

of pioneer life. He located on and homesteaded 160 acres of land, lived on it five years, proved up and got a deed to it. Has been successful in other ventures and has a nice competency to lean upon in his declining years.

He has had the confidence of the Democratic party in the great state of Montana, as evidenced by his nominations for the legislature and county commissioner without his solicitation.

He has while in Montana filled the office of postmaster four years, road supervisor six years, and has been honored many times with various minor offices. He is now living in Helena, Montana, and is a constant reader of the "Shelby County Herald" and "Shelbina Democrat," and has never lost interest in Shelby county people and their enterprises or its history.

WILLIAM A. HIRRLINGER.

William A. Hirrlinger, one of the leading farmers of Jefferson township, in this county, was born in Richland county, Ohio, on June 28, 1846, but came to Missouri with his parents in 1852. The family took up its residence at Shelbyville, and here he grew to manhood and obtained his education. He has passed all his subsequent years in this county, and may therefore, without impropriety, be called a product of Shelby county, and in all respects except his birth a Missourian. For he is thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the people of this state, and devoted to its welfare in every way.

Mr. Hirrlinger's paternal grandfather, Frederick Hirrlinger, was born and

passed his life in Germany. His son, William, the father of William A., was also born in that country, his life beginning in the city of Wittenburg in 1822. In 1844 he came to the United States and during the next six years had his home in Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1850 he moved to Illinois, and in 1852 to Missouri, settling his family at Shelbyville. During the Civil war he enlisted in the army, his regiment becoming a part of the command of General Greene, and while the conflict lasted he saw considerable active service, taking part in the battles of Lexington and Pea Ridge, Missouri, and a number of other engagements of great or small importance.

He was a cabinet maker, and at the close of his military service returned to Shelbyville and worked at his trade until 1865. He then turned his attention to farming, which he followed until his death in May, 1871. The mother, whose maiden name was Magdalena Doerr, was also a native of Germany and a daughter of Jacob and Magdalena Doerr, who were born and reared in that country, and belonged to families long resident there. She died on July 11, 1887. By their marriage they became the parents of seven children. One of them died in infancy and the rest grew to maturity. Those now living are: William A., the subject of this sketch; Magdalena, the wife of Stephen M. Hancock, of Marion, Indiana; Eliza, the wife of John Van Houten; Emma, the wife of Charles Rheinheimer, of Shelbyville; and Cora, the wife of L. L. Wheeler, of Clarence.

William A. Hirrlinger attended the schools in Shelbyville, and after completing their course of study worked at

the carpenter trade until 1870. He then became a farmer and has been one ever since. In 1875 he located in Jefferson township, this county, and from that time to the present (1910) has been engaged in his chosen occupation there. His farm comprises 162 acres of first rate land and is well improved and vigorously cultivated according to the most advanced modern methods. It is very productive, yielding good returns for the labor and care bestowed upon it. Through its products Mr. Hirrlinger has gained a competency for life, and by his faithful attention to all the duties of citizenship and his cordial interest in and energetic activity in promoting the welfare of his township and county, he has arisen to an exalted place in the regard and good will of their people.

He was married in November, 1871, to Miss Keziah A. Barr, a native of this county. They had four children, all of whom are living. They are: Virgil F., whose home is in this county; Lily Irene, the wife of G. M. Edmonds, of Clay township, this county; Bertha E., the wife of G. C. Chinn, of Lentner township; and Myrtle, the wife of S. B. Searles, of Belleville, Ontario, Canada. Their mother died on June 28, 1882, and on April 15, 1885, the father married a second wife, making Miss Louisa Henninger, a native of Monroe county, his choice on this occasion. They had no children. His second wife died in 1892, and in 1894 he married a third, Miss Maria Turney, a daughter of Daniel and Hannah (Waite) Turney, natives of Canada, who located in Monroe county, Missouri, in 1869. They, also, have no children.

In political connection Mr. Hirrlinger is allied with the Democratic party. When Mr. Hirrlinger became of age he offered his first vote for Seymour in 1868, but was denied the right to vote on the ground that his father had served in the Confederate army, notwithstanding the fact that he had himself been mustered into the Missouri militia during the last year of the war and had done guard duty at Shelbyville during Anderson's raid on Shelbina. He served on the school board about six years, and in many other ways has been beneficial to the township and county by reason of his public spirit and helpful interest in the public affairs of his locality. He is a director of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company of the county, and connected with other institutions of value to the people. His religious affiliation is with the Methodist Episcopal Church South, of which his wife is also a member, and in the congregation to which they belong he has been one of the stewards for more than forty years. His interest in church work leads him to great industry in the worthy and commendable activities of the sect to which he is attached, and also to serviceable exertions in behalf of other church organizations. Jefferson township has no better or more useful citizen, and none whom the people hold in more cordial and sincere regard.

JOHN M. WOOD.

The subject of this brief sketch is one of the able and popular officials of Shelby county, where he has been superintendent of the county infirmary from the