

Alexander Elson, postmaster of Unionville, Putnam Co., Mo., was born in Clark County, Mo., July 1, 1839, and is a son of Richard T., who was born in Kentucky, near Louisville, and in 1837 married there to Zenobia Dinwiddie, also a native of the same State. In 1837 they moved to Marion County, Ind., and two years later to Clark County, Mo., landing in Alexandria in March, 1839. They are now both residents of Putnam County, living near Unionville. The paternal great-grandfather of our subject came from England, and located in Kentucky, where Alexander's grandfather, Cornelius, was born. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and participated in Perry's victory. He died in Wayne County, Iowa. Mr. Elson is the eldest child of the six sons and four daughters born to his parents. Four sons were raised to maturity and are still living. Alexander Elson, when about twelve years old, was taken by his parents to Lee County, Iowa, and about six years later to Wayne County, Iowa, where he was married in 1861 to Martha Toliver, a native of McLean County, Ill. He engaged in farming in Wayne County until April 1, 1866, and then moved to Unionville, where he embarked in the dry goods trade, under the firm name of Elson & Elson, an uncle being the other member of the firm. He continued in the mercantile business for twelve years, and then engaged in the lumber business until June, 1886, when he sold out to the Baldwin Lumber Company, of Keokuk, Iowa. Since that time he has devoted his time to farming and fulfilling the duties of the post-office, to which position he was commissioned August 25, 1885. He now owns a farm of 160 acres in Union Township. He has had two sons and four daughters, but two of the daughters are now deceased. He is a member of the A. O. U. W.

Birt Fahren, of the firm of Carroll & Fahren, merchants of Unionville, Mo., was born in Vandalia, Ill., where he was reared and educated. He spent five years as a traveling salesman, and in August, 1886, located in Unionville, and became a member of the above named firm. His father, Fred Fahren, was born in Germany, and immigrated to America, where he was married in St. Louis, Mo., to Amelia Wall, a native of Philadelphia, and also of German descent. Birt Fahren lost his father in early childhood. He had two brothers, one of whom died in infancy, and the other, Fred, is now in the banking business at Vandalia, Ill., and is captain of the Illinois National Guards. The father was engaged in the banking business during the active years of his life, and his death occurred in San Francisco. Mrs. Fahren died in Mason, Ill. Mr. Birt Fahren is an enterprising and prosperous business man of Unionville, and by integrity and fair

dealing the firm of which he is a member has established a good and constantly increasing business.

James H. Forbes was born in Lee County, Va., January 4, 1841, and is a son of the Rev. David and Martha (Richardson) Forbes, natives of North Carolina, and Carter County, Tenn., respectively. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Forbes lived in Carter County about eight years, and then lived six years in Lee County, Va., after which they returned to Carter County. In 1851 they removed to Davis County, Iowa, and in 1853 located in Putnam County, Mo., where the father died in September, 1878. He was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church until 1861, when he united with the United Brethren Church, and continued to preach until his death. James H. came to Missouri with his father, and received a good education during his youth. In July, 1861, he enlisted in Company D, Eighteenth Missouri Infantry, as musician. After serving in that regiment three years and four months he was discharged in November, 1864, at Chattanooga, Tenn. He accompanied Sherman to Atlanta, and carried a musket about one year. He was present at the engagement at Shiloh, the second battle at Corinth, Resaca, Dallas, and in the rear of Atlanta, July 22, 1864, and several other fights and skirmishes. He received a shot across the top of his head, but did not leave the ranks. After his discharge he returned home, and was married in Schuyler County, in July, 1865, to Nancy E. Wright, daughter of Zachariah Wright. After his marriage Mr. Forbes located upon his present place, which now consists of 280 acres of land, 200 well improved, and upon which he has erected good buildings. He has three orchards of select fruit trees; and in connection with his farming has a blacksmith shop upon his farm, as he is a blacksmith by trade, and has worked at same ever since the war. He has a family of eight children: Martha J. (wife of Zeph. Eahart), Alice (wife of Samuel Neighbors), James E., Minnie, Isabelle, Ida, Nora and Robert. Mr. Forbes is a member of the G. A. R. Post at Glenwood, and in politics is a Republican. He is a public-spirited citizen, and has served two terms in succession as justice of the peace, and also as township clerk and assessor two terms.

