

united in marriage to Miss Margaret M. Gresham, who was born and reared in Marion county and who is a daughter of John Gresham, now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Fox have two children—Porter G., who is now employed in a business with his father at Shelbina, and C. Brace, who remains at the parental home.

#### JOHN BROWN.

John Brown, a native and all his life to this time a resident of Shelby county, and until three years ago one of its leading farmers and live stock men, is now one of the prosperous and prominent citizens of Shelbina, where he is energetically and extensively engaged in business as an auctioneer and general dealer in live stock. He was born near Bethel, this county, on June 28, 1855, and obtained his education in the district school near his home, living on his father's farm and attending the sessions whenever he found opportunity amid the exactions of active farming operations.

His grandfather, Eleven Brown, was a native of Kentucky, where his parents settled in early days when that now great state was still a part of the frontier, but rapidly filling up with hardy and stalwart pioneers. Bedford Brown, the son of Eleven and father of John, was born at Frankfort, Kentucky, in 1820, and came to Missouri when he was but sixteen years of age, finding in this state at that early period much the same conditions that his forefathers had found in Kentucky when they arrived in it. He located for a short time at Palmyra, then moved to Shelby county and took up his residence on a farm near

Bethel. There he followed farming and general stock-raising until his death. When that event occurred he owned 240 acres of land and an extensive live stock business. He was energetic and knowing, took advantage of his opportunities with good judgment and used them with intelligence and skillful management. Success crowned all his efforts and gave him, in connection with his high character and public spirit, consequence and standing among the people. His specialties in stock were horses and mules, and he raised great numbers of each.

In about 1848 he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Todd, a native of Maryland, and by that marriage became the father of ten children, all of whom are living. They are: Eliza, the wife of Henry Nichols, of this county; Alexander, who resides in Kirksville, Missouri; John, the immediate subject of this sketch; Benjamin F., also a resident of this county; Lucinda E., the wife of James Nelson, of Sheridan county, Kansas; Fannie, the wife of Frank Taylor, of Shelby county; Lillie, the wife of Al. Taylor, who also resides in this county; Julia, the wife of James Gentry, of Kirksville; Kittie, the wife of Tom Will Garrison, of Shelby county; and Joseph, whose home is in Knox county. The father was a member of the Democratic party in political faith and allegiance and belonged to the Missionary Baptist church in religious connection.

John Brown was trained to farming and raising stock, and gave his attention to these pursuits immediately on leaving school. He also bought considerable numbers of stock for shipment to East-

ern markets. He was very successful in his operations on the farm, and continued them along progressive and profitable lines until February 1, 1907. At that time he moved to Shelbina, and during the subsequent years has been very successfully engaged in auctioneering and dealing in live stock generally. He understands his business thoroughly and gives it his whole attention. His success is therefore a logical result of capacity, enterprise and first rate management, combined with excellent judgment. He was married in 1878 to Miss Amanda T. Gentry, of Ralls county, this state. They have had ten children, three of whom are living, John and Paul, of Rexford, Kansas, and Mark, of Shelby county, Missouri, all of whom have inherited the business capacity of their father and are doing well in their several callings and localities! and, like him, are highly respected by the people around them.

#### ARTHUR E. JORDAN.

This enterprising, prosperous and highly successful farmer and live stock man and respected citizen of Jackson township in this county, was born in the state of Indiana on August 26, 1863, and came with his parents to Missouri and Shelby county when he was eight years of age. He is a son of Philip W. and Nancy H. (Coffman) Jordan, an account of whose lives will be found in a sketch of his brother, William A. Jordan, published in this volume and containing a narrative of the family history.

Mr. Jordan acquired his education in the Oak Dale, Shelby county, public school, and, after completing the course

of study available to him in that temple of Cadmus, began at once a career as a farmer and producer and shipper of live stock, which he has continued to the present time and in which he has succeeded admirably by reason of his good judgment, fine business capacity and the close, intelligent and careful attention he has always bestowed upon his business.

He has also taken an earnest interest and active part in the affairs of his township and was a member of the school board for some years. He is a Democrat in political allegiance, belongs to the Court of Honor fraternally, and is connected with the Christian church in religious alliance. He takes an ardent interest in his party, his fraternity and his church, and his membership is highly valued in each. In 1892 he was united in marriage with Miss Ina Vanarsdall, of Marion county, Missouri. They have had two children and both of them are living and still members of the parental family circle. They are a daughter named Nancy Ruth and a son named Guy. The parents stand high in the estimation of the people of the township, and common consent will attest that they are well deserving of the regard in which they are held.

#### WILLIAM A. JORDAN.

Successful and progressive as a farmer and producer of live stock, and successful because he is progressive, William A. Jordan, of Jackson township, is also a man of influence and high standing as a citizen, and he holds his rank in this respect because of the elevated character and usefulness of his citizen-