

thereafter he continued to be identified with other lines of enterprise of varied order until 1884, in January of which year he and his son, William L., secured a half interest in the general merchandise business which was thereafter conducted under the firm name of Whitby, Jacobs & Company, the son assuming the active management of the business, which he still continues, as will be noted by reference to the sketch of his career appearing on other pages of this work. In this connection John W. Jacobs gave the benefit of his keen business sagacity and mature experience, but, save for this advisory service in the business, he lived virtually retired from 1890 until his death. He was regarded as one of the best business men and most upright and honorable citizens of this part of the county, where his circle of friends was coincident with that of his acquaintances. Though never a seeker of public office or of notoriety of any order, Mr. Jacobs wielded a large and beneficent influence in local affairs, and his advice and counsel were frequently sought in connection with matters of public polity, the while he gave freely of his aid and influence in support of all that touched the best interests of the community.

In politics Mr. Jacobs was aligned as a loyal supporter of the principles and policies for which the Democratic party stands sponsor, he was affiliated with Clarence Lodge, No. 305, Free & Accepted Masons, and he was a most zealous and devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, having been one of the charter members of the church of this denomination in Clarence, as is also his wife. Upon him de-

veloped the privilege of turning the first spade of earth for the erection of the church edifice. She survives her honored husband and finds a measure of consolation and compensation in the gracious memories of their long years of loving companionship. She was born in Delaware, near Laurel, February 15, 1836, and thus has passed the psalmist's span of three score years and ten. She is held in affectionate regard by all who know her, and still maintains her home in Clarence, where she is surrounded by a wide circle of devoted friends.

On February 15, 1855, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Jacobs to Miss Mary A. Drain, daughter of the late Stanford Drain, one of the honored pioneers of Shelby county. Of the six children of this union, four are living, namely: William L., of whom specific mention is made elsewhere in this volume; Anna E., who remains with her widowed mother; Robert L., who is a representative business man of Clarence; and Cassie L., who is the wife of Albert Marley, of Kansas City, Missouri.

DR. HENRY M. POLLARD.

A practicing physician and surgeon among them during the last twenty-two years, and throughout the whole period performing his professional duties and those of elevated citizenship to their entire satisfaction, Dr. Henry M. Pollard, of Shelbina, won the regard of the people of Shelby county on his merits by proving himself to be a very useful man and deeply and intelligently interested in the welfare of the region in which he lived and labored. He was active and

zealous in connection with all undertakings for the improvement of the county and betterment of its people, and gave **all** observers an excellent example of upright and serviceable living.

Dr. Pollard was born on February 4, 1861, in this county and was a grandson of Thomas Pollard, a native of Kentucky, and a son of James M. Pollard, who was also born in that state, his life beginning on October 17, 1826, in Owen county. In 1847, although he had attained his majority, he accompanied the family to Missouri, and with the rest, took up his residence in Monroe county. Soon after his arrival he moved to Florida and learned carriage and wagon making. He worked at the trade eight years, and during most of the time after completing his apprenticeship, was engaged in making wagons for parties who wished to travel overland to the farther west, and also government wagons for Fort Leavenworth, the seat of his operations being at Platte City in this state. In 1855 he returned to Monroe county, where he remained two years, then moved to Shelby county and engaged in general merchandising at Hunnewell, conducting a successful enterprise in that line there until 1863.

In the year last named, owing to the unsettled and dangerous condition of the country around him brought on by the Civil war, he moved his family and effects to Illinois, where he dwelt until the restoration of peace. When the dread war cloud had passed away, and a reasonable degree of quiet had been brought back to the region of his former home, he returned to Monroe county, and there followed general farming until his death,

which occurred in 1900. At the time of his demise he owned **300** acres of land and nearly all of it under advanced cultivation and developed to a high state of productiveness.

He took an active and very serviceable interest in the public affairs of the county, and was elected presiding justice of the county court in 1878 for a term of four years. Prior to that time he filled other offices of trust and responsibility for a period of five years. In politics he was an ardent and determined working Democrat, always giving his party the full benefit of his influence, intelligence and energy. His religious connection was with the Baptist sect, and fraternally he was allied with the Masonic order from his early manhood. On October 11, 1853, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary J. Blackburn, a native of Shelby county and daughter of Samuel Blackburn, a long esteemed resident of this part of the state. Three of the five children born of the union are living: Samuel Thomas, whose home is at Monroe City, Missouri; Viola, the wife of O. A. Marr, who resides in Monroe county, and William Lee, who lives at Lamar, Colorado.

Dr. Pollard obtained his education in academic lines in the public schools of Monroe county and at the Kirksville State Normal school. In 1885 he matriculated at Missouri Medical college in St. Louis, from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D. in 1888. He then pursued one post graduate course in New York and five in Chicago at the Polyclinic school. With the world before him in which to choose a location for his life work, the young physician lo-

cated at Maud in this county, where he began his practice in 1888. Seven years were passed in an active general practice at that place, then, in 1895, the doctor moved to Shelbina, where he lived and gave diligent and faithful attention to the exactions of an ever increasing practice covering a steadily expanding range of country, rising to prominence in his profession and winning great and wide-spread popularity among the people until his death August 21, 1910.

The doctor's rank in his profession and his popularity with the people were based on substantial grounds and well deserved. He was a close student of all that pertained to his work, keeping abreast with the advance in medical science by reflective reading of its best literature, and in close touch with the teachings of practical experience by active membership in the county, state and national medical societies. He was president of the first named and one of its most active and useful members, and was esteemed by its other adherents as a skillful and judicious man in the application of the medical knowledge of which he was admitted to have in considerable volume and systematic accuracy.

In fraternal life Dr. Pollard was connected with the Masonic order and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and was loyal and appreciative in his devotion to both. His political affiliation was with the Democratic party, and to this, too, he was true and constant, zealous in its service and unwavering in his support of its principles and candidates. At the time of his death he was a member of the Baptist church. On July 17, 1889, he was married to Miss Mollie Clay, the

daughter of Charles B. and Amanda (Hininger) Clay, of Monroe county, this state. Two children have been born of the union, Jessie V. and Eva C., both of whom are still members of the parental household.

JOSEPH LEONARD RIDINGS.

Prominent in the public life of the community in which he lives; active, enterprising and successful in his business, in which he occupies a leading place in this whole section of the state; and standing well in the political, fraternal, social and religious circles of Clarence, the city of his home, Joseph Leonard Ridings is an ornament to Missouri manhood, Shelby county citizenship and the business and industrial interests of a locality that has made rapid strides of progress under the influence of such men as he.

Mr. Ridings was born on November 23, 1864, and is a grandson of Peter F. Ridings, a native of Virginia, who became an early settler in Randolph county, Missouri. In that county his son, Peter F. Ridings, the father of Joseph Leonard, was born in 1826, September 11th, and there he was reared and assisted the family by working on the home farm until 1849, when he joined the host of argonauts who flocked to the newly discovered gold fields of California. The next year, however, he returned to his old home near Levick Mill, in Randolph county, this state, and turned his attention to farming on 200 acres of land which his father gave him. He continued to farm this land until 1863, then went to Illinois and for one