

PART V

BIOGRAPHICAL

“Biography is the only true history.”

Emerson.

“Biography is infinitely more valuable than the
dumb statue or monument.”

Carlyle.

SKAGIT COUNTY
BIOGRAPHY

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

SKAGIT COUNTY

IRA E. SHRAUGER, mayor of Mount Vernon, and senior member of the law firm of Shrauger & Barker, was born in Parkville, Michigan, in 1858, the son of Francis J. and Anna (Umstead) Shrauger. The father was a descendant of the Pennsylvania Dutch stock. He was a pioneer in the state of Michigan, to which he came with his parents in the early thirties. He followed railroad-ing for years, as conductor on the Rock Island system, and during the war he carried the wounded soldiers into Rock Island on what might be designated an ambulance special. He also at one time was a hardware merchant, and a prominent member of the Grand Army. He died in 1888, at the age of fifty-five. The mother, born in Pennsylvania in 1838, is now living at Exira, Iowa. Having spent the first twelve years of his life in his native city, Mr. Shrauger came with his parents to Audubon county, where after a short time they took up their permanent residence at Exira, at which place he received his education, graduating from the Academy, and at the early age of fifteen teaching his first term of school. In the succeeding fourteen terms which he taught he employed all his leisure time in the study of law, and in 1888 was admitted to the bar in Nebraska, to which state he had moved seven years previous. For five years he was editor of *The Enterprise*, the leading paper of Humboldt, Nebraska, and city clerk for the entire time of his residence there except when serving as city attorney. In 1890 he came West, first locating in Bellingham, where he practiced law for eighteen months, and later in Hamilton, where he opened a bank in connection with his law practice. Elected county attorney in 1896, he came to Mount Vernon, since which time he has made that place his home and has been connected with every public enterprise, believing this to be the best town in the country and one whose financial basis is especially worthy of praise. Nominated a second time for the office of attorney, he barely missed being elected by sixty-five votes, while other candidates on the same ticket, the Fusion, were defeated by several hundred votes. At the expiration of his term of office he formed a co-partnership with Mr. E. P. Barker, and together they have built up a splendid business. In 1902 he was appointed mayor, and elected to the same office in 1904.

Mr. Shrauger was married in Skagit county in 1892, to Mayme Finne, who was born in Chicago, but came with her parents to California where she grew to womanhood. Mr. and Mrs. Shrauger have three children: Donald L., Clyde F. and Maynard F. Few members of his party, the Democratic, have rendered it more valuable service than has Mr. Shrauger, who is chairman of the county central committee, and who has represented the party in both county and state conventions, in which his personal popularity and wide practical knowledge of men and affairs rendered him a prominent figure. The legal profession, of which he is such an able member, has honored him by electing him president of the bar association. As treasurer of the county fair association, he is in close touch with the farming interests of the county and state. The Commercial club and the Knights of Pythias are pleased to claim him as an active member. The characteristics so clearly manifested in the boy-teacher,—ambition and industry,—joined to the highest integrity, growing and developing with the passing years, have insured for the man of to-day the exalted position which he holds in town, county and state.

DAVID H. MOSS, president of the First National Bank of Mount Vernon, and the Bank of Burlington, was born in Paris, Missouri, January 5, 1876, of distinguished parents. His father, David H. Moss, a native of Columbia, Missouri, born in 1827, came of Virginia and Kentucky ancestors, who were pioneers in Missouri, where they came in 1819, and were among the first settlers in Saint Joseph, which at the time of their advent was only an Indian trading point. The elder Moss was for many years a prominent factor in political circles in his state, where he filled the offices of circuit judge and attorney for many terms, and made his influence felt in the councils of his party. A number of years since, however, he decided to retire from the onerous duties of public life, and seek the more peaceful comforts of his home and fireside, holding alone the position of president of the Paris (Missouri) National bank, one of the solid financial institutions of that state. The mother, Melville (Hollingsworth) Moss, was born near Hannibal,

Missouri, and was reared in St. Louis. Her parents were natives of Virginia, but immigrated to Missouri in the early part of the last century, when the pioneer instinct would no longer admit of their continuing in what to them were the densely populated regions of their native state. They here experienced fully the strenuous life of the pioneer, and reared their family under these conditions into stalwart manhood and useful womanhood. How happily changed are the conditions under which this worthy matron now lives, surrounded with affluence and social advantages, and, still better, enjoying the approving consciousness of a life well spent. The youngest in a family of eight, the subject of this writing grew to manhood in an atmosphere of culture and refinement. Encouraging the fondness for study which he early manifested, his parents sent him at the early age of fourteen to the Military Academy at Booneville, Missouri, which was at that time one of the best educational institutions in the state. He later spent three years at Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri, finishing there at the age of twenty, at which time he entered the law department of the Northwestern University, and was graduated therefrom in 1899. Returning to his home in Paris he was admitted to the bar, and began the practice of law, at the same time being associated with his father in the bank. In the spring of 1902 he came West to Billings, Montana, having accepted the position of assistant cashier of the First National bank, at that place, of which his brother, P. B. Moss, is the president. In March, 1903, he purchased a controlling interest in the First National Bank of Mount Vernon, in which institution he holds the honored position of president, and is likewise president of the Bank of Burlington, which he has established more recently. Capitalized at twenty-five thousand dollars, with loans amounting to one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars, and deposits of three hundred thousand dollars, the Mount Vernon bank is recognized as one of the strongest financial institutions in Skagit county.

On April 5, 1905, the marriage of David H. Moss and Miss Annabelle Arnold, daughter of R. R. and Ophelia (Morris) Arnold, of Mexico, Missouri, was solemnized at Billings, Montana. Mrs. Moss comes from one of the distinguished pioneer families of Missouri, her father, who is cashier of the First National Bank of Mexico, is a man of prominence in financial and political circles, and widely known throughout the state. Second from the last of a family of seven children, Mrs. Moss has been reared under the very best home and social influences, with ample educational opportunities and is qualified to fill with dignity and grace the requirements of home or social life. She is a member of the Christian Church, of which her husband is also a communicant. In fraternal circles Mr. Moss is associated with the Elks and the Masons. With his demonstrated business ability, the high position of

trust which he is holding and the full confidence and respect of his acquaintances, few young men at the age of Mr. Moss have brighter prospects for a life of influence and usefulness.

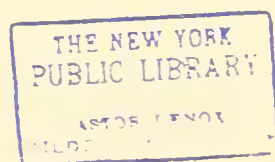
PATRICK HALLORAN. Among the men who have achieved success in Skagit county and in so doing have contributed not a little toward the general progress, is certainly to be numbered the worthy and influential pioneer whose name forms the title of this article. Born in the province of New Brunswick, Canada, in 1846, he grew up there under pioneer conditions, and naturally his chief preparation for life's battle was the formation of habits of industry and self-reliance which comes with a sustained effort to clear up and win a livelihood from a heavily timbered farm. He did, however, receive such educational discipline as was to be had in the schools of the parish in which he was born, and in the larger school of life in which he has since taken an advanced course, being graduated with honors. A degree of success in the industrial world has been his such as many a man with larger opportunities might envy.

Mr. Halloran's father, John Halloran, was a native of county Limerick, Ireland, whence he came to New Brunswick in 1825. For a number of years he was one of the active and forceful men in the early industrial development of that province, but in 1868 he moved to Alpena, Michigan, where he passed away some four years later. Before coming to America he had served four years in the British army. The mother of our subject, Ellen (Dawson) Halloran, who was also a native of Ireland; and who became a resident of New Brunswick while yet in early childhood, died in Alpena, Michigan, in 1896.

At the age of twenty the Mr. Halloran of this article left his New Brunswick home to seek the favor of Fortune in the American republic, moving first to Detroit, Michigan, whence, after a brief stay, he went to Alpena. There he became interested in the lumber business. Special aptitude and ability in handling men, together with industry and steadfastness of purpose, soon told in his favor and before long he was entrusted with the general management of the work and the direction of a large crew. About 1876 he determined to secure for himself the larger opportunities offered by the still newer West, so struck out for the coast. He spent brief periods of time in Portland and Seattle, and about 1877 became identified with the lumber business of Skagit county, his first place of employment being the vicinity of the site upon which Edison was subsequently built. Taking land three-quarters of a mile from the present town he settled there permanently and gave to that community the benefit of his labor and influence in the direction of progressiveness and industrial and social development. For twenty years he was engaged energetically in farm-



PATRICK HALLORAN



ing, raising oats, hay and cattle. In the fall of 1885 he was nominated by the Republican party for the office of county commissioner, and was duly elected to that position. So acceptably did he perform his official duties that he was called to succeed himself two years later, serving during the four years as chairman of the board. In 1900, he sold his original home, bought a place in Edison and moved into town for the benefit of his wife's health. With characteristic resourcefulness, he engaged in the real estate business when farming was no longer practicable for him, and in 1904 he was summoned by the franchises of his fellow-citizens to the responsible office of county treasurer. He is discharging his duties with an eye single to the public weal, retaining as deputy Ex-treasurer Welts that the benefit of a ripe experience may not be lost to the tax payer. In all his business ventures and activities, Mr. Halloran has been abundantly successful and the reward which Skagit county seldom fails to bestow upon the industrious and sound of judgment are his in good measure. He has many interests throughout the county, but he values his material wealth less highly than the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens which have come as a result of long years of square and honorable dealing. He is very loyal to all the interests of Skagit county, taking a pardonable pride in its past achievements, its present greatness and its promise for the future.

Mr. Halloran was married in Alpena, Michigan, in 1877, the lady being Miss Bridget McGinty, a native of Ireland, who moved to Canada with her brothers when a small girl. The fruit of their union is three children: James and George at home in Edison, and Mary Donnelly, between them, in age, living at Sedro-Woolley. Fraternally, Mr. Halloran is a Chapter Mason, and in politics he is an active and loyal Republican, having served his party in both the capacity of county central committeeman, and member of the state committee.

HON. JOHN O. RUDENE, the well-known representative of Skagit county, residing on his fine farm three miles east of La Conner, was born in southern Sweden, Ostergotland province, August 13, 1850. His parents, Samuel and Johanna (Shanstrom) Jacobson, natives of Sweden, died there in 1862. Mr. Rudene spent the first twenty-three years of his life on his father's farm, acquiring a thorough knowledge of the many details of the work, and meanwhile using to the very best advantage the educational opportunities afforded. Two sisters and a brother had found homes in the United States, and urged him to visit the country and to see for himself the unlimited openings to be found. This he decided to do, and upon the return of his brother to the United States after a visit to his parents in Sweden, he accompanied him, locating in Iowa. Mr. Rudene was employed by his uncle, John Shanstrom, for one year, following

which he worked for others in that locality until May, 1876, when he came to La Conner, Washington. Beaver Flats had no farms at that time, and only the prophetic vision could see the resources hidden beneath the waste of brush, stones and mud. At the end of two years which were spent in diking and farming for Mr. Calhoun and others, he rented his present farm for five years, at the end of which time he purchased the property. Meeting with the success he so richly deserved, he was able in 1881 to buy the Kennedy farm of two hundred acres which was sold at administrator's sale. Leasing other land until he had four hundred acres under cultivation, he devoted his entire time to farming for four years, his principal products being oats and hay, which netted him a sufficient income to meet all his payments on the farm. For several years his brother, August, was in partnership with him, but in 1880 he bought out his interest. Mr. Rudene has three sisters: Mrs. Tina Osberg, who lives on the Swinomish slough; Carrie Edmonds on the Pleasant ridge, and Mrs. May Turner, residing in British Columbia. The brother August, mentioned above, is now in Ballard.

In 1882 Mr. Rudene was united in marriage to Mrs. Bessie J. Cornelius, the daughter of William Wallace, of Scotch descent, who was a prominent pioneer of Oregon. Coming with her first husband, Mr. Cornelius, to Skagit county at an early date, she has the honor of being one of the first white women to brave the dangers of life in what was then almost a wilderness. Still graver dangers threatened when, at the death of her husband, she was left with a family of three little ones, without adequate means of support. In later years she married Mr. Rudene. Mr. Rudene is a trustee in the Methodist church, of which both he and his wife are prominent members. The Odd Fellows fraternity of La Conner claims him as an honored member, he being at the present time past grand, having filled the chair of noble grand for one term. Always an active member of the Republican party, he was elected representative in the fall of 1904, attending the winter session of the legislature, in which his keen, practical knowledge of affairs made him at once a man of influence. He was chairman of the live-stock and dairy committee, before which the widely discussed meat inspector bill came up, a measure that was defeated largely because of his strong opposition. Few men have taken such an active interest in the vast enterprise of diking and draining this section of the Northwest as has Mr. Rudene, who is drainage commissioner for his district, and who now, in connection with other leading citizens, has on foot a movement for the drainage and dredging of the sloughs of that section on a most extensive scale, which when completed will be one of the largest systems in the county. Mr. Rudene is an ardent admirer of fine stock, and his farm boasts some of the best bred Durham cattle and French Norman Percheron horses to be found

in the county. A visit to this well-equipped farm and the well-appointed, hospitable home is evidence sufficient, not only of the thrift and industry, but the taste and refinement of its owners.

J. GUY LOWMAN, one among the progressive and popular educators of the state of Washington, who in his short life of thirty-three years has won a measure of success that would satisfy many a man of threescore and ten, was born near the old battle field of Tippecanoe in the vicinity of LaFayette, Indiana, February 13, 1872. His father, Jacob W. Lowman, of German ancestry, born in West Virginia in 1837, came when a boy of fourteen to the state of Indiana, and thus secured for himself the honor of being one of the pioneers of that state. At the opening of the Civil War, he enlisted, but stricken with fever, was unable to render any active service. Later, still longing to lift his hand in defence of his country's honor, he attempted to re-enlist, but was rejected on account of ill health. In 1893, he settled in Anacortes, where he still resides, ably filling the office of police judge and justice of the peace. He also served one term as mayor of that city. His parents came to the United States in 1873, locating in Rock Creek County, Virginia. The mother, Nancy A. (Shigley) Lowman, is a native of the Buckeye state, born in Jamestown, in 1839, of German parentage, her family being closely related to the famous Captain Mahan, the naval author, whose ancestors settled in the United States before the Revolution. Having received a careful education, she was for a number of years a teacher. She is still living, at Anacortes, the mother of three children. Her son, William A. Lowman, owns and operates the White Crest creamery at Anacortes; Effie L. is the wife of Adam M. Dilling, a prominent contractor in Anacortes. Coming with his parents to Iowa when five years old, Mr. Lowman there remained six years, when they returned to the grandfather's old home near LaFayette, where he was born, his parents having been there on a visit at that time, though their home was then at Canton, Illinois. In this atmosphere of historic associations he grew to manhood, working on the farm and attending the little country school, there laying the foundation for a lifetime of usefulness. He began his career as a teacher in his home county at the age of twenty, removing to Anacortes in 1893, where he served as substitute for a few months, and later taught in country schools, employing all his leisure moments in diligent study. He has thus secured a splendid equipment for his life work, demonstrating the possibility of securing this higher education outside of college walls, given the requisite amount of ambition, energy and perseverance, all of which he possesses in abundant measure. For three years he was principal of the Avon schools, tendering his resignation when, in 1902, he was elected county superintendent on the Republican ticket. Two years later, he was re-elected by a ma-

jority of fifteen hundred votes. Believing that greater advantages, at a minimum cost, may be secured through the consolidation of country schools, Mr. Lowman has been an earnest advocate of the system, which he has secured in one locality, while in others, the thorough agitation of the question promises to bear fruit in the near future. Formerly the wages of teachers in Skagit county were far below that of the surrounding counties; now through his influence they have been raised to as high a scale as is paid in any county of like character in the state, and he is justly proud of the fact. Another progressive idea which he has carried out is the establishment of district association meetings throughout the county, having for their aim the more intimate acquaintance of teachers with their patrons and with each other. Still another example of his untiring zeal may be cited: the extension of school district lines to take in taxable land of non-residents, not hitherto within the district boundaries, to the value of five hundred thousand dollars. He has also secured the adoption of free text book system in a majority of the schools of the county.

Mr. Lowman was married August 29, 1900, to Dixie M. Hawkins, daughter of William and Talitha (Miller) Hawkins. Her father is one of the pioneers of Skagit county, coming here in 1882 and taking up the homestead on which he now resides. A southerner by birth, he was for many years a cattle ranger in Texas. Both parents are still living. Mrs. Lowman is a native of Arkansas. To them has been born one child, Vivien G., on October 8, 1901. Mr. Lowman, as may be inferred, is a prominent Republican. Fraternally, he is a member of the Odd Fellows; in religious belief, a Presbyterian, of which church he is an active member. Though devoting so large a proportion of his time exclusively to educational matters, he has yet, by his wise investments become the owner of a ranch near Avon, on which he is making extensive improvements, and of numerous lots in Anacortes.

THOMAS P. HASTIE, president of the Skagit County Pioneers' Association, belongs to that type of pioneer citizenship to which the Republic owes most and which it most honors. With befitting modesty, yet with persistent aggressiveness and unfaltering courage, these men have grimly led the way across plain, mountain and water, vanquished the hostile aborigines and erected new states in the subdued wilderness. To-day bustling cities and thriving industrial and agricultural communities, peopled by a happy, prosperous population, dot these erstwhile frontiers,—glorious monuments to their heroic founders.

Both the elder Hastie, Thomas, and his son Thomas P., are citizens of the United States by choice, but justly may they be classed as true Americans, as this record will show. Born in Scotland, five years after the dawn of the nineteenth century, the father became a resident of England when a

boy. There he learned the stone cutter's trade, married and lived until 1845. While the family resided in Liverpool, Thomas P. was born, March 2, 1835, and was, therefore, ten years old when the Hasties crossed the Atlantic to establish a home in the new republic beyond the sea. On the maternal side, Mr. Hastie carries in his veins the blood of Welsh ancestors. His mother was an exceptional woman. Educated in England to follow the profession of a trained nurse, after she came to America she followed it with unusual success and is said to have never lost a single case placed under her charge. Her work as a pioneer of the profession in the Northwest won for her an enviable place. Upon arrival in this country, the family settled in Wisconsin, where the father engaged in farming and followed his trade during the next five years. Dane county was their home, the farm being situated eighteen miles north of Madison, the state capital. However, Wisconsin did not satisfy, and in 1850 father, mother and two sons joined the small band of immigrants going to seek new abodes in far off Oregon. With ox teams and the customary prairie schooner they took up the trail, bidding farewell to the rapidly settling middle West to meet whatever fortune might await them in a new land, surrounded by savages who did not view with content the invasion of their domain, and isolated by hundreds of miles of trackless wilderness. The long, tedious journey was made in safety, owing not a little to the noble McLoughlin's aid. Sauvies island in the Willamette river near its mouth became their home in the spring of 1851, only three years after the admission of Oregon as a state. The same year that the territory of Washington was created out of northern Oregon, 1853, the Hasties became residents of Whidby island, being among its earliest pioneers. One of the memorable incidents in the history of that frontier community was the brutal assassination of Col. Isaac N. Eby by the Northern Indians in 1857, with the details of which Thomas P. Hastie is perfectly familiar. This event was an important one in the history of the state, and at the time created great excitement all over the West. After the mother's death on the island, February 19, 1863, the elder Hastie returned to Wisconsin and there lived until he, too, was overtaken by death. As a young man Thomas P., shortly after his arrival in Washington, employed himself at farming with his father and cooking at different saw-mills, but, on the outbreak of the Yakima Indian War in 1855 he enlisted in Company I, First Washington Volunteers. This regiment saw service all over the region now embraced by King, Snohomish and Skagit counties, extending its operations eastward to the headwaters of the Nisqually and Snoqualmie rivers. After three months' service in that company and regiment, he enlisted in Company G, Second Washington Volunteers, and fought the warring redskins another six months. The winter of 1856-7 he stayed at home, but when spring arrived he went to Oregon

and engaged in farming and driving stock for three years. The year 1861 he spent as a sailor on the sound under command of Captain Barrington. When news of the famous gold discoveries in the Salmon river country, Idaho, reached Washington the following winter, young Hastie joined the thousands streaming eastward and all through the summer and fall of 1862 wooed fortune in the gold fields but without especial success. In November he was again at home and there assisted his father and worked in a saw-mill at Utsalady. However, the army fever again caught him and the first of the year 1864 he joined Company E, Ninth United States Infantry under whose colors he served a full enlistment of three years, being honorably discharged January 26, 1867, with the rank of duty sergeant. This brought to an end his military service, giving him the distinction of being a veteran of two wars in both of which he left a most honorable record.

From the army he went back to Whidby island and engaged in agricultural pursuits at Oak Harbor, which was his home for nearly ten years. His connection with Skagit county dates from the year 1870, when he filed a homestead right upon 160 acres of the Skagit delta. By using the privilege conferred by the government upon soldier applicants, he was able to prove up on this claim in 1872, though he did not bring his family to the Skagit until 1877. Since that year he has resided continuously upon the place. From a quarter section of marshy, timbered bottom land, which one could hardly penetrate, it has grown by degrees into a highly improved estate of 240 acres of as rich land as can be found on Puget sound, well stocked and easily accessible. Here one may find an oat field so dense that only by trail can it be easily traversed and with grain so high that the stalks tower high above the heads of tall men. Mr. Hastie's place is noted for its fertility and the able manner in which it is operated. He still exercises general management over his estate, but with increasing age is turning over the more active work to younger hands and taking the rest he has so well earned.

Mr. Hastie and Mrs. Clara (Taylor) Scott were united in marriage in Island County, Washington, December 10, 1867. She is a native of Deadford, England, born Christmas Day, 1839, and when a girl of ten years was brought by her parents to San Francisco. In that state she received her education, finishing at the Sisters' Academy, of Benicia. To her union with Mr. Scott, three children were born: Georgia, James B. and Henry W., the latter of whom is at present serving as first assistant city engineer in Seattle. Mrs. Hastie is a woman of educational attainments, a leader among those of her sex in Skagit county. Mr. and Mrs. Hastie are the parents of four children, all of whom are esteemed members of society. Thomas G., the eldest, is living at Grand Forks, B. C., in the employ of the Great Northern Railway Company; Margaret R. is the

wife of E. D. Davis, a prominent hardware merchant of Mount Vernon; Laura M. resides at home; and James W. is also living at home. All were born on Whidby island. In fraternal circles, Mr. Hastie is a prominent Mason. For thirty-three years he has been a member of the order and was the first master of Skagit county's pioneer blue lodge, that organized at Skagit City. He is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, belonging to Larabee Post at La Conner.

In public life Mr. Hastie has creditably fulfilled every duty with which he has been entrusted, and has sacrificed his personal interests whenever necessary. His first official service was as sheriff of Island county. Then, shortly after becoming a resident of Whatcom county, he was elected county commissioner and was on the board when Skagit was created, taking a prominent part in that momentous action. Subsequently he served several years as chairman of the Skagit board. In fact he has for thirty-five years been closely identified with the political, commercial, and educational progress of the Skagit county and for more than half a century with the growth of the Northwest. His has been a life of usefulness and unselfish purpose, gaining for him universal esteem and widespread popularity in addition to a permanent place in history's records.

HON. THOMAS HAYTON. In this notable career, we see exemplified the true type of American, the type which has led in nation building from the rock-bound Atlantic coast across a continent to the more hospitable waters of the Pacific. Coming of colonial American stock, his inspiration and patriotism are a heritage. He has courageously advanced settlement as a frontiersman, in development of the natural resources he has been among the foremost, and as a public spirited citizen and a gentleman by instinct and training he has done his duty by his fellows. The history of Skagit county or of Puget sound would be incomplete without mention of the part he has taken in making it.

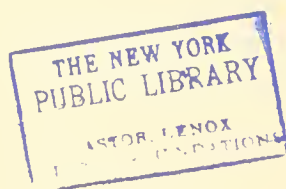
Born in Pike County, Kentucky, June 23, 1832, he is the scion of a pioneer family identified with the establishment of that commonwealth. Jacob Hayton, the paternal ancestor, was a native of the Keystone state and traced his lineage back to old England. The mother bore the maiden name of Rebecca Wedington; she was a native of Virginia of German descent. Both long ago passed to the great beyond, the father's death occurring in 1864 on the old Pike county homestead. Early in the last century these hardy pioneers had crossed the Alleghanies and in the blue grass valleys of the western slope the better portion of their lives was spent. Upon the farm young Thomas grew to manhood, receiving his first lessons from his mother and later attending a private school, where his education was completed. During the latter years of his

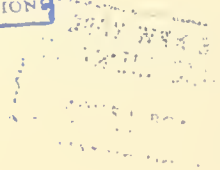
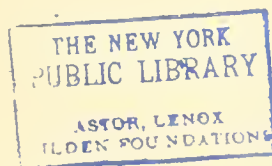
youth he began asserting his independence by assisting various neighboring farmers in gathering the crop, thereby gaining valuable experience as part of his remuneration and by the time he was twenty he was able to command a share in the crop for his labor and spent four years working on this plan. In September, 1862, he answered his country's call for assistance in preserving the Union, and, following Kentucky's flag, he served faithfully until the close of the struggle, mainly in Kentucky and West Virginia. His enlistment was made in Company D, Thirty-ninth Kentucky Volunteers; he was honorably discharged in October, 1865, with the rank of corporal. Libby prison was among the horrible experiences he underwent in the army. After the war he returned to the pursuits of peace in Pike county, but in the spring of 1868 moved to Cass county, Missouri, and there tilled the soil during the succeeding eight years. But Missouri was only a tarrying point, for in 1876 he and his family crossed the plains and mountains to Washington territory, making the first stop after reaching the promised land, at Walla Walla. There he heard more vividly than before of the wonderful region that lay on the shores of Puget sound, so determined to continue his journey. He was so well pleased with the Skagit country that very shortly after his arrival he purchased two hundred acres of marsh land at the river's delta and immediately began its reclamation. Diking and clearing and farming the tract soon produced substantial results but it required many years of unremitting toil and the expenditure of much money to transform it into its present beautiful, improved condition. Later he added a quarter section of adjoining land, and now this immense oat and hay farm is one of the finest on the lower sound, a high testimonial to the thrift, perseverance and skill of its owner, who has, however, retired from all work but the management of his rich estate. It is indeed fitting that he should be allowed in his declining years to garner the rewards that should come to the successful pioneer farmer, and enjoy peace and comfort instead of struggle and privation.

Sarah E. Sanders, a native of Monroe County, Virginia, the daughter of two prominent Virginia pioneers, William and Elizabeth Sanders, became the bride of Thomas Hayton in August, 1852. Like the women of her type, she was a devoted helpmeet, mother and companion during the entire span of her life, which ended November 21, 1896, in her sixty-third year. Besides her husband she left six sons and two daughters to mourn their irreparable loss and perpetuate her memory: Jacob, engaged in agricultural pursuits near Milton, Oregon; Thomas R., the well-known hardware merchant of Mount Vernon; Henry, farmer and stockman in British Columbia; George W., farming near Bremerton; James B., operating his father's place at Fir; William, another prosperous Skagit farmer living on the Swinomish flats; Louisa, the wife of L. P.



THOMAS HAYTON, SR.







THOMAS R. HAYTON



MRS. THOMAS R. HAYTON

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Hemingway, now operating one of the Hayton farms; and Cora, the wife of Alfred Polson, also engaged in farming near Fir. All are widely and favorably known as among the most substantial citizens of this section. Mr. Hayton is, of course, a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, a distinction which is growing less and less common as the final roll call is answered.

As a life-long Republican Mr. Hayton has ever been active in political matters and a leader in his party. For many years he has attended every county convention in an official capacity and has served at various times as a territorial or state delegate. His greatest public service, one that has forever recorded him as one of the real founders of the state of Washington, was as one of Skagit's three representatives in the constitutional convention of 1889. Comparatively few men secure such a rich opportunity to leave their impress upon history and be it said to Mr. Hayton's credit, he has made the most of it. In years to come his descendants will remember this service when all else is forgotten. Mr. Hayton has witnessed with his own eyes the truly remarkable development of the great Northwest during nearly three decades of time, a portion of it from its primitive condition, and best of all, with all due modesty, he himself has taken a leading part in the wonderful transformation. Universally esteemed and honored, he is among northwest Washington's foremost citizens.

THOMAS R. HAYTON, founder and proprietor of the extensive hardware house which bears his name, is one of Skagit county's eminently successful business men, and also one of its early pioneers. He has been one of the real builders of the county, hence is especially deserving of a place in these chronicles.

Both the Hayton and the Sanders families, from which the subject of this sketch draws his blood, are numbered among the prominent pioneers of Kentucky and West Virginia. Their very first representatives came to America in 1643, settling in Rhode Island. The earlier Haytons and Sanders formed a part of that courageous, hardy vanguard of Americans that forged westward across the Alleghanies in the fore part of the nineteenth century, and gave their lives to the subduing of the fertile valleys of the sunny South and to the establishing there of new homes and new states. On this frontier, in June of 1832, Thomas Hayton, the father of Thomas R., was born. When he grew to manhood he entered actively into the further building of Kentucky; later he fought for the preservation of the Union under the banners of his native state; later still he moved to Missouri and thence across the plains to Washington, becoming one of Skagit county's distinguished pioneer citizens. At the state constitutional convention in 1889 he represented Skagit county, and in fact he has always been identified

prominently with its public life; at present he is residing upon the old homestead on the Skagit delta. A more detailed sketch of his life appears elsewhere in these pages. The devoted mother, only a year younger than her husband, laid down life's burdens in the fall of 1896. She was the mother of fifteen children.

Thomas R., the seventh child was born while the family resided in Pike county, Kentucky, the date of his birth being January 7, 1863. Soon, however, he bade Kentucky farewell, the Haytons removing to Missouri, where the lad received the rudiments of his education. Then, only when thirteen years old, came the greatest event of his boyhood, the emigration of the family from Missouri to Puget sound. The events of that memorable trip across the plains with prairie schooner and stock, during which they were continuously facing hardships while passing through numerous regions still in their primitive condition and infested by dangerous Indians, will ever be fresh in his memory. Reaching Seattle, September 28, 1876, the family tarried there a few days, then pushed northward to the delta of the Skagit river, near Fir, where the father settled. In the converting of this tract of marsh and brush land into a cultivated, diked farm of ample dimensions Thomas R. Hayton manfully took his part. For the first eleven years the place could not be reached by wagon. From the farm and public schools at the age of twenty the young pioneer went again to Seattle, this time to attend the territorial, now the state university, supporting himself largely during this period by teaching while not in school. Eventually having been graduated with the class of 1887, he returned to Skagit and engaged in teaching as a vocation. A year later he was called upon by those among whom he had grown up, to serve them in the capacity of superintendent of the county's schools, which position he filled with fidelity and credit for two years. At the close of his term in 1891, he formed a partnership with Thomas Hurd and opened a hardware store at La Conner. Two years later A. I. Dunlap was admitted to the firm and as the La Conner Hardware Company it was continued until Mr. Hurd sold his interest to his partners, the firm name then becoming Hayton & Dunlap. In the spring of 1899 Mr. Hayton absorbed the Dunlap interest. The business was moved to the county seat in November, 1901, and two years afterward Mr. Hayton's brother George became a partner, the name of the house becoming the Hayton Hardware Company. However, the junior partner retired in the spring of 1905, again leaving the business solely in the hands of its founder. Step by step the business has progressed until it is recognized as one of the solid institutions of the county.

On New Year's day, 1890, Mr. Hayton was united in marriage to Miss Hattie E. Marshall, at Ellensburg, the daughter of Alexander and Christena (Shaffer) Marshall. One child, Gladys, born

August 11, 1893, has blessed the union. Mr. Marshall was one of the gold seekers of California in the days of '49, going there in 1848. He had been a soldier in the Mexican War, serving two years. He died in California a few years after the birth of his daughter, leaving her to be reared by her mother. Mrs. Hayton was born in California, March 4, 1869. When five years old she was taken to Seattle by the mother, and there received her education, finishing it with a course at the University of Washington. Her mother now resides at Mount Vernon with the Haytons.

Mr. Hayton is among the leaders of the Republican party in his section of the state, following in the footsteps of his father in this particular. While living at La Conner he served five years as city treasurer and was also a member of the council. In fraternal circles he is likewise active, being a Royal Arch Mason and a Woodman of the World. He is a deacon and member of the board of trustees of the Baptist church of Mount Vernon. In the course of his long, unusually active career, but yet only fairly entered upon, he has gathered around him a host of warm friends and admirers who have unbounded faith in his sterling qualities and rare business talents.

PERRY POLSON. The history of Skagit county would be incomplete indeed, without mention in a more or less lengthy form of the founder of the Polson Implement and Hardware Company of La Conner; later founder of the same business in Seattle, which latter has grown and expanded until today they are admittedly the largest business firm handling implements and hardware in Seattle, a city well to the front in big wholesale and retail business enterprises of all kinds. To outline briefly how all this came about, and give something of the sturdy ancestry from whom the man who accomplished this drew the sterling characteristics which fitted him for the goal attained, is the purpose of this sketch.

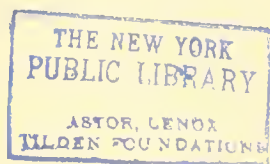
Born in Sweden July 8, 1854, to the union of Olaf and Gunhilda (Nelson), Perry Polson was reared to the age of thirteen on a farm in the fatherland, and there received the rudimentary education which was later augmented in both the schools of text-books and broad and varied experience in the land of his adoption. In 1868 his father determined to seek a home for his growing family in the land of promise across the ocean, which held out such flattering inducements to the worthy, industrious poor man; and hither young Polson came at the age of fourteen to assist the doughty sire in founding that home. New to the ways of the country and unfamiliar with its strange language, there were many discouraging and disheartening episodes in their experiences. After one winter spent in Geneseo, Illinois, the two proceeded to Iowa, and here the father rented a farm near Ottumwa and

sent for the family to join him. Not satisfied with the conditions there, the father and son in 1871 once more set out to seek their fortune. Deciding to cross the continent and enter a new and untried field, they traveled to San Francisco via the Union Pacific, thence to Portland by steamer and from there in company with Paul Polson, C. J. and Joseph Chilberg, they walked to Olympia. Here they again took ship, going to Port Townsend, thence in Indian canoes to Whidby island, where they hired a sloop to take them to Swinomish (now La Conner), then a small trading post on the west shore of the main land of Whatcom county. After some time spent in looking for a suitable location, the father took up land on the tide flats on Brown's slough in the Skagit delta; and here begun the heroic struggle in a wild and new country for home and competency. How well he wrought, overcoming seemingly insurmountable obstacles of wilderness and floods, laboring early and late, may be briefly told in the fact that within a few years the Polson ranch was known far and wide as the finest farm stead in all the country round about. Success continued to attend the father until the time of his retirement from active duties to a life of ease in La Conner, where in recognition of his integrity and administrative ability he was thrice elected mayor of that municipality, and at last in 1903 he was gathered to his fathers, an honored and esteemed citizen, mourned by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. The worthy mother still lives in La Conner at the ripe old age of seventy-three.

Ambitious and industrious, young Polson soon after arriving on the sound, found a job as chairman for John A. Cornelius, who had the contract for surveying the meander, or shore line, from the head of Port Susan bay, in Snohomish county, to Burrows bay, Fidalgo island. He helped complete this entire survey, working for Mr. Cornelius one year. Two years followed on the home farm, when he engaged in work for W. B. Moore, in his logging camp on the Stillaguamish, until the spring of 1875. At this time the report was rife of a great transcontinental telegraph line to be put in by the British government, extending from ocean to ocean, which would afford employment for five years for a vast number of men. He went with the stampede to New Westminster, seeking a job, only to find on his arrival that the undertaking had been abandoned. He then found employment with Meacham & Nason, who had a government contract for bridge building on the Quesneele river in the Cariboo mining country, and continued in this firm's employ for two and one-half years. During the last year of which time, although but twenty years of age, he had full charge of one of the company's saw-mills at an advanced salary. Having received good wages and saved his money, young Polson in the fall of 1877 returned to La Conner and invested his earnings in a 190-acre farm, known as the Harvey Wallace ranch, and engaged in farming. His payment



Yours truly
J. M. Polson



on the land lacked several thousand dollars of meeting the purchase price, and he was forced to pay the exorbitant rate of fifteen per cent. interest on four thousand dollars, but with that indomitable courage which has won for him the success in later life, he set his face to overcome all obstacles and gain ownership to the fine ranch he had invested his earnings in; and as dame fortune invariably succumbs to the persistent wooing of valor, this case was not an exception and at last his years of unremitting labor and economy were rewarded with undisputable title to the place. But success had been bought with broken health, and he was advised by his physician that he must take a much-needed rest, or seek a less strenuous life. Then it was that good fortune brought him in contact with F. S. Poole, with whom he formed a partnership in 1885 and began handling farm implements, establishing themselves at La Conner. After one year he bought out Mr. Poole's interest, and the next year took his brother Nels in as partner in the business, and still two years later, another brother, John, was added to the firm, when the business was changed from Perry Polson & Bro., and incorporated as the Polson Hardware Company. In 1891 the Wilton brothers, Albert and Robert, purchased an interest in the business, which was incorporated as the Polson-Wilton Hardware Company, and a branch house was opened in Seattle. The branch soon grew to such proportions that in 1896 Mr. Polson moved to Seattle to take charge of the business, and one year later bought out his partners, the Wilton brothers, incorporating the Polson Implement and Hardware Company, of which he is the present head. In addition to the Seattle and La Conner business Mr. Polson is also interested in the Wenatchee Hardware Company, in Chelan county.

In 1881 at Seattle, the union of Mr. Polson and Miss Kate H. Hinckley, daughter of Jacob C. and Margaret (Dunn) Hinckley, was celebrated. The father of Mrs. Polson, a native of Illinois, crossed the plains to California in 1849, at the beginning of that great westward tidal wave to the newly discovered gold-fields. Mr. Hinckley, who was a lawyer by profession, has the distinction of having established the pioneer newspaper of Shasta county, California, and was a man of prominence and influence up to the time of his death in that state. The mother, a native of Ireland, was married to Mr. Hinckley in California, to which state her parents went with the early influx of gold seekers, and she is at present living in Seattle. Mrs. Polson was born in Shasta City, California, August 2, 1857. Her father dying, she and her mother removed to Seattle in 1870, where she was educated in Territorial University and took up the profession of teacher, which she followed for several years. She is the mother of four children, all born in La Conner as follows: Minnie E., 1882; Helen G., 1884; Olaf H., 1888, and Harold L., 1896, all living at home. Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Polson are mem-

bers of the Methodist Church, while fraternally he is a Blue Lodge Mason, and a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and politically is a staunch and unwavering Republican. He also holds membership in the Rainer club and the Seattle Athletic club.

As a lad, mastering the intricacies of a strange tongue, or chaining the shoreline of the sound; as a young man managing the saw-mill business, or wiping from his land a large usurious mortgage; as business man and manager of a large wholesale trade, Mr. Polson has ever displayed that remarkable aptitude for details and firm grasp of business principles which have brought to him unvarying success in all his ventures. Among his old time friends and acquaintances, his successful life is viewed with personal pride and they claim him as a strictly Skagit county production, accrediting his business inspirations to his connection with the fertile soil of the famous La Conner flats, and to the invigorating, aroma-laden breezes from the wild tangled hillsides.

HARRISON CLOTHIER is one of the pioneers of Skagit county and one of the early men who contributed much toward the development of her resources. Whether as merchant, logging operator, promoter of a town site or as public official, he has been one of the very foremost men of the community; and now in his retirement from the activities of life occupies a place high in the regard and esteem of his fellow citizens. Mr. Clothier was born in Saratoga County, New York, in the summer of July 9, 1840, when the famous "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too" campaign was on. The father Ebenezer K. Clothier, being a strong adherent to the principles of the Whig party and an ardent admirer of General William Henry Harrison, named his son in honor of his campaign hero. Ebenezer K. was born on the Saratoga farm, to which his father moved from Connecticut shortly after the close of the Revolutionary War, becoming one of the early settlers in that county. The elder Clothier was of English extraction. He was a very successful farmer and business man. Mrs. Lucy (Clothier) Clothier, was also born in New York State in 1840. On her maternal side she was of English descent, tracing back to the Smiths of Plymouth Rock fame, while on her paternal side she was connected with the family of Kings of New York, prominent in Dutch society in the early days of the Empire State. To Mr. and Mrs. Clothier were born five children: Webster, now on the old homestead in the upper Hudson valley; Harrison; Mahlon, now living in Nebraska; Lydia J.; and Ilemann living on the old homestead. Harrison Clothier passed his early days on the home farm, attending the common schools and later the high school. At the age of twenty-four he taught school for several winters. In 1886 he rented his father's estate, operating it for several years. He then left home and has never

returned to the scenes of his childhood and youth. He first located at Trempeleau, on the Mississippi river in Wisconsin, where for two years he taught school in winter and worked at farming during the summer seasons. The next four years Mr. Clothier passed at Farmhill, near Rochester, Minnesota, where he taught school and did farm work. In May of 1875 he crossed the continent to California, remaining en route for a short time at Reno, Nevada. He tarried in San Francisco but a short time before determining to come to the Puget sound country, making the trip from the California metropolis in September on the steamer Pacific, which two months later sank off Cape Flattery, carrying down several hundred souls. Mr. Clothier lingered in Seattle but a short time, and on hearing of the La Conner flats came here with Samuel Calhoun on his schooner. He worked for Mr. Calhoun during the early part of that autumn. Settlements were sparse then and the Beaver and Olympia marshes presented no form of attraction and gave no promise of the richness which was later to flow from them. Mr. Clothier did not like the outlook for farming those rich flats even after the timber was cleared, so in November he went to Oregon and taught a term of winter school in the Willamette valley. He passed the succeeding summer at Walla Walla and returned to the sound late in August of 1876, working during harvest on the flats. November of that year found Mr. Clothier opening a three-months term of school on the Skagit river in the pioneer school-house standing on the old Kimble place. In February in 1877, deciding that there was a good opening for a store on the river, and perhaps even a town, he joined with an old Wisconsin pupil, E. G. English, and together they purchased ten acres of land of Jasper Gates for \$100 and erected thereon a small store. They also laid out the first plat of the town site of Mount Vernon, which included then only four blocks. The post-office was secured in September and Mr. Clothier appointed the first postmaster.

From this time on the firm of Clothier & English were closely identified with the growth of the community. They continued in the mercantile business until in 1891 Mr. Clothier withdrew. In 1881 the firm had commenced to undertake logging operations. This venture grew to be the principal business of the firm, which for a number of years operated two camps with a most extensive business. At one time the firm owned between 4,000 and 5,000 acres of timber land and was widely known because of its enterprise. In 1880 Mr. Clothier participated in the Ruby Creek gold mining excitement. He opened a branch of the Clothier & English store at Goodell's Landing and bought half of the gold taken out of the diggings, amounting to about \$2,800 worth. In the fall of 1880 Mr. Clothier became auditor of Whatcom county and for two years resided at the county seat, leaving Mr. English in charge of the firm's varied interests. In 1882 Mr.

Clothier was defeated by Orrin Kincaid, Republican, for representative, the vote being very close. Two years later he was named by the bill erecting Skagit county as one of the county commissioners, and was chosen by the people to the same office at the special election, serving one year. Mr. Clothier naturally participated in the contest for the selection of the county seat which after a memorable campaign was won by Mount Vernon, where Mr. Clothier's interests were largest and which he had founded. In 1886, while on a visit to California, Mr. Clothier was nominated and elected probate judge of Skagit county, his home precinct according him the handsome vote of 176 out of a total of 186 ballots cast. In 1889, while the people of Washington were preparing for statehood and planning for the adoption of the new constitution, Mr. Clothier was selected by Skagit county to represent it in the historic body of lawmakers. He attended the sessions at Olympia and was active and influential in the formulation of the state's fundamental laws. On the death of County Treasurer Davis in May in 1891, Mr. Clothier was appointed to succeed him and served until January of 1893. Two years later he went to Anacortes and operated a saw-mill for a couple of years, during that time cutting the lumber for two large canneries on Fidalgo island. One season he passed in the mines in the Kootenai county of British Columbia. Mr. Clothier was chosen deputy county assessor in 1898, on the election of Assessor Dale in that year, becoming chief deputy. He served four years under Mr. Dale and during the first term of Fred F. Willard as assessor passed two years as deputy. In politics Mr. Clothier had been a consistent Democrat up to the campaign of 1898, when the fusion of his party with the Populists did not receive his support. Since that year he has been identified with the Republicans. He has always been active in the political field and as a man of prominence has been influential in political affairs in Skagit county. He served as mayor of Mt. Vernon in 1891, resigning at the expiration of one year, and was a candidate for state treasurer on the Democratic ticket in 1892. He is a Mason, having joined that order at Utsalady in 1880. Ill health and other unfortunate circumstances have made great inroads into Mr. Clothier's financial interests, but he remains one of the respected men of his community and of the whole country, interested in all public affairs, though unable to take as active a part as in former years.

FREDERICK LEWIS BLUMBERG. Well to the front among the leaders in Skagit county's commercial, political and social life is the esteemed citizen now serving as auditor, whose name forms the caption of this sketch. For eighteen years he has been closely identified with the growth of the community experiencing during that period the full

force of its depressions as well as participating in its prosperity.

He was born July 8, 1864, in Ozaukee County, Wisconsin, the son of John and Dorothy (O'Neal) Blumberg. Upon the paternal side his ancestry is German. John Blumberg was born in 1825. After acquiring an education, he left the fatherland in 1839 to establish a home in the new world. In Wisconsin he finally cast his lot, married, and engaged in the saw-mill business. This line of commercial activity he followed with marked success until his death in 1898, while still a resident of the Badger state. When the call to arms came in 1861, he proffered his services to the country of his adoption, and as a member of the Seventeenth Wisconsin Volunteers went to the front and served continuously with the exception of a short time in the fall of 1863, when severe wounds necessitated a furlough. In yet another line did this German-American manifest his activity, namely, in public life. He represented his district several times in the legislature and was always found sincerely endeavoring to discharge his official duties faithfully. Dorothy O'Neal Blumberg was born in Galway County, Ireland, and was the mother of seven children, of whom five survive her.

With such an ancestry, it is not surprising to find that the subject of this biography sought the broad highway of individual responsibility while yet a lad of sixteen. Going to Milwaukee, he secured employment in a wholesale house with which he remained a year and a half. From Milwaukee he then began his journey westward, little thinking perhaps that he would eventually reach and make his permanent home on the shores of the Pacific. His first stopping point was Iowa, where he farmed and attended school in Bremer county. As soon as he had completed the work of the public schools, the ambitious young man entered the Upper Iowa University at Fayette and in that institution completed a course which fitted him to take up the teaching profession. He was thus engaged in Iowa until 1887, in that year coming to Puget sound and resuming his profession in Skagit county. However, the extraordinary industrial activity which swept over the Northwest in 1889 and 1890 proved too tempting to permit Mr. Blumberg's continuance in his profession, and in the latter named year he entered the mercantile business at Avon, on the Skagit river just above Mount Vernon. Avon thrived for a time, but the financial panic of 1893 destroyed its prosperity for the time being and in the crash the Blumberg store went to the wall. Again the young school teacher took up the text book and the pointer as a means of livelihood, but the struggle was hard and bitter. Brave hearts and iron wills alone carried honest men through those terrible times and no man in Skagit county better appreciates this statement than Mr. Blumberg. In 1895 he accepted the position of agent and warehouse manager of the Oregon Improvement Com-

pany at Anacortes in which he remained until his appointment as deputy county auditor under Grant Neal in January, 1899. When Auditor Neal became a member of the board of control under Governor McBride in 1902, the county commissioners tendered the appointment of county auditor to Mr. Blumberg and it was accepted by him. His party, the Republican, carried him back to this important position at the 1904 election and this term he is now serving with credit to himself and friends. An important public action taken by Mr. Blumberg in recent years was the platting of the Garden Addition to Mount Vernon in 1903, all the lots of which have been sold.

The marriage of Mr. Blumberg to Miss Allie Bartholomew, the daughter of William and Cynthia (Adams) Bartholomew, was celebrated at Seattle in October, 1890. Her parents, both of whom are still living, are natives of Indiana. The father enlisted in the army at the beginning of the Civil War and served throughout the struggle. From private he advanced steadily and, having taken up religious work, was mustered out as chaplain of the regiment. Shortly afterward he married and in 1870 became one of the earliest settlers upon Fidalgo island. Subsequently he returned to Indiana, where he now resides. Mrs. Bartholomew is of Pennsylvania-Dutch descent. Allie Bartholomew was born in Indiana also, in 1868, but two years later was taken by her parents to Washington, where she was reared and educated. Her public school education was supplemented by a course in the Seattle high school, and after graduation, she taught for some time in Skagit, Snohomish and King counties. Mr. and Mrs. Blumberg are blessed with five sons: Irvine, born at Avon, December 6, 1891; Frank E., at La Conner, January 23, 1894; Judson A., at Anacortes, January 24, 1896; George, at Anacortes, September 19, 1898; and Edward F., at Mount Vernon, July 18, 1901. Mr. Blumberg is affiliated with the Masons, Odd Fellows and Elks, in the first of which he has attained the Royal Arch degree. Both he and his wife are members of the Episcopal church, and in fraternal and social work have especially endeared themselves to all. Comment upon Mr. Blumberg's political activity is hardly necessary in view of what has already been said.

In bringing this sketch to a close, mention of his activity along an entirely different line must not be omitted. As a breeder and importer of the Shetland pony Mr. Blumberg has brought himself into prominence among the fancy stock owners of the Northwest, owning perhaps the finest band of this species in this part of the Northwest. In this line he is, moreover, a pioneer breeder in Washington. Jersey cattle also command his especial attention. In the career of this farmer, school teacher, business man, public official, fancy stock breeder and public-spirited citizen is to be seen one illustrative of the true Western type, a life diversified, aggressive and tenacious in the face of any

obstacle. Upon these qualities in this instance has been builded a life of usefulness, honest purpose and influence among its fellows.

CHARLES HARMON, the efficient sheriff of Skagit county, has been actively connected with the development of Washington since his advent into its borders in its territorial days in 1877, and is numbered among the pioneer lumbermen of the Skagit river country. He is a native of Maine, as were also his parents, Hiram and Mary (Gardner) Harmon, and their ancestors. The father and mother, to whom the home ties were very dear, clung to their native state until their death, giving their best energies to the rearing of their family of fifteen children. Charles, the youngest of the family, remained under the parental roof, assisting his father at farming and at tending the schools of the home community, until he had arrived at the age of twenty, at which time, 1874, having heard of the superior advantages offered young and ambitious men in the Golden State, he crossed the continent and entered the famous redwood forests of Humboldt County, California, finding here his first opening in the business that was henceforth to claim so much of his attention and energy. Three years he spent in the vicinity of Eureka, giving his undivided attention to logging and lumbering, until in 1877, he came up the coast to Port Gamble, Washington, where he continued to follow logging for two years. In April, 1879, he came to the site of Mount Vernon and opened a logging camp for W. S. Jameson, and has continued to follow logging and lumbering the principal part of the time since. At the time of the Ruby Creek mining excitement he was among the many who participated in the stampede, and like all the other victims, came away empty handed. Always an ardent Republican, and an energetic worker for the furtherance of the party principles, he was called to the position of deputy under Sheriff Wells in 1899, and served with him for four years, filling a like position for two years with Sheriff Risbell, his successor. His faithful service as deputy so commended him to the general public, that his party proffered him the nomination for sheriff in 1904, and the choice was ratified by the voters at the fall election by a handsome majority in his favor.

Mr. Harmon was united in marriage in Seattle, in 1888, to Ollie M. Carter, a native of Indiana, born in 1860, of German extraction. Mrs. Harmon was educated in Indiana, qualifying herself as a teacher, and on coming to Washington prior to its receiving statehood, she took up the profession of her choice, teaching for several years in King county, until her marriage to Mr. Harmon at the age of twenty-eight. To this union have been born three children, Ray, Abby and Don, all natives of Skagit county. Mr. Harmon owns a fine farm of twenty-five acres, situated within two miles of

Mount Vernon, the county seat, and here makes his home while attending to the duties of his office. Of a sociable disposition and an excellent "mixer" with all classes, Mr. Harmon counts his friends by the number of his acquaintances, and all, from the smallest to the greatest, while recognizing in him the typical border sheriff, who usually gets his man when he goes after him, approach him without fear or formality, knowing that they will get from Charlie Harmon a respectful and friendly hearing.

CHARLES W. STEVENSON, deputy sheriff of Skagit county under Sheriff Harmon, has been a resident of the Puget sound country since he was but twelve years of age, and has taken an important part in the development of the community in which his lot has been cast. He was born September 20, 1862, in Cass County, Illinois, his parents being George W. and Emiline (Hamilton) Stevenson. The father, a Kentuckian, removed to Illinois in the early fifties and there followed farming until 1874, when he immigrated to Washington territory, becoming one of Snohomish county's early settlers. His claim lay near Snohomish City and upon it he resided twelve years at the end of which period he sold out and moved to Fidalgo island. There he died in 1894 at the age of sixty-four years. Mrs. Stevenson was a native of Illinois and passed away in that state. Charles W., the sixth of a family of nine children, worked on the farm in Snohomish county during his boyhood and attended its pioneer schools, obtaining as good an education as was possible under the circumstances. When he was nineteen years of age his father commenced paying him wages. He remained at home until twenty-seven, then rented a place and cultivated it a year, thereupon going to Anacortes, where he and Lance Burdon opened a feed store and boat house. A little later he withdrew from the business and formed a partnership with Charles March in running a confectionery, a business which was shortly afterward removed to Everett. Mr. Stevenson soon sold his interest and entered the logging camps of Skagit county. In 1893 he returned to Anacortes to accept an appointment as city marshal, which position he filled three years. A year in the fishing industry followed. The winter of 1898 he spent at Skagaway, Alaska, in the gold fields, but returned to Seattle in the spring of 1899 and was there employed until the spring of 1900, when he again visited Alaska, going to Cape Nome. In the fall he came back to Washington, and he was engaged in the lumber industry continuously thereafter until March, 1905, when he accepted the deputy marshalship of Anacortes tendered him by Mayor Odlin. A month later he resigned to take the more responsible position that he is now so acceptably filling.

At Victoria, British Columbia, in 1893, Miss Nellie Dodds became the wife of Mr. Stevenson. Her parents died when she was an infant, after

which she was reared by an uncle. She and Mr. Stevenson have one son, Lea L., born in Anacortes September 19, 1895. Mr. Stevenson is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, and in politics is a Republican. His record as an officer is a highly creditable one, and in all the affairs of life his bearing as a man and member of society has been such as to win him the esteem of those with whom he has been associated.

WARREN SHEA, of the well known firm of Dale and Shea, Abstractors, of Mount Vernon, was born in Holton, Maine, July 26, 1868, the son of Charles and Maria (Tompkins) Shea, both of English descent. The father was a native of Woodstock, New Brunswick, to which section his parents had moved from Nova Scotia. He came to Seattle, Washington, in 1876, here following his life occupation, that of lumbering. Later he removed to Whatcom county, where he died in 1895. His maternal ancestors crossed the ocean and settled in New York long before the Revolution. Loyalists during the war, at its close they bought up large land grants from the soldiers, owning at one time nearly the entire county of Tompkins. Charles Shea, likewise an extensive investor in real estate, owned a large part of the town site of Woodstock; while to his father belonged the large "Shea Flat," about the only level flat in that locality of New Brunswick. The mother came also of an old pioneer family of distinction, residing in Canada at the time of her birth. Moving with his parents to Canada when five years of age, Warren Shea there spent his early years, securing his education, later joining his father, who had come after his wife's death, in 1885, to the coast. His first venture was in the lumbering business at Lynden, and here he remained two years. His mill was destroyed by fire in 1891. When the wonderful discoveries of gold in the Alaskan fields were made in 1897, he was one of the first to sail for the land of promise, and he assisted in loading the first shipment of gold from Dawson which created such wild excitement when it reached Seattle. Dawson was then only a little mining camp numbering fifty people who, like himself, had packed their outfits and entire stock of provisions on their backs over sixteen weary miles. Subsisting entirely on canned goods, most of the miners suffered from scurvy. After spending six years in Alaska, during which he had been quite successful, Mr. Shea returned to his native country in 1903, locating in his present home, Mount Vernon, where he engaged in the abstract and real estate business, forming a co-partnership with William Dale, his present partner.

Mr. Shea was married February 17, 1903, to Bella B. Soules, the daughter of Thomas W. and Eliza (———) Soules, both born in Canada. Her father was one of the founders of the town of Burlington, Washington, and since his residence

in Skagit county has devoted the greater part of his time to milling. He is now the manager and secretary of the Cedardale Lumber Company, of Mount Vernon, a business man of large influence. Her mother is also living. Mr. and Mrs. Shea have one child, Ruth B., born February 6, 1903, in Mount Vernon. Mr. Shea's brothers and sisters are as follows: John G., Smith S., Alice Bolan, Helen M. Guiberson, Charles E., Sarah McKee, Frank, and Pauline B. Stevens. He is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows fraternities, and in political beliefs, an adherent of the Republican party. Indeed there are few in this part of the state who are more enthusiastic in political matters than is Mr. Shea, always in attendance at the Republican conventions, in which he takes a prominent place. Realizing the advantages to be gained by united effort, he lends the strength of his influence to the Commercial club, of which he is a member. Of Episcopalian parentage, he is an attendant at that church, of which his wife is a member. Interested in every advance movement in local matters, the owner of a fine home, he is justly esteemed as one of the most progressive citizens of Mount Vernon.

WILLIAM DALE. To the chronicler of historical events, nothing lends more zest to his work, nor superinduces a more ready action of mind and pen than personal contact with the genuine pioneer, who has passed through the real experiences of subduing nature in all its primitive and unmolested forms of wild forests, wild beasts and wild men, and who has imbibed the spirit of his surroundings and had his mental as well as physical being broadened and deepened by the free life, untrammelled by conventionalities and social restrictions. In the subject of this brief review these happy conditions meet in an unusual degree. Born in Elk County, Pennsylvania, May 20, 1852, of one of the old families of that prominent commonwealth, he was, at the early age of six years, transplanted to the then almost undeveloped state of Wisconsin, where during his boyhood and youth he became inured to the health producing and muscle developing ways of farm and lumber camp life, thus establishing in physical development and mental training, the foundation for future success in the great Northwest, which later was destined to become his field of pioneer operation. John Dale, the father of our subject, a prominent lawyer, was born in Center County, Pennsylvania, in 1816, of Welsh and Irish parents, who were pioneers of that state. He became a pioneer of Pierce County, Wisconsin, in 1858, and there practiced law and also became an extensive land owner. In the practice of his profession he became acquainted with Senator Spooner, and this acquaintance later grew into a warm and lasting friendship. In 1873 he moved to Tennessee, and in 1877 became a resident of Skagit county, where he died in 1878. During the war he held a com-

mission as colonel, serving as recruiting officer and also as provost marshal in Wisconsin, but was never in active army service. The mother, Massie (Jordan) Dale, also a native of Pennsylvania, was of German descent, and belonged to one of the oldest families of the Keystone state. She survived her husband eleven years, passing away in 1889. In July, 1874, after closing a year in the Wisconsin pineries, young Dale, at the age of twenty-two, turned his face westward, and soon had his first introduction into Skagit, then a part of Whatcom county. Without undue delay he took up work in the lumbering camps of that region, which he followed continuously for eight years, working at first for others, but later engaging in the same business for himself. Here he soon built up a name and business known throughout a wide section of the coast country, and won the distinction of being one of the first extensive lumber operators on Fidalgo island, thus inseparably connecting himself with the early development and progress of that section of the country. During this period Mr. Dale took up a homestead in the Samish country, and in the course of time transferred his attention to agricultural pursuits and the development of his homestead. The tract he had taken was what is known as "tide lands," and had to be redeemed from the overflow of salt water from the sound, by extensive diking, entailing great expenditure of time and labor. This was accomplished, with the gratifying result that he became the possessor of an expanse of land rich and productive almost beyond belief. The pleasure of pursuit, in Mr. Dale's case, seemed to outweigh that of possession, for no sooner had he overcome the almost insurmountable obstacles which had at first opposed themselves to his mastery of natural conditions, and had gratified his desire for conquest, than he forsook farm life, leasing his land, and gave his attention to the manufacture of shingles, establishing a mill at the town of Burlington in 1890, and later, in 1893, erecting a second mill in Mount Vernon. The mill at the latter place was destroyed by fire in 1894 and the business at Burlington was sold. In 1889 Mr. Dale was nominated by the Republican party for county assessor, and the choice of his party was ratified by the voters at the polls that fall by a handsome majority. He served throughout two successive terms of four years with success, at the same time keeping a guiding hand on his business interests outside. Again, in 1898, he was called by a goodly majority to fill the same position of trust, serving to the close of the double term of four years with that distinguishing faithfulness which has ever marked his course through life, whether in public or private affairs. At the close of his official duties in 1902, he formed a partnership with Warren Shea in the abstract, real estate and insurance business, which they are at present successfully conducting, having established it on a solid business basis. Ever in close touch with the agricultural interests of the county, and an owner

of farm lands himself, Mr. Dale has for a number of years owned and had operated two first-class steam threshers, which as an investment have proven anything but unprofitable.

In 1877, while following the lumbering industry, the union of William Dale and Mary A. Stevens was celebrated in Skagit county. Mrs. Dale is from one of the earliest pioneer families of that county. Her father, Edwin Stevens, a millwright by trade, and native of New York, came to Skagit with his family in 1872, and after an active life of seven years in his newly adopted home, he laid down the burdens of life, greatly regretted by all who knew him. The mother, Rachel (Herberkson) Stevens, still survives her husband. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Dale have been born four children William Edwin and James Arthur, now farming in British Columbia; Annie Adelaide Hunt and Ella R. Fredlund. Politically, Mr. Dale is a staunch Republican and ranks among the foremost in the councils of his party and the shaping of its policies; fraternally he is a Knight Templar and Past High Priest in the Masonic order, and in the Knights of Pythias holds the position of Keeper of the Seals. In the Commercial club of his town Mr. Dale is recognized as one of the most active factors, and is ever at the forefront of every enterprise that makes for the public weal, or carries on its banner the insignia of progress; which broad-minded, public-spirited course has won for him the deepest regard, as well as respect and confidence of the community which claims him as a citizen.

GEORGE W. MARBLE, of Mount Vernon, well known as a real estate and insurance agent, was born in Auburn, Maine, August 13, 1870. His father, a shoemaker by trade, now living in Oakland, California, is an Easterner, his ancestors having lived for generations on the Atlantic coast. The maternal ancestor, Emma (Stewart) Marble (now Mrs. Cook) was born on the Eastern coast, and is at present living in Tacoma. Mr. Marble came with his parents to Oakland, California, in 1874, he being only four years old when they crossed the continent to find a home in that land of flowers, which must, indeed, have seemed a wonderland after the severe climate of Maine. Here and in San Francisco he spent the early years of his life, in the latter city being for some time employed in the Residen iron works, in the department of boiler making. The following three years he was a baker in Oakland, at the end of which time he was engaged in the hotel and restaurant business, as cook and waiter, in that city and later in San Francisco and Eureka. In August, 1891, he came to Tacoma there entering a department of the business that has since claimed his entire time. After five years experience in fire insurance, he came in 1896 to Mount Vernon, making this his home while he divided his time between the four counties of Skagit, Whatcom,

Island and Snohomish, of which he had the general agency. Three years ago he opened up an office in Mount Vernon in the insurance and real estate business, continuing in that line to the present time.

Mr. Marble was married in Mount Vernon in 1900, his bride being Miss Margaret Golden, who came from Ireland, the land of her birth, to the United States at the age of nine. Mr. and Mrs. Marble have two daughters, Eva Marie and Margaret L. Mr. Marble is a member of the Yeoman order in Mount Vernon. Having served as justice of the peace by appointment for a time, he was elected to that office, in 1904, by the Republican party, of which he is a loyal member; he resigned this office in September, 1905. By industry and wise management Mr. Marble has built up a good business, owns an excellent residence in Mount Vernon and is one of her earnest, active citizens.

JAMES S. BOWEN, a respected citizen of Mount Vernon, was born in Tioga county, Pennsylvania, in 1841, the son of William and Elizabeth (Thorp) Bowen. The father, of Scotch descent, was born in Rhode Island, but later moved to Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming till the time of his death, at the age of thirty-eight. The mother, who traced her ancestry back to Revolutionary stock, died in Kansas. Coming with his parents to Wisconsin at the age of two, Mr. Bowen remained there for six years, then returned to Pennsylvania where he lived with an uncle, and there received his education. Returning to Wisconsin, he served an apprenticeship of three years learning the carriage making trade. Thrilled with zeal for his country, he answered her call for volunteers when the war broke out, enlisting December 12, 1861, for three years, assisting in the defeat of the famous Price raid in Missouri. He was discharged February 25, 1865, only to re-enlist in Hancock's veteran corps, in which he served one year, receiving his final discharge in Washington, D. C., in 1866, after which he returned to Wisconsin and there pursued his former occupation until the fall of 1867, when he moved to Cloud County, Kansas, and took up a homestead. Here he spent the next two years, and then located in Concordia, the county seat, that he might the better discharge the duties of the offices to which he had been elected, that of clerk of the court and register of deeds. Here he remained till 1875, when, after serving his third term as register of deeds, and having also occupied the office of under sheriff and United States marshal for a number of years, he retired from public life, came West and settled in Seattle, Washington, where he engaged in various occupations. In 1879 he started on a trip east, made a brief visit in Kansas, and then went on to Washington, D. C., to accept a position in the Pension Department, which he held for fourteen months, at which time he resigned on account of his health. After spending some time

visiting points in the east in search of health, he located in Emporia, Kansas, where for two years and a half he was employed in the Pacific express office, and then moved to Shoshone, Idaho, and was there connected with the Oregon Short Line as express messenger. Desirous of changing both his place of residence and occupation, he went to Pendleton, Oregon, and there for a time worked at the carpenter trade, but later resuming the trade of his early manhood, carriage making, which he also followed when he later located in Whatcom, Washington. In 1890 he purchased a farm on the Samish river and resided there till in 1899 he came to his present home, Mount Vernon. After an extended trip to California for his health, he engaged in his present business, that of real estate and insurance.

Mr. Bowen was married, in Wisconsin, in 1860, to Clara Russell, to which union five children were born, three of whom are now living; James M., Benjamin W. and Walter G. In 1887, in Pendleton, Oregon, he was again married, his second wife being Mrs. Rebecca J. Conley, the daughter of Joseph Rob, a native of Pennsylvania, who died in Tacoma at the age of ninety-five. She was born in Ohio, November 21, 1846, but came with her parents to Iowa when quite young, and there secured an excellent education. She taught for several years prior to her marriage to Mr. Conley, a prominent lawyer of Pendleton. Of their three children, two are now living, Cleora F. Smith and Alberta A. Curry. Mrs. Bowen is a member of the Presbyterian church. Always an active Republican, Mr. Bowen is at present police judge and justice of the peace of Mount Vernon. He is a honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and in business and political and social circles is held in the highest esteem.

RALPH C. HARTSON, the editor and publisher of the Skagit News-Herald, is a native of Skagit county, born on the old Hartson homestead, one of the oldest places in the valley, across the river from Mount Vernon, December 20, 1880, the eldest of four children of George E. and Matilda (Gates) Hartson. The others are Mrs. Grace Earl, of Anacortes, Clifford, clerk in the Mount Vernon postoffice, and Earl Stanley, still living with his parents. The elder Hartson came to Skagit county in 1871 and is one of the oldest pioneers in point of residence in the valley. He is the present postmaster of Mount Vernon. When Ralph was six years of age his parents moved from their farm into town, his father having purchased the Skagit News from William H. Ewing. Young Hartson obtained his education in the local schools, being graduated from the ninth grade in 1895; later upon the addition of two other grades he resumed his studies until the course was completed. As a lad he studied the types in his father's printing office and soon advanced himself far enough to stand on a box in order to reach the cases. He learned from

experience the mechanical end of a country newspaper and then entered the editorial department. On completing his course in school he took charge of the composing and press room, which position he left to become assistant postmaster. In 1902 he was mail weigher for three months on the Great Northern railway, resigning to accept a place as substitute clerk in the postoffice at Seattle. In September of 1902 he took entire charge of the Skagit News-Herald, the oldest publication in the Skagit valley, which he has since conducted through the vicissitudes of newspaperdom.

In September, 1904, the union of Mr. Hartson and Miss Edna Hadfield, of Ridgeway, was celebrated. Her father, George W. Hadfield, was born in England and came to the United States when a lad. In after years he became proprietor of a crockery store on Fulton street, Brooklyn, New York. He subsequently located in Seattle, and prospering, built a large store for his crockery and furniture business, but his fortune was wiped out in the monetary distress of the early nineties. He saved from the wreck his farm of eighty acres near Mount Vernon, to which he retired in 1898, since which time he has successfully carried on farming and dairying. The mother, Isabella (Evans) Hadfield, a native of Ireland, came to this country when a girl, and marrying in Brooklyn, came west with her husband. Their union was blessed with seven children, five of whom are living: Carrie, Belle, Harry, Gilbert and Mrs. Hartson. She was educated in the schools of Brooklyn, Seattle and Avon. Mrs. Hartson is an accomplished musician. Fraternally Mr. Hartson is connected with the Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Rebekahs and Rathbone Sisters. Politically he is an unwavering Republican.

GEORGE E. HARTSON is one of the pioneers of western Washington, having accompanied his parents to that territory in 1868, before Skagit county had existence. Mr. Hartson was born in Troy, New York, in July, 1855, the son of Augustus Hartson, a native of Sharon, just over the New York state line into Connecticut. The elder Hartson was a machinist by trade. He followed his trade in Troy and in the early days of the settlement of Wisconsin was a pioneer blacksmith at Lodi. Pushing on to the Puget sound country, Mr. Hartson arrived at Coupeville on November 8, 1868. He came to that part of Whatcom county from which in later days Skagit county was formed, taking up a pre-emption claim one mile and a half southwest of Mount Vernon in 1871. Mr. Hartson followed farming and died in 1892. Mrs. Rebecca (Meloney) Hartson was born in Poughkeepsie, New York, and accompanied her husband across the continent passing away near Mount Vernon in 1892. George E. Hartson was but thirteen years of age on his arrival in Washington and at once com-

menced preparation for teaching. Without all the advantages at his hand, he made up in hard study what was lacking in facilities in the early pioneer days. When but seventeen years old he was granted a certificate and taught in Skagit county for six years, two terms each year. In 1885 he bought the Skagit News, a Democratic paper (changing its politics upon purchasing to Republican), published at Mount Vernon, and was its editor and publisher until 1900, when he leased his plant and accepted the appointment as postmaster at Mount Vernon, which position he still fills. Mr. Hartson has watched Skagit county and Mount Vernon grow from nothing into their present populous and influential positions, he himself contributing much of private energy and public spirit to that end. Mr. Hartson has not been without the ups and downs always present in pioneer days and knows the ins and outs of varying fortunes.

In 1879, in Skagit county, Mr. Hartson married Matilda, daughter of Jasper and Clarinda Gates, pioneer settlers of Skagit, who still live on a farm near Mount Vernon. It was Mr. Gates who took up as a homestead the land on which that city now stands, later selling it out in lots and buying his present place. Mrs. Hartson was born in Missouri and came to Skagit county with her parents when she was very young. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hartson: Ralph C., who succeeded his father in the newspaper business and still conducts it; Gracie; Clifford, a clerk in the postoffice; and Earl Stanley. Mr. Hartson has twice served as county superintendent of schools, one term in Whatcom county and the other in Skagit after the division was made. In politics he has always been a Republican and active in the councils of his party. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, as well as the social organization of lumbermen, the Concatenated Order of Hoo Hoo. Mr. Hartson owns his Mount Vernon home and has invested in real estate in Seattle and other towns. His deputy in the postoffice is Mrs. Hartson. Mr. Hartson was secretary of the old pioneers' association which was abandoned several years ago, and is now a member of the present organization which held its first meeting at Sedro-Woolley in the fall of 1904.

CAPTAIN DAVID F. DECATUR, ex-veteran of the Civil War, carries in his veins the blood of many generations of military and naval heroes, not least in the list of whom is the famous Commodore Steven Decatur. But if the deeds of the many other notables have been eclipsed by the more brilliant exploits of this world-famed commander, they are none the less worthy to creditable mention in the pages of history, as they all emanate from the same fountain head of true manhood and worth, and have been dominated by a like spirit of loyalty and patriotism. Born in Barrington, New Hampshire,

January 6, 1838, David F., the subject of this review, claims as his immediate progenitor Cyrus Decatur, who was ushered into this world amid the turmoil of the war of 1812, on the old family homestead, a portion of the Lafayette land grant, which has been in the family since its conferment at the close of the Revolutionary war, upon his father, John, for his creditable services under General Washington. This worthy patriot was at the noted battle of Portsmouth, and there received a severe wound. The buildings erected upon this estate during the colonial times are still preserved intact, and regular reunions of the direct descendants are held at stated periods at the old homestead, in which the subject of this sketch is a faithful participant. The mother of Captain Decatur, Olive (Woodhouse), was born in the land of the Scot, in the early part of the last century, and came as a small child to the United States with her parents, settling at Savannah, Georgia, where she was reared to womanhood with the very best advantages. She departed this life in 1866, thirty-one years prior to the death of her husband, who lived to the ripe old age of eighty-five. Captain Decatur was sent at an early age from his home in New Hampshire to the Sunny South, and was brought up in Savannah, Georgia, by his uncle, Charles Woodhouse. Later, however, he returned north for the completion of his education. While reared in the very hotbed of disunion sentiment, young Decatur had bred in the very fiber of his being distaste for slavery, and this sentiment was so fostered and fortified by the prevailing feeling which surrounded him while attending the northern schools, that when he returned south again his staunch advocacy of national union and the abolition of slave chattels, was not acceptable to the ultra southerners of his community, and in 1859 he was forced to seek more congenial surroundings in the loyal atmosphere of Toledo, Ohio. Going from there to Massachusetts he, on August 22, 1862, enlisted in the Thirty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, serving under General Burnside. At the noted battle of Antietam, his company, which bore the colors, was in the thickest of the fight, from which it came forth with decimated ranks but a glorious record, however dearly bought. In this engagement the Captain received seven wounds, and was sent to his home to recover. He then enlisted in the veteran reserve of Massachusetts, with commission of captain, continuing in this position for twenty-two years, during which time he engaged for a while in the grocery business and also followed landscape gardening. December, 1887, he came west to the Puget sound country, taking up his abode in Mount Vernon. Being forcibly impressed with the great possibilities in lumbering, he embarked in the manufacture of lumber, erecting the first saw-mill in Mount Vernon and that section of the county. This he sold three years later, and having in the meantime taken up a homestead, which he also disposed of, he purchased a tract of land

south of the town and engaged in agriculture. Notwithstanding the Captain is handicapped by the loss of one leg, a memento of his war service, he is an unusually active man, his happiness and peace of mind, as well as health, depending in a great measure upon so much outdoor exercise daily, and as a result of this and his systematic methods, he accomplishes something in his work.

On New Year's day, 1860, under the very shadow of Harvard College, the marriage of Captain Decatur and Miss Kate Morrison was celebrated. Mrs. Decatur is the daughter of William and Katherine Morrison, of Scotch descent. The father traces his ancestry back many generations among the noted Highland chiefs, one of his forebears having fought under William Wallace, the famous patriot of the thirteenth century, and still sacredly preserved in the family are the papers received by him in recognition of his service. The mother, born in Glasgow, in 1809, lived to the ripe old age of ninety-five. Mrs. Decatur was born in Washington county, Maine, in December of 1837, and has been a worthy helpmeet in the long and well spent married life which she and husband have passed together, as well as a most helpful and considerate mother to the three children who have blessed their union. William, the oldest son, is a mail clerk on the steamer Seattle, plying between the Washington metropolis and Alaska; Alice Elwyn Pollock is the wife of the writer and newspaper man of that name in Seattle, and Edith Mabel is at home. Fraternally Mr. Decatur is an Odd Fellow and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and also has the distinction of holding membership in the Legion of Honor. To the many other qualities and characteristics which have distinguished Mr. Decatur, and given him the standing and respect which he holds in his community, may be added that of ultra progressiveness; to see things move, and move in the right direction, is the delight of his life, and to accomplish this end he is ever ready to step to the front and face any and every opposing force.

