

his education in the district schools in the neighborhood of his home, and while attending them assisted in the labors of all hands on his father's farm. The times were exacting in his boyhood and youth, the necessaries of life being so difficult to get and requiring so much effort, that all the luxuries were unthought of. The pioneers of this section had the wild expanse around them to awaken from its sleep of ages and the rough face of the country to smooth before they could find comeliness in its aspect or liberality in its bosom. And the exacting conditions bore heavily on the boys as well as on the men, on the daughters of the household as well as on the mothers.

Thomas Roff was obliged by circumstances to take his place among the toilers and do his full share toward supplying the needs of the home and family, and was therefore unable to seek other means of mental culture than those immediately at hand. He accepted his destiny with cheerfulness and performed its duties with all the ability and strength he could command. So entirely did he fall in with the genius of the time and locality that when he left school, instead of turning his back upon the rough life of the frontier, he remained on his father's farm and wrought with the rest until he reached the age of twenty-eight. Then, in 1872, his father deeded him a portion of the land he owned, and on this the son went heartily to work for himself. During the succeeding twenty-seven years he farmed and raised live stock industriously and profitably, continuing his operations until 1889, when he gave up active industry and sought a retired life in Shelbina, where he has ever since

had his home. He is a stockholder in the Shelbina National Bank and connected with other institutions of utility and value in the city and county, and to these he still gives the required share of his attention.

His political faith has ever been fixed in the Democratic party and his activity in public affairs has been devoted to its welfare. His church affiliation is with the Christian sect, and in its behalf he has long been a faithful and a zealous worker. On April 15, 1881, he was married to Miss Ella Hardcastle, of this county. They have had three children, of whom their daughter Lillian is the only one now living.

TILMON A. BAILEY.

Tilmon A. Bailey is a brother of John T. Bailey, of Shelbina, in a sketch of whom, on another page of this work, will be found an account of the life of their father, Tilmon O. Bailey, and the mother of the family. The subject of these paragraphs was born in Monroe county, Missouri, on August 22, 1862. He was reared on his father's farm, attending the district school in the neighborhood when he could be spared from the labor of cultivating the homestead, and made good use of his limited opportunities in the way of scholastic acquirements. At the age of twenty he entered the Shelbina Collegiate Institute, which he attended until 1884, when he began a three years' course of study at Central College, which is located at Fayette, in this state.

After completing his college course he became a teacher in the public schools of his native county, to which he rendered

excellent service during a period of twelve years. He was elected county school commissioner of that county in 1896 and held the office two years, vacating it in 1898 and taking up his residence at Shelbina. He brought with him into Shelby county a number of select shorthorn cattle with several jacks and jennets of a superior strain and stallions of high grade. With these he started an active industry in breeding stock, and also gave his services as a bookkeeper to the Commercial Bank of Shelbina and afterward, for a short time, to the Old Bank of the city. In 1906 he was elected cashier of the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank, as it was then called, but which, owing to a reorganization and change of management, is now known as the Shelbina National Bank. But he did not remain in this position long. Stock-breeding was more to his taste than banking, and in 1907 he retired from a business that was not entirely agreeable to him in order that he might give his whole time and attention to one that was. Since then he has been continuously and extensively engaged in raising stock, breeding considerable numbers of his own and handling many more by purchase and exchange.

In this industry his interest is absorbed and to its study and development his time is given. He has become thoroughly familiar with all the details and features of the business and is recognized wherever he is known as an authority of extensive information and entire reliability on the subject and all matters connected with it. In this connection it should be noted that he served for years as secretary of an industrial association

made up of Shelby and Monroe county shorthorn breeders, and also as manager and conductor of its sales of stock, which took place annually, the two positions being awarded to him without opposition, so complete was his mastery and knowledge of the business considered.

Mr. Bailey has taken considerable interest in the public affairs of his county, state and country. He is an ardent believer in the principles of the Democratic party and an earnest and effective worker in its behalf. He is also prominent in the fraternal life of the community as a member of the Masonic order, having served as Worshipful Master of the Lodge, High Priest of the Royal Arch Chapter, and Worthy Patron of the local organization of the order of the Eastern Star. He and wife hold membership in the Southern Methodist church and are energetic and zealous workers. On September 1, 1892, he was married to Miss Frances Quisenberry, of Santa Fe, this state. They have had five children, three of whom are living and still under the parental roof. They are Blanche, Twila and Phyllis.

JUDGE NEWTON ADAMS.

This venerable citizen of Shelbina, has outlived the allotted time of man, as prescribed by the palmist, but he is still hale and hearty, and takes an active interest in all that pertains to the progress and advancement of the people among whom he has so long lived and labored. Judge Adams is a native of the "Blue Grass" state, having been born in Henry county of that state on January 1, 1823.