 1888 while in Texas. His widow died at Kansas City MO, at her daughter's home, Mrs. J. T. Crenshaw, in her 75th year. She was born on the old Stephens home place near Bunceton, a daughter of Judge Lawrence and Margaret (Moore) Stephens. Judge Stephens was a native of Tennessee and was a man of much influence in this community. His wife was a native of North Carolina. Emanuel

Hansberger and his wife were the parents of four children: The first born died in infancy; Margaret, widow of J.T. Chrenshaw, Kansas City; Lawrence H. Hansberger, Philadelphia PA; and Alfred G.

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Reared on the home farm over in Pettis County, Alfred G. Hansberger received his schooling in the district schools and at Bunceton Academy, and in 1887 left the farm and engaged in the mercantile business at Lone Elm, until he sold his store in 1893 and entered upon a life of a traveling salesman, a vocation he followed for nine years, representing the J.A. Lamy Company of Sedalia, a part of that time and the remainder the Hammond Packing Company, of St. Joseph. In the meantime, he married and in 1903 wisely left "the road" and settled down on the farm owned by his wife in Otterville Township and has since made that place his residence. Since taking possession of that place Mr. Hansberger has made numerous improvements and is contemplating more. He carries on general farming and raises high grade live stock.

Nov 6, 1901, Alfred G. Hansberger was married to Jennie L. Harlan who was born in this county and to this union one child has been born, the little one dying in infancy. Mrs. Hansberger was born in Otterville Township, a daughter of George W. and Susan (Streit) Harlan, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Virginia who became residents of Cooper County in their youth, were married here and here spent their last days. Mrs. Hansberger's father died in 1891 and his widow died in the summer of 1916 at the home of Mrs. A.G. Hansberger, she then being nearly 87 years of age. Mr. & Mrs. Hansberger are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church (South). Mr. Hansberger is a democrat.

James William Walker (Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

James William Walker, one of the well-known and substantial farmers and stockmen of Lebanon Township, was born on that farm where he resides, Jan. 9, 1868. He is a son of William W. and Sarah (Boatman) Walker, the former of whom also was born in Lebanon Township, in 1829, a son of Samuel and Nancy (Cockrell) Walker, who had come here from Kentucky and established their home on a pioneer farm in Lebanon Township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. William W. Walker grew to manhood in that community and after his marriage to Sarah Boatman, also a member of one of the pioneer families of that section, settled on the farm now owned by his son James and there developed an excellent piece of property. He spent his last days on that farm, where he died in 1898, at the age of 70 years. Of the six children born to him and his wife, three are still living, the subject of this sketch having a brother, Lee Walker, of Sedalia, and a sister, Lela W., widow of the late H. L. Tutt, of Pocatello, Idaho.

Reared on the farm on which he was born and on which he is still living, James W. Walker received his schooling in the Otterville schools

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and in Central College at Fayette and upon returning from college, resumed his place on the farm, of which in time he became the owner, buying from the other heirs their respective interests. After his marriage in the fall of 1898, he established his home there and has continued to reside on the place. He is one of the progressive farmers of the community. He has long been a stockholder in the Pleasant Green Bank and is a member of the board of directors of the same. He is a democrat.

Oct. 26, 1898, James W. Walker was married to Bessie R. Rissler, who was born on a farm in Clear Creek Township, three miles northwest of where she now resides, March 16, 1874, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Tavenner) Rissler, the latter of whom is living with her daughter, Mrs. Walker. She was born in Loudoun County, Va., Sept. 17, 1832, and is now in her

87th year. William Rissler also was a Virginian, born on June 22, 1820, in Jefferson County, now W. Va., and came to Cooper County in 1873, settling on a farm in Clear Creek Township, where he became a large landowner and spent the remainder of his life, one of the substantial and influential members of that community. He died Sept. 13, 1914, being past 94 years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Walker are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church (South).

Anton Beck

(Transcribed by Laura Paxton)

Anton Beck, a well known and substantial farmer and stockman of Otterville Township, was born March 3 1860, in the grand duchy of Baden. His parents, Jacob and Theresa (Swintch) Beck, also were native of Baden and were there married in 1851. March 4 1882, with five children, they left their native land and came to the United States, and located on a farm in Clear Creek Township. Here Mrs. Theresa Beck died on Christmas Day 1896. She was born in 1828. Her husband died August 28 1918. He was born on May 9 1819, thus lacked about nine months of being 100 years of age. To Jacob Beck and wife were born ten children, as follows: Joseph, deceased; Edward, deceased; Renie, deceased; Anton; Emma, wife of H. Young Camp, Clifton City; Anna, deceased; Clara, wife of E. Altermott, Lebanon Township; Eugene, deceased; Elizabeth, wife of Leo Knedgen, and Rosa deceased.

Anton Beck came to America with his parents and upon his arrival in Cooper County he worked as a farm hand, at five dollars a month, and for eight years thereafter, off and on was engaged in farm labor. In his native land, he had been trained to the trade of stone cutter and he varied his work as a farm laborer by working at that trade, continuing thus engaged at varying periods of time for 12 years after coming here, his work as a stone cutter taking him into nearly all the principal cities of

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Missouri. In 1892, Mr. Beck bought 80 acres in Clear Creek Township and after his marriage, two years later, established his home there, improving the place and continuing to reside on that farm until 1904, when he bought the farm of 283 acres on which he is now living in Otterville Township. He owns a well improved and valuable farm. For the past nine years he has been serving as overseer of roads in his home district and in that capacity has rendered effective service in behalf of the growing demand for better roads. He and his family are members of the Catholic Church and he is a member of the Catholic Knights of America. Mr. Beck is a Republican.

January 26 1894, Anton Beck was united in marriage with Mary Anna Williams who was born in Moniteau County in 1874, a daughter of David and Josephine (Heater) Williams, native of Moniteau County, and the latter of whom is still living, now a resident of Kansas and to this union 13 children have been born namely: Jacob, farming in Otterville Township; Emma, wife of Joseph Gramlich, same Township; Robert, who is at home assisting his father; Clara, also at home; Lawrence, deceased; and Katherine, Henry Eugene, Frank, Rosa (deceased), Anton, Jr., Mary Ann and Susan.

Calvin Gehringer

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Calvin Gehringer, a well-known and progressive farmer of Otterville Township, was born in New York State, Nov. 23, 1856. He is a son of Christopher and Lena (Lindenholdt) Gehringer, natives of Germany, who were married in that country and who came to America in 1854 and located in New York State. Some years later they moved to Indiana, locating in Hamilton County, where they remained until 1865, when they came to Missouri and settled on a farm in Pettis County, where they spent the remainder of their lives, Mrs. Gehringer dying about 1905 and Mr. Gehringer eight or 10 years ago, he being 75 years of age.

Calvin Gehringer was but a boy when he came to Missouri with his parents and he grew up in Pettis County, becoming engaged there in his young manhood in saw mill work, which he followed until 1879, when he became engaged in farming in the Pleasant Green neighborhood, remaining here until 1884, when he bought a farm of 200 acres in Pettis County and returned to that county, where he prospered and from time to time bought other land. There he remained until 1911, when he disposed of his interests and returned to Cooper County, buying the farm on which he is now living in Otterville Township, and has since resided here. Since taking possession of that farm, Mr. Gehringer has made numerous substantial improvements to the place and is contemplating more. In

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addition to his general farming, Mr. Gehringer gives considerable attention to the raising of live stock, with particular reference to pure-bred Duroc Jersey hogs and mules. Mr. Gehringer is a democrat, but has not been a seeker after office.

In 1877, Calvin Gehringer was married to Sarah M. DeWitt, who was born in Springfield, Mo., a daughter of Lafayette DeWitt, and to this union 11 children have been born, namely: Otto, deceased; Dudley, who is now farming in South Dakota; Lafayette, South Dakota; Zetta, wife of Jabs Potter, Clifton, Mo.; Lulu, wife of Charles Knox, Pettis County; Theodore, who is farming in this county; Blanche, wife of J. S. Phillips, of Pettis County; Gertrude, wife of Lewis J. Potter, Sedalia; James, who is at home, assisting in the management of the farm, and Dewey and Matilda, also at home. The Gehringers are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. and Mrs. Gehringer have 16 grandchildren.

John M. Stephens

(Transcribed by Laura Paxton)

John M. Stephens, a former teacher and formerly a merchant and postmaster at Bellaire, who has charge of the big Burwood farm in Clear Creek Township, is a native Missourian. He was born on a farm in Moniteau County January 25 1864, son of Kemp S and Huldah (Renfrow) Stephens. Kemp S. Stephens was born in Moniteau County, June 7 1837, son of Thomas Stephens and wife, the latter of whom was a daughter of Joseph Williams, the Missouri pioneer who was driven from this region by the Indians in 1815, but later returned, settled here and lived to be 101 year of age. He was a Tennessean. Thomas Stephens was born near Pemberton Court House, N.C., September 18 1800, and was not yet 18 years of age when in 1818 he came to Missouri. In 1827 he married and bought a claim in Moniteau County and spent the remainder of his life there. He died in January 1892, aged 92 years. His wife had died many years before. Thomas Stephens got his start here as a young man by splitting rails. When he earned money enough to buy a horse he started out as a horse trader and it was not long until he was one of the best known horse dealers in central Missouri. For 21 years he made annual trips to New Orleans, going and returning horseback, with bunches of horses he had bought for the trade, this trade being chiefly confined to the cotton planters of the South. It was on that farm in Moniteau County that Kemp S. Stephens was reared and after his marriage he continued farming until his retirement from the farm and removal to Boonville, where he died in October 1907. His wife had died many years before, in 1866. She was born in 1837. They were the parents of four children: One died in infancy; James T. Stephens, now living at Sedalia; Ruth J., married J W Kenny and is deceased and John M.

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John M. Stephens was but two years of age when his mother died and he was reared in the household of his paternal grandfather, Thomas Stephens. There he received all the advantages of schooling and rearing possible to the time and place, completing his schooling in the old Prairie Home College, and for some years, in connection with his farm labors as a young man taught

school. He married before he was 21 years of age and after his marriage began farming on his own account and also for some years continued teaching during the winters. During the four years, 1902-1906, Mr. Stephens was engaged in the general merchandise business at Bellaire and during that period also was postmaster. He then resumed his farming operations and in 1916 moved from Boonville Township and took over the great Burwood farm of 635 acres in Clear Creek Township, owned by Henry R. Walker of Columbia, taking the same under a ten year lease, and has since made his home there. Mr. Stephens is a democrat and he and his family are members of the Methodist Church.

December 18 1884, John M. Stephens was married to Sophronia Stone, who was born in Livingston County, MO., daughter of William and Ellen (Alexander) Stone, both natives of Tennessee who came to Missouri many years ago and both are now deceased, and to this union eight children have been born, as follows: Eula, wife of Edward Solomon, of New Franklin; Ether, wife of Julius Stegner, of Palestine Township; Inez, a Cooper County teacher, who resides with her parents; James W., who was with the American Army of Occupation in Germany, is now at home; Ellen, wife of A. Hilden, of Boonville Township; Willie B. (a daughter), at home, Cora L. and John H., both at home. James W. Stephens, the soldier son, was born in Boonville Township, February 23 1892, and was engaged as a farmer and teacher in this county when he was inducted into the National Army for service in the World War. He sought service in the machine gun branch of the army and after a period of preliminary training in this country sailed with his command for France in June 1918, attached to the 356th Machine Gun Corps, 89th Division. James W. Stephens married Mary Parrish, daughter of Doctor Parrish and wife, of Pleasant Green. Six of John M. Stephens children have been school teacher.

