

ments of its duty, the career of Henry Rathjen, of Black Creek township, and others like him, is well worthy of consideration. He is a progressive and wide awake farmer and stock man, fully abreast with the times in his business and alive to all the elements and powers of good citizenship and what is demanded of it. What the young farmers and stockmen of the county are doing gives abundant assurance that there will be no backward step, and that no proper means of development, intellectual, moral or social will be overlooked and that no material advantages will pass unnoticed or neglected.

Mr. Rathjen is a native of the county and has passed the whole of his life to this time within its borders. He was born on February 17, 1877, and is a son of Christian and Elizabeth (Cordis) Rathjen, natives of Germany. The father was born in 1841 and came to the United States in 1868. He came at once to Shelby county, Missouri, on his arrival in this country, and found a home in a German settlement containing many of the friends of his earlier life in his native land. He took up as his own the leading occupation of the settlement, and the one to which he had been reared, becoming a farmer and stock-raiser. He continued his operations in this dual line of useful and profitable endeavor until his death on December 29, 1906, and was successful in all he undertook.

He was married on October 10, 1870, to Miss Elizabeth Cordis, and by this marriage became the father of four children, all of whom are living: Hiram, Lizzie, the wife of Theodore Heinze, Henry and Anna, the wife of Hugh Dane,

all of them residents of Shelby county. The father and mother were for many years devout and consistent workers of the Lutheran church and attentive to all the requirements of their duty as such.

Henry Rathjen was educated in the country schools of Shelby county and immediately after completing their course of instruction began the career of farmer and stock man in which he is still engaged. He now owns 100 acres of good land, well improved and nearly all under cultivation. He is a Democrat in politics and has his religious affiliation with the Lutheran church. On February 16, 1906, he was united in marriage with Miss Kate Keller, a daughter of Philip Keller, an esteemed resident of Shelby county. They have one child, their son Christian Henry. Mr. Rathjen is as enterprising and progressive with reference to the affairs of the county as he is in his own business. He is everywhere regarded as an excellent citizen and an upright and useful man, worthy of all esteem and earnestly interested in the enduring welfare of the township and county in which he lives.

JOHN S. CHINN.

Devoting the first few years of his early manhood to farming on his father's farm, and four of its most strenuous and trying ones to the defense of his political opinions during our Civil war, then returning to the peaceful and productive pursuit of agriculture, with a flourishing live stock industry in connection, John S. Chinn, of Black Creek township, in this county, has been tried in laborious exertion on the soil of our

country, both when it has been plowed by the sword for men's destruction and furrowed by the plowshare for their sustenance, and has not been found wanting in either case. He is one of the successful farmers of his township and one of its most esteemed citizens.

Mr. Chinn was born in Shelby county, Kentucky, on July 30, 1830, and is a grandson of Thomas Chinn, a native and planter of Virginia, where his father, William S. Chinn, also, was born, his life beginning in 1790. The latter moved from his native state to Shelby county, Kentucky, and lived there until 1834, when he came to this county and located on the site of the present town of Bethel. There he engaged in general farming until about 1845. He then moved to the place on which his son now resides near Shelbyville, and engaged in merchandising in that town, continuing his operations for a period of four years.

But mercantile life was not to his taste, and at the end of the period named he gave it up and returned to farming, which he followed until his death in 1856. He was married in 1811 to Miss Lucy S. Chinn, of Kentucky. They had ten children, four of whom are living: Zuelda J., the wife of William Hill, of this county; Elijah, whose home is in Clarence; John S., the subject of this memoir; and Charles R., a resident of Webb City, Missouri. The father was a Democrat in politics and a member of the Christian church, to both of which he was loyally and serviceably devoted. Fraternally he was a member of the Masonic order for many years.

John S. Chinn was reared on his father's farm, on which he worked while

attending the country schools and afterward assisting the family until 1862. In that year he enlisted in the Confederate army under General Price, his regiment being subsequently transferred to the command of General Magruder. He served until the close of the war, seeing a great deal of active service, participating in the battles of Kirksville, Missouri, Prairie Grove, Arkansas, Milligan's Bend, Pleasant Hill and Shreveport, Louisiana, and many engagements of less importance. He was mustered out of service at Shreveport, Louisiana, at the close of the war, and returned to his home in this county, where he was continuously and successfully engaged in general farming and raising stock until 1902, when he retired from active pursuits. He is still living on the old homestead, however.

Mr. Chinn was married on September 15, 1858, to Miss Mary J. Pickett, of Shelby county. They have one child, their son Charles R., who is a resident and esteemed and influential citizen of this county. In politics the father has been a life-long Democrat. In fraternal life he has been for many years a member of the Masonic order, and in religion he communes with the Christian church, to which he has long belonged. In all these organizations he has been a zealous and useful factor, and in all the elements of elevated and serviceable citizenship he has met the full requirements. Having reached the age of four score years, he is crowned with patriarchal honors and his life is mainly retrospective. But the retrospect is pleasing, for he has lived acceptably and worthily, and everybody who has knowledge of

him venerates him for his uprightness, his loyalty to duty and his sterling manhood.

WILLIAM H. PHIPPS.

Whether in the rage of battle or fury of the charge in the most momentous civil war of modern history, or laboring with all his ardor in the most exacting tasks of peaceful industry at the busiest season of his occupation, William H. Phipps, one of the successful and progressive farmers of Lentner township in this county, has never flunked or shirked his duty. In all the relations of life and under all circumstances he has been a true and faithful citizen of his country, and its utmost calls to service have met with a ready and cheerful response from him.

He was born in England on March 25, 1842, and when but three years of age was brought by his parents, George and Mary (Robinson) Phipps, also natives of that country, to the United States. The father was born in 1810 and remained in his native land until 1845. In that year he moved his family to this country and located near Rochester, New York. He was very skillful in the work of trimming fruit trees and also in threshing wheat with the flail, and he found plenty of demands on his acquirements during the ten years he lived in the East. In 1855 he joined the tide of migration westward, moving to Illinois, where he bought land and followed farming until his death, which occurred in 1891. He was a very energetic and thrifty man and was reasonably successful in everything he undertook.

His marriage with Miss Mary Robin-

son took place in 1833 and resulted in nine children, two of whom are living, William H. and his older brother, George, who lives in Iowa. The father was a man of very good standing, both in the states of New York and Illinois, and enjoyed the respect of the people in every locality in which he lived. The mother, also, was held in high esteem, and both were worthy of the regard of those who knew them on account of the upright lives they lived and the excellence of their citizenship and demeanor in all the relations of human existence.

William H. Phipps was educated in the country schools of central New York, where he was reared, and in 1861, when he was but nineteen years old, fired with the zeal of youth and the patriotism of a man, he enlisted in Company F, Eighth New York cavalry, in defense of the Union, to which he was so warmly attached that he was willing to risk his life in its behalf. His regiment was under the command of Colonel Crook, and he served in it something over three years, being discharged at Rochester, New York, on December 8, 1864. The command was in the thick of the fight during the most strenuous years of the momentous conflict, and Mr. Phipps faced death on some of the most famous battle fields of all human history, among them Antietam, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. He also participated in many minor engagements, and still bears the marks of service in a way that makes them known to all observers. At the battle of Beverly Ford, Virginia, February 6, 1864, he was shot in his right elbow, which caused him to pass four months in Lincoln hospital in