

Mrs. Ayers was born on May 5, 1866. Four children have been born to the union, three of whom are living: Clara Lillian, the wife of James T. Greening, of this county, and Lee Frederick and Alberta, who are living at home with their parents. As a member of the Masonic order and the Order of Odd Fellows the father has taken a deep interest in the fraternal life of his community and contributed to the expansion of its usefulness and the strengthening of its forces for good. He has sought nothing in the way of political preferment, but has, nevertheless, taken a very active interest in local public affairs with a view to securing the best results for the general weal of the township and county of his home. No duty of citizenship has been neglected by him, and all have been performed with zeal, fidelity and intelligence, and he is esteemed by his fellow men of the locality in accordance with his demonstrated worth and usefulness.

#### GEORGE A. WRIGHT.

This valued citizen and prosperous farmer and live stock man of Salt River township began life for himself with nothing and now has a comfortable competence, all of which he has acquired by his own thrift, persistent industry and excellent management. He knows what is required in the way of effort for advancement where the competition is so keen and the avenues of progress are becoming so crowded, when a man has nothing to depend on but his own unaided faculties, and he can therefore appreciate the endeavors of others situated as he was when he began the struggle.

Mr. Wright was born in Lewis county: Missouri, on July 28, 1865, where his parents had located two years before. His father, also named George, was born in Canada in 1825 and is still living at the grand old age of eighty-five years, with a considerable measure of his vigor still available. He is like some genial and fruitful year, passing to its close, doubtless, but with some of its warmth and beauty and usefulness still remaining. He came to the United States before the Civil war and took up his residence in Illinois, where he followed farming two or three years. In 1863 he moved across the Mississippi to Lewis county, Missouri, but four or five years later became a resident of Shelby county, and here he has ever since had his home. In 1899, after farming and raising live stock for a period of more than sixty-five years, he retired from active pursuits and moved to Shelbina, where he now resides.

He was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Hastings, of Ohio. They became the parents of twelve children, six of whom are living: Ella, the wife of J.W. Peters, of Shelbina; George A., the pleasing subject of this sketch; William, who is a resident of Paris, Missouri; Lillie, the wife of Roy Haskins, of Shelbina; Nettie, the wife of Louis Noble, also a resident of Paris, Missouri; and Ida, the wife of David Montgomery, of Shelbina. The mother of these children is still living. In politics the father is a Republican, and in religious affiliation a member of the Christian church.

George A. Wright obtained a limited education in the country schools of Shelby county, and after leaving school

at an early age worked on farms in the neighborhood of his home, and also at railroading until 1885. He was thrifty and economical, and by the year last mentioned felt himself able to engage in a permanent occupation, and therefore bought a farm near Shelbina. He prospered on this, and in 1896 bought another farm of eighty acres, on which he has been actively and profitably engaged in farming and raising live stock from that time to the present. In 1909 he purchased ninety acres adjoining. As his prosperity has increased he has purchased additional land, and now owns 260 acres, all of which he has under advanced and productive cultivation.

Mr. Wright has his farm well improved with good buildings and fully equipped with all the necessary appliances for its tillage according to the most approved modern methods, and he studies his business in all its features with a view to securing the best results for all his outlay of toil and care in connection with it. He is regarded as one of the enterprising and progressive farmers and stock men of his township, and the appearance of his farm indicates that he deserves the reputation he enjoys.

On November 22, 1887, he was united in marriage with Miss Amanda L. Peters, who was born in Scotland county, Missouri, on May 8, 1859, and is a daughter of William and Matilda (Rice) Peters. Seven children have been born of the union, five of whom are living, and are at home with their parents. They are: Artie Francis, Benjamin Alexander, William P., Porter Clifford and

Gladys Loree. In politics the father is a Republican.

#### JOHN H. MOORE.

Born April 24, 1848, in Bethel township, this county, and having passed all his subsequent years within the county, John H. Moore, of that township, where he carries on an extensive business as a farmer and stock man, has witnessed the progress and development of the region and has done his part to aid in promoting them. In his boyhood the locality of his present residence was but little removed from its wild state, or at the most was still but sparsely peopled and its settlement was in a primitive state. But he, when he grew to manhood, and many others like him, gave attention to the needs of the locality and under their quickening labors it has grown to greatness, wealth and power, with every element of its civilization intense with activity and enterprise.

Mr. Moore is a son of Elisha and Admonia (Brown) Moore, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter born in the same state, but brought to Missouri by her parents at a tender age. The father came to Ralls county, Missouri, in about 1829, but settled in this county in 1836, and passed the remainder of his days here actively and profitably engaged in farming and raising live stock. He was first married in 1830 to Miss Amanda Gentry, a native of Ralls county, in this state. They had three children. Their mother died in 1843, and the father afterward contracted his marriage with Miss Admonia Brown. Five