

in their home, helpful to every mental and moral agency at work among the people and zealous in the performance of every social and religious duty.

CHARLES BOGGS MARTIN.

Actively connected with the real estate and loan business in Shelbina for twenty consecutive years, and for six years prior to his entrance into that line one of the leading fire insurance agents of the city, county and surrounding country, Charles B. Martin has had an extensive opportunity to demonstrate his capacity for business and his right to the confidence and esteem of the people who have the pleasure of his acquaintance and the advantage of doing business with him. He is now the junior member of the firm of Puckett & Martin, real estate and loan operators, and as such enjoys in a high degree the regard and good will of the community.

Mr. Martin is a Virginian by nativity, having been born at Lexington, Rockbridge county, in the Old Dominion, on March 28, 1853. His ancestors lived for generations in the state that is known as the "Mother of States and of Statesmen," his grandfather, James Wesley Martin having been born and reared there, and having had before him a long line of progenitors born and reared in the same neighborhood, which was Greenbrier county, in that part of the state now known as West Virginia, which was torn from its maternal breast in the violence and unreason of the Civil war.

Mr. Martin, the interesting subject of this brief review, is a son of James Wesley and Nannie O. (Green) Martin, the

former born and reared in Greenbrier county, West Virginia, where his life began in 1812, and the latter a native of Rockbridge county, in the mother state. The father farmed for a number of years in West Virginia and became a resident of Missouri in 1869, reaching the state in November of that year. He located in Marion county and there farmed and raised live stock until 1883, when he sold his interests in that county and moved to Shelby county, purchasing a farm there and continuing to operate it until his death, in September, 1886, carrying on at the same time an active and flourishing business in raising live stock, and thereby contributing to the improvement of the stock in the county and aiding in supplying, by the excellence of his products, the best markets in the country.

He was married to Miss Nannie O. Green, of Rockbridge county, Virginia, who is still living at the advanced age of eighty-nine, with all her faculties yet vigorous and her sinews strong. They became the parents of twelve children, seven of whom are living—Alexander J., a resident of Rockbridge county, Virginia; William P., who lives at Moberly, Missouri; Reuben L., a citizen of Washington, D. C.; Charles B., whose interesting life story these paragraphs record; Samuel S. and Albert A., residents of this county; and Emmett, who lives in the state of California. In politics the father was a Democrat and in church relations a Southern Methodist. He was an active worker in both his party and his church and was esteemed by the members of each as a helpful factor in all their undertakings.

Charles B. Martin, like the majority of

the boys of his day, was reared and learned the lessons of preparation for life's battle on a farm. He took his place in the ranks of its workers and wrought as faithfully and efficiently as any of them. He obtained his education in the private schools of Lexington, Virginia, which is an educational center in that part of the country, being the seat of Washington and Lee University, in whose presidential chair the great general of the Confederacy, Robert E. Lee, passed the closing years of his illustrious life, and also the Virginia Military institute. But, although the city in which he gained his scholastic training was abundantly supplied with facilities for culture far beyond the curriculum of the public schools, they were available to him only in a limited way, and he was obliged to put up with what the great "university of the common people," the district schools, could do for him in the way of mental development. For the exigencies of his situation required that he should make his own way in the world of effort from an early age and he entered upon the undertaking without reluctance or repining.

After leaving school Mr. Martin worked on the parental farm with his father until 1873, assisting him both in the state of his nativity and that of his adoption. In the year last named he turned his attention to mercantile life, for which he had long felt a yearning, and became a grocer, carrying on a vigorous and flourishing business in that line for six years. Still, although he found mercantile life agreeable, the love of the soil was strong within him, and in 1880 he returned to the cultivation of it,

buying a farm near Oakdale, in this county, on which he lived and labored two busy years, producing good crops and raising fine herds of stock. In 1882 he moved to Shelbina and took up work for the Phoenix Fire Insurance Company in association with W. F. Fields, with whom he operated for six years. Then in 1889 he bought the interest of Upton Moreman in the firm of Lyell & Moreman, real estate and loan agents, and became a partner of John R. Lyell, under the name and style of Lyell & Martin. In May, 1894, Thomas L. Puckett, a sketch of whom will be found in this volume, bought Mr. Lyell's interest in the business and the firm has done an extensive business ever since under the name of Puckett & Martin.

Mr. Martin has therefore been connected in a leading way with the real estate and loan business for twenty consecutive years, and in that long experience has thoroughly mastered all its phases, details and requirements. During much of the time he has also been extensively engaged in the feeding and sale of 150 to 200 mules every year, thereby contributing greatly to the convenience and advantage of the farmers and other residents of the city and county.

In the political life of his section he has taken an earnest and serviceable part as a leading and influential Democrat. Although averse to public office, he filled one term of four years as a justice of the peace and has also been a member of the school board. Fraternally he is a Freemason and to the cause of religion he renders effective service as a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, of which he is a trustee and was for five

years or longer superintendent of the Sunday school. In other departments of church work he has been constant in his service and enterprising in his spirit, giving every worthy undertaking of his congregation his valuable counsel and invaluable assistance in practical labor. During all of the last fifteen years he has been one of the stockholders and directors of the Commercial Bank of Shelbina. On March 2, 1873, he was married to Miss Nannie E. Jones, of Marion county, in this state. They have had five children and all of them are living. They are: May J., a resident of Shelbina; Jessie, the wife of Otis See, of the same city; and Eugene H., of St. Louis, Missouri; Charles Robert and John Lyell, who are living at home. Mr. and Mrs. Martin and their children add adornment and grace to the social circles of the community and on all sides are recognized as among the best and most representative and estimable citizens of a section in which the standard is high and the requirements are exacting.

JOHN H. WOOD.

This eminent banker and influential financial potency of Shelbina has been a resident of Missouri all of his life, and during the most of that period has been active in lines of endeavor which minister directly to the welfare of the people and help to build up the state in its industrial, mercantile and commercial power, some of them also bearing immediately and favorably on the mental and moral agencies at work in every community.

Mr. Wood controls the policy of the

Shelbina National Bank and is its leading spirit of enterprise and direction. He was born in Monroe county, this state, on December 8, 1869. He is a son of Winfield S. and Susan A. (Hepler) Wood, the former a native of New York and the latter of Ohio. The father was a carpenter and farmer. He came to Monroe county in 1859 and from that time until a few years ago devoted his energies to farming, doing some work also at his trade when occasion demanded it. During the Civil war he served as a soldier in the Ninth Missouri Cavalry, Company F, of which he was one of the lieutenants. He and his command were stationed most of the time in Missouri, but they saw a great deal of active service and were engaged in numerous battles and skirmishes. Mr. Wood was in the army from 1861 to the close of the memorable struggle in 1865, and during all of the time of his military service devoted himself wholly to the cause which he had espoused. After the close of the war he returned to his home and resumed his farming operations. A few years ago he retired from active pursuits and took up his residence in Shelbina, where he now lives. His wife died in that town. They had two sons and two daughters, all of whom are living. The father is a scion of an old English family, his branch of which has lived in this country for several generations.

J. H. Wood was reared and began his education in Monroe county. He also attended the University of Missouri, from which he was graduated in 1895 with the degree of L. B. He was pastor of the Christian church at Boonville, Cooper county, two years, and taught in