

M. Stuart, of Shelbyville, who was born and reared in this county, and who is a daughter of J. G. Stuart, a successful merchant of Shelbyville.

ADOLPHUS E. SINGLETON.

A native son of Shelby county, where he has maintained his home from the time of his birth, Judge Singleton has here been a prominent factor in connection with industrial and business affairs and has also been influential in connection with matters of public import. He is the owner of a fine farm estate in the county and is at the present time successfully engaged in the handling of coal, grain and feed in the thriving little city of Shelbyville, where he is associated with his brother in this important line of enterprise, under the firm name of Singleton Brothers. He has served as county judge and has ever shown a lively interest in all that has concerned the progress and prosperity of his native county and its people. As a thoroughly representative and highly esteemed citizen of Shelby county he is most consistently accorded recognition in this publication.

The Singleton family was early founded in the Old Dominion commonwealth of Virginia, that cradle of so much of our national history, and the lineage is traced back to staunch English origin. In that state was born Minor Singleton, who was the paternal grandfather of the subject of this review and who there passed his entire life, devoting his active career principally to agricultural pursuits; with which basic line of industry the name has been identified prominently

in succeeding generations. William Singleton, the honored father of him whose name initiates this article, was born in Virginia in the year 1818, and was there reared to maturity, receiving a common school education. In 1834, when sixteen years of age, he came to Missouri, first taking up his abode in Marion county, whence he later removed to Lewis county, where he remained until 1854, when he removed with his family to Shelby county, where he became the owner of a large tract of land in Taylor township, and where he developed a fine farm, passing the residue of his long and useful life on this old homestead, which is still in the possession of the family. He was a man of exemplary character, leal and loyal in all the relations of life, zealous and earnest in the furtherance of his business affairs and successful in his well directed endeavors. He wielded much influence in his community and none could have held a more secure place in popular confidence and esteem. In politics he was a staunch adherent of the Democratic party and his religious faith

1848. Of the eleven children of this union five are now living: Benjamin H. is associated with the subject of this sketch in business at Shelbyville; Adolphus H. is the next in order of birth; Jacob H. is a farmer of Shelby county; Ella is still at the old home in this county; and Cary remains with her mother on the old home farm.

Adolphus E. Singleton was reared under the beneficent influences of the home farm, to whose work he early began to contribute his quota, so that he learned the lessons of practical industry while he was also availing himself of the advantages of the public schools of the locality and period. He continued to be actively and successfully identified with diversified farming and stock-growing until August, 1905, when he left the farm and took up his residence in Shelbyville, where he is now engaged in business, as already noted. His elder son now operates the farm on shares and thus Judge Singleton himself still continues to exercise a general supervision of the fine old homestead which so long represented his abiding place and which gives evidence of his able and progressive management, being one of the model farms of the county. The place comprises 240 acres of most productive land, all being available for cultivation, and the permanent improvements are of excellent order, so that everything bears unmistakable evidence of thrift and prosperity. The farm is located in Taylor township, about fourteen miles distant from Shelbyville, the county seat.

In politics Judge Singleton has never wavered in his allegiance to the Democratic party and he has been a zealous

worker in its local ranks. He has held various minor offices of public trust and in 1898 he was elected county judge, of which position he continued incumbent for one term, or four years, and in which he gave an able and acceptable administration of the affairs assigned to him for adjudication. His wife holds membership in the Baptist church and they are liberal and zealous in the support of the various departments of its work.

On February 20, 1879, was solemnized the marriage of Judge Singleton to Miss Alice Magruder, who was born and reared in Shelby county and who is a daughter of the late Thomas G. Magruder, long a representative farmer of this county. Judge and Mrs. Singleton have four children: Walter T., who had charge of the home farm, married Miss Edna Moore and they have no children; Susan E., Ellen M. and Benjamin A. remain at the parental home in Shelbyville.

Judge Singleton was elected mayor of Shelbyville in 1906, serving two years as such.

CHARLES H. LASLEY.

For nearly forty years the subject of this brief memoir has been connected with the mercantile interests of that section of Missouri in which he now lives, and during the whole of that period he has given to the world around him a fine example of uprightness in private life and sterling integrity in business. Born, reared, educated and married in this state, and having made his excellent record among its people, whatever he is he is all Missouri's own, her product in every particular and her representative