

moved to Shelby county, and here he has continued his extensive operations in farming and raising stock, his principal product in the latter line of business being high-bred mules. He is also a stockholder in the Clarence Oil, Gas and Mineral Company and a member of its board of directors, and as such has an important bearing on its transactions and is potential in promoting its success and prosperity.

In December, 1880, Mr. White was united in marriage with Miss Laura Powell, a daughter of Henry M. and Itelia (Mathis) Powell. Of the four children born of the union, three are living: Della, the wife of Joseph Lowery, of Macon county; Alice, the wife of Harry W. Orr, of Shelby county; and Valley, the wife of Hood Shearon, of Narrows township, Macon county. Their mother died in September, 1889, and on February 17, 1892, the father married again, being united at this time with Miss Lillian Davis, a daughter of Durborn and Adelia (Wallace) Davis, natives of New Hampshire. Her grandparents on her mother's side were Reuben and Anna (Howard) Wallace, the former a native of New Hampshire and the latter of New York, the Wallace line in the family being of Scotch ancestry and belonging to the distinguished family of that name renowned in Scottish history, both for the great achievements of some of its members and the lamentable tragedies that followed them through the ingratitude of those whom they served so faithfully.

Durborn Davis, the father of the present Mrs. White, was a soldier in the Civil war, belonging to the Thirteenth

New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry. He became a resident of Clarence, in this county, in 1865, just after the close of the war, when the now prosperous little city was but a hamlet on the unbroken prairie. Here he developed and improved a good farm, and aided greatly in building up the town and surrounding country and making them progressive and prosperous. He died on March 13, 1899.

Mr. and Mrs. (Davis) White have had three children, two of whom are living. They are their daughters, Ruth Blanche and Rose. In politics the father adheres firmly and faithfully to the Democratic party, and is a very earnest and effective worker in its behalf. He has given the community more than ten years of excellent service on the school board, and his party vigor and inspiration as central Democratic committeemen for six years. In fraternal relations he is allied with the Masonic order, its adjunct, the Order of the Eastern Star, and the Knights of Pythias. No citizen of the county stands better in public esteem, and none is more worthy of high standing. His grandmother Wright was a remarkable woman, and lived to be within a few days of one hundred years of age.

SAMUEL H. MEARS.

Born and reared to the age of seventeen in Indiana county, Pennsylvania, and having acquired habits of industry and thrift in the strenuous and intense industrial life of that great commonwealth, Samuel H. Mears, of Clay township in this county, transferred to the almost virgin soil of Missouri the train-

ing for usefulness as a farmer which his native state had given him, and has enlarged his efforts and quickened his pace in the practice of it in accordance with the advantages which the better land and more extensive opportunities of this region have afforded him for the use of his attainments.

His life began in 1851, and he is a grandson of James Mears, who was born in Ireland and came to the United States in his boyhood. He located in western Pennsylvania, and after leaving school engaged in farming there. His son, John S. Mears, the father of Samuel S., was a native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and after reaching his maturity moved across the line into Indiana county, where he followed farming for a livelihood until 1868. In that year he came to Missouri, bringing his family with him and taking up his residence in Macon county. His wife's maiden name was Martha Lucas, and she was a native of Indiana county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Patrick Lucas, an esteemed resident and prosperous farmer of that county. She and her husband were the parents of eight children, six of whom are living: John L., whose residence is at Moberly, Missouri; Mary J., the wife of J. C. Foster, also a resident of Moberly; Alexander S., who lives in Los Angeles, California; Samuel H., the subject of this brief review; William T., of Moberly, Missouri, and Francis M., of Macon county. The father died in February, 1875, and the mother in October, 1909, at the age of eighty-seven years.

Their son, Samuel H. Mears, began his education in the district schools of his native county and finished it in those

of Macon county, Missouri. After completing their courses of instruction he taught school for a time, then moved to Shelby county and became a farmer. He has followed agricultural pursuits ever since, and with increasing success and prosperity. He became a resident of this county in 1873, and here he has passed the subsequent years of his life, busily and profitably engaged in his chosen vocation and rising to prominence and influence among the people of his township. His farm comprises eighty acres of first rate land and is well cultivated. He has it improved with commodious and comfortable buildings, and by his vigor and skill in the management of its operations has brought it to a high state of development and fruitfulness. In connection with his farming he carries on a thriving industry in raising and feeding live stock for the markets.

In political connection Mr. Mears is a pronounced Democrat and a zealous and effective worker for the success of his party. He served as district clerk twelve years and was a school director for upwards of twenty. In religious affiliation he and his wife are allied with the Primitive Baptist church, and he has long been an ardent and effective church worker, serving as deacon of the congregation to which he belongs during the last fifteen years, and in many other ways promoting the usefulness and power of the organization, serving also as its clerk for twelve years. On December 3, 1873, he was united in marriage with Miss Lucinda Burk, a native of Illinois and daughter of James and Nancy (Sims) Burk. Six children were

born of the union, four of whom died in infancy. The two living are Wellie J. and Homer E. The father has always taken a lively interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his community and is one of the representative men of the county.

HENRY SCHWADA.

Among the prosperous and up-to-date farmers of Clay township in this county, none is entitled to more consideration for enterprise, progressiveness and success wrung from adverse conditions than Henry Schwada, whose fine farm of 120 acres in section 17 shows up to all observers as a monument to his industry, skill and frugality, as a possession, and his vigor, intelligence and advanced ideas as a farmer. It is one of the attractive and valuable rural homes of the township and is altogether the result of his own unaided efforts, as he acquired it and has made it what it is by hard work and excellent management.

Mr. Schwada was born in Indiana in 1862 and brought by his parents to Missouri and the county and township in which he now lives when he was but two years old. He is a son of John and Clara (Neaman) Schwada, natives of Germany, who came to the United States in early life and located for a time in Indiana. In 1864 they moved to Missouri, and found a new home in Clay township, Shelby county. Here they were for many years actively and profitably engaged in farming and raising live stock. They had nine children, eight of whom are living: Henry, Flora, Mary, John, Frank, Louisa, Leslie and Will-

iam. The parents are still living and have their home in Clarence.

Their son Henry obtained his education in the district schools and worked on his father's farm while attending them. As soon as he grew to manhood he began farming on his own account, and this line of industry has been his constant occupation ever since. His present farm comprises 120 acres, as has been noted, and is highly developed and very productive. In connection with his farming operations Mr. Schwada carries on a flourishing live stock business, which is also active and profitable because he makes it so by his enterprise, intelligence concerning it and good management.

He was married on October 11, 1899, to Miss Rosa Griswold, a daughter of George W. and Ellen (Hayford) Griswold, and has two children, his sons, Nolan and Lowell. In politics he is a Democrat, but has never taken a very active part in public affairs. His religious allegiance is given cordially to the Evangelical church, and he and his wife are zealous advocates of its interests and effective workers for its advancement. It is not to be inferred that because Mr. Schwada is not an active partisan and takes but little interest in political affairs, he is indifferent to the welfare of his township and county. On the contrary, he has been energetic and ardent in the support of every worthy enterprise for their advancement, and has cheerfully and capably borne his full share of the burden incident to promoting their development and improvement, and multiplying conveniences and comforts for their people. No undertaking