

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 Shelbina. 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.

He was married in 1852 to Miss Eliza H. Hollyman, of Marion county. They have had eight children, four of whom are living: John W., a resident of Shelby county; Nancy E., the wife of Clay Dufer, of Shelby county; and James and Charles, who are also residents of this county. The father is a loyal and unwavering Democrat in his political relations and an earnest and effective worker for his party in all campaigns, although he has never sought a political office of any kind for himself. He is devoted to the progress and welfare of his township and county and shows his interest in their substantial advancement by zealous assistance in every worthy project involving the good of their people, among whom he is held in high esteem as one of the leading and most useful citizens of this portion of the state. His religious connection is with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and he is active in the service of the congregation to which he belongs. Now verging close upon eighty years of age, he can look back over his long career with the satisfaction that it has been profitable to himself and serviceable to the people around him, for he has been faithful in the performance of every duty and given an impressive illustration of the benefit and comfort of upright living.

GEORGE W. O'BRYAN.

It is not often that man who has lived to an almost patriarchal age in his native region moves to another, and on what is to him practically an alien soil lights the fires of a new domestic hearth, but this is what happened in the case of John

O'Bryan, the father of George W. O'Bryan, one of the enterprising and progressive farmers and stock men of Lentner township and one of the public spirited and broad minded citizens of this county, who came to Missouri when he was well advanced in years, and with all the energy of his youth repeated here what he had already achieved in the state of his nativity as a successful farmer and live stock man and a live and influential citizen.

Mr. O'Bryan is a native of Washington county, Virginia, where he was born on February 18, 1849. His parents, John and Sallie (Heninger) O'Bryan, were also natives of that state and descended of families resident there from early colonial days. They were married on June 28, 1829, and had four children, of whom George W. is the only one living. The father was born in Virginia in 1778 and came to Missouri in 1853. In his native state he was a shoemaker, but after coming to this state he followed farming and raising stock exclusively, which he had been engaged in in connection with working at his trade in Virginia. He died in Monroe county, which was the place of his Missouri residence, in 1862. He was married twice, the first time to Miss Anna Anderson, of Virginia, with whom he was united on July 29, 1804. They had five children, whose mother died a few years after the last one was born. His second wife was a daughter of Jacob and Mary Henninger, esteemed residents of Monroe county, and numbered among its most respected and useful citizens. In politics he belonged to the Whig party until the death of that organization, and afterward took but lit-