

to devote his life to them. He has adhered to this resolution to the present time (1910), and has won a gratifying success by doing so. He has an excellent farm, which is well improved, highly cultivated and very productive. His special industry, however, is raising good breeds of live stock for the markets, and to this he gives the greater part of his attention and care, making every effort to keep his output up to the highest standard of excellence and maintain the good reputation it has wherever he is known.

Mr. Stover was married in 1882 to Miss Kittie Arnett, a daughter of Macajah Arnett, of Kentucky, and Judith (Frances) Arnett, a native of Virginia. They came to Missouri at an early day and located in Shelby county, where Mrs. Stover was born. She and her husband were the parents of four children, of whom three are living: Sybel, Neva, the wife of James Copenhaver, and Mildred. In politics the father is a lifelong Democrat, with an abiding interest in the welfare of his party and an energy and intelligence in effort ever ready for its service. He has rendered the people excellent service as a member of the school board for more than fifteen years, and in every other way available to him has contributed to their benefit and the advancement of the township and county in which he lives. His religious connection is with the Christian church, and he has been one of the elders of the congregation to which he belongs for many years. He takes a great interest and a leading part in church work, and his activity in this behalf is highly appreciated by all church

people, as his energy and progressiveness as a citizen are by the whole community and all classes of its residents.

JOHN D. EDWARDS.

The last survivor of his father's household and representing the fourth generation of his family that has been loyal to the American flag and helped to develop and build up the country in peace and defend it in war, John D. Edwards, of Clay township in this county, is a shining link in the chain which connects the present day with our remote and historic past. His great-grandfather, William Edwards, was a native of Wales, and brought his family to this country in colonial times, locating in Virginia. He was a tailor and made clothing for General Washington. He joined the Colonial army and fought valiantly under the great commander for American independence.

His son, also named William, the grandfather of John D., was also born in Wales and came to America with his parents in his childhood. After he grew to maturity he moved to Kentucky, where he farmed for many years and where he at last laid down his trust. In that state the third William Edwards in direct descent, the father of John D., whose life story is our present theme, was born and reared on the farm. He, also, was a farmer, and, after following his chosen occupation in his native state some years, came to Missouri in 1856 and located in Clay township, Shelby county. His wife was Miss Eliza Davidson, a native of Tennessee, and they had twelve children, all now deceased but

John D. The father died in 1868 and the mother in 1874.

Before coming to Missouri the family lived for a number of years in Schuyler county, Illinois, and there John D. Edwards was born in 1841. He attended the district schools near his home and assisted his father on the farm, taking an earnest interest in the welfare of the family and doing all he could to help it along. At the age of fifteen he accompanied his parents to this state and remained with them until he attained his majority. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, Ninety-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in defense of the Union, and was soon afterward in the midst of unrolling columns on some of the historic battle fields of our Civil war. He took part in the battles of Mobile, Fort Blakeley and others of importance, and also in many minor engagements.

After the close of the war Mr. Edwards returned to his Missouri home, and for a time worked at the carpenter trade, of which he had previously acquired some knowledge. He then again turned his attention to farming, and continued his operations in that line until 1899, when he retired from all active pursuits. He was married at Shelbyville on February 10, 1867, to Miss Elizabeth Dehner, a daughter of Sebastian and Mary Dehner, natives of Germany, who came to this country and Missouri many years ago and located in Shelby county, where Mrs. Edwards was born and grew to womanhood. She and her husband became the parents of six children, five of whom are living: James E., who married Miss Louisa Bowman; Eliza, the wife of Hugh Wheeler; Milby I., whose

wife was Miss Fanny Eliza Copenhaver; John F., who married Miss Grace Albright, and Nina K., the wife of Charles Getchal. They are all upright and useful citizens, and are everywhere esteemed highly as such.

In political faith and allegiance the father is a pronounced Republican, with an earnest interest in the welfare of his party, and a heart and hand ever ready to promote its success. He keeps alive the agreeable and reminiscent features of his military service, without the bitterness of feeling that prevailed during the experiences they recall, by zealous and active membership in the Grand Army of the Republic. He is also a member of the Methodist church. In the affairs of the township and county he has always taken an earnest interest, manifesting this in a practical way by giving the people excellent service as a member of the school board for upwards of five years.

WILLIAM K. GUNBY.

All of the sixty-three years so far passed in the life of this enterprising and progressive farmer of Clay township, Shelby county, have been spent in the county except those which found him a soldier in the Union army during the Civil war, and they have all been employed in usefulness to the locality in which he lived since he arrived at years of discretion and the power to labor and produce. He was born in Shelby county in March, 1847, and is a grandson of Kirk Gunby, a native of Maryland who commanded a regiment of the Colonial troops at the Revolutionary battle of