

tion as a student at St. Rosey Infirmary for a few terms. He came to Missouri with his parents in 1851 and remained with them on the new farm they were cultivating in this state until 1853. His father then gave him fifty acres of land in Marion county, and to the development and improvement of this tract he devoted himself with skill and industry until 1862. The storm of the Civil war having by that time developed into a hurricane of disaster, he felt it his duty to give his services to his state in the endeavor to save it to the Union and defend it against armed invasion. He therefore enlisted in the state military service and was connected with it until 1864, when he joined the Federal army as first lieutenant of Company G, Thirty-ninth Missouri Volunteer Infantry, under Colonel Kutzner. He was present at the battles of Centralia and Jefferson City and rendered excellent service in helping to break up the numerous bands of guerrillas and bushwhackers whose predatory warfare terrorized the state.

Mr. Janes was mustered out of the army on July 19, 1865, and at once located in Shelby county, where he has been living ever since, except for one year, during which he lived in Phelps county for the benefit of his health, and for another, when he was farming and raising stock in St. Louis county. He continued farming and raising live stock until 1885, when he retired, a little later moving to Lakenan, where he has passed all his subsequent years, enjoying the comforts of the estate he has wrung from the soil by industry and thrift, and the rest his long and trying labors entitle him to.

Two marriages have been the lot of Mr. Janes, his first wife being Miss Hulda Buzzard, whom he married in July, 1852. The fruits of this union were five children, three of whom are living: Mary Frances, widow of William H. Howe, now living in Hunnewell; Sarah Katharine, the wife of Frank Hudson, of Morrill, Michigan; and Joha L., deceased. The second marriage was with Miss Lucretia A. Mayes, of Shelby county, and resulted in two children, Joseph W. and James T. Their mother is still living, revered by all who know her, as is Mr. James himself, who is well and favorably known all over the county, and is everywhere esteemed as an upright and progressive man and a high-toned and admirable citizen. In politics he is a Republican and in religion a Baptist.

ADOLPHUS G. WOOD, M. D.

One of the honored and distinguished representatives of the medical profession in Shelby county and a scion of one of the well known pioneer families of this section of the state, Dr. Wood has here maintained his home from the time of his childhood, and for many years he has been engaged in the successful practice of his profession in Shelby county. For more than thirty years he has been a resident of the thriving little city of Lentner, and he is recognized as one of its most prominent and influential citizens. He has various capitalistic interests of importance and is one of the principal stockholders of the Bank of Lentner, of which he has been president from the time of its inception,

in 1906. A brief record concerning this solid and popular financial institution is entered on other pages of this work, so that detailed reference to the same is not demanded in this personal sketch of its president.

Dr. Wood has the distinction of being a native of San Diego, Cuba, where he was born on the 18th of March, 1831, and the lineage of the family is traced back to staunch English stock. His paternal grandfather, Benjamin Wood, came from England to America prior to the war of the Revolution, was loyal to the patriot cause and continued his residence in this country until his death. Dr. Adolphus E. Wood, father of him whose name initiates this sketch, was born in the city of Baltimore, Maryland, in the year 1805, and he received liberal educational advantages, becoming a skilled physician and surgeon according to the standard of his time. He was engaged in the practice of his profession in San Diego, Cuba, for a period of about four years, and in 1834 he came to Missouri and located at Hannibal, which was then a mere village. There he followed the work of his profession about six months, at the expiration of which he came to Shelby county. He purchased a tract of 200 acres of land on Salt river, in this county, and leased the same, whereupon he established his home in the village of Oakdale, where he was engaged in the successful practice of his profession until his death, which occurred on the 20th of November, 1856. He was the first physician to make permanent location in Shelby county, and the history of this section of the state bears record of his

able and faithful service in the cause of suffering humanity—service rendered often at great personal discomfort and demanding the utmost self-abnegation. He was a man of fine intellectuality and of exalted character, so that he was well equipped for leadership in public thought and action in the pioneer community with whose interests he so thoroughly identified himself. He was a member of the first court convened in Shelby county, and he contributed generously to the civic and material development and progress of this now favored section of the state. He was a staunch Democrat in his political allegiance. The names of both he and wife merit an enduring place on the roll of the honored pioneers of Shelby county.

In the year 1828 was solemnized the marriage of Dr. Adolphus E. Wood to Miss Anna C. Florette, who was born in France and whose death occurred in the year 1894. They became the parents of ten children, of whom seven are now living, namely: Charles S., who is a representative citizen of Shelbyville, this county; Dr. Adolphus G., who is the immediate subject of this sketch; Matilda T., who is the widow of Anothy Gooch and who now maintains her home in Quincy, Illinois; Benjamin O., who is a resident of Monroe City, Missouri; Arabella, who is the wife of John E. Davis, of Hunnewell, this state; Henry M., who still resides in Oakdale, Shelby county; and Mary R., whose home is in the city of Shelbyville, this county.

