

cated at Maud in this county, where he began his practice in 1888. Seven years were passed in an active general practice at that place, then, in 1895, the doctor moved to Shelbina, where he lived and gave diligent and faithful attention to the exactions of an ever increasing practice covering a steadily expanding range of country, rising to prominence in his profession and winning great and wide-spread popularity among the people until his death August 21, 1910.

The doctor's rank in his profession and his popularity with the people were based on substantial grounds and well deserved. He was a close student of all that pertained to his work, keeping abreast with the advance in medical science by reflective reading of its best literature, and in close touch with the teachings of practical experience by active membership in the county, state and national medical societies. He was president of the first named and one of its most active and useful members, and was esteemed by its other adherents as a skillful and judicious man in the application of the medical knowledge of which he was admitted to have in considerable volume and systematic accuracy.

In fraternal life Dr. Pollard was connected with the Masonic order and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and was loyal and appreciative in his devotion to both. His political affiliation was with the Democratic party, and to this, too, he was true and constant, zealous in its service and unwavering in his support of its principles and candidates. At the time of his death he was a member of the Baptist church. On July 17, 1889, he was married to Miss Mollie Clay, the

daughter of Charles B. and Amanda (Hininger) Clay, of Monroe county, this state. Two children have been born of the union, Jessie V. and Eva C., both of whom are still members of the parental household.

JOSEPH LEONARD RIDINGS.

Prominent in the public life of the community in which he lives; active, enterprising and successful in his business, in which he occupies a leading place in this whole section of the state; and standing well in the political, fraternal, social and religious circles of Clarence, the city of his home, Joseph Leonard Ridings is an ornament to Missouri manhood, Shelby county citizenship and the business and industrial interests of a locality that has made rapid strides of progress under the influence of such men as he.

Mr. Ridings was born on November 23, 1864, and is a grandson of Peter F. Ridings, a native of Virginia, who became an early settler in Randolph county, Missouri. In that county his son, Peter F. Ridings, the father of Joseph Leonard, was born in 1826, September 11th, and there he was reared and assisted the family by working on the home farm until 1849, when he joined the host of argonauts who flocked to the newly discovered gold fields of California. The next year, however, he returned to his old home near Levick Mill, in Randolph county, this state, and turned his attention to farming on 200 acres of land which his father gave him. He continued to farm this land until 1863, then went to Illinois and for one

year worked on a farm in that state. In 1864 he came back to his Randolph county farm and soon afterward bought a general store and tannery, which he conducted until 1877. In that year he moved his mercantile enterprise to what was but a cross-roads and organized a town, which he named Maud in honor of his daughter. He continued to keep his store at that point, and also to farm. In a little while he was appointed postmaster of Maud, and he served in that capacity until 1888, when he moved to Clarence, and during the next year followed the livery business. In 1869 he sold this and retired from all active pursuits, and is now enjoying a well earned rest and the fruits of his labor from good city properties and his farm land, which is being farmed by a tenant.

He was married in November, 1862, to Miss Mary Larrick, of Palmyra, a native of Virginia, who was born November 24, 1843, and by this marriage became the father of seven children, five of whom are living: Joseph Leonard, of Clarence; Albert M., who lives in the same city; Charles Franklin, also a resident of Clarence; Maud, the wife of William Schwada, of West Burlington, Iowa; and Jessie, the wife of Lester Herst, of Denver, Colorado. In politics the father is a Democrat, and his wife is a member of the Southern Methodist Episcopal church.

Their son, Joseph Leonard Ridings, was educated in the district schools of Randolph and Shelby counties, and after leaving school he assisted his father in the store at Maud until he reached the age of twenty years. In 1884, following

his father's example, he also organized a new town, which he called Enterprise, planting it at a cross-roads also, and opening and keeping the first store there. The place soon grew to the dignity of a postoffice and its founder was made postmaster. He remained there seven years, operating a saw mill and blacksmith shop in connection with his store and the postoffice, and found all the circumstances favorable to his prosperity. In 1891 Mr. Ridings sold out his interests at Enterprise and located in Clarence. There he has been continuously engaged in contracting for building, heating, electrical and plumbing work, and is considered the most extensive and reliable contractor in those lines of construction in this part of the county. His business is very large and active, and he is now (1910) erecting a two-story brick building to accommodate it and provide for necessary enlargements.

Mr. Ridings is also prominent and influential in the affairs of the city. He is serving his fifth term as a member of the city council, and is considered one of the best, as he is certainly one of the most popular members of the body. He has given intelligent and energetic attention to the wants of the city, looked after its best interests with great zeal and enterprise, and taken broad and progressive views of everything involving its improvement and further development, and the people highly appreciate his services in this behalf.

On January 12, 1888, Mr. Ridings was united in marriage with Miss Annie Dean Sidner, a daughter of William P. Sidner, of Monroe county, this state, and

a cousin of Thomas Sidner, who was one of the men killed at the cruel and brutal Palmyra massacre of 1864. Mrs. Ridings was born in Monroe county on September 17, 1867. She and her husband have had *six* children, four of whom are living, and all of them are still at home with their parents. They are: Leonard, Dollie, Clarence and Lucy, and add great life and light to the family circle. In politics the father is a hard working Democrat; in fraternal life he is connected with the Knights of the Maccabees, and in religious affiliation he is a member of the Southern Methodist Episcopal church, which his wife also attends.

HON. RUFUS FARRELL.

In the life story of this eminent citizen of Shelby county and esteemed jurist and publicist of Missouri, will be found a most impressive illustration of the number and variety of claims that are likely to be made on almost any American citizen of parts and acquirements, and also of the great versatility and adaptability of the American mind, which is always found equal to all demands and ready to exercise its mastery over any circumstances, however unusual or trying. Farmer, commission merchant, hotel keeper, live stock man of active business, following other lines of trade, and finally judge of the highest court in the county, and turning his faculties from one calling to another almost with the ease of a proteus, Judge Farrell has shown himself to be a man of great capacity and resourcefulness, and has clone credit to the ancestry from which he sprang and also to the section of

country in which he got his training and preparation for life's unending and ever exacting battle.

Judge Rufus Farrell was born on March 25, 1850, in Madison, Monroe county, Missouri, and is a grandson of William Farrell, a native of Kentucky, where the family lived for generations and held an honorable place in the history of that state. The judge is a son of John and Mary Ann (Grove) Farrell, also natives of Kentucky, the former born in Madison county on July 14, 1826, and the latter in Oldham county only a little later. The father came to Missouri in 1839 with his parents, and the family located in Monroe county. There he grew to manhood and learned the blacksmith trade, and this he followed in connection with farming and raising live stock until 1885, when he retired from active pursuits and moved to Madison, where he remained until his death on July 15, 1905.

At one time the Judge's father owned 800 acres of land in adjoining tracts, although they were located in two counties—Monroe and Shelby. His marriage with Miss Mary Ann Grove took place in 1845, and by it he became the father of thirteen children, six of whom are now living: W. M., a resident of Paris, Missouri; Judge Rufus, who lives in Clarence, this county; Thomas J., whose home is in St. Louis; John W., who resides in Madison; Mary Catherine, the wife of O. T. Hall, of Shelby county; and Ira Stanberry, a prominent citizen of Billings, Montana. In politics the father was an ardent and steadfast Democrat, and in religious connection belonged to the Christian church. He al-