

T. B. Strauss, Gibson City, examination by State Board, January 12, 1878; regular.

J. M. Waters, Gibson City, graduated from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, March 7, 1868; regular.

S. M. Wylie, Paxton, graduated from Chicago Medical College, March 5, 1878; regular.

John Wilson, Elliott, graduated from Rush Medical College, Chicago, February 21, 1882; regular.

T. R. Wiley, Gibson City, graduated from Rush Medical College, February 14, 1874; regular.

W. H. Watson, Cabery, graduated from Rush Medical College, February 16, 1875; regular.

The following physicians are now practicing in Ford county:

Paxton: Drs. S. M. Wylie, S. A. Lundgren, S. S. Fuller, E. L. Kelso, H. A. Kelso, R. J. Atwood, E. E. Hester, I. D. Kelschimer and James Mahan; Dr. Hartford, osteopath.

Roberts: Dr. B. J. Zahn.

Melvin: H. N. Boshell

Elliott: Dr. G. W. Rudolphi.

Clarence: J. B. Brown.

Sibley: Drs. A. A. Absher, Otto Finkensher.

FORD COUNTY BAR.

WRITTEN IN 1884.

Ex-County Judge David Patton was the pioneer lawyer of Ford county, having located at Ten Mile Grove, about three miles southwest of Paxton, in the latter part of October, 1853, while Ford was yet a part of Vermilion county. He was born in Clark county, Kentucky, in 1806, and emigrated to Butler county, Ohio, with his parents in 1810. At the age of eighteen he began the study of law in the office of Oliver H. Smith at Connersville, Indiana, and while so engaged in his studies, taught district school in the winter season to earn money to pay his current expenses. In October, 1828, he was admitted to the bar, and soon afterward began the active practice of his profession at La Fayette, Indiana, where, by his natural tact and close attention to business, he secured and held for ten years a large and lucrative practice. Frank,

upright and generous in disposition, he was held in high esteem by the people, and regarded as a leading lawyer by his professional brethren. His unguarded liberality, however, ultimately proved a snare to him financially. His earnings for the ten years were soon swept away in the payment of debts for his friends, and he was compelled to start anew in life. With this object in view, he turned his face and steps westward, and located on a choice tract of four hundred acres of land at the Grove above referred to. Population in his new home was too sparse to afford much profitable law business, and hence he turned his attention to farming and stock-raising, but his reputation as a lawyer soon came to the ears of his new neighbors and friends, and he was frequently called to maintain or defend their rights before the local magistrates. This he did with his former zeal and success. Not a few of the regulars in the profession could truthfully say they were completely surprised and often out-generaled in these contests by this unassuming Hoosier farmer. To his efforts, the passage of the act of the legislature creating the county of Ford, and its subsequent organization, was largely due. At a special election, held in June, 1859, he was elected judge of the county court by a large majority over his opponent Gideon Camp. William Swinford, of Trickel's Grove, and Andrew J. Bartlett, of the Pan Handle, were chosen his associate justices. At the general elections in 1860, 1864 and 1868, the people called him to serve them in the same responsible office. Before the close of his fourth official term, the growing weight of years and his extensive real-estate interests in Illinois and other western states, convinced him that the remainder of his days should be devoted to private affairs, after having served the public so long and faithfully. The monetary panic of 1875, in connection with his losses as surety for some of his friends, again stripped him of nearly all his earthly possessions. But notwithstanding his misfortune in this particular, he had the higher and better consolation of having justly merited the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens by an active and useful life in their midst for more than thirty years. Those who knew him can cheerfully bear witness that the pioneer lawyer of Ford county in his younger years was a good lawyer, a quaint and entertaining speaker, and at all times a kind and indulgent parent, a friend of the poor and needy, an enterprising, public-spirited citizen, and above all, a steadfast lover of justice and humanity.

In February, 1860, J. B. BURROWS, a native of the Empire state, and a graduate of one of the leading colleges and law schools of the state of Pennsylvania, located in Paxton as a lawyer. Being a man of pleasing address, an uncommonly graceful and eloquent speaker, possessing a liberal education, able to write and

speak fluently in the French and German languages as well as in the mother tongue, he soon became known as a popular public speaker. His law practice grew rapidly from the start, and in a few months after his arrival he was employed in several important suits in Ford and adjoining counties. On the 4th day of July, 1860, he delivered to a large and attentive audience, on the grounds where the public high school building now stands in Paxton, the first oration ever made on Independence day in this city, and I doubt if its power and eloquence have ever been surpassed on a similar occasion in the county since then. Soon after this, he was employed by the order of Good Templars as state lecturer for the state of Illinois, which position he held until the spring of 1861. From the spring of 1855 until the autumn of 1858, he was editor in chief of an independent newspaper published in the city of New Orleans, one side of which was printed in the French language, and the other in the English, and in the presidential campaign of 1860, supported Bell and Everett for president and vice president. In that campaign Mr. Burrows made a number of political speeches at prominent points in the south in their behalf. In the meantime, he had become well acquainted with the political ideas and revolutionary designs entertained by her political leaders and the unanimity with which the masses of her people would support any attempt they might make to dissolve the Union, and hence when the roar of her hostile guns resounded over the north at the bombardment of Sumter, he at once insisted that a tremendous struggle for national existence was upon us. Soon after this, at the first meeting of the citizens of Paxton and vicinity to raise volunteers held in the schoolhouse, he made an eloquent appeal to his audience to forget past party affiliations, to "sink the partisan in the patriot" and rally as one man to the support of the national flag. In 1861 or 1862 he removed to Bloomington, Illinois, where he assisted in enlisting volunteers in that locality, and where he died in 1863.

