

actively engaged in furnishing timber for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad, and during this period has made a number of short stays at Texarkana, Texas, in the vicinity of which he has about 8,000 acres of good timber land. The greater part of the timber now supplied for the use of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy line is procured along its right of way. Mr. Stribling also holds a considerable block of stock in the Shelby County State Bank, of Clarence. In December, 1910, he was elected president of The Clarence Savings Bank, which position he is now filling.

He was united in marriage with Miss Susan Dorothy Hamilton, of Monroe county, Missouri, on April 28, 1868. She is a daughter of Clement A. and Cecilia T. (Brown) Hamilton, of Clarence. Seven children have been born of the union, five of whom are living: Jane Oneta, the wife of Joseph McDonald, of Brookfield, Missouri; Lela, the wife of T. C. Stutz, also a resident of Brookfield; Ava and Clyde C., who are living at home with their parents; and Loretta, the wife of I. C. Yates, who lives in Monroe City.

In his political alliance Mr. Stribling is a pronounced and active Democrat, zealous and effective in the service of his party, although seeking none of its honors or emoluments for himself. Fraternally he is a Knight of Pythias, and in religious faith and allegiance is connected with the Catholic church. He is loyal and devoted to his party, his lodge and his church, and has been faithful and serviceable in his performance of all the duties of citizenship, standing

high in the esteem of all the people as one of the best and most representative men in the county.

THOMAS ROFF.

Having reached the age of sixty-five and retired from all active pursuits of a strenuous character, the present life of Thomas Roff, one of the esteemed citizens of Shelby, might seem to be one of rest, recreation and retrospection merely, but it is not so. He is still actively and intelligently interested in the improvement and general welfare of the community in which he makes his home and does his part as ever to promote its good; he still reveres the county and state in which his labors have been expended, to whose advancement he has materially contributed, and is at the front with others in efforts for their yet greater development and progress; he has lost nothing of his regard for the people among whom his years of productive industry were passed, and he is constant in his wish and his endeavors to enlarge their happiness and substantial well being. So that even if he does no longer hold the plow, or reap the harvest, or supply the live stock market, he is, nevertheless, still one of the workers for Shelby county's benefit and is regarded as *one of its most* worthy and useful citizens.

Mr. Roff was born in the county on April 2, 1844, and is a son of the late Peter Roff, an account of whose life will be found in a sketch of his other son, George Roff, in this work. Following the course of most boys in the early days of a new country, Thomas Roff obtained

his education in the district schools in the neighborhood of his home, and while attending them assisted in the labors of all hands on his father's farm. The times were exacting in his boyhood and youth, the necessaries of life being so difficult to get and requiring so much effort, that all the luxuries were unthought of. The pioneers of this section had the wild expanse around them to awaken from its sleep of ages and the rough face of the country to smooth before they could find comeliness in its aspect or liberality in its bosom. And the exacting conditions bore heavily on the boys as well as on the men, on the daughters of the household as well as on the mothers.

Thomas Roff was obliged by circumstances to take his place among the toilers and do his full share toward supplying the needs of the home and family, and was therefore unable to seek other means of mental culture than those immediately at hand. He accepted his destiny with cheerfulness and performed its duties with all the ability and strength he could command. So entirely did he fall in with the genius of the time and locality that when he left school, instead of turning his back upon the rough life of the frontier, he remained on his father's farm and wrought with the rest until he reached the age of twenty-eight. Then, in 1872, his father deeded him a portion of the land he owned, and on this the son went heartily to work for himself. During the succeeding twenty-seven years he farmed and raised live stock industriously and profitably, continuing his operations until 1889, when he gave up active industry and sought a retired life in Shelbina, where he has ever since

had his home. He is a stockholder in the Shelbina National Bank and connected with other institutions of utility and value in the city and county, and to these he still gives the required share of his attention.

His political faith has ever been fixed in the Democratic party and his activity in public affairs has been devoted to its welfare. His church affiliation is with the Christian sect, and in its behalf he has long been a faithful and a zealous worker. On April 15, 1881, he was married to Miss Ella Hardcastle, of this county. They have had three children, of whom their daughter Lillian is the only one now living.

TILMON A. BAILEY.

Tilmon A. Bailey is a brother of John T. Bailey, of Shelbina, in a sketch of whom, on another page of this work, will be found an account of the life of their father, Tilmon O. Bailey, and the mother of the family. The subject of these paragraphs was born in Monroe county, Missouri, on August 22, 1862. He was reared on his father's farm, attending the district school in the neighborhood when he could be spared from the labor of cultivating the homestead, and made good use of his limited opportunities in the way of scholastic acquirements. At the age of twenty he entered the Shelbina Collegiate Institute, which he attended until 1884, when he began a three years' course of study at Central College, which is located at Payette, in this state.

After completing his college course he became a teacher in the public schools of his native county, to which he rendered