

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

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#### Henry Knosp

(Transcribed by James F. Thoma)

Henry Knosp, proprietor of "Hazel Grove Farm," in Saline Township, one of the most substantial farmers of that section of Cooper County, is a native son of this county. He was born on a farm two and one-half miles east of Prairie Home, Feb. 12, 1853, son of George and Minnie (Schenck) Knosp, both of whom spent their last days on that place.

George Knosp, who lived to be nearly 84 years of age, was born in Germany, and was but a child when he came to this country with his parents, the family settling in Cole County, Mo., in the '30s. He came to Cooper County some time in the '40s, was here married, established his home, and spent the rest of his life here. He was one of the organizers of the Evangelical Church at Pleasant Grove, and is buried in the cemetery there, as is his wife, who lived to be 75 years of age. They were the parents of eight children, those besides the subject of this sketch being as follows: Louise, wife of J. H. Stock, of Sedalia; Charles, of Jamestown, Mo.; Minnie, Clarks Fork Township, widow of William Fricke; Mary, wife of Theodore Brandes, also of Clarks Fork Township; Caroline, wife of John Kaiser, of North Moniteau Township; John, living on the old home place; and Fred, of California, Mo.

Henry Knosp received his schooling in the Splice Creek School, his first teacher having been Bartlett Metcalf, who taught in the little log school house. Mr. Knosp has devoted his attention to farming. In 1883, he bought from the Haxel heirs the quarter section, and has since resided on that place, bringing the place up to a state of improvement second to none in the neighborhood. For that tract of 160 acres he paid about \$24 an acre. As his affairs prospered, Mr. Knosp bought from William Oerly an adjoining 120 acres, but this he recently has sold to his son, who lives on the place. All the improvements on the farm have been made by Mr. Knosp. For years he was engaged in the raising of Whiteface cattle, but of late years has not done so much in that line, though he still maintains an excellent drove of Duroc Jersey hogs, all eligible to register. He and his family are members of the Lutheran Church at Pleasant Grove.

Feb. 16, 1882, Henry Knosp was united in marriage to Sophia Fredericka Lonjers, at Lone Elm, by the Rev. J. H. Thiess, and to this union 10 children have been born, namely: Albert, born April 5, 1883, died in the fall of 1902; Anna B., Sept. 17, 1885, wife of Charles Langer, of Moniteau County; Minnie, Jan. 15, 1886, wife of Louis Dahler, of California,

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Mo.: Henry, April 2, 1887, of Prairie Home Township; Fred, Jan. 12, 1899, died Nov. 3, 1907; Cora, August, 1891, who died at the age of 13 months; Oliver, July 28, 1893, died Dec. 4, 1918; Lydia, Nov. 25, 1896, at home; George, Feb. 26, 1898; also at home, and Herbert, May 24, 1900, at home. Mrs. Knosp was born on a farm near Lone Elm, in Clarks Fork Township, daughter of Maurine and Johanna (Brandes) Lonjers, both of whom spent their last days in this county. Maurine Lonjers was born in Holland, and many years ago settled in the Lone Elm neighborhood, where he died Sept. 28, 1914. She was born in 1838. After the death of her first husband she married Louis Lebbing and had two children, Theodore Lebbing, now a merchant at Clarks Fork, and a daughter who died in infancy. By her marriage to Maurine Lonjers she was the mother of 10 children, of whom Mrs. Knosp was the fourth in order of birth, the others being as follows: Henry Lonjers, Stockton, Calif.; Louise, wife of Daniel Langkop, Bunceton; Christian, Colorado; Herman, who married Lizzie Kluss and died in 1911 in Clarks Fork, leaving a widow and two sons, Emil and William; Charles, who died in California at the age of 28 years; Bettie, who at the

age of 19 years; Carolina, wife of William Hein, of Appleton City, Mo.; Margaret, who died at the age of 14 years, and William, who died in youth.

### **Henry H. Knosp**

(Transcribed by James F. Thoma)

Henry H. Knosp, proprietor of a fine farm of 120 acres three and one half miles from Wooldridge in Saline Township, was born at "Hazel Grove Farm," April 2, 1887, son of Henry and Sophia Fredericka (Lonjers) Knosp, both members of pioneer families in this section, and both of whom are still living at "Hazel Grove Farm."

Reared at "Hazel Grove Farm," Henry H. Knosp received his early schooling in the church school at Pleasant Grove, and in the Liberty district school. He has applied himself to farming, remaining at home until his marriage when 23 years of age, when he began farming on his own account in Moniteau County. Three years later, in 1914, he bought from his father, 120 acres, and has since resided there. Mr. Knosp has made substantial improvements and is contemplating more. Among the improvements is a modern poultry house, 14x36, Mrs. Knosp being much interested in her fine flock of more than 200 Rhode Island Reds, Mr. Knosp raises Duroc Jersey hogs and is meeting with success. He and his family are members of the Pleasant Grove Lutheran Church.

March 12, 1911, Henry H. Knosp was married to Mollie Lenger, whom he had known from childhood, and to this union three children have been born, Florence, Harry and Pauline. Mrs. Knosp was born over in Moniteau

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County, April 18, 1884, daughters of Charles and Minnie (Hampster) Lenger, natives of Germany, both of whom are living on the farm in Moniteau County, where they have resided for more than 40 years, Mr. Lenger now being 88 years of age and his wife 77. Charles Lenger and his wife have five children, those besides Mrs. Knosp being: Sophia, wife of William Gross, a woodworker living at California, Mo.; Matilda, wife of William Kieslig, also of California; Charles, Jr. who married Anna Knosp, operating his father's farm, and Fred, who married Nettie Gruff, and is also on the home farm.

### **D. D. Hurt**

(Transcribed by James F. Thoma)

D. D. Hurt, a well known and successful farmer of Clarks Fork Township, was born in this Township March 25, 1879. He is a son of A. C. and Celesta A. (Holestein) Hurt, natives of Cooper County and descendants of early pioneers in this section. A. C. Hurt and his wife spent their lives in Clarks Fork Township. He was a Confederate veteran of the Civil War, and was with the army at Shreveport, La., when the war closed. A. C. and Celesta A. (Holestein) Hurt were the parents of the following children: B. F., Bunceton; J. A., North Moniteau Township; William A., Clarks Fork Township; D. D. the subject of this sketch, and O. F., Blackwater.

D. D. Hurt was reared on the home farm in Clarks Fork Township, and received his education in the Ellis School District. He has been a farmer and stockman all his life. He purchased 80 acres of his present farm in 1905, and since that time has added 40 acres. He has a well improved place with good residence and other buildings. The farm is located on the Bunceton-Pisgah road in the southern part of Clarks Fork Township, and is valuable property. Mr. Hurt carries on general farming and stock raising, and has been very successful.

May 20, 1900, D. D. Hurt was united in marriage with Miss Myrtle Jones, a daughter of B. L. Jones, of Pisgah. Her mother is deceased. Mrs. Hurt is one of the following children born to her parents: J. T., Pisgah; Myrtle, wife of D. D. Hurt; L. T., Prairie Home; Mrs. R. W. Lacy, Prairie

Home; Mrs. A. L. Lewis, Kansas City, Mo., and Mrs. Ben Harped, who resides on the home place at Pisgah.

To D. D. Hurt and wife has been born three children, as follows: Opal, died when 14 years of age; David, born Sept. 30, 1903; and Louis, born Sept. 26, 1908.

Mr. Hurt is a member of the school board of Consolidate District No. 1, and takes a commendable interest in local affairs. He is a member of the Mystic Workers at Pisgah, and he and Mrs. Hurt belong to the Baptist

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Church at that place. Mr. Hurt is a congenial man, a good neighbor and citizen, and has many friends in Cooper County.

### **George Truman Cole**

(Transcribed by James F. Thoma)

George Truman Cole, a progressive farmer and stockman of Prairie home Township, was born in this Township, Oct. 2, 1875, and is a descendent of one of the first families that settled in Cooper County. He is a son of Andrew B. and Mary J. (Hickox) Cole. Andrew B. Cole was born at Bell Air, Cooper County, in 1827. He was a son of Samuel, who was a son of Hannah Cole, who, with the Stephens family, were the first settlers h) Cooper County. Samuel Cole lived to the advanced age of 92 years, and died near Bell Air, and his remains are buried at the Nebo Church Cemetery. Andrew B. Cole made three trips across the Plains to California in the early days. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge and an influential citizen. He died in 113, and his wife departed this life in 1917, and their remains are buried in the Pisgah Cemetery. They were the parents of three children as follows: Edward, Prairie Home Township; George Truman, the subject of this sketch; and Warren, who died at the aye of two years. By a former marriage to Rebecca Ann Boughman there were three children born: W. H., North Moniteau Township; Mollie, married J. O. Morris, North Moniteau Township; and Clara, who died at the age, of 20 years.

George Truman Cole traces his ancestry in this country back for 300 years, to the landing of the Mayflower at Plymouth Rock in 1620. Thomas Clark, who was a passenger on the Mayflower, was a direct ancestor of George Truman Cole, on his mother's side. Mary J. Hickox mother of George Truman Cole, was a daughter of Charles and Mara (Hill) Hickox, the latter being a native of Kentucky, born Feb. 4, 1801. Hon. H. L. Meyers, U. S. senator from Montana, a sketch of whom appears in this volume, is a second cousin of Mary J. (Hickox) Cole.

George Truman Cole was reared and educated in Cooper County, and has silent his life here, engaged in farming and stock raising He owns a well improved farm of 200 acres in Prairie Home Township, in here he is successfully carrying on farming and stock raising. Mr. Cole was married Nov. 25, 1897, to Miss Ida Tummy, a daughter of James and Bettie (Hall) Tummy, the former a native of Boone County, born in 1857, and the latter a native of Cooper County, born in 1862. They now reside at Bunceton. To James and Sallie (Hall) Tummy have been born the following children: Ida, wife of George Truman Cole, the subject of this sketch; Robert, Bunceton; Gracia, married Leonard Holliday, Bunceton; William, Buncetan, who served with the 42d Infantry, Rainbow Division, in France during

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the World War; Mary, married Edgar Byler, Dinuba, Calif.; Porter, a bookkeeper in the Bank of Bunceton. To George Truman Cole and wife have been born the following children: Lena Leota, a graduate of the Pisgah High School, who has also attended the State Normal School at Warrensburg, is a teacher in the Jefferson district; Claude; James; Mary Arostine and Martha Pauline, twins; Warren Gregory, and Clara Booksie.

Henry H. Tummy, grandfather of Mrs. Cole was a native of Kentucky, and came to Missouri when a young man, locating at Rocheport. He was a saddler, and for 50 years conducted business in that town, but for the last few years of his life he lived retired. He died at the age of 78 years, and is buried in the Rocheport Cemetery. He was the father of the following children: John. Fayette, Mo.; James, Bunceton; Frank, Columbia, Mo.; Henry, Fayette, Mo.; Mrs. Laura Meyers, Fayette; Mrs. Debroh Robertson; Mrs. M. T. Lyell, Crawfordsville, Ind., and Mrs. Hiriam Burrous, Crawfordsville, Ind.

Mr. Cole is one of Cooper County's representative and progressive citizens and stands ever ready to contribute his part to any worthy public enterprise.

**William Lynn Spahr**  
(Transcribed by James F. Thoma)

William Lynn Spahr, a well known and successful farmer and stockman of Kelly Township, was born in Boonville, Nov. 3, 1890. He is a son of William Lynn and Sarah Prolma (Stark) Spahr, the former also a native of Cooper Count, where he spent his life, and died April 17, 1896. The mother was born near Otterville, Mo., and died Aug. 22, 1914. William Lynn Spahr, the father, was engaged in the undertaking business at Boonville, the greater part of his life. To William Lynn and Sarah Prolma (Stark) Spahr were born the following children: Lawrence, a farmer in Kelly Township; William L., the subject of this sketch; and David, Tulsa, Okla.

William L. Spahr was educated in the district schools of Cooper County and the Bunceton High School. He has been engaged in farming and stock raising since boyhood. He purchased his present place in Kelly Township from Frank Smith in 1912. His farm consists of 80 acres of well improved land, located three miles southwest of Bunceton. He has a pretty home and the other improvements on the place are of a corresponding high type. He feeds cattle quite extensively, and has met with success in this line of endeavor.

Mr. Spahr was married in 1911 to Miss Anna Lee Palmer, a daughter of James and Ella (Collins) Palmer, both now residing in Lebanon Township.

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To James and Ella (Collins) Palmer have been born the following children besides Mrs. Spahr: Clarence, Sedalia; Henry, Bunceton; Russell, Bunceton; Mrs. Kate Schlotzhauer; Mrs. Mattie Cole, Otterville; and Frank Lillian, Louise, Pauline, Stanley- and Jack, residing at home with their parents.

Mr. Spahr is one of Cooper County's substantial representative citizens, and he and Mrs. Spahr stand high in the community.

**Lawrence Spahr**  
(Transcribed by James F. Thoma)

Lawrence Spahr, owner of the "Cedar Lawn Farm" in Kelly Township, is one of the progressive young farmers and stockmen of Cooper County, and belongs to a prominent pioneer family of this section. He was born July 22, 1888, and is a son of William L. and Sarah Prolma (Stark) Spahr, both natives of Cooper County, The father was engaged in the undertaking business at Boonville most of his life, and is now deceased. The mother, Sarah Prolma (Stark) Spahr, was a daughter of J. D. Stark, who for many years was prominently identified with Cooper County and Missouri in a political way. He served as county collector of Cooper County, and was also county judge. He represented Cooper County in the Legislature for a time, and was warden of the State Penitentiary during the administration of Gov. Stephens. About that time he bought a farm in Kelly

Township, which is now owned by Lawrence Spahr. While her father was warden of the State Penitentiary, Sarah Prolma (Stark) Spahr was matron of that institution. At the expiration of her term she returned to Cooper County and lived on the farm in Kelly Township, which her father had purchased. At that time she was a widow, her husband having died in 1896. She successfully managed the operation of the farm in Kelly Township, and reared her family. She was a capable business woman, and successfully carried out her undertakings. She died Aug. 22, 1914. Lawrence Spahr now owns the place in Kelly Township which was owned by his grandfather Stark. It is one of the valuable farms of the county, and is one of the old historic places of that neighborhood. It was originally entered from the Government by W. T. Reavis at a cost of \$1.25 per acre in 1850, and was later owned by Dick Reavis, who made many improvements out of the ordinary for the early times. He planted an orchard of 40 acres and later doubled the acreage of his orchard. He manufactured apple brandy here for a time. He also set out two rows of cedar trees along the driveway, between the main highway and the residence, which greatly add to the beauty of the place. The farm now consists

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of 185 acres, and here Mr. Spahr successfully carries on general farming and stock raising. He feeds cattle extensively, a branch of animal husbandry which has proven very profitable to him.

Mr. Spahr was married June 5, 1912, to Miss Grace Gander, a daughter of John and Annie (Presgraves) Gander, of Lebanon Township. Mrs. Spahr is one of the following children born to her parents: Grace, wife of Lawrence Spahr, the subject of this sketch; Virgil, lives near Vermont Station; Ollie, resides at home; Aubrey, lives near Vermont Station; and Elon, lives near Vermont Station. To Mr. and Mrs. Spahr have been born two children: Jack Stark and Annie Olive.

Mr. and Mrs. Spahr are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are representatives of Cooper County's most progressive and enterprising citizens.

#### **H. C. Biltz**

(Transcribed by James F. Thoma)

H. C. Biltz, a successful farmer of Kelly Township, is a native of Illinois. He was born in Summerfield, St. Clair County, Ill., Aug. 1, 1867, a son of Jacob and Dora Biltz, both now deceased. Jacob Biltz was a native of Germany, and took part in the German Revolution in 1848, and on account of his participation in that uprising against the Government fled from that country in company with Frederick Hecker, who was also implicated in the revolution against the German Government, and during the Civil War became a colonel in the Union Army.

H. C. Biltz first came to Boonville in the capacity of an apple buyer. He and his brother, Philip, were in the commission business at St. Louis, and his brother is still engaged in the same business there. For a number of years, H. C. Biltz has been successfully engaged in farming and stock raising in Kelly Township, where he owns one of the valuable, well improved farms of Cooper County. He carries on general farming and stock raising, and has met with well merited success in his undertakings.

March 9, 1892, H. C. Biltz was united in marriage with Hiss Guita A. Levens, at St. Louis, Mo. After their marriage they lived in Omaha, Neb., for a short time, and in 1893 came to Cooper County, where Mr. Biltz has since been engaged in farming. Mrs. Biltz is a daughter of B. W. Levens, a native of Cooper County, who was born on the site of the present town of Bunceton, Feb. 25, 1841. He was a son of Basil W. Levens, a native of Washington County, Pa. born in 1791. Basil W. Levens came to Randolph County, Ill., with his parents at a very early date. His father was a slave-owner, and owing to the sentiment against slavery in Illinois, he came to Missouri by boat, taking his slaves with him, and settled at Overton, Mo. He operated the ferry across the river for a number

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of years, and was later engaged in farming. He married Rhoda Stephens here in 1818. He spent his latter years on a farm about two miles east of Bunceton, where he died in 1844, and his wife died in 1876.

B. W. Levens, father of Mrs. H. C. Biltz, was a Confederate veteran. He was married Feb. 25, 1864, to Mary E. Reavis, who died Jan. 8, 1911. Two children were born to this union: Dr. W. B. Levens, Creighton, Mo., and Guita, the wife of H. C. Biltz, the subject of this sketch.

To H. C. Biltz and wife have been born two children: Rolls L. and Hilda Marie, the latter a student in the Bunceton High School. Rolls L. Biltz served in the World War, and is now residing at home with his parents. He enlisted in March 1917, and after being trained at Ft. Sill, Okla., was sent to France in April, 1918, with the 144th Infantry, 35th Division. He participated in the severe fighting of the summer and fall of 1918. He was at the battle of Argonne Forest, and St. Mihiel. He was wounded three times, twice in the arm, and once in the side, and he was also severely gassed, and was returned to the United States as a member of a casualty company.

Mrs. Biltz has won a reputation as a successful poultry raiser which has extended far beyond the limits of Cooper County. She won the lust premium at the Missouri State Poultry Show in 1912, and also at the Springfield Poultry Show for the largest turkey in the world, which weighed 60 pounds. This was a mammoth Bronze turkey, and at that time Mrs. Biltz was raising that breed of turkeys. This turnkey was afterwards sold for \$150.00.

Mr. and Mrs. Biltz are well known in Cooper County and rank among the leading families of this section.

### **Samuel Holbert Groves**

(Transcribed by James F. Thoma)

Samuel Holbert Groves, proprietor of the "Locust Grove Farm, Home of the Cotswold," is recognized as one of the leading breeders in the country. Mr. Groves is a native of Cooper County. He was born near Bell Air, June 13, 1864, and is a son of W. T. and Margaret (Cole) Groves. The mother was a daughter of Samuel and Sallie (Bristoe) Cole. Samuel Cole was a son of Stephen Cole, who was one of the first settlers of Cooper County, who lived at Cole's Fort, the first settlement of this county. W. T. Groves was a native of Fauquier County, Va., born Aug. 2, 1828, and came to Cooper County, Mo., in 1850, when he was 22 years old. He died here July 2, 1911, and his wife died in 1867. They were the parents of the following children: J. O., who resides in Kelly Township; Samuel H., the subject of this sketch; Thomas, Moniteau County. After the death of his first wife, W. T. Groves married Anna Morton. She died in 1917.