In the summer of 1860, KENNEDY PRICE, a native of Hagerstown, Maryland, removed from Palo, Illinois, to Paxton, where he entered into copartnership with Henry Barnhouse, an old resident of the latter place, and at the time a justice of the peace, under the firm name of Price & Barnhouse, attorneys at law. Mr. Price was a descendant of one of the leading families of his native state.

He was well educated in his profession, liberal, jovial and courteous among his friends, and in that sense a true southern gentleman. In his address to the jury, he was of the fervent, fiery order, to the court he was deliberate and concise. His residence in Paxton was short. A firm believer in Calhoun doctrine of state rights, he naturally drifted into supporting the southern confed-

eracy, and in the fall of 1861 bade adieu to Paxton, and returned to his native place to take charge of the large property interests of his aged widowed mother, where, I am informed, he became a captain of the Confederate army in 1862.

DANIEL S. MORSE, a native of New Hampshire, and James A. Briggs, a native of Rochester, New York, having heard in their eastern homes that Prospect City, Ford county, Illinois, would soon prove a paradise for young lawyers, formed a copartnership under the firm name of Morse & Briggs, lawyers, and came to that noted city of the "grand prairie" in the summer of 1860, and tendered their services to whomsoever it might concern. Their anticipated rich harvest, however, yielded rather meager returns, and hence their stay was brief. In the latter part of the year 1861 Mr. Morse went to Chicago, and Mr. Briggs to Eureka, Woodford county, Illinois, where he resumed the practice of his profession in partnership with Judge Meek of that place.

During the years 1859-60, there strode into Prospect City at odd times an ungainly, verdant looking country lad, measuring fully six feet four and one-half inches in height, with broad, angular frame, having a large head thickly covered with short-cut, black bushy hair, rather small black eyes, high cheek bones, square, prominent chin, wide mouth and swarthy complexion, and unusual size, and whose abrupt manners and speech attracted the attention of nearly every one. Such is an imperfect description of the personal appearance of MARTIN V. ROSS, one of the prominent lawyers of the Paxton bar in bygone days. He was born near Greencastle, Indiana, and emigrated to east central Illinois about 1855, where he was mainly engaged as a farm laborer and school teacher until his admission to the bar in 1862. After which, for some time, he was assistant editor of the Ford County Journal, one of the first newspapers published in the county. David Crondall, of Champaign City, being editor. In 1864 he associated with himself as a partner in law, E. C. Gray, under the firm name of Ross & Gray, which continued until the fall of 1865, when Mr. Ross located at Fort Scott, Kansas, and where he successfully conducted an extensive law business, mostly in criminal cases, before the district and supreme courts of that state, for about two years. He was twice elected a member of the lower house of the Kansas legislature, and served with much distinction. At the close of his last term, he was elected judge of the district court, composed of Bourbon and adjoining counties, which position he held at the time of his death, which occurred in 1870, on the Pacific slope, whither he had gone for his health. In the management of his cases in court, he manifested great tenacity and no little adroitness. Before the jury he urged his clients' cause with much earnestness and vigor, in a kind of "rough and ready" style peculiar

to himself. Before the court he was deliberate, fearless and self-assured, generally argumentative, though at times quite illogical. In politics he was a zealous, radical republican, and during the late war labored for the cause of the union effectively. His educational requirements were small, yet by nature he was endowed with physical and mental capacities broad and strong.

EDWARD C. GRAY, the oldest settled lawyer, was born and raised in the vicinity of Cleveland, Ohio. His earlier years were spent on the farm and as a railroader in his native state. When the southern rebellion broke out, he shouldered his musket and moved to the front to take a hand in the preservation of the Union. After having served his country faithfully in that memorable struggle until 1864, he received an honorable discharge, and located in Paxton as a partner of Martin V. Ross, in the law practice under the firm name of Ross & Gray. The firm continued until the former went to Fort Scott, Kansas, in 1865. Mr. Gray then became the resident partner of the firm of Smith & Gray. This partnership was dissolved when Mr. Smith was elected circuit judge of the seventeenth circuit in 1873. The firm enjoyed an extensive and successful law business in Ford and adjoining counties, as well as in the higher courts of this state. Mr. Gray, soon after Judge Smith's election, associated with himself as a partner, Captain Z. S. Swan, of Champaign, Illinois, under the firm name of Gray & Swan, and so continued until the death of the latter at Champaign in 1882. He was at the December term, 1883, of the circuit court, appointed by Hon. O. T. Rems, presiding judge, as an associate counsel, with Hon. Thomas T. Tipton of Bloomington, Illinois, to defend James Ryan, who was under indictment for the murder of Abram Thorpe, in Paxton, on the 30th day of September, 1883. His judgment of the law and practice was comprehensive and accurate, and in the trial of a cause his opponent need not expect a victory, without confronting every point of merit involved in the case.

