

ern Methodist church, contributing liberally to its advancement by energetic participation in church work and with material aid for all its undertakings. He is influential in both business and church circles and he and his family are among the leading lights in the social world of the community, throughout all of which they are highly esteemed and everywhere warmly welcomed on all occasions.

On June 20, 1880, Mr. Bailey was united in marriage with Miss Eliza J. Baker, of Madison, Missouri. Of their four children three are living and all dwelling at the parental fireside. They are Mary Belle, Nannie Bess and Roy L. The social disposition of the parents and the presence of the children, who have inherited the same spirit, in the home make it a social center and a very popular and hospitable resort for persons of all ages acquainted with the members of the household, and that includes almost everybody in the county and hosts from elsewhere.

NEWTON E. WILLIAMS.

Lawyer, editor, public official and man of affairs and winning high commendation in all lines of activity in which he has been engaged, Newton E. Williams, of Shelbina, is one of the most successful and popular men in Shelby county. He is almost wholly the product of his own abilities and energies, and he has made the most of his opportunities for advancement in life. But he has not lived for himself alone. During all of his mature life he has been deeply and intelligently interested in the welfare of the town and county of his home and has done all in his power to promote it.

Mr. Williams was born in Adair county, Missouri, on October 10, 1869, and is a son of Gamaliel and Mary E. (Morgan) Williams, the former a native of Indiana, where he was born on May 18, 1838, and the latter a native of Kentucky, but at the time of her marriage a resident of Adair county, Missouri. They had six children and five of them are living—Lucy E., the wife of J. E. Bowers, who has her home in Colby, Kansas; Mary E., the wife of H. F. Davis, who is also a resident of Colby, Kansas; Alice, the wife of J. D. Bean, of Grand Junction, Colorado; Newton E., of Shelbina; and Martha, the wife of Dr. M. W. Bailey, of Denver, Colorado.

The father came to Missouri in 1852, when he was fourteen years old, and found a home in Adair county, where he grew to manhood and completed his education. After leaving school he engaged in farming and raising live stock, continuing his operations with success and profit until 1904, when he retired from active pursuits and removed to Shelbina, and here he has ever since had his home. His marriage occurred in 1858. In politics he is and always has been a Democrat. Fraternally he has long been affiliated with the Masonic order, and in religious association he is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Newton E. Williams began his education in the district schools of Adair county, continued it at a select school at Brashear, in that county, and completed it at the Kirksville State Normal school. He studied law in Kirksville under the direction of M. D. Campbell and Hon. Isaac Morgan, probate judge of Adair county, and served as probate clerk for

one year after his admission to the bar in October, 1893. At the end of his service as a clerk of probate he began practicing his profession at Kirskville, where he remained until July, 1897. He then moved to Shelbina and formed a partnership with R. A. Cleek, with whom he continued to practice until 1902, the firm being Cleek & Williams. The partnership was dissolved in the year last mentioned and Mr. Williams practiced alone and edited the Shelbina Torchlight, which he and Mr. Cleek bought in 1900.

In 1904 Mr. Williams was elected prosecuting attorney of Shelby county, and at the end of his first term was re-elected for another. This ended on January 1, 1909. At the time of his first election he sold his interest in the newspaper and devoted himself wholly to his official duties until they were ended. He then bought the Shelbina Torchlight and has since been its sole owner and publisher. He is also a stockholder in the Shelbina National Bank and connected with other enterprises of moment and value to the community, in which he has always felt the deepest interest, and to which he has rendered effective and valued service in helping to promote every undertaking for its advancement which he has deemed of worth.

On August 29, 1895, Mr. Williams was united in marriage with Miss Rosa N. Deaton, a daughter of M. G. Deaton, of Kirskville. They have one child, their son Meredith, who is living at home with his parents. The father's political allegiance is given warmly and consistently to the Democratic party, and he has always been very active and effective in its service, his work in its behalf being

based on broad intelligence, good judgment and devoted loyalty to its principles. His fraternal relations are with the Masonic order, the Order of the Eastern Star, the Court of Honor and the Modern Woodmen of America, and his religious connection is with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He has been very successful and is one of the leading and most influential citizens of the county, universally esteemed for his elevated manhood and his worth and usefulness as a force for good in the community of his home.

JOSEPH R. RIDGE.

For fifty-seven years this now venerable citizen of Shelbina has been a resident of Missouri and during all but two of them has dwelt in Shelby county. For more than half a century he was actively engaged in farming and raising live stock, first on the farm of his father as a boy and later on one of his own as a man. During his long activity in cultivating the soil he contributed extensively and notably to the development and improvement of the county and the aggregate of its wealth and influence. For he has always shown estimable public spirit and enterprise and given breadth of view and vitalizing force to worthy projects for the welfare of the section and the advantage of its people.

Mr. Ridge was born on January 31, 1838, in Hickman county, Kentucky, the state of which his parents were natives and in which his ancestors lived for at least two generations before him, his paternal grandfather, Isaac Ridge, having been born and passed his life in that