

after his mother's second marriage, and here he was reared to the sturdy discipline of the farm, in the meanwhile securing such educational advantages as were afforded in the district school, colloquially and facetiously known as "Grub College," in Taylor township, the family having removed to Shelby county in 1866. He continued to attend this school at intermittent intervals until he was about twenty years of age, and in the meanwhile he continued to assist in the work of the home farm until 1881, when he purchased forty acres of his present homestead, in section 27, Taylor township. As success attended his indefatigable efforts he made judicious investments in adjoining land, until he now has a fine farm of 240 acres, the major portion of which is under cultivation, while everything about the place bears evidence of thrift and prosperity. He has given his undivided attention to the management of his farming interests and, starting with nothing, is now one of the leading agriculturists and stock-raisers of this section. His career has been marked by hard and persistent work and he has a full and practical appreciation of the value and dignity of honest toil and endeavor. In politics Mr. Bodwell is enlisted under the banner of the Democratic party, in whose cause he takes a lively and intelligent interest, and in public affairs of a local order he gives his aid and influence in the support of all measures projected for the general good of the community. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, has served for several years past as clerk of the school board of his district, and

he contributes in liberal measure to the work of the Christian church, of which his wife is a zealous member.

On November 15, 1877, Mr. Bodwell was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Evans, who was born and reared in this county and who is a daughter of Eleazer and Melinda (Walker) Evans, both of whom are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Bodwell became the parents of nine children, all of whom are living except one, James, who died at the age of two weeks. Elizabeth L. is the wife of John B. Alexander, of Macon county; Samuel G. is a successful farmer of Shelby county; Lula G. is the wife of Chester Gillaspy, of this county; and Ruby, Rose, Mary C., Florida and George remain at the parental home.

#### JOHN A. CHRISTINE.

John A. Christine, of Salt River township, one of the most extensive and prominent farmers of Shelby county, has demonstrated in his long career of fifty-four years of usefulness among the people here that his mettle is of the firmest fiber, his manhood of the most vigorous kind and his self-reliance and capacity are of a character that yields to no difficulty, is daunted by no danger and disturbed by no disaster. He has met every requirement of every situation in which he has found himself in a masterful way, performed every duty properly belonging to him with fidelity and recognized every claim of elevated citizenship with entire devotion to his county, his state and his country.

Mr. Christine, a native of Shelby county, born on January 26, 1857, ob-

tained his education in the country schools and a graded school in Shelbina, and has passed the whole of his life to the present time on his native soil. He is therefore thoroughly imbued with the spirit of this people and in deep and serviceable accord with their every worthy aspiration. He has aided in the promotion of all commendable undertakings among them for their progress and improvement, and has helped to lead them along lines of wise development while aiding them in their progress. It is, consequently, an entirely logical result that he is highly esteemed on all sides as one of the most useful and representative men in the county.

While he is a native Missourian, his father, John Joseph Christine, was born and reared to the age of fourteen and one-half years in Germany. At that age he came alone to the United States, without relative or friend on the vessel that brought him across the Atlantic, or any acquaintance in the long journey across the continent that brought him to Walkersville, in this county, before he reached the age of twenty-one. His life began in 1829 and ended tragically in 1862 in the massacre of Centralia, where he was in the service of the government as a Union soldier. His whole activity during his life in this country was devoted to farming and raising live stock, except the time passed by him in the army.

In 1856 he was united in marriage with Miss Nancy E. Snawder, of this county, and by this marriage became the father of three children, now living, and one that is deceased. Those living are: John A., the engaging subject of this memoir; Mary Frances, the wife of Frank

Smith, of Idaho; and Celia, the wife of Matt Smith, of this county. In politics he was a pronounced and ardent Republican and as earnest in his devotion to the welfare of his party as he was to the preservation of the Union.

His son John A. thus found his childhood and youth darkened by the awful shadow of our Civil war, which not only deprived him of his father, but left the family in very straitened circumstances. He left school at an early age in order to assist his mother in providing for the household and worked on the farm until his marriage. He then rented land and farmed it for five years. At the end of that period he bought 120 acres six miles north of Shelbina, which forms a part of the 920 acres which he now owns and lives on, the most of which is under cultivation. On this farm and its subsequent additions he has lived and labored faithfully as a farmer and in raising live stock during the last twenty-nine years. During this period he also manufactured molasses in the autumn months of every year for over thirty years with great success and profit.

Mr. Christine's day of toil has been long, however, and its exactions have been heavy, and he is now gradually retiring from active pursuits. But he still keeps up his interest in all public affairs, serving as a member of the school board and in other ways aiding in the progress and development of his township and county, as he has always done, having been a charter member of the Shelby County railroad and interested in numerous other public improvements from time to time. On March 26, 1876, he was married to Miss Letha Ann Cadwell, a

daughter of Noah and Sarah (Hinton) Cadwell, prominent residents of this county. Eight of the nine children born of the union are living—Mary Frances, the wife of H. M. Bragg; Sarah Ellen, the wife of Moses McIntosh; Allie, the wife of Orville Thompson; Jessie, the wife of William F. Stewart; John T., Charles H., Harry S. and Abbie Jewel. They are all residents of Shelby county, and the two last named are still at home with their parents. The father is a Republican in his political belief, an Odd Fellow and a Modern Woodman of America in his fraternal and a member of the Missionary Baptist church in his religious relations.

#### JOHN FORMAN.

As a worthy representative of one of the honored pioneer families of Missouri, of which state he is a native son, having been a resident of Shelby county for fully half a century, Mr. Forman is well entitled to consideration in this publication, and the more so from the fact that he has contributed his quota to the civic and material upbuilding of the county, which has been his home from his childhood to the present day, except for a period of a few years passed in the great western mining regions of the west, many years ago. He is now venerable in years, but is still actively identified with agricultural pursuits and stock-growing, through the medium of which he has gained success and independence, being one of the representative citizens of Taylor township, where his well improved farm is located in section 28.

John Forman was born in Ralls county, Missouri, on March 16, 1832, and is a son of Benjamin F. Forman, who was born in beautiful Shenandoah county, Virginia, on March 18, 1794, being a scion of a family founded in the Old Dominion in the colonial era of our national history. The lineage is traced back to staunch English origin. Benjamin F. Forman was reared to maturity in his native state, and in 1814, when twenty years of age, he came to the wilds of Missouri, which was then considered to be on the very frontier of civilization. He first located in Boone county, where he remained about eight years, at the expiration of which he removed to Ralls county, where he secured a tract of wild land and initiated the reclamation of a farm. In that county he continued his residence until 1842, when he removed with his family to Shelby county, where he purchased 120 acres of land, in Taylor township. Here he developed a productive farm, to which he continued to give his supervision until his death, which occurred in 1874. He was a millwright by trade, but after coming to this state his principal vocation was that of farming. He endured the full tension of the pioneer epoch and his name merits a place on the roll of the sterling early settlers of Missouri. On his farm he erected a mill, the motive power for which was provided by horses, and in the operation of this primitive mill he was enabled to provide the pioneer settlers with wheat and buckwheat flour, this being one of the first mills erected in the county and supplying settlers over a wide area of country. Mr. Forman was a man of