Peter J. Devine

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Peter J. Devine, vice-president of the Clifton City Bank and a well known and substantial farmer of Otterville Township, was born on a farm in Otterville Township, Oct. 4, 1870. He is a son of John and Ellen (McSheehy) Devine, both of whom were born in County Kerry Ireland, and the former is still living at the advanced age of 95 years. John Devine was born in 1824 and was 12 years of age when he came to this country

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with his parents, the family locating in Boston, where he grew to manhood and where he early learned the care of horses, becoming a teamster. He married in Boston and remained there until he came to Missouri about Civil War times to take part in the railway construction work. Upon the completion of his contract here, he located in Cooper County and bought a farm in Otterville Township, where he was for years actively engaged in farming and where he is now living. His wife died therein 1896, at the age of 68 years. Mr. Devine is a member of the Catholic Church, as was his wife, and their children were reared in that faith. There were seven of these children, as follows: John, Ft. Scott, Kan.; Michael C., of Hammond, Ind.; one who died in infancy; Mrs. Catherine Shea, deceased; Daniel, deceased; Peter J., and Ellen, deceased.

Reared on the home farm, Peter J. Devine attended the district schools and has ever stuck to the farm. In 1894 he bought 90 acres of land near Clifton City and has since made that his place of residence. As his affairs prospered, Mr. Devine bought adjoining land and now has a well-improved farm of 240 acres, on which he is engaged in general farming and stock raising and on which he has done well. He is a stockholder in the Clifton City Bank, a member of the board of directors and vice-president of the same. He is a republican and is a member of the local school board.

Mr. Devine has been twice married. In 1895 he was married to Mary Griffin, who died in 1905 at the age of 33 years. To that union three children were born, all of whom died in infancy. In 1907 Mr. Devine married Louisa Connor, who was born in Pettis County, daughter of Dennis Connor

and wife, and to this union three children have been born, Peter J., Jr., and Llewellyn, both deceased; One child, born May 2, 1919, Eleanor Mary, living. Mr. and Mrs. Devine are members of the Catholic

Church. Mr. Devine is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus.

John Sweeney

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

John Sweeney, a well-known farmer of Otterville Township, was born in County Limerick, Munster, Ireland, Oct. 4, 1848. He was less than three years of age when his parents, John and Ellen (Donohue) Sweeney, came to the United States in 1851, arriving at New Orleans. For some little time after his arrival here, the elder John Sweeney remained in New Orleans and then came up the river to St. Louis, in the neighborhood of which city he began to work as a farm hand. Not long afterward, about the middle of the '50s, he came over into Cooper County with his family and settled in Otterville Township, where he bought a farm and established his home. He gradually increased his land holdings there until

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he became the owner of 700 acres and was accounted one of the well-to-do farmers of that neighborhood. On that farm he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1899, being 80 years of age. His widow died in 1901. When they came to America, their son John was their only child, but six more children were born to them after their arrival here. Of these seven children, five are living. John Sweeney and his wife were devout members of the Catholic Church and their children were reared in that faith.

The junior John Sweeney was reared on the home farm, receiving his schooling at Clifton. From the days of his boyhood, he was required to give his attention to the farm, and as the eldest son, grew to be his father's "right hand man" in the operation of the place. After his marriage in 1881, he continued to make his home on the home place, of which, after his father's death, he inherited 80 acres. He has since bought an adjoining 40 acres and now has a farm of 120 acres, which he has improved in excellent fashion and on which he is engaged profitably in general farming and stock raising, being accounted one of the substantial farmers of that community.

In 1881, John Sweeney was united in marriage to Emma Templemire, who was born in Lebanon Township, daughter of Fred Templemire and wife, natives of Germany who had become residents of this county upon coming to the United States, and to this union five children were born, namely: John R., Sedalia; Edward, deceased; Charles and Nellie, at home, and one who died in infancy. Mrs. Emma Sweeney, mother of these children, died in 1895, at the age of 40 years, and her daughter Nellie is mistress of the household. Charles Sweeney, who also still remains at home, has long been assisting his father in the direction of the farm and has helped to develop there a good piece of property. The Sweeneys are members of the Catholic Church. Mr. Sweeney and his son are republicans.

George C. Jones

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

George Jones, one of the extensive landowners of Cooper County is a son of the pioneer Caleb Jones who at the time of his death in 1883 was said to be the wealthiest man in Cooper County.

Caleb Jones was born in Baltimore, Md., March 11, 1805, a son of Capt. Joshua Jones, who during the time of the War of 1812 when Baltimore was bombarded by the British (the night of stress which inspired Francis Scott Key to write his immortal "Star Spangled Banner") helped in

the defense of the city. About 1815 Capt. Joshua Jones moved with his family from Baltimore to Kentucky, the boy Caleb then being about

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ten years of age, and it was in that state that the latter grew to manhood, his education being received in the schools of Cynthiana, Ky. When he was 21 years of age, in 1826, Caleb Jones came here horseback, swimming his horse across the Missouri River at Franklin. With such meager resources as he could command, Caleb Jones put his credit to the test and was able to secure a small stock of merchandise with which he opened a store at the landing at Arrow Rock. This venture was the beginning of the successful career. From the very beginning his affairs prospered, his mercantile venture presently was expanded to include banking and he thus became one of the pioneer bankers of this section of Missouri, his operations necessitating the removal of his base of operations from Arrow Rock to Boonville. He invested largely in real estate and was at one time the owner of about 6,000 acres of land in this county, the greater part of his holdings lying in Blackwater Township. He also gave much attention to the live stock business and in all his ventures, whether as merchant, banker or stockman and farmer, he prospered, so that it probably is nothing amiss to say, that at the time of his death he was Cooper County's wealthiest citizen. Nov. 10, 1831, Caleb Jones married Nancy Chapman, who was born in April 1814, in Howard County. She died about ten years before he did, his death occurring May 15, 1883.

George C. Jones, son of Caleb and Nancy (Chapman) Jones, was born in Polk County Dec. 12, 1844, and grew up in this county, from the days of his boyhood his interests being more directly connected with his father's farming operations and he continued a farmer all his life, coming in time to be a large landowner. During the Civil War he went to Canada, but returned to Cooper County in 1865, and resumed farming with his father, later branching out for himself, and became successful, at one time owning as much as 1,400 acres of land in this county, mostly in Blackwater Township. On March 5, 1868, George C. Jones was married to Ann E. Trent, who was born on March 16, 1844, in Cumberland County, Va., member of an old Colonial family of English ancestry, the family name being derived from the ancient seat of the family on the banks of the river Trent. To that union were born six children, namely: Caleb C., a stockman and auctioneer of Pilot Grove; Addie Muir, married George H. McElroy and is now deceased; Dr. George C. Jones, a dentist at Pilot Grove; Maria, wife of M. L. Jones, Blackwater Township; Nancy Trent, wife of Archibald McGuire, Blackwater Township and Woodson Trent Jones, Blackwater Township. The mother of these children died Jan. 18, 1909. Of late years George C. Jones has disposed of some of his land interests,

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but still retains a life interest in 1,000 acres in Blackwater Township which he has divided among his children, preferring to make disposition of his estate while he is living.

William and Julius Manger

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

William Manger and Julius Manger, now of New York City, owners of several hotels in the large cities of the country, are natives of Boonville. They are the sons of Casper Manger and Wilhelmina (Bell) Manger, who were early citizens of Boonville.

William and Julius Manger left Boonville about 30 years ago. William attended Valparaiso University and Julius graduated from Tulane University and was admitted to the bar. They founded the International Coffee Company and were importers and jobbers of coffee and spices. They engaged in the real estate business and have built more than a 1,000 buildings and have dealt extensively in real estate. They are proprietors of the Hotel Netherland, Great Northern Hotel, Navarre Hotel, Endicott Hotel, Grand Hotel, and Bell Apartment Hotel, all in New York City;

The Plaza Hotel, Chicago; The Continental Hotel, Philadelphia; and are interested in many other large enterprises.

Col. Charles C. Bell of Boonville, their uncle, has been their life long friend and adviser.

William Manger is a bachelor. Julius Manger married Miss Lillian Weissenger, a noted Kentucky beauty, and daughter of the late Col. Harry Weissenger, of Louisville, one of the most prominent citizens of Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Julius Manger have three children.

Dr. Porter E. Williams
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Dr. Porter E. Williams was born in Versailles, Mo., March 25, 1867. Dr. Williams' father was also a physician and one of the most prominent in central Missouri, honored, esteemed and respected by all who knew him. He was born in Ohio, and with his father came to Versailles when two years of age. He practiced his profession for about 50 years and died in the spring of 1903, 70 years of age. Dr. Williams' paternal grandfather erected the first building, a blacksmith shop, in Versailles about 1835. Here he manufactured all the plows, axes, horseshoes and nails that were used in that section for a number of years. He died in Versailles when 84 years of age.

The maiden name of Dr. Williams' grandmother on his father's side was Mary McGlothlin. She was born in Ohio and died in Morgan County When 86 years of age. Dr. Williams mother was Miss Alpha Davis, born in Morgan County, Mo. She was the daughter of Porter E. Davis who was born on the old homestead about four miles southeast of Bunceton, now occupied by his grandson, W. E. Davis. Porter E. Davis made the

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trip across the plains to the Pacific Coast in '49 in quest of gold and after three years returned to his home in Cooper County.

Phillip Davis, father of Porter E. Davis and great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was one of the early settlers of this county, and located the old Davis homestead above referred to. He was a first cousin of Jefferson Davis, the president of the southern Confederacy. The Davis stock originally came from Mississippi.

Dr. Porter E. Williams was married Nov. 20, 1890, to Miss Gussie Stephens, the daughter of John H. Stephens a brother of Joseph L. Stephens and belonged to one of the pioneer families of Cooper County. Dr. Williams has one daughter Adda, the wife of Roy D. Williams a prominent attorney of the Cooper County bar.

Dr. Williams graduated at Beaumont Hospital, now the Washington, in 1887, served one year as intern at the hospital and May 6, 1888, located at Bunceton. Nov. 1, 1905, he was appointed superintendent of State Hospital, No. 1, at Fulton, and remained there until 1909, when he returned to Bunceton, to practice his profession. In 1917 he was appointed to the superintendency of the St. Joseph Hospital No. 2, which position he holds at the present time.

Dr. Williams is a physician of high standing throughout the state, a firm democrat, a loyal friend and an upright and good citizen.

Curtis Earle Chrane
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Curtis Earle Chrane, superintendent of public schools of Boonville, is a native Missourian. He was born Oct. 29, 1886, on a farm at Musselfork, Chariton County. He is a son of John Earley and Elizabeth (Stith) Chrane, natives of Missouri and Kentucky, respectively.

John Earley Chrane, was born and reared on a farm which was entered from the government in the early twenties. He was a son of Harold Julius Chrane, who emigrated from Denmark with his family in the nineteenth century and settled in Chariton County, Mo. During the Civil War he served in the Confederate army under General Price. John Earley Chrane was reared to maturity in Chariton County and married Elizabeth Stith, a native of Breckenridge County, Ky., who accompanied her parents to Linn County, Mo., in 1870. John E. Chrane is a farmer and stockman and is now residing upon his farm in Chariton County.

Prof. C. E. Chrane was reared on the home farm and attended the district school. He attended the Warrensburg State Normal School and graduated from this institution when 19 years of age. For three years following he was principal of Windsor High School and afterwards served

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for four years as superintendent of Windsor Public Schools, following which he became Superintendent of Boonville Public Schools, a position which he has held for the past six years. Professor Chrane's work as superintendent of Boonville Public Schools has been such as to place the schools in the front rank of Missouri public school system. He is a graduate of the Missouri State University and has attended summer school sessions at University of Colorado, University of Michigan, and Chicago University.