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The following children were born to the second marriage: John, Tipton, Mo.; Clara, married Robert McCulloch, Jefferson City, Mo.; Cora, married M. A. Worley, Tipton, Mo.; Addie, married O. P. Worley, Tipton, Mo.; Oscar, enlisted when the United States entered the World War, and was sent to France in the spring of 1918, and is still serving with the American Expeditionary Force there.

Samuel H. Groves was educated in the public schools and in Prof. Donnelly's school at Bunceton. He has always been engaged in farming and stock raising, and for a number of years has made a specialty in breeding Cotswold sheep. He brought the first imported sheep of this breed that was ever brought to Cooper County, and has bred several hundred sheep of this breed all eligible to registration. His sheep have been exhibited at numerous fairs and stock shows

throughout the country, and he perhaps has won over 300 premiums. His imported ram, Garnes 37, which heads his flock, is one of the most valuable sheep in this country. He now has a herd of 42 pure-bred Cotswold sheep on his place. Mr. Graves has been superintendent of the sheep department of the Missouri State Fair for several years, and holds that position for the year 1919. For five years he was president of the Missouri State Sheep Breeders' Association, and takes an active interest in this line of work. He was one of the organizers of the Bunceton Fair, 23 years ago. This is one of the successful fairs of the State. Mr. Graves is not only a successful farmer and breeder, but is known throughout a broad scope of territory as a successful auctioneer. He makes a specialty of conducting sheep sales, in which he is regarded as an expert. The sheep growers of the State have found in Mr. Groves an exceptional auctioneer in handling their particular line of sales, and the demand upon his time for this work is very great. He has conducted sheep sales for eight years.

Mr. Groves was married Dec. 22, 1887, to Miss Anna Bear, a daughter of J. H. and Mary (Morris) Bear. J. H. Bear is a native of Kentucky, and came to Cooper County when a young man. He was born Dec. 22, 1835, and makes his home with his children. His wife was born in St. Clair County, Mo., and died Feb. 12, 1914, at the age of 68 years. They were the parents of the following children: Mrs. J. O. Groves, Tipton, Mo.; Anna, the wife of Samuel H. Groves, the subject of this sketch; Mrs. Mary Davis, Otterville, Mo.; Mrs. A. J. White, Tipton, Mo.; Mrs. F. M. Shroul, Bunceton, Mo.; Mrs. R. H. Franks, Thomasville, Mo.; Alfred S., Oknee, Okla.; Hugh M., Colorado; George, a teacher, who is now taking a special course at the State Normal School at Warrensburg, Mo. He enlisted

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at the beginning of the World War and attended an officers training school, where he was commissioned a lieutenant and was sent to France in the spring of 1918, and returned to the United States, March 5, 1919. To Mr. and Mrs. Groves have been born the following children: Edgar E., a locomotive engineer on the Rock Island Railroad, married Bessie Monks, of Cooper County, and they have two children, Gladys and Anna Marguerite; and Morris C., of Bayfield, Colo., married Lydia Doll, of Cooper County, and they have one daughter, Edna Frances.

Mr. Groves is one of Cooper County's most highly respected and substantial citizens.

#### **George Reynolds**

(Transcribed by James F. Thoma)

George Reynolds, a highly respected pioneer of Cooper County, residing in Kelly Township, is a native of West Virginia. He was born in Brooks County, May 8, 1847, a son of Josephus and Margaret (Umphrey) Reynolds, both natives of Ohio, born near Steubenville. The mother died in 1897, the father having died in 1870, in Johnson County, Mo. He came to Cooper County in 1867, and settled near Nebo, Cooper County. Josephus and Margaret (Umphrey) Reynolds were the parents of the following children: Samuel, who resides at Boonville, and George, the subject of this sketch, were twins; Frank, lives in Boonville; William F., died in 1898, near Blackwater; Robert Scott, died in infancy; Joshua, the eldest of the family was killed at Hatches Run, Va., while serving in the Union Army during the Civil War.

George Reynolds has lived in Cooper County for 52 years with the exception of 1881 and 1882, when he resided in Vernon County. He bought his present home in Kelly Township in 1887. His farm consists of 120 acres, which is nicely located and makes a pleasant home. His residence is located on an eminence which gives a commanding view of the surrounding country, and under proper atmospheric condition a splendid view of 20 miles to the northwest can be had from this place.

George Reynolds was married in 1872 to Miss Sarah Gallagher, a daughter of Charles and Susan Gallagher, who were early settlers in Moniteau County, coming from Virginia. To this union

were born the following children: Dr. William H., who resides in Pettis County, married Minnie Kahrs, and they have two children, Della May and William K.; Cora May, married J. J. Baxter, Rockyford, Colo., and they have four children, Gussie, Arthur N., Walter H., and Willa S. Mrs. Reynolds died Feb. 6, 1901, and her remains are buried in Hopewell Cemetery. Mr. Reynolds is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Bell Air. He is an intelligent and well posted gentleman and one of Cooper County's best citizens.

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**Joseph O. Nelson**  
(Transcribed by James F. Thoma)

Joseph O. Nelson, a progressive citizen and well known farmer of Kelly Township, was born in Texas, Aug. 6, 1867. He is a son of Decatur and Isabella (Stephens) Nelson. Decatur Nelson was born in Virginia, Dec. 12, 1831, and died in Cooper County, Nov. 10, 1903. He came to Cooper County with his parents when he was nine years of age. When the Civil War broke out he went to Texas and entered the Confederate Army there, and served nearly four years until the war closed. Isabella (Stephens) Nelson was a member of a Cooper County pioneer family. She was born on the site of the present town of Bunceton long before Bunceton was thought of. She was a daughter of Joseph Stephens, Sr., a native of Wythe County, Va., who settled in the locality where Bunceton now stands in November 1817. Isabella (Stephens) Nelson died in 1886. She was one of 24 children born of two unions who all lived to man and womanhood, except three, who died in infancy. Her mother being Miss Catherine Dickenson; nine children belong to that union. To Decatur and Isabella (Stephens) Nelson were born two children: Mrs. Mollie C. Francis, who now resides in Texas and Joseph O., the subject of this sketch.

Joseph O. Nelson was educated in the public schools at Glen Dale, Clarksburg College, and Otterville College, and since leaving school has been engaged in farming. He has lived on the place which he now owns in Kelly Township for 30 years. He first purchased 42 1/4 acres and later added 90 acres more. His farm is located five miles south of Bunceton. It is well improved, with a good residence, new barn and other improvements of a high order. The water supply for the place is obtained from a well 110 feet deep, and is pumped by a gas engine.

Mr. Nelson was first married in April 1887, to Miss Ids May Tilton, a daughter of Samuel Tilton, of Tipton, Mo. One son was born to this union, Newton, who lives at Tipton. Mrs. Nelson died in 1888. April 22, 1890, Mr. Nelson was married to Alice C. Kelly, a daughter of John and Nancy Kelly. John Kelly who was a native of Ireland was a railroad man and worked on the construction of the Missouri Pacific railroad through Tipton and also M. K. & T. through Clifton City. He died in Kansas City, July 9, 1906. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Nancy Jones, died in 1872, when Mrs. Nelson was about two years of age. Mrs. Nelson was reared by her grandparents Samuel and Susan Jones, who resided near Otterville. Samuel Jones was a native of Kentucky, born Nov. 3, 1826, and came to Missouri about 1835, settling near Otterville

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where he kept the post office which was Elkton in the forties before Otterville was founded. His wife was born in Page County, Va., in 1832, and died in July, 1893. Mrs. Nelson was educated in the public schools of Cooper County, Otterville College and the Pilot Grove College. She was a student at the latter institution in 1883 when W. F. Johnson, the editor of this work, was a teacher there.

To Joseph O. Nelson and wife have been born five children as follows: Isabella, born March 1, 1891, was educated in Bunceton High School, Missouri State University, The Gem City Business College, Quincy, Ill., and is now a teacher at the Laura Speed Elliot High School, Boonville; Richard Truman, born Nov. 27, 1897, resides at home; Ernest Decatur, born March 3, 1900; Edgar Eurico, born Feb. 6, 1902; Armstead Mason, born Aug. 26, 1910.

The Nelsons are one of the well known and representative families of Cooper County and Mr. Nelson is a progressive and public spirited citizen. He is a cousin of Hon. W. L. Nelson, United States Congressman from the Eighth Missouri District and of Lady Maxwell of England.

### **Emil Hagemeyer**

(Transcribed by James F. Thoma)

Emil Hagemeyer, a well known farmer and stockman of Kelly Township, is a native of Cooper County. He was born near Lone Elm, May 9, 1885, and is a son of Fred and Lizzie (Loving) Hagemeyer, both natives of St. Louis County, and now residents of Kelly Township. They came to Cooper County about 1871, and settled near Lone Elm, where they now reside. Fred and Lizzie (Loving) Hagemeyer, are the parents of the following children: Lizzie, married John Day and resides in Kansas City, Mo.; Minnie, married Frank Neimeyer, Kelly Township; Emma, married George Stegner and they reside near Alt. Herman Church; Mary, married George Bushhorn and is now deceased; Emil, the subject of this sketch; Harry resides in Kelly Township, and Amanda married Clyde C. Waller and they reside at Wright City, Mo.

Emil Hagemeyer was educated in the public schools of Baxter, Mo., and the Bunceton schools. He also attended the German school at Lone Elm. Mr. Hagemeyer has always been engaged in farming and stool: raising He bought 60 acres of his present farm in 1912, to which he added 60 acres more later and now owns a valuable farm of 120 acres. It is located 5 1/2 miles southwest of Bunceton, and is one of the well improved and well kept farms of that vicinity. He carries on general farming and stock raising and is meeting with well merited success. Mrs. Hagemeyer is successfully engaged in the poultry business. She keeps about 300

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Rhode Island Red and Brown Leghorn chickens, all of which are pure bred. Mrs. Hagemeyer has been very successful in the production of eggs, which she sells both for hatching and on the general market. During the month of March, 1919 she sold \$118.00 worth of eggs.

Emil Hagemeyer was united in marriage Jan. 4, 1910, to Miss Gertrude Varner, a daughter of William and Eliza (Cook) Varner. William Varner was born in Virginia, June 30, 1833, and his wife was born in Cooper County, near Otterville, March 16, 1835. During the Civil War he served in the Union State Militia. He has always followed farming and stock raising. This aged and highly respected couple now reside in Kelly Township. They were the parents of the following children: Poleata, married H. H. Yarnell, who is now deceased and she lives in Kelly Township; Joseph, Beloit, Kan.; Mary, married J. A. Stevenson, St. Louis; James, born May 6, 1871, and died at the age of two years; Richard, resides in Kansas City, Mo.; Ida died in infancy, and Gertrude, the wife of Emil Hagemeyer, the subject of this sketch. To Mr. and Mrs. Hagemeyer have been born one son, Paul Emil, born March 17, 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Hagemeyer are members of the Presbyterian Church and rank among Cooper County's representative and highly respected citizens.

### **Joshua Berry Scott**

(Transcribed by Laura Paxton)

Joshua Berry Scott of Bunceton, is a descendant of Cooper County pioneer stock, who has spent his life with the exception of two years in this county. Mr. Scott was born in Cooper County, February 7 1857. He is a son of William Wilson and Carolina (Berry) Scott. William Wilson Scott was a native of Kentucky and came to Missouri with his father, Leonard Scott, who settled in Cole County, where he spent the remainder of his life. William Wilson Scott settled in Cooper County in the thirties. Here he married Carolina Berry, and settled on a farm in Clarks Fork Township, which is now owned by Christ Ohlandorf, and spent the remainder of his life on this place. Carolina Berry was the daughter of Joshua Berry, who was one of the very first settlers of Clarks

Fork Township, where he entered government land. He was a native of North Carolina, and drove from that state with ox teams and wagons, bringing his slaves with him. After coming here he became an extensive land owner. He built a large brick residence on his place in Clarks Fork Township. This house is still standing and in a good state of preservation. He died at his home in Cooper county, shortly after the close of the Civil War. His wife preceded him in death many years.

William Wilson and Carolina (Berry) Scott were the parents of the following children: Martha J., born Dec 27 1844, married Charles S. Shirley, April 6 1870, who died July 27 1874, three children having been

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born to them; Thomas Edward lives in Boonville; Searles L., deceased; and William Augustus lives in Chicago; George Walter born Feb. 7 1847, deceased; William Bryon born June 12 1849, lives at Clinton MO; Mrs. Mary Evaline Baslee, born December 7 1851, lives in clear Fork Township; James Monroe, born May 18 1854; Joshua Berry, the subject of this sketch; Robert Ellis born July 19 1859, deceased and Mrs. Eleanora Bottoms, born April 29 1862 lives in Prairie Home.

Joshua Berry Scott lived in Kelly Township for many years where he was engaged in farming and stock raising. In 1900 he sold his farm in that Township and bought his present splendid home in Bunceton. He has been an extensive dealer in real estate for many years, and has bought and sold a great deal of land. Mr. Scott was first married February 19 1879, to Miss Susan Russell, a native of Kentucky. Two children were born to this union, Tallia and Beulah, both of whom are deceased. The mother died February 7 1890. Mr. Scott's second wife bore the name of Maude McCurdy. She died about a year after their marriage leaving an infant son, John who is also deceased. After the death of his second wife, Mr. Scott was married to Addie Carpenter, a native of Cooper County. She is a daughter of Robert and Priscilla Carpenter, pioneers of Clarks Fork Township. To Mr. & Mrs. Scott have been born one son, John Dewey, born November 16 1898 and resides at home with his parents.

Mr. Scott is a progressive and enterprising citizen and has had a successful career. He is a stock holder in the bank of Bunceton.

#### **Louis A. Bestgen**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

L. A. Bestgen, a progressive and enterprising citizen of Kelly Township, was born in this Township on the place where he now resides, June 25, 1891. He is a son of A. J. and Ella (Class) Bestgen. A. J. Bestgen was also a native of Cooper County, born near Pisgah, Jan. 16, 1864, a son of Andrew and Catherine (Alter) Bestgen, natives of Germany. The former was born in 1818, and the latter in 1829. They were married Feb. 16, 1848, at Cedron, Moniteau County, and the following children were born to this union: Catherine, born Sept. 21, 1849; Anna Mary, born Nov. 7, 1852; John P. born Nov. 18, 1854; Barbera, born Jan. 7, 1857; Gertrude, born Feb. 8, 1859; Margaret, born May 19, 1861; Andrew J., born Jan. 16, 1864; Teresa H., born Sept. 24, 1866, and Cornelius, born July 26, 1870.

Andrew Bestgen, grandfather of Louis A., was a pioneer of Cooper County, and for many years was a notary public and did a great deal of work of this kind in the early days. He died April 25, 1894, and his remains are buried at Tipton, Mo.

Louis A. Bestgen was one of six children born to his parents, the others being as follows; George J.; Urban J., both residing in Kelly Township,

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and Alverta, Leonard P. and Coletta, residing at home. Louis A. Bestgen was educated in the public schools, and has made farming and stock raising his principle occupation, and has met with well merited success. The home place which he operates consists of 120 acres. The place is well improved with a good six room residence and a conveniently planned barn 28x32 feet, with metal roof. Mr. Bestgen raises wheat, corn and other grains, and also carries on stock raising. Being naturally a mechanical turn, Mr. Bestgen has built and fully equipped a blacksmith shop, where he has installed a high speed drill, emery wheel, and other mechanical devices. He is the inventor of the Farmers Barn Door Latch, which he manufactures here in his shop. This is regarded as one of the most cleverly designed and practical barn door latches on the market. It is used extensively by farmers in Missouri, Kansas and Iowa. The latch is made in a variety of sizes and styles, and is designed for barn doors, hay doors, double doors and garage doors. It is cheap, durable, simple in construction, easy to put on a door, and saves time, temper and money. The Farmers Barn Door Latch is sold by dealers throughout the country, although Mr. Bestgen also sells to the trade direct.

Mr. Bestgen is also an excellent woodworker and has done some fine cabinet work. Mechanical work of this character is as easy and natural for him as iron work, and his mechanical genius is evinced by many laboring saving devices around the Bestgen home. He has installed an irrigation system for his garden which has proved of great value in extreme dry seasons.

Louis A. Bestgen was married Oct. 6, 1914 to Miss Clara Dueber, of Moniteau County, where she was born March 27, 1891. She is a daughter of Martin and Mary (Leffler) Dueber, the former a native of Pettis County, and the latter of Ohio and now residents of Moniteau County. They are the parents of the following children: Joseph, Moniteau County; Tillie, married Aquin Simpson; Clara, wife of Louis A. Bestgen, the subject of this sketch; Adelia, married George Bestgen; Nora, resides at home; Leo, was in training during the World War at Camp Bowie, Texas, from Sept. 1918, until Feb., 1919, when he was discharged, and is now residing at home in Kelly Township; John, George and Mamie, all residing at home. By a former marriage of Martin Dueber to Johana Brill, the following children were born: Augusta, married Henry Klein; Loma, El Reno, Okla., and Ida, married Andy Ruttenueler, Tipton, Mo. To Mr. and Mrs. Bestgen have been born two children, Virginia and Eleanor.

Mr. Bestgen is a member of the Knights of Columbus, The Anti-Horse

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Chief Association, and the Farmers Club at Lone Elm. The Bestgen family are members of St. Andrews Catholic Church at Tipton.

#### **Daniel Langkop**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Daniel Langkop, a prominent farmer and stockman of Kelly Township, bears the distinction of belonging to a family, three generations of which have been well represented in the wars of this country since the beginning of the Civil War. Daniel Langkop was born in Iowa in 1851, a son of William Henry and Anna (Klaus) Langkop, both natives of Germany. William Henry Langkop migrated to America in 1849 or 1850 and first settled in Iowa. He came to Cooper County, Mo., sometime in the 50's. When the Civil War broke out he enlisted in the Union Army at Boonville, and served three years. His two sons, Henry and Frank, also served throughout the Civil War and remained in the army for some years afterwards. They were in the cavalry and after the Civil War served under General Ouster in his campaigns against the Indians in the west. They then returned to Cooper County, Mo., where they were engaged in farming during the remainder of their lives. Henry died, July 23, 1897, and is buried at Lone Elm. Frank died March 3, 1919, and is buried in Clarks Fork cemetery. William Henry Langkop died in 1880 and his remains are buried in Clarks Fork cemetery. His wife died in 1854 and her remains are buried at Dubuque, Iowa.

They were the parents of the following children: Henry, mention of whom is made above; Mrs. Minnie Schubert; Frank, who is also previously mentioned in this sketch; and Daniel, the subject of this sketch.

Daniel Langkop attended such schools as the times afforded during his boyhood, and in early life was employed as a government teamster during the war, mostly in the vicinity of St. Louis. After the war he returned to Cooper County and has since been engaged in farming and stock raising. In 1917, he located on his present farm, which is two miles southeast of Bunceton. Here he owns 40 acres of well improved land, which is under a good state of cultivation. The farm residence is a well built modern cottage of six rooms and the other buildings are nicely arranged and well kept.

