

Intermediate department of the Shelby schools. Her whole life has been passed in touch with literature, of which she has been a diligent and discriminating student, and she has its best spirit of productiveness largely developed in her nature. She has for years been a valued contributor to the Women's department of a number of the papers in this state, and is now held in high esteem as a writer for several ladies' journals in different parts of the country. While her husband was absent from the city during the first three terms of his service, she successfully edited *The Clarence Courier*, and neither its influence nor its force diminished while it was under her control. Her reputation as a newspaper writer of brilliancy, power and directness is coextensive with the state and extends far beyond its borders. She assisted largely in the compilation of the general history of Shelby county that is published in this work.

Mr. and Mrs. Simmons are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, and both are active in all the good work of the congregation to which they belong. Mr. Simmons is chairman of its board of stewards and superintendent of its Sunday school. He was also chairman of the building committee during the erection of the church edifice now occupied by the congregation. Fraternally he is allied with the Masonic order, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. Shelby county has no citizens more estimable than these, and none whom the people of all classes respect more highly or regard with more genuine and well merited pride and esteem.

### J. SIDNER SMITH.

Having passed the three score years and ten allowed by the sacred writer as the ordinary span of a complete life and during more than fifty of the period having toiled faithfully and effectively in advancing his fortunes and promoting the welfare of the region of his activities, J. Sidner Smith, of Clarence, is now living retired from active pursuits and enjoying the rest he has so richly earned and the fruits of the labors he so faithfully performed during the heat and burden of his day. He is a fine representative of the best and most useful Shelby county citizenship, and as such is universally esteemed by the people of the county.

Mr. Smith was born in Monroe county, Missouri, on October 7, 1839, and is a son of Thornton and Ann (Sidner) Smith, the former born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, on July 12, 1809, and the latter a native of Fayette county in the same state. They were married on November 19, 1829, and became residents of Missouri in 1835, locating in Monroe county, north of Paris. There the father was actively and successfully engaged in farming and raising live stock until his death, which occurred in 1878.

He and his wife were the parents of eleven children, seven of whom are living: Nancy J., the wife of Sam Baker, a resident of Clarence; J. Sidner, also living in Clarence; Fannie, the wife of John Williamson; Emma, the wife of Henry Glasscock, of Monroe county, Missouri; John T., who also lives in Monroe county; M. C., whose home is in Shelby county; and Robert C., a resident of the

state of Washington. In politics the father was a firm and faithful member of the Democratic party. In fraternal relations he was long connected with the Masonic order and in religious allegiance was attached to the Christian church.

Jacob Sidner Smith obtained his education in the district schools of Monroe county and when he left school went to work on his father's farm, on which he had been reared and had learned the art to which he has ever since been devoted. He did not remain at home long, however, but after working with and for his father a short time, went to Kentucky, the home of his ancestors, where he remained a few years, and where he was united in marriage on December 20, 1860, with Miss Sarah E. Houston, of Newtown, Scott county, in that state. He returned to Missouri with his bride in 1861, and located in Shelby county, and here he was energetically and profitably engaged in farming and raising live stock until 1908, when he retired from active pursuits and moved to Clarence. He has 240 acres of fine land, all under cultivation, and its products yield him a very comfortable living.

Mr. Smith and his wife have had twelve children, eleven of whom are living: Virginia Ella, the wife of J. F. Lariak, of this county; Mary Addie, the wife of P. P. Barton, of Kansas City, Missouri; Robert E., who also lives in Shelby county; Annie Fletcher, the wife of J. W. Brewer, of Kansas City, Missouri; Emma Susan, the wife of F. S. Barton, of Shelby county; Abner G., who resides at Liberty, Missouri; Nora Agnes, the wife of D. M. Butner, of this county; Leslie G., also residing in this

county; Fannie Kate, the wife of William Cross, another resident of Shelby county; Sallie H., the wife of Edward Savage, of Kansas City, Missouri; and Emmett S., of Shelby county.

In his political faith and allegiance the father trains with the Democratic party and is zealous of its service, although asking nothing from it for himself. From his youth he has provided for himself without outside aid or any of Fortune's favors, and he has so faithfully performed his duties in all relations that everybody who knows him thinks and speaks well of him.

#### LEWIS J. PETERMAN.

The ordinary observer and the superficial judge of affairs measures success in life among men by results. The deeper thinker and more judicious analyst of men and events measures it according to the direction in which a man moves, being convinced that the only real success is to work in the right direction, whatever the results may be. Tried by either standard Lewis J. Peterman, a retired merchant and farmer of Shelby county, now living in ease and comfort in Clarence, has been a successful man. The results he has achieved are gratifying in magnitude and character, and he has always expended his efforts in the direction of not only enlarging his own worldly estate, but as well in promoting to the best of his ability the welfare of his community and the good of the people among whom he has lived.

Mr. Peterman was born in St. Joseph, Michigan, on April 28, 1861. He is a grandson of Jacob Peterman, a native