

Charles Milton, who is still at home with his parents. Politically the father is a Democrat and he and his wife are members of the Baptist church.

#### WILLIS J. MAGRUDER.

This prosperous and enterprising farmer and live stock man of Lentner township was born in Shelby county, near Maud, on August 13, 1865, and has passed the whole of his life to this time in the county of his nativity. From his boyhood he has been engaged in the two of its leading industries which now command his time and attention, and by that means has contributed materially to the wealth and commercial influence of his township and the consequence of its people. He has also taken an earnest interest in its welfare in all other ways, performing all the duties of good citizenship in a commendable manner and exemplifying in his daily life the best attributes of elevated American manhood.

Mr. Magruder is of Kentucky ancestry on his father's side of the house. His father, William Henry, and his grandfather, Willis Magruder, were born in the Blue Grass state and became early residents of Missouri, locating in Monroe county during the boyhood of the father. He came into being in 1839, and, after a residence of a few years in his native state, and one of several more in Monroe county, this state, moved to Shelby county in 1862. Here he followed farming and raising live stock until 1893, when he retired from active pursuits and has since been living with his chil-

dren in this and Monroe county. He still owns his farm in Shelby county and has it rented to a tenant who farms it under his direction and supervision.

He was married in 1862 to Miss Sarah Jane Weatherford, of Monroe county, Missouri. They have had nine children, three of whom have died. Those living are: Beauregard, a resident of Walla Walla, state of Washington; Willis J., the subject of this writing; Lucy Helen, the wife of E. R. Gaines, of Monroe county, Missouri; Henrietta, the wife of Alexander Stalcup, of Monroe county; Minnie Kate, the wife of Le Roy Harding, of Shelby county; and Beulah May, the wife, of George Ashford, of Shelby county. In his political relations the father adheres to the principles of the Democratic party, and has long been a faithful worker in its service. His religious connection is with the Baptist church.

Willis J. Magruder obtained his education at the district school in Fairview, Monroe county, this state. After leaving school he studied telegraphy at Sedalia for one year, then farmed on the home place and assisted the family there until 1888. In that year he began a career in farming and raising live stock on his own account in Shelby county, and here he has been continuously and successfully engaged in those pursuits ever since. He makes a specialty of raising superior breeds of hogs, but also handles sheep and cattle in large numbers. He has studied all features of his business thoughtfully and observed all its manifestations with care, and by this means has become not only one of the most successful stock men in his township, but

an acknowledged authority on everything connected with the live stock industry.

Mr. Magruder is a man of public spirit and progressiveness and shows these qualities of his manhood in his devotion to the welfare of his township and his earnest efforts on all occasions and in every way to promote it. No effort designed to advance their interests goes without his active aid, which is always given with intelligence and good judgment. On September 28, 1890, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Virginia Kidwell, of Shelby county, Missouri. They have had nine children, all of whom are living. They are: Charles F., Visa F., Chester, Roland, Everett, Verney, Howard, Velma and Vivian, and are all yet members of the parental family circle.

#### MICHAEL E. RUTTER.

Although a native of Marion county, this state, where he was born on October 7, 1833, Michael E. Rutter, of Salt River township, has been a resident of Shelby county during all but the first two years of his life, and from his boyhood has been connected with its farming and stock raising industries in an energetic and serviceable way. He is now one of the best and most widely known breeders and handlers of mules of superior grades in this county, his operations in this line being extensive and commanding attention and admiration all over the country.

Mr. Rutter is a grandson of Edmond Rutter, who was born and reared in Kentucky and a son of Chambers Rutter, who was also a native of that state, and

born in 1799. The latter came to Missouri in the early days of its history and located near Scipio Bottom, where he passed a number of years engaged in teaming. In 1833 he moved to Marion county, and after farming there two years, changed his residence to Shelby county. Here he was actively and successfully engaged in farming and raising live stock until 1839, when he turned his attention to merchandising and kept at it two years. At the end of that period he returned to the farm, on which he died in 1852.

He was married in 1832 to Miss Nancy Hornback of Macon county. They had two children, both of whom are living, Michael E. and his sister Mary E., the wife of Clark Vandiver, who lives in Shelby county. Their mother died and in 1836 the father married a second wife, being united in this marriage with Miss Catherine Gallagher, of Shelby county. In politics he was a pronounced Democrat, loyal to his party and zealous in its service. His religious affiliation was with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Michael E. Rutter was educated in the country schools of Shelby county, and after leaving school at once began farming and raising live stock on his own account, continuing his operations in these interesting and profitable industries until 1905, when he gave up all active pursuits, although he is still living on his farm. During the last fifteen years of his activity he was very successfully occupied in raising superior strains of mules, building up a large trade and acquiring a wide reputation for the excellence of his output, as has been stated.