History of Cooper County Missouri by W. F. Johnson Pages 499 - 550

William L. Brickner

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

William L. Brickner, retired farmer, residing at 411 Center street, Boonville, Mo., is owner of a fine farm of 380 acres on the Santa Fe Trail road, five miles west of Boonville. Mr. Brickner was born Feb. 8, 1860, on a farm four miles west of Boonville and is a son of John M, and Margaret Brickner, a sketch of whom appears in this history in connection with that of August Bricker.

Mr. Brickner was reared on the home farm in Cooper County and in October, 1884, he located on a farm one mile south of the home place from his father. He purchased a tract of 135 acres to begin with and erected all buildings and improvements on the place. He continued to accumulate land as he prospered in his farming operations until he became

Bottom of Page 499

owner of 380 acres. Mr. Brickner then rightly decided that he had earned a rest and he removed to Boonville in October, 1914.

Oct. 28, 1884, William L. Brickner and Mary Williams were united in marriage. The following children have been born to them: Walter is operating the home farm, married Nellie Johnmeyer and has three children, William W., Margaret, and Earl; Mrs. Birdie Rasmussen also lives on part of the home place and is mother of one child, Dorsey, born Sept. 23, 1918; Lloyd and Beulah Brickner, twins, born July 7, 1898.

The mother of these children was born Feb. 6, 1868, on a farm within one-half mile of the Brickner home place. She is a daughter of Walter and Virginia (Payne) Williams, the latter of whom was born and reared in Cooper County, the daughter of Cooper County pioneers. Walter Williams was born in 1826 and died March 1,1895. He was a native of Wales and immigrated to America in the early forties. He crossed the Plains to the gold fields of the Pacific Slope in 1849 and was engaged in mining gold for some months. Virginia (Payne) Williams was born July 28, 1347, and died Feb. 7, 1918. She was a daughter of James R, and Lucy Payne, natives of Virginia, who were pioneer settlers in Cooper County. The children of the Williams family are as follows: Mrs. Mary Brickner, of this review; James R., Walter, and William C, Williams, who reside on the Williams home place, west of Boonville.

Mr. Brickner is a republican. He and his family worship at the Evangelical Church.

Samuel Oerly

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Samuel Oerly, proprietor of "Walnut Grove Farm" in Saline township, is one of the leading agriculturists and stockmen of Cooper County. Mr. Oerly is a native of Moniteau County, Mo. He was born in 1858, a son of Ulrich and Margaret (Gatchet) Oerly, natives of Switzerland.

Ulrich Oerly was born in 1827. He immigrated to America in 1847 and located first in Ohio, coming thence two years later to Missouri, locating in Moniteau County, whence he came to Cooper County in 1865 and settled on a farm three miles south of Wooldridge. During the Civil War he served in the state militia one year. He died in 1909 and is buried in Methodist Episcopal Church cemetery at Pleasant Midge. Margaret (Gatchet) Oerly came to America from Switzerland with her parents, when she was a child eight years of age, in 1834. Her father, John Gatchet, located first in Ohio, also, and from Ohio he came to Missouri in 1899 and settled on a farm in

Moniteau County. Mrs. Oerly died in 1911. The children of Ulrich and Margaret Oerly are: John, deceased; Emanuel, z farmer, of Overton, Mo.; Samuel, the subject of this sketch; Mary, the wife of Adam Schilb, Wooldridge, Mo.; William, of Spice Creek, Mo.; Ferdinand, whose address is unknown; Charles, Moniteau County, Mo.; and Fred, of Pilot Grove, Mo.

Bottom of Page 500

Samuel Oerly attended Oakland school in Moniteau County and Liberty school in Cooper County. He recalls the log cabin home of his childhood, with its mortar-filled cracks and puncheon floor, and the old-style trundle bed in which he slept, when a lad since attaining maturity, Mr. Oerly has engaged in farming and stockraising. He purchased his present farm in 1881, from James Q. Ragland, a place comprising 204 acres of land, named "Walnut Grove Farm" because of the splendid walnut trees growing thereon. Excepting the residence and a barn, Mr. Oerly has added all the improvements now on his farm. The land is well watered by eight springs, three of which are never failing. He raises registered Big Bone Poland China hogs and Shorthorn cattle, Cotswold sheep and Rhode Island Red chickens. Mr. Oerly does general farming and feeds extensively hogs and cattle.

June 16, 1881, Samuel Oerly and Mary Adaline Schnuck were united in marriage. Mrs. Oerly is a daughter of John G. and Catherina E. (Meyer) Schnuck. Mr. Schnuck died Aug. 2, 1880, and the widowed mother now makes her home with a son in Boonville township. Mr. and Mrs. Oerly are the parents of the following children: Henry W., born April 7, 1882, the postmaster and merchant at Overton, Mo.; Herman H., born March 4,1884, at home; Frank J., born Nov. 19,1886, now with Company L, 356th Infantry, 89th Division, at Bordeaux, France, when last heard from at the time of this writing; Florence M., at home; and Dora E., the wife of Herman Frederick, of Saline township. Frank J. Oerly, the soldier enlisted in the U. S. army Sept. 19, 1917, and was trained for service at Camp Funston; became a member of Company L, 356th Infantry, 89th Division. He sailed for France, June 30, 1918, and from Aug. 5, 1918 to Oct. 19, 1918, was at the front, Verdun and Argonne Forest. He was taken sick and sent back to Base Hospital No. 22, Bordeaux. Arrived in America March 28, 1919; honorably discharged April 21, 1919, and now at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Oerly are highly respected in their community. They are worthy and consistent members of the Boonville Evangelical Church. Mr. Oerly is a republican.

Herman B. Friedrich, Mr. Oerly's son-in-law, served in the National Army and was on his way to France when the armistice was signed.

Mr. and Mrs. Oerly have two grandchildren: Laura Marie and Ewing Joseph, the farmer, the daughter of Henry W. Oerly and the latter, the son of Mrs. Herman Frederick.

Bottom of Page 501

John M. Haller

(Transcribed by Laura Paxton)

John M. Haller, proprietor and manager of the Boonville Coal Company, is a native of Boonville. Mr. Haller is successor to Burger and Son and purchased this thriving business on Dec. 1 1918. The yards of the Boonville Coal Company are located at 602 East Spring Street and cover one half block. Wood, coal, cement, sewer pipe, etc., are sold at retail and three teams are operating continually, and five men are employed in caring for the activities of the yard. John M Haller was born in Boonville June 22 1888.

Martin J. Haller, his father, was born in Wurtemburg, Germany, in 1859, learned the printer's trade and emigrating from his native land, located in Boonville in 1872. For the past 15 years, Mr. Haller has been foreman of the "Advertiser" publishing and printing plant in Boonville. He was

married to Anna Bach in 1869. Mrs. Anna (Bach) Haller was born in Boonville and is a daughter of Peter Bach, a Cooper County pioneer. The children born to Martin and Anna Haller are: John M., the subject of this review; Mrs. Minnie Cramer, Boonville; Louise, at home with her parents; Ernest, a sailor, enlisted man in United States Navy, enlisted in 1917 as a pharmacist and is located at Naval Base No. 29; Gilbert enlisted in the U S Navy in 1918 and is attached to U. Submarine Boat. No. 3.

John M. Haller was educated in the Boonville public and high schools. For 15 years after leaving high school he was a trusted and capable employee of the Sauter Mercantile Company of Boonville. The business experience gained with this old time established concern, which was lately dissolved, has stood him in good stead since he was engaged in business on his own account, and Mr. Haller is making a decided success of his business venture.

He was married August 11 1913, to Miss Nina Demarest of New York City, a daughter of Stephen and Evelyn (Vreeland) Demarest, who now reside in Chariton County MO. Mr. & Mrs. John M Haller have two children: John Haller, Jr., born October 6, 1916; Helen Louise Haller, born August 18 1914.

Mr. Haller is a republican, but is an independent voter. He is a member of > the Evangelical Church and is affiliated fraternally with the Knights of Pythias Lodge.

Martin Tucker

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Martin Tucker, sheriff of Cooper County, was born in Louisville, Ky., Jan. 23,1864. His parents were Joseph Albert and Mary Magdalena (Huber) Tucker, the former a native of England and the latter a native

Bottom of Page 502

of Germany. Joseph A. Tucker was born in 1826 and died in 1880. He emigrated from England to America in 1860 and fought in the Union army throughout the Civil War, as sergeant of his company in a Kentucky Union regiment of volunteers. Magdalena (Huber) Tucker was born in 1842 and accompanied her mother to America in 1845. Her father died while serving as a soldier in the German army. She now resides in St. Louis. In 1870 the Tuckers left Kentucky and after one year in St. Louis, they settled at Tipton. The children born to Joseph A. and Mary Magdalena Tucker are: Mrs. Priscilla Belle Hamilton, a widow, residing with her mother in St. Louis; Albert Edward, St. Louis, and Martin Tucker of this review.

Martin Tucker learned the trade of painter and decorator in St. Louis and first followed his trade at Tipton, Mo., where he resided until Sept. 7, 1884, when he located in Boonville. He was employed by Spahr Brothers of this city for a few months and then engaged in business for himself. Mr. Tucker was appointed to a membership on the city police force in 1899 and served as city policeman for six years and seven months. He was then elected city marshal and served for eight years as marshal and chief of police, from 1906 to 1914. The next step in his official career was his election to the office of sheriff of the county in November of 1916 far a term of four years.

Sheriff Tucker was married on Feb. 12, 1885, to Miss Margaret Kirchner, who was born at Belleville, Ill., April 18, 1864, and is a daughter of John C. and Anna B. (Knoch) Kirchner, natives of Germany who immigrated to America in 1854. In about 1854 the Kirchners settled in Boonville, later moved to Belleville, Ill., in 1862, and returned to Boonville in the spring of 1866. Mr. Kirchner was employed in the coal mines near Boonville and was a farmer and grape grower who conducted a vineyard near Boonville. John C. Kirchner was born Aug. 19, 1833, and died Aug. 8, 1900. His wife, Anna B. Kirchner, was born Jan. 29, 1830, and died Aug. 23, 1907. Two children

of theirs are living out of 11 born to them: Lizzie is the wife of John G. Bauer, Boonville, Mo., and Mrs. Martin Tucker.

Bottom of Page 503

Eight children have been born to Martin and Margaret Tucker, as follows: Two died in infancy; John, Ramsey, Ill., a member of the Masonic order; Charles liven at St. Louis, Mo.; Barbara, at home; Edna Jane, her father's office assistant, member of the Eastern Star; Pauline, a teacher in the public schools near Otterville, Mo.; James, graduate of the Boonville High School, class of 1919. Pauline Tucker was married April 17, 1918, to Carl Anthony Watts, a soldier in the National Army, landed in France in August, 1918, member of Company F, 313th Engineers, 88th Division.

Sheriff Tucker is a republican, but is a sheriff of all the people, faithful and conscientious and honest to the last degree in the performance of his official duties-one of the best and most capable sheriffs who ever held this high office in Cooper County. He is a member of the Evangelical Church and is fraternally affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Independent Order of Red Men, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Woodmen of the World, the Degree of Pocahontas, and the Woodmen Auxiliary Order. Mrs. Tucker is a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Woodmen of the World and the Degree of Pocahontas.

John M. Burros

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

John M. Burros, now deceased, was one of the honored and highly valued pioneers of Cooper County, who contributed his part to the betterment and upbuilding of his community and county. He was a native of Tennessee, born Aug. 23, 1819, and departed this life March 30, 1888, and his remains now rest in the Harris cemetery. He was a son of Hawkey and Frances (Martin) Burros, who were married May 19, 1817. They settled in Cooper County 212 miles south of Pisgah, on a farm now owned by George Class, and were among the very earliest pioneers of this section. They came from Tennessee. Their children, all of whom are dead, were as follows: John M., the subject of this sketch; Jacob, born Jan. 22, 1823; Sarah, born Feb. 24, 1825; William, born March 9, 1827; James, born April 16, 1828, was a Confederate soldier, and was killed at the battle of Gettysburg; and Valentine, born Aug. 28, 1830.

John M, Burros was united in marriage April 2, 1857 with Miss Amanda Lovell, the marriage ceremony taking place on the farm where Mrs. Burros now lives, Rev. Robert Harris being the officiating minister. Mrs. Burros was born Feb. 3, 1837, on the farm where she now lives and is a daughter of Thomas J. and Olive (Burros) Lovell,

To John M. and Amanda F. (Lovell) Burros were born four children as follows: Jacob, born June 29, 1858; Hawkey, born May 3, 1860; T. J., born April 15, 1870, and Martin Nolan, born Tune 7, 1867.

T, J. Burros who is engaged in farming in Prairie Home township was married Sept. 4, 1895, to Miss Alpha McDow, a daughter of Milton and Keziah (Kirkpatrick) McDow. Seven children have been born to this union, as follows: Bernice married L. B. Morris and has two children

Bottom of Page 504

Thomas J. and Clara Louise; John M., Prairie Home; Porter Valentine; Emil Thomas; Charles Edward; Mary Margaret and Joe McDow, all residing at home with their parents.

The Burrus homestead, the home of Mrs. Burrus, is one of the valuable home farms of Prairie Home township. It contains 215 acres and is well located 21/2 miles southwest of Prairie Home. This land was entered from the government by Mrs. Burrus' father, T. J, Lovell.

Mrs. Burrus is one of the noble pioneer women of Cooper County. She has an extensive acquaintance throughout southeastern Cooper County and her friends are legion. She is a member of the Baptist Church at Pisgah. She is the oldest native born pioneer woman in Cooper County.

Joseph M. Green

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Joseph M. Green, proprietor of the European Hotel, one of the oldest established and best known hostelries in Boonville, which Mr. Green has been conducting since 1883, was born May 23, 1850, in Green County, near Greensburg, on Green River, Ky. The hotel which Mr. Green owns and operates was used as the official building of the county during the process of construction of the new court house a few years ago. For years, until Mr. Green purposely curtailed his activities as a landlord so as to cut down to a minimum the amount of work involved in conducting the house, this hotel was a popular place for visitors to Boonville, and was prosperous.

David D. Green, father of Joseph M. Green, was a native of New Jersey, migrated to Ohio in the thirties, thence to Kentucky, where he was engaged in business for 15 years, and then came to Arrow Rock, Mo., in 1852. Here he operated a general store and also conducted a saddlery and a hardware business. As age came upon him, the elder Green turned over the store to his eldest son, who changed the business plant to that of a general merchandise store; later, Joseph M. Green took charge of the business, succeeding his elder brother in the saddlery and harness business, and conducted it for a number of years.

David D. Green was born in 1801 and died in 1875. When a young man he married Nancy C. Phillips, who was born in Kentucky in 1816 and died in 1884. To this marriage were born three children; Sarah, deceased; Joseph M., of this review; and John, who died at the age of five years. By a former marriage, David D. Green was father of a son, William P., who died in Texas.

