

fied with the work of the place until 1882, since which time he has lived virtually retired. He has developed his land into one of the valuable farms of the county, and the area of the same is now 270 acres. Soon after locating here he established on his farm, contiguous to the village of Leonard, a blacksmith shop, which he conducted until his retirement from active labors, and of which he is still the owner.

Mr. Hall has been one of the progressive and loyal citizens of the county and has never failed in his duties as a citizen. He is a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, but the only office in which he has consented to serve is that of school trustee, of which he was incumbent for several years. His integrity of purpose has never been questioned, and his unassuming sincerity and honor have gained him the esteem and good will of all with whom he has come in contact.

On June 28, 1849, Mr. Hall was united in marriage to Miss Lovey Brewington, who was born and reared in Shelby county, where her father, Henry Brewington, was an early settler. Of the ten children of this union, six are living, and concerning them the following brief record is entered: James H. is engaged in the farming and blacksmithing business in the village of Leonard; Thomas B. is now a resident of the state of Idaho; Joseph N. resides in Baker City, Oregon; William P. is a physician of Macon county, Missouri; Martha S. is the wife of Edward Hines, of Shelbyville, this county; and George M. is identified with agricultural pursuits in British Columbia. His first wife died June

17, 1899. He was married to his present wife in June, 1910, her name being Mary Willis, widow of Finius Willis. Her maiden name was Mary Breeding. She was born in Randolph county, Missouri. She died in December, 1910.

WILLIAM L. GILLASPY.

In the attractive little village of Leonard Mr. Gillaspy is living virtually retired from active business, after having contributed his quota of service as one of the world's workers. He is a native son of the county and a member of one of its honored pioneer families, and the original progenitor in America settled in Virginia in the colonial epoch of our national history. There was born James Alexander Gillaspy, father of him whose name initiates this sketch, and this worthy man left the Old Dominion to become a pioneer of Kentucky, whence came the original representatives of the name in Missouri.

William L. Gillaspy was born in Taylor township, Shelby county, Missouri, on October 6, 1840, and is a son of Louis H. and Lucinda (Manuel) Gillaspy, both natives of Kentucky, where the former was born on July 5, 1806, and the latter on April 23, 1804. Their marriage was solemnized on January 1, 1835. In 1830 Louis H. Gillaspy had come from his native state to Missouri, first settling in Marion county, where he remained until his marriage, soon after which he came to Shelby county and secured 160 acres of government land, upon which a portion of the present city of Shelbyville is located. He reclaimed a portion of the tract to cultivation and there con-

tinued to reside until 1838, when he sold the property and removed to Taylor township, where he eventually became the owner of a fine landed estate of 320 acres. He gained precedence as one of the successful farmers and stock-growers and influential citizens of this section of the country, where he ever commanded uniform confidence and esteem, and he continued to reside on the old homestead until his death, in 1890, at the venerable age of eighty-four years. He was a staunch Democrat in his political proclivities and both he and his wife were members of the Christian church. Mrs. Gillaspy was summoned to the life eternal in 1890 at the age of eighty-six years. All of the three children are living, the subject of this review being the youngest of the number. Sarah C. is the wife of Samuel P. Gaines, of Leonard, this county; and John A. is likewise a resident of this county, where he has attained marked success in connection with agricultural pursuits.

William L. Gillaspy was reared to maturity on the old homestead farm in Taylor township and his early educational advantages were those afforded in the pioneer schools of the locality. He continued to attend school at intervals until he had attained to the age of nineteen years, and thus he laid effective foundation for the large fund of practical knowledge which he later gained in the school of experience. He continued to be associated in the work and management of the home farm until 1860, when he purchased from his father a tract of eighty acres in section 24, that township, where he continued to be actively and successfully engaged in general farming

and stock-growing until 1886, when he sold the farm and removed to the village of Leonard, where he has since lived a retired life, having an attractive home and here enjoying the generous rewards of past endeavors. He developed his land into one of the valuable farms of the county and through its operation and the final sale of the property he has realized a competency. Mr. Gillaspy is one of the substantial and highly esteemed citizens of his native county, sincere, honorable and of generous and kindly nature, so that he has won and retained a wide circle of friends in the community that has represented his home from the time of his nativity to the present. He is a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party, has shown a loyal interest in all that has touched the general welfare, and has served as constable and also as school director. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Christian church.

On August 29, 1860, Mr. Gillaspy was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ann Davis, who was born in Snowhill, Maryland, on July 10, 1840, being a daughter of James and Eliza Davis, who took up their residence in Shelby county, Missouri, when she was a child. Mr. and Mrs. Gillaspy became the parents of ten children, and the family circle remains still unbroken. Concerning the children the following brief record is given, in conclusion of this sketch of the career of one of the county's sterling citizens: Edwin E. is a resident of the city of Hannibal, this state; James L. is a successful farmer in Taylor township, as is also Richard W.; James P. is engaged in the same line of enterprise in Clay

township; Effie M. is the wife of Robert S. Magruder, of Clarence, this county; Anna L. is the wife of John Kyle, of Rush county, Kansas; Callie B. is the wife of William Pepper, of Ranchester, Wyoming; George C. is a representative farmer of Taylor township; William N. is a resident of La Crosse, Kansas; and Fannie remains at the parental home.

JACOB H. SINGLETON.

It is gratifying to be able to present in this historical compilation record concerning so large a percentage of the essentially representative farmers who are ably aiding in upholding the industrial prestige of the county, and among this number is he whose name introduces this paragraph. Mr. Singleton is the owner of a well improved farm in Taylor township, is a citizen to whom is accorded unqualified popular esteem, and is a native son of the township in which he now maintains his home. He is a brother of Judge Adolphus E. Singleton, of whom individual mention is made on other pages of this volume, so that detailed review of the family history is not demanded in this article.

Jacob H. Singleton was born in Taylor township, this county, on October 8, 1857, and is a son of William and Susan (Vandiver) Singleton, both natives of Virginia, where the former was born in 1817 and the latter in 1824. The paternal grandfather, Myron Singleton, was likewise a native of the Old Dominion, in which was cradled so much of our national history, and there the family was founded in the colonial epoch. William Singleton was reared to maturity in

his native state and came to Missouri in the pioneer days, first locating in Marion county, whence he soon afterward removed to Shelby county, becoming one of the pioneers of Taylor township, where he secured 200 acres of government land, which he eventually reclaimed, developing a productive farm and becoming one of the honored and substantial citizens of the county. He continued to be actively identified with the great basic industries of farming and stock-raising throughout his entire business career, save for one year passed in the village of Clarence, this county, and he was summoned to "that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns" in the year 1894. He was a loyal supporter of the cause of the Democratic party and both he and his wife, who is still living, became known as zealous members of the M. E. church, South. Of their eight children five are now living, namely: Benjamin H., a resident of Shelbyville; Judge Adolphus E., of the same city; Jacob H., subject of this sketch; and Ella and Cary, who remain with their widowed mother on the old homestead.

Jacob H. Singleton was reared to the sturdy discipline of the home farm and the district schools afforded him his early educational advantages. He continued at the parental home, assisting in the work and management of the farm, until 1886, when he purchased seventy acres of land in section 33, Taylor township, where he continued operations as a thrifty and progressive farmer and stock-grower, having added to the area of his original tract until he now has a well improved farm of 134 acres, all of