Daniel Langkop was married April 8, 1880 to Miss Louisa Longers, a daughter of Morine and Anna (Brandes) Longers. The former a native of Holland and the latter of Germany. They are both now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Langkop have been born the following children: Frank, resides on the old home place in Cooper County; Charles was in South America when last heard of and is probably a soldier in the British army; Herman, Bunceton; Albert, died at the age of 18 months; Oscar, Bunceton;

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Walter entered the United States Army in Sept., 1917, was sent to France in June, 1918, a member of Company A, 125th Infantry, and was taken sick while in the battle of Argonne Forest and died Oct. 23, 1918; Ed, who entered the United States Army Oct. 21, 1918, and was sent to Camp Bowie, Texas, for training and was transferred from there to Camp Pike, Ark., where he was discharged March 28, 1919; and Anna, resides at home with her parents.

Mrs. Langkop has spent her life in Cooper County and while she was a young girl during the Civil War, she has a distinct recollection of many of the events which transpired in the neighborhood where she lived, during the stirring days of that great conflict. She recalls an incident when the bushwhackers were about to take their last horse when the Captain of the company appeared on the scene and ordered the soldier who was taking the horse to turn it loose.

Mr. and Mrs. Langkop are members of Clarks Fork Lutheran Church and the Langkop family are well and favorably known in Cooper County and highly respected.

#### **John W. Richey**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

John W. Richey, a prominent citizen of Kelly Township, is a native Missourian. He was born in St. Clair County, Dec. 22, 1851, and is a son of John R. and Margaret (Keeton) Richey. In 1861, when the Civil War broke out, the Richey family resided in St. Clair County. The father entered the Confederate Army and served throughout the war. Shortly after he enlisted, the mother and children left St. Clair County and drove to Cooper County, with an ox team and wagon, bringing all their possessions with them. John W. was then a boy about 10 years old and he drove the oxen, riding one most of the way. The mother maintained the family and kept them together in their new home in Cooper County until the war ended, when the father returned. He rented land in Cooper County for a number of years, and spent the remainder of his life here. He died in March 1917, at the age of 82 years, and his wife departed this life in 1910, aged 77 years, and their remains are both buried in Baxter cemetery, Kelly Township. They were the parents of the following children: John W., the subject of this sketch; Andrew J. lives in Kelly Township; Mrs. Nancy Majors, deceased; Wesley, Bunceton; James, Bunceton; Joshua, lives on the home farm in Kelly Township; Mrs. Rhoda Potts, lives in the state of California and Robert died in California.

John W. Richey has been a resident of Cooper County since 1862. He remained on the home farm with his parents until he was married, when

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he engaged in farming and stock raising for himself. He bought his present place in 1890. This is one of the old historic places of Cooper County, and was formerly owned by John J. Chilton. Chilton was an early settler in this section and owned a number of slaves, and the old building in which the slaves lived is still standing on the place. It was built of hewed logs, weather boarded with walnut boards, and is still in a fairly good state of preservation. It is probably 100 years old. Mr. Richey has a well improved farm with a nice seven room, two story, modern residence, which he built in 1917. The place is surrounded by locust and elm shade trees, and has altogether a well kept and neat appearance. The farm buildings, fences and general appearance of the place bears testimony to the industry of its owner. The place is known as the "Willow Spring Stock Farm" which name is officially recorded

Mr. Richey was married Sept. 2, 1875 to Miss Jennie Morton, a daughter of John C. and Isabel (Miller) Morton. The former a native of Virginia and the latter of Tennessee. They were married in Tennessee and came to Missouri, first settling in Cedar County. When the Civil War broke out John C. Morton enlisted in the Confederate Army and served throughout the war under General Price. After the war the family came to Cooper County and settled near Bunceton, where the father was engaged in farming for a number of years, when he removed to Texas where he died in 1894. His wife died in Oklahoma in 1901. They were the parents of the following children: Jennie, wife of John W. Richey, the subject of this sketch; John P., died Aug. 6, 1915, aged 55 years; Sarah Elizabeth was born April 24, 1862 and died Jan. 6, 1916; Martha Lee, born June 5, 1866, married William J. Luker and they reside in Oklahoma; David Emmet, born Dec. 13, 1867 and died in Jan., 1890; Benjamin N., born March 22, 1879 and lives in Oklahoma. To Mr. and Mrs. Richey have been born the following children: Margaret Isabel, born Nov. 22, 1876, married Riley Marcum, Hughesville, Mo.; Lon, born Jan. 30, 1879, Jefferson City, Mo.; Henry, born June 26, 1881, died Sept. 7, 1909; Andrew Jackson, born Dec. 24, 1883, Sedalia, Mo.; Wallace, born March 15, 1886, lives in Kelly Township, Missouri. Mr. and Mrs. Richey have 12 grandchildren: Willie, Mary, Henry and Herbert, Norman Francis, Virginia, Ben Henry, Dortha Henrietta, Lucile, Louise and Lon, Jr., Richey.

Willie Marcum, a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Richey enlisted in the United States army in July, 1917, and went to France in April, 1918, a member of Company D, 140th Infantry, 35th Division. He participated

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in the battles of Argonne Forest and St. Mihiel. For five days he was under fire without intermission. He was discharged and returned home in May, 1919.

John W. Richey is one of Cooper County's most substantial citizens and the Richey family stand high in the community.

### John W. Morris

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

John W. Morris, a prominent pioneer and successful farmer and stockman of Kelly Township, is a native of Missouri. He was born near Roscoe, St. Clair County, March 30, 1858, a son of Snodent and Nancy (Dallas) Morris. Snodent T. Morris was born in Howard County, and came with his father, Shadrach Morris; and family to Cooper County, when he was six years old. Snodent T. Morris was reared to manhood in Cooper County, when he went to St. Clair County, and was there when the Civil War broke out. He enlisted in the Confederate army, and served three years and six months. During the war his wife and children came to Cooper County, where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives.

The Morris family is an old American family, which dates back in this country to Colonial times. They are of English descent and first settled in Virginia. Shadrach Morris, grandfather of John W. of this review was born in Kentucky. He was a son of Hammond Morris, Jr., who was a native of North Carolina, and was one of the very first settlers of Howard County, Mo. Hammond Morris, Jr., was a son of Hammond Morris, Sr., who was a son of Edward Morris.

John W. Morris has in his possession some interesting family documents, one of which is the will of Edward Morris, which was filed by his widow, Elizabeth Morris, in Richmond County, Va., in 1752. Another interesting old document which he has is a will executed by Jesse Morris and wife, conveying land in Madison County, Ky., to Hammond Morris, dated Sept. 5, 1816. He has a letter dated Nov. 6, 1839, written by Hammond Morris, who at that time lived in Kelly Township, to John Morris and family, and Jene Fry and family. This letter states that the parties to whom it is written would do well to come to Cooper County. That land there is selling for \$1.25 per acre; corn is worth from 20 to 25c per bushel; wheat, 75c; oats, 20c; bacon, 7c per pound and pork from 3 to 3 1/2 cents per pound. That there is no money current here in the land office, except Missouri paper, and gold and silver.

John W. Morris has lived in Kelly Township since 1862 since he was four years old. He bought his present home farm, which consists of 150 acres in 1886. He also owns 80 acres in another tract, making 230 acres in all. His place is well improved with a good farm residence and he is successfully engaged in carrying on general farming and stock raising.

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Mr. Morris was married Oct. 8, 1878 to Miss Mattie J. Cline, a daughter of John Cline of Kelly Township, and the following children were born to this union: Arthur, born Nov. 29, 1879, resides near Turney, Mo.; Grace Ann, born Sept. 15, 1889, married Fred Ratchey and they reside on the home place; Edith Kline, born June 8, 1897 and died July 5, 1916, was the wife of Arthur Holliday. There are two grandchildren in the family, Herbert J. C. Morris and Laura Ritchey.

The Morris family is one of the representative pioneer families of this section of Missouri, and John W. Morris is one of Cooper County's most substantial citizens.

#### **Harry Williams**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Harry Williams, a progressive and enterprising farmer and stockman of Kelly Township, was born April 9, 1873. He is a son of Isaac and Anna (Yontz) Williams. Isaac Williams was born in Richland County, Ohio, in 1840, a son of Joseph Williams, who was also a native of Ohio. Isaac Williams was a Union veteran of the Civil War, having served in Company G, 1634 Ohio Infantry until the close of the war. He then returned to Ohio where he remained until 1873, when he came to Cooper County. A few years after coming here, he bought a farm in Kelly Township, which he later sold, and in 1882 purchased the place where Harry Williams now resides. He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and was a prominent and public spirited citizen. He died May 11, 1916, and his remains are buried in the I. O. O. F. Cemetery at Tipton, Mo.

Isaac Williams was married in 1872 to Anna Yontz, a native of Virginia. She was a daughter of John and Harriet (Windall) Yontz, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Virginia, the former died in 1865 and is buried in Mifflin County, Pa., and the latter died in 1892 and is buried in Tipton, Mo. Three children were born to this union: Lewis, who resides in Kelly Township; Harry, Tipton, Mo., and Anne (Yontz) Williams, who resides on the old home place with her son, Harry Williams. Three children were born to Isaac and Anna (Yontz) Williams, as follows: Harry, the subject of this sketch; Lavern, who died in 1908, at the age of 33 years, married Anna Turnell, to whom was born a daughter, Lillian, and they now live in Arizona; and Lillian, married Harry ShROUT and they reside in Kelly Township.

Harry Williams was reared and educated in Kelly Township and has spent all his life in Cooper County. He has made farming and stock raising his life occupation and is meeting with well merited success. He is the owner of 100 acres of valuable and well improved land in Kelly Township,

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and carries on a general farming and stock raising. His place is located three miles north of Tiptop. Mr. Williams was married Nov. 20, 1900, to Miss Laura Snodgrass, of Moniteau County. She is a daughter of Baily and Ella (Robinson) Snodgrass. The father is now deceased and the mother resides at Tiptop, Mo. To Mr. and Mrs. Williams have been born one son, Virgil, who is now a student in the Tiptop High School.

Mr. Williams is a member of the local school board and takes a commendable interest in local public affairs. He holds membership in the Modern Woodmen of America at Tiptop, and is one of Cooper County's substantial citizens.

**Frank B. White**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Frank B. White, a well known and prosperous farmer of Kelly Township, is a native Missourian. He was born July 2, 1865 in Moniteau County, a son of Stephen and Martha (Robertson) White. Stephen White was a native of Louisiana, and spent most of his life in Moniteau County, where he was engaged in farming. He at one time decided to go to Nebraska and chartered a car to ship his household goods, and started to drive overland to Nebraska. However, he returned to Moniteau County within 30 days, and for the rest of his life was well satisfied with Missouri. He died in 1883 and his wife died in 1907. They were the parents of the following children: Frank B., the subject of this sketch; A. J., mention of whom is made in this volume; Edna, married Robert M. Hudson, and they live in Moniteau County, and Vesta who married Henry Swarner, of Moniteau County.

Frank B. White was reared in Moniteau County and educated in Pleasant View school district. He and his brother bought the farm where Frank now lives in partnership in 1887, later Frank B. bought his brother's interest and since that time has owned and operated the place. The place is well improved with a good residence and other farm buildings. Mr. White carries on general farming and stock raising and raises and feeds cattle and hogs, although he has given special attention to breeding and raising pure bred Shropshire sheep. He has made an unusual success of this department of animal husbandry, and is recognized as one of the successful pure blood sheep breeders of Cooper County.

Mr. White was married, March 28, 1895, to Miss Nannie Masters, a daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Price) Masters, the former a native of Morgan County and the latter of Kentucky. The father died in 1997 and the mother departed this life in 1866. Mrs. White was one of eight children born to her parents, the others being as follows: Mrs. Fannie Askew, deceased; Mrs. Mary Gilliam, Blairstown, Mo.; William, Bluejacket,

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Okla.; Richard, Berryville, Ark.; Wade, Kansas City, Mo.; Walter, Calhoun, Mo., and Charles Woodland, Calhoun. To Mr. and Mrs. White love been born one daughter, Daisy Lee, who resides at home with her parents. She is a graduate of the Tiptop High School and attended Howard Payne College and is also a graduate of the State Normal School at Warrensburg, Mo.

Mr. White is a progressive and public spirited citizen, and has always been a strong supporter of good schools and in recent years has been an enthusiastic advocate of better roads. He has

served as overseer of his local road district for 14 years. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Tipton.

**Dr. M. R. Huffman**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Dr. M. R. Huffman, who formerly was engaged in the practice of medicine in this state, but who for the past six or seven years has been engaged in the general merchandise business at Blackwater, is a native of West Virginia. Doctor Huffman was born on a farm in the vicinity of Alderson, W. Va., Sept. 1, 1867, son of Washington and Mary Ellen (Bibb) Huffman.

Washington Huffman was a native of Virginia and was a tanner by trade. He died in 1869, at the age of about 47 years, and his widow, who also was born in Virginia, afterwards married Lewis Alderson, who in 1880 came to Missouri and located in Montgomery County, where he is still living. Mrs. Alderson died in 1909 at the age of 65. To the second union no children were born.

M. R. Huffman was about 13 years of age when he came to Missouri in 1880 with his mother and stepfather and he grew to manhood in Montgomery County. Upon completing the course in the high school at New Florence once, he attended the Normal School at Warrensburg and for six years thereafter was engaged in teaching school, three terms at Americas and three at Big Springs. Meantime, he had been giving his attention to the study of medicine under private preceptorship and in 1889, he entered the Kentucky School of Medicine at Louisville, where he was graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine in June, 1892. Doctor Huffman then returned to Missouri and began the practice of his profession at Minneola. A year later he moved to Big Springs, where he formerly had been successfully engaged in teaching school, and at that place continued in practice for four years, when he moved to Americas, where he also had been engaged in teaching and here remained in practice for 13 years, or until 1913, when he moved to Blackwater where he bought the Joseph Fisher

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stock of general merchandise and engaged in business. In 1916 Doctor Huffman found that his growing trade required more extensive quarters and in November of that year he moved his store to its present admirable location, carrying a full line of general merchandise, including groceries, dry goods and shoes. Doctor Huffman is a Democrat and his family are members of the Baptist Church.

Jan. 23, 1892, Dr. M. R. Huffman was married to Zula Mosley and to this union two children have been born, Paul B., who married Elsie G. Cramer and is an able assistant to his father in the store at Blackwater, and Vera B., who married George Huber, Boonville. Mrs. Huffman is a member of one of the pioneer families of Missouri, her parents, John T. and Virginia (Bush) Mosley, both having been born in Montgomery County, their respective parents having been among the early settlers of that part of the state, and it was in Montgomery County that Mrs. Huffman was born and reared.

**Sims Brothers**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Sims Brothers, farmers and stockmen, who are operating a well ordered and progressively conducted place of 390 acres in section 31 of LaMine Township, this county, have long been recognized as among the substantial factors in the agricultural development of that section of the county in which they live and it is regarded as but fitting to the purposes of such a chronicle of the times and place as is this work that mention should here be made of the work they are carrying on.

The three brothers, James W., Joseph E., and Claibourne J. Sims, are farming the old Sims home place of 390 acres in LaMine Township and in addition to their general farming are giving proper attention to the raising of live stock, their operations being carried on in accordance with modern methods and with gratifying results. The brothers are bachelors and their home five miles east of Blackwater is presided over by their widowed mother and their sister. The Sims family came into Cooper County from Howard County more than 40 years ago and has long been recognized as one of the established families of LaMine Township. Further reference to this family will be found in a biographical sketch relating to John N. Sims, another brother, presented elsewhere in this work, where fitting reference also is made to the late John C. Sims, father of these sons, who died on the place which he had established nearly a half century ago and where his widow and the four unmarried children still reside.

### **Rev. Benjamin F. Reed**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Rev. Benjamin F. Reed, a minister of the Baptist Church and a farmer and landowner in the vicinity of Blackwater, is a native Missourian. He

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was born on a farm in Livingston County, July 19, 1853, son of John and Jane (Justice) Reed, who were the parents of 14 children.

John Reed was born in Carroll County, Mo., in 1822, his parents having been pioneers of that section. He was reared a farmer and in the days of his young manhood went to Livingston County, where he married, established his home and he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1905. His widow died in 1907. She was born in Frankfort, Ky., in July 1822. Her parents died when she was a child and when 14 years of age she came to Missouri and grew to womanhood in the home of her aunt, Mrs. Betsy McCroskey.

Reared on a farm, the Rev. Benjamin F. Reed grew up familiar with the details of farm life. His early schooling was received in the schools of Livingston County and from boyhood he has been a close student, early giving his attention to the study of theology and philosophy. In 1870 he married and continued farming, meanwhile pursuing his theological studies and in 1889 was licensed a minister of the Baptist Church and has ever since been engaged in the ministry of the gospel, during that time serving in a pastoral relation many congregations and driving or riding many miles horseback throughout this region. For the past 14 years he has been the settled pastor of Heaths Creek Baptist Church in Saline County. In 1897 Mr. Reed came to the Blackwater neighborhood and bought the 40 acres of land two miles south of town in Blackwater Township, where he has since made his home, giving his active attention to the operation of the farm in addition to attending to his ministerial duties. Mr. Reed is a Democrat and a Mason and also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Dec. 11, 1870, the Rev. Benjamin F. Reed was married to Martha Branstter, who was born in Pike County, Mo., in 1856, and to this union 13 children have been born, 10 of whom are living, namely: Howard, of Fayette, Mo.; Augustus, of Blackwater; Nora, wife of H. Branstter, of LaMine Township; Cora, wife of F. Miller, of East Boonville; Ada, wife of N. Rennison, of LaMine Township; Artie, of Blackwater Township; Arlie, of that same Township; May, wife of E. Figgans, of Blackwater Township, and George and Charlie, of Blackwater Township. Among the children thus enumerated are two sets of twins, Mrs. Nora Branstter and Mrs. Cora Miller and Artie and Arlie.

### **Jacob Gross**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Jacob Gross, a successful farmer of Pilot Grove Township, was born in Belleville, Ill., Feb. 12, 1855, son of Jacob and Josephine (Wachter)

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Gross, who came to this county with their family from Illinois many years ago.

Having been but a lad when he came to Cooper County with his parents, Jacob Gross here grew to manhood, completing his schooling in the local schools, and remained on the home farm until his marriage in 1877, when he rented a farm. He continued as a renter until about 1892, when he bought his present farm in Pilot Grove Township, and has since made his home there. Mr. Gross has a well improved place of 112 1/2 acres and in addition to his general farming he raises live stock. When he bought the place the only "improvement" on it was a log cabin. This primitive structure, Mr. Gross soon supplanted by a new and modern house and the other improvements he has made on the place are in keeping with the same. Mr. Gross is a republican and has for years given close attention to local political affairs. He served for some time as a member of the school board. He and his family are members of the Catholic Church.

Jacob Gross has been twice married. Feb. 15, 1877, he was married to Elizabeth Berringer, who was born in Boonville, Feb. 9, 1858, and who died Sept. 11, 1894. To that union were born seven children, namely: Sophia, deceased; George, whose present whereabouts are unknown to his father; Rosa, wife of William Ashmead, of Pilot Grove Township; Clara, wife of William Tempfel, living in Montana; William L., also of Montana; Anna, deceased, and Herman, who is at home assisting his father. Nov. 25, 1896, Mr. Gross married Mrs. Mary Ann (Aldridge) Ashmead, widow of Joseph W. Ashmead and whose son, William E. Ashmead, married Mr. Gross's daughter, Rosa. Mrs. Mary A. Gross was born in Stonebridge, Worcestershire, England, June 16, 1855, and was but seven years of age when she came to this country with her parents, John and Sarah (Sprague) Aldridge, in 1862, the family locating in Alton, Ill., where they remained for some years or until the death of Mrs. Aldridge, when they came to Missouri and located in St. Clair County, where Mary A. Aldridge married Joseph W. Ashmead. To that union two children were born, Mrs. Gross having besides the son mentioned above a daughter, Mrs. Lillian Hull, of LaMine Township.

