

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-

ship. He is not a native of Shelby county, but has lived in it ever since he was two years old, a period of thirty-nine years, and during all the period of his youth and manhood has contributed to its advancement and improvement.

Mr. Jordan was born in Indiana on May 12, 1869, and is a scion of old Virginia families, his grandfather, Arthur B. Jordan, having been born and reared in that state and to a house long established there. In that state, also, Philip W. Jordan, the father of William A., was born, opening his eyes on this world in 1836. He left his ancestral home a young man and migrated to what was then the distant West, locating in Linn county, Missouri, where he was extensively occupied in farming and raising live stock for a number of years. He then dwelt for some years in the state of Indiana, and in that state he was married in 1862 to Miss Nancy H. Coffman.

By this marriage Mr. Jordan became the father of seven children, six of whom are living: Arthur E., a sketch of whom will be found in this work; Rosa Lee, the wife of Lee Harrison, a resident of this county; Dora D., the wife of Lewis Parker, whose residence is in the new state of Oklahoma; William A., the subject of this brief review; Allie L., the wife of James Collier, of Montana; and Charles P., whose home is in this county.

The family moved to Shelby county in 1871, and here the father followed general farming with great success until his death, which occurred in 1881. During the Civil war he was drafted into the Federal army, but the war was so nearly over when this occurred that he was

never called into the service. His political support was faithfully and ardently given to the Democratic party, and his religious support with equal confidence and ardor to the Southern Methodist Episcopal church.

William A. Jordan secured a limited education in the public school at Oakdale in this county, and excellent training in his destined life work on his father's farm, on which he remained until he attained his majority. He then began operations for himself as a farmer and stock man, and to these pursuits he has steadfastly adhered through all the subsequent years, except that at times he has worked at the carpenter trade, of which he acquired a knowledge during his minority. He has made a very gratifying success of his endeavors in all his undertakings, and is now in easy circumstances in a worldly way and secure in the regard and good will of the people in his township and throughout the county.

On October 27, 1897, Mr. Jordan united in marriage with Miss Edith Cochrane, a resident of this county. They have had four children, and all of them are living, and still at home with their parents. They are: Harvey G., Mary E., Bessie and Ina Lue. The father is firm and faithful in his attachment to the Democratic party in political affairs and energetic and zealous in his support of it. Fraternaly he is connected with the Court of Honor, in which he is also active and serviceable. In the public affairs of the township and county of his home he has always taken a very helpful interest, aiding in every way

open to him in their progress and development. He is now a member of the school board.

THOMAS D. MITCHELL.

In the life story and family record of this highly enterprising, progressive and successful farmer, live stock producer and real estate operator of Jackson township, who is one of the leaders in his several lines of activity in this county, run golden threads of personal and general history, and firm fibers of manly achievement, embracing material, intellectual and spiritual conquests of moment in their immediate and of great value in their continuing importance. He is the son of one of the early pioneers, who was also one of the early school teachers in this part of the state. The farm on which he lives was the old camping ground of the Methodists in the early evangelizing work which made them famous and gave them so strong a hold on the people in this and the adjoining counties. He has himself built up a large and profitable business by his own endeavors, which has been and is of great benefit to all Northeastern Missouri. /

Mr. Mitchell was born in Shelby county, Missouri, on April 14, 1862. His father, also named Thomas D. Mitchell, was a native of Virginia and first saw the light of this world in 1835. He came to this portion of Missouri among its earlier settlers and located on a farm near Emden. This farm he worked during the summer months and during the winter he taught school for a number of years. His scholastic contributions to

the advancement of the county were based on very little education acquired in the schools, for he had not much opportunity for such acquisitions. But he was a great reader and student and a very well-informed man. While he taught school, and afterward, he pushed his farming operations and the live stock industry in which he was engaged to large proportions and considerable advantage to himself financially.

He was joined in marriage with Miss Eliza A. Spencer, of Marion county, and they became the parents of five children, three of whom are living: Thomas D.; his brother, Douglas R., a resident of this county; and their sister, Margaret, the wife of Horace Warner, who has her home in Illinois. The father was a firm believer in the principles of the Democratic party and gave that organization earnest and effective support in all its campaigns. In religious connection he was affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church, South. It is easy to infer, if the matter were left to inference, that he was an important man in the early history of his locality. But this is on record to his credit, and it is manifest from the record that he never neglected a public or private duty or betrayed a trust.

His son Thomas had no educational advantages except those furnished by the district schools of Shelby county. And as soon as he left them he began the career of farming and raising stock, which he is still expanding, and in which he has achieved both a competence and a widespread reputation of credit for himself, and has also conferred upon the region in which he lives substantial com-