Dr. Adolphus G. Wood, to whom this sketch is dedicated, was a child of about three years at the time when his par-

ents took up their abode at Oakdale, this county, and there he was reared to years of maturity, being afforded the advantages of the best schools of the locality, and also having the beneficent influences afforded by a home of distinctive culture and refinement. He began the study of medicine under the able preceptorship of his honored father and after making definite progress in his technical study he was finally matriculated in the medical department of the University of Iowa, which department of the state institution was maintained in the city of Keokuk. He entered this medical school in 1856 and there completed the prescribed course, being graduated as a member of the class of 1859 and duly receiving his well earned degree of Doctor of Medicine.

After his graduation Dr. Wood assumed the practice of his father in Oakdale, where he maintained his professional headquarters until 1857, when he located at Walkersville, this county, where he added much to the professional prestige of the name which he bears, having been most successful in his labors during the many years of his service as a physician and surgeon, and having continued a close and appreciative student, so that he has kept in instant touch with the advances made in both branches of his profession. He was engaged in practice at Walkersville until 1876, when he removed to Lentner, where he has continued in the active work of his profession during the long intervening period of more than thirty years, and where he has an immutable hold upon popular confidence and esteem, both as a physician and as a loyal and gen-

erous citizen. He is a member of the American Medical Association and is also identified with the Missouri State Medical Society and the Shelby County Medical Society.

In politics Dr. Wood is aligned as a staunch advocate of the generic principles for which the Democratic party has ever stood sponsor, but he has never desired public office, though frequently importuned to accept nomination for positions of distinctive trust. He has done much to further the civic and industrial progress of his home city and county and is one of the most influential citizens of this section. He was one of the organizers of the Bank of Lentner, in 1906, and, as already stated, has been its president from the time of its incorporation.

On the 20th of January, 1863, was solemnized the marriage of Dr. Wood to Miss Mary L. Mitchell, who was born in the state of Kentucky, whence her father, the late Thomas Mitchell, removed with his family to Missouri when she was a child. Dr. and Mrs. Wood became the parents of twelve children, and in conclusion of this brief sketch is entered the names of the nine children who are now living: Fernando is engaged in business at Houston, Texas; Ella M. is the wife of Henry Rheinheimer, of Butler, Missouri; Amanda P., Anna Clunette, Gertrude and Zelma remain at the parental home; Adolphus M. is engaged in the practice of medicine at Lentner; Lamar M. is a resident of Monroe City; Irene is the wife of Arthur Smith, of Shelbina, this county. The family has been prominent in the best social life of the community and the attractive home is a center of cordial hospitality.

BANK OF LENTNER.

There is no one factor that so well determines and designates the status and stability of a community as the extent and character of its banking institutions, and in this regard the financial and commercial prestige of Shelby county has been maintained by means of ample capital, reinforced by duly conservative management. The wise policy that has dominated the management of the Bank of Lentner from the time of its founding to the present has made it one of the substantial and essentially representative financial institutions of the county, and as such it is consonant that brief record concerning it be entered in this publication.

The Bank of Lentner, incorporated under the laws of the state, received its charter on the 24th of September, 1906, and on the 22d of the following month it began practical operations by opening the doors of its well equipped banking rooms and inviting public patronage. The bank is incorporated with a capital stock of twelve thousand dollars, and said stock is represented in one hundred and twenty shares of a par value of one hundred dollars each. The original board of directors of the bank was as follows: Dr. Adolphus G. Wood, William Kraft, Henry Arnold, James H. Melsor, Hugo Boling, Robert T. Jackson, and Judge John Byrum. At the meeting of the stockholders the following executive officers were chosen: President, Dr. Adolphus G. Wood; Judge John T. Perry, cashier; and James H. Melson, secretary of the board of directors.

Dr. Wood has continued incumbent of the presidency of the institution from its initiation, and the other officers at the time of this writing, at the opening of the year 1910, are as here noted: Henry M. Eaton, vice-president; Thomas W. Noel, cashier; and James H. Melson, secretary of the board of directors. The directorate is composed of the following well known and honored citizens: James H. Melson, Henry M. Eaton, George W. Stalays, Dr. A. G. Wood, Theodore Hinze, Harmon Van Thun, and Henry Arnold. The bank has met with most gratifying popular support, based upon public confidence in those who have its affairs in charge, and it is today one of the substantial and ably conducted financial institutions of Shelby county, with a support of essentially representative order.

JAMES H. MELSON.

Mr. Melson is one of the representative citizens of his native county, with whose business interests he has been long and prominently identified, and he served for a term of fully fifteen years as post-master in Lentner, where he still maintains his home and where he is now engaged in the buying and shipping of live stock, with which line of enterprise he has been concerned for a decade and a half.

James H. Melson was born on a farm in Shelby county, Missouri, on the 6th of February, 1860, and is a son of Benjamin N. and Mary J. (Carman) Melson, the former of whom was born in the state of Maryland, on the 6th of January, 1823, and the latter of whom was