

EDWARD PENDLETON ALEXANDER.

Pursuing the even tenor of his way from year to year as a farmer of enterprise and progressiveness, never mingling with the noisy affairs of the world, yet shirking no duty of citizenship, Edward Pendleton Alexander, of Taylor township, in this county, has entitled himself to general regard and favor by his industry, ability and success as a farmer and his uprightness and high character as a man. His valuable farm of 190 acres is altogether his own acquisition, as he had nothing to start with and has had no favors of Fortune to help him along since, and all that it is he has made it. It stands forth, therefore as a monument to his business ability, good judgment and persevering diligence in the work that has been allotted to him.

Mr. Alexander was born in Monroe county, Missouri, on October 18, 1855, and is a son of John Morris and Cordia (Gaines) Alexander, natives of Kentucky. The father came to Missouri when he was yet a young man, and in this state he put in practice the lessons in advanced and progressive farming that he had learned in that of his nativity. He and his wife were the parents of ten children, five of whom are living: James Thomas, whose home is in Shelby; William Franklin, Edward P. and Samuel L., now at Denver, Colorado, all of whom are prospering in their several callings. Both parents died in the same year, 1901.

Edward P. Alexander attended the district schools in his boyhood and youth

when he had opportunity, but his advantages were limited. He left school at an early age, and after working on the home farm with his father and assisting the family for a few years, he began farming on his own account and has been doing so ever since. He was married in 1880 to Miss Louisa Cook, a native of Kentucky. Four of their five children are living: John W., Cordia Frances, Samuel Grover and Goldie. The father is a Democrat in politics and belongs to the Christian church.

JOSEPH FRANKLIN COCKRUM.

Conducting a prosperous and progressive business as a general farmer and stock man in Taylor township, this county, and representing in his character, habits and attention to every duty the best attributes of the people of his locality, Joseph F. Cockrum is justly deserving of the universal esteem he enjoys as a citizen and the high position he holds as a farmer. He is a native of Missouri, born in Knox county, in 1853. His parents, James and Elizabeth (Shaw) Cockrum, were farmers also. The father was born and reared in Kentucky and came to Missouri when he was a young man. He located in Knox county and followed farming and raising stock there until a few years ago, when he retired from all active pursuits. There, also, he met with and married his wife, who died in 1857. He is still living and is now eighty-eight years of age. They were the parents of seven children, six of whom grew to maturity. Four besides Joseph Franklin are living: Ange, the wife of