

wife of James A. Kent, of Shelby county; Caroline, the wife of James Cooter, of Holden, Missouri; Jennie L., the wife of John W. Wilson; and Gertrude, the wife of John H. Lancaster. The two last named are residents of Shelby county, Missouri. The wife and mother died October 20, 1893, aged sixty-three years.

Mr. Baker's political faith has been pinned to the Republican party from its organization, and he has at all times given it loyal support, acting on honest convictions in this, as he does in everything else. For many years he has found entertainment and inspiration in the teachings and social features of the Masonic fraternity and the Order of Odd Fellows, and religious comfort in the doctrines of the Christian church, of all of which he has been an active and consistent member. His life in the past, his present peace and contentment, and his hopes for the future give force to the words of the Psalmist: "Behold the upright man, for the end of that man is peace."

HENRY WILL.

Mr. Will, who is one of the substantial citizens, large landholders and successful business men of Shelby county, maintaining his home in the village of Bethel, has been a resident of this county from the time of his birth and is a scion of one of its sterling pioneer families, the name which he bears having been identified with the annals of the county for more than half a century.

Mr. Will was born in the village of Bethel, this county, on July 15, 1848, and

his father was one of the original members of the colony here founded by a number of substantial and worthy citizens of German birth or ancestry. John Will, grandfather of the subject of this review, was a native of Germany and passed the closing years of his life in Missouri. Mr. Will is a son of Nicholas and Catherine (Ziegler) Will. They were both natives of Germany. Their marriage was solemnized in Shelby county, Missouri, in 1847. The father came to this county in 1845 and to America in 1839. He became one of the colonists at Bethel, where he followed his trade, that of tailor, until the colony was disbanded, and thereafter he devoted his attention to farming on a small scale and to the raising of bees, being long known as one of the successful apiarists of this section of the state, and continuing to be actively identified with this line of enterprise until his death, which occurred on October 25, 1900, at which time he was seventy-nine years of age, having been one of the honored and well known pioneer citizens of the county. His devoted wife was summoned to the life eternal December 12, 1902, at the age of seventy-seven years. She came to America in 1831 and to Bethel in 1844. The mother had been a zealous member of the Methodist Episcopal church and the father had been a supporter of the cause of the Republican party from the time of its organization until his demise. Of the ten children five are mentioned in this sketch. Of the number the subject of this sketch is the eldest; Christine is the wife of Henry Schriever, of Bethel; Julius E. is a resident of Green City, this state; Louise is the wife of Freder-

ick Pflum, of Shelby county, and Frank now resides in Albany, Oregon.

Henry Will passed his boyhood and youth in his native village of Bethel, in whose schools he secured his early educational training. After the breaking up of the colony he followed various occupations, in connection with which he developed no little versatility. In 1879 he engaged in work as a brick mason, to which vocation he devoted his attention for a few years, after which he was associated with his brother Julius E. in the conducting of a wagon repair shop for a period of seven years. They then engaged in the hardware business at Bethel under the firm name of Will Brothers, and they were associated in this enterprise for thirteen years. Like his father, Mr. Will has achieved success and no limited reputation as an apiarist, and to this interesting line of enterprise he has given special attention the past few years, finding the same a source of definite profit and conducting operations on an extensive scale. He has also been prominently identified with farming and stock growing, but now rents his fine farm property, which comprises 316 acres and which is eligibly located in Bethel township. In 1892 Mr. Will became one of the organizers of the Bank of Bethel, of which he was elected president in January, 1907, serving in this office for one year, since which time he has continued as a valued member of the directorate of the substantial and popular institution.

Though essentially loyal and public spirited as a citizen and taking much interest in all that tends to conserve the progress and prosperity of the commu-

nity, Mr. Will has never been a seeker of public office. He is aligned as a staunch supporter of the principles and policies for which the Republican party stands sponsor, and both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church in their home village, where they are held in high regard by all who know them.

On April 3, 1874, Mr. Will was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Schriever, who was born and reared in this county, and who is a daughter of the late Samuel Schreiver. The six children of this union are: Elizabeth, who is the wife of Edward G. Bower, of Bethel, and Louise, Emma, Alma, Irwin R. and Catherine R., all of whom remain at the paternal home. Emma is now Mrs. William Erich, of Bethel township; Alma is now Mrs. John Brothers, of Bethel township.

WILLIAM S. FOX.

He whose name introduces this sketch was for many years engaged in the grocery business in Shelbina, gaining recognition as one of the leading representatives of the mercantile fraternity in this attractive little city, where he still maintains his home, and where he now conducts one of the leading grocery stores and meat markets. He is held in unqualified esteem in the town that has so long been his home and is well entitled to consideration in this history of his county.

Mr. Fox was born on a farm near the village of Paris, Monroe county, Missouri, January 5, 1867, and the lineage of the family is traced back through several generations in America, his pater-