#### **Frank J. Hoff**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Frank J. Hoff, a successful farmer of Pilot Grove Township, the proprietor of an excellent farm, was born in Pilot Grove Township Oct. 27, 1882, son of Jacob and Bena (Felton) Hoff, substantial residents of that community.

Reared on the home farm in Pilot Grove Township, Frank J. Hoff received his schooling in the district schools and from the days of his boyhood has devoted his attention to farming. In the fall of 1905 he bought

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from his father the farm on which he is now living and began operations on his own account. After his marriage in the spring of 1912 he established his home on that place and since then has made numerous substantial improvements. Mr. Hoff is independent in his political views. He and his wife are members of the Catholic Church and he is a member of the Knights of Columbus.

May 7, 1912, Frank J. Hoff was married to Anna Thiel, who was born at Tipton, Mo. and to this union three children have been born, Helen Beatrice, deceased, Andrew N. and Geraldine Elizabeth. Mrs. Hoff was born Nov. 27, 1887, a daughter of Peter and Catherine (Besthen) Thiel, the latter of whom, also born in Moniteau County, is living at Tipton. Peter Thiel, who died some

years ago, was born in Germany but had been a resident of this country since his boyhood, his parents having been among the early settlers of this section of Missouri.

### **Daniel J. Meyer**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Daniel J. Meyer, proprietor of an excellent farm in Blackwater Township, and one of the progressive young farmers of Cooper County, was born in this county Dec. 21, 1885, son of Louis and Mary (Martin) Meyer. Louis Meyer, who died in 1916, was born in 1860 and was a farmer all his life and was successful. At the time of his death he owned 320 acres of land in this county. His parents were natives of Germany and upon coming to this country settled in Indiana, but many years ago came to Missouri and located on a farm in Pilot Grove Township, this county, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Louis Meyer was a member of the Catholic Church, as is his widow, and their children were reared in that faith. There were 11 of these children, eight of whom are living, as follows; Mrs. Louisa Quigley, of Pilot Grove Township; George A., living on the old home place; Daniel J.; Mrs. Margaret Ausemus, of Blackwater Township; Lena, wife of Edward McClammer, of Blackwater Township; John is on the home place with his brother George, and Lorine and Anna, who are living with their mother in Pilot Grove.

Daniel J. Meyer received his schooling in the local schools and has devoted his attention to farming with considerable success. Upon undertaking operations on his own account he bought a tract of eighty acres from his father which he has brought up to a high state of productivity. In addition to his general farming he also raises stock quite extensively. He is a democrat and is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Dec. 22, 1909, Daniel J. Meyer was united in marriage to Lucy Daugherty, who also was born in Blackwater Township, and to this union five

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children have been born, namely: Ruby, William, Bernice, Ruple, who died when three weeks old, and Helen. Mrs. Meyer is a daughter of John Daugherty and wife, the latter of whom was a Miss Linn, former well known residents of Blackwater Township and both of whom are now deceased.

### **George A. Meyer**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

George A. Meyer, one of Blackwater Township's well known and progressive young farmers, who is living on the old Meyer place in that Township, farming the same in conjunction with his brother Daniel, was born on that farm. He was born Feb. 12, 1883, son of Louis and Mary (Martin) Meyer, the latter of whom is living at Pilot Grove.

Reared on the home farm, George A. Meyer received his schooling in the local schools and since boyhood has been interested in farming. His father was an extensive farmer; at the time of his death in 1916 was the owner of 320 acres of land in Blackwater Township and George A. grew up familiar with the details of farming. In 1908 he began farming on his own account, renting land from his father and after his marriage in the fall of 1910 continued to make his home on the home place, 227 acres of which he is now farming in conjunction with his younger brother, Daniel J. Meyer, who is living on an adjoining farm. Not only is Mr. Meyer carrying on his general farming operations with profit, but he is doing well in the live stock way. He is a democrat, and he and his wife are members of St. Joseph's Catholic Church at Pilot Grove.

Nov. 24, 1910, George A. Meyer was married to Harriet Brommer, who also was born in this county, and to this union five children have been born: Mary M., Georgia Frances, Walter M., Opal and Gladys. Mrs. Meyer was born in Boonville Township, daughter of Morris Brommer and

wife, the latter of whom was a Miss Lebo. Mr. Brommer is living on his farm in Boonville Township. His first wife, mother of Mrs. Meyer, died some years ago and he later married Lydia McGuire.

### **Otto Stoecklein**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Otto Stoecklein, proprietor of a well improved farm in Pilot Grove Township, is one of the best known farmers and stockmen in that neighborhood. He was born in Baden, Germany, Aug. 24, 1879, son of Andrew and Mary Ann (Rainhard) Stoecklein, natives of Germany.

Andrew Stoecklein was born in 1844 and grew up in his native country, was there married and in 1882 he with his family came to the United States locating on a farm in Clear Creek Township, this county. July 23, 1900, he left for a visit to his old home in Baden, was taken ill and died there in that same year. His widow, who was born April 9, 1841, is living on the home place in Clear Creek Township. She is a Catholic, as was her

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husband, and their children were reared in that faith. There were nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the sixth in order of birth.

Otto Stoecklein was but three years of age when he came to this country with his parents in 1882 and he grew to manhood on the farm in Clear Creek Township, his schooling being received in the local schools. In 1904 he began farming on his own account, renting a farm; his affairs prospered and in 1908, he was able to buy a farm of his own, in Palestine Township, which he proceeded to improve and on which he lived until in 1917, when he sold it and bought what was known as the Abe Brownfield place of 134 acres in Pilot Grove Township, where he since has made his home and which he has greatly improved. Mr. Stoecklein is a successful breeder of Poland China hags. He is a Republican and he and his family are members of the Catholic church.

Feb. 9, 1904, Otto Stoecklein was married to Mamie Hamilton, who was born in this county, and to this union have been born seven children: Bernard, Leonard, Lorine, Otto, Jr., Mildred and Martha (twins) and Teresa. Mrs. Stoecklein was born in LaMine Township and was reared in the family of Bernard Martin.

### **Arthur H. Wood**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Arthur H. Wood, one of Palestine Township's well known and progressive farmers and owner of a well-improved farm in that Township. has been a resident of Cooper County since the days of boyhood. He was born in Rock county, Wis., Feb. 18, 1881, only child of Herbert and Sarah (Taylor) Wood, both of whom were born in that state, the former born in 1850 and the latter in 1854.

In October, 1887, Mrs. Sarah Wood came to Cooper county with her young son Arthur, then six years of age, having been attracted to this county as a place of residence by the fact of her brother, William Taylor, having located here in 1871. He is still living here, with his sister and her son in Palestine Township. It was thus that Arthur H. Wood came to be reared in Cooper county and here received his schooling. From the days of his youth he has devoted his attention to farming, for a time renting a farm, and in 1901 bought 80 acres, to which in 1914 he added an adjoining tract of 105 acres. He is also farming his mother's place of 185 acres and is a substantial farmer. He carries on his operations in accordance with modern methods and is doing

well, he and his mother and his uncle having a very pleasant home in Palestine Township. Mr. Wood is a republican and has ever given his attention to civic affairs.

John Stoecklein, a progressive and substantial farmer of Pilot Grove Township he been a resident of Cooper county since his boyhood. He

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was born in Baden, Germany, Nov. 8, 1867, son of Andrew and Mary Ann (Reinhart) Stoecklein, natives of that country, who came here during the '70s and settled in this county.

When he came to Cooper County, John Stoecklein began working as a farm hand and was for six years thus engaged, working on the farms of Joseph Stuckey and Hamilton Lusk. After his marriage in the spring of 1891, Mr. Lusk rented a farm to him and "set him up in business," providing him (without security) with a team of mules and other essentials of farming, at the same time giving him a bit of advice which Mr. Stoecklein today admits would have made him a rich man had he possessed the foresight to follow it. In 1897 Mr. Stoecklein bought a farm a mile east of Pleasant Green, making his home there until 1909, when he bought the farm where he is now living and has since resided on this place. Mr. Stoecklein has a well improved farm of 151 acres and in addition to his general farming he is raising pure bred Chester White hogs. Since taking possession of his present place he has erected a new house and barn and the other improvements on the place are in keeping with the same. He is a Democrat and he and his family are members of the Catholic church.

April 16, 1891, John Stoecklein was married to Caroline Prummell, who was born in Michigan, daughter of Peter Prummell and wife, natives of Germany, and to this union have been born seven children, Richard, Genevieve, Florence, Gertrude, Helen, John and Philip.

**Peter D. McClain**

(Transcribed by Laura Paxton)

Peter D McClain a well to do farmer and stockman of Clear Creek Township and widely known breeder of Poland China hogs, is a native son of Cooper county. He was born in Palestine Township, Jan 18 1863 son of David and Jaily (Stevens) McClain both of whom also were born in this county members of pioneer families, and the latter of whom is still living making her home with her son Peter, at the great age of 93 years.

David McClain was born in this county in 1829 his parents having been among the early settlers in this part of MO and there he grew to manhood, became a farmer and so continued until his death, which occurred in 1883. To him and his wife were born the following children; Bettie, who married H C White and is now deceased; John, deceased; William who is now living in Texas; Rhody wife of J T Hirst of Sedalia; Fannie wife of Alexander Lane of Lebanon Township; Joann, who

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married Theodore Beck and is now deceased; Peter D, the subject of this sketch; George of Palestine Township and two who died in infancy. The mother of these children who (as notes) above is still living was born in what is now Palestine Township in 1826.

Peter D McClain was 20 years of age when his father died and he continued on the farm, helping look after affairs for his mother, until his marriage at the age of 26. He then rented a farm in Palestine Township and soon afterward bought a farm there. For 20 years he resided there and in

1912 bought his present farm in Clear Creek Township. Mr. McClain has a well improved farm of 364 acres. He is quite extensively engaged in the breeding of Poland China Hogs; holds stock

sales twice a year and ships his stock for breeding purposes quite widely over the country. He is a Democrat and he and his family are members of the Methodist church.

In 1889, Peter D McClain was married to Florence Mowrey of this county and to this union six children have been born, namely: Lulu, wife of F R Quint, or Pettis county; Cecil lives in Blackwater Township; Marie, Emil and Ross at home, and one who died in infancy. Mrs. McClain was born in Pennsylvania. She is a daughter of David and Miria (Fichelberger) Mowrey, who also were born in Pennsylvania and who came to Cooper county in 1877 locating here on a farm.

**Andrew F. Gramlich**  
(Transcribed by Laura Paxton)

Andrew F. Gramlich, proprietor of a well kept farm in Clear Creek Township, is a native son of Cooper County. He was born on a farm in Clear Creek Township, Dec. 23, 1884, son of Frank and Josephine (Stoltzenberger) Gramlich, both of whom also were born in this county.

Frank Gramlich was born in Clear Creek Township in 1854, son of Martin Gramlich and wife who were pioneers there. He grew to manhood on the farm there and after his marriage to Josephine Stoltzenberger, who also was born in Clear Creek Township, member of a pioneer family there, settled on a farm where he is still living. His wife died Feb. 1 1919, at the age of 56. Two children were born to them, Andrew F. having a brother, Peter, who lives on the home place with his father.

Andrew F. Gramlich received his schooling in district schools and when 21 years of age began farming on his own account, renting land at first. A few years later, in 1909, the year of his marriage, he bought the farm on which he is now living, a well kept tract of 130 acres, and has since lived there. Mr. Gramlich has made extensive improvements and is carrying on his farming according with up to date methods. He is a

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Republican. For some years he served as director of schools and is now overseer of roads in that district. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and he is a member of the Knights of Columbus.

October 28 1909, that Andrew F. Gramlich was married to Josephine K. Gross, who also was born in this county, and to this union four children have been born: Ernest George, Isabel J., Marie E., and Lucille K. Mrs. Gramlich was born in Pilot Grove Township October 15 1885, daughter of George Gross and wife.

**Louis N. Hoff**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Louis N. Hoff, one of the representative citizens of Clear Creek Township, is a native of Michigan. He was born at Paw Paw, Van Buren County, Dec. 28, 1856, son of William and Catherine (Donehoe) Hoff.

William Hoff was a native of Germany, born at Eppenbraun, Dec. 12, 1832, and when about 20 years of age he left his native land and arrived in New York on the day on which Franklin Pierce was inaugurated President of the United States in 1853 and for two or three years made his home there and in Rochester, N. Y. In the latter city he married in October, 1854, and in the following year he and his wife moved to Michigan and settled in VanBuren county, near Paw Paw, where Mrs. Catherine Hoff died in June, 1881. In Feb., 1883, William Hoff moved to Missouri and bought 107 acres in Clear Creek Township, this county, where, he spent the remainder of his life. He died Feb. 3, 1917. William Hoff and his wife were the parents of two children, Louis N. and

Mrs. Margaret Waters, a widow, living at Sterling, Col. The mother was born in Ontario, Canada, in April, 1834, and was in her 48th year when she died. She and her husband were Catholics and their children were reared in that faith.

Louis N. Hoff grew up on the home farm in Michigan, and attended the common schools, such as they were, and as a home student in later years became a well informed man. Not only that, but his own lack of opportunities in the days of his boyhood impressed upon him the necessity of better school facilities and for many years he has given his most earnest attention to school affairs and as a school officer has done much to advance the cause of education in his home district. Mr. Hoff was married in the spring of 1880 and had for some time been farming in Michigan when his father came to Cooper County in 1883. Three months after his father's arrival here Louis N. disposed of his interests in Michigan and came here, taking charge of the place his father had bought in Clear Creek Township, renting the same until 1889, when he bought 80 acres, a part of the place which he now owns. As his affairs prospered

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Mr. Hoff in 1892 bought adjacent land and now has there a well improved and profitably cultivated farm of 223 acres. The Hoff house occupies a commanding elevation on the south bank of the LaMine river, overlooking the beautiful valley of the LaMine, and is one of the best building sites in that section of the county. Mr. Hoff is stockholder and a director of the Citizens Bank of Pilot Grove. He is a Democrat as was his father. For 33 years he was a member of the school board in district No. 14. He and his family are members of the Catholic church at Pilot Grove and when the congregation there set about the erection of a church he was selected as one of the members of the building committee, and in that capacity gave of his time and his means to the completion of the present substantial church and other buildings. He is a member of the Catholic Knights of America and the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

Louis N. Hoff has been twice married. Feb. 4, 1880, in Michigan, he was united in marriage to Anna Brummell who was born in DuPage county, Ill., and to that union seven children were born, namely: William, deceased; Mary, wife of William Schneider, Clear Creek Township; Joseph, Clear Creek Township; Francis, deceased; Bertha, Benton Harbor, Mich.; Edward L., who has just recently returned from a period of military training at Camp Funston, where he was assigned upon being inducted into the National Army during the World War, but was mustered out following the signing of the armistice; and Leo, deceased. The mother of these children died Sept. 9, 1895, and on May 25, 1897, Mr. Hoff married Matilda Irene Schneider, who was born on a farm in South Moniteau Township, and whose parents are now residents of Pilot Grove. To this union eight children have been born, namely: Anna, wife of F. Lamm, Pilot Grove; Albert, at home, and Charles, George, Alice, William, Louis N. Jr., and Dorothy.

#### **James S. Funkhauser**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

James S. Funkhauser, a well known and substantial farmer of Lebanon Township is a native of Cooper county. He was born on a farm in Saline Township, Jan. 1, 1865, son of James C. and Elizabeth A. (Culvert) Broyles, and was the fourth in order of birth of the five children born to them. When seven years of age he was adopted by Eli and Elizabeth Ann Funkhauser, Virginians, who had settled on the farm which he now owns in Lebanon Township about 1870 and which after their death he inherited.

Reared on the farm, James S. Funkhauser received his schooling in the district schools and from the days of his boyhood was a valuable aid in the labors of developing the farm which he now owns. He remained

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by his foster parents and when 21 years of age took charge of the farm on a rental basis and after his marriage in the fall of 1889 established his home there and has since lived on the place, which he has improved in admirable fashion. Mr. Funkhauser is a Democrat, but has never been an aspirant for public office.

Oct. 7, 1889, James S. Funkhauser was married to Blanche Starke, of this county, and to this union two children have been born, namely: Mary P., wife of L. Edmonston, of Pleasant Green, and Jack, of Kansas City. Jack Funkhauser was born on the farm on which his parents reside, Dec. 30, 1893, and upon completing the course in the local schools took a course in the Manual Training High School at Kansas City. Upon his graduation from that school he became employed as a solicitor for the First National Bank of Kansas City and is still connected with that institution. He married Ruth DeLancey, who was born in Kansas City, and has one child, Donald Lyle. Mrs. Blanche S. Funkhauser was born in this county Nov. 11, 1869, and is a daughter of the late Judge John D. Starke, who died at his home in Otterville in 1917 and who for many years was recognized as among the most prominent figures in the public life of central Missouri.

**William Henry Stahl**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

William Henry Stahl, one of the best known of the old time residents of Lebanon Township, is a native of Pennsylvania, but has been a resident of Missouri for fifty years. He was born on a farm in Perry county, Pa., Feb. 9, 1843, son of Abraham and Mary (Ernst) Stahl, both of whom also were born in Pennsylvania, where they spent all their lives. Abraham Stahl was born in 1818 and was 73 years of age at the time of his death. He and his wife were the parents of ten children, of whom seven are still living, the subject of this sketch being the eldest.

Reared in the home farm in Pennsylvania, William H. Stahl attended the district schools. During the Civil War he served the government as a teamster and after the war returned to his home. In the fall of 1868 he married there and in the following spring (1869) came to Missouri with his wife and located in Morgan county, where he engaged in farming and remained until 1873, when he came to Cooper county and rented a farm. A year later he bought 120 acres in Lebanon Township, a part of the farm on which he is still living. He prospered and in time added to his holdings until he became the owner of his present fine farm of 201 acres. Of late years Mr. Stahl's health has not been up to standard and he has long been living practically retired, the operations on his farm being carried on by his son-in-law, L. H. Roesler, who is living on the home place. For some

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years Mr. Stahl made his home in Texas, seeking a change for the betterment of his health, and also for some time lived in Clarksburg, Mo., but the old home farm still seems the best place in the world for him. He is a Democrat and he and his family are members of the Methodist church.

Oct. 1, 1868, in Perry county, Pa., William H. Stahl was married to Mary Arnold, who also was born in that county, and to this union eight children have been born, namely: Mrs. Jennie Spillers, Wichita, Kan.; George D., the owner of a farm southeast of Tipton; Bluhm E., deceased; Laban, of Buffalo, Okla.; William E., who recently received his discharge from the United States army and is now living at Denver, Colo.; Irvin Lee, of Rock Island, Texas; Roy T., deceased, and Ruth, wife of L. H. Roesler, on the home farm. William E. Stahl, the soldier son was born Nov. 28, 1884, and was engaged as a traveling salesman when he enlisted for service in the National Army. With his command he got to the seaboard on the way far overseas service, but was taken ill and was for 11 weeks confined in hospital at Baltimore. On this account he did not get to participate in foreign service and was in due time discharged and went to Denver for more complete recuperation than could be promised in the climate of this region. Mrs. Stahl, the mother of these children was born on June 17, 1849, and is a daughter of Samuel and Diana (Garber) Arnold, both of whom also were born in Pennsylvania. Samuel Garber died at Kansas City, Mo., and his wife died at

Colorado Springs, Colo. Oct. 1, 1918, Mr. and Mrs. Stahl celebrated the "golden" anniversary of their marriage and the occasion was made one of many congratulations and much felicitation on the part of their many friends in the community of which they have been a part for so many years. This excellent couple have nineteen living grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

### **William Speed Poage**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

William Speed Poage, owner of an excellent farm of 240 acres in Kelly Township and one of the progressive and energetic young farmers and stockmen of that part of Cooper County, has created an admirable farm plant there and is doing well in his operations. He was born in Monroe County, Mo., Oct. 10, 1886, son of Samuel and Fannie J. (Speed) Poage, the latter of whom is living with his son William, her only surviving child. Of the children born to Samuel Poage and wife but two lived to maturity, a son and a daughter. The latter, Mary V., married A. A. Knoop and is now deceased. Samuel Poage was born in Monroe County, Mo., in 1852, and died in 1887, he then being but 35 years of age. His widow was born in Morgan County in 1853.