John N. Franklin, farmer and stock raiser, was born in Highland County, Ohio, April 21, 1829. His father, Maj. Anthony Franklin, was born in Amherst County, Va., July 17, 1778, and settled in Highland County, Ohio, in 1795. He was married in Kentucky to Mary Nelson, also a native of Virginia. He was a prominent citizen of Highland County, owning a large tract of land, and during his residence in Highland County of over sixty years served as sheriff and deputy surveyor. During the war

he was major of the militia of the county. He died in Brush Creek Township, April 21, 1859. Of a family of ten children born to him, all grew to maturity, although but three are now living: Martha E. (wife of James P. Kreech, who lives upon the old homestead), Nelson A. Franklin, who represented his county in the Legislature several years, and was also a State senator, and our subject. One brother, Cyrus, was also a member of the Legislature. John N. Franklin passed his youth and reached maturity upon the home farm in Highland County, during which time he received a good common-school education. March 25, 1852, he married Sarah Elizabeth, daughter of James Lucas, of Highland County. Mrs. Franklin was born and reared in Brook County, Va., and is the mother of six children: Caius C. (married, and in Cheyenne, Neb.), Mark A. (also married and in Nebraska), Nelson A. (attorney at Kirksville), Benjamin and Thomas S., who are teachers, and one son who died in infancy. In 1855 Mr. Franklin left his native county, and located in Putnam County, Mo., buying 160 acres of Chariton River bottom land, where he has since resided. He has since added to his present purchase, and now owns over 800 acres of good land, half bottom land, most of his land being fenced, and a large portion devoted to meadows and pastures. He is a model farmer, a good business man, and a respected citizen. In politics he is Independent, and in creed a Methodist. Mrs. Franklin belongs to the Presbyterian Church.

John Fullen, farmer and stock raiser, is a native of England, and was born in Lancashire, February 25, 1837. His father, John Fullen, and his mother, Ann (Taylor) Fullen, were born in Ireland and England, respectively. The family emigrated to the United States in 1842, proceeding directly to Massachusetts, where the father followed his trade of block printer for several years, as he was a calico and delaine printer by trade. He moved to California from New York in 1853, where he still resides. Our subject was reared and educated in Massachusetts and New York. In 1855 he went to California, via the Isthmus and San Francisco, and remained at that place engaged in mining until 1859. He then returned via Aspinwall, the Isthmus and New York, and after traveling some time in Massachusetts, Wisconsin, and down the Mississippi River, located, in the fall of 1859, in Putnam County, Mo. In January, 1860, he moved upon his present place, first purchasing 280 acres of land, which he has improved, and to which he has added until he now owns 597 acres, 470 fenced and consisting of meadow, plow and pasture land, upon which are built comfortable outbuildings, etc. Mr. Fullen was married in Putnam County, Mo., in March, 1882,

to Mrs. Elizabeth Morgan, a native of Virginia, who was reared in Ohio. Six children were born to her first union. Mr. Fullen served in the State Militia during the late war. He has been a resident of Putnam County since first locating here, with the exception of the time taken in a trip to California in the spring of 1881. He is a successful farmer, a popular citizen and honored gentlemen.

