

one of the most capable, agreeable and successful men in the employ of the house in his line of activity, and universal testimony proclaims that he is entitled to the high rank he holds in this respect.

On September 23, 1886, he was united in marriage with Miss Harriet Parsons, a native of Shelbyville, Missouri. They have had four children, three sons and one daughter. They are: Homer, Fred, Lotus and Brooks. The father is a pronounced Democrat in politics and active in the service of his party according to his opportunities to work for it. These are necessarily limited, as he is away from home a great deal of the time. Fraternally he is connected with the Masonic order, and in religious affiliation is allied with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Mr. Teachenor's heart is in his business, and in 1909, thinking thereby to win out a larger and more gratifying success in it, he moved to St. Louis. But he found that he was as well off in Shelbina and better satisfied, and in 1910 he moved back to that city, which is now his home. He takes an active interest in public affairs and does all in his power to promote the welfare of his city and county. And he is esteemed by their people as one of the best and most representative men among them.

#### EMMETT D. SWINNEY.

Starting in life with nothing but his native ability and his determined and persevering spirit, and winning a gratifying success as a farmer, a mechanic and a merchant, Emmett D. Swinney, of

Shelbina, furnishes in his career a fine example of the versatility of the American mind when awakened to and kept in action by correct principles and lofty ideals of duty; and an example also of the true allegiance to local and general requirements of government, which is the natural product of good citizenship.

Mr. Swinney was born in Macon county, Missouri, on March 13, 1863, and is descended from sturdy old Kentucky stock. His father, Rev. John G. Swinney, was born in Pulaski county, Kentucky, in 1818, the son of William H. Swinney, who was also a native of that state, and who there was reared and had his career. The family was a pioneer one in that state. Some of its earlier members helped to lay the foundations of the commonwealth and later ones aided in building the superstructure.

Rev. John G. Swinney came to Missouri in 1832, while the conditions here were much like those found by his ancestors when they invaded the wilderness of Kentucky, and he experienced in his day many of the hardships and privations which they experienced in theirs. He was a millwright and worked at his trade along the Missouri river for a great many years. But in the meantime, feeling a call to higher duties, he studied for the Christian ministry, and the greater part of his time during the subsequent years of his life were spent in pastoral duties and in proclaiming from the sacred desk the truths of the gospel.

This venerable "Father in Israel" was the last survivor of the old pioneer preachers who laid the foundations in Macon and Shelby counties of the religious organization to which he belonged.

At the age of eighteen he became united with the Baptist church, and in 1843 was ordained a preacher in that denomination. On the fourth Saturday of November, in the same year, and seven months after his ordination, he joined with Rev. William Griffin and Rev. Henry Matthews in organizing the Macon Baptist association, of which he was the first district missionary. He devoted the labors of nearly all of his after life to ministerial work under the auspices of this association and helped to promote its growth from three feeble and struggling congregations to a membership of many thousands.

Rev. Mr. Swinney was one of the six pioneer preachers who founded the Baptist church in this region, and like his colleagues in the work, he labored on his farm and at his trade during the week and preached on Sunday, often riding many miles to fill his engagements and braving all kinds of weather by day and night for the purpose. His ministry began before the day of salaried preachers in this part of the world, and his labor in the ministerial field was therefore one of love, and given freely, without money or price of any kind. One church, in which he preached for a number of years on one occasion, gave him the sum of \$2.50, and this amount he invested in a barrel of salt. At another time, in October, 1882, he requested the Darksville Baptist church, in Randolph county, of which he was then the pastor, and from which he had received no pay for the year, to raise all it could of the salary it wished to pay him and send it to a veteran brother clergyman, Rev. H. J. Thomas, of Shelbina, who was ill and in distress.

The congregation complied with his request and the wants of the brother in need, who died a few weeks later, were relieved.

Rev. J. G. Swinney lived in Macon county until 1865, then moved to Tuscola, Illinois. In the spring of 1866 he returned to Missouri and took up his residence in Shelby county, four miles north of Woodlawn, where he lived until 1891. In that year he moved to Clarence, where he died on August 10, 1901, aged eighty-three years and two months. He was married in Macon county, Missouri, in 1844, to Miss Sarah Matthews, who was born in Kentucky on February 13, 1825. They became the parents of ten children, eight of whom are living: D. J., of Devall Bluff, Arkansas; J. T., of Richmond, Missouri; Martha, the wife of John Clark, of Leonard, this county; J. M., of Macon, Missouri; A. P., of Clarence, Shelby county; Mary, the wife of W. S. Cornelius, of Macon county; Emmett D., the subject of this writing; and Alice, the wife of Calvin Matthews. The mother survived her husband nearly seven years, dying on April 25, 1908.

Emmett D. Swinney obtained his education in the district schools of Shelby county, and after completing their course of instruction, worked for his father on the home farm a number of years. He was, however, of a mechanical rather than an agricultural turn of mind, and gratified his inclination by operating a saw mill for some time. In 1885 he moved to Shelbina and accepted employment under W. S. Clark in the implement and woodenware trade, remaining with him seventeen years. In 1902 he and William McDaniel bought the business

from Mr. Clark, and they prospered in the undertaking until 1910. Mr. McDaniel then sold his interest to Mr. Hawkins, and the firm name became Swinney & Hawkins. Under the new arrangement the business has gone steadily ahead to larger proportions, a higher reputation and more considerable importance. It is now one of the leaders in its line in this part of the state.

On December 25, 1883, Mr. Swinney was united in marriage with Miss Mattie Rutter, a native of this county, born in 1863, and a daughter of James and Mary Rutter, esteemed citizen of the county. All of the three children born of the union are living. They are Edward, Effie and Wade. The father has long been prominent in local public affairs and the fraternal life of his community. He has been secretary of the Odd Fellows' lodge in Shelbina during all of the last fifteen years, and has made a very creditable record in that important and responsible office. He is a member of the Missionary Baptist church and takes an earnest interest and active part in all its uplifting and benevolent work.

In the affairs of his city and county Mr. Swinney has also been zealous and very helpful. No worthy undertaking for the benefit of the people has ever gone without his energetic support, and by the wisdom of his counsel and the force of his example, as well as by his influence and efforts, others have been brought into line and made effective for good. Shelby county has no more estimable citizen, and none who is more justly held in high esteem and good will by the people of every class.

#### ELMER B. RAY.

Elmer B. Ray, who conducted the leading livery and horse sales barn in Shelbina, which was, at the time, one of the principal establishments of its kind in this part of the state of Missouri, is a native of Shelby county, and was born here on January 11, 1878. He is a grandson of Felon Ray, a native of Kentucky, and a son of Andrew B. Ray, also a native of that state. The Ray family was among the pioneer families in Kentucky, its earlier members who went to what is now that great state when it was literally a howling wilderness having been companions of Daniel Boone and the heroic men who associated with him in laying the foundations of the commonwealth. Their descendants repeated on the soil of Missouri their performances on that of Kentucky, for Andrew B. Ray, the father of the subject of this writing, was brought to this state by his parents when he was but one year old.

The family located in Shelby county on arriving in Missouri, and here its members passed the remainder of their lives actively engaged in farming and raising live stock. Andrew B. Ray grew to manhood on his father's farm and attended the primitive frontier schools of his boyhood and youth. After reaching man's estate he started a farming enterprise of his own near Shelbyville, and in time acquired the ownership of 420 acres of land there. When advancing years made him desire to retire from active pursuits, he moved to Shelbyville, where he still lives.

He was married to Miss Orzella Bond, a native of Missouri. Of the three children born to them Elmer B. is the only one living. His mother died on July 14,