JOHN POLLOCK was born in Harrison county, Ohio, in 1817, where he was reared on the farm, and received his education in the common and select schools of his neighborhood. In 1835 he removed with his parents to Logan county, Ohio; here he worked on the farm in the summer season, and taught district school and pursued his preparatory study of the law in the winter season. Soon after his admission to the bar by the supreme court of Ohio in 1851, he began the practice of his profession at Bellfontaine. Some years later, he, in company with two others, conducted for two years a private bank in that city. Mr. Pollock acting as attorney and cashier. When the firm dissolved, the business was carried on for two years longer on his own account. Having now been elected prosecuting attorney for his county, he gave up the banking business to

attend to the duties of his office. In 1865, in company with his son, J. E. Pollock, he opened a law office in Winchester, Virginia, where they enjoyed an extensive practice until the fall of 1866, when the father made a business trip to Illinois, intending to return to Winchester, but in the meantime the legislature of Virginia had enacted such liberal exemption and stay laws as to render collection of debts tedious and in some cases impossible. This induced him to take up his residence and open an office in Paxton. In 1872 he was elected a member of the lower house of the legislature of this state in the district composed of the counties of Livingston and Ford, and as such discharged the several duties there imposed upon him with that conscientious faithfulness that ever characterized his action, whether in public or private life. Among other valuable services rendered his constituency, especially the people of Ford county, he procured the passage of the law placing McLean and Ford counties in one judicial circuit. In 1872, he formed a law partnership with Alfred Sample (which was dissolved by mutual consent in 1877) and for one year thereafter, the firm of Pollock & McLean was one of the leading law firms in this county. But his professional career drew rapidly to a close, his overtaxed nervous system could endure the strain no longer, and its prostration ensued to such an extent that he was compelled to relinquish his law business entirely and retire to private life. In his practice, he was a careful, painstaking lawyer, always aiming to secure all legal rights of his client in every emergency, while his naturally sympathetic disposition impelled him to extra effort in behalf of the poor or unfortunate who entrusted their cases to his management.

ALFRED SAMPLE was born in Butler county, Ohio, November 27, 1846. He came to Illinois in 1857, lived and labored on the farm until he was sixteen years of age when he enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Infantry, and fought resolutely for his country until May, 1864. He received severe wounds in both arms and breast in the battle at Resaca, Georgia, and on account of which he was discharged in December, 1864. In January, 1865, he entered Eureka College, where, and at Monmouth College, he pursued a course for four years with a view of the study of law. Afterward taught school for a short time. He read law with Colonel R. G. Ingersoll at Peoria, Illinois, and was admitted to the bar in December, 1870; came immediately to Paxton and formed a partnership with M. H. Cloud, under the firm name of Cloud & Sample, which lasted until the fall of 1872, when the firm of Pollock & Sample was formed, and was dissolved in 1877. In 1872, he was elected states attorney for this county, and was reelected to the same office in 1876, by a large majority. In 1880 he was chosen elector on the republican ticket,

and cast his vote in the electoral college for James A. Garfield for president, and Chester A. Arthur for vice president. From the beginning he was a remarkably successful lawyer, and was employed in several of the most important suits ever tried in the county, among which may be mentioned his employment by the railroad and warehouse commissioners to prosecute the Wabash Company for making unjust discriminations in their rates for carriage of freight between Peoria, Illinois, and New York, and between Gilman and New York. By nature adapted to the profession of the law, possessing tact, energy, industry and invincible determination, he allowed no cessation of hostilities until he was completely victorious or utterly vanquished. He for years served on the circuit bench.

MILTON H. CLOUD was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, July 24, 1842, came to Illinois in 1850, and settled on a farm in Tazewell county, where he lived until he was twenty years old, when he enlisted in the Eighty-sixth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served his country valiantly for three years as color-bearer. At the battle of Kenesaw Mountain he received two severe wounds. After the close of his military service he entered Eureka College for a time, then read law at Pekin, Illinois, and during the winter of 1866 was a student at the Chicago Law School, after which he completed his preparatory study of the law at Metamora, Illinois, in the office of R. T. Cassell & Son. He was admitted to practice in 1867, and commenced practice at El Paso, Illinois; came to Paxton in January, 1869, and soon acquired a fair practice. In 1871, the partnership of Cloud & Sample was begun and continued until 1872. Mr. Cloud was also states attorney for the county during the partnership. For the year 1875 he was city attorney for the city of Paxton. In 1876, he became a member of the loan and real-estate firm of Hanley, Sutton, Cloud & Day. Mr. Cloud in the examination of titles, is probably as proficient as any attorney in this part of the state. In 1882, he was appointed master in chancery for the county by O. T. Reeves, circuit judge. In 1886 he was elected county judge of Ford county.

JOHN R. KINNEAR was born July 26, 1843, at West Point, Tippecanoe county, Indiana. He removed with his parents to Kingston, Ross county, Ohio, in 1844, and thence to Bloomington, Illinois, in the fall of 1849, and again to Walnut Grove, Woodford county, Illinois, in the spring of 1850; young Kinnear was reared on the farm. He attended Eureka College at Galesburg, Illinois and remained there until August, 1862, when he enlisted in Company A, Eighty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, August 22, 1862. His regiment was mustered into the service August 27, at Peoria, Illinois, and on September 7,

was ordered to Louisville, Kentucky, and immediately began active service. The regiment, belonging to the Army of the Cumberland, has an excellent record for fighting qualities, having been engaged in twenty-two pitched battles, besides numerous skirmishes. Mr. Kinnear was constantly with his regiment, except one month of sickness at Nashville, and kept a daily record of its operations. After having faithfully served his country for four years, lacking two months and twenty-two days, he was mustered out with his regiment at Washington, District of Columbia, June 6, 1865. On his return to his home he was solicited by his comrades to prepare a history of the regiment from his notes, which he did in 1866. How well he performed his work is best shown by the fact that more than two thousand volumes were published and sold at one dollar and fifty cents per volume. Soon after he reached home he began the study of the law in the office of Judge Charles H. Chitty, at Metamora, Illinois. After reading two years in the office, he attended the Chicago Law School, during the winter of 1867-68, and located in Paxton in March of the latter year. Here he formed a partnership with Hon. C. H. Frew, which was dissolved July 20, 1871; he served as city attorney for the city of Paxton during the years 1869-70-71, and as master in chancery for Ford county four years, from August 28, 1873. In January, 1881, he formed a law partnership with John H. Moffett, which lasted until his removal from Paxton. During his residence in Paxton he successfully conducted a large and lucrative practice, and was engaged in many of the most important suits tried in this county. Among them he was of counsel for General Hendrix, indicted for murder in McLean county, who was acquitted. He was married to Rebecca Means, of Bloomington, Illinois, June 2, 1868, and by whom he had two children, Ritchey and Zeta.