Dr. E. J. Geisinger, of Unionville, vice-president of the Marshall National Bank, is one of the most popular and successful practicing physicians in Northeast Missouri, and was born in Medina County, Ohio, October 19, 1849. He is a son of John and Lydia (Overholt) Geisinger, residents of Putnam County, and born in Canada and Pennsylvania, respectively. They were married in Ohio, and our subject is the eighth child of the four sons and five daughters born to this union. Four of the daughters are living, but all the sons save E. J. are deceased. The latter, at the age of five, accompanied his parents to Louisa County, Iowa, where he resided until 1868, and then came with his parents to Putnam County, Mo. He is a graduate of the Keokuk College of Physicians and Surgeons, and a post-graduate of the St. Louis (Mo.) Medical College. He began the practice of his profession at Newtown, Putnam County, in 1874, and remained there five years, then locating at Unionville, where he has since enjoyed a successful and lucrative practice. He also embarked in the drug business the year he located in Unionville, but abandoned it in April, 1887, being succeeded by W. C. Knight & Co. He was at one time a prominent member of the Grand River Medical Society, and is at present examining surgeon for pensions and numerous insurance companies, and has held the position of city health officer, a position he resigned. He owns a farm near Unionville, and takes great pride in fine stock, especially blooded horses, and the county is indebted to him for the introduction of some of the best stock in North Missouri. Among the horses owned by the Doctor, that are widely known, are the following: Ovid, foaled May 15, 1883 (No. 4015); sire—Caporel, by Sentinel, by Hambletonian; dam—Mary, by Woodford, Mambrino, etc. This horse shows more standard ancestors than any horse of his age. Sea Foam, with a 2:25 $\frac{3}{4}$ pacing record, has also a fine pedigree, as has also Black Diamond, a Kentucky saddle stallion of the Denmark family. December 29, 1883, he married Annie Stanley, a native of Mercer County, Mo., by whom Virgil N. and Joe Stanley have been born. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and Encampment.

William T. Greene is a son of P. B. Greene who has been a resident of Putnam County since 1865. P. B. Greene is the son

of William Greene, who was born in 1802. William Greene married Miss Sophia Denton, and lived in Clark County, Ind., afterward, for twenty-nine years, during which time he became the father of eighteen children, fifteen by Miss Sophia Denton, one by his second wife, Miss Ellen Hoover, and two by his third wife, Mrs. Priscilla Lamasters, to whom he was married in 1843. The fifteen children by his first wife were as follows: Edward T., Lawrien, Philip B., Clement, William, Alexander, Mary, Jessie C. and Sarah (twins), Daniel and Indiana (twins), Harriet, Martha, Thomas and Christian; the one by his second wife was named Ellen, and the two by his third wife were Lucretia and Jeremiah H. William Greene was killed by a rail falling on his head while he was asleep. P. B. Greene was born in Clark County, Ind., October 20, 1825. At the age of eighteen he went to Jeffersonville, Ind., where he served six months as an apprentice with Joshua Fipps, an ax and hatchet maker, after which he served six months with a country blacksmith named John Connor. At the age of twenty-one he was married to Miss Nancy J. Arnold, December 4, 1847. She was born in Ohio County, Ky., January 26, 1827. To them were born eleven children: Priscilla, William T., John, Nancy A., George W., Martha, Indiana, James, Mary, Hannah and Lucinda. Mr. Greene followed blacksmithing as a trade from the age of eighteen to the age of fifty, since which time he has followed farming. The Greene family had a reunion on the fortieth anniversary of P. B. Greene and wife. The number present was thirty-six married sons and daughters with their wives, husbands and children. William T. Greene, the subject of this sketch, made the presentation speech on this occasion, the presents from children to parents consisting of an elegant silver service worth about \$60. He had also collected considerable material for a history of Putnam County, but finally came to the conclusion that to complete the enterprise would be unprofitable, and so abandoned the undertaking. Mr. Greene was married July 20, 1879, to Miss Sarah Jane Davis, daughter of Ceburn J. Davis, who has resided in Putnam County since 1858. Mrs. Greene was born June 18, 1858. To them have been born two children, Stanley Greene, born June 14, 1880, and Ovid Greene, born July 31, 1885, and died August 25, 1886.