CHARLES P. WHITNEY, a well-known citizen of Mount Vernon, is a native of the Buckeye state, born at Akron, in 1837, the son of William H. and Mary (Bixey) Whitney. The father, of English descent, was himself a descendant of Yankee stock and claimed Vermont as his birthplace. He came to Ohio in early life and in 1839 settled in Columbia County, Wisconsin, becoming one of the earliest pioneers of that section. His death occurred in Iowa in 1888. The mother was born in New York state and survived only a short time after the removal of the family to Wisconsin. Mr. Whitney, of this article, reached his majority in the Badger state, receiving an education such as the schools of that sparsely settled frontier afforded and time would permit, after which he went to Wapello County, Iowa. There he followed farming for

a number of years. In 1873 he took up his residence in Marion, Marion County, Kansas, there devoting his energies and abilities principally to the real estate and insurance business with good success. He came to the Northwest in 1891 searching for a more satisfactory location, and, becoming impressed with the Skagit country, established a permanent home at Mount Vernon. He pursued, until 1904, the lines he had followed in Kansas. He was then elected to the office of justice of the peace at the hands of the Republican party of which he has ever been a loyal member, and served his fellow citizens in that important capacity with credit until the fall of 1905. He then entered upon his present business as traveling salesman for the Spaulding Buggy Company, of Grinnell, Iowa, which business carried him again across the continent.

Mr. Whitney was married at Marion, Kansas, in 1876, to Anna J. McLean, the daughter of Major J. K. and Elizabeth McLean. Major McLean was a veteran of the Civil War and in that struggle won prominence because of his courage and military skill. Mrs. Whitney was born January 4, 1855. Mr. and Mrs. Whitney have a family of five children: Edith and Inez, twins, born March 12, 1878; Leo C., January 13, 1885; Lois B., July 8, 1888; and George K., June 27, 1890. Inez is now the wife of R. G. Hanaford, cashier of the First National Bank of Mount Vernon, while her twin sister, Edith, is married to W. M. King, a dentist of Mount Vernon. Leo C. Whitney is engaged in newspaper work on the sound and Lois B. is attending high school. Mrs. Whitney is a member of the Episcopal church and belongs to the Eastern Star and Rathbone lodges.

A man of earnest purpose, able in his business and commanding the respect of his associates, Mr. Whitney is one of the substantial factors in the progress of his community.

JOHN W. ALKIRE, D. O. No one following the trend of modern thought in the field of medical science can fail to observe the changed valuation placed upon medicine as a remedial agent. Belonging to a school that goes still farther, dispensing altogether with its use, is Doctor John W. Alkire, the bright young osteopathic physician of Mount Vernon, a native of Greenview, Illinois, born August 5, 1872. His father, David Alkire, a farmer, was born in Menard County, Illinois, in 1825, though his parents, of German descent, were originally from Virginia, coming as pioneers to Menard county soon after it was formed. His death occurred December 4, 1902. Mary K. Alkire, the maternal ancestor, born in Illinois in 1842, was a resident of New York prior to her marriage, and is now living in Missouri. Coming with his parents to Nodaway County, Missouri, at the age of four, John W. Alkire there spent his boyhood, assisting his

father with the farm work and meanwhile attending the common schools of the county. Early evincing a fondness for learning, he later attended the high school at Maryville, the county seat of Nodaway, removing in 1892 to Des Moines, Iowa, there to attend the Drake University, from which he was graduated with honor in the scientific course, two years later. Returning to Maryville, he made that his headquarters for the following two years which he spent as a commercial traveller. Believing that a professional career would afford a larger measure of success and satisfaction, he went to Anaheim, California, where an osteopathic college was then located, receiving his diploma from this institution, which in the meantime was removed to Los Angeles, where he finished his course in the year 1897. Thoroughly equipped for his life work, he opened an office in Portland, and there practiced for two and a half years, after which he spent a short time in Maryville, coming at length to Mount Vernon, his present location. Here he may be considered the pioneer in his branch of the profession, for while others have made it a location for a few months, he is the first one to build up a large practice. Doctor Alkire is a member of the Democratic party, but has never sought political preferment. He is interested in real estate, owning his home and office in Mount Vernon. A thorough student and a gentleman of pleasing address, who brings to his calling the wealth of youth, ambition and enthusiasm, Doctor Alkire is rapidly winning prominence by his splendid success in his chosen profession.

JOHN L. ANABLE, a well-known resident of Mount Vernon, was born at Three Rivers, Michigan, February 18, 1864, the son of John and Sarah (Poe) Anable. His father, a native of New York, born in 1823, of Welsh and Irish parentage, came early to the state of Michigan. Fond of travel and adventure, he made the trip to California by way of Cape Horn. Later he returned to Michigan, following which he spent a year in Kansas. As a carpenter and contractor, he was quick to see and profit by the advantages that the West offered, and in 1892 he came to Mount Vernon where he still resides. His wife, of German ancestry, was born in the Buckeye state and died in 1877. Of her seven children the subject of this sketch is the oldest. Mr. Anable attended the common schools of Michigan, completing his education by a course at the business college in Farmer City, Illinois. That he might have an all-around preparation for a successful life, he had learned the trade of brickmaking, prior to the time he left home at the age of twenty-two. He has been a resident of Mount Vernon since 1886, which has honored him by electing him to various offices. He has been police justice, city clerk for a number of years, and during Cleveland's last administration, he was postmaster.

Mr. Anable was married to Ida D. Kimble in

Mount Vernon, August 2, 1891. Her father, David E. Kimble, was born in Fayette County, Ohio, in 1828. As one of the oldest pioneers of Skagit county, a sketch of his life appears elsewhere in this history. His mother, Mary (Bozarth) Kimble, a native of Indiana, where she was born February 10, 1845, now lives in Mount Vernon. Mrs. Anable was born in Washington June 6, 1875, acquiring her education in the schools of the state. Mr. Anable is an influential member of the Democratic party, and has held the chairmanship of the Democratic county committee; while fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He is owner and manager of the opera house of the city, and is a prominent and highly respected member of the community.

MICHAEL PICKENS (deceased) was one of the successful and highly respected citizens of Mount Vernon until his death in 1895. During the eleven years of his activity in this county he had accumulated a competence by his tireless energy and application to work, and he left an excellent heritage to his family. Mr. Pickens was born in Sullivan County, Tennessee, in 1852, the son of John Pickens, a Tennessee farmer who moved to Missouri in 1853 and is still living there, retired, at Green City. The mother, Ama Rhada (Varney) Pickens, was likewise a native Tennessean, who died in Missouri in 1860. Of this union six children were born: James, William, Michael, Thomas, Jacob and Noah. By the second marriage of John Pickens there have been born: Nancy, Dora, Etta, Ida, Alice, Lottie, Sarah and Naomi. Michael Pickens was a farmer in Missouri until he came to Skagit county in 1884 and located with his family north of the Grand Central hotel in Mount Vernon. He was a carpenter and by economy and successful dealings in real estate accumulated property aggregating close to \$20,000.

In 1872 Mr. Pickens married in Sullivan County, Missouri, Miss Mary E. Harland, daughter of Elijah M. Harland, a native of Kentucky, who went to Illinois in boyhood. When twenty-two years of age, with his newly wedded wife, he removed to Missouri and became a pioneer farmer of that state. He died in 1897. Mrs. Pickens' mother, Mrs. Jane (Combs) Harland, was a native of Missouri and lived with her parents until marriage. She died in 1897, only five days after her husband had passed away. To that union fourteen children were born. Those still living are: Sarah L., Angie L., Stephen D., James F., Henry Clay, Sherman G., Lilian Sheridan, Viola B. and Mrs. Pickens. Those who have died bore the names of Edward T., Daniel A., Millard F., Johanna M. and Cynthia J., the last named being murdered in Oklahoma for money. Mrs. Pickens was born in Missouri in 1849 and lived with her parents until her

marriage in 1872. Her education in the early days was meager owing to conditions prevailing on account of the Civil War. Mrs. Pickens is the mother of five children: Mrs. Effie E. Fortin, Carlos E., John W., George Washington and Edna Myrtle. She is an attendant of the Christian church. Mr. Pickens was a member of the Baptist church, and in politics a Democrat. In 1885 he bought ten acres south of Mount Vernon, paying eighteen dollars per acre. This land was later platted into town property, and with two acres purchased at another time is known as Pickens' Addition, which has sold as high as six hundred dollars per acre. Mr. Pickens was highly respected in Mount Vernon and recognized as a man of business sagacity of a high order. Mrs. Pickens now owns the Grand Central lodging house and three residence properties in town. She also has six hundred and forty acres of very valuable timber land in British Columbia, one hundred and sixty acres of Skagit river land near Lyman, and four hundred and eighty acres in another part of Skagit county.

NELSON W. CARPENTER is one of the pioneer settlers of Skagit county, who turned his attention to the lumber industry and is now the successful manager of the Cedardale Lumber Company at Mount Vernon. Mr. Carpenter was born in Clinton County, Iowa, in 1855. His father, James Carpenter, a native of Canada, went to Iowa when a young man and later moved to Kansas. In 1860 he was a member of the state militia at Fort Scott and served in that capacity during the Civil War. He came to Washington in 1875 and took up land three miles south of Skagit City. After he had cleared a part, he sold out and moved to Mount Vernon, where he died in 1901. The mother, Mrs. Philey (Knight) Carpenter, was a native of New York state who lived in Iowa at the time of her marriage. She died when 37 years old, the mother of nine children. Nelson W. Carpenter was educated in the schools of Kansas, whither he had gone with his parents when seven years old. Remaining on the home farm until he had attained his majority, young Carpenter engaged in farming on his own account. When his father removed to Washington the young man took care of the home place until 1877, when he followed his father to this state. Mr. Carpenter at first located a homestead on the south fork of the Skagit river and lived there for seven years, clearing the timber and protecting the marsh land by dikes. He sold this farm and started a saw-mill at Cedardale, the second mill in the county. After operating this mill for seven years, he moved it to Mount Vernon, where it has been turning out lumber since 1890. Mr. Carpenter is manager of the mill and under his guidance the business has been a successful one. In 1895 he and M. Pickens built the Grand Central hotel at Mount

Vernon. Mr. Carpenter has at different times dealt in real estate.

In 1875, while yet in Kansas, Mr. Carpenter married Miss Maggie E. Springer, daughter of Charles Springer, a native of New York, who went to Kansas in the pioneer days before the Civil War. Mrs. Springer was of German extraction and died in Kansas. Mrs. Carpenter was born in Iowa in 1858 and received her education there, marrying when seventeen years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter have been the parents of nine children, all born in Skagit county, of whom Charles T., Arthur L., engineer in his father's mill; Nellie P., Laura E., Maggie M., Mabel R. and Walter are living. Two sons are dead, Albert, who died when he was three years old, and George, at the age of twenty years. In lodge affiliations Mr. Carpenter is an Odd Fellow. He is a member of the Christian church at Mount Vernon in which he is serving as deacon. In politics he is a Republican. Aside from his investment in the milling business, Mr. Carpenter has timber land and other valuable property. He has built up the lumber business of his company from the start made at Cedardale in the pioneer days, to the present successful plant now operating in Mount Vernon.

CHARLES CLINTON JOHNSON, of the Skagit steam laundry, was born in Rock Springs, Wyoming, July 23, 1875, the son of Charles Isaac and Hannah (Hanson) Johnson, natives of Sweden. The father, born in 1850, immigrated to the United States in 1870, locating in Nebraska where he remained eleven years, coming thence to Skagit county in 1882. He still resides here, owning a fine one hundred and fifteen acre farm valued at twenty thousand dollars. The mother was born in 1848, and at the death of her father went to live with an aunt. She came to the United States in 1870. She was married in Nebraska at the age of twenty-two. Unusual educational advantages were enjoyed by Charles Clinton Johnson. Having attended the common schools of Washington, he entered the university, and had but one more year before completing the course when he decided to enter the Seattle Business College in which he took a commercial course. He has also a practical and thorough knowledge of agricultural matters, thus being splendidly equipped for a successful business career. Purchasing the half interest in the laundry owned by Adolph Anderson, he is now devoting his entire time to that, he and his partner, Oscar Sundstrom, having already established a reputation for doing excellent work. Mr. Johnson's brothers and sisters are as follows: Ellen (deceased), Maggie, Gus, Frederick, Selma, Mary, Emily, and Garfield. He is a Republican, though not a strict partisan. Of the Fraternal Order of Eagles he is a prominent member. An energetic, ambitious young man, of sound moral principles, he is destined to become one of the influential members of the community.

OSCAR SUNDSTROM, a partner in the Skagit steam laundry, Mount Vernon, was born in west Gothland, Sweden, January 17, 1872, the son of John and Clara (Olson) Sundstrom, also natives of Gothland, the father born in 1833, the mother in 1823. A stone mason by trade, the elder Sundstrom has taken up farming in his later years, still residing in the land of his birth. Left an orphan in early life, his wife grew to womanhood in the home of her guardian, leaving it at the time of her marriage. Spending the first sixteen years of his life at home, Oscar Sundstrom then started for the United States, making the entire journey alone. He located at Cadillac, Michigan, working at various occupations until 1891, at which time he went to Seattle. Two years later he visited his parents in Sweden, remaining six months. On his return he stopped at his former home in Cadillac for some time, and there found his bride. Having purchased a farm in Snohomish county he made that his place of residence for several years, moving at length to California, where his wife died after four months' sojourn. Coming again to Snohomish county, he went on the railroad as foreman for the following two years. In 1903, he and a brother-in-law, Adolph Anderson, started a laundry in Mount Vernon, Charles Johnson purchasing the half interest of Mr. Anderson some time later. By giving careful attention to the requirements of their customers, and adhering strictly to upright principles, they are building up a fine business. Mr. Sundstrom has brothers and sisters as follows: John, Carl, Albert, Ida, Emma, and Henning (deceased).

Mr. Sundstrom has been twice married, his first wife being Anna England, born in Paris, Michigan, May 3, 1872. Of Swedish descent, her father is Samuel England, a millwright now making his home in Cadillac, Michigan. Mrs. Sundstrom was the mother of three daughters: Hazel (deceased), Myrtle and Ruth. Her death occurred in California in 1901.

In Seattle, September 28, 1901, Mr. Sundstrom and Sophia Sparing were united in marriage. Mrs. Sundstrom was born in May, 1878. The Republican party claims Mr. Sundstrom as a loyal member. He is also an honored brother in the Masonic fraternity. Active and industrious, the possessor of youth, health and ambition, he is one of the most promising young business men of the city.

IRA T. PATTERSON, founder and proprietor of Mount Vernon's pioneer meat business, and also one of Skagit county's most successful and popular citizens, is a sturdy son of the Pine Tree state. Maine has furnished a host of Puget sound's pioneers, especially in the development of its magnificent timber interests, and among those who made Skagit county the field of their activities the subject of this sketch deserves prominent mention. He was born August 21, 1864, to the union of Chauncey R.

and Catherine (McCum) Patterson, both of whom are likewise natives of that commonwealth, and of English and Irish lineage respectively. By occupation the father is a lumberman, though he has also been engaged in the hotel business with good success. At present he is one of Stanwood's well-known citizens. Mrs. Patterson is also enjoying the contentment which comes of a long, useful life, being in her sixty-ninth year. Ira T. is the fourth in a family of twelve children. His early educational training and home rearing were obtained while he was yet living in Maine, and like most frontier lads he assumed responsibilities in his youth. From the age of thirteen until he was eighteen, he worked in the neighboring lumber camps. Then he bade farewell to the rocky shores of the Atlantic and sought fortune on the headwaters of the Mississippi in Minnesota. There he was engaged in logging until July, 1887, when he turned still further westward, stopping at Missoula, Montana. From the camps of that region he went, in February, 1888, to Puget sound, where he was employed in various logging operations during the next two years. Then, with keen insight into commercial conditions, recognizing in the growing town of Mount Vernon an excellent opening for a market, he established his present business, the exact date being July, 1890, and this by aggressive, painstaking methods he has gradually built up until it is one of the solid enterprises of the community and extensive in its scope.

Mr. Patterson and Miss Martha Schneider were united by the bonds of matrimony at Mount Vernon, in November, 1903, she being at that time one of the city's popular clerks. Her father, Frederick Schneider, was a native of Germany, and in business a successful meat dealer; Mrs. Patterson's mother is still living at Alma, Wisconsin. The year 1871 marks the date of Mrs. Patterson's birth and in the state of Wisconsin she was reared and educated. One child, Ira F., born in 1904, has blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Patterson.

Fraternally, Mr. Patterson is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias in both of which he is an active worker. Recognizing his obligations to identify himself with the public life of his country, he has ever responded to the demands made upon him and in his party, the Democratic, he is well known. Success in business and influence among his fellows he has attained by long years of strict devotion, square dealing and energetic action, the usual rewards of such a life.

FRANK H. STACKPOLE, undertaker and building contractor, is one of Mount Vernon's well-known citizens. A native of Maine, he was born in Albion, Kennebec county, August 21, 1855, to the union of William and Caroline (Wiggins) Stackpole. The father enlisted in the Union army

in 1861 and died in the service that fall. His wife survived until 1896, her death occurring in Maine. Spending his early years at home, Frank H. acquired his education in the common schools of the Pine Tree state, going to Waterville, Maine, to learn the cabinet making trade. After remaining there two years, at the age of nineteen, he crossed the continent, and located in San Francisco where he followed his trade. His health having failed he went to Butte county, and engaged in lumbering in the mountains for three years, after which he returned to San Francisco to accept a position in an express office. Two years later he began farming in the Joaquin valley, making that his home until he went to Seattle in the fall of 1883. He settled at Fir, Skagit county, residing there six years, then coming to Mount Vernon where he has since lived with the exception of three years spent in Alaska. Making the first trip to that country in 1897, he traversed the trail, from Skagway to Bennett Lake in forty-five days, thence following the river down to Dawson. The summer of 1898 he spent in Mount Vernon, again seeking the gold fields of Dawson the next year, going later to Nome, in the spring of 1900. Longing to revisit the home of his boyhood, he made a trip to Albion after leaving Nome that fall. He made one more trip to Alaska, in the summer of 1901, returning to Mount Vernon in November. After being employed at his trade for a year, he purchased the undertaking business of W. S. Anable, and has since combined the two, devoting his entire time to looking after these interests. In political belief Mr. Stackpole is a Republican. He is an active member of the city council, lending his assistance to every enterprise that will benefit the town, and is prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and the Knights of Pythias. In addition to his large business, he has a substantial home in the residence district of the city. Public spirited, zealous of the prosperity and growth of the community, Mr. Stackpole is recognized as an influential citizen.

Melissa Branch, of Waterville, Maine, became the bride of Mr. Stackpole at Seattle, in 1902. She is the daughter of William and Emiline (Rowe) Branch, both of whom are deceased. The beginning of Mr. Stackpole's romance dates back to his boyhood when he and Miss Branch were school friends. Upon his return to Maine from Alaska in 1901 this friendship was renewed with the happy result above referred to.

NELSE B. JOHNSON, senior member of the grocery firm of Johnson & Sons, of Mount Vernon, was born in central Sweden, November 16, 1848, the son of Johannes Nelson, a farmer born in 1811, in Sweden, in which country he also died in 1887. The mother, Annie (Peterson) Nelson, was also born in Sweden in 1819, and departed this life in

1882. She was the mother of six children: Peter, Nelse, Charlie, Annie, Christina and Johanna. It is the custom in Sweden that the oldest son inherits the homestead and receives a good education, whether any of the others are provided for or not; and it thus fell to the lot of Nelse to get out and hustle for himself, with but limited school opportunities. On leaving his father's home he sought employment in a lumberyard, and then it was that he had his first experience in letter writing, in writing home to his parents. After a number of years thus employed, he determined upon trying his fortune in the United States. He had learned of the great advantages here offered the man of limited means with a strong desire to better his condition; and hither he came in 1880, settling first in Kansas, after a brief trip through Nebraska. For eleven years he continued there, laboring under the disadvantages of drouth and crop failures, ever hoping for and expecting a change for the better; only to have those hopes blasted. His experiences in that state are anything but pleasant to look back upon. In 1891 he came to the Puget sound country, settling near Skagit City on a farm of twenty-five acres. He had but fairly started the work of clearing this tract of timber when he met with a serious accident, in which both of his legs were broken. For twenty-two weeks he was confined to the house, during which time he learned what it is to have the ministrations of kind neighbors and loving home folks, and to prize the same at something like their true value. At the end of this period he insisted upon his sons carrying him out to the clearing on a chair, and with that indomitable will and courage which knows not the words "give up," he worked for hours at a time grubbing roots and brush, seated in the chair, from which he was unable to move. It was a full year before he could go about on crutches, and four years elapsed before he was fully recovered; but during all this period he and sons continued to work unceasingly at clearing and preparing the land. In the winter of 1904 he and sons, John, Simon and Fred, embarked in the grocery business in Mount Vernon, to which place they moved.

Mr. Johnson was first married to Christina Nelson who departed this life May 1, 1888. She was the mother of the following children: John, Simon, Emanuel (deceased), Fred, Theodore (deceased), Annie and Arthur. Her father, Nelse Pearson, still lives in Sweden, where he was born in 1827. Her mother, Christina (Anderson) Pearson, died in 1881. To a second marriage contracted in 1889 in Kansas, with Betsy Carlson, daughter of Magnus and Sesilia (Nelson) Carlson, of Skagit City, the following children were born: Minnie, Edith, Lilly and Esther. She departed this life near Skagit City, July 19, 1898. In 1899 he was united in marriage to Mrs. Mary (Berg) Johnson, widow of J. P. Johnson (deceased), of Minneapolis, Minnesota. Her father, Andrew Berg, a prominent

citizen of Christianstad, Sweden, came to the United States in 1891, locating at St. Paul, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have one child, Elsie Mary. Mr. Johnson is a loyal Republican, and he and the family are active members of the Swedish Baptist church. In addition to his lucrative grocery business and building, Mr. Johnson owns his farm valued at five thousand dollars, and his town residence. He fully realizes to-day the wisdom of his choice of Washington as a home.

JULES FREDLUND, the young, energetic secretary and manager of the Mount Vernon Creamery Company, was born in Bergen, Norway, August 31, 1872, the son of Ingvald and Mary (Johnson) Fredlund, both natives of Norway, the father born in 1836, and the mother the previous year. The elder Fredlund is a carpenter and farmer who came to the United States in 1882, settling first in South Dakota, where he lived for eight years, after which he came to Skagit county. Here he bought land south of Mount Vernon, and since then has made it his home except during an extended visit to his native land in 1899. Having spent the first nine years of his life in Norway, Mr. Fredlund came with his parents to South Dakota where he attended the common schools, later, when the family moved to Skagit county, assisting his father and brothers in the work of the farm. In 1899 the two brothers leased the father's farm, and Mr. Fredlund, of whom we write, took a course in the Agricultural College of Madison, Wisconsin, after which, having sold out his interest in the farm to his brother, he went to Seattle and bought into a grocery and meat market. Convinced at the end of a month that he could be more successful in the business for which he had received special training, he disposed of his property, and returned to Wisconsin, there buying an interest in a creamery in Polk county which he retained until 1903, though he did not remain there the entire time. After coming to Mount Vernon and thoroughly investigating the situation, in the winter of 1904 he aided in the organization of the present stock company known as the Mount Vernon Creamery Company, with E. S. Phipps, president, Robert Fredlund, vice-president, and himself secretary and manager. Having bought the interest of Mr. Phipps, the two brothers sold it later to W. E. Harbert. Under such wise and careful management the enterprise has grown rapidly, and promises to be one of the most successful creameries in this part of the county. Besides the brother associated with him in business, Mr. Fredlund has brothers and sisters as follows: Albert, in Alaska, near Dawson; Joseph, in Seattle; Anna Henry, Edwin and John, residing in Mount Vernon; Mary Wolf, near Mount Vernon, and Charles (deceased).

Mr. Fredlund is a member of the Eagle fraternity. He is a prominent member of the Baptist

church in which he holds the office of trustee; and politically he is an active member of the Republican party. In addition to his creamery business he has a farm south of town, stock in talcum mines and in the Washington Fire Insurance Company, all of which testify to his excellent business capabilities. Thoroughly fitted for his work, familiar with the details that are especially important in this line, as time develops this into the ideal dairy country, which it is certain to become, his future success is assured.

JOHN L. DOWNS, a prosperous farmer residing two and a half miles west of Fir, was born in Great Falls, New Hampshire, April 17, 1865, the only son of Horace P. and Sylvia A. (Guptill) Downs, who were among the oldest pioneers in this section of the state to which they came in 1878. His father is a native of New Hampshire, born in 1840; the mother was born three years later in Maine, and died February 28, 1904. Just preceding this will be found the biographies of both parents who are widely known in the political and social life of the county. Having attended the Bunker Hill grammar school at Boston, Mr. Downs came with his parents to Mount Vernon when thirteen years of age, and here he completed his education in the schools of the county. His grandfather, Paul Downs, was a shipbuilder in Maine, bequeathing, perhaps, to this grandson his talent along that line, for Mr. Downs early displayed great skill in the construction of boats, launches, and works of a similar nature; and is now building a gasoline launch that promises to be very satisfactory. During the time his father was in office, the complete charge of the farm devolved upon him, since which he has followed that work. Twelve years ago he took up a preemption near Cedar-dale but has never made that his permanent home.

In 1891, Mr. Downs married Miss Leona Moore, daughter of Thomas J. and Mary (—) Moore, who came to this country forty years ago, making the trip in a sailing vessel by way of Cape Horn. Mrs. Downs was born at Fort Discovery in 1872. She has one brother, George Moore, a farmer living in Skagit City. Both her parents are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Downs have three children: Mable, Agnes and Isabella. Like his father, Mr. Downs is a Republican, devoted to the interests of his party, but has never sought political preferment for himself. Financially he is nicely situated, owning his farm near Fir, and also town property in Mount Vernon, while as a citizen and neighbor he stands high in his community.

DR. HORACE P. DOWNS. Among the many prominent pioneer citizens who have materially assisted in laying firm and secure the foundation whereupon a better and broader civilization might

be erected in Skagit county, few if any have really contributed more than has the gentleman whose name furnishes the caption for this article, and none have left on retirement from public and official duties a cleaner or more creditable record, a heritage more to be prized by the oncoming generations than the dower of a prince. Qualified by education, profession and temperament for leadership in a new community, his worth was soon recognized and the voice of the people called him to their service. Dr. Downs came among the people as one of them, taking up land on the tide flats a number of miles to the south of Mount Vernon, and adding to this by purchase, he engaged in the reclamation of the same from the sea without and the river floods within, clearing, diking and cultivating; laboring in season and out, undergoing the hardships of flooded home, when for days at a time the household goods were stored for safety in the upper story of the house, while the family sought shelter elsewhere; loss of stock and crops, exercising Yankee ingenuity in the construction of floating pens for the preservation of his hogs, and in every way taking the initiative against new and unknown dangers. In the settlement of new countries, as nowhere else, is the resident physician's presence appreciated, and the Doctor's service was a boon of priceless value in those days for many miles around, since it was known that his best skill was to be had for asking, without price. Born in Freedom, New Hampshire, to the union of Paul and Betsey (Rollins) Downs, the former dying in 1855 and the latter many years later in Skagit county. Dr. Downs received the best of educational advantages, attending first the Great Falls high school, then Phillips Academy at Exeter, and later Bowdoin College, in the latter of which he took a medical course, and shortly afterward began the practice of his chosen profession at Tamworth, New Hampshire. Fifteen years were then spent in the city of Boston as physician and druggist. Then in 1878 he came to Skagit county. Mrs. Downs' advent into this country ante-dates that of her husband. Having come west to California on a visit to her father, she fell in love with the sound country, with its salubrious climate, matchless water expanse, and tangle of wild beauty on hill and in valley, and after writing an enthusiastic letter to the husband in the east, filed by power of attorney upon a tract of tide land. This, however, was lost to them and other land was taken in its stead. Sometime after his arrival the Doctor was appointed as tide land appraiser by the legislature, and was also called to serve as county commissioner of Whatcom county before the division and organization of Skagit. When the bill for the division of Whatcom county passed, the Doctor was appointed one of the commissioners by the legislature, to complete the details of the same and settle up in an equitable manner the interests of the old and new county. At a special election following this he was chosen the first auditor of the new

county, and so satisfactorily did he conduct the affairs of his office that he was elected three terms in succession to that position. He also served three terms as deputy assessor, and was twice elected mayor of the city of Mount Vernon.

In 1864 Dr. Downs was united in marriage to Sylvia A. Guptill, native of Maine, born in 1843. Her father, William N. Guptill, practicing physician, was one of the argonauts who made the trip to California on one of the first sailing vessels to round Cape Horn after the discovery of gold in that country. Mrs. Downs, who departed this life February 28, 1904, was a lady of culture and refinement, with unusual executive ability, competent to fill any position social or otherwise. She was known far and wide for her many excellent qualities of heart and mind, and her decease was sincerely mourned by the host of friends and acquaintances as a personal loss to the community. In her immediate family she left the husband and son, John L., the only child, who is an extensive farmer on the tide flats, south of Mount Vernon. In fraternal circles Mr. Downs has always been an active Odd Fellow, having passed through all the chairs of the subordinate lodge, and is a member of the Grand lodge. Politically he has ever been a stalwart Republican, but never a narrow partisan, and by this broad minded view of matters, he has won and held as fast friends men of like calibre in the ranks of the opposing political forces. Respected and highly esteemed by a circle of acquaintances not confined to the limits of his town, or even county, Dr. Downs, in the decline of life, and while suffering under the affliction of a possibly fatal illness, from a stroke of paralysis, can look back on the well spent years of his life with gratification and pride, feeling that his life has not been lived in vain, and with the approval of his earthly course by his neighbors and friends, he can face the judgment of that higher tribunal with reasonable assurance of the applaudit, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

ELMER A. AXELSON is one of four brothers who have made an unqualified success of Skagit county farming since coming from Sweden. He is a successful grain and stock farmer two miles west of Fir in the Skagit delta, one of the rich agricultural sections of the county. Elmer was born in Sweden in 1872, the son of Axel W. Magnuson, who is still living on the farm in his native land. The mother, Sophia Nygin, was born at Atvidabarg, Sweden, and is still living with her husband, both being well advanced in years. She is the mother of eight children, of whom Axel W., Conrad F., Herman and Elmer reside in Skagit county; the others being Mrs. Sophia Wangberg, Mrs. Amanda Johanson, Mrs. Ella Gustafson and Alben Axelson. Elmer attended his home school until fourteen years of age. He was ambitious for a lib-

eral education, but circumstances denied him this for a time and he left home to work on a farm at Norkoping for a year. A short stay at the old home followed and at the age of seventeen years he found himself at La Conner. He was fortunate on first coming to the United States to be employed on the excellent farm of R. E. Whitney, who was one of the largest and most liberal farmers of that section. He worked here for six years, then went to work for E. A. Sisson, putting in seven years off and on with him. It was during this period of his life that young Axelson realized in part his desire for more education, and he utilized his winters in attending school. Finally deciding to try what he could do for himself, Mr. Axelson rented the George D'Arcy place, on the Samish flats, and operated it for two years. The next seven years were spent in farming on Beaver Marsh at the J. S. Wallace place. In the meantime Mr. Axelson had bought and sold a small place by the Swinomish slough, making some money on the investment and sale. In 1903 he purchased the Captain Loveland place, of 160 acres, all under cultivation, and has since made his home there.

June 11, 1903, he married Miss Gertrude Morris at Tacoma. Mrs. Axelson is the daughter of George A. and Sarah (O'Donnell) Morris, natives of England, who came to the United States eighteen years ago and settled at Avon. Mrs. Morris died early in 1905, but Mr. Morris still resides at Avon, living in retirement, having sold his real estate, which brought him considerable wealth. Mrs. Axelson was born at Nottingham, England, in 1882 and came to this country with her parents when only five years old. She attended the Avon schools and entered the Salvation Army when fifteen, serving for three years in Spokane and Bellingham, Washington, Helena, Montana, and Rossland and Victoria, British Columbia. Before leaving the army she had been commissioned lieutenant. She has two children: Evalina, born March 26, 1904, and Lucille, born August 10, 1905. Just previous to his marriage, Mr. Axelson realized the cherished ambition of obtaining a higher education and pursued successfully in 1901 and 1902 a course in the Bellingham business college, getting a training which he highly prizes as an adjunct of his business. In fraternal circles Mr. Axelson is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of the Woodmen of the World and the Independent Order of Good Templars. He is a Republican in politics and with his wife belongs to the La Conner Baptist church. Mr. Axelson is one of the prosperous and up-to-date farmers of the southwest section of the county.

HALEY R. HUTCHINSON, prominently identified with the business interests of Mount Vernon as the proprietor of the Spring Brook Gardens, was born in Manchester, Vermont, Novem-

ber 16, 1858, the son of Robert Hutchinson, of French descent, who was superintendent of the oil refinery at Cleveland, Ohio, at the time of his death in 1881. His mother was Clara Minerva (Prentiss) Hutchinson, a native of Massachusetts, whose parents were the direct descendants of the Puritans. Her father, Zachariah Prentiss, of Akron, Ohio, a man of influence in that part of the state, at one time owned as farm land the present site of the city of Akron, in which he still holds large real estate interests. She died in 1873, at the age of thirty-nine. She was the niece of General Prentiss of historic memory. Having moved with his parents to Cleveland at the age of four, Mr. Hutchinson there spent the following six years, and then began his career, when only ten years old, working on a farm and in a nursery. He was a resident of Ohio till 1880, going then to Chicago where he took a six-year course in mechanical engineering, and later locating in Grand Haven, Michigan. After seven years there in which he was engaged in gardening and fruit farming, he removed to Placer county, California, in 1896, there pursuing the same line of activity, together with mining. Convinced that the country to the northwest held desirable agricultural openings, two years later, with three teams and camp wagons thoroughly equipped, he started overland, travelling leisurely, viewing the country with the purpose of locating when a desirable spot was found. The most memorable event of the journey was at Warm Springs, Oregon, where he witnessed probably the largest gathering of Indians ever held. Coming from all over the country they were there holding a religious powwow, a scene which once witnessed can never be forgotten. Starting from Sacramento he reached Mount Vernon in the fall of 1898, and for two years leased land till he had demonstrated that this was adapted to gardening, after which he bought his first land of Frank Hamilton. He believed that this locality was especially suitable for the culture of celery, tomatoes and like vegetables, but it required time to prove to a skeptical public the soundness of his judgment. Conceded now to be the largest celery grower in the state, cultivating annually two hundred thousand plants, he has established a reputation of which he may well be proud.

Mr. Hutchinson was married October 3, 1880, to Miss Cozella Smith, a native of Sandusky, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Hutchinson have six children: Haley S., Karl, Cozella, Pansy, Ruby and Linnet. Haley S., the oldest son, his father's partner in the business, has completed a two-year course at the agricultural college at Pullman, and will remain there for two years more, studying veterinary science. His specialty is thoroughbred stock, and he owns at the present time some fine Jersey cattle and Berkshire hogs, in connection with his father's dairy interests. Mr. Hutchinson has one of the finest barns to be found in this section, having accommodations for forty-eight cows. He owns a

creamery and finds a ready market for his product. In political matters Mr. Hutchinson is an independent voter. He is an active member of the Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World and the Banker's Life. He and his family attend the Episcopal church. Beginning life for himself at an age when most boys are occupied with tops, marbles and balls, his long years of industry, enterprise and skilful management have been duly rewarded and to-day he owns seventy acres of bottom land, thirty-five of which are devoted to gardens; he also owns fifty acres on the hills, where his home is, besides his greenhouses, creamery and dairy, and he is considered one of the successful business men of the county.

DAVID EVERETT KIMBLE, a pioneer among pioneers, one of the real forces in the reclamation of the Skagit valley from its primeval wilderness, is the honored citizen whose life we shall here seek to concisely portray. Upon the old homestead in the bend of the river just below Mount Vernon, surrounded by peace and plenty, amid the scenes of his most noteworthy labors, he is passing the declining years of a long, useful life.

Aaron Kimble, the father of David, was a pioneer of the middle West, into which he entered as a lad of twelve from his native state, New Jersey. In Ohio he learned the plasterer's trade and there lived until 1832, when he removed to Park county, Indiana. From Indiana he went to Missouri eight years later and resided until his death in 1846. Nancy (Snodgrass) Kimble, his wife, was born in 1812, a native of Virginia, and there lived with her parents until they went to Ohio. In that state she was married. She survived her husband forty years, living in Missouri until 1870, then joining her son at Mount Vernon with whom she lived until the grim reaper overtook her. Five of their children are dead also: Vina, Joseph, John, Aaron, Newton and Mary; the remaining three are Mrs. Martha Clifton, Mrs. Clarinda Gates and the subject of this sketch. He was born May 5, 1828, on the old farm in Fayette county, Ohio, but received his education and arrived at man's estate in Missouri. In 1861 he took up his residence in Illinois, but lived there only a year, next going to Indiana, where he ran a saw-mill engine for a time. Returning to Illinois in 1863, he followed teaming in Cass county until he came to the Pacific coast. The trip across the plains with his family in 1868 was filled with the usual dangers and hardships incident to such a trip. Arriving at Puget sound, Mr. Kimble immediately joined his wife's folk on Whidby island and resided nearby for several months. At that time what is now Skagit county had barely a score of white settlers and the Skagit valley was entirely unoccupied except by a number of white men with Indian wives, living on the delta. Into this wilderness Mr. Kimble plunged and February

3, 1869, staked out the claim which is now his home. This place was the furthest inland at that date and right at the lower end of the historic log jam which blocked higher navigation by any kind of a boat, thus preventing the settlement of the inland region. As the most isolated settler in the county Mr. Kimble passed through a great many interesting pioneer experiences. The Gates, Gage and Kimble families settled near each other about the same time, shortly after the claims were taken in 1869, being the first white families on the Skagit. However, settlement on the river was extremely slow until the removal of the jam in 1878 and the founding of Mount Vernon just above the Kimble place about that year.

Mr. Kimble was united in marriage to Minerva Jane Bozarth in Indiana, Christmas day, 1862. She comes of a well-known pioneer family, her father having been Urvan E. Bozarth, who settled on Whidby island in 1852. He was born in Kentucky in 1827, but left the Blue Grass state at the age of seventeen to live in Missouri. His death occurred on Whidby island in 1870. Mrs. Elizabeth (Rice) Bozarth was a native of Missouri and there reared and educated. The Bozarth family is prominent in the early history of Whidby island. Mrs. Kimble was born February 2, 1845, and reared by her grandparents, with whom she lived until her marriage. A large family has been the fortune of this union: Balzora, born August 15, 1863 (deceased); Edward, March 18, 1864, a well-known resident of the lower valley; Charles W., September 22, 1865 (deceased); Clarinda, November 20, 1866 (deceased); Minerva Elizabeth, January 24, 1869; Nancy B., October 30, 1870; Joseph, December 25, 1872; Ida, January 6, 1875; Zenia, April 29, 1876; George, March 8, 1879; Harry, July 11, 1881; Anna, October 9, 1883; and Rufus, January 5, 1886. The family are members of the Baptist faith. Mr. Kimble is a Democrat, but of late has not taken as active an interest in politics as when he was younger. He has served upon the local school board and in many other ways shown his public spiritedness and a desire to bear his responsibilities as a good citizen. The Kimble ranch of seventy acres well improved and having upon it more than 1,000 bearing fruit trees is a high testimonial to its owner's thrift and taste, and it is appropriate that he and his wife should now be enjoying the fruits of their long, weary labors as pioneers of that community.

ABNER B. CORIELL, one of the heroes of Shiloh and Vicksburg, is a native of Ohio where he was born at Portsmouth, April 7, 1842, the son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Beard) Coriell. His father, also born in the Buckeye state, in 1803, grew up on his father's farm, leaving it when he began life for himself in the shoe trade. Moving to Greenup county, Kentucky, two years later, he there had a

tannery and shoe factory, selling out in 1850, to remove to Muscatine County, Iowa. Here he spent the remainder of his life, dying at the age of fifty-two. His wife, born in the state of Ohio, in 1803, died four years prior to her husband. Mr. Coriell spent his early years working on the farm, first for his father and then for others. Among the thousands of young men who in the first flush of manhood answered the call to arms in 1861, none bore a braver heart than did Mr. Coriell, who enlisted September, 1861, in Company C, of the Sixteenth Iowa Infantry. Having received a severe wound in the arm at the battle of Shiloh, he was home on a furlough for six months, joining his company at the end of that time, at Vicksburg. Actively engaged in the fearful siege of that city, he was there discharged on account of his wounds. After his recovery he farmed for a year, and then longing, perchance, for adventure, he crossed the plains by wagon to Nevada, later going to Salt Lake, where he remained for some time. In 1865, Virginia City, Montana, became his home for a year, which he spent in mining. A trip from this city to Omaha, Nebraska, on horse back was completed in fifty-five days, and here he tarried for a short time, going thence to Iowa, and later accepting a position as pilot on the Missouri river, which he retained for nine years. Coming to the state of Washington in 1875, his first position was in the mines at Newcastle, east of Seattle; this, however, was soon given up, and logging near Green river, substituted. In 1876, he came to Mount Vernon, and here took up a claim six miles northwest of the city, spending his time for the next three years on the farm. A trip to British Columbia was the following step in the eventful life of Mr. Coriell, and when, after three years' residence there, he returned to Mount Vernon, he disposed of his property, and now resides with Mr. David Kimble of whose farm he has the entire charge. His brothers and sisters are: Mrs. Jane Coriell, George, now dead, Sanford, Sela, Louisa Reed, Mary Ann (deceased), Charlie, James, Isabelle Willett, Mrs. Lucretia Pascal (deceased). With such a record behind him, it is needless to say that Mr. Coriell is a prominent member of the Grand Army, and one of whom his comrades are justly proud; while his sterling character has won for him the respect of his many acquaintances.

EDWARD DAVID KIMBLE, identified with the logging interests of Mount Vernon for the past twenty years, is a native of Illinois, born in Springfield, March 18, 1862, the son of David Everett and Minerva Jane (Bozarth) Kimble, a sketch of whom is found elsewhere in this history. His father was born in Fayette county, Ohio, May 5, 1828; his mother, also claiming Ohio as her birthplace, was born February 10, 1845. The parents are now living in Mount Vernon. Coming with his parents to-

this city at the age of nine, Edward D. Kimble here spent the following nine years, leaving home at the age of eighteen to seek his fortune in the Frazier river district, British Columbia, where he was engaged in farming. In 1884 he took up his permanent residence in Mount Vernon, and there began the business that has claimed his attention to the present time.

Mr. Kimble was married at Boundary bay, British Columbia, March 18, 1884, to Mary Martin, who died the following year, at Mount Vernon. To her father, Samuel Martin, of Indiana, belongs the distinction of having been one of the very first settlers in the Frazier river country to which he came in 1864. His home is now in Blaine, Washington, but he spends much of his time farming in British Columbia. Her brothers and sisters are as follows: Charles, Joseph, William, Lucy, Myrtle, Isabelle and Betsy. On November 11, 1892, Mr. Kimble was again married, Mary Miller this time being his bride. Her father, a farmer of German ancestry, died in California three years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Kimble have three children: Emma, Walter and Erwin. Mr. Kimble is a Democrat, but has never sought political prominence. He is a member of the American Yeoman fraternity. His wife is connected with the Lutheran church. Mr. Kimble, in connection with his logging business, owns an excellent wood saw. He also rents a farm upon which he resides. He is the second child in a family of thirteen, of whom the other members are: Belzora, Charles W., Clorinda, Minerva Elizabeth, Nancy B., Joseph, Ida, George, Zenia, Harry, Anna and Rufus. A man of good business ability, honorable in all his dealings with his fellowmen, of strictest integrity, and one who is at all times animated by a spirit of fairness and justice, Mr. Kimble holds the respect and confidence of all.

GEORGE MORAN. Among the many men of foreign birth who have made the United States the home of their adoption, finding therein success and friends, must ever be numbered the subject of this sketch. Born in Ireland in 1851, the fourteenth child of James and Maria (O'Toole) Moran, both natives of Ireland, where the father followed farming, Mr. Moran received his education in the mother country. When he had reached his majority, he sailed for the United States, where he settled first in Michigan, following the logging business there for three years. In May of 1876, he decided to visit the wonderful land that lay beyond the Rockies and investigate the rich resources of which he had read. Locating in what at that time was a part of Whatcom county, Washington, there remaining for five years during which time he was engaged in logging on the Skagit river, he came at length to Mount Vernon in June, 1881. Here he owned and operated the Mount Vernon House for

several years, meanwhile filing on a homestead claim on which he commuted at the end of two years, and also taking up a timber claim. Having disposed of his hotel, he went into the retail liquor business in 1890 in Mount Vernon, which line of trade still claims his attention. He has made Mount Vernon his home since 1876.

Mr. Moran was married in Mount Vernon April 7, 1885, to Margaret Knox, the daughter of John B. Knox, who came from his native land, Scotland, to Washington territory in 1875, where he took up a homestead near the site of Mount Vernon, his present home. He had successfully followed the trade of a carpenter in the land of his birth. Mrs. Moran was born in Arkansas in 1867, but having removed with her parents to Skagit county when quite young, she here received her education, and became a bride at the age of eighteen. Mr. and Mrs. Moran have one child, John P., born in Mount Vernon, March —, 1888. A boy of unusual talents, he is now attending the Washington State University at Seattle, from which he will graduate in the class of 1907, at the early age of nineteen. Mr. Moran is a prominent member of the Democratic party and an enthusiastic advocate of its principles, to which he has been a lifelong adherent. He is also a member of influence in the following fraternities: Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, and the Concatenated Order of Hoo Hoo. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church. In addition to the homestead and timber claims already mentioned, Mr. Moran is also the owner of several valuable pieces of property in Seattle. Among the pioneers of Skagit county Mr. Moran has a wide acquaintance and friendship, and as a man of his word, who will redeem a pledge made or a promise given, none take precedence over him. Still in the prime of life, he has doubtless many years before him in which to enjoy the fruits of his wise management and skilful industry.

ANDREW A. JOHNSON, a prosperous farmer residing in the Beaver Marsh district, four and a half miles southwest of Mount Vernon, was born in Sweden in 1849, the son of John and Anna (Pear) Johnson, natives of the same country, the father having been engaged in farming there until his death. The mother now resides with her son in Mount Vernon. After securing his education in the common schools of Sweden, Mr. Johnson began learning the trade of carpenter and wagon maker. His father having died when he was a small boy, he was entirely dependent upon his own efforts, and having heard of the superior advantages offered to young men in the United States, he came thither at the age of twenty-one, after a brief stay of four months in Canada, locating first in Chicago where he arrived three days after the great fire. At the end of eighteen months he took up track laying on the railroads in Wisconsin and

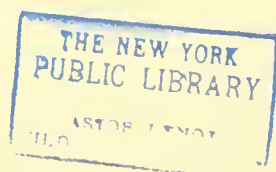
Michigan, and later was employed in the iron mines of Lake Superior. In the spring of 1871, he removed to California, where he spent a year and a half in the Napa valley, first on a ranch and later as a carpenter assisting in the construction of the asylum of Napa county. In San Francisco he was employed by the same contractor for several months, after which he went to Peru, South America, and there fell a victim to disease and misfortune. Homeless, ill, destitute of money and even personal apparel, all of which had been stolen from him, the future seemed a blank. However, help came in the darkest hour from the fraternal order with which he was connected, the Odd Fellows, who kindly secured his passage back to San Francisco, and rendered him financial assistance until his health was restored and he had found a business opening. As bridge builder for the Southern Pacific railroad, he was one of the first to open the work at Port Costa, going thence to Arizona as foreman wagon maker for the same road, and was later employed by them in building the road from Sweetwater to within a few miles of San Antonio, Texas. Upon its completion he went to the Mohave desert with the company outfit and there followed his trade for six months at the end of which time he returned to California to assist his brother who was superintendent of the Nevada dock at Redding, California. Having visited La Conner, Washington, in 1883, he was so favorably impressed that a year later it became his home, and here for the ensuing eight years he worked at his trade and on his farm. Many houses and barns in this locality bear witness of his skill as a carpenter. Disposing of his interests in 1894, he bought his present farm near Mount Vernon, and has since made this his home.

Mr. Johnson was married February 2, 1884, to Miss Berta Eliza Anderson, a native of Sweden who came with her sister to the United States in 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have five children: Anna M., Carl G., Alice (deceased), Oscar F. and Arthur J. He is affiliated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen at La Conner. Both he and Mrs. Johnson are members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Johnson is an earnest advocate of the Republican party, and has several times been elected delegate to the conventions of his party. Interested in educational matters, he has given to it time and attention, serving as school director in his district. His fine farm of eighty acres produces from three to four thousand pounds of oats, and from four to four and one-half tons of timothy, to the acre. He owns a good dairy, and sells the product as cream. He has recently built a beautiful new home, thus surrounding himself with the evidences of the prosperity he so richly merits. He is known as a public spirited citizen, deserving the respect and esteem of his many acquaintances.

JOHN JUNGQUIST, well known as a farmer and stockman, residing three miles southwest of Mount Vernon, was born in central Sweden in 1858, his father being August Jungquist, a farmer who came to this country in 1888 and now resides with his son in Mount Vernon. Hannah (Swanson) Jungquist, the mother, was a native of Sweden, and came with her husband to America, where she died in 1901. Attending the common schools of the country, and serving two seasons of fifteen days each in the army, as all who pass the examinations are required to do, Mr. Jungquist spent the early years of his life. To him as to so many of his countrymen, the United States was a synonym for opportunity and success, and thus having reached his majority, he crossed the ocean, locating in Osage City, Kansas, where he worked in the coal mines for two years. Desiring to investigate the Northwest, he came to Seattle by way of San Francisco in 1883, found employment at brick making under the contractors, Lewis & Ranky, with whom he remained till October when he filed on his present homestead. So densely timbered was the land that only here and there could glimpses of the sky be seen. Wagons and roads were alike unknown conveniences, only one man in all that section owning anything that might by courtesy be designated as a wagon, and he, Frank Buck, had constructed it, using wheels sawed out of logs. The woods were full of bears that often came to eat berries as Mr. Jungquist toiled on clearing off the timber. Frequently he remained in the woods for weeks at a time, seeing no white man except an occasional trapper making his rounds. Everything needed for the work was sent up the Skagit river and packed to its destination.

Mr. Jungquist was married January 29, 1891, to Amanda Wersen, of Sweden, born February 16, 1871. She came to this country in 1888, and her mother followed September 14, 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Jungquist have four children: Amile, born January 14, 1893; Iver, September 14, 1894; Gust, February 1, 1896; and Evelyne, May 27, 1901. Mr. Jungquist is an independent voter. His farm of one hundred and sixty acres, eighty of which are under cultivation, yielding excellent returns in oats, hay and stock, is a substantial proof of years of energy and thrift, while the esteem accorded him by his fellow-citizens bears witness of his sterling worth.

JOHN AXEL LUND, a farmer and stockman residing six miles northwest of Mount Vernon, is a native of Sweden, born near Lule in 1859, the son of John A. and Elsie M. Anderson, both born in Sweden, in which country the father also died and the mother still makes her home. Like most of the boys of his country, Mr. Lund spent his early years in gaining a thorough knowledge of farming on his father's farm, during which he engaged in salmon fishing for several years. Longing for adventure,

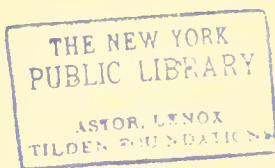




John Ball



Eleanor M. Ball.



he in company with three sailors started for Australia, when he had reached his majority, but by some strange freak of chance they landed in New York. Taking up the work that first presented itself he followed railroading for a few months, and later went to Chippewa County, Wisconsin, where he began logging, remaining in that locality for eight years. In the spring of 1889 he came West; and after a brief stay in Seattle, proceeded to La Conner to visit a friend. Pleased with the country, he soon found a position on a farm, retaining it for six years, at which time he invested in his present farm near Mount Vernon. His industry and thrift are plainly apparent in the many improvements which he has made upon it, building new barns and fences in addition to a neat and commodious dwelling place.

Mr. Lund was married January 7, 1897, to Miss Hannah E. Carlson, who was born in Sweden in 1871, and found a home in the United States in 1890. Her mother still lives in her native country, where her father died several years ago. Two children have gladdened the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lund, Alice M., born April 21, 1898, and Ruby M., born April 30, 1902. Mr. Lund is a loyal supporter of the Republican party. He is deeply interested in the educational matters of the county, and in his position as school director favors every advance movement. It is hearty co-operation such as he gives that has made possible the vast improvement everywhere apparent in our common school system. Mr. and Mrs. Lund are members of the Lutheran church. Arguing from his own success as well as that of others, Mr. Lund believes Skagit county to be the very best county in the world, as far as his travels have afforded opportunity for him to observe. He is giving special attention to short-horn cattle, which he is breeding extensively. A man of earnest purpose and high principles, he worthily holds the esteem of his acquaintances.

JOHN L. NELSON was born in 1857, near Christianstad, in Sweden, a country that has given to the United States so many of her thrifty, industrious citizens. His parents were Nelson and Bettie (Johnson) Larson, natives of the same country in which they spent their entire lives, the father dying in 1891 and the mother nine years previously. Having substituted for his surname the first name of his father, Nelson, he received his education in the common schools of the country, working meanwhile on his father's farm. Availing himself of the greater opportunities offered by the United States to young men of ambition, Mr. Nelson crossed the ocean in 1880, arriving in Chicago August 15th, when the National Republican convention which nominated Garfield for President was in session. That was his introduction to the country of which he is now such a loyal citizen. After working in a tailor shop for a year, in March

of 1881 he went to Sacramento valley, California, where he followed farming for two years, coming thence to La Conner. Employed by Olaf Polson for some time, he later, together with Mr. Alquist, leased a large farm on the Skagit delta which they operated for a year, turning it over to the owner at the end of that time. Having purchased the farm on which he now resides, situated on North Fork, Beaver Marsh, five and one-half miles from Mount Vernon, he took up his abode there in 1885. It was a wild, desolate country at that time with no roads and no bridges spanning the turbulent waters. The few brave pioneers who made that their home were dependent upon the Indians to row them over from La Conner and Mount Vernon in scows. Severe floods often endangered their lives and the property they had secured at the price of such arduous toil. At one time while working for Mr. Polson the water was unusually high, flooding the house and rising to the level of the beds.

Mr. Nelson was married in December, 1887, to Miss Hilda Emanuelson, a native of Sweden, whose death occurred January 11, 1900. Three children were born to this union, Axel, Emma and Carl A. Mr. Nelson is a public spirited man, interested in the educational advantages of the community in which he has been school director, and now the important office of dike inspector. In political matters he is a firm believer in Republican principles. In the Pleasant Ridge Methodist church no one occupies a more prominent position than Mr. Nelson, who is trustee, class leader and steward. Owning forty acres under cultivation, upon which he raises oats and hay, a stockholder in the Pleasant Ridge Creamery Company, he is justly considered one of the successful men of the county, and holds the good-will and esteem of all.

JOHN BALL, pioneer farmer and stock raiser, residing on his extensive ranch equidistant from Mount Vernon and La Conner on the famous Swinomish Flats, has for years been an active force in the progressive development of Skagit county and the redemption of its soil from nature's state. That he has wrought well since his first advent within the county precincts is evidenced on every hand. Born in Harrison, Hamilton County, Ohio, April 1, 1838, to the union of Samuel and Mary (Wyatt) Ball, he was there educated in the schools of his community and learned the carpenter trade, working at the bench with his father. The elder Ball, a native of England, was born in 1788, and followed carpentering and was married in his native land. Shortly after his marriage he and his wife came to Canada, and after a brief stay there settled in Hamilton County, Ohio, in 1836, where he later departed this life. The mother of our subject was born in England in 1803, where she grew to young womanhood and was married, coming with her husband to America, where she reared a family of nine

children, of which John is the eldest living, and at the age of forty-three, laid down the burdens of a well-spent life, greatly mourned. John Ball, at the early age of fifteen severed his connection with home and boyhood scenes and started out in the world for himself, going first to St. Louis, Missouri. Here he engaged at his trade for several years, working two years on the government custom house, then under construction. It was at this period, in 1859, that the great Pike's Peak excitement came up, and hither young Ball determined to go and seek a shorter road to fortune than promised by means of the hammer and saw. In company with forty other equally adventurous spirits, he negotiated for passage across the plains with an ox outfit, the terms of contract being \$40 each for the transportation of the luggage and provisions, the men to walk; and the company on their part contracted to land them at the desired point, and not to turn back so long as even one of the party insisted on going forward. This contract they carried out even to the paying of the passage of young Ball and another companion to California, from Fort Laramie, when it was learned by returning prospectors that the mining bubble had burst. At the Little Blue river the feed for their cattle gave out, and the grass not being far enough advanced for grazing they were compelled to lie over for a number of weeks, and here their party was augmented by outfits delayed for similar reasons, until a crowd of over one thousand people was assembled. Reaching Fort Laramie, they met the disheartening news of failure at Pike's Peak, and of their entire crowd only young Ball and one other persisted in pushing on westward, and they changed their objective point to California. Enroute to Fort Laramie they rescued two men from starvation, and found them subsisting on the remains of a former companion, whose death had been determined upon by lot, when the last hope of rescue had left them. Reaching California in the fall, Mr. Ball engaged in mining, which he followed for three years, for other parties, rising rapidly from foreman to sole owner of a mine. In connection with one mine he constructed seven miles of ditching for his own use at his hydraulic plant, which proved a failure. Prospering, however, in general, at mining, he then decided to marry and settle down to the quiet life of the rancher, purchasing the Butterfly ranch, in Plumas county, where he engaged in raising cattle for the mines. In May, 1873, he sold his ranch and came to Washington Territory, settling in Seattle, where he built a residence near where the court house now stands, later moving to Walla Walla, where they wintered. Discouraged with the failure of railroad building, which had been expected at that place, he bought a large band of cattle, horses and sheep in the spring and returned to Seattle, where he disposed of the best butcher stock, and that summer took the remainder to the Swinomish Flats, in Skagit county, where

he had in the meantime purchased a half interest in a ranch owned by his brother-in-law, M. D. Smith and a Mr. McClellan. This was the first introduction of horses in the Swinomish Flats. Here he resided for four years, during which period, 1876, he purchased the right of Sam McNutt to a claim and filed a preemption on it. This preemption, now greatly added to by purchase, constitutes the home ranch. Selling out his interest in the M. D. Smith ranch, he moved in 1879 to the James Porter ranch near Mount Vernon. Here he made his home until 1885, when he built his present house on his own place, transferring his residence as soon as the building was completed, to the home ranch, which has since continued to be the abiding place of himself and family. During all these years Mr. Ball was actively engaged in diking, ditching and clearing the land on his home place, making the initiatory improvements which have developed the land into its present high state of cultivation and productivity.

The marriage of John Ball and Eleanor Mary Massey was celebrated November 15, 1864, in Plumas County, California. Mrs. Ball's father, Thomas Massey, a merchant by calling, was born in Shrewsbury, Shropshire, England, where he was married. Later he came to the United States, settled first in Iowa, then in the year 1854 crossed the plains to California with ox teams. He died in 1870. Eleanor Leake Massey, the mother, also a native of England, is now residing at Anacortes, at a ripe old age, having passed safely through a long life filled with many unusual and strange incidents, to which she recurs with becoming pride. Mrs. Ball was born in England, September 30, 1848, but upon the removal of her parents to the United States, crossed the plains with them at the age of five years, and at the early age of sixteen met and married Mr. Ball. She is the mother of four children, William M., deceased; Thomas A., born March 12, 1867, residing in Skagit county; Globe E. Woodburn, born November 24, 1868, all three natives of California. Puget E., the fourth and last of the children, was born at La Conner, Washington, August 21, 1879, and was united in marriage September 20, 1905, to Elizabeth A. Mackey, daughter of Timothy and Katherine E. (Buckley) Mackey, the former deceased and the latter now residing at Bayview. Mrs. Elizabeth Ball was born in King County, Washington, in 1886.

Politically Mr. John Ball is a staunch Republican. That he has been a successful business man, is amply attested in his large land holdings of 1,082 acres, his well kept farm, stocked with high bred draft and driving horses, sheep and cattle, in which features of farm life he is especially interested; while in the line of good citizenship his attainments are evidenced in the universal respect and esteem in which he is held in his community and throughout the county.

EDGAR P. GORTON, a well known farmer and stockman residing five and one-half miles southwest of Mount Vernon, is a native of Scituate, Rhode Island, born November 24, 1852, the son of Nelson Gorton, who was for many years interested in the cotton and woolen factories in that state, and also followed farming to some extent. He was a veteran of the Civil War, serving in the Twenty-second regiment, Connecticut Volunteers. His death occurred in 1900, at the age of seventy-two. Emila M. (Whitman) Gorton was the mother, born in Rhode Island and now living with her son near Mount Vernon. His parents having moved to Connecticut when he was three years of age, Mr. Gorton received his education in the schools of that state, while also assisting his father on the farm. When the family moved later to Pocahontas County, Iowa, he came also, and there engaged in farming for himself, having purchased a farm with the means he had so carefully laid aside year by year. At the end of eleven years, in 1885, he came west to La Conner, locating on Pleasant Ridge for two years, at the end of which he took up a homestead near Bay View and began lumbering. He and his two brothers, Elmer and Walter, built a saw-mill three miles from Bay View, and operated it for a year. Selling out his interest in the mill to his brothers, Mr. Gorton bought his present place in the fall of 1903, and moved on it the following January.

In Connecticut, April 7, 1873, Mr. Gorton was united in marriage to Miss Prudence A. Carpenter, born February 12, 1854, in North Coventry, Connecticut. Six children have blessed this union: James, the oldest, now dead; Edith; Emma; Henry; Hazel, and Ivy. Mr. Gorton served for five years as deputy sheriff in Iowa. Realizing that much of the future greatness of our country is dependent upon the educational advantages afforded by the common schools, he gives this subject careful attention, and is one of the progressive members of the school board. In addition to his homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Bay View he owns fifty acres where his home is, upon which he raises hay, oats and stock, and may well be classed as one of the prosperous citizens of this county.

JASPER GATES, a distinguished veteran of the Civil War, and a pioneer of pioneers in the Mount Vernon section of Skagit county, now residing on his farm two miles southwest of Mount Vernon, was born in Jefferson City, Missouri, April 9, 1840. His father, Abel Gates, was a native of New Bedford, Massachusetts, born July 4, 1787. As lieutenant of the Fifth Rifle Regiment, Company C, he served under General Snellen in the war of 1812, participating in the battles of New Orleans and White Plains. At the close of the war he engaged in farming for four years, then in the packing business in Missouri, in which state he later

returned to agricultural pursuits. His death occurred November 2, 1870. The mother, Mary (Burns) Gates, born in Ireland, was the daughter of a well known soldier in the war of 1812. She was the mother of four children, James A., Samuel U., Jasper and Acaph. After the completion of his education, Jasper Gates was for several years associated with his father in the work of the farm, owning one-half interest in it. Loyal responding to the call of his country in 1862, he enlisted in Company C, Twenty-Seventh Missouri Infantry, and like his father before him, he was soon in the thickest of the fight. He received an honorable discharge in Saint Louis, in June, 1865, having been promoted from the rank of private to color sergeant. He was actively engaged in the following battles: Vicksburg, Grand Gulf, Jackson, Corinth, Pea Ridge, Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge and Chickamauga, and was also one of those who made the famous March to the Sea, under Sherman. At Resaca, Georgia, he received a severe wound that disabled him for some time. Taking up his residence in Adair county at the close of the war, he remained there until he came to Skagit county, in 1870, where he took up as a homestead the quarter section of land where Mount Vernon is located, and where he lived for twenty-one years. He moved on his present property in 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Gates have seen frontier life in all of its phases, and have undergone many hardships which will never be recorded.

Mr. Gates was married in 1860 to Clarinda Kimble, the daughter of Aaron and Nancy (Snodgrass) Kimble. Her father, a native of New Jersey, was a stonemason and bricklayer. He died in 1846. Her mother, a Virginian, born in 1812, died in Mount Vernon in 1886. Mrs. Gates has the following brothers and sisters: Vina (deceased), Joseph, John Aaron, Newton, Mary Catharine and Mrs. Martha Clifton. Mr. and Mrs. Gates have eight children: Newton J., Mrs. Matilda Hartson, Mrs. Mary Beacon and Mrs. Martha Jane Parker, of Mount Vernon; Otto and William, at home; Mrs. Clarinda Cowell, living two miles south of Mount Vernon, and Cleon Emmett. Mr. Gates is a prominent Republican; was sheriff from 1876 to 1880, and United States marshal from 1880 to 1884. He is an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic. The family attend the Methodist church of which Mrs. Gates is an active member. Reaping fair returns from his business undertakings, Mr. Gates now owns fifty-three acres of improved land, worth one hundred and fifty dollars, together with one hundred and fifteen acres of timber land in Missouri. Identified with the interests of Mount Vernon for so many years, Mr. Gates has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances who accord him the highest respect, and among the early settlers he is accorded the distinction of being the "Father of Mount Vernon," and a pioneer par excellence.

CHARLES C. HANSEN. Few agriculturists of Skagit county have attained a larger measure of success than he whose name initiates this biography. Born in Denmark, November 10, 1852, he is the son of Hans and Annie Sophia (Carlsen) Larsen, also natives of Denmark. The father was born September 12, 1818, and is still living in the land of his birth. The mother, born July 2, 1820, died in September, 1876. She has two other sons, Lors Peter, and Fred V. Hansen. When a child of six and one-half years, Charles C. Hansen began the active duties of life, herding cattle and sheep and tending the geese on a neighbor's farm. He was away most of the summers, but spent the winters at home till he was fourteen years of age, when he began farming. In 1874 he decided to come to the United States as so many of his countrymen had done. Landing in New York he crossed the continent, locating in California on a ranch. At the end of a year and a half he purchased a wood ranch, working on it for six months, at which time he found his health was failing. He went at once to San Francisco, and upon his recovery, spent the following three years nursing the sick in a hospital. In 1879 he came to Mount Vernon, going into partnership with his brothers on a farm. Three years later he invested in his present property, situated three miles south of Mount Vernon, since making it his place of residence.

Mr. Hansen and Mrs. Mahila (Stage) Washburn were united in marriage March 10, 1882. Mrs. Hansen was born in New York state in 1846 and was first married there. Her husband died in Skagit county July 12, 1880. Two children have been born to this union, Cora Sophia and Birdie H. Mr. Hansen is a loyal Republican, willing to advance the interests of his party by every honorable means. Both he and his wife are members of the Baptist church, contributing liberally to its support, and taking an active part in all its work. Mr. Hansen is past grand in the Odd Fellows fraternity, which has honored him by selecting him to fill the leading offices of the order. He is also a prominent Yeoman. Possessed of the thrift and industry so characteristic of the Danish people, Mr. Hansen has been blessed with a large measure of the prosperity he so richly deserves. He owns eighty acres of land, fifty-one of which are in a fine state of cultivation, worth at least one hundred and fifty dollars per acre. The beautiful eight-room house, erected at a cost of sixteen hundred dollars, bears evidence of his taste, and is an ornament to any community. He has a fine barn and out buildings. He devotes a large share of attention to dairying, now milking fourteen cows, realizing from them a substantial yearly income. The sterling qualities which have insured his business success, have at the same time given him the confidence and respect of his fellow men, thus rendering him a man of influence in the community.

PETER EGTVET. To the Scandanavian Americans Skagit county is especially deeply indebted not only for the pioneer work they have done in reclaiming its rich marsh and forest lands and converting them into one of the finest, prettiest farming regions in the country, but for the present day part they are taking in its progress. So it is with pleasure and a fitting sense of justice that we accord a biographical sketch of one of their foremost leaders a place in this history.

Wisconsin is the state of his nativity and April 25, 1851, the date of his birth. From far across the seas, in the year 1840, Peter A. Egtvet, the father, emigrated from Norway, where he was born in 1798, to the Wisconsin frontier. There with the energy and persistence so characteristic of his race, he soon leveled a forest into a substantial farm and later acquired wealth and influence in agricultural and stock pursuits. Ingeri (Selge) Egtvet was also a native of Norway, born in 1811, and there lived until she accompanied her husband and family to America. Her death occurred in 1893. Six children came of this marriage: Amon P. (deceased), Sever, Loui, Mrs. Anna Lee, Peter and Charles. To Peter came the lot of the usual farmer's son, hard work on the place in every department of labor, an education in the common schools of the district and the opportunities that come to most young men in similar positions. From the age of fifteen young Egtvet devoted himself most assiduously to mastering every detail of farming and stock raising, something that he did not regret in later years when he came to farm for himself. At the age of twenty-three he left the old home to seek his fortune in the far West, going first to California, where he was engaged in various pursuits for a year and a half. Then, his attention having been strongly drawn to Puget sound, the young man came north to the newly opened Skagit river valley to the development of which he was to give at least the succeeding thirty years of his life. Securing a claim near the mouth of the great river, the hardy settler began the work of clearing and diking and otherwise improving his farm. Those were days of hardship and discouragement, when freshets were haunting nightmares, and often the labor of months if not years was swept away in a single night. In 1883 he sold this farm and purchased the tract of land five miles south of Mount Vernon upon which he still resides. In common with most pioneers, Mr. Egtvet devoted a portion of his earliest years in Skagit to the logging industry, which furnished quick cash returns.

His marriage took place March 15, 1885. Miss Anna, a daughter of John P. and Charlotte (Erickson) Shamstrom, becoming the bride. Mr. Shamstrom was a native of Sweden, born in 1815, and he lived in the old country until 1851. At that time he emigrated, settling in Iowa, where he successfully engaged in farming until his death, January 1, 1900. His place consisted of 180 acres of very



MR. AND MRS. PETER EGTVET AND THEIR HOME, SOUTH OF MOUNT VERNON



valuable land. The mother, who was born in Sweden, died in Iowa in 1869. Mrs. Egtvet was born in Iowa, January 6, 1862, and spent the first twenty years of her life in that state. Then she came west to Seattle and made her home with a sister, Mrs. Nelson Chilberg, at whose house she was married. She has two other sisters living, Mrs. Carrie G. Smith in Seattle and Mrs. Allie V. Gray in Colorado; one, Mary J. Burnell, is dead. The brothers are John A. and Perry G. Mr. Shamsstrom was married a second time, his bride being Mrs. Gustava Burke, who was born in Sweden, August 8, 1841. To this union Della M., Etta L. and twin boys, Isaac and Jacob, were born. Mr. and Mrs. Egtvet have been blessed with three children, the eldest being Clifford, aged nineteen; Ashley W., aged sixteen, and Kirby, aged eleven. The Egtvet dwelling is one of the finest in the Skagit country and is pervaded by an atmosphere of refinement and progress that gives it additional charm. The family are attendants of the Lutheran church. Mr. Egtvet is affiliated with the A. O. U. W. and in political affairs is not only a member of the Republican party, but an aggressive and an influential one.

His farm of two hundred and forty acres is one of the largest and best improved in the Skagit basin, only twenty-five acres not being under cultivation. Cattle and horses in plenty, including a picked dairy herd of milch cows, stock the place, while an average yield of crops is 100 bushels of oats or four tons of timothy hay to the acre. These facts alone testify to the skill which the owner of the farm possesses and to his business acumen. Further, he is also the owner of a quarter section of valuable Illinois bottom land and other interests of various kinds. Known throughout the northwestern portion of the state as a man of unquestioned integrity and strong business ability, one who has accumulated wealth and attained position by his own unaided efforts, he represents the type of manhood upon which are dependent the stability and growth of our country.

OLE GUNDERSON, one of the most prosperous and energetic farmers of Skagit county, claims Norway as the land of his birth. His father, Gundmun Tostenson, born in Norway, May 11, 1814, came to this country in 1866, finding a home in Goodhue County, Minnesota. In the spring of 1867 he moved to South Dakota, being one of the pioneers of that state, in which he spent the remainder of his life, dying there in 1883. The mother, Johanna (Peterson) Tostenson, was born in 1814, and lived in her native country, Norway, till her marriage. Her death occurred in South Dakota in 1897. She was the mother of the following sons and daughters: Tosten, Peter, Ole, John Martin, Mrs. Mali Olson (deceased), and Mrs. Martha Rekdahl. Born July 22, 1852, Ole Gunderson spent

the first thirteen years of his life in the land of his nativity, attending the common schools in which he received the rudiments of an education. Immigrating with his parents to the United States, in 1866, he assumed the responsibilities of life early, assisting his father in the support of the family, and at his death providing for his mother during her lifetime. At the age of twenty-one he took up a homestead, remaining in South Dakota till the death of his mother, after which he came to Skagit county in 1897, and purchased his present ranch of one hundred and fifty acres, paying sixty-five dollars per acre.

Mr. Gunderson and Annie Maria Johnson were joined in marriage, May 28, 1880. Mrs. Gunderson's parents are Jens and Helen (Trouseth) Nytroe, both of Norwegian birth, who celebrated their golden wedding in 1902. Her father, born in Norway, came to America on the same vessel that brought Mr. Gunderson, locating in Minnesota, and later in South Dakota near Sioux Falls, where he still lives, owning a two hundred and forty acre farm. Mrs. Gunderson was born in Norway in 1846, and has been a resident of the United States since she was six years of age, her parents having crossed the ocean at that time. Mrs. Gunderson has five brothers and sisters: Jens, Bess, Nelse, Sarah and Mary. Twelve children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Gunderson: Josephine, Gertie, Belva, James G., Joseph H., Bennie, Nicholi, Oscar, Ida, Selma, Loui and Lilian. The son Joseph was injured in a runaway November 8, 1905, and died the following day. Mr. Gunderson loyally supports the Republican party, and during his residence in North Dakota held numerous offices. He is deeply interested in the educational affairs of the community, now serving on the school board. He and his family are active members of the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran church. Mr. Gunderson's thorough understanding of farming, combined with his untiring energy and splendid management, has placed him in the front rank of successful farmers in the Northwest. He now owns his fine one hundred and fifty acre farm, worth at the lowest figure two hundred dollars per acre, besides eighty acres of pasture land. He has large dairy interests, and also devotes much attention to stock raising. One of the substantial farmer citizens of Mount Vernon district, he has contributed his full share to the growth and prosperity of the community which is pleased to claim him as a resident, and has established a name for integrity and progressiveness equaled by few.

OLE N. LEE, a well known farmer and dairyman residing four and one-half miles south of Mount Vernon, was born in Norway, May 8, 1831. His father was Nelse Johnson Lee, a thrifty and industrious farmer in his native land, Norway, born in 1797. His death occurred there in 1878. His

mother, Ingeborg (Sonsvold) Lee, born in Norway in 1798, died in 1880, after a long life devotion to her family. She was the mother of nine children, John, Ingebor, Lars, Ole, Christopher, Nelse, Elling, Mickel and Joseph. Like most young men of his country, Ole N. Lee spent his early life on the farm, acquiring his education in the common schools of Norway. At the age of twenty-five he decided to seek an opening in the country to which many of his countrymen had immigrated. Locating in Wisconsin in 1856, he remained there for three years, removing thence to California in 1859 to seek his fortune in the mines. Seventeen years later he came to Skagit county, purchasing his present farm in July, 1876.

