

DR. JACOB D. SMITH.

Doubly orphaned by the death of both his parents when he was but four years of age, Dr. Jacob D. Smith, of Shelbina, has largely been the architect of his own fortunes. His success in his profession proves that he has builded well and the universal esteem in which he is held establishes the fact that his life has been useful to others as well as profitable to himself.

Dr. Smith was born at Hannibal, Missouri, on January 25, 1849. His parents, Columbus and Mary Smith, were natives of Kentucky but removed to Marion county, Missouri, in about 1838 or 1839. He was reared in the home of his uncle, Daniel Harris, of Quincy, Illinois, and was given every care and attention it was possible for a child to receive. He obtained his academic training by attending Soule's Academy and passing one year at the Quincy College. He began the study of medicine by private reading under the direction of a good physician and then attended Rush Medical College in Chicago, from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D. in 1870.

The doctor began his practice in Shelbyville in September, 1871, and remained there two years. In 1873 he moved to Shelbina and formed a partnership with Dr. E. N. Gerard, which continued about three years. Since its dissolution in 1876 he has been constantly in active general practice for himself, rising steadily in the confidence and esteem of the people and his professional brethren, and building up an excellent reputation as a physi-

cian and as a citizen of worth and great usefulness.

The life of a country physician in a new territory is necessarily one of privation and self-sacrifice. He belongs wholly to the public, and his services are in continual demand. The population is scattered and the calls cover many miles of travel every day, often continuing into or even through the night. Leisure for rest, for recreation, for enjoyment, even for more advanced study in his work, is often totally denied him, or can be snatched only in fragments from more immediate and exacting claims upon his time and energies. Thus his life becomes a continual round of toil and self-immolation on the altar of the public need and the general good of the community in which he lives and operates.

The experience was altogether a new one for Dr. Smith. From his childhood he had not been obliged to forego his own wishes for the comfort or welfare of others. But he accordingly accepted his daily consecration to the requirements of his fellows as a part of his destiny, and concerned himself mainly in discharging with fidelity and all the skill he could command the duties which were before him. This has been his habit and he has won the regard and good will of the whole county thereby. His practice is a large one and his patrons are representative in character and standing. He has also kept pace with the advance of his profession and is abreast with its latest thought and discovery. For even though a very busy man for many years, he has also been a studious one, and is well informed on all branches of his work, having taken post-graduate lee-

tures in both Chicago and New York city. Socially he is agreeable and obliging, and this is an additional equipment for success in his practice and popularity among the people. He is a member of both county and state medical societies and holds membership in the National Medical Association. The doctor is local surgeon for the Burlington railroad and enjoys a wide acquaintance in Northern Missouri.

On February 20, 1873, he was married to Miss Ida M. Myers, of Palmyra, Missouri. The six children who have blessed and brightened their household are all living. They are: Mark H., a resident of Brookfield, Missouri; Madge G., the wife of B. T. Willis, of Clarence, this state; Julia C., the widow of Dr. J. C. Settles, of Arkadelphia, Arkansas; Bessie B., the wife of E. W. Jewett, of Shelbina; Effie D. and Jo. The doctor is a Democrat in politics, a Baptist in religious faith and a Knight of Pythias in fraternal life.

THOMAS W. LYELL, D. D. S.

Dr. Thomas W. Lyell, who is one of the leading dentists in Northern Missouri, is a scion of a distinguished family. He is a son of the late Thomas P. Lyell, a prominent citizen of this county, a brief account of whose useful and inspiring life will be found in the biography of John R. Lyell, another son of the same household and a brother of the doctor. In his professional work and private life the doctor worthily sustains the reputation of the family for intellectual supremacy, moral excellence and high-toned citizenship, with a progres-

sive spirit that renders good service wherever the enduring welfare of the community is involved.

Dr. Lyell was born in Shelby county on October 18, 1871. When he was twelve years of age the family moved to Shelbina, and here he has ever since resided except during his absence at school. He began his academic training in the public schools of the town and the locality of his earlier home, and completed it at Central College, in Fayette, Missouri. In 1893 he began the study of dentistry, finding in it agreeable occupation for his faculties at the start and pursuing it with a diligence and interest which have never flagged. He was graduated from the Western Dental College in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1896, and at once centered upon the practice of his profession at Shelbina, where he is still actively engaged in it.

The science of dentistry is a progressive one and requires close and continued study to keep pace with its rapid advancement. Dr. Lyell has been all that the case requires in this respect and is well up in all departments of his work. He is master of the theories on which the science is based and has been developed, and is also a skillful, ready and resourceful practitioner. All that is latest and best in dentistry he has literally at his fingers' ends, his primary ambitions being to give his patrons the best possible returns for the money they pay him and make himself a complete and unquestioned master of his business.

Although he is wedded to his professional work and makes it his chief concern, Dr. Lyell finds time to carefully consider and actively aid in promoting