HON. CALVIN H. FREW is the son of Robert and Anna S. Frew, and a native of Cleveland, Ohio. He was raised on a farm, and devoted much of his time to reading, when not engaged in farm or other labor. When seventeen years old, he began teaching school, paying a share of his wages to his father, and using the remainder to pay his own expenses at the high school, and at Beaver Academy in Pennsylvania, and later, at the Vermilion Institute in Ohio. In 1862 he became the principal of the high school at Kalida, Ohio, and occupied a similar position in the high school at Young America, Illinois, in 1863-64. In this way he paid indebtedness incurred in obtaining his education, and at the same time pursued his preparatory study of law. In the spring of 1865 he settled in Paxton, and there pursued his study in the law until the following December, when he was admitted to the bar by the supreme court of Illinois. In 1868, less than three years after his admission to the bar, he was elected to

the general assembly from Ford and Iroquois counties. During his first term as a member of that body, he became distinguished on account of his, then supposed, unconstitutional and radical views touching the power of the state to regulate the charges of the railway companies for the carriage of passengers and freight. On January 19, 1869, he introduced and supported by an able argument the following resolution: "Resolved that all privileges, powers or prerogatives acquired by railroad companies of the state government are subordinate to the general welfare of the people or community where constructed, and that the right of the state to exercise a reasonable control over such companies is one of which no power can divest the people." The doctrine embodied in this resolution has since become the settled law of the land, having been declared such by the supreme court of Illinois, as well as by the supreme court of the United States. In 1870, he was reelected by a large majority from the counties of Ford and Kankakee. During this term also, he took an active part in securing amendments to and the passage of some of the most beneficial statutes of the state now in force. In 1878 he was elected a third time to the legislature, this time representing the counties of Ford and Livingston; one of the most important laws passed by the legislature at this session was that requiring the foreclosure of trust deeds and mortgages in court instead of by advertisement, the passage of which Mr. Frew urged with his usual zeal and force. In public life Mr. Frew has always been diligent in business, fervent in spirit, serving his constituency with that earnestness and fearlessness characteristic of men of bold, independent mind.

F. L. COOK was a native of New York. Besides having a good common-school education, he attended Eureka College in Woodford county and Knox College at Galesburg, Illinois, for more than five years. His father having enlisted in the Union army, his son had to quit college to oversee his business affairs, that of grain buyer and railway agent at Kappa, Woodford county, Illinois. This he did from 1862 to 1866. In the fall of the latter year he went to the national capital as an employe of the state, to collect soldiers' claims, where he was engaged for three years. He then acted as private secretary for Senator Cullum, then a member of the lower house of congress from Illinois, afterward as clerk of the two house committee on territories and foreign affairs during the years 1869, 1870, 1871, as well as having charge of the payment of United States marshals in the census office. In June, 1871, he graduated from the Columbia Law School, D. C., but had been admitted to practice in Illinois, and located at Paxton as a lawyer soon thereafter. The city council appointed him its attorney to fill the unexpired term of J. C. Patton, deceased, and in 1877, he was appointed master

in chancery for this county by Judge O. T. Reeves. At the general election in 1880 he was elected states attorney for Ford county.

CHARLES H. YEOMANS, one of the first settled and most successful attorneys in Gibson City, was born in Delaware county, New York, December 2, 1846, and came to Illinois in 1850. In July, 1871, he graduated from Ripon College, Wisconsin, and received the degree of A. B., and in 1879 the degree of A. M. from the same institution. While pursuing his classical course at Ripon, he also read law under the supervision of Hon. Jesse Dobbs, at Ripon, and during vacations in the office of Hon. C. H. Wood, at Onarga, Illinois. In October, 1870, he was admitted to the Wisconsin bar, and to the Illinois bar in 1872 at Ottawa, Illinois, having located at Gibson the preceding July. By close attention to his professional business and untiring fidelity to his clients' interests, he secured a full share of law business, as well as the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens. He held the office of city attorney for his adopted city, and was a member of the board of education. He was public spirited and enterprising, taking an active part in whatever movements were inaugurated for the social or commercial advancement of the young and flourishing city of his adoption so fortunately located in the fertile valley of the Sangamon river.