Dec. 18, 1908, William Speed Poage was united in marriage to Rhoda

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Richards, who was born in Carroll County, Mo., daughter of the Rev. F. C. Richards and wife, who are now living in Morgan County, and to this union three children have been born, Eva M., Mary H. and Sarah F. Mr. and Mrs. Poage are members of the Methodist Church and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in the general social activities of the community in which they live. Mr. Poage is a democrat and he is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and the Modern Woodmen of America.

### **Homer E. Morris**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Homer E. Morris, a progressive young farmer of Kelly Township, and owner of a fine farm, was born on a farm in Monroe County, Ohio, March 1, 1885, son of William L. and Adelia M. (Wise) Morris, both of whom also were born in Ohio and the latter of whom is still living in Pettis County.

William L. Morris was born in Monroe County, Ohio, and there grew to manhood. During the Civil War he enlisted and for three years served as a soldier of the Union, being twice wounded during this service. After the war he engaged in farming in Monroe county, where he remained until 1887 when he disposed of his interests in Ohio and with his family came to Missouri and located on a farm near Pleasant Green, this county, where he was successfully engaged in farming until his retirement. He is now living in Pettis County with his daughter, Mrs. Mattie McMullen, being now 76 years of age. His wife died in Cooper County in 1904, she then being 57 years of age. William L. Morris and wife were the parents of eight children, five sons and three daughters, of whom the subject of this sketch was the youngest and all of whom are still living save one of the sons.

Homer E. Morris was but two years of age when his parents came to Cooper County in 1887 and here he grew to manhood, receiving his 'schooling in the local schools in the vicinity of Pleasant Green. When 20 years of age he began farming on his own account, renting far a season, and then in 1904 bought a farm in Pettis County and made his home there until 1907, when he sold that place and returned to Cooper County and bought the farm where he is now living. Mr. Morris owns an excellent farm of 1881/a acres and in addition to that is farming an adjacent tract, 300 acres thus being under his control. His farm plant is well equipped and in addition to his general farming he gives considerable attention to the feeding of live stock.

Nov. 30, 1905, Homer E. Morris was married to Anna Woolery, who was born in this county, and to this union two children have been born, Homer E., Jr., and William L., the latter named in honor of his grandfather.

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Mrs. Morris is a member of one of the old families of Cooper County, the Woolerys having been represented here since pioneer days, and is a daughter of Taylor and Eliza (Berry) Woolery. Mr. and Mrs. Morris are members of the Methodist Church and take an interested part in church work. Mr. Morris is a democrat and he is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and the Modern Woodmen of America.

**Millard E. Thomas**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Millard E. Thomas, one of Lebanon Township's well known and progressive young farmers, who is managing there a fine farm of 200 acres belonging to his father, who is now retired, was born on that farm, as was his mother. He was born July 26, 1882, son of Charles M. and Jennie (Steele) Thomas, both of whom also were born in Lebanon Township, members of pioneer families there.

Charles M. Thomas was born in 1854, a son of Jonas Thomas and wife, the latter of whom was a Miss Woolery prior to her marriage. After his marriage Charles M. Thomas settled on his home on the farm which he now owns and which is being operated by his son, Millard, and was successfully engaged in farming and stock raising until his retirement and removal to Belton, where he is now living. His wife died in 1915. She was born on the farm on which she spent all her life in 1855, daughter of D. K. and Caroline (Burns) Steele, who were among the early residents in that part of Lebanon Township. To Charles M. Thomas and wife were born five children as follows: May, wife of S. L. Burford, living in Kansas; Carrie, married John Hawkins and is now deceased; Millard E.; Dale, wife of John Schilb, living southwest of Otterville and Clarence, living south of Otterville.

Reared on the home place in Lebanon Township, Millard E. Thomas received his early schooling in the local public schools and supplemented this by a course in the college at Clarksburg. From boyhood he had given his attention to the labors of the home farm and after a while began farming on his own account there under a proper working arrangement with his father and was thus engaged until 1913 when he went to Sedalia and was there for three years engaged as check clerk in a wholesale grocery house. In 1916 Mr. Thomas returned from Sedalia and resumed the management of the home farm in his father's behalf and has since successfully been carrying on the operations of that place. He gives considerable attention to the raising of live stock.

July 26, 1904. Millard E. Thomas was married at Syracuse, Mo., to Minnie Burford, who was born at that place June 28, 1878, daughter of Albert and Mary (Mathis) Burford. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas are members

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of the Baptist Church. Mr. Thomas is a republican and is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons at Otterville.

**Boone Hurt**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Boone Hurt, a substantial farmer and stockman of Clear Creek Township is a native son of Cooper County. He was born on a farm in Clarks Fork Township Aug. 30, 1854, son of Joel and Harriet (Fairs) Hurt, both of whom spent their last days here.

Joel Hurt was a Virginian, born near Culpeper Court House, March 11, 1814. He grew to manhood in Virginia and was there married to Elizabeth Hess, who also was born in Virginia and by whom he had three children. In the early '40s he came with his family to Missouri and settled on a farm in Clarks Fork Township and spent the remainder of his life there. He died March 10, 1880. In his youth Joel Hurt had been trained as a brick mason and after locating on his farm here also followed that trade as demands warranted. He was a republican and was for years regarded as one of the leaders of that party in his part of Cooper County. For 25 years he served as justice of the peace in Clarks Fork Township and it is a matter of record in which his family takes a just degree of pride that rarely indeed were the judgments rendered by him overruled by the higher courts, even in such few cases as were appealed from his court. Not long after coming to this county Joel Hurt's first wife died and he married Harriet Fairs, who was born in Saline Township, in 1828; she died in 1905. To this latter union were born nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth.

Reared on the home farm in Clarks Fork Township, Boone Hurt attended the local schools and from the days of his boyhood has followed farming. He married in the fall of 1880 and in 1885 bought a farm in Clarks Fork Township, which he sold in 1892 and bought another farm in that Township. This latter place he also sold to advantage and then bought a farm in North Moniteau Township, where he resided until the spring of 1911, when he sold that place and moved to Oklahoma with the expectation of making his home in that state. Things there, however, did not present themselves to his liking and in the following October he disposed of such interests as he had acquired there and returned to Cooper County, buying here the farm of 287 acres on which he is now living in Clear Creek Township and has there since resided. Mr. Hurt has made numerous improvements on the place. Mr. Hurt is a republican, as was his father.

Nov. 9, 1880, Boone Hurt was married to Malinda Haley, who was born Jan. 2, 1862, in Moniteau County, daughter of Thomas A. and Elizabeth (Benson) Haley, both of whom were born in Howard County, and

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who after their marriage made their home in Moniteau County, where they reared their family. To Mr. and Mrs. Hurt have been born 13 children, namely: Edgar G., living at Pisgah; Nannie, wife of Homer Brubaker, Lebanon Township; Eliza, wife of Archibald Powell, Clear Creek Township; Chester A., farming in Lebanon Township; Bessie, wife of H. Carpenter, Prairie Home Township; Leslie, deceased; Raymond, farming in Clear Creek Township, and his twin sister, who died in infancy; Ewing, who married Annabel Mayfield and is now, summer of 1919, with the American Expeditionary Forces in Europe; Gordon, deceased; Thelma, at home, and Lewis and Huldah H., also at home. Sergt. Ewing Hurt, the soldier son, was born on April 21, 1896, in Clarks Fork Township, and was engaged in farming when on Sept. 19, 1917, he was called to the colors in the World War. After a period of training at Camp Funston, he sailed with his command for overseas service in April, 1918, and thus participated in considerable active service. After the armistice he continued on with the victorious army and was serving in the Army of Occupation in Germany, a sergeant of Company L, 356th Infantry, 89th Division, when the German government signed the treaty of peace in June 1919.

#### **John Harris Fray** (Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

John Harris Fray, owner and proprietor of "Walnut Grove Farm", LaMine Township, is a well known and successful farmer and stockman of Cooper County. He was born in LaMine Township Nov. 23, 1878, and is a son of Benjamin A. and Adelia Frances (Harris) Fray, and is one of the

following children born to them: John Harris, the subject of this sketch; Elwood H., a stockman, Blackwater; William Tyler, St. Louis; Vary E., married Leslie O'Rear, Chicago, Ill.; and Alva C., Marshall, Mo.

Benjamin A. Fray was born in LaMine Township in 1853, a son of John A. and Martha Elizabeth (Herndon) Fray, natives of Virginia, who came to Cooper County from that state at an early date, and were among the pioneers of LaMine Township, where they spent the remainder of their lives after coming here. They were the parents of nine children. Benjamin A. Fray was successfully engaged in farming and stock raising in Cooper County for many years, and is now living retired at Marshall, Mo.

Adelia Frances (Harris) Fray was also born in LaMine Township in 1851. She is a daughter of Washington and Mary (Tyler) Harris, who were early settlers in Cooper County. She was educated in the public schools and Pilot Grove College.

John Harris Fray was educated in the district school and also attended Pilot Grove College. He began life as a clerk in a drug store at Blackwater.

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Two years later he entered the employ of the National Live Stock Commission Company and for ten years represented that company as a live stock salesman at East St. Louis, Ill., when he was transferred to Kansas City in the same capacity for that company and remained there about eight years. He then went to Colorado, where he remained about three years, when he returned to Cooper County and engaged in his present business on the place where he now resides, which he purchased in Viarch, 1919. "Walnut Grove Farm" is a well improved place of 400 acres, and well adapted to the stock business. Mr. Fray is perhaps the largest cattle feeder in Cooper County, usually feeding for the market from 400 to 500 head of cattle each year, and about 800 head of hogs. His broad and varied experience in the live stock business well qualified him to get the best results out of his endeavor in this particular line, and he is meeting with well merited success.

Dec. 26, 1900, John Harris Fray was married to Miss Bessie E. Reynolds, who was born in Iowa and reared in Nebraska. She is a daughter of John H. and Mary (Claiborne) Reynolds, natives of Illinois and France, respectively. The father was engaged in railroad contracting for a number of years and is now living in St. Louis. To Mr. and Mrs. Fray have been born one child, Mary Claiborne Fray.

Mr. Fray is a member of the time honored Masonic Lodge and also belongs to the Elks. He is one of Cooper County's substantial citizens.

#### **Robert Leyton Miller**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Robert Leyton Miller, company officer at the Missouri State Training School for Boys, Boonville, was born on a farm in Boonville Township, blanch 23, 1889.

Everett Miller, his father, is also a native of Cooper County and was born Oct. 14, 1865, on what is called the old Miller home place, and is a son of Robert Miller, a native of Kentucky who settled in Cooper County before the Civil War and was a soldier in the Confederate Army. Robert Miller died in 1914 at the age of 89 years. Everett Miller has a splendid farm of 160 acres with excellent improvements. He married Miss Bettie Robinson, who was born in Cooper County, five miles southeast of Boonville, and is a daughter of John Robinson, a Cooper County pioneer.

Everett Miller, his father, is also a native of Cooper County and was educated in the Boonville High School and Christian Brothers College at St. Louis. Until his appointment to his present past

on Sept. 23, 1917, he was engaged as a motor machinist in Kansas City. During the years of 1912 and 1913, Mr. Miller traveled over Colorado, Washington and Oregon,

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making trips also into Texas and New Mexico. He also made a trip through the East as far as Perry, N. Y. During his travels he visited various penal institutions such as the Federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., the Illinois State penitentiary at Joliet, reformatory at Pontiac, and various other penal institutions for the purpose of making a study of prison reform and prison management. He is still a student of state reform school management and his studies along the line of this profession have been invaluable to him in the proper performance of the duties of his position at the Missouri Training School where a company of boys are in his charge.

Mr. Miller is a democrat. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church. He is well informed, broad minded, and of a kindly disposition, and seems especially fitted for the position which he holds.

**Robert P. Barge**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Robert P. Barge, vice-president of the Boonville Mercantile Company, Boonville, Mo., is a native Missourian and was born on a farm near Butler, Bates County April 6, 1863. Oscar Barge, his father, was born in Kentucky in 1822 and died in 1900. Oscar Barge's father was a soldier in the War of 1812 and had a government land grant in Bates County, Mo. Oscar Barge made the long overland trip to the gold fields of California in 1850 and remained there for two years. He acquired a quantity of gold, a part of which his son, Robert P., still has in his possession, consisting of a gold nugget valued at over \$100. Mr. Barge returned to Kentucky by way of Cape Horn and soon afterwards went to Bates County, Mo., where he took possession of his father's land grant. Disposing of this he came to Cooper County and settled seven miles southeast of Boonville where he developed a good farm of 150 acres and there spent the remainder of his days. Early in young manhood he married Elizabeth Duller who was born and reared in Cooper County, a daughter of pioneer parents. She was born on a farm south of Boonville in 1824 and departed this life in 1872, leaving children as follows: John, a farmer, southwest of Boonville; William, a farmer, near Blackwater; Robert P., of this review; and Dora Barge lives in Kentucky.

Robert P. Barge was reared on his father's farm, attended the district school and followed farming until 1904. He became owner of a fine farm of 136 acres in the old home neighborhood which is well improved. After leaving the farm he spent the winter of 1904 and 1905 at Eldorado Springs, Mo., and then engaged in business in partnership with H. G. Hudson of Boonville for two years. The Boonville Mercantile Company

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was then organized and he became a stockholder and officer in the concern. Mr. Burge has charge of all the plumbing and electrical work done by this large establishment.

He was married in Oct., 1893, to Miss Addie Parker, who was born in Ohio, and is a daughter of Samuel J. Parker who settled in Cooper County some years ago. The children born to Robert P. and Addie Burge are as follows: Alma Burge, a student in Monticello Seminary, Godfrey, Ill.; Grace Burge, attending the Boonville High School.

Mr. Burge is a democrat and attends the Baptist Church. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and is an industrious, substantial citizen and loyal to his home city and county.

**Joseph M. Clark**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Joseph M. Clark, painter and decorator, Boonville, was born on a farm six miles east of Boonville, April 4, 1861. The farm on which he was born is one of the most historic in this section and is the site of the first Battle of Boonville which was fought between the Confederates and the Union soldiers in June, 1861.

David B. Clark, his father was born in Zanesville, Ohio, in 1828 and died in 1914. He was a son of Adam and Nancy Clark, the latter of whom died at the age of 85 years. Adam Clark was born in Ireland and died in Boonville at the age of 86 years. He was born in Belfast and learned the trade of mill wright and bridge builder. After settling in Ohio he followed his trade. He came to Cooper County in the thirties and here built many of the 'earlier bridges and mills in this section. Two of the bridges which he built across the Petit Saline River are still standing, one of which the covered wooden bridge known as the Shumaker bridge, was erected in 1857 and the other spans the river at Big Lick, or Gooch Mill. In all, he erected six bridges across the Petit Saline and built many flour mills. When he approached the Board of County Judges relative to erecting a wooden, covered structure such as he had in mind he found the judges skeptical about the strength of the proposed bridge. He thereupon built a model bridge four feet in length, complete in every detail. Calling the judges to a store, he placed each end of the bridge upon a chair and then placed a 100 pound sack of flour on the center of his model. The model sustained weight of the flour and the judges were convinced of the stability of the proposed bridges.

David B. Clark removed from his farm to Boonville in the spring of 1861 and resumed his occupation as river man. For a period of 35 years he operated steamboats on the Missouri River and served as purser and captain on many boats. During the Civil War his steamer transported

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Union soldiers down the river and he carried the troops which invested Vicksburg. For several years after the war he carried provisions to Fort Benton on the upper reaches of the Missouri. After his retirement from the river he followed his natural bent as a skilled cabinet maker and many pieces of furniture and ornamentation, such as mantels and stair cases and panel work adorn the Clark home on Seventh street. His wife was Margaret Mitchell prior to her marriage. She was born in 1812 and died in 1884. She was born near Brighton, Beaver County, Pa., and was a daughter of John Mitchell who came to Boonville in 1848 and conducted a retail store in this city until his death at the age of 83 years. The other children born to David B. and Margaret Clark are, besides the subject of this sketch: Mrs. Agnes Asked, deceased; and John Clark, of Kansas City, Mo.

For 38 years, Joseph M. Clark has followed his trade of painter and decorator and fills contracts in Cooper County and the surrounding cities and towns in central Missouri, including Jefferson City. He is a born artist and many fine paintings which he has created with his brush adorn the walls of his home. He was married in 1895 to Miss Cora F. Fritts, who was born in Cooper County in 1868, a daughter of John and Patsie Fritts, the former of whom is deceased, while the mother is still living at the age of 77 years.

Mr. Clark has two sons who are assisting him in his business. The eldest son is Leonidas M., a decorator and painter like his father, and who served six months in the National Army as first sergeant of his company, stationed at Fort Bliss. The younger son is Price Boone Clark, aged 14

Mr. Clark is an independent republican. He is a Presbyterian and comes from a long line of Presbyterian ancestors of Scotch descent. He is affiliated with the Woodmen of the World lodge.

**Joseph Anthony Oswald**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Joseph Anthony Oswald, farmer and live stock dealer, Boonville, is Proprietor of two farms aggregating 400 acres, one farm being locate two miles south and the other five and a half miles southeast of Boonville. Mr. Oswald was born Oct. 16, 1870, on a farm four miles south of Boonville and is a son of the later Herman Oswald.

Herman Oswald was born in Bavaria, Germany, April 17, 1820, and died in Cooper County, Dec. 15, 1903. His wife, who was Christina Youngkamp prior to her marriage was born in Westphalia, Germany, Oct. 12, 1844 and died March 10, 1893. They were parents of the following children: Frank, born Sept. 17, 1868, lives in Boonville; Julius, born Feb.

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2, 1863, Cooper County farmer; August, born July 6, 1864, Cooper County farmer; Christina, born Jan. 6, 1867, deceased wife of Matt Cleary; Joseph A., of this review; Lizzie, born Oct. 10, 1872, wife of William C. Robien, well known stockman and farmer of Cooper County; Margaret, born March 7, 1875, deceased wife of John H. Schnuck, Boonville Township; Katie, born Feb. 7, 1878, wife of P. F. Fitzpatrick, a farmer west of Boonville; Julia, born Sept. 17, 1880, wife of Ed Darby, Boonville.

