

the congregation to which he belongs. In all the elements of elevated and upright citizenship he is distinguished and he is correspondingly esteemed by all who know him throughout the county.

#### JAMES WILLIAM HAWKINS.

Successful in everything he has undertaken and highly representative of the people among whom he lives and labors and having also developed and built up to large proportions a distinctive industry, which is one of the sources of pride to the people of this county, James William Hawkins, of Taylor township, this county, presents a pleasing theme to the pen of the biographer, however briefly it may be found necessary to treat it. He is a native of the county and has passed his life to this time (1910) within its borders. He was educated in its public schools and he married one of its native daughters. He has also expended all his efforts in industrial life among its people. Whatever he is, therefore, he is all the county's own.

Mr. Hawkins was born in Clay township, Shelby county, in 1855. His paternal grandfather, John F. Hawkins, was born and reared in Kentucky where the family to which he belonged was among the pioneers. There also his son Bowles Hawkins, the father of James William, was born. But when the latter was but two years old the family moved to this state and located in Ralls county. In that county the father of Mr. Hawkins grew to manhood and obtained his education. After leaving school he followed farming in Ralls county until 1850, then moved to Shelby county and here re-

newed his farming operations, supplementing them with a thriving industry in raising stock generally for the Eastern markets. His operations were extensive and he continued them successfully and profitably until his death, which occurred in May, 1877.

In 1849 he was united in marriage with Miss Lucinda S. Dawson, a native of Ralls county, Missouri, and daughter of John and Fanny (Bowles) Dawson, who came to this state from Kentucky. The elder Mr. Hawkins and his wife became the parents of eleven children, all but one of whom grew to maturity. Those now living are: James W., the immediate subject of this memoir; Fanny B., the wife of V. B. Creekmur, whose home is at Prescott, Arizona; John F., who resides at Phoenix, Arizona; Eugene T., who is a citizen of California; Wallace B., a resident of Montevista, Colorado; Lulu A., the wife of Norris Farmer, of Shelby county, Missouri; and Leslie B. The mother survived her husband ten years, passing away in February, 1887.

James W. Hawkins grew to manhood in this county, and as soon as he left school turned his attention to farming and raising live stock. His industry in these kindred pursuits was small at first and general. But he soon developed a taste and capacity for specialties, and to them he has ever since devoted himself. He has a fine farm of 120 acres, which he calls the "Cedar Grove Stock Farm," and on this he specializes in Shorthorn cattle, Poland-China hogs, Cotswold sheep and single comb brown leghorn chickens with great success. He has won a high reputation for his output, and the

study and care he bestows on his breeding have made him an authority on all matters connected with the subject and given his opinions concerning it great weight. In 1907 he opened a general store in Leonard. But he soon found out that merchandising in a general way was not to his taste, and in October, 1908, he sold the business to his son-in-law, C. E. Stuart, and returned to his farm.

On February 25, 1880, Mr. Hawkins married with Miss Bertha G. Shofstall, a daughter of W. H. and Sarah C. Shofstall, natives of Ohio, but herself born and reared in this county. Three children have been born of the union, two of whom are living, Sallie Kate, the wife of C. E. Stuart, of Leonard, and Arthur Scott, who is associated with his father in the stock business, the name of the firm being J. W. Hawkins & Son. The business is extensive and all the energies and time of both father and son are required for its proper management and complete success.

In politics Mr. Hawkins is a pronounced Democrat, but he has never been a very active partisan, nor has he at any time sought or desired a political office, although he did serve three years as school director. Fraternally he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in religious affiliation belongs to the Baptist church. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Bank of Leonard and a member of its board of directors. While his business is exacting and he has given it all the attention necessary to make a great success of it, he has not allowed it to absorb him wholly, but has given due and helpful attention also to the affairs of his township and

county, always aiding in the promotion of every worthy enterprise for their benefit, and contributing his full share of zeal, enterprise and industry to accelerate their progress and raise the standard of living among their people, with an ardent desire to keep them in the forefront of progress in every way as parts of one of the most enterprising and influential states of the American Union.

#### MICHAEL HERSHEY.

Although born in Canada and of a father who was also a native of that country, Michael Hershey, of Cherry Box, in this county, has passed almost the whole of his life in the United States and may properly be considered an American to all intents and purposes. His life began in 1843, and he is a son of Benjamin and Magdalena (Dausman) Hershey, the father born in Canada and the mother in Germany. When their son Michael was a very small boy the family moved to Indiana, where the father has passed the subsequent years of his life as a farmer. His principal occupation in Canada was farming also, but in connection with his agricultural operations there he conducted a grist and saw mill. Nine children were born in the family, five of whom are living: Benjamin, David, Michael, Martha and Salome. Their mother died on January 11, 1872.

Michael Hershey obtained his education in the district schools of Indiana, and after leaving school remained with his parents, working on the farm and assisting the family for a number of years. In 1870 he came to Missouri and located