

Rock. And while in the 4th Arkansas Cavalry many skirmishes made it warm and life active for the regiment.

After the war Mr. Selsor returned to Shelby county, and on November 2, 1865, was united in marriage with Miss Kate Hesler, of Lone House, a daughter of Fleming and Mary (Jordan) Hesler, natives of Kentucky, but for many years esteemed residents of this county. He then located on a farm and began a career as a farmer and live stock breeder, which has continued to the present time, except during the ten years he passed in Hunnewell in the drug trade. He now owns and cultivates 200 acres of land and carries on a flourishing live stock business as extensive as his acreage and other facilities will permit. He pushes both departments of his business with enterprise and manages them with good judgment, and they are both profitable to him as well as important to the township and county because of the aid they give in expanding the production and commerce of this portion of the state.

By his marriage with Miss Hesler Mr. Selsor became the father of six children, five of whom are living: Dr. William L. Selsor, of Shelbina; Catherine, the wife of Ray Moss, of Hunnewell; Fred, who resides and is in business in Kansas City, Missouri; and Francis Ella and Beatrice, who are living at home with their parents. The father has always taken an earnest interest and an active part in the local public affairs of the township and county, and has been serviceable in promoting the welfare of both. Before his children grew to maturity he served on the school board, and in many

other ways made his mark as a progressive and public-spirited citizen in reference to the general well-being and substantial progress of his locality. In politics he is a Republican, in fraternal life a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In belief Mr. Selsor is an agnostic, while his wife is a member of the Christian church.

#### JAMES H. VANSKIKE.

A scion of old Kentucky and Maryland families, James H. Vanskike, one of the substantial, enterprising and progressive farmers and stock men of Shelby county, whose fine farm of 190 acres is located in Black Creek township, has well exemplified in his career the salient and sterling traits of character and habits of useful industry for which his ancestors were distinguished, and which have made the people of those two states prosperous and progressive at home and well esteemed abroad, securing for them honorable names in history and creditable mention in all the undertakings of the United States in peace and war.

Mr. Vanskike was born in Knox county, Missouri, on January 25, 1848, and is a grandson of Jesse Vanskike, a native of Kentucky, where Jesse's son William, the father of James H., also was born, and where his life began in 1820. He became a resident of Missouri in 1835 and, after a short residence in Monroe county, moved to Shelby county. Here he remained until his marriage with Miss Sarah Todd, who was born in Maryland, the marriage taking place in

Shelby county. He then preempted eighty acres of land in Knox county not far from the boundary of Shelby county, and on this farm he passed the remainder of his life, actively and prosperously engaged in general farming and raising live stock until his death in 1900.

He and his wife were the parents of eight children, six of whom are living: John W., Charles and James H., who are residents of Shelby county; and Jesse, Thomas and George W., who live in Knox county. The father was a Republican in politics and a member of the Baptist sect in religion. He was a man of great energy and activity, and rose to considerable prominence and influence because of his continued and general usefulness as a citizen. He took an earnest interest and an active part in the affairs of the counties in which he lived, helping to give their progress and development a substantial foundation and good speed in advancement.

His son, James H. Vanskike, grew to manhood on his father's farm and obtained his education in the Knox and Shelby county district schools. He took his part in the labors of the farm both while attending school and after completing his education, remaining with his parents and assisting the family until 1871. In that year he bought the farm on which he now lives seven miles west of Shelbyville. He has greatly improved it and added to its value by his industry and thrift and his excellent management of its general farming operations and the vigorous and enterprising live stock business which he has long been conducting on it.

Like his father, he has taken a very

earnest and serviceable interest in local public affairs, serving as a member of the school board sixteen years, and in many other ways doing his full part in promoting the welfare of the township and county of his home and ministering to the increased comfort and prosperity and general well being of their people. His political faith and zealous support are given to the principles and candidates of the Republican party, and in fraternal life he is an Odd Fellow and in religion a member of the Missionary Baptist church. He was married on September 14, 1871, to Mrs. Nannie C. (Duncan) Dunn, a daughter of John S. and Matilda (Lyne) Duncan, of Shelbyville. Two children were born of the union, Sallie May, who is living at home with her parents, and Joseph S., an esteemed and prosperous citizen of this county. All the members of the family stand well with the people of their locality, who have found them worthy and estimable in all the relations of life.

#### JAMES H. TARBET.

James H. Tarbet, who is one of the best known and most highly esteemed citizens of Black Creek township in this county, where he owns and operates a fine farm of eighty acres, and where he has been for many years prominent in the public and official life of the township, is not a native of Missouri, but has lived in Shelby county from the time when he was but a few months old, and may therefore be fairly regarded as a Shelby county product. He obtained his education in its district schools, has mingled for many years with apprecia-