Herman Oswald came to America in 1854 and first located in the timber lands of Wisconsin. He entered 40 acres of virgin timber land near Green Bay, and proceeded to clear the land. In order to afford him an outlet to the village he cut a road through the timber which to this day is known as the Oswald road. He came to Cooper County after a year or so to be able to live in a climate which was not so severe as the Wisconsin climate. Not long after he came here he sold his northern farm and after renting land for a time in Cooper County he purchased a place south of Boonville. He accumulated over 400 acres of land and became one of the wealthy citizens of Cooper County. He owned prior to his death a total of 1,300 acres of land, 1,000 acres of which was situated in Cooper County and 300 acres located in Kansas. Mr. Oswald followed general farming and stock raising and operated on a large scale as a feeder of live stock. He prospered until the breaking out of the Civil War when the depredations of the bands of soldiers who were overrunning the country practically cleaned him out; his live stock was run off; his provisions taken whenever he had any and everything movable was "requisitioned". At the close of the war he was practically "broke" and anew start was necessary. Like others who were in the same plight, he recovered from his losses and became wealthy. He was married in 1861 to Christina Youngkamp, who came to America from Germany in 1858 with her father, Bernard Youngkamp.

Joseph A. Oswald attended the school at Stony Point, and worked for his father on the farm until 1900. He and his three brothers farmed together and handled live stock until 1906. Joseph and Julius Oswald then became partners in the live stock business. Mr. Oswald feeds about 300 head of cattle and 500 hags annually. He ships about 200 car loads of stock each year. Mr. Oswald left the farm and moved to Boonville in 1913.

April 16, 1913, Joseph A. Oswald and Miss Minnie Dumolt, of Billingsville, were married. This marriage has been blessed with the following children: Edward, born Feb. 5, 1914; Margaret, born Aug. 25, 1915;

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Mildred, born Oct. 15, 1916; Harold, barn Dec. 8, 1918. The mother of these children was born on a farm seven miles southwest of Boonville and is a daughter of Michael and Catherine (Esser) Dumolt, the former of whom was born in 1851, and the latter born in 1852, both being natives of Germany. Mrs. Catherine (Esser) Dumolt is a daughter of Bertram Esser.

Mr. Oswald is a democrat and he and his family are members of the Sts. Peter and Paul's Church. Mr. Oswald is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus.

**Frank E. Lionberger**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Frank E. Lionberger - The late Francis Edward Lionberger was a member of one of the oldest Cooper County pioneer families. He was born April 7, 1842 in Boonville, and died April 13, 1913. His father was Isaac Lionberger, a pioneer merchant and very popular citizen of Boonville who died in 1861. The mother of F. E. Lionberger was Mary Ann Tutt, prior to her marriage, and both parents were natives of Virginia, and were descended from old American stock. Isaac Lionberger was for years, one of the leading merchants of Boonville, and was very popular with the ladies in the antebellum period. When making his yearly trips to New York City to do his buying for the season he would be commissioned by the Cooper County ladies to purchase their frocks-his judgment regarding the prevailing styles being so discriminating that he rarely made a mistake in selecting suitable wearing apparel for his patrons.

Frank E. Lionberger attended the Kemper School and the State University at Columbia. He then settled on the farm owned by his mother, south of Boonville which is now owned by S. L. Hickam, and remained there until the farm was sold in 1891. He then bought a place of 100 acres adjoining the old home place and the family resided there until Sept., 1917, when they moved to the present home in Boonville.

May 13, 1869, Mr. Lionberger was married to Emma (Hersey) Talbot. To this marriage were born the following children: Charles Edward, Los Angeles, Cal., married Helen Baskerville and has two sons, Frances Edward and William Talbot; Bettie is the wife of Dr. C. H. Van Ravensway, is mother of two sons, Arie Cornelius and Charles Edward; Mary, at home with her mother; Addie Talbot, a member of the D. A. R., at home with her mother.

The mother of these children was born Jan. 1, 1850, on Loutre Island. Loutre Island is situated opposite Hermann, Mo., and in size it was two and a half miles wide by twelve miles long. William Irving Talbot, father of Mrs. Lionberger, was born in Lexington, Ky., in 1808 and died in 1874.

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He was a son of Matthew Talbot, whose father came to America from England early in the 18th century. Matthew Talbot was a pioneer in Missouri, settling here in the early thirties. He was a slaveholder and owned many fine horses. It was his custom to give each son a fine mare as he became of age. William Irving Talbot cleared his island farm of timber but left several fine pecan trees. He tilled his land with slave labor until the war brought freedom for the slaves and after the close of the Civil War he came to Boonville and died here. When a young man he married Mrs. Catherine Jane (Hersey) Bascom, a widow, who was born in Lynchburg, Va., in 1812 and died in Sedalia, Mo., in 1877. By her first marriage she had two daughters. Mrs. Lionberger is the only child of her parents.

The late Frank E. Lionberger was a democrat and was a member of the Methodist Church south. He was a great reader and student of the times and was posted on all subjects of interest. He was possessed of a very retentive memory which enabled him to converse with fluency and ability upon almost any topic of interest. Mr. Lionberger was a kind husband and a wise father to his children. His death was a sincere loss to the community.

**Henry E. Brummel**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Henry E. Brummel - When Henry E. Brummel, prosperous farmer and stockman of the Prairie Lick neighborhood, came from Michigan to Cooper County, 26 years ago, he brought most of his earthly possessions in a prairie schooner, hauled by four horses. Mr. Brummel made the trip from Michigan in the late fall and it took six weeks because of the fact that he stopped enroute and

worked two weeks on the railroad so as to get some needed money. He arrived at Boonville, Dec. 1, 1892 and during the latter part of the trip he would have to get up in the night from his rough couch and run around far awhile to restore circulation and get warmed up. Having sold his property in Michigan, realizing \$800, he at once invested in Cooper County land at \$28 an acre. Mr. Brummel has 208 acres of valuable farm land upon which he has placed every improvement including a large frame residence which stands on the highest spot of his farm, two large barns and silo. He raises Shorthorn cattle, hogs and sheep and is rated as one of the well-to-do farmers and stockmen of this section of Missouri.

Henry E. Brummel was born in 1860, at Aurora, Ill. He is a son of Peter (b. 1830, d. Feb. 28, 1899) and Mary Brummel (b. 1838, d. June 7, 1911). His parents came to America in 1852, although Peter Brummel crossed the ocean in 1851.

Peter Brummel went to Michigan in 1865 and settled on a farm near Burns. He sold out his holdings in Michigan in 1895 and came to Cooper

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County and spent the remainder of his days on a farm here. The children of Peter and Mary Brummel were: Anna and Kate, deceased; Mary Gertrude, deceased; Peter, Buffalo Prairie, Mo.; Joseph, trainmaster on the Minneapolis and St. Louis railroad at Monmouth, Ill.; Mrs. Margaret Whitehorse, living on a farm four miles southeast of Boonville; Mrs. Agnes Kronen, Michigan; Lena, wife of John Stoecklein, living near Pilot Grove; Jennie, wife of Fred Schuster, R. F. D. carrier, Pilot Grove; Elizabeth, wife of Joe Vollmer, Pilot Grove; two children died in infancy.

Mr. Brummel was married in 1896 to Verona Wittman, born in 1867, a daughter of Peter and Regina (Heilman) Wittman, natives of Baden, Germany. Peter Wittman was born in 1826 and died in 1901. Regina Wittman was born in May, 1837, and died in 1891. Peter Wittman came to America in the early forties and his wife came to this country in 1855. Peter Wittman was a "forty-niner" who went to California during the great rush for gold. The children born to Henry E. and Verona Brummel are: Viol, born March 31, 1897, married on March 7, 1916 to Marvin Eichelberger, who was born in Cooper County, in 1893 and is a son of A. H. Eichelberger. They have one child, Edward, born Feb. 5, 1918.

Mr. Brummel is a democrat and a member of the Martinsville Catholic Church and is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus.

#### **Frank Bechtold**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Frank Bechtold - The Bechtold Dairy Farm, located about one mile south of Boonville, Mo., consisting of 124 acres, was established in 1893 by Frank Bechtold. The farm is well equipped with every facility for caring for the dairy herd of 22 Jerseys and Holsteins and the output of the dairy is sold over established milk routes in Boonville. A large bank barn and silo, with a substantial cottage residence make up the improvements on the place which have all been placed thereon by the proprietor.

Frank Bechtold was born in Germany, Oct. 13, 1854, and is a son of Joseph and Christina Bechtold who lived all of their lives in their native country. Mr. Bechtold emigrated from his native land in 1880 and came directly to Boonville. He arrived here with a capital of about \$200. He followed his trade of stone cutter for 30 years and resided in Boonville until he purchased his dairy farm. For the past 40 years, Mr. Bechtold has resided in Boonville and vicinity and is well and favorably known as a conscientious and skilled stone worker who is also a good business man. Of late years, Mr. Bechtold has turned over the management of the dairy business to his capable and energetic son.

Mr. Bechtold was married in 1878 to Mary Hoflander who was born in Germany, reared and married there, and is now aged 64 years. The oldest child of the family was born in Germany. The children born to

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Frank and Mary Bechtold are: Theresa Bechtold married William Lever, a tinner of Boonville; William is a shoemaker in St. Louis; Rosy is the wife of Frank Oswald, Boonville; Charles, the soldier of the family, was born March 5, 1886, enlisted in July, 1918, in the National Army, was trained at Camp Cole, Gettysburg, Pa., for active tank service and sailed for France just one week before the armistice was declared which ended the great World War; Fred John was born June 14, 1888, and is a druggist at St. Louis; Berths is the wife of Jacob Melkersman, who resides on a farm six miles southeast of Boonville; Clara; Mary Catherine, and Henry are at home. Henry Bechtold is the active manager of the dairy farm and business.

Mr. Bechtold is a republican and he and his family are members of Sts. Peter and Paul's Catholic Church. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus.

#### **Wilbur B. Wallace**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Wilbur B. Wallace, retired stockman and farmer, Boonville, is a native of Cooper County. Mr. Wallace was born on a farm three miles west of Bunceton, Aug. 26, 1881. His father, Thomas J. Wallace was born in 1837 and died in 1900. He was a native of Virginia whose father migrated to Missouri about 1845 and settled in Cooper County. The Wallace family is an old American family which numbers among its members some of the most prominent men of Missouri and the nation. Hugh Wallace of Liberty, present ambassador to France is a cousin of W. B. Wallace. The grandfather of W. B. Wallace entered government land in this county and had quite a large estate. Thomas J. Wallace was reared to young manhood in Cooper County and married Martha S. Cockrell who was born in Virginia in 1824, and now resides in Boonville. She is a daughter of Thomas Cockrell who was related to Senator Cockrell of Missouri. She came to Cooper County when a child in company with her brother, George Cockrell. Thomas J. Wallace followed farming and stock raising during his active life and was very successful. During the Civil War he dealt extensively in mules, supplying the armies with these animals. He was father of four children: Edgar Wallace, living in New York; A. A. Wallace, engaged in the manufacturing business in Boonville; Thomas, deceased; Wilbur B., subject of this sketch.

W. B. Wallace was educated in the district school and Central College at Fayette, Mo. He entered Yale University and was pursuing a scientific course when his father's death made it necessary for him to return home to assist in looking after the estate. He engaged in farming and stock

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raising on his farm of 325 acres near Bunceton until March, 1918, when he sold his land holdings and moved to Boonville.

Mr. Wallace was married in 1906 to Miss Louise Harriman of Bunceton, a daughter of Col. Robert Harriman. Mr. and Mrs. Wallace have one child, Thomas Wallace, aged six years.

Mr. Wallace is a democrat. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Knights of Pythias, the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and holds a membership in the Ararat Temple of the Mystic Shrine, Kansas City, Mo.

#### **Joseph Walker Woolery**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Joseph Walker Woolery, farmer and stockman of Palestine Township who is operating the F. H. Muntzel farm of 347 acres, is a native of Cooper County. He was born May 26, 1877, within one-half mile of Nebo Church.

His father, Scott Woolery, was born in Cooper County, and was a son of pioneer parents in this county. He married Kate Patrick a daughter of a Cooper County pioneer who married a sister of Samuel Cole's second wife. Scott Woolery was a twin brother to Taylor Woolery of Pleasant Green and a brother to Col. Thomas S. Woolery of Bunceton.

J. W. Woolery was educated in Nebo School and Bell Air High School. From July 21, 1915, to Feb. 26, 1919, he was in the employ of the Standard Oil Company at Pilot Grove. He then leased the Muntzel farm and is operating the tract on a partnership basis.

Mr. Woolery was married in Oct., 1901, to Mary Susan Connelly, who has borne him two children: Joseph D. and Emily Margaretha. Mrs. Mary Susan Woolery was born in Cooper County and is a daughter of the late Joseph Connelly, who resided on a farm near Pilot Grove for over 50 years.

Joseph Connelly was born in 1846 and died April 1, 1910. He was a native of North Carolina and came to Missouri in 1867. Shortly afterward he was married and settled on a farm near Pilot Grove where he lived until but a few years prior to his death when he moved to Pilot Grove. He was father of seven children: James Anthony, drowned; Mary Susan, wife of J. W. Woolery, of this sketch; Mrs. Minnie Josephine, wife of Dr. Ely, Jacksonville, Texas; Ruth Ethel, wife of Arthur Haley, Pilot Grove; Margaret Lavinia, wife of Prof. J. C. Godley, Milton, Iowa; William Walter, deceased; John Daniel, was accidentally killed by a street car in Kansas City, Mo., in June, 1916. The mother of these children, Margaret '(Boles) Connelly was born in Stone County, Mo., in 1854. She

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is a daughter of Anthony and Ruth (Johnston) Boles, the latter being related to the old Johnston family of Cooper County, of whom Col. Thomas A. Johnston, head of the Kemper Military School at Boonville, is a member. Anthony Johnston was a native of Kentucky, was a stone mason, married in Indiana. He was also a millwright who built several water mills in Stone and Coney Counties, Mo., and also built the Harriman Mill at Pilot Grove. He owned the flouring mill at Bunceton. He was born in 1814, came to Cooper County, in 1863 and died April 30, 1901. Ruth Boles, his wife was born Dec. 5, 1808 and died March 15, 1898. There were seven children in the Boles family: Minerva; John W.; Johnston; Eli, and Julia, deceased; Josephine, wife of Wm. Fentress, lives at Montrose, Mo.; Mrs. Margaret Connelly of this review.

Mr. Woolery is a republican. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and is a past grand of the Knights of the Maccabees of Pilot Grove and is a member of the Pilot Grove Business Men's Association.

#### **Fred C. Stegner**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Fred C. Stegner, farmer and stockman, owner of a well improved tract of 81 acres of land near Billingsville, was born and reared on the farm which he now owns. Mr. Stegner was born Feb. 15, 1878 and is a son of August and Annie (Angerman) Stegner, well-to-do residents of Cooper County who left the farm in 1908 and moved to Boonville.

Fred C. Stegner attended the Billingsville public schools and, with the exception of one year spent in the West engaged in railroading, he has always lived on the home place in Cooper County. His father, August Stegner, a wise and provident citizen, realizing that the best way to have his sons remain on the farms of Cooper County, has assisted each of his children to become farm owners

and used his credit and means to this end while encouraging his sons to earn their own way. As a result, each boy is now a prosperous land owner and making good in Cooper County. Fred C. Stegner purchased the home place 1914 after renting it from his father for some time. He is improving the place and in 1913 replaced a barn which had been struck by lightning and burned to the ground.

Mr. Stegner was married Dec. 25, 1907, to Matilda Magdalena Koellner of Cooper County, a daughter of Christ and Annie (Timmy Koellner. Three children have been born to this union: Irvin Benjamin, born Decd 26, 1911; Virginia, barn April 22, 1914; Elmer August, born Dec. 27, 1916.

Mr. Stegner is a republican, a member of the Evangelical Church of Billingsville and is a good, industrious, progressive citizen.

**George T. Steinmetz**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

George T. Steinmetz, although retired from active work, is kept busily employed in gardening at his fine old, country place on the hill just at the

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end of Locust street in the east part of Boonville. This tract of five acres is the old Nelson Place and embraces five acres, sufficient to keep one man busy almost the year around. A large brick house of imposing appearance graces this homestead. Mr. Steinmetz was born Dec. 12, 1856, at Glasgow, Mo., and is a son of Samuel and Lizette Steinmetz, natives of Germany, and Charitan County, respectively.

Samuel Steinmetz, his father, came from Germany to America when a young man, was first a shoemaker, then engaged in the grocery business, later conducted a live stock business at St. Louis, became one of the noted Shorthorn breeders of the West and achieved national fame as a horticulturist, becoming one of the most widely known men in this section of the country. He accumulated a large estate of 700 acres, his home place being across the roadway from Glasgow. He owned the old Cleveland farm of 475 acres in Howard County. Mr. Steinmetz died in 1911 at the great age of 96 years and four days. Samuel Steinmetz maintained a large green house and spent his spare time in propagating rare and new specimens of flowers. He produced and bred the celebrated green dahlia which brought at sale the sum of \$1,200. He also propagated the famous black dahlia which sold for \$1,500. He had learned the art of cloriculture in his native Germany and was thus following his natural bent in indulging his hobby. So expert did he become in the art of propagating and breeding flowers that he could change the color of blooms at will and he created many new flowering plants which are enjoyed by flower lovers everywhere to this day. A lover of the beautiful, he made life pleasanter by devoting his later years to the development of his latent powers in his inherited art.

Samuel Steinmetz was father of 12 children: Captain Samuel Steinmetz, an elder son, was killed while serving with the Missouri militia during the Civil War; Aaron Steinmetz was also killed in the service of his country; Mrs. Amelia Tillman lives at Glasgow, Mo.; Edward, died in Sedalia, Mo.; Mrs. Mary Myers lives at Glasgow, Mo.; George T., subject of this review; Mrs. Catherine Weiler lives at San Francisco, Cal.; Don Palmer, lives at Texarkana Ark.; John is deceased; William and Nannie live in Howard County; one child died in infancy. The mother of the foregoing children died at the age of 78 years.

George T. Steinmetz embarked in the meat market business in Glasgow when a young man and was engaged in business for 22 years. In the meantime he was owner of a farm in Howard County, Mo., which had his supervision for a number of years. He came to Boonville in 1898 and

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was bookkeeper for George Roeder & Son for two years. For two years he served as street commissioner of Boonville, and was city treasurer for four years. He filled the office of police judge of the city for one year, but of late has been contenting himself with caring for his suburban place.

Mr. Steinmetz was first married to Julia A. Stettmund, of Glasgow, Mo., who died, leaving two children: Waldo, living at Belleville, Ill.; and Mrs. Verna Rankin, now making her home with her father. Mr. Steinmetz's second marriage occurred in 1882 with Miss Annie Roeder, a daughter of the late George Roeder. She died in 1914 leaving four children: Lloyd, Denver, Col.; Alice, at home with her father; Martha, deceased; Samuel, Denver, Col.

Mr. Steinmetz is a republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church and is allied with the Knights of Pythias and the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

**Dr. William H. Elliot**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Dr. William H. Elliot, M. D., is the leading physician and the most popular practitioner in the southern part of Cooper County. Dr. Elliot located in Bunceton in 1904 and has built up a splendid practice in Bunceton and the surrounding country.

William H. Elliot was born Oct. 25, 1875 in Moniteau County. He is a son of Joseph and Naomia (Turner) Elliot, both of whom were born in Moniteau County, the children of pioneer parents. Joseph Elliot was the son of William Elliot a native of Kentucky who settled in Moniteau County and cleared a farm from the wilderness in 1840.

