

extensive milling operations for a period of twenty years. Farm life, however, still beckoned him with persuasive hand, and he traded his interest in the mill for another farm on which he took up his residence, and to which he gave his attention for a number of years and then sold it. In 1899 he gave up business of all kinds and again located in Shelbina, to pass the remainder of his days in peace after so many contests, in comfortable rest and leisure after such arduous and long continued effort.

Through life Mr. Threlkeld has followed the fortunes of the Democratic party through victory and defeat, always contributing effective aid in its campaigns and cordially supporting its candidates. He is a charter member of the Odd Fellows lodge in Shanaldah, Indiana, and has given it the benefit of his helpful membership ever since its organization. He is a stockholder and one of the directors of the Old Bank of Shelbina and takes an active interest in its business. Twice has he bowed beneath the flowery yoke of Eros, the first time being joined in marriage with Miss Mildred Acuff, of Monroe county, in 1863. Four children were born of this marriage, all of whom are living and residents of Shelby county. They are: Nettie, wife of W. S. Bryan; Henry; Jennie, the wife of William Lawrence; all living in Shelbina; and Cornelia, the wife of James Miller, who has her home in another part of the county. The father's second marriage took place in 1884, when he was united with Miss Cornelia Acuff, of Monroe county. They have two children, their sons Roy, who lives at home, and Harold, who married Lotus

Smock August 11, 1908, and is conducting a grocery store in Shelbina.

While Mr. Threlkeld is now but a restful sojourner on the shady wayside of the world's strenuous activities, and only looks upon the passing pageant of its busy and productive life, he still feels a keen and abiding interest in all the phases of men's work and especially in the welfare of the community around him. He is no longer one of its militant forces, but by no means ignores or grows indifferent to its interests. Revered as a patriarch and looked up to as a sage, his counsel is still earnestly sought and his admonitions are heeded, so that his influence is felt in the county among whose people he is everywhere most highly esteemed as one of their worthiest citizens and most upright and sterling men.

JAMES O. STRIBLING.

The life story of this prominent citizen of Clarence, in this county, is one of adventure and thrilling incident in parts and of great energy, determination and good business management in all. He has been a soldier and faced death on many a bloody battlefield. He was a prisoner of war for several months, languishing in Federal military prisons. He has also been a farmer of prominence and successful operations, and a timber contractor for one of the leading railroad lines in this part of the country. He has met every requirement of his busy and varied life in a manly and masterly way and every week of his time and every faculty of his being minister to his substantial and continued advancement.

Mr. Stribling was born in Monroe county, Missouri, on October 8, 1840, and is a son of Taliaferro and Jane C. (Boggs) Stribling, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Pennsylvania. Their marriage took place in Missouri and by it they became the parents of three children, all of whom are living. They are: Loupine, the wife of A. Damrell, of Shelbyville; James O., the subject of this memoir; and Loretta, the wife of W. G. Sanders, also a resident of Shelbyville.

The father came to Missouri in an early day and for a number of years worked at the salt works on Salt river in Ralls county. He then turned his attention to farming and raising live stock and adhered to these pursuits continuously until his death in 1844. He was a man of enterprise and progressiveness, warmly interested in the progress and development of the region in which he lived, and gave earnest and very helpful attention to the welfare of the people all around him. By his course in this respect he rose to prominence and influence and won the high esteem of the whole population.

James O. Stribling, like most of the boys and youth of this locality of his time, obtained his education in the public schools, attending them in Florida, Missouri. At the beginning of the Civil war he enlisted in the Confederate army under Col. Theodore Brace, and entered actively into the designs of the government, which he had volunteered to help and defend. He carried the first dispatch, after going into a regular camp, from General Harris, then holding his command in Ralls county, to Colonel

Green, whose camp was in Scotland county. He took part in the battles of Monroe City, Lexington and Sugar Creek, Missouri, Pea Ridge, Arkansas, and many skirmishes. The service was hazardous and he was daring. This resulted in his capture after seven months in the field, and during the next two or three months he was confined in Federal military prisons at Clinton, Sedalia and St. Louis, Missouri. After he was mustered out of the service he was again taken prisoner while on his way home and again kept in confinement for some time.

After his release he returned to his former home in Monroe county, this state, but only remained a short time. In 1865 he went to work for the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad Company and took up his residence at Lakenan, in this county. He quit the railroad service in 1869 and turned his attention to farming and raising live stock near Lakenan, conducting his operations with great enterprise and vigor and under very flourishing conditions. While thus engaged he drove the first self-binding harvester ever used in Shelby county, and for a period of twenty years was one of the leading farmers and stock men in this part of the state.

In 1889 Mr. Stribling sold his farming interests and moved to Clarence, where he has made his home ever since. Immediately after locating in Clarence he bought an interest in what was then known as the Clarence Roller Mill, and with this industrial institution he was connected for ten years. At the end of that period he sold his interest in it. During the last fifteen years he has been

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