May 29, 1910, Mr. Chrane was united in marriage with Miss Irmah Griffith, a daughter of Dr. and Mrs. C. E. Griffith, at Windsor, Mo. Dr. Griffith and family now reside at Gallitan, Mo., the birth place of Mrs. Griffith whose maiden name was Harriet Poague. Dr. Griffith's mother was Margaret Drake prior to her marriage and she was a member of one of the pioneer families of Howard County. His father was Dr. Edgar Griffith who at the time of the Civil War was one of the largest land owners and wealthiest men in Cass County. He cast his fortunes with the Confederate cause and was impoverished as a result of the ravages of the war. His family suffered severely from the effects of "Order No. 11". To C. E. and Irmah Chrane has been born two children, Barbara Jeanne, born March 22, 1915; and Jacqueline, born Sept. 26, 1916. The mother of these children was a graduate of the Sedalia College of Music, where she pursued a course in violin and elocution. She is also a graduate of the Chicago Conservatory of Music in the same subjects. Two years prior to her marriage she was engaged in Chautauqua work as a reader and violinist.

Mr. Chrane is a member of the Cooper County Board of Education, receiving his appointment to the position from the State Superintendent of Schools. He was also appointed by the governor of Missouri as a member of the Missouri Library Commission. Mr. and Mrs. Chrane are both members of the Methodist Church, South, as have been all of their ancestors for generations. They are both connected with the Order of the Eastern Star and Mr. Chrane is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons the Royal Arch Masons and the Knights of Pythias.

Mr. Chrane's career as an educator has been marked with signal success; he is a man of more than ordinary ability; energetic, progressive, highly educated, he is possessed of a strong and likable personality which has made him popular with all classes of the people.

The six years of his incumbency as superintendent of the Boonville

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Public Schools has been an era of progress and advancement which has seen the Boonville Schools take a leading place among the small city schools of Missouri.

Dr. Arthur Wesley Nelson
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Dr. Arthur Wesley Nelson, president of the Bank of Bunceton, chairman of the board of directors of the Boonville National Bank, member of the board of managers of the Missouri State Hospital at St. Joseph, one of the most extensive landowners and cattle breeders in central Missouri and proprietor of "Eastwood", the great stock farm in Kelly and Lebanon Townships was born on that farm and has always regarded the place as his home, a continuous resident there since his return in the spring of 1902 from New York City, where he rounded out his medical education. The Doctor was born Jan. 21, 1878, son and only child of Arthur W. and Lolls (Marmaduke) Nelson, both of whom also were born in this section of Missouri and the latter of whom, a member of one of the most distinguished families in Missouri, is still living, now a resident of Kansas City.

The senior Arthur W. Nelson was born on a pioneer farm two miles west of Boonville in 1854, son of James M. and Margaret (Wyan) Nelson, who had established their home there after their marriage in this county. The latter was one of the oldest living natives of Cooper County at time of her death, July 9, 1919, at the age of 98 years, she having been born in this county in 1821, a daughter of real pioneer parents, the Wyans having been among the earliest settlers of Cooper County. James M. Nelson was born in Fauquier County, Va., member of a well-established family there, and was self educated. As a young man he came to Missouri and located in Cooper County, where he married Margaret Wyan and established his home. He was a man of varied activities and was for many years one of the most prominent and influential men in Cooper County. In 1858, in association with W. W. Trigg, he started the first bank that was opened for business in Boonville and thus early became one of the most influential factors in the development of that city and of the region surrounding. He also became a large landowner and the possessor of other interests of a valuable character, the impress of his forceful personality being manifest in many directions throughout the local business world. James M. Nelson died in Aug., 1902, being then at the age of 86 years. His widow died July 9, 1919, she having lived to the great age of 98 years. She was born at Crab Orchard, Ky. James M. Nelson and wife were the parents of four children, all of whom are living save Arthur W., father of Doctor Nelson and the third in order of birth, the others

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being Louis Cass Nelson, a retired banker and capitalist, St. Louis; Mrs. Charles E. Leonard, a widow and owner of the notable "Ravenswood" farm in Palestine Township, who is now living at Boonville, and Margaret, wife of the Hon. Lon V. Stephens of St. Louis, former governor of the state of Missouri. Arthur W. Nelson was reared at Boonville and was early trained and schooled in a way to fit him for the large responsibilities entailed upon him by reason of his father's estate. After his marriage to Lolla Marmaduke he established his home on the great ranch in Kelly Township now owned by his son, the house in which he and his wife set up their establishment there having been a conventional "big house" of the period, erected by slave labor in 1854. On that place he gave particular attention to the breeding of Shorthorn cattle and had developed one of the finest stock farms in this section when in 1880 his activities were untimely brought to an end, his death coming in a runaway accident in that year. His widow later married Robert W. Cory and is now living at Kansas City. She was born in Saline County, a daughter of Col. Vincent Marmaduke, a gallant officer of the Confederate army during the Civil War, who was a son of the Hon. M. M. Marmaduke, one time lieutenant-governor of Missouri, and a brother of former Governor Marmaduke, of this state.

Born on the farm on which he is now living, Dr. Arthur W. Nelson was reared at Kansas City, in the schools of which city he received his schooling preparatory to entrance at Wentworth Military Academy, from which institution he was graduated in 1897. He then entered the University of the South at Sewanee, Tenn., and was graduated from that institution in 1900, with the degrees of M. D., A. B. and Ph. G. Thus equipped for the practice of his profession Doctor Nelson received the appointment to an internship in the Woman's Hospital at New York City and was there until the

spring of 1902, when he returned to his old home in this county, foregoing his expectation of actively engaging in the practice of his profession in order to assume the practical management of the great estate he had inherited in Cooper County and has since been thus engaged, having extended in many ways the operations for many years carried on there. In the spring following his return to Cooper County, Doctor Nelson married and established his home on the old home place, where he since has resided. In 1913, at a cost of \$40,000 he rebuilt the historical old farm house which had stood as the dwelling place there for nearly 60 years and erected in its stead one of the finest farm houses in Missouri, the same equipped throughout with modern fittings. One of

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the features of this new house is the great reception hall which with true Southern hospitality the Doctor and his wife ever keep open for the social gatherings of the young people of the neighborhood, the Nelson house thus having long been most pleasantly noted as the center of social activities thereabout. Doctor Nelson is the proprietor of an estate exceeding 2,000 acres in Kelly and Lebanon Townships and gives his chief attention to the raising of cattle, hogs and sheep, the operations of the place being under the direction of his ranch manager, J. M. Putman, and the products of the Nelson stock farm are in wide demand among discriminating stockmen throughout this section of the West. Doctor Nelson is widely known in live-stock circles and during the years 1912-15 served as president of the Missouri Live Stock Producers Association, an organization in the affairs of which he has for years taken an active interest and of which he is still a member of the executive committee. In general business affairs the Doctor also has for years taken a proper interest and in 1903 was elected president of the Bunceton Bank at Bunceton, this selection carrying with it the distinction of being the youngest bank president then in the state of Missouri. He also is chairman of the board of directors of the Boonville National Bank. In recognition of his attainments in the field of medical science he was appointed in 1918 a member of the board of managers of the Missouri State Hospital at St. Joseph and is still serving on that important board. In his political views he is a democrat. He is a Mason of high degree, affiliated locally with the blue lodge at Bunceton and is a noble of the Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, affiliated with the temple at Kansas City, his attainment to the shrine having been through the York Rite of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, this latter affiliation being with the Commandery at Boonville. The Doctor is a member of the Episcopal Church at Kansas City.

March 25, 1903, Dr. Arthur W. Nelson was united in marriage at Boonville with Rilye Stephens, of that city, and to this union two children have been born, Rilye S. and Arthur W., III. Mrs. Nelson was born at Boonville and is a daughter of W. Speed and Virginia (Thompson) Stephens, both of whom also were born in Cooper County, members of old families in this section of Missouri, and who are now raving at St. Louis, where W. Speed Stephens is engaged in business as treasurer of a life insurance company.

Thomas Smith Simrall

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Thomas Smith Simrall, the vice-president and acting manager of the Cooper County Abstract Company of Boonville, was born Oct. 15, 1886, at Keytesville, Mo. His father was a distinguished Presbyterian Divine

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and was born in Shelbyville, Ky., in 1849. He was educated at Washington Lee University and at the Louisville Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky. Having received a finished education at the aforesaid institutions, he came to Missouri when yet a young man and preached first at St. Louis, filling a vacancy in a pulpit there, for a short time. He then located at Hannibal, Mo., having charge of the Presbyterian Church there for several years after which he preached in Keytesville,

Mo., and finally located at Sweet Springs, Mo., where he had charge of the Presbyterian Church until his death, Nov. 24, 1899.

Mr. Simrall's mother, now living, is Dollie (Ewing) Simrall who was born in Owensville, Ky., in 1860. She was married to Rev. Thomas Simrall in 1882 at Owensville. Both the Simralls and Ewings are of old Kentucky stock.

The subject of this sketch belongs to the younger class of energetic, pushing business men of the county and takes deep interest in all public enterprises, having formerly been secretary of the Boonville Commercial Club until his business made it impossible for him to devote the time necessary to the performance of the duties of that office. He was educated in the public schools, graduated at the high school at Sweet Springs and completed his education at the University of Missouri. When he first started in business for himself he was a traveling salesman for a wholesale jewelry company of St. Louis and traveled in Texas.

He came to Boonville in July 1915, and founded the Cooper County Abstract Company which he caused to be incorporated and is the vice-president and acting manager of the same. The corporation bought the "Book of Abstracts" known as the Chambers set. On this set of abstracts he spent considerable time, labor and pains verifying the same, making corrections and bringing them up-to-date, so that now the company has a complete and thorough set of books. Mr. Simrall has been remarkably fortunate and successful in the management of this company and by his industry and tireless efforts has built up a flourishing business.

He was married June 14, 1916 to Miss Edna Chalmers Williams the daughter of the late lamented Judge William M. Williams. There was born to that marriage, on March 19, 1918, one child, Ann Ewing. Mr. Simrall is a democrat, a Presbyterian and a Free Mason.

B. M. Lester

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

B. M. Lester, president of the Boonville National Bank, was born Dec. 10, 1890, in Boonville, Mo. His father, Thomas P. Lester, was born in Queen's County, Ireland, and came to Boonville in 1869, where he was a large and successful contractor until his death, Oct. 13, 1910. He was

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married in St. Louis to Theresa Creamer, who died June 7, 1901, at Boonville.

B. M. Lester was educated at the parochial schools of Boonville and took a special commercial course. At the age of 15 he was employed as messenger boy in the old Central National Bank at a salary of \$5 per month. His rise in that bank by reason of his industry was rapid, and he soon became head bookkeeper, which position he held until the liquidation of the bank.

On the organization of the Boonville National Bank, which took over the assets of the Central National Bank, he, because of his especial fitness and reliability, was chosen cashier of the new institution, and upon the consolidation of the Boonville National Bank and the Farmer's Bank of Boonville, he was elected vice-president of the consolidated banks, which operated under the name and charter of the Boonville National Bank.

Upon the retirement of E. E. Amick as president of the Boonville National Bank, Mr. Lester was again advanced and elected president of the institution in his stead, and is doubtless the youngest president of so large a financial banking institution, he being now but 28 years of age. He is thoroughly versed in banking, having come up from a messenger boy to his present responsible position. Mr. Lester is affable, courteous and quick to grasp a financial proposition.