Joseph M. Green operated the general store at Arrow Rock, Mo., until 1883. He then came to Boonville and took charge of the hotel. Mr. Green, in past years, has built four additions to the hotel and has modernized

Bottom of Page 505

the building throughout. It now consists of 22 rooms fitted with every comfort for the convenience of guests. He has lived continuously in Boonville for the past 36 years, with the exception of three years spent in Arkansas, from 1911 to 1914, looking after some land which he owns in that state.

Mr. Green was married on Jan. 14, 1870, to Miss Wills A. Mahan, who has borne him children as follows: Mrs. Ids Gale Stewart, born May 20, 1871, died at Little Rock, Ark., Jan. 12, 1919; Will Ella, born April 19, 1873, died Oct. 30, 1883; Leeta Kate, born Feb. 3, 1875, died Dec. 26,1883; William David, barn Jan. 19,1877, died Feb. 6, 1879; Mabel Lenore, born April 3, 1881, died Dec. 28, 1883; Jessie, born Feb. 24, 1885, is wife of George R. Whittaker, Raton, N. M.; Dorothy, born Feb. 24, 1885, wife of George Barnes, Boonville, Mo., and mother of two children, George Marshall Barnes, born June 19, 1916, and Selma Anita, born Dec. 10, 1917.

The mother of the foregoing children was born in Cooper County, Mo., in 1853. She is a daughter of the late Rev. William D. Mahan, pioneer Cumberland Presbyterian minister of Central Missouri. Reverend Mahan was born in Virginia July 27, 1824, and died Oct. 19, 1906. He was married on July 27, 1850, to Martha R. Johnston, who bore him the following children: Eleanor B., deceased wife of Frank Stewart; and Mrs. Wills A. Green of this review. Reverend Mahan was born in Pittsburg County, Va., and accompanied his parents to Missouri in 1837. He came to Cooper County in 1845 and preached the gospel according to the Cumberland Presbyterian faith for over half a century. He was a son of Thomas Jefferson Mahan, who was a son of William Pope and Permelia Mahan of Pittsylvania County, Va. Thomas Mahan served in Capt. Henry Garnett's

Company or the Captain John Douglas Company, Second Virginia State Militia, under Colonel Gregory, during the War of 1812, Mrs. Green is a niece by marriage of Judge McFarland, who married Mary B. Johnston, a daughter of Robert Johnston, a Cooper County pioneer, and is a second cousin of Col. Thomas A. Johnston of Boonville. An ancestor was Thomas Mahan, whose name appears on the roster of exchanged prisoners sent from Quebec in November, 1779, during the American Revolution. Another ancestor, named Smith, served in the Revolution. He enlisted Feb. 12, 1778, and served until February, 1779.

Rev. W. D. Mahan was widely known as an author and writer of religious books. He published "Archaeological Writings of the Sanhedrini and Talmuds of the Jews," which were afterwards combined in the Archko

Bottom of Page 506

Library. He based his deductions and decisions upon the results of extensive personal research and study in the ruins and libraries of Rome and Constantinople, gathering at first hand the information necessary from archaeological inscriptions and had the translations duly made by scholars so that he could incorporate the matter in his books. He wrote and published "Caesar's Court," in 1895. The Archko Library, which originally consisted of five volumes, was afterwards combined and published in its entirety by the Archko Book Company of Boonville. He wrote "History on Baptism" and other pamphlets. Rev. Mahan devoted the best years of his life to the production of "Acts Pilate," his first book.

Joseph M. Green is a democrat of the straight, and true variety, which recognizes no deviation from democratic principles of government. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Mr. Green is fraternally affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of the Maccabees. He has been an Odd Fellow since May, 1871,

John J. Walther

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

John J. Walther, contractor and builder, residing at 406 East High street, Boonville, Mo., has been engaged in the contracting business since 1880. During his career as contractor and builder, Mr. Walther has built a large number of Missouri River steamboats; erected the large elevator for the milling company; built many new store fronts in Boonville; erected a large number of residences in Boonville and Cooper County, and has employed from three to 10 men during his busy seasons.

John J. Walther was born in Saxony, Germany, Jan. 23, 1854 and is a son of Peter and Carolina (Englehardt) Walther who were born and reared in Germany. Mr. Walther's grandfather was a carpenter and government official in Germany. Peter Walther, his father, was an expert willow worker.

Peter Walther immigrated to America leaving Bremen and landing .at New Orleans from a sailing vessel when John J. Walther was six weeks old. Walther, Sr., settled on a farm west of Boonville and here spent the remainder of his days. He was born in 1832 and died in 1909. His wife was born in 1833 and died in 1873. The children of the Walther family were: John J., of this review; Louis, Emma, Louise, and Bertha, deceased; and Mrs. Anna Labbo, San Francisco.

At the age of 21 years, Mr. Walther began to follow his trade of carpenter. When a boy he chopped wood on his father's farm, helped to build the parental home from timber cut on the place, drove oxen and did the hardest kind of farm labor. Having a natural aptitude for carpenter work he indulged his lobby and has made a success of his life work.

Bottom of Page 507

For many years he was a skilled steamboat builder. He built the "Dorothy" a local ferry boat, the "Edna", "Elta" and many other boats and barges. Mr. Walther is owner of a half block of valuable city property, upon which are three brick residence buildings, including his own large house which is a double structure, and his shop which is built upon the same block.

Mr. Walther was married in 1880 to Miss Elizabeth Weber, who was born in 1857 and departed this life in 1900. She was born in Boonville, a daughter of John and Margaret Weber. To this marriage have been born two sons and two daughters: William, Carl and Odell. William Walther is a carpenter and contractor, married Nettie Becker and has a daughter, Elizabeth Walther. Carl Walther is a carpenter and contractor now in Texas, married Donell Woods who died leaving one child, Carl Jacob. Odell Walther is at home. One child died in infancy.

Mr. Walther is a republican but spends little time with political affairs. He is a member of the Evangelical church and has been an Odd Fellow since 1884. He is a substantial well informed, industrious and progressive citizen who has won a high place in the citizenship of Boonville and Cooper County.

Mark Jacobs

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Mark Jacobs, proprietor and manager of the Jacobs Brothers Dry Goods Store, is a progressive and enterprising citizen and merchant of Boonville, who is ever found in the forefront of all movements for the advancement of his home city. Jacobs Bros. store was founded in May, 1894, by David W. and Mark Jacobs. After the accidental death of David W. Jacobs as a result of injuries received from a boiler explosion in Seattle, Mark Jacobs purchased the business. The store room is 140 feet in depth to which has been added two rooms on Spring street facing to the south and 40x90 feet in size. In 1916, Mr. Jacobs purchased the three buildings now occupied by his large establishment and remodeled the floor space and uses the lower floors of the buildings. The Jacobs store has the largest floor space and the most extensive stock of ladies' wearing apparel, cloaks and suits, in central Missouri and the trade is the best in this section of the state. Mr. Jacobs employs fourteen sales people, has a secretary, Miss Mollie Jones, who has been in his employ for the past 21 years, and he has kept the same porter for 17 years. During the 25 years in which he has been engaged in business he has never discharged an employee, although many young ladies have left his employ for the duties of wife and housekeeper in past years. Four of his salespeople have been

Bottom of Page 508

in his employ since the beginning of the business. This record speaks volumes far the kindness, fairness and diplomatic management of Mr. Jacobs.

Mark Jacobs was born in Quincy, III., Aug. 2, 1869. He is a son of A. Jacobs and Flora (Levy) Jacobs, both of whom were natives of Berlin, Germany. When A. Jacobs was a child his parents removed from Berlin to England and he was there reared. He was born in 1836 and died in 1900, in Boonville. He came to America in 1848 with his parents, and was brought up in the shoe business in Quincy, III. He was a merchant in Quincy, III. until 1884 when he went to the Osage Mission, Kan., and was engaged in business there until he came to Boonville in 1894. Mrs. Jacobs died in 1904 at the age of 64 years. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs, as follows: David W., deceased; Mark, subject of this review; Mrs. Belle Mendheim, Chicago, III.; Mrs. Rose Wolfson, Pilot Grove, Mo.; Dr. A. C. Jacobs, Boonville, Mo., who died July 24, 1918, as the result of injuries received in an accident at Choteau Springs, Mo.; Mrs. Adelaide Klein, Keokuk, Iowa, died April 14, 1919; Burt Jacobs, traveling salesman for the Hirschfield Skirt Company.

At the age of 14 years, Mark Jacobs ended his schooling and entering his father's store where he received his excellent business training. In addition to the management of his large dry goods

business, Mr. Jacobs is secretary of the Hirsch Wholesale Grocery Company. He is a member of the St. Joseph's Hospital board and has served as chairman of the State Fuel Committee having entire charge of the fuel disposition in three counties, Howard, Cooper and Moniteau during the World War. Mr. Jacobs is a factor in local, civic and commercial affairs and is one of the leaders in the project for a greater and better Boonville.

Dr. Henry Clay Gibson

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Dr. Henry Clay Gibson. The late Dr. Henry Clay Gibson was, in his day, the most able physician in Cooper County, and was in his later days the oldest practicing physician in this section of Missouri. Dr. Gibson was born in Cooper County, Aug. 25, 1825, and died Dec. 14, 1887. He was born on the old Gibson homestead, which is now incorporated into the Missouri Training School property. William, or "Uncle Billy Gibson," his father, was a native of North Carolina and was an early pioneer in Cooper County. He married for his first wife, Rhoda Cole, born in Cole's Fort on the Missouri River, and a daughter of Stephen Cole, the first white settler in what is now Cooper County.

Henry Clay Gibson was educated in Kemper School, and attended the Transylvania Medical College at Lexington, Ky., during the sessions of

Bottom of Page 509

1846-47. He then entered the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, from which he was afterwards graduated. Returning to Boonville after receiving his degree, he began the practice of his profession, soon secured a lucrative practice, and established a wide reputation as an educated, successful physician. Devoted to medicine as a science, not less than to his practice, and desiring to keep up with the progress of the profession as represented by the advancement in learning in the schools, he returned to Philadelphia and again entered his alma mater for a post graduate course.

Dr. Gibson resumed his practice in Boonville in 1853 and continued to practice successfully until the time of his death.

Dr. Gibson was twice married. His first marriage occurred on Jan. 11, 1856, too Miss Mittie Nelson, a native of Virginia, and sister to James M. Nelson. She died one year after marriage. Dr. Gibson's second marriage took place Jan. 11, 1871, with Mrs. Mary L. (Jones) McCarthy, widow of Justin McCarthy. Three children were born to this union: Mary J. Gibson, at home with her mother; Rhoda Cole Gibson, died in infancy; Martha, wife of A. K. Mills, died at Webb City, Mo.; Mrs. Nancy O'Meara, wife of Joseph O'Meara, teacher of dramatic art in the College of Music, Cincinnati, Ohio. The mother of these children was born Nov. 2, 1840, in a log cabin at Bolivar, Mo. She is a daughter of Caleb and Nancy (Chapman) Jones, natives of Baltimore, Md., and Old Franklin, Mo., respectively. Caleb Jones was a pioneer merchant, trader, postmaster, and Whig politician of the early pioneer days. He was born in Baltimore, a son of Joshua Jones, a native of that city, who fought with the American Army in the War of 1812. The wife of Joshua Jones was Mary Ann Sands, a daughter of Commodore Sands of the United States Navy. Caleb Jones was born in 1800 and died March 15, 1883. He came up the river to St. Louis, and walked to Arrow Rock, Mo., where he taught school and formed a partnership with Clay Jackson, later the war governor of Missouri. He became a merchant, moved to Old Franklin, and developed a large wholesale business which supplied many points in southwest Missouri with goods. He had previously operated a trading post in Bolivar, Mo., and was widely and favorably known throughout the entire section where his goods were sold. Mr. Jones later had an establishment in Boonville, including both a retail and a wholesale business. During the Civil War he suffered serious reverses from which he never fully recovered. He died in Mrs. Dr. Gibson's home. His children were: Mrs.

Bottom of Page 510

H. C. Gibson; Mrs. William D. Muir, deceased; George C. Jones, a large land owner of Blackwater, Mo.

Joshua Jones, mentioned in the preceding paragraph, was a son of Joshua Jones, patriot, of Welsh extraction, who fought in the American Revolution. Nancy Chapman Jones, mother of Mrs. Gibson, was born April 6, 1814, and died Feb. 7, 1878. She was a daughter of Squire George Washington Chapman, a Kentucky frontiersman, and a pioneer in Missouri, Illinois, and Kansas. He was a noted border character who spent his life in advancing the outposts of civilization in remote and unsettled regions.

Mary L. Jones was first married in 1860 to Justin McCarthy, of San Antonio, Texas, who died in that city in 1865, leaving a son, William J., an actor.

Dr. Gibson was a democrat and was a member of the Methodist Church. Mrs. Gibson and her children are members of the Catholic Church.

John J. Heiberger

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

John J. Heiberger, proprietor of the Heiberger Bakery, Boonville, Mo., has the oldest established bakery in the city. Mr. Heiberger established his bakery in May, 1895, and has been doing business successfully in the same location since that time. The output of the Heiberger bakery is 700 loaves of bread daily, besides a quantity of pies, all of which is consumed in Boonville and the towns of Cooper County. One auto truck is operated and three men are employed in the operation of the bakery.

Mr. Heiberger was born in Boonville, Aug. 3, 1872, and is a son of Blasius (b. 1847, d. May 11, 1918), who was born in Alsace and came with his mother to America in his boyhood days and settled in the Clear Creek neighborhood in Cooper County. When grown to manhood B. Heiberger came to Boonville and operated a saloon, restaurant and various other business enterprises during his career. He married Mary Friess who was born in Germany in 1849 and came to America with her parents when a child. B. and Mary Heiberger were parents of the following children: Charles, Hannibal, Mo.; Anna, wife of Clarence Ashley, St. Louis, Mo.; Bate Heiberger, a trained nurse, in the government hospital at Washington, D. C.; and John J., subject of this review; Josephine, employed in the office o1 the United States Rubber Co., St. Louis, makes her home with her mother.

At the age of 13 years, John J. Heiberger began to learn the trade of baker in Boonville. When 17 years old he went to St. Louis, and followed

Bottom of Page 511

his trade in the metropolis for three years. In 1892 he returned to Boonville and three years later started his successful industry.

October 6, 1897, he was married to Rebecca Stammerjohn who was born in Boonville, June 24, 1875, and is a daughter of Claus Stammerjohn and Emma, his wife, natives of Holstein, and Prussia, respectively, the former of whom was born in 1843, emigrated to America in 1869 and settled in Boonville. Emma Stammerjohn was born in 1851 and came to America when young. Two children were born to John J. and Rebecca Heiberger, as follows: John C., a student in the Missouri State University, Columbia, Mo.; Edwin, assisting his father in the bakery.