J. RHEESE PATRICK, fourth son of Mr. A. C. and Mrs. C. H. Patrick was born March 4, 1858, at Rural Valley, in Armstrong county, Pennsylvania. During his boyhood days, until he was fifteen years old, he attended the common schools of his neighborhood in winter time and worked at the carpenter's trade during his vacations. Subsequently he took the full classical course of study at the Glade Run Academy, located at Dayton, Pennsylvania, and in the spring of 1879 completed the post-graduate course in that institution, which entitled him to enter the sophomore class in college. In the fall of 1879 he engaged to teach the public school at Pellsville, Vermilion county, Illinois, as principal, which position he occupied for three successive years, and in the meantime began and completed his preparatory study of the law under the supervision of Messrs. Kinnear & Moffett, attorneys in Paxton. In May, 1882, he was admitted to the bar by the appellate court at Springfield, Illinois. For six months thereafter he studied and worked in his profession in the office of Hon. Calvin H. Frew, of Paxton. He then opened an office and practiced on his own account. At the spring election of 1883, he had the honor to be elected to the office of city attorney for the city of Paxton, after a close contest, Milton H. Cloud, an older and more experienced lawyer, being his opponent.

DR. LOCKHART BROOKS FARRAR was born at Langdon, Cheshire county, New Hampshire, August 29, 1822. The death of his father occurred when the sub-

ject of this sketch was about four years old. His mother then removed with her family to Walpole, New Hampshire, where his boyhood and early manhood years were passed. After attending the common schools and different academies in his native state, he taught school for some years in various towns in New Hampshire and Vermont. He began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. George Smith, of Walpole, and completed his preliminary course in his profession with the late Dr. Hubbard Groves, of Nashua, New Hampshire. His first course of lectures was given at Woodstock, Vermont, but he received his diploma from the Berkshire Medical College, of Massachusetts, commencing in 1848. He practiced his profession for three years at Hollis, New Hampshire, then moved to Manchester, Massachusetts. The winter of 1854-55 he spent at the Jefferson Medical College, at Philadelphia, and at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York city, and in the hospitals of those cities. In the spring of 1856 he came to Illinois, and to Paxton in the fall of 1858. In 1868 he began the study of law, and in 1871 took the law diploma from the Michigan University and was admitted to the Illinois bar the same year. He opened a law office at Paxton and practiced that profession for about four years and then returned to the practice of medicine.

S. P. McLEAN was born May 9, 1852, in Hancock county, Virginia. He resided in Carrollton, Ohio, half a dozen years, and then removed to Vermont, Illinois, in 1860. He was taught the harnessmaker's trade by his father, and thereby earned the money to give him a good college education.

He read law with Gest & Pooks, of Rock Island, Illinois, was licensed to practice on examination by the supreme court of Illinois, at Ottawa, in September, 1877, and in the fall of the same year came to Paxton and formed a law partnership with Hon. John Pollock, under the firm name of Pollock & McLean. A year later, Pollock retired from the practice of the profession, and McLean continued the business. At the spring election in 1879, he was elected city attorney for the city of Paxton, which position he held, in addition to a good general practice, until May, 1880, when he resigned as city attorney, boxed his law library and entered journalism, beginning as reporter on the Bloomington (Ill.) Daily Mail. As a newspaper man he was a "Bohemian," having been engaged in reportorial and editorial work on the Sedalia (Mo.) Bazoo, the Great Southwest of St. Louis, the Decatur Herald, Bloomington Mail, Lincoln Times and other sheets, and was editor of the Kankakee Times, and where his friends jokingly said he was put under bonds to stay at least a year as a condition precedent to his employment. He was quite spicy and versatile as a writer, and held the usual adjustable political notions of newspaper reporters. On July 13, 1881, he was united in

marriage with Miss Nealy Bruyn, eldest daughter of W. H. Bruyn, of Paxton, Illinois.

S. P. RADY, attorney at law, at Gibson, Illinois, was born in Floyd county, Indiana, in 1853. Until he was fifteen years old he worked on his father's farm in the summer season and attended the district school of his neighborhood during the winter. At the age of fifteen he became an assistant teacher in the high school in Galena, under his brother, William Rady. For the next nine years he taught school a part of the time and attended school the remainder of the time. While so engaged he went to Hartsville University, Indiana, and the National Normal School at Lebanon, Ohio, and graduated there in the scientific course in 1877. For three years thereafter he was principal of the high school at Lonesider, Kentucky. Some time afterward, he accepted the principalship of the Gibson city public school, which he held for one year.

JAMES HENRY LOTT was born May 7, 1855, at Charleston, in the state of South Carolina. His father was of mixed blood, being equally Indian and African, and was a free man and a carpenter by trade. His mother was a quadroon and a slave, and by descent a granddaughter of Governor Pickens, of that state. Henry went to Boston in 1865, as valet to Colonel Nutt, of the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Colored Volunteers, and in the fall of the same year came to Tuscola, Illinois, where he attended the public schools until 1873, and in the meantime learned the barber's trade. In 1878 he went to Terre Haute, Indiana, where he read law in the office of Doris & Doris, for eighteen months, and in 1881 came to Paxton, Illinois, and resumed his law studies in October of the latter year, under the supervision of A. Sample. On the 23d day of November, 1863, he was admitted to the bar, after a rigid examination by a committee of three eminent lawyers, appointed by the appellate court of the third district, then in session at the state capital, to examine applicants for admission. His knowledge of his chosen profession in thoroughness and extent was undoubtedly equal to if not above the average of beginners. He certainly deserved much credit for the determination he has shown to succeed, for it must be remembered that during most of the time he had been engaged in preparation for the law practice, he earned a livelihood for himself and family at the barber's chair, and only acquired his knowledge of law and other subjects while others slept.