He was married Nov. 26, 1914, to Miss Loretta Bierck at the home of her parents in Shelbyville, Ind.

Rolls D. Pealer

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Rolls D. Pealer, the present popular county clerk of Cooper County, was born in this county in 1873, being the youngest of six children. His parents were John C, and Mary (Bittinger) Pealer, formerly of Ohio, who moved to Iowa from Cooper County in 1873 and purchased a farm eight miles northwest of California, where they lived until their demise.

Mr. Pealer was married in 1894 to Miss Myrtle M., daughter of B. D. and Mary (Lawson) Wilson. They have four children, Erma W.; Very W.; Don F.; and Paul M. Mr. Pealer, until inducted into office, has been engaged in farming and merchandising. He established a store on the home farm in 1901, one mile north of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church and one mile east of the New Zion Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The postoffice was located at his store, which was named Dakota. In the fall of 1908, he disposed of his store and was appointed the probation officer at the Missouri Training School in 1909, which position he held until the change of the State administration. He was appointed deputy county

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clerk in 1911 by County Clerk J. T. Hayes, which position he held until 1914. In this year he became a candidate for and was elected to the office of county clerk and was re-elected in 1918, which office he now holds, his term expiring in 1922. At the election of 1918 he was elected county clerk by a large majority, being the only democrat elected in the county. During the World War he served as a member of the local Exemption Board for Cooper County.

Mr. Pealer is affable in manner and has a pleasing personality which renders him popular, as is evidenced by the election of 1918. He is a careful, painstaking officer and has endeared many to him by reason of his continued courtesy and kindness in the performance of the duties of his office. Mr. Pealer is a democrat and a member of the Baptist Church, a Free Mason, Knight of Pythias, Odd Fellow, and a Woodman.

Mr. and Mrs. Pealer were educated at Hooper Institute at Clarksburg, Mo. They believe in education and are offering their children the best opportunity available. Erma W., who graduated at Laura Speed Elliott High School in 1918, the following year attended the Monticello Seminary at Godfrey, Ill. Vera W. graduated from the above high school in 1919, and Don F. is a sophomore in the same institution and was page in the Senate of the 50th General Assembly. Paul M., the youngest, is attending the grade school of Boonville.

George D. Brownfield

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

George D. Brownfield, who is now serving as prosecuting attorney of Cooper County, was born March 9, 1879, in Cooper County, Mo. His father, Martin Brownfield, was born in Virginia, Oct. 15, 1835, and came to Pettis County when a small boy and afterwards located in Cooper County, near Pilot Grove, where he was a successful farmer. He died at his home in Cooper County, Dec. 26, 1883. His mother was Adeline (Lewis) Brownfield, who was born Aug. 6, 1836, in the State of Ohio. She came to Boonville with her parents when quite a small girl, and lived in Cooper County practically all of her life. She died in Pilot Grove, March 28, 1914, after having lived a noble and Christian life. Mrs. Brownfield, the mother of the subject of this sketch, was married twice, the first time to John Baker, and there were born to this union three children, Ids, Anna and Katie, all of whom are deceased. Her second marriage was to the father of George Brownfield, and to this union there were born four children, Minnie, Flora, Lewis and George D.

George D. Brownfield attended the public schools at Pilot Grove, the Pilot Grove Academy, and graduated at the high school at Sedalia. He then completed the commercial course at Hill's Business College at Sedalia,

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after which he entered the law department at the State University at Columbia, where he graduated in 1909, ranking first in his class. He also won the Rollin's scholarship of \$50 in gold, for the highest rank in the junior class of the previous year.

Mr. Brownfield was elected city attorney of Boonville in 1914-1916. He was also elected prosecuting attorney of Cooper County in 1914-1916, which office he now holds. Mr. Brownfield is a hard worker and a close student. He is a fervent and earnest prosecutor and a forceful and pleasing speaker.

Jesse Thomas Hays
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Jesse Thomas Hays was born in Cooper County, Mo., Nov. 23, 1870. His parents, Hon. William G. and Mary E. (Hurley) Hays were natives of Hardin County, Ky. and were there reared and married. In 1864 they came to Missouri, settling on a farm in the river bottoms in Cooper County, eight miles east of Boonville. Subsequently they removed to a farm on a bluff, three miles from Overton, and it was on that place that Jesse Thomas Hays first saw the light of day. In 1892 the parents took up their abode on a farm four miles west of Bunceton which remained the home until the death of William G. Hays, who died at Hot Springs, Ark., in 1905.

William G. Hays was prominent in democratic politics and represented his district in the State Legislature three terms. His counsel was sought in all political matters and his opinion carried weight. He was a member of both the Masonic and Odd Fellows lodges and was one of Cooper County's most prosperous, substantial and esteemed citizens.

Jesse Thomas Hays spent his youth upon the home farm, his experiences being those of the average lad in the multifarious duties upon the farm and the obligations of life. He attended the district school and afterwards entered the Hooper Institute at Clarksburg, Mo., where he continued through the school years of 1888-89 and 1889-90. In the fall of the latter year he entered the Missouri University at Columbia, where he spent the succeeding term, after which he returned to his home in Cooper County and engaged in farming in partnership with his father until the latter's death. For two years thereafter he lived in the country handling stock and grain and meeting with substantial success. In Nov., 1906, he was elected to the office of county clerk and at the expiration of his first term in 1910, was re-elected to that office. The duties of this office he performed with painstaking care and fidelity. Mr. Hays is a member of Cooper Lodge, No. 36 A. F. and A. M.; of Boonville Chapter, No. 60, R. A. M.; of Olivette Commandery, No. 53, K. T.; Centralia Council,

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No. 34, R. & S. M. at Centralia, Mo.; of the Boonville Lodge K. P.; and the Modern Woodmen of America. He, like his father before him, takes an active interest in public matters and especially is he active in democratic politics and as well a student of public questions. Being pleasant and affable, his friends are legion.

E. H. Rodgers
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

E. H. Rodgers, for many years one of the largest and most prosperous farmers of Cooper County as well as one of the largest breeders of Atwood Merino sheep in central Missouri, is a native of Virginia and was born in Ohio County, Dec. 6, 1843. His parents, John G. and Margaret Rodgers, were natives of that county and their homestead upon which the subject of this sketch was born, was composed of land entered by the family several generations ago. His grandmother of the fourth generation on the father's side was the first white woman that ever set foot in that county. Mr. Rodgers' father was a large and prosperous farmer. In the Civil War, Mr. Rodgers still a youth, espoused the cause of the union and in his 19th year, in August, 1862, he enlisted in Company D, 12th West Virginia Volunteer Infantry and served until the close of the war, witnessing personally the final surrender of Lee at Appomattox in 1865. He was in the Battle of Winchester under General Milroy and numerous other hotly contested engagements. After peace was consummated he farmed for two years in his native county and in 1868 moved to Missouri and located in Pilot Grove Township in this county where he lived for twelve years. In 1880 he sold his farm in Pilot Grove Township and bought the farm of Judge Bennet C. Clark, in Palestine Township, consisting of 970 acres of fertile land in a high state of cultivation and well improved. Besides general farming he made a specialty of breeding and raising the celebrated Atwood stock of Merino sheep. His flock frequently consisted of 2,500 and as high as 4,000 head.

Mr. Rodgers was married in Ohio County, Va., to Miss Mary L., daughter of James Elliott of that county, August 18, 1870. He has but one child, a daughter, Margaret A., the wife of Charles W. Nixon, whose sketch appears in this volume. His wife departed this life in Boonville, in June, 1916, and was buried at Walnut Grove Cemetery at Boonville.

In March of this year Mr. Rodgers sold that portion of his farm that he had not heretofore sold, about 600 acres, to his son-in-law, C. W. Nixon of Boonville. For several years, Mr. Rodgers has made his home with Mr. Nixon where he has enjoyed not only the companionship of his daughter and son-in-law, but the close attachment he feels to his grand-children. Mr. Rodgers has large property interests in

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especially in coal lands. He has retired from all public activities and spends a considerable portion of his time traveling in the east. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, a Democrat, and a member of the John A. Hayn Post of the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Rodgers is an exemplary citizen and active in any cause he espouses. He was a generous contributor to all war activities in the World War. A thorough American, his heart has beat with a patriotism, in that great cataclysm, unaffected by age.

Nathaniel Nelson Leonard

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Nathaniel Nelson Leonard, owner and proprietor of "Ravenswood Farm", which is located four miles northeast of Bunceton in Palestine Township, has for years been a prominent factor in Cooper County affairs, as well as his father and grandfather before him. Nathaniel Nelson Leonard was born at Boonville, Mo., Dec. 6, 1876, and was the only child born to his parents, the late Capt. Charles E. Leonard and Nadine (Nelson) Leonard.

Capt. Charles E. Leonard was a native of Cooper County, born on "Ravenswood Farm" March 27, 1839, and died March 8, 1916. He was a son of Nathaniel and Margaret (Hutchinson) Leonard, who settled in Cooper County in 1825 from Vermont. Here Nathaniel Leonard purchased a large tract of land and settled on what has since been known as "Ravenswood Farm", which is one of the notable stock farms in America, from the breeder's standpoint. Nathaniel Leonard engaged in breeding purebred Shorthorn cattle in 1839. At that time he went to Kentucky and purchased a white male Shorthorn, "Comet Star", for \$600, and a red female, "Queen" for \$500, from George Renick, a well known stock breeder in Kentucky. These animals were the first pure bred Shorthorn cattle west of the Mississippi River, and it is said that the

"Ravenswood Farm" is the oldest stock farm in the world devoted to breeding Shorthorn cattle. Nathaniel Leonard successfully carried on farming and stock breeding on the "Ravenswood Farm" during his lifetime, and was succeeded by Capt. Charles E. Leonard, the father of Nathaniel Nelson Leonard, whose name introduces this review.

Capt. Charles E. Leonard was reared to manhood on "Ravenswood Farm", and received his education in the Kemper Military School at Boonville and the Missouri University at Columbia, where he was graduated. After his educational career, he returned to "Ravenswood Farm" and was actively engaged in farming and stock breeding during the balance of his life. He became widely known throughout the country as a successful breeder of Shorthorn cattle, and was one of the best known men in

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America as an advocate of the merits of that breed of cattle. His efforts were not limited merely to the commercial side of Shorthorn breeding, but as a member of the American Shorthorn Breeders Association, he was one of the leading factors in the financing of the American Herd Book, the rights to which were later purchased by the American Shorthorn Breeders Association in 1883. Captain Leonard was an active member of this association for a number of years, serving as a director from 1882 to 1906, when, at his own request, he was relieved from further activity on that board. From 1889 until 1902 he was president of that organization, and for many years was a conspicuous figure at Royal and International stock shows, where his advice and co-operation were eagerly sought by stock breeders from various sections of the country.

Captain Leonard was equally successful in other fields of enterprise, as he was as a breeder. He was interested in the banking business extensively and at the time of his death he was president of the Central National Bank of Boonville, one of Cooper County's substantial financial institutions. He was a man of keen perception and good judgment. He not only knew cattle, but he knew men as well. He was a liberal contributor to every worthy enterprise and gave generously to religious and other causes. He was a Methodist.

Capt. Charles E. Leonard was united in marriage to Miss Nadine Nelson, Oct. 27, 1872. She is a daughter of James M. and Margaret (Wyan) Nelson, Cooper County pioneers, a more extensive history of whom is given in connection with the sketch of Dr. Arthur W. Nelson. Mrs. Leonard now resides at Booneville.