Mr. Heiberger is a stanch republican. He is a member of the Christian church and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a good citizen, substantial, progressive and enterprising.

Walter Barron

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Walter Barron, a Civil War veteran of the Union army, and an early settler of Cooper County, is a native of Ireland. He was born in County Waterford, April 2, 1840, a son of Michael and Mary R. Murphy) Barron, both natives of Ireland. The father was born in 1800, and immigrated to America with his family in 1848. They first settled in Galloway County, Mo., after landing at New Orleans from a sailing vessel, and coming up the Mississippi Ricer to St. Louis by steamboat and to Galloway County by stage coach. They remained in Galloway County about two years, and in 1850 settled at Boonville. The father helped build a mill at Boonville and was engaged in the milling business for a number of years. He died in 1891 at the advanced age of 91 years. His wife died in 1870 at the age of 50 years. This pioneer couple were the parents of two children: Mary, who married Hiram Shrowt, and died in 1900, and Walter, the subject of this sketch.

Walter Barron was educated in the public schools of Boonville and Mt. Sinai, Cooper County. He began life as a farmer and stock raiser, and has been engaged in that business all his life. He purchased the farm, "Ballan Curra," where he now resides, in 1865, and thus it has been his home for over half a century. He first bought 80 acres of land and later added 320 acres more and at one time owned about 400 acres. However, he disposed of a part of his land and now owns 166 acres. He has a well improved place, a good modern farm residence of nine rooms with a good barn 48x54 feet, and other commodious and convenient farm buildings. In recent years Mr. Barron has rented his place, although he continues in the stock business on a moderate scale. During his active career he was one of the successful fruit growers of Cooper County, and has set out three orchards.

Bottom of Page 512

When the Civil War broke out, Mr. Barron enlisted in the Home Guards at Boonville. He was then just 21 years of age. Later he enlisted in the 37th Illinois Infantry, and afterwards became a member of the 9th Missouri Cavalry. He participated in the battle of Castle Rock Ford on the Osage River and was in the skirmish south of Boonville. He was also at the battles of Little Blue, Independence, Big Blue, Mine Creek and Little Osage and a number of other engagements and skirmishes. He took part in 21 engagements in all, including the battle with Bill Anderson's guerrillas at Fayette, in which many men were killed.

In 1869, Mr. Barron was married to Miss Virginia M. Hurt, a daughter of Joel and Harriet (Farris) Hurt, both deceased. The Hurt family consisted of the following children: Henrietta Runkle; Virginia M.; Boone Hurt, Pleasant Green; Mary Helen Cartner, deceased; Mrs. Dora Davis, Boonville township; Mrs. Josie Earhart, Gooch Mill, and Milo B., deceased. By a first marriage, Joel Hurt was father of: Joel Hurt, a wealthy citizen of Omaha; Ira 0., Texas; Nancy McAllister, Oklahoma. To Mr. and Mrs. Barron were born the following children: William P., died at the age of 24 years; Mrs. Minnie Langkop, Bunceton, Mo.; Mrs. Rosa Brandes, Clarks Fork township; Mrs. Lulu Brandes, Boonville, Mo.; John, Moniteau township; Nellie resides at home; Boone, Bunceton, Mo.; Walter, Jr., died at the age of 19; Mary Ellen, died at the age of 13, and Josie and Joseph, twins, died in infancy. Mrs. Barron died January 7, 1918, and her remains are buried in the Catholic cemetery at Boonville. The following are the grandchildren: Ralph and Waldo Langkop: Clorine, Earle, Mary Virginia Brandes, Walter Barron and Ruth, Lloyd and Rodney Brandes. Boone Brandes has one son, Boone Donald.

Mr. Barron was commissioned captain of the Missouri State Militia by Governor Thomas Fletcher just after the close of the Civil War, and the duties of this organization was to protect peaceful citizens against bands of outlaws which infested the state at that time. Mr. Barron is one of the

real pioneers of Cooper County. He says that he cannot recall the names of a half dozen people now living in Boonville who were here when he came here, 69 years ago, which impresses us with the fact that time is rapidly thinning the ranks of the old settlers. Mr. Barron cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln for president, and since that time has supported the policies and principles of the Republican party. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republican, John A. Hayne Post No. 240, Boonville, Mo., and is Past Commander of this post.

Bottom of Page 513

William F. Johnmeyer

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

William F. Johnmeyer - It is given to but few men to achieve success such as that which has come to William F. Johnmeyer, retired farmer of Boonville, in the short space of 37 years since he first came to America from Germany and hired out as farm hand in Cooper County. Mr. Johnmeyer has not only accumulated a fine farm, become well to do, but has achieved more than a local reputation as a grower of corn and a breeder of poultry. In 1907 his exhibit of corn was awarded a silver loving cup at the Jamestown Exposition for the best exhibit of many kinds of corn. He received the grand corn prize through the Missouri Commission having charge of the Missouri exhibits at the exposition. Mrs. Johnmeyer, in 1901, 1902, and 1903, was awarded loving cups at the county fairs, for taking the most prizes for canned goods and farm products put up on the Johnmeyer farm. For several years Mr. Johnmeyer was an expert corn grower and made a business of producing seed corn which commanded a ready sale at good prices. He also specialized in fine poultry. He won many premiums on seed corn exhibited at Columbia and elsewhere, and his achievements as a corn grower attracted nation-wide attention, as having produced the best grades of corn in the United States, according to the leading agricultural authorities at Washington, D. C.

William F. Johnmeyer was born in Germany, Nov. 15, 1858, and was a son of Frederick William and Charlotte Johnmeyer, who lived and died in Germany. Mr. Johnmeyer came to America in 1881, locating at once in Cooper County. He had very little money and accordingly went right to work as a hired hand on the farms in Cooper County. He hired out for three years at \$12 per month at the start, and \$20 per month during the third year, and during that time saved \$500. Feeling himself to be well off, he got married and then rented a farm for four and a half years. In the fall of 1888, he purchased 132 acres of land west of Boonville in Boonville township. He agreed to pay \$36 an acre for this land. Not long afterwards he bought an additional 33 acres, paid out, and then bought another tract of 140 acres, which he sold some time ago at a profit. The Johnmeyer farm is well improved and highly productive and has created wealth for its owner, who has tilled his land with intelligence and foresight. March 2, 1914, Mr. and Mrs. Johnmeyer moved to Boonville. In process of erection on High Street, is a new residence which will be occupied by this worthy couple when completed.

Jan. 28, 1884, William F. Johnmeyer and Miss Sophia Smith were united in marriage. Mrs. Sophia Johnmeyer was born on Lone Elm Prairie, Dec. 25,1863, and is a daughter of Nicholas and Margaret (Dernhauser) Smith, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history.

Bottom of Page 514

Eight children have been born to William F. and Sophia Johnmeyer, as follows: Margaret, wife of George Branch, a farmer of Boonville township; Fred, a farmer in Saline County, Mo.; Albert, a farmer, living west of Boonville; Martin, who is cultivating the Johnmeyer home place; Nellie, wife of Walter Breuckner, living west of Boonville; Mrs. Emma Langlotz, west of Boonville; Perley, on the home place; Alexandra, aged 12 years.

Mr. Johnmeyer is a republican, but has taken little part in political affairs, other than to cast his vote. He and his family are members of the Evangelical Church. Many things are to be placed to

the credit of Mr. and Mrs. Johnmeyer, the best of which is the rearing of a splendid family of sons and daughters, who are all good citizens, industrious and enterprising. They are a congenial, intelligent, and progressive couple, whose achievements in Cooper County have made them widely known throughout the country. For a farmer, Mr. Johnmeyer evidently has enough fame to last him the remainder of his life.

William B. Talbott

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

William B. Talbott, traveling salesman, Boonville, Mo.; was bom at Marengo, Iowa, May 20, 1885. He is a son of George Edward and Mary (Davis) Talbott, the former of whom is a native of Illinois, and the latter a native of Williamsburg, Iowa.

George Edward Talbott was a son of George Washington Talbott, of Virginia, who first settled in Ohio and went from that state to Illinois, where George Edward Talbott was born and reared. Mr. Talbott was married in Iowa, and in about 1910, went to Wichita, Kan., where he remained far three years. In 1912 he located in Kansas City where he holds the position of manager of the Baker Manufacturing Company. He had previously been engaged in manufacturing at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, under the firm name of Smith-Talbott Manufacturing Company. His children are as follows: William B. Talbott, Maude L., at home with her parents; Mina C., a teacher in the Kansas City, Kan., public schools; Mrs. Josephine Ramsdale, Kansas City; Rev. Howard Talbott, a minister of the Presbyterian denomination, now Chaplain with the American Expeditionary Forces, 2nd Division, first in France and now in Germany with the Army of Occupation; Lieut. George H. Talbott, a theological student, enlisted in the National Army with the 32nd Division at the outbreak of he war and has seen much active service with the American Army in France; Helen L ouise Talbott, aged 12 years, is at home with her parents.

William B. Talbott received his education in the high school of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, attended the Beloit College, Beloit, Wis. for two years, and

Bottom of Page 515

then studied law in the University of Iowa. Illness coming upon his father, he was prevented from completing his collegiate course and had to go to work and assist in supporting the family. In 1907 he became a salesman for the Baker Manufacturing Company of Kansas City, and is one of the most successful traveling salesmen on the road. Mr. Talbott's territory covers western Missouri from Jefferson City, westward. He came to Boonville on July 4, 1909 and is one of the best known of the progressive and public spirited citizens of this city. He was married on June 14, 1911, to Miss Minnie B. Gross, who was born in Boonville and is a daughter of C. E. Gross. The children born to William B. and Minnie B. Talbott are: Ruth Louise, born April 19,1912; William Burl, Jr., born Oct. 13, 1913; Mary Frances, born Oct. 12, 1917.

Mr. Talbott is a pronounced democrat. He has been active in the affairs of his party and has served as secretary of the Democratic Central Committee. He was elected to a membership on the Boonville Board of Education in the spring of 1918 and took his seat as a member of the board in June, 1918. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church while Mrs. Talbott is a Catholic. He is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and is a member of the Chapter, Commandery and Shrine; the United Commercial Travelers and the Missouri Drummers Association.

A. W. McFarland

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

A. W. McFarland - The story of the struggles and accomplishments of the pioneer men and women of any section of the country, is one of ever increasing interest. The true history of Cooper

County consists, in a large measure, in the recital of the lives and deeds of the pioneers, whose sacrifices made possible the better conditions which those of a later generation enjoy. A. W. McFarland, who died Jan. 9, 1910, while a native of Cooper County saw much of the early life and early day development of this county. He belonged to a family of pioneers. He was born in Boonville township in 1834, a son of Jacob and Matilda (Fleming) McFarland, who were among the very early settlers of this county. Jacob McFarland died in 1843, and his wife departed this life three years later, and their remains now rest in a private cemetery on their old home farm.

A. W. McFarland was reared to manhood in Cooper County, and educated in the district schools, or such schools as existed at that time. He was married Dec. 10, 1857, to Miss Mary Catherine Hurt. They resided in Cooper County for about three years after their marriage, when they removed to Henry County, and remained there three years. They then returned to Cooper County and settled on the farm where Mrs. McFarland

Bottom of Page 516

now lives. Here A. W. McFarland engaged in farming and stock raising, and was regarded as a successful man of affairs, and a good citizen. He improved his place and made a pleasant home for himself and his family. It is one of the attractive places in that section of the county, and the cedar trees which were set out over a half century ago still ornament the front yard of the residence, and give the place an artistic and distinctive appearance.

Mary Catherine (Hurt) McFarland is also a native of Cooper County, and belongs to a family of pioneers. She was born in Clarks Fork township, Sept. 2, 1838, a daughter of William and Catherine (Robertson) Hurt. William Hurt was born in Cooper County, of Virginia parents, who were among the first settlers of this section. He died in 1895. His wife, who was also born in this county died in 1881. Their remains are interred in Walnut Grove Cemetery. William and Catherine (Robertson) Hurt were the parents of the following children: Mrs. Nancy M. Davis, deceased; Mary Catherine, widow of A. W. McFarland, the subject of this sketch; Jenkin B., deceased; Benijoh, deceased; William, resides in Clarks Fork township; and James, resides in Clarks Fork township.

To A. W. and Mary Catherine (Hurt) McFarland were born the following children: Alice, married Robert Johnston, who is now deceased, and she lives in Boonville; Laura Catherine, deceased; William J., resides on the old home place; Lillie May, deceased; and Agnes Lee, married Terrell Mills, and they reside on the McFarland homestead.

Terrell Mills and Agnes Lee McFarland were married Oct. 11, 1899. Mr. Mills was born in Clarks Fork township, Feb. 20, 1878. He is a son of James T. and Bettie Elizabeth Mills. The father is now deceased and the mother resides in Kansas City, Mo. To Terrell and Agnes Lee (McFarland) Mills has been born one child, Mary Elizabeth, born Jan.18,1905.

There were nine grandchildren in the McFarland family, as follows: Emmett B. Johnston; Mrs. Berna Swarne; Mrs. Ruth Swarner; Percy E. McFarland, deceased; Mrs. Eula Mercer; Wilbur J. McFarland; Mary Martha McFarland; Alice Grace McFarland; and Mary Elizabeth Mills. The following are great-grandchildren of Mrs. McFarland: Burnah Mildred Lucile, Edward, and Mildred Swarner, and Roberta, Bernard, and Mary Edwina Johnston.

The McFarland family have been prominently identified with Cooper County almost since its beginning, and are one of the highly respected pioneer families of this section. Mrs. McFarland, although in her 81st year, has a keen insight into the affairs of every-day life and a remarkable memory, rich in reminiscence of Cooper County history.

Bottom of Page 517

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Homer L. Chamberlin has resided in Cooper County since his birth, with the exception of one year spent in the employ of the Consolidated Copper Company of Luray, Ariz. When 19 years old he bought 72 acres of land near Speed, Mo. He sold this farm and then bought 300 acres in the Texas Panhandle, which he sold in 1907. He then rented until he purchased his present farm in 1910.

November 10, 1912, Homer L. Chamberlin and Miss Alice Dauer were married. This marriage has been blessed with the following children: Doris, born Nov. 8, 1913; Bernice, born July 5, 1915; Hortense, born July 9, 1917; Birdie Jeanette, born Dec. 2, 1918. In addition to his own family, Mr. Chamberlin is rearing an orphan boy, George Kowler, whom he adopted Nov. 25, 1913, and who was born March 2, 1903.

The mother of the foregoing children was born in Cooper County, July 4, 1888, and is a daughter of Max and Augusta (Haas) Dauer. Max Dauer was born in Germany, April 1, 1860, and accompanied his parents, George and Anna Dauer, to Cooper County, Mo., in 1867. He was reared here, became a farm owner, and was married in 1885 to Augusta Haas, who was born in Germany in 1865. Mr. Dauer owned a farm of 85 acres, which he recently sold and is now living in Boonville. He has two children: Mrs. Homer L. Chamberlin, and Birdie, wife of Albert Selck, assistant postmaster, Boonville, Mo.