JOHN H. MOFFETT, who in 1884 was one of the youngest and most successful members of our bar, was born in Clayton, Adams county, Illinois, February 25, 1857. In 1859 he emigrated with his parents to Bloomington, Indiana, and in the spring of 1865 to Paxton, Illinois. Here he graduated from the

public school, standing at the head of his classes, in 1875. Desiring more extended education, he repaired to Monmouth College in the fall of the same year and there studiously applied himself until the spring of 1877, when he began his investigations of the intricacies of the law in the office of John R. Kinnear, then one of the leading lawyers of the Ford county bar, and in January, 1880, was admitted to practice. He immediately formed a partnership with his preceptor under the firm name of Kinnear & Moffett, which lasted until May, 1883, when Mr. Kinnear took his departure for Seattle, Washington. After that, he conducted as resident partner the law business of the firm of Tipton & Moffett. During the years 1881-82, he held the office of city attorney for the city of Paxton.

THE PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE FORD COUNTY BAR are: Milton H. Cloud, and F. M. Thompson, composing the firm of Cloud & Thompson; A. McElroy; C. H. Frew; H. H. Kerr (now county judge) and Frank Lindley, composing the firm of Kerr & Lindley; M. L. McQuiston and G. Frederick, McQuiston & Frederick, C. E. Beach; R. A. McCracken; Samuel Ludlow and A. L. Phillips, Phillips & Ludlow; C. S. Schneider and R. L. Schneider, Schneider & Schneider; O. H. Wylie; Harry Duffield, (city attorney) Paxton; H. P. Beach, M. H. Scott, Piper City; L. A. Cranston, (states attorney) Gibson City.

THE FORD CIRCUIT COURT.

The legislature of the state of Illinois in the act organizing Ford county placed it in the eighth judicial circuit, and provided that the judge of said circuit should hold a term of court, on the organization of the county, at a place to be designated by the county court.

At this date, 1859, the counties of Logan, McLean, DeWitt, Champaign and Vermilion comprised the eighth district.

February 4, 1861, an act was passed, organizing the twenty-seventh judicial circuit, in which were placed the counties of Vermilion, Champaign, Douglas and Ford. Our county remained in this circuit until 1867, when on January 29, by an act of the legislature, the counties of Moultrie, Shelby, Macon, Piatt, Fayette, Champaign and Ford were united in the seventeenth circuit.

In April, 1872, the legislature again changed the circuit, placing us in the twentieth, with the counties of Kankakee, Iroquois and Livingston.

Under act of the legislature approved and in force March 28, 1873, the state was again divided into circuits, McLean and Ford constituting the four-

teenth. By act June 2, 1877, in force July 1, 1877, the state, exclusive of Cook county, was divided into thirteen circuits. The counties of McLean, Ford, Kankakee, Iroquois and Livingston forming the eleventh.

The arrangement of counties under this act, together with the additional judge elected under its provisions, made the number of judges in each of said circuits three.

The following judges have held circuit courts in Ford county: Hons. David Davis, Charles Emerson, O. L. Davis, James Steel, A. J. Gallagher, Charles H. Wood, Thomas F. Tipton, J. W. Cochran, O. T. Reeves, N. J. Pillsbury, Franklin Blades, Alfred Sample, Charles R. Starr, Colestin D. Myers, George W. Patton, John H. Moffett and Thomas M. Harris.

The first term of the Ford county circuit court was held at the City Hotel in Paxton, November 18, 1859.

The Hon. David Davis, of Bloomington, was the presiding judge; Samuel L. Day, clerk; Howard Case, sheriff; and Ward H. Lamon, states attorney. The first grand jurors were James P. Button, Matthew Elliott, Milton Strayer, Obadiah Campbell, Sidney Morgan, Solomon Burt, John B. Buell, Leander Britt, Lindsey Corbley, John Brown, Leander Butts, John P. Day, Richard Bryan, John Dopps, Sr., William Bryan, Robert Eggleston, Peter Van Antwerp, Robert N. Scovill and William Newlin.

Petit Jurors—Charles Cloyes, Benjamin Ferris, Patrick Torpey, Isaac Hall, John R. Lewis, Henry Atwood, L. W. Henckle, John Swinford, Dennis Happer, Francis Meharry, John Richardson, Charles Wall, Milton Wineland, Seth T. Simons, Archibald McKinney, Jacob Titus, William Reed, Harmon Strayer, Jacob Tanner, Jacob Henry, Frederick T. Putt, William Pollock, Paul W. Cooley and A. E. Scovill.

The court was in session four days.

John R. Lewis, Esq., member of the petit jury, in his "History of the Pan Handle," speaks of this term of court as follows:

"The charge to the grand jury was made by the judge himself, who also administered the oaths. In his charge, the judge urged them to do their whole duty as men and jurors, and as they were just starting in a new county to be careful and see that all depredations committed in their neighborhood were presented to the jury and returned to the court. The judge said, 'rid your neighborhood of all petty thieves and lawbreakers, and return them to this court.'

"There were not many cases on the common law docket. A few chancery cases came up and were argued before the court.

"We, the jury find the defendant guilty, and fix the term of his imprisonment in the penitentiary at thirty-three years."

Great local interest was shown in the trial, and when the arguments of counsel were made the courtroom was filled to its utmost capacity.

COUNTY OFFICIALS.

COUNTY JUDGE.

David Patton, from June 1859 to December, 1873; Hugh P. Beach, 1873-86; Milton H. Cloud, 1886-90; Alex McElroy, 1890-1904; H. H. Kerr, 1904-1908.

COUNTY CLERK.

Nathan Simons, 1859, until his death, August 29, 1865; John I. Simons, August 31, 1865, to December, 1865; James S. Frederick, 1865-73; Merton Dunlap, 1873-1892; William B. Flora, 1892-1908.