Mr. Lee was married March 23, 1874, to Anna Egtvet, born January 17, 1848, the daughter of Peter A. and Ingeri (Selge) Egtvet, both natives of Norway. Her father, born in 1798, came to the United States in 1846, his death occurring in Wisconsin. Her mother was born in 1811 and died in 1893. Mrs. Lee received her education in the common schools of her native state, Wisconsin, where she lived with her parents until her marriage. The other children in the family are: Amund P. (deceased), Sever, Lars, Peter and Charlie. Three children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lee: Nellie I. P., Peter A. and Oscar E. Mr. Lee is an earnest supporter of the Republican party, but has never cared to become a politician. He and his family are identified with the Lutheran church. Mr. Lee's well directed energies and tireless industry have crowned him with prosperity. He now owns two hundred and forty acres of bottom land, one hundred and sixty of which are cleared and worth two hundred dollars per acre. His principal products are oats and hay. His dairy interests are extensive and make large demands upon his time. A resident of Skagit county for nearly thirty years, Mr. Lee has witnessed its remarkable growth, enjoying, meanwhile, the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens, who realize that he has contributed materially to the general prosperity.

SWAN CARLSON, a capable and energetic young farmer residing four and one-half miles south of Mount Vernon, was born in the southern part of Sweden, September 2, 1870. His father, Magnus Carlson, who now lives with him, was born October 23, 1834, and remained in his native country, Sweden, until 1891, when he came to the United States, locating in Kansas; later he settled in Washington. Cecilia (Nelson) Carlson, the mother, was born November 18, 1836, coming with her husband to this country in 1891, where she now lives with her son. Diligently applying himself to his studies, Swan Carlson completed his education at the age of fourteen, beginning then the active work of life on the neighboring farms. Sailing for the United States before his eighteenth birthday, he

landed in New York, thence going to Nebraska. At the end of three years spent in the employ of farmers, he went to Seattle, in 1892, working on a steamboat for a year, following which he moved to Roy, Washington. In 1893 he came to the Skagit delta, making this his home for five years, or until the high water forced him to seek a new home. He moved onto his present farm in 1900. Mr. Carlson's brothers and sisters are: Charlie M., Edward, Mrs. Hannah Leaf, Otto and Mrs. Lena Moores. Two brothers, Nelse and Peter, and a sister, Mrs. Betsy Johnson, are deceased. Mr. Carlson adheres to the Republican party, though he has never taken an active part in political matters. He is a worthy member of the American Order of United Workmen. The Lutheran church claims him as a liberal supporter. Mr. Carlson is farming on an extensive scale, renting one hundred and sixty acres of bottom land which he works in connection with his own farm of thirteen acres. A man of tireless industry, he is very successful in his undertakings, owning a large number of cattle, horses and hogs. His principal crop is oats, of which he seldom fails to have an unusually heavy yield. A young man of excellent habits, ambitious and energetic, of a genial temperament, he is deservedly popular among his acquaintances.

RICHARD GARLAND, a dairy farmer living four miles south of Mount Vernon, was born in Canada in October, 1847. His father, John Garland, was born in Ireland, but emigrated to Canada with his parents when a lad. He served a term as sheriff of his home county and about 1850 moved to Michigan and farmed until his death in 1862. As an earnest of his patriotism for his adopted country, Mr. Garland enlisted in the Union army, but was never mustered into service. Mrs. Mary (Kelly) Garland was also a native of Ireland. She lived with her parents until marriage and died in Michigan in 1886, the mother of nine children, all now dead, except William John, Charles, Samuel, Thomas, Robert, Frank and Richard. Until seventeen years of age Richard Garland attended school. Then for eight years he helped his father on the home farm, coming to the Pacific Northwest in 1875 and locating on the Skagit river. He followed logging for twelve years, though in 1879 he bought eighty acres of land and added thirty-one more in 1881. Mr. Garland has lived on the river ever since coming to Skagit county.

In July, 1886, Mr. Garland married Miss Anna Knight of Skagit City. Her father was Andrew Knight, born in the early days of the development of Indiana. His death occurred in Iowa in 1866, after a useful life as an agriculturist. Mrs. Garland's mother, Melinda (Neely) Knight, is a native of Ohio. She is still living at Interbay, Washington, making her home with her daughter, Mrs. May

Getts. Mrs. Garland was born in 1856, attending school until seventeen years old and living with her parents until married at the age of twenty-nine. Mr. and Mrs. Garland have had seven children, James Arthur being dead. The living are: Elmer Curtis, Warner Samuel, Mary Etta, Laura Ellen, Clarence Richard and George Emil. Mr. Garland is in politics an independent Democrat; fraternally he is a Mason, being past junior warden, A. F. & A. M. Mr. Garland's farming is of general character, except that he makes a specialty of raising roan Durham cattle, his herd now numbering forty head. He has been uniformly successful and as one of the pioneers of his county is recognized as one of the solid men of the community.

THOMAS GOOD had some very unusual experiences while getting settled in Skagit county, but he mastered them and is now owner of one of the successful stock and dairy farms in the western part of the county, his place lying seven miles south of Mount Vernon and three miles northwest of Fir. Mr. Good is a native of New Brunswick, and was born in 1848, the son of William and Rebecca (Eddy) Good, both of whom came from Ireland when children and passed their mature years in New Brunswick. Until twenty-one years of age Thomas Good attended school and worked, his chief employment during the last few years of this period being at loading vessels in the harbor. In 1869 he went to Oconto county, Wisconsin, and engaged in logging. He later developed a contract business in loading lumber. In August, 1891, he came to Skagit county and bought his present place, though he did not take up his residence there, passing the first seven years at farming leased land. The farm at that time was in no condition for cultivation, there being no road up Dry slough and no dikes. In clearing his land, Mr. Good has made use of explosives, as well as cables and teams. One of his unpleasant experiences came in the spring of 1894, when he was living on leased land across the slough from his present home. For six weeks he was compelled to wade in water up to his arm-pits to get to the barn to feed his stock, and he had to bring hay a mile and a half in a canoe from the Olof Polson place. This was a necessity in order to preserve his stock. At times his cattle would travel out on top of the dike to browse on the tops of the partly submerged bushes growing on its sides. On his own place Mr. Good has proved to be so successful in diking that he was selected as a member of the dike commission, and was serving in this capacity when the land was secured along the Skagit river from Fir to Skagit City for the present dike, in the construction of which he took an active part. His district lies between the Skagit and Dry slough, some twelve miles in length.

In 1868, before leaving New Brunswick, Mr.

Good married Miss Hannah Good, a native of New Brunswick and daughter of Robert and Margaret (Simons) Good. Edward and Jonathan Good, brothers of the younger Mrs. Good, are pioneers of Skagit county and live in the vicinity of Fir. To Mr. and Mrs. Good have been born fourteen children, seven of whom have died. The living are: Adalecia, William T., Ethel May Gates, Arthur Allen, Edward John, Ella Maud and Etta Elizabeth. Mr. Good has forty acres of his land under cultivation, and a great change has been made in the property since he first commenced operations in diking and clearing. In politics he is a Republican, participating actively in all conventions and public meetings. In fraternal circles he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. While nature presented serious obstacles to Mr. Good in his efforts to establish himself on his farm, he has persevered until he has successfully reclaimed his land from forest and flood, and is now in a fair way to reap the benefit of his years of struggle and economy by the enjoyment of a substantial home and a competency in the declining years of himself and worthy wife.

FRANK BARTL is one of the old time respected citizens of Skagit county. He was born in Bavaria in February of 1843, but came to the United States with his parents when a lad. His father, Francis Bartl, born August 15, 1815, came to this country in 1853 and settled in Wisconsin. After three years in the Badger state, he removed to Missouri and passed eighteen years in farming. He came to Skagit county in the early seventies, dying soon after establishing himself here. Mrs. Mary (Weir) Bartl is a native of Austria. She is still living near Mount Vernon. Frank Bartl, ten years after his arrival in the United States entered the federal army as a member of Company B, Thirty-ninth Missouri Infantry. He was honorably discharged and mustered out in July, 1865. He came to Skagit county with his parents and worked on the farm with his father and mother until 1889, when he purchased his present farm a half mile south of Mount Vernon, which is chiefly devoted to fruit growing. While yet living in Missouri Mr. Bartl married Miss Elizabeth Tauvel, a native of that state. Mrs. Bartl did not live long after marriage and died in 1872, leaving two children, Mrs. Mary Gibson and Eliza Bartl, the latter of whom is dead. Mr. Bartl has never remarried and is sustained in his advancing years by a granddaughter. He is a Republican in politics and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. In church affiliation he is a Catholic. Mr. Bartl's worldly possessions consist of three acres of excellent fruit land which he operates himself. He is a genial gentleman, taking a delight in his fruit trees and his granddaughter. He is highly respected in the community as an upright and conscientious man.

LEANDER PALM is one of the prosperous and financially successful dairy farmers of the Skagit valley, his ranch of forty-five acres, three and a half miles south of Mount Vernon, being appraised at \$200 per acre. It is all cleared and constitutes one of the attractive properties of the county. Mr. Palm was born in Finland in 1860, the son of Matthew and Sophia (Hill) Palm; the former died October 22, 1894, and the latter in 1883; they were likewise natives of Finland, and passed their entire lives on the farm in the old country. Leander made his home with his parents until he was fourteen years old and then hired out to neighboring farmers. His nineteenth and twentieth years he passed in the city, and when twenty-one years of age left Finland for America. In 1881 he was in Elmira, New York, for several months, and then went to work in the woods of Michigan. He remained there for two years and a half, when he came to Washington and the Skagit valley. The first twelve years of his life in this state he passed as a farm hand, working for established pioneers in the valley. He settled on his present place in 1894 and has remained there ever since, improving the farm land and bringing it to its present state of perfection.

September 29, 1893, in Seattle, Leander Palm married Miss Sophia Jacobson. Miss Jacobson was born in Finland, July 14, 1866, the daughter of Jacob and Brita (Anderson) Jacobson. Jacob Jacobson was born October 8, 1831. Brita Anderson was born February 20, 1834, and in 1853, at the age of nineteen, was married to Mr. Jacobson. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson never left their native country, Finland. Mrs. Jacobson died March 27, 1895; she was the mother of twelve children, ten of whom are living; their names follow: Johana, John, Andrew, Mary, Matts, Sophia (Mrs. Palm), Greta, Lucy, Simon and Jacob. Mrs. Palm's father still lives in Finland. Mrs. Palm left home when eighteen years old and for seven years worked out, in Finland. In 1891 she came to the Pacific Northwest country, having brothers in Seattle, and passed two years in that city. She then married Mr. Palm and, removing with him to Skagit county, has since lived near Mount Vernon. Mr. and Mrs. Palm have one child, Roy Axel. Mr. Palm is a Republican in political affiliation and a member of the Lutheran church. In addition to his splendid orchard, he has considerable live stock, chief in importance being a herd of twenty-one cattle, mostly milch cows.

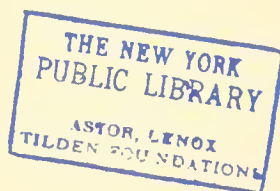
CHARLES G. WESTLUND was born in Sweden October 1, 1866, and came to the valley of the Skagit in 1890; he has lived here since that date. His father was John M. Westlund, who was born in Sweden in 1818. Coming to the United States when sixty years of age, he settled in Kansas and died there in 1893. His wife was Annie Mag-

nuson, who died in the old country in 1872, the mother of seven children, of whom only one, Lena, is dead, the others being Christina, Louise, Sophia, Hannah, John M. and Charles G. At the early age of six years Charles left home to work for relatives, in whose employ he continued for eight years. He then went farther from home and worked for various Swedish farmers until 1885, when he came to the United States. Going direct to Kansas he farmed there four years; then came to the Pacific coast, spending the first two years in Oregon. From Oregon he removed to Skagit county, of which he is still a resident. The land holdings of Mr. Westlund, situated three and a half miles south of Mount Vernon, consist of twenty acres of rich bottom land, which he operates as a dairy and hay farm, and on which he has a fine and profitable herd of dairy cows.

Mrs. Westlund was formerly Miss Adla Engstrom, daughter of Erick and Mary K. Engstrom, natives of Sweden. The mother is dead; the father still lives in his native country. Mrs. Westlund was born in Sweden in 1867; after receiving her education in the common schools of that country she came to America in 1900, going direct to Ballard, King county, where she made her home. She was married to Mr. Westlund in the fall of 1905. She has two brothers and one sister in this section of Washington: Mrs. Laura Anderson, John Engstrom, of the Skagit valley, and Gust Engstrom, of Ballard.

Charles G. Westlund is essentially a self-made man, a hard worker and one who has little taste for the lighter sides of life. He is a much respected citizen and a man of influence in his home community.

ALFRED JOHNSON was born in the central part of Sweden in May of 1862, the son of Johannes Anderson, a successful farmer, who retired a few years ago to spend the remaining days of a long life at Forshaga, Sweden, where he still lives. The mother, Mrs. Lisa Eleanora (Anderson) Johnson, was likewise of Swedish birth; she died in her native land in 1882, the mother of four children, Alfred, Herman, Edwin and Miss Ida Johnson. Alfred attended the Swedish schools until fifteen years of age, and for the following six years worked on his father's farm. Upon the death of the mother, the home farm was rented by Alfred, who ran it for five years, when he came to the United States, leaving his family in Sweden until he should send for them. In 1888 he located in Mendocino, California, working as a laborer until 1890, when he reached Tacoma. A year was passed there, during which time he sent for his family. He then came to Skagit county and worked at clearing land until in 1893 he bought and moved on his present place three and a half miles south of Mount Vernon, where he has since lived.





WILLIAM GAGE

While living in Sweden in 1883 Mr. Johnson married Miss Augusta Peterson, daughter of Peter John Erickson, who remained in the old country until he joined his son-in-law on the Skagit in the spring of 1905. Mrs. Johnson was born in the old country in 1856 and attended school until twelve years of age, marrying fifteen years later. Of this union are the following issue: Hannah Elizabeth, born in April, 1884; Simon Peter, April, 1886; Isaac Emmanuel, April, 1888; twin boys, Elmer Henry and Albert, February, 1892; Clarence, May, 1894; Carl Oscar, July, 1897, and Ester E., July 1900. Mr. Johnson lost his first wife in Skagit county in July, 1903. He returned to Sweden in the fall of 1904, where he met a former schoolmate, Elizabeth Olson, daughter of John and Kiza (Anderson) Olson, who returned with him to the United States, where they were united in marriage February 21, 1905. Mrs. Johnson was born in Sweden in 1862 and on the death of her mother was cared for by friends until she was fifteen years old. She then supported herself by laundering and cared for her father until his death, keeping up the old home until her marriage. Mr. Johnson is a Republican and with his family attends the Baptist church. His farm of seventy acres, forty of which are cleared, is devoted to dairying and cattle raising, the herd including eighteen milch cows and ten head of stock cattle. That Mr. Johnson takes an active part in the affairs of his community is evidenced by his having served four terms as road supervisor, one term as director of the school district and one as supervisor of ditches. It has been only by hard work that he has placed himself in the position of honor and esteem in which he is held by his neighbors, but that sacrifice has been well repaid.

WILLIAM GAGE. Even in the Pacific Northwest, where there are hundreds of men who have had more than the allotted average of adventure and strife before success and quiet came, William Gage stands out as a man who has been through all the roughness of life in pioneer days and now, in the evening of life, looks serenely on his past and congratulates himself on his attainments in the face of hardship and endeavor. Mr. Gage came of stock which has always given sturdiness and fortitude. His life embraces the span which lies between the birth of a farm lad near Montreal and the mellow days of realization of things accomplished where experience of others counted for little. Born near Montreal, Quebec, on September 15, 1842, Mr. Gage inherited the traits which made the Irish-Canadian immigrants of that day a marked race. His father, George Gage, born of Scotch-Irish parents, was a farmer until he cast his fortunes with those of the Western World and settled in the early part of the last century in the valley of the St. Lawrence. His closing days were spent with his son

in Skagit county, where he died in 1872. The mother of William Gage, Agnes (Eaton) Gage, also a native of Ireland, accompanied her husband to the coast country. She also died in Skagit county. William, the seventh of her ten children, left his Canadian home at the age of seventeen, having received whatever of schooling he was destined to receive before he left the parental roof. His first stop was in British Columbia where he engaged in mining ventures. The year 1863 found him in California, still hunting fortune in the mining camp, but one winter there sufficed, for in 1864 he was back in British Columbia at the mines of the Cariboo district. Two years of wavering fortune followed, after which he decided to come to the States, settling on Whidby island in 1867. Three years later he took up as a preemption the land where he has since made his home. The establishment of that home was accompanied by all the labor and self denial common to the men who would wring from the huge forest a place for cabin and crops. The trees were large, the stumps hard to uproot, but at last perseverance won the day, converting the tract into the fine farmstead now to be seen where William Gage first swung an axe thirty-five years ago. Instead of the big pines, firs and spruces, one sees one hundred and twenty acres of cleared land, including fifteen acres of hop yard, two acres of orchard and other acres devoted to farming in general. William Gage has made his home on that land near Mount Vernon.

Mr. Gage's helpmeet, Emily E. (Whitford), whom he married in Skagit county, is a native of Alaska territory. They have one adopted son. In politics Mr. Gage is a Republican, in church affiliation a Baptist and in fraternal connection a Mason. Mr. Gage's live stock and farm proclaim him to be one of the prosperous agriculturists of the county, while his deeds entitle him to a lasting place in its history.

CHARLES E. STORRS. Living on his farm two miles south of Mount Vernon is Charles E. Storrs, one of the progressive young farmers of Skagit county. Mr. Storrs was born in Benton County, Iowa, in 1872, the son of Dennis Storrs, one of the leading citizens now of Skagit county, and Mary A. (Dobson) Storrs. Young Storrs has spent nearly his whole life in Skagit county, receiving his education there. At fourteen years of age he commenced independent experience in life by working in the woods. However, he made his home with his parents until twenty-five years of age. In 1895 he purchased his present place, where since marriage he has made his home. Aside from his pasture land, on which he grazes his flocks of sheep, and a sufficient acreage for fodder, he has seven and one-half acres of hops and two acres of excellent orchard. His home is a six-room modern house, one of the most attractive places in the vicin-

ity of Mount Vernon. At one time Mr. Storrs spent several months in eastern Washington, but returned to the familiar scenes of Skagit after one season's absence.

Mr. Storrs was married at Mount Vernon on January 2, 1898, to Miss Lottie Morley, one of Skagit county's estimable young women. Mrs. Storrs is the daughter of Albert J. Morley, one of those sturdy pioneers who crossed the plains in the early days of the influx to California. He still resides in California. Mrs. Storrs' mother was Miss Etta Payne. She is a resident now of Mount Vernon. Mrs. Storrs was born in California in 1877 and received her education in that state and in Washington. She learned the dressmaking business and pursued that avocation until her marriage at the age of twenty. Of this union there are two children, Carl E. and Rollo, both born at Mount Vernon. Mr. Storrs is a Democrat and has been honored by the members of his party with nomination for office, but his Republican opponents have outnumbered him at the polls. In 1903-4 he served as county game warden. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Storrs has recently taken up the subject of raising sheep for the market and for the wool, and has a well selected flock. The Storrs place is a modern farm and with its convenient buildings and improved farm implements constitutes one of the most inviting farmsteads of the Puget sound country.

MARSH MILLER furnishes an illustration of what may be accomplished in these United States of America by a man of foreign birth, if he have energy and application, and the home of Mr. Miller, southwest of Mount Vernon indicates in a temporal way the sureness with which he directed his energy. Mr. Miller is a native of Denmark, born on April 25, 1857. Anders Miller was his father, but Marsh was left without fatherly guidance at the age of six months. His widowed mother still lives in Denmark. She was Mattie M. Christenson. Marsh Miller received his education in the Danish schools until he was fourteen years of age, leaving school at that time to come to America in 1873. For three years he worked by the month in Pennsylvania, but the Centennial year found him in Kansas working as a farm hand. He worked in the coal mines at Osage City for three years and then spent four years at farming. In 1883 Mr. Miller came to the territory of Washington, stopping for eight or nine months in Seattle, after which he took up a ranch in Kitsap county. Eighteen months of life on this preemption had been passed when he decided to abandon his rights and go to Skagit county. That was in 1885. For three years Mr. Miller lived on Pleasant Ridge, leasing his place. Early in September, 1888, Mr. Miller decided to own a farm. He purchased his present farm of 110 acres of which at that time but five acres had been

cleared. He now has 75 acres cleared and he utilizes the remainder of his place as woodland pasture for his herd of forty-five cattle. In 1898 Mr. Miller, falling a victim to the mining fever which raged in Washington at that time, spent a year in the Alaska gold fields. On his return in 1899 he again took up the work of developing his farm and has since lived there.

During his stay in Kansas Mr. Miller met and married Miss Christine Anderson, daughter of August Anderson, a native of Sweden. Mr. Anderson removed to Washington in 1888 and is now a resident of Skagit county. Mrs. Miller's mother was Hannah Anderson, now deceased, a native of Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Miller were married at Osage in 1881. Mrs. Miller was born in Sweden and educated in the schools of her native land. Five children have been born to this union: Frank, Esther, Mary, Herbert and Hazel, all born in Skagit county and all living there at the present writing. In his political associations Mr. Miller is a Socialist. He is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and of the Methodist church. The subject of this sketch by his thrift, his integrity and his earnestness has won for himself a place high in the esteem of the community. His life work is an index of the possibilities in store for the foreign born lad in this country of the Western continent.

JOHN C. NELSON, born in Sweden, March 27, 1862, came to America with his parents in 1870, and has been a resident of Skagit county for the past twenty-one years. Swan J. Nelson, the father of the subject of this sketch, settled as a Swedish immigrant in Iowa, entering the employ of the railroads, in which he continued until his death in 1882. Mrs. Nelson was also a native of Sweden, her maiden name having been Christine Norby. She was the mother of four children of whom John C. is the youngest. He was educated in the schools of Iowa and after the death of his father continued to live at home until he reached the age of twenty-one. Then he took up railroad work, as his father before him had done, but after spending two years thus went back to the farm, remaining there until he left Iowa in 1884 for La Conner. There, with his brother Charles, he leased the well known Leamer place and operated it four years. The brothers then associated themselves in the purchase of a quarter section of undeveloped land which they improved and worked during the succeeding fourteen years. In addition to their former holdings, they added by purchase in 1892 the James Dunlap place upon which John C. Nelson now resides. The long, successful partnership of the brothers came to a close in 1902, by the terms of which dissolution the younger brother received a tract of 100 acres, including the house in which he has made his home since 1892, his portion consisting entirely of cleared and improved land.

Mr. Nelson was married in 1895 to Mrs. Ida Dalquist, the ceremony taking place in Skagit county. Her father was Farth Norby, a Swedish farmer, who followed that occupation in the old country, where also the daughter was born in 1864, and educated. She married Mr. Dalquist in Seattle, and to this union came one daughter, Alma. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have one child, Harold, born in Skagit county, July 25, 1900. Mr. Nelson is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Woodmen of the World, is affiliated with the Lutheran church, and in politics is an active Democrat. He is a member of the school board of his district, taking as deep an interest in educational affairs, as he takes in public affairs generally. As a farmer, he ranks among the most successful in the Swinomish country, which is recognized as one of richest spots on the American continent and one of the world's leaders in oat production. A feature of this farm is a select herd of Durham cattle, which, while numbering less than fifty, is looked upon as one of the finest herds in the northwest by breeders of that stock. Almost needless to say it is a source of great pride and delight to its owner.

The Skagit Valley recognizes in Mr. Nelson one of its foremost Swedish-Americans—successful farmer, public-spirited citizen, a man who has won his position of influence strictly upon his merits.

WILLIAM HAYTON, though less than thirty years of age, is one of the pioneers of Skagit county and one of the successful farmers of the southwestern part of the county. He was born near Fir in 1878, the son of Thomas and Sarah (Sanders) Hayton, who settled in Skagit county in 1876. The elder Hayton is a Kentuckian by birth, who in early life went to Missouri. In the Centennial year he crossed the plains to Washington, consuming seven months on the trip, and bought a farm near Fir on which he has made his home ever since, spending the winter of 1904-5 in California. Mrs. Hayton was a Virginian. She died in Skagit county in 1896. William Hayton received his education at Fir and remained at home and in the employment of various farmers until when twenty years of age he went to California for a year. The year 1900 found him in Seattle, employed by the Spokane Grain Company, where he learned the feed business. Six months were spent at Fir and the old home, when he returned to Seattle and engaged in the feed business on his own account. On disposing of this venture he returned to Skagit county and in the fall of 1902 leased his present farm and has made his home on it ever since, meeting with excellent success in the vicinity of his birthplace.

In 1901 at Fir Mr. Hayton married Miss Emma Pryor, the ceremony taking place on Christmas day. Mrs. Hayton's father was a native of Vermont, a stone mason by trade, who went to Dakota and

died there in 1898. Mrs. Pryor was Hannah Heisler, a native of St. Paul, Minnesota, who came to Washington with her daughter when the latter was but seven years old. Mrs. Hayton has been educated in the schools of Skagit county. She has one child, Dortha, born near Fir, in August, 1904. Mr. Hayton is a Republican in politics, a member of the Baptist church and a Yeoman. On his present place he has sixty head of cattle and fourteen horses, doing quite an extensive business in live stock. In addition to his interests in Skagit county, he owns a timber claim in Oregon. Mr. Hayton is a young man who enjoys the respect of the community centering about Fir and has already established himself as a successful agriculturist and stock raiser.

JOHN W. KAMB is one of the self-made men of Skagit county. Born in Finland in the closing days of our American Civil War, he is to-day one of the type of adopted American citizens whom the native born citizen is proud to greet as brother. John W. Kamb first saw the light in April, 1865, and fourteen years later, his father, John E. Kamb, died in the old home across the Atlantic, leaving eight children, of which the subject of this sketch was second. The mother, Lena Kamb, died in her native Finland. John W. Kamb, after receiving his education in the Finnish schools, came to the United States at the age of twenty-one years and settled in the state of Michigan, where he lived for two years, engaging in various lines of work. The spring of 1888 found him in Seattle, wide awake for opportunities in the country of the Puget sound. For a time Mr. Kamb worked at railroading in Snohomish county, later doing similar work at Olympia. Eight months in a saw-mill at Utsalada followed, with subsequent work as a member of a pile driving crew. In 1889 he was building dikes on La Conner flats at some seasons of the year and at others turning farm hand. It was during this period of his life that he learned the first principles of operating a farm, which he has so successfully put into practice during recent years. In the fall of 1894 Mr. Kamb rented a small farm and commenced operations on his own account. That was the small beginning of his present farm of over 100 acres of meadow, grain land and orchard, much of which he cleared with his own hands. Mr. Kamb has augmented his original purchase of eighty acres and now has seventy acres in timothy, thirty in oats and a small orchard. The oat land is marvellously rich in the elements which make for large crops, the yield on this section of the Kamb farm sometimes being 100 bushels to the acre. Mr. Kamb has a fine eight-room house. He takes pride in his farm buildings, the main barn being a structure 66x114 feet in dimensions.

In February, 1900, Mr. Kamb married Miss Sadie Rutter, a native of Pennsylvania, born in

1870. Her father, Robert Rutter, was born near Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, in 1847, of Welsh-English parentage. The early years of his life were spent in his native state and in 1878 he removed to Kansas, taking up a homestead on the plains. Eleven years were passed in Kansas and in 1889 Mr. Rutter came to Washington and settled at Bay View, Skagit county, where he has lived ever since. Mrs. Rutter was also a native of the Keystone state, her parents being of German and English descent. She was the mother of seven children, two of whom are still living. She died in Kansas in 1889. Mrs. John W. Kamb was educated in Kansas and came to this state with her father in 1889, marrying when thirty years of age. Of the union there are two children, both born in Skagit county, Oscar F., born in April, 1902, and Leona, born in March, 1905. Mr. Kamb is a Lutheran in religious faith. As a farmer, he is a firm believer in the advantages of stock raising on a small farm, and is an enthusiast on the subject of fine cattle and horses. He is at present making a specialty of Durham cattle and heavy draft horses. Essentially a self-made man, Mr. Kamb, who had little of the world's goods to start with, has become one of the prosperous and respected citizens of Skagit county, of which achievement he may justly feel proud.

BENJAMIN F. SNOWDEN came to the Skagit valley in 1890 and is now one of the well-to-do small farmers of the county. His farm of twenty acres of good land is two and a half miles west of Mount Vernon. Mr. Snowden is a native of Missouri, born in Andrew county in 1862. His father, John Snowden, was the son of an Indiana farmer who moved to Missouri in 1840, where he is still living. Mary (Carson) Snowden, the mother of Benjamin F., was a native of Missouri also, a cousin of the famous scout of the plains, Kit Carson. Benjamin Snowden spent his youth on the farm, alternately gaining an education in the Missouri public schools and helping his father. On attaining his majority, he rented a neighbor's farm and operated it for five years, at the end of which time, having married, he removed to Colorado and engaged in farming for two years. In 1889, his attention having been called to the rapidly growing commonwealth of Washington, he came to this state, and after spending a year in Seattle, decided to settle in the county of Skagit. There he rented the farm of Mr. Brewster, the postmaster at La Conner, and operated it successfully four seasons. Mr. Snowden purchased ten acres of land in 1892 and cleared it. Later he bought ten more acres, and these holdings, well stocked with horses, cattle and hogs, now constitute the Snowden farmstead in the Skagit valley.

Mr. Snowden was married in Andrew County, Missouri, to Miss Mary Stout, daughter of William Stout, son of one of the early settlers of the

state. Mr. Stout owns the farm on which he was born. Mary (Stout) Snowden was born in Missouri on New Year's day, 1870, and received her education in the schools of her native state. Her marriage took place when she was eighteen years of age. She is the mother of five children, Charles, Daisy, Edith, James and Theodore R., all of whom were born in the Skagit valley, except Charles, who was born while his parents were residents of the Centennial state. In politics Mr. Snowden is a Republican. The Snowden farm is one of the thriftiest places in the Skagit valley and affords an excellent illustration of what energy and economy will accomplish in the course of a comparatively few years.

NELS POLSON. Few families have been as prominent in developing the northwestern part of the state or are as well known in the current life of this section to-day as the family which bears the name standing at the beginning of this chronicle. As pioneers upon the famed tide lands at the mouth of the Skagit river, the Polsons were among the very first; as farmers they have operated upon an extensive scale with marked success, and in the mercantile world they have attained a high position, especially as hardware dealers.

The founder of this family, Olof Polson, emigrated to the United States from his native land, Sweden, in 1869, taking up his residence first in Illinois. His wife, Gunhild (Nelson) Polson, also a native of Sweden, where they were married, accompanied him across the ocean. Illinois did not satisfy them, however, so they shortly pushed across the Mississippi into Iowa and there spent two years. Still they were not contented with the opportunities presented, but, with that aptitude which is so characteristic of the race, sought the rugged frontier and found it upon the banks of the Skagit river. Land was taken along what is known as Brown's slough and here, out of the salt marsh and tangled thickets which covered the flats was ultimately reared one of the finest farms in the state. What this remarkable farm has cost in labor, money, hardship, and heartaches cannot be set down in cold type, but it has cost much. The old folk retired to a less active life in La Conner in 1900, and there the father passed away three years later, honored by all who knew him. Mrs. Polson is still residing at La Conner. Of the eleven children, Nels is the third eldest; he was born July 29, 1857, in Sweden. In that country and in Iowa and Washington he received his education, coming to Skagit county when a lad of fourteen. Upon reaching his majority, he assumed the full responsibility of making his own living, engaging in farming. One year, that of 1885, he spent in British Columbia, but the intervening time between 1878 and 1887 he remained in Skagit county. That year he entered the employ of his brother, who had established a hardware bus-

iness at La Conner. A year afterwards, Nels joined his brother as a partner, the firm becoming Perry Polson & Brother. Again in 1889 the title was changed, this time to the Polson Hardware Company, Inc., another brother, John, having entered the business. Albert and Robert Wilton purchased a block of stock in the spring of 1892, which resulted in the name again changing, this to the Polson-Wilton Hardware Company. Late the same year, Nels Polson sold his interest, withdrawing from what is now one of the leading hardware and implement firms on the coast, and purchased his present place, justly noted as among the leading farms in the county, though not a large one. Of his original quarter section he has sold forty acres, but the remainder he has placed in a fine state of cultivation. A modern dwelling was built by him in 1901, which has greatly added to the value and comfort of the farm.

Mr. Polson's marriage to Miss Anna Luth, daughter of Albert and Alice (Campbell) Luth, of Columbus, Nebraska, was celebrated at La Conner March 10, 1891. On her paternal side, she is of German descent and on the maternal of Irish lineage. The father was born in Germany October 14, 1839, and came to this country when a boy eleven years old, his parents first residing in New York state. There he was reared, subsequently married in Rockland county and when the outbreak of the Civil War came, enlisted in the army. At present he is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Nebraska. Mrs. Luth was born January 12, 1838. She was seventeen years old when she came to the United States and five years later was married. In Rockland County, New York, September 14, 1868, Mrs. Polson was born. Her education was obtained in the common and high schools of Nebraska, to which she came when only a year and a half old. At sixteen she began teaching, pursuing that profession in Nebraska for five years. In 1890 she accepted a position in the schools of La Conner, but taught only until her marriage the spring following. The Polson home has been blessed by the advent of three children; all born in Skagit county: Albert W., April 16, 1893; Nellie L., December 8, 1895; and Robert N., March 11, 1902. The family church is the Lutheran. Mr. Polson is one of the most active men in his party, the Republican, and is a public spirited man in every sense of the word. He has creditably performed the duties of director in his school district and has contributed not a little toward placing that school on the high plane it now occupies. Success has crowned his efforts in every line of activity he has engaged in, private or public, which, together with his sterling character and genial traits, has justly elevated him to the position of influence and affluence he occupies among his fellows.

DENNIS STORRS. Among the men whose names are destined to retain a permanent place in the

history of this locality, stands Dennis Storrs, born in Yorkshire, England, September 8, 1815, the son of Charles E. Storrs, a carpenter. His father having died when Mr. Storrs was very young, he made his home with an uncle after his mother's re-marriage. At the early age of fourteen, having secured his education in the schools of England, he entered the shops of the Great Northern railroad at Doncaster, where he acquired the trade of car making. His skill soon secured him a position in a private car shop, which he held until he determined to find an opening in America, which he did May 1, 1870. Locating first in Mount Vernon, Iowa, he removed a year later to Benton county, and there spent two years. In the fall of 1874, he came to Washington, then a territory, stopping a month in Seattle, and later taking up his residence on Whidby island, where he followed farming. The ensuing fall, he took out his citizenship papers and in that same year, 1875, filed on his present home near Mount Vernon, then a dense forest, and moved there in the spring of 1876. He also took up a timber claim which he has since sold. It was here that he was identified with the undertaking that insured the memory, for generations to come, of all those who participated in it. Originating far back of the memory of the oldest Indian, perhaps as a tiny obstruction that a child's hand might then have removed, there had formed in the bend of the Skagit river an immense log jam. Increasing year by year, it caused the river to overflow its west bank, and was thus a constant menace to the lives and property of those residing on that side of the river, and so gigantic seemed the task of removing the jam, upon whose surface tall trees had grown, that it had never been attempted. At last in 1876, a band of men among whom Mr. Storrs was prominently numbered, decided that it must be done, and began work at once, regardless of the discouraging prophecies heard on all sides. After three years of arduous toil in the face of grave danger, their task was consummated and the river rushed unimpeded on its way, mutely witnessing to man's power of achievement.

Mr. Storrs was married in England, November 10, 1866, to Mary Dobson, the daughter of Joseph and Naoma (Hewitt) Dobson, both natives of England where the father was a seafaring man to the time of his death, and where the mother still resides. Mrs. Storrs, who has five brothers and sisters, also claims England as her birthplace, and there she was educated. Mr. and Mrs. Storrs have seven children: Arthur and Florence, born in England; the latter now Mrs. Fred Siegel, wife of the present master of the government snag boat, Skagit; Charles E., born in Iowa; Albert E., now deceased; George and Grace, born in Mount Vernon. In politics, Mr. Storrs adheres to Democratic principles, while fraternally he affiliates with the Odd Fellows, of which order he has been past grand for a number of years. During his residence in Mount

Vernon of almost thirty years, he has witnessed wonderful transformations. Other homesteads besides his own have responded to the magic influence of cultivation, orchards and grain fields replacing the forests. Not one, however, surpasses his own farm of one hundred and twenty-five acres, with its fine four-acre orchard, and its thoroughbred cattle and horses. Surrounded by all these material evidences of his industry and skill, he is one of the substantial citizens of Mount Vernon, and is held in highest esteem.

J. MADISON SHIELD is one of Skagit county's leading citizens, whether as educator or as agriculturist. Turning in recent years from the profession of teaching, in which he was eminently successful, he has proved himself a man of equal ability as husbandman. Mr. Shield was born in Butler County, Pennsylvania, June 7, 1857, of Scotch-Irish ancestry. His father, James Shield, was a native of Pennsylvania and is still living in the Keystone state. Mr. Shield's mother, whose maiden name was Amanda Smith, is also a Pennsylvanian by birth. Of her nine children Professor Shield, of this article, is the third. He early developed the characteristics of a student and after preparatory courses in the graded and higher schools entered Grove City College in his native state, graduating with the degree of bachelor of science in 1883. One year of teaching in Pennsylvania followed, when he came to the Pacific coast, taking up his profession of teaching in eastern Oregon. At the close of his first year he decided to return to his Pennsylvania home and to resume teaching there. He remained, however, but a single year. In 1888 he came to the Puget sound country, obtaining a position as principal of the La Conner schools. Three years later the people of Skagit county chose him as superintendent of their school system, though he continued to devote a part of his time to teaching in La Conner. He was reelected county superintendent and at the close of his term of office, being ineligible by law for a third term, he moved to Mount Vernon and became principal of the schools of that city, which position he filled with eminent satisfaction for five years. In the fall of 1899 Professor Shield was elected to the principalship of one of the public schools of Seattle and removed to that city. After a successful career of three years in Seattle, though reelected for another year, Professor Shield decided to return to Mount Vernon and take up agriculture. Following this determination he tendered his resignation in 1902, and moved to his present farm of eighty acres three miles west of Mount Vernon, which he had purchased in 1899. At that time the land was covered with a heavy forest. It was not until 1902 that sixty acres had been cleared and the old house reconstructed into a modern residence. In 1892, while serving as county superintendent of schools,

Professor Shield married Miss Maggie D. Calhoun, daughter of Dr. George V. Calhoun of Seattle. Dr. Calhoun is a native of New Brunswick. He selected the profession of medicine and obtained his degree at the University of Glasgow, Scotland. For a time he practiced his profession in New Brunswick and then entered the service of the United States during the Civil War as army surgeon. In 1865 Dr. Calhoun was placed in charge of the marine hospital at Port Angeles, a year later recommending the removal of the institution to Port Townsend. Dr. Calhoun practiced his profession for three years in Seattle and in 1875 came to La Conner where he remained, a successful practitioner until 1896 when he returned to Seattle, where he still lives. Mrs. Calhoun was Miss Ellen Mein, born in England. She was married in Halifax, Nova Scotia, became a resident of the United States after 1863 and of Washington when her husband located in this state. Her death came in 1898. Mrs. Shields was born during the residence of her parents in Port Townsend. She attended the schools of Seattle and finished her education at the Annie Wright Seminary in Tacoma. Following her graduation from that institution of learning, she became a school teacher. Her marriage took place in 1892. Of this marriage there is one son, George Calhoun Shield, born at Mount Vernon on March 13, 1895. Professor Shield is a Republican in politics. The retirement of Professor Shield to his farm by no means completed his interest in matters educational or placed him out of touch with all that pertains to the highest culture. He has carried to his farm all that was best in his scholastic attainments and his varied experiences, whether on the Atlantic or the Pacific coast. With his cultured wife he is pursuing the avocation of a farmer because he finds it congenial as well as remunerative, the days of outdoor life mingling in excellent proportion with the hours devoted to study and the betterment of the intellectual man. The home is one of the best culture and refinement.

AHLERT H. EGBERS. From German lad, through the successive stages of man-o'-warsman and able seaman to a dairy farmer in the Skagit valley, is the life story of Ahlert H. Egbers. He was born in Germany early in the year 1853. His father, Henry Egbers, a farmer, died in 1869 when the subject of this sketch was but sixteen years of age. The mother, Gretchen (Hargen) Egbers, had eight children of whom Ahlert is third. Mrs. Egbers died in her German home twelve years ago. Ahlert Egbers pursued the course of studies prescribed by the German schools and remained with his mother after his father's death. At twenty years of age he enlisted in the German navy and served two years, eight months and five days, following that experience as sailor on a merchantman. Finding himself in San Francisco in 1877 he left his

ship and made his way to Washington Territory, settling in Island county. For seven years he worked for wages and then rented a farm. In 1885 he came to Skagit county and leased a farm for three years. Leases followed, of Mr. Ball's place on La Conner flats and of Thomas Barrett's farm, until in 1899, he bought his present farmstead of thirty acres three miles west of Mount Vernon. Then it was virgin forest land, now it is a well kept farm.

Mr. Egbers married Miss Annie Mahler, daughter of Gustave Mahler, who emigrated from Germany when a young man and settled in New York. It was in New York that Mrs. Egbers was born. Her mother, Annie (Snakenberg) Mahler, was a native of Germany, but spent her last days in Skagit county, dying at the home of her daughter in 1902. Mrs. Egbers received her education in the schools of New York. She came to Washington and was married when thirty years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Egbers have three children, all of whom were born in Skagit county: Henry F., Milton L. and Alice M. Mr. Egbers is a Republican in politics and a member of the German Lutheran communion. The Egbers farm is well stocked, especial attention being paid to dairying.

JEREMIAH THOMPSON is a native of the north of England. He was born in the latter part of the year 1859, his father being Jeremiah Thompson, a farmer, and his mother Anna (Mason) Thompson, also of English birth. There were eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch was fifth. The elder Thompson died in England in 1887. Jeremiah Thompson received his education in the common schools of England and at the age of eighteen years left home for the life of a farm hand, continuing at that occupation for three years. At the end of that period Mr. Thompson left England for Canada, reaching there in 1881. Two and a half years were passed in Canada then Mr. Thompson returned to England for one winter. Returning in the early spring to America he started for the Pacific coast, Tacoma being his destination. On his arrival he obtained employment in the Puyallup hop fields. Later he went to Sumner, Washington, and passed four months as a saw-mill hand. Captain R. J. Yates, who owned a farm on the White river, offered him employment and Mr. Thompson passed two years on the Yates farm, leaving there for Skagit county, where he bought his present farm of eighty acres three and a half miles west of Mount Vernon. At the time of purchase the place was covered with the heaviest of timber. Now all but twenty acres has been converted into a modern farm with thirty acres in oats and forty-two in grass, as well as more than an acre in orchard.

On October 12, 1886, Mr. Thompson was married to Miss Lillie Leigh, daughter of William Leigh, a native of England, whose parents brought

him while a boy to the state of Iowa. Later Mr. Leigh went to Kansas, where he passed fourteen years, and in 1877 the Leighs came to Washington and settled on the White river near Seattle. Mrs. Leigh, an Iowan by birth, still lives in Mount Vernon; her husband died near that city in 1897. Mrs. Thompson was born in Washington County, Kansas, during the residence of her parents in that state, and was only twelve years of age when she came to Washington. She was married at eighteen. Of the six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, the eldest, Harvey J., was born in Tacoma, December 21, 1887; Mabel was born in Skagit county April 10, 1889; Ida M., born in Skagit county July 16, 1891; Violet L., born in Skagit county May 7, 1893; Philip, born in Skagit county April 17, 1897; and Agnes T., who died in infancy. Mr. Thompson is an active Republican. He has served his school district as director for five years. In addition to doing a general farming business Mr. Thompson gives especial attention to his herd of Durham cattle. The farm is well improved, the buildings ample and the whole composes a monument to the thrift and hard headed conservatism of Mr. Thompson and his wife.

FRED SLOSSON is an example of what will and pluck, supplemented by an application to work in hand, can do. Out of the woody wilderness of Puget sound he has literally carved a handsome competence within comparatively few years. Born in Pocahontas County, Iowa, in 1872, the son of a veteran of the Civil War, young Slosson has made his way since thirteen years of age. Oscar Slosson, his father, was a native of New York, but went to Ohio when eighteen years old. In 1854 he removed to Iowa and followed farming. In 1862 he went to Pennsylvania and there responding to the call of President Lincoln for volunteers, enlisted in the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry and served throughout the war with that command. After the grand review and muster out, he turned his face once more to the plains of Iowa, where he remained until 1878, when he went to California. Hearing of the Puget sound country Mr. Slosson left California after a year's residence, came to Skagit county and settled on a farm near La Conner, where he continued until his death in 1901. Julia (Touslee) Slosson was the mother of nine children of whom Fred is the seventh. Mrs. Slosson was a native of Ohio and died at La Conner in 1904. Fred Slosson received his education in the schools of Skagit county, but did not have the opportunity of pushing his studies to the extent he desired. His father being of infirm health, the young man was early called from school to the sterner duties of life. For the greater part of his life young Slosson has made a business of clearing land of the big forests, doing a contract business, in which he has gained an enviable reputation. When he first com-

menced his operations that section of Skagit county where he resides was a huge forest. It was during these years that Mr. Slosson cleared his present farm of sixty acres. Among the contracting enterprises which he successfully carried to completion was the construction of four miles of the Gray's Harbor branch of the Northern Pacific railroad, which work was finished in seven months. With the exception of one business trip to Chicago Mr. Slosson has remained on the sound since he first reached there.

In 1895 Mr. Slosson married Miss Ethel Touselee, daughter of Horace Touselee, a veterinary surgeon of New York, who came to Tacoma in 1889 and one year later moved to Skagit county. He is now making his home with Mr. and Mrs. Slosson. Mrs. Slosson's mother, Sarah (Cable) Touselee, a native of Iowa, is living in Chicago, where she is in the millinery and dressmaking business. Mrs. Slosson was born in Iowa in 1877 and received her education at St. Paul, Minnesota. She was married when eighteen years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Slosson have an adopted daughter, Gladys, a native of Skagit county. In politics Mr. Slosson is a Republican. His farm is all in a high state of cultivation and includes five acres of fine orchard. Mr. Slosson is a lover of cattle and has seventy head on his place. He is contemplating raising cattle on a larger scale. His home is modern in every way, with ample buildings and every convenience, showing taste and enterprise. Few men of Mr. Slosson's age, starting under similar circumstances, can give better evidence of their success from a material standpoint than is displayed on his well kept place, and his value as a neighbor and citizen is as fully evidenced by the respect and esteem in which he is held by his fellow-citizens.

DARLEY C. HAYWARD was born in Diresville, Iowa, in May, 1866, the son of Henry and Ellen Hayward. The elder Hayward was born in England and learned the trade of a butcher. Coming to the United States when a young man, he enlisted in the Union army and served until the curtain was drawn over the Lost Cause at Appomattox court house. Mr. Hayward is still living in Iowa. Mrs. Ellen (Tilley) Hayward was also English by birth, but came to this country with her parents and when but sixteen years of age became the wife of Mr. Hayward in Iowa. She is the mother of seven children, of whom Darley C. is the second. After finishing a course in the schools of Iowa young Hayward for a time cast in his fortunes in the meat business with his father, but in 1886, when twenty years old, he left home and went to Kansas. After one year on the plains he came to Washington and obtained employment on the farm of Hyman Scheurkogle in Skagit county, with whom he remained but a few months. A year was then passed in working in various places, when

Mr. Hayward returned to his first employer. This time he remained with Mr. Scheurkogle for three years and married his employer's daughter.

In August, 1892, the ceremony uniting Darley C. Hayward and Miss Mary E. Scheurkogle was performed. In a short time Mr. Hayward purchased twenty acres of the land of Mr. Scheurkogle and went to work to clear it for cultivation. The big trees have disappeared and in their place is a modest farm in excellent cultivation, with orchard and dwelling house. Hyman Scheurkogle was born in Holland, but at an early age crossed the Atlantic and settled on a farm in Iowa. In the early seventies he came to Washington and purchased the land on which he has ever since lived. His wife was Sarah Slosson, a native of Iowa. Their daughter, Mary (Scheurkogle) Hayward, was born in Iowa August 9, 1879, but came to Washington with her parents when three years old. Her education was gained in this state. Mr. and Mrs. Hayward are the parents of three children, all of whom were born in their present home: Minnie M., Fred H. and Bertha E. Mr. Hayward is a Republican in politics and is affiliated with the Methodist church, though not an active communicant. The Haywards are very pleasantly situated, with an attractive home, a farm well stocked and every probability for still greater success than that already gained by them.

JOHN EDWARD CARLSON'S career in Skagit county marks him as a typical young Swedish-American citizen. Born in Sweden in 1864, he remained on his father's farm in the old country until, at the age of twenty-five, he decided that America beckoned him to fortune. Carl Carlson, his father, followed the son to the United States in 1890 and is now spending the evening of his life with the son. Johanna (Johnson) Carlson, the mother, died in Skagit county in 1903. John E. obtained his education in the Swedish schools and remained on the farm of his parents until he came to this country in 1888. For seven years after he arrived in Skagit county he was in the employ of J. O. Rudene as a farm hand, but in 1895 bought his present farm of eighty acres, a little over three miles west of Mount Vernon. At that time the land was not all cleared, but it is now entirely under cultivation, half in grass and a number of acres in garden produce. A fine seven-room house and a good barn constitute the chief building improvements.

In 1896 Mr. Carlson married Miss Ella Larson, daughter of Ever Larson, a Swedish farmer who emigrated to the United States when a young man and settled in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he worked as a machinist in the railroad shops. Mr. Larson came to Washington in 1888 and now resides on Pleasant Ridge in Skagit county. Mrs. Larson was also a native of Sweden. She died at the Pleasant

Ridge home in 1902. Mrs. Carlson was born in Sweden in 1863, but came to this country when very young, receiving her education in the schools of Minnesota. She married at the age of thirty-three and is the mother of Lloyd A. and Louis E. Carlson, both of whom were born in Skagit county. Mr. Carlson is a Republican in politics, a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and a communicant of the Methodist church. His eighty-acre farm is in good state of cultivation and is yielding excellent returns in both crops and livestock.

NELS ELDE is one of the young Swedish-American citizens of Skagit county who are fast making a reputation for thrift and shrewdness in handling a farm. Born in Sweden in 1865, he left the old home at the age of twenty-one years to seek his fortune in America. His father, who likewise bore the name of Nels Elde, was a farmer in Sweden. His mother, Eliza (Magnussen) Elde, passed her whole life in Sweden and her remains are buried there. She was the mother of eight children, of whom Nels is the youngest. On his arrival in the United States Nels Elde came at once to Washington, and in Skagit county entered the employ of his brother Charles, continuing with him for the period of six years. In 1892 he made a trip to his native land and remained there one year. Four years later he bought his farm of thirty-eight acres, about four miles west of Mount Vernon and resides there now. When he first placed foot on this land there were only seven acres cleared, the remainder of his purchase consisting of brush and timber. These have all been removed and in their place are acres of good plow land of more than ordinary fertility, potatoes yielding as high as thirty-five sacks to the acre. It was not until a year after his purchase that Mr. Elde moved on his place, the intervening time being given over to removing brush and getting the land in shape for cultivation.

In 1896 Mr. Elde married Christina Jensen, daughter of Mrs. Boel (Pearson) Jensen, now living in Skagit county. Mrs. Elde was born September 27, 1873. She was educated in the old country and crossed the Atlantic when nineteen years of age. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Elde, Ruth, Lizzie, Mildur, Ruby and Mildred. Mr. Elde attends the Mission church. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World and in politics a Democrat. With fertile and well tilled soil, abundance of livestock, commodious buildings and pleasant and convenient home conditions, the Elde family may well be counted among the highly favored of an unusually prosperous community.

HON. JAMES POWER, of La Conner, Washington, is a pioneer of this section of the state, having come to Puget sound in 1873. He located at Whatcom and established the Bellingham Bay Mail,

the only paper then published north of Seattle. In 1879 he removed to La Conner and continued the publication of the paper under the title of the Puget Sound Mail, by which name it is still known, the present publishers being Messrs. Carter & Carlson. Mr. Power is a native of Ireland, but grew to manhood in Columbus, Ohio, where he served an apprenticeship at the printing business. Just previous to coming West he worked three years in the government printing office at Washington, D. C. Mr. Power had two brothers, Edward and Frank, in the Third Ohio Union Infantry, while his father served in the Confederate army, in the Tenth Tennessee, one of the instances where father and son contended with each other in the Civil War.

Mr. Power has always been Republican in politics, and has always taken an active interest in public affairs, having served the public with credit and distinction in various positions, such as inspector of customs, United States commissioner, member of the territorial board of regents, member of the legislature, his last public service being as one of the framers of the state constitution. In the legislature of 1883, with the able assistance of his colleague, Hon. Orrin Kincaid, now deceased, he procured the division of Whatcom county and the division of the county of Skagit. These counties are now two of the most prosperous in the state although at that time the division met with considerable opposition from citizens of the old county.

Mr. Power refers with satisfaction to his special work in the constitutional convention of 1889,—the passage of the provision confirming patent title to tide, swamp and overflowed lands, previously taken up by bona fide settlers. Owing to a mooted constitutional question as to whether or not the general government should have reserved such lands from settlement, as a heritage for the future state, as such lands had previously been granted to other states, it was deemed important to enter a formal disclaimer in the constitution. This most reasonable proposition to quiet the settler's title was met by strenuous opposition from the delegates from eastern Washington, led by Judge Turner, who very speciously argued throughout the protracted debates that if the state had any interest in these lands it should not be relinquished, while if it had no such interest, a disclaimer was unnecessary; in any event he argued that the matter should go over for future legislative action. But Mr. Power and other advocates of the provision insisted on settling the question then and there, for all time, and in this contention they were eventually successful.

"Judge" Power, as he is popularly known, is now living in retirement on his hop ranch near La Conner, Washington.

SAMUEL DUNLAP, though in point of age one of the younger leading men of the Skagit val-

ley, is nevertheless a pioneer of that section of the Puget sound country. He was born November 22, 1870, in the state of California, the son of Isaac Dunlap, a Pennsylvania farmer who later moved to Iowa. In the latter state he noted the tide of migration to California and joined it, traveling there by mule team. In 1877 he came to Skagit county and purchased a place on Pleasant Ridge; he still lives in the county. Mrs. Susan (Maxwell) Dunlap, mother of our subject, was born in Iowa and married to Mr. Dunlap during his residence in that state. She is still living, the mother of seven children, of whom Samuel Dunlap is the sixth. The son, though born in California, is in reality a product of Skagit county, obtaining his education here and growing to manhood in the Skagit valley. Two years were passed by him in educational pursuits in the academy at Coupeville when, at the age of twenty years, he went to work for a brother. Two years as employe were followed by four years of farming on land rented of his brother. At the close of this period our subject bought forty acres of heavily timbered land which he cleared, and a little later added the forty-acre tract known as the Wells place, upon which he moved in 1899. This holding of eighty acres of as good farm land as lies in Skagit county produces principally oats of which the yield is invariably large.

Mr. Dunlap married Mrs. Hattie Williams at La Conner in 1894. Her father, Richard Ball, a pioneer of Skagit county whose biography appears in this history, came to Washington and settled on the La Conner flats in the Centennial year. Mrs. Dunlap's father has served as mayor of La Conner for four years. Amanda (Horney) Ball, mother of Mrs. Dunlap, is a native of Nashville, Tennessee, born in 1847. She still lives in La Conner. Mrs. Samuel Dunlap was born near Cincinnati, Ohio, on New Year's day, 1867, in the same house which saw the birth of her father. She received her education in the Skagit county schools and after pursuing a course of study in the Portland high school, began teaching in Skagit county when seventeen years of age; continuing to teach in the schools here for a total of nine years. When twenty years of age she became the wife of Dr. A. C. Williams, whose death occurred two years later, after which she resumed teaching. The Dunlap home is one of the pleasant places in the Skagit valley and its host and hostess are respected by all. The farm is well kept and with a goodly number of horses and cattle constitutes one of the solid properties in the county. Mr. Dunlap is a member of the Woodmen of the World. In politics he is an ardent Republican.

AXEL W. AXELSON. Prominent among the hardy Norsemen who have won enviable success in the industrial development of Skagit county is the worthy citizen and successful farmer whose name initiates this article. Born in Sweden in the year

1861, he passed there the first twenty-six years of his life, and his father, Axel W. Magnusson, and mother, whose maiden name was Sophia Nygren, are still residents of that far-away northern land. In 1887 he arrived in the state of Iowa, where he lived three years, coming at the end of that time to Mount Vernon, Washington. His first employment in Skagit county was clearing land, then for three years he worked for R. E. Whitney, building dikes, but in the fall of 1893 he went to Seattle, where for some time he was employed in different brick yards and by the railroad company. Returning at length to Whitney island, near La Conner, he spent a half decade there in the business of raising cabbage on a five-acre garden tract. The ensuing three years were spent in general farming first on Samish flats and then on the Beaver Marsh, then three years more were spent in farming on Whitney island. In 1901 he purchased his present place in the vicinity of Mount Vernon, known formerly as the Lindsay farm, and to its cultivation and improvement he has ever since devoted himself zealously, making a fine farm and a comfortable home. Every acre is in condition to yield a crop. A convenient, moderately large house adds materially to the value of the farm and the comfort of living on it, while a nice little orchard supplies fruit of all varieties for family use. Realizing the value of stock on a farm, Mr. Axelson keeps a goodly number of both cattle and horses.

In Skagit county in March, 1895, our subject married Sarah, daughter of James and Eliza (Bradley) Williamson. Her father is a native of Scotland, but at the early age of eight years came with his mother to the United States, settling ultimately in Dungeness, Washington. Though deprived of educational advantages in his youth, he has, by his native shrewdness and application, accomplished more than many more favored men, and to-day he is one of the most highly respected citizens of La Conner, of which he is a pioneer, having helped to dike in the land upon which the town or a portion of it stands. Mrs. Axelson's mother was a native of Missouri, but was brought by parents to this state when only three years old, and passed here almost her entire life. She died in December, 1903. Mrs. Axelson was born on La Conner flats May 17, 1877, but was educated in the public schools of Port Townsend, where her family lived for ten years, during which time her father was a custom house official under Bradshaw. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Axelson are Anna, Helen, Herman and Katherine, all born in Skagit county. Our subject is a member of the Methodist church, and in fraternal affiliation an Odd Fellow, but he acknowledges no allegiance to any political party, preferring to determine for himself without bias to whom his support should be given. He is one of the most substantial men in the county, and in the past few years especially has been one of the most successful in his line of business. He belongs to that class

of Europeans who are always welcome to the land of the free because they employ both brain and brawn in pushing forward the industrial and social progress of whatever community they may choose as a place of abode.

HARRIS B. PECK, one of the most popular and successful men of the Skagit valley, was born in New Brunswick in 1846, the son of a farmer, Elias Peck, who in his early years had followed the sea for a livelihood. He was a native of New Brunswick and died there in 1875. The elder Mrs. Peck, whose maiden name was Rachel Calhoun, came of a well known New Brunswick family. Her death occurred in 1865, when Harris was nineteen years old. Receiving his education in the schools of New Brunswick, Harris B. remained at home until he was twenty-one years of age; then he began his independent career. He first went to Massachusetts in 1867, remaining there a year and a half, after which he returned home to care for his father in the declining days of his eventful life. In 1877 Mr. Peck left the rugged shores of the Bay of Fundy for the balmy climate and superior advantages of Puget sound. Soon after his arrival he took up forty acres of railroad land to which he soon added a homestead. Then followed a period of buying and selling land, during which he materially increased his holdings. In 1890 he disposed of a part of his land and invested in a furniture store in La Conner, which he directed for two years, afterward returning to his farm, then reduced to one hundred and twenty acres, sixty-five of which were cleared. He later acquired forty acres adjoining, of which thirty-five were cleared, and in 1903 he added yet another forty acre tract. While Mr. Peck's land is adapted to general farming, he is partial to growing grass for hay, and only seven-eighths of his land is now under the plow.

Before leaving New Brunswick Mr. Peck married Miss Susan West. After ten years of wedded life Mrs. Peck died in Washington leaving five children. Mr. Peck remained a widower seven years, in 1892 marrying Miss Hattie Crandall at La Conner. She is a daughter of John Crandall, who was at one time numbered among the prosperous farmers of New Brunswick, but is now deceased as is also his worthy helpmeet. Mrs. Peck herself is a native of New Brunswick, and in that province was reared and educated, receiving an unusually broad literary training. She taught there for a number of years, then removed to Boston, and in 1892 came to this state. Mr. and Mrs. Peck have no children, but four of the progeny of the first union are living, namely, Mrs. Edna Reay, residing near Mount Vernon; George, of Bellingham; Floyd, who operates the home farm, and Mrs. Susan Cole, also of Bellingham. Mr. Peck is recognized as one of the grand old men of the Skagit country and one of its most prosperous and sub-

stantial citizens, an exemplar of the sturdy qualities which make for the best in any American community. He is a member of the Grange and of the Baptist church, and in politics is a Republican, but not specially active.

CHARLES ELDE is one of the oldest and best known of the Swedish-American settlers of the Skagit valley. He was born in Sweden in 1857 on the farm which had been kept in the family since the year 1640. His father was Nels Carlson, who died many years ago on the famous old Swedish family homestead. Mr. Elde's mother was Lisa Magnusson. She also died in her native land, the mother of eight children, of whom Charles is the fifth. After passing through the Swedish schools, Charles Elde remained on the historic farm of his forefathers until twenty-three years of age. In 1881 he left Sweden and soon after reaching this country went to Colorado and followed mining for a year and a half. On Christmas day in 1882 he reached Seattle, traveling by boat from San Francisco, reaching there by overland train. Mr. Elde remained in Seattle but a short time, going thence to La Conner where he was engaged at farm work with Dr. Calhoun, a year later renting from that gentleman 240 acres on the Sullivan slough. For ten years he conducted farming operations on this place and at the close of the term purchased from Dr. Calhoun the 160 acres five miles southwest of Mount Vernon on which he has ever since made his residence. The land at that time was all under cultivation, but it was without house or farm buildings. This is as rich land as Skagit county boasts and of it Mr. Elde has made one of the best producing farms in the Pacific Northwest.

Mr. Elde was married in 1898 to Miss Nora Anderson of Seattle, the ceremony taking place in Victoria, British Columbia. Mrs. Elde's father was Andrew Carlson and her mother Sophia Bengtson, both of whom passed their lives in Sweden, where Mrs. Elde was born in 1868 and where she received her education. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Elde, all of them on the farm in Skagit county: Thyra, born in 1898 Dagny M., born in 1900; C. Tage, born in 1901, and Signe E., born in 1903. Mr. Elde is an active Democrat in his political alliance. He attends the Mission church, which is a branch of the Lutheran denomination. He is a Mason, a past grand in the Odd Fellows' fraternity and a member of the Woodmen of the World. The Elde place is one of the most attractive farmsteads in the county, as well as one of the very best in point of cultivation and productiveness.

FRED P. CHELLMAN is one of the colony of Swedish born American citizens who have turned the Skagit forest into smiling farms and out of the

change have created fortunes for themselves and their families. Mr. Chellman was born in Sweden October 8, 1852, the son of Peter and Marie Peterson, being fifth in the circle of ten children. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson remained in their native land until death some years ago. Mr. Chellman remained on the home farm until he was past thirty years of age, coming to America in 1881. He remained one summer in Colorado and then came to Washington, his first employment being in a saw-mill at Port Blakeley. The following winter he passed at a logging camp on the Skagit, and it was during this engagement that he selected a part of the heavily timbered forest for his future home. In the summer of 1883 he made a filing on the land, which included some marsh land as well as timber. With his own hands he has cleared the land of its trees and has diked and drained the low places. Of that original 160 acres eighty are now in grass and a second eighty in oats, the yield of both crops being heavy. At a later time Mr. Chellman added by purchase eighty acres of cleared land to the west of his original place, three miles south and one mile west of Mount Vernon. He has made his home here since 1883.

In 1887 Mr. Chellman married Miss Annie L. Benson, who had come to Washington that year from her home in Sweden. She was nineteen years of age and had received her education in the old country. Two children have been born to this union, Alma C., and Anna V. Aside from growing grasses and grains, Mr. Chellman has turned his attention with success to the raising of Durham cattle and has developed a well selected herd. In politics he places little faith in party platforms and party pledges, but considers the candidate and casts his ballot for the individual whom he believes to be the best qualified for a given office. The family attends the Methodist church. As pioneer, citizen and successful farmer and stock raiser, Mr. Chellman ranks well to the front; while as a business man his present holdings in rich farm lands, stock, etc., with his substantial home, fully attest his executive ability.

AXEL ANDERSON, well known as a prosperous farmer, living three and one-half miles southwest of Mount Vernon, is a native of central Sweden, born July 29, 1869. His father, Anders Carlson, a farmer born in Sweden in 1828, was a man of influence, whose excellent education fitted him to fill with honor the various offices he held to the time of his death in 1875. Sophia (Bangtson) Carlson, also of Swedish birth, was the mother. She died in her native land in 1897. Making the best use of the educational opportunities afforded by the common schools of the country and in the meantime doing his share of the farm work, Mr. Anderson grew to manhood. Having brothers and sisters residing in the United States who wrote

home in glowing terms of the country and its openings, he decided to find a home there also. He reached Osage City, Kansas, in 1889, and began work in a coal mine, continuing there for a year, at the end of which he came to La Conner to accept a position on the farm of his cousin, Charles Elde. He and his brother, Nels Anderson, bought a forty acre farm and also rented land which they tilled for three years until he was offered the management of Judge Powers' hop ranch. He purchased his present place in 1899, and has since greatly improved it, building his cosy, comfortable house, and surrounding it with tasteful, well-kept grounds.

Mr. Anderson was married April 26, 1898, to Miss Anna Sward, who was born in the northern part of Sweden, but came to the United States when a young girl. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have had three children, only one of whom, Carl Axel, is living. Mr. Anderson has one brother, Nels, and three sisters, Christina Charlstron, Anna Lendblom and Nora Elde. In political matters he is an independent voter. He is a worthy member of the Woodmen of the World. Being a careful manager he secures large returns from his ranch, the products of which are hay and stock. Thrifty and industrious, and withal a man of integrity, he commands the respect of the entire community.

GUST LENDBLOM, a well-to-do farmer residing three and one-half miles southwest of Mount Vernon, was born in east Sweden September 23, 1856, the son of Jonas and Anna Lendblom, both natives of Sweden. Having served thirty-six years in the army of his native country, the father came to the United States in 1877, and died here the following year at the age of sixty-one. His mother was born in 1815, and died in Kansas in 1903. The youngest of a family of seven, Mr. Lendblom has the following brothers and sisters: Anton, living in Minnesota; Carl T., Charlotte, Lena and Leonard, all residents of Kansas. The first twenty years of his life were spent on his father's farm in Sweden, acquiring a practical knowledge of affairs that would bring him success in later years. When the family emigrated to the United States in 1877, he first found employment in Osage City, Kansas, where he worked in the mines in the winters, and at stone masonry, summers. Thirteen years later he went to Michigan, securing a position as a stone mason which he held for two years, at which time he decided to locate in the Northwest. Coming to Skagit county July 20, 1893, he rented a farm which he worked until 1899, when he purchased his present home.

Mr. Lendblom was married August 25, 1883, in Osage City, Kansas, to Miss Anna Anderson, born in Sweden in 1860, the sister of Axel and Nels Anderson. Mr. and Mrs. Lendblom have the following children: Judith, Martin (deceased), Carl, Edith (deceased), Lillie, Edith, Hugo, Gunuar,

Hector and Rhoda. The family attend the Baptist church of which both parents are active members. Mr. Lendblom is an independent voter, believing that to be the surest means of securing wise and just legislation. He owns thirty acres of land which he is fast bringing under cultivation. He is interested in dairy matters, and sells his product as cream. A hard working honest man of good moral standard, he enjoys the respect and confidence of his neighbors and friends.

NILS ERICKSON, farmer and dairyman, resides on his ranch four miles southwest of Mount Vernon. For generations his ancestors have been natives of Sweden, in which country he was born, near Ostersund, December 6, 1857, the son of Eric and Elizabeth (Nelson) Erickson. His father, born in 1840, is a farmer in his native country. His mother died in 1896. Mr. Erickson has one sister, Anna Westin, and two brothers, Peter and Lewis, all residents of Seattle, Washington. Northern Sweden, his home for the first twenty-one years, is a poor farming country, yielding only a bare living even with diligent labor. The many advantages to be enjoyed in the United States influenced him to make his home there in 1878. Locating in Oberlin, Kansas, he rented land for a time, but the severe drought that brought dismay to so many caused his efforts to be almost a complete failure. Discouraging it certainly was, but not disheartening to a man of his fine courage. Securing from his labor just enough money to purchase a ticket to the great Northwest, where man's success is not so dependent upon the oftentimes fickle rainfall, he came to Stanwood, Snohomish county, and at once began clearing land. The following spring, in 1891, he sent for his family, who had remained in Kansas, meeting them at Skagit City, near which he bought a piece of school land which became their home until in 1900 when they removed to their present farm. It was densely covered with heavy timber and the task of clearing and bringing it to its present state of cultivation has indeed been laborious, and has been accomplished entirely by his own untiring efforts. He has ten acres in fine condition, and all the rest in pasture land.

Mr. Erickson was married in Kansas, January 10, 1890, to Miss Carrie Wineburg, an acquaintance who was born in his native parish in Sweden, and came to the United States in 1878. Her parents were likewise natives of Sweden, her father following farming. Mr. and Mrs. Erickson have seven children: Sophia, William, Ellen, Jennie, Alice, Allrick and Harris, who attend the Swedish Baptist church, of which the parents are members. Mr. Erickson is a member of the Republican party. He has filled the office of road supervisor, and for a number of years was clerk and school director in his district, known as the Harmony district, which is recognized as one of the very best in this part

of the county. He is a patron of the Mount Vernon creamery, to which he sends the milk from eight cows. By industry and wise management he has won for himself and family, under adverse conditions, a home and a place in his community, and to-day is recognized as a worthy citizen, holding the esteem of all who know him.

O. J. JOHNSON, for many years engaged in ministerial work in his native land, Sweden, and also in the United States, and now a prominent farmer residing four miles southwest of Mount Vernon, was born near Ostersund, February 17, 1856. His father, John Johnson, a farmer in Sweden, was born in 1835, and died in 1888. The mother, Agnes (Olson) Johnson, was also a native of the same country, dying there in 1885. Having worked with his father on the farm, and attended the public schools, Mr. Johnson entered college at the age of nineteen, taking a two years' course. He then decided to enter the ministry of the Lutheran church, and studied privately with a professor of the college, after which he went as traveling missionary for that church for six years, resigning at that time on account of his health. He married soon after, and purchased his father-in-law's farm which he owned until 1888. Dissatisfied with the political conditions of his country, in which the right to vote is purely a property qualification, no one being allowed a ballot who has not either four thousand dollars worth of property or an income amounting to eight hundred dollars, and believing that Russia would eventually conquer the Scandinavian people, thus making the situation one of far more peril, he determined for his children's sake to leave the land of his fathers. He had once made a trip to Minnesota, and had been impressed with the superior advantages that the United States offered, so at this time he migrated to Rawlins County, Kansas, and rented a farm. A year and a half later, in 1890, he came west, first to Stanwood, Snohomish county, and soon after to Skagit county, where he bought land on the Skagit delta. In 1899 he invested in his present property near Mount Vernon, which he has greatly improved, there being then only an orchard on the place. For two years, from 1896 to 1898, he traveled for the Baptist Publishing Company, selling their publications throughout the country, and also frequently preaching. Previous to this time he had been pastor of the Swedish Baptist church for four years, 1892 and 1896, which pulpit he again filled for two years after giving up the field work, tendering his resignation as pastor in 1902. He believes that his ministry is ended, and is now devoting his entire time to agricultural interests. He is an enthusiastic advocate of a farmers' co-operative union, with its own commission merchants and its home store, and has succeeded in arousing a great deal of interest in his plans. Several meetings have been held, and the organ-

ization elected the following officers: Mr. Johnson, president; Andrew Anderson, vice-president; William Wells, secretary, and Robert Gunther, treasurer. He was sent as a delegate to the meeting held in Seattle in March, 1905, in which all the co-operative organizations in the western part of this state were represented, and brought back cheering reports of the work done in other places. He thinks it will not be long before the organization here and elsewhere will be perfected, and this will mean much greater returns to the farmers when their own commission merchants handle their products in the Seattle market.

Mr. Johnson was married in Sweden in 1881, to Miss Carrie Nelson, born in that country. They have two children, Jonas, born in Sweden, August 12, 1883, and Annie E., also born there, in 1887. Both children have decided musical ability, playing several instruments with proficiency. Mr. Johnson has been school director for some time, and dike commissioner for one term. In general appearance he thinks Skagit county resembles Sweden, but is vastly superior in every way, particularly in the advantages offered to the ambitious poor man. An earnest, progressive citizen, broadened by the varied experiences that have entered his life, Mr. Johnson is a valuable addition to the community which now claims him as a resident.

FRANK JUNGQUIST, a well known farmer and dairyman who resides on his farm four miles southwest of Mount Vernon, came to the United States when he was nineteen years of age. His father, August Jungquist, was born in Sweden in December, 1835, and farmed there until he came to the United States in 1888, where he now lives with his son, John Jungquist. Hannah (Johnson), the mother, was born in Tyrunga, Sweden, in 1831, and died in May, 1901. Mr. Jungquist, born in Sweden, west of Jutland, May 10, 1867, received his education in the common schools of his country, while he also acquired a practical knowledge of farming. A brother, John, and a sister, Christina, the wife of Marsh Miller, being residents of the United States, he was familiar with the opportunities to be found here, and decided to make this his home. Arriving in La Conner August 24, 1886, he at once found employment with a thrashing machine, the first he had ever seen. Two and a half years later he bought his first real estate in this country, and in 1899 purchased his present ranch, situated by the river dike. He has remodeled the house, and also greatly improved the farm.

In Seattle, January 29, 1891, Mr. Jungquist was married to Miss Ellen Warsen, born November 21, 1872, near Linköping, Ostergatlands, Sweden. Her father, Anders Anderson, a farmer, died November 26, 1878. Her mother, Johanna (Johnson), was born April 15, 1839, and came to the United States September 21, 1892. Mrs. Jungquist has

been a resident of this country since 1890. Four children have been born to this union, Alice, Elmer, Fredolph and Emma. Mr. Jungquist is a loyal member of the Republican party. A firm believer in the common school system, he advocates the employment of the best talent that can be secured and is ever found laboring to carry to successful issue these progressive ideas. He has a fine dairy of twenty cows and in company with his brother, Klos, owns a farm of fifty-six acres, on which is located their creamery, bearing the name of the Skagit City Creamery, the product of which is easily sold at the highest price. That this portion of the United States is the best possible location for an active, enterprising man, is a firm conviction in the mind of Mr. Jungquist, and his success certainly demonstrates the soundness of his judgment.

OLUF INMAN NELSON (deceased). When after a weary illness of eighteen months this prominent pioneer died at his home four and one-half miles southwest of Mount Vernon, on November 10, 1904, the cause of truth and right lost a brave champion, and the community an honored citizen and friend. He was born in Sweden, January 15, 1844, the son of Inman and Kristine Nelson, both natives of that country, in which the father died many years ago, and the mother in 1846. Mr. Nelson spent the first twenty-four years of his life in the home-land, immigrating to the United States in 1868, but returning in 1872 for his bride. His first home was in Illinois, thence he moved to Omaha, Nebraska, where he remained till 1876, at which time he decided to go west. After a year in Seattle, his wife who had remained in Nebraska, joined him and they came to Skagit county, near La Conner, where he at first rented land and farmed. Later he bought a farm in the Beaver Marsh district, which unfortunately he was obliged to give up when the panic of 1893 palsied the finances of the nation. Previous to this he had been very successful, owning both the farm above mentioned and also the one on which his family now resides.