Mr. Chamberlin is a democrat, a member of the Evangelical Church and the Woodmen of the World.

Thomas Hogan

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Thomas Hogan, retired contractor, living in his comfortable and substantial home at 629 East Spring street, Boonville, Mo., is a native of New York. Mr. Hogan was born Aug. 15, 1856, and is a son of Peter and Catherine (Murphy) Hogan, both of whom were natives of Ireland. They emigrated from Ireland to America when young and lived the remainder of their lives in the vicinity of New York City and Brooklyn, rearing a family of four children of whom Thomas Hogan of this review is the only survivor.

The boyhood days of Thomas Hogan were spent in the city of his birth and he attended the public schools of his home city. When Greeley was giving his famous advice, "Go West Young Man, Go West, and Grow Up With the Country." Thomas Hogan was one of the many thousands of young men from the East who read, thought, then acted upon the admonition of the great editor. He came West, grew up with the country and assisted it to materially grow up with him. He began his westward way as a builder of railroads, albeit at first in a humble capacity, first

Bottom of Page 518

working with the construction gangs in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana, then farther west to Illinois. All the time he was following the laying of the steel tracks toward his goal "The West:" He continued to go West until he got to the furthermost end of the country, Washington Territory, all the time engaged in railroad building. He rose from a humble shoveler and digger to become a contractor in his own right and handled some large and important construction undertakings. He was doing construction work on the Oregon Short Line and the Northern Pacific through the Cascade Mountains in 1882. Before he had attained the age of 21 years he had reached the Puget Sound country. In 1877 he was laying track on the Eastern and Washington Railroad from Springfield, Ohio, to Washington Court House. At this time he began contracting on his own account and has followed it for over 40 years with varying degrees of fortune. Sometimes, Mr. Hogan made money; then at other times, weather conditions and other things would conspire to rob him of any profit which might have been made on the job. He constructed

the great railroad tunnel at Carter, Okla., on the Iron Mountain Railway, in 1904. This tunnel is 4,700 feet long and was a notable undertaking. He built 15 miles of railroad from Batesville, Ark., west on the White River line. Mr. Hogan located at Boonville in 1892 and made this city his headquarters. In 1898 he built part of the line of the Missouri Pacific Railway to Jefferson City, building two miles of the road to the Elliot station. He built five miles of road between Wymore and Fairbury, Neb., on the Burlington Railway in 1880, at a time when Nebraska was new and undeveloped. He followed the iron rails into Colorado, and built six miles of the Denver extension in 1882. He built eight miles on the Wood River branch, running into Bellevue, Idaho, from 1883 to 1884, to meet the Oregon Short Line. From 1878 to 1904, Mr. Hogan was engaged in railroad construction work.

The greater part of the public improvements in Boonville, such as streets, sewerage, water works, etc., has been built by Mr. Hogan. He built the fins brick paving in Boonville in 1898. In fact he built all of the paving in the city excepting about one half mile and the work was done in a thoroughly workmanship manner which is enduring the stress of traffic in a way which compares most favorably with similar work in other cities. Mr. Hogan built all of the sewerage in the city, that is, the district sewers, built the Boonville Water Works basins and other work of importance in the city. At the outset of his successful career he made his headquarters in Springfield, Ohio, for two years and built some of the

Bottom of Page 519

first rock roads in Pike County, Ohio. Mr. Hogan was the originator of the modern sewerage system in Boonville; he advocated the building of a sewerage system and led the agitation for its installation. During his career he has employed hundreds and thousands of men of all nationalities and his contracts have run into hundreds of thousands of dollars. At Carter, Ark., the tunnel project which he constructed cost a half million dollars to build.

Mr. Hogan was married in 1892, at Boonville, Mo., to Miss Sarah Sharp, who was born in 1869, reared in Cooper County and was a daughter of Thomas and Margaret Sharp. Her parents were natives of Indiana and pioneers in this county. Mr. Shay is deceased; Mrs. Sharp makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Hogan.

Mr. Hogan is a democrat and prominent in the affairs of his party. He was a member of the City Water Works Board, and was the originator of the present splendid water works system in Boonville, which is considered to be one of the finest in this section of the country. Mr. Hogan is a member of the Catholic Church and is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus.

Henry A. Renken

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Henry A. Renken, proprietor of "Willow Spring Farm," in Clarks Fork township, is one of Cooper County's "self-made" men, a leading agriculturist and stockman, and a prominent citizen of his township. Mr. Renken was born June 26, 1853, in Bremen, Oldenburg, Germany, a son of Eilert G. and Sophia Dorothy (Addix) Renkin, who immigrated to America in 1882 and settled in Boonville, Mo.

Eilert G. Renken was a tailor by trade. He died at the advanced age of 90 years, and his wife died at the age of 76 years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Renken died at the home of their son, Henry A., in Clarks Fork township. The children of E. G. and Sophia D. Renken are as follows: William Henry, who came to Cooper County, Mo, from Germany in 1875, and died in September of the same year; Henry A., the subject of this review; Ida, now deceased, the wife of Leonard Smith and the mother of one child, a son, John Henry, who is now living in Clarks Fork township. William Henry served in the German army prior to his coming to America.

Henry A. Renken immigrated to America in 1872 and located at Billingsville, Mo., where he was employed for four years, receiving \$100 a year. He worked as a laborer for 12 years and saved his earnings. Mr. Renken resided at Big Lick for one year after his marriage, and he moved to his present country place in 1882, a farm comprising 185 acres of land. At the time of his purchase, an old log-cabin stood on the place. The

Bottom of Page 520

present comfortable residence was built in 1892. It is a seven-room structure, well constructed, airy, and arranged with two halls. Prior to building the residence, Mr. Renken built two barns one in 1882, and the other in 1883. All buildings on the Renken farm are in excellent repair, including a garage, chicken houses, machinery shed, engine house, smoke house, shed for farm scales and granary. Mr. Renken has drilled two wells, one 212 feet in depth, the second 323 feet in depth. A third well is on the farm. In addition to the wells, there is an excellent spring on the farm and Clarks Fork Creek touches it. The Renken farm, widely known as "Willow Grove Farm," is located six miles from Boonville on the Jefferson road. Mr. Renken raises pure bred, but not registered, cattle and hogs. In former years, he was interested in raising trotting horses, and as a horseman he was unusually successful. He raised "Billy," and "Billy" was a high-stepper, a jumper, the sort used in England for fox chases. "Billy" was sold afterward for \$15,000 and he was taken to England.

In 1880, Henry A. Renken was united in marriage with Elizabeth C. Schnuck, of Saline township, a daughter of John and Catherine (Meyer) Schnuck. To Mr. and Mrs. Renken have been born the following children: Ida, now deceased, the wife of Herman Schmidt; Tillie, the wife of W. A. Farris, of Boonville; Florence, the wife of Walter Warnhoff, of Pilot Grove; William H., of Boonville; Leonora, the wife of John G. Henry, of Boonville; and Clara the wife of William G. Henry, of Boonville. Mr. and Mrs. Renken are the proud grandparents of four grandchildren: (falter M. Warnhoff, Alvina Elizabeth Henry, and George Henry Renken and Ralph Homer Warnhoff.

Henry A. Renken came to Missouri when deer still abounded. When he purchased his faun it was still unimproved. He and his faithful wife have together labored long and persistently to make their country place one of the most attractive in the county, and they have succeeded. Mr. Renken has always taken a good citizen's interest in the public schools of the county and in the work of the late war he was very active. He assisted with all the Liberty Loans, the Red Cross work, and the sale of Thrift Stamps. Mr. and Mrs. Renken are industrious progressive, highly respected citizens. They are valued members of the Evangelical Church of Boonville. Recently Mr. Renken sold his farm to his son-in-law, William G. Henry, and he and Mrs. Renken will make their future home in Boonville.

Bottom of Page 521

William E. Roeschel

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

William E. Roeschel - The late William E. Roeschel, former druggist of Boonville, was one of the best known citizens of Cooper County, who lived a life of usefulness and bore himself in such a manner as to place him in the front ranks of the leading and best respected citizens of Cooper County. He was born in Boonville, Oct. 7, 1859, lived practically all of his days in the city of his birth and died here, Nov. 12, 1916.

Dr. Ernest Roeschel, his father, was born at Moerfelden, Dukedom of Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany, March 3, 1824. He was educated in his native land and became an expert chemist and apothecary. When 28 years of age he came to America, landing at New York City, and from there went to Belleville, Ill. Six months later he came to Boonville, and was first employed in the drug store conducted by Dr. Kueckelhan. He remained there for three years and was then engaged by Thomas Allen who purchased the store. When Mr. Allen was succeeded in business by the firm

of Allen, Speed & Co., he remained with the firm for one year and then became a member of the firm of Speed & Roeschel. When the firm was dissolved upon the death of Mr. Speed, in 1862, Mr. Roeschel became sole proprietor of the business which he conducted for many years until he turned it aver to his son, William, of this review.

During the Civil War, Dr. Ernest Roeschel was enrolled on the side of the Union and served in the Home Guards and the Missouri Militia. For several years he was a member of the Boonville School Board, and also served as a member of the Boonville City Council.

Dr. Roeschel was married in Nov., 1853, in Boonville, to Miss Mary Haas. One child was born to this marriage, Mary, wife of W. A. Sombart of this city. In 1855, after the death of his first wife, Dr. Roeschel was married to her sister, Miss Rosetta Haas. Four children were born of this marriage: William, Victor, Laura and Emma. Emma married William J. Courtney, a shoe merchant of Sedalia. She and two of her children were drowned in the Missouri River at Boonville in 1906. One child survives her, William, aged 18 years. Mrs. Ernest Roeschel resides in Boonville and is aged 87 years.

Ernest Roeschel was a son of George Roeschel, a farmer and miller of Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany. His mother was Elenora Doerner Roeschel, who died at the age of 72 years.

William E. Roeschel, of this review, received his primary education in the public schools of Boonville and graduated from the local high school. He then studied at the University of St. Louis, and the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. He was first engaged in the drug business at Carthage

Bottom of Page 522

Mo., from 1882 to 1883. He then located permanently in Boonville and became associated with his father in the drug business. Soon afterwards he took entire charge of the Roeschel Drug Store and continued in business until failing health compelled him to dispose of the business to the present proprietor, William R. Miller, in 1914.

September 25, 1883, William E. Roeschel and Miss Cora Holt were united in marriage. Three children blessed this union: Mabel, Ernest H., and William E. Roeschel. Mabel is the wife of Otto H. Cramer, a leading merchant of Bunceton, Mo.

Ernest H. Roeschel was born in 1888. He enlisted in the National Army in June, 1917, trained at Fort Sheridan, was commissioned a second lieutenant, remained on duty at Camp Taylor for one year and was sent to France in Sept., 1918. He was a member of the 334th Infantry, transferred to the 138th Regiment and was with the 35th Division. Lieutenant Roeschel took part in the last great drive on the western front in the fall of 1918. He was honorably discharged in May, 1919 and is now in Chicago with an engineering firm.

William E. is a musician, at present traveling in his professional capacity, with headquarters in New York City.

Mrs. Cora (Holt) Roeschel was born in Alton, III., and is a daughter of Thomas and Jane Jemima (Four) Holt, the former of whom was a native of Tennessee, and the latter of Pennsylvania. Both parents came of an old American stock. The Holt family moved from Alton, III., to Richmond, Mo., and there the parents spent the remainder of their days.

Mr. Roeschel was successful in business and was interested financially in other enterprises in Boonville aside from his drug business. He was formerly a director of the Farmers Bank of Boonville, and was one of the substantial men of the city. He was a republican and was a member of the Knights of Pythias.

Fred Dauwalter

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Fred Dauwalter, secretary of the Boonville Building and Loan Association, and also engaged in the writing of fire and live stock insurance, with offices in the Pythian Building, Boonville, Mo., was born in St. Louis, Mo. His parents were J. S. and Catherine (Hailer) Dauwalter, both of whom were natives of Germany. J. S. Dauwalter was a tanner by trade and established a tanning business in Boonville in 1868 and remained in the tanning business until his death in 1913 at the age of 84 years. He also established a harness manufacturing business which was the leading concern of its kind in Boonville for many years, later being operated under the name of Dauwalter and Son. Catherine Dauwalter his wife,

Bottom of Page 523

was born in 1833 and died in 1912. They were parents of the following children: Clara Dauwalter, in the offices of W. H. Trigg & Co., Boonville; Bertha and Kate, living in Boonville; Fred, of this review.

Reared and educated in the public schools of Boonville, Fred Dauwalter became associated with his father in business and remained with the Dauwalter & Son firm until 1895 when he became cashier of the Commercial Bank of Boonville and served in this position for 18 years. In 1913 he engaged in the insurance business.

Mr. Dauwalter was married in 1887 to Miss Minnie Kratz of Boonville, who died in Oct., 1914, leaving three children: Schuyler, Kansas City, Mo., special agent for the Fidelity & Phoenix Fire Insurance Co., for the state of Missouri; Helen, physical training teacher in the Boonville High School, graduate of the Warrensburg Normal, and the Chicago University and was a candidate for the position of county superintendent of schools at the election held in April, 1919; Elizabeth, a student in Boonville High School.

Mr. Dauwalter is a republican and is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge.

Powhatan C. Nuckols a well-known and respected farmer and stockman of Boonville township, is a native of Virginia. Mr. Nuckols was born Feb. 1, 1849, a son of George P. and Martha B. (Crawford) Nuckols.

George P. Nuckols

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

George P. Nuckols was born in Goochland County, Va., in 1815. He was a plasterer, bricklayer and whitewashes. The whitewashes has been supplanted by the painter of today, but in the early part of the nineteenth century whitewashing was as much a vocation as painting is now It was said that George P. Nuckols was one of the most expert washers in his part of the country, as he could whitewash an entire room without dropping one bit of lime on the floor. He was wont to relate a story in regard to the coming of the railroads into his section of Virginia, and his son, Powhatan, recalls the tale. When the first train came puffing into Gordonsville, Va., the entire countryside flocked into the village to see the sight. One old lady, completely overwhelmed with the novelty, exclaimed earnestly, "Law! that engine must be tired. See how the poor thing blows!" Martha B. (Crawford) Nuckols was a native of Louisa County, Va. The children of George P. and Martha B. Nuckols are as follows: Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Nuckols, deceased; Mrs. Missouri Ann Perkins, deceased; Charles Robert, who resides on a part of the Nuckols home place in Virginia; Powhatan C., the subject of this review; Mrs. Frances Wade, who resides on a part of the home place in Virginia; Mrs. Susan Georgetta Isabel, deceased; Luther Robinson, deceased; Melvin Werllow, of Cody.