COUNTY TREASURER.

Daniel C. Stoner, June, 1859, to November, 1859; John P. Day, November, 1859-65; James P. Button, 1865, to March 22, 1866; John P. Day, March, 1866-69; Leonard Pierpont, 1869-73; James D. Kilgore, 1873, to September, 1874; John B. Shaw, September, 1874-86; Nils Dahlgren, 1886-1890; Oscar V. Hohugram, 1890-1892; N. W. Peterson, 1892-1896; T. J. Sower, 1896-1900; Tim Ross, 1900-1904; Thomas Crowe, 1904-1908.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT.

Samuel L. Day, 1859-64; James F. Hall, 1864-68; Levi A. Dodd, 1868-72; Weaver White, 1872-76; Augustus M. Daggett, 1876-80; Weaver White, 1880-84; John F. G. Helmer, 1884-1888; Oscar H. Wylie, 1892-1896; Thomas D. Thompson, 1896-1908.

STATES ATTORNEY.

Previous to 1872 the district of the states attorney was coextensive with that of the circuit judge but by an act passed in 1872 each county elected a states

JUDGES OF CIRCUIT COURT FOR ELEVENTH CIRCUIT, FROM 1877 TO 1908.

Owen T. Reeves, Bloomington; Nathaniel J. Pillsbury, Pontiac; Franklin Blades, Watseka; Alfred Sample, Paxton; Thomas F. Tipton, Bloomington; Charles R. Starr, Kankakee; Colestin D. Myers, Bloomington; George W. Patton, Pontiac; John H. Moffett, Paxton; Thomas M. Harris, Lincoln.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

By the act of January 31, 1861, the representation was fixed at twenty-five senators and eighty-five representatives. Ford county was placed in the ninth senatorial district and the forty-second representative district. This being the first appointment since the organization of Ford, the county was represented for the two preceding years in the senate by Thomas A. Marshall, of Coles, and in the house of representatives for the same time by Samuel G. Craig, of Vermilion. The ninth senatorial district included the counties of Coles, Douglas, Champaign, Ford, Iroquois, Vermilion. Colonel Charles Bogardus represented Ford county in the senate, from 1888 to 1899.

Ford county was represented in the lower house by Charles Bogardus, from 1884 to 1888; John A. Montelius, 1901 to 1903; A. L. Phillips, 1905 to 1907.

THE FIRST COURTHOUSE.

When the new county of Ford was organized, a great and pressing want was a suitable place for holding court, rooms for county officers and a jail. There had been considerable discussion as to the proper site for the county buildings, and some propositions were presented to the county court in regard thereto. However, on the 16th day of January, 1860, the question was definitely settled by an order entered in the county court providing for the location of the courthouse and jail on the site where the present one now stands.

In June of the same year, an agreement was entered into for the erection of the courthouse; the county judge and associate justices representing the county, and James F. Hall being the contractor.

The original cost as provided in the contract was fixed at eleven thousand dollars but the plans being afterward somewhat changed and enlarged permission was granted by a vote of the people, April, 1861, to add four thousand dollars to the first amount. In December, 1861, an additional contract was made

with Mr. Hall, and the total price increased to sixteen thousand dollars, the additional cost being for excavation of the basement, grading the yard and construction of outbuildings.

On February 13, 1862, the building was accepted by the board of supervisors, and a county order issued to Mr. Hall for two thousand eight hundred and ninety dollars. The records are not very clear as to this sum, the writer being under the impression that this was the balance still unpaid on the sixteen thousand dollars, until assured by parties conversant with the facts that this last payment was for additional improvements not named in the contracts. This would bring the total cost of the courthouse, as it then stood, up to eighteen thousand eight hundred and ninety dollars. The explanation for these additions to the original contract price is made "that the original plan was found unsatisfactory, and that it was thought best to make the change at that time rather than after the work was completed under the first contract." Nothing appears to the contrary but that the supervisors and others representing the county acted wisely in this regard. Bonds were issued for sixteen thousand dollars, bearing interest at the rate of ten per cent per annum.

The courthouse as first built, contained on the first or ground floor offices for the county clerk, circuit clerk, and sheriff, rooms for the jailer and family and cells for the prisoners. The second floor contained court and jury rooms.

After completion of the jail, the cells in the courthouse were removed, and in their stead the circuit clerk's office was fitted up. The county clerk occupied the room formerly used by the jailer. In March, 1875, a contract was entered into with William Daniels for building fire-proof vaults at the west end of the courthouse, and other improvements, including the fitting up of the clerk's offices as already mentioned. The total cost of the same was two thousand nine hundred and sixty-nine dollars and eighty cents. The courthouse was of ample size to meet the wants of our county for many years.

SHERIFF'S RESIDENCE AND JAIL.

At a session of the board of supervisors, May, 1871, a committee, consisting of Supervisors C. E. Henderson, William Noel and James H. Flagg, was appointed, with instructions "to examine into the matter of building a new jail or to repair the old one so as to be capable of holding prisoners, and for that purpose they are hereby authorized to go abroad and examine such jails as in their judgment will be suitable."

At the meeting of the board in June, the committee reported, as the result of their labors, a plan for a county jail. The board accepted the report and decided in favor of erecting a sheriff's residence and a jail. The plan presented by the committee was followed.

The board again met in July of the same year, and appropriated twenty thousand dollars for the erection of the buildings named and directed the county clerk to issue county orders from time to time as directed by the building committee, but not to exceed the sum of fifteen thousand dollars. The orders were to bear interest at ten per cent per annum.