John W. Haigler, farmer and stock raiser of Section 12, Jackson Township, was born in Randolph County, W. Va., February 27, 1821, and is a son of Jacob and Christina (Harper) Haigler, natives of Pendleton County, W. Va. Mr. Jacob Haigler served as a teamster in the War of 1812, and farming and stock raising were his occupations until his death, April 1, 1842. J. W. grew to maturity upon the farm in his native county, and

was there married, in the spring of 1848, to Judith Wamsley, a native of Randolph County, W. Va. To this marriage two children were born, one, who died in infancy, and Cletus, now in Kansas. Mrs. Haigler died in 1851, and after her death Mr. Haigler farmed in Randolph County until the spring of 1855, when he went to Iowa and located in Henry County, where he had previously entered land. Here he married his present wife, October 1, 1857, Miss Sarah Johnston, of Harrison County, Ohio, daughter of Hugh Johnston. The ceremony was performed by Hon. Henry Clay Dean. Mrs. Haigler was born in Steubenville, Ohio, and reared in Harrison County. In 1859 he moved to Randolph County, Mo., two miles from the present site of Moberly, where he farmed until 1863. He then purchased some land where he now resides, which he proceeded to cultivate, and to which he has since added. He now has 680 acres of land in the home place in one tract, 500 devoted to meadow and plow land, and 200 acres of pasture land in Medicine Township. Six children have been born to his last marriage: Elihu (married), Stewart, Alice (wife of William J. Halley) and Henry. Two children have died, viz: Elizabeth C., who died during childhood, in Randolph County, Mo.; Virginia, who died when a child. Mr. Haigler is a Democrat, and has served his township as treasurer and trustee. He is a self-made man, and highly respected in the community.

Dinwiddie Halley (deceased) was a prominent farmer and stock raiser of Lincoln Township, Putnam County, and was born in Clark County, Ky., in 1824. His parents, Henry and Polly (Patton) Halley, were pioneer settlers of Clark County, Ky. The father was a native of England, and, upon coming to the United States, first located in Kentucky. The subject of this sketch left his native county, and moved to Macon County, Mo., but, about 1842, removed to Sullivan County, and in 1865 came to Putnam County, where he lived until his death, which occurred March 22, 1875. He began life for himself in but ordinary circumstances, but by energy, industry, good business management and economy, amassed a comfortable competency, and owned, at the time of his death, about 2,100 acres of land, the home place containing over 700 acres, upon which he lived, and was also the possessor of other tracts elsewhere in the county, and a valuable tract near Kirksville, Adair County. He was a liberal father, and started his children in life with generous gifts of land, etc. September 19, 1844, he married Miss Elizabeth Triplett, a native of Pike County, Mo., and daughter of James C. and Nancy (Lydick) Triplett, natives of Fauquier County, Va., and Kentucky, respectively. Both, however, were reared in Bourbon

County, Ky., near Paris, but subsequently lived near Bowling Green, Ky. Mr. Triplett was a prominent citizen of Putnam County, and represented the same in the Legislature, besides filling various other political offices of honor and trust in different localities where he resided. To Mr. and Mrs. Halley eleven children were born: Nancy J. (deceased), Mary (deceased), James D., John A., George W. (deceased), Sarah E., William, J., Alonzo, Thomas, Adolphus (deceased) and Laura. Mr. Halley was a Democrat in politics, and, during the late war, served in the Missouri State Militia. He was a highly respected man and popular citizen in the community in which he lived and efficiently filled several official positions. In the year 1850 Mr. Halley went overland to California to dig for gold, and was successful to some extent. In the year 1863 he took another overland trip to Oregon, with a drove of horses and mules. Each trip occupied two years, his family remaining at home. His returns were from San Francisco to the Isthmus of Panama, thence to New York, and then home.