Nathaniel Nelson Leonard, whose name introduces this sketch, was educated in Kemper Military School, where he was graduated in the class of 1896. He then attended Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn., where he completed the law course in 1898, after which he traveled extensively in Europe. He then returned to Cooper County, and since that time has made his home at "Ravenswood Farm", where he has continued the breeding of Shorthorns which is being carried on an extensive scale under the supervision of his superintendent, Ed Patterson, a man who thoroughly understands the stock business in the most minute detail, and a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume.

Ravenswood Stock Farm is one of the famous stock farms of America. It consists of 2,100 acres, and is devoted to breeding Shorthorn cattle. It was founded in 1825, as above stated, by the grandfather of the present

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owner. A herd of 125 pure bred Shorthorns is maintained on this place, and upon this place some of the highest priced Shorthorn cattle in the world have been bred. One animal from this farm was sold for \$40,000 at the Royal Stock sale in Argentina. Stock from the "Ravenswood Farm" are well known and highly prized, not only in this country but in South America and other parts of the world.

Nathaniel Nelson Leonard was united in marriage at Chicago, Ill., Jan. 20, 1909, with Miss Roselia Willard, daughter of Henry G. and Anne (Rafferty) Willard. Henry G. Willard is a native of Pennsylvania, born at Newtown, Dec. 17, 1846, and his wife was a native of Pittsburgh, Pa. and died in Chicago, Ill. Mr. Willard was formerly engaged in the manufacture of gas and electric light fixtures, and is now retired and makes his home at the "Ravenswood Farm". To Mr. and Mrs. Leonard were born three children, as follows: Nathaniel N., Jr., born Feb. 5, 1910; Charles Willard, born Jan. 18, 1912, and Anne Nadine, born July 25, 1914. Mrs. Leonard was born in Chicago, Ill., Feb. 5, 1885, and died at "Ravenswood Farm" Nov. 11, 1918. She was a woman of noble Christian character who made the world better by having lived in it. During her lifetime she was active in charitable and social work, and it is a noteworthy fact that during the World War her devotion to the cause of the Red Cross was the crowning event of her life.

Mr. Leonard, in addition to his vast interest in the stock business, is active in other industrial and financial enterprises. He is a director of the Boonville National Bank, and also in the Bank of Bunceton. He is a Knights Templar Mason, being a member at Boonville, and he also holds membership in the Mystic Shrine, Ararat Temple, Kansas City, Mo. He takes a commendable interest in public affairs, and is a council member of Gov. Gardner's staff.

Fleming H. Shannon
(Transcribed by Laura Paxton)

FLEMING H. SHANNON, for most of his life a citizen of Cooper County but now of Texas County MO, was born in Cooper County December 19 1861. His father, Alexander Shannon, was born in Maryland about 1810, and came to Cooper County about 1825. He was a farmer and first located in Boonville, then moved to Clarks Fork Township and again back to Boonville Township. Here he spent the rest of his life as a prosperous and successful farmer. He died in June 1893, and left as the fruits of his industry and skill a large estate. He married Miss Julia Hurt, daughter of Peyton and Jennin (Coobe) Hurt. Five children were born of that marriage, G W, E B, F H, J B, and Nannie all of whom are living except J B.

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F H Shannon was reared on a farm, attended the public schools of this county and took a special business course at the Moore Business College of Sedalia, graduating in 1883. He was married in November 1884, to Katie J Fray, daughter of John and Mary (Westerfield) Fray, to which union was born one child, George William, born March 12 1886. He is at present located at Detroit, Mich., as the manager of the F Joseph Lamb and Co., manufacturers, who during the World War were engaged solely in the manufacture of munitions. Mrs. Shannon died March 8 1890.

Nov. 1, 1893, the subject of this sketch was married to Miss Nannie F. Bankston, daughter of John and Bettie (Miller) Bankston, of which union three children were born; Clarence Miller, 21 years of age; Ida Belle, 19, and Eugene Monroe, 13. Mrs. Shannon died in March 1917.

Mr. Shannon was elected county judge of the Eastern District of Cooper County in 1902 and again in 1904. He served the people with fidelity and distinction and rendered himself popular by reason of his eminent fairness upon the bench.

At the expiration of his second term of office he continued farming until he entered the service of the International Harvester Company in 1908, with whom he remained three years. In 1911, the state of Missouri sought and secured his services as probation officer of the Missouri Training School at Boonville, which position he held about four years and then was advanced to the position of Assistant Superintendent of that institution. He resigned Nov. 1 1917, and moved to Texas County where he had purchased a farm.

Mr. Shannon is a member of the Christian Church, a Democrat and a Free Mason. He is warm hearted, fervent and active in any cause that he espouses and is a true friend. He has always taken an active and prominent part in politics.

Albert H. Myer

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Albert H. Myer, president and manager of the Palace Clothing Company, Boonville, Mo., can truly be said to have been born and reared a merchant. He first saw the light of day at Rocheport, Mo., June 39, 1872. His father, Charles Myer, was born at Illegem, Germany, Jan. 20, 1845, and died at Fayette, Mo., March 17, 1911. When a small boy about nine years, he came from Germany to make America his home. He first engaged in business for himself at Rocheport, Mo., where for a number of years he conducted a general store. From there he went to Fayette, Mo., and engaged in the clothing business and conducted said business about 20 years, to the time of his death. He was married in 1868 to

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Laura (Tumy) Myer. She was born in Rocheport, Mo., Dec. 25, 1847, and is now living at Fayette. She is the daughter of Henry and George Ann Tumy, both of whom were born in Louisville, Ky., and both descendents of old Kentucky families.

The subject of this sketch was engaged in the mercantile business under the tuition of his fathers since old enough to wait upon customers. He was educated in the public schools at Rocheport and Fayette. Nov. 6, 1901, he was married at Fayette to Estelle May Turner, the daughter of Robert and Adelia (Gibson) Turner, both of whom came from Virginia to Howard County with their respective parents in the early days and were united in marriage in Howard County. Their forefathers on both sides were in the Revolutionary War. The grandfather of Mrs. Estelle, age about 16; Albert H., age about 12, and Dorothy Ross, about B. Gibson, a distinguished soldier and commander in the war of the Revolution.

There was born to Albert H. Myer and wife, three children: Laura Estelle, age about 16; Albert H., age about 12, and Dorothy Rose, about nine. Mr. Myer was associated with his father for a number of years at Fayette in the clothing business and in connection with his brother established a branch clothing store at Franklin, Mo., where they did an extensive and prosperous business for five or six years. Seeking broader fields, in 1909 he moved to Boonville where he has conducted a successful and growing business ever since. He is the president and acting manager of the Palace Clothing Company of Boonville, which is incorporated and has an elegant and up-to-date stock of clothing and he prides himself on the quality of the goods he sells. The store is equipped with every modern convenience and will stand comparison with the best arranged and furnished clothing stores of the larger cities. The business of the Palace Clothing Company has grown from year to year. Mr. Myer is ever kind and courteous and is a most applicable and pleasing salesman. His friends are legion. He is an active and live wire in all public enterprises that go to build up the city in which he lives. He is generous and willing to donate and pay his portion in every public movement. He is the vice-president of the Boonville Commercial Club, a member of the Board of Directors and active and enthusiastic in all its operations. In 1917 he was president of the State Retail Clothiers of Missouri. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, is past Chancellor of same, and is now one of the directors.

W. G. Gilbreath

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

W. G. Gilbreath is one of the prosperous and up-to-date farmers of Cooper County, and the owner of 200 fertile acres in Palestine Township,

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about nine miles from Boonville. He was born in Cooper County, June 6, 1869, the son of H. F. Gilbreath and Catherine Gilbreath.

H. F. Gilbreath was born in Tennessee, Feb. 1, 1826, and died in Vernon County, Missouri, Jan. 26, 1888, and his remains were interred in New Salem Cemetery, in this county. His father, Hugh Gilbreath, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in Virginia, March 10, 1781, and died in Cooper County, Jan. 21, 1852. The grandmother, Flora (McDuffy) Gilbreath, the wife of Hugh Gilbreath, was born in Tennessee, and died in Cooper County in February, 1875. The remains of this couple were also interred in New Salem Cemetery.

W. G. Gilbreath's mother was the daughter of Robert and Hannah Carpenter. Robert Carpenter was born in Kentucky in 1798, and died in Cooper County, March, 183. Hannah was born in North Carolina, Oct. 11, 1802, and died in Cooper County, Feb. 19, 1865. Mr. Gilbreath's family on both sides were among the oldest and most respected citizens of Missouri, and among the early settlers of Cooper County.

His grandparents, above mentioned, moved to Cooper County in 1827, and settled in Prairie Home Township in what is known as the Newt Gilbreath farm. William M. Gilbreath and Newton A. Gilbreath, both deceased, were uncles of the subjects of this sketch. Mr. Gilbreath spent his early years upon a farm, and was educated in the public schools and at Brannock's College at Pleasant Hill, Mo. He was an officer at the Missouri Reform School in 1892, and served efficiently and satisfactorily in that capacity for two years under the superintendency of Colonel Drake. From 1897 he was deputy sheriff for four years under J. M. Rymel, and as such was active, vigilant, and competent, and it is safe to say that no former deputy or any succeeding one excelled him in the performance of his duties. He was married in 1900 to Miss Mary Waller, daughter of the late and lamented Judge John A. Waller, who was one of Cooper County's most esteemed citizens, having served the people of his county in responsible positions with credit and distinction.

Judge Waller was born in Kentucky, Nov. 19, 1826, and died in Cooper County, Jan. 6, 1915. Judge Walter's father, Benjamin R. Walter, was born in Kentucky in 1802, and settled in Cooper County in 1840. He departed this life in Cooper County in January 1891. The wife of Benjamin Walter was Lucy (Harris) Walter, who was born in 1810 in Clark County, Ky., and died in Cooper County.

Mrs. W. G. Gilbreath's mother, the first wife of Judge Walter, he having been married twice, was Cordelia (Holladay) Walter, who was

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born in Clark County, Ky., Sept. 14, 1844, and died in Cooper County, Feb. 13, 1878. Cordelia's father was Waller Holladay, and was born in Clark County, Ky., March 17, 1797, and died in Cooper County, Oct. 11, 1876. He was married in 1843. It will thus be seen that Mrs. Gilbreath is a descendant of one of our oldest and best families.

W. G. Gilbreath was for a number of years the superintendent of the county infirmary, and rendered valuable service to the county in the building and establishment of the new infirmary; and with the assistance of his competent wife, raised it to a standard unsurpassed by any institution of its kind in the state.

There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gilbreath two children: Glen, 17 years of age, and Martha Lee, age 12.

Mr. Gilbreath is an active and enthusiastic Democrat, a member of the Presbyterian Church, and a Free Mason. He is a gentleman of positive connection, a staunch friend, dependable and worthy of the high esteem in which he is held.

Ray P. Cramer

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Ray P. Cramer is one of Cooper County's progressive farmers and business men. He was born in Lamine Township, Sept. 25, 1880, and is the son of G. A. Cramer, Jr., who was the son of G. A. Cramer. Ray Cramer's grandfather came from Holland to this country. The ship in which he came was wrecked and he was one of the few survivors. He located first in Pennsylvania, then moved to Kentucky, and from there came to Cooper County and settled here soon after the first Turleys, thought to be about 1814.

