

ick Pflum, of Shelby county, and Frank now resides in Albany, Oregon.

Henry Will passed his boyhood and youth in his native village of Bethel, in whose schools he secured his early educational training. After the breaking up of the colony he followed various occupations, in connection with which he developed no little versatility. In 1879 he engaged in work as a brick mason, to which vocation he devoted his attention for a few years, after which he was associated with his brother Julius E. in the conducting of a wagon repair shop for a period of seven years. They then engaged in the hardware business at Bethel under the firm name of Will Brothers, and they were associated in this enterprise for thirteen years. Like his father, Mr. Will has achieved success and no limited reputation as an apiarist, and to this interesting line of enterprise he has given special attention the past few years, finding the same a source of definite profit and conducting operations on an extensive scale. He has also been prominently identified with farming and stock growing, but now rents his fine farm property, which comprises 316 acres and which is eligibly located in Bethel township. In 1892 Mr. Will became one of the organizers of the Bank of Bethel, of which he was elected president in January, 1907, serving in this office for one year, since which time he has continued as a valued member of the directorate of the substantial and popular institution.

Though essentially loyal and public spirited as a citizen and taking much interest in all that tends to conserve the progress and prosperity of the commu-

nity, Mr. Will has never been a seeker of public office. He is aligned as a staunch supporter of the principles and policies for which the Republican party stands sponsor, and both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church in their home village, where they are held in high regard by all who know them.

On April 3, 1874, Mr. Will was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Schriever, who was born and reared in this county, and who is a daughter of the late Samuel Schreiver. The six children of this union are: Elizabeth, who is the wife of Edward G. Bower, of Bethel, and Louise, Emma, Alma, Irwin R. and Catherine R., all of whom remain at the paternal home. Emma is now Mrs. William Erich, of Bethel township; Alma is now Mrs. John Brothers, of Bethel township.

#### WILLIAM S. FOX.

He whose name introduces this sketch was for many years engaged in the grocery business in Shelbina, gaining recognition as one of the leading representatives of the mercantile fraternity in this attractive little city, where he still maintains his home, and where he now conducts one of the leading grocery stores and meat markets. He is held in unqualified esteem in the town that has so long been his home and is well entitled to consideration in this history of his county.

Mr. Fox was born on a farm near the village of Paris, Monroe county, Missouri, January 5, 1867, and the lineage of the family is traced back through several generations in America, his pater-

nal grandfather, James C. Fox, having been a native of Kentucky. In that state also was born Joseph H. Fox, father of our subject. The former was reared and educated in his native commonwealth, and as a young man he came to Missouri and took up his residence in Monroe county, where he became a successful farmer and also built up a large and prosperous business as a dealer in mules. His wife, whose maiden name was Martha M. McKinney, was born in the state of Missouri, Monroe county, and both are now deceased, the honored father having passed away in 1899 and the mother in 1871. In politics the father was a staunch adherent of the Democratic party, taking an intelligent interest in the issues of the hour and being loyal and liberal in his attitude as a citizen. He was affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and both he and his wife were zealous and valued members of the Christian church. Of their nine children all are living except one, and concerning them the following brief record is given: James A. is a resident of Louisville, Kentucky; Mary M., a maiden lady, resides in the city of St. Louis; Walter L. is a resident of Fort Collins, Missouri; Alice M. is the wife of James B. West, of St. Louis; Annie E. is the widow of Arthur W. Skinner and resides at Harper, Kansas; Edward L. maintains his home in Hannibal, Missouri; William S. is the immediate subject of this review; and Louise T. is the wife of Albert N. Wiles, of Quincy, Illinois.

William S. Fox passed his boyhood days on the home farm and after completing the curriculum of the public schools of Shelbina he continued to as-

sist in the work of the home farm for a short interval, at the expiration of which, in 1894, he engaged in the grocery business in Shelbina, where he built up a large, prosperous and essentially representative trade, based upon fair and honorable dealings and upon his care and discrimination in catering to the demands of his patrons. He was specially effective as a buyer and his store was looked upon as a model establishment of its kind. He continued the enterprise with ever increasing success until October, 1908, when he sold the same, and for two years was employed as a traveling salesman for the Scudders-Gale Grocery Company, of Quincy, Illinois, which he represented in a good territory in this state, though still maintaining his home in Shelbina, as has already been stated. He was one of the popular commercial men of his native state and his success as a traveling salesman was on the same high plane as was that he matured in connection with his individual business as a retail grocer. In December, 1909, Mr. Fox resigned his position as traveling salesman and in the spring of 1910 again engaged in the retail grocery and meat business at Shelbina, where he is now enjoying a large and constantly increasing trade. Mr. Fox is aligned as a staunch supporter of the principles and policies for which the Democratic party stands sponsor, is progressive and public-spirited as a citizen, is identified with several fraternal and social organizations, the Masonic fraternity, K. of P. and M. W. of A. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Christian church.

On October 25, 1888, Mr. Fox was

united in marriage to Miss Margaret M. Gresham, who was born and reared in Marion county and who is a daughter of John Gresham, now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Fox have two children—Porter G., who is now employed in a business with his father at Shelbina, and C. Brace, who remains at the parental home.

#### JOHN BROWN.

John Brown, a native and all his life to this time a resident of Shelby county, and until three years ago one of its leading farmers and live stock men, is now one of the prosperous and prominent citizens of Shelbina, where he is energetically and extensively engaged in business as an auctioneer and general dealer in live stock. He was born near Bethel, this county, on June 28, 1855, and obtained his education in the district school near his home, living on his father's farm and attending the sessions whenever he found opportunity amid the exactions of active farming operations.

His grandfather, Eleven Brown, was a native of Kentucky, where his parents settled in early days when that now great state was still a part of the frontier, but rapidly filling up with hardy and stalwart pioneers. Bedford Brown, the son of Eleven and father of John, was born at Frankfort, Kentucky, in 1820, and came to Missouri when he was but sixteen years of age, finding in this state at that early period much the same conditions that his forefathers had found in Kentucky when they arrived in it. He located for a short time at Palmyra, then moved to Shelby county and took up his residence on a farm near

Bethel. There he followed farming and general stock-raising until his death. When that event occurred he owned 240 acres of land and an extensive live stock business. He was energetic and knowing, took advantage of his opportunities with good judgment and used them with intelligence and skillful management. Success crowned all his efforts and gave him, in connection with his high character and public spirit, consequence and standing among the people. His specialties in stock were horses and mules, and he raised great numbers of each.

In about 1848 he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Todd, a native of Maryland, and by that marriage became the father of ten children, all of whom are living. They are: Eliza, the wife of Henry Nichols, of this county; Alexander, who resides in Kirksville, Missouri; John, the immediate subject of this sketch; Benjamin F., also a resident of this county; Lucinda E., the wife of James Nelson, of Sheridan county, Kansas; Fannie, the wife of Frank Taylor, of Shelby county; Lillie, the wife of Al. Taylor, who also resides in this county; Julia, the wife of James Gentry, of Kirksville; Kittie, the wife of Tom Will Garrison, of Shelby county; and Joseph, whose home is in Knox county. The father was a member of the Democratic party in political faith and allegiance and belonged to the Missionary Baptist church in religious connection.

John Brown was trained to farming and raising stock, and gave his attention to these pursuits immediately on leaving school. He also bought considerable numbers of stock for shipment to East-