

as here entered in respective order of birth, are: John O., Elizabeth, Edward A., Margaret, Harry, Charles and Anna. Elizabeth is now the wife of William Gillespie, and they reside in Miles City, Montana.

#### MINUS H. LEWIS.

On other pages of this publication is entered a brief review of the career of Aaron Lewis, the honored father of the subject of this sketch, and by reason of this fact it is not necessary to repeat the data in this article, as ready reference may be made to the sketch mentioned. He whose name heads this paragraph is a native of Shelby county and is now numbered among its enterprising and essentially representative business men, while as a citizen he holds the unqualified esteem and confidence of the people of the county in which his entire life has been passed.

Minus H. Lewis was born on the homestead farm of the family, in Jefferson township, Shelby county, Missouri, May 29, 1872, and to the district schools of the locality he is indebted for his early educational training. After his school days were over he continued to be associated with his father in the work and management of the farm until 1900, when he took up his residence in the village of Clarence, where he erected a grain elevator of large capacity and modern facilities, thus showing a spirit of progressiveness and confidence that had not previously been manifested in a similar way by any other resident of the county, as this elevator was the first to be erected within the borders of Shel-

by county. He conducted a successful grain business for the ensuing two years, at the expiration of which he disposed of the elevator and business. While thus engaged he was also associated with William F. Hirrlinger in the conducting of a well equipped hardware, furniture and undertaking establishment, under the firm name of Lewis & Hirrlinger. In 1904 he purchased his partner's interest in this enterprise, which he thereafter conducted in an individual way until 1907, when he disposed of all his business interests in the village and purchased stock in the Clarence Savings Bank, of which he was elected assistant cashier in January of that year. Of this position he has since continued incumbent, giving the major portion of his time and attention to his executive duties in connection with this substantial and popular financial institution. He is the owner of an attractive residence and other improved realty in Clarence and is one of the loyal and public-spirited citizens who are conserving the material and civic progress of his native county, where his circle of friends is limited only by that of his acquaintances. He is a staunch Democrat in his political proclivities and takes a lively interest in public affairs of a local order.

On October 11, 1896, Mr. Lewis was united in marriage to Miss Lou McCarty, who was born in Schuyler county, Illinois, and who is a daughter of Michael McCarty, now a resident of Clarence.

#### AARON LEWIS.

Aaron Lewis has been a resident of Shelby county for more than forty years, during the major portion of which he

has been actively identified with the great basic industry of agriculture, in connection with which he has gained success and independence through his well directed energies and indefatigable application. He is now living virtually retired in the village of Clarence, where he has an attractive home, and is enjoying the generous rewards of former years of earnest endeavor and where he is known as a substantial citizen and as one well worthy of the unqualified esteem in which he is held in the community that has so long represented home and been the scene of his productive activities.

Mr. Lewis was born in Dorchester county, Maryland, on November **13, 1843**, and is of staunch Welsh and English lineage, the Lewis family having been founded in Maryland in the colonial era of our national history. He bears the full patronymic of his honored father, Aaron Lewis, who was born in Maryland in 1795, and who there passed his entire life, having been summoned to eternal rest on September **23, 1843**, about a month before the birth of the subject of this review. During the greater portion of his independent career he was identified with agricultural pursuits, and for some time he was engaged in the general merchandise business at Federalsburg, Maryland. His wife, whose maiden name was Nancy Adams, was likewise a native of Maryland, and she survived him by many years, having passed away in 1902. They became the parents of eight children and concerning the four now living the following data are entered: Charles is a resident of Knox county, Missouri; Abraham resides in the vil-

lage of Novelty, this state; Lovey is the wife of William Sullin, of Knox county; and Aaron is the immediate subject of this review. In politics the father was a staunch supporter of the cause of the Whig party, and both he and his wife held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church.

Aaron Lewis, subject of this sketch, was reared to the sturdy discipline of the farm and his early educational privileges were those offered in the common schools of the locality and period. After leaving school he continued to follow farm work for some time, and later was employed as clerk in a general store at Williamsburg, Maryland. He then became a sailor on a coasting vessel, and he continued to follow the seafaring life about two years. The merchantman on which he was engaged was chartered at intervals by the government during the progress of the Civil war and was lying at the mouth of the Appomattox river at the time of the evacuation of the city of Richmond, Virginia. Upon retiring from the maritime service, Mr. Lewis returned home and learned the trade of carpenter, to which he continued to devote his attention for a period of five years, during which he maintained his home at Pederalsburg, Maryland.

In 1868 Mr. Lewis came to Missouri and took up his abode in Shelby county, where he has since maintained his home and where through his own efforts he has become a successful and representative citizen. For two years he followed his trade in the village of Clarence, and during the remainder of his active career he gave his attention to farming and stock-raising, eventually becoming the

owner of a fine landed estate of 240 acres near the village of Maud, in Jefferson township. He developed the property into one of the productive and valuable farms of the county, made excellent improvements upon the place, and continued to reside on this homestead until 1899, when he retired from active labors and removed to the village of Clarence, where he has since maintained his home. He disposed of his farm several years ago. He is a stockholder of the Clarence Savings Bank and has other substantial capitalistic investments in his home county.

In politics Mr. Lewis is found arrayed as a stalwart advocate of the principles and policies for which the Democratic party stands sponsor, and he continues, to take a lively and intelligent interest in the questions and issues of the hour, the while exemplifying the highest standard of loyal and public-spirited citizenship. He is affiliated with the local lodge of Free & Accepted Masons, and attends and supports the Methodist Episcopal church, South, of which his wife is a zealous member.

On August 25, 1870, Mr. Lewis was united in marriage to Miss Rosa Conrardt, who was born in Germany, on July 25, 1848, and who was a resident of Shelby county at the time of her marriage. Her father, the late Jacob Conrardt, settled in this county many years ago and became one of its substantial farmers and honored citizens. To Mr. and Mrs. Lewis have been born six children, all of whom are living, namely: Minus H., who is engaged in banking in Clarence; Katherine, who is the wife of Willis Cross, of Clarence; Della May, who re-

mains at the parental home; Mollie, who is the wife of Samuel Sanner, a prosperous farmer of this county; John E., who is now a resident of the state of Wyoming; and Nora, who is the wife of Porter Robuck, of Shelby county.

#### WILLIAM L. JACOBS.

Bearing a name that has been long and prominently identified with the annals of Shelby county, where this well known and honored family was founded in the early pioneer days, William L. Jacobs has well upheld the prestige of the name and is now recognized as one of the representative business men and influential citizens of his native county, where he has a secure place in popular confidence and regard. He is now engaged in the general merchandise business in the thriving little city of Clarence, and he is one of the leading and most progressive merchants of the county, controlling a large and appreciative trade, which is based on fair and honorable dealings and which extends throughout the fine agricultural territory normally tributary to Clarence as a distributing center. Adequate review of the family history is given in the memoir dedicated to his honored father, the late John W. Jacobs, on other pages of this publication.

William L. Jacobs was born on the old homestead farm of his father, in Clay township, Shelby county, Missouri, and the date of his nativity was September 6, 1858. He has naught to regret in connection with the sturdy discipline which he received in connection with the work of the farm and under