The land upon which Ray P. Cramer now lives was a part of the tract on which his grandfather settled. Mr. Cramer's grandfather on his mother's side was Frank Hill, who came from Cincinnati, Ohio, and located in Cooper County soon after the Civil War. The subject of this sketch is the owner of 102 acres of highly improved and well cultivated land and is situated two miles west of Lamine station in Lamine Township. He has spent his entire life in Cooper County, except about one year which he spent in Oklahoma. He was educated in the public schools of the county, and took a special commercial course at another institution. He was the organizer of the Boonville Oil and Gas Company at Okmulgee, Okla., and the Gilmer Oil Company of the same place, both of which are now consolidated and known as the Gilmer Oil Company. Mr. Cramer has been successful in the oil fields and upon property aforesaid has seven producing oil wells and two productive gas wells. He is the manager of this company, and has the absolute confidence of those who have

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invested with him. They are mostly local men, and as a testimony of their confidence and esteem, they presented him a few months ago with a handsome \$250 Victrola.

Mr. Cramer was married to Lilly K. Wing, the daughter of D. W. Wing, one of the most substantial citizens of central Missouri. The father of D. W. Wing came to Missouri and settled in Cooper County about 1818. Three children were born of this marriage: David, age 14; W. Russell, age 13, and Catherine Lucile, age six. David has graduated from the eighth grade and next year is to enter the Kemper Military School of this city.

Mr. Cramer is a Democrat of high degree, a member of the Christian Church, an estimable citizen, popular with all who know him, and successful in his ventures.

Felix Victor

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Felix Victor, one of the leading clothiers of central Missouri, when a young man came to Mexico, Mo., in 1884, and clerked in the clothing store of Joseph and Victor Barth, under whose tutelage and training he learned thoroughly and in detail the clothing business. The Barths were extensive clothiers, having at the same time another store at Columbia, Mo. Mr. Victor served them for about nine years and came to Boonville, Sept. 2, 1893, and engaged in the clothing business with his brother, Adolph Victor, who had served his apprenticeship in the Barth store in Columbia, under the firm name of F. & A. Victor. This firm for seven years conducted their business on Main Street in the building now occupied by the Tanner Studio. The firm moved to the corner of Spring and Main Streets in 1900 to secure larger quarters, occupying the building then known as the Windsor Building. A few years thereafter they purchased his building together with an adjoining building and wrecked the same and upon the lots erected a magnificent structure for their ever

growing business. This building is a monument to the success and enterprise of the subject of this sketch. It is handsomely furnished and equipped, and has every convenient appointment required by the most up-to-date mercantile establishment. It is an honor and credit to Boonville and Cooper ('aunty, and doubtless has not its equal in the state outside of St. Louis and Kansas City. January 1919, Adolph Victor retired from the firm and Felix, the subject of this sketch, became the sole proprietor. Mr. Victor has always prided himself upon the quality of his goods and completeness of his stock.

Mr. Victor was married Jan. 1, 1902, to Miss Ids Barth, daughter of Joseph Barth, now deceased. Mrs. Victor has taken pleasure in active leadership in all civic and social matters in the city.

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Clarence W. Atkinson

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Clarence W. Atkinson, proprietor of an excellent farm in Palestine Township and one of the best known farmers in that part of Cooper County, is a native of this county. He was born on a farm in Boonville Township, Sept. 17, 1876, son of William and Sarah E. (Dickey) Atkinson, the former of whom is still living, now a resident of Boonville.

William Atkinson was born in Ohio County, Virginia, now in that part of the Old Dominion comprised in West Virginia, May 14, 1837, a son of John and Margaret (Trimble) Atkinson, Pennsylvanians and both members of old Colonial families. The Atkinsons in this country are of Scottish origin and the family was founded on this side before the days of the Revolution. March 5, 1863, William Atkinson married Sarah E. Dickey, who was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, Oct. 21, 1836, and whom he had known since the days of their childhood when they were playmates, and in 1865 he and his wife came to Missouri and located in Cooper County, settling on a farm which he bought in Boonville Township. He later moved to a farm near Prairie Lick and in 1881 bought a farm in Palestine Township, where he continued to reside until his retirement in 1910. His wife died on Feb. 28, 1917, and in 1918 he moved to Boonville, where he is now living. To William and Sarah E. (Dickey) Atkinson were born five children, of whom three are still living, the subject of this sketch having two brothers, Miller T. Atkinson, of Palestine Township, and Charles S. Atkinson, of Boonville.

Reared on the farm, Clarence W. Atkinson has always followed agricultural pursuits and is now the owner of a well improved farm of 260 acres in Palestine Township, where he is quite successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. He received his schooling in the local district schools and as a young man took a part in the operations of the home farm, continuing thus engaged until in 1901 when he rented a farm and began operations on his own account. By hard work and good management he was enabled in Jan., 1909, to buy the farm on which he is now living. Since taking possession of that place Mr. Atkinson has made numerous improvements on the same and now has an admirable farm plant and is doing well. Politically, he is an independent republican. He and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church.

On April 14, 1904, Clarence W. Atkinson was united in marriage to Lydia H. Muntzel, who also was born in this county, and who died on July 10, 1918. To that union were born three children, Ruth E., John F. and Clarence W., Jr. (deceased). The late Mrs. Lydia H. Atkinson was born in Clarks Fork Township, this county, April 30, 1881, and was thus but a little past 37 years of age at the time of her death. She was a member

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of one of the old families in Cooper County, the Muntzels having been represented here since the days just following the close of the Civil War.

Dr. T. H. Winterbower
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Dr. T. H. Winterbower was born on the Ohio River in Hardin County, Ky., July 25, 1848. He was graduated in medicine from the University of Kentucky at Louisville in 1869. After graduating he immediately came to Missouri to locate and selected Overton, in Saline Township of thin county, to practice his profession. He followed his profession and had an extensive practice in that part of the county until he moved to Boonville in 1906. He then became deputy county clerk, retiring from the practice of medicine. In 1909 he was the nominee of the Democratic party for probate judge of Cooper County and was elected to that office. He was again, in 1813, the nominee of that party and was again elected, holding the same two full terms of eight years. Dr. Winterbower was married in 1876 to Miss Belle Wooldridge. There were born of this marriage two children, Stanley, who is in business at Sapulpa, Okla., and Nellie, who lives with her father.

Dr. Winterbower's father came to Kentucky in the early days from Tennessee. His mother was born in Hardin County, Ky., and her maiden name was Nannie Hays. The Hays family were old settlers of Kentucky. Dr. Winterbower's wife was the daughter of Jesse Wooldridge and Susan Hays Wooldridge who were married in Kentucky and came to Missouri in the early days. Mrs. Winterbower died at Boonville in 1912.

Dr. Winterbower, in office, was known not only for his efficiency but for his universal affability and courtesy. As a physician he was capable and sympathetic. He has always taken a deep interest in politics and public affairs.

Alexander H. Stephens, Jr.
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Alexander H. Stephens, Jr., who is a prosperous traveling salesman, was born May 7, 1894, at Boonville, Mo. His father, A. H. Stephens, is a son of James L. Stephens and is also a brother of Speed and ex-Governor Lon V. Stephens. His mother, Adda (Edgar) Stephens, is a daughter of Russell L. Edgar, her mother being a member of the Spahr family. The Stephens, Edgars, and Spahrs are among the oldest families of Cooper County.

Alexander H. Stephens, Jr., was educated in the public schools of Boonville, attended the Kemper Military School two year and graduated in the academic course at Central College, Fayette, Mo. After graduating, he was for a short time associated with his father in the automobile business and in conducting a garage. In 1916 he accepted employment from the Hine-Watt Manufacturing Company of Chicago as traveling

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salesman. His territory consists of the states of Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma. He was married Jan. 6, 1919, to Miss Doris Eugenia Schmidt, the daughter of M. E. Schmidt, the son-in-law of the late lamented ex-Lieutenant Governor James F. Gmelich.

Mr. Stephens is a young man who is hewing out his own fortune and is making success of his efforts. He has a pleasant manner and a pleasing address. He is known among his trade as being entirely dependable and is meeting with marked success.

Frank C. Brickey
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Frank C. Brickey, one of the live wires among the young business men of Boonville, was born July 22, 1893, at Festus, Mo. His father, F. W. Brickey, was born at Brickeys Landing, Mo., 75 years ago, and the father of F. W. Brickey, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was also born

in Missouri, the Brickey stock originally coming from Virginia. John S. Brickey, the first circuit attorney of the circuit in which Cooper County was a part and who lived in Franklin, Mo., was a great-uncle of the subject of this sketch. Mr. Brickey's mother, Nettie E. (Davis) Brickey, was born in St. Louis, Mo., and is 58 years of age. She belongs to the old Davis family of Missouri.

Mr. Brickey graduated from the high school at Festus and then attended the Western Military Academy, Alton, Ill., and Central College, Fayette, Mo. After having spent about two years at Fayette, Mo., Mr. Brickey removed to Boonville in the fall of 1914, assumed charge of the agency for the sale of Ford cars in this section and conducted a sales and service station at the Viertel Garage. The following year he moved to the Stephen's Garage located in the Harriman building on Main Street, and in 1917, purchased the business of this garage. In 1919 he leased the Viertel Garage building above mentioned in order to give him more room for the rapidly expanding business. This building has 40,000 square feet and is by far the largest garage in central Missouri and on the first floor there is doubtless more floor space than in any other garage in the state. Here he handles the Ford cars and Ford tractors and reasonably anticipates, for the coming year, a business of \$500,000.

In 1919, Mr. Brickey purchased the "Elkins & Elkins Garage" at Bunceton, Mo., as a Ford Sales and Service Station in that section of the county and is known as the "Bunceton Auto Company." The building in which he conducts this business is about 60x90 feet, and the business there is a thriving one. In the spring of 1918 he sold a one-half interest in the Bunceton Auto Company to J. H. Schlotzhauer, who from that date became the active manager there.

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In the first part of the year 1918 Mr. Brickey purchased from Jacob Deck, the Lyric Theater (picture show) and soon thereafter sold a one half interest in the same to the late Dr. A. C. Jacobs. This enterprise is now conducted by Mr. Brickey in conjunction with Mark Jacobs, brother of Dr. A. C. Jacobs. In May, 1919, he purchased the building known as the Stephen's Opera House in connection with Mr. Mark Jacobs and is now arranging for various improvements of this building. At the beginning of the World War he offered his service to his country and was selected as civilian instructor at the vocational training school at Columbia, Mo., and was made head instructor of Motor Mechanics, which position he held for seven months, until the closing of the school. December 15, 1918, he was appointed by the government to take charge and dispose of the equipment and material of the school which duty he performed in a most satisfactory manner to the government. He is now at Boonville, energetically and successfully conducting his various enterprises.

Guy C. Million

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Guy C. Million, associated with his father in the management of the Frederick Hotel of Boonville, was born July 22, 1878, in Chariton County, Mo. He is the son of W. R. Million and Martha A. (McC Campbell) Million. W. R. Million is a veteran hotel man, having operated some of the most popular hotels of the state and is favorably and well known to the traveling public. Though never a candidate for office he takes a deep interest in Democratic politics in state as well as county affairs. Martha (McC Campbell) Million was born and reared in Chariton County, Mo., and her parents, Robert S. and Mary (Willie) McC Campbell, were born and reared in Shelby County, Ky. They came to Missouri in 1858, making the trip in emigrant wagons.