Six-tenths of the county tax collected each year was set apart to meet the payment of these county orders. Messrs. Henderson, Noel and Flagg were placed in charge of the work on behalf of the county.

In September, 1871, the board made an additional appropriation of twelve thousand dollars, "for the completion of the sheriff's residence and jail, said orders to bear interest at ten per cent per annum, six thousand dollars to be paid in five years, and six thousand dollars in ten years." The total cost of these buildings, not including discounts on county orders, was something more than twenty-eight thousand dollars. This is ascertained by the orders issued and estimating discounts on the same, there being no funds in the county treasury at the time.

THE NEW COURTHOUSE.

The old courthouse was a scene of many interesting things in the history of the county. Many men, who afterward became distinguished citizens of the nation, took part in the varied litigation conducted in its courtrooms. Among these may be mentioned, Ex-Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court David Davis, now dead; Hon. J. G. Cannon, speaker of the national house of representatives; and in the early days states attorney of the district then including Ford county.

In December, 1905, a decision was reached by the board of supervisors to remodel the old courthouse. At the following January meeting the sum to be expended for the work was fixed at fifty-five thousand dollars. The plans for the practically new structure were awarded to Joseph W. Royer, of Urbana, Illinois, and he was employed as architect. John Iehl, H. A. McClure and J. P. Glass were named as the first building committee.

The new building is located on the site of the old courthouse at Paxton, and is a two-story and basement building, ninety-four by eighty feet in

extreme dimensions. It is constructed in a most substantial manner, according to the latest and most approved methods used in modern fire-proof buildings, the materials used being concrete, stone, terra cotta and steel. The building is designed in the renaissance style of architecture, all molding, pilasters, cornices, etc., having classic outlines. The beautiful structure is surmounted by a low copper-covered dome. The base, entrance-ways, quoins on corners and architraves around windows are of buff Bedford stone. The cornice and cartouches are of terra cotta, while the balustrade around the roof is of brick and stone. All exterior portions of the building, where stone and terra cotta are not used, are laid up in very dark, vitrified brick, thus giving a great contrast. The roof is made of tile laid in concrete, which, in turn, is supported by steel trusses and beams. The height of the main corridor from the ground is forty feet, and the height of dome, at base of flag-staff, is seventy-two feet.

The interior of the building is finished throughout in best manner, all floors and walls being fire-proof. All corridors and public spaces in offices have tile floors and marble wainscoating. The stairs are of iron and steel, with marble treads and landings. The woodwork throughout is of white oak, with furniture and fixtures to match. The interior is decorated in oil colors, very artistically executed, and presents a very pleasing effect to the eye, as well as being extremely durable.

The basement is occupied by storage vaults, boiler room, fuel room, work room, Grand Army room and coroner's room, and is aided by a stair leading from main corridor on first floor.

The first floor is occupied by the principal officers of the county. As you enter the building at the center of the front, you find at the right, the county clerk's, county treasurer's and the county judge's rooms. On the left, are the offices of the circuit clerk, the sheriff and the board of supervisors. All principal offices are provided with ample vault room and private offices.

The stairs leading from the first to the second floor, are directly in line with the main entrance, and form one of the main features of the building.

On the second floor are the offices of the county superintendent of schools and the states attorney; also the circuit courtroom, jury room, lawyers room, law library, judge's private office and toilet rooms for men and women, as well as the ladies waiting room.

While the Ford county courthouse is not as large as those of some other counties, a careful inspection of the building will convince one that, owing to the convenient arrangement and equipment, the accommodations of the build-

ing are equal to those of many larger and more costly structures. The building is fully equipped with electric lights and fixtures, and is also piped throughout for gas.

The new courthouse building, in which the people take the greatest pride, was dedicated with appropriate exercises, June 11, 1908. The building was occupied early in the fall of 1907.

The following were the dedicatory services:

NEW FORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PAXTON, ILLINOIS.

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, A. D. 1908

MASTER OF CEREMONIES—JUDGE M. H. CLOUD.

MASTER OF PARADES AND PROCESSIONS—MAYOR C. E. BEACH.

CHIEF MARSHAL—E. A. GARDNER.

AIDES—AUGUST KOEHNE, A. DILLON, JOHN WALDRON AND D. M. BRENEISA.

TEN O'CLOCK A. M.

Music	Paxton Band
Invocation	Rev. G. E. Hemdahl
Music	Double Male Quartet
Address of Welcome on Behalf of Ford County	J. P. Glass
Address of Welcome on Behalf of City of Paxton..	Mayor C. E. Beach
Response to Addresses of Welcome	J. P. Smith
Music	Double Male Quartet
Address	H. A. McClure
Address	Judge C. D. Myers

DINNER.

ONE THIRTY O'CLOCK P. M.

Civic Parade, Led by Fourth Regiment Uniform Rank Knights of Pythias, under Command of Colonel John Bertoni.

Music	Paxton Band
Vocal Selection	Chorus of School Children
Presentation of Keys of New Courthouse by John Iehl, introduced by J. W. Gilkerson, Chairman of Building Committee.	
Response and Acceptance of Keys by George Stockdale, Chairman of Board of Supervisors.	

HISTORY
OF
FORD COUNTY ILLINOIS

FROM ITS EARLIEST SETTLEMENT TO 1908

BY E. A. GARDNER

ILLUSTRATED WITH PORTRAITS AND VIEWS

With Biographical Sketches of some
Prominent Citizens of the County.

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