

dence and good will. They celebrated their golden wedding in 1908, going through the entire Catholic ceremony.

PETER J. REARDON.

In the life of this highly useful and esteemed citizen of Jackson township, Shelby county, the pathetic is mingled with the sentimental, and eminent success has followed heavy trials, exacting privations and arduous industry. He came to this country when he was a young man, with no capital but his own energy, capacity and indomitable spirit. He confronted the difficulties of his situation with calm but determined courage, met its requirements with intelligence and fidelity and compelled reluctant Fortune to give him tribute of her bounty by the persistency and skill with which he wooed her favor.

Mr. Reardon was born and reared in Ireland, where his ancestors for many generations lived and labored and in the soil of which the mortal remains of his father, Eugene Reardon, and his grandfather, John Reardon, were laid to rest amid scenes of private grief and public lamentation, which he witnessed. On the death of his father the care of the family devolved upon the sorrowing mother, whose maiden name was Julia Curtis. She performed her duty to her offspring faithfully, meeting all difficulties with a resolute determination to yield to none, and giving the members of her household an excellent example as well as good counsel. She was the mother of eight children, of whom but two are living, her sons, Peter J., of Shelby county, and Daniel, now a resident of Kansas City,

Missouri. Feeling that this country offered her better opportunities for comfort and further success in life, she came over in 1882, following her son Peter, who emigrated from his native land to this state in 1881. She took up her residence in Shelby county, and here she passed the remainder of her days, dying in 1906 respected and lamented by all who knew her.

Peter J. Reardon grew to manhood in his inhospitable native land and realized fully that, while its inhospitality was not due to either the character or the habits of its own people, but to outside influences, it was, nevertheless, cruel and oppressive to the toiling millions and prevented the business success and social standing to which many of them felt that they might properly aspire. He therefore determined as soon as manhood "darkened on his downy cheek" to gratify a longing which had long stirred within him and seek his fortunes in the New World, which seemed to beckon him to its shores with open hands and golden promises. Accordingly, in 1881, he dared the heaving bosom of the stormy Atlantic and soon afterward landed in the United States. He came at once to Missouri and found a new home in Randolph county, where he engaged in telegraph construction work for four years. Following that occupation he served as foreman of a section gang on the Hannibal & St. Joseph railroad, which is now a part of the Burlington system, for eighteen years.

Mr. Reardon had received but a limited education in his native land, but he had aspirations to better things than his service for the railroad company af-

orded him and he determined to go after them. In 1904 he bought what was known as the "Jerome Worland farm," which was one of the first cultivated farms in Shelby county. To the cultivation of his land he has since then diligently devoted himself, farming it with intelligence and spirit and improving it from time to time in accordance with the genius of development of the section in which it is located. He now owns 370 acres of land and has about 215 acres under skillful and productive cultivation. The place is improved with a good dwelling, barns and other necessary structures, and is regarded as one of the best farms in this part of the state.

In January, 1890, Mr. Reardon was united in marriage with Miss Ellen Markin, who was born and reared in Marion county, Missouri. They have had seven children, six of whom are living: Daniel, Julia, Joseph, Katie, Agnes and John, all yet under the parental roof and assisting in the work of cultivating and improving the farm. The father is a Republican in politics and a Catholic in religion. He is earnestly devoted to the institutions of the land of his adoption and does his utmost to promote their welfare. His state and country have given him opportunity; his own capacity, industry and good judgment have given him success; and he returns the one and justifies the other by loyal devotion and service to both state and nation, showing his feelings in the matter by manly and effective efforts in behalf of every worthy interest or undertaking of either. In local affairs he has been a potent influence in building up his township and county and developing toward their

highest power all the intellectual, moral and material forces at work for their betterment. His friends and neighbors hold him in cordial regard and the whole people admire his manhood and respect the elevated character of his citizenship.

ROY JANES.

Mr. Janes was for some years an estimable citizen of Lakenan and is one of the enterprising merchants of Shelby county and has shown grit beyond his years and spirit worthy of a Spartan. He has been tried by several forms of disaster, among them the ordeal of fire, and has not flinched in the presence of any.

He was born in Shelby county on February 18, 1888, and is a son of Joseph W. and Elizabeth (Montgomery) Janes, both, like himself, born and reared in Shelby county. The father's life began in 1862, and after reaching his maturity he followed farming profitably and also conducted a threshing outfit until his death, on March 25, 1908, at Lakenan, where he was then living. He was married in 1886 and by his marriage became the father of four children—Roy, Walter, Bernice and Weldon—three of whom are living at home with their mother. In politics the father was a Republican, in fraternal life a Modern Woodman of America and in religious connection a member of the Baptist church. He was highly respected and his untimely death in the full vigor of his manhood and when he seemed to have many years of usefulness remaining for him was universally deplored.

Roy Janes was left an orphan by the