Bottom of Page 524

Wy.; Napoleon and Benjamin, of Cody, Wy.; and three children, who died in infancy. Both father and mother are now deceased, and their remains rest in the family burial ground on the home farm in Virginia. The Nuckols family is of Scotch descent.

Powhatan C. Nuckols attended a private school in his native State. He was with the Confederate army for a short time during the Civil War, but he was not a regularly enlisted man, as he was but 16 years of age at the time. Mr. Nuckols came to Missouri in 1869 and located at Overton, where he was employed by Kelly Ragland for three years, receiving as remuneration, \$20 a month at first, and later \$25 as foreman, and then received \$30 per month. He saved his earnings and purchased of farm of 340 acres at Overton, Mo. The river took away from him about 200 acres of the farm, and he sold the remainder and purchased his present country place in Boonville township, a farm of 230 acres, formerly owned by Lon Hickerson, known as the old Tucker place. There is a good residence on the farm, and two barns, one of which Mr. Nuckols has added. There is a well, 163 feet in depth, on the Nuckols place, which well is pumped by a windmill, and always contains at least 86 feet of water. The previous owner of the farm thought no water could ever be found under the land. Mr. Nuckols raises whiteface and Durham cattle, and a cross between Duroc Red and Poland China hogs.

Powhatan C. Nuckols and Zerilda J. Brushwood were united in marriage in December, 1873. Mrs. Nuckols is a native of Boone County, Mo. She was left an orphan when she was a very small child, and she was reared and educated by Mrs. Zerilda Farris. Mr. and Mrs. Nuckols have one daughter, Mattie Bell, who is the wife of M. C. Farris, and they reside in Texas. Mr. Farris is an engineer. Mr. Nuckols is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mrs. Nuckols is a member of the Baptist Church.

Mr. Nuckols is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and the Woodmen of the World. He is numbered among the best and most progressive citizens of Cooper County.

Benjamin F. Fredmeyer

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Benjamin F. Fredmeyer, proprietor of a flourishing dry cleaning, dyeing and pressing establishment in Boonville engaged in his present business on May 1, 1915. It is a pronounced success and the Fredmeyer establishment enjoys the trade and patronage of the best class of Boonville citizens. He was born in this city, April 13, 1886, and is a son of John Fredmeyer, an old citizen of Boonville.

John Fredmeyer was born in St. Louis, Mo., Oct. 12, 1848 and is a son of Bernard and Sophia (Karnes) Fredmeyer, who were natives of

Bottom of Page 525

Germany, settled in St. Louis upon immigrating to America and in 1857, came to Cooper County, where they spent their remaining years engaged in farming. John Friedmeyer was reared in Cooper County and engaged in farming pursuits in the Lone Elm neighborhood until his removal to Boonville. He was married to Catherine Eder, at Gooch Mill. She was born in 1849 and died June 10, 1901. Nine children were born to John and Catherine Fredmeyer, six of whom are living as follow Tillie, wife of J. W. Mitchell, Boonville, Mo.; John, a painter and decorator, Boonville, Mo.; William, a painter, Boonville, Mo.; Mrs. Josie Harrison, Boonville, Mo.; Benjamin F., subject of this sketch. Those deceased are: Bettie, Caroline, Edward and Harry.

B. F. Fredmeyer attended the public and high schools of Boonville and then pursued a course in Hill's Business College, Sedalia, Mo. For eight years he followed the profession of telegraph

operator. For six and a half years he was manager of the Western Union office at Boonville and served as manager at Hannibal, Mo., for 18 months. In 1915 he established his present business.

Mr. Fredmeyer was married on Nov. 25, 1914, to Miss Matilda Kopp, who was born in Boonville, Mo., June 2, 1893, and is a daughter of Philip Kopp (b. 1837, d. 1898). Philip Kopp was born in Germany and came to Boonville, Mo., with his parents who immigrated to America from Germany in 1843. He married Louise Boller who was formerly engaged in the millinery and dressmaking business in Boonville with her sister for over 25 years. She was born in 1857 and died June 22, 1917. Mrs. Louise Kopp was born on a farm west of Boonville and was a daughter of Gottfried Boller who was killed by guerrillas during the Civil War. His father was also shot in the back while driving to the city. Philip A. Kopp conducted a barber shop in Boonville for a number of years and erected the building now occupied by the Fredmeyer business. He sold the lot upon which is built the McCurdy building. Philip A. Kopp was father of the following children: Philip E., Kansas City, Mo.; Arthur W., a soldier in the National Army, stationed at Camp Hallburg, near Baltimore, Maryland.

Mr. Fredmeyer is a republican. He is a member of the Evangelical Church and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias.

Homer L. Chamberlain

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Homer L. Chamberlain, proprietor of "Coal Spring Stock Farm," consisting of 192 acres of good land purchased Aug. 9, 1910. This farm is so called because a good part of the farm is underlaid with a vein of

Bottom of Page 526

coal. Mr. Chamberlin is engaged in stock raising, sells no grain from the farm, and feeds everything raised on the place to live stock, and even buys grain and hay for his live stock. Mr. Chamberlin was born in the Bell Air neighborhood, Feb. 3, 1883.

Lucien L. Chamberlin, his father, was born Jan. 22, 1838, and died Feb. 28, 1919. His birth occurred in Jefferson county, Va., and he died at Magnolia, Miss., at the age of 81 years, one month, and six days. He was a son of John W. and Eliza (Headwall) Chamberlin, mention of whom is made in connection with the sketch of A. L. and his father, Albert M. Chamberlin, in this volume. On the outbreak of the Civil War, L. L. Chamberlin enlisted in Co. B, 12th Virginia Regiment, Colonel Harmon's regiment, in Ashby's brigade, afterward known as the "Laurel Brigade," and served with his command until the close of the war. "Ashby's Brigade" covered itself with glory during the Civil War. This brigade participated in more hard fought battles than any other command on either side during the war. It never surrendered, but at the close of the war disbanded, and what was left of its tattered and war worn members, went home, to surrender, if at all, as individuals, L. L. Chamberlin took a part in all the battles in which his command participated and passed through the entire struggle without a wound. He was under constant fire for 40 days during one of their most severe campaigns. He came to Cooper County. Mo., in 1865, and in 1882, he located on his farm of 349 acres, which he developed into a fine estate. In 1897 he went to Texas, where he bought 1800 acres in Harris County. One year later he returned to Missouri and purchased the old McCurdy farm of over 300 acres. Two years later he made his home with his daughter, Mrs. L. M. Harriman, and also with his son, Homer L.

L. L. Chamberlin was married Aug. 8, 1867, at Bell Air, to Miss Mary 17. Robinson, a daughter of Rev. Jehu Robinson, of Johnson County, who removed to Cooper County and was a wealthy land owner, holding acreage in three counties. Mrs. Mary or Mollie (Robinson) Chamberlin was born at Springfield, Mo., in 1847, and was one of 11 children born to her parents. She died in 1898, admired and loved for her good Christian works, all her life being a devout member of the Baptist Church. The children born to L. L. and Mollie Chamberlin are: Magnus J., Homer L.,

Leonard M., Claybourne, Mrs. Wyatt Wyan, and Mrs. L. M. Harriman, of Magnolia, Miss. Magnus J. Chamberlin lives in St. Louis. Leonard M. Chamberlin lives in Mississippi and is a farmer and live stock dealer. Claybourne Chamberlin, the soldier of the family, enlisted in the National

Bottom of Page 527

Army early in May 1917, sailed for France in April, 1918, after training with the 4th Regular Engineers at Vancouver, Wash., and Charlotte, N. C. In July 1918, he took part in the battle of the Marne, participated in the St. Mihiel drive, and was in the battles of the Argonne Forest, from Sept. 26 until the latter part of October. He was at the Vesle River, where he took part in some hot fighting. Mrs. Wyatt Wyan lives in Texas. Mrs. L. M. Harriman lives at Magnolia, Miss., and is a worker in the Red Cross.

The late Lucien L. Chamberlin was a well educated man and came from a fine Virginia family. He was active in democratic politics in Cooper County and was one of the "Wheel horses" of his party during his active lifetime. He was an Odd Fellow and a member of the Baptist Church.

Robert F. Wyan

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Robert F. Wyan - The oldest mercantile family in Cooper County is the Wyan's, beginning with Jacob Fortney Wyan, grandfather of Robert F. Wyan, retired merchant of Bunceton. Three generations of this family have been engaged in mercantile pursuits in this county since the advent of Jacob F. Wyan as the first merchant in Boonville in 1817. His son, Wesley J. Wyan, also became a merchant, as was the subject of this review. For over 100 years the grandfather, father, and Robert F. Wyan have been among the leaders in the business world of Cooper County, and the family is one of the most honored and respected in this section of Missouri.

Jacob Fortney Wyan, the pioneer merchant of Boonville, was born in Hagerstown, Md., Oct. 14, 1772. He was a son of Dutch parents, and was left an orphan when but a child. He died in Boonville, April 20, 1842. He came to Boonville in 1817 and established the first store. Prior to coming here he had served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and had made a gallant record as a soldier. Mr. Wyan was the first Free Mason to reside in what is now Cooper County, and he gave to the city of Boonville the first cemetery in 1821. He brought to the town the first woolcarding machine and assisted in establishing the first woolen mill.

Jacob F. Wyan was three times married. His first marriage was with May Gay, born Feb. 8, 1798, a daughter of Dr. Samuel Gay. His second marriage was with Mrs. Sallie (Gaines) Shanks, a daughter of John Shanks. His third marriage occurred at Crab Orchard, Ky., Jan 16, 1817, with Nancy Shanks. Seven children were born to this marriage, Eve of whom were reared to maturity: Sallie Gaines, who married Dr.

Bottom of Page 528

William H. Trigg, of Boonville; Margaret wife of the late James M. Nelson; Mary, wife of Thomas W. Nelson; Nancy, wife of William S. Myers; and Wesley J. Wyan, of this review.

Wesley J. Wyan, father of Robert F. Wyan, was born in Boonville, June 8, 1825. He attended the public schools and studied for four years in the State University at Columbia. When he finished his course at Columbia, he returned home and followed merchandising in Boonville about 15 years. In 1868 he located at Bell Air and established a general merchandise business. Later, he engaged in the live stock business, but again resumed the mercantile business and resided at Bell Air until his death in 1898. Mr. Wyan won an enviable reputation as a thorough man of business, honest and upright in his dealings with his fellow men, and he was universally respected By all who knew him. He was a member of the M. E. Church South, and was a member of Wallace Lodge, No. 456, A. F. & A. M., Bunceton, Mo.

Aug. 17, 1847, Wesley J. Wyan was married to Miss Catherine J. Menefee, born in Virginia in 1838, and who was a daughter of Judge Henry R. Menefee, who came from Rappahannock County, Va., in the early forties. Mrs. Catherine Wyan departed this life in 1908. To Wesley J. and Catherine Wyan were born five sons: Robert F. subject of this review; W. F., deceased; Wyatt T., residing in Texas; Henry T., deceased; Wesley J., died in Texas.

Robert F. Wyan received his education in the Kemper School at Boonville, and when 16 years of age he joined his father in the mercantile business. In 1872 he engaged in business at Bell Air, and succeeded his father at that place. For over 20 years he carried on a large and successful business enterprise at Bell Air. In 1911, he having located in Bunceton, he associated himself with others and erected the Bunceton Ice and Electric Plant which the corporation operated for a period of five years, and then sold the plant in 1918. Mr. Wyan erected the finest and most beautiful residence in Bunceton in 1912. This splendid home, the only strictly modern home in Bunceton, consists of 15 rooms, and is tastefully decorated and arranged.

Robert F. Wyan was married in 1894 to Miss Rosa Callahan, who was born in Cooper County in 1872, and is a daughter of C. C. Callahan. Four daughters and a son have blessed this union: Augusta, Florence, Jessie, Pauline, and Jacob F. Wyan, all of whom are at home.

Bottom of Page 529

Mr. Wyan is a democrat, but has never sought political preferment. He is a member of Wallace Lodge, No. 456, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Bunceton, Mo., and comes of a family of Masons, his father, Wesley J. Wyan, having been one of the most prominent Masons in Missouri, attaining to a membership in the Grand Lodge. Mr. Wyan has the distinction of being the oldest Mason in the southern part of Cooper County in point of years of membership, having been 40 years a Mason, and is the only surviving charter member of the Bunceton Lodge. He is a past master of his lodge. Mr. Wyan is a pleasant, agreeable, well informed gentleman, whose friends are legion in Cooper County, and his family are prominent socially in the city and county.

Henry Waterman

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Henry Waterman - This was a better world for having had the late Henry Waterman of Boonville for a denizen, even for his brief span of years as allotted to mankind; lives were freshened, hearts were made glad, and thousands of people were entertained by his great musical talent during his lifetime. For many years Mr. Waterman was president of the Boonville Singing Society, which flourished in the days gone by; he was a founder of the original Turner Hall and was one of the most active citizens in Boonville when it came to promotion of civic enterprise or arranging some entertainment, which all the people could enjoy.

Mr. Waterman was born in Roth, Bavaria, in 1818, and died April 1, 1901. The same ship which carried him to America brought along his intended wife, Fannie Strauss, whom he married shortly after landing in New York City, in 1848. She was born in 1821 and died Dec. 13, 1907. Mr. Waterman first located in Boston, Mass., and from that city located in Worcester, where he engaged in business. From there he came to St. Louis and established a clothing business. April 1, 1867, he came to Boonville, Mo., on the steamboat "Clara." He engaged in the clothing business in this city on the corner now occupied by the Victor Building and was successful in business for many years. Mr. Waterman built up a large trade and his name became familiar throughout this part of Missouri.

Nine children were born to Henry and Fannie Waterman, as follows: Hannah, deceased, wife of Henry Wolfert, Boonville, Mo.; John, a former merchant, born 1852, and died Feb. 15, 1896; Mrs. Henrietta Becker, Boonville, Mo.; Elizabeth, born, 1851, deceased wife of Philip Wolfert, a

merchant of Belleville, Ill.; Nannie, deceased wife of Joseph Rosenbaum, a former merchant of Fayette, Mo., and New York City; Belle, living in

Bottom of Page 530

St. Louis, Mo.; Mrs. Carrie Kohn, a widow, Maryanna, Ark., now of Boonville, Mo.; Alexander makes his home with Mrs. Becker.

Dec. 26, 1898, the golden wedding anniversary of the marriage of Henry and Fannie Waterman was celebrated. The occasion was made practically a holiday in Boonville. Hundreds of friends gathered to witness the wedding, which was performed by Rabbi Dr. Sale of St. Louis. Dr. William Mittelbach was master of ceremonies; Prof. A. H. Sauter had charge of the music, and the late Hon. Jacob F. Gmelich gave a talk in a happy strain in the native speech of the worthy couple. Mr. Waterman sang his favorite song, "Brightest Eyes," and others well known in Boonville contributed to make an entertainment and celebration famous in the history of the old families of Boonville. It was the consensus of opinion that there had never been a more beautiful nor a more delightful occasion of a similar kind held in this city. The outpouring from friends, who loaded Mr. and Mrs. Waterman down with valuable and handsome presents, was a true and fitting testimonial of the very high regard in which they were held in their home city.

