

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

his marriage. In 1882 he bought land in Shelby county, on which he engaged in farming and raising live stock until 1891. He then sold his farm of 160 acres and accepted the position of manager of the Alliance flour mill at Shelbina. In 1893 he bought the mill in association with other men and continued to conduct its operation until 1901. In that year he sold his interest in it, but continued to live at Shelbina until 1904, when he moved to Clarence, and here he has ever since been actively engaged in the harness and road vehicle trade. He has been successful in all his undertakings and is one of the substantial and prominent citizens of the town in which he lives, active in promoting its progress and development and looking after the best interests of its people, and those of a large extent of the surrounding country. He has always taken an earnest interest and an active part in the public affairs of the community of his home and been of very substantial service to the people. While living in Shelbina he served as alderman of the city, and much of its progress is due to his wise and judicious care of everything involving the welfare of its people, both as a public official and a private citizen.

Mr. Hamilton was married in 1879 to Miss Cecilia T. Worland, of Lakenan, Shelby county, Missouri. They have had four children, three of whom are living: John C., who resides in the state of Montana; Margaret, the wife of E. C. Davis, of Brookfield, Missouri; and Winona, who is living at home with her parents. In politics the father is a Democrat, in fraternal relations a Modern Woodman

of America, and in religious affiliation a member of the Catholic church.

HON. H. JEANE SIMMONS.

The Clarence Courier, published at Clarence in this county, is one of the bright, lively, up-to-date and progressive newspapers of our country which enjoys an unusual allotment of Fortune's favors. It is doubly endowed in its editorial department, combining therein the delicacy and grace of woman with the strength and aggressiveness of man—the endearing arms of tenderness engirdled with the steel bracelets of power. Its editorial staff includes Hon. H. Jeane Simmons, its owner and publisher, and his accomplished wife, Mrs. Alice (Grant) Simmons, one of the most successful and pleasing literary ladies in this part of the country. It is to this duplex torch that this volume is indebted for the luminous, interesting and comprehensive general history of Shelby county which sparkles on its pages. That attractive chronicle of the life, progress, aspirations and achievements of the people of the county is the joint product of Mr. and Mrs. Simmons, and it proclaims their mastery of facts and the best method of grouping and presenting them for the entertainment of the reader in every paragraph. But it must speak for itself, and it does so in a voice of no uncertain sound or meaning.

Mr. Simmons represented Shelby county in the lower branch of the state legislature continuously from 1900 to 1908, and was again chosen as its representative in that body on November 8,