

teen years his parents removed to Elkhart county, Indiana, as has already been noted, and there he was reared to maturity and continued his educational discipline in the public schools, the while he contributed his quota to the work of the home farm, in the work and management of which he continued to be associated until 1889, when, as a young man of twenty-three years, he returned to Shelby county, Missouri, and settled in Taylor township, where he now owns a well improved farm of 160 acres, all of the land being available for cultivation and being devoted to diversified agriculture and the raising of live stock of excellent grades. Mr. Johnston has shown himself industrious, persevering and progressive and thus has achieved a worthy success in connection with his farming operations. Loyal and liberal as a citizen, he finds satisfaction in aiding in the support of all that tends to advance the general welfare of the community, and to him is given unqualified esteem and confidence by all who knew him. In politics he is a staunch advocate of the principles for which the Republican party stands sponsor, but he has never cared to enter the arena of practical politics, and the only office in which he has consented to serve is that of school director of his district. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Mennonite church, in whose faith he was reared, and is now pastor of Mt. Pisgah church, near Cherry Box, having served a number of years.

On December 25, 1890, Mr. Johnston gave appropriate observance of the joyous Christmastide by wedding Miss Anna Detwiler, who was born in Whiteside

county, Illinois, and reared in Shelby county, and who is a daughter of John G. and Magdalina Detwiler, well known residents of the village of Cherry Box, this county. To Mr. and Mrs. Johnston have been born eight children, all of whom still remain at the parental home, and their names are here entered in respective order of their birth: Lydia, now Mrs. Fred Littleton, of this county; Alma, Eran, Uriah, Noah, Orpha, Esther and Orvis.

#### WILLIAM HOWELL.

Born of a martial strain and with high examples of devotion to patriotic duty and loyalty to the rights of mankind in his family history, William Howell, one of the venerable and venerated citizens of Salt River township, in this county, has, in his own life work and experience, admirably sustained the spirit and patriotic ardor of his ancestors and exemplified the best attributes of elevated American citizenship. His grandfather, John Howell, although a native of England, helped to win the independence of our country by four years valiant service in the Continental army under the immortal commander who was "First in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen." And when the Civil war burst with all its fury on the land and threatened its dismemberment, he shouldered his musket and freely poured out his blood to save the Union which his ancestor had helped to found.

Mr. Howell was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, on December 1, 1833, and is a son of Aaron and Rebecca (Wilson) Howell, also natives of

that county. The father followed farming and raising live stock in his native state all his life. He was a very successful farmer and a man of prominence and influence in the local affairs of his portion of the state. He also contributed to its welfare and that of other states by rearing to maturity a large family of children and making them useful members of society. His marriage with Miss Rebecca Wilson took place in about 1829 and resulted in the birth of thirteen children in the household. Of these three are now living—William, the immediate subject of this writing; Matilda, the wife of J. C. Parr, of Irwin, Pennsylvania; and Eleanor, the wife of J. D. Brown, also a resident of Irwin, Pennsylvania. The father was first a Democrat and later a Whig, and finally a Republican in politics, and in his religious affiliation was warmly attached to the Presbyterian church.

His son, William Howell, was educated in the district schools of Westmoreland and Allegheny counties, Pennsylvania, and after leaving school worked on the home farm with his father until 1870. He then yielded to a longing that had possessed him for years and determined to try his fortunes in the newer country of the great West. In the year last mentioned he came to Missouri and located in Monroe county, where he remained until 1882 actively and profitably engaged in farming. He then sold his interests in that county and moved to Shelby county, in which he has ever since lived, following farming and raising live stock for the markets with all his energy and the ardor of a man devoted to his work.

He has been very successful in his operations in this county, and in 1908 determined to lessen his labors and take a well earned rest. He accordingly retired to a very comfortable home on a farm of ninety acres, near Shelbina, and has in addition another tract of sixty-five acres west of Shelbina and ninety acres northwest of Shelbina. He has the greater part of his land farmed by tenants, but although he is seventy-seven years of age, he still superintends the work and does a portion of it himself, being very vigorous and active for his age and imbued with a spirit of industry which will not be satisfied without something in the way of regular occupation.

On August 9, 1862, he enlisted in the Federal army in defense of the Union, being enrolled at Pittsburg, in his native state, in Company H, One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Pennsylvania Infantry, under command of Col. Thomas M. Bayne, the regiment being known as the "Nine Months' Volunteers." He was in the service for the full term of his enlistment and was mustered out at the end of it. He participated in the battle of Fredericksburg, Virginia, in which he received a wound from which he has never fully recovered.

Mr. Howell has been as loyal to his country and the locality of his residence and their interests in peace as he was in war. In the affairs of Shelby county he has shown a very earnest interest and in promoting the welfare of the people has taken an active and serviceable part. He was especially helpful to his township in a long service as school director and left his impress on the school system of the township. In many other ways he has

contributed essentially and wisely to the advancement of the region and helped to promote its judicious improvement, and he is esteemed by all classes of its citizenship for the uprightness of his life, his enterprise in building up its material development and the aid he has given in strengthening its moral and educational agencies.

On May 16, 1861, he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Marchand, a daughter of Abraham and Rachel (Saam) Marchand, all natives of Pennsylvania, where Mrs. Howell was born on September 7, 1837. By this marriage he became the father of seven children, six of whom are living—Aaron S. C., of Henry county, Missouri; William A., a resident of Shelby county; Mary Ella, the wife of Joseph White, also of this county; Rachel Rebecca, the wife of George Foster, of Macon, Missouri; and Owen Fletcher and Arthur S., both residents of Shelby county. In politics the father is a pronounced and zealous Republican, and in religious affairs he leans to the Presbyterian church, of which his wife is a member. Twenty-eight years of his life has been passed in this county, and they have all been fruitful in good to its people and their interests. He is justly esteemed as one of their best and most representative men.

#### GEORGE B. GARNER.

Owner of one of the splendid farms of his native township and held in high esteem in the community that has ever represented his home, Mr. Garner is one of the prominent and successful agriculturists and stock-growers of Taylor

township and is a member of one of the well known and highly honored families of the county. On other pages of this work appears a sketch of the career of his brother, Charles B. Garner, and incidental thereto is given due record concerning the family history, so that a repetition of the data is not demanded in the present connection, as ready reference may be made, through the index of this volume, to the article in question.

Mr. Garner was born on the old homestead farm in Taylor township, this county, on March 4, 1866, and he is indebted to the local schools for his early educational training, reverting with facetious satisfaction to the fact that he was a student in the Ernest schoolhouse, colloquially designated by the euphonious title of "Grub College." He continued to attend school at intervals until he was seventeen years of age, and in the meanwhile he contributed materially to the work of the home farm, thus learning the lessons of practical and consecutive industry and gaining experience that has been of inestimable value to him in his independent career. He continued to be associated in the work and management of the home farm until 1890, when he married, after which he rented a farm near the village of Leonard, where he remained one year, at the expiration of which he purchased forty acres of his present farm, in section 22, Taylor township, where the best evidence of his energy, ability and success is that afforded by his ownership at the present time of a well improved landed estate of 255 acres, all available for cultivation. He erected the present substantial buildings on the place, and the