

disposition and sought advancement in various parts of the country. He came to Missouri and located in Marion county, at Hannibal, at an early date, after living successively in Kentucky, Indiana and Wisconsin. In 1850, when the excitement over the discovery of gold on the Pacific slope was at its height, he went to California. He did not tarry long in the new eldorado, however, but soon returned to his Marion county, Missouri, home.

Still the gold fever had him in its grip, and the longing for the Pacific coast was constantly with him while he was busily engaged in cultivating his Ralls county farm for a number of years. At length it became irresistible, and in 1863 he went back to California, taking his wife with him, and there he remained thirty years, his wife dying there in 1880. Thirteen years later, in 1893, he returned again to Missouri, Shelby county, and here he died in 1899.

William C. Raines obtained his education in the public schools of Hannibal, Missouri. After leaving school he learned the blacksmith trade, but he has never worked at it. In 1858, when he was nineteen years old, he became an engineer on transports and tow boats, and in this capacity he was employed for a period of nearly forty years during which he traversed every navigable river in the West. In 1886 he came to Shelby county, Missouri, accompanied by his family, and settled down as a farmer, to which occupation he has ever since adhered. He has prospered in his agricultural enterprise, and now owns and has under cultivation 137 acres of superior land, which constitutes one of

the attractive and valuable country homes of Bethel township, and is managed with skill and intelligence that make him one of the model farmers of the locality.

On December 12, 1863, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Calloway, a native of Maryland. They had six children, two of whom are living, their daughters, Emma, the wife of William P. Roberts, of St. Louis, and Julia C., the wife of J. C. Smith, of Walkersville, Missouri. The mother of these children died on January 8, 1909, aged seventy years. In politics the father belongs to the Democratic party, but owing to his migratory life he has never taken an active interest in political affairs. He is not a member of any church or fraternal organization, but is an excellent citizen, highly esteemed by all who know him and well worthy of the universal regard in which he is held in his own community, in the welfare of which he takes an earnest and serviceable interest.

FRANCIS M. KIMBLEY.

Becoming an orphan at the age of seventeen by the untimely death of his father, which left the family in straitened circumstances, and in consequence, obliged to make his own way in the world without the aid of outside help or Fortune's favors in any way, F. M. Kimbley, of Bethel township, in this county, found life's journey a rough and stony road during several years of his progress on it toward the goal of his hopes. He is now one of the most successful and prosperous farmers and stock men of the township, prominent and influential as a citi-

zen and generally esteemed and popular as a man. He has made the rugged ascent to this condition wholly by his own efforts and ability, and is deserving of the consequences he has attained.

Mr. Kimbley's life began in Adams county, Illinois, where he was born on January 1, 1863. He is a son of Matthew R. and Emilia J. (Prickett) Kimbley, the former a native of Illinois and the latter of Ohio. They had ten children, two of whom are living, F. M., and Henry, who lives in the state of Oklahoma. Harvey and George died after having reached maturity. The father first came to Missouri and located in Clark county in 1860. Later he moved his family to that county, and there he followed farming until his death in 1879. The mother survived him twenty-seven years, dying in 1906.

Their son, Francis M. Kimbley, obtained a limited education in the district schools of Clark county, but his aspirations in this direction were cut short by the death of his father, and even before that his advantages had been meager, as the work on the home farm required during all the working season every available force in the family, and all other considerations had to yield to it. When he left school he gave himself up wholly to the cultivation of the farm, which the family occupied until 1880, and then he and the rest of the living children came to Shelby county with their mother, and took up their residence on a farm in Bethel township.

In 1883, impelled by the hope of success in mining and other lines of effort, he went to Colorado, which was then looked upon, and not improperly, as a

state, or territory of great possibilities. But Shelby county still had a winning voice for him, and after a short time he returned to it, content to take his chances for advancement with the fruits of its fertile soil and his opportunities for social enjoyment and civil and material progress among its home-loving but wide-awake and enterprising people. Here he has been industriously and successfully engaged in farming and raising live stock ever since with steadily increasing prosperity. He now owns and has under cultivation over 400 acres of fine land, well improved and brought to a high condition of productiveness. His stock industry is also extensive and profitable. Both departments of his work are conducted with skill and intelligence, and each well repays the care and attention bestowed upon it.

Mr. Kimbley was married in 1883 to Miss Anna Wester, a native of this county. They had six children, five of whom are living. They are Harry, Minnie, Ettie, Ira and Ruby. In politics the father is an active working Democrat, with great interest in the success of his party and always zealous and effective in its service. He rendered good service to the people as a member of the school board for four years, and in many other ways has been useful in promoting their welfare. In fraternal life he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which also he takes an active part, contributing to its advancement by wisdom in counsel and zeal and intelligence in active work. He is one of the most esteemed citizens of the township. Mrs. Kimbley is a member of the Baptist church.