

residents of Missouri. He then rented a farm in Marion county, which he occupied until 1873. In that year he moved to Macon county on eighty acres of land which he purchased, and on which he raised stock and carried on general farming operations until 1889, when he sold out there and changed his residence to a farm of 240 acres in Shelby county, about three miles from Emden. He directed the cultivation of this farm and the stock industry in connection with it until 1905, then divided it among his children.

After this disposition of his farm Mr. Calvert moved to Emden and took charge of a feed and grist mill, which he owned and operated until 1907. This mill he then sold, after which he passed a year in South Dakota. Returning to Emden in 1908, he bought back the mill property, and he now operates the mill very profitably. He also keeps a general store and has a large and active trade. In October, 1908, he was appointed postmaster of Emden and is still in service in that capacity.

From his happy union with Miss Spaw in the marriage which was solemnized in 1866, ten children have been born, eight of whom are living, and all residents of Shelby county but one. They are: Laura, the wife of E. P. Parsons; James; Sarah, the wife of William E. Dye; Ad-die, the wife of James Vanoy; Anna, the wife of W. C. Habig, of South Dakota; Julia, the wife of William Adudell; and George and Frank. The father is a Republican in politics. Fraternaly he is connected with the Grand Army of the Republic, and in religious affiliation he and his wife are energetic working members of the Primitive Baptist church.

WILLIAM J. COTTON.

This extensive, enterprising and successful farmer and live stock breeder and dealer, furnishes an impressive illustration of the worth of industry, thrift and intelligent use of the opportunities afforded by this prolific and rapidly improving country and what they can accomplish in the way of making fortune and good repute for a laborious man and worthy, public spirited citizen. He lived on rented land for some years after he began farming, and although he finally inherited a farm of considerable extent, it was in a state of primeval wildness when he took charge of it, and he was obliged to do almost as much as any pioneer to reduce his holding to systematic productiveness.

Mr. Cotton was born on April 29, 1857, at Shelbyville, Missouri, and is a grandson of Chester K. Cotton, a native of Connecticut and one of the earliest settlers of Shelby county. He was for many years engaged in general merchandising at Shelbyville, and prospered finely in his business. The parents of William J. were William B. and Mary (Parsons) Cotton, the former born in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1835, and the latter a native of this county. He came to Missouri with his parents when he was quite young and was reared and educated in this county, attending school in Shelbyville, where he lived. As soon as he was old enough and sufficiently trained for the purpose, his father took him into the mercantile establishment as a partner under the firm name of Cotton & Son, which became a very popular and prosperous firm, doing a large business and

winning trade from a very large extent of the surrounding country. But the life of the junior member of this firm was short, as he died in 1871 at the early age of thirty-six years.

He was married in 1854 to Miss Mary Parsons of this county, a daughter of Jonathan and Mary Ann (Carter) Parsons, natives of Virginia. They had two children, their daughter, Mary Catherine, the wife of I. N. Frederick, of Shelby county, and their son, William J., both of whom live to revere their memory and follow their example of upright and useful living. The mother died in 1858, and in 1860 the father married a second wife, choosing as his partner on this occasion Miss Jennie Dobbins, of Marion county. Four children were born of their union and three of them are living, and all residents of Shelby county. They are: Thomas M.; Cora, the wife of Sim Downing; and Weldon. In politics the father was a Democrat and an active worker for his party. He was a Freemason fraternally and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church in religious affiliation.

William J. Cotton obtained his academic training in the district schools of Shelby county and at Ingleside College, Palmyra. After leaving the latter institution he pursued a course of special business training at the Gem City Commercial College, Quincy, Illinois. Upon completing his education he started making his own way in the world, and until 1866 rented land and carried on farming operations as extensively and vigorously as his circumstances would permit. In 1866 he received as an inheritance from his grandfather, with whom he had made his home after the death of his father until

he started a home for himself, a farm of 360 acres of wild and unbroken land, and he immediately gave himself up with all his energy to make this tract over into a comfortable home and a productive and valuable basis of general farming and stock breeding and feeding operations, enlarging his efforts in each department as he prospered and gained facilities for the purpose. In this design he has been very successful. His farm is well improved, highly productive and very valuable, and he has made it all this by his energy, intelligence and excellent judgment in managing everything connected with it. And the live stock industry conducted in connection with the farming is managed with the same care, intelligence and skill, and is in its measure proportionately as profitable.

Mr. Cotton has risen to prominence and influence also in the general life of his township and county. He has shown great interest in their development and improvement, giving active support to every worthy undertaking for promoting that and looking well to the best interests of the whole people in every way. His public spirit as a citizen is highly appreciated by the people, and he is very popular and has high standing among them. He has served them well as a school director and in all other ways open to him, or that he could make open to him, has given their affairs and their enduring welfare his best and most helpful attention.

On December 18, 1878, Mr. Cotton was united in marriage with Miss Jessie Barnum, of Palmyra, a daughter of Ezra and Martha (Wells) Barnum, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of

Kentucky. Two children have been born of the union, a son named Chester P., who is living at home with his parents, and a daughter named Alberta, who is the wife of B. F. Floweree, an esteemed resident of Shelby county. In politics the father is a pronounced and unwavering Democrat of the most reliable kind. In fraternal relations he is a Freemason, and in religious connection he and his wife are zealous working members of the Missionary Baptist church, he having served as clerk of the congregation to which he belongs during the last fifteen years with credit to himself and benefit to the church and greatly to the satisfaction of the whole congregation.

JOHN J. HOLLYMAN.

The untimely death of this excellent farmer, fine stock man and most highly esteemed citizen of Tiger Fork township, Shelby county, which occurred on November 13, 1899, when he was but little over fifty-five years of age, stopped in its midst a very progressive and successful business career in the allied industries to which it was devoted, and cast the whole community in mourning over the loss of an inspiring force, a leader of thought and action and a very useful man in all practical requirements of every day life, which had been at work among its people.

Mr. Hollyman was born on August 23, 1844, in Shelby county, Missouri, and here he resided all the years of his life. He was a son of Charles N. and Nancy (Eaton) Hollyman, natives of Kentucky, where the former was born in 1810. He came to Missouri in the very early days

and for a short time lived in Marion county. From there he moved to Shelby county, and on its fertile soil and amid its inspiring and progressive institutions he passed the remainder of his days, dying on March 25, 1882. He spent his years in this state in farming and raising live stock, and in his time was considered one of the very best farmers in Shelby county. His marriage, which took place in 1835, resulted in three children, all of whom are now deceased.

John J. Hollyman attended the district schools in Shelby county and also the public schools in Lexington, Kentucky, whither he went during the Civil war and remained three years. After his return to this county he finished his education in one of the schools here. He remained on the home place with his parents, assisting them until death robbed him of them. He then bought the place and on it he passed the rest of his own life and the remaining years of a very successful career as a farmer and also as an extensive breeder and feeder of stock, which he shipped in large consignments to the Chicago and other markets. He began as a farmer and stock man with 160 acres of land, and when he died he owned 480 acres, which his widow now controls and manages with a skill and intelligence that keep the old spirit in the industries conducted on the place and maintain the profits at the highest range of the times.

Mr. Hollyman was prominent in local public affairs as a Democrat who never wavered in loyalty to his party or flagged in zeal in its service. But he would never consent to accept a political office either by appointment or election,