Mr. Nelson was married in Omaha, Nebraska, June 22, 1872, to Miss Celia Bainston, born in Sweden, April 8, 1847. Her father, Baint Nelson, was a well known shoemaker of Sweden, and died in that country in 1900, at the age of eighty-three. Bertha Swanson, her mother, also of Swedish nativity, was born in 1806, and died September 11, 1891. To Mr. and Mrs. Nelson were born the following children: Alfred, born March 15, 1878, now attending the university at Seattle, from which he will be graduated in the class of 1906; Minnie and Otto, twins; Victor and Benjamin, the latter also attending school; and three others now deceased. Bravely taking up the burdens laid down by her husband, Mrs. Nelson has charge of the farm in the absence of her eldest son, attends to

the dairying, and also devotes time and attention to poultry raising. During Mr. Nelson's life he was an earnest member of the Socialists, actively engaged in promulgating the doctrines in which he so firmly believed. Always a man of pronounced views, he had the courage to adhere to his convictions, regardless of the cost. For many years a member of the Swedish Methodist church, though at the time of his death not connected with any society, he has been a life-long student of the Bible, and was an earnest Christian, following the light as he saw it.

GEORGE J. WOLF, a successful and energetic farmer residing three and one-half miles southwest of Mount Vernon, was born near Richland, in Richland County, Wisconsin, November 29, 1860. Michael Wolf, his father, a native of Germany, in which country he followed the baker's trade for many years, immigrated to the United States, locating first in Michigan, and later, in 1850, in Madison, Wisconsin, at that time only a small town. Opening a bakery, he remained there for some time, when he moved to Richland county, having remarried after the death of his first wife. He was living there on his own farm at the time of his death in 1870. Anna Rosa (Lassa) was the mother. Born and raised in Germany, she was first married to William Klousie, after whose death she met and some years later married Mr. Wolf. She died in South Dakota in 1901, at the age of seventy-four. The early life of George J. Wolf did not differ from that of the average American boy, as it was spent on his father's farm learning many lessons of industry and economy, and attending the common schools of the state. The first year after he became of age he assumed the care of his mother's farm, going later to South Dakota, where he spent seven years in farming and dairying. In 1891 he came to Skagit county and bought his present place, at that time simply a part of the woods, wholly destitute of improvements. For the next two years he rented land which he farmed until his own could be diked, and the task of clearing it begun. Having been appointed dike commissioner by the county, he levied a tax and constructed what is known as the "high dike" which extends a mile. Then began the work of clearing his own land and building houses and barns. Two years later he returned to South Dakota and took up a homestead in Buffalo county, residing there six years. This property he still owns. To his former home in Skagit county which he held while in Dakota, he returned in December, 1902, and has since given it his entire attention.

Mr. Wolf was married in South Dakota, December 4, 1889, to Miss Mary E. Fredlund, daughter of I. J. and Maria (Johnson) Fredlund. Her father has been a resident of Skagit county for fourteen years. Mrs. Wolf was born in Bergen,

Norway, in 1868, and came to the United States in 1881. Her brothers are Jules, Edward, Robert and Joseph Fredlund, all living in Skagit county, and Albert Fredlund, now in Alaska. Mr. Wolf's own brothers and sisters are as follows: John H. and David M., general merchants in South Dakota, Adolph G., a banker, Anna Rosa Smith and Dorothy, all likewise residents of South Dakota. He has three half-brothers and one half-sister, Abraham, William, Caroline and Charles. Mr. and Mrs. Wolf have six children living and one, David F., deceased. They are as follows: Charles Wesley, Jesse Benjamin, Ira J., Marie, Leonard G. and Edwin R. All the family attend the Methodist church, of which the father and mother are active members. Mr. Wolf is a member of the Republican party, and was in office while in South Dakota. He is now school director and clerk in his district. Intensely interested in the educational matters of the county, he agitated the building of an addition to the school house in his district and the employment of another teacher, and has had the pleasure of seeing both his plans carried out. It is now a graded school, and one reflecting credit upon its officers and patrons. His farm of twenty acres is in a very desirable location, situated on the corner opposite the school ground. He secured his land by clearing off another tract of equal size. He is devoting his time principally to raising vegetables and to his dairy interests. Thrift and industry are everywhere apparent, and are securing for him a large measure of success and influence.

JOHN H. CARLSON, a prosperous farmer living four miles southwest of Mount Vernon, has had a more varied career than have most young men of his age. Born in south Norway, near Christiana, November 1, 1867, he is the son of Carl Jacobson, a native of Sweden who came to Norway when a young boy, and is now, though nearly eighty years of age, an engineer on one of the coast steamers. Wilhelmina (Hanson) Jacobson, the mother, was born in Norway about the same time that her husband was, and is still living. Having attended the schools and passed the examination, which is required by law in Norway, he also afterward spent some time in night schools. He learned engineering with his father and at eighteen began life on the ocean, making eleven trips to Montreal on a steamer, and later sailing to England, the United States and other countries. This practical experience on the ocean is a preparation required of all who would enter the marine service of Norway, to enter which at that time was his ambition, one, however that he entirely abandoned when he grew to manhood. In his early teens he had worked in a bottle factory, where he became quite proficient in the art of glass blowing. He had observed the resources and superior advantages of the United States when on his ocean

voyages he had touched her shores, and decided to make this his future home, which he did in 1888. He intended to enter the machine shops when he arrived in this country, but changed his plans and was employed in a paint, sash and door factory in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, the largest manufactory of its kind in the world at that time. Three years later he came west to Bellingham, then known as Seahom, taking up carpenter work with contractors for several years. He purchased his first real estate in Ferndale, which, after improving, he sold some two years later, at that time locating in Whatcom, where he operated a planer in a planing-mill until he came in 1898 to Skagit county. That winter he and three others—O. J. Johnson, Frank Jungquist and brother, bought of Henry Wright a 100-acre ranch, which was divided up, the place on which he now resides falling to his lot. There was only an orchard on it then, and everything else in the way of improvements has been added since. He built his own house, barns means to make the improvements on his property, and fences, and cleared off nearly the entire place. In the meantime he ran a donkey have sufficient hauling off logs, that he might engine, used in Much of the carpenter work in this locality has been done by him. He and Nils Erickson had the contract for the building of the school-house in Harmony district.

Mr. Carlson was married in Wisconsin, July 28, 1889, to Miss Anna Edd, born in Sweden, a friend whom he had known in Norway, and who came to the United States in 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Carlson have four children, Esther, Ruth, Elmer and Edna. In the Swedish Baptist church Mr. Carlson is a prominent member, having served as treasurer for many years. The educational matters of his community receive his attention and his hearty financial support. He has a brother, Charles, who is chief engineer on an ocean steamer plying between the Philippine Islands and the West Indies. The other members of his family are Emil, Hildorine and Elise. Mr. Carlson has twenty-two acres, and devotes much time to his dairy, now milking nine cows, and selling the separated cream to the Mount Vernon creamery. Earnest, ambitious, and withal a manly man, he is highly esteemed by his many acquaintances.

SAMUEL SCHIDLEMAN, whose career is a fine illustration of what a young man with health, energy and ambition as his only capital can accomplish in this splendid country of ours, was born in Fulton County, Pennsylvania, near McConnellsburg, March 11, 1867, the son of Peter Schidleman, a farmer who was born in Germany and died in Pennsylvania thirty years ago. The mother, Kate (Lutz) Schidleman, also of German descent, now resides with her son Samuel, at the age of seventy-five. Her other children are as fol-

lows: Henry (deceased), Katie (deceased), Peter, David (deceased), Daniel, John, Mary, Lizzie and Philbena. His father having died when he was only eight years old, Samuel Schidleman and the other children in the family early took up the burden of life, acquiring an education in the common schools in the meantime. The farm was small and yielded only a meager living for the large family. It was therefore decided to move to Knox County, Illinois, and thence the mother and children went when Samuel was sixteen. He and a brother did the work on the farm which they secured for the mother, and he also worked for a man who owned a farm of one thousand acres. Two years later he, in company with his brother, David, started west, driving the entire distance to Utah in a top buggy, locating at Askley valley, just across the Colorado line, where they took up farming. His brother having gone on to Pocatello, Idaho, and later to Whidby island, Mr. Schidleman joined him there in 1888, and after working out for a time, began farming for himself. Seven years later he shipped his stock and other goods to Skagit county, renting a farm on Beaver Marsh, and in 1899 purchased his present place, farming both ranches. He moved on his own farm in the fall of 1903.

Mr. Schidleman was married October 24, 1900, to Jennie Willis Adams, a native of Oregon, born near Roseburg, the daughter of an old pioneer family who came to that locality in the early fifties. For a number of years Mrs. Schidleman was a professional nurse. Mr. Schidleman is an enthusiastic member of the Independent Democratic party. He is a progressive citizen, thoroughly convinced of the wisdom of maintaining excellent schools and churches. He owns a fine farm of eighty acres, nearly all under cultivation, upon which he has a good home, modern in all its appointments, and surrounded by neat grounds that evidence both the owner's taste and thrift. A nice home which he has built next to his own for his mother's use, is a proof of his thoughtful kindness. Largely interested in dairying, he has a fine barn and thirty head of cattle of the Guernsey breed, the milk product from which after separation is disposed of to the creamery. He also is a breeder of fine Berkshire hogs. He came to the sound with but five dollars as the sum of his possessions, and had only his cattle and team when he settled in Skagit county. But with that indomitable courage and perseverance which accept no defeat, Mr. Schidleman has multiplied those meager possessions until he now stands as one of the well-to-do farmers of the county, easily worth twelve thousand dollars. It is small wonder that he is a most loyal and enthusiastic resident of his county, believing it to be the best on the face of the globe.

GEORGE H. LAWSON, one of Skagit county's most successful farmers and dairymen, residing

six miles southwest of Mount Vernon, was born near Cambridge, in Henry County, Illinois, January 15, 1858. His father, Charles M. Lawson, a native of Sweden, was born in 1828, and came to the United States in 1853, locating in Henry county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming until he came to Washington in 1897. He has now retired from active business, and makes Seattle his home. His two brothers, August and John, served in the Civil War. Anna Charlotte Lawson, the mother, was also born in Sweden, and now hale and hearty at the age of eighty years, is living in Seattle. Spending the first years of his life on his father's farm, and acquiring his education in the common schools of the state, Mr. Lawson reached his majority in his native state. Employed for a time by a brother-in-law, he later bought a farm and began life for himself. Six years later he sold this property and invested in another farm. In 1897 he came west to visit a brother, Alfred J. Lawson, living near Edison, and found the country so desirable that after careful deliberation he decided to sell his property in the East and make this his permanent home. He reached Seattle March 15, 1901, came thence to the Skagit country and together they bought the farm where he now lives, the consideration being seventeen thousand dollars for the one hundred and ninety-one acres.

Mr. Lawson was married October 9, 1888, to Tilda Anderson, born in Henry County, Illinois, the daughter of Swedish parents who settled in that state in 1852. Her father was Anders Anderson, a farmer, who died many years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Lawson have two children, Charles, aged 15, and Grace, aged 13, both attending school. Mr. Lawson is a trustee in the Pleasant Ridge Swedish Methodist church, of which his wife is also a member. The fifth of a family of nine children, two of whom died in infancy, and one, Emily, in later life. Mr. Lawson has the following living brothers and sisters: Minnie Gustafson; Ellen Peterson, of Seattle; Alfred J., of Edison, Washington; Phebe and Augusta, at home in Seattle. Mr. Lawson is a member of the Republican party. Since his father's retirement from active duties, Mr. Lawson has had the entire charge of the large farm, and the fine condition in which it is kept is a convincing proof of his skillful management and excellent judgment. One hundred bushels of oats and four tons of timothy hay per acre is the record of production that he has sometimes made on his farm. Situated as it is right on the bank of the Skagit river, he has the advantage of being able to ship his products from the granery without the trouble of hauling them to the market. He has large stock interests to which he devotes much attention. He is now breeding short horn cattle and English shire horses, while also raising Berkshire hogs. He believes this to be a much better farming country than Illinois, or any country with which he is familiar, having made more money

in his four years residence here than he did in the previous ten spent in Illinois. Lending the strength of his influence to educational matters, he was for six years school treasurer of his township in Illinois, and has just retired from service on the board of directors in his district. Thoroughly familiar with all the details of farming, industrious and energetic, he is reaping the success and honor that he so justly merits.

NELS CHRISTENSON, a pioneer farmer of Skagit county, and a prominent member of the Pioneers' Association, living five and one-half miles southwest of Mount Vernon, was born in Lolland, Denmark, September 15, 1835. His parents were Peter and Mary Christenson, both natives of Denmark, in which country they also died. Coming to this country in 1865, Mr. Christenson settled at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, but soon removed to Salina, Kansas. He later took up a homestead in Riley county, near Clay Center, upon which he resided until he came to La Conner, Washington, in 1875. He purchased two hundred and four acres in Skagit county, paying one thousand dollars for the farm which to-day would be worth twenty-five times that amount were it still in his possession. It was then, with the exception of twenty-five acres, covered with water, logs and brush, a typical "Beaver Marsh," as this section came to be called in later years, entirely worthless until diked, after which it is the finest land to be found in the world. To him belongs the distinction of being the first man to build dikes on the river front. Some few had been constructed in the marsh to keep out the salt and fresh water, but he was the first man of sufficient courage to attempt to "fence out the river," as his undertaking was tauntingly referred to by some of the less enterprising men of that day. Succeeding as he knew he would, it was not long before others followed the same course, and that tract of wonderful fertility was year by year reclaimed. It was an arduous task to construct the dikes, and even then the work was often destroyed by the floods that would sometimes sweep everything before them. The dikes had then to be repaired, by planking them and throwing in sacks of dirt to keep them from washing away. Such a flood came while Mr. Christenson was building his first dike, endangering his wife and little ones, whom he rescued by rowing them in a boat to the other side of the river, landing them at the Charles Tolber place. The pioneer women, as well as the men, had need of brave hearts that would not be daunted by experiences of this kind. It was a wild, rough, desolate country then, no wagons or roads, and a horse was a rare sight, the work being almost entirely done by oxen. Trips were made to La Conner and Skagit City either by boat or trail, and in this way the few products the settlers had to sell were carried

to market, and exchanged for the necessities of life.

Mr. Christenson was married in Kansas in 1871, to Miss Matilda Swanson, a native of Sweden, born in 1849. Having shared with her husband the joys and sorrows of twenty-two years, she died April 12, 1893. Seven children were born to them as follows: Robert, living near Everett; Laura Armstrong, near La Conner; Amanda Sharfenberg; Anna, at home; Albert and Clifford, near Everett, and Edith, at home. Mr. Christenson is an honored member of the Swedish Methodist church, in which he holds the office of steward and class leader. For many years he was prominently identified with the educational affairs of this locality, serving as director at the time the present school-house was built, and also many times before and since that time. Of late years he has suffered many reverses. In 1895-6, his crops were an utter failure, having been drowned out by seepage. Prices were low, and he was forced to lose his fine farm, only saving the small remnant upon which he resides. As the result of unselfish care bestowed upon another, he has also suffered much from ill health. Mrs. Christenson had barely returned from a trip to Kansas whither she had gone to recover from a severe attack of typhoid fever, when a man in whom they were interested fell ill, and together they nursed him, Mr. Christenson bearing as much of the responsibility as possible that his wife might not be overtaxed. The strain, however, proved fatal to her, and her death together with the long weeks of nervous strain proved too much for even his fine constitution. Unable even to walk to the carriage, he made a trip to Napa, California, for his health, but has never entirely recovered. A man of sterling virtues, his long residence has endeared him to the citizens of the county that proudly claims him as a pioneer.

BEN TJERSLAND, a well known farmer and stockman living eight miles southwest of Mount Vernon and five miles southeast of La Conner, is a native of Norway, born in Lyngdal on the place that had been in the family for generations, known as Tjersland, August 31, 1856. His father, Hans Berenson, was a farmer in Norway till his death in 1890. Gunnel (Olson), the mother, was also born in Norway, and died there on the old home place in 1901. Here Mr. Tjersland grew to manhood, enjoying rather unusual educational advantages as, in addition to those afforded by the common schools, he had two terms of private instruction. Having reached the age of twenty-two, he decided to seek his fortune in the United States where earnest efforts such as he was prepared to put forth secured such abundant rewards. Calmar, Iowa, was his first location, where he spent two years, after which he went to the pine forests of Wisconsin and followed logging and milling for some time. On May 27, 1884, he came to La Con-

ner, and was here employed by Mr. Currier for one year, when he purchased a wild claim on the Olympia marsh, paying twelve hundred dollars for it. The following three years were occupied in ditching and improving his property which he sold at the end of that time, leasing one hundred and sixty acres on Beaver Marsh at that time almost a wilderness, there being not more than two hundred acres of it cleared. Three years later he bought his present farm of eighty acres on the installment plan, he agreeing to pay seven hundred dollars each year for seven years. He had just made the last payment when the hard times of the early nineties set in. On account of the financial depression, he was enabled to build his present commodious house and barns at a nominal sum. Moving on his place in 1896, the succeeding years have been full of unremitting toil in clearing, draining and diking his land, but the marvelous transformation wrought in its appearance has well repaid the cost. Prospering as the years slipped by, he has added two hundred and forty acres to his original farm, thus owning at the present time three hundred and thirty acres.

Mr. Tjersland was married January 6, 1892, to Miss Lena Olson, born in Norway December 2, 1869. She came, in 1890, to the United States, where her brother, Tom Roseland, resides in La Conner, following the blacksmithing trade. Mr. and Mrs. Tjersland have the following children: Oscar, born October 26, 1894; Hilda, born August 16, 1897; Elmer, born March 30, 1899, and Henry, born March 11, 1902. Mr. Tjersland is a member of the Woodmen of the World at La Conner. Though not an adherent of either church, he contributes very liberally to the support of the Lutheran and Methodist churches. He has a brother, Mat Hanson, living in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. When the two brothers came to this country they changed their names, the one taking the name of the old homestead, the other the father's first name, with the accustomed addition of "son," which fact accounts for the apparent disagreement. In political belief Mr. Tjersland is an adherent of the Republican party. He is at all times an advocate of the best educational opportunities, believing education to be a matter of vital importance. He is giving especial attention to thoroughbred Durham cattle, and is one of the men who assisted in introducing the first good draft horse into this section of the country, for which the stock company formed paid twenty-five hundred dollars. A progressive citizen who has won his success wholly by means of his untiring energy, he is held in the highest esteem.

HENRY SUMMERS, whose career is a convincing proof of the Shakespearian philosophy that men are masters of their fate, is a farmer, residing eight miles southwest of Mount Vernon, and

five miles southeast of La Conner. His father, Samuel Summers, was a weaver in England, where he died in 1854. The mother, Jane (Hussey) Summers, was born in Bradley, England, and died in 1853. Born in England in North Bradley Parish, a suburb of Trowbridge, April 9, 1848, Mr. Summers was left an orphan at the age of six years. There were five other children in the family, Ellen, Sarah, Samuel, Joseph and his twin brother Edward, who, with himself, found a home with an uncle. Child labor was not then prohibited by law in that country, hence at the age of eight, he entered a cloth factory where he changed shuttles in the hand looms. Two years later he entered Brown and Palmer's factory, employed as a roller joiner. The long hours, from six in the morning till six at night, must often have been very wearisome to the boy of ten, but the small hands wrought faithfully at their tasks, and when the day was over the night school found in him a diligent student, whose education thus acquired surpassed that of many a one enjoying far greater opportunities. Later, having spent seven years in the sizing department of the factory, he went to London at the age of seventeen, entering a warehouse in which, after the first year, he was a packer for the foreign trade, handling many an invoice of goods destined to be carried on camels across the Isthmus of Suez before the canal was built. He was manager for a time of the T. J. Redate firm, located in Lawrence, Poultney Lane, N N street, London, exporters of provisions. He also worked on George street, close to Mansion House, and later in Tower street. Two brothers, Edward and Samuel, having come to the United States in 1871, locating in La Conner, Mr. Summers followed them three years later, sailing from Liverpool, England, in the fall of 1874. Having landed at Philadelphia, he crossed the continent to San Francisco, thence to La Conner where his brothers had taken up land and were farming. In February, 1875, he took up a quarter section one mile south of Fir, bringing his family there two years later. To him belongs the distinction of having been the first bona fide settler in that locality. Here in this lonely wilderness with only Siwash Indians for neighbors, he remained for six years, improving the land, constructing dikes, planting and harvesting his crops, only at the end of this time to see all these fruits of his toil swept away by flood. When the log jam above Mount Vernon was cut out the logs were borne down the river and formed another jam two miles in length, where his land lay, thus causing the river to overflow and completely devastate his entire farm. A man of less resolute will would have been overpowered by this disaster, which but spurred him to renewed effort. The following three years he worked out to get means sufficient to construct buildings on his present farm on Pleasant Ridge, for which he had traded eighty acres of his former claim.

Mr. Summers was married in Melkshaw, Wiltshire, England, June 3, 1873, to Sarah Cleverly, the daughter of John and Johannah Cleverly, of Melkshaw. She was born in March, 1849, and died at her home in Pleasant Ridge, December 9, 1889. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Summers, all of whom are natives of Skagit county except the oldest one who was born in London. Their names are as follows: William Joseph, Henry, Annie Bessner, John, Emma Graham, Edward and Alice (deceased). Mr. Summers was identified with the school board for twenty years, and hired the first teacher in school district number sixteen, when Skagit county was still a part of Whatcom county, and has always been deeply interested in educational matters. Just nicely settled in his new home, prepared, after all the years of trial and hardship to thoroughly enjoy these more prosperous days, his brave companion fell by his side, leaving to his care the family of little ones. Always a devout believer in the Bible and in Jesus as a personal Savior, his faith stood even this supreme test. His unflinching courage and brave, earnest life have won the admiration of his fellow men, who recognize his sterling character.

ALBERT SHARFENBERG, a successful young farmer of Skagit county, residing five miles east of La Conner and seven miles southwest of Mount Vernon, was born in Hastings, Minnesota, January 13, 1874. His father is Joseph Sharfenberg, a native of Germany, who sought the advantages of the United States, settling first in Michigan, then in Minnesota, and later in Washington, where after a short residence in Nooksack, he located permanently in Skagit county in 1887, which is still his home. Sophia Sharfenberg, his mother, also born in Germany, is living. Mr. Sharfenberg's residence in this state dates from the time he was three years old, when he came to La Conner with his parents. Here he attended school as he grew older, completing his education by a two years' course at Coupeville, after which he returned to the farm where he worked till he was twenty-two years of age, acquiring a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of all the details of the work, thus fitting himself for his present position of manager of his father's extensive ranch.

Mr. Sharfenberg was married February 22, 1896, to Miss Amanda Christenson, born in Skagit county, July 3, 1877. She is the daughter of Nels Christenson, a well known pioneer of this county, whose biography appears elsewhere in this history. Mr. and Mrs. Sharfenberg have two children, Joe and Gladys. Mr. Sharfenberg is an enthusiastic advocate of good schools, and was for six years director in district number eleven. On the fine one hundred and sixty acre ranch of which he has entire charge, he has thirty head of cattle; he is milking eight cows, and selling the separated cream to the

Pleasant Ridge Creamery Company. Possessed of ambition, industry and thrift, he is meeting with excellent success.

JOSEPH SHARFENBERG, a prominent citizen of Skagit county for the last thirty years, now resides on his ranch situated four and one-half miles southeast of La Conner and eight miles southwest of Mount Vernon. Born in the state of Mecklenberg, Germany, July 9, 1833, he is the son of John and Mary (Foss) Sharfenberg, both deceased, his father's death having occurred in 1854, the mother's, three years later. Mr. Sharfenberg, the youngest of a family of four, attended the common schools when he could be spared from home, making the best possible use of the advantages afforded. His father being in somewhat straitened circumstances, he began life for himself at the early age of fifteen. In 1861 he decided to immigrate to the United States where he had a brother, John, residing in Michigan. His first employment in the new country was railroading in Michigan, and later farming in the same state. In 1865 he removed to Dakota County, Minnesota, where he rented land and engaged in farming for the following ten years, barely making a living. Convinced that the Northwest offered larger returns for earnest labor, he came with his wife and four children to La Conner in 1875, arriving with just seven dollars in money. Undaunted, however, by the low state of his finances, he at once found work with the Port Gamble Company, diking the Swinomish flats, and was employed here for two years. At that time there were only five or six farms with dikes, on all this vast area, Mike Sullivan having been the first man to raise a dike and harvest the first bushel of oats. Beaver Marsh was a waste of water, impassable save in a few places. Later Mr. Sharfenberg rented a farm in Dodge valley, there remaining for fourteen years, and in the meantime investing in land on the Beaver Marsh which was covered with logs, stumps and willows that were twenty feet high. He employed a force of twenty Chinamen for two years to clear the land and get it into condition, while he was prospering on the rented property, selling oats for thirty-two dollars, and hay for eighteen dollars per ton. He purchased his present ranch in Pleasant Ridge in 1894, and has since made it his home. Owning now two hundred and forty acres, one hundred and sixty acres in Beaver Marsh and the remainder on the ridge, the wisdom of his judgment in selecting the Northwest for a home has certainly been demonstrated.

Mr. Sharfenberg was married in Michigan, September 23, 1861, to Mrs. Sophia Gross, of German nativity, whose former husband had been an acquaintance of his in Germany, where they had worked together for four years. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Sharfenberg, as follows: Rachel Eddy, living near Avon; Mary Stacey, of

Bellingham; George and Albert, living on Beaver Marsh, and one other (deceased). Mr. Sharfenberg is an active and faithful member of the Odd Fellows, which fraternity has honored him by electing him to the various offices and as delegate to the Grand Lodge. In political belief he adheres to the principles of the Democratic party, is always in attendance at the caucuses and conventions where his earnestness and loyalty make him a prominent figure. The cause of education has always been a matter of great interest to him, and he has ever lent the strength of his influence to every advancement in this direction. Four years ago he was partially paralyzed on the right side, being unable to speak for two days. That he has so nearly recovered from it is a matter of great joy to his wide circle of acquaintances, who recognize in him a man of rare strength of character, worthy of the highest respect and honor.

EDWIN JOHNSON is one of the Skagit county Swedish colony who has wrested an excellent farm from the wilderness of forest with which nature endowed the western slopes of the Cascade mountain range. He was born in Wermeland, Sweden, in 1871, February 2, and came to Skagit county as a permanent resident in 1895. He is the son of Johannes and Liza Leonora (Anderson) Johnson, who remained in their native land until death. Mr. Johnson was one of four children of whom one brother is dead. The living are: Alfred Johnson, a successful farmer of Skagit county, and Miss Ida Johnson. Mr. Johnson attended school until he was fifteen years of age and remained with his parents on the home farm until eighteen, occasionally putting in time for his brother. After leaving Sweden he went to Mendocino County, California, working there in saw-mill and logging camp for a year. He then came to Tacoma and was employed in a sash and door factory for a year and a half, leaving for the Skagit valley. Reaching here he put in a short time working, then went back to Tacoma and worked in the railroad shops there. One year of that labor sufficed and he came back to Skagit and in 1895 purchased his present place of twenty-five acres, three miles south of Mount Vernon. He moved on this place in 1895 and has remained there ever since, acquiring also twenty acres one-eighth of a mile west of his home farm.

On Christmas eve, 1896, Mr. Johnson married Miss Ida Johnson, daughter of John and Mary (Gustafson) Swanson. Mr. and Mrs. Swanson have passed their entire lives in Sweden, the former dying there in 1905 and the latter still living with a daughter there. Mrs. Johnson is one of seven children, the other six being Swan, Gust, Peter, Otto, Mrs. Tilla Carlson and Selma. After attending school until fifteen years of age, Mrs. Johnson came to the United States, accompanying her brother,

Gust, to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and later to Fargo, North Dakota, making a livelihood at housework. She came to Tacoma in 1891, supporting herself until marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have three children: Abel, born in January, 1898; Hattie, born in June, 1899, and Harry, born in April, 1901. The Johnsons are Swedish Baptists. Mr. Johnson in political affiliation is a Republican. He is essentially a dairy farmer, though his place is well stocked with horses and hogs, as well as cows and other stock. The home farm is a matter of pride to Mr. Johnson, for he alone understands the labor expended in clearing trees, underbrush and roots, all of which he has removed from so much of the land as is cleared with his own hands. Part of the land has at times been overflowed, and much damage followed in the wake of the waters; but perseverance has conquered nature and the Johnsons are on the high road to that prosperity which comes invariably to those who labor and wait.

ANDREW ANDERSON, a prosperous dairy farmer four miles south of Mount Vernon, was born in Sweden in the year 1862. His father was Andrew Anderson, a native of Sweden, who during his life worked at farming and as a druggist. He died in 1865, when but twenty-eight years of age, leaving a widow and three children. The mother, Mrs. Johanna (Yanerson) Anderson, has married again and still lives in the old country. The Anderson children are Carl, Lena and Andrew. The subject of this sketch remained in Sweden until twenty-one years of age, going to school, working in a mill and acting as stable boss for a number of years. On attaining his majority he immigrated to the United States, going to Michigan, where he drove team for four years, a part of which time he was also inside man in a mill. He arrived in Seattle in 1889, just after the big fire, and was employed as teamster for two years, going thence to Ballard, Washington, where for seven years he followed the life of a bolter in a single mill. On leaving Ballard in 1898, Mr. Anderson decided to locate in Skagit county. He bought his present place of forty acres, seven acres being then cleared. In the interim he has cleared the remainder and added ten acres more to his holdings.

While living in Seattle in 1890 Mr. Anderson married Miss Lena Olson, daughter of Peter Olson, a saw filer, who has passed his entire life in Norway. Mrs. Anderson has two brothers, August and Victor. She was born in 1872 and lived at home until eighteen years old, when she came to the United States and remained in Michigan for a couple of years. She then came to Seattle where she was united in marriage to Mr. Anderson. The Andersons have five children: Charles, Ellen, Wallace, Teddy and Howard. Mr. Anderson and his family attend the Swedish Baptist church. He is a Republican in politics. His forty acres of land is

all cleared and under cultivation. He milks nine cows and has several head of young stock, as well as horses. By perseverance, energy and economy he has built for himself and family a pleasant home, establishing himself well financially, and he enjoys the respect and confidence of all his acquaintances.

GUSTAVE C. HOFF, though a man but little over thirty years of age, has already made his mark in Skagit county as one of shrewdness and acumen in private matters and also as one who has devoted time and spirit to the public weal. Mr. Hoff was born in Dane County, Wisconsin, in the summer of 1874, the son of Christian Hoff, native of Norway, born June 16, 1846, who came to this country in infancy. It was an easy matter for Gustave Hoff to develop into an active American citizen, having the example of his father before him as a guide to the best citizenship. Christopher Hoff, his grandfather, laid the foundation of his American patriotism in the shock of battles of the Civil War. He enlisted in the Fifteenth Wisconsin, a command which saw the severest fighting of any of the subordinate commands in the Army of the Cumberland in the Civil War. Whenever Rosecranz, Hood, Grant or Sherman hammered at the Confederate lines in Tennessee, the Fifteenth Wisconsin and Christopher Hoff were there. The private soldier and his regiment wrote their names in history at Stone River, Chickamauga, Chattanooga and Murfreesboro and went up Lookout Mountain with General Joe Hooker. Returning from the war, Christopher Hoff became a farmer in Wisconsin and was successful in his management of his resources. In 1891 Christian Hoff decided to come to the Pacific Northwest, locating at Lawrence, in Whatcom county. He continued at farming for six years and then entered mercantile life, making a success in that line. Christian Hoff's wife, Caroline Lunde, was born in Norway, in 1836, and came to the United States in 1851. She became the mother of three children: Herman C. Hoff and Mrs. Maggie Sorenson, besides the subject of this sketch. Gustave received his education in the public schools at Lawrence and Tacoma, with a business course in the Pacific Lutheran Academy. At the age of twenty-one years, he went to work in shingle mills of Whatcom county for three years. Two years at farming followed, when he came to Skagit county and bought his present place of eighty acres five miles south of Mount Vernon.

In June, 1894, at Lawrence, Mr. Hoff married Miss Emma Tollum, daughter of Christian Tollum, a native of Norway, who came to the United States in 1871, and was farmer and carpenter in Minnesota and Dakota for twelve years. Later coming to Whatcom county he now operates a farm of two hundred and forty acres of bottom land near Lawrence. Mrs. Hoff's mother was born in Norway, coming to this country at eleven years of age. She

is the mother of Mrs. Josephine Hoff, Anton, Clara, Nelse, Christian, Annie and Mary Tollum. Mrs. Hoff was born in November, 1873, lived at home and received her education until she was twenty-one years of age, when she married. Three of her children are living: Cora, born in April, 1895; Chester, born in November, 1897, and Christian, born in September, 1904. Another child, Alice, died in infancy. Mr. Hoff is one of the most successful dairy, poultry and grain raisers on the sound. On his eighty acres of rich bottom land he has twenty-six milch cows, fourteen head of stock cattle, sixty head of hogs and five hundred White Leghorn chickens raised from imported fowl. Mr. Hoff is thoroughly modern and up to date in his methods, using incubators in his poultry department and permitting nothing on his place except pedigreed stock, of finest selection, for which he is becoming noted. He fancies Jersey cattle. In politics Mr. Hoff is a Republican. He was a member of the dike commission which expended \$3,100 in building the concrete flumes which drain land near Conway, the subject of much opposition during the period of construction, but now pronounced the best possible solution of a much vexed question. In church alliance, Mr. and Mrs. Hoff attend the Lutheran church. Energetic, aggressive, and possessed of the right ideas of progress, both in private and public matters, Mr. Hoff's business judgment and public spiritedness are recognized and his worth appreciated in the community which claims him as a citizen.

EMERY SPAHR is one of the extensive oat producers of Skagit county. He was born near York, Pennsylvania, in March, 1868, but has been a resident of Skagit county since 1892. He is the senior member of the firm of Spahr Brothers, which in the space of five years has developed a large and successful business in the vicinity of Mount Vernon. The father, Emmanuel Spahr, was born in Pennsylvania and has lived in York County, Pennsylvania, all his life, still working at his trade of carpenter. The mother is Amanda (Beck) Spahr, also a native of York county, and still a resident there. She is the mother of eleven children, three of whom are deceased. The living are: Mrs. Amanda Nieman, Mrs. Mamie Stremmel, Jesse, Emery, David, George, Noah and Reuben. Emery Spahr attended the schools of his native place and lived at home until twenty-two years of age, at which time he went to Hazleton, Pennsylvania, and worked in the coal mines for two and a half years. For a time after reaching Skagit county he worked in various places and at various things, and then in company with his brothers, Noah, David and George, purchased the present place of one hundred and fifty-three acres, six miles south of Mount Vernon, and commenced farming. Starting in this venture, with Emery as the senior partner, the assets of the entire partnership five years ago were \$25

in cash and lots of hustle. They bought a second hand threshing outfit and made money enough to secure the purchase of the farm. They added a hay baler to their belongings and successfully operated that. The old machines have been replaced with new, and the brothers are doing a good business with their machinery. In addition to operating the original land purchase, one hundred and twenty acres of leased oat land is farmed by the partners. A few sheep have been secured as a nucleus of an extensive venture in sheep raising. Mr. Spahr in politics is an independent. He has no lodge connections and is not a member of any denominational church. As the head of the firm of Spahr Brothers, Emery has made an enviable success out of what was a very small beginning.

ANDREW ANDERSON, whose dairy farm is about four miles northwest of Mount Vernon, is not one of the early pioneers of Skagit county, but he is a man who in a little more than a decade of residence here has established himself firmly in the business circles of the community and has earned for himself the best regards of all who come in contact with him. Mr. Anderson was born at Broden in Sweden in 1857, the son of Bent Anderson, who came to the United States in middle life and settled in Minnesota, where during twenty years of farming, he accumulated a competency and is now retired from active pursuits. The elder Anderson was married twice, the first wife being Hannah (Benson) Anderson, who died in the old country in 1864, leaving two children, Bina and Andrew. The second wife, Mrs. Nellie (Peterson) Anderson, a native of Sweden, is still living in Minnesota, the mother of seven children: Christina, John, Nels, August, Joseph, Otto and Peter. Andrew Anderson lived at home until he was twenty-one years of age, but left school six years earlier to learn the trade of blacksmith, which he followed until he came to this country and commenced farm life in Illinois in 1878. Eleven years were then passed at farming near Litchfield, Minnesota, Mr. Anderson coming to Tacoma in 1889 and working in a grocery. Three years later, in 1892, he came to Skagit county and bought a place of ten acres, to which have been added twenty-three more, constituting his present farm holdings.

In 1887 while residing in Minnesota Mr. Anderson married Miss Agnes Hanson, daughter of Alexander Hanson, a Swedish carpenter who came to the United States many years ago and died in Idaho in 1901. Mrs. Hanson is still living near Moscow, Idaho. Mrs. Anderson was born in 1851 and died in 1899, leaving two children, George and Oscar. In 1890 at Tacoma, Mr. Anderson married again, the second wife being Miss Olea Tofte, daughter of Hanse Tofte, a Norwegian farmer who died in 1880. Mrs. Mary (Hanson) Tofte is still living, at the age of seventy-eight years with Mr. and Mrs.

Anderson. Mrs. Anderson was born in 1857 and lived with her mother until her marriage. One child, Albert, has been the issue of this union, but he died in infancy. In politics Mr. Anderson is a Democrat and is active in the councils of his party. In lodge circles he is a Modern Woodmen of America. The Andersons attend the Methodist church. The thirty-three acres of the Anderson farm are all cleared and under cultivation, and a fine eight-room house has been erected. Mr. Anderson's dairy herd numbers twenty head of selected stock. His horses are draft animals and sufficient in number for the work about the farm. Mr. Anderson is one of the successful business men of the community and in character stands very high in the esteem of his fellow-citizens.

PETER PETERSON, engaged in farming in the Skagit valley four miles southwest of Mount Vernon, is of Swedish birth and descent, born May 1, 1846. His father, Peter Engmunson, also followed agriculture in the old country. Carrie Engmunson, the mother, died in Sweden some years ago, leaving five children of whom the subject of this sketch is third in age. Peter attended school until he was fifteen years old, then struck out for himself. He obtained employment on neighboring farms and for three years was thus engaged, then took up the life of a sailor. Seven years he followed the sea or until he had attained the age of twenty-five, relinquishing that occupation in 1871 to return to the farm. During the next nine years he resided in Sweden, but in 1880, came to the United States, settling first in Saline County, Kansas, where he farmed seven years. From there he went to Minnesota, and he spent two years in that state, then came to Washington. Skagit county attracted him, so he rented a place on the north fork of the river, but two years later he removed to Skagit City, where he purchased sixty-six acres of school land and commenced improving it with all the energy and skill at his command. Desiring to engage in intensive farming, he did not wish so large a farm, so he sold all but sixteen acres. This tract he has improved to an unusual degree, setting out 300 fruit trees, erecting a small, comfortable dwelling and other buildings, etc. To this he has since added an adjoining ten-acre tract, secured by purchase.

While a resident of Sweden, in 1871, Mr. Peterson married Miss Hanna Peterson, who is also a native of Sweden. Carl, the older of their children, born in 1872, is now living at Skagit City, but Pearl, born in 1875, died in the land of her nativity. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are members of the Lutheran church, and politically, he is a Republican. A successful farmer, a public spirited citizen and progressive man, Mr. Peterson may justly be classed as one of the builders of Skagit county.

NELSE H. LEE is one of the enterprising citizens of the section a few miles southwest of Mount Vernon, where he operates a dairy farm and in the course of a very few years has established himself firmly as one of the leading business spirits of the neighborhood. Mr. Lee was born in Norway, July 19, 1867, the son of Hans N. and Bertha (Nelsen) Lee, born respectively in 1837 and 1840, and who are still living on the farm across the sea. He is one of nine children, the others being Corina, Andrew, Nellie, Jacob, Alete, Mary, Inga and Oli. Until he was fourteen years of age young Lee attended the schools of Norway and passed the four subsequent years at the carpenter's bench. He came to this country and settled on a farm in Kansas in 1885 for a short time, later coming to Seattle and ultimately to Snohomish county. For six years he worked in the woods, subsequently embarking in the hotel and restaurant business in Everett. This venture was fairly successful, but after two years Mr. Lee decided to become a farmer. He then came to Skagit county and after locating on twenty acres, bought the land and has lived there ever since.

In the same year Mr. Lee married Miss Mary Hanson, daughter of Hans Helda, a farmer and school teacher of Norway who died in that country in 1885. Mrs. Olga Helda is still living in the old country. Mrs. Lee was born in Norway, in April, 1864, one of seven children, the others being Bert, Hans, Ole, Mary, Segrid and Rande. She came to the United States in 1888, and was working in a hotel when married. Seven children have been born to this union, of whom Olga, Hattie, Harold, Beatrice and Noble are living. In politics Mr. Lee is a staunch Democrat, while religiously the family attend the Swedish Methodist church. The Lee home consists of a fine nine-room house, well located on their forty-acre tract, fifteen acres of which are cleared, supporting twenty-one head of milch cows, and young cattle and horses for carrying on the farm work. Mr. Lee has been successful in all his undertakings and is rated as one of the solid and energetic men of his neighborhood.

ANDREW A. BERGSETH GELD was born in Norway June 11, 1857, the son of Aslak A. Bergseth Geld, a man who passed all his life as a farmer of Norway, where he was born in 1824. The mother, Gura Bergseth Geld, still lives in the old country. She is the mother of two children. Andrew passed his life in Norway, going to school and working on the farm, until twenty-nine years of age. In 1888 he came to the United States, stopping at Fir, Skagit County, Washington, first, where he remained for one year at farm work. In 1890 he bought fifteen acres of land which constitutes a part of his holdings at present, four miles southwest of Mount Vernon. It was then covered with stumps, but Mr. Bergseth Geld has completely removed them, establishing in their place a dairy farm. Recently he has

added by purchase twenty acres and is enlarging his dairy operations. The land is very fertile, and what is not necessary to the maintenance of the thirteen cows Mr. Bergseth Geld is now milking, is well adapted for general purposes, and is being utilized in the raising of hogs and the establishment of an extensive poultry ranch.

In 1886, while yet in Norway, Mr. Bergseth Geld married Miss Gura Bergseth, daughter of Ole and Ingabor (Udagar) Bergseth, both of whom died in their native land in 1888 and 1855, at the age of eighty-two, and forty-nine, respectively. Mrs. Bergseth was born in Norway and lived at home until her marriage. Mr. Bergseth Geld is a Republican and a member of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal church. He has erected on his home place a fine house and takes much pride in keeping his buildings in fine repair. His place shows thrift as well as energy and his farm is well cared for in every particular.

HIRAM E. WELLS is one of the numerous settlers of the Puget sound country who came from New Brunswick and brought with them the ideas of thrift and application to work which is a dominating trait of the people of their native province. Mr. Wells was born June 21, 1854, the son of Judas Wells. The latter's father was originally one of the American colonists, but during the Revolutionary War cast in his lot with the royalists and moved to New Brunswick. Judah Wells returned to the States in 1883, and coming to Washington he took up as a homestead the land which is now occupied by Samuel Dunlap. He died at La Conner in 1899. Mrs. Hannah (Starratt) Wells was also born in Nova Scotia. She is still living, making her home at La Conner, the subject of this sketch being the eldest of her five children. Hiram E. Wells was educated in the schools of New Brunswick and continued on the old home farm until eighteen years of age, at which time he apprenticed himself to the blacksmith's trade for a term of three years. Mastering the knowledge of the industry, he continued at the anvil and forge for two years, migrating to Washington in 1877. Mr. Wells located in what is now Skagit county, being the first settler in the Ridgeway section of that county. His first place was acquired by squatter's rights on railroad granted land, where, as soon as it was opened for settlement, he filed his homestead. Mr. Wells built the first road to the old Isaac Jennings place, and it was he who opened the first trail from Ridgeway to the Skagit river country, four and a half miles in length. During this period Mrs. Wells was the only white woman in the Ridgeway country. In 1893 Mr. Wells sold off 100 acres of his homestead, all of which he had cleared, and moved to British Columbia, locating at Mission City. He remained there for seven years, directing his attention to various enterprises and in 1900 returned to his old

place in Skagit county. He has now sixty acres of cleared land and is building up a dairy ranch.

Mr. Wells married in New Brunswick in 1877, Alfreda L. Marsters, the daughter of Thomas Marsters, a seafaring man who was lost at sea about the time his daughter was born. Mrs. Wells' mother was Martha (Canning) Marsters, who is buried in New Brunswick. Mrs. Wells was born in Summerville, Nova Scotia, and received her education in the schools of that province and of New Brunswick. At the close of her high school course she received a first grade certificate and taught school for four years, leaving the teacher's desk to become a bride and at once start on a honeymoon trip across the continent to La Conner and Ridgeway. Nine children have been born to this union, all but the youngest being born in Skagit county. They are Hulet M., Carl A., Effie C., Mrs. Lorna D. Abercrombie of British Columbia; Lincoln, Starratt, Bruce, Marsters and Lawrence, the last named born during the residence of his parents in the province of British Columbia. Mr. Wells is a member of the Woodmen of the World, of the Grange and of the Baptist church. He is a Republican in politics. His sixty acres of land are all under cultivation, half of them being in pasture. The nucleus of his dairy herd is twenty head of the best milkers obtainable.

THOMAS G. LOCKHART, one of the Skagit valley's prosperous farmers, is an Iowan by birth, born in the year 1870. His father Samuel, an Ohioan by nativity, went to Iowa when a child and there made his home until 1886, when he bought his present farm in Skagit county, upon which he resides. The ancestry of this branch of the family is Scotch-Irish. Mrs. Mary (West) Lockhart, also a native of Iowa, is the mother of six children of whom Thomas G. is the oldest. Coming to Skagit county when sixteen years of age, having received in Iowa a thorough education in the public schools supplemented by a high school course at Sumner, young Lockhart at once went on his father's farm. An unfortunate accident shortly resulted in a broken leg and upon his recovery he was sent back to Iowa where he continued his studies a year and a half. Returning to Skagit county in 1891, he first became clerk in the Brunswick hotel at La Conner. Five months later he went to Stevens County, Washington, and took up a homestead, which he sold four years afterward. Again returning to the sound he rented the Bartlet place near Bay View, operating it two years, then in succession of one year leases worked the Leonard place on the Samish and the McCormick farm on the Swinomish flats, always meeting with success. In 1900 he was thus enabled to purchase his present substantial home five miles northwest of Mount Vernon, the tract once having been school land.

Mr. Lockhart was united in marriage to Miss Rossie Martin at La Conner in 1896, and to this

union two sons have been born: Martin, February 15, 1897, and Purcell, September 21, 1899. Mrs. Lockhart was born in 1876, her parents being William and Bettie (Garner) Martin, both natives of Tennessee. Mr. Martin was of German extraction and lived for a time in Illinois. Both parents are laid at rest in the Southern hills they loved so well, the mother when her daughter Rossie was only six years of age. Mr. Lockhart is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Woodmen of the World; the family attends the Methodist church. An unusually attractive home is that of the Lockhart family, the residence being modern in construction and furnishing, and a spirit of progress and culture pervading the atmosphere. Especially does its founder take a just pride in the thorough equipment of his place and in the success he has attained in dairying. It seems little short of incredible that such a transformation can be made in a place as that which has been wrought by Mr. Lockhart. When he came, the woods were so dense that he had to clear a space upon which to set his cabin and it was impossible to reach the place by road. Now he has one of the prettiest, best improved places in the community.

FRANK G. OLSON is another of Skagit county's citizens who has helped to convert her wild lands and forest wildernesses into fruitful farms and prosperous homesteads. Born in Henry County, Illinois, the son of Olof T. Olson, he comes of Swedish-American parentage. The elder Olson left Sweden when twenty years of age and settled on a farm in Illinois, from which he removed to Kansas in 1872. In Kansas he spent the most of his life, coming to La Conner in 1904 to make his home for the rest of his days. Mrs. Bertha Olson, the mother of the subject of this sketch, also a native of Sweden, is likewise passing her declining years in Skagit county. She is the mother of seven children of whom Frank G. is the second. As a lad young Olson passed through the usual routine of a farmer boy's life, attending the common schools and assisting about the farm until he reached his majority. Then with characteristic faith in his own sturdy ability to make a home for himself, he left the fields of Kansas in 1883 and came to Washington, spending the first few days in Seattle. That summer he spent in the harvest fields of eastern Washington, returning thence in the fall to Puget sound, and visiting La Conner. During the subsequent winter he returned to Kansas, spent a year farming there, and by 1886 he was back to Skagit county. Only a season did he spend on the coast this time, returning to Kansas, where he was married. Taking up his residence on the sound once again, Mr. Olson worked a year at various occupations then pre-empted 120 acres on the Sauk river near Sauk City, proving up seven months later. From Sauk City he went to La Conner and erected a substantial residence.

In 1893 he traded this town property for forty acres of farming land and on this tract he now makes his home. He has cleared it of the forest, placed it all under cultivation and erected a handsome residence and substantial barns and other outbuildings.

Mr. Olson was united to Miss Salma Lindfors in 1887, the marriage taking place in Kansas. She is a native of Sweden, born in 1862. Of her parents only one, her father, is living, his home being in the old country. Mrs. Olson was reared and educated across the water, coming to this continent in 1883. Six children have blessed her home, all of whom, with one exception (Clara V.), were born in Kansas: Carl B., born in 1888; Clara V., in Kansas, in 1890; Lillie, 1892; Edna, 1896; Josephine, 1900, and Earl, 1902. Mr. Olson attends the Lutheran church, though not affiliated with its membership, is a member of the Grange, and at the polls votes independently. His thrifty farm is well stocked with cattle and horses, modern machinery, etc., in keeping with the position of their owner as a progressive agriculturist.

RICHARD H. PETH, one of the successful and substantial farmers of the country north of La Conner, is a native of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, born April 23, 1861. Like many another of the solid citizens of the American states, he is of Swiss extraction, his father, Jacob, and his mother, Barbara (Burg) Peth, being both natives of Switzerland. They immigrated to this country quite early in life, settling first in the Badger state and later in Nebraska. In the former commonwealth Richard H. grew to man's estate. Being one of six children he necessarily had to assist his father on the farm as soon as he was able, but he nevertheless acquired a good common school education. At the age of twenty-two he left the parental roof, came to Skagit county, whither his brother John had preceded him, and began there an earnest struggle for a competency. He worked a short time on the farm of D. L. McCormick, then was associated with his brother for a year and a half at the end of which time, having secured the necessary start and the necessary knowledge of marshland farming, he rented a place from Mr. McCormick and began operations on his own account. Three years were thus spent, then, in the fall of 1888, he bought a quarter section on Samish flats, which he retained a year. His subsequent operations consisted of farming a ranch rented from his brother for eight years, then one he bought on Whitney island for three years, then one rented from Peter Downey for two years, then the sale of all his interests in Skagit county and a return to his old home in Wisconsin for a four-months' visit, and finally the renting and subsequent purchase of the splendid place upon which he now lives.

With the thrift and industry which are charac-

teristics of his race, he has devoted himself untiringly to the improvement of this property and the installation upon it of everything in the way of buildings and facilities which could make it more homelike or its operation more convenient and profitable. He has a fine home and his efforts and labors in Skagit county have been so well rewarded that he is not likely to suffer in the near future for want of worldly wealth. His land holdings aggregate 117 acres all in a high state of cultivation. Mr. Peth was married in 1891, the lady being Miss Carrie E., daughter of Martin and Wilhelmina (Myer) Koenig. Her father was a wagon maker of Germany, who came as a young man to Wisconsin where he died November 25, 1903, and where her mother still lives. Mrs. Peth was born there in 1867, May 18, was educated in the local schools, and lived there continuously until the time of her marriage. She was the seventh of eleven children, five of whom are still living. She and Mr. Peth are parents of three children: Hazel, born in 1892; Fremont R., in 1896, and Milburn M., in 1898. The last mentioned died at the age of six months. In fraternal affiliation, Mr. Peth is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and in politics an active Republican, while his church membership is in the local Methodist Episcopal body.

ROBERT GUNTHER is one of the self-made men of Skagit county. Coming as a young man into that district his industry and foresight have won him an enviable position. He has gained a competence within a few years and holds the respect of the entire community in which he lives.

Mr. Gunther is the son of a German millwright, Charles Gunther, who came to the United States in 1871. He settled in New Jersey, living there for thirteen years, and it was in that state that the subject of this sketch was born, the third of eight children. After their stay in New Jersey the family spent a number of years in Minnesota and there Mr. Gunther's mother, who, like her husband, was of German birth, died. From Minnesota the family moved to Washington in 1891. Charles Gunther died six years later in California.

Robert Gunther was educated in the schools of New Jersey and Minnesota. When seventeen years old he took up the trade of carpenter following it for four years in Minnesota and Washington. In 1893 he went to the La Conner flats and worked on a farm the three following years for Isaac Jennings. Then the young man leased the Gaches farm and worked it for six years. In 1900 he bought his present eighty-acre farm four and a half miles northwest of Mount Vernon. At that time only ten acres had been cleared. Now the entire farm is under cultivation, and, with its modern home and two large barns, constitutes a valuable holding.

On New Year's day, 1897, Mr. Gunther mar-

ried Miss Martha Singer, daughter of William Singer, a native of Iowa. The Singer family moved to Oregon in 1882, and after living there seven years, went to La Conner in 1889. Mr. Singer at present lives at Avon, Skagit county. Mrs. Singer, who is also living at Avon, was Miss Rose Paul, a native of Minnesota. Mrs. Gunther was born in the same state in June, 1881. As she was still young when her family moved to Skagit county, she obtained her education there, and there, too, was married at the age of sixteen. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Gunther, Ernest, 1897; Ralph, 1899, and Paul, 1901.

Mr. Gunther is a Yeoman and a Granger. He is active in the Methodist church, being steward, class leader and superintendent of the Sunday school. In politics he is a Republican. He is one of the trustees of the newly organized co-operative store at Mount Vernon, in fact, is recognized as a man of varied activities, having the confidence of all who know him. His home is one of refinement and culture.

NELS ANDERSON is one of the most popular of the Swedish-American citizens of the western part of Skagit county. He has developed a modern farm from heavily timbered lowland and is one of the well-to-do agriculturists of his section. Mr. Anderson was born in Sweden in 1866, the son of Anders and Sophia (Bangtson) Carlson, both natives of Sweden, who never left their native land. Mrs. Carlson was the mother of twelve children, of which Nels is ninth in order of birth. Mr. Anderson received his education in the Swedish schools and remained at home until he was twenty-one years of age. On attaining his majority he came to the United States and chose Kansas as the place and farming as the means of making a livelihood. Two years on the plains followed, Mr. Anderson working on farms. In 1889 he came to Washington and passed about three years working on farms in the vicinity of La Conner, deciding in 1892 to purchase a place of his own. He bought forty acres of timber four and a half miles west of Mount Vernon, which he has converted into his present farmstead. In addition to removing the timber, Mr. Anderson has had to dike and drain his land in order to bring it into its present high state of cultivation. Ten acres are in grass and the remainder for the most part in oats.

In 1898, at Tacoma, Mr. Anderson married Mrs. Anna L. (Johnson) Anderson, daughter of John and Hannah (Carlsted) Johnson, natives of Sweden, who passed their entire lives in the old country. Mrs. Anderson was born in Sweden in 1862 and received her education there, coming to Tacoma, Wash., when sixteen years old. On the death of her first husband, a brother of Nels Anderson, she and her children were cared for by the subject of this sketch, to whom she was later mar-

ried. Of the first union there are four children, Rudolph A., Nora, Robert and Herman. In politics Mr. Anderson is affiliated with the Democrats, but is not very active. The Andersons attend the Mission church. In fraternal circles Mr. Anderson is a Yeoman. In addition to raising hay and oats Mr. Anderson has a herd of twenty-two cattle. He has been uniformly successful in business and is recognized as one of the sterling citizens of his community.

WILLIAM R. WELLS has had a career marked with success, whether as merchant or as farmer, and is looked upon as one of the best citizens of Skagit county. He was born in New Brunswick in 1858. His father was Judah Wells, a farmer who left New Brunswick for Skagit county in 1883, and died here in 1899. The Wells are of Norman-French extraction and trace back to William the Conqueror and the feudal barons, who turned the tide of English history at the battle of Hastings. Mrs. Wells was Miss Hannah Starratt, a native of Nova Scotia of Scotch-Irish ancestry. She is still living at La Conner, the mother of six children. William R. Wells obtained the education afforded by the New Brunswick schools, remaining at home until twenty-five years of age. He, in company with his parents then came to Skagit county in 1883. For one year young Wells helped his father clear his farm and then accepted employment in the general store of B. L. Martin, in La Conner. Here he continued for four years when he formed a partnership with his brother and bought a grocery in La Conner, which was operated under the name of Wells Brothers. After successfully conducting this business for four years the firm sold out and William R. Wells accepted a deputyship in the office of the county treasurer, which necessitated his removal to Mount Vernon. At the close of his term he returned to La Conner and resumed the grocery business. After three years he removed to Sedro-Woolley and entered the dry goods business of Coddington & McGowan, where he remained for two years. In the spring of 1902, leaving the mercantile, he took up agriculture, removing to the farm which he had acquired in 1891, the present home of the Wells family, four and a half miles west of Mount Vernon.

Mr. Wells has been twice married. The first wife was Miss Ella J. Calhoun, a native of New Brunswick and a cousin of Dr. Calhoun, well known in Skagit county, Seattle and Port Townsend. Of this union there were two children, both of whom died and are buried with their mother in Mount Vernon. In 1899 Mr. Wells married Miss Ruth Guenther, daughter of Henry Guenther, a native of Germany, who on coming to this country lived in Buffalo, New York and St. Paul, Minnesota, where he was employed by the Great Northern railroad until his death in 1899. The mother, Eliza-

beth (Batsle) Guenther, was a native of Germany. Mrs. Wells was born in Buffalo, New York, in 1866. Her early education was obtained in St. Paul, but after coming to Washington she took a three year course at the Ellensburg State Normal School. Obtaining a life diploma for teaching, she taught school for five years, abandoning an educational career for married life. Two children are the issue of this union, Dorothy B., born in Sedro-Woolley in 1902, and William R., born on the farm in 1903. Mr. Wells is a Republican in politics and in addition to his term as deputy county treasurer has served several terms as city clerk of La Conner, being a popular and efficient public servant. In church circles he is a Baptist and in fraternal relations a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Ancient Order of United Workmen and of the Woodmen of the World. While many friends have regretted the retirement of Mr. Wells from public life, he is well satisfied to operate his farm, which consists of twenty-two acres, all under careful cultivation. He makes a specialty of his dairy and stock, having fifteen cattle at the present time. Mr. Wells is deservedly popular and is a man of ability along any line which he chooses to pursue.

JOSEPH E. EWING has by sheer force of character and self-training advanced himself from a farmer boy of Ohio to one of the successful and respected citizens of Skagit county. With only the rudiments of an education possibly while a boy, Mr. Ewing has supplemented the slight foundation thus gained by hard private study and has been a successful school teacher as well as a successful farmer and capable public servant. Mr. Ewing was born in Preble County, Ohio, in 1864. His father, William A. Ewing, was born in Paisley, Scotland, in 1829, and came to East Hampton, Massachusetts, when a young man. He settled on a farm in Ohio later in life and is still a resident there. Mrs. Ewing, who was Miss Margrett T. Thompson, a native of Greenock, Scotland, came with her parents to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, when but two years old. Her parents died in Philadelphia, victims of cholera. Joseph E. Ewing attended the common school in Ohio when a lad and for several years, while working on his father's farm, found time to pursue his studies further. He was eventually successful in passing a teacher's examination, and taught school there for some years, living at the old home. In 1889 he came to Washington, and worked on a Skagit county ranch for two years. In 1891 he purchased his present place of forty acres, four miles west of Mount Vernon. The three subsequent years were devoted to clearing his land of timber and ditching the low places. He also worked out for money with which to improve his holding. In 1895 he had cleared enough of his original purchase to commence farming it. In 1897

he added twenty acres, and in the following year forty acres more. Mr. Ewing now has two hundred acres of land, 175 of which is cleared and under cultivation, constituting one of the fine farm properties of the county.

In Seattle in 1895 Mr. Ewing married Miss Mary A. Osborn, daughter of Henry H. and Elizabeth (Burnett) Osborn. Mr. Osborn was born in Ohio of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and before his death in this state in 1899 was a pioneer farmer of Indiana and Illinois, later living for eight years on a Kansas farm before coming to Washington. Mrs. Osborn was likewise an Ohioan, dying in 1872, the mother of five children. Mrs. Ewing was born in Cumberland County, Illinois, in 1864, and received her education in the schools of her home vicinity. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ewing: William, in 1896; Frank, in 1898; Helen, in 1901, and Riley on Christmas day, 1902. Mr. Ewing's public service in Skagit county consists of seven years as dike commissioner and as member of the school board. In fraternal circles he is a Modern Woodman of America. The Ewings are Presbyterians. Mr. Ewing is extensively engaged in raising stock on his ranch, as well as carrying on general farming. Mr. Ewing has been successful in whatever he has undertaken and is popular with his fellows and respected by all.

MARTIN L. BEST. Left an orphan at the age of four years, the subject of this narrative was thrown upon the sea of life at an early age with no guiding hand but his own, but that he has successfully stemmed the adverse currents no one who knows him now and sees his well kept and prosperous farm can deny. Mr. Best was born in Blount County, Tennessee, in the early part of 1865, the son of Jacob and Nancy (Taylor) Best. The elder Best was a North Carolinian by birth and lived in that state until he went to Tennessee, where he followed farming for many years and later passed away in peace. He came of Pennsylvania Dutch stock. Mrs. Best, likewise a native of the hills of North Carolina, the mother of thirteen children, of whom Martin was the youngest. His father dying when the lad was but two years old, and the mother only two years later, Martin was reared by an elder sister, attending school until he was sixteen years of age. He then cut loose from relatives and native state, going first to Alabama, where he passed a year. He spent the following year in Indiana. At this time he heard of the new Northwest and the wonderful opportunities offered to energy and pash and facing westward, in the early part of 1884 found himself on Fidalgo island. He was here employed for a number of months at farming, and then went to California for a year; but the view he had obtained of Skagit county still lingered in his memory, and wooed by the irresistible charm of its sweeping rivers, forest covered hills and rich, ex-

pansive flats, he once more returned to its precincts, resolved to cast his fortune with its future, weal or woe. He experienced some difficulty in getting an independent start in life, and continued to do farm work for a number of years, making the vicinity of La Conner and the Beaver Marsh the field of his labors. However, in 1895, he leased eighty acres of school land and, bent upon winning a deserved competency from reluctant Dame Fortune, he began clearing and ditching the same. It was a tedious process, but with that pertinacity of purpose which is the dominating factor in the life of every successful man, he persevered in his fixed purpose until the reward came.

At La Conner, early in 1895, Mr. Best and Rowena Dunlap, daughter of the pioneer, Isaac Dunlap, were united in marriage. Mr. Dunlap was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he learned the iron moulder's trade. This occupation, however, he later abandoned and sought employment in agricultural pursuits in Iowa and Kansas, in which latter state he was eminently a pioneer. Not satisfied with conditions there, in 1863 he started across the plains and mountains by the ox team route to California, the golden Eldorado. After a residence there of fourteen years, he came to La Conner in 1877, where he has since resided. Mrs. Susan (Maxwell) Dunlap, the mother, a native of Iowa, of good old Scotch-Irish stock, is still living in peace and contentment at her comfortable home near La Conner. Mrs. Best, who is a native of California, came to Skagit county with her parents in 1877, in her sixth year. Here she received her early education, which was later supplemented by a course in the Seattle Female College, and at the age of twenty-two she was united in marriage to Mr. Best. To this union have been born three children, of whom only Myrtle, the eldest, born in 1896, is living. Mr. Best is a zealous Odd Fellow, and has been honored by every official position within the gift of his local lodge, Delta lodge No. 32, of La Conner. He is also an active member of the Woodmen of the World and Ancient Order of United Workmen. Mrs. Best is a prominent member of the Rebekahs. Politically Mr. Best is an earnest exponent of Republican principles, ever active in furthering the interests of his party. The Best home consists of eighty acres of well tilled rich bottom land, improved by a substantial residence and commodious farm buildings surrounding, which stand as a monument to the enterprise and thrift of their worthy owner. His Jersey cattle are Mr. Best's special pride.

PETER E. JOHNSON is one of the successful farmers of the rich lands to the west of Mount Vernon. He began life on his own account when but fourteen years of age and by sheer hard work and the steadiest application to business has forced himself to his present position of success. Mr. Johnson, a native of Sweden, was born in 1861, the

son of John and Christine (Pearson) Johnson. The elder Johnson was a farmer and passed his life in the old country. The mother is still living across the Atlantic, the mother of three children, of whom Peter is the oldest. Peter Johnson's boyhood days were those common to all Swedish farmer lads, attending school and doing chores about his father's place. At the age of twenty-six, he came to the United States. He crossed the continent to La Conner and remained there for a few months, working as a farm hand. The following winter he went to California and engaged in railroad work. Returning to Skagit county in 1889 he did farm work until he took up a homestead in Chehalis county in 1892. Mr. Johnson lived in Chehalis county for two winters and before he had proved up on his land had a chance to trade it for ten acres near Bay View in Skagit county. He made the exchange and has made Skagit county his home ever since.

In 1893 in Seattle Mr. Johnson married Miss Selma Martin, daughter of Morris Johnson, a native of Sweden. Mrs. Johnson was born in the old country and received her education there. She came to the United States when she was twenty-five years of age. Of this union are three children, all born in Skagit county, Emma, Herbert and William. In politics Mr. Johnson is a Republican. He is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and of the Lutheran church. The home place of ten acres is all in a wild state. He raises cattle and horses, having sixteen head of the former and nine of the latter, all good stock. He has lived on a leased farm of Peter Doney's since 1894.

WILLIAM J. CORNELIUS, a well-known farmer, stockraiser and dairyman, residing in the Pleasant Ridge district between Mount Vernon and La Conner, is one of the oldest and worthiest pioneers of Skagit county, though comparatively a young man. He was born on Whidby island, September 10, 1867, when the region now constituting Skagit county did not boast a single postoffice, his parents being John A. and Bessie J. (Wallace) Cornelius, two of the Northwest's early pioneers. John A. Cornelius, surveyor by profession, was born in the Green Mountain state in 1839, and when only twelve years of age crossed the plains to Oregon City. Three years later, or in 1855, he came north to Washington and on Puget sound established his home. Mining and surveying occupied his attention during the next few years, but he ultimately devoted himself almost entirely to his profession and farming. Late in the sixties he commenced the survey of the sound's northern shore line and before this task was finished had surveyed nearly all of the islands, the Samish, Swinomish, Skagit and Stillaguamish regions and other detached sections, thus enabling the pioneer settlers to obtain title to their claims. It is in connection with this extensive work that Mr. Cornelius is best known in Skagit county

history, though he is also credited with becoming one of the first half-dozen settlers in the Swinomish flat region, his claim at Pleasant Ridge having been taken late in 1868. After an unusually active and useful life, this pioneer surveyor and hardy frontiersman, in 1884, passed away at his Pleasant Ridge farm. Mrs. Cornelius was born in Oregon in 1849, only a year after that isolated outpost of the American union was admitted as a territory. She was reared on Whidby island and there married Mr. Cornelius. After his death she became the wife of J. O. Rudene, and is at present residing at Pleasant Ridge. To her is due the honor of being the first white woman to make permanent settlement on the Skagit mainland or outlying islands, she having come with her husband in 1868.

William J., therefore, was brought to the Skagit country when a mere infant and was reared and educated there, participating personally in the reclamation of the wild wastes of tide marsh and dense forest jungle. The life of the frontier appealed to him naturally. Hard, unremitting toil in subjugating the land had no terrors for him, and hardships were but commonplace incidents to the young pioneer. After finishing the common school course, he attended the university at Seattle, taking a business course, then returned to his mother, with whom he lived until he reached the age of twenty-two. That year he began farming on his own account, renting a place from his step-father, which he has since continued to occupy, gradually transforming it into one of the excellent farms in the locality. Mr. Rudene and he are also the owners of a threshing outfit, which is operated under the management of Mr. Cornelius.

Miss Jennie R. Williams, the daughter of Charles H. and Ellen (Crandall) Williams, became the wife of Mr. Cornelius at Seattle in 1888. Her father, formerly a mechanic, but now engaged in farming, is a native of Massachusetts. He came to Skagit county in 1885, where he still resides, but Mrs. Williams died in Massachusetts. Born in the Bay state in 1872, Mrs. Cornelius was early taken to Pocahontas county, Iowa, where she lived until the removal to Washington in 1885. Three years later, at the age of sixteen, she was married. Five children are the fruit of this marriage: John A., born in May, 1889; Charles H., in 1890; Philip R., in 1892; Vera, in 1895, and May, in 1903. Fraternally, Mr. Cornelius is affiliated with the I. O. O. F., in which order he is a past grand; and with the A. O. U. W., and politically, he is an ardent Republican. The family are attendants of the Methodist church. Of his sixty acres of land, forty are in cultivation, while the stock consists of seventy-five head of cattle, Jerseys predominating, and fourteen fine horses. Mr. Cornelius is a man of force in the community, successful in his business enterprises, and held in high esteem by his fellow citizens.

MATTHEW BESSNER, one of Skagit county's pioneer citizens, now engaged in agricultural pursuits at his fine farm on the Skagit delta, is the son of another well known pioneer of this region, John Bessner. Born in Luxemburg, Germany, December 5, 1829, the elder man came to the United States early in the fifties, settling ultimately in Minnesota. There he followed farming until 1875, that year coming west to Puget sound in the hope of bettering his condition. At Whatcom he entered the coal mines, in which he spent two years, in the meantime sending for his family in 1876. A year later he removed to the town of La Conner, worked out a year, then rented a farm two years, at the end of which period he bought a tract, diked and sold it. In 1880 he removed to the Skagit delta, renting a half section of school land, then in its wild condition. After many years of toil and hardship, he reclaimed the entire tract, sold half of it (he having purchased the 320 acres), and on the remainder successfully farmed and raised stock until his death, February 12, 1905. Mrs. Mary (Beninger) Bessner, his wife, also a native of Luxemburg, was married in Ohio, and with her husband underwent all the privations common to pioneer life on the American frontier. Her death occurred in April, 1904.

Matthew Bessner, fifth in a family of twelve children, was born October 16, 1867, in Dakota County, Minnesota. When only a lad of nine years he accompanied his mother and the family west to the new home founded on the shores of Puget sound by the father, and in Whatcom and Skagit counties received his rearing and education. He remained at home on the farm until twenty-two, working the last year for wages, then rented one of Edward McTaggart's farms near Edison. A year and a half later he removed south to the Skagit delta, where he rented a place owned by a brother. Subsequently he rented land three years from his father and following that the old Rollins place for five years. In 1902 he purchased his present farm, embracing 120 acres of as fine land as there is in that section, upon which he has erected an excellent seven-room dwelling and substantial outbuildings, thus giving him a most convenient as well as a valuable piece of property. It lies ten miles southwest of the county seat. The stock includes sixty neat cattle and nine head of horses.

Miss Annie Summers, a daughter of Henry and Sarah (Cleverly) Summers, well known residents of Skagit county, was united in marriage to Mr. Bessner, at Mount Vernon, June 18, 1902. The Summers family is of English descent, both parents of Mrs. Bessner being natives of England, born in 1848 and 1849 respectively. They became early settlers in the Swinomish country and were prominently identified with the subjugation of the tide lands. A comprehensive sketch of their lives appears elsewhere among these biographies. Mrs. Summers passed away at Pleasant Ridge, Skagit

county, December 9, 1889. Mrs. Bessner was born near Fir, December 17, 1878, and is, therefore, one of Skagit's own daughters. Her education was obtained in the schools of her native county. Two children have blessed the union: Herbert D., born April 14, 1903, and Mildred C., August 27, 1905. Mrs. Bessner is a member of the Baptist church, her husband, a communicant of the Catholic. Politically, he is a Republican, liberal in his views, and in matters of public interest is ever active. Successful in his business, a citizen shirking no obligation placed upon him, and esteemed by his associates, Mr. Bessner is identified with that type which is steadily pushing Skagit county to the front.

LARS DANIELSON, one of Skagit county's substantial Norwegian citizens, successful farmer, and prominent in the development of the Skagit river's delta from a tide-swept waste into its present stretch of grain fields, gardens and meadows, resides just west of Fir in the very heart of that rich district. His birthplace is the northern part of Norway. He was born May 17, 1856, to the union of Daniel and Guro (Johnson) Johnson, both natives of the same country. Both father and mother have attained to ripe old age, the former now being eighty-five and the latter eighty-three, and still hale and hearty. They long ago crossed the ocean and at the present time are living in Skagit county with their children, Mr. Danielson and Mrs. George Hansen. The youth of Mr. Danielson was spent upon the farm and attending the common schools of the district, thereby laying firm the foundation for manhood. When he reached the age of seventeen, like so many lads of that sea-faring people, young Danielson left the farm for the fishing trade, spending the succeeding four years in that industry. Then he joined a vessel and for six years sailed before the mast over many seas. At last, however, this part of his nature apparently became satisfied, he left the sea and returned home. After two years with his parents, the attractions of America grew irresistible to him and in 1882 he again bade his native Norway farewell, reaching Michigan soon afterward. There he lived two years, engaged in logging, then came direct to the Skagit county and located near Fir, arriving almost simultaneously with the creation of Skagit county. The rich possibilities of the delta region appealed strongly to him, so strongly that he bought eighty acres of wild land on an island near Fir. Applying himself with vigor and perseverance to the work of transforming this tract of swamp land into a farm, he soon had the satisfaction of watching the cultivated acreage grow little by little into oat and hay fields until finally the whole tract was producing bountifully. In all he built 575 rods of dike, which is a high testimonial to his industry and skill, representing the toil of years and the denial of many a comfort. However, feeling that he could better

his condition, Mr. Danielson sold the old place in 1902 and with a portion of the proceeds again invested in land in a more desirable location. This tract is now his home. When he moved on it only fifteen acres out of forty were cleared, but with characteristic energy and perhaps with the pioneer's longing to be constantly conquering wild land, he fell to work and now has thirty acres in cultivation, a new twelve-room, modern house, excellent barn, sheds and other outbuildings, all substantially fenced.

The marriage of Mr. Danielson took place in Skagit county in 1885, Miss Carrie Engen, a daughter of Lars and Lizzie Engen, becoming his bride. Both parents lived and died in Norway, where also Mrs. Danielson was born in 1858. She received her education in the schools of her native country, remaining there until 1881, at that time coming to California. Thence she came north to Washington Territory in 1884. To this union five children have been born, the oldest of whom, Jennie, born in 1886, died in the fall of 1904. The others are Donald, Eddie, Lucy and Carl. Both Mr. and Mrs. Danielson are members of the Lutheran church. Politically, he is identified with the Republican party. The responsibilities of American citizenship Mr. Danielson has shouldered willingly, filling the offices of school director and other precinct positions at different times, and at present serving his district as dike commissioner. Dairying has claimed Mr. Danielson's special attention of late years, his efforts in this, as in other branches of agriculture, meeting with excellent success. There are in his career many object lessons of value to the younger generation of Skagit's citizenship, not the least of which is the supreme worth of industry, perseverance and foresight.

EDWARD CALLAHAN, the energetic young farmer residing five and one-half miles northwest of Mount Vernon, is a native son of Washington, born near La Conner, Skagit county, November 15, 1878, the son of James and Harriett (Ball) Callahan. The father is one of the early settlers in Skagit county, where he came in 1876, and where he still resides. He was born in Ireland, August 28, 1841, and came with his parents, James and Margaret (Hartigan) Callahan to Canada when but six years of age, and one year later crossed the line into the United States, settling in Indiana, where he grew up to young manhood, learning the cooper's trade under his father's directions. He later enlisted in the war of the rebellion, in Company G, 181st Ohio Volunteers. At the close of the service he returned to Aurora, Indiana, and engaged at his trade and also served two years as marshal and was agent for a sewing machine company. In 1876 he set his face westward, going first to San Francisco, thence to Port Townsend, where he took boat for Whatcom county, of which county his brother-

in-law, M. D. Smith, was at the time auditor. He went from there to the farm of Mr. Smith on the Samish Flats, where he engaged in farming, and in a short time pre-empted a tract of land near Padilla, and later purchased the land where he still resides, one of the solid farmers and respected pioneers of the county. The mother was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, in 1812, the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Wyatt) Ball, of English birth, who settled there in 1836, where they passed away many years ago. Edward is seventh in the family of eleven children, and was the first child born after his parents came to the Puget sound country. He grew up on the Samish Flats, receiving his education in the schools of that community, and remained at home until twenty-one, when he engaged in farming for himself, renting forty acres of his father's place. This he still farms, but has rented additional land, where he resides and farms the two together.

