

position on the bench after having given them appreciated service in a lower one, and that his popularity at home and renown abroad in the exalted station he fills increases and intensifies as the years pass and add their testimony in favor of his excellence as a judge, his usefulness as a citizen and his worth as a man.

#### ALONZO L. GRISWOLD.

Making his struggle for advancement in life in several different occupations—agricultural, mechanical and mercantile—Alonzo L. Griswold, one of the leading merchants of Clarence, in this county, has been successful in all, and his progress has been steady and continued. He has enterprise and perseverance, and through his varied experience has acquired a good knowledge of the world and of human nature in its many forms of development and activity. And he is industrious in the application of his knowledge to his business, adapting himself to the tastes and requirements of his patrons with a zealous determination to meet their wants and satisfy their wishes.

Mr. Griswold was born in Aberdeen, Indiana, on February 18, 1863, and came to Missouri with his parents when he was but five years old. He is a son of Washington R. and Louisa (Larue) Griswold, the former born in Trumbull county, Ohio, on June 4, 1828, and the latter a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Their marriage occurred in 1851 and they were the parents of nine children, eight of whom are living: William E., a resident of Clarence, Missouri; Ida, the wife of Dr. J. D. McNeely, of

Sual, Iowa; Clarence T., who has his home in Clarence, this county; Charles W., also a resident of Clarence; Emma, the wife of John Thorne, of Sumner, Missouri; Abbie, the wife of E. W. Black, of Chillicothe, Missouri, and Harry A., a prosperous citizen of Colorado Springs, Colorado, in addition to Alonzo L., the subject of this brief review, who is sixth in order of birth of the eight living children of the household.

In early life the father moved from his native state to Aberdeen, Indiana, and in 1868 brought his family to Missouri, locating at Clarence, in this county. He worked at his trade of blacksmithing all of his mature life until about twenty years before his death, when he retired from active work. He died on January 6, 1906. He was a Republican in political faith and activity, and devoted to the success and general welfare of his party. In fraternal relations he was for many years actively and prominently connected with the Masonic order, and when he died was buried by his lodge according to the ritual of the order. His religious connection was with the Presbyterian church.

Alonzo L. Griswold obtained a district school education in Clarence, and after leaving school engaged in farming until 1882. During the next *six* years he and his brother, Clarence T. Griswold, conducted a flourishing blacksmithing business in partnership. Tiring of this line of work, he abandoned it in 1888, and became a clerk in the dry goods and clothing store of Marvin Dimmitt, in Clarence. He was employed in the store in the capacity of clerk and salesman for six years, and at the end of that period

became the manager of the business, Mr. Dimmitt retiring in 1895. He has since carried it on under the name and style of A. L. Griswold & Co., and has made it one of the leaders in its line in this part of the state. His store is a very popular one and he has the confidence of the people as to his business methods and meets the requirements of the community by the extent, variety and comprehensiveness of his stock.

Mr. Griswold was married on April 3, 1895, to Miss Margaret E. Carruthers, of Shelby county, Missouri. They have had seven children, five of whom are living: Clarence A., Ernest F., Gladys M., Warren R. and Ellen L., all of whom are still members of the parental family circle. The father is a Republican in politics and a Modern Woodman of the World in fraternal life. He stands well as a merchant, is influential and prominent as a citizen, and is held in the highest esteem as a man.

#### JAMES A. HAMILTON.

Farmer, miller and merchant, James A. Hamilton, of Clarence, in this county, has, during all of the last twenty-eight years, contributed essentially and substantially to the progress and development of Shelby county and the enduring welfare of its people. He is not a native of the county, but has lived so long and so serviceably among its people, that, to all intents and purposes he is practically a Shelby countian, being thoroughly imbued with the spirit and aspirations of its citizens and zealous and effective in helping to carry them to their highest and best development.

Mr. Hamilton was born in Monroe county, Missouri, on May 24, 1854, and is a grandson of Walter Hamilton, a native of Marion county, Kentucky, where Clement A. Hamilton, the father of James A., also was born, his life beginning there in 1824. He came to Missouri in 1851 and took up his residence in Monroe county. There he was engaged extensively and continuously in farming and general stock raising until 1888, when he retired from active pursuits and moved to Clarence, where he passed the remainder of his days, dying in November, 1900. He was very successful in all his undertakings, at one time owning and farming 500 acres of land.

He was married in 1846 to Miss Susan Mary Brown, a native of Washington county, Kentucky. They became the parents of eleven children, seven of whom are living: Susan Dorothy, the wife of J. O. Stribling, of Clarence, Missouri; James A., the subject of these paragraphs; Margaret Isabelle, the wife of J. T. Elliott, of Monroe City; P. W., a resident of Monroe county, this state; Mary Ann, the widow of the late E. C. Patrick, of Clarence; Hattie, the wife of William Lister, of Hunnewell, Missouri; and C. A., a resident of Monroe City. The father was a Democrat in his politics and a member of the Catholic church in his religious faith and allegiance. He was highly respected as a man and wielded considerable influence in the affairs of his locality as a progressive and public spirited citizen.

• His son, James A. Hamilton, was educated in the district schools of Monroe county, and after leaving school worked on the home farm with his father until