

## ALONZO COOPER.

On other pages of this work is entered a memoir to that honored and influential citizen, the late John T. Cooper, who was long and prominently identified with the agricultural industry and other important business interests in Shelby county and who was a citizen altogether worthy of the unqualified confidence and esteem in which he was held. He was the father of him whose name initiates this paragraph, and in view of the fact that such review of his career is incorporated in this publication it is not necessary to offer the data again in the article at hand, as ready reference may be made from the biographical index to the sketch in question.

Alonzo Cooper, who is well upholding the high prestige of the name which he bears and who is now living virtually retired in the attractive little city of Shelbyville, was born in this same city on July 4, 1850, and his civic loyalty and patriotism in mature life have justified his "involuntary choice" of a natal day, which, as a boy, he was doubtless able to celebrate with double enthusiasm. He gained his early educational training in the public schools of Shelbyville and after completing the curriculum of the high school he was associated with his father in his business affairs in Shelbyville until 1871, when the family removed to the fine old homestead farm, in Black Creek township, where he turned his attention vigorously and enthusiastically to the divers duties and operations incidental to the proper prosecution of the great basic industry of agriculture, with its allied branch of stock growing. He

was twenty-one years of age at the time of the removal to the farm and he continued to be actively concerned in its work and management for more than twenty years, within which he gained prestige as one of the wide-awake, progressive and successful farmers of his native county. For two years he and his father were largely interested in raising, buying and shipping mules, handling from 125 to 150 annually. In 1893, upon the death of his honored father, who had in the meanwhile returned to Shelbyville and engaged in handling of harness and vehicles of various descriptions, Mr. Cooper likewise removed from the farm to this city, where he resumed charge of his father's business and became administrator of the estate, whose large and varied interests he has managed with consummate fidelity and ability. He finally closed out the business conducted by his father in Shelbyville, and since that time he has lived virtually retired, though he finds ample demands upon his time and attention in the supervision of his various capitalistic interests and in directing the general policy of operating the fine old farm of 500 acres, which he still owns and which is recognized as one of the best improved, most effectively handled and most valuable of the many admirable farms in this county. Mr. Cooper is the owner of a considerable amount of real estate in Shelbyville and elsewhere, and he has done considerable business in the buying and selling of realty in late years, having also improved many of his properties. Since his removal to Shelbyville he has rented his farm. Mr. Cooper is vice-president of the Citizens' Bank of Shelbyville. of

which he was one of the organizers and incorporators, and he was also one of those identified with the organization of the Shelby County Railroad Company, of which he was a charter member and in which he is still a stockholder. He takes much interest in the progress of his native city and county and is ever ready to lend his influence and tangible aid in support of measures and enterprises tending to advance the material and civic welfare of the community. Though never ambitious for the honors or emoluments of public office Mr. Cooper is found arrayed as a staunch supporter of the principles of the Democratic party and he has given effective support to its cause in both local and general campaigns. He is affiliated with Shelbyville Lodge, No. 33, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and both he and his wife are earnest members of the Christian church, taking active interest in the various departments of its work. They are held in high regard in the county that has ever represented their home and their circle of friends is limited only by that of their acquaintances.

On October 22, 1876, Mr. Cooper was united in marriage to Miss Sarah J. Perry, who was born and reared in this county, where her father, the late Joseph Perry, was a successful and influential farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper have two children—Fannie, who is the wife of Benjamin F. Gwynn, of Shelbyville, and Roy B. Cooper, who is engaged in farming in Shelby county.

#### JOHN D. DALE.

Mr. Dale is a representative member of the bar of his native county, being es-

tablished in the successful practice of his profession in Shelbyville, the judicial center of the county, and by reason of his prestige in his profession as well as on account of his being a scion of a family whose name has been identified with the annals of Shelby county for more than half a century, ever standing as a synonym of integrity and honor in all the relations of life. The Dale family was early founded in the state of Maryland, where Isaac Mitchell Dale, grandfather of the subject of this review, passed his entire life. There also was born Isaac Dale, the son, the year of whose nativity was 1818. He was reared to manhood in his native commonwealth, where he received a good common-school education and where he continued to reside until 1854, when he came to Missouri and took up his residence on a farm near the present city of Shelbyville, Shelby county, and in 1861 moved to a farm near Florence. There he devoted his attention to diversified agriculture and the raising of excellent grades of live stock until 1862, when he removed with his family to the village of Clarence, where, after disposing of his farm property, he engaged in the general merchandise business, in which he continued until his death, which occurred on August 26, 1878. His wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Dennis, was likewise a native of the state of Maryland, and she was summoned to the life eternal on September 1, 1876. The mother had been a member of the M. E. Church, South. Of their nine children five are now living, namely: William J., who is a resident of Mancos, Colorado; Jesse T., who is engaged in business at Shel-