Joseph Elliot learned the trade of blacksmith in his youth and now resides at Latham, Mo., in the 67th year of his age. His wife, Naomia, was born in 1858 and departed this life in 1891. She was a daughter of Horace Turner, who was born in 1817 at Old Franklin, Mo. Horace Turner was a son of Philip Turner, of Kentucky, an associate and friend of Stephen Cole, the first settler of Cooper County. It will thus be seen that Dr. Elliot is descended on his mother's side from one of the first of the Cooper County pioneer families. To Joseph and Naomia Elliot were born four sons, as follows: Napoleon, living in Oklahoma; Walker, resides at Crocker, Mo.; Luther, a farmer, living west of Bunceton.

Dr. William H. Elliot was educated in the Warrensburg State Normal School. Following that course he entered Barnes Medical College at St. Louis and was graduated from that institution in 1899. He practiced his profession for the next five years with old Doctor Latham at Latham, Mo. and then came to Bunceton. Dr. Elliot is a member of the Cooper

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County Medical Society, the Missouri State and the American Medical Associations.

Doctor Elliot was married in 1905 to Miss Alberta E. Young, of Kansas City, Mo., a daughter of John C. Young, a carpenter and contractor. To Dr. and Alberta C. Elliot have been born four children: Marguerite, Joseph, Raymond and William Henry Junior.

Doctor Elliot is a democrat. He is a member of the Christian Church and is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and the Knights of Pythias.

**John Coleman**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

John Coleman, retired veteran grain dealer, Bunceton, was born at New Philadelphia, Ohio, Dec. 29, 1839. His parents were Ephraim and Nancy (Boss) Coleman, who were of true pioneer stock of Ohio. In 1842 he loaded his movable effects upon a wagon and set out across country enroute to Missouri. He located in Phelps County, Mo. and developed a farm. In 1859 he removed from Phelps County to Gasconade County, where he bought 300 acres of Missouri River bottom land. In the course of time the fickle and treacherous Missouri River carried away his river bottom farm and left him without a home or farm. Undaunted, he decided to make a new start and went to Moniteau County, locating at California, where he spent the remainder of his days.

John Coleman began his business career at Chamois, Mo., in 1874 and was located in that town for about six years. During the Civil War he bought horses and mules for the Federal government. After the termination of his business career in Chamois, he located at California, Mo., where he bought grain and live stock until his removal to Bunceton in 1886. Here he has been successfully engaged in the buying and shipping of grain and live stock for the past 31 years. His sons have taken up the business and have relieved him of the work to a considerable extent.

John Coleman was married the first time in 1865 to Miss Rhoda Edelman who died in 1904, leaving four children: Edgar, engaged in the grain business with his father at Bunceton; Walter E., of the firm of Coleman and Lee, Bunceton; Morris, who is a partner in the grain business at Bunceton; James M. died in St. Louis. Mr. Coleman was married the second time to Eva Ewing. She died in 1907 without issue. He is a democrat; is a member of the Presbyterian Church and has been a Free Mason since 1872.

**William Bechtold**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

William Bechtold - The farm of William Bechtold, south of Boonville, now managed by his son, George Bechtold, is, besides being a fertile tract of land, and highly productive, unique in a particular sense, because

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of the great amount of stone York which is in evidence in the buildings for ornamentation. Mr. Bechtold was originally a skilled stone mason, and artistic stone cutter who learned his trade in Germany and plied it for many years in Boonville prior to locating on the farm. A stone wash house, a stone drying and smoke house, and other structures which are built enduringly partly of stone testify to the handiwork of Mr. Bechtold. In the front yard of the Bechtold home is a complete suite of stone tables and settees handsomely carved and chiseled from the solid stone.

William Bechtold was born in Germany in 1898 and immigrated to America in 1867. Here he followed his trade of stone mason and cutter at Boonville, and worked on the construction of the Katy railroad bridge across the Missouri River. For several months he was foreman of a gang of men engaged in the stone laying of the abutments of the bridge, also the building of the pillars. He built many culverts and bridge foundations of stone throughout Cooper County. He moved to his present place in 1884. There are 120 acres in the home place and 35 acres additional in another tract. Owing to the continued illness of the elder Bechtold, his son George has the active management of the farm.

William Bechtold was married in 1872 to Berths Lieber, born in Germany in 1849, and immigrated to America in 1851. She is a daughter of Peter and Mary Lieber. Peter Lieber came to Boonville in 1854 and reared a family of eight children, six of whom came to America; they were Joseph, Boonville Township; Adam, Gottfried, Mary and John, deceased; and Mrs. Berths Bechtold.

To William and Berths Bechtold have been born the following children: William; Joseph; Herman; Albert, deceased; Frank, living on the Scott farm; George, on the home place; Paul, farmer, living on the Stretz place; Joseph, living on the Chambers farm. Mrs. Bechtold has seven

grandchildren. Frank Bechtold married Nora Schuster, and has four children: Abra, Clarence, William and Mary Margaret. Joseph married Anna Martensen and has three children: Cecilia, Berths and Anna. Paul Bechtold married Lizzie Heilman.

George Bechtold was born in 1885. He is an independent voter who refuses to wear the party yoke of any political organization. Mrs. Bechtold and the children are all members of the Catholic Church. The Bechtolds are well-to-do people, besides their farm land, Mrs. Bechtold has a comfortable brick residence on High street in Boonville.

**George W. Chamberlin**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

George W. Chamberlin, proprietor of a nicely improved farm of 153 acres, Palestine Township, is a native of this county. Mr. Chamberlin

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was born Feb. 22, 1888, on the old Chamberlin place south of Billingsville and is a son of Albert M. Chamberlin. Mr. Chamberlin attended the Billingsville school and remained at home with his mother until his marriage. He purchased his farm in 1910, and moved to the place in the spring of 1911. He has done considerable improving on this tract, has rebuilt the residence, rebuilt the barns, and built considerable fencing until the farm is a very attractive one with a well kept and prosperous appearance.

April 29, 1909, George W. Chamberlin and Clara Eichelberger were married. Two children have blessed this marriage: Albert Hoke, born Mug. 16, 1910; and Clairbel Elizabeth, born Aug. 27, 1911. Mrs. Clara Chamberlin was born March 29, 1887 and is a daughter of Andrew Hoke Eichelberger.

A. H. Eichelberger was born Dec. 14, 1859 in Cooper County, and is a son of Andrew Eichelberger, a native of Maryland, and came to Cooper County in the spring of 1855, settled in this county and accumulated a large tract of 660 acres. Andrew Eichelberger was born in 1823 and died in April, 1900. His wife was Isabella Ketsler, born in 1820 and died in 1802. She was a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of John Keyser. To Andrew and Isabella Eichelberger were born five sons and a daughter: John, deceased; George, living in Arkansas; Charles E., died in infancy; Andrew Hoke, Palestine Township; James M., lives near Columbus, Mo.; Mrs. Sallie E. Buchanan, Moberly, Mo.

A. Hoke Eichelberger has always been a farmer and owns a well improved and valuable tract of 387 acres. He was married on March 2, 1886 to Sarah Elizabeth Tavener, born June 27, 1865 in Cooper County, a daughter of Morris and Joanna (Lichleider) Tavener, who settled in Cooper County in 1854. Six children were born to A. Hoke and Sarah Elizabeth Eichelberger; Mrs. George W. Chamberlin of this review; Mrs. Lillian S. Worts, living near Speed, Mo.; Mrs. Bessie Edna Smith, living in the same neighborhood; Andrew Marvin, a farmer living near Prairie Lick; Jessie Hall, at home; Mrs. Anna Juanita Butterwick, Pilot Grove.

Mr. Chamberlin is a democrat. He is' a member of the Baptist Church and Mrs. Chamberlin is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church south. Mr. Chamberlin is affiliated with the Woodmen of the World.

**Otto Stegner**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Otto Stegner, farmer and stockman, Palestine Township, is owner of a fine farm of 145 acres of good land which he is constantly improving. Mr. Stegner has resided on the farm since 1900 and it was formerly owned

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by his father, August Stegner. In 1906 he purchased 125 acres and added 25 acres in 1911. He and his father erected the substantial residence on the place, but the present owner has since built a large barn, garage, and erected a windmill. He has built hundreds of rods of new fencing all of which is the best woven wire which replaces the hedges which formerly bounded the place. This farm was in rather poor condition when Mr. Stegner moved onto it in 1900, but it has since risen in value. August Stegner, his father purchased the land for \$33 an acre. Otto Stegner paid his father \$50 an acre for the tract which is now easily worth \$150 an acre. A valuable asset to the place is a tract of 20 acres of timber which furnishes an unlimited supply of hard wood lumber and fuel. Mr. Stegner disposed of a carload of prime walnut logs at a good price in 1917.

Otto Stegner was born Nov. 11, 1873, on the old Stegner homestead near Billingsville, where his uncle, Feodor Stegner now resides. He attended the Billingsville district school and began for himself in 1894. He worked for his uncle Feodor for 22 months. Then he cut cordwood for his father from November until the next March, during that time cutting and cording 91 cords of wood, and splitting 1,000 fence rails and posts. For the next three years he worked for Grathwohl Brothers on their farm at Stony Point and then moved to his present home place. Mr. Stegner's wages were from \$15 to \$16 per month during his period of farm laborer and he saved \$700. From 1898 to 1899 he received wages of \$16 per month.

Mr. Stegner was married in 1902 to Essie Marie Roesler, who was born in a log cabin on the Henry Zimmerman farm, now the Wendleton place, and is a daughter of Henry Roesler, whose wife was accidentally killed on July 4, 1917. Henry Roesler owns a farm near Otterville, Mo., where he resides. Three children have been born to Otto and Essie Marie Stegner, as follows: Constantina Augusta, born Oct. 12, 1904; Edith Marie, born July 13, 1906; Elsie Esther, born Oct. 27, 1908.

While Mr. Stegner is a republican in general political matters he prefers to do his own thinking and vote for the individual candidate. He and his family worship at the Billingsville Evangelical Church.

#### **Patrick Francis Fitzpatrick**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Patrick Francis Fitzpatrick, owner of 206 and a fraction acres of good land in Boonville Township just west of the city of Boonville, was born in the village of Gubb, Ireland, Feb. 3, 1878.

His parents, Patrick and Delis (McDonough) Fitzpatrick, crossed the Atlantic to America in 1880 and first located in New York. In 1881 the family journeyed to south Missouri and Patrick Fitzpatrick, the elder,

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remained there engaged in farming until 1907. He then moved to Clinton, where his death occurred in 1907. Mrs. Delis Fitzpatrick died in 1916. They were parents of seven children: Peter, Dansville, Mo.; Frank, Nashville, Tenn.; Mary died in 1897; Patrick F., subject of this review; John, living in Arizona; Thomas, also residing in Arizona; Joseph, living in California.

P. F. Fitzpatrick was reared to maturity in Camden County, Mo., and came to Cooper County in 1897. He worked as farm hand until 1904 at which time he was married and settled upon a firm adjoining the one he is now cultivating and which was received as an inheritance by Mrs.

Fitzpatrick. In 1907 Mr. and Mrs. Fitzpatrick purchased the farm where they are now living and have a total of 206 acres. In 1904 they settled upon a tract of 312 acres. In' 1907 they sold 175 acres of their original holdings and purchased the present home place.

In 1904, Patrick Francis Fitzpatrick and Miss Katie Oswald of Cooper County were united in marriage. Mrs. Katie (Oswald) Fitzpatrick was born in Cooper County, Feb. 17, 1878, a daughter of the late Herman Oswald, a sketch of whom appears in this volume.

Mr. Fitzpatrick is a democrat and he and Mrs. Fitzpatrick are members of Sts. Peter and Paul's Catholic Churches. He is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus.

**Marie Robert Sloan**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Marie Robert Sloan - The Robert Sloan residence just south of Boonville, is in all probability, the oldest farm house in Cooper County, built in the early twenties of brick, and woodwork of walnut, cut from the farm. This house has a ten foot rock cellar underneath and the original structure has had an addition built on the front. The Sloan farm consists of 140 acres of rich land. M. R. Sloan was born in Lexington, Ky., Feb. 12, 1853, and has resided in Cooper County for the past 63 years.

James Robert Sloan, his father was born April 13, 1814, in St. Louis, Mo. and died Aug. 7, 1903. He was a son of John and Bridget (Hickey) Sloan, both of whom were natives of Ireland and settled at St. Louis in about 1800. Two brothers immigrated to New York. John Sloan came to St. Louis, then a stragging river settlement, and operated a keel boat on the Mississippi River. When making one of his trips down the river in 1816, he was stricken with yellow fever and died at Vicksburg, Miss. He was buried in the river. His only brother then came to St. Louis and took his widow and son with him to his home at Lexington, Ky. This brother was Simon Hickey, his wife, Margaret Hickey. James Robert, the son left fatherless in his childhood, was reared in Kentucky, and there

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married Elizabeth Morton (b. May 16, 1816, d. Feb. 22, 1889). This marriage was a happy and prosperous one and the couple lived to celebrate their golden wedding anniversary on May 16, 1884.

In the fall of 1853, James Robert Sloan left Kentucky with his family and settled at Cape Girardeau, Mo. The climate proving to be unhealthful in that locality, he removed his family to Boonville and arrived here Oct. 25, 1856. The children born to James Robert and Elizabeth Sloan were: Pauline, wife of Dr. C. S. Boarman, who was a pioneer physician of Cooper County, bath deceased; Elizabeth Redd, deceased wife of Jacob W. Spahr; Anna Stockton, deceased; Marie Robert, subject of this sketch; Georgie Morton Sloan, widow of Frank DeForrest, Boonville, Mo.; Emma Morton Sloan, living on South Main street, Boonville.

The mother of the foregoing children was a daughter of George W. Morton who died at the Sloan home, Dec. 31, 1856. James Robert Sloan purchased the farm where the subject of this review now resides. He was a well educated man who in Kentucky was a scribe and county official. He served as sheriff of the county for 12 years. He prospered in this county and was well-to-do. George W. Morton, grandfather of M. R. Sloan was also a pioneer in this county. He built the old Lionberger place in the east part of the city, and entered land near Bunceton, what is known as the Redmond farm.

M. R. Sloan was educated in the district and parochial schools. He was married Oct. 12, 1886 to Miss Mary Elizabeth Mudd, born Sept. 13, 1865 in Randolph County, Ill. She is a daughter of William and Margaret (Simpson) Mudd who left Illinois and settled in Moniteau County, three

miles west of Tiptoe in 1883. Six children were born to this union, five of them are living: Dora Agnes, Margaret Mudd, Marshall Ignatius, Mary Elizabeth, Robert William and Pauline Bennett. Dora Agnes was born Oct. 4, 1887, is the wife of Wallace Morton of Shamrock Heights, Boonville; Margaret Mudd was born Aug. 2, 1889, and is the wife of E. L. Barrow, Boonville Township; Marshall Ignatius, born May 5, 1891, at home on the farm; Mary Elizabeth was born July 2, 1895, is a teacher in the Boonville High School, taught one year in Kansas City, is a graduate of the Warrensburg Normal School with high honors, and is a talented and gifted scholar. Robert William, born Aug. 13, 1897, and died in 1912. Pauline Bennett Sloan was born Jan. 20, 1904.

Coming of a long line of democratic ancestors, M. R. Sloan is naturally and decidedly a democrat of the old school. He has served two terms as

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county assessor of Cooper County, from Jan. 1, 1891 to Jan. 1, 1895. He is a member of Sts. Peter and Paul's Catholic Church and is marshall of the local lodge Knights of Columbus.

#### **Christ Toellner**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Christ Toellner, retired farmer and proprietor of a well improved farm of 200 acres in the Lone Elm neighborhood in Clarks Fork Township, began his accumulating of farm land with a tract of 100 acres of unimproved prairie land in 1877. There were no buildings and no fencing on the land when Mr. Toellner contracted for the land. He built a home and fenced the tract and placed it under cultivation. In due time he erected a large residence of six rooms and big barns and has the farm well fenced. Mr. Toellner bought an additional 100 acres in 1895.

Christ Toellner was born in Germany July 11, 1849. He is a son of Christ and Mata Toellner who lived and died in their native land. Mr. Toellner immigrated to America in 1868, locating in the Lone Elm neighborhood he worked out as a farm hand for some years, then rented land until he was able to make his first investment.

Mr. Toellner was married in 1876 to Miss Anna Timm, who was born in Germany in 1858 and departed this life in 1916. To Christ and Anna Toellner were born a large family of children, as follows: Mrs. Sophia Fricke, Mrs. Christina Rowe, Boonville; Herman, Chicago; Mrs. Emma Rowe, in Canada; Tillie, wife of Fred C. Stegner, Billingsville; George, deceased; Henry, a farmer in Clarks Fork Township; Walter and William, operating the home place.

Mr. Toellner is a republican and is a member of the Lone Elm Evangelical Lutheran Church.

#### **Clyde T. Nelson**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Clyde T. Nelson, manager of "Eminence" a splendid stock farm of 230 acres in Palestine Township, a few miles northeast of Bunceton, is a native son of Cooper County who is making good as a breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc Jersey hogs. The Nelson farm lands are operated by Nelson Brothers who have achieved more than a local reputation as stockmen in this section of Missouri. The Duroc Jersey herd was established in 1898 and the breeding of these fine animals has continued for the past 30 years with success. The leader of the Duroc drove is a boar bred by McKee Brothers of Versailles, Ky. This drove numbers 150 head of pure bred. The Shorthorn herd registers 12 head of animals.

Clyde T. Nelson was born April 17, 1886 on the farm where he now resides. He is a son of Alpha Nelson Sr. of Bunceton who settled upon and improved the Nelson place. The beautiful residence on the place was

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erected over 50 years ago and is large and imposing. Mr. Nelson, of this review, was educated in the public schools and William Jewell College, after which he pursued the short agricultural course at the State University, Columbia. Mr. Nelson has been in charge of the farm since October, 1918.

On June 26, 1918, Clyde T. Nelson and Miss Clara Horned, a daughter of Ben Harped of Kelly Township, were united in marriage.

Mr. Nelson is a democrat, a member of the Baptist Church and is fraternally affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

### **Louis D. Bernard**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Louis D. Bernard, a well known cigar manufacturer of Boonville, is a native of this city, born Jan. 14, 1854, a son of John and Mary (Schneider) Bernard, the farmer a native of France and the latter of Germany. John Bernard immigrated to America when he was a boy and first settled at New Orleans, La.; shortly afterwards, he went to Ohio; later he went from Ohio to St. Louis. He rode on horseback from that city to Westport, Mo., which is now included within the city limits of Kansas City. After reaching there he was not favorably impressed with that section and returned on horseback to Boonville. This was in 1849, and here he engaged in the manufacturing of cigars. He introduced the famous "Dexter" cigar, which was named after the well known trotting horse, Dexter. This soon became one of the most popular brands of cigars in the country, the sale of which increased so rapidly that Mr. Bernard soon had one of the most extensive cigar trades in the West. This brand was well and favorably known from Missouri to California, and it was not long until Mr. Bernard was employing a force of from 15 to 20 cigar makers. He met with an unusual degree of success in his business undertakings, and spent the remainder of his life in Boonville. He died at the age of 88 years. His wife is also deceased. They were the parents of the following children: Kate, married William Fessler, Nevada, Mo.; Louis D., the subject of this sketch; Mary, married Frank Sombart, who is now deceased and she resides in Kansas City, Mo.; Susanna, married William Boehm, Coffeyville, Kan.; John, Jr., St. Louis, Mo.; Anna, died at the age of 12 years, and Oscar who was accidentally killed by an explosion during a 4th of July celebration in 1866. All the children of the Bernard family were educated in the public schools of Boonville.

