

of the school board. His political affiliation is with the Democratic party and he is one of its most assiduous and effective workers in all campaigns, showing himself wise in its councils and zealous and successful in promoting its welfare in the field. In fraternal relations he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America.

On January 31, 1884, Mr. Dimmitt was united in marriage with Miss Eva P. Davis, of Clarence, a daughter of William Davis, at that time one of the leading lumber merchants of that city, but now residing at San Diego, California. Seven children have been born in the Dimmitt household, and five of them are living: Elizabeth F., the wife of S. J. Byrd, of Carrizo Springs, Texas; and Michael, Patrick, Eva M. and Buster, all of whom are still members of the parental family circle.

#### HENRY H. BONNEL.

(Deceased.)

Finding his country in the throes of a terrible civil war soon after dawn of his manhood, Henry H. Bonnel, who was one of the prosperous and progressive farmers of Bethel township in this county, took his place in the army of defense, and during the momentous conflict bore his burden of service, with all its involvement of peril and privation, arduous labor and dark uncertainty. Then, when peace was restored, and the armies so lately engaged in deadly warfare melted away into the hosts of industrial

production, he turned once more to the cultivation of field and farm, in which he was actively and successfully engaged, devoting to it the same fidelity and energy that distinguished him in the march and on the battlefield of military service until his death in 1910.

Mr. Bonnel was a native of Batavia, Ohio, born on April 10, 1835. He was a son of Levi and Elizabeth Smith (Hill) Bonnel, the former born and reared in Pennsylvania and the latter in Ohio. They had eight children and six of them are living: Henry H., Aaron, Mark, Ann Eliza (Reynolds), Mary Amelia (McDonald) and Frank. The father brought his family to Missouri in 1861 and located in Shelby county, where he engaged in farming and raising stock, pursuing these lines of useful endeavor until his death in 1874. The mother survived him eighteen years, dying in 1892.

Henry H. Bonnel was reared in his native place and educated in its public schools. He was warmly attached to his home and his parents, and after leaving school remained with them, assisting his father on the farm, and accompanying them to this state when they migrated to it. In January, 1862, on the 16th day of the month, he enlisted in a company of Missouri cavalry, and was soon afterward at the front and in the midst of the fray, which from that time on to the close of the war was constant and terrible. He took part in numerous important battles and many engagements of minor consequence, and, although often face to face with death, escaped unharmed while his comrades fell like autumn leaves all around him. Before

the end of the struggle he became quartermaster-general of Company I, being promoted to this position in recognition of the value of his services in the sterner phases of the conflict.

At the close of the war Mr. Bonnel returned to his Shelby county home, and here he was profitably engaged in farming and raising stock, except during the last two years, when he lived retired from all active pursuits. During his residence in this county he has ever taken an earnest interest and an active part in promoting the welfare of the region, doing at all times all he could for the benefit of its people; the development of its resources, and its moral, intellectual and material advancement in every way. He was clerk of the district for more than twenty-five years and served on the school board for a period of eight. In politics he was a pronounced Republican, but never was an active partisan. Fraternally he belonged to the Masonic order and the Grand Army of the Republic.

In 1864 Mr. Bonnel was united in marriage with Miss Mary Washington Matkin, a native of Shelby county, Missouri. Of the eight children born to them six are living: Willard, Effie May, now Mrs. Starmer, and Julian, Kate, Bailey and Mary Edith. The mother of these children died in 1900 after a life of domestic service and fidelity extending over thirty-six years, during which she was true to every trust and gave her offspring a fine example of devoted and upright womanhood, for which she was held in high respect wherever she was known as was her husband.

#### HENRY C. DRENNAN.

With his boyhood darkened by the terrible shadow of our Civil war and the hardships and trials incident to that momentous conflict, and being obliged in consequence to make his own way in the world from an early age, Henry C. Drennan, a leading farmer and stock man of Bethel township, in this county, and one of its prominent and influential citizens, has shown in his career that, however much the lessons of adversity sometimes indurate and sour the spirit, they are in most cases salutary and stimulate their subject to a development of all that is best within him.

Mr. Drennan's life began in Illinois, Sangamon county, in 1854. In that state his father, William Drennan, also was born and there was reared, educated and married, uniting in wedlock with Miss Lucinda Cannon, a native of Kentucky, in 1853. They had six children, four of whom are living: Henry C., Charles W., Darius D., who lives in Idaho, and Margaret F., the wife of Charles Miller, of Knox county, Missouri. In November, 1855, the family moved to this county and located on a farm, which was full of promise, and during the years of its cultivation by the father realized its promise. He prospered on it and was winning a competency. But in 1864, inspired by the warmth of feeling engendered by the cruelty of the predatory border warfare irresponsible parties waged on the helpless people, he enlisted in the Union army in Company G, 39th Missouri Volunteer Infantry. A few months later he was killed in the battle of Centralia, Missouri. The mother is