John Hamlin, farmer and stock raiser, was born July 26, 1834, in Stark County, Ohio. He was the third of thirteen children born to Benjamin and Susanna (Snyder) Hamlin, natives of Virginia and Pennsylvania, respectively. The father was a successful farmer, which vocation he followed until his death, in the spring of 1858. His widow is living in Marshall County, Ind., aged eighty. John Hamlin moved to Marshall County, Ind., in the fall of 1855, and in the spring of 1857 came to Putnam County, where he has since resided. His youth was spent upon a farm, and at the age of twenty-two he began life for himself, and although he was poor at that time, has by energy and industry become a successful farmer and citizen. He owns a finely improved farm of 486 acres, which is well-stocked and equipped for farming. October 12, 1856 he married Miss Drusilla Ann, daughter of David and Nancy (Wood) Jordan, natives of Virginia. To this union were born fourteen children, viz.: one who died in infancy, David Benjamin (deceased), Nancy Susan (now Mrs. Elijah Porter), Elma Henrietta (now Mrs. James Harbert), Florence Cordelia (wife of George D. Smith), Jessie Lillian (deceased), Emerson Ellsworth, Weenty Almeda (deceased), Lloyd Upton, John DeLeon (deceased), Willard Clark, Mildred Ardella, Leola Althea and Annis Estelle Pearl. Mrs. Hamlin is a worthy and consistent member of the Missionary Baptist Church. Mr. Hamlin is a Republican in politics. March 4, 1862, he enlisted in Company I, Third Missouri Cavalry, but was transferred in a year to the Seventh Missouri Cavalry, being made corporal of his company. He was mustered out in St.

Louis the day of President Lincoln's assassination. He is a well-to-do citizen, respected and esteemed by those who know him.

Hon. James B. Harper was born in Champaign County, Ohio, August 16, 1833, and is a son of Samuel Harper, a native of Virginia. The father came to Champaign County, Ohio, with his parents, when an infant, and there grew to manhood, and married Charlotte Sargent, also a native of Virginia, and reared in that State. Samuel Harper was a prominent member of the Presbyterian Church, in which he officiated as deacon several years. Both he and his wife died in 1876. The subject of this sketch lived upon his father's farm until twenty-two years of age, receiving a good education at the common schools of the neighborhood, which was supplemented at the Urbana High School. While living in Ohio he taught school about fifteen months, and, after coming to Missouri, taught from 1856 to 1864, nine terms in St. John. In the winter of 1879 he again taught in St. John, and also in 1876-78 taught in his own district. After coming to Missouri from Ohio, in 1856, he resided in St. John, Putnam County, until 1868. In August, 1862, he enlisted in the Thirty-third Missouri Volunteer Infantry, under Col. Clinton B. Fiske, serving until his discharge for disability in 1863, when he returned home. He was commissioned major of the Forty-fifth Regiment Enrolled Militia, and afterward colonel of the Thirty-ninth Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia in 1864, and did some effective service for his State in the Enrolled Militia. While a resident of St. John, in connection with teaching he also engaged in carpentering. He moved upon his present home place in 1868, which consists of 400 acres of valuable prairie land, all fenced and mostly meadow land. He has a good house and outbuildings and thirty-five acres of timber land in another tract. He is an active Republican, and, ever since he cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860, has canvassed during every campaign for his party. He was nominated and elected representative of his county in 1864, and re-elected in 1866 and 1868. In 1872 he was nominated again and elected, his opponent being Hon. H. D. Marshall, of Unionville, the representative of 1870, the contest being very close and exciting. In 1880 he was again nominated and elected, and in all has served his county in the Legislature five terms with honor and distinction. In 1886 he was nominated judge at large, and elected by a nice majority. In May, 1859, he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah C. J. Caul, daughter of Thomas Caul, an old pioneer of Putnam County. Mrs. Harper is a native of Virginia, but spent most of her youth in Putnam County, Mo. She is the mother of four daughters: Charlotte S. (wife of J. H. Gunn), Mary E. (young lady at home),

Sarah E. (deceased September 17, 1885, aged twenty years and three months) and Effie A. (twelve years old). The Judge, his wife and one daughter are members of the Presbyterian Church. Judge Harper is a member of the G. A. R., Mansfield Post, No. 181, at Wyreka, Putnam County, Mo.