Edward Callahan and Annie Jenne, were united in marriage at Padilla, November 27, 1901. Mrs. Callahan was born on Whidby island May 5, 1882, the daughter of George and Mary (Halfrick) Jenne, who settled on that island in 1876, coming eight years later to the Swinomish Flats. The father was born in Germany, May 19, 1854, and came to the United States at the age of fourteen. He departed this life in Skagit county, January 3, 1902. The mother was born in Illinois September 14, 1854, and was married at the age of nineteen; seven children were born to this union, of which Mrs. Callahan is the fifth. Politically Mr. Callahan is a Democrat. He is a diversified farmer, and in stock raising is breeding the Guernsey cattle. Mr. and Mrs. Callahan come of pioneer stock and are themselves native productions of the state of Washington.

JOHN CALLAHAN, residing on the old Callahan homestead, immediately north of Padilla, was born in Ohio, near the Indiana line, on Christmas day, 1875, but has no memory of his native state, having been brought by his parents to the Puget sound country when but one year of age. His father, James Callahan, a native of the Emerald Isle, came to the Western continent with his parents in 1847, at the age of six years, and he was reared in the state of Indiana, where his parents settled in 1848. He was working at his trade of cooper, when, in 1861, the call for troops was made by President Lincoln to suppress the rebellion, to which call of his adopted country he promptly responded, enlisting in Company G of the 181st Ohio Volunteers, and served with faithfulness and distinction until honorably discharged. At the end of his service he went to Indiana, where he lived until 1876, when he came to the Puget sound country, and settled on the Swinomish Flats in what is now Skagit county, renting the farm belonging to his

brother-in-law, M. D. Smith, who was at that time auditor of Whatcom county. Later he took up land for himself and also purchased a tract, on which he now resides. He has been one of the active and progressive pioneers of the county. The mother, Harriett (Ball) Callahan, was born in Ohio, May 11, 1842, the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Wyatt) Ball. Her parents were natives of England, who came to the United States in 1836, settling in Hamilton County, Ohio, where they continued to reside until their death. The senior Mr. and Mrs. Callahan were married in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1862, their union being blessed with eleven children, of which John is the sixth in order of birth. His schooling in Skagit county was supplemented by a course in the Wilson Business college of Seattle, and at the age of twenty-one he went to work for his brother James on the farm, continuing with him for some three years. He then engaged in farming for himself, renting the old homestead of his brother James, which he has farmed for the past five years.

Mr. Callahan and Miss Matilda Jenne were united in marriage August 7, 1901. Her father, George F. Jenne, was born in Germany, May 19, 1854, came to the United States when but fourteen years of age, and in 1876 to the Northwest, settling on Whidby island, where he farmed for eight years, and thence to Swinomish Flats on the mainland. He was a man of studious turn, well read and up-to-date in current events. He passed away January 3, 1902, respected by a large community of friends and acquaintances. Mary (Halfrick) Jenne, the mother, was a native of Illinois, born September 14, 1854, to the union of Leonard and Catherine (Mowery) Halfrick. Mrs. Callahan was born on Whidby island, August 27, 1879, and received a liberal common school education in Skagit county. She was married at the age of twenty-two. She is the mother of one child, Harriett M., born in Skagit county, March 22, 1903. Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Callahan are members of the Catholic church, while in politics Mr. Callahan is a Democrat. Not only pioneers themselves, Mr. and Mrs. Callahan come of pioneer stock, on both sides of the family, doubly entitling them to a place in the history of Skagit county.

JOHN KILL, the well known owner of Deerfoot Farm, noted throughout the Skagit country for its fine stock, is one of Puget sound's substantial and successful citizens, justly deserving of a place among these records. Of German descent, he himself was born in the fatherland, March 14, 1861, the son of Matthew and Katrina (Elges) Kill. The father was a butcher by trade and followed it successfully until his death in 1898, while still residing in Germany. Mrs. Kill was the mother of three children, of whom the subject of this

sketch is the youngest; she, too, passed away in the old country.

After obtaining a common school education, John learned the butcher's trade in his father's shop and while still in his teens left home to seek his fortune. He traveled throughout Germany, Holland and France four years, working at his trade, returning when nineteen to the old home. Two years he remained there, then decided to cast his lot with the inhabitants of the United States to which so many of his countrymen had come and established prosperous homes. With this idea in view, in 1882 he crossed the Atlantic and proceeded to Dakota County, Minnesota. Six months of hard work in the wheat fields at fifteen dollars per month were followed by two years in the mines at Lake Linden, Michigan, after which he spent three years working at his trade in St. Paul, Minnesota. In 1887 he made his advent into the Pacific Northwest, his first employment here being with the Rice & Gardiner market, Seattle. Fire destroyed this business in August, 1889, forcing young Kill to seek employment elsewhere. This he obtained as a warehouse man in a hide and fur establishment of Seattle, later going on the road for that house. The year 1895 witnessed this ambitious young man undertake an enterprise that called for unusual grit and confidence, namely, the establishment of a meat market at Juneau, Alaska. Success crowned his efforts and a year later he sold out for a tidy sum and returned to Seattle, becoming a partner in the firm of Hibbard & Norton. This house operated extensively during the Klondyke excitement, Mr. Kill at one time personally taking a drove of cattle in to Dawson City. That was in 1897. A year later the firm was dissolved, but Mr. Kill continued operations in the far Northwest. For a time he was engaged in taking provisions and stock into Northwest Territory, Canada. In 1899 he opened markets at Dawson City and Nome, being the pioneer of that business in the latter city. When one considers that Dawson City is within the Arctic circle and that Nome is far up the Alaskan coast toward the land of icebergs, these business projects become noteworthy as unusual pioneer enterprises. While carrying to success his Alaskan ventures, Mr. Kill at one time cleared \$42,000 in seven months, a most astonishing record. Finally, in April, 1900, he decided to enjoy his fortune in a milder climate and under less strenuous conditions, so he returned to Puget sound and purchased the farm which is now his home. The tract embraced 160 acres of highly improved Swinomish flat land, the equal of any land in the United States, and this Mr. Kill has further improved until it is now considered one of the very best places in the county. Naturally fond of stock, he is now engaged in breeding Shorthorn cattle and Percheron horses with the idea of becoming a leader in raising fine stock. His Shorthorn herd now consists of eighty head, while in his stables are twelve selected horses. Mr. Kill

also intends to spare no money or pains in raising high grade driving and trotting stock.

The marriage of Miss Louisa Heilser to Mr. Kill took place at St. Paul in 1887. Her parents, Tobias and Veronicka (Rettenbacher) Heilser, both of whom are now dead, were natives of Switzerland, the mother coming from the canton of Tyrol. Tobias Heilser came to St. Paul when a young man and there conducted a tailoring establishment for a number of years. Louisa Kill was born in St. Paul, December 1, 1862, and in that metropolis was reared and educated. Two children have blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Kill: Mrs. Katie M. Tingler, born in St. Paul, March 12, 1888, now residing in British Columbia; and Frederick, born in Seattle, July 2, 1897. The family church is the Roman Catholic.

In fraternal circles, Mr. Kill is prominent as a member of the Knights of Pythias, and is one of the charter members of the Arctic Brotherhood, an Alaskan fraternity. He is an active supporter of the Republican party, always aggressive in disseminating its doctrines. Few men are better fitted than he to succeed in his stock and general farming projects, especially in the former, and already Deerfoot Farm is becoming recognized for its select cattle and horses. It is of such men as he, aggressive, staple, capable and progressive men, that the backbone of any community is made and this instance is no exception to the rule.

ARTHUR W. FLAGG is one of the bright young business men and farmers of the Swinomish flats and is fast making a name for himself among the members of the community as a success at whatever he undertakes. He was born in New Brunswick and came to Skagit county with his parents when eighteen years of age. His father, Benjamin Flagg, also a native of New Brunswick, was in his earlier days a carpenter by trade, but took up farming after coming to Washington. He is still living at Avon. Mary (Daggett) Flagg, the mother, was born in New Brunswick; she died on the homestead near La Conner in 1890, the mother of four children, of whom Arthur is the oldest. Arthur W. Flagg received his education in New Brunswick before coming to Washington. His first years here were spent as a farm hand. On becoming of legal age he filed on a preemption of eighty acres near Avon, selling out several years after proving up. In 1891 he opened a drug store at Avon and conducted it for five years, selling out to go into the employ of the Hayton-Dunlap hardware store in La Conner. After a year and a half in the hardware business, Mr. Flagg bought a farm on the Samish and operated it for three years. He sold out there and bought his present place of eighty acres six miles west of Mount Vernon in 1901.

In 1893 at Seattle Mr. Flagg married Miss Rose Dunlap, daughter of Isaac Dunlap, retired farmer

and stock raiser near La Conner, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Susan (Maxwell) Dunlap was born in Iowa, and is still living near La Conner, the mother of seven children. Mrs. Flagg was born during the residence of her parents in California, in the last days of 1867, and came to Skagit county when ten years old. She received her education in the schools of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Flagg have three children: Philip, Frank and Robin, all born in this county. In politics Mr. Flagg is an ardent Republican. He is much interested in the efficiency of the schools and is serving a term as clerk of the school board of District No. 15. The farm consists of sixty-five acres under cultivation, the balance in pasture. Mr. Flagg is interested in stock raising and has thirty head of cattle as his chief venture in that direction. By his energy, application to business and his administrative qualities, he is building up a handsome fortune. At the same time he does not confine all his energies to his private matters, but takes a lively interest in all affairs which pertain to the betterment of his community.

PATRICK H. MALLOY, one of the substantial farmers of the region west of Mount Vernon, has, like many other successful men and good citizens of Uncle Sam's domain the blood of the warm-hearted Celt in his veins, both his parents being natives of Ireland. The family, however, has long been identified with developments in the new world, having settled in southwestern Illinois in its pioneer days, when neighbors were few and far scattered. They contributed their full share toward the winning of Madison county, earning the honor that is always due to those who convert the wilderness into an abode for civilization and "cause the desert to blossom as the rose."

Born in Madison county, in 1862, our subject passed there the first twenty-one years of his life, assisting his parents in the struggle with pioneer conditions and receiving such educational advantages as the primitive schools afforded, also working a couple of years as a farm hand in the neighborhood. Upon attaining his majority he struck out for the West, and in due time was a resident of Skagit County, Washington, where he spent a half decade, or nearly so, as an employe on different farms of the flats country. His ambitions during all this time were for land ownership and independence, however, and even before he was ready to bid farewell to farm work for others he had taken a pre-emption near Fredonia, on which he proved up and sold in 1889. Three years before that he had engaged in farming on his own account on lands held by leasehold, achieving a very satisfactory success, and with his profits and the savings of his years of toil and the proceeds of the sale of his pre-emption claim, he purchased in 1889 the fine one hundred and twenty acre farm, six miles west of

Mount Vernon, on which he now resides. The same energy and good judgment which enabled him to secure the purchase price of the land have been employed in its improvement and cultivation, with the result that the heavy timber which originally grew upon it has been removed, the marshy portions have been drained, and the whole has been converted into a valuable, profit-yielding farm. At this writing sixty acres of it are seeded to timothy and fifty-five to oats, while upon the remaining five acres are the farm buildings and yards, and a splendid little orchard of prolific and well chosen fruit trees. Realizing the profit of stock on the farm and the benefit accruing therefrom to the land itself, he keeps considerable herds of both cattle and horses, all high grade animals.

Mr. Maloy was married in Seattle in 1887 to Miss Katie Dwelley, whose father, Joseph F., was a native of Boston, in which city he worked as a mechanic for a number of years, eventually moving to Wisconsin. He farmed in the Badger state for a time, then moved to the Skagit valley, becoming one of its first settlers. The mother of Mrs. Maloy, Mrs. Angeline (Wells) Dwelley, a native of New York, is at present a resident of La Conner. Mrs. Maloy has the distinction of being one of the first white children born in the Skagit valley, the date of her birth being 1871, and inasmuch as she has received her education there and has resided there all her life, she is in the fullest sense of the word a daughter of Skagit county. She and Mr. Maloy are parents of ten children, all like their mother natives of the county, namely: George, Joseph, Clinton, Aileene, Lucille, Edna, Patrick H. Jr., Eva, Vesta and Isabel. The family are communicants in the Catholic church, and Mr. Maloy is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and in politics a Republican, though of an independent turn, voting for the candidate always whom he considers the best. The ability to do hard work, coupled with administrative capabilities of a high order, is responsible for his success in his business, while uprightness and integrity have gained him the confidence of his neighbors and acquaintances.

GUSTAF W. JOHNSON (deceased), one of the thrifty and industrious sons of Sweden whose brain and brawn have contributed so materially to the subjugation of Skagit county and the development of its resources, was, until 1900, when he died from wounds received from the horns of an angry bull, numbered among the leading farmers of the region west of Mount Vernon. He received his educational training in the schools of his native land, which, however, he left at the age of seventeen to engage in a seafaring life. But he soon found that the sailor's lot was not what his fancy had pictured and after six months' experience before the mast he returned to his native land where he remained contentedly for ten years. He was, how-

ever, ambitious for larger opportunities than were to be found in any of the old communities of Europe so while still in the twenties he came to the United States, determined to conquer the difficulties which might lie in his way and win the largest possible measure of success. His first employment on this side of the ocean was in one of the marble quarries of Vermont, but after a short residence in that state he crossed the continent to California, where, for nine years, he worked continuously in the logging camps of the red wood forests. He then came north and spent some time in Portland and Seattle, neither of which cities appealed very powerfully to him or offered the opening he was seeking. Very early in the eighties he wisely determined to try his hand at farming in the Skagit valley, so bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres five and a half miles west of Mount Vernon, to the clearing and cultivation of which he devoted himself energetically and continuously until the day of his untimely taking off. At the time of the purchase the land had been diked, but the timber was still on it and there was the prospect of a long hard battle with stumps, but Mr. Johnson was undismayed. He went to work with vigor and in due time had converted an uninviting place into one of the fine farms of western Skagit county. He increased his realty holdings from time to time as he was able until he became the owner of four hundred acres; and no higher tribute to his untiring industry can be paid than to state the simple fact that all this land was in cultivation when he died. He devoted considerable attention to the raising of cattle, keeping always a goodly herd, and it was one of his own animals which, suddenly developing an ugly temper, inflicted the injury which resulted in his death.

In the city of Seattle, in 1882, Mr. Johnson married Miss Rosna C. Erickson, whose father, a native of Sweden, is still living in the La Conner country. Her mother, Carrie M., was also born in Sweden, but she died in that land when Mrs. Johnson was a child of four years. Upon completing her education in the Swedish schools, Mrs. Johnson accompanied an older sister to Iowa, where she grew to womanhood, coming thence to the Pacific coast a short time before her marriage. She has three children, Morris, born in 1882 and educated in the La Conner school; Francis, born in 1884, also educated there, and Alice E., born in 1891. The family is one of culture and public spirit, well and favorably known in the western part of Skagit county, where they reside. It should be mentioned that, during his lifetime, Mr. Johnson was a member of the Lutheran church and in fraternal connection a United Workman, while in political faith he was a Republican.

HENRY A. DANNENMILLER, a prosperous hop grower residing three and one-half miles north-

west of Mount Vernon, was born in Summit County, Ohio, July 31, 1859, the son of Henry and Mary (Gross) Dannenmiller. The father, a farmer, was born in Germany, and died in Seneca County, Ohio. Also a native of Germany, the mother grew to womanhood in Canton, Ohio, which state is still her home. She is the mother of nine children, six of whom are now living, and are as follows: Joseph and William, living near Mount Vernon, Andrew, near Seattle; Elizabeth and Frank, in Ohio, and Henry A., whose name initiates this biography. Having spent the early years of his life on the farm and in the schools of his native state, Mr. Dannenmiller learned the carpenter and cabinet making trade, beginning at the early age of fifteen to assist his father in the support of the family. In April, 1883, he decided to seek his fortune in the great Northwest of which he had read so much, locating in Seattle where he followed his trade until 1887, at which time he removed to Mount Vernon. Here he purchased his present place, together with the adjoining one, the latter purchase being made for a brother. The country was very wild at that time, bears being frequently seen on his farm, and occasioning much annoyance by carrying off pigs and chickens. Those were years full of hardships and dangers that would have brought dismay to one less courageous than Mr. Dannenmiller. The flood of 1894, so well remembered by those who were at that time living near the Skagit river, carried off much of his property, destroyed part of his orchard, and rendered it necessary to move his house to another part of the place in order to save it, the former site being now some seventy-five feet out in the river. He and his brother Andrew worked the two places together for two years, at the end of which time they made a division, each farming separately since that time. The culture of hops claimed his attention very soon after coming to this locality, and having built a hop house for his neighbor, Mr. Wilds, he used that for drying his product until he was in position to build one for himself. Increasing his hop area from year to year he has now seventeen acres devoted to that business, and will add five acres this fall. With an annual yield of about one ton to the acre, he has been successful, though he was at one time forced to sell his product at three and one-half cents a pound when the actual cost of production was eight cents a pound. Selling his sheep and cows that year to make good the loss he resolutely continued growing hops, reaping the reward in later years when the price advanced to twenty-six cents a pound.

Mr. Dannenmiller was married June 2, 1891, to Clara Riplinger, born near St. Paul, Minnesota, March 22, 1871, the daughter of Nicholas and Kate (Einswiler) Riplinger. The father was born in France, July 12, 1832, and died at La Conner, June 7, 1895. The mother, a native of Germany, died in 1877. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dannenmiller as follows: Alphoncius, who

was accidentally killed in August, 1892, by a falling stump that had burned off at the root; Paul, attending school at home; Hilda E., Leo, Howard, Herbert and Francis, all still at home. Mr. Dannenmiller is a prominent member of the Catholic church at Mount Vernon. An enthusiastic member of the Democratic party, he was a candidate for county commissioner in 1896, but owing to the Republican landslide that occurred that year, the entire ticket was defeated. Realizing the vast importance of maintaining good schools, he has advocated every measure that promised better advantages, serving for some time on the school board. Mr. Dannenmiller has recently built a fine new house, equipped with all the modern conveniences, a convincing proof both of his prosperity and excellent taste. Thrifty, industrious, and a man of sterling character, he enjoys the confidence and esteem of his wide circle of acquaintances.

CHARLES TOLLBER, a pioneer of 1869, and one of the large grain and stock farmers of the Skagit valley, illustrates in his career what may be accomplished by an energetic and thrifty citizen in the Puget sound country. He was born in Finland December 8, 1842, the son of August and Anna Tollber. Educational advantages were not of the best in Finland in those days, a matter which worked to his detriment, and which is a source of deep regret to Mr. Tollber in his later days. When eighteen years of age he went to London, England, and on obtaining a berth as sailor, followed the sea until 1868, when he crossed the main to the United States and secured employment as carpenter in the Port Blakely shipyard. A year later he came to Skagit county and filed on a homestead. While proving up, Mr. Tollber put in considerable time at seasons of the year at his trade of ship carpenter at various points on the sound. Disposing of his original homestead he purchased in 1872 one of the farms he now owns on the Skagit delta, and cleared it of timber and stumps, a herculean task. In the early nineties he bought the tract on which he now resides, which with the lower farm, constitutes his chief land holdings at the present time. This land is bottom soil protected by dikes, and constitutes very rich oat land.

Mr. Tollber married Miss Hannah Anderson in 1872 and five children have been born of this union: Carl, Albert, Ernest, Amanda and Mrs. Annie Hanson. Little is known of Mrs. Tollber's people, she having separated from them years ago. The Tollber home is a fine modern structure, containing nine rooms, furnished in keeping with the success and position of the progressive owner; with evidences on every hand, not only in the household affairs, but in the large, commodious and convenient barns, of the up-to-date ideas that prevail; all of which is greatly in contrast with the conditions which Mr. Tollber met on his first introduction into the sound

country in 1869. Among the very first settlers in what is now Skagit county, when its vast forests and wild waste of overflow lands had not been marked by the hand of civilization, he faced a combination of conditions seemingly sufficient to terrorize the bravest heart. But the thing that rises greater than all obstacles and that will not be stilled, is that inborn longing in the heart of man for "a home," and in this instance, as in thousands of others, that longing conquered all obstacles and wrested from that wild and tangled waste of almost impenetrable forest the home, the heart desire, and to-day, Mr. Tollber is enjoying as a reward of that perseverance and indomitable courage which never accepts defeat, an unfailing competency in his rich, well tilled bottom lands, with well appointed home, devoted family and wide circle of friends, whose respect and esteem he holds. Politically Mr. Tollber is a staunch Republican and interested in the faithful administration of the laws, and a progressive policy in public affairs; while religiously he is a communicant of the Lutheran church.

NATHAN OSTRANDER is one of the large grain, dairy and stock farmers of the southwestern section of Skagit county, and though his early days in the Puget sound country were those of hardship and difficulties in carrying out plans, he is to-day in an enviable position as regards present accumulations and future prospects. Mr. Ostrander springs from the Canadian branch of the Ostranders, and was born near Toronto, Ontario, October 5, 1870. His father, Urr Ostrander, a native Canadian, has retired from active farming, and is now living near Toronto. Mrs. Sarah (Graham) Ostrander was born in Ireland and shares her husband's retirement from the activities of life. She is the mother of six children: Margaret Jane, James, Elizabeth, Nathan, Nelson and Agnes. Young Ostrander remained with his parents until eighteen years of age, when having completed the school course prescribed by the Ontario system, started out for himself, coming to Skagit county in 1889. He remained here, however, but three months, when he went to California and put in five years as railroad fireman and grip man. He left San Francisco and took up his permanent residence in the Skagit valley in 1894. In that year Mr. Ostrander started a butcher shop at McMurray and continued to sell meat and deal in live stock up to about six years ago. This was the period of Mr. Ostrander's difficulties and disappointments. The country had not been built up with roads and he encountered many obstacles in moving his stock, suffering many losses owing to lack of good transportation facilities; all of which obstacles he overcame and won success.

On January 18, 1899, Mr. Ostrander married Miss Minnie M. Stackpole, a native of Boston, where she was born February 4, 1871. Mrs. Os-

trander's father was Greenleaf William Stackpole, born in the famous old town of Berwick, Maine, March 5, 1834. He was a jeweler by occupation and came to Skagit county in 1874, dying here twenty years later, respected and esteemed as a pioneer and worthy citizen. Mrs. Mary J. (Abbott) Stackpole was born in Albion, Maine, in 1834, and preceded her husband several years in the pioneer work of the Skagit country. Her early experiences here were full of excitement and danger, in contact with floods and freshets and the meeting of deprivations and hardships alone and unaided. She is still living, at her old home with the Ostranders, owning part of the magnificent property in the delta of the Skagit, a mile and a half west of Fir. During her many years' residence here she has endeared herself to all by her many acts of kindness and hospitality. Mrs. Ostrander commenced her education in the common schools of Skagit county, where she completed her preparation for entry to the University of Washington, where she completed her education in 1892, continuing to live at home with her mother until marriage. Five children have been born to this union: Merwin Stackpole, Mary Ruth, Theodore, Elvian, Nathan and Minnie A. The Ostrander home is a fine, commodious house of twelve rooms, furnished with care and richness and equipped with modern utilities and comforts. It is situated on a farm of three hundred and sixty-seven acres, of fertile bottom land, between the sound and the Skagit river. Mrs. Stackpole is part owner of the land, but Mr. Ostrander operates all of it under a life lease. His chief crop is oats, of which he plans to produce at least three thousand sacks per year. A selected part of the farm, consisting of seven acres, has yielded as high as five hundred sacks of oats. On the place are seventy head of sheep, sixty-five of swine and fifty of young cattle, while twenty milch cows furnish their product to the dairy. In managing this large property Mr. Ostrander has shown a high degree of executive ability and business acumen. In politics he is a Republican. The family attend the Baptist church. A model home and a happy family is that of the Ostranders.

OLE LONKE is one of the pioneer settlers of Skagit county, having preempted in 1877 what is now a part of the Stackpole farm near Fir. In 1879 he homesteaded his present place near Fir and has remained on it ever since, operating it successfully as a dairy and oat farm. Mr. Lonke was born in Norway in 1851, the son of Andre and Ingeberg Lonke, both of whom passed away in the old country, the former in 1863, at the age of sixty, and the latter in 1858, aged forty-eight. Mr. Lonke has one sister, Mrs. Manguild Rockenes. Young Lonke attended school and assisted on his parents' farm until twenty years of age, coming to the United States in 1871. He first settled in Wisconsin and



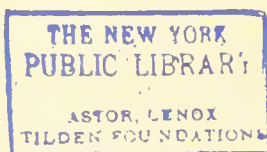
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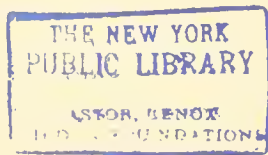
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SWAN PETER OLSON



MRS. SWAN PETER OLSON



followed lumbering there until he came to Washington and Skagit county in 1877. The Lonke farm, near Fir, consists of forty-three acres of well tilled land, devoted to dairying, growing oats and hay, and to the poultry industry. The dairy is supported by seventeen head of cows, while forty-five head of young cattle form the live stock division of the farm. Mr. Lonke also owns one hundred and twenty acres of tide lands near the mouth of the Skagit.

In 1881 Mr. Lonke married Miss Rosy Johnson at Seattle. She is the daughter of John and Elizabeth Skromdal, natives of Norway who never left their native land. Born in 1859, Mrs. Lonke came to this country in 1875, traveling alone to San Francisco. Later she came to Seattle and was supporting herself when she was married. Of the union have been born seven children: Ella, Edward, Olga, Lillian, Gertrude, Ralph and Elizabeth, the last named having died in recent years. In politics Mr. Lonke is a Republican. He is especially interested in the development of the schools and the highways of his community and is one of the first to take hold in matters pertaining to them. He has served as director of schools and also as road commissioner, and in both has given the most capable service. He is a member of the Lutheran church. As a pioneer and active citizen, Mr. Lonke has made his impress in an indelible form upon the community where he has lived so long and wrought so well, and is recognized as one of the substantial and upright men, dependable in all respects, and highly esteemed as a good neighbor.

SWAN PETER OLSON has, during the thirty years of his residence in Skagit county, built up an independent fortune out of the rich soil of the Skagit valley. A native of Sweden, he lived there until twenty-one, and with no experience in his adopted country except what could be gained in a residence of two years in the state of Iowa, Mr. Olson came to Skagit county in 1875 with no wealth but his hands and a determination to win, and has builded himself a fortune out of ceaseless labor and the bounties of nature. He was born in Sweden on New Year's day of 1849, the son of Olaf Polson and Johanna Pearson, neither of whom ever left their native land, and where they have since passed away. On attaining to his majority young Olson, unaccompanied by relative or friend, crossed the Atlantic and in 1871 was working for a railroad at Ottumwa, Iowa. He remained there for two years and came to Skagit county, where for three years he worked for others, all the time planning for a home of his own. The opportunity came in 1875, and he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land covered with stumps and timber, eight miles southwest of Mount Vernon. Much of the land was subject to overflow at seasons; but he built dikes and reclaimed it. He pulled stumps and

felled timber, and to-day has every acre of his old time purchase under cultivation, the land proving to be unusually fertile and productive. He has watched opportunities and has added first sixty, then one hundred and twenty, and more lately ninety acres. Offered a good price, he disposed of a forty-acre tract some years ago. Mr. Olson's real estate holdings now consist of three hundred acres, all cultivated and all of excellent producing quality.

In 1880 at Seattle Mr. Olson was married to Miss Lena Johnson, a native of Sweden, who had come to this country with a nephew and was working at dressmaking. Mrs. Olson's parents, John S. and Hannah (Carlson) Johnson, are deceased, dying in the old country. They were the parents of five children. There have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Olson eleven children. Their names and dates of birth are: George A., September 29, 1880; Swan L., April 22, 1882; Adolph W., October 3, 1884; Charles E. T., October 11, 1886; Jennie W., October 6, 1888; Caroline E., September 15, 1889; Almeda C., August 27, 1891; Edith A., January 8, 1894; Lillie E., July 8, 1897; Mable F., July 27, 1899; Austin E., June 11, 1901. All were born in Skagit Co. In politics Mr. Olson is an independent voter, selecting those for whom he casts his ballot from the various parties. He has no lodge affiliations and attends the Lutheran church. The Olson home is commodious and modern in all of its appointments, and is furnished with the conveniences, expressive of the ideas of an up-to-date man of means. Mr. Olson divides his attention between dairying, stock raising and grain growing, having sixteen head of horses for working the place. He has sixty head of cattle, eighteen of which are milch cows, supplying their product to the dairy, and also turns off a number of hogs each year. A hard worker, using business acumen in all his transactions, liberal in thought and quick to comprehend a situation, Mr. Olson is a man who has been eminently successful in all his undertakings in life and is today recognized as one of the solid citizens of Skagit county, as well as one of the earliest pioneers.

ISAAC DUNLAP, during the years of his life when he was more actively engaged than at present in the management of his large farm, was recognized as a man of great energy and of wide accomplishment, and since retiring has lost none of the respect he had gained by his industry and business sagacity. He is a native of Philadelphia, born in November of 1832, the son of James Dunlap, who came from Ireland and embarked in a transfer business in the Quaker city soon after his arrival in this country. In 1852 he removed to Iowa where he died about a year later. Isaac's mother, Mrs. Mary (Moore) Dunlap, was also a native of Ireland. She survived her husband but a few years and now rests beside him in Iowa. Isaac Dunlap received his early education in the schools of Pennsylvania and at the age

of fifteen years was apprenticed to the trade of brass finishing and chandelier making. He continued at this work for six years, then, on the removal of his parents to an Iowa farm, commenced his career as an agriculturist. He continued to manage the old Iowa farm for a number of years after the demise of his father, but in 1863 went to California by mule team, consuming three and a half months on the trip. He continued at the work of a farmer in California until 1877, then came to Washington and located on Pleasant Ridge, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of farm land. He conducted this farm with much success for five years, then bought the old Calhoun place, two and a half miles north of La Conner. This farm, which consists of three hundred and sixteen acres, was in good shape when he acquired it, but he has made many improvements, among them being the dikes. The soil is very fertile, a crop of one hundred bushels of oats to the acre being by no means unusual. A portion of this land has been producing oats for thirty years, yet it shows no signs of deteriorating in soil values. The reason for this is revealed by two wells which have been bored for Mr. Dunlap, each of them being sunk to a depth of ninety-three feet, of which ninety were shown to be of exactly the same character as the surface soil. The farm is now under the management of William Dunlap, one of his sons. In addition to his vested interest in the home farm Mr. Dunlap owns stock in the Polson Hardware Company, which operates successful stores at La Conner, Seattle and Wenatchee. In politics Mr. Dunlap is a Republican. He is especially interested in local affairs, having been a delegate frequently to the county and state conventions of his party. He served as county commissioner of Whatcom county before the division, and was one of the first board for Skagit county, later serving another term. He has also been road supervisor of his district and has done much to improve the county roads.

On Christmas eve, 1859, Mr. Dunlap married Miss Susan Maxwell, daughter of Thomas Maxwell, an Iowa farmer of Scotch descent. Seven children are the result of this union: James, farmer, near La Conner; Alexander L., manager and stockholder in the Polson Hardware Company; William, Samuel, Mrs. Mary McFarland; Mrs. Rosanne Flagg and Mrs. Rowena Best. Mr. and Mrs. Dunlap have twenty grandchildren. In fraternal circles Mr. Dunlap is an Odd Fellow. One of the foremost citizens of Skagit county in public spirit, and one whose services to the county have extended over a large period of years and been at all times of the most worthy character, he has achieved a highly enviable standing in the section which knows him best. He enjoys in abundant measure the esteem and regard of all. Though nearly seventy-three years old, he is still hale, active and keenly interested in all the affairs of life.

WILLIAM DUNLAP is one of the successful young farmers of Skagit county and during the seventeen years he has operated the large farm of his father has gained a reputation for energetic management and executive ability. He was born in San Joaquin County, California, in August of 1866, one of the seven children of Isaac and Susan (Maxwell) Dunlap, both of whom are well known and esteemed in Skagit county. The elder Dunlap is a native of Pennsylvania, who moved to California in 1863 but was for many years one of the prominent stockmen and farmers of western Skagit county. He is living as a retired farmer, his place being under the operation and management of his son, the subject of this sketch. William Dunlap received his education in the schools of California and completed his courses of study on coming to Washington when eleven years old. He received a careful training in farm matters under the broad instruction of his father, and when he attained the age of twenty-two years assumed the management of the property, consisting of three hundred and sixteen acres of fertile land and considerable live stock.

On the last day of the year 1893 Mr. Dunlap married Miss Winifred Lockhart, daughter of Samuel Lockhart, long a prosperous farmer in Iowa, who removed to Washington and is still living near La Conner. Mrs. Mary (West) Lockhart is still living at La Conner. Mrs. Dunlap was born in Iowa and received her early educational training there, completing her studies after her arrival in this state. Four children have been born of this union: Stella, Percy, Loree and Leland. In politics Mr. Dunlap is a Republican but devotes little attention to the activities of politics, finding himself pretty closely demanded in running the farm. In the seventeen years that he has managed the well-known farm of his father, Mr. Dunlap has gained an enviable reputation as a young business man of integrity and force of character. Under his hand the farm has not deteriorated and is keeping in advance with all improvements under modern farming system.

THOMAS GATES is one of the men who after participating in the War of the Rebellion found peace and prosperity in the rich farming land of the Skagit valley. He was born in Cole County, Missouri, on November 7, 1841, the son of Abel and Mary (Burns) Gates. The father was born in the old Bay state, July 4, 1787, and had reached the stature of manhood when the impressment of American seamen precipitated the War of 1812. Into this cause young Gates threw himself with a will joining Company A, Fifth Rifle Regiment, in which he was chosen lieutenant, and saw some of the hardest fighting engaged in against the British at New Orleans, White Plains and elsewhere; his record on being mustered out showing many deeds of individual gallantry. The elder Gates was one

of the early settlers in Missouri, where he engaged in the packing business and farmed. He passed through the stirring times when that state was the battle ground of the slavery question, when the alignment of sentiment between the North and the South was first becoming drawn, and closed his life there November 2, 1870. Mrs. Gates died in Missouri, in 1888, leaving five sons: James, Thomas, Samuel, Jasper and Asaph. Her father also fought in the war of 1812. With the exception of the time he was in the army, Thomas Gates lived with his parents on the farm, attending school and working until he came to Skagit county, in 1873, following his brother Jasper, who had come on to the Puget sound country. Young Gates enlisted in the Thirty-ninth Missouri infantry as a private. This regiment was in the massacre at Centralia, Missouri, in which four entire companies were wiped out by the attacking force, with the exception of four men and one officer. The command did not participate in any of the great campaigns of the war, but was kept in reserve in its home state, except once they were taken down into Tennessee and back to home. Mr. Gates was mustered out in July, 1865. On his arrival in Skagit county, Mr. Gates went to work for a short time on Whidby island, but returned and worked in the only logging camp which at that time existed in the Skagit valley. In 1882 he pre-empted a place and homesteaded it later. With the assistance of his children, he cleared forty acres and sold the remainder of the one hundred and sixty contained in his original filing. When Mr. Gates commenced operations on this land he had the only wagon in that section of the country, and no roads to use that on. Those were the days of hard struggles on the part of the settlers.

In 1869, in Adair county, Missouri, Mr. Gates married Miss Martha J. Walters, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis and Betsey (Day) Walters, natives of Tennessee, who passed the greater part of their lives in Missouri. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Gates, Mary Elizabeth, Nellie May, Ira Braxton and Thomas J. Gates. The Gates farm contains forty acres of land, all under cultivation and devoted to a general farming proposition, amply stocked with horses and cattle. Mr. Gates is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and says that he is not ashamed to be called a Jefferson Democrat. His life has been one of earnestness and endeavor, and as he recalls the vicissitudes through which he has passed, it is with a feeling of deep satisfaction and gratitude that he has been permitted to accomplish as much as he has amid such varied conditions.

FRANK A. JEWETT comes of the stock of which pioneers are made, and of the stock which makes the best pioneers. In fact, for generations the Jewetts have been men who opened up new sections of their country and withstood the hard-

ships incident to the work of subduing the wilderness. Mr. Jewett was born in Sullivan County, Missouri, in the stirring days of the summer of 1861. His father, Johnson W. Jewett, left the green hills of his native Vermont when fifteen years of age, and with his parents went into the Illinois country not so many years after General George Rogers Clark and later hardy sons of the Ohio valley had saved the country from the British for the young republic. Married at the age of twenty-three, the elder Jewett followed the trail of the early settlers into the Northwest, then but recently reclaimed from Indian and foreign trappers, and located in Minnesota. He spent two years in that state, then he went to Missouri, being one of the pioneer farmers, and resided there until his death in 1888. Frank Jewett's mother, a native of New York, transplanted to Illinois until marriage and, accompanying her husband to Minnesota and Missouri, is still living in Missouri, the mother of ten children, as follows: Charles, Joseph, William, Cynthia, Lon, Ada, Alden, Minnie, Alvin and Frank. Until eighteen years of age, young Jewett remained at home, attending school and working on the farm. Until 1883 he worked among the farmers of his native state and spent some time in Kansas. Before coming to Skagit county, in 1887, he made a brief visit to his relatives and the old home. His first work in the Puget sound country was clearing up land. He continued at this for two years and bought twenty acres five miles northwest of Mount Vernon, to which he has added ten. About half of the thirty is cleared, the remainder being in slashing.

In 1881 Mr. Jewett married Miss Angie McAllister, daughter of James R. McAllister, a Missouri farmer in those days, but now a resident of Oklahoma. Mrs. Jewett was born in Indiana and remained with her parents until marriage. Of this union have been born eight children, of whom the living are: Claud, Edith, Ray, Ira, William, Jesse and Gladys. Mr. Jewett is a Republican in politics. Having a large family of children, he has naturally been deeply interested in the welfare and betterment of the public schools of his community, and to this end has served for nine years as a member of the school board. The thirty acres of his home place are excellent land. Dairying is the chief element of work, fourteen cows furnishing the milk and seven head of young stock growing up. The Jewett home is an eight-room modern house, well furnished. The barns and outbuildings are well built and ample for the purposes of a dairy ranch.

CHARLES E. BECRAFT is one of the successful farmers of the Mount Vernon district of Skagit county and one of the type of men who exchanged mining for agriculture. He was born in Plumas county, California, in October of 1855, the

son of James Becraft, a native of Kentucky, born in the days soon after Daniel Boone had opened up the Ohio valley and called the attention of the Virginians to its fertility and attractiveness. The elder Becraft was born near the old Boone place, and as a boy knew the famous old pioneer and hunter. In 1853 he crossed the plains to California and engaged in mining. In 1890 he came north to Oregon and commenced to raise cattle. He is still living there. Mrs. Rebecca (Holmes) Becraft, the mother, was a native of Indiana and was living in Missouri when married. She was the mother of nine children. Charles E. Becraft received his education in the schools of Plumas county, though when nine years of age he commenced to alternate school with work in the underground mines. Hearing of good mining prospects along the Skagit river, he came here to prospect. Mining did not repay him for his efforts and he worked at logging and farming. In 1889 Mr. Becraft took up a pre-emption at McMurray lake and resided there for three years, when he came to Mount Vernon and bought forty acres of land. After clearing seven acres of it and putting out three in orchard, Mr. Becraft sold out and purchased his present farm of ten acres about a mile northwest of town, where he has made his home since 1899.

In Seattle in 1883 Mr. Becraft married Miss Annie B. Snyder, daughter of John W. Snyder, a Pennsylvania farmer, who went to California in 1849. He later returned to the East, but in 1862 was back in California, coming to Skagit county in 1890. In 1903 he returned to California and passed away there a year later. Mrs. Narcissa (Murphy) Snyder was also a native of Pennsylvania, now living in California. Mrs. Becraft was born in Plumas County, California, in 1863, and there attended the schools. She came to Washington with a brother-in-law in 1883, met and married Mr. Becraft. Mr. Becraft is the father of eight children, all born in Skagit county. They are John E., Rebecca, Rachel, Ruth, Archibald, Leo, Irene and Ethel. In politics Mr. Becraft is a Democrat. His small farm is all under cultivation and in excellent condition. He has a small herd of good cattle. Though not one of the Skagit farmers who are enjoying large estates, he is recognized as one of the good citizens of the community and of unimpeachable integrity.

JAMES H. MOORES, one of the 1876 pioneers of Skagit county, at the time of whose advent there was no Mount Vernon and only a few primitive homes marked the invasion of civilization upon the vast forest wilderness, has seen the community of his choice developed from those wild and inhospitable conditions to its present prosperity and wealth, and has himself kept pace with its rapid strides. Mr. Moores is a native of Quebec, born in 1850 to the union of Nathaniel and Margaret A.

(Sutherland) Moores, the former a native of Miramichi, New Brunswick, and a pioneer of Quebec; the latter a native of Nashwack, New Brunswick. In the home family were thirteen children to provide for, and James, who was third in number, joined his efforts with those of his parents to supply the needed clothes and provisions, and so diligently did he apply himself that he had little time to devote to matters of education, to his sore regret in after life. Not until his majority was reached did young Moores start for himself in life, seeking first employment in a local logging camp and later spending four years in Minnesota. In the year 1876 he was taken with the northwestern fever and came to the Puget sound country, via San Francisco, traveling from the latter place to Port Townsend by boat, thence to Whidby island, and then to Utsalady, where he landed without a friend or acquaintance, a stranger in a strange land. He here negotiated for passage to the main land in a row boat and was landed within Skagit county's borders for the sum of fifty cents. The only highway at that date was the water, and the common means of transportation the Indian canoe and the dugout. He took passage with a mail carrier up the Skagit river to the logging camp of his uncle, Thomas Moores, and secured employment with him, continuing to work with the uncle and in other logging camps for four years. In the interim he selected his present place adjoining the town site of Mount Vernon, which at the time was railroad land. It having reverted to the government later, he took it under a homestead filing, and he has continued to make it his home since that day. Years of unceasing labor in clearing the dense forest and diking against the floods of the erratic Skagit eventually won their merited reward in a good home, pleasant surroundings and a competency for the years to come when old age shall step in and forbid the continued struggle.

In 1878 Mr. Moores was united in marriage to Sarah E. Thompson, a native of Marysville, California, born June 13, 1858. She was educated in California and Port Townsend, Washington, to which latter place she removed with her mother at the age of fourteen. Her parents were William and Martha (Smith) Thompson, natives of Iowa, who crossed the plains by ox teams to California in 1849 on what might be termed their bridal tour. Here the former died, but the latter passed away in Skagit County. Mrs. Moores departed this life February 13, 1893. In 1894 Mr. Moores and Mary Wilson were joined in marriage. Mrs. Moores, a lady of exceptional educational attainments, has followed teaching for many years and holds a life diploma. She is at present one of the instructors in the government school at Harlan, Montana. Mr. Moores' children are: Mrs. Alma LaFond, living near Mount Vernon; Mrs. Pearl Good, near Fir; and Cora, Innes, Leona, Claire and Gladys, living at home. In fra-

ternal circles, Mr. Moores is a Yeoman, in politics a Republican, and in church connections a Baptist. On his well-kept farm of eighty-five acres he has a nice herd of cattle, and horses sufficient for his farm requirements. Here he lives in comfort, respected as an honorable citizen and esteemed as a kind and considerate neighbor.

PETER McKINNON is one of the farmers on the outskirts of Mount Vernon, who in a quiet way is an exemplar of what may be accomplished in a few years by energy and hard work in a new country. Mr. McKinnon was born in Nova Scotia in 1847, of Scotch ancestry. His father, Henry McKinnon, a Nova Scotian farmer, died in 1885. Mrs. Lexie (McDonald) McKinnon was a native of Scotland, and is now hale and hearty at the advanced age of ninety years. Of her eight children Peter is third in order of birth. Peter McKinnon attended the schools of Nova Scotia until he was twelve years of age, when he left home apprenticed to learn the trade of blacksmith. On becoming master, he went to work at blacksmithing for a railroad and gradually made his way to Montreal, where he remained for three years. At Tarribone he put in another three years at his trade, and in 1885 he came to Washington and settled at Mount Vernon, in a short time purchasing of James H. Moores a tract of twenty acres of land. He has cleared it and put it all under cultivation, making his home there. When not needed on the farm, he employs himself at his trade in different parts of the nearby country.

In 1877 Mr. McKinnon, while at Montreal, married Miss Satira J. Moores, daughter of Nathaniel Moores and sister of James H. and Nathaniel Moores, Jr., who is now living near Mount Vernon. The elder Moores was a native of Miramichi, New Brunswick, but early in life settled in Quebec. His wife, Margaret A. Sutherland, a native of Nashwack, New Brunswick, was the mother of thirteen children. Mrs. McKinnon was born in New Brunswick in 1860 and educated in the schools of that province. She was married at the age of twenty-seven and is the mother of four children, Henry, Margaret, Harvey and Daniel. In church circles, Mr. McKinnon is a Baptist and in politics a Republican. On his twenty-acre farm he has twenty head of cattle and a team of horses for farm work. He has the proverbial thrift of the Scotch, from whom he is descended, and though his place is not large, he is in good circumstances and enjoys the confidence and respect of all who know him.

LAWRENCE HERRLE is one of the produce farmers who is accumulating a fortune out of supplying the needs of the residents of Mount Vernon and other centers of population in Skagit county. He was born in 1852 in Elses, that territory which

was so long held in dispute by Germany and France, and which has since been awarded by the fortunes of war to the German emperor. His father, Anton Herrle, was born and died in France, having been born in the year of the battle of Waterloo. Mrs. Margaret (Dannunciller) Herrle was born in Germany, and was the mother of nine children. Lawrence Herrle was educated in the schools of Elses and came to the United States in 1872. Soon after landing in New York he went to Cincinnati and was employed in a butcher shop for nearly a year, when he went to Stark County, Ohio, and worked there for a farmer for five consecutive years. Ten years on a farm at Tiffin, Ohio, followed, and in 1887 Mr. Herrle came to Mount Vernon. He farmed for six months and then worked a year in a logging camp. In 1889 he purchased his present piece of forty acres, two and a half miles northwest of Mount Vernon, and at once commenced the task of clearing it of its big growth of forest. In 1900 he bought forty acres more adjoining his original purchase on the northwest, and now has fifty acres of excellent soil under close cultivation, the eighteen years of his life on the place working wonders in the appearance of the land.

While a resident of Ohio in 1877, Mr. Herrle married Miss Sarah Masser, whose father died when she was an infant. The mother, Mrs. Mary (Lauderberg) Masser, reared her daughter carefully, giving her the very best training, thus early in life equipping her for the useful career of worthy helpmate and considerate mother, which she has led. She was eighteen years of age when married. Of this union there are thirteen children, William A., Louie, Frank, Emile, John, Mary, Celia, Armenia, Agnes, Martin, Clarence and Martha. Mary is at present attending college in Coventry, Kentucky. The Herrles are communicants of the Catholic church. In politics Mr. Herrle is a Democrat, but does not overlook a good candidate on an opposing ticket. In his livestock department Mr. Herrle has twenty head of Durham cattle and five horses. In addition to the usual crops of a Skagit county farmer, Mr. Herrle raises produce for the markets, especially potatoes. He is a man who has always been a hard worker and thrifty, and to-day Mr. Herrle is one of the highly respected citizens of Skagit county.

GEORGE A. MORRIS. Few residents of Skagit county have had a more varied and interesting career than he whose name initiates this biography, a retired farmer residing two miles west and one-half mile north of Mount Vernon. He was born in Huntingdonshire, England, February 6, 1844, and his parents were Daniel and Frances (Holdrich) Morris. His father was a native of Peterboro, Huntingdonshire, England, born February 7, 1805. After attending the common schools

he learned his trade of journeyman miller, following it till his death, in August, 1866. The mother, born in Dog's Thorp, near Peterboro, received her education in the schools of her native town, where she spent her entire life, her death occurring in 1895. She was married in 1831 and was the mother of twelve children. Like many of our great men, George A. Morris early assumed the practical duties of life, working with his father on the farm, and in the meantime, by diligent study, acquiring an education. At the age of twenty-one he was married and followed various occupations for the next ten years, until he became organizer for the National Association of Farm Laborers, at that time presided over by the late Joseph Arch. A personal friend and conferee of John Burns, he at one time, together with the Right Honorable W. E. Gladstone, Charles Bradlaugh and others, addressed a meeting at the memorial hall in Farringdon street, London. In 1877 he was brought to Mobile, Alabama by Mr. Murdock, at that time president of the Mobile and Ohio railroad, as a special delegate to the National Association of Farm Workers, that he might investigate that locality and determine its suitability as a location for immigrants. This trip of about a month was a very delightful one. Accepting a position in the warehouse of S. E. Hackett, wholesale paper dealer in Nottingham, England, he remained there for six and a half years, establishing for himself a reputation for faithfulness and ability that was the envy of his associates in the business. He has still in his possession recommendations yellow with age, signed by Mr. Hackett, that would bring a thrill of pride to any man. Favorably impressed with this country on his previous visit, in 1887 he came to the United States, landing at Avon, Washington. The following August he took up a homestead at Mount Vernon, comprising eighty acres, all of which were densely timbered. After clearing off thirty acres of it he sold the property, and is now living on a rented farm.

Mr. Morris was married in 1865, to Sarah O'Donnell, a native of Boston, England, born April 11, 1844. Her parents were Roger and Sarah (Chandler) O'Donnell, the father born in Donegal, Ireland, and the mother in Huntingdonshire, England. The date of her mother's birth was 1819. Both are long since deceased. Eleven children were born in Nottingham, England, to Mr. and Mrs. Morris, as follows: Elizabeth Spink, Amos, Harry and Hugh, all of whom died in youth; John Charles, born July 23, 1871; Mrs. Sarah Esther Mondham, born April 13, 1873, and George O'Donnell, born March 13, 1876, now residing in Avon, Washington; Mrs. Emma M. K. Allen, of Arlington, Washington, born May 10, 1878; Mrs. Gertrude Axelsson, of Fir, born August 14, 1882; Nellie Frances, born August 5, 1885, at home, and William.

Mr. Morris is a member of the Order of Yeomen, and a staunch Prohibitionist. The Salvation Army claims him as a loyal member. Earnest,

thoughtful, always true to his convictions, Mr. Morris enjoys the unbounded confidence of his associates.

LAFAYETTE EPLIN, a thrifty and industrious farmer residing two miles west of Mount Vernon, was born February 20, 1856, the son of William and Luana (DeFoe) Eplin, both born in Cabell County, West Virginia, the father, January 25, 1819, the mother, April 16, 1833. Removing to Meeker County, Minnesota, in May, 1864, the father there engaged in farming, continuing in the business until 1889, when he located in Colfax, Washington, where he still lives. He was married in 1852, and he and Mrs. Eplin became parents of eight children. After having attended the schools of West Virginia, as his parents had done, Lafayette Eplin completed his education in Minnesota upon the removal of the family to that state when he was a mere lad. He remained at home assisting his father on the farm until he reached his majority, going then to Dassel, Meeker County, Minnesota, to accept a position offered him by the Great Northern railroad. He followed railroading for eight years, then returned to Meeker county and devoted his entire time to farming. Three years later, having decided to find a home in the great Northwest, of which he had read so much, he sold his farm, and started for Washington, arriving in Mount Vernon September 23, 1887. After farming near Avon for a year and a half, he went to Yakima, where he was employed by the Northern Pacific railroad for three years. Returning to Mount Vernon he purchased a ten-acre tract, all heavily timbered, and he began at once the arduous task of clearing it. He brought three acres into an excellent state of cultivation, and at the time of his demise, November 16, 1905, was making a specialty of raising garden products, at the same time giving attention to stock and poultry. He had three brothers, John, Charles and one other, also a sister, Mrs. Ella Massey, living at Missoula, Montana; likewise a sister, Mrs. Jane Clay, at Duncan, Oregon, and another, Mrs. Wayzetta Ernsberger, in Colfax, Washington.

Mr. Eplin married at Litchfield, Minnesota, September 6, 1882, Mary King, a native of Columbia County, Wisconsin, born March 25, 1861. Her father, David Wilson King, born in Illinois, migrated to Wisconsin in the early days, and thence to Meeker County, Minnesota, where he took a homestead. He was born May 19, 1824, and died August 1, 1895. The mother is Frances A. (Frost) King, a native of the Buckeye state, born June 13, 1832, and now living in Meeker county. Both parents trace their ancestry back to England. Mr. and Mrs. Eplin have one child, Mrs. Edith Lindamood, born in Meeker County, Minnesota, July 21, 1883, now living at Avon, Washington. Mr. Eplin was a member of the Masonic lodge, number one hundred and thirty-four, at Cokato, Minnesota, in politics a loyal

Republican, in church membership an Episcopalian. A man of strict integrity, he was respected by all who made his acquaintance.

JOHN SCANLAN, a prosperous and well-known farmer of Mount Vernon, was born October 16, 1851, in Bayham, Ontario. His father was James Scanlan, a native of Langford, Boon County, Ireland, born March 17, 1805. Having received a thorough education in his native country, he came to the United States in 1830, locating in Cleveland, Ohio, of which he was the pioneer drayman. At the time of the Empire Loyalist movement he went to Ontario, being employed as lighthouse keeper at Port Burwall, on Lake Erie. Thence he moved to Bayham, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying June 6, 1876. The mother, Susan (Startweather) Scanlan, was born in New York state in 1814, there receiving her education. Her death occurred in March, 1852. The youngest of a family of six children, John Scanlan spent the early years of his life on the farm, acquiring his education in the schools of Ontario, and laying the foundation for the sturdy manhood that was to follow. Thrifty and industrious, he was able at the age of twenty-six to purchase a fifty-acre farm, which he cultivated for eleven years, meeting with the success that his untiring efforts merited. Being persuaded that the rich resources of Washington offered a much larger reward for earnest toil, he sold his property and moved to Palouse, where he farmed for three years. Later he disposed of this farm, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in Cowlitz County, Washington, remaining there for five years, after which he came to Mount Vernon. He purchased there a forty-acre tract, upon which he made his home, cultivating fifteen acres and rearing fancy Durham cattle, Berkshire hogs and other thoroughbred livestock on the place, until the fall of 1905, when he sold out to purchase thirty acres near Burlington.

Mr. Scanlan was married at Mt. Vernon, October 14, 1900, to Mrs. Stella (Moffit) Abel, born in Indiana, the daughter of Eli and Margaret (Knight) Moffit. Her father, a farmer now living in Missouri, was born in North Carolina, July 14, 1834, and in early boyhood was brought by his parents to Indiana, where he was educated. Her mother, a Kentuckian, born near Lexington, January 3, 1812, is still living. Mrs. Scanlan has two brothers, one living in Mount Vernon and the other in Fir, and she and Mr. Scanlan have one child, Leo James, born in Mount Vernon June 10, 1902. Mr. Scanlan is a prominent member of the Odd Fellows fraternity at Genesee, Idaho, and a liberal supporter of the Episcopal church. The business capabilities so early manifested have developed as the years passed, and to-day he is known as one of the progressive and successful farmers of Skagit county. He owns, be-

sides his farm, some valuable realty in Mount Vernon.

ROBERT C. COLVIN, a man rich in the varied experiences incident to pioneer life in the far West, was born in Texas County, Missouri, April 27, 1859. His father, Young Colvin, of Irish descent, was born in northern Missouri in 1814, there spending his entire life. His death occurred in June, 1878. Grace Jane (Belsford) Colvin, the mother, was a Kentuckian, who, after receiving her education in the common schools of her native state, prepared herself for teaching by a course in the Normal school. She was for several years a most successful teacher in Missouri. She died in October, 1889, after having been the devoted mother of ten children. In acquiring a practical knowledge of farming, and also an education in the common schools, Robert C. Colvin spent the first twenty-six years of his life, leaving home at that time to be employed as a farm hand. By practicing strict economy he was able ten years later to purchase a claim which he held for a year, disposing of it when he came to Mount Vernon. He worked out for the first year after his arrival here, then went up the Skagit river, thence up the Sauk river fourteen miles from its mouth, where he took up land. He made the journey to Sauk City by wagon, packing his goods on his back from there to his destination, a distance of some fourteen miles. Ably assisted by his faithful wife, who cheerfully braved all discomforts and dangers, he constructed a tent out of blankets to serve as a dwelling place till he could build a cabin. There were only four white women in all that vast region, and the nearest were a mile and a half away, Indian ranchers being their neighbors on both sides. After a residence of a year and a half, he moved to West Mount Vernon, where he built a house and occupied it for a year. Later he bought three and one-half acres half a mile from Mount Vernon, cleared it in two years, and traded it at the end of that time for city property in the town. He was employed in logging camps most of the time for the next eleven years, but in 1903 he purchased his present property, three acres, all now in excellent condition. He is devoting especial attention to fruit and vegetables, which command a ready sale on account of their superior quality. He is also a breeder of fancy Buff Leghorns and Barred Plymouth Rocks, and already has established quite a reputation in this line. Mr. Colvin's brothers and sisters are as follows: Charles L., engaged in logging in Mount Vernon; Mrs. Laura A. Hughes, living near Mount Vernon; Mrs. Virginia Anderson, of Ballard; Joseph Y. and Henry E., residents of the Indian Territory.

Mr. Colvin was united in marriage to Margaret Murr in July, 1885. She was born in Tennessee, February 13, 1858, of German descent, and received her education in her native state, after which she went to Missouri. Her father, John Murr, a farmer,

spent his entire life in Tennessee, the state of his birth. Mr. and Mrs. Colvin have two children, Luke, born May 23, 1886, now at home; Dorothy Eldora, August 31, 1902. Mr. Colvin is a member of the Democrat party, but has never desired political preferment. Believing that a large proportion of the inhabitants of our cities can be reached and saved by no other agency, he is an earnest worker in the Salvation Army.

JOHN C. MORRIS, a popular and successful farmer residing four miles north of Mount Vernon, near the Avon line, is a native of Peterboro, England, born July 23, 1871. His father, George A. Morris, is a man of prominence, associated for many years with the well-known labor leader, John Burns, who is a personal friend of his. In the work of the National Association of Farm Laborers, with which he was for many years identified, he came in touch with many of the distinguished men of England, Gladstone, Bradlaugh and others, addressing meetings where they were also on the program. He was born in Huntingdonshire, England, February 6, 1844, but is now living in retirement in Mount Vernon. Sarah G. (O'Donnell) Morris, mother of our subject, was also a native of England, the date of her birth being April 11, 1844. After a long life of devotion to husband and children, she died March 30, 1905. Having availed himself of the educational advantages afforded by the schools of Avon, to which point the family had moved, John C. Morris remained at home until he reached the age of twenty-one, when he began work in the logging camps and mills of the state. He was employed at this for ten years, then accepted a position in the United States engineering service, in which he spent the following four years, receiving at the end of that time an honorable discharge and recommendations of the highest order. He was a member of the party that succeeded in removing the immense log jam that had formed in the Skagit river in 1897, also assisting in the removal of obstructions from the Stilaguamish, Nooksack and Snohomish rivers, and in the construction of channels in these rivers. In 1904 he moved onto his present place of twenty acres, which he had owned for some time, and he intends now to make that his permanent home. He has fifteen acres of it in fine condition, the remaining five being still uncleared. He gives especial attention to fine cattle and horses, owning two head of Percheron horses, and eleven head of Durham and some Jersey cattle. He raises the finest potatoes to be found in the locality. At present he is employed as mate on the United States snagboat, Skagit. He has one brother, George O., also a resident of Avon, and his sisters, all natives of Nottingham, England, are as follows: Elizabeth Spink, born February 6, 1866; Mrs. Sarah Mondhan, born April 13, 1873, now of Avon; Mrs. Gertrude Axelson, born August 14, 1882, a resident of Fir; Mrs.

Emma M. Allen, of Arlington, born May 10, 1878; Nellie Frances, born August 5, 1885, now at home in Mount Vernon.

Mr. Morris was married October 11, 1895, to Daisy McCain, the daughter of James and Helen (Beggs) McCain. Her father, born in Pennsylvania in 1844, was a prominent soldier in the Civil war, enlisting with the Ninth Illinois infantry. At the close of four years' service, during which time he had participated in some of the most severe engagements of the war, he received an honorable discharge. Starting for the Pacific coast with an ox team, he moved first to Iowa, thence to Nebraska, at length reaching Woodland, California, where he spent several years. Coming to Mount Vernon in 1882, he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, the farm of his son-in-law being part of the original claim. The old cabin is still standing on it. The death of this well-known pioneer occurred in Avon, in March, 1891. The mother of Mrs. Morris was born in Illinois in 1843, and died at Avon in December, 1880. Mrs. Morris, the youngest of a family of six children, has three sisters, Theodora H., Mrs. Elizabeth Wilds, and Mrs. Laura Murray, the latter two residing in Seattle. A brother, William, lives at Clear Lake, Washington. Mr. and Mrs. Morris have two children, Amy, born November 12, 1895, and Helen, October 8, 1897. Mr. Morris is a member of the Odd Fellows, in which order he is past grand, also is actively identified with the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen of the World, while Mrs. Morris is a member of the Rebekahs, and takes an active part in the social affairs of the lodge. Mr. Morris is a loyal member of the Democratic party, but aside from discharging the duties of the office of deputy assessor in 1896, has never accepted political preferment. He and his family are regular attendants of the Methodist church. Earnest, industrious, a strict adherent of sound business principles, he is destined to be one of the influential members of the county.

ELLSWORTH M. STEWART, an energetic young farmer residing one mile west and two north of Mount Vernon, was born in Osage City, Kansas, April 30, 1878, the son of William W. and Alice B. (Frost) Stewart, now residents of Washington. His father, a native of Wheeling, West Virginia, born in 1852, removed with his parents to Ohio, when he was a boy. He came to Washington July 28, 1902. The mother was born in Ogle County, Illinois, and acquired her education in the common schools of that state. She is the mother of the following children: Luella (deceased); Mrs. Ada Singer, living at Blarney Lake, Washington; Charles, of Avon; Fred and Peter, at home; William (deceased), and Ellsworth M., whose name forms the heading of this biography. Brought by his parents to Trinidad, Colorado, when but a year old, he later moved to Gallup, New Mexico, remain-

ing at home till he reached the age of twenty-one. Desiring, like so many other young men, to begin life for himself in the West, where the opportunities for success are manifold, he came to Mount Vernon in 1889, where he worked on a farm for two and a half years, going thence to Hamilton, to accept a position on the railroad. Three months later he located in Yakima, spending four months, during which he was ill most of the time. Upon his recovery he returned to Mount Vernon and took a contract for wood, the work lasting four months. He then worked on a farm until his father came to Mount Vernon in 1902, when together they purchased forty-seven acres of land, all heavily timbered. The work of clearing the property has occupied the entire time of the younger Stewart, he having at the present time twenty-five acres in cultivation. He owns some excellent stock, twenty-five head of Durham cattle, hogs and horses. He also devotes some attention to poultry. Mr. Stewart is a Democrat, loyally upholding his party in every way. He attends the Congregational church, contributing liberally to its support. Possessed of youth, health, ambition and industry, he is one of the promising young men of the community, destined to achieve a large measure of success.

WILLIAM C. SINGER, a man who has made a success of life in spite of adverse circumstances that would have utterly discouraged a less resolute nature, was born in Iowa, March 16, 1851. His father, Herman H., a native of Illinois, was one of the pioneers of Clayton County, Iowa. Martha A. (Gould) Singer, his mother, was born in Vermont and died March 2, 1881. After the death of her husband she became the wife of Jesse B. Shellhammer. She was the mother of thirteen children. His father having died when he was but four years of age, William C. Singer, when a mere child of nine, began working for a family who desired to adopt him. After three years of unappreciated toil he ran away, only to be bound to another family for three years. At the end of that time he began life for himself, devoting his entire time to farming, the work that has claimed his energies ever since. Remaining in Iowa till he was twenty years old, he then went to Todd County, Minnesota, spending fifteen years in the state. Benton County, Oregon, was his following location, where he took up land, which he later signed back to the government, not having been able to make it a profitable yield. He came to La Conner in 1889, was employed by a brother for a year and a half, after which he bought a team and rented a farm on Beaver Marsh. By thrifty economy he was able four years later to purchase his present farm of fifteen acres, located 3 miles and a half northwest of Mount Vernon. All heavily timbered at the time he bought it, he has now four acres of it nicely cleared, and makes a specialty of dairy-

ing and poultry. He has a sister, Mrs. Sarah Horsey, residing in Anacortes.

Mr. Singer was married in 1875, to Rosetta Paul, the daughter of Alexander and Mary (Gould) Paul, the latter a native of Vermont. The eleventh child of a family of thirteen, Mrs. Singer has one sister, Mrs. Jessie Loomis, living at Avon. Mr. and Mrs. Singer have seven children as follows: Paul and Charles S., married and living in Avon; Mrs. Mary O. Rose, of Anacortes; Mrs. Martha A. Gunther, of Ridgeway; Mrs. Leila Walker; William H., at home, and Rosetta B. Mr. Singer is a well-known member of the Odd Fellows. He has always been a loyal member of the Republican party, and was road supervisor in 1895. He and his family attend the Methodist church. An earnest and industrious citizen, a kind and accommodating neighbor, he holds the respect and confidence of all who know him.

WILLIAM A. HAWKINS, residing on the eastern border of the famous Swinomish flats, is ranked among the thoroughly substantial citizen-farmers of the Skagit country. He has been a resident of that region for nearly a quarter of a century, his advent antedating the organization of Skagit county, and in that period he has not only witnessed but has also actively participated in the wonderful progress made by this section. The instinct of pioneership is one of his birthrights, for his parents, William and Mary (Blanton) Hawkins, were reared on the frontiers of Tennessee and spent most of their lives along the Texas border. The elder Hawkins was born in 1817, the son of pioneer Tennesseans; the mother was born in the same state eight years later. They became residents of Texas early in life, and there Mr. Hawkins followed farming and stockraising until his retirement from active pursuits. His death occurred January 13, 1905, in his eighty-ninth year, five years after that of his devoted wife.

William A. was born in Cass County, Texas, February 23, 1852, the seventh child in a family of twelve. At the age of fifteen, in order that he might contribute something to the care of this large family, he left the paternal roof and sought the western portion of the state. There he spent eight years riding the range, during which he often drove cattle to Dodge City, Kansas, when it bore the reputation of being the toughest town in the West. By mere chance he finally drifted to Sevier County, Arkansas, which became his home for three years. There he married and entered the cattle business as an owner instead of an employee. From Arkansas he went to Coffeyville, Kansas, lived there a year, and then returned to the first named commonwealth. His next removal was destined to be of more than ordinary importance to him, for it brought him to a new land, to a new industry and to a permanent home. After encountering the usual difficulties of a

journey hundreds of miles in length, Mr. Hawkins landed at the little village of Mount Vernon, Whatcom county, February 27, 1882. Immediately afterward he filed on a quarter section of timber land six miles west and a mile and a half north of that town, and began the erection of a home, meeting in the years which followed hardship and discouragement enough to have daunted a weaker heart. There were then no roads and only the poorest trails to the place. All that he and his family ate and wore for the first seven years he packed upon his back to the little forest home, and during all that time the house was never left alone, lest some harm might befall it. The life was a lonely one in many ways, the nearest neighbor for years being three miles away, but happy hearts made light of the difficulties and dangers, finding in the long, quiet hours an opportunity for that sweet companionship so lacking in the modern life full of complex and pressing duties and engagements. The woods abounded in all kinds of game, a veritable hunter's paradise. Steadily working year by year, Mr. Hawkins has cleared and put under cultivation seventy-five acres, replacing the first rude dwelling with an elegant home, modern in all its appointments and reflecting the owner's tastes. Always planning for the happiness and comfort of his family, he intends to soon install a private light and water plant, which will add greatly to the conveniences of his place. Like most pioneers, he has suffered reverses, but in the main has been highly successful and has accumulated a valuable property. Last year he made a trip to his old Texas home and St. Louis, Missouri, after which he is more settled than ever in the conviction that Washington suits him best of all. One sister, Mrs. Susan Plumlee, resides in Oklahoma, also two brothers, David and Peter; John and Ketchum, the two remaining brothers, live in Texas.

Mr. Hawkins was married December 26, 1880, to Miss T. C. Miller, a native of Arkansas, the daughter of Marshall and Louisa L. (Glover) Miller. The father was a native of the far South, who was killed in battle while serving in a Georgia regiment during the Civil war. Mrs. Miller, also deceased, was born in Georgia and was the mother of two children, of whom Mrs. Hawkins is the younger, her birth occurring in October, 1862. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins five children have been born: Mrs. Dixie Lowman, wife of the county superintendent of schools; and Alice, Donnie, Lucy and William Lewis, residing at home. In public affairs, Mr. Hawkins takes a deep interest. For a number of years he was identified with the educational affairs of his district as a member of the board, but, while still retaining his interest, has retired from official activity. He is an ardent Democrat, loyally and actively upholding the principles of his party. The family attends the Methodist church, in which Mrs. Hawkins is a zealous worker. The Hawkins farm is devoted principally to oat raising,

but not exclusively so, as its owner gives especial attention to dairying and poultry raising also.

A devoted husband and father, interested and active in the progress of the community, thoughtful and honest in his dealings, and withal successful, Mr. Hawkins is indeed a representative citizen.

SILAS W. MARIHUGH, for many years a resident of Washington, and now engaged in diversified farming four miles west of Mount Vernon, was born in Lawrence County, New York, in 1845. His father, Russell Marihugh, born in Vermont, was residing in Ohio at the time of his death in 1880. Elizabeth (Lennox) Marihugh, his mother, was born in New York City, and died in 1863. Remaining at home till he reached the age of twenty-one, Silas Marihugh then answered the call of his country for volunteers, enlisting in the One Hundred and Eighty-second Ohio infantry, under Captain Roemer. Camping at Toledo for a time, the regiment was then ordered to Columbus; thence to Louisville, Lexington and Nashville. Having helped to build Fort Butler, it was about to be pressed into active warfare at that point when relieved by a colored regiment comprising fifteen hundred men, of whom only five hundred remained after the engagement. Having received an honorable discharge in September, 1865, he returned to Ohio, and located at Defiance, working on a farm until 1869. He then went to Michigan, rented a farm and remained there for three years. The following fourteen years he did teaming in Union City, Michigan, after which he again rented land for six years. Deciding then to find a home in Washington, he sold his possessions, and came to Bayview, here purchasing two lots. Thirteen months later he went to Cypress Island, still later making Bayview his home again. In 1891 he bought twenty acres of unbroken forest, beginning at once the task of clearing it preparatory to building a home. During his residence of twelve years in Bayview he purchased forty acres more of timber land, holding at the present time sixty acres, of which about twelve are cleared. He rented his present home in January, 1904, and is now giving especial attention to dairying and grain raising. His farm is well stocked, having on it six horses of excellent blood, and fifty-one head of cattle, mostly Durham.

Mr. Marihugh was married June 6, 1868, to Emily Merchant, born February 19, 1847, in Defiance, Ohio. Her parents were Sampson and Emily (Temple) Merchant, both natives of Massachusetts; the father was born in 1811, the mother in 1815. A farmer and hotel keeper, Mr. Merchant made his home in New York for a while, later locating in Ohio, where he died in 1870. Mrs. Marihugh enjoyed unusual educational advantages, and beginning at sixteen taught for many years in Ohio and New York state. She died in Ohio in 1890, the

mother of twelve children, Mrs. Marihugh being the seventh child. The others are as follows: Mrs. Susan Lovell, of Bayview; Mrs. Jennie Verrick, William, Charlotte and Joseph C., all residents of Ohio; Mrs. Eva Frank, of Avon; Aletta, living with Mrs. Marihugh. Mr. and Mrs. Marihugh's children are as follows: Clarence A. and Hugh, at Mount Vernon; Fred, at home; Mrs. Blanche Elliott, of Bayview; Daisy, at home, and two who are deceased. Mr. Marihugh is a member of the Larabee post of the Grand Army at La Conner, and is a loyal supporter of the Republican party. He has served as road supervisor, and is interested in educational matters, always lending his hearty support to any movement for the betterment of the schools of the community. He and his family attend the Episcopal church. A practical farmer, thoroughly familiar with all departments of the work, he is winning a large measure of success.

M. McLEAN, one of the farmers residing one-half mile west and three miles north of Mount Vernon, was born in Digby County, Nova Scotia, November 30, 1856. His father, Daniel McLean, was born in the United States, where he was a ship carpenter, and also followed the trade in Nova Scotia, in which country he died in 1880. Abby (Floyd) McLean, his mother, was also a native of the United States, born in 1826. Her death occurred April 26, 1905. Spending the first twenty-one years of his life in Nova Scotia, M. McLean acquired his education in the common schools of that country. He then came to the United States, working in a logging camp until 1877, when he went to New Brunswick to engage in farming. Three years later he removed to Maine, again working in the woods. Hearing of the vast opportunities offered in the great Northwest, he crossed the continent, landing in King county in May, 1883. At the end of a year spent in the lumber camps, he located in La Conner, then the county seat, two hotels and stores comprising the entire business district. After farming for two years he once more abandoned that employment for logging, spending nearly seven years in the woods, in King and Snohomish counties. In 1885 he took up a homestead on Olympia Marsh, which he gave up later, going thence to Lowell, where he purchased forty acres of land and at once began the task of clearing off the heavy timber. Disposing of this property two years later, he made a trip east, bringing his bride with him upon his return to the West in 1890. He bought his present property in 1891, twenty-five acres, all timbered. He has now seventeen acres in a fine state of cultivation, and devotes his energies to diversified farming, believing it to be the most profitable. He is raising draft horses, and has a nice herd of Jersey cattle, and breeds fine Berkshire and Poland China hogs. His brothers and sisters are as follows: Mrs. Clara Weir, of

Annapolis, Nova Scotia; Mrs. Abby Berry and Mrs. Samira Peck, of Bear River, Nova Scotia; Norman, of Grand Manan, New Brunswick; Wallace, of Sedro Woolley, but now in Blue Canyon, Whatcom county.

Mr. McLean was married at Grand Manan, September 6, 1890, to Mrs. Nellie Harvey, born in November, 1856, the daughter of William and Rebecca (Daggett) Benson, both natives of Grand Manan, the father born in 1831, and the mother in 1830. The latter is still living, and the former died September 6, 1905. The oldest of four children, Mrs. McLean has a brother Frank and a sister, Mrs. Alice Fraser, living at Grand Manan. Another brother, Leonard, died in 1879. By her former husband Mrs. McLean has two children, Harry Harvey, of Grand Manan, and Mrs. Helen Parker, of Mount Vernon. Mr. McLean is a past grand of the Odd Fellows fraternity, which has honored him by sending him to the assembly of the grand lodge, of which he is also a member. His wife is a popular member of the Rebekahs. He has been an active worker in the Democratic party for many years. The past three years he has been dike commissioner for this district. He and his family attend the Episcopal church, and both he and his wife are members of the Pioneer association. In addition to his farm, Mr. McLean owns two city lots in Seattle. He has had his full share of toil, which was cheerfully performed, and to-day is crowning him with the success and prosperity he so richly deserves.

