

as he does in the work of all church organizations without regard to creed or denominational differences.

#### JOHN T. DAVIS.

Looking well always to the interests of his country and freely offering his life and all its energies to the service of that country, whether the call of duty took him to the gory field of battle trampled by the relentless iron heel of civil war or those white with the harvests of peaceful and productive industry, John T. Davis, one of the leading and most successful farmers and live stock men of Jackson township in this county, has vindicated his patriotism and sterling citizenship in peace and war.

He was born in Marion county, Missouri, in 1833, and is a son of Gabriel and Cynthia (Kinkaid) Davis, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Virginia. They were married in 1832 and had six children, two of whom are living: John T. and his brother Wallace, who is also a resident of Shelby county. The father was born in 1809 and came to Missouri in 1828. Through the agency of his ancestors and other hardy pioneers his native state had by that time been largely redeemed from its wild and unpruned condition and made highly productive and progressive. But when he became a resident of Missouri at the age of nineteen he found the frontier conditions still extensively prevalent and himself face to face with the problem that had engaged the energies of his forefathers one and two generations earlier in Kentucky. But he was of heroic mold and accepted the situation and its

obligations with cheerfulness, entered upon the duties before him with alacrity and did his part toward the development and improvement of the region in which he had taken up his residence with diligence and fidelity to every requirement. He located in Marion county and engaged in farming and raising live stock, which he followed continuously and with success until 1884, when he retired from active labor. In 1848 he sold his Marion county property and bought a farm in Shelby county, on which he passed the remainder of his life and died in 1894. He was a Republican in political faith and allegiance from the foundation of the party and always gave its principles and candidates his earnest and effective support.

John T. Davis was educated in the country schools of this county and after leaving school learned the carpenter's trade. He worked at this until 1864, when he enlisted in the Union army, Company F, Thirty-ninth Missouri Infantry, under command of Captain Poe. The Civil war was in its last stage of vigor, however, at the time of his enlistment, and his military service lasted only six months. At the end of that time he was mustered out of the army at St. Louis, Missouri. He was ready for more arduous trials in the service than he experienced, as he was familiar with military tactics and knew something of the possible hazards and hardships of war, having belonged to the state militia for some years before the Civil war began and during the war until his enlistment.

After his discharge from military service he returned to his Shelby county home and remained there two years. In

1867 he bought a farm, of fifty acres and to its development, improvement and proper cultivation he devoted himself with all his energy until a short time ago. He now has his farm worked by a tenant but still employs himself in light tasks in connection with its management. He has prospered as a farmer and stock man, and has attained to general esteem and approval as a citizen. He gives his earnest support to the Republican party in political affairs and is potential in its service. His fraternal relations with the Grand Army of the Republic are maintained in active membership and devoted loyalty to that organization, and his religious convictions find expression in zealous and helpful connection with the Southern Methodist Episcopal church. He was married in 1867 to Miss Angeline Davis, of New York state. They have had three children, two of whom are living: Alma, at home, and Linneus I., who resides in the state of Texas. The mother of these children died February 8, 1905.

#### CHARLES A. GRAVES.

Among the substantial, prosperous and progressive farmers and live stock men of Jackson township, this county, none stands higher than Charles A. Graves, whether his industry, good management and success in his business or the elevated character and continued usefulness of his citizenship is taken as the gauge of his merit. He is well and widely esteemed for both, and it is conceded on all sides that he is fully worthy of the high rank he holds in the general

esteem of the people wherever he is known.

Mr. Graves was born in Marion county, Missouri, on March 31, 1858, but has been a resident of Shelby county for many years. He is a son of James and Martha (Janes) Graves, natives of Kentucky, who were married in Kentucky, and had eleven children, three of whom are living: Ellen, the wife of John W. Hubbard, of Monroe City, Missouri; Henrietta, the wife of R. D. Rogers, who resides in Oregon; and Charles A., the interesting subject of this brief review. The father settled in Marion county, this state, long before the Civil war and was busily engaged in farming and raising live stock until the end of his life. He belonged to the Democratic party in political allegiance and the Catholic church in religious faith and obedience, and gave earnest attention to the interests of both.

Charles A. Graves obtained a limited common school education in the country schools of this county, and after leaving their course of training began the struggle for advancement in life by working on farms in the neighborhood of his home, in addition to what he did there, assisting his mother, who was then a widow. Some time later he moved to this county and bought a farm. On this he has worked hard and steadily, but with judgment and profit, ever since, making it highly productive and improving it with judicious taste, re-creating it into one of the attractive rural homes of the township in which it is located. He has carried on, in connection with his farming operations, a