

and in 1886 he was chosen a member of the lower house of the state legislature, to which he was again elected in 1888. For many years before this time he had been prominent and zealous in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in 1899 he was made Grand Master of the order for Missouri, filling the office with great credit to himself and benefit to the order. He maintained his rank as one of the leading citizens of the state, and in 1904 was appointed by Governor Folk a member of the board of visitors to the state university.

The last named position to which he was assigned by official appointment did not come to him as an accident or a mere empty honor. He had signalized his interest in the cause of general education for the people in another line of productive and valued usefulness. In 1892 he was president of the Missouri Press Association, and for five years served as chairman of the legislative committee of the National Editorial Association. In the Missouri Press Association he secured the passage of a resolution providing for the origin of the State Historical Society, with headquarters at Columbia, and in 1906 was its president. He is also called the "Father of the School of Journalism" at the State University, because he got the Missouri Press Association to adopt a resolution favoring the establishment of the chair of journalism in that institution.

The above brief account of the life of this highly serviceable and far-seeing citizen necessarily gives but a meager record of his services to the people of his county and state. His newspaper work has been a potential factor in helping to

build up the territory in which the paper circulates, and has always been considered by him a direct and positive means of reaching the people for the purpose of benefiting them in every way. He is a gentleman of strong convictions and fearless courage in declaring them. In all his efforts for the advance and improvement of his section of the country he has built for the future, and in the sweep of his vision no avenue to promoting the interests of the public, mental, moral, municipal, county or state, has been overlooked or given slight attention. His record of service to the people of Shelby county is a long one, and there is nothing in it all that is not creditable to him and worthy of the most elevated and productive citizenship. And although he is approaching the age of four score years, his vigor is still unabated, and all his faculties are still in full harness and energetic work. Missouri has no better citizen and none who has done more for her welfare according to his opportunities.

JOHN D. TOLLE.

Mr. Tolle has been a resident of Missouri from the time of his nativity to the present, is a member of one of the sterling pioneer families of this commonwealth, and he is now numbered among the representative farmers and stock-growers of Shelby county, where he has maintained his home for sixty years and where he has gained a large measure of success, the while he has held a secure place in the confidence and regard of his fellow men. He was loyal to the cause of the Confederacy during the Civil war and was one of its valiant soldiers.

Mr. Tolle was born in Marion county, Missouri, on March 17, 1842, and is a son of Parmenas W. and Susan Jane (Davis) Tolle, both natives of the state of Virginia, where the respective families were founded in an early day. Parmenas W. Tolle was born in the year 1812, and in the pioneer days he came to Missouri and settled in Marion county, where he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and where he continued to reside until 1849, in which memorable year he joined the exodus of gold seekers making their way across the plains to California, and he died of cholera while en route to the new Eldorado, his remains being interred on the wild plains of the west. His wife survived him by a number of years, passing the closing years of her life in Marion county, this state. She was a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and of the same denomination her husband also was a member prior to its division from the Methodist church in the north, at the time of the Civil war. In politics Mr. Tolle was an old-line Whig, and he was known as a man of superior mentality and sterling integrity of character. Of the eight children four are now living, and concerning them the following brief record is entered: Lucy Jane is the wife of William P. Johnson, of Marion county; Paulina L. is unmarried and resides in Philadelphia, Missouri; John D. is the immediate subject of this review; and Frances P. is the wife of John Smith, of St. Joseph, Missouri.

John D. Tolle passed his boyhood and youth on the home farm and was afforded the advantages of the somewhat

primitive pioneer schools of Marion county, where he was reared to manhood and where he continued to be identified with farming until there came the call of higher duty and he tendered his services in defense of the institutions under whose influence he had been reared. In June, 1862, he enlisted in the command of Gen. Joseph Porter, with which he participated in the engagements at Moore's Mill, Clapp Ford, and Cherryville, besides a large number of skirmishes. He was wounded in the conflict at Moore's Mill and was taken off the field by Union soldiers, being cared for and receiving medical treatment at a farmhouse, and his injury was of such order that he was incapacitated for further service, so that he was mustered out and received his honorable discharge in 1862.

After the war Mr. Tolle continued to reside in Marion county until 1869, when he removed to Shelby county and took up his abode in Black Creek township, where he is now the owner of a well improved and valuable farm of 240 acres? the same being devoted to diversified agriculture and to the raising of excellent grades of live stock. Mr. Tolle has shown much energy and discrimination in the handling of his business affairs and the operation of his farm, and through his well ordered efforts he has attained to a position as one of the substantial farmers and representative citizens of the county. He is held in high esteem in the community that has so long represented his home, is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party, is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and both he and his wife

hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

In the year 1870 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Tolle to Miss Martha A. Wheelington, who was born in Maryland, and who was a child at the time of her parents' removal to Missouri. Mr. and Mrs. Tolle have four children, Susan E., who is the wife of Gideon McDonald, of Shelby county; Daisy I., who is the wife of Henry Wear, of this county; John F., a mail clerk, resides in St. Louis; Charles Wainwright is married to Grace D. Triggler, of Clinton county, Missouri, and resides on his father's farm. Mr. Tolle has five grandchildren.

DAVID MORGAN.

Of the seventy-three years of life vouchsafed to the late David Morgan, one of the most successful manufacturers and business men of Shelbina, and one of its leading and most representative citizens, fifty-five were passed in the United States and forty-six in Shelby county, Missouri. He was born in Wales on August 9, 1830, and became a resident of this country in 1848. The portion of his native land in which he lived was filled with highly-tinted stories of America as a land of great promise and almost boundless opportunity for industry, and these stories filled his youthful mind with an ardent desire to come to and live in a country of such openings and possibilities, and when he reached the age of eighteen years he could no longer resist the tug on his heart strings Columbia was making.

He, therefore, at that age determined to brave the heaving ocean, on which

steam had not yet depoetized commerce and travel, and journey forth in an effort to work out for himself a better career than seemed possible to him in his own country. He left the scenes and associations of his boyhood, and without the companionship and encouragement of any other member of his family, embarked himself and his hopes in a sailing vessel bound for the city of New York. His voyage, although prolonged, was uneventful, and all the discomforts it brought him were cheerfully borne in the faith he cherished that he was making his way to prosperity and consequence among men. They were afterward amply atoned for by the success he achieved, the estate he accumulated and the influence and high esteem to which he attained.

On his arrival in this country Mr. Morgan took up his residence in Cortland county, New York. There he learned the trade of a wagon maker and worked at it until 1857. In that year the western fever that had been burning in his brain for some time reached a climax, and he came to Missouri, locating in Shelby county. When he arrived in Shelbina he at once started a wagon factory in the town, and this he conducted successfully and with a high and widespread reputation for the excellence of his output until his death on April 30, 1903. Some years later he also engaged in merchandising in implements and road vehicles, having his sons associated with him in the enterprise, which was carried on under the firm name of D. Morgan & Sons. This business was profitable, like the other, and Mr. Morgan was highly esteemed. His popularity