THOMAS J. McCORMICK, an industrious farmer living one mile west and three miles north of Mount Vernon, was born near Saginaw, Michigan, in Midland county, February 22, 1867. His father, John McCormick, a native of Dublin, Ireland, was for thirty-five years a sailor, and is now residing with his son in Avon. Mary (Manson) McCormick, his mother, was the first white child born in Saginaw, Michigan, the date of her birth being November 17, 1832. She still lives in the city of her birth. Like most young men, Thomas McCormick spent the early years of his life at home acquiring an education, starting out for himself at the age of twenty-three. Deciding to begin his business career in the Northwest, where wonderful possibilities were waiting for earnest, ambitious men, he came to Hamilton, Skagit county, and worked in the woods for the first six months, after which he took up a pre-emption claim on Grandby creek, and a timber claim near Hamilton. Three years later, having suffered an injury that necessitated the use of crutches for a year, he became proprietor of the stage route from North Avon to Mount Vernon. Prospering in this business he then bought a livery barn in Mount Vernon, owning and operating it for two years. Disposing of his timber claim, he purchased his present property, five acres, which he

has greatly improved, erecting a neat and commodious house upon it. Later he became the owner of ten acres of timber land adjoining his farm, and though still conducting a livery and dray business in Avon, he has lived on his farm since December, 1903, intending to make it a permanent home. He has about an acre of fruit trees, raising oats on much of the remainder of the land. He owns a number of driving horses, several head of Jersey cattle and Poland China hogs. His half brother, F. E. Wymen, is in business in Hamilton. All the other surviving brothers and sisters live in Michigan.

Mr. McCormick and Elnora Noble were united in marriage June 19, 1900. Fremont Noble, the father of Mrs. McCormick, was born in Iowa in 1860, and for many years was captain on a government steamboat running from Sioux City, Iowa. His home is now in Rampart, Alaska. Her mother, Jane A. (Langley) Noble, born in England in 1860, came to the United States in childhood, and now resides in Marysville, Washington. The oldest of four children, Mrs. McCormick was born in Iowa, July 24, 1884. Her three sisters are as follows: Mrs. Amelia McDougall, of Avon; Elva, attending the business college at Everett, taking a course in shorthand, typewriting and German; Charlotta, at Avon. Mr. and Mrs. McCormick have two children, George Fremont, born October 15, 1901, and Arthur William, born May 30, 1904. Mr. McCormick is a Yeoman. Though loyally adhering to Republican principles, he has never desired any political office. He and his family attend the Baptist church, contributing to all its benevolences. An active, industrious citizen, of strict integrity, Mr. McCormick is making a success of his various undertakings, while enjoying the confidence and esteem of those with whom he comes in contact.

BERNT J. FINSTAD is one of the energetic and prosperous sons of Norway who have been markedly successful since coming to the land of their adoption. Of a family which had been established for generations in central Norway, Bernt was born September 25, 1860, and was the seventh of his father's children to take up their abode in the United States. His parents, Jens Anderson and Bertha Hanson (Verlin) Finstad, passed their entire lives on the home farm, dying, respectively in 1887 and 1870. They had eleven children, of whom Bernt was next to the youngest. Until fifteen years of age Bernt Finstad went to school. At that time he was apprenticed to the tailoring trade and served for five years. When he was about to establish himself in his native land, he learned of the offerings of the United States, where he had five brothers and a sister. At their solicitation he came here in the spring of 1880, being but twenty years old. He located at Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, and remained at the tailoring trade there for seven years. Three years

in a general merchandise venture at Washburn, Wisconsin, followed. On December 16, 1889, Mr. Finstad arrived in the city of Tacoma, and the following spring started to work at tailoring, working one year for F. Wollun and nine years for Dean & Curtiss, leaving then for Skagit county. At Mount Vernon he decided to join farming with his trade work, and purchased forty acres of land two and a half miles northwest of the city. He at once took up his home in the country and has greatly improved the farm. He supplemented his farm income by working at his trade in the shops of Rings & Kendall in town.

In 1887 Mr. Finstad married Kathinka, daughter of Bernt and Julia (Johansen) Arneson, natives of Norway. Mrs. Finstad was born in the old country in 1868 and has two sisters in Washington, Mrs. Louise Carlson, of North Yakima, and Mrs. Otto Johnson, of Tacoma. One son has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Finstad, Barnold Martinus, in Tacoma, May 5, 1896. Mr. Finstad is an independent in politics, but is a man who considers it his duty to take an active interest in the public affairs of his community, regardless of party affiliations. Recognizing the advantages of education, he is a firm believer and an earnest advocate of the betterment of the schools. Mr. Finstad takes an especial pride in his farm, in which neatness and attractiveness are always apparent. His especial delight is in his small dairy establishment, the cream from his private separator having a reputation second to none in the valley. At the present time he milks but ten cows, but is developing his farm into meadow and pasture land, with a view to enlarging his dairy. Mr. Finstad has been essentially successful in life, whether viewed as an artisan in his tailor shop, a business man competing in the markets, or as a dairy farmer. He is a good neighbor, a patriotic citizen and a man of integrity.

GEORGE M. KNISLEY. Energy and the ability to readily and successfully adapt himself to whatever is at hand, and at the same time to exercise his powers of observation, are the chief characteristics of this young man. In the space of a very few years Mr. Knisley has been printer, soldier, street car man, museum proprietor and railroad bridge carpenter. Mr. Knisley was born in Mitchell County, Kansas, in August, 1878, the son of Reuben Knisley, hotel proprietor, and Myra (Veatch) Knisley, both of whom are still living in the middle West. As a young man Mr. Knisley learned the trade of printer and pressman between his terms at school. When seventeen years of age he enlisted in Company E of the Twentieth United States infantry at Fort Leavenworth in his native state. After two years of garrison duty the regiment was ordered to Cuba at the outbreak of the Spanish-American war, young Knisley having trans-

ferred to Troop E of the Seventh cavalry, under Captain Dent, a relative of Mrs. Julia Dent Grant, wife of the famous hero of Appomattox. Mr. Knisley saw active service at El Caney and Santiago. His first enlistment having expired when his command returned to the States, young Knisley re-entered the Twentieth infantry and went with it to the Philippines for two years and a half, often being on the line with the late General Henry W. Lawton, whose untimely death is universally lamented. As fighter and as a member of the hospital corps, young Knisley was in the skirmish near Paco, at the assault and capture of Malabon, Polo and Jolo, as well as a participant in some of the expeditions of lesser note in the Philippines, later being detailed to transport hospital duty between Manila and San Francisco. He received his discharge at the Presidio late in the year 1901. For a time he operated a street car in 'Frisco, and was in the big strike then going on. Having collected while in the Philippines a large assortment of native curios, he started a museum, continuing the exhibitions for a number of months. His first work in Skagit county was at shingle bolts, but he left that employment after a short time to join a bridge crew on the Great Northern railway in July, 1903. In the following September he was offered the place of bridge watchman on the same road, and having previously purchased a tract of land near Anacortes, settled down to a quieter life.

Mr. Knisley, in October of 1903, married Miss Lou J. Gilman, daughter of George B. and Florence J. (Brooks) Gilman, who had settled in Skagit county after coming from Mazomanie, Wisconsin, where Mrs. Knisley was born. Mr. Gilman conducts a merchandise and farming business in Skagit county. In politics Mr. Knisley is a Republican.

SAMUEL E. KERR, manager of the Fairview Dairy Farm, two and a half miles north of Mount Vernon, was born in Ross County, Ohio, in 1852, but has been a resident of Skagit county for fifteen years. Mr. Kerr's father, Robert Kerr, came from a long line of Scotch-Irish people who were successful as bankers, professional men or agriculturists. The elder Kerr was born in Pennsylvania, and was early trained to the business of stock raising and farming. When nineteen years of age he went to Ohio and later to Illinois, where, in Montgomery county, he acquired large landed interests and was prominent in politics and in financial circles until his death in 1889. The mother of Samuel Kerr, Jane Hughes, was of Scotch descent. She died twenty years before her husband. As a lad young Kerr was not physically strong, and while at Asbury college was compelled to forego completion of his course because of ill health. On leaving college he took up the open air life on the farm and among the stock. In 1875 he went to California and passed

two years in various occupations, returning to Illinois and joining with his father until the death of the latter. Settling up the estate of his father as executor, Mr. Kerr came to Skagit county and settled at Anacortes for the four years following 1891. He then came to the vicinity of Mount Vernon and took charge of the estate of B. L. Davis, as manager. Joining with W. R. Williams, W. J. Henry, Thomas Smith and County Clerk W. B. Davis, Mr. Kerr bought the farm belonging to the Davis estate and commenced the operation of the dairy farm business, which he still conducts with marked success. In addition to the dairying business, the company conducts a department given to stock raising and another to fruit shipping and evaporating, in some years handling many tons of dried prunes.

In 1884, while yet a resident of Illinois, Mr. Kerr married a daughter of that state, Miss Alice Todd, born near Hillsborough in 1862. Mrs. Kerr's father was Willard Todd, now deceased, the father of ten children: Alice (Mrs. Kerr), Sarah, James P., Mary J., Isabella, Caroline, Anna, Mattie and Eliza (twins), and Alexander Harvey. To Mr. and Mrs. Kerr have been born three children. The oldest, Edna, is in the State Normal school at Bellingham, fitting herself for the profession of teacher; George is in the High school at Mount Vernon, and Hollis E. is at home. Mr. Kerr is a member of the fraternal order of Yeomen and of the Presbyterian church. He is an independent in politics and an active worker in the interests of the school system, giving his time and energy and, whenever necessary, of his means, for the betterment of the schools and in behalf of higher education. The Fairview dairy property comprises over fourteen hundred acres of excellent land, and under the shrewd and experienced management of Mr. Kerr is fast developing into one of the best stock, dairy and fruit ventures in the entire state.

JOHN FREDERICK AMSKOLD is a native of Sweden, but he has been in this country for over twenty years. His birth occurred in 1865, and he was the son of Nels and Sarah (Helgra) Amskold, both of whom lived and died in their native land. Mrs. Amskold was the mother of four children: Mary, Christine, Nels and John. The last named lived at home and attended school until he was fifteen years old, when he left home to work on farms in the vicinity of his birthplace. On coming to this country in 1884, he located in Kansas and there took up a homestead. He resided there and operated it as a farm for ten years, but did not prosper. Selling out, he came to Skagit county in 1892 and bought twenty acres a mile west of Avon and five miles northwest of Mount Vernon, paying \$35 per acre therefor. It was covered with timber, a part of which was valuable for lumber purposes. He at once set about clearing his land, at first getting

about five acres into condition for cultivation; he has since been gradually clearing the remainder.

Before leaving Sweden he was married to Miss Ingebor Edholm, daughter of Daniel and Lisa Edholm, who have never left Sweden. The father died four years ago, but the mother still is living. Mrs. Amskold is one of three children and is the mother of six: Daniel, Nels, Betty, Gust, Hetty and Emmus. Mr. Amskold is a Republican in politics and a Lutheran in religious faith. The family home is a well-built five-room house. While doing a general farming business, Mr. Amskold devotes some attention to dairying. He is developing his place rapidly and will soon have his entire farm under cultivation and be able to increase his products along all lines.

SOLOMON OLSON, a dairy farmer living five miles northwest of Mount Vernon, is a man who has great capacity for hard work and the faculty of making his labor increase his possessions. In his life he has farmed in the dry belt of Kansas and in the moist region of Puget sound. His father, Ole Anderson, lived in Sweden all his life, dying there forty years ago, before the subject of this sketch had grown to manhood. The mother, Annie (Olson) Anderson, likewise lived and died in the old country. She was the mother of five children. After the death of his parents, Solomon resided with his brothers and worked in timber until he came to the United States in 1880. He spent one year in Nebraska, employed along various lines, and then moved to Kansas, where he conducted a farm for ten years. Drouth interfered with his prosperity, his crops not arriving at fruition, and the consequent losses offsetting what gains had been made in years of plenty. Mr. Olson came to Skagit county in 1892 and leased a farm for one year, at the close of that period purchasing twenty acres of land which he still owns. This land was all stumps and trees, but Mr. Olson cleared and prepared it for cultivation. At a later time he added twenty adjoining acres, and now has under cultivation and producing crops one-half of his holding.

Before leaving Sweden Mr. Olson married Miss Engla Gustina, daughter of Daniel and Lisa Gustina, farmers. Mrs. Gustina still lives in the old country, the mother of eleven children. Mrs. Olson lived at home until her marriage. The Olson home is a pleasant one, the house containing ten rooms and the barns being large and ample. The chief industry of the Olsons is dairying, twelve cows supplying the milk, with an equal number of head of young cattle growing up. Mr. Olson is a Republican and a member of the Swedish Baptist church. He is well thought of by his neighbors and has earned the reputation of being a hard worker, industrious, frugal and strictly honest and honorable in all his dealings.

FRED W. BENEDICT springs from the family of that name, well known in Niagara county and other sections of western New York. His father, Alfred M. Benedict, was born near Lockport, New York, in 1834, and was one of the saw-mill men who successfully followed that occupation in that state before the forests were cut off. He moved to Canada in 1859, the year of the birth of the subject of this sketch, and followed saw-milling for eight years, when he was attracted to Michigan by the gradual turning of the lumber world to that state. After a time he took up farming in the Peninsula state, and has been very successful ever since. Mrs. Mary (Lewis) Benedict was also a native of the state of New York, the mother of eight children: Hiram A., Sarah A., Fred W., Libby, Frank H., Willis G., Grace M. and Bertha L., the last named having died. Fred Benedict received a common school education and worked at home until, at nineteen years of age, he drove a team in the woods of northern Michigan. Then for a number of years he followed various avocations, until in 1891 he went to Missouri, where he remained until he came to McMurray and Skagit county. Here he worked for several months in a shingle mill and, in company with his brother, bought the establishment. They operated it for a few months and then moved the outfit to Rockport, but before getting the mill set up for business sold it out, with a profit of \$2,500 on the deal. Mr. Benedict then went to the Clear Lake timber district and sawed shingles until, in the spring of 1904, he bought his farm of forty acres four and a half miles northwest of Mount Vernon. Here he has lived ever since, clearing his land and establishing a dairy farm which promises to grow to large proportions.

In 1882, while in Michigan, Mr. Benedict married Miss Elma E. Allor, daughter of Martin V. and Lucinda (Fistler) Allor, who still live in the state of peninsulas. Mr. Allor is a veteran of the Civil war, having served four years as a member of Company E of the Twenty-second Michigan Volunteers. Mrs. Benedict is one of eight children, three of which are living, and was born in Michigan, September 20, 1864. She received her education in the Michigan schools and remained at home until her marriage. She has three children: Earl M., Harry A. and Mildred E. The Benedict home is one of the pleasant places of the Skagit valley, with commodious farmhouse and convenient outbuildings ample for the rapidly increasing stock. Mr. Benedict at the present time does general farming on the eighteen acres of land he has under cultivation and has embarked in the dairy business, having a bunch of young stock which will soon be added to the dairy herd. In fraternal circles Mr. Benedict is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees and of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a man of energy, a respected citizen and the exemplary head of a representative country home.

BENJAMIN FLAGG, after a life of hard work and the best endeavor in behalf of his family, is living as a retired farmer on his holdings four miles northwest of Mount Vernon. In Mr. Flagg's case, retirement from the activities of farm life does not mean loss of activity in the interests of the community in which he makes his home. He is one of the public-spirited citizens, modest and taking little credit to himself for good deeds done and good works accomplished. He was born in New Brunswick in 1835, the son of Winslow Flagg, who died while his son was quite young, and Haddasa (Woodbury) Flagg, a native of Maine, near the New Brunswick border. Mrs. Flagg passed away in 1898, having brought three children into the world, Benjamin being the only one now living. Mr. Flagg lived with his mother until twenty years of age. His life in Skagit county commenced in 1882, when he came there with his family, settling in the solitudes of the forest, a part of which he has converted into cultivated farm land.

In New Brunswick in 1862 Mr. Flagg married Miss Mary Daggett, daughter of Mark Daggett, a native of Maine, who lived until a few years ago. Mrs. Flagg was born in New Brunswick and lived with her parents until her marriage. She died in 1900, the mother of four children, one of whom is dead. The surviving are Arthur W. and Annie, the latter living with her father in his Skagit county home. Mr. Flagg has retained but five acres for the home of his declining days, but still holds title to ten acres elsewhere. He has in recent years sold an eighty-acre tract of fertile land for \$70 per acre. One of the chief characteristics of Mr. Flagg's later years is the interest he manifests in the development of his community and the activity along directions of uplift to all with whom he comes in contact. He is recognized in the community as a man of the best public spirit and of the most honorable private life. As such he is a power in the neighborhood. In politics he is a Republican and in church circles a Methodist.

NAPOLEON FORTIN. The thrift, industry and other sterling virtues which seem to be the legitimate result of work at the anvil and forge have been developed in a very high degree in the worthy gentleman whose life history is the theme of this article, although now no longer one may hear his bellows blow or listen to the measured beating of his heavy sledge, for he has deserted the craft of his father, the craft he learned in his boyhood, for the equally honorably and oftentimes more remunerative and independent occupation of agriculture. In this latter pursuit he is achieving a high degree of success, the habits of industry and carefulness which made him a success in the shop also bearing much fruit when applied to the tilling of the soil and the rearing of livestock.

The father of our subject, Napoleon Fortin, Sr., was born in Canada and spent there his entire life following the blacksmith's trade. Through his mother he could claim relationship—blood relationship—to the sturdy Swiss race, whose passionate love of freedom impelled them to bear such a noble part in European affairs, and to evolve and establish the most nearly perfect system of government on earth. The mother of the subject hereof, Angel (Seymour) Fortin, is likewise a native of Canada. Her other children are: Thomas, Daniel, Patrick, Morse, Xavier and Joseph. Young Napoleon Fortin lived with his parents and attended school until he was nineteen years old, then, in 1884, went to Marinette, Wisconsin, where he became the proprietor of a blacksmith shop. Four years later he decided to try his fortune in the far West, so came to Seattle, where he spent six months canvassing the situation and looking for a suitable opening. Eventually deciding on the then hustling town of Mount Vernon, he opened a shop there, which he continued to operate until about seven years ago, when, attracted by the possibilities of agriculture as he saw them in Skagit county, he decided to turn farmer, so purchased a timbered tract of fifteen acres two and a half miles north of Mount Vernon, and began clearing the same. He now has most all of it in shape for cultivation and the whole converted into an attractive place, with evidences of the thrift and taste of its owner visible on every hand. The house is a commodious eight-room structure, and all the outbuildings are convenient and well suited to their various purposes. Six cows and a number of young cattle constitute the livestock maintained on the little farm at present, but Mr. Fortin overlooks no source of profit, and numerous stands of bees are to be seen about his premises, the product from which contributes not a little to his gross income. His fine orchard furnishes cherries, pears, apples and many other varieties of fruit in their season for the local market, of the requirements of which he is so well aware that he is able to increase his profits very considerably by purchasing eggs and butter from his neighbors and selling them again to residents of the town. As might be expected, his worldly possessions are increasing, and he now owns, besides his home farm, a five-acre tract on Guamish Island, a lot in Anacortes, three houses in Mount Vernon, etc., while the good will and respect always accorded to those who win success by their own thrift and well directed effort are also his in abundant measure.

Early in the year 1893 Mr. Fortin married Miss Effie Pickens, whose father, Michael Pickens, a native of Tennessee, came to Seattle in 1884 and died there eleven years later. Her mother, who was born in Illinois in 1849, is still living, residing at present in Seattle. Mrs. Fortin was born in 1874. She and Mr. Fortin have three children, namely, Clement, Vernon and Joseph G., the last mentioned born July 4, 1905.

JOHN J. PETH. The career of the gentleman whose life history it is now our task to outline, furnishes a striking illustration of what energy, continuity of purpose and intelligence can accomplish under the favorable conditions presented by Skagit county's abundant resources. Coming to Washington with very little in the way of worldly goods, he applied himself with great assiduity to the task of winning his way to independence and fortune, with the result that he now has both, and he has with them the respect always commanded by those with force enough to conquer every obstacle which may lie in their pathways and to press forward unceasingly until a worthy goal is reached.

Mr. Peth was born in Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin, the oldest of the ten children of Jacob J. and Barbara (Burg) Peth. His father, a native of German Switzerland, was born May 13, 1822, in Canton Basel, became a settler of Wisconsin during its pioneer days, was married there August 19, 1851, and had a part in its early development. In later years he went to Nebraska, where his wife, who was born September 28, 1832, still lives, but he passed away May 8, 1896. Our subject received his education in the public schools of the Badger state, and when nineteen years old struck out for himself, going first to Michigan, where he was employed as an engineer for over a year. He then returned to Wisconsin, living for a time under the parental roof, but eventually, in 1877, he turned his face resolutely westward, nor paused in his journey until he reached the Nooksack valley, near the northwestern corner of the most northwesterly state. For a number of years after coming to the La Conner country he worked in various parts of the county for John Chilberg, Samuel Calloun, Thomas Lindsey and others, making a heroic effort to get a start. In 1881, after having learned the method of farming which gave the best results under the local conditions, and having saved some means, he began operations for himself on leased land, and by 1883 was able to purchase the hundred and twenty acre tract upon which he now resides. At this time only thirty acres of the land were in cultivation, but Mr. Peth went to work on the balance with characteristic energy and in due time had it cleared and ready for the plow. By the exercise of industry and good judgment he has been enabled to add to his original holdings from time to time, until his home place now consists of four hundred and fifty acres, of which all but twenty are under cultivation. It is supplied with everything which goes to make farm life convenient and comfortable, a large, commodious mansion house, fine barns, warehouses, etc., and its owner never overlooks an opportunity to make its operation more profitable. In this he is influenced not so much by the desire of gain as a wish to achieve the best and highest success in his business. He realizes the value of livestock on a farm, so keeps large numbers of cattle, horses and sheep. His entire realty hold-

ings in Skagit county comprise thirteen hundred acres, about half of which is in cultivation. Those who know the value of this land can appreciate more fully than they can who live where land is cheaper what it means to have acquired all this, with the valuable improvements upon it, by one's own efforts and with no start except such as was gained by working for wages. The fact that he accomplished so much proves Mr. Peth to be a man of unusual energy, combined with rare executive ability.

In Seattle, Washington, on December 14, 1899, Mr. Peth married Miss Mary J., daughter of Isaac and Mary J. (Dove) Black, both natives of Alabama. The family went to Texas at an early date, and Mrs. Black died there, but Mr. Black is now a resident of the Samish flats, having come to Washington some years ago. Mrs. Peth was born in Texas, February 22, 1870, and she received her educational training there and in Seattle. She and Mr. Peth are parents of three children, namely, Florence M., born September 17, 1900; John J., Jr., October 30, 1902, and George E., January 16, 1904. While working out his splendid industrial success in Skagit county, Mr. Peth has not neglected his duties as a man and a citizen, but has taken a reasonable interest always in the affairs of his community and county. He has not, however, been in politics for personal preferment, though he is a loyal Republican and interested in its caucuses and conventions and success. The two offices he has consented to fill are such as a man usually accepts from a sense of duty, for the sake of honor or emolument. He belongs to one fraternity, the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

DAVID L. McCORMICK is one of the pioneer farmers of the La Conner section of Skagit county, having first located there in the early seventies. He comes of a family which was well known in the early days of Hocking Valley, Ohio. His father, William McCormick, a Pennsylvania farmer, went to Ohio before railroads had opened up that country, took up government land there and farmed it until his death shortly before the Civil war. Mrs. Elizabeth (Johnson) McCormick, mother of our subject, was born in West Virginia, but her parents moved to Ohio by ox team when she was a small child, and she lived there to the ripe old age of ninety-four years. David McCormick was born in Perry County, Ohio, in 1850, and received his school training in that state. He remained on the home place until he reached the age of nineteen, when he went to live with an uncle in Iowa, and four years later he started for Washington. The trip by rail to San Francisco occupied two weeks. After five days at the Golden Gate he took passage for Victoria, Vancouver Island, and from there went to Seattle. In company with five others he purchased a row boat and rowed it to La Conner, where he met Nelson

Chilberg, an old friend from Iowa. With him he went up the Nooksack river and located a claim, which, however, he never carried to patent. During the following fall, having returned to La Conner, he took a pre-emption claim four miles north of the city, and upon this he lived at intervals until 1877, when he bought his present place of one hundred and twenty acres northeast of La Conner, paying \$10 an acre for the cleared land. Later he sold his pre-emption land.

In 1889 Mr. McCormick returned to Ohio, and there, in June, married Miss Margaret Case, daughter of Honorable Oakley Case, one of the well-known citizens of Hocking county. Mr. Case was at one time editor of the Hocking Sentinel. He was elected probate judge of Hocking county in 1860, and served two terms in that capacity, afterwards becoming mayor of the town of Logan. For a term of years he was an influential member of the Ohio legislature; he also served as chief clerk under Secretary of State William Bell, Jr., in 1876 and 1877. Mrs. Margaret (James) Case, mother of Mrs. McCormick, was a Virginian by birth, but was taken by her parents when a child to the famous Buckeye state. Mrs. McCormick was born in Logan, Ohio, in 1857, and received her education in the schools of that city, graduating from its High school. For six years she served as toll collector on the Hocking Valley canal. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. McCormick, all during their residence in Skagit county, namely, William F., in 1892; David O., in 1894; Margaret E., in 1895; George D. and Charles A. (twins), in 1898, and Helen E., in 1900. Mr. McCormick is a member of the Methodist church and in politics is a Republican, while in fraternal connection he is an Odd Fellow. Mrs. McCormick is a Rebekah and a member of the Order of Eastern Star. Inheriting the qualities which made his forefathers forceful in the pioneer days of Pennsylvania, Mr. McCormick has proven himself one of the sturdy and substantial men of Skagit county. Though thoroughly public spirited, he has manifested no special ambition for leadership or political preferment, but has been content with membership in the producing class, the men who, without ostentation, go to work with energy and accomplish something, the men who form the real strength of any community. That he has been an active, earnest worker is evinced by the fact that two hundred acres of his fine farm land have been well cleared and brought to a high state of cultivation. He has also gathered around his home the comforts and conveniences which add so greatly to the pleasures of rural life. It is no longer necessary to bring water for house use in a wheelbarrow, as it was when he began the struggle with pioneer conditions, any more than it is now necessary to navigate the sound in a row boat. With plenty of cattle, horses and other livestock, sufficient farm machinery and an abundance of fertile land, he is

now in a position to carry on his agricultural operations with satisfaction and profit.

WILLIAM ARMSTRONG. Among the sturdy sons of the Emerald Isle who have won success because they had the spirit and force to emigrate to the newest part of the new world and to take advantage of the opportunities there offered, the man whose life record is here to be outlined in brief is deserving of an especially honored place. Neither should be denied to his worthy helpmeet, a daughter of the sunny South, her meed of praise for faithfulness in toiling by the side of her husband until they had conquered poverty and won for themselves the priceless boon of independence. Affluent and respected, they doubtless enjoy their wealth the more from the consciousness that they secured it by their own unaided efforts, conquering in life's struggle with weapons of which none need be ashamed.

Mr. Armstrong was born in County Armagh, Ireland, in 1840, the youngest of the nineteen children of Matthew and Elizabeth (Norton) Armstrong. When William was ten years of age the family came to the United States, settling first in Wisconsin, though they later moved to Iowa, becoming one of the pioneer families of Fayette county, that state. Both parents lived to a ripe old age, the father being ninety years old when he died and the mother seventy-two. William Armstrong obtained the rudiments of an education in his native land, but finished his schooling in Iowa. Evidently desiring to do the right thing by his parents, he remained at home until twenty-three, when he decided to embark in farming on his own account, so purchased eighty acres of land. The ensuing half decade was devoted to the improvement and cultivation of this, his first home. Coming to the La Conner country in 1872, Mr. Armstrong and his wife began there a determined struggle to win a foothold in the richest part of the rich state of Washington, and finding that the best way open to them was to avail themselves of the excellent wages that were being paid, they entered the service of John J. Miller on the Samish flats, by whom they were employed for the ensuing nine years. Then they worked three years for R. E. Whitney, on the Swinomish flats. The thrifty hire of this long period of labor was invested in land, or at least a large part of it. At one time Mr. Armstrong took a claim on the Samish flats, which, however, he subsequently abandoned. In 1882, he purchased one hundred and twenty acres near La Conner, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation, and which is now a very valuable property. In 1888 he increased his holdings in this vicinity by the purchase of two hundred acres more. This tract, which adjoined the original home on the south, had been taken up by James Harrison in 1868, so is one of the oldest farms in the county. It is the land upon which, in

1900, Mr. Armstrong built his magnificent mansion, one of the finest in a section noted for its fine homes, with its large, roomy halls, its commodious and numerous rooms and its bath and other modern conveniences. In 1890 Mr. Armstrong bought another piece of land, the Pearson place, containing one hundred and sixty acres, at a cost of \$20,000. At the present time he is farming two hundred and forty acres in all, and every foot of this land is in an excellent state of cultivation, while fine stock barns (one of which, built from plans elaborated by himself, has no superior for convenience in the Northwest), warehouses and other buildings permit of its operation in a highly satisfactory way, at the same time furnishing Mr. Armstrong excellent means for indulging his fancy for high-grade Durham cattle and draft horses. The latter are his special delight, and his interest in them has made him one of the best judges of horseflesh in Skagit county.

In 1864, in the state of Iowa, Mr. Armstrong married Miss Mary I. Douglass, daughter of William Douglass, a native of Scotland, and Sophia (King) Douglass, a native of Virginia. Her father was at one time a large landowner in Old Dominion, but in 1864 he went to Jefferson County, Iowa, where he died in 1881. Her mother, who now lives in Iowa, has the distinction of being one of the few ladies in the United States who still draw a pension on account of Revolutionary war service. Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong have had five children, namely, Annie, the oldest, who died when fourteen years of age; Thomas, drowned at the age of thirteen months; William J., born in Iowa in 1870, and Guy and Scott (twins), born in Skagit county in 1883.

GEORGE F. JENNE (deceased). Of the pioneers of Skagit county none has manifested a keener desire for the highest and best things in life than has George F. Jenne, and perhaps none has better merited the esteem and respect of the community in which he lived. Born in Germany, he passed there the initial fourteen years of his life, enjoying the benefits of the public school system which has made his fatherland famous the world over. He received all the education in his native land that it is customary to give to German youths who are not to be prepared for professional life, but was not satisfied, and after coming to the United States took a course in the schools of Illinois. Being of a studious turn he continued his battle with books long after his school days were over and the battle of life was begun, and as a natural consequence he in time became an unusually well educated and well informed man. The date of Mr. Jenne's birth was May 19, 1854. In 1868, he landed in Calhoun County, Illinois, and he resided there and in Green county until 1876, when he decided to heed Horace Greeley's advice and try his fortune in the

West. His first home in Washington territory was on Whidby Island, where he farmed on land held by leasehold for eight years, at the end of which time he had accumulated sufficient means to justify purchasing a place of his own. Accordingly, in 1884, he came to the Swinomish flats and bought one hundred and eighty acres of land, situated six miles west and a little north of Mount Vernon, to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted himself assiduously until his death, which occurred June 3, 1902. He was a very active man in his business, public spirited, broad minded, liberal, just and unselfish, hence one who was naturally respected and looked upon with favor by his fellow citizens.

In 1873, in the state of Illinois, Mr. Jenne married Mary, daughter of Leonard and Catherine (Mowery) Halfrick, both natives of Ohio. The father was a tailor by trade, but in early life deserted his needle and goose for farming, which occupation he followed for a number of years in Illinois. He was a pioneer of that state, and his widow, now seventy-seven years old, still lives there, and has since she was a child of four. Mrs. Jenne was born in Illinois, September 14, 1854, and received her educational discipline there, then married at the age of nineteen. Her children are: Jane, at home; Lizzie, wife of Fred Kalso; John, at home; Mrs. Tillie Callahan, in Fredonia; Ida and Hazel, at home. Of these John, who, with his mother, manages the place, is a graduate not only of the public schools of La Conner, but also of Wilson's Modern Business college, of Seattle. He cultivates the entire one hundred and eighty acres in such a way as to make it yield an excellent profit, giving the major portion of his attention to cereal crops, though he keeps a few head of cattle and abundance of horses for all the purposes of the farm. The family are Presbyterians, and during his life time Mr. Jenne was an Odd Fellow.

HARVEY SMITH, a well-known pioneer of La Conner, is a native of New Brunswick, born in Albert county, January 9, 1862, the son of Calvin Smith, a farmer, who spent his entire life in New Brunswick, the place of his nativity. His mother is Sarah (Sterrett) Smith, born in New Brunswick in 1825, and is residing near Puyellup, Pearce county. Harvey Smith spent his early life at home, securing his education in the schools of that country, and meanwhile assisting his father in the work of the farm, thus becoming familiar with the business that has claimed his entire attention for many years. Leaving home at the age of twenty-one to seek his fortune in the West, he came direct to La Conner, where he took up one hundred and sixty acres on the Olympia Marsh, remaining nine years. He then located in British Columbia, working on a ranch for some eighteen months, after which he came to Mount Vernon and was employed in the same way for the

following eight years. He now owns a fine farm of twenty-two acres, giving evidence of his skilful management. Dairying and fruit raising are the two features of farming to which he gives special attention, having eleven head of cattle and about an acre in apples, cherries, prunes and pears. He also devotes some time to poultry raising. Thrifty and energetic, he is making a success of farming, adding year by year to his possessions.

Mr. Smith was married in December, 1902, to Margaret Eubanks, born in California. In early childhood she became a resident of Skagit county, here receiving her education. Her parents are Winton and Sarah E. (Pritchard) Hobson. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have one child, Mildred, born October 12, 1903. Mr. Smith votes an independent ticket, believing that to be the surest way of securing capable men for the offices of the government. He has never had any political aspirations. Witnessing vast changes in this country since he came to it in 1883, when he experienced the trials and hardships incident to pioneer life, he is prepared to enjoy the comforts and advantages of to-day.

S. FRED JOHNSON is a native of Sweden, a country that has given to the United States so many citizens distinguished in every walk of life because of their thrift and industry. Born in Dalsland, January 29, 1860, his father was John Anderson, a farmer, born in 1814. Annie (Person) Anderson, his mother, was born December 25, 1827, in Sweden, and is still living. His father having died in 1860, S. Fred Johnson early took up the responsibilities of life, assisting in the work of the farm until he was fifteen years of age, when he left for America, the land of his dreams. He spent four years in Waterville, Quebec, learning the cabinet-making trade, receiving fifty dollars for his work the first year, and seventy-five dollars the second year. One summer he was employed on a farm, nine dollars a month being the price then paid for farm labor. Locating in Contra Costa, California, he began working at his trade, but soon fell ill with typhoid fever. Upon his recovery he accepted a position as carpenter on the Southern Pacific railroad, his work giving such excellent satisfaction that he was retained for four years, at the end of which time he went to San Francisco and opened a furniture store. A year later he sold it, coming to La Conner and here following his trade for five years. In 1886 he took up eighty acres where he now lives, all swamp and timber land at that date. In the succeeding five years he spent fifteen hundred dollars in improvements, making it his home after he gave up carpenter work. He now has forty acres in cultivation; the balance of the farm, some of it leased to the North Avon Lumber Company, is in pasture. He has a fine dairy of Jersey and Holstein cattle; and is also raising Berkshire and Poland-China hogs.

An elegant home, lighted with acetylene gas, and equipped with all the modern conveniences and luxuries, gives evidence of his care for the welfare and happiness of his family. He has a brother, A. J. Johnson, living on Beaver Marsh.

Mr. Johnson was married in 1895 to Mary Holmberg, a native of Sweden, who came to Skagit county to visit a brother and here met her husband. Three children have made happy the home of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, as follows: Harold, born February 17, 1896; Abbie Maria, born October 26, 1898; Ruby, born June 1, 1904. The family are adherents to the Lutheran church. Mr. Johnson is an honored member of the Modern Woodmen. He is a loyal Republican, who has never sought or desired political prominence, choosing rather to serve the country of his adoption in the quiet walks of life. Mr. Johnson has not always enjoyed the success and prosperity that are his to-day, having suffered reverses of fortune like the majority of men. Unlike many, however, these have but spurred him to greater diligence and activity, have but developed the sturdy manhood which was his birthright. Intelligent and upright, a man whose word is as good as his bond, he is one of North Avon's most respected citizens.

JAMES CALLAHAN is a man whose excellent business judgment and active energy have placed him in the class of esteemed citizens of Skagit county, and he now enjoys the confidence of a large community. Mr. Callahan is a native of Ireland, but accompanied his parents to this country and to Indiana when but a small lad. His father, James Callahan, was a cooper by trade and a first class artisan. His mother, Margaret (Hartigan) Callahan, was also a native of the Emerald Isle and died in Ohio, being the mother of eleven children of whom James is the youngest. After attending school and learning the cooper's trade under the instruction of his father, Mr. Callahan went to Louisville, Kentucky, when nineteen years of age and engaged in coopering; later going to work at his trade at Harrison, Ohio. He was here at the outbreak of the Civil War and responded to Lincoln's first call for troops by enlisting for a short term in the Seventh Indiana Infantry. On the expiration of his enlistment, Mr. Callahan immediately reentered the army, this time choosing Company G of the One Hundred and Eighty-First Ohio Volunteers. On being mustered out he returned to his occupation of cooper at Aurora, Indiana, and other points in the state. Mr. Callahan served also as city marshal of Aurora and at one time engaged as traveling agent in the sewing machine business. In 1876 he came to Washington, via San Francisco, taking the steamer to Port Townsend and thence by small boat to Whatcom, where he found his brother-in-law, M. D. Smith, who owned a farm in conjunction with a Mr. Mc-

Clellen on the Swinomish flats. Mr. Callahan arranged to operate that place, and did so for a number of years, during which he filed on a preemption of seventy-six acres near Padilla. By degrees he prepared this place for cultivation, erected buildings and in 1878 commenced to live on and cultivate it. He continued thus in prosperous condition for nine years, when he sold out to his son, James. In 1887 Mr. Callahan purchased his present place of one hundred acres, five miles northwest of Mount Vernon, and has resided here ever since.

In 1862, in Cincinnati, Ohio, Mr. Callahan married Miss Harriet Ball, daughter of Samuel Ball, an English mechanic, who came to the United States in 1833 and settled in Hamilton County, Ohio, following his trade there and in Indiana. The mother, Mrs. Mary (Wyatt) Ball, was also a native of England, and died in Ohio in 1846, the mother of nine children. Mrs. Callahan was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, in 1842, there receiving her education and residing there to the time of her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Callahan have nine children: Mrs. Hannah Eyre, living near Mount Vernon; Mrs. Henrietta Ovenell, on the Olympia marsh; Richard, also on the Olympia marsh; John, living on his father's first farm in Skagit county; Edward, in the vicinity of the home farm; James, residing near his parents; and Albert, Anna and Margaret, at home. Mr. Callahan is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and is a communicant of the Catholic church. In politics he is a Democrat, though not always tied to party lines. Mr. Callahan's land holdings comprise some three hundred acres, by far the greater part of which is under cultivation. The house is a commodious one, with large barns and outbuildings, to say nothing of warehouses. He has thirty head of cattle and eight horses. Mr. Callahan is justice of the peace, and one of the honored citizens of his home community as well as of the county.

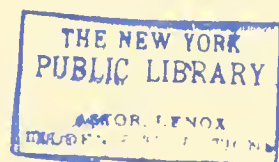
SAMUEL L. BELL, for many years a prominent contractor in the Northwest, now resides on his fine farm located three miles north of Burlington. He was born in Louisville, Kentucky, December 29, 1838, his parents being Archibald and Harriet L. (Baker) Bell. His father, a druggist, born April 29, 1814, was a native of Lexington, Kentucky. He moved to Oregon in 1852, later becoming a well-known pioneer of Skagit County, Washington. He died near Oregon City, April 30, 1890. The mother was born in Tennessee, January 11, 1814, grew to womanhood in Virginia, and was married November 4, 1834. Her death occurred in Louisville, Kentucky, June 27, 1851.

Leaving home with a brother in the spring of 1853, Samuel L. Bell crossed the plains with an ox team from Saint Joseph, Missouri, to Fort Steilacoom, spending the winter in the Natchez pass.

Near Astoria, they saw the cabins built by Lewis and Clark when they made their famous trip, the mess room being then used as a stable. After spending a summer there, they moved to Klamath County, Oregon. Samuel completed his education by a two years' course at the Portland Academy, then prospected for some time east of the mountains. He then went to California, where he resided for the ensuing sixteen years, during which time he worked in a sash and door factory, as foreman. Moving north he lived in Portland a year, going thence to Seattle, still following the manufacture of sash and doors as a business. In 1883 he came to Burlington, locating the claim where he now resides, and he moved onto it in 1885. He contracted for the erection of the Odd Fellows' Hall in Edison, and numerous other buildings. Returning to Seattle in 1887, he made the sash and doors used in the construction of the First Methodist church. Two years later he again made his home in Skagit county, devoting a large amount of time to contract work. In 1890 he was unanimously nominated by the Democratic party for the office of state senator from Skagit county, but was defeated, though he polled 225 votes more than the congressman on the same ticket.

Mr. Bell has been twice married. His first wife, Mary O'Brien, was born in 1840, and died in Seattle December 22, 1888. In April, 1891, he and Mrs. Mary E. Natwick were united in marriage. Born in Chicago, Illinois, Mrs. Bell came to Washington in 1888. Her mother is now living in Seattle, but her father died in 1900. To this second union two children have been born: Emma May and Bessie L., both now at home. Mr. Bell is a prominent member of the Masonic order. He owns eighty-three acres, twenty-two of which are in a fine state of cultivation. His specialty is dairying, and by wise and careful attention to its varied details, he is winning success. He is a practical, energetic farmer, and a public spirited, progressive citizen. During his long residence in this county he has been identified with its various enterprises, and he is regarded as one of the substantial progressive members of the community.

ANTON LEHNHOFF, one of Burlington's most progressive farmers, was born in Lipstadt, Germany, October 27, 1857. His parents, William and Eliza (Kleinschitzer) Lehnhoff, both born in Hanover, Germany, in 1834, are now residing in New York City. Anton Lehnhoff received his education in the schools of his native country, entering the army at the age of twenty-one. His parents having immigrated to New York, he went thither in 1881, at the expiration of his required three years' service. Working in a hotel for a year, and later in a store, he then owned a fuel yard which proved to be a good investment. He sold out, started for





AMOS BOWMAN

the west, and after spending some time in Kansas and Texas, located in Pasco, Washington, where he found employment on the railroad and in a hotel. He became owner of a livery barn and dairy, and having decided to go farther west, shipped a car load of horses and cattle to Olympia marsh in 1888. He purchased forty acres, which he now cultivates, together with one hundred and sixty acres of rented land. Prior to taking up his permanent residence on his own ranch, he leased the Day ranch at Lyman, and lost his entire crop one fall by reason of the floods. Returning to the marsh he rented two hundred and eighty acres for a year, moving to his farm at the end of that time.

Mr. Lehnhoff was married in 1891 to Augusta Wagner, born in Germany, February 27, 1858. She made the entire journey from her native country to the state of Washington alone, to wed the man of her choice who was here waiting for her, and who on account of lack of funds was not able to go for her. One seeing them surrounded by the prosperity that is theirs today, would find difficulty in believing that the money to purchase the marriage license was borrowed from a friend. Her father, David E. Wagner, born in Saxony, Germany, in 1830, was a manufacturer of steel tools till his death in 1876. Anestaine C. (Mader) Wagner, her mother, born in 1834, in Saxony, is still living in her native town, Schmalkalden. Mr. and Mrs. Lehnhoff have six children: William, Ernest, Elsa, George, Ruth and May. Elsa, a little girl of nine, won the first prize at the county fair in 1904, for the best loaf of bread and cake, a fact which speaks volumes for the little maiden's culinary skill, and also for the mother's wise instruction. Mr. Lehnhoff adheres to no political party, voting each time for the man. A great admirer of thoroughbred stock, he owns the Clyde stallion, "Bobby Burns," the winner of the first prize at the Oregon state fair in 1904; the Jersey bull, "Melia Ann's Maple," registered 66,124, with the American Jersey Cattle Club, also a prize winner; twelve head of registered Jersey stock, and sixty-three head of graded stock. He has established an enviable reputation as a breeder and judge of fine stock. Keenly alive to the ever increasing demands for thought and study along agricultural lines, he is one of the most intelligent and practical farmers of the county. Both he and Mrs. Lehnhoff are well known in social circles, and the latter is a prominent member of the Baptist church. She enjoys the distinction of having at one time entertained the present Emperor of Germany and Prince Henry.

AMOS BOWMAN (deceased), founder of the town of Anacortes, was one of the observing and far-seeing men who came early to Skagit county, saw its possibilities and planned for an agricultural and commercial empire on the shores of Puget sound. Of these men of action, who were also

prophets, Mr. Bowman ranked as one of the foremost. Ripe in experience, by profession a mining and civil engineer, skilled in geology and a journalist, Mr. Bowman possessed qualifications for exploiting the new country among the people of his acquaintance on the Atlantic coast and bringing to the development of this part of Skagit county the aid of Eastern capital. Mr. Bowman was born in Blair, Ontario, in 1840 and after obtaining the rudiments of an education attended Oberlin University, one of Ohio's many collegiate institutions, and later the University of the City of New York. He was graduated with a degree of mining and civil engineer at the famous College of Mines at Freiburg, Germany. He also took courses in the arts at Munich. While in Europe Mr. Bowman acted as special correspondent of the New York Tribune when Horace Greeley was editor, and in this capacity saw service in the Crimean War. He also made a tour of Continental Europe before returning to the United States. In 1868 Mr. Bowman was in charge of the state geological survey of California under Professor Whitney, remaining in that service for a period of six years. Mr. Bowman visited Puget sound, engaged in a private capacity to survey coal lands. Later he became connected with the British Columbia division of the Canadian geological survey, remaining in that service for some time. It was owing to his visit to Skagit county that he first became impressed with the great possibilities here. He had been intimately connected with mapping the country tributary to Puget sound and had traveled extensively over it, minutely observing conditions of soil, climate and other natural endowments of the section. Especially did he feel that Ship harbor on Fidalgo island was destined to become a point of commercial activity and possibly a terminus for a transcontinental railway. So deeply impressed was he with this idea that in 1877 he purchased the land whereon is now the town of Anacortes and moved his family here, bringing house and equipment by steamer to this shore when it was a wilderness between the water and the forest. Over the lintel of this pioneer home and above the door of this lonely cottage he placed this inscription:

"Ultima Thule, utmost isle.

Here in thy harbor for a while

Our sail we furl, to rest

From the unending ceaseless quest."

But Mr. Bowman was not merely sighing for "a lodge in some vast wilderness;" his prophetic mind saw that with the powerful touch of publicity backed by the magic of capital, commerce would spread its wings about Puget sound and call at Ship Harbor. He erected a dock, established a printing office, opened a store and changed the name of his place to Anacortes, the name being but a modification of the name of his wife, Anne Curtis. Steamboats touched at the dock, the Anacortes

Enterprise dropped periodically from the press, the store was patronized and settlers were attracted to the place. It was not until 1887, however, that Mr. Bowman felt that the time was ripe for exploiting the settlement among his capitalistic friends in the east. At that time there was talk of the Union Pacific railway piercing the Puget sound country, and in response to a summons Mr. Bowman journeyed to New York to negotiate with the controlling men of that railroad with a view to the selection of Anacortes as a terminus. Two years later the result of Mr. Bowman's negotiations appeared in an arrangement by which in consideration of one half of Mr. Bowman's land as a subsidy the Oregon Railway & Navigation Company agreed to make Anacortes a terminus. The story of the subsequent boom days is history, and with the enactment of the progress of that history went the picture which Mr. Bowman had held before his vision for so many years. The picture is reality at the present day, but Mr. Bowman did not live to see the figures leap into life. Of Mr. Bowman one writer has penned these words: "But the pioneer of great movements was destined not to live to see the complete realization of his efforts. So keen a foresight and so optimistic a character must always live in advance of his time. Interested in many projects of land development, among which was the reclamation of the Sumas valley from the Frazer river, in which district he owned heavily, Mr. Bowman died at his Anacortes home in 1894, while Time, too slow for such a mortal, was hearing year by year the proof of his unerring prophecy."

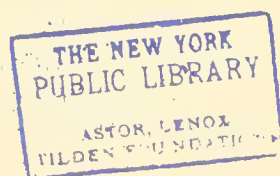
HON. WILLIAM T. ODLIN, mayor of Anacortes and the city's well known banker, has been more or less actively identified with the public life of Skagit county for nearly two decades. Coming up the valley of the Skagit river at a time when it could only be reached by canoe, when it was traversed only by winding and sometimes almost impassable trails, and peopled only by scattered camps of loggers, isolated homesteaders and a few Indians, he cheerfully accepted the pioneer's life, throwing into it the faith and energy which have enabled him to make the most of opportunities that have since come in his way. The Odlin's were of the earliest colonial stock, the family having emigrated from England to the newly discovered continent in the early part of the Seventeenth century, the first American-born ancestors of William T. having been born in Boston in 1640. William T. Odlin is himself a native of Ohio; Dayton is his birthplace and November 2, 1866, his birthday. He is the son of Woodbridge, and Elizabeth (Thompson) Odlin. In 1855, at the age of twenty-two, the senior Odlin, also a

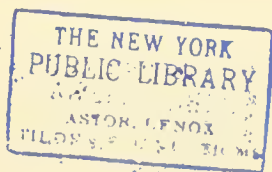
native of Dayton, Ohio, took up his residence in Kansas and engaged in farming. Six years later, in the beginning of the great conflict between North and South, he enlisted as a private in the Kansas "Jay Hawk" regiment, which subsequently became part of another regular command, and served continuously until the close of the war. During the progress of the war he was promoted to the rank of captain in recognition of his bravery. During a portion of the reconstruction period following the cessation of hostilities, Captain Odlin served as provost marshal of Cairo, Illinois. His present home is near Sedro-Woolley, where he located in 1890. Elsewhere in this work his biography is written at greater length and more in detail. Elizabeth (Thompson) Odlin was born in Eaton, Ohio, in 1831, and died in Sedro-Woolley December 18, 1904, greatly beloved by all who knew her. After acquiring a practical education in the schools of his birthplace William T. Odlin began the performance of the active duties of life, finding employment after the age of thirteen in different manufacturing establishments. In 1887 he went to California and engaged for a year in the lumber industry of that state, coming then to the northwest in further search of permanent home and fortune. After a brief sojourn in Seattle, where he arrived in 1888, he accepted a position in the store of the Skagit Railway & Lumber Company at Sterling, a logging camp center on the Skagit river, assuming his duties in January, 1889. When the store was sold a year later he became bookkeeper for Davison & Millett in their mill at Woolley. Having established for himself a reputation as a man of exceptional business ability and of strictest integrity, in March, 1893, he was offered the position of cashier and bookkeeper in the bank of C. E. Bingham & Company; the offer was accepted and he continued to serve the bank in this capacity until November 1, 1899. At this time he located in Anacortes and established the Citizens' bank, of which he is the cashier and also a heavy stockholder.

Mr. Odlin was married in Sedro-Woolley in 1896, to Miss Jessie Reno, daughter of Lewis Q. Reno, a native of West Virginia, who died a number of years ago. Her mother, Amelia (Nicholas) Reno, was born in New Jersey and is still living, her present home being in this state. Mrs. Odlin's native place is Marengo, Iowa, and the year of her birth, 1869. At Marengo she attended the common schools and was subsequently graduated from the high school; after academic work in a private school in Chicago her education was completed in the Colonel Parker school. For several years prior to her marriage she was a very successful teacher in the schools of Morgan Park, Illinois, one of the larger suburbs of Chicago; she was especially interested in



WILLIAM T. ODLIN







DOUGLASS ALLMOND

kindergarten work. She is a gifted writer, her short stories appearing frequently in current magazines; and she has won a modest though none the less enviable reputation as a writer of children's fiction. Mr. and Mrs. Odlin have two children, who were born in Sedro-Woolley: Reno, June 26, 1897, and Richard, September 30, 1901. Mr. Odlin is a member of the Masonic order, and in politics is identified with the Republican party. He has filled with distinguishing honor many offices and positions of public trust in his community. For five years he was city treasurer of Sedro-Woolley; in 1901-2 he served as a member of the city council of Anacortes; in December, 1904, he was called to the mayor's chair by his fellow citizens, and he is now president of the Chamber of Commerce. In the discharge of his varying duties and obligations, Mr. Odlin has displayed characteristic ability and abiding interest in the welfare of town, county and state. Besides his banking interests, his attention is engaged with real estate holdings throughout the county; these include a forty-acre ranch near Sedro-Woolley. Mr. and Mrs. Odlin are prominent in the social circles of Anacortes and enjoy the good will and esteem of the entire community.

DOUGLASS ALLMOND, an influential citizen of Anacortes, has been for fifteen years an active factor in the city's progress. He has always had faith in the city's future, believing her destined to become an important commercial center, and he has had the satisfaction of seeing her enter upon her present era of prosperity, with even larger possibilities than had been foreshadowed by her founder. Mr. Allmond was born in Sacramento County, California, in 1863. He is the son of John G. and Lydia Dyer (Douglass) Allmond. John G. Allmond was a native of Germany who came to the United States in his youth and settled in western New York. He made the long voyage around Cape Horn in 1849, settled in California and engaged first in mining and afterwards in fruit culture, being one of the pioneers in that important branch of the industry now so prominent in California's commercial life. The elder Allmond passed away in 1868. Lydia Dyer Allmond was born in western New York in 1822; she is a descendant of William and Anne Mattie Douglass, who settled at Cape Anne, Massachusetts, in 1640. Mrs. Allmond went to California via the Isthmus of Panama in 1851, and for a number of years resided near Sacramento. She came to Seattle in 1882 and afterwards to Anacortes, which is now her home.

As a lad Douglass Allmond learned to operate a wood turning lathe. When thirteen years old he began to learn the printer's art, commencing as a "printer's devil." He came to Puget sound in

1882 and was one of the old guard of finished printers on the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. At a later period he was engaged in the printing business in Seattle with Wm. H. Hughes, but the memorable fire of 1889 destroyed their establishment. In 1887, with F. H. Whitworth and A. H. Shroufe, he was delegated by the naval commission, then visiting the Northwest for the first time with a view to establishing a naval station, to appraise the lands now occupied by the Port Orchard navy yard. It was in 1890 that Mr. Allmond located at Anacortes and, in company with F. H. Boynton, began the publication of the Anacortes American. He continued at the head of that journal until 1902 when he became interested in the Anacortes Water Company, of which he is now president and active manager. This company owns the water and lighting systems of the city, which under Mr. Allmond's management have been made modern and effective in all their appointments. Although necessarily much of his time has been devoted with characteristic energy to the management of his personal interests and those of his company, Mr. Allmond has found time for attention to public functions and the faithful discharge of public trusts. During Col. F. D. Huestis' term as collector of customs for the District of Puget sound, Mr. Allmond was appointed deputy collector by that gentleman, and was re-appointed under the administration of C. W. Ide. It is largely due to the efforts of a very few energetic and progressive citizens, of whom Mr. Allmond is one of the leading spirits, that Anacortes has recovered from its disastrous boom-day experiences and now ranks as one of the most thrifty cities in the Puget sound basin.

MELVILLE CURTIS, a prominent business man of Anacortes, was born in New Jersey in 1849, the son of Melville and Louise (Allsopp) Curtis. His father, a native of Massachusetts, was a paper maker by trade, who came to New Jersey in 1838, there remaining till his death in 1860. The mother was born in Quebec, of English descent and was also married there. Her ancestors moved to Canada soon after it became an English possession. Educated in Canada, Melville Curtis lived at home till his father died, then, at the age of eleven, went to his mother's relatives in the same country. Five years later he took a four years' course in mining and civil engineering at Troy, New York. Going to Nevada in 1871, he entered the employ of the Manhat Mining Company as assayer. After demonstrating remarkable ability and faithfulness, he was appointed general superintendent of the mines, retaining the position until, on account of the depreciation in silver, the mines were obliged to close in 1887. He removed to Mendocino county, Cali-

fornia, spent one year in the lumber business, and moved thence to Irondale, Washington, where he had charge of the Puget sound iron furnace. Having invested in property in Anacortes in 1885, he made this his home in the spring of 1890. He was elected county commissioner in 1898, serving four years. He had previously served the city as mayor for three years. Discovering an excellent opening in the wharfage business, he constructed, in 1903, the wharf which he now owns, and by strict adherence to sound principles has built up a splendid trade in coal and building supplies. He was married in California in October, 1883. Mr. Curtis' bride was Fannie B. Wright, a talented musician who received her training in New York City. Her father, James A. Wright, a native of New York, moved to California in 1848, via the Isthmus of Panama. He was one of the pioneers of California and Nevada. Her mother, Susan (Backus) Wright, was a descendant of an old Dutch family of New York, the state of her birth and marriage. Mrs. Curtis was educated in her native state, California. Mr. and Mrs. Curtis have four children: Morri, the wife of H. P. Schmidt, the well-known druggist of Anacortes; Louise and Alleen, born in Nevada; Helen, born in Port Townsend. Mr. Curtis is a prominent member of the Masonic and Knights of Pythias fraternities. He and his family are identified with the Episcopal church. A loyal member of the Republican party, he has advanced its interests by every means within his power. Few residents of Anacortes have given so large a measure of time and attention to the growth and prosperity of the town as has Mr. Curtis, who has been a member of the city council for twelve years since its organization. He has manifested a deep interest in educational matters, especially during the four years of his service on the school board. Mr. Curtis' neighbors and friends recognize his sterling qualities of mind and heart, and both admire and respect him.

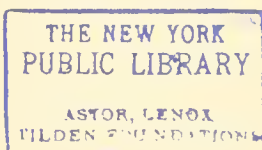
ALBERT L. GRAHAM, one of the most popular citizens of Anacortes, was born in Dodge County, Wisconsin, August 2, 1854. His father, Orlando Graham, born near Rochester, New York, in December, 1826, was a farmer till the call of his country for volunteers in the Civil War fired him with patriotic zeal. Enlisting in Company B, Fourth Minnesota Regiment, he was an active participant in the battle of Lookout Mountain, and in all the engagements in which General Sherman was the leader. During his service he was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant solely on account of merit, and made that famous "March to the Sea" under his beloved general. Taking up his former occupation at the close of the war, he came to Washington in 1873, locating

on Fidalgo island. In 1874 Mr. Graham, associated with Amasa Everett and Lafayette Stevens, made the discovery of the well-known Hamilton coal mines on the Skagit, and during all the railroad activities of the 'seventies and 'eighties, he was prominently identified with the promoters. As a public spirited citizen he ranked high among his fellow men contributing an unusual share to the development of Fidalgo island and the county in general. His death occurred in December, 1901. Harriet (Hatch) Graham, the mother, was also a native of New York, born near Rochester in 1825. After a long, useful life, she died in 1903. Albert L. Graham spent the first twenty-one years of his life acquiring an education, and at the same time, a practical knowledge of agriculture. Coming with his parents to Washington, he took up land near Burrows bay, a part of which he still owns. During the lifetime of his parents, he shared with them the fruits of his toil, cheering their declining years with a filial devotion very rare in these modern days. He still makes his home on forty acres of the old homestead, and he also owns other property on the island. Mr. Graham has a brother, Frank A., living near Lake Campbell, and a sister, Carrie A., who makes her home with him. Though loyally adhering to Republican principles, he has never desired political preferment at the hands of his party. He devotes especial attention to fruit raising, having on his farm a fine twelve-acre orchard. The son of an honored pioneer, Mr. Graham is very familiar with the early history of this locality, possessing a fund of information that can be relied upon for accuracy. An earnest, thoughtful man, a kind neighbor and friend, he is accorded the respect and confidence of all who are associated with him, and may justly be classed as one of Fidalgo island's most public spirited citizens as was his father before him.

JUDGE GEORGE A. JOINER is one of the many men of energy and force who, stirred in their early youth with a consuming ambition, have chosen the strenuous and exacting profession of law as a fit field of labor, well knowing that while it soon relegates to obscurity the incompetent it has many prizes for men of ability and determination sufficient to climb toward the top, where, it is said, there is always room. Judge Joiner has the satisfaction of knowing that whatever measure of success he has thus far attained has been fairly won by his own efforts, circumstances in his case, especially in early life, being an opposing and not an assisting force. Judge Joiner is a son of the Empire state, born in Wolcott, Wayne county, August 20, 1861. He began life with one asset of great value, namely, a good heredity. His father, Dorous B. Joiner, was of pure Vermont stock, though born in New York, and had in his veins



MELVILLE CURTIS



the best blood of the Green Mountain boys. His mother, Mrs. Rebecca (Wilde) Joiner, was a native of New York, but her family line extended back to the sturdy Scotch and Irish races.

Born on the farm Judge Joiner spent there the years of his early youth, attending the local school in term time, doing general farm work and withal building up the constitutional vigor and sturdy character which have enabled so many men from the farm to lead their seemingly more favored city brethren in the race. When he left the parental roof he did so for the purpose of acquiring a better education. He attended the high school until fitted to enter the teaching profession; then obtained a certificate and began spending his winters as master of the school room. By the time he reached his majority he had fully decided that the law was the profession for him, so commenced reading in the office of William Roe. Later he studied under the direction of J. W. Hoag in his native town, where he received most of his preliminary training for admission to the bar. Upon gaining the right to practice, he formed a partnership with A. C. Brink, at Wolcott, which partnership he afterward caused to be dissolved that he might join forces with Col. Anson S. Wood, one of the foremost lawyers of central New York, a man of extended experience and noted for his mastery of the principles of law. That Judge Joiner was thought worthy of becoming the partner of such a man is evidence of the success he was achieving in the profession of his choice.

Our subject's career in Skagit county began in 1890, when he located in Anacortes. He formed a partnership with W. V. Wells there which lasted for the ensuing five years, during a part of which time Judge Joiner served as prosecuting attorney, having been elected to that office on the Republican ticket. His public duties compelled him to spend much of his time at the county seat, so at length, in 1895, he determined to establish his residence there. In 1897 he became the partner of Hon. Henry McBride, who later became governor of the state, and he continued his business connections with him until 1900, when he returned to Anacortes. In the fall of that year he was elected on the Republican ticket to the office of superior judge of Skagit and San Juan counties, a fact which proves conclusively that his career in private practice and as a public official had been such as to win him the confidence of the people in his own and adjoining communities. His majority at the polls was a handsome one. In 1904 the electors of Skagit and San Juan counties gave a further token of their confidence in Judge Joiner and their appreciation of his worth by re-electing him to the superior judgeship, and he is discharging the duties of that office at present, administering the law in such a way as to conserve, just as far as possible, substantial justice, whose seat is in the bosom

of God and whose voice is the law of the universe.

While realizing the truth of the maxim that "the law is a jealous mistress" and devoting himself to its mastery to the exclusion of most other things, Judge Joiner has always taken time to perform well his duties as a citizen and to help along whatever seems likely to promote the general weal. An active Republican he has in the past been one of the leaders in the councils of that party, and twice he has represented it with credit as a member of the state central committee. Active also in the work of the one fraternity to which he belongs, he is now a past grand in the home lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

In April, 1893, Judge Joiner married Miss Josie M. Curtis, of Anacortes, daughter of the late Dr. A. B. and Mrs. Elmina (Carpenter) Curtis, and they are parents of one child, Anna E., born February 17, 1895. The family are members of the Presbyterian church.

RIENZI EUGENE WHITNEY was among the small group of men who first tried the experiment of diking Skagit county land against the encroachment of salt water, thus teaching the world the value for agricultural purposes of the rich lowlands along the shores of Puget sound. These leaders demonstrated the accuracy of their idea on the Swinomish flats, and the demonstration has resulted in the reclamation of thousands of acres of the richest soil in the world. Skagit county, and the Puget sound country in general, owes much to R. E. Whitney for teaching the value of tide land flats for the purpose of agriculture. Mr. Whitney was born in Abington, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, June 5, 1840. At an early age he was left an orphan and went to live with an uncle, Alvinza Gardner, a rugged and extraordinary character, an active abolitionist, a temperance and moral reformer and a man of pronounced convictions. Contact with such a character undoubtedly did much to mold the bent of the mind of the youth; at any rate, Mr. Whitney in after years exhibited many of the traits of character possessed by his uncle and foster father. The boy obtained his education when not doing chores at home; working on Saturdays and observing the Sabbath. He managed to pass a few terms at an academy, but a college education was denied him. A characteristic of his early youth was an earnest and absorbing desire for knowledge, and to that end young Whitney employed toward an education many moments which remain barren in the lives of most American youths of the present day. While in attendance upon school young Whitney was an ardent scholar and was invariably at the head of his classes. During his school days he was converted and embraced the Baptist faith, remaining to the end of his long and active career

a staunch adherent and exponent of the principles of that denominational belief. Endurance, activity and courage Mr. Whitney inherited from his parents, but at one time in his childhood he was physically frail and delicate. Once he was given up to die and even a shroud for his interment was provided. Upon his recovery he commenced a systematic course of physical training, muscular development and lung exercise which counteracted the effect of disease. Dieting, work on the farm and outdoor occupation gave him the strength and endurance which were so valuable in later years. During the Civil War Mr. Whitney twice enlisted in the service of the Union, once in the emergency service to repel the rebel invasion of his native state, and again in the signal service. Much of his duty in the latter corps was performed at Newbern, North Carolina, where he held a position of great trust and danger during the closing days of the struggle.

While the nephew was away from home during the war, his uncle died, and the young man took up the management of the farm, marrying Miss R. Augusta Wall. He continued to farm the property for some years, but, tiring of the climate and the poor quality of the soil as compared with other sections of the country, he went to Barton County, Missouri, and engaged successfully in farming for several years. During this period he became acquainted with a lawyer named Avery, who was to change the entire course of Mr. Whitney's life and direct him to his later operations in the development of Skagit county. With Mr. Avery he formed a plan to enter into partnership in the banking business at Olympia, Washington. Mr. Avery preceded Mr. Whitney. The latter journeyed via San Francisco and on the way up from that city by boat was bereaved by the loss of his only daughter, who died of smallpox. Another blow fell upon Mr. Whitney on his arrival at Olympia. This was news that owing to the failure of the Northern Pacific railway to complete its line to the capital city it was not deemed wise to embark in the banking venture at that point. Just at this juncture Mr. Whitney heard of the tide lands of the Swinomish and visited this country. In May of 1872 he took up a claim on Indian slough near the site of the present village of Padilla, and with his wife commenced life in a shack erected on the undiked marsh land. Two cousins, E. A. Sisson and A. G. Tillinghast joined them in December of that year. A few small bits of tide land had been diked at this time, but it remained for Mr. Whitney and his cousins to inaugurate diking on a large scale. They proposed to enclose five hundred acres of tide lands in dike at a time when the project was but experiment and practical experience was unobtainable. The Puget sound country knows the result of that experiment on five hundred acres of Swinomish flat tide lands. It

has been said that those three men were "the mudsills of the foundation for the builders of this wonderful country," for their failures pointed out mistakes to those who came after, and their successes were patterns for the later reclamation work.

In 1874 Mr. Whitney was elected to the territorial legislature and served in that body most acceptably to his constituents, earning a reputation for hard work, fearlessness and incorruptibility in support of, or antagonism to, proposed measures. Two years later, Mrs. Whitney's health becoming undermined by consumption, Mr. Whitney took her and their two children to the Atlantic coast and consulted medical aid in the chief centers of the East, also visiting the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia. On the advice of physicians Mr. Whitney removed his family to California and settled in Colton, building the first house in that town. Here Mrs. Whitney and her youngest child died and were buried. He very soon returned to Puget sound and bought out his partner-cousins, a little later diking two hundred and fifty acres in addition to the original holdings of the partnership on Indian slough and connecting the two properties by private roadway and drawbridge three hundred feet in length. In 1888 Mr. Whitney purchased and placed under dike what is known as Whitney's island, a tract of land about seven hundred acres in extent. The large sloughs required expensive dams and the operation was one of great risk, but the work was accomplished by Mr. Whitney, and in 1889 he had one thousand acres in grass and grain. When the railroad was built Mr. Whitney sold his old ranch, but retained the new. About this time he removed his family to their present Fidalgo island place and turned much of his attention to his heavy investments in Anacortes real estate. In 1879 Mr. Whitney married Miss Kate Bradley, who still survives. Her father was V. L. Bradley. The family was the second white family at Stanwood, Snohomish flats, going there in 1870. Mr. Bradley died there in 1871. Mrs. Whitney was born in Missouri in 1855 and was seven years old when her father came to Washington territory, settling on Whidby island, and living there eight years. Mr. Whitney met death in an accident in August of 1891. Of Mr. Whitney, his character and services to the public, the La Conner Mail of August 6, 1891, speaks as follows:

"One of the saddest events the Mail has been called upon to record is the accident by which R. E. Whitney, one of the oldest settlers on the Swinomish flats, was called to his eternal reward. On Wednesday he was in town. He returned to his home in Anacortes after attending to some business in La Conner, planning new enterprises, etc. Friday morning, some of his family desiring to visit Bayview, he started with them. When but a short distance from the house, he was thrown

violently from the vehicle to the ground, receiving fatal injuries, which before midnight carried him to that bourne whence no traveler returns. The remains were interred Sunday in the Anacortes cemetery, an immense concourse being present. Members of the Anacortes city council attended in a body, he being an honored member. He leaves a wife and seven children, three being dead. He was a kind and indulgent husband and father, and always anxious for all around him to enjoy with him every musical, social and literary treat that could be provided. He was never idle or at rest unless asleep, and spent few hours in sleep; was always fearless to speak or do what he thought right, and was positive in his convictions. Everything he undertook was on so large a scale that it commanded public notice and was of public benefit. His payroll was always large and many hundreds of men have worked for him, some of whom, now wealthy, got their first start in this county from wages earned of him. * * * * * He had recently been giving his energy, mind and heart to the upbuilding of a great city at Anacortes, in whose future he had unbounded faith. He will be sorely missed in business circles, public life, the home, the Sunday school and social life generally."

JACOB W. LOWMAN, the popular police justice and justice of the peace of Anacortes, is a native of West Virginia, born in Franklin, May 14, 1837, the son of David Lowman. The father, a blacksmith by trade, and German by descent, was born in Rockingham County, Virginia, in 1808. He died in Indiana in 1888. Catherine (Gum) Lowman, the maternal ancestor, was born in the same state the same year, and died August 16, 1888. After completing his education in the schools of Virginia and Indiana, Jacob W. Lowman entered his father's shop in the latter state, became thoroughly familiar with all the details of the business, and with his father operated a farm for a number of years. He enlisted in the Twentieth Indiana Infantry when the war broke out, but was taken ill the following day, and was unable to go with his company. When he recovered from this sickness, he again engaged in farming, this time operating a place for himself. He opened a mercantile house in Buckcreek, Indiana, in 1864, and remained in this business till 1871, when he went on the road as a commercial traveller.

He moved to Chicago where he witnessed the terrible fire which destroyed that city. Afterwards he went to Canton, Illinois, where he remained five years, then to Boone, Iowa, his home until 1882, when he returned to Indiana and purchased his father-in-law's old home farm. In 1885 he retired from the road and for seven years devoted his entire attention to farming. He sold his place in 1892, came to Anacortes, started a hoop

factory and sold out in six months. During the financial depression of the 'nineties he engaged in various pursuits, dealing in real estate to some extent. He was elected by the Republican party to the office of justice of the peace in 1894 and has succeeded himself at each election since. He has held this position of trust, during his lifetime, for twenty-seven years, a most unusual record. Other honors, unsought, have come to him. He has been a member of the city council three years, was chosen mayor of Anacortes in 1897, was made city treasurer in 1898, and three times has been chosen his own successor to that office. He always has discharged his manifold duties with fidelity, and has contributed in many ways to the prosperity of the community.

Mr. Lowman was married in Indiana in 1862, to Miss Nancy A. Shigley, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Mahin) Shigley. Her father was a Virginian, born near Harper's Ferry in 1799, who came to Ohio at an early date, settling in 1855 in Indiana, where he died, having spent his entire life in agricultural pursuits. He was a German. Her mother was born in Kentucky in 1802, was married in Ohio, and died in Nebraska at the advanced age of ninety-one. Mrs. Lowman was born in Green County, Ohio, October 8, 1839. She received her education in the schools of her native state and in those of Indiana, fitted herself for teaching and entered that profession at the age of seventeen. For five years she was one of the most successful teachers of Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Lowman have had three children as follows: William A., born in Indiana, the well-known proprietor of the White Cress Cannery at Anacortes; Effie L., born in Indiana, the wife of A. M. Dilling, a carpenter and contractor in Anacortes; James G., born in Indiana, now the popular superintendent of schools of Skagit county, residing at Fredonia. Mr. Lowman is a member of the Odd Fellows. His property holdings include one hundred and twenty acres of timber land, his house and two lots in town, and some real estate which he rents. He is an active, intelligent, elderly gentleman, whose long years of public life have given him a wide circle of admiring friends.

WILLIAM V. WELLS. In the professional circles of Anacortes no one occupies a more enviable position than William V. Wells, Attorney at Law. For sixteen years he has been identified with the practice of the law in the courts of Skagit county and elsewhere and during this period has been exceptionally successful in the various departments of his profession. Mr. Wells is a native of the state of New York, the year of his birth being 1866, and Mannsville, Jefferson county, the place of his nativity. He is the son of John and Lozina (Lowry) Wells, natives also of the Empire state.

The elder Wells was of English, Irish and Scotch extraction and was a successful contractor and builder in his native state till the time of his death in 1892. The mother, Lozina Wells, was born in 1824 and is now living in the old New York home. William V. Wells spent the first twenty years of his life in New York state. There he received his early education in the common schools and in later years had the benefits of a higher course of study in the seminary at Lima. After finishing his studies in the New York schools he decided to seek a field of endeavor in the West and in 1886 found his way to Helena, Montana, where for a year or more he was employed in the mines of that section. His natural inclination, however, was towards a professional career, and he soon tired of the life of the miner. From Helena he went to Jamestown, North Dakota, for the purpose of resuming his studies and it was there he began preparation for the practice of the law. After three years of study in the Jamestown schools and in the law office of Jesse A. Frye, who was at that time a practitioner of Jamestown, North Dakota, and is at present United States district attorney for the state of Washington, he was admitted to the bar in 1889. In February, 1890, he came to Anacortes and formed a law partnership with Judge George A. Joiner, the arrangement continuing in effect until Mr. Joiner moved to Mount Vernon in 1895. In 1897 Mr. Wells temporarily abandoned the practice of his profession and went to Alaska where he again donned the garb of the miner, took up again the pick and pan and delved for riches in the hidden storehouses of nature. At the end of four years which were spent in the Bonanza creek mining region, and during which he was very successful in his operations, he again became a citizen of Anacortes. While on a visit to Anacortes from Dawson, Alaska, in 1899, a second partnership was formed with Judge Joiner, but was eventually dissolved when Mr. Joiner was elected to the bench. After disposing of his Alaskan property in 1901, Mr. Wells again turned his attention exclusively to his profession, becoming a member of the law firm of Quinby & Wells, whose practice is each year becoming more extensive and lucrative. Although diligently occupied with the manifold cares and responsibilities attaching to his law practice, he finds time for active participation in the affairs of church and state, and to devote to public measures and outside private concerns. He has faith in the future of the city and invested extensively in her real property. He is the owner of several brick blocks in Anacortes.

Mr. Wells was married in Anacortes January 3, 1894, his bride being Miss Daisy McLean, daughter of William and Anna B. (Linn) McLean, well-known residents of Anacortes. Mr. and Mrs. McLean are natives of Mercer County, Pennsylvania. After leaving Pennsylvania the

McLeans lived in turn in Kansas City, Missouri, and in Leadville, Colorado, coming to Anacortes in 1890. Mrs. Wells was born in Kansas City, Missouri, August 30, 1873. She was educated at Greenville, Pennsylvania, thereafter living with her parents until her marriage. For a time she was one of the most successful teachers in the Anacortes schools. She was possessed of rare strength and sweetness of character and her death with that of her twin boys on the tenth of May, 1897, was the cause of profound sorrow throughout the entire city.

