

orded him and he determined to go after them. In 1904 he bought what was known as the "Jerome Worland farm," which was one of the first cultivated farms in Shelby county. To the cultivation of his land he has since then diligently devoted himself, farming it with intelligence and spirit and improving it from time to time in accordance with the genius of development of the section in which it is located. He now owns 370 acres of land and has about 215 acres under skillful and productive cultivation. The place is improved with a good dwelling, barns and other necessary structures, and is regarded as one of the best farms in this part of the state.

In January, 1890, Mr. Reardon was united in marriage with Miss Ellen Markin, who was born and reared in Marion county, Missouri. They have had seven children, six of whom are living: Daniel, Julia, Joseph, Katie, Agnes and John, all yet under the parental roof-tree and assisting in the work of cultivating and improving the farm. The father is a Republican in politics and a Catholic in religion. He is earnestly devoted to the institutions of the land of his adoption and does his utmost to promote their welfare. His state and country have given him opportunity; his own capacity, industry and good judgment have given him success; and he returns the one and justifies the other by loyal devotion and service to both state and nation, showing his feelings in the matter by manly and effective efforts in behalf of every worthy interest or undertaking of either. In local affairs he has been a potent influence in building up his township and county and developing toward their

highest power all the intellectual, moral and material forces at work for their betterment. His friends and neighbors hold him in cordial regard and the whole people admire his manhood and respect the elevated character of his citizenship.

#### ROY JANES.

Mr. Janes was for some years an estimable citizen of Lakenan and is one of the enterprising merchants of Shelby county and has shown grit beyond his years and spirit worthy of a Spartan. He has been tried by several forms of disaster, among them the ordeal of fire, and has not flinched in the presence of any.

He was born in Shelby county on February 18, 1888, and is a son of Joseph W. and Elizabeth (Montgomery) Janes, both, like himself, born and reared in Shelby county. The father's life began in 1862, and after reaching his maturity he followed farming profitably and also conducted a threshing outfit until his death, on March 25, 1908, at Lakenan, where he was then living. He was married in 1886 and by his marriage became the father of four children—Roy, Walter, Bernice and Weldon—three of whom are living at home with their mother. In politics the father was a Republican, in fraternal life a Modern Woodman of America and in religious connection a member of the Baptist church. He was highly respected and his untimely death in the full vigor of his manhood and when he seemed to have many years of usefulness remaining for him was universally deplored.

Roy Janes was left an orphan by the

death of his father when he was twenty years of age and was obliged to at once begin the battle of life for himself. His preparation for the struggle was in part a common school education obtained in the district schools of Shelby county, and in part the companionship and example of his father, with whom he worked three years after leaving school on the farm from which he had drawn his stature and his strength. He was then employed for a time as a section hand and timekeeper in the service of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. He did not regard his sphere as too humble or his work as unworthy of him, for he had been imbued with the conviction that all useful labor is dignified and honorable. But he felt that there was a destiny of more extensive opportunity before him and that he could employ his faculties to better advantage than the occupation in which he was engaged afforded.

Yielding to this feeling, on June 1, 1908, Mr. Janes entered into partnership with John McGlasson in a general merchandising enterprise, the success of which from the start gave him high hopes of rapidly increasing material acquisitions. But on November 7, following the opening of the store, it and all its contents were totally destroyed by fire, and this ended the partnership with the business. Mr. Janes was not dismayed by his disaster. He at once began to look about him for a new connection with a view to undertaking a new enterprise. He formed another partnership, this time with C. W. McIntosh, of Lentner, and on February 1, 1909, they opened their new store. Mr. Janes continued

in this firm until the summer of 1910, when he disposed of his interest in the business and removed to Kansas City, Mo., where he is now employed.

#### JOHN R. LYELL.

John R. Lyell, the president and controlling spirit of the Commercial Bank of Shelby, the man who directs its policy and looks closely and intelligently after all its affairs, is a native of Shelby county, where he was born on November 14, 1866. He is a son of Thomas P. and Sarah E. (Jones) Lyell, the former of whom was born and reared in Virginia and the latter in Missouri. The father came to this state at an early age and located in Marion county. Some time afterward he moved to Shelby county and took up his residence north of Hunnewell. There he became possessed of a tract of wild land which had never yet responded to the persuasive hand of systematic cultivation, but lay buried in the sleep of ages waiting for the voice of its master to call it forth to fruitfulness and beauty. Mr. Lyell broke up the tract and improved it, making of it one of the best and most productive farms in the county, and finally ending his days on it amid the monuments to his enterprise and progressiveness which he had reared around him. His widow survived him a few years, passing away at Shelby. They have three sons and one daughter living, and all contributing actively and practically to the welfare of the communities in which they have their homes. The family is of Scotch ancestry.

John R. Lyell grew to manhood in this county and obtained his education in the