

is a son of Dr. Philip T. and Frances (Agee) Dimmitt, the former born and reared in Kentucky and the latter in Virginia. A complete sketch of the father's life appears on other pages of this volume.

His son, Frank Dimmitt, grew to manhood on a farm in Shelby county and obtained his education in the Shelbyville high school. He was zealous and faithful in the performance of his duties on the farm, and admiring friends who observed his capacity for farm work and his steady adherence to its exacting requirements, looked upon him as one of the coming leaders in the agricultural life of the county. But he was not himself satisfied with his daily round of toil, blessed as it was with independence, plenty and good prospects, but felt within him a stirring impulse toward an occupation which would bring him more extensively and directly into contact with men and provide greater immediate and subsequent rewards for devotion to its claims and development of its possibilities. He was graduated from Shelbyville high school in 1874, then taught school for four years during the winter months, and after that clerked for a time in a mercantile enterprise. From 1878 to 1881 he was engaged in farming. In the year last named he moved to Clarence and gave his attention to the dry goods and clothing trade for a period of six years.

At the end of that time he returned to Shelbyville, where he worked in his father's bank until 1890. In 1888 he was elected county treasurer for a term of two years, and when his term in this office expired was chosen clerk of the cir-

cuit court and recorder, a capacity in which he served eight years with credit to himself and benefit to all who had dealings with his office. In September, 1898, he was made president of the Old Bank, and in this important and responsible position he has served the patrons of the bank and the people of the community faithfully ever since.

In politics Mr. Dimmitt is a pronounced and zealous Democrat. In fraternal relations he is an Odd Fellow and a Knight of Pythias, and in church affiliation a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He was married on March 13, 1879, to Miss Emma E. Jackson, who was born and reared in Marion county. They have three children living, James J., a resident of Monroe City, in the adjoining county of Monroe, and Clara C., of Chillicothe, Missouri, now Mrs. A. M. Shelton, and F. Ellison, who is living at home. The father stands well in the community and throughout his own and the adjoining counties. He has been serviceable in the progress and development of this part of the state, performing with ability and uprightness all the duties of citizenship and illustrating in a striking manner in his daily life the best attributes of an elevated American manhood.

JOHN A. O'DANIEL.

Descended from good old Maryland stock, with the family traits and characteristics seasoned by the residence of a generation in Kentucky, John A. O'Daniel, of Hunnewell, has within him the inspirations and incentives of two commonwealths of our common Union

whose histories are glorious in war and crowned with immortal bays for their achievements in the peaceful pursuits of industrial effort and the higher walks of learning and art. He was born in Hunnewell, where he is now living, on October 6, 1866, and has passed the whole of his subsequent life in this community.

Mr. O'Daniel's grandfather, James O'Daniel, was born, reared and educated in Maryland, and soon after attaining his majority struck out into the untrodden West to make a home and a name for himself amid scenes yet wholly attuned to nature and not yet freed from the wild denizens of the wilderness, savage beasts and still more savage men. He located in Kentucky and there hewed out from the wilds an estate for himself and reared a family whose members have reflected credit on his name and finely exemplified in their several callings the lessons given them by his teachings and example. His son, James P. O'Daniel, the father of John A., the immediate subject of these paragraphs, was born in the Kentucky home in 1834. On leaving school he became a farmer on his own account, as he had previously been on the account of his father by assisting the latter in the labors of the homestead, and followed the occupation of the old patriarchs, tilling the soil, until 1850 in his native state.

In 1850 James P. O'Daniel migrated to Missouri and located in Monroe county, where he continued his operations as a farmer and stock-breeder until 1865. He then changed his residence to Shelby county, and here he has made his home and employed his energies ever since. He is still actively engaged in farming

and raising live stock, and is one of the highly respected and most representative citizens of the county. He is one of the stockholders of the Hunnewell bank. He was married in 1865 to Miss Martha Leake, of Ralls county, Missouri, and by this union became the father of six children of whom John A. was the first born. The others are all living and are: Mamie, the wife of F. Selsor, of Kansas City, Missouri; Eugene P., a resident of Washington, D. C.; Joseph A., of Hunnewell; Rosie Alice, the wife of Augustus Gannon, of Brobckfield, Linn county, in this state; and William F., of Hunnewell. In politics the father is a Democrat and in religion a Catholic. He is loyal to both party and church and stands well in each.

John A. O'Daniel obtained his education in the public schools of Hunnewell, and upon the completion of the course of study they made available to him, became a farmer and stock-breeder, occupations he had mastered while living at home and working under the supervision of his father, with whom he was associated in his new operations for about three years. Mercantile life was, however, more to his taste, and in 1887 he began a career in the drug business which he has continued and expanded to this time (1911), being still engaged in that necessary and helpful trade in connection with other duties.

On March 15, 1909, he was elected cashier of the Hunnewell bank, in which he is a stockholder and of which he is one of the directors, and in April, 1910, was elected president of the bank. He gives the requirements of the bank his first attention and it is flourishing under

the stimulus of his enterprising and careful management, growing in popular favor and steadily enlarging the volume of its business. His drug store continues to be one of the established institutions of the city and holds its patronage because of the excellence of its stock, the wisdom of its management and the skill bestowed upon all its operations in its efforts to serve the public.

In addition to these two lines of endeavor, which would be enough to engross the faculties of a less comprehensive and active mind than that of Mr. O'Daniel, he carries on farming operations and is still interested in raising live stock on an elevated plane. In politics he is a Democrat, firm in the faith and active in the service, contributing to the campaigns of his party both wisdom in council and energy in effort which are highly appreciated. His religious affiliation is with the Catholic church, of which he is a devout and consistent member.

On November 16, 1905, he united in marriage with Miss Penelope A. Brown, of Shelby county. Two children have blessed their union and brightened their home, their sons James A. and George Eugene. Having passed all his life so far in Hunnewell, it is but natural that Mr. O'Daniel should be warmly interested in the welfare of the city and its people. He has shown that he is by his approval of all worthy public improvements and his aid in promoting them, and by his zealous and energetic support of every moral and intellectual agency at work in the community for its good. Among the leaders of enterprise and advancement in the town and county he

is always to be found, and he is esteemed accordingly as one of its best and most useful citizens.

JULIAN A. WHEELER.

Born in Hunnewell, this county, on August 15, 1858, and living practically on the border during a part of the Civil war and the rest of the time within the actual boundaries of the Confederacy, Julian A. Wheeler, of Hunnewell, dwelt during the period of that awful contest "in the midst of alarms," and had his childhood and youth darkened by its terrible shadows. In the exacting pursuits of peaceful industry and the struggles for material conquest and acquisition which have engaged his faculties since then the memories of the war have faded to a considerable extent, but nothing can ever wholly efface them. They were born of a time that tried men's souls, and were literally burned into the consciousness and recollection of those who took part in or were in any sense a party to the events of that date.

Mr. Wheeler's grandfather, Nathan W. Wheeler, was a native of New York state and a member of one of the noted families of that great commonwealth. He lived in Otsego county and tilled the soil for a livelihood, as his parents had done before him, and on his farm he reared his family, among them his son, Edwin R. Wheeler, who was the father of Julian A. and was born in Otsego county, New York, on September 14, 1824. He did not follow the occupation of his ancestors, but became a carpenter and builder, and in an extensive apprenticeship so thoroughly mastered all the de-