Mr. Wells is a communicant of the Methodist church and to him belongs the honor of having been one of its founders in Anacortes, the organization having been effected in 1890; he has always taken an active part in the work of the church, and is at present serving as trustee and as superintendent of the Sunday school. Of the Odd Fellows he is a past grand. Mr. Wells is a man who "stands four-square to every wind that blows" and all who come in contact with him in business, the church or social life, are impressed with the genuine strength of his character, with the superior qualities of mind and heart that show forth in all his relations with others. His is the success that brings with it the confidence, respect and admiration of all classes.

CHARLES W. BEALE, the first white settler on Fidalgo island, a man whose life has been full of interesting events, was born in Mason County, Virginia, March 27, 1831. His father, John W. Beale, a veteran of the War of 1812, was a native of Shenandoah County, Virginia, but eventually moved to Missouri and spent the later years of his life there in the home of his son, dying at the age of ninety-seven. Anna M. (Hereford) Beale, the mother, also a Virginian, was born in 1800, and died during the terrible cholera scourge of 1854. Unusual educational advantages were enjoyed by Charles W. Beale, who after studying at Point Pleasant, Virginia, took a commercial course at Covington, Kentucky. Having completed his college course, he accepted the position of bookkeeper with the Covington, Kentucky, Mill Company, remaining one year. The following two years he held a clerkship on an Ohio and Mississippi river steamboat, and he was employed later by the B. T. Coleman Company of Louisville, Kentucky, as bookkeeper. He returned for a brief visit to Covington in December, 1851, whence, on the 3d of April, 1852, he started for Sacramento, California, in company with a party from Cincinnati. The trip was made by wagon, on horseback and on foot. Mr. Beale was stricken with mountain fever just as the party reached the head of the Humboldt river, but though unable to sit up, proceeded on the journey, enduring tortures that

only those who have had a similar experience can understand. When the destination was reached, his hip bones were almost exposed, from the constant jolting of the wagon, while his limbs were paralyzed and his hearing temporarily destroyed by the large quantity of quinine he had taken to break up the fever. It was not till the following spring that he recovered sufficiently to walk alone, but with the indomitable courage so characteristic of the man, he began driving a freight team from Green Valley to Petaluma before he was able to stand to harness his team. Upon recovering fully from his illness, he went to the placer mines of Sierra county, where he remained five years. He became poisoned by the foul, damp air of the mines, and was again taken sick, so eventually decided to go to Yreka, where he engaged in business. A few months later he sold out, and started on horseback for Salem, Oregon. There he met a friend with whom he had crossed the plains, and was induced by him to go to the Fraser river mining district in British Columbia, a region then believed to contain inexhaustible riches. Having journeyed by boat from Portland to Victoria, British Columbia, they crossed to the mouth of the Fraser river, and ascended the river to Hope, in a small vessel and a canoe. There Mr. Beale took up a claim that did not measure up to his expectations, so he bought a boat and ran the same between Hope and Yale until the close of the season. A few days before Christmas that year, he made a trip to the mouth of the Harrison river to obtain supplies from a vessel that was supposed to be in winter quarters there. He found that the vessel had gone, and after camping with Indians over night, he started down the river to Port Langley. The remainder of the winter he spent on the sound. While making the trip from Port Townsend to Whatcom in a flat boat, he was wrecked in a storm, and was obliged to walk to Colonel Eby's home, opposite Port Townsend. After cooking in a logging camp a few weeks, he started on a hunting trip with several others, ultimately reaching Guemes island. Owing to dissension in the party, he and another man started homeward, but were caught in a storm and barely escaped with their lives. It was a never to be forgotten experience. While his companion spent the night in prayer, Mr. Beale forced the frightened Indians at the point of his water soaked gun to paddle the canoe.

It was at the conclusion of this memorable hunting expedition that Mr. Beale joined the party which will go down in history as forming the first permanent white settlement in what is now Skagit county. There were five of these hardy, courageous frontiersmen, all hunters and prospectors, roving in search of fortune. Of their experiences a full account will be found elsewhere. They landed on Fidalgo island in March, 1859, and im-

mediately made camp on the fern covered prairie skirting the shores of Fidalgo bay. There Charles W. Beale and Lieutenant Davis, a nephew of the famed president of the Southern Confederacy, took squatters' claims, and erected a crude dwelling. Mr. Beale remained on his claim until late in 1862, then, leaving it in charge of his cousin Robert Beale, went north to the Cariboo mines on what he supposed would be a short trip. However, it lengthened out into a five years' absence, and upon his return to the island in 1867 he found that his cousin had sold the old claim. Undismayed, Mr. Beale at once crossed the bay and took another quarter section, which has since been his home. Of the five pioneer settlers of Fidalgo island, Mr. Beale is the only survivor, so far as is known, and is therefore entitled to the distinction of being Skagit county's oldest pioneer. In 1890 he had his property platted as Beale's Maple Grove Addition to Anacortes, and he still retains two hundred lots. Mr. Beale had two brothers in the Civil War, one a Confederate general, the other a surgeon in the Union army.

Married in 1865, Mr. Beale has raised a family of which any man might well be proud. The living children of Mr. Beale are: Charles W. and John R. of Anacortes; Mrs. F. L. Clem, of the Hotel Detroit, Seattle; Mrs. R. E. Bullick, whose husband, a detective in the employ of the Canadian Pacific railroad, had the honor of returning the securities stolen from the company in the famous robbery at Mission Junction; George C., of Anacortes; Francisco D., a graduate of Carlisle, now in the East; Lucretia, living in Anacortes. A daughter, Edith, died in Anacortes in 1903. Mr. Beale has been justice of the peace in Anacortes ten years. In politics he is an enthusiastic Democrat. His name is a prominent one in the history of Skagit county, of which he has the honor to be the oldest living pioneer. He is a man of unusual native intelligence, good education and broad experience: is well preserved and active for a man of his years, and is in all respects a worthy citizen of the county whose settlement he gave inception.

PETER E. NELSON, of Anacortes, Washington, is a man who has been endowed by nature with those intellectual qualities and personal traits of character which inevitably lead to success through whatever avenue the individual may choose to pursue the laborious research. As a youth in the common schools of Illinois he demonstrated his ability to apply his mental energies to a given task, thus equipping himself, in a comparatively brief period, with a practical education,—the foundation upon which he has ever since been building, and building well. In the after years of his life, whether on the farm or in the

mine, whether in commercial or other business pursuits, the faculty of concentrating his mental and physical powers for a definite purpose has lost none of its vigor, and for this cause success has come oftener than failure, the realization of hopes oftener than disappointment.

Mr. Nelson was born in Sweden May 23, 1861. The first twelve years of his life were passed in the country of his birth where his experiences were not unlike those of other boys who were his mates and peers. He came to the United States in 1873 and for fifteen years made his home in Illinois, finishing his education in her common schools and finding employment on her prairie farms. At the close of this period Mr. Nelson decided to seek a new location, desiring better opportunities than those by which he was surrounded, and a field for endeavor whose industrial and commercial channels were not overcrowded with restless seekers for the treasure which brings content or crowns the years with success. He started for the Northwest in 1888; stopped for a brief period in Denver, Colorado, and also in Seattle; but before the close of the year had reached Anacortes. Here he was given a position with the United States coast and geodetic survey, then charting the lower sound region, with which he served three years. After this he attended business college at Portland, Oregon. Returning to Anacortes he became assistant postmaster, and during the memorable boom of '90 engaged in the real estate business. Later he was a prospector in the tortuous canons and on the slopes of the Cascades, being one of the pioneers of the Slate creek region. A radical change in occupation was when he exchanged pick and pan to assist in the publishing of the Anacortes American. The next step was from printing office to storeroom, when he associated with J. G. Hurd in the grocery business. When the Klondike excitement broke out in 1897, Mr. Nelson joined in the stampede. He was one of the first to reach the now historic White Pass trail, which was crossed after weeks of hardship and danger, and in company with other venturesome spirits built a flat boat and made the exciting voyage down the lakes and Yukon river to Dawson, arriving in midwinter. For five years he struggled with fortune in the northern wilds—driving dog team, mining, and participating in many of the stampedes that made the Klondike famous. He returned to Anacortes in 1902, shortly afterward becoming interested in the Anacortes Water Company and being elected its vice president, and he now devotes his energies principally to the water and lighting business. Although his time is well occupied with business cares, Mr. Nelson has an enduring interest in public affairs, all movements for the betterment of general conditions having his hearty support. Although not especially active in political matters, the Republican

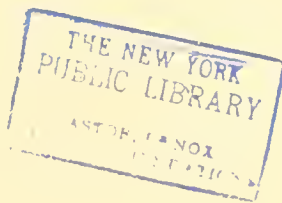
party candidates receive the benefit of his influence and his vote. Besides his interest in the local water and lighting systems, Mr. Nelson is interested largely in city, real estate, and in the Slate creek mines.

The successful business man,—the man who has unwavering faith in the future of the community; who builds his home and invests his capital in the various enterprises that surround it; who lends material aid to progressive policies,—such a man is an essential portion of the bone and sinew that build the cities of any section and makes of them commercial and industrial centers. It is to the successful business men, with whom Mr. Nelson is justly classed, that Anacortes is largely indebted for the progress of the last decade and for the commercial and industrial activity of today. He is a man of sound principles, of untiring energy, capable in the mastery of business details and possessing ability as an executive. He holds the confidence and esteem of his immediate associates as well as of the general public and is well worthy of prominent mention in the history of his home city, with which his worldly interests are so closely identified.

GUS HENSLER. The thriving commercial center of Anacortes holds no citizen who is more representative of that class of practical business men who have brought about the present-day prosperity of the city, than he whose name is introductory to this brief biography. Mr. Hensler was born in Audrain County, Missouri, October 22, 1864, the son of August and Catherine Dorothy (Lange) Hensler, natives of Germany. August Hensler left the Fatherland for the United States in the fifties, settled in Missouri, married there and made that state his home until 1892, when he immigrated to Washington where he passed away eleven years later, aged sixty-seven. He was of German and French ancestry. His wife, is the mother of four children of whom Gus is the oldest. One son is deceased and two daughters are living. Gus Hensler acquired his education in Fayette, Missouri, supplementing the common school studies with a course in a denominational academy under the supervision of the Methodist church, South. When eighteen years old, he left the parental roof and assumed for himself the responsibilities of life, finding occupation for a time as a cattle buyer for shippers. He bade farewell to the environments of his youth and early manhood in 1884, and in June, 1889, landed at Seattle. During the intervening period he was variously employed as a cattle ranger and deputy sheriff in Harper County, Kansas, and again as a cattle ranger in New Mexico. He remained but a few weeks in Seattle, finding his way in July, 1889, to Fidalgo island, where he purchased a relinquish-



— Geo. Henkle.



ment and also filed a preemption on land near Anacortes. Soon after his arrival on the island he became the local agent of the McNaught Land and Investment Company and is still their representative at this point. He was also engaged as land agent for the Seattle and Northern railroad, being retained in the same capacity by the Great Northern when this company acquired the rights of the former corporation.

At Springfield, Illinois, August 20, 1890, Mr. Hensler married Miss Annie Baker, daughter of James Baker, a locomotive engineer who lost his life in a railroad accident about the time of her birth. Her mother, Mrs. Sarah (Hargraves) Baker, a native of England, is still living in the Illinois home. Mrs. Hensler was born in Indiana in 1867, but the family removed to Illinois when she was young, and in the latter state she was educated, following the common school course with several terms in an Episcopal school.

In fraternal circles Mr. Hensler is known as a Blue Lodge Mason; and has served as master of his lodge for four years—1893-4 and 1903-4. As a Democrat, he was elected to the office of city clerk for the period from 1893 to 1897. He was chairman of the board of county commissioners during the years 1897-8. Of the city council he is now an active member, with a total service of six years in that capacity. During fifteen years of residence in the city he has built up one of the largest real estate and insurance clienteles in the county,—an evidence of managing ability and mental energy. He is one of the strong men of Anacortes; successful in his private business, and earnest and enthusiastic in his support of laudable public enterprises. Firmly established in the confidence of his immediate associates and of the general public, he stands for the best type of citizenship and is an advocate of all measures having in view the material progress of Anacortes and contiguous country, and the betterment of the condition of his fellow-citizens.

RICHARD P. MINTER is one of the best known real estate men and townsite promoters in the entire state, having carried several ventures of that character to a successful termination in various parts of Washington. He is also the pioneer real estate man in Anacortes, though his work has not permitted him to remain continuously a resident of the city. Mr. Minter was born in Cape Girardeau County, Missouri, August 12, 1860. His father, Benjamin A. Minter, was a native of Virginia, a farmer, and the son was born during the journey to settle in Missouri. Mrs. Annie K. (Tisdal) Minter was also a native of the Old Dominion, the mother of eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch is next to the youngest. Richard Minter's formal education was

limited to three months in the public schools, but in native gifts augmented by a mind, active and retentive to what is passing, he is richly endowed and has acquired in the years since childhood what he was unable to gain as a lad. When he was nine years old he was at work helping his father pay for the home and he continued with his father until twenty-five years of age. In 1885 Mr. Minter went to Los Angeles, California, and engaged in contract plastering, at the end of a year engaging in the real estate business with Schaffer, Lauerma & Town. While with them he assisted in subdividing several tracts of land at Los Angeles, and selling them off. He then went to the Santa Ana valley, nine miles from the city of that name, and started the town of Fairview, building a narrow gauge railroad for communication and traffic with other places. He returned to Missouri and passed the year 1888 in the state of his nativity. On his return to the coast in 1889, Mr. Minter passed some time in Tacoma and in Spokane but decided to settle in Ellensburg, Washington, and go into the real estate business. He remained there only a short time and came to Fairhaven, Whatcom county, entering the employ of Governor Black, Rettie Bon Brothers and J. Warder in the real estate business. In 1890 he came to Anacortes, Washington, opened the first real estate office in town and sold the first town lot. In 1900 he went to Snohomish county and in the interests of the Snohomish Land Company in which he was a partner, bonded nine hundred acres of the townsite of Everett. The company through Mr. Minter handled this property, the site which ultimately became the town of Lowell and outside property at Everett. In 1893 Mr. Minter handled the townsite of Sultan City for Mrs. Stevens, clearing a good profit for the owner. In the fall of that year he returned to Anacortes and continued in business there until 1897 when he accepted a proposition from Dan Wilson to go east of the mountains and float the townsites of Davenport and Harrington in Lincoln county and Ritzville in Adams county. Of this work he made another big success and by 1901 had returned to Anacortes where he has lived ever since. In company with Ben Badge, J. L. Romer and Soles & Molten he purchased and named the townsite of Burlington but sold out to advantage in six weeks. Mr. Minter has considerable property interests in Anacortes and in addition to his realty business does a good business for several insurance companies. He is one of the Democratic leaders in that part of the county. Mr. Minter is a man of great popularity which is partly responsible for his success in business and his influence in politics.

ALFRED J. STACEY, until recently a popular resident of Anacortes, was born near Daven-

port, Iowa, July 20, 1866, the son of Alfred J. and Mary (Leamer) Stacey. The father, also a native of Davenport, died at the age of twenty-seven, just prior to the birth of his son, and at a later date, the mother, who at present is in Seattle, became the wife of Harvey K. Wallace, now deceased. She was born in Iowa in 1845. Brought by his mother to Seattle when four years old, Alfred J. Stacey lived with the family there, and later moved with them to La Conner, where his stepfather took a homestead. While in Seattle Mr. Wallace was offered his choice of a number of lots if he would erect a house upon it, also forty acres in the heart of the city of to-day for the trifling sum of three hundred dollars, but unable to see the wisdom of accepting these offers, he brought his family to La Conner, whence, seven years later, he went to California. Though a boy of only ten years at the time of his stepfather's departure from the country, Mr. Stacey decided to begin life for himself instead of accompanying the family to California, and hired out as a farm hand. In two years he was able to do a man's work, receiving, however, but a mere pittance, two dollars and a half, for an entire year spent in diking. After a year on Fidalgo island, he went to the woods of Snohomish county, and worked one winter, attending school the following summer. Going to Pleasant Ridge he continued to attend school, working for his board, and in this way acquired a practical education, in the face of obstacles that would have seemed insurmountable to a less determined nature. At the age of seventeen he and a brother rented farms for three years, after which Mr. Stacey attended the territorial university two years. Returning to La Conner he soon purchased forty acres of timber land. In the spring of 1888 he was employed by R. E. Whitney in the reclamation of Whitney's island, but at the end of the second month he was taken very ill with inflammatory rheumatism, and forced to sell his land to meet the expense of his illness. Upon his recovery he made a brief visit to Iowa, going thence in turn to Nebraska, Utah, and California, and finally locating in Coupeville, Washington, where he accepted employment as clerk. After working for two years at Bayview, on the ranch owned by E. A. Sisson, he moved to La Conner, and invested in four acres of land, upon which he built a house and barn. He devoted his entire attention to raising cabbage seed, there being an excellent demand for that product. The unusually severe winter of 1893, worked great hardships upon him, and when his next crop was ready for market he found himself in debt to the amount of \$2,250, but practicing strict economy, he toiled on with characteristic energy, until he sold his property in 1901. He then leased a farm for four years, and at the end of the third year found he had cleared \$1,100, and had a bank account of \$1,800. Coming to Ana-

cortes in February, 1904, he invested in real estate, a house and two lots in one part of the town, twelve lots in another locality, and a one-half interest in eleven other lots. He accepted a clerkship there, and remained at work until the spring of 1906, when, having on January 27th traded his realty to George N. Shumway for a farm in the Samish valley, he moved onto that place and began farming.

Mr. Stacey was married July 20, 1892, to Susan B. Horsey, born in Adair County, Iowa, December 19, 1870. Her father, P. W. Horsey, now residing in Anacortes, is a Kentuckian, born in 1847. Sarah A. (Singer) Horsey, her mother, was born in 1849 in Clayton County, Iowa, and is now a resident of Anacortes. She is the mother of eight children, Mrs. Stacey being the second. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Stacey as follows: Sidney, April 26, 1893; Jesse, July 16, 1894; William, July 16, 1896; Carrie, October 18, 1898; Melvin, August 5, 1900; Theodore C., April 25, 1903. Mr. Stacey is a member of the Woodmen of the World, while his wife is a prominent worker in the Women's Christian Temperance Union, and in Martha Washington Circle of the Grand Army of the Republic. Although for many years a loyal Republican, Mr. Stacey has never accepted any political office. He and his family attend the Baptist church. A man of upright character, broad minded, and public spirited, he enjoys the confidence and esteem of the entire community.

CAPTAIN JOHN A. MATHESON. The respect and honor always due and generally accorded with cheerfulness to the man who has the foresight to introduce a new industry and carry it on successfully where its possibilities were not before recognized certainly belongs in abundant measure to Captain John A. Matheson, the pioneer of the cod fishing and packing industry of Anacortes. The captain came naturally by his love for the sea and for the taking and curing of the products thereof, having been connected with both since he was a lad of a few summers. He was born in a maritime country, the province of Nova Scotia, Canada, and has in his veins the blood of a people world-famed for industry, thrift and forcefulness of character, the sturdy Scotch race, for his parents, Donald and Flora Matheson, were both natives of the land of Burns and Watt. In 1860, when but eleven years old, he forsook the school room, and engaged in shore fishing along the coast of Nova Scotia, which line of industry engaged his energies continuously until 1872. In that year, however, he removed to Provincetown, Massachusetts, and engaged in fishing on the Grand Banks, in the vicinity of which he continued to reside and to pursue his chosen vocation

until 1890. He then determined to try his fortunes on the Pacific coast, so sent his fishing vessel from New York around the Horn to San Francisco, while he himself journeyed westward overland. The vessel reached its destination very early in the year 1891, and was at once fitted out for a trip to Behring sea and sent to try its fortunes in the cod fisheries of the far north. That fall it returned to Anacortes, where Captain Matheson had decided to locate, with a goodly catch, the first ship load of cod to enter a Puget sound port. Thus was inception given to the cod fishing and cod curing industry of Anacortes, an industry which has ever since been contributing its share to the commercial prosperity and development of the town and which promises in future far to surpass in importance the achievements of the past. Captain Matheson has devoted himself almost without interruption to the industry of catching and curing the Behring Sea cod since his arrival in Anacortes in July, 1891, though during the season of 1898 he sent his vessel to Kotzebue sound and St. Michaels on a trading expedition, while he himself remained in Anacortes.

In Boston, Massachusetts, in the year 1885, Captain Matheson married Miss Kate, daughter of Hugh and Catherine (McDonald) Campbell, of Marble Mountain, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, and of this union two children were born, namely, Flora M. and Catherine W., both of whom are still at home. Mrs. Matheson died in 1895, and the Captain has since married Miss Josephine, daughter of Charles H. Merry. She was born in Galena, Illinois, in 1860. In politics Captain Matheson is a Democrat, in fraternal affiliation a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He has contributed very materially to the progress of his home town and Skagit county by inaugurating and carrying forward a valuable industry, and the people of Anacortes, who are always watchful to encourage everything which has a tendency to promote the local business interests, do not fail to accord him a prominent place among those who have been progressive forces in the past history of their town, and who will continue to confer industrial blessings in the future. At the same time they honor his sterling integrity as a man and his disposition to discharge always the duties which devolve upon him as a citizen and a member of society.

WILLIAM F. ROBINSON. The truth of the statement that concentration is the secret of success is confirmed in the experience of the enterprising gentleman whose life record is the theme of this review. Having prepared himself by early training and experience for a business career, he then devoted his entire mind and ener-

gies to the mastery of the fish industry and the utilization of fish products, securing results of which any man might well be proud. At the same time he has been achieving an industrial success for himself. He has made discoveries which have added to the sum of the world's knowledge, thereby in a measure making all mankind his debtor and earning a share of that fair fame which should be accorded to all who push out into the realm of the unknown and conquer from it useful secrets.

Mr. Robinson was born in Peabody, Massachusetts, September 8, 1859, the son of Benjamin and Catherine (Murray) Robinson, the former of whom, himself a native of Massachusetts, born in Gloucester, in 1829, was not a little proud of the fact that he came of the worthy and justly famed stock, which had its origin in America in the Pilgrim Fathers. Some member of the family has been a resident of Gloucester, in the old Bay State, since 1830, and some of the Robinsons have been history makers in a true sense, one of the most widely celebrated of them being the Reverend John Robinson, whose family in the year 1630 came to America after having become famous in history as one of the prominent organizers in the movement that prompted the Pilgrims to throw off an orthodoxical bondage and brave the dangers of a new and almost unknown world. And still later, 1713, Captain Andrew Robinson of Gloucester, Mass., having constructed a vessel which he masted and rigged in the same manner as schooners are at this day, on her going off the stocks and passing into the water, a bystander cried out, "Oh, how she scoons." When Robinson immediately replied "A schooner let her be," from which time vessels thus masted and rigged have gone by the name schooners.

For many years the father of our subject was actively engaged in the handling of fish and fish products but he is now spending his declining years in retirement in the state of his nativity. The mother, who was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in 1834, was of Scotch-English extraction. Orphaned at the age of twelve by the death of her mother, she was brought to Massachusetts, where her education was acquired and the remainder of her life was spent.

Upon completing a common school course, William F. Robinson of this article, finished his educational training in the French Business College, of Boston. A restless ambition impelled him to go on the road as a commercial traveller at the age of sixteen and for the ensuing sixteen years he was thus employed. Grit, energy and native ability failed not to tell for success in this line of endeavor, but ever watchful for opportunities for advancement Mr. Robinson determined to seek a larger field for the exercise of his commercial abilities, and the fish industry, the life

work of his father, with its world wide possibilities, very naturally attracted him. His residence on the Pacific Coast dates from 1893, when he came to San Francisco and established a plant for the manufacture of liquid fish glue, a branch of the fish industry which has appealed to him most powerfully, in which he is a pioneer and to which he has contributed very materially by his own researches and discoveries. This plant he operated very successfully three years, but he was too vigilant to overlook the superior advantages of the Sound country, with its excellent harbors and its proximity to the cod of the northern seas, so in 1896 he moved to Seattle, where he and N. B. Colt, whom he had interested in his enterprise, formed a firm known as the Robinson & Colt Company, Inc., and began the manufacture of fish fertilizer and oil. In 1897 the business was removed to Anacortes, that location offering superior advantages over any other point on the Sound. Two years later Mr. Robinson purchased his partner's interest, but as soon after sold it again to men in Seattle, and in January, 1904, the old company was entirely superseded by a new corporation then formed known as the Robinson Fisheries Company, which assumed all the rights and privileges of its predecessor and elected the following officers: William F. Robinson, president and manager; Andrew Chilberg, vice president; A. H. Soelberg, secretary. The paid up capital stock of the concern is \$100,000. The scope of the business has been materially widened by these progressive men, the most important advance being the taking up of the codfish trade, no limits to the possibilities of which can be foreseen at this time. Two vessels of 450 tons capacity each have been fitted up by this enterprising firm to catch fish in the waters of Behring Sea and transport them to Anacortes, where an immense plant has been built and equipped for the purpose of curing the fish and preparing them for market. A really superior product is the result, one which is in demand not alone in this country but in foreign lands as well and one which is rapidly finding new markets for itself as its excellence becomes better known. Mr. Robinson is still deeply interested in the manufacture of liquid fish glue, the industry in which he has achieved his greatest triumphs, triumphs which first made him famous in the annals of the fish industry, though he has now come to be recognized throughout the entire Northwest as authority on all matters pertaining to the subject.

In the year 1880 Mr. Robinson married Nellie E. Orne, who was born in Gloucester, Massachusetts, September 13, 1861, the daughter of Freeman and Mary (Jeffries) Orne, natives of Maine and Nova Scotia respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson have one daughter, Mrs. Mary M. Traf-

ton, born in Massachusetts, December 19, 1883, whose husband John E. Trafton, is associated with his father-in-law in the fish industry. They also have one son, Guy W., born in Massachusetts July 24, 1884; also a grandson, Ellsworth Trafton, born in Anacortes in June, 1902. Though a very busy man, as a man must be, whose field of business operations includes so large a part of the earth's surface and who attempts the mastery of an intricate and exacting industry, Mr. Robinson finds time to discharge his duties as a good citizen and public spirited member of the community, even consenting to accept and attend to the sometimes vexatious requirements of such offices as school director and president of the board of school trustees. He is active also in fraternal matters, though in this direction he confines his energies to the mastery of the teachings of the Masonic order, that most ancient of all brotherhoods and the parent of all. His mammoth establishment is the most important in the city of Anacortes both in its present accomplishment and its prospects for future development. The citizens of the progressive little seaport city recognize this as a fact and are firm in the belief that great benefit will accrue to them in particular and to the entire Sound country in general from the operations of Mr. Robinson and his worthy associates.

MRS. CATHERINE NELSON, wife of the late Noah Nelson, was born in Indiana, March 16, 1842, the daughter of Henry and Margaret Greenwood, the father a native of North Carolina, the mother, of Virginia. Both parents are deceased. Growing to womanhood in the home of her parents, Mrs. Nelson acquired her education in the schools of her native state, while at the same time becoming practically familiar with the work incident to farm life.

In 1863 she was united in marriage to Noah Nelson, a prosperous young farmer of Indiana, born June 9, 1839. After spending the first three and a half years of their wedded life in Indiana, they decided to locate in Minnesota and in the full flush of youth, health and happiness, they soon took up an eighty-acre homestead in Wright county, all heavily timbered. They resided upon it for the ensuing eighteen years. Sharing her husband's toil in the woods and fields, Mrs. Nelson ably assisted in clearing the ranch, of which only six acres remained in timber when they sold it, to move to Washington. Upon arriving here they purchased one hundred acres of the present town-site of Anacortes, and the task of clearing was at once begun. In 1890, during the phenomenal activity in real estate Mr. Nelson platted the forty acres he has cleared into town lots, selling the re-

mainder of the homestead. He later built a shingle mill, which he operated for some time but during the panic of the early 'nineties he lost this property, and other holdings amounting to a large sum. That he could not have foreseen future events and thus availed himself of the opportunity of making a fortune, was a matter of ceaseless regret to him. He died in Anacortes, May 29, 1902. Eleven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Nelson as follows: Columbus, of Anacortes; Mrs. Ellen Burg, of Nooksack; Marion, who was drowned two days after the family came to Anacortes; Charles, at home; Harvey, on Fidalgo island; Mrs. Elva Welte, of Enumclaw; John, at Anacortes; Mark and Helen (deceased); Mrs. Bertha Gadbois, of Anacortes; Hugh, also of Anacortes. Possessed of rare strength and sweetness of character, Mrs. Nelson has endeared herself to the entire community. Her holdings include the block whereon is her neat and commodious nine room house, and much other Anacortes property in the form of houses and lots.

COLUMBUS NELSON, a well known resident of Anacortes, until recently in the employ of the Fidalgo Lumber Company, was born in Grant County, Indiana, January 25, 1863. His father, Noah Nelson, who was a native of Indiana, born June 9, 1839, in early manhood moved to Minnesota. After farming there for several years, he decided to seek the superior advantages afforded by the Northwest to young men of industry; so came to Washington, locating in Anacortes, where he invested in one hundred acres of timber land, the present site of the town, and at once began improving it. During the boom of 1890, he platted the forty acres he had cleared, into town lots, selling the remainder of the farm. About this time also, he was offered a fortune for his holdings, and his refusal to sell was a matter of lifelong regret to him. In the financial depression that soon overwhelmed the country, he lost heavily. His death occurred in Anacortes, May 29, 1902. Catherine (Greenwood) Nelson, the mother, was born in Indiana, March 16, 1842, remaining at home till her marriage in 1863. Coming with her husband to Anacortes in 1883, she experienced the trials and dangers incident to pioneer life, nobly assisting her husband in every possible way. She is now an honored resident of Anacortes.

The oldest child of a family of eleven, Columbus Nelson was brought by his parents to Minnesota in infancy, there growing to manhood, and acquiring his education in the common schools. At the age of nineteen he began learning the carpenter's trade, and he worked two years for wages, at the end of which time he was able to take contracts for residences in Anacortes, whither

he had come at the beginning of his business career. Forming a partnership with his father and brothers, he assisted in building the shingle mill, which was lost during the panic of the 'nineties. Moving to Bellingham, he worked a year for the Morris Hardware Company, later accepting the position of saw filer in the shingle mill of R. P. Thomas, at Anacortes. Returning two years afterward to Bellingham, he was employed by the Northwood Cedar Company for three years. Again making Anacortes his home, he worked for a time in various mills in the town. Two years ago he became associated with the Fidalgo Lumber Company, taking charge of filing the saws used in their extensive works, a position which he has filled with entire satisfaction to the company until very recently.

Mr. Nelson and Clara M. Kale were united in marriage June 12, 1890. A native of Iowa, Mrs. Nelson moved with her parents to Bellingham in 1882. Her father, C. Stewart Kale, was born near Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, February 7, 1848. He located in Iowa in boyhood, remaining there until 1882; when he became a resident of Bellingham. Her mother, Charlotte E. (McNeal) Kale, a native of Andover, Massachusetts, born May 18, 1850, is now residing at Everson, Washington. Mr. Nelson is a loyal Republican, but has never sought political prominence. He is interested in real estate, owning six city lots and a neat, commodious home, equipped with modern conveniences and luxuries. He also owns a fine yacht, and he and his wife enjoy many a sail on the river. He is a man of industry, energy, and sterling worth, held in the highest esteem by his many acquaintances.

JOHN NELSON, a prosperous shingle weaver of Anacortes, residing on Twenty-third street, was born in Wright County, Minnesota, March 3, 1877. His father, Noah Nelson, a native of Indiana, moved in early life to Minnesota, and farmed there until 1883, when he decided to find a home in the Northwest. Stopping in Seattle for a short time, he then came on to Anacortes, purchasing a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, all heavily timbered with the exception of a four-acre orchard. The town at that time consisted of one store, a hotel and several rude dwelling houses. During the boom of 1889, he was offered the sum of \$151,000 for his property, but refused the sale. The following year he built a shingle mill on his part of the townsite, selling shingles at one dollar and a half to two dollars a thousand for the first few months. The price having dropped to ninety cents per thousand, he lost heavily; he died May 28, 1902, never ceasing to regret that he had lost his opportunity of making a fortune. Catherine (Greenwood)

Nelson, the mother, was born March 16, 1842, in Indiana, growing to womanhood and receiving her education in that state.

Brought by his parents to Anacortes when a boy of six, John Nelson attended school for ten years, then entered his father's shingle mill, where he worked until, on account of the low price of the product, his father went out of the business. After working a short time for B. D. Minkler at Lyman, he returned to Anacortes, and was employed in mills for several months, after which he visited various towns in British Columbia and Washington. While in the employ of the Co-operative Shingle Mill he had the misfortune to lose all the fingers of the left hand.

Mr. Nelson was married November 15, 1899, and he and Mrs. Nelson have two children: Leah E., born August 7, 1900, and Louie C. B., August 24, 1903. Mr. Nelson is prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of the Odd Fellows and the Modern Brotherhood of America; his wife is also identified with this latter organization, and with the Royal Circle of Foresters. Mr. Nelson is a Republican, loyally supporting his party in every way. Upon his return to Anacortes, he invested in ten city lots and the neat house where he now lives. For the past eighteen months he has been with R. P. Thomas, establishing for himself an enviable reputation for industry and faithfulness. A young man of correct business habits, his future success is assured.

ROBERT P. THOMAS, saw-mill man and merchant of Anacortes, is one of the prominent citizens of that city, as well as a man of recognized ability throughout the Northwest country. He has been mayor of his town, is a public spirited gentleman and one who has received honors from his fellows and peers. Mr. Thomas was born in Philadelphia in 1861, the son of Robert P. Thomas, also a native of the Quaker city, whose forebears came to this country with the illustrious William Penn. The elder Thomas was born in 1820 on the land received under grant by his ancestors from the founder of Philadelphia in 1682, which has since been condemned by the city for park purposes, and forms a portion of Fairmount park. The elder Mr. Thomas enlisted in the Civil War in 1861, and received successive promotions until he was killed, February 7, 1864, in a skirmish in Virginia, while ranking as colonel. Mrs. Sarah (Bacon) Thomas, his wife, was also a Philadelphian, born in 1822, and was the mother of six children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the youngest. Robert P. Thomas, of this sketch, received his education in the Pordicey school of Philadelphia, graduating when sixteen years of age and at once entering upon

the wholesale drug business as clerk. After four years' experience in that line he went (1881) to St. Paul, Minnesota, and entered the employ of the Northern Pacific railroad, serving two years as clerk and timber inspector and in 1883 becoming general fuel and timber agent at St. Paul. He served in that capacity for nine years, resigning in 1892 and coming to Tacoma. He followed various pursuits for two years and then leased a couple of small shingle mills near Tacoma and operated them successfully for two years. At the end of this period, hearing of the financial condition of the mill at Anacortes, he came here and looked the proposition over. It was a shingle mill, built in 1891 by the Anacortes Co-operative Shingle Company, but had changed hands several times and was then for sale by the mortgagees. It was the first mill on Fidalgo bay. Mr. Thomas decided to purchase the mill. He operated it as a shingle mill until the summer of 1900 when he remodeled it into a saw-mill and has continued to operate it ever since.

In 1891 Mr. Thomas married Miss Effie Lahr, to whom one child was born, Sarah. In 1902 he was again married and to Miss Mary E. Colt. In fraternal circles Mr. Thomas is a Mason, of the Royal Arch degree, a Mystic Shriner and a grand regent. In politics he is a Republican and active in all party matters and councils. He was mayor of Anacortes from 1900 to 1903 and has served in the city council for two years. He was also a member of the Washington commission to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. Mr. Thomas has engaged in a wide field of activities, and in each of them he has been a leader. He has fine qualities of mind and heart and is a whole-souled, public spirited man.

JAMES H. CAVANAUGH is a successful mill man of Anacortes who has followed the shingle business almost continuously since attaining the years of manhood and who knows it thoroughly in all its branches. He was born in Albany, New York, October 3, 1852, the son of Charles Cavanaugh, who emigrated from Ireland in 1851 and settled at Albany, a few years later going to Lewis County, New York, where he is still living. Mrs. Margaret (Kenney) Cavanaugh was also a native of the Emerald Isle and was married there. She was the mother of ten children, of whom James is the second in order. James received his education in the schools of Albany and Lewis county, remaining at home until he was twenty years of age. In 1872 he went to Pennsylvania and began life in the logging camps of that state, remaining there for two years, when he went to Michigan and took his first steps in the shingle mill business. Six years of work in

the Peninsula state were followed by a year in the woods and with shingle mills in Arkansas. In 1881 he returned to New York and for six years sawed timber for T. B. Baslieu in the Black river section of New York's wooded belt. He then returned to Arkansas and to the shingle business until 1894, when he came to Washington and located at Francis, where he built a shingle mill of his own and operated it, and a tributary logging camp for eight years. He sold out in 1902 to the Globe Lumber Company, then came to Anacortes and built his present mill on Fidalgo bay. The output of this mill is 200,000 a day.

In 1877, at Greenville, Michigan, Mr. Cavanaugh married Miss Addie Butterfield, daughter of Myron Butterfield, then a carpenter and now a farmer in Arkansas. The mother of Mrs. Cavanaugh, Mrs. Mary (Mason) Cavanaugh, was a native of Michigan and died in Arkansas. Mrs. Cavanaugh was born in the Peninsula state in 1860 and was educated in the schools of that state. She and Mr. Cavanaugh have seven children: Mrs. Mary Moore, of Tacoma; Mrs. Maggie McNutt, of Tarbo Bay; Addie; Charles; James; Hattie, and Sadie. The two sons work in the mill and are their father's assistants in the management of the business. In politics Mr. Cavanaugh is a Republican, in religion a Catholic. His previous milling experience has been used to the best advantage since he came to Anacortes and his affairs are in a very prosperous condition. He is a man of forceful character, and one of the progressive citizens of Anacortes. During the twelve years of his residence in Skagit county he has been a prominent figure in commercial and industrial circles, at all times lending the weight of his influence for the promotion of the public's best interests.

HON. R. LEE BRADLEY, representative from Skagit county in the state legislature and one of the leading business men of Anacortes, is also a native son of Washington, his parents being among the early pioneers of Puget sound. The fertile tide and valley lands, the magnificent, endless forests of fir and cedar, and the beautiful, bold shored inland waters of the sound, which distinguish this region from all others and render it so enchanting to all strangers have formed his lifelong environments and have been his continual inspiration from childhood. Unlike many, he has recognized his opportunities and grasped them without going to a strange country, and almost within sight of his birthplace has won what success he has attained thus far.

The little village of Oak Harbor, Whidby island, was the family's home when R. Lee Bradley was born January 3, 1869. Valentine B. Bradley, the father, a Virginian by birth, was, as

he has been informed, a cousin of W. O. Bradley, the well known governor of Kentucky. Sailing from New York in 1862, the elder Bradley came direct to Washington Territory, by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and located in 1863 on Whidby island, taking a homestead in the little settlement being gradually formed on the peaceful shores of Penn's Cove. At that date Skagit county's only settlement was a very small one at the head of Fidalgo bay, while the only settlements on the entire mainland between Seattle and Whatcom were trading posts at Mukilteo and Snohomish City. The great tide flats for the most part were still reigned over by Neptune and the sound of the woodman's ax had as yet scarcely been heard in the virgin forests. Even nine years later, when the Bradleys took up their abode on the flats at the mouth of the Stillaguamish river, the reclamation of those rich lands had been barely begun and the town of Stanwood was years from its inception. Upon that pioneer claim, the elder Bradley passed away the same year in which he settled. Mrs. Josephine (May) Bradley, the mother of R. Lee, was born in Missouri. She came with her husband to Washington in 1862, shared with him the privations and dangers of pioneer life on Puget sound, and, hale and hearty, still survives him, living in Anacortes at present.

After attending the public schools of Snohomish county until he was thirteen years of age, the subject of this review accompanied his mother to La Conner. There he received instruction from a teacher who was later to reach the foremost official position in his state, Henry McBride, now ex-Governor McBride. After supplementing his public school work by a course in the normal school, Mr. Bradley, at that time only fifteen years old, took up the serious duties of life on the farm of his brother-in-law, Rienzi E. Whitney, one of the leaders of his time in this section of the state. Five years later, in 1890, the young man went to Seattle and entered a store as clerk, but a few months afterward purchased from Mr. Whitney the farm on which he had previously worked. He farmed this place in the Swinomish flats twelve years with marked success, selling it in 1902 to enter the mercantile business at Anacortes, as the successor of Lewis Foss. As in other lines of activity, Mr. Bradley has attained success in this venture, his business keeping step with the advance of that prosperous little seaport. For many years a loyal, active Republican, he was honored by his party in 1904 by being elected a representative to the legislature, an office which he is filling with credit to himself and those who placed their trust in him.

Miss Jessie Stearns, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl H. Stearns, of Edison, a full biographical sketch of whom appears elsewhere in these

chronicles, was united in marriage to Mr. Bradley at Bay View, in 1895, and thus two pioneer families were united. Mr. Stearns, a Pennsylvanian by birth and descent, is a pioneer of Kansas. He came to Skagit county in 1883 and is at present a well known Samish farmer. Mrs. Margaret (Closson) Stearns, whose death occurred in June, 1905, was a native of Kansas, and before her marriage taught school several years. Coming with her parents to Washington from Kansas, where she was born December 1, 1875, Mrs. Bradley attended the public schools here, completing her education by a course in the normal at Whatcom. She then took up the teaching profession and at the time of her marriage was known as one of the most successful teachers in Skagit county. She is a prominent member of the Methodist church. Mr. Bradley is affiliated with but one fraternity, the Odd Fellows, being a past grand of Bay View Lodge No. 128. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bradley are highly esteemed in social circles for their genial, sterling qualities, and in his sphere Mr. Bradley is recognized as a leader of ability and substantial virtues.

JOHN P. MILLET, the proprietor of the Vendome Hotel in Anacortes, is one of the best known pioneers of Skagit county, a man who more than once has been compelled by the demands of the people to lay aside his own affairs to accept public office. He was born in Milo, Maine, April 26, 1853, the son of Christopher C. and Olive (Sargent) Millet, both natives of the Pine Tree state. The mother died five years ago at the age of eighty-four; the father passed away when John P. Millet was a boy. The young man remained at home faithfully assisting his mother and attending school until 1871, when he went to Saginaw, Michigan, and engaged in lumbering, two years later going to Mexico and Arizona, where he found employment in the mines. He came by the southern route to San Diego, California, thence up the coast to Seattle, where he landed in 1875. Fifteen years he spent in logging camps on Hoods canal, and on the Snohomish, Snoqualmie and Skagit rivers. In 1881 he went into business at the site of the present town of Burlington, under the firm name of Millet & McKay. A census taken in 1875 would have shown just ten white women in the entire Skagit valley. Mr. Millet retired from the lumber business in 1894 and in 1896 was elected sheriff. It was in the discharge of his duties as such officer that he won not a little local fame for his capture of "Jack King," a notorious burglar. Sheriff Millet had arrested King in Mount Vernon for robbing a store in that town, but the miscreant succeeded in breaking jail and escaping. Sheriff Millet started on his trail,

and for five months traced him from place to place, finally capturing him in Portland, Oregon. The splendid detective work of this long pursuit and the dogged persistency with which Sheriff Millet hung on the trail of the burglar after other officers had given up the chase, won for him the admiration of all who knew the facts. King is now in the Walla Walla penitentiary under life sentence, sent there from King county, the first in the state to receive such sentence under the law permitting and directing that this severe penalty be imposed on persons convicted of a felony for the third time.

Upon retiring from the sheriff's office, Mr. Millet took up his residence on a farm one mile west of Mount Vernon which he had purchased while in the lumber business. He lived there until March, 1905, when he sold the place, moved to Anacortes, and purchased the Hotel Vendome, of which he is still the host.

Mr. Millet was married in 1882 to Miss Kate Ward, born in Wisconsin, the daughter of Daniel Ward. Her father, a native of Vermont, born in 1814, moved to Illinois in early life. He frequently has walked over the site of the city of Chicago, then a wild, desolate marsh, giving no promise of the wonderful metropolis which was to spring up as if by magic. He lived in others of the central states, came to Washington in 1874, and was residing in Tenino at the time of his death in 1884. The mother, Mrs. Jane (Christian) Ward, was born in New York in 1829 and died in 1880 at Tenino. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Millet: Maude, in March, 1884, the first white child born in what is now Burlington, then only a logging camp; Winfield S., in Mount Vernon, in November, 1887; Robert, in Seattle, in October, 1896. Mr. Millet is prominent in fraternal circles, being a Mason, an Odd Fellow and a Hoo Hoo. He loyally supports the Democratic party. He is a thorough and practical business man, a progressive, public spirited citizen, a genial, open hearted neighbor and friend. The respect and good will of the community are his in abundant measure.

ROWLAND E. DAVIS, formerly a representative from San Juan county, now superintendent and vice-president of the Porter Fish Company, of Seattle, is a resident of Anacortes. Born September 21, 1861, in Ontario, Canada, his parents are James L. and Amelia C. (Barnum) Davis, both also natives of Ontario, the father, born in 1832, the mother in 1840. They are now living in Victoria, British Columbia. The oldest child of a family of eleven, Rowland E. Davis enjoyed the rare privilege of acquiring a large share of his education under the instruction of his mother,

a very gifted woman, a graduate of the Toronto Normal School, in which institution she was a successful teacher prior to her marriage. Leaving home at the age of nineteen, he went on board a steanboat that he might master the art of navigation. The following sixteen years were spent on the water, during which he became engineer, still holding an engineer's and a master's license. Coming to Washington, February 17, 1868, via the Isthmus of Panama, he resided in Clallum county two years, moving to San Juan county in the fall of 1870. He, with his father, made a trip up the Swinomish slough in March, 1868. Only one settler had made a home on the flats at that time, and seeing nothing promising in the vast desolate region, the father returned to San Juan island, on which he had taken up land, living there until 1903. In 1896, recognizing a splendid opening in the fishing industry of Puget sound, Rowland Davis abandoned agricultural pursuits, and two years later became associated with George T. Mires and Company, of Portland, Oregon, remaining with the company till the fall of 1901. The North American Fishery of Anacortes having purchased this company's holdings, Mr. Davis became a partner in the new firm, superintending the traps and floating equipments of the company. When the firm failed in 1903, Mr. Davis and T. J. Gorman leased the fishing plant of the Rosaria Straits Packing Company for the season of 1904, purchasing it the winter of 1904-5, and operating it under the firm name of the Porter Fish Company of Seattle. Some idea of the magnitude of the business may be formed from knowing the annual output, which will amount this season to 7,500 cases of fish, with an approximate value of \$325,000. Displaying his characteristic energy and ability, Mr. Davis attends to the manifold responsibilities devolving upon him as superintendent of the business. To his accurate knowledge and untiring zeal, the success of the firm is in a large measure due.

Mr. Davis was married in La Conner in 1884, to Amelia D. Haroldson, born in Lansing, Iowa, in 1865. Moving with her parents, Ole and Parnella Haroldson, to Fidalgo island in 1878, Mrs. Davis received her education in the schools of the island. Being very deft with her needle, she went to The Dalles, Oregon, and learned dressmaking. Her father, a native of Sweden, engaged in farming till his death on Fidalgo island. The mother, born in Norway, is still living on the old homestead on the island. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have the following children: Linwood, born on Lopez island, January 28, 1886; Vivian, born in Fidalgo harbor, in October, 1889; Carlisle, born in Decatur, in 1890; Naverign and Harold, twins, born in Decatur, in 1892; Don S., born in Richardson, in 1893; Ruth E., born in Decatur, in 1899. Mr. Davis is a prominent Blue Lodge Mason, and a

member of the Elks lodge, No. 92, of Seattle. His family attend the Methodist church, to which he is a liberal contributor. For many years a loyal Republican, he was persuaded, in 1901, to represent San Juan county in the legislative halls of the state, and filled the office with honor. He is now chairman of the central committee of Skagit county. He is a public spirited citizen, one who can always be relied upon to heartily endorse every advance movement. Possessed of rare executive ability and acumen, combined with strict integrity, Mr. Davis is one of the most popular and influential men of Anacortes.

JAMES T. MARCH, a prominent lumberman residing just across the channel from Anacortes, on Guemes island, was born in Knox County, Missouri, December 26, 1868. His father, David L. March, the descendent of a well known pioneer family of Missouri, was born in that state, and is now residing with his son on the island. Martha (Edens) March, the mother, is a Kentuckian, and also still living. His father having moved to Colorado in 1877, James T. March received his education in the schools of that state. Coming with his father to Washington when nineteen years of age, he worked in the logging camps for several years, then went to Alaska when the news of the wonderful gold deposits thrilled the hearts of men in 1898. Two and a half years later he returned to Anacortes, pursuing the same business that had previously engaged his attention, that of logging.

Mr. March was married at Ferndale, Washington, September 2, 1903, to Laura M. Smith, born January 1, 1875, in Whatcom county. Her parents are Henry and Alice (McComb) Smith, pioneers of Washington, now living on Nooksack river. Mrs. March received a liberal education, supplementing the elementary education acquired in the Whatcom common schools by a course in the normal at Lynden, and later, at Bellingham. Completing her training, at the age of nineteen she began her career as teacher, winning a large measure of success in the following ten years, which she devoted to the profession. Though not actively engaged in politics, Mr. March is an earnest and loyal member of the Republican party. He owns a fine forty acre farm on Guemes island, well stocked and equipped with the modern machinery necessary for successful farming. Mr. March is well informed on all matters relating to the lumber business, having given it his almost constant attention for many years, and this accurate knowledge, combined with his natural energy, will enable him in the future to secure still larger returns. He is known throughout the community as a man of thrift, industry and correct principles.

BETHUEL C. RANOUS, millwright and carpenter, one of the prominent and highly respected citizens of Anacortes, was born in Prince Edward County, Ontario, March 30, 1834, the son of James Ranous, a native of the same place, born in 1805. The elder Ranous resided for some time in Wisconsin and California, eventually returning to Canada in 1859, however, via Cape Horn, but he again took up his residence in the Golden West, and was in Santa Ana, California, at the time of his death in 1888. Mrs. Rachel (Courter) Ranous, the mother, born in New York state in 1810, made her home with a daughter in Prophetstown, Illinois, after the death of her husband until she passed away at the age of ninety. Bethuel Ranous remained at home for the first fourteen years of his life, then went to New York and served a three year apprenticeship to the trade of millwright, then located in Rochester, New York, whence, in 1854, he returned to Canada on a visit. He accompanied his father to Beloit, Wisconsin, and five years later started with a band of cattle across the plains to Sacramento, California, the trip occupying six months. He wintered there and in the spring returned to Virginia City, Nevada, where he had located a claim on his way west. His property had been jumped in his absence and he purchased another property which he soon disposed of rather than use force to retain possession. While employed at Virginia City, he learned that his wife, whom he had left in Wisconsin, had started west and was in Oregon. She had written him on her departure, but the letter never reached him. He immediately joined her in Oregon and on returning in the spring to Nevada found his property again had been jumped. He spent a few months in Dayton, Washoe and Reno, Nevada, and worked a while at his trade in the latter place, then for a time carried freight from Sacramento to the mines, then took charge of the mill and flom owned by Yarrington, Bliss & Trytle, in Carson City. In this work he established a reputation for ability and industry, which secured him the superintendency of the mills of Fair, Flood, McKay & O'Brien at Reno. He next went to Virginia City, later to Walker river, working three years at his trade. Later he bought a livery business in Los Angeles, California, which he sold after running it six months. He crossed Yuma desert with a mule team, to Phoenix, Arizona, then the most notorious city of the West, where he was given an important position of foreman in the construction of mills. His next move was to Guymas, Mexico, where for two years he built cars for a railroad; then he went to Magdalena and built a stamp mill, returning to California three years later. He is next found on board a vessel bound from San Francisco to Victoria, then in company with the late John Ball he took up his

residence at Sterling, Washington. In the fall of 1883 he sailed up the Skagit river and took a homestead of 160 acres near Sauk. The next year he helped build the first Odd Fellows hall at Mount Vernon, then he located at Avon and invested in eighty acres of land which he was engaged in improving during his six years' residence in that locality. Having eventually disposed of his ranch, he purchased the Bay View Hotel, and ran it two years, then rented it and moved to Burlington, thence to California by team, making the trip for the benefit of his wife's health. Three years later he traded his hotel for real estate in Anacortes. On his return to Washington, which was effected also by team, he again became a citizen of Mount Vernon and bought a ranch upon which he resided until coming to Anacortes two years ago.

Mr. Ranous has been twice married, his first wife being Mary (Allen) Ranous. Three children were born to this union, two of whom, Leona and Leota, are now residing in San Francisco. In Avon, in 1880, he married Mrs. Ellen J. Walker, whose first husband was drowned in the river. She is the mother of the following children by her former husband: Mrs. Winona Whaley; Mrs. Maggie Anderson, deceased; Mrs. Nettie Angevine; Mrs. Jennie Dawson; Albert Walker; Mrs. Carrie Castello, and Edith, deceased in infancy. Mr. Ranous is a prominent member of the Odd Fellows and Mrs. Ranous is identified with the Rebekahs. Mr. Ranous has been a life long Republican but never has had political aspirations. He is a man broadened by the varied experiences incident to his life and by his extensive travels over the western states, though Nevada was his place of residence for twenty-one years, and he has now been in Washington for twenty-two. In the forty-seven years of his life on the Pacific coast he has naturally seen his share of Indian warfare, but, though he has had many narrow escapes, he received no wounds at the hands of the red men.

HENRY C. BARKHOUSEN, one of the earliest settlers on Fidalgo island, was born in Rushville, Schuyler County, Illinois, January 15, 1835, the son of Conrad and Louise (Pilgrim) Barkhausen, Prussians who came to the United States in 1832. Henry was the youngest of three children, and his father having died when he was an infant, he early began life for himself, securing, however, a fair common school education. On the death of his mother, he started for California via the Isthmian route in 1856. After putting in a short time at mining he worked in a blacksmith shop at Stockton for a time with his brother-in-law, but in May, 1858, he came to Bellingham bay,

where very shortly he joined in the Fraser river rush occasioned by gold finds. Returning in a short time to Bellingham, he lived there for seven years. In 1860 he was elected county auditor and he served two terms of one year each, also was in the legislature in the session of 1863-4. In 1865 he came to Fidalgo island and took up the land on which he now resides. Mr. Beale, William Monks, Enoch Compton and George Cagey being his only neighbors when he arrived, though Hiram A. March came shortly after. He immediately commenced to clear his land and, as did the others, to raise cattle and hogs. He has seen all the improvements made on the island, and has watched Anacortes grow from a wilderness of nature to the present bustling town. The first postoffice on the island was established at Fidalgo, about one mile from Mr. Barkhausen's place, the first postmaster being William Monks, and Mr. Barkhausen assistant, though the latter later became postmaster himself. In 1890 he established a store at Fidalgo, but lost it in the financial stress of the early nineties.

Like many others of the early settlers of the Northwest Mr. Barkhausen took a wife from the native tribes, marrying her according to Indian ceremony at Whatcom in 1860, but unlike many other white men in similar relation he declined to hold that that marriage was not binding in the eyes of the law. He held the relation sacred and argued that an admission of its lack of force would brand his children as illegitimate. As a result he would not be remarried according to civilized usages and was indicted by a grand jury for the offense against statute, but was acquitted by Judge Greene. To this union have been born these children: George, Maria, Henry, Fred, Isabella, Louise and Daniel, all but three of whom are married and have homes of their own. Mr. Barkhausen is a Republican and has been ever since attaining his majority, casting his first vote for Millard Fillmore. The home farm consists of twenty-four acres of excellent land, situated five miles southeast of Anacortes, and is devoted to the raising of sheep and cattle. Mr. Barkhausen is one of the respected citizens of the community, honored as one of the foundation builders of the country, a man of principle and high integrity.

WILLIAM R. MASSEY, a well known farmer of Anacortes, was born in Plumas County, California, February 13, 1863, the son of Thomas and Eleanor (Leake) Massey, both natives of England. Immigrating to America in 1852, the father settled in Illinois first, and in 1857 crossed the plains with an ox team to California. He spent the remainder of his life mining in Plumas county, his death occurring in 1871. The mother is liv-

ing, at the age of eighty-four, with her son William. Acquiring his education in the schools of California, William R. Massey went into the mines at the age of sixteen, being thus employed until he came to Washington in 1892, and rented the farm near Whitney, owned by John Ball, his brother-in-law. He purchased the farm on which he now resides in 1899—one hundred and forty acres situated on Fidalgo Bay. He has forty acres of it in excellent shape, and has a fine orchard of two hundred and fifty trees. He devotes his time to diversified farming, believing that this method yields larger returns. A thoroughly practical farmer, well informed on all matters relating to agriculture, he is rapidly winning the success which his untiring energy so richly merits.

Mr. Massey was married in Skagit county in 1897, to Mrs. Jennie Tuper, the daughter of Vidd and Birdie (Johns) Todd. Born in Minnesota, in 1872, Mrs. Massey received her education in that state, and was there married to her first husband, Mr. Tuper. Two children were born to this first union, Mable and Ruben. Mr. Massey is a member of the Odd Fellows fraternity; his wife is a Rebecca. In political belief Mr. Massey is a Republican. As school director he has taken an active part in the educational affairs of the island. A man of sterling character, he enjoys the confidence and respect of all who are in any way associated with him.

FRED H. MARCH. Among the prosperous young farmers of Anacortes stands the one whose name gives caption to this biography. He was born on Fidalgo island, April 20, 1877, the youngest child of Hiram A. and Katie (Hilton) March. His father, a native of Vermont, born in 1826, learned the stone mason's trade in New York and Boston. After working for some time in the former city he went to California in 1853 via the Isthmus of Panama, remaining there until he came to Washington in 1858, at the time of the gold excitement in the Frazer river district. He stopped in Whatcom for a year, then took up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres on Fidalgo island, moving his family to the island four years later. He devoted his time first to fishing then to raising cabbage and cauliflower seed. In the early sixties he was sheriff of Whatcom county for two years. At the time of his death, February 5, 1905, he was fruit inspector, a position he had held three years. The mother of Fred March was born in Troy, New York, in 1841, and died April 2, 1894. Fred H. March received his education in the common schools of Anacortes, and at the age of eighteen went to sea on a sailing vessel, the trip lasting a year. He engaged in mining in the Cascades for a time, and then returned to manage his

father's ranch, which he now owns, having purchased it from the heirs when the estate was divided after the death of the father. He has fifty acres under cultivation, giving especial attention to sheep raising. He has seventy head of a superior breed. He also has a fine orchard comprising three acres. His specialty is raising cabbage, cauliflower and pea seeds.

Mr. March was married on Fidalgo island, September 26, 1904, to Miss Bessie Cook, born in Kansas in 1883. Coming with her parents to Anacortes in 1890, she acquired her education in the schools of this town, supplementing the training received by a course in the business college at Mount Vernon. Her parents, Frank and Nellie (Dodson) Cook, both natives of Iowa, are now residing on Fidalgo island. Mr. March is prominent in fraternal circles, being a past grand member of the Odd Fellows. Both he and his wife are Rebeccas. Mr. March is a well-known Republican, taking an active part in all political matters. He is a public spirited citizen, deeply interested in the growth and development of the town, county and state. Possessed of youth, health and ambition, combined with strict integrity, his future success is assured.

JOHN G. THOMAS, a well-to-do farmer residing five miles southeast of Anacortes, was born in England, January 7, 1852. His father, George H. Thomas, born in England in 1829, immigrated to the United States in 1868, settling in turn in Pennsylvania, Illinois, Kansas and Washington. He took up land on Fidalgo island in 1875, and continued to reside on the island thereafter until his death. Ann (Davis) Thomas, the mother, was also a native of England. Leaving his fatherland at the age of seventeen, John G. Thomas grew to manhood in the United States, and after reaching his majority located in Whatcom, Washington, in 1873. He mined three years in the meantime, purchasing the farm that he now owns. In 1876 he went to Nanaimo, British Columbia, and he spent the next three years in the coal mines there, returning then to his ranch for a short stay. He followed mining also in King county for a few months, then in 1882, moved his family, which had been on the farm during his absence in the mines, to Snohomish county, near Everett. They made their home there for the following eighteen years while he was engaged in mining in the various camps. In 1900, he located permanently on the island. He has forty acres of farm land, ten of which are in an excellent state of cultivation, and his place is well stocked with cattle, horses and sheep, giving abundant evidence of thrift and good management.

Mr. Thomas married, at Seahome, Washington,

in 1896, Miss Mary A. Thomas, who was born in England in 1859, but who had acquired her education in the schools of Iowa and Washington. Her parents, David P. and Catherine (Holmes) Thomas, both natives of England, are now living in Edison, Washington, well-known pioneers of this state, having come in 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have the following children: David B., born in Edison; William J., in Nanaimo, British Columbia; Samuel, in King county; Katherine, in Skagit county; Edna, Sarah R. and Annie. Mr. Thomas is a prominent member of the Odd Fellows, and in politics an active Republican. He has been road supervisor and member of the school board, in both of which positions he gave the community valuable service. He is an active and industrious man, of upright character, possessed of the respect and esteem of his many acquaintances.

JAMES M. DEAN, one of the most popular agriculturists of Anacortes, residing one mile east and six miles south of town, was born in Mansfield, Ohio, September 21, 1855. His father, Benjamin W. Dean, born in Ohio in 1820, was one of the well-known pioneers of that state. Mary J. (Harford) Dean, the mother, was a native of Pennsylvania. Her parents were of Holland Dutch descent. Receiving his elementary education in the common schools of Ohio, James M. Dean was later graduated from the high school at Mansfield, then being desirous of preparing himself for a business career, he went to Poughkeepsie, New York, and he completed his course at the National Business College there at the age of twenty-five. Entering a mercantile house in his native town in 1881, he remained four years, then accepted a position as traveling salesman. He went to Kansas in 1885, and taught for the ensuing three years, then moved to Lincoln, Nebraska, but soon after this he located in Washington, spending the first summer near Walla Walla, and coming in the fall to Puget sound, where he purchased property on Fidalgo island. He handled lumber for a time, then was employed as a clerk in Anacortes, but he has made his home on the ranch for the past seven years. He is a practical and progressive farmer who rapidly is winning success. He owns one-eighth of a two hundred acre farm which is well stocked with thoroughbred Jersey cattle, to which he gives his especial attention.

Mr. Dean and Miss Rosalie Miller were united in marriage on Fidalgo island in 1898. Mrs. Dean was born at Howard Lake, Minnesota, November 2, 1877. Her parents moved to the island when she was five years old and she acquired her education in Skagit county. Her father, George W. Miller, born in Indiana in 1845, went with his

parents to Minnesota when he was eight years old. As he grew to manhood he learned the millwright and carpenter trade and in 1882 came to Fidalgo island. He and L. R. Freeman have the honor of founding the town of Gibraltar, this county, in 1889. He bought the farm that his son-in-law, James M. Dean, now owns, and took up a pre-emption claim. He is now living at Anacortes. Mrs. Dean's mother, Mrs. Mary (Goodsell) Miller, was the daughter of Charles and Chloe J. Goodsell. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dean; Morris H., in Skagit county, March 17, 1901; Charles M., also in Skagit county, May 25, 1903, and Mary E., September 9, 1905. Mr. Dean is a past grand of the Odd Fellows and has taken all the degrees. He and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a loyal Republican but never has desired to enter the political arena. A man of unusual intelligence, possessed of sterling virtues and a genial disposition that attract men to him, he is naturally one of the most influential citizens of the community.

MARSTON G. BEARD, a thrifty agriculturist residing five miles southeast of Anacortes, was born in Illinois, July 8, 1844, the son of Wilson and Nancy (Douglas) Beard, both natives of Kentucky. Having moved to Illinois in early life, the father made that his home till 1849, then went to California, and no word has been received from him for thirty years. The mother's death occurred in 1865. Marston Beard spent his early years in the home of an uncle, beginning the active duties of life at the age of seventeen. Starting across the plains to California, he reached Missouri, where he remained a year, then he drove an ox team to Salt Lake City. He entered the employ of the Overland Mail Company there and drove a stage from that city to Virginia City for the three following years, going then to California, where for the ensuing two and a half years he was engaged in teaming in San Mateo county. After a trip to New York made via Panama, he returned to Illinois, residing there four years. In 1874 he brought his bride to the West, and settled near Snohomish on a one hundred and sixty acre homestead, a wild timber-covered wilderness at that early date. The succeeding nine years were full of arduous toil, amid difficulties and privations known only to pioneers, who yet had their share of quiet happiness. Disposing of his property in 1883, Mr. Beard moved to Santa Barbara, California, and invested in land upon which he set out a fine orchard. He engaged in fruit raising fifteen years, then again located in Washington, purchasing five acres near Anacortes, upon which he still resides.

Mr. Beard was married in Illinois, in 1871, to

Sarah Stevenson, a native of Illinois, as were also her parents, George W. and Amelia (Byerley) Stevenson, now deceased. Bequeathing to her family and friends the memory of a useful, happy life. Mr. Beard died in 1892. Four children were born to this union as follows: Mrs. Carrie Jacobson of Lompoc, California; Nellie, at home; Mrs. Mary E. Canfield, of Vacaville, California; Edwin S., at home. Mr. Beard votes an independent ticket, and has never had any desire to hold office. He is a prominent member of the Methodist church, contributing liberally to its various benevolences. As his farm is especially adapted to raising small fruit, he intends in the future to devote his time to that branch of horticulture, also to engage in poultry raising. He is known to be an earnest, industrious man, and a loyal citizen, who holds the respect and good will of his many acquaintances.

FRANK N. WHITE, a prosperous farmer residing five miles southeast of Anacortes, was born in Buchanan County, Iowa, February 25, 1864. His parents, Henry J. and Elizabeth (Richmond) White, were born in Ontario, the father January 24, 1826, the mother May 28, 1834. After working for a number of years at millwrighting in Iowa, the elder White moved in 1872 to Washington, and he is now a resident of Anacortes. He is in very feeble health at present. The mother's death occurred December 21, 1894. Having come with his parents to Washington when eight years old, Frank N. White received his education in the common schools of this state. After residing for a time in Seattle, his father took a preemption claim on Guemes island, and spent the summer of 1873 there, but that fall he purchased one hundred and sixty-three acres on Fidalgo island bordering the bay, part of which is in timber and sixty acres tide lands. That fall the family, which had been in Seattle, rejoined him, casting their lot with the earliest white families to settle on the island. The father until very recently owned this property, save a twenty-acre tract which he sold to his son, twenty acres of hill land donated to the railroad and seven and a half acres given as a bonus to the electric car line in the early nineties. Mr. White served as probate judge of his county in the early days and thus acquired the title "Judge" by which he is best known among his old associates. During the father's residence in Anacortes, Frank White and a brother had charge of the farm for a year, after which Frank became a member of a coast surveying party. A few months later he located in Seattle, where he was employed continuously until 1890, when he returned to Anacortes to resume work on his father's farm. In March, 1902, he moved onto a twenty-acre tract of the home

ranch which he had purchased in 1885, and he has since devoted his entire time to diversified farming. He has twelve acres in a fine state of cultivation, and intends in the future to make a specialty of fruit raising.

Mr. White was married September 3, 1890, to Blanche Clark, the daughter of Thomas M. and Ellen (Leamer) Clark, both residents of Nebraska. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. White: Marguerite, October 27, 1901; and Theodore, March 5, 1903. Mr. White is a Republican, but votes independently whenever he thinks he can better subserve the welfare of state or nation by so doing. He attends the Methodist church, of which his wife is a prominent member. His property holdings include forty-seven acres of farm land and a number of lots in Anacortes. He is an active, industrious agriculturist, a loyal and progressive citizen, a kind neighbor and friend and enjoys in abundant measure the confidence and respect of the community in which he lives.

THOMAS SHARPE, a popular and prosperous farmer residing at Rosaria, was born in Tyrone County, Ireland, November 12, 1850. His father, James Sharpe, emigrated from his native country, Ireland, to the United States in 1853, making his home in turn in New York, Ohio, Iowa and Minnesota. He located in the last mentioned state in 1861, and died there, March 22, 1879. Margaret (Nelson) Sharpe, his mother, also born on the Emerald isle, was living with a daughter in British Columbia at the time of her death in 1887. Thomas Sharpe left home at the age of fifteen, and found work on steamboats and rafts on the Mississippi river for six years. He then returned to his home, where the ensuing three or four years of his time were spent. Starting for Puget sound, July 12, 1875, he landed in due time at Port Townsend, whence he proceeded to Whidby island. Undismayed by the fact that he found himself in debt to the amount of twenty-five dollars, with his usual energy he at once sought and found employment, and later purchased a relinquishment to a tract of land on Fidalgo island, which he still owns. In 1882 he filed on the homestead which he now farms. He has eighty acres cleared, and in an excellent state of cultivation, devoted to diversified farming. He owns a modern and well equipped threshing outfit which is operated with profit; and it may be well to add that each consecutive fall for thirty-three years Mr. Sharpe has conducted a threshing business. He has the usual quantity of stock found on a well managed farm. The location of his elegant home, modern in all its appointments, upon one of the most picturesque spots to be found in the state, at the head of Deception pass, speaks eloquently of

his love for beautiful surroundings. The lights of Port Townsend and Victoria, are plainly visible from this elevation, and the view is one of ceaseless charm.

Mr. Sharpe and Mary J. Carr were united in marriage in 1882. Mrs. Sharpe was born in Guelph, Ontario, the daughter of Robert and Janet (Henderson) Carr, now residing at Hamilton, Iowa. Her father was born in Ireland eighty years ago, and came to Ontario in early life. Her mother, born in the highlands of Scotland, has reached the age of seventy-five. Four children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sharpe: Margaret Janette, John Clifford, William Wallace, and Arlie Matilda, all living at home. Mr. Sharpe is a firm believer in Republican doctrines, but is in no sense a politician. For twenty years he has served on the school board, a fact which clearly indicates his deep interest in educational matters. In religious faith he is an Episcopalian. Possessed of a genial disposition and many sterling virtues, he enjoys the largest measure of public esteem, and is recognized as one of the substantial and leading citizens of the Fidalgo island country, as well as one of the most active and enthusiastic pioneers.

WILLIAM H. BURDON, one of the popular residents of Fidalgo island, was born in the north-eastern part of England, March 31, 1844, the son of Thomas B. and Eleanor (Miller) Burdon, both of English nativity. The father was a well-known merchant of that country who died in 1867. William H. Burdon was the sixth of fifteen children. He acquired his education in the schools of England, and at the age of eighteen was apprenticed to a butcher, becoming thoroughly familiar with all the details of that business during the three years of his service. Having reached his majority he opened a butcher shop in Hartlepool, England, of which he continued to be owner till 1871 when he moved to Canada and purchased a hotel at Saint Thomas. Coming to Washington territory in 1873, he stopped three months at Port Madison, proceeding thence to what was then Whatcom, where he was employed by the Bellingham Bay Coal Company to handle meat. He retained this position till the mines closed in 1876, then moved to Fidalgo island, purchasing thirty acres of land and taking the adjoining forty acres as a homestead. Nearly all was heavily timbered at that time, but now he has thirty acres in a fine state of cultivation. He makes a specialty of hops, the yield averaging one ton to the acre. There still is some fine timber on his farm. During his long residence Mr. Burdon has witnessed some wonderful changes in this locality. Fidalgo was the only trading post on the island at the time he came, the now thriving

town of Anacortes did not exist, and La Conner was but a collection of a few rude buildings with a store or two. There were no roads, the travel all being by boat. Having been appointed road supervisor, he was instrumental in building the first macadamized road on the island.

In England in August, 1866, Mr. Burdon married Jane Barker, a native of Yorkshire, England, born October 16, 1844. Her parents, Lancelot and Elizabeth Barker, were both natives of the same shire and spent their entire lives there. Mr. Barker was a successful veterinary surgeon. Mr. and Mrs. Burdon have the following children: Thomas L., born in England; Mrs. Effie Gillispi, also born in England, now the wife of an engineer and living in Vancouver, British Columbia; Alice, born at Whatcom, living at home; Minnie, on Fidalgo island, for five years a prominent teacher of Skagit county, now taking a four-year course in Portland, preparatory to entering the medical profession; and Harry, born on the island, now manager of his father's farm. Mr. Burdon is a prominent member of the Odd Fellows, being past grand of Anacortes lodge which he organized in 1891, and also having been a member of the grand lodge in that year. He and Mrs. Burdon are both identified with the Rebekahs and their son Thomas is also a past grand of the Odd Fellows. The entire family attends the Episcopal church. Mr. Burdon is an enthusiastic Republican. Intelligent, broad minded, of a genial disposition, he is a man whom it is a pleasure to know, and few possess a wider circle of friends and acquaintances than does this honored pioneer of Fidalgo island.

ALBANUS D. QUINT, the genial postmaster and merchant at Dewey, Washington, was born in Stark, Somerset County, Maine, October 4, 1849. His father, Joab Quint, born in Maine in 1807, was a farmer and carpenter. He was captain of a militia company in his native state in the early forties. His death occurred in 1851. Elizabeth (Thing) Quint, the mother, was born in 1813, in Maine. She was the mother of five children, all of whom are dead but the one whose name heads this biography. Acquiring his education in the schools of his native state, Albanus D. Quint then learned the carpenter's trade. Before he was fifteen years old he enlisted in Company F, Fourteenth Maine Infantry, serving eighteen months in the Civil War, most of the time with General Sheridan in the Shenandoah valley. Returning home, he went to Wisconsin in 1868, where he worked in the woods and at his trade for nineteen years. During his residence in Wisconsin he held numerous official positions, was town clerk for three years, justice of the peace three terms, chairman of the township board, and ex-officio county super-

visor. Coming to Washington in 1887, he took up forty acres of land at Deception, a pre-emption claim, and made it his home until 1896. He was offered ten thousand dollars for this property during the boom at Anacortes, but not having proved upon it, could not make the sale. He was appointed postmaster at Fidalgo City, formerly known as Deception, now named Dewey, in 1897, a position which he still holds. He owns and operates a store in connection with the post-office. For nearly ten years he has been justice of the peace, and he has also been a member of the school board.

Mr. Quint was married in Wisconsin, September 19, 1878, to Mrs. Jane Hart, born in Scotland, April 11, 1847, the daughter of John Cameron. Mrs. Quint spent her childhood with her father in the West Indies, he being overseer of a large plantation. She was first married in Scotland, and there her husband died. Four children were born to this union: Mrs. Frank Lampman, of Anacortes; Mrs. John Marshall, of San Francisco; John Hart, a well-known business man of Anacortes; Mrs. Cora Iverson, of Fidalgo. Mr. and Mrs. Quint have two children: Mrs. Maud Grant, of Astoria, Oregon, and Jesse Quint, of Seattle, recently married. Mr. Quint has always taken an active part in the affairs of the Democratic party. During his long residence here he has endeared himself to the community by reason of his manifold virtues and his unfailing kindness and courtesy. He has in his possession a relic of priceless value, of which the entire state is justly proud, a homespun flag.

"Perhaps not another flag in the United States possesses a more unique history than does the starry emblem owned by A. D. Quint, postmaster at Dewey. This flag dates back beyond 1790, in so far as the fabrics which compose it are concerned and how much usage the cloth it contains will stand is yet to be told by future generations. The blue part of the flag was made from hemp which was combed, spun, woven and worn by Mr. Quint's grandmother at her wedding in 1790. The red in the flag is wool which was dyed, carded, spun, woven and worn as an underskirt by Mr. Quint's mother at her wedding in 1833, and the white in the flag is cotton woven by Mr. Quint's sister in the first cotton mill established in the state of Massachusetts in 1851, and was worn by her before her death in 1853.

"These relics were made into an American flag by Mr. Quint's mother and younger sister and was used to celebrate the 4th of July at West Mills, Maine, in 1861, and from under it six brothers and stepbrothers enlisted in 1861 and fought until 1865 in the Ninth and Fourteenth Maine Infantry regiments. This flag flew at half-mast for the immortal Abraham Lincoln in the state of Maine. It flew at half-mast for the gallant Garfield in the

state of Wisconsin, and was draped in its position over the postoffice for the beloved McKinley in the state of Washington.