The late Henry Waterman was a noted singer, who gave his services freely on public occasions. He sang at all of the churches in the city at various times when his services were desired, and he was the leading spirit in the musical society of Boonville. It was a regular occasion that when Mr. Waterman had a birthday anniversary, the singing society, which he organized, would visit him and celebrate the anniversary; when Mrs. Waterman had a birthday anniversary, the society would call and sing beneath her window and Mr. Waterman would sing a solo. He was a true American patriot, who loved his adopted country and its customs with heart and soul. He was an Odd Fellow for over 50 years and received the coveted gold medal awarded to members who belong to the society for a half century. He was a stanch democrat and took an active and influential part in the affairs of his party.

Mrs. Henrietta (Waterman) Becker, of this review, was born in Boston, Mass., in 1853. She was married in 1874 in St. Louis, to Ferdinand Becker, who was born in Aldenstadt, Germany, in 1852, emigrated from Germany to America in 1870, located in Fayette, Mo., and clerked for Charles Rosebaum of that city. He died in 1893, while on a business and pleasure trip, death coming in Chicago as an operation was performed. He became a Mason at the age of 21 years.

The children born to Ferdinand and Henrietta Becker are as follows:

Bottom of Page 531

Nettie, wife of Will Walthers, Boonville, Mo.; Harry died as a result of an operation in St. Louis, at the age of seven years; Fred met his death in a tragic automobile accident, May 10, 1914, when 19 years of age.

Mrs. Becker inherited her father's musical gift and became a singer of more than local note. She received a thorough musical education and sang for the public for many years. She was a soloist at a famous masked ball held at Turner Hall and took first prize as "Pocahontas." Mrs. Will Waiters, her daughter, was formerly a fine singer and talented musician, who received a splendid musical education.

Chris Smith

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Chris Smith, retired farmer and justice of the peace, was born on a farm seven miles northeast of Bunceton, in Clarks Fork township, April 13, 1862. His first home was a log-cabin set in the midst of a clearing which his father Squire Nicholas Smith, made in the early fifties.

Nicholas Smith was born Nov. 2 1837, and died July 5, 1914. He was a native of Germany and immigrated to America in 1854. One year later, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Adam Smith, joined him. in Clarks Fork township, where Nicholas Smith had purchased 40 acres of virgin timber land. The first thing he did was to build his cabin of logs, cut and trimmed on the place, gradually enlarging his clearing, cutting cord-wood in winter and hauling it to Boonville for sale and trade in the summer season. In 1866, he moved to a farm on the prairie, and bought 120 acres northeast of Lone Elm Store. He lived on this place for two years and then bought the old Fryer estate of 300 acres three miles east of Lone Elm. He resided on his farm until 1887 and then went to Boonville to make his home for the remainder of his days. Squire Nicholas Smith served in the State Guards during the Civil War, and served four years as justice of the peace in Clarks Fork township. After removing to Boonville he again filled the post of justice of the peace for four years. His wife was Margaret Dornhouser prior to her marriage, and was born in Moniteau County, in 1844, a daughter of pioneer parents. She now resides in Texas with her son, William Smith. The children born to Nicholas and Margaret Smith are as follows: Josephine lives in Texas; William, Texas; Sophia is the wife of William F. Johnmeyer, Boonville; Bettie is the wife of August Brickner, Boonville; and Chris, subject of this review.

Chris Smith lived for 50 years on his farm in Clarks Fork township. He purchased this tract of 300 acres in 1887 and sold the place on March 1, 1919, to his son, Benjamin.

Bottom of Page 532

Nov. 17, 1887, he was married to Miss Augusta Brandes, who was born in New Zealand, June 11, 1867. She is a daughter of Chris and Sarah (Wilshire) Brandes, natives respectively of Hanover and New Zealand. Chris Brandes went to New Zealand when a boy 16 years old as a member of a musical organization which was touring Australia and New Zealand. He remained for five years in New Zealand, and was five years in Australia. The band of which he was a member was an adjunct to a circus. In 1871, he came to Missouri and settled on a farm west of Prairie Home, later moving to a farm north of Lone Elm, where the mother of Mrs. Smith now resides. The children born to Chris and Augusta (Brandes) Smith are: Mrs. Mamie Langkop, whose husband is a merchant at Nelson, Mo.; Benjamin Smith on the home place; Pearl, wife of Arthur Smith, living on a farm seven miles east of Bunceton; Emily, wife of Ed Fricke, merchant at Lone Elm; Lillian, wife of John Roehrs, Bunceton, Mo., married Jan. 1, 1919; Esther Smith is at home with her parents.

Mr. Smith is a republican, and is prominent in the affairs of his party. When living on the farm he took a keen interest in educational matters, and served as school director of his district for 18 years. For four years he was road commissioner and took a commendable interest in having good roads. He was elected justice of the peace of Kelly township in November, 1918. For the past 12 years he has been a director of the Cooper County Bank, and for the past eight years he has been a director of the Farmers Elevator Company of Bunceton. He is a member of the Evangelical Church, and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Modern Brotherhood. Chris Smith is a useful and enterprising and progressive citizen, who stands high in the esteem and regard of his fellow men and whose friends are legion.

Dr. H. D. Quigg

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Dr. H. D. Quigg, eye, ear, nose and throat specialist Boonville, Mo., has practiced his profession in Cooper County for nearly 30 years and during that time has filled one of the highest offices within the gift of the people. In the number of years of practice in this county he is one of the oldest physicians in the county. Dr. Quigg was born in Hickory County, Mo., March 5, 1863, and

is a son of J. W. and Lucretia A. (Bradley) Quigg, the former was of Pennsylvania German stock and the latter of Scotch-Irish descent whose forbears settled in Tennessee.

J. W. Quigg, Sr., came to Missouri in 1830 and developed a farm, in Hickory County where he was a very prominent citizen. He served several terms as sheriff of the county and was widely and favorably known

Bottom of Page 533

He was born in 1819 and departed this life in 1894. He was twice married, three children being born to his first marriage and 11 children were born of his second marriage of whom Dr. Quigg is one.

Reared in Hickory county, Dr. Quigg attended the district school and then went to the Southwest Baptist College in Polk County, Mo. He entered the Cincinnati Medical College and graduated from this institution in 1890. He began practice in Hickory County and then located at Blackwater, Cooper County the same year. With the exception of four years spent as the superintendent of the Missouri Hospital for the Feeble Minded and Epileptics at Marshall, Mo., he has practiced continuously in Cooper County. He was appointed to the superintendency of the State Hospital at Marshall in 1910 and served until 1914. Soon after leaving the hospital he went to Chicago and pursued a course in the famous Chicago eye, ear, nose and throat hospital and prepared himself for this special practice. He then came to Boonville and established his offices where he devotes his time to special as well as general practice.

Dr. Quigg was married twice. His first marriage took place in Hickory County in 1890 with Elizabeth Cully, a daughter of Joseph Cully. She died in 1906 leaving one child, Farrell C., a ranchman in Montana. Dr. Quigg's second marriage occurred in 1911 with Miss Elizabeth Craig, of Arrow Rock, Mo., a daughter of Hugh Craig. One child has blessed this marriage: H. D. Quigg, Jr., aged seven years.

Dr. Quigg is a republican who served two years as coroner of Cooper County. He was elected representative from Cooper County in 1902 and served until 1904 as a member of the Missouri State Legislature. He was again elected in 1904, serving two terms. He was a member of the Committee on Ways and Means and was chairman of the Committee on Health and Scientific Institutes. He introduced and had passed a bill empowering the city of Boonville to build High street in this city. Dr. Quigg is affiliated with the Odd Fellows and the Masons.

Henry Schrader

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Henry Schrader, owner of a well improved farm of 73 acres situated just west of Boonville, is a native of the province of Schleswig-Holstein, and was born Sept. 18, 1869. His parents were Henry and Henrietta Schrader, who left their native country and came to Cooper County, Mo., in 1882. They settled in Boonville and Henry, the elder, operated a dairy in the vicinity for 17 years. The father died in 1907 at the age of 68 years. The mother died in 1916 aged 73 years. There were three children in the Schrader family, as follows: Henry, subject of this sketch;

Bottom of Page 534

Charles Schrader living at Wooldridge, this county; Lena, wife of Ed Thoma, Boonville, Mo.

Henry Schrader was 13 years of age when the family settled in Boonville. He was reared in this city and began when a boy to assist his father in the operation of his dairy business. In 1899 he moved to the farm which he now owns, rented the land for a number of years and finally purchased the place in 1916. Mr. Schrader is a good farmer, industrious and a good business manager.

Mr. Schrader was married in 1899 to Miss Kate Miller, a daughter of Taylor Miller. To Henry and Kate Schrader have been born four children, as follows: Rosa, Wilbur, Henry and Harold, all at home with their parents.

Mr. Schrader is a republican and takes an interest in political and civic affairs. He is a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Woodmen of the World and is popular and well known in the community.

John Clifford Barnhart

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

John Clifford Barnhart, proprietor of a flourishing tire and vulcanizing shop, established in Boonville, in the fall of 1916, is a native of Cooper County. Mr. Barnhart has a fully equipped tire repair and vulcanizing shop and handles such excellent lines of auto tires as the Fisk, Mohawk, Firestone and Mason makes and also makes a specialty of retreading worn outer casings.

Joseph Barnhart, his father was born Jan. 8, 1850, and died April 7, 1906. He was a native of Washington County, Pa., and was a son of John Barnhart, who migrated to Indiana thence to lowa and then moved to Schuyler County, Mo. He removed to Cooper County, Mo., in about 1868. John Barnhart settled on a farm one mile south of Billingsville and later removed to a place south of Rankin's Mill. Joseph Barnhart was married in Cooper County to Mary Frances Jeffries, a daughter of Rev. John Jeffries, a minister and farmer of Cooper County, now deceased. Mary F. Barnhart was born in this county in 1853 and now resides in Boonville at 510 Third street. Joseph Barnhart developed a splendid farm of 158 acres one mile west of Prairie Lick. He was father of the following children: Mrs. Stella Helmrich, St. Louis, Mo.; Leona Barnhart, a milliner living in St. Louis, Mo.; Alima Barnhart, at home with her mother; and John C., of this review.

J. C. Barnhart was born Dec. 19, 1888 on a farm six miles southwest of Boonville and was there reared to young manhood. He was educated at Prairie View District School and the Boonville High School, and after

Bottom of Page 535

his fathers death he took charge of the home place. He came to Boonville in 1916 and has since been engaged in the tire business. His new bungalow residence is located on Third street across from the Kemper Military School.

Mr. Barnhart was married on Oct. 4, 1910, to Miss Mabel Marshall, born on a farm two miles west of Blackwater, in Cooper County, and a daughter of William and Martha Marshall, the latter of whom is deceased. William Marshall still resides on the old Marshall homestead, one of the oldest settled farms in Cooper County. Mr. and Mrs. Barnhart have one child, Margaret Barnhart, born Jan. 2, 1919.

Mr. Barnhart is a republican and is a thorough business man who is making a success. He is a member of the Baptist church, is progressive, intelligent and keenly alive to the project of building a greater and better Boonville.

Ed Patterson

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Ed Patterson, farmer and stockman, manager of the famous "Ravenswood Stock Farm," Bunceton, Mo., is one of the best known and popular citizens of Cooper County. Mr. Patterson is owner of 173 acres, two and a half miles northwest of Bunceton. The "Ravenswood Stock Farm" comprises 2,100 acres and is one of the largest individual farms in central Missouri. Most of the

land is in grass, and the farm is devoted to the breeding of Shorthorn cattle. The oldest Shorthorn herd in the world was started on this farm in the year 1839 by Nathaniel Leonard, and the profession of breeding Shorthorns has been carried on with increasing success by his descendents. A herd of 125 purebred Shorthorns is maintained constantly on the farm, and the best of care is given this fine live stock. The majority of all Shorthorn cattle west of the Mississippi River are descendents from the famous Ravenswood herd. On this farm has been bred and sold the highest priced sire ever sold in the world, which brought \$40,000 at the Royal Stock Sales in Argentine. This animal was grand champion for two years at the Royal Stock Shows. Through him and through the reputation of the cattle exported to South America from the "Ravenswood Stock Farm" has come the popularity of American Shorthorn cattle in Argentine and South American stock raising centers. This importation began in 1893 and marks the beginning of a new era in South America, and the way was opened for the exportation of American pure bred live stock to South America. Mr. Patterson has been manager of the "Ravenswood Stock Farm" for the past 34 years. Ten men are employed in the operations of the farm.

Bottom of Page 536

Ed Patterson was born in Clarksburg, Ind., in 1852, Aug. 10. He is a son of Thompson and Rebecca (Day) Patterson both of whom were natives of Kentucky. Thompson Patterson was born in 1816, and died in 1892. Rebecca, his wife, was born in 1820 and died in 1885. They settled in Indiana in 1852, and from there came to Missouri in 1870, settling on Lone Elm Prairie, where the elder Patterson bought a farm and resided until the end of his days. They were parents of seven children: Mrs. Maria Taylor, living in Louisville, Ky.; Lovely living at Tipton, Mo.; Malinda died in Indiana; Thompson, Bunceton, Mo.; Darius, a farmer in Indiana; Ed Patterson, of this review; Rev. Henry C. Patterson, who died in Lexington, Ky., in 1909, and was a noted evangelist of the Christian denomination.

Ed Patterson came to Missouri with his parents in 1870, and lived with his father until 1873 when he began farming on his own account. In 1885, he took charge of the "Ravenswood Stock Farm." Mr. Patterson was married in 1876 to Miss Emma Dills, a daughter of J. N Dills. To this marriage was born Gussie, wife of Bret Peters, proprietor of the moving picture theater, Bunceton, Mo., and they have two children, Emma Peyton and Coleta.

Mr. Patterson bred the famous Shorthorn bull which sold for \$10,000 at the famous Red Cross sale held in 1918 at Birmingham, Ala. This was the grand champion of 100 bulls exhibited, and was sold to Woodrow Wilson for \$1.00. The president donated the animal to be sold again. He was sold again on condition that the champion was to be quartered for 24 hours in the lobby of the luxurious and palatial Hotel Tutwiler in Birmingham. This was done, and the occasion was made a great event in the South.

Mr. Patterson is a stanch democrat. He is a member of the Christian Church and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is one of the most skilled breeders in animal husbandry in Missouri, and is widely known among the stockmen of the country. Genial, friendly disposed, kind hearted, his friends are legion, and his standing as a citizen of Cooper County is high.