John S. Hart was born in Armstrong County, Penn., October 8, 1824; and is a son of Jacob and Dorothea (Dice) Hart, natives of Pennsylvania, where the father was born January 8, 1796. He was a farmer, and resided in Armstrong County until the latter part of his life, when he removed to Westmoreland County, where he died February 13, 1872. Of four sons and five daughters who were reared to maturity but four outlived the parents. J. S. was the eldest child, and grew to manhood in Armstrong County. He is a self educated man, most of his knowledge being acquired after he became of age. He taught school thirteen months in Armstrong and Allegheny Counties, and in October, 1849, went to Davis County, Iowa, where he entered and improved some land. He also taught school there several terms, and was married, August 14, 1853, to Miss Martha Jane Williams, daughter of T. S. and Rebecca (Hale) Williams, natives of North Carolina and Tennessee, respectively. Mr. Hart moved to Missouri in April, 1856, and bought some land, slightly improved, in Putnam County upon his present place. He engaged in teaching for about nine terms during the fall and winter seasons, and carried on farming the remainder of the year. He now owns a nice farm of 289 acres, 140 being fenced and cultivated, and lives in a large two-story house. The stabling is good, and he has a nice orchard of about 400 select varieties of fruit trees. He enlisted February 3, 1862, in Company D, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, and served until discharged March 17, 1865. He was present at the fight in Marshall, Saline County, and at Castle Rock, and was in numerous skirmishes with Price on the Blue River. He was raised from the position of second sergeant to that of first sergeant, and is now adjutant of the G. A. R. post at Hartford. He is a Republican in politics, and has been connected with the school board for twenty-five years, and was elected public administrator in November, 1882, which office he is now filling. Mr. and Mrs. Hart have reared a family of five sons and four daughters, all of whom are living: Orlando O. (married and in Lawrence County, Dak.), Millard B. (married and a county teacher in Putnam County), Clara R. (wife of Frederick A. Pooles, of Los Angeles, Cal.), Julia, Sarah M. (wife of Levi Johnson of Rollins County, Kas.), Ulysses S., Emma E. (county teacher), Horace L., and Erastus W., who lives in Nebraska.

Judge B. Frank Hart, a farmer and stock raiser of Section 36,

Liberty Township, was born in Greene County, Penn., October 25, 1846, and is a son of John N. and Frances (Vance) Hart, natives of Pennsylvania and Kentucky, respectively, who were married in Pennsylvania. The father moved to Iowa in the spring of 1855, where he bought land, and improved a farm in Henry County, where he died in 1859. The mother died in August, 1856. The Judge is the only son of a family of three children that grew to maturity, and is a self-educated man, who attained his information after becoming of age. In the spring of 1864 he enlisted in the Forty-fifth Iowa Infantry, and served with his regiment near Memphis, Tenn., almost all the time until the latter part of 1864 when he was discharged. He then attended school at Howe's Academy, Mount Pleasant, and in the spring of 1866 went to Council Bluffs, where he engaged in farming and stock raising two years. His education was obtained principally through his own efforts between the ages of sixteen and twenty. In the spring of 1868 he returned to Mount Pleasant, Iowa, and in October of the following year came to Putnam County, Mo., where he bought a half interest in a saw-mill on Coon Creek and for one winter engaged in the manufacture of lumber. He sold out in March, 1870, and broke prairie land in Fremont County, Iowa, for one season. He returned to Putnam County in the fall of that year, and December 27, 1870, was married to Miss Arthelia, daughter of David Frederick, a native of Germany. The Judge then located where he now resides. In the spring of 1871 he again went to Fremont County, and broke prairie until June, when he returned home. He bought the farm in 1872, and has since added more land until he now owns 180 acres, about 100 being well cultivated and improved. He has a family of four children: David N., Charles H., Pearl Vance and Rollin F. Mr. Hart is identified with the Republican party and was elected assessor of his township in 1873, serving two terms, and then served as township collector one term. In the spring of 1876 he was again elected assessor, and made one more assessment, after which he was appointed deputy county assessor and assessed two years. He was afterward elected county assessor. He took the census of Grant and Liberty Townships in 1880. He was then still again elected township clerk and assessor, and filled that position with fidelity until 1884, at which time he resigned, and was elected county judge, serving two years in that capacity. He is an honored citizen of his township, and one of its well-to-do citizens. Both himself and wife are identified with the United Brethren Church.

David M. Hatfield was born in Elm Township, Putnam Co., Mo., in 1842, and is the youngest son of five children of Andrew and Mary (Miller) Hatfield, natives of Kentucky and