

ist and in religion a member of Independent Holiness church, and in both his party and his church organizations he has long taken an earnest and serviceable interest.

Mr. Sass has been married twice, first in 1877 to Miss Mary Doss, a resident of Shelby county. They had one child, their son John, who is living. The mother died in 1884, and in 1885 the father married a second time, making Miss Catherine Krauter, also of Shelby county, his choice. Of their three children, one, their son Henry, is living and is still at home.

FRANCIS M. CHURCHWELL.

From its very beginning the career of Francis M. Churchwell, who lives on a fine farm of 320 acres near Shelbyville, as a farmer and live stock breeder and dealer, has been successful and progressive. He is a gentleman of great enterprise and industry, thoroughly familiar with all that is latest in discovery and methods in the lines of endeavor to which his life to this time (1911) has been devoted, and decidedly skilful in the application of his extensive knowledge concerning them. He is a native of Missouri and has never lived in any other state, but has devoted all his years of maturity to its welfare and the advancements of its agricultural and live stock industries, and at the same time has given the general welfare of the locality of his home earnest and intelligent attention.

Mr. Churchwell was born in Marion county, this state, on August 4, 1843. He is of English ancestry, his grandfather, Samuel Churchwell, having been

born and reared in that country, and of Virginia parentage, his father, Thomas Churchwell, and his mother, whose maiden name was Susan E. Tarpley, having been natives of the Old Dominion. The father was born on March 22, 1810, and came to Missouri in 1836. He took up his residence in Marion county on a farm of eighty acres, and there he was actively and successfully engaged in farming and rearing live stock until his death.

On November 30, 1837, he solemnized his marriage with Miss Tarpley, who was born on January 16, 1818, and they became the parents of seven children, six of whom are living: Eliza J., the wife of John T. Poor, of Garfield county, Oklahoma; Meredith T., whose home is in Shelbyville; Francis M., who also lives in this county; Thomas J., a resident of the state of Nebraska; William Harvey, another of the family residing in this county; and Sarah Ann V., the wife of Isaac Bethards, whose home is also in Shelby county. The father died on July 12, 1886, having survived his wife thirty-six years, her death having occurred on November 12, 1850. In politics he was a Whig until the death of the party of that name, and after that a Republican. His religious association was with the Missionary Baptist church, and he was devoted to the welfare of his sect. But, although a man of peace in times of peace, he did not hesitate, in his young manhood, to take up arms in defense of his country, having been a volunteer and valiant soldier in the Black Hawk war.

Francis M. Churchwell received his academic education in the district schools of Marion county, and later pursued a

course of special training for business at the Jones Commercial college in St. Louis. After leaving that institution he taught school three terms, and then located on a farm of 100 acres near Emden, on which he lived until 1889. In that year he moved to a farm of 200 acres near Shelbyville. This farm he occupied and improved until 1903, when he made his home on the one he now resides on, which is also near Shelbyville. This comprises 320 acres and is well improved and very skillfully cultivated. It has been brought to a high state of productiveness, and has handsomely supported and advanced the extensive industry in feeding and raising live stock for the markets which Mr. Churchwell has conducted on it from the time when he took possession of it. He is especially interested in breeding and raising mules, and deals in them extensively as an adjunct to his other live stock operations. He has been very successful in all his undertakings and is one of the leading and most substantial farmers and stock men in Black Creek township.

On October 31, 1867, Mr. Churchwell was united in marriage with Miss Sarah A. V. Durrett, a native of Marion county, Missouri. They have had eleven children and twenty-four grandchildren, all of whom are living: Richard H., of Cascade county, Montana; Frances J., the wife of A. C. Vawter, of Neosha, Missouri; Sarah A., the wife of Polk Connoway, of this county; Mary S., the wife of Frank Connoway, whose home is also in this county; Thomas H., a resident of Cascade county, Montana; Mona L., the wife of James T. Churchwell, of Raymon, Montana; Rebecca E., the wife of

Walter McCue, a resident of Shelby county, Missouri; Francis M., Jr., the third member of the family, whose home is in Cascade county, Montana; John S., who resides in Pratt county, Kansas; and William T. and Benjamin D., who are living at home with their parents. In politics the father is a Republican, and in religious association a member of the Missionary Baptist church. It goes without the saying that he is one of the highly esteemed citizens of Shelby county and is regarded as one of its leading and most useful men.

HENRY RATHJEN.

The early pioneers of Shelby county redeemed the region from the waste and laid the foundations of its present greatness and advanced development. The men and women of a later generation and all subsequent ones have gone on improving and enriching the domain according to their opportunities and capabilities, adding successive features of progress and forces of culture as the times demanded and their resources allowed. From the beginning the fortunes of this portion of the state have been in the hands of capable and self-reliant people, ready to take advantage of every circumstance for its aggrandizement and willing to make any sacrifice to accomplish its greatest good. The future of the county and the commonwealth depends upon the fiber and force of the present generation and those that shall come after it.

As an indication of what the present generation is doing to keep up the march of progress and meet the require-