John Bernard was active in the affairs of Boonville during his career, and was one of the substantial citizens of this section. He always took a

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deep interest in the cause of education, and was one of the organizers of the Boonville public school system, and served as a member of the board, of which he was president for a number of years.

Louis D. Bernard learned the cigar-makers trade in his father's factory and has spent his life in the cigar business. During his career in the manufacturing of cigars he has probably made over two and a half million cigars himself.

Mr. Bernard was first married to Miss Nellie Beager of Boonville. She died leaving one daughter, Ada, now the wife of Glenn Keeton, of Denver, Col. Mr. Bernard's second wife bore the name of Elizabeth Boller. She is a daughter of Godfrey and Matilda Boller. To Mr. and Mrs. Bernard has been born one child, Lois, who resides at home with her parents.

Godfrey Boller was killed by bushwhackers during the Civil War, while at work in his field 21/9 miles west of Boonville. His father was also killed by bushwhackers a short time previous to the murder of Godfrey Boiler.

Mr. Bernard is a member of the Knights of Pythias and is one of the seven surviving charter members of the Boonville lodge, out of a charter membership of 35. Mr. and Mrs. Bernard have a pleasant home at 1858 East Spring street and rank among the leading citizens of Cooper County. George A. Carpenter, one of Cooper County's leading farmers and stockmen, is a native Missourian, and belongs to a pioneer family of this state. He was born in Benton County, in 1860, a son of Samuel and Lucy C. (Dooley) Carpenter. Samuel Carpenter was born in Clarks Fork Township, Cooper County, and was the son of Samuel Carpenter, who was a Kentuckian, and came to Missouri at an early date. He bought 360 acres of land in Clarks Fork and Moniteau Township and spent the remainder of his life here. He died on the farm which is now owned by Henry Reavis' heirs.

Samuel Carpenter, father of George A., was born on the Reavis farm in 1835. He was an extensive farmer and stockman and was very successful. At one time he owned over 1,000 acres of land. He gave each of his children 160 acres, before his death. He died May 17, 1907. His wife died Dec. 9, 1899, and their remains are buried in the Carpenter and Reavis private burial ground. They were the parents of the following children W. H., farmer in Prairie Home Township; George A., the subject

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of this sketch; Uriah G. died in infancy; Mason P., the inventor of the rotary engine resides in Chicago, Ill., and Martha Ellen married George E. Taylor and lives in Johnson County, Mo.

George A. Carpenter received his education in the public schools of Cooper County, attending school in the Ellis district, and later attended Prairie Home College. In early life he engaged in farming and stock raising on his own account, and has successfully devoted himself to that field of endeavor to the present time. He began with 180 acres in 1881, and has increased his acreage until he now owns 430 acres in Clarks Fork Township after giving his four children 460 acres. This is known as the "Ideal Stock Farm", which is a very appropriate name for this place, as it is truly an ideal farm in many particulars. For several years Mr. Carpenter engaged in breeding Shorthorn cattle and he has also been an extensive feeder of hogs and cattle, feeding from 100 to 150 head of cattle annually. Mr. Carpenter's barn which is 70x112 feet, is one of the largest barns in the county and is built very substantially. The frame is of oak and the roof is metal. There is also a large horse barn on the place 44x52 feet, and also silo, garage and other suitable farm buildings.

Mr. Carpenter was first married in 1883 to Mary McCune McCullough of Moniteau Township. She was a daughter of Robert McCullough. The following children were born to this union: Lucy M., died in infancy; Warren E. lives in Prairie Home Township; Homer L., Prairie Home Township; Edgar A., Moniteau Township; and Virginia, a graduate of the Missouri Valley College at Marshall, and is now principal of the Bunceton school. The mother of these children died in Aug., 1910, and Mr. Carpenter married Cora M. Dike, Nov. 15, 1917. She is a daughter of John Dilse of Cooper County, who resides in Clarks Fork Township. To Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter has been born one son, Newberry Wilson.

Mr. Carpenter has had a successful career and is recognized as one of the leading citizens of this county. HP is a director of the Bank of Bunceton, and has always been ready to cooperate with any worthy enterprise, the object of which has been for the betterment or upbuilding of his county. Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter are members of the Baptist Church at Prairie Home, of which he is a deacon.

**Henry E. Fuser**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Henry E. Fuser, farmer and stockman, Boonville Township, is owner of a fine tract of 90 acres and is farming the Martin Fuser farm of 279 acres which adjoins his own place. Mr. Fuser is raising cattle, horses, hogs and mules, and is specializing in the breeding of purebred Hereford

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cattle. He has 16 head of registered Herefords with a splendid herd leader which he purchased in October, 1918. Mr. Fuser is a breeder of Mammoth jacks and has two of these famous animals, descended from the Monsees herd of Mammoth jacks.

Mr. Fuser was born in Boonville Township, Oct. 9, 1881 and has lived on his present place since 1883. Martin Fuser, his father, was born in Germany in February 1856. He accompanied his parents, Vernon Fuser and wife to America in 1864 and was reared to young manhood in Cooper County. He married Mary Lutz, who was born in this county in 1857 and is the daughter of pioneer parents. His first farm was a small tract of 40 acres a short distance from the present Fuser home place. In 1883, he purchased part of the home tract and continued to add to it until he accumulated a total of 279 acres, well improved with a good residence, fencing and farm buildings. In 1911, Mr. Fuser went to Vinita, Oklahoma, where he is living retired. His children are: John, a stockman, Afton, Okla., owner of 1,380 acres of land; Martin, a farmer and stockman, of Brighton, Ill.; Henry E., of this review; Benjamin, a druggist, traveling salesman in Texas; Anna, wife of Henry Esser, Boonville Township; Mrs. Mamie Hubener, whose husband is a farmer and stockman, Brighton, Ill.; Lydia and Cora are with their parents.

Henry E. Fuser attended the Westwood district school and the Boonville High School. He purchased his farm in 1907 and has lived all of his life on the home farm. He was married on Nov. 23, 1910, to Miss Minnie Meyers, born July 5, 1892, at Pilot Grove, Mo., a daughter of Michael and Catherine (Hoff) Meyers, who reside on their farm three miles east of Pilot Grove. The children born to Henry E. and Minnie Fuser are: Henrietta, born Oct. 5, 1911; Herbert Benjamin, born Oct. 2, 1913; Alberta Catherine, born Oct. 28, 1915; Martin Michael, born March 1, 1919.

Mr. Fuser is a republican who takes an active and influential part in local politics. For the past nine years he has served as school director and clerk of the district board. He is a member of the Catholic Church and is affiliated with the Woodmen of the World. He holds membership with the Missouri Jack Association.

**R. W. Whitlow**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

R. W. Whitlow, abstractor and insurance man, Boonville, Mo., was born Sept. 9, 1843, in Cooper County, four miles south of the city. He was a son of Andrew King Whitlow, who settled in Cooper County in

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1841, moved to Henry County in 1856, locating on a farm nine miles southeast of Clinton. Andrew King Whitlow married Susan Harvey in 1842, a native of Kentucky, who died when R. W. Whitlow was three years old.

After the death of his mother, R. W. Whitlow made his home with his grandfather, Martin Harvey for 10 years, when his grandmother died. In the meantime his father had gone back to Kentucky, married his second wife and returned to Cooper County in 1847. The son joined his father in 1855 near Boonville and in March 1856, the family moved to Henry County, Mo. and assisted his father in fencing and improving his farm. They made rails on timbered land owned by the government and he and his father camped out during one winter on Grand River while busy in cutting and splitting rails. In December of 1861, the Civil War being on, conditions around the neighborhood

became disturbed and the locality was dangerous for any one who desired to keep out of trouble. R. W. Whitlow went to his grandfather Harvey's place, riding horseback to Sedalia with a Union man who was fleeing for his life. He then walked to Boonville, 25 miles. He enlisted in Company F, Fifth Missouri State Militia, for service within the state, as a cavalryman. His command went south to Waynesville and guarded the hauling of supplies from Rolla to Springfield. They also hunted guerrillas and had many running fights with rebels. He was at Licking, Mo. several months, and then went to Rolla in February 1864. At that time the Federal government was offering a bounty of \$400 for volunteer veteran soldiers, and had given orders to recruit men from the Missouri State Militia. Copt. W. A. Mills, of Versailles, was recruiting and organizing Company I, the Twelfth Missouri Cavalry, and when he came to Rolla about twenty-five men of Whitlow's company enlisted, private Whitlow among them, on Feb. 14, 1864. This company went to Benton Barracks, St. Louis, where he was taken down with smallpox. He was then taken to the hospital near Carondolet and quarantined on "Bloody Island".

After his recovery private Whitlow was ordered to join his regiment at St. Louis. He was quartered at White Station on the Memphis and Charleston railroad for a while, and then moved to Lagrange, Tennessee. They frequently made raids into the state of Mississippi and had many fights with General Forrest's cavalry in the vicinity of Tallahatchie River.

Private Whitlow, not being able to join the command, was ordered to the hospital at Memphis and remained there in Adam's hospital, being subjected to a rigid diet until Feb., 1865, and ever since that period he

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has enjoyed good health. Traveling from Memphis to Cairo, Ill., on steamboat and after a short stay there went up the Tennessee River on a flotilla of boats and wintered at Eastport, Miss. Here, Gen. James H. Wilson organized a raiding division of 10,000 cavalry to destroy the rebels' source of supplies. On March 12, 1865, they defeated a regiment or so of Georgia militia and went on to Selma, Ala. They then went to Columbus, Georgia. They followed Cobb through Georgia and arrived within two miles of Macon when the city surrendered. The regiment was camped in that vicinity until the war closed. Mr. Whitlow saw Jeff Davis brought in a prisoner and taken before General Wilson at Macon. Mr. Whitlow arrived at St. Louis on June 4, 1865 and was sent to Omaha, thence to barracks up the river and in August camped just south of Sioux City on the Nebraska side. He then was ordered to Pawnee Indian Agency and from there to guard the overland mail route to Cheyenne. Ordered to Fort Leavenworth, Whitlow, was there discharged June 9, 1866.

W. W. Taliaferro had been elected circuit clerk of Cooper County in 1866. He appointed Mr. Whitlow his deputy for two years, 1867 and 1868. Whitlow then formed a partnership with Thomas W. Wright, a lawyer, and made an abstract of title to all the lands and town lots in Cooper County. He served four years as county assessor and kept up the abstract work.

Mr. Whitlow served three terms as city assessor; served as city councilman and mayor of Boonville under its old and new charters.

Mr. Whitlow has dealt rather heavily in real estate and loan business during the past years, but for the past few years he has been engaged in abstract work and insurance business exclusively.

Mr. Whitlow was married Nov. 8, 1872, to Hattie L. Rochester, a daughter of Thomas E. Rochester, former sheriff of Cooper County. Six children survive out of seven born to this marriage: Eugene, died in 1875; Charles W., employed in the Boonville National Bank; Sue Rochester, wife of Chester L. Landes, clerk in the New England National Bank, Kansas City, Mo.; Hattie L., wife of Henry W. Michels, a traveling salesman; Arthur W., married Martha Lee and lives at Bartlesville, Okla.; Rose, at home; Elliot W. was born in 1887, inducted into the National

Army on May 25, 1918, trained at Camp Dodge, Iowa, sailed for France, Aug. 13, 1918, with the Headquarters Company of the 351st Regiment, 88th Division, A. E. F.

Mr. Whitlow is adjutant of John A. Hayne Post No. 240, Grand

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Army of the Republic, a position which he has held for thirty years. He is a member and treasurer of the Walnut Grove Cemetery Association and is now and has been president of the Boonville School Board for the past 32 years.

#### **Paul Hoflander**

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Paul Hoflander - The late Paul Hoflander, who died at his country home near Billingsville, Jan. 18, 1897, was an industrious citizen who built up a fine farm and reared an excellent family. He was born in Germany, Oct. 26, 1838. He was a son of John Ernst Hoflander who was born June 5, 1804 at Grossgarnstadt, Sachsen-Coburg, Germany and died at Billingsville, Mo., Aug. 24, 1879. He married Kunigunda Stegner, in Germany, 1829. Kunigunda Stegner Hoflander was born Feb. 10, 1806, at Frohnlach, Saxon-Coburg, Germany, and died at Billingsville, March 19, 1891.

John Ernst Hoflander was a son of Heinrich Hoflander, a miller by trade who was born at the old home in Sachsen-Coburg, Germany. He resided for many years in London, England and could speak and write the English language very fluently. He married Kunigunda Ludwig, daughter of a surgeon. He had one son, John Ernst Hoflander.

Nicholas Hoflander, father of Heinrich Hoflander, lived early in the 18th century in the old home of the family which was built in 1692. He married Louisa Sabina Mechtold who was a skilled needle woman.

John Ernst Hoflander left Germany enroute to America Oct. 12, 1853 and arrived at Boonville, Mo., Feb. 26, 1854, after traveling by the ocean and river route by way of New Orleans. He settled in what is now the Billingsville neighborhood and there lived the remainder of his days. His children were: Elizabeth Margarethe, born in Germany, July 30, 1830, married Jan. 7, 1855, at Boonville, to Frederick Mittelbach; Margarethe Barbara, born Aug. 9, 1836, married Timothy Grathwohl; Maria, born May 13, 1834, came to America May 19, 1853, married Christian Krohn who was killed at his home by guerrillas, Aug. 31, 1864; Paul Hoflander, of this review; and John George Hoflander.

Paul Hoflander was born Oct. 26, 1838 and died Jan. 18, 1896. He came to America with his parents and settled in the Billingsville neighborhood. He served for three years in the Union army during the Civil War, participating in several engagements in Missouri. He built the present home of the family in 1871 and accumulated a fine farm of 150 acres. He was a member of John A. Hayne Post, Grand Army of the Republic and was one of the builders of the first church erected at Billingsville by the Evangelical denomination.

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On Nov. 7, 1869, Paul Hoflander was married at Clear Creek, Cooper County, to Maria E. Quint, who bore him the following children: Mary Elizabeth, born Jan., 1877, died Feb., 1877; Fannie Pauline, born March 29, 1878, died July 21, 1898; Christian Henry, born Dec. 7 1882; and Ethel Smith, a girl who was reared by Mr. and Mrs. Hollander. The mother of these children was born in Prussia, Germany, Jan. 15, 1847 and came to America with her parents in 1854. She was a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Walje) Quint, early settlers of Cooper County. Mrs. Hoflander has reared a nephew, Ernest Quint, an orphan boy whom she took in her home when three years

of age. Ernest Quint is a son of Ernest Quint and Bida (Ellis) Quint, the latter of whom was a daughter of Jacob Ellis.

Henry Hoflander is managing the home farm and has recently on Aug. 1, 1919 taken charge of the general store at Billingsville, having purchased the store in April 1919.

**Charles Emil Gross**  
(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Charles Emil Gross was born on a farm just outside the corporate limits of Boonville, June 14, 1859, and was reared to manhood in the Vine Clad city, where he received his education in the public school. He is the second oldest of three brothers, the eldest being Henry W., who died in 1918, and Karl F., now owner and proprietor of the "Gross Hotel" in Boonville. His father was John Christian Gross who came to this country from Nassau, Germany, in Feb. 1853, with his father, David Phillip Gross, who was a cobbler and plied his vocation in Boonville during the 60's. Just after the Civil War the father of C. E. Gross established a bakery on Morgan Street and operated the same there until 1875, when he purchased the building now occupied by the Bassett and Gregory store and moved to this location.

C. E. Gross was married to Sophia F. Biehle, at Belleville, Ill., May 23, 1883 and the following children have been born to them: Irene Louise, has been money order clerk in the Boonville post office for 14 years; Minnie, wife of William Talbot; and Gertrude, stenographer for the Boonville National Bank. Upon the death of his father in 1884, he succeeded him in the confectionery business. He was elected to the office of city councilman in 1885 and succeeded himself for several years. In 1896 he was elected city register and during his term in this office the special charter of the city was surrendered and Boonville became a city of the third class.

In June, 1897, he was appointed postmaster of Boonville by President McKinley, and was reappointed to the office by Roosevelt in 1901, and again succeeded himself, being appointed by Taft, in 1905, holding

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the office 13 years. After retiring as postmaster he established the "Kozy Korner" confectionery, which he sold to the present owner after operating it a year.

In 1914, Mr. Gross was elected police judge of Boonville, which office he now holds, having been re-elected twice. In May 1918, he was given charge of the Central Missouri Republican while the owner, Houston Harte, was in the service. In March 1919, Mr. Harte returned and again assumed the general management of the paper, but he retains Mr. Gross as office manager.

**James J. McCoy**  
(Transcribed by James F. Thoma)

James J. McCoy, proprietor of an excellent farm, the old Brady place, in LaMine Township, though a comparative newcomer in that neighborhood and until a few years ago a stranger to Cooper county, has created for himself a substantial position in the community during the time of his residence here and is thus fully entitled to mention in a work of this character, having to do with the history of Cooper county and with the stories and lives of its representative citizens. Mr. McCoy is a native of Illinois, born in St. Clair county Aug. 25, 1862, son of James S. and Eliza Jane (McKinney) McCoy, the latter of whom is still living, a resident of Blue Mound, Ill., in the eighty-fourth year of her age.

James S. McCoy was born on a farm in Pennsylvania, but early took up railroad work and was the first conductor to run a train over the Lehigh Valley road upon the completion of that road.

During the 40's he went to Illinois and was living there when the Mexican War broke out. He enlisted at once for service, helped to raise a company, was commissioned an officer and served until the end of the war. Following the war he took up saw-milling in Madison county, Ill., later bought a farm in Christian county, same state, where his children were reared, and there resided until his retirement in 1893 and removal to Chicago, where his last days were spent, his death occurring there on Feb. 27, 1899, he then being in his eightieth year. As noted above, his widow is still living, a resident of Blue Mound, Ill. She was born in Ireland and came to this country with her parents when she was 13 years of age. To James S. McCoy and wife seven children were born, as follows: Edwin J., who was killed by a runaway team of mules years ago; H. B. McCoy, of Blue Mound, Ill.; Lizzie B., widow of Dr. R. S. Anderson, of Princeton, Ind.; James J., the subject of this review, and his twin sister, Elizabeth; Anna, who is widely known as a church worker and who makes her home with her aged mother a Blue Mound, and John R., deceased.

Reared on a farm in Christian county, Ill., James J. McCoy received his schooling in the district schools and from the days of his boyhood gave his attention to farming, a vocation he has followed with considerable

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success. His first venture as a farmer on his own account was on a farm he bought in Nebraska and he remained there until 1900, when he sold that place and came to Missouri, buying a farm in Saline county, where he lived for several years, at the end of which time he engaged in the implement business at Marshall. Five years later he disposed of that business and bought a farm in Missouri county, Texas, and moved onto the same. There he remained until the first of March, 1917, when he came to Cooper county and entered upon the occupancy of the farm on which he is now living and for which he had traded in 1912, an excellent and well-improved farm of 522 acres, formerly known as the Brady farm and later owned by Albert Hall, a son-in-law of Brady. In addition to this farm Mr. McCoy is the owner of a farm of 220 acres in Randolph county, this state, and is accounted one of the well-to-do citizens of the community in which he resides.

Nov. 14, 1900, James J. McCoy was united in marriage to Minnie F. Stillman, who was born at Lincoln, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. McCoy are members of the Baptist church. Mr. McCoy is a Republican and is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

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