Michael J. Felton

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Michael J. Felton, farmer and grain dealer, Prairie Lick, Mo., has a splendid country place embracing 300 acres and known as the "Harbor Farm". This place is improved by a large brick house erected by Michael Felton, the subject of this review.

Hubert Felton was born in Germany, married Catherine Leswick,

Bottom of Page 537

settled in Cooper County, Mo. and reared a family of children. For further particulars concerning Hubert Felton, the reader is referred to the sketch of Frank J. Felton, of Boonville.

M. J. Felton was born March 10, 1860 on a farm east of Boonville and removed with his parents to the present place where he now resides when but a boy. He attended, the Hickory Grove School and when he became of age he began farming on his own account. He also operated a threshing outfit and has been financially interested in threshing machinery and the industry for a number of years. He embarked in the business of buying and shipping grain in 1900 and purchased the Prairie Lick Elevator from Mr. Rogers. The fine brick house which graces the Felton farm was erected in 1907.

Mr. Felton was married in 1887 to Miss Gertrude Brummel, a daughter of the late Peter Brummel and sister of Henry Brummel, a sketch of whom appears in this history. Mrs. Mary Gertrude Felton was born in 1855 and died in Aug. ,1904, leaving eight children, as follows: Gertrude, wife of George Hayes, Boonville, Ma.; Leo. H. Felton, grain dealer and shipper, Bunceton, Mo.; Isabella, at home with her father; Florence, Sister Emelda, in a convent at Clyde, Mo.; Margaret, Clifton City, Mo.; Mary, Kansas City, Mo.; Agnes, Sister Elfelda, Clyde, Mo.; Hubert, aged 18 years, at home.

Mr. Felton is a democrat, a member of the Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus.

Balthasar Lang

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Balthasar Lang - The really remarkable success achieved by Balthasar Lang of the Prairie Lick neighborhood in the space of 33 years, could only have been accomplished by a man of energy, industry and of decided financial ability. Mr. Lang came to Cooper County in 1885, purchased his first land in 1891, went in debt for it, and is now the owner of 418 acres of good land, besides owning a half interest in 220 acres in Howard County. Mr. Lang's home place of 132 acres is splendidly improved with a large, handsome frame house, and big barns with the fencing in excellent repair. Mr. Lang is a keen and shrewd farmer who knows how to retain and restore the fertility of soil. He favors the Hereford breed of cattle for his farms.

Balthasar Lang was born in Germany in 1857 and is the son of George and Ottilior Lang, the former of whom died in Germany. Mr. Lang came to America in Dec., 1881 and was first employed in Lake County, Ind., where he remained for three years and then had occasion to make a visit to Germany on account of the death of his father. He then came to

Bottom of Page 538

Cooper County, having just located here when he was called home to Germany. When he returned to America he was accompanied by his mother, his brother, George, and his sisters, Elizabeth, now deceased, Ortillia, Marguerite, and Anna, now deceased. At once he and his brother George established themselves and the family upon a farm which they bought. Mr. Lang's mother died at his home. His sister Ortillia, now Mrs. Day, lives at Pilot Grove, Mo. Marguerite Lang married Jos. F. Esser of Pilot Grove, Mo.

Mr. Lang moved to his present home farm in 1891 and for some years lived in a log and box house. In 1900 he built his large six room house. He was married in 1890 to Miss Annie Day, born in the Rhine Province, Germany, and came to America in 1886. The children born to Balthasar and Annie Lang, are Mrs. Mary, wife of Frank Gross, living on the Lang farm land; George at home; Annie, wife of Fred Martin, Lamine township; Rosa, wife of Joseph Lang, Boonville township; Bertha, twin of Rosa, Joseph, Henry, William, Magdalena and Frank, are at home.

While Mr. Lang is a republican, he is inclined to vote independently for those candidates whom he deems best fitted. He and his family worship at the Martinsville Catholic Church. Joseph and George are members of the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Lang is a good, all round American citizen.

Everett Hilden

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Everett Hilden, late of Billingsville, was one of the successful citizens of Cooper County who not only made a success of his life in a material sense, but whose life as he lived it furnishes a lesson in good citizenship. Mr. Hilden was born Sept. 8, 1848, and died March 6, 1907. He was a native of Germany and came to America in 1853 with his parents, Adolph and Ursula (Reinfeldt) Hilden, who emigrated from the seat of the family at Ludrich, Cologne. They landed at New Orleans, after a long trip in a sailing vessel, and on Dec. 17, 1853, they arrived in St. Louis, Mo. In May, 1854, the family came to Boonville and then removed to a farm near Jewett's Mills. Later the father settled on a farm one-half mile north of Billingsville.

Mr. Hilden conducted the general merchandise store at Billingsville for five years, but was primarily a farmer and stockman during his entire life. He became owner of a large estate of 400 acres, which is improved with substantial farm, home and other good buildings.

He was married Sept. 9, 1879, to Miss Lena Esser, who bore him nine children: Henry died in 1895; Mrs. Annie Moore, Cape Girardeau, Mo.; Julia, Adolph, Bertram L., Evelyn, at home; Patrick, William, and Barbara.

Bottom of Page 539

Patrick Hilden, the soldier of the Hilden family, was born May 3, 1894, and enlisted in the National Army in June, 1918. He was trained for overseas service at Camp Pike, Ark., and in Aug., 1918, went to France as a member of General Headquarters Company No. 2, Co. G, Provisional Infantry Regiment.

Mrs. Lena Esser Hilden was born in Cooper County, Mo., Jan. 25, 1859, and is a daughter of Bertram and Agnes (Felton) Esser, natives of Germany, the latter of whom was a sister of the late Hubert Felton. Bertram Esser died in Cooper County in 1877. Mrs. Agnes Esser died in March, 1897, There were eight children born to Bertram and Agnes Esser, of whom seven are living: Mrs. Elizabeth Weitz, Marshall, Mo.; Joseph, Pilot Grove, Mo.; Lawrence, Boonville, Mo.; Mrs. Mary Brooks, Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. Margaret Martin, deceased; Mrs. Catherine Dumolt Billingsville, Mo.; and Mrs. Lena Hilden, of this sketch; John lives at Pilot Grove, Mo.

The late Mr. Hilden was a member of Sts. Peter and Paul's Catholic Church of Boonville, as are all the members of his family. He was affiliated fraternally with the Woodmen of the World, Boonville Camp No. 40, and the Catholic Knights of America. He was widely and favorably known and for a long period was closely identified with live stock and farming in Cooper County.

H. D. Carlos

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

- H. D. Carlos and H. D. Carlos, Jr.-The Carlos family is one of the old pioneer families of Cooper County. H. D. Carlos, Jr., druggist of Bunceton, Mo., is descended from a Spanish immigrant, Don Carlos, who fought in the American Revolution in behalf of the American colonies. His son, C. M. Don Carlos, settled in Cooper County about 1825, and built up what was formerly known as the old Carlos homestead near Prairie Home.
- H. D. Carlos, father of H. D Carlos, Jr., was born on the Carlos homestead in 1842, and was reared to maturity near Prairie Home. He followed agricultural pursuits for a number of years and

established the frst drug store at Prairie Home in 1882. Later, he removed to Boonville and served as assessor of Cooper County for two terms. He went to Texas in 1902 and located in Rock Island County, where he invested in a large tract of land. Eventually he engaged in the drug business in Dallas. In 1905, the Carlos Drug Store was established in Bunceton, in which both father and son are interested

H. D. Carlos was married to Elnora Simms who was born in 1855,

Bottom of Page 540

and died in 1909. She was a sister of Clay Simms of Gooch's Mill, and was born in Cooper County, a daughter of pioneer parents. Eight children were born to H. D. and Elnora Carlos, as follows: Nellie, wife of T. H. Eayde, Tulsa, Okla.; Anna, deceased wife of E. E. Carey; Porter, deceased wife of A. H. Moore; Clay, wife of R. E. Maze, Rock Island, Texas; Hattige, Kansas City; Nora, wife of L. G. Smith, Kansas City, Mo.; Fannie, deceased wife of John Waite.

Hillard D. Carlos, Jr., was educated in the Bunceton public schools, and in the St. Louis College of Pharmacy. He graduated in pharmacy in 1914, and immediately engaged in the business at Bunceton. Mr. Carlos has been practically reared in the drug business and is familiar with every phase of it. He is operating one of the neatest, best stocked and best equipped drug stores in central Missouri.

Hillard D. Carlos, Jr., was married Sept. 25, 1918, to Miss Bernardine English, born in Cooper County, a daughter of H. H. English, widely known stockman of Cooper County.

H. D. Carlos and his son are stanch democrats. H. D. Carlos, Jr., served as lieutenant in the Bunceton Home Guards during the World War. He is a member of the Baptist Church and is a past master of the Bunceton Lodge of Free Masons, and is a member of the Knights of Pythias. H. D. Carlos, Sr., is one of the oldest Masons in Cooper County, having become a member of the order when he was 21 years of age.

Samuel Walker Roberts

(Transcribed by Laura Paxton)

The late Samuel Walker Roberts was one of those citizens who, gifted beyond ordinary attainments, made a reputation as a scientific breeder of fine cattle that extended far beyond the borders of his home county. He was born in Camden County MO., June 1 1860, and died in Boonville, September 25 1916. At the time of his death, he held the post of farmer at the Missouri Training School. His parents were Hon. James Green and Ailcy (Walker) Roberts, the latter of whom was a member of an old and honored pioneer family of Cooper County.

Hon. James Green Roberts was born in Knoxville Tennessee, December 6 1826, and died in Cooper County June 28 1901. He settled in Camden County Mo in 1844. In 1849, James Green Roberts made the overland trip to the gold fields of California. He remained there for two years, and then went to Lima Penn., where he remained for one year. He made the trip home to Missouri via Cape Horn and New York City. During the Civil War he made his home in Vernon County MO. Mr. Roberts enlisted in 1862, in Company I, under Capt. Jesse McCaliph, Colonel Bainbridge's

Bottom of Page 541

regiment, which was attached to General Marmaduke's Division. He was later made a member of General Marmaduke's staff and was captured at Nine Mile Creek, Kansas, and kept a prisoner by the Federals until the close of the war. Mr. Roberts had six brothers who fought in the Civil War.

After the close of the war, James Green Roberts came to Cooper County, where he became a prominent and influential figure. He purchased the old Walker home place at Pleasant Green and became well to do as a farmer and stockman. In 1874 he was elected representative from Cooper county and served two terms in the Missouri Assembly of 1864 and 1876. He was the father of five children, four of whom died in infancy: Samuel Walker Roberts, of this review, being the only child of his parents who grew to maturity. J L Roberts was married in 18567 to Ailcy (Walker) Roberts, mother of the subject of this review. She was born in 1828 and departed this life in 1902. She was a daughter of Samuel Walker, who was one of the first pioneers of Cooper County, settling at what has since been known as Walker in this county. The wife of Samuel Walker was Miss Nancy Cockrell, a native of Virginia, whose father was a soldier of the Revolution.

Samuel W. Roberts was reared to young manhood in Cooper county. He received an excellent education, graduating from Central College at Fayette Mo., and the State University at Columbia. It had been Mr. Roberts' intention to prepare himself for the practice of law, but he became interested in the science of raising pure bred live stock and achieved a signal success in this departure. The advancing age of his parents caused him to relinquish his early ambitions and the care for the large farm and his parents. He was owner of nearly 400 acres of land, which was principally devoted to the breeding and raising of pure bred Shorthorn cattle. His herd became widely known as the "Clear Creek Shorthorn Herd" and won many ribbons and prizes when exhibited at the Royal and the principal live stock shows of the country. He resided on his farm until 1910, when he removed with his family to Boonville and took charge of the farming operations carried on in connection with the Missouri Training School. He was residing on the State Farm at the Training School and capably managing this farm when his death occurred.

April 28 1891, Samuel W. Roberts and Miss Frances Lyon Myrtle Rogers was united in marriage. One child was born to this union, - Ferda, wife of Dr. John R. Hall, a surgeon in the Regular Army, on duty

Bottom of Page 542

in France. Dr. Hall is a graduate of the State University, from which institution he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and received his Medical Degree from Washington University. He enlisted in the Regular Army, was promoted to a captaincy and is now a major. Dr. Hall was married to Miss Ferda Roberts on February 11 1912. Two children were born to this marriage: John Randolph Hall, born June 20 1913; and Sarah Hall born February 11 1915.

Mr. Frances Lyon Myrtle (Rogers) Roberts was born in Bunceton, MO., January 23 1871. she is a daughter of Capt. Ferdinand A. and Sallie (Lionberger) Rogers, the latter of whom was born in 1847 and died in 1915 and was a daughter of Isaac H. Lionberger, a pioneer of Cooper County. Capt. Rogers was born in 1832 and died in 1879. He had the honor of being the first sheriff of Cooper County elected on the democratic ticket after the close of the Civil War. He served in the Confederate Army as captain of a company, was made prisoner and confined on Johnson's Island. He was married after the close of the war to Sallie Lionberger. Mrs. Sallie (Lionberger) Roberts was a descendant on the maternal side from Capt. John Ashby, grandfather of her mother, Mary (Ashby) Lionberger, who served in the Revolution. The children born to Capt. F A and Sallie Rogers were as follows: Mrs. Frances L M Roberts of this review; Mary died at the age of 18 years; and Chatte, wife of Frank Waltz, station agent of the M. K. & T. R. R. at Boonville. Capt. Rogers was born in Ohio and descended from Virginian ancestry. After the close of the Civil War, he located in Bunceton, MO., and served six years as sheriff of the county. He was filling the duties of this official position at the time of his death. Capt. Rogers was an influential and commanding figure in Cooper county for many years.

Samuel W. Roberts was a versatile and accomplished citizen, who was well educated, a great reader and student who kept himself well informed upon the events of the day. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and was prominent in Masonic circles. His

father, James Green Roberts, was also a Mason, as were his six brothers. Samuel W. Roberts was a member of the Blue Lodge of Pilot Grove, a member of Olivet Commandery Knight Templars of Boonville, a Royal Arch Mason and a member of Centralia Council. In his day he was one of the best known and influential and useful citizens of Cooper county.

Bottom of Page 543

Charles C. Eldredge

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Charles C. Eldredge, a prominent and highly respected citizen of Boonville, is a native of Rhode Island. Mr. Eldredge was born Sept. 29, 1839, in East Greenwich, Kent County, a son of Charles C and Sarah P. (Pierce) Eldredge, natives of Rhode Island. Charles C. Eldredge, Sri, was a son of Dr. Charles Eldredge, a leading practitioner in Rhode Island, who spent his life in that State. To Charles C., Sr., and Sarah P. Eldredge were born the following children: Ellen, of Providence, R. L; James, who came to Cooper County in the fifties and joined the forces of the Confederates when they passed through Cooper County during the Civil War, took an important part in the battle of Lexington, resided in Cooper County for many years, and in his later years moved to Johnson County and died at Holden, Mo.; Charles C., the subject of this review; Lucy, of East Greenwich, R. L; and Henry, deceased. The father of Charles C. Eldredge died when his son was still a child.

