

individually mentioned on other pages of this work; and William H. and Leslie E., who remain at the parental home.

JOHN G. BAUER.

Among the sterling and honored citizens contributed to Shelby county by the great empire of Germany is John G. Bauer, who is a member of one of the honored pioneer families of the county and who has here gained a generous measure of success through his own well directed efforts. He is one of the representative business men and influential citizens of Bethel, where he has maintained his home for more than sixty years and where his sterling attributes of character have retained to him impregnable popular confidence and esteem.

Mr. Bauer was born in the kingdom of Bavaria, Germany, December 1, 1835, and is a son of John G. and Nat Bauer, who immigrated to America in 1839, when he was a child of four years. The little family disembarked in the city of New Orleans, from which point they proceeded by packet boat on the Mississippi river to Muscatine, Iowa, in which vicinity the father purchased a tract of land and engaged in farming. He was one of the pioneers of that section of the Hawkeye state, where he continued his residence until 1845, when he came with his family to Missouri and numbered himself as one of the sturdy German colonists of Bethel, Shelby county. Here he engaged in agricultural pursuits, but he was not long permitted to continue his endeavors, as his death occurred in 1846, less than a

year after his settlement here. His wife preceded him by a number of years, her death occurring in 1836. He was a devout member of the Christian church. Of their five children, two are now living, the subject of this review being the younger and his sister, Christina, being the wife of Moses Miller, of Bethel.

John G. Bauer, whose name initiates this article, gained his rudimentary education in the common schools of Iowa and continued his studies in the Bethel schools, having been about ten years of age at the time of the family removal to Missouri and having been reared to manhood in the staunch old Bethel colony. After leaving school he served an apprenticeship to the shoemaker's trade, to which he devoted his attention for several years, after which he engaged in the jewelry business, in which he has since continued, being now one of the pioneer merchants of Bethel, where he has directed his efforts along normal and straightforward lines of enterprise and where he has gained a large and well merited success. After the close of the Civil war he took a course in pharmacy, under the preceptorship of Professor Fink, of Bethel, and prior to the disbanding of the original colony he conducted a drug store for a number of years, in connection with his jewelry business, and still continues it.

In 1882 Mr. Bauer became associated with three other substantial citizens in purchasing the Bethel grist mill in Bethel, after the division of the colony, and in 1902 he purchased the interests of the other stockholders, since which time he has continued to operate the mill in an individual way. In addition to

this valuable property he is the owner of other improved realty in his home town and also has about 225 acres of fine farming land in this section of the county. The major portion of this land is located in Bethel township, and the same is devoted to general farming and to the raising of live stock.

As a citizen Mr. Bauer has at all times stood exponent of the utmost loyalty and public spirit, and he has contributed a generous quota to the civic and material advancement and prosperity of his home town and county. In politics he accords an unwavering allegiance to the Republican party, taking a lively interest in local affairs of a public nature; and both he and his wife hold membership in the Christian church. Mr. Bauer has not narrowed his life within the confines of mere material success, but has shown the utmost kindness and good will in his intercourse with his fellow men, doing all in his power to alleviate distress and suffering and showing a high appreciation of his stewardship. Thus it is but a natural result that he holds the unqualified esteem of the community and is admired for his unostentatious but generous elements of character.

On October 30, 1864, was recorded the marriage of Mr. Bauer to Miss Louise Stark, who was born in Würtemberg, Germany, October 11, 1846, and who was a child at the time of the family immigration to America. Her parents passed the closing years of their lives in Shelby county, where her father, Joshua Stark, was a successful stone mason. Mr. and Mrs. Bauer became the parents of six children, of whom four are now living, namely: Julius H., Christine E., Lulu

Irene, and Catherine, all of whom remain at the parental home except the one son, who is engaged in the farming and milling business in Bethel, being associated with his father. He married Miss Rosa Pepper and they have one child, deceased. Catherine is now Mrs. J. D. Taylor, of Bethel.

JAMES W. TURNER.

A native of Shelby county, Mr. Turner is numbered among its representative farmers and stock-growers, being the owner of a well improved farm of eighty acres, in section 16, Black Creek township, and having also the supervision of the farm owned by his widowed mother. Of the family history, adequate details may be found in the sketch of the career of his brother, William R. Turner, on other pages of this publication.

James W. Turner was born on the old homestead farm of his father, in Black Creek township, this county, August 7, 1862, and is a son of the late William Holman Turner, one of the honored and influential citizens of this section of the county. Mr. Turner was afforded the advantages of the public schools of his native township and as a boy and youth he contributed his quota to the work of the home farm, waxing strong in mind and body and gaining a thorough and valuable experience in connection with all departments of farm work. He has never wished or found it expedient to sever his allegiance to the great basic art of agriculture, and his home farm, comprising eighty acres of most arable land, all under cultivation, is one of the model places of Black Creek township.