Guy C. Million, the subject of the review, was educated in the public schools of Glasgow, and at Pritchett Institute. He spent five years in the drug business at Salisbury, Mo., and for four years was in the Hospital Department of the United States Navy and saw service in the Philippines, China and Japan. For the past 15 years, associated with his father, he has managed and conducted the famed Frederick Hotel at Boonville. As a host he has no superior in central Missouri, and is popular with the trading public. He is a Free Mason of high standing and rank,

being a Past Master, Past High Priest, and Past Eminent Commander. He is a Stewart of the M. E. Church, South, and in politics, a Democrat.

Sept. 28, 1903, Guy C. Million was married at Salisbury, Mo., to Miss Pensa Cola Dameron, who is the daughter of John T. and Josie

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(Lea) Dameron, and was born in Randolph County, Mo., and moved with her parents to Salisbury. She was educated in Salisbury Academy. Her grandfather, Judge A. G. Lea, was a prominent judge in north Missouri before the Civil War. Her father enlisted in the Civil War in the Confederate Army at the age of 15, who as well as her paternal grandfather, served through the Civil War, and was engaged in many important bat. tles. Her great-great-great-grandfather, Joseph Dameron, fought through the war of the Revolution, and was married to Sarah Ball, a first cousin of George Washington.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy C. Million have one child, Guy C. Jr., who was born Aug. 2, 1913.

C. H. Brokmeyer

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

C. H. Brokmeyer, who departed this life, aged 57, in Boonville, on Wednesday morning, July 23, 1902, was born in Hille, Westphalia, Germany, April 20, 1845. He came to the United States when about 20 years of age. After living in St. Louis and Jefferson City a short time, he moved to Bunceton and opened a tailor shop. Later he located at Boonville and in association with C. H. Heim engaged in the general merchandise business. This partnership continued two years when the interest of Heim was purchased by A. Schnedler. At the end of the year Mr. Brokmeyer became the sole owner and manager of the store and from this time he continued in the business until the date of his demise. During his residence in Boonville, Mr. Brokmeyer built more than 60 dwellings. At the time of his death he was the owner of two store houses, the home property, and twelve residences.

Mr. Brokmeyer and Miss Hannah Otten were united in marriage in Boonville on Dec. 6, 1870, and seven children were born to this union, one having died in infancy. He left surviving him the widow, and six children, John, who married Miss Stella Yeater of Sedalia; Mrs. Emma Schott; Frank, who departed this life in his 40th year, Aug. 21, 1916, loved, respected, and honored, having a host of friends; William; Mrs. Sophia Page, and Henry, who married Miss Eva Cross of New Franklin, Mo.

Mr. Brokmeyer was a valuable and highly respected citizen of Boonville and was an active factor in every public enterprise and in the upbuilding of the city. He had a most pleasing disposition, a kind word for everyone, and always wore a smile. No deal or trade was too big for him to handle. He bought anything and was always willing to sell. He built up an enormous business and seemed to handle and manage the same with astonishing ease. In his death Boonville, as well as his family, suffered an irretrievable loss. His business has been continued by

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his wife under the able management of her three sons, Frank, William, and Henry. Frank having died, the management has devolved upon William and Henry, who have been successful in the enterprise and have continued the prosperity built up by their father in the mercantile business. They are the fortunate possessors of happy, kind, and accommodating dispositions and number their friends by the legion.

Dr. Paul Ashland Brickey

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Dr. Paul Ashland Brickey is a brother of Frank C. Brickey whose sketch appears in this volume. He is therefore of the same parentage and genealogy. Dr. Brickey, the subject of this sketch, was born at Festus, Mo., where his father and mother now live, Feb. 17, 1895. He attended the public schools of Festus and took the high school course at that place after which he attended the Western Military Academy, Alton, Ill., for two years and graduated from the same. His father then sent him to Central College at Fayette where he spent two years in the preparatory medical course. Then he attended school at the St. Louis University, School of Medicine, and was graduated from that institution in 1918. He served one year as intern at St. Mary's Hospital.

June 17, 1918, Dr. Brickey entered the service of his country and was sent to France as a first lieutenant in the Medical Corps with Base Hospital No. 112. He was stationed at Camp Pontanezen, Napoleon Barracks, Brest, France. Here he rendered valuable services as a physician in relieving the pain and suffering of our soldier boys. He returned to the United States Feb. 17, 1919, and was discharged April 15. He is now commissioned in the Medical Reserve Corps.

Dr. Brickey was married Dec. 18, 1917, to Miss Grace Gildehaus whose father is a prosperous wholesale merchant of St. Louis.

Soon after his discharge from the service he located in Boonville and is now engaged in the practice of medicine. He is examiner for life insurance companies and is rapidly building up a remunerative practice. Dr. Brickey is thoroughly educated and in every respect well equipped and qualified for his chosen profession of medicine.

George H. Scholle

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

George H. Scholle, a merchant tailor of Boonville who also handles Victrolas and pianos, was born in Hanover, Germany; March 4, 1872. His parents were William and Mary (Schuerman) Scholle of the province of Hanover, who, as well as their parents before them were born in Hanover, Germany. William Scholle died in 1881. Mary Scholle, now about 82 years of age is yet living.

George H. Scholle came to the United States in 1890, when 18 years of age, and located at Sunmen, Ind., where he worked as a tailor for two

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years. Mr. Scholle learned the business of tailoring in Germany, serving an apprenticeship. From Indiana, Mr. Scholle went to Toledo, Ohio, where he remained until 1903 when he came to the Reform School for Boys at Boonville and for one year had charge of the tailoring department. From there he went to Versailles, Mo., where he remained four years. He then returned to the Reform School and under the superintendency of Col. Clark had charge of the tailoring department and instructed the boys therein for three years. In 1915 Mr. Scholle opened his establishment in Boonville where he is now occupied as a merchant tailor and handles victrolas and musical instruments. His wife, Amanda (Unverferth) Scholle, was born in Pemberville, Ohio, in 1874. Her parents came from Germany. She and Mr. Scholle were married in Toledo, Ohio, where Mrs. Scholle's parents lived at that time. There were born of this union eight children: Albro, 23 years of age, is serving his country in the Marines; Wilbur, 21, is assisting his father; Paul, 19, is also with his father; Alma, 17 years of age; Frederick, 13; Helen, 10; George, seven, and Berths, four.

Mr. Scholle is a conscientious, and painstaking workman. He is affable and accommodating and by his close attention to business and his effort to please, he has built up an extensive business.

He is a loyal American citizen and has willingly and cheerfully responded to all calls made upon him in war activities.

Theodore F. Lebing
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Theodore F. Lebing is a prosperous merchant at Clarks Fork. He conducts a general mercantile store in the center of a rich agricultural section of the county. He was born Aug. 21, 1878, at Clarks Fork and reared on a farm in Cooper County. When old enough he engaged in farming until 1917 when he formed a partnership with Charles Q. Mills. They conducted a general merchandise business at Clarks Fork under the firm name of Lebing & Mills. During this partnership they did a large business and handled large quantities of poultry and produce which they transported to Boonville and shipped to market. The firm of Lebing & Mills was successor in the business to O. L. Letherman. May 7, 1919, Mr. Lebing purchased the interest of his partner and since then the business has been conducted by him. He was a successful farmer and is now a successful merchant.

October 13, 1900, Mr. Lebing was married to Miss Dells Mills, daughter of Charles T. and Ellen (Brusius) Mills. Charles T. Mills was son of Henry W. and Susan (Lewis) Mills. The Mills family is numerous in Cooper County, prosperous and of high standing.

Theodore F. Lebing is the son of Lewis and Johanna (Brandes)

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Lebing, both deceased. Lewis Lebing was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1913, and came to this country in 1856 and located on a farm in Clarks Fork Township. His wife, Johanna Brandes, was also born in Germany, in 1838, and came to Cooper County with her parents in 1855. Christine Brandes, the father of Johanna Brandes, settled first in Iowa and then came to Cooper County which became his home. The Brandes family with its numerous branches is well known in Cooper County for honesty, integrity and industry.

Harry A. Creagan
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Harry A. Creagan, president of the Farmer's Trust Company of Boonville, was born in Cooper County, July 30, 1882. His father was P. F. Creagan, who came to Missouri in 1859 and settled at St. Louis where he lived for seven years. He was largely engaged in railroading in different capacities on the Missouri, Kansas and Texas railroad and in 1876 purchased a farm of 280 acres near Clifton City, Cooper County, where he located and where he died. He was a prominent Democrat, a member of the Catholic Church, and a highly esteemed citizen. His father, William Creagan, came from the county of Meath, Ireland, and was married in New York to Miss Elizabeth Scullin. P. F. Creagan was married in 1863 to Miss Fannie Keenan, of St. Louis, a daughter of Daniel Keenan of New York.

Harry A. Creagan, was the ninth child born to P. F. and Fannie (Keenan) Creagan. He was educated in the public schools of Cooper County and graduated from the high school of Sedalia. He then became telegraph operator at the M., K. & T. station at Boonville. For five years he was a trusted employee of W. H. Trigg & Co. Jan. 23, 1909, he moved to St. Louis and accepted a responsible position with the Mercantile Trust Company, which he held for ten years. Aug. 9, 1918, he enlisted in the United States Navy and was mustered out Dec. 11, 1918. He has recently organized the Farmer's Trust Company of Boonville, of which he has been selected president. Mr. Creagan's career has been one of continued advancement. He has had a thorough training in finance and is experienced in all banking matters. He is one of the promising young financiers of central Missouri.

Homer McGuire
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Homer McGuire, one of the successful and progressive young farmers of Cooper County, was born Dec. 6, 1886, in Pilot Grove Township, Cooper County. His father, J. V. McGuire, 66 years of age, is also a native son of Cooper County. Thirty-six years ago he was married to Miss Mary Hurd a native of Illinois. J. V. McGuire is one of the substantial citizens of Cooper County, known for his honesty and integrity.

Homer McGuire was educated in the county schools of Cooper County.

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He was reared on a farm, and under the tutelage of his father, and by close attention to the study of agriculture and stock-raising, he has secured a success that may be envied. He was married Aug. 5, 1914, to Miss Brooksie Rush, at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Rush, Kansas City, Mo. There has been born to this union one child, a son, Wilbur V., Dec. 16, 1918.

Homer McGuire is a Republican, but in casting his vote uses his own intelligence rather than the dictum of party. He was made a Master Mason in 1918, and is a member of Cooper Lodge, A. F. & A. M., Boonville, Mo. Associated with his father, he superintends and conducts a farm consisting of over 200 fertile acres in Pilot Grove Township, which is in the highest state of cultivation and well improved. Here his energies are devoted, not only to agriculture but in the breeding and raising of live-stock, of which he has made quite a success. He is respected and esteemed by all who know, and his friends are many.

Peter Franklin Smith
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Peter Franklin Smith, a well known and substantial farmer and stockman of Lebanon Township, proprietor (in joint ownership with his wife) of "Wayside Valley Farm", a well improved place of 780 acres in that Township, is a native son of Cooper County. He was born on a farm at the edge of the village of Otterville in the Township of that name on June 29, 1854, son of George W, and Nancy E. (Neal) Smith.

George W. Smith, who died at his home in this county 25 years ago, was a Virginian and grew to manhood in the Old Dominion, remaining there until he was 27 years of age, when with his wife and four children (for he was twice married, his first wife dying about 10 years after they took up their residence here) he came to Missouri in 1837 and located at Otterville, where he opened a blacksmith shop and there became engaged working at the trade to which he had been trained in Virginia, proving in this capacity a valued factor in the life of the new community. When he came here the deer were very numerous hereabout and as he was an ardent sportsman he found much pleasure in the hunt. From the time he killed his first deer up to the time of the Civil War he kept tally of the deer he killed and the net bag totaled in excess of 60 Even after war times quite a few deer still lingered in the deeper portions of the woods in this section, affording further sport for this tireless Nimrod. The first summer of his settlement at Otterville he planted five or six acres of corn on a tract some distance from the hamlet, but when the time came to gather the ripened ears the inconvenience of bringing the same in deterred him and he left the corn for the deer. During the Civil War Mr. Smith had a contract with the government to furnish beef for the army and became

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well known over the county as a cattle buyer in that connection. He continued to make his home in the Otterville neighborhood and there spent his last days, his death occurring on April 7, 1894.