In private and public schools Charles C. Eldredge received his elementary education. He mastered the machinist's trade at Beloit, Wis., and worked at his trade until the beginning of the Civil War in 1861, when he enlisted in Providence, R. L, with Company C, Marine Artillery, and served 90 days. He returned home at that time and re-enlisted later for three years. Mr. Eldredge was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant in the Rhode Island Infantry. He was wounded in the shoulder at the battle of Petersburg, Va., when he was forming his men for a charge. He recovered slowly from the wound, but he did not return to the army after his recovery. Mr. Eldredge had served three and one half years. After the war had ended, he again took up his trade and followed it until he came to Missouri and settled in Cooper County in the late sixties. Mr. Eldredge, at first, rented a farm in Prairie Home township, and, later, purchased a country place, comprising 300 acres of the best land in the county, which was his residence until his removal to Boonville in 1904.

In 1868, Charles C. Eldredge and Martha Ann Davis were united in marriage. Mrs. Eldredge was a daughter of N. E. and Martha (Johnson) Davis, honored pioneers of Missouri. To this union were born 10 children: Dr. James Shelton, of Kansas City, Mo.; Lucy, the wife of Reverend Cunningham, of Texas; Elizabeth Dean, the wife of "Min" Cunningham, of Cooper County; Margaret Olive, the wife of Leslie Laws, of Camargo, Okla.; Charles C., Jr., of Boonville; Anna Martha, the wife of A1 Shannon, of Boonville township; Dorothy, the wife of Fred Bair, of

Bottom of Page 544

Vernon County, near Walker, Mo.; Sarah Pierce, the wife of W. Williams, of Santa Fe, N. M.; Laura, the wife of David Hurt; and Henry P., who died in infancy. The mother died in 1897 and her remains are interred in Walnut Grove Cemetery in Clark's Monument.

Oct. 14, 1908, Charles C. Eldredge and Roberta Ella (Harris) Howlett were united in marriage. Mrs. Eldredge is a daughter of Robert and Nancy (Burger) Harris. She was born at Prairie Home in 1845, and her father and mother were natives of Boone and Cooper Counties, respectively. Robert Harris died when the overflow of the Missouri River occurred in the early forties (1844). His death was due to exposure from working in the overflow, attempting to save the lives of people and stock. At the time of his death, Mr. Harris operated a tannery. Mrs. Eldredge was first married to James Archie Howlett in 1862, and by her first marriage she is the mother of six children: James A., deceased; Mrs. Harriet Elizabeth Stemmons, deceased; Logie Josephine, the

wife of Edward Nance, of San Francisco, Calif.; Lillian, the wife of Will Sperry, of St. Louis; Athalena, the wife of Robert Fleming, of California; and Robert Hatcher, of St. Louis. Mrs. Eldredge recalls that, in connection with the history of the early days in the county, her uncle and aunt, Joseph and Betsy Jane Burger, frequently rode on horseback to Boonville, a distance of 14 miles from their home, and carried to the market a large bucket of butter and a basket of eggs. The Burger family came from Holland, and Joseph Burger settled in Cooper County. Mr. and Mrs. Eldredge reside in a comfortable home south of the Kemper Military School.

Mr. Eldredge has been a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons for 50 years. He and Mrs. Eldredge are valued and consistent members of the Christian Church. They stand high in the respect and esteem of their fellow citizens and they are numbered among the county's best families.

William George Robien

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

William George Robien, farmer and live stock dealer, residing at Prairie Lick, Mo., has a splendid farm of 245 acres, upon which he has resided since 1912. Mr. Robien was born in Cooper County Feb. 24, 1870.

His father, Henry Robien, was born March 9, 1836, and died June 11, 1872. He was a native of Germany, who immigrated to America in 1859, married Marie Hoflander, who was born May 16, 1834, and died Jan. 15, 1917. She, Marie Robien, was born in Sachsen-Coburg, Germany, village of Grossgarnstadt, and came to America, May 19, 1853. She was

Bottom of Page 545

first married to Christian Krohn Aug. 14, 1861. Mr. Krohn was killed by guerillas Aug. 31, 1863. Her next marriage was with Henry Robien, on Feb. 2, 1865, and to this marriage were born three children: William George Robien, of this review; Lena Robien resides with the other son, Henry P. Robien, who lives on a farm just south of Boonville. Henry Robien, the elder, served in the Union Army during the Civil War, with a Missouri regiment. He was badly wounded at the Battle of Arrow Rock, nine buckshot being taken from his body. He took part in the memorable chase after General Price's rebel army through Missouri and Arkansas, followed farming pursuits after the close of the war and died of pneumonia in 1872.

May 11, 1876, Mrs. Marie Robien was married to Henry Zimmerman, who was born April 30, 1831, in Wurtemburg, Germany, came to America in 1862 and died in Cooper County, Mo., July 22, 1913. Two children of Henry Zimmerman survive: Mary, wife of John E. Kirchner, near Boonville; Katie, deceased wife of Henry Wendleton, near Speed, Mo.

W. G. Robien was reared in Cooper County and has always been a farmer and live stock man. He purchased his first farm in 1897. For the past 22 years he has been a large buyer and shipper of live stock and his shipments will aggregate many carloads yearly. The past season of 1918 and 1919 has been exceptionally unfavorable to the live stock buyers and shippers, who, in many cases, have been merely turning over their money or losing on their deals because of the scarcity and high price of feed for the stock, and poor condition of the stock.

Feb. 10, 1897, W. G. Robien and Miss Lizzie Oswald, a daughter of the late Herman Oswald, were united in marriage. The children born to this union are: Florence, Elmer, Frances, Mary, and Mabel.

Mr. Robien is a member of the Martinsville Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus. He is a well informed and progressive citizen who is usually found in the forefront of good movements for the betterment and progress of things in his native county. Genial and kindly disposed, he has many friends in Cooper County.

John E. Kirchner

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

John E. Kirchner, owner of 600 acres of fertile and productive Cooper County land began with a small tract of 12 acres when 23 years of age. At the time of his marriage he had 120 acres and has carefully followed out his well defined plan of continually adding to his acreage as he was able. Mr. Kirchner never had things easy in his life until of late years. If one were to ask how he came to be so well fixed he would answer. "by

Bottom of Page 546

hard work, planning ahead and making the earnings of the farm count for the best, and not being extravagant". He began to work when he was nine years old, because necessity demanded that he go to work and help support his widowed mother and family. At the age of 10 he was doing the work of a plowman, cutting wood, and doing the hardest kind of work around the farm. When he was 22 years old he began renting land. Soon thereafter he purchased his first farm a modest 12 acres. Anyhow, it was a beginning, and there is no telling when this ambitious citizen will stop accumulating. farms. Of the acreage held by the Kirchners, Mrs. Kirchner has 250 acres which came to her by inheritance.

John E. Kirchner was born in Germany, Dec. 18,1852. He was three weeks old when his parents, Nicholas and Eva Kirchner, emigrated from their native land to seek a home in America. Nicholas Kirchner located in Cooper County, Mo., in Jan., 1853, lived for two years in Boonville, and then bought a small farm of 20 acres just southeast of the city. He died of pneumonia in 1863. Four children were left fatherless and another child was born after the father's death. The children are: John E., subject of this review; Mrs. Mary Lowe, living southwest of Vermont, Mo.; Frank, a farmer southeast of Vermont, Mo.; Louise, deceased; Annie, the wife of Ed Melkersman, Boonville, Mo. The mother of these children nobly shouldered the task of rearing her family to maturity. She departed this life in 1907.

Mr. Kirchner's home place, whereon he has resided for the past 12 years, is well improved, with a handsome farm residence, which sets on an elevation overlooking the surrounding country. The greater part of the Kirchner land cost \$20 an acre at the time of purchase, and it is now easily worth from \$150 to \$200 an acre.

John E. Kirchner was married in 1884 to Mary B. Zimmerman, a daughter of Henry and Sophie (Beck) Zimmerman, Mrs. Mary B. Kirchner was born in Ohio, in April, 1857, and one month later her parents came to Cooper County, where she was reared. Her mother was born in 1830 and died in 1874. She had a sister, Mrs. Henry Wendleton, deceased.

The children born to John E. and Mary B. Kirchner are as follows: Emery Kirchner, born Jan. 29, 1886, owner of a farm of 100 acres; Katie is the wife of William Boggemeier, near Boonville, Mo.; Flora, at home with her parents.

Mr. Kirchner is a republican and is a member of the Evangelical Church.

Bottom of Page 547

Dr. O. W. Cochran

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Dr. O. W. Cochran, one of Cooper County's most prominent and best known citizens, is a native of Boone County. Dr. Cochran was born March 5, 1860, near Rocheport, a son of Samuel D. and Amanda (Boggs) Cochran, honored pioneers of Missouri.

Samuel D. Cochran was a son of John Cochran, an early settler of Boone County, who came west in 1811. Amanda (Boggs) Cochran was a daughter of John Boggs, who came to Missouri in 1812. Both the Cochran and the Boggs families came from Kentucky. Mrs. Cochran died in 1880, at the age of 50 years. Samuel D. Cochran died in 1915, at the age of 82 years. Both mother and father are interred in Sugar Creek Cemetery in Boone County. The children of Samuel D. and Amanda Cochran are as follows: Mrs. Mary D. Baldwin, who died in 1916; Mrs. Thomas T. Lowrey, Perkins, Okla.; Mrs. George L. Williamson, Columbia, Mo.; and Dr. O. W., the subject of this sketch.

Dr. O. W. Cochran received his elementary education in the public schools of Boone County. James Cooney, who later became congressman from the Seventh District, was his teacher. Dr. Cochran attended the State University of Missouri at Columbia for three years. He is a graduate of the Louisville Medical College, a member of the class of 1885. March 4, 1887, he came to Gooch's Mill, and he has been located here for the past 32 years. Dr. Cochran is the owner of a farm, comprising 375 acres of valuable land in Saline township. He is perhaps the oldest practitioner in Cooper County, and he has established an unusually fine practice.

In December, 1887, Dr. O. W. Cochran was united in marriage with Octavia V. Quarles, a daughter of Charles Quarles, of Prairie Home township. Both the father and the mother of Mrs. Cochran were natives of Virginia, and both are now deceased and their remains are interred in Ellis Cemetery near Prairie Home. To Dr. and Mrs. Cochran have been born the following children: William Owen, who was born Dec. 7, 1888, and died July 11, 1916; Nellie, the wife of Frank Bornhauser, of Prairie Home township; Anna Gray, the wife of Ernest C. Oerly, of Saline township; and Samuel Victor, a student in the Boonville High School. Dr. and Mrs. Cochran have five grandchildren; Virginia, Margaret, B. 0., and Willie Gray, and an infant. All the children of Dr. Cochran and wife are graduates of the Boonville High School. The doctor and Mrs. Cochran are worthy and valued members of the Baptist Church.

Dr. Cochran was in charge of the war work in Saline township, managing the Liberty Loans, Red Cross work, United War work campaign,

Bottom of Page 548

the Armenian Relief, and he was chairman of the township Council of Defense. For eight years he has been chairman of the democratic central committee of Cooper County. Dr. Cochran is affiliated with the ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Woodmen of the World, and the Modern Woodmen of America. Dr. Cochran made the race for the State senatorship in 1909 and was defeated by one vote by Sam C. Major, now congressman from the Seventh District of Missouri. Dr. Cochran is a good citizen, and a man of high ideals. He commands the respect and admiration of all with whom he comes in contact.

Dr. Ace Overton Donahew

(Transcribed by Jim Thoma)

Dr. Ace Overton Donahew, veterinarian, with offices at 803 East Morgan street, Boonville, Mo.; has during the 17 years he has been practicing his profession, made a reputation as a skilled and competent veterinarian, which is second to none in Central Missouri. Dr. Donahew's practice extends over Cooper, Howard, Moniteau, Pettis, and Saline Counties and part of Boone County, Mo. He was born Aug. 17, 1865, in Mount Sterling, Ky. His father was John Donahew (b. 1820, d. 1888), born in Kentucky and a son of John Donahew, a Kentucky pioneer. John Donahew migrated with his family to Missouri in the fall of 1870, bringing his movable possessions to this county in wagons. He settled on the prairie near La Monte, Mo., and in the fall of 1874, removed to a farm in Saline County. His first few years in Missouri were disastrous ones, facing total crop failures through the dry years of the early seventies. The panic of 1873 had its effect, also, with

the dropping of prices of farm products of their lowest level in many years. The grasshopper pest of 1872-73 also cleaned out the crops on the prairies. Mr. Donahew managed to make a new start in Saline County, prospering and was making plans to purchase a farm of his own when he was stricken down with typhoid fever and died in 1888. The entire family was attacked, and the father succumbed. John Donahew married Mary Pettit, who was born in Stanton, Ky,, in 1840 and died in 1909. She bore him five sons: Andrew, died in 1916; Ace Overton, of this review; James F., Redding, California; Edward, Slater, Mo.; Austin, Kansas City. Mrs. Donahew, faced with the task of keeping her family together and rearing them to maturity. She succeeded and all of her sons, now living are excellent citizens in their respective localities. For three years the family lived on the old Ben Derrick farm near Orearville, Mo. In 1891 they removed to Slater, Mo. and resided there far seven years. Mrs. Donahew then moved to Kansas City.

Bottom of Page 549

Dr. Ace O. Donahew was educated in the Kansas City Veterinary College and studied his profession for three years, 1888-1889-1900. He first practiced for three years at Slater, Mo. He was then located at Fayette, Mo. far four months prior to coming to Boonville on May 15, 1903.

Combined with Sr. Donahew's knowledge of the science of his profession is a profound understanding of animals, and an expert insight into the characteristics of the horse. For a period of 15 years prior to taking up the study of his profession he was one of the best known horse breakers and trainers in this section of the West. He studied the art of horse training under Prof. Gleason of Kansas City, and then made a business of training and breaking track horses. Regularly each season he would make the circuit and would be at all the racing meets when trotting and running races were in the heyday of popularity with the western people. Dr. Donahew trained "Jim Ramey" of Sedalia and broke and trained several track animals for John R. Gentry of Sedalia, who produced "John R. Gentry" and "Theodore Shelton" the greatest two-year-olds of their day. He trained "Sam Fuller" of Fayette, and was the trainer of "King Herod" and "Telegram", two of the noted pacers and trotters of this section of the country.

Dr. Ace O. Donahew was married in 1906 to Miss Theresa German of Hermann, Mo., a daughter of Capt. Henry German. This marriage has been blessed with three children: Garmon Frederick, Frances Louise, and Dorothy May.

Dr. Donahew is a democrat and takes quite an interest in political matters. He is fraternally affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.