He was born on May 10, 1810, and was thus slightly under 84 years of age at the time of his death. As noted above, George W. Smith was twice married. His first wife, who was a Beard and whom he married in Virginia, died at her home in this county in 1843. Of the four children born to that union two are still living, Mrs. Virginia Ann Finley, of this county, and Mrs. Ellen Wagenknecht, of the neighboring county of Morgan. In 1847 Mr. Smith married Nancy E. Neal, who was born on a pioneer farm in Lebanon Township, this county, Dec. 14, 1827, and who (as noted above) is still living, an honored nonagenarian of the Otterville community. To this second union eight children were born. Of these six grew to maturity and four are still living, those besides the subject of this biographical sketch (the eldest) being Nathan A. Smith, long a resident of Kansas; Mrs. Martha E. White, a widow, now living at Otterville with her aged mother, and Mrs. Rose L. Bane of Otterville Township.

Reared on the home farm on the edge of the village of Otterville, Peter F. Smith received his schooling in the Otterville schools and from the days of his boyhood his attention has been devoted to farming. In the fall of 1880 he married and in 1881 bought the farm on which he is now living, beautiful "Wayside Valley Farm", in Lebanon Township, which he has improved in admirable fashion. In addition to his general farming Mr. Smith has for years been quite extensively engaged in breeding Shorthorn cattle of the Scotch Top breed and has been a frequent exhibitor at stock shows hereabout. He has created a good market for the products of "Wayside Valley Farm", his cattle commanding good prices, and has done well in his operations, long having been recognized as one of the leading stockmen in that neighborhood. He is a member of the Bunceton Fair Association and has done well his share in promoting the interests of that useful organization. He also is a stockholder in the local bank and in the company controlling the grain elevator and in other ways exhibits his interest in the general business affairs of the community. In his political views Mr. Smith is a democrat, as was his father. He and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Oct. 6, 1880, Peter F. Smith was united in marriage to Margaret Ida Cordry, who also was born in this county, member of one of the pioneer families, and to this union eleven children have been born, namely: Harry A., deceased Azelia Velma, wife of T. A. Nelson, Jr., of Kelly Township;

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Margaret Naomi, wife of Dr. W. C. Lewis, of St. Louis; Hunter F., of Speed, this county, Homer W., who is at home assisting his father; Zula, wife of Benjamin N. Smith, of Clarks Fork Township; Hubert L., of Palestine Township; Mary (Gussie), Herschel and Harold V., at home, and Vera, who died in infancy. Mrs. Smith was born in Lebanon Township on Dec. 13, 1860, daughter of William L. and Mary (Ware) Cordry, both now deceased and both members of pioneer families in this section of Missouri. William L. Cordry was born in Todd County, Ky., and came to Missouri with his parents in pioneer days, the family locating in Cooper County. Here he married Mary Ware, who was born in the neighboring county of Howard, and to that union were born eight children, all of whom are living save one; the Cordry connection hereabout being a quite numerous one in the present generation.

Woodson T. Jones (Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Woodson T. Jones, proprietor of an excellent farm in Blackwater Township, and who formerly was engaged in the railway service as telegraph operator, was born on a farm in Blackwater Township March 19, 1883, a son of George C. Jones and a grandson of the pioneer, Caleb Jones, who at the time of his death in the early '80's was said to have been the wealthiest man in Cooper County.

Woodson T. Jones received his education in the district school and Pilot Grove Academy, from which he was graduated in 1901. In the meantime he had learned telegraphing at Pilot Grove and in 1902 was made station agent on the Sedalia division of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas

Railroad. In the following year he transferred his services to the Santa Fe railroad and for seven or eight years thereafter continued as a telegraph operator, serving the Santa Fe and other western roads. He then returned home, having in the meantime shared in the division of his father's extensive estate, and engaged in farming. In addition to his general farming operations Mr. Jones has gone in somewhat extensively for live stock and is doing a good business in that line. He is the owner of a well improved farm of 160 acres. Mr. Jones is a democrat.

June 30, 1913, Woodson T. Jones was united in marriage with Hullo Kirkman, of this county, and to this union one child has been born, Martha Sue. Mrs. Jones was born at Columbia, Boone County, but from the days of her girlhood has been a resident of this county. Her parents, John B. Kirkman and wife (the latter of whom was a Blanchard), came here years ago and located on a farm in Saline Township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. In addition to his farming operations John B. Kirkman was a dealer in memorial monuments and was one of the well

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known men of the county. He and his wife were born in North Carolina and came to Missouri with their respective parents in pioneer days.

Charles E. Roth

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Charles E. Roth, one of the well known farmers of Pilot Grove Township, was born in Cole County, Mo., March 1, 1859, son of Louis and Mary (Meyer) Roth, the former a veteran of the Civil War and both spent their last days in Cooper County.

Louis Roth was born in Germany and came to this country with his parents, Charles Roth and wife, in 1848, the family locating on a farm in Kentucky, where they were living when the Civil War broke out. Both father and son enlisted in the Union army, serving in the same company, in Gen. "Pap" Thomas' celebrated brigade. Charles Roth's first wife died after they came to this country and he married again and spent his last days in Kentucky. Shortly after the Civil War Louis Roth came to Missouri and entered on a soldier's homestead in Cole County, a tract of 80 acres, but shortly afterward left Cole County and in 1866 came to Cooper County. For two years after coming here he worked at Boonville and then bought a farm in Pilot Grove Township, where he spent the remainder of his life. He died in 1899, being 72 years old. His wife survived him but five days. She also was born in Germany, in Aug., 1830. She was a member of the Evangelical Church and her husband was a member of the Catholic Church. Louis Roth and his wife were the parents of six children as follows: Charles E.; Caroline, wife of C. G. Stanfield, Pilot Grove Township; Lucy, married C. W. Erhardt and is now deceased; Martin is unmarried and lives in Pilot Grove Township; Frank M., Kelly Township, and Fred, Pilot Grove.

Charles E. Roth's first schooling was received in a Lutheran parochial school and he later attended school in the old Bluffton district in Boonville Township and in Hail Ridge district. When seventeen years of age he began to "look out for himself", working as a farm hand, but soon resumed operations on the home farm and remained there until he was 27 years of age. For three years he rented his father's farm and in 1886 bought the same, buying the interests of the other heirs. Some time afterward he sold that place and bought the farm where he is now living and on which he has made substantial improvements. Mr. Roth is a republican. He and his family are members of the Catholic Church and he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Feb. 12, 1895, Charles E. Roth was united in marriage to Mary Krumm, who was born in this county, and to this union eight children have been born: Louis, Odessa, Helen, Cyril, Frank, Elfreda, Edward and

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Mary G. The first of these children, Louis Roth, named in honor of his grandfather, was born on a farm in Lebanon Township, this county, Feb. 9, 1896, On June 11, 1917, he enlisted in the navy and is still serving, having during the period of this service had a quite interesting experience, including several trips across the Atlantic and cruises to different points. Mrs. Mary Roth was born in Lebanon Township, in 1875, daughter of George and Anna (teller) Krumm, the latter of whom was born in Clear Creek Township, and both of whom are now deceased. George Krumm was born in Germany and came to this country with his sister Zera (Larntz) about 1850, and later settled on a farm in Lebanon Township, where after his marriage Mr. Krumm continued to reside, he and his wife spending the remainder of their lives there.

Captain Lee Thomas Sites

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Captain Lee Thomas Sites was born in Lamina Township, Cooper County, Oct. 13, 1856. His father, Chester P. Sites, was a native of Virginia, born about 1836. He came to Boonville with his father and mother about 1841 or 1842 and built a log house on the corner of Sixth and Morgan Streets, Boonville, where now stands the garage of Brownfield and Meyers. The grandfather of Captain Sites was J. P. Sites, who manufactured, in early days at Boonville, rifles and guns for the forty-niners who sought the gold fields of California. About ten years ago in the mountains of Colorado the barrel of a gun from which the stock had rotted away was found. Upon it was the name "J. P. Sites." The finding of this gun barrel attracted considerable attention and upon inquiry it was found to have been made in Boonville and was evidently lost by a forty-niner in his trip across the mountains.

Captain Sites is the owner of 965 acres of the best land in Lamina Township and has lived in his present residence about 28 years, and only about a quarter of a mile from where he was born. He owns a part of the land originally owned by his father. All his life has been spent in Lamina Township. Captain Sites has never been a candidate for office and in answer to that question said "he never had sense enough" but his possessions demonstrate that he is abundantly able to take care of his interests—a trait that might well be emulated by office seekers.

Captain Sites was married in 1878 to Victorine Kinchiloe, who departed this life Oct. 7, 1910. There were born of that marriage three girls, Jessie, Stella and Maude, and two sons, Lee and John. Captain Sites was married the second time Jan. 14, 1918, to Mrs. Laura Farris whose maiden name was Laura Smith. Captain Sites has been engaged in the steamboat business off and on since '73. He has been the owner of several

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boats and the builder of many. He is one of the foremost citizens of the county and has been prominent in every progressive and civic movement in his section. One of the largest, most successful and prominent farmers of Cooper County, he is nevertheless modest and retiring.

During the World War he was active in local war work and was a leader in Liberty Loan drives in his Township. He is a member of the Christian church, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a director in the Boonville National Bank.

John C. Muntzel

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

John C. Muntzel, a well-known and successful dealer in live stock at Boonville, was born in Cooper County, a member of one of the county's pioneer families, and has lived here all his life, having been successfully engaged in farming until his removal about 10 years ago to Boonville, where he has since been quite extensively engaged in the sale of live stock, giving particular

attention to the buying and selling of mules. He was born on a farm in Clarks Fork Township, Nov. 23, 1874, son of Daniel and Minnie (Kaune) Muntzel, the former of whom is still living on his farm in that Township, the owner of more than two hundred acres of land.

Daniel Muntzel was born in Hanover, Aug., 1834, and was but a boy when he came to this country with his parents, Peter Muntzel and wife, who settled in Missouri and became substantial members of the community. Daniel Muntzel's wife died in Jan., 1912, at the age of 73 years. Of the eight children born to Daniel Muntzel and wife and of whom John G. was the youngest, all are living but two.

Reared on the home farm in Clarks Fork Township, John C. Muntzel received his schooling in the schools of that neighborhood and grew up to the life of the farm, early undertaking farming on his own account, and remained at home until 1906, when he moved to the old Barnhardt farm, which he had bought and there remained until 1909, when he sold out and moved to Boonville. While he was engaged in farming, Mr. Muntzel owned and improved two farms in this county, increasing their value and selling to advantage and has long been recognized as one of the progressive citizens of the county. He is independent in his political views. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias at Boonville and his wife is a member of Baptist Church.

Nov. 28, 1912, John C. Muntzel was united in marriage to Lavinia Steele, who also was born in Clarks Fork Township, Feb. 22, 1884, daughter of John and Jane Steele, well-known residents of that Township. Mr. and Mrs. Muntzel reside at 743 Sixth street, Boonville, and have a very pleasant home.

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