"At Dewey, Washington, Mr. Quint's home, and at which place he is the efficient postmaster, this flag is incased and stands above the office fixtures fronting the door. In a maple burl frame on one side of the flag is a picture of Dewey, denoting the name of the office, in the center is a maple burl frame with a map of Skagit county, denoting the county in which Dewey is located, and at the other end in a burl frame is the picture of Washington, making the display read, 'Dewey, Skagit County, Washington.' Mr. Quint had intended to send this unique display to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis, but owing to the failure of the county display he will not offer it to any other county.

"The lumber which constructs the frame work which supports this display was sawed by the Deception saw-mill, the first in Skagit county, and the maple burls which serve as frames for the map and the pictures of Washington and Dewey, are native of Fidalgo island. The flag and the manner in which it is mounted would be an excellent exhibit and it is to be regretted that such a unique affair could not be taken to the exposition."

CHRISTOPHER C. BEST, one of the honored pioneers of Skagit county, living a mile and a half north of Dewey, was born in east Tennessee, May 11, 1834, the son of Emanuel and Susan (Tyler) Best. His father, born in Germany, was a descendant of Tennessee pioneers. Moving to Missouri in 1840 he died there a few years later, where the mother, who was born in North Carolina, also passed away. Left an orphan at the early age of ten years, Christopher C. was forced to begin the active duties of life when other boys of his age were occupied with balls and marbles. Employed by the various farmers who had need of a bright, capable boy, he grew to manhood, securing his education in the meantime by diligently improving every opportunity. In 1857 he crossed the plains to California with an ox team, the journey lasting five months. He remained in California but a short time, going thence to Yamhill County, Oregon, where he farmed for two years. He then spent a year in the mines of southern Oregon, then, in 1860, went to Walla Walla, Washington, where he remained a twelvemonth, thereupon moving to Idaho, in which state he mined for the following fourteen years. After a brief visit to Oregon he came to Fidalgo island in 1875, and filed on the homestead on which he still resides. He has seventy-five acres, twelve of which are in cultivation, four in orchard, and his farm is well stocked with cattle and sheep.

On Fidalgo island, August 5, 1890, Mr. Best and Mrs. Lizzie Pickins were united in marriage. Mrs. Best, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Costner, was born in Tennessee in 1851, and received her education there. She had two children by her first husband: Charles E. and Cowan R. Pickins, and to her and Mr. Best was born one child, Walter C., a native of Skagit county, born July 16, 1891. Mrs. Best died on Fidalgo island, June 7, 1894. Mr. Best is a firm believer in the doctrines of the Republican party, but has never cared to hold political office. In religion he and his family adhere to the Lutheran faith. A resident of this county for the past thirty years save for a short time spent in Missouri, he has witnessed the wonderful changes that have taken place in that time, and enjoys the consciousness that but for the indomitable courage of brave pioneers like himself, these transformations would never have been possible. To the pioneers the younger generation owes a debt of gratitude that can only be paid by according them the highest reverence and respect.

JOHN S. CONNER. Among the pioneer families of Skagit county who have been prominent in its reclamation and development from its wilderness condition to one of civilization, prosperity and wealth, none has been more active and forceful, none more potent for progress, and none worthier of respect and esteem than that of the man whose name initiates this article. From the time of their advent the Conners have been leaders in the industrial conquest and social regeneration of community and county, while their influence has been more than state wide. With great thoroughness they have studied the problems presented by local conditions, theoretically and practically, and so successful have they been that first, John S. Conner and in turn his son, came to be recognized as an authority on matters pertaining to tide land reclamation and to farming. The country has rewarded them for their abiding faith and interest by pouring into their garner an abundance of its choicest treasures, and they are also rich in the consciousness of having done a good work and done it well, leaving an indelible impress of the best kind upon one of the grandest counties of the Northwest.

John S. Conner, was born in Ireland, but his residence in the United States began when he was a young boy. He grew to manhood in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, attending the public schools there, but the conditions surrounding him were such that, quite early in life, he was forced into the industrial whirl. As a boy he spent much time driving a team on the Schuylkill canal, and for a time ran a boat of his own; but nature had framed him for a nobler destiny and, spurred by



John Horner

the promptings of ambition, he devoted all his spare moments to study, with the result that at the age of eighteen he obtained a teacher's certificate and was admitted to the profession.

During the year 1862 Mr. Conner started West going as far as Missouri, where he took up land and engaged in farming. In 1863, John S. Conner was married to Miss Louisa A. Siegfried, the daughter of James and Mary (Willet) Siegfried, who became residents of Liberty, Maryland, when the daughter was four years old. James Siegfried was a manufacturer of wagons, buggies and farm implements. Miss Siegfried was born in Pennsylvania, April 6, 1843; she was educated in a private school in Maryland, and at the age of sixteen, went with her parents to Missouri where four years later she met and married Mr. Conner.

In 1865 he again took up the westward march, coming by ox team to Colorado in which state, at a place ever since known as Conner's Springs, he engaged in the general merchandise and supply business. He also, for a time, conducted a hotel at Central City, Colorado. But realizing the advantages of life near the seaboard and knowing something of the undeveloped resources of Washington territory, he came to the sound country in 1869. The first stop was made at Olympia, where Mrs. Conner opened a millinery store, exposing for sale goods which she herself selected in San Francisco. A year later they sold their interests at the capital city and came to the site of the present town of La Conner of which Mrs. Conner was the first white woman settler, and Mr. Conner the first permanent merchant, he having established a general merchandise store there immediately upon his arrival. It was in this pioneer mercantile establishment that the first postoffice was installed, through the efforts of Mr. Conner, who had it named after his wife, combining her initials and surname to form "La Conner." By a continuance of the same studiousness which had made him a successful and accomplished teacher, this pioneer merchant had become also a lawyer, and he soon began to be recognized as the leading man in the community and one to whom it was advisable to go for counsel when in perplexity or doubt. He was always willing to help incoming settlers not only with his valuable advice but when necessary in a more substantial way, and his open-handed generosity still is remembered with gratitude by its recipients and others. In 1873 Mr. Conner sold his store to the Gashes Brothers. Long before this he had become interested in Skagit county realty; in fact he had taken a pre-emption very soon after his arrival. His cousin, J. J. Conner, had taken the land which forms the townsite of La Conner and in 1872 had laid out a town. This land was purchased by John S. Conner who thereby became interested financially in the upbuilding of the town

of which he had been after all the real founder, having started its first store. From this time until the day of his death he devoted his great energies to the development of La Conner and his real estate in the vicinity, which last had to be redeemed from the sea by dikes, for at one time it was possible to pass over it in a row boat. He served one term as county commissioner when La Conner was in Whatcom county; but his bent was for industrial rather than for political leadership. His demise in 1885 was felt to be a decided misfortune to the entire community while not a few mourned him as a lost friend and benefactor. He was survived by a widow and nine children: Herbert S., Frank J. S., Louis A., Guy W., Martin A., William W., Ida R., now Mrs. Wilson H. Talbott, of Ellensburg; Lillian J., now Mrs. Sylvester P. Kendall, of La Conner, and Mary Viola. Since the father's death, Louis and Martin have passed away.

That Herbert S. Conner is a worthy son of his honored father has been abundantly proven by the efficient way in which he has managed the parental estate and carried on the work since 1885, when, fresh from school, he was summoned by sickness and death in his household, to the larger school of life. His elementary education was obtained from teachers provided by his father in the days when there were no public schools in Skagit county; later training was had in the territorial university, his father moving to Seattle temporarily that the benefits of that institution might be enjoyed. After leaving the Seattle institution he went to Schuylkill Haven, Pennsylvania, and entered the high school from which he was graduated. This was followed by a course in the Eastman Business College at Poughkeepsie, New York, where he finished his studies in 1884. He was spending a few months near the old parental home in Pennsylvania when the summons came, calling him to California whither his father had gone in search of health. While the elder Conner lingered, the son was employed as assistant cashier in a large bakery; but when the father had passed away, the family returned to the North and Herbert became manager of the property interests. A year afterward they took up their residence at Clover Lawn, one of the most beautiful and well known of Skagit county homes. Possessed of exceptional executive ability Mr. Conner has achieved an industrial success of which any man might be proud. Nor has his whole time been given to the acquisition and improvement of real estate. On the contrary he is unusually public spirited, accepting cheerfully, for the good of the cause, such unremunerative offices as school director and city councilman, and always discharging the duties attaching to these places with exceptional ability and faithfulness. In 1894 he was called upon to represent his district

in the state legislature, which he was able to do most efficiently because of his intimate knowledge of the needs of his constituency. In 1900 he was a delegate to the national Republican convention which placed in nomination McKinley and Roosevelt.

In August, 1898, Mr. Conner married Miss Alma I. Grunkranz, whose father, John Grunkranz, lived for a time in Nebraska and later was well known over the state of Washington as a Seattle banker; his widow, nee Zingre, still resides in Seattle. Mrs. Conner was born in Fremont, Nebraska; she was educated in the schools of that state and in the Academy of the Holy Name, at Seattle, being graduated from the latter institution. Mr. and Mrs. Connor have two children.

RICHARD H. BALL is one of the men who thoroughly believes in Skagit county, and the success which he has achieved since he settled in that county in 1876, certainly justifies that opinion. Mr. Ball was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, of English ancestry. His father, Samuel Ball, who came to the United States in 1820, first located in Cincinnati, but later moved to Harrison, Hamilton county. His wife, Mary (Wyatt) Ball, was also of English birth. She became the mother of nine children of which Richard is the youngest. In the stirring days before the Civil War, young Ball had few opportunities to go to school. However, he had thoroughly mastered the trade of carpenter under his father's directions, when, at the age of eighteen he responded to the call of his country, enlisting in Company D of the Eighty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, then rendezvoused at Camp Dennison. During General Grant's operations in penning up Pemberton in Vicksburg, young Ball was severely wounded on May 22, 1863, and was taken to the Washington hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, where he was confined for a number of weeks. When in condition for duty, he promptly rejoined his command in the field and continued in active service until mustered out at Galveston, Texas, with the chevrons of a sergeant. Fully realizing his educational deficiencies, this war veteran, upon his return home, entered the high school at Manchester, Indiana, diligently applying himself to his studies while he remained there. He later went to Harrison, Ohio, where he resumed his trade of carpenter which he followed until 1876. At this time, he was taken with the Western fever, and turned his face toward the territory of Washington. He came direct to the town of La Conner, where he landed in August with three dollars, three children and a wife. The following spring he filed on a pre-emption claim to forty acres and a homestead of one hundred and twenty acres on the tide lands. This had to be diked, and he begun work

on it as soon as he was able, working little by little until in 1880 he had fifty acres protected from the water. For nine years he had to use a boat to get to and from his land, but perseverance and hard labor at last met their reward and he was able to devote his time and attention entirely to his place, with the satisfying feeling that his labor had been well spent. With the exception of the winter of 1897-8, which he spent in Alaska, Mr. Ball, since his first arrival in Skagit county, has resided upon his ranch or in the town of La Conner.

In 1866 at Harrison, Ohio, Mr. Ball married Miss Amanda Horney, daughter of Perry Horney, a native of Tennessee, who for a portion of his life was a painter and farmer in the state of Indiana. Mrs. Ball was born in Nashville, Tennessee, receiving her education there and in Indiana. She and Mr. Ball are the parents of six children, of whom only two survive: Mrs. Hattie A. Dunlap of Mount Vernon, and Samuel Ball. Mr. Ball is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in the latter of which he is especially prominent, being past grand and the oldest member of his home lodge. Mrs. Ball is a member of the Methodist church, in which she has held the office of president of the ladies' aid society for many years. Always an active Republican, Mr. Ball has for years served his party with faithfulness and zeal either as chairman or member of the county central committee, which latter position he now holds. Mr. Ball has added to that original three dollars with which he landed in Skagit county, until he now has three hundred and twenty acres of the rich lands of Swinomish flats under cultivation and growing good crops, a timber claim in Oregon, a herd of Durham cattle, a band of good horses and other personal property. His record is certainly one of which he may well be proud. Like all the pioneers of the flats, he has had difficulties to contend with which would have overwhelmed less resolute men, but Skagit county has its rewards for the vigilant and the brave, and Mr. Ball is now enjoying those rewards. The same qualities which made him a worthy wearer of the blue, has enabled him to win in the stern battles of later life. He has the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens, who have attested their faith by electing him mayor of La Conner.

HON. WILLIAM E. SCHRICKER. If diligence and ability in private business, a deep, public-spirited interest in the welfare of the community and faithfulness in the discharge of the duties of responsible offices of trust entitle a man to be ranked as a leader in his section of the state, then certainly William E. Schricker is entitled to such a rank. In the state legislature, in the courts of the county, in banking and business circles generally and even in

the administration of the local municipal government and the local schools his influence has been felt and everywhere it has been on the side of progressiveness and efficiency. His town, county and state are certainly all indebted to him and there is evidence that, in part at least, they realize and acknowledge the obligation.

Like thousands of others who have been forceful in the life of American communities, Mr. Schricker comes of sturdy German stock, his parents, Lorenzo and Mary (Hansen) Schricker, being both natives of Germany. They came to America early in life and from 1847 to 1857 the elder Mr. Schricker was engaged in the mercantile business in Iowa, but at the end of that extended period he turned his attention to the lumber business, organizing the Mississippi Logging and Lumber Company in 1871.

William E. Schricker, of this article, was born at Davenport, Iowa, in 1863. He received his early education in the public schools of his native town, spent three years at the Iowa Agricultural College, and then entered the Iowa State University, from which he was graduated in 1883. Being ambitious for a still higher education he then took a post-graduate course in the celebrated Columbia College of New York, also studying law. As soon as he had gained admission to the bar he determined to seek his fortune in the West, and the year 1885 found him in Seattle, where he and I. W. Adams together opened an office. Next year he removed to La Conner and established himself in the practice of his profession there, also as a negotiator of loans. By fall he had become interested in a general banking business and two years later he took in L. L. Andrews as a partner in the Skagit County bank (which he had previously organized and named), an institution which has continued in active operation ever since, holding rank among the solid monetary concerns of the state. But Mr. Schricker never abandoned the practice of his profession. On the contrary he has pursued it with great diligence and success, building up a very large business, especially in probate matters, of which he makes a specialty. As heretofore intimated, he has taken much time from his dual occupation to devote to public interests. He was elected on the Democratic ticket to membership in the second state legislature, and so satisfactory was his service that he was offered the nomination for a second term, but pressure of private business forced him to decline. For fifteen years he has been a member of the La Conner city council, but perhaps his most valuable services to the community are those which he has rendered to the cause of public education. A firm believer in the necessity of thorough training for the young, he has devoted himself with assiduity and zeal to the improvement of the local schools, and the efficiency of the La Conner educational system is due to his efforts more perhaps than to those of any other one

man. He has been a member of the school board for fifteen years and is now chairman of that body, also president of the high school governing board, and until very recently he was president of the board of regents of the State University, hence was connected with the educational system of Washington from bottom to top.

In 1884 Mr. Schricker married at Waverly, Iowa, Miss Josephine, daughter of Nathan and Sarah Beals. She was a native of Iowa, a graduate of Cornell College, located in that state, and by profession a teacher. She died in 1897, leaving two children, Florence H., now attending school in Massachusetts, and Otilie Iona, a student in the La Conner high school. In 1900 Mr. Schricker was again married, the lady being Miss Adah Theresa, daughter of Edgar A. Wright, of San Diego, California. Born in Missouri, she was reared and educated there and she belonged to the teaching force of that state until a short time before her marriage. In fraternal affiliation Mr. Schricker is a Mason and in politics an active Republican. Being a diligent and successful man, he has naturally accumulated a goodly share of worldly wealth, his holdings including not a little realty in Skagit county and valuable interest in Pennsylvania coal land.

HONORABLE LAURIN L. ANDREWS, banker of La Conner and one of the oldest residents of Skagit county, has spent nearly all of his life in the basin of the sound and has won recognition as one of the eminent citizens of the northwestern section of the state. He was born in the famous old town of Bucksport, Maine, on the fifth day of January, 1849. His father, Peter Andrews, was a native of Quebec, but when a young man crossed the line into Maine, where he remained for a few years following lumbering and farming. In the year of 1858 he came to Washington via the Panama route, stopping first at Seattle, then a mere trading post. He shortly afterward took up a claim on Cedar river, opposite the present site of Renton, on which he proved up and later sold, moving to the mouth of Black river where he continued to live for several years. Returning to Seattle in 1880 he continued to make that place his home until his death in 1885. Mrs. Mary (Carr) Andrews, mother of our subject, was a native of Maine. She was the mother of five children, of whom only Laurin L. is now living. It was in Seattle that young Andrews gained his education, first in the public school and later in the Territorial university. At the age of nineteen he secured the position of clerk in a general merchandise store in Seattle. Having secured an insight into the mercantile business, he severed his connection with this firm at the end of a year and a half and established a store on the Tulalip Indian reservation in Snohomish county. Selling out this business at

the end of the first year, he opened a general merchandise store on the Swinomish reservation at a point immediately opposite La Conner, which business he successfully conducted for five years, at the end of which time, 1876, he crossed over to La Conner. Here he built up a lucrative business which he continued for ten years. In 1888 he became interested in the Skagit County bank with W. E. Schricker. This was the first and only bank established in the town of La Conner, and it still bears the original name with which it was christened, having, under the guiding hand of its capable head, passed safely through the many vicissitudes common to such institutions in pioneer communities, together with the great financial crisis of the early nineties, and to-day stands recognized as one of the solidest banking institutions in the upper sound country, a veritable monument to the sagacity, wisdom and business ability of its founders and managers.

In the latter part of 1875, in Whatcom county, Mr. Andrews and Miss Sarah E. Allen were united in marriage. Mrs. Andrews' father, George W. L. Allen, was a farmer in Virginia in early life, but desiring to seek a new home in the undeveloped section, he, with other bold and fearless pioneers, crossed the plains in 1852 and took up his home among the very first on Whidby island. He later came to the mainland and took up a pre-emption ten miles north of La Conner. Mrs. Hattie (Packwood) Allen, mother of Mrs. Andrews, was born in Missouri and is still living, at present making her home in Tacoma. Mrs. Andrews was born at Oak Harbor, Whidby island, in 1856. She received her education in the schools of Coupeville and in the high school at Seattle. Three children of Mr. and Mrs. Andrews are living, namely: George L., born in 1876, now a grain buyer at La Conner, representing Seattle and San Francisco mills; Mary L., born in 1878, living at home, and Mrs. Ada B. Nicholas at La Conner, where her husband is principal of the public schools. Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Andrews are Episcopalians, while fraternally he is connected with the Masons, Odd Fellows and Ancient Order of United Workmen, and has the distinction of having occupied high official positions in each of those orders. Mr. Andrews has been a lifelong and active Republican, and participates with zeal in the conventions and councils of his party. In 1877 he was called to serve for two years in the territorial legislature, during which time he was instrumental in passing the measure which established the first court in Whatcom county. He has also served one term, 1887-8, as sheriff of the county and four years as member of the board of county commissioners. Honest and upright in business, faithful and efficient in his services as legislator and county official, a leader in organizations of a benevolent and fraternal character, ever public spirited, and withal a man of affable and social qualities, Mr. Andrews de-

servedly ranks among the foremost of Skagit county's distinguished citizens.

CHARLES E. GACHES is connected with one of the pioneer mercantile establishments of the county and by his successful management of the business has earned for himself the reputation of being one of the brightest young business men of Skagit county. He was born at La Conner in November, 1882. His father, James Gaches, the founder of the business, is a native of England, who, when fourteen years of age, left home and went to Australia. He obtained employment on a cattle ranch and during the last nine years of his stay in that country was manager of the largest cattle ranch in Australia. In 1869 the elder Gaches came to San Francisco and two years later located at La Conner, where in 1873 he opened a general store and soon built up a large business, which is now partly under the management of his son. Just at present Mr. Gaches is visiting his old home in England. Mrs. Rhoda (Francis) Gaches, mother of Charles, came from England when a young woman and was married at La Conner in 1877. Charles E. Gaches received his early education in the common schools of La Conner and later graduated from the State University at Seattle, continuing for a year after graduation as instructor in civil engineering. In the summer of 1902 he went to Korea and China to examine a mining property and make report to the owners. On his return he connected himself with his father in business and is now in the management of the same. The Gaches family is one of the best known and most highly cultured families in Skagit county. Samuel F. Gaches, brother of Charles, is a graduate of Leland Stanford, Jr., University and from 1900 to 1904 was in the government postal service. Another brother, George H. Gaches, is manager of the Seattle-Whatcom Transportation Company, with offices at La Conner. He is a graduate of the State University and served with the First Washington Volunteers in the Philippine war. The sister, Mrs. Eva Richardson, lives in Oakland, California, where her husband is connected with the Japanese consulate. Mrs. Richardson is a graduate of the Boston Conservatory of Music. The Gaches family is Republican in politics and Baptist in church affiliation. Aside from their interests in the store and the transportation company they own a fine tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land, all under cultivation. The entire family is one which enjoys and merits the esteem and confidence of the business community of Skagit county.

EDWARD BRISTOW, the efficient sub-agent in charge of the Swinomish Indian reservation, is a



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man of varied career and experiences and of many accomplishments. A veteran of the Civil War, he is also a veteran of the Indian service. He was born in Polk County, Missouri, in 1844, the son of Edward Bristow, a Pennsylvania farmer who moved to Missouri in 1833, and served in a regiment which drove the Indians from that territory for the settlers. His wife, Mrs. Sarah (Ashenhurst) Bristow, was a native of Kentucky, of Irish descent. She died in Missouri, the mother of eleven children, of whom Edward is the youngest. Facilities for education were not common in the days when Edward Bristow was young and much of his education was acquired in the stern school of experience and by observation and reading. At the age of eighteen he enlisted in a short-term regiment, but at the close of the period of enlistment went into Company M of the Eighth Missouri Cavalry and served through the war, being mustered out with the chevrons of a sergeant. Young Bristow was in the battle of Prairie Grove and numerous cavalry engagements about Little Rock, Arkansas. At the battle of Miller's Lane, White river, Arkansas, his brother was fatally wounded by his side; and here, as at Ashley Station, where his own horse was killed under him, he escaped unscathed, like fortune attending him to the close of the war. Returning home from the service, Mr. Bristow taught school for one year and for the following two years acted as constable. Still later he served as deputy sheriff. In 1872 Mr. Bristow went to California and entered the government Indian service as assistant blacksmith at the Tule River reservation. Nine months later he was promoted to be head farmer on the same reservation. In 1880 he resigned and moved to Umatilla County, Oregon, where for a decade he engaged in farming. On selling out in Oregon, he came to Snohomish county and took charge of a lumber yard. In 1891 Mr. Bristow again entered the Indian service, taking charge of the Swinomish reservation. He left the service again in 1899, but a year later returned and was sent to the Lummi reservation for two years and then transferred to his original post in the Indian service, which he still holds.

In 1867 in Cedar County, Missouri, Mr. Bristow married Miss Martha Samsel, daughter of Joseph and Ellen (Wilson) Samsel, natives of Tennessee, who went to Missouri, soon after their daughter was born. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bristow of whom but one is living, Mrs. Stella Osberg of La Conner. In politics Mr. Bristow is a Republican. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Good Templars. The family are Methodists. Mr. Bristow is the owner of a two-acre plat in La Conner and also of a house and lot. He makes his home on the reservation and is one of the efficient employees of the government's Indian service.

W. AXEL CARLSON of La Conner is a stockholder in the Mail Publishing Company, owner of the Puget Sound Mail, La Conner's representative in the newspaper world of the Northwest, and is in charge of the mechanical department. He is a newspaper man of experience, having known all the changeable incidents of a country newspaper man's life from printer's devil to editor.

Mr. Carlson was born in 1875, on a farm near the town of Olsburg, Kansas, the fourth of six children, his parents being John A. and Charlotte (Daniels) Carlson. The father is a native of Sweden, who came to America thirty years ago, settling ultimately upon the farm where the subject of this sketch was born. Mrs. Carlson was born and married in Sweden, accompanying her husband to this country. Of their six children, but one, Hilda, the youngest, is dead. The children living, aside from W. Axel, are: John, living in Alberta, Canada; Augustus, Fred and Anna, all of whom make their home in Marysville, Snohomish county.

W. Axel Carlson after spending his early years upon his father's farm, and attending the common schools, entered the office of the Olsburg News-Letter as printer's apprentice. He remained there for several years, steadily advancing as he gained experience in the business until he became editor and owner. After making the paper one of the best in Pottawatomie county, he sold out, moving to Skagit county and farming near La Conner for two years. But Mr. Carlson has not lost interest in newspaper work. He returned to Kansas and became a partner in the firm which published the Enterprise at Randolph. In 1898 he came once more to Skagit county and worked with the News-Herald at Mount Vernon for three years. During the last year of that period, with a partner, A. L. Sebring, he published the paper under a lease.

In May, 1901, Mr. Carlson moved to La Conner and bought the interest of A. J. Morrow in the Puget Sound Mail, which he holds at the present time, F. L. Carter being his partner. A sketch of the Mail appears elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Carlson is popular and highly respected in his community, a man of probity of character and of intellectual attainments. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Good Templars, and is affiliated with the Methodist church. He is a believer in the principles of Republicanism and is active in the local councils of his party.

FRED LEROY CARTER has been for eighteen years editor and proprietor of the Puget Sound Mail of La Conner, and during that time he has built up the circulation and established the paper on a substantial footing. Mr. Carter was born in Davenport, Iowa, in 1864, the son of Dr. George W.

Carter, who came to this country from England when a lad of nine years and settled in Genesee County, New York. Dr. Carter was graduated at the head of the class of 1853 in the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. He went to Iowa to practice and followed his profession at Davenport until 1868, when he removed to Marshalltown. After twenty-five years of practice there he retired and is now living at Geneva, Ohio. Mrs. Cordelia (Parks) Carter, mother of Fred L., was a native of Genesee County, New York. She died in Iowa in March of 1886, leaving one child, the subject of this sketch. Editor Carter was educated in Marshalltown, Iowa, graduating from the high school. He was a member of the baseball and football teams of that institution, both of which were strong in those days. In 1881 Mr. Carter took up newspaper work, serving a year and a half on the Times-Republican. He came West at the end of that period on account of his failing health and passed several months at La Conner. Returning eventually to his old home, he worked on various papers at Marshalltown for two years. He then came again to La Conner and in 1887 in conjunction with June Henderson bought the Puget Sound Mail, which was at that time being run by Henry McBride and R. O. Welts, the former of whom later became governor of Washington. Mr. Carter has been editor of the paper continuously since.

In Marshalltown, in August, 1888, Mr. Carter married Miss Georgia E. Hughes, daughter of Charles Hughes, who was a native of Maryland and a prominent mathematical authority in his day. He lived until 1903. Mrs. Carter's mother, Mrs. Lydia (Nichols) Hughes, was born in Virginia in 1828 and passed away in La Conner in 1889. Mrs. Carter was born in West Liberty, Iowa, in 1870, received her education in the schools of Marshalltown, Iowa, and taught until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Carter have had two children: Leona M., who died of diphtheria in 1899, at the age of ten years, and Nellie C., born in La Conner on October 1, 1892. Mr. Carter is a member of Camp 449, Woodmen of the World, one of the strongest lodges in La Conner, also belongs to the Baptist church, of which he is clerk at present. During his long career as a newspaper man in Skagit county Mr. Carter has always held a position in the forefront of the profession. Possessed of the public spirit so characteristic of the journalist, he has ever watched with a vigilant eye the interests of his community and state, and his influence has always been for progressiveness along every line.

JOHN MELKILD, general merchant and postmaster of Conway, came to Skagit county direct from his native Norway in the year 1889, and has since made his home in the valley. Mr. Melkild

was born July 3, 1869, the son of Lars Melkild, who still lives on the old family farm in Norway. The mother is Ildre (Apdal) Melkild, who is also yet living in her native land. She is the mother of four children, of whom John is the only one in the United States. Until he was fifteen years of age young Melkild took advantage of the offerings of school and was in regular attendance. After that age he was able to pursue his education only for two or three months in the winter season, working on the home farm during the intervals. In 1889 he decided to come to the United States and suiting his action to his decision in that year settled in Skagit county. One year followed of work on farms. Then he entered upon a general contracting business, and during the decade in which he bent his efforts in that direction built dikes, dug ditches and engaged in matters of public improvement. In 1900 he relinquished the contracting work and entered a store at Fir as clerk, relinquishing this position after two years of experience and purchasing the store and stock of F. C. Anderson at Conway. He has refitted and enlarged the place, and is now conducting one of the best and largest country store enterprises in the county.

In May of 1902 Mr. Melkild married Miss Alice Anderson, daughter of Magnus Anderson, one of the original pioneers of the Skagit valley, who is still living. She has one brother and three sisters: Frank C. Anderson, Mrs. Mamie Hammock, Mrs. Martha Abrams and Miss Mabel Anderson. In politics, Mr. Melkild is an independent Democrat, bound by no party lines. His property interests are for the most part included in his store property at Conway and some real estate in that town. It is worthy of note that Mr. Melkild, after reaching the age of manhood and after getting well into the responsibilities of business life, in 1897 entered the Lutheran University at Tacoma, appreciating the superior advantages that would accrue from a better education than he had been able to acquire in youth. This incident of itself is indicative of the thoroughness, the progressiveness and the ideals of the man.

GUST PEARSON is one of the younger merchants of La Conner who is earning deservedly a reputation for business ability and fair dealing to which is added not only enterprise but also thorough knowledge of conditions. Mr. Pearson was born in Sweden late in the year 1869, the son of a farmer of that country. The mother, Elma (Anderson) Anderson, is still living in the old country, the mother of six children, of whom Gust is fifth in order of birth. Mr. Pearson obtained his education in his native land and remained at home with his parents until he was twenty years of age. In 1889 he came to the United States seeking better oppor-

tunities than were offered in the old home and crossed the continent at once to La Conner. The first nine years of his life in this country were spent as a laborer, during which time he was industrious and frugal. In 1898 in company with N. A. Nelson he decided to embark in the grocery business in La Conner, buying the store property. Patronage was attracted to the new store and the young men steadily continued to prosper until 1904 when they were in a position to enter their new building and the firm is now enjoying one of the best trades in groceries in the town of La Conner.

In 1900 at La Conner Mr. Pearson married Miss Ida Martin, daughter of Martin Martin, a Swedish farmer, who is still a resident of the old country. She came to this country to visit a sister, Mrs. P. E. Johnson, met Mr. Pearson and eventually married him. Mrs. Pearson was born in Sweden in 1873 and received her education in the schools of that country. In politics Mr. Pearson is a Republican. In fraternal circles, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being a past grand, and his wife a member of the Rebekahs. The Pearsons are members of the Lutheran church. In the business community of La Conner Mr. Pearson is recognized as a pleasant, accommodating merchant and a young man of ability and sterling integrity.

NELS A. NELSON, a member of one of the active grocery firms of La Conner, and a man of energy and push, was born in the land of Sweden in 1864, to the union of Nels and Mary (Johnson) Nelson, who passed their lives in the old country. They were the parents of nine children, of which the subject of this writing is the youngest. Young Nelson, in an educational way enjoyed advantages not always forthcoming to every boy brought up in a large family in the old country. After attending the common schools in his district he was privileged to take a course in college, thus equipping him the better to fight the battle of life. Upon completing his schooling he returned home for a time, later seeking and securing a position as clerk in a general merchandise store in Filipstad, which he continued to fill for five years. Ambitious to better his condition, and understanding the circumscribed conditions of the man who attempts to rise in the business circles of the old world, he determined to break loose from the old moorings, and try conclusions with fortune under the less restricted conditions of the United States. He bought tickets for this country and came direct to La Conner, of which he had learned through friends. Life in the land of the free he found was not to be one continued round of pleasures, and good lucrative positions were not to be found every day, so he took up the most available job that came to his hand, which

proved to be farming, and followed this life industriously for six years. Of a frugal disposition he saved some money, and in 1898 he formed a partnership with Gust Pearson and engaged in the grocery business in the little city of La Conner, buying the building in which they put their stock. The effects of the five years' training in Sweden were not lost on Mr. Nelson, as is attested by the manner in which the business of the new firm has prospered. They are now doing a thriving business which is growing with each year, and they are domiciled in their own neat business house.

In 1899, in La Conner, Mr. Nelson was joined in marriage with Miss Paulina Polson, daughter of Olaf Polson, who was a native of Sweden. He came to Skagit county in an early day, took up land adjoining Brown's slough, southeast of La Conner, and prospered from the very beginning. His large farm was put in a high state of cultivation and structural improvement, and was for years recognized as one of the finest places in Skagit county. Mr. Polson died in 1903. Gunhild Polson, mother of Mrs. Nelson, resides in La Conner. Mrs. Nelson was born in the old country in 1865 and came to the United States with her parents when but two years of age. She received a good education, was granted a certificate and followed teaching for a time before her marriage. To Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have been born two daughters, Esther in 1901, and Winifred in 1903. Politically Mr. Nelson is Republican. At the present time he is a member of the La Conner city council. In fraternal circles he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, while in church connections he is a Lutheran. While deeply interested in public matters, Mr. Nelson finds little time to devote to affairs outside of his business and town interests and the demands of his home life. He is recognized as honorable and upright and ever ready to forward any enterprise for the general betterment of conditions in his community.

OLOF J. WINGREN, a successful photographer of La Conner, with a large and lucrative business, is a native of Sweden, born in 1871, the fourth of the six children of John and Petronella (Pearson) Wingren, who lived on a farm in the old home land. Mr. Wingren remained with them until fifteen, attending the local public schools, then started to learn the trade of a blacksmith, but he seemingly did not care for the handicraft, for two years later he left the man to whom he was apprenticed and set sail for the new world, the promised land of Europeans. During the ten months after his arrival in Uncle Sam's domain he worked in a tannery in Pennsylvania, then he came west, arriving at La Conner the year that Washington was admitted to statehood. The ensuing year was spent in

farm work, then two a half years were given to blacksmithing, then he opened a repair shop for guns, bicycles, etc., but though he remained in this line of work for seven years his heart was not fully in it, and not a little of his time and attention was given to the study of the art of photography in all its branches. Eventually he decided to give his whole time and attention to it, so he opened a gallery in La Conner and began building up the splendid, lucrative business he now enjoys. A great fondness for his art and untiring patience in mastering its details are the secrets of his success, good work and fair treatment bringing their reward in plenty of patronage. His property interests include, besides his gallery and business, a fine ten-room house and other La Conner real estate, and he is rich in the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens, which is attested by the fact that he has been called to serve as councilman for the past two and a half years in the administration of the city's affairs.

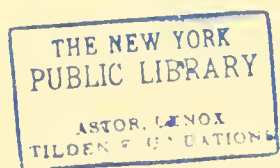
In La Conner in the year 1897, Mr. Wingren married Miss Lena Swanson, whose father, Bengt Swanson, is still living in Sweden, the land of his birth, but whose mother passed away when she was but two years old. Mrs. Wingren received her education in the Swedish schools, but early in life came to the United States. She died in La Conner in March, 1905, leaving one daughter, Linnea, born in April, 1898. In fraternal affiliation, Mr. Wingren is a Woodman of the World, in politics a Democrat, while his church membership is in the Lutheran denomination.

HYMAN SCHEURKOGEL, one of the pioneers who have seen the country changed from a tangled and almost impenetrable forest wilderness to a place of happy homes and well tilled, productive farms, and one who has contributed his full share toward this development, is a native of Holland, that land which has done so much to demonstrate the practicability of winning an empire from the sea, that land whose sons have many times proven their grit and courage and splendid mettle at home and abroad. He was born December 14, 1846, the son of Abraham and Mary (Vancouver) Scheurkogel, who were farmers by occupation. Being the oldest of six children he had to help, as soon as he was able, with the work on the home place, but his parents gave him opportunity to attend the local schools and he obtained a fair education. At the age of twenty-one he embarked for the European's land of promise, and in due time settled in Pocahontas County, Iowa, where he farmed for the ensuing nine years. In 1877 he went to California, whence, a year later, he removed to Washington, landing at La Conner, August 30, 1878. Pursuing the same plan which many other Skagit county pioneers have followed, he worked out among the

farmers for a couple of years, learning the peculiarities of the country and how best to take advantage of them at the same time he was earning his wages. He then took up a pre-emption near Avon. For the next fifteen years he devoted himself assiduously to the cultivation and improvement of this farm, removing the timber from sixty acres of it. Only those who have a realizing sense of the density of timber in western Washington can realize the magnitude of this task. In 1895 he sold all but twenty acres of his original claim and moved to La Conner, where he has since been living in partial retirement, at least from active participation in the farming industry. In addition to the twenty acres before mentioned he has some valuable realty holdings in the city of La Conner.

In 1876, just before starting for California, Mr. Scheurkogel married Miss Sarah Slosson, a daughter of Oscar and Julia (Tousley) Slosson, natives of Ohio, who in the later years of their lives moved to this county, and who passed away here May 6, 1903, and October 10, 1904, respectively. Mrs. Scheurkogel was born in Iowa, February 16, 1859, and received a good education in the schools of that state, where also she taught one term, but her pedagogical career was cut short by an early marriage. She and Mr. Scheurkogel are the parents of one child, Mary E., born in Iowa in July, 1877, now Mrs. D. C. Hayward. The family adhere to the Baptist church, and in political faith Mr. Scheurkogel is a Republican. He is one of the respected citizens of the county, held in high repute in each of the communities in which he has lived and wherever he is known.

PETER WINGREN, machinist and proprietor of the electric light and power plant of La Conner, is one of the young men who are bringing things to pass for the betterment of their community and at the same time establishing themselves in lucrative business. Born December 27, 1866, in Sweden, the son of John Wingren, a farmer, Peter Wingren attended the schools of his native land until he was thirteen years of age. At that time he was apprenticed to the trade of machinist and had mastered it at the end of five years. Aside from a natural adaptability for the construction of machinery, he has always been a student of all lines relating to his trade, whether directly or indirectly, and to those characteristics Mr. Wingren is indebted for the success he is making. He came to the United States in 1885 and first worked at Wilcox, Pennsylvania, as engineer in a factory. He remained there for four years and in 1889 came to Seattle, becoming assistant engineer on a steamboat. Early in the year 1890 he came to La Conner and established a machine shop. He noted that the town did not have electric lights and after canvassing the situation





A. G. Tillinghast.

believed that there was an opening for a plant. In 1893 he was so situated as to embark upon the venture, starting in a very small way, running the plant in connection with his machine shop. Since that time the venture has grown to its present proportions of thirty-five arc and eight hundred incandescent lights. The service is excellent and Mr. Wingren has incorporated into his plant all the new devices and equipments which go with a complete electric lighting establishment. Since 1893 he has devoted the most of his attention to the electric light establishment, but he has not suffered his machine plant to lie idle and has steadily kept adding improved machinery until he is capable of handling any work demanded in the vicinity. In politics Mr. Wingren is a Democrat. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is a past grand of La Conner lodge. The only relative Mr. Wingren has in this country is a brother, who is a photographer at La Conner. In Mr. Wingren the citizens of La Conner have one of the most enterprising of men, a thorough workman, a successful business man and one of whom the community has reason to be proud.

ALVINZA G. TILLINGHAST. The pioneer in any industry, the experimenter along any useful line, the trail-blazer in any direction, the prover of a new adaptability in the local soil, the man who makes two blades of grass grow where one grew before is certainly to be considered a benefactor and certainly deserves honorable mention in any work which concerns itself with local history. Such a man is A. G. Tillinghast. To him belongs the splendid distinction of having introduced into Skagit county the valuable and growing seed-producing industry, of having proven to the world that the soil of the tide marsh flats is as superior in that as it is in the production of oats and of having won for his locality a national reputation. All this was not accomplished without a long continued effort and the exercise of much skill, not alone in experimenting with the soil, but in introducing its products in the marts of the country. That Mr. Tillinghast has succeeded is evidence irrefutable of his business ability and versatility.

Our subject is a scion of an honorable and somewhat noted family, whose beginnings in America were concomitant with the beginnings of the Rhode Island settlement, the Tillinghasts coming over in 1643, and whose branches have established themselves not alone in Little Rhody, but in New York and Pennsylvania, and now on the shores of the mighty Pacific. Mr. Tillinghast, of this article, sprung from the Pennsylvania branch, and his father, Stephen, is still a resident of the Keystone state. His mother, Tryphena (Capwell) Tillinghast, who was a native of Rhode Island, but of

French extraction, passed away in 1901. It was in the public schools of Pennsylvania that Alvinza G. took his initial steps on the road to learning, and being an ambitious youth, he did not pause in the educational journey until he had taken a course in the old University of Lewisburg, later changed in name to Bucknell University, one of the leading institutions of the Baptist denomination. For a year and a half after leaving school, he worked as clerk in a general store, which employment he finally forsook to enlist in a United States militia regiment which had been mustered into service to repel an expected invasion of the state by the Confederates. This was in 1863. As soon as discharged he returned to the parental home and for the eight years ensuing he worked on the farm. In 1872, however, he came to Padilla, Washington, took a pre-emption claim, and, in company with E. A. Sisson and R. E. Whitney, secured five hundred acres of land, which the three together diked, drained and brought into a state of cultivation. After a half decade had been spent in raising oats on this extensive tract, Mr. Tillinghast decided to revisit his Pennsylvania home, and before he again set foot in the state of Washington five years had rolled around. On his return to Padilla he engaged in good earnest in the seed business, with which he had experimented in a small way as early as 1873, raising some cabbage, carrot, onion, radish and rutabaga seeds and discovering that they were of extra large size and great vitality. In 1883, he grew several acres of cabbage seed, establishing what are now widely known as the "Puget Sound Seed Gardens," and some three years later he issued his first retail catalogue. He has since been engaged in developing and enlarging his industry and pushing his experiments in many directions and as already intimated the success which has attended his efforts has been most gratifying. In 1890 he moved his seed store to La Conner, where it has ever since been. The seasons of 1904 and 1905 each required two hundred acres of land for Mr. Tillinghast's seed growing industry and twenty thousand catalogues are sent out annually to advertise the product, about a quarter of which bring back orders for shipments by mail. From one to three carloads are sent east each year and the writer has been informed that practically the entire supply of one variety of cabbage seed for the whole United States comes from his gardens.

In 1877, in the state of Pennsylvania, Mr. Tillinghast married Miss Emma, daughter of William and Alma (Potter) Bailey, both of whom died when Mrs. Tillinghast was quite young. She obtained a good education, then engaged in teaching, in which for five years she won marked success, being the holder of a splendid position in the Scranton high school at the time she decided to abandon her profession. She and Mr. Tillinghast have one child,

Francis P., who graduated from the La Conner high school in the class of 1905. The family are adherents of the Baptist faith, and Mr. Tillinghast is quite active in the local church, of which he is a deacon and trustee. In politics he is a Republican, taking a public spirited interest in affairs of local, state and national concern, but not ambitious for personal preferment.

NEWTON G. TURNER, one of the men who as boys learned their trade at the carpenter's bench and have reached success in the kindred lines of contracting and milling, is one of the leading members of the La Conner Lumber Company, which does an extensive business every year. He came by his interest in the lumber business very naturally, for his father, John W. Turner, who is still living at the old home in New Brunswick, is a saw-mill man. His mother, Margaret (Glasgow) Turner, was a native of St. John, New Brunswick. She was the mother of five children, of whom George, born in 1864, was the second youngest. Until he was sixteen years of age our subject remained at home, attending the local schools, but at that age, having learned much of the carpenter's trade, he set out for the United States to seek his fortune. When twenty, he was in Minnesota, working at the bench or in logging camps. Five years were passed in this way, then, in 1889, he came to Gray's Harbor, Washington, where for the ensuing four years he was engaged in carpenter work, real estate transactions and contracting. He then turned his attention in the direction of the La Conner country, of which he had heard, and soon commenced operations as a contractor there. Opportunity eventually presenting itself to go into a saw-mill venture, Mr. Turner allied himself with J. C. Foster and erected the mill which he now operates. It has a daily capacity of 25,000 feet. In the three years of its operation it has been a success, yielding a profit to its owners and furnishing employment to a large number of men.

In Victoria, British Columbia, in 1899, Mr. Turner married Miss Cora Tingley, daughter of James and Mary (Peck) Tingley, who have been residents of Victoria for many years. Mrs. Turner is a native of New Brunswick, but she received her education in the common and high schools of Victoria. She taught for several years before her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Turner have three children, all born in La Conner: Victor in 1900, Gains in 1903 and Harold in 1904. In fraternal circles Mr. Turner is a Mason, in politics a Republican. A thorough mastery of the details of his business, gained by a lifetime of strict attention thereto, has enabled him to win an enviable success, especially since coming to La Conner, while integrity and fair dealing have gained him esteem as a citizen and member of the community.

HON. JOHN P. McGLINN. Among the many sons of the Emerald Isle who have been forceful factors in the development of Skagit county and the Northwest, or who have in some way rendered efficient service to some part of this new state, one of the most noted is John P. McGlinn, who has several times filled high positions of public trust with unusual fidelity and ability and who, as legislator, has the splendid distinction of having his name connected with some of the most statesmanlike measures that have ever found a place on the statutes of Washington. His parents, Patrick and Catherine (Guckien) McGlinn, immigrated to the United States in 1852, bringing with them a family of eight children, of whom our subject was the seventh child. They settled first in Butler County, Ohio, and later in Indiana. Being but six years old when he landed in the United States, Mr. McGlinn, of this article, received his educational training here and became in all respects a representative American. He graduated from the academy at Logansport, Indiana, at the age of nineteen, and thereafter for some years spent his winters in teaching and his summers at work on the farm. His residence in Washington dates back to 1872, when he took up his abode in Olympia; and when, a little later, he left that city, he did so to assume the duties of sub-Indian agent on the Lummi reservation. He continued in that position, which also included charge of the Swinomish agency, for a number of years, indeed until the beginning of the first Cleveland administration. In 1877 he established a hotel in La Conner, the second there, and the first in Washington which had no bar in connection. The McGlinn House, as it was called, was a popular and widely famous hotel during all the twelve years of Mr. McGlinn's management of it.

Appointed Indian agent in 1889, upon the election of Harrison to the presidency, he sold his hotel to Silas Gallagher and went to Neah bay to assume charge of the Makaha reservation, taking his family with him. He remained there until the re-election of Cleveland once more put him out of the public service. In 1893 he moved his family to Olympia, thinking to take advantage of the public schools there established, which were said to be the best in the state at that time, but the financial depression compelled him to move a year later, and he took up his abode on McGlinn island, near La Conner, where he remained continuously until 1897. He then purchased the two hotels of La Conner and consolidated them under his own personal management, and he has continued in charge of them to this day.

Most noteworthy of Mr. McGlinn's public services were those which he rendered subsequent to his election to the Territorial Council in 1878. During his term he drew up, introduced and defended with marked ability in a hot debate the celebrated

labor lien bill, which finally commended itself to the good judgment of the law makers and found a place on the statute books of the state. He also introduced and carried through a measure providing for the removal of the federal court from Pierce to Skagit county, thereby rendering an incalculable service to northwestern Washington, which service was so thoroughly appreciated by his constituents that they presented to him a handsome gold watch. In 1888, he was again nominated for membership in the Territorial Council, but, popular though he was, he could not stem the Democratic tide which swept the territory that year, and James Hamilton Lewis, his opponent, was elected. He had, however, the very great satisfaction of having carried Skagit and Snohomish counties, something that no other Republican on the ticket was able to do.

On Christmas day, 1874, Mr. McGlinn married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Barbara (Fox) Benn, natives of Ireland and Canada respectively. Her mother was, however, of Pennsylvania Dutch extraction. Her father forsook his fatherland for America when eleven years old and was a farmer and contractor in Canada and Missouri until 1874, when he came to Washington. Mrs. McGlinn was educated in the state of Missouri. She and Mr. McGlinn are parents of six children: Thaddeus, born in 1876, now living in Bellingham; Leo Eugene, born in 1879, now living at La Conner; John G., born in 1881, clerk in the state penitentiary at Walla Walla; Robert E., in 1884, a graduate of the State University at Seattle, now professor of history and mathematics in the Washington Academy in Spokane; Mary E., in 1886, and Winifred, in 1889. In religious belief the family is Catholic, while in fraternal affiliations Mr. McGlinn is a member of the United Workmen; in politics he is a Republican. He is greatly interested in the public schools, to which he has given efficient service as a member of the local school board. He has property interests in Olympia, Anacortes, Whidby island, and he owns the whole of McGlinn island, near La Conner. So long has he been active in public life, coming in contact with men from all parts of the country, that he is unusually well posted on the history, resources and prospects of the county of Skagit in particular and the Northwest in general and it is always pleasant and profitable to converse with him about the interesting events and conditions of the days gone by.

Before closing this sketch, a quotation from an article by Edmund S. Meany, Professor of Constitutional History in the University of Washington, published in the *Post Intelligencer*, October 8, 1905, in relation to the Swinomish Indians, their history, traditions, etc., is pertinent to our subject. In referring to Mr. McGlinn, Professor Meany writes: "Mr. McGlinn is thoroughly acquainted with Indian traits. He was in charge of the Swinomish

reservation years ago, and at one time he was in charge of the Lummi reservation. During the administration of Benjamin Harrison he was Indian agent at Neah bay. While there he was required to visit the villages of Hoh, Quilayute and Ozette and to lay out small reservations for them. When Cleveland was elected to succeed Harrison, effort was promptly made to oust McGlinn that the office might be had for another. Daniel Dorchester, superintendent of the Indian schools, was sent to investigate the case. He made an extensive report, dated May 16, 1893, which concluded with the following words: 'Finally, I believe I may say, after having visited forty-two Indian agents during the past four years, that Agent McGlinn impresses me as one of the best I have found. He is progressive, a firm administrator, a good economist, a thoroughly honest man. This is the universal testimony in this region. He is a liberal Catholic religiously, unobtrusive officially and very exemplary in life. Individuals who have sometimes been restive under his authority, on frankly talking over differences, have found him reasonable and conciliatory.'

"Because of this splendid indorsement and because of my own regard for the pioneer proprietor of Hotel McGlinn, at La Conner, I made it a special point to inquire about his work on those reservations during my visits a dozen years later. In every instance I found his name and his work held in high esteem."

SAMUEL CHAMBERS is one of the pioneer dairy men of Skagit county, having established himself in 1889 near La Conner. By skilful management of his work and careful attention to details of business Mr. Chambers was able to purchase a few years ago the farm on which he had made his reputation as a successful dairy man. He is a native of New York, born in 1843. His parents, Chester L. and Rhoda A. (Waterman) Chambers, lived in Broome county in that state until their deaths. Mr. Chambers is the next to the youngest of eight children. He received his schooling in the New York schools, and at twenty-one years of age was farming on his own account. He came to Washington in 1888, reaching Seattle in April of that year. Remaining there but a short time, he came to La Conner and worked at the trade of carpenter until he leased a piece of ground and commenced his dairy business. By industry and fair dealing he built up a good business and in 1893 purchased the land he had been leasing for thirteen years. The place comprises seventy acres of excellent land, of which seven acres are in grass and six devoted to the business of raising cabbage seed.

In 1867, while still a resident of the Empire state, Mr. Chambers married Miss Eliza J. Dwight, daughter of Roswell and Olive (Johnson) Dwight,

both of whom were native New Yorkers. Mrs. Chambers was born in Tioga County, New York, and there educated. Eight children have been born of this union: William Chambers; Mrs. Cora Summers, of Marysville; Clinton Chambers; Mrs. Ollie McGlimm; Rhoda; Clarence; Harley, and Mildred Chambers. Mrs. Chambers during her life was a member of the Methodist church. She died in 1903. Mr. Chambers has always been a Republican in politics. The home place consists of seventy acres of carefully tilled land, a general farming business being pursued in addition to dairying and raising cabbage seed. The dairy at present comprises seventeen head of selected cows and is the chief department of the farm. Mr. Chambers is recognized as one of the sterling men of the community, a man of the best character and respected by all who know him.

JOSEPH F. DWELLEY is one of the respected pioneers of Skagit county, having lived here since 1870, holding public office and enjoying the respect of the people who came in to settle up and develop the country. Mr. Dwelley was born in Kittery, Maine, and so has crossed the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast. His father, George W. Dwelley, a descendant of the Dwelleys who came over in the Mayflower, was a ship carpenter of Marshfield, Massachusetts, who later settled in Wisconsin and died there. The mother was Narcissa Spinney, a native of Maine and the daughter of a privateer in the Revolutionary War who lost his life at sea. He was from the north of Ireland, of Scotch descent. Mr. Dwelley received his education in the schools of Boston until the death of his mother, when, at twelve years of age, he was bound out to a shoemaker. Two years later the lad ran away and commenced work in an iron foundry, remaining there until 1859, when he went to Calumet County, Wisconsin, and followed farming and carpentering. At the outbreak of the Civil War, Mr. Dwelley enlisted in the Fifth Wisconsin, being the first man to enroll from Calumet county. He served with the command until 1864, when, having been promoted to a lieutenantcy, he resigned, returning to his home state with the object of raising a company for the remainder of the war. Not meeting with success, Lieutenant Dwelley went to work on a farm and ultimately leased farms for operation. In February, 1870, he came to Washington and Whidby island and worked at the trade of carpenter in the vicinity of Coupeville. Crossing to the mainland and the Skagit river valley, Mr. Dwelley filed on a pre-emption claim, on a part of which the city of Mount Vernon now stands. By the year 1875 he had cleared much of his land and on selling it took up his residence

in La Conner. At first he worked at his trade as carpenter and then embarked in the furniture business, which he conducted until 1886 when he was appointed postmaster, holding that office for eight years. In 1876 he was appointed justice of the peace to fill an unexpired term and has filled that office ever since. Mr. Dwelley continued in active mercantile operations until several years ago, when he retired and began the work of building and operating boats.

Mr. Dwelley, at Stockbridge, Calumet County, Wisconsin, in 1865, married Miss Angeline E. Wells, daughter of Alonzo and Martha (Bingham) Wells, natives of New York who had moved to the Badger state. Mr. Wells came to the Skagit country in 1871 and has been living at Coupeville for a number of years. Mrs. Wells is still living. Mrs. Dwelley was a native of New York, but received her education in Wisconsin. She is a pioneer school teacher of Skagit county, having taught the first school at La Conner in 1876, which was established by subscription. Three children of Mr. and Mrs. Dwelley are living in Washington: Mrs. Kate Maloy, born on the Skagit river in 1872, the second white child native of that section of the country; Charles L. Dwelley, a clerk in the hardware store of Mr. Hayton, at Mount Vernon, and Mrs. Edna M. Taggart, living in Bellingham, where her husband is city ticket agent for the Great Northern railway. Mr. Dwelley is one of the prominent members of the Grand Army of the Republic, a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and an Odd Fellow. In church affiliations he is a Presbyterian. In politics he has been a lifelong Republican. He has been a constant friend of every movement which had as its object the upbuilding and betterment of the schools, and to his efforts is due much of the development of the La Conner schools from the day when Mrs. Dwelley inaugurated the first school down to the present time. Mr. Dwelley is held in the highest esteem of his fellow townsmen, an honorable man, full of good deeds and interested in every good work.

GEORGE N. SHUMWAY, until recently a prosperous farmer of Belfast, Washington, was born in Belchertown, Massachusetts, October 13, 1841, where his forefathers had lived for about a hundred years, the son of John R. and Mary (Holland) Shumway. The father, of French Huguenot descent, was born in Massachusetts in 1823, and died at the age of fifty-eight. The mother, also a native of Massachusetts, was of English extraction, and was proud to recall the fact that her parents were pioneers in the state of her birth. The oldest of nine children, Mr. Shumway grew to the age of twenty on his father's farm, there laying the found-

dation for a sturdy manhood, and receiving his education in the common schools of the state. In response to the call for volunteers at the outbreak of the Civil War, he enlisted in Company H, Forty-Sixth Massachusetts Infantry, in which he served one year. After a year spent at home, he went to Illinois and thence to Michigan, where he worked three years in a saw-mill. The longing to revisit his native state caused him to return, and the next twelve years were spent there operating a pitchfork and garden tool factory of his own. But the West promised greater advantages, so in 1881 he came, first to Oregon, then to Washington, working at various occupations for the first year, at the end of which time he took up his present property as a homestead claim.

At Belchertown, Massachusetts, in 1881, Mr. Shumway and Mary M. Barrett were married. Mrs. Shumway was born in Massachusetts, October 5, 1844, the daughter of Silas and Hannah (Pomeroy) Barrett, both natives of that state, in which the mother also died. Mr. Barrett, a blacksmith by trade, came west with his daughter in 1882, and continued to reside here until his death in 1890. His ancestors were pioneers of Hinsdale, Massachusetts, coming during the era of Indian wars. Mr. Shumway is a Mason and a member of the Grand Army. He belongs to the Congregational church, while his wife adheres to the Methodist faith. By dint of hard work he converted his farm, which was originally timbered heavily, into a comfortable, home-like place, with forty-five acres in hay and much of the rest in shape to furnish pasture for his fine herd of Jersey cattle. But advancing age has made it impossible to give the place the attention it should have so he has recently sold out to good advantage and purchased a pleasant little place in Anacortes, where he expects to live in future.

JOHN H. ROCK, of La Conner, is the pioneer harness maker of Skagit county and since 1889 he has established a most successful business and gained an enviable reputation for the quality of work turned out. Mr. Rock was born in Pennsylvania in 1829, of Scotch parentage. His father was also a native of Pennsylvania and a potter by trade. Mrs. Rachel (Bard) Rock was the mother of twelve children of whom John was sixth in order of birth. Young Rock attended school up to the time he was eighteen years of age and had picked up a knowledge of the printer's art outside of school hours. But when it came to choosing his trade he selected that of harness maker. In 1856 he moved to Illinois and worked at his trade for sixteen years, going to Iowa in 1872 for a couple of years. He then returned to Illinois and ran a shop for six years. In 1882 he went to Dakota, took up a homestead and followed farming until in 1888 he came to

Washington and settled in La Conner. He opened a small shop, enlarging as the growth of business warranted. This was the first harness shop in Skagit county, and the present shop was erected in 1902.

In 1857, while a resident of Illinois, Mr. Rock married Miss Annie Miller, daughter of Jacob and Mary (Hoover) Miller, Pennsylvanians who had moved to Illinois. Mrs. Rock was born in the Keystone state and received her education there. Of this union five children have been born. Mrs. Mary F. Irvin is living in Seattle, the wife of a successful painter; Harry W. Rock is a first-class harness maker, having learned the trade of his father; William L. Rock is also a finished harness maker, having been schooled in the trade at his father's bench; Mrs. Emma McDonald is living in Seattle, the wife of a fish market proprietor; Edwin M. died in early youth while his parents were in Illinois. In fraternal circles Mr. Rock is an Odd Fellow and in politics a Republican. During this time he has made investments in real estate and owns both residence and business property. He is well established in his own building with a growing business and a reputation in the community for honesty and uprightness.

CHARLES VALENTINE, painter and paper hanger of La Conner, is one of the successful young business men of western Skagit county and is recognized as one of the best artisans in his line. He is in reality a product of Skagit county, though born in Peru, Indiana. He was only twelve years of age when his father came to the sound country, and he has received his education and business training here. His father, Samuel R. Valentine, living on a farm near La Conner, is a Virginian by birth. He followed the trade of tinsmith until he ventured into the hardware business here, which he continued for some time. Selling out later, he has since followed his trade of tinsmith with the Polson Hardware Company of La Conner. Mrs. Emma (Holman) Valentine was a native of Indiana, the mother of two children of whom Charles is the younger. Our subject received the rudiments of his education before leaving Indiana and for six years after coming to Skagit county continued his studies. When eighteen years old he became apprenticed to the trade of painter and paper hanger and upon becoming master of the same, three years later, at once took up his calling. He passed one year in the Port Blakely shipyards, but has since lived at La Conner.

In 1899 Mr. Valentine married Miss Clara O'Loughlin, daughter of James O'Loughlin, who came to this country from Ireland when a lad, lived for a time in Michigan and came to Washington in 1872. Mr. O'Loughlin has served as assessor of

this county and three terms as sheriff, being the first official in that capacity the county had. He is still living on Beaver marsh, near La Conner. Mrs. Adeil (Huff) O'Loughlin is a native of Michigan, and is living in Skagit county. Mrs. Valentine was born near La Conner in 1879 and received her education in the home schools. To this union have been born four children, Charles T., Richmond E., Ivan J. and an infant, Lewis P. In politics Mr. Valentine is a Republican. He is a man of good education, upright and honest and respected in this community. Mr. Valentine has a house and two lots in town.

SAMUEL M. LOCKHART lives on a small ranch about three miles northeast of La Conner, having made his home there since coming to Washington in 1887. He is the son of Thomas G. Lockhart, a native of Ohio, born in 1814, who settled in Cedar County, Iowa, in 1842. His claim there was jumped and he moved to Linn county, becoming the first settler in that section of the state. On this new place he lived until his death in 1891 at the advanced age of 78 years. He was of Scotch-Irish descent. Lettie (Osborn) Lockhart, his wife, was a native of Indiana. She was the mother of eleven children, of which Samuel was the fifth in order. Samuel M. Lockhart attended school in Iowa and when twenty years of age leased a farm for a term of five years. At the close of this period he went to California and passed six months, thereupon going to Iowa and purchasing a small farm, where he resided until 1887. In that year he decided to come to Washington and having sold out in Iowa, moved to and settled on the La Conner flats, where he still owns five and one-third acres of land, including an orchard. Here he has made his home since becoming a citizen of Washington.

Mr. Lockhart was married in Iowa in 1868 to Miss Mary M. West, daughter of John West and Sarah E. (Howe) West, natives of Ohio who moved to Iowa and closed their lives in that state. Mrs. Samuel M. Lockhart was born in Ohio but at the age of six years accompanied her parents to Iowa, where she received her education and was married at the age of seventeen years. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lockhart—Thomas G., residing with his family in Skagit county; Mrs. Winifred Dunlap, Roland and Alice, living, and Effie and Eugene who died when quite young. Mr. Lockhart is an active Democrat, taking a keen interest in the campaigns of his party and contributing his share toward their success.

PETER REGENVETTER, one of the men who have been forceful and efficient in the agricultural development of the La Conner country, is of the

great multitude of the sons of Germany who, by the exercise of their characteristic industry, patience and sound judgment, have won success in the new world with its abundant opportunities for those with eyes to see them and courage to grasp and utilize them. A pioneer of Skagit county, he has witnessed its development from a time when civilization had made but slight inroads upon primeval conditions to the present day and he has the satisfaction of knowing that the transformations which have been wrought since then are in some measure the result of his own labor and planning.

Mr. Regenvetter was born in Luxemburg, March 28, 1847, the son of Peter and Margaret (Wolf) Regenvetter, both of whom were likewise natives of the Fatherland. The former was a tailor by trade, but he gave much of his time and attention to agriculture. Coming to America in 1872, he settled first in Minnesota, but after a half decade had been spent in that state he removed to Washington, where he spent the remainder of his days. He died in 1883. Our subject's mother passed away in Gilroy, California, in the year 1892.

During the first thirteen years of his life, Mr. Regenvetter of this review remained at home with his parents, attending the excellent public schools and acquiring a better education than could be had in the same length of time almost anywhere else in the world. He then determined to add to his knowledge by travel, and the ensuing eight years were spent in journeying over the different countries of Europe, all of which were visited by him, though he passed more time in France than in any other one country, remaining in Paris for several months. On his return to Germany he spent two years in the army. At the age of twenty-five he came to the United States, settling first in Nautria, Dakota county, Minnesota, where he farmed for three years, then, in 1875, he came to Whatcom, Washington. He moved to La Conner flats a little later, worked there for two years then spent two years farming on Whidby Island near Coupeville, after which he came again to the Swinomish country. This time he purchased forty acres of uncleared and undiked marsh land and began in great earnest the battle for a comfortable home, independence and a competency. He worked in season and out, diking, ditching, clearing and cultivating until he had this tract fully redeemed and yielding crops, then, ambitious for new fields to conquer, he bought forty acres more adjoining which he treated in the same manner until it too had been brought to a high state of cultivation. He has added to his holdings from time to time since until he is now the owner of nearly two hundred acres of land, all in cultivation and all equal to the best in the county. The past season he raised fifty-five acres of oats which yielded in the neighborhood of one hundred bushels to the acre, and twenty-five acres of hay which gave a

proportionately large yield. He has a good, seven room house, good barn and other outbuildings and keeps a fine little herd of cattle as well as plenty of horses for the convenient operation of the farm. A two-acre orchard furnishes abundant fruit of all kinds for home use. Mr. Regenvetter is certainly to be congratulated on the splendid success he has achieved in the years of his residence in Skagit county.

In St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1875, our subject married Miss Christina, daughter of Peter and Christina (Slater) Reiter. Her parents were born and died in Germany, and she too was a native of that country, but came to America at the age of twenty-two. She passed away at her home near La Conner March 3, 1904, after having borne to Mr. Regenvetter eight children, namely, Frank and Peter, twins, born in La Conner December 15, 1876; Annie, in Coupeville in 1881, now at home; Mary, deceased; Jack, born in La Conner April 20, 1883, now justice of the peace of La Conner precinct; John, Katie and Emma, deceased. The last three died of diphtheria about three years ago, the dread disease taking them all inside of two weeks. In politics, Mr. Regenvetter is a Republican and in religious faith a Catholic.

ISAAC JENNINGS, one of the best known and most successful farmers on the rich Swinomish flats, has the distinction of being numbered among the very earliest pioneers of his part of the country, his family being the seventh to settle in what is now widely celebrated as the La Conner oat belt. When he arrived the general aspect of the country was uninviting enough, but the practicability of reclaiming it had been proven, and Mr. Jennings was not the kind of man to overlook an opportunity even though it might wear a forbidding mein. His was the mettle of the true pioneer. Homesteading a piece of the soil, he gave himself to its reclamation from the sea with a whole heart, laboring in season and out of season, diking, ditching, clearing, cultivating, and investing his surplus earnings in new fields for the exercise of his enormous and teeming energy, until he is now numbered among the wealthiest residents of a section of country far famed for its abundant wealth. His industrial success has been fairly and honestly earned and none will begrudge to him any whit of it, even though it has been much greater in degree than he could anticipate or expect when he began the struggle. On the contrary all readily accord him the admiration and respect which of right belong to those who do something worthy and do it well.

New Jersey is the state of Mr. Jennings' nativity and the date of his birth is 1834. His parents, Joseph and Elizabeth (Carter) Jennings, were likewise natives of that commonwealth and lived there

all their lives. Both were of English extraction. Mr. Jennings, of this article, spent his first sixteen years on the parental farm, attending school betimes and acquiring the habits of thrift and industry which have stood him in such good stead in later life. He then worked in a flouring mill in New Jersey for fourteen consecutive years, removing to Illinois at the end of that long period, where another year was devoted to the pursuit of the same industry. After returning to and remaining a short time in his native state, he determined to try his fortunes in the west, and in due time he and his family had established a home on Whidby island, Washington. In 1871 he pre-empted a quarter section of land about a mile and a half from La Conner, and though it was marsh land and had to be cleared, diked and drained before anything could be raised on it, he lived on it for two summers and one winter, when he returned to Coupeville, Whidby island, remaining there until final proof had been made. In 1873 he homesteaded the eighty acres on which he now lives, and on which are most of the farm buildings. During these early days the pioneer farmers were compelled not only to labor earnestly to fight back the sea, as did the Holland Dutch, but to forego most of the conveniences and pleasures of life. There were few trails and no roads and all the comforts and luxuries which are now enjoyed in the Swinomish country as in few other places were unknown and scarcely dreamed of. All these have come as a result of the labor and public spirit of the doughty pioneers of whom Mr. Jennings is one. The property accumulations of all the years of patient endeavor spent by Mr. Jennings in the La Conner country include five hundred and sixty acres of the finest oat and meadow land in all that section, very favorably located and worth no one knows how much. It will certainly pay interest on an enormous sum. He raises about three hundred acres of oats annually and keeps large numbers of live stock of different kinds, but principally neat cattle, of which he now has about one hundred and thirty-five head. A fine fifteen room house, tastefully furnished and supplied with all modern improvements and conveniences, adds immeasurably to the comfort of the home life, while excellent out-buildings of every variety, plenty of facilities for the expeditious performance of all necessary work, abundance of machinery, etc., unite to make the operation of the farm convenient and profitable.

In the state of New Jersey in 1866, Mr. Jennings married Miss Margaret, daughter of James and Martha (King) James, natives of Pennsylvania and New Jersey respectively. Mr. James was engaged in the hotel business in the latter state for a number of years, but eventually took up his abode in West Virginia. His wife died in New Jersey in 1867. Mrs. Jennings, a native of the last mentioned state, was educated in the local public schools, re-

ceiving a generous intellectual culture. She is possessed of an inherent refinement which all the rugged experiences of pioneer life have been insufficient to efface in the least degree, and her love of the highest and best things in life has found expression in an earnest support of her husband in his efforts to educate his children to the extent of his ability. These are Martha, Linda, Mrs. Elizabeth O'Leary of Seattle, wife of the master mechanic of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, Helen Francis, William E., Margaret and Lewis E. One of them is a graduate of the state university, others have completed the course in Puget Sound Academy and the youngest is now passing through the curriculum of the La Conner high school.

MICHEL J. SULLIVAN is one of the pioneers of Skagit county in the sense that he was the earliest settler there and also in the sense of being the first to develop the La Conner flats from valueless marsh land sometimes covered with tide water into rich and fertile fields. In 1868 Michel Sullivan came to the country of the Skagit and as he learned of the nature of things on the flats carried into execution his idea that with proper drainage and with control of the tides, La Conner flats would prove to be valuable farm land. It was he who first stuck a shovel into the ground in reclamation of the land from the waters of the sound and it was he who first put up dikes and who raised the first crop of grain on this land wrested from the tides of old Ocean. In fact it was this pioneer work of Mr. Sullivan which demonstrated that La Conner flats were worth reclaiming.

Mr. Sullivan is a native of Massachusetts, the son of an Irish immigrant who settled in the old Bay state and died when the subject of this sketch was a child. The mother was born in Ireland also, her maiden name being Eleanor Shay. She was the mother of six children of whom Michel J. is the only surviving one. It was the mere rudiments of an education that young Sullivan was able to get as a young man, but he was of the stamp of men who pick up bits of information and apply them as they go through life. Left an orphan in tender years, he obtained a berth as cabin boy on a ship which rounded Cape Horn and reached San Francisco one hundred and twelve days out from Boston, and at twelve years of age stood on the docks at San Francisco, wondering what was going to happen next. He obtained such employment as was open to lads of that age, keeping his eyes open and his faculties alert. In 1866 he was on Puget sound and working in a mill at Utsalady, on Camano island. Two years later he had visited the Swinomish flats, as they were called in those days, and had conceived his idea that they were good land if once cleared and protected from salt water. He first took a

squatter's right and as soon as he saw surveyors at work filed a preemption claim and later proved up. His course was so successful that many followed him and in 1880 all the flats had been taken up. He now has three hundred and fifteen acres of fine land, with a modern house, excellent out-buildings and warehouses on the water front. He has never torn down the cabin he built during his early stay on the flats.

In 1903 in Seattle Mr. Sullivan married Miss Josephine Smith, daughter of Thomas and Katherine (O'Hare) Smith, natives of Ireland. Mrs. Sullivan was herself born in Ireland. After securing an education in a convent she came to La Conner to Patrick O'Hare, an uncle, who has since died. In politics Mr. Sullivan is a Republican, but with a tendency not to support nominees who are not worthy. The Sullivans are communicants of the Catholic church. This farm, the first established out of what was understood to be the worthless tide flats of La Conner, consists of three hundred and fifteen acres of the richest land in the country. Seventy two of its acres are in hay, one hundred and sixty in oats and the balance in pasture land. Mr. Sullivan raises some livestock, at present having ten head of cattle and nine horses. Aside from the interest manifested in Mr. Sullivan as the discoverer of the value of the La Conner flats for purposes of agriculture, he is also regarded as a man of sterling integrity and of more than the usual amount of grasp of opportunities in a business way. The homeless cabin boy on the quays of Frisco has become a leading and wealthy citizen of one of the best counties in Northwestern Washington, successful in business and respected by all.

ISAAC CHILBERG has spent twenty-five years at farming in Skagit county, though he has been a resident of the sound country since 1871, a part of which time he passed in mercantile business. Mr. Chilberg enjoys the respect of his home community and is regarded as one of the staunch people of the county. Mr. Chilberg was born in Sweden in 1842, the son of Charles J. Chilberg who settled as a pioneer farmer in Iowa in 1846 and remained there until 1863. The subsequent three years were spent in Colorado, Nevada and Oregon. The first five years on the sound were passed without his family and in 1871 he returned to Iowa and brought them to live on a preemption he had taken up near La Conner. Here he continued to reside until called to his last reward in 1905 in his ninety-second year. Mrs. Hannah (Johnson) Chilberg was also a native of Sweden. She passed away in 1905 in her ninetieth year the mother of ten children, of whom Isaac was fourth. In Iowa Isaac Chilberg received his education and when twenty years of age went to Colorado. In 1862 he enlisted in the First Colorado battery,

and served with that for nearly three years, being mustered out at Fort Leavenworth in 1865. Returning to Iowa, he remained there farming until shortly before coming to Washington in 1871. He first settled in Skagit county, then a part of Whatcom county, on land taken up near La Conner. Two years later he went to Seattle and engaged in the broom business, after six months removing his venture to Olympia, where he remained for two years. The year 1879 he passed at Walla Walla and in the following year rented his father's farm near La Conner and operated it for over twenty years. In 1866, just after the close of the Civil War Mr. Chilberg married Miss M. E. Ockerman, who lived but a few years. Two children were the result of this union, who later in life became Mrs. Hannah F. Dunlap and Mrs. Mary Callow, both of whom are now dead. In 1883 Mr. Chilberg married Christine Nelson, a native of Chillicothe, Iowa, who had one child which lived only eighteen months, and in 1888 the second wife passed away. Mr. Chilberg is a member of the Methodist church in which he has held the office of steward for a number of years. In politics he is a Republican. His life has been an exceedingly busy one filled with its joys as well as its sorrows, and now in the evening of life he has the satisfaction of knowing that he is the recipient of the confidence of all who know him and is the object of the well wishes of the entire community.

FREDERICK ANDERSON, a prominent farmer and stockman residing nine miles southwest of Mount Vernon, was born in Dalsland, Sweden, November 19, 1848, the son of Anders Johan and Anna (Erickson) Swanson, both natives of Sweden, in which country the father died in May, 1901, and the mother some three years previous to that time. Acquiring his education in the common schools of his native country, and meanwhile assisting his father on the farm, Mr. Anderson spent the first twenty-two years of his life. Influenced by a friend who was then visiting his former home in Sweden, he decided to accompany him to America upon his return, to seek for himself the wonderful opportunities there afforded. Landing in Quebec in 1871, he remained there for one year, going thence to Michigan where he was employed in the iron mines of Lake Superior. Two years later he located in Napa county, California, mining quicksilver for three years, and losing but three days in the entire time. Thrifty and industrious by nature, he had accumulated a neat little sum of money when in 1877 he moved to Nanaimo, British Columbia, there entering the Wellington coal mines. In the terrible explosion that occurred in these mines April 30, 1879, he was seriously injured, his life being despaired of for some time. That he might have the best medi-

cal skill to be found, he was sent to San Francisco. After eleven weary months he was able to take up active work again, though carrying with him for the remainder of his life the marks of his fearful experience. Coming to La Conner in 1880, he rented a farm of Watkins and Walker, engaging in farming, the work of his early manhood. Having purchased a home in Sweden for his parents, from his earlier savings, and spent all the money he had saved in British Columbia in meeting the expenses incurred by his accident, save the sum of one hundred dollars, he had practically to begin at the foot of the ladder again. Possessed of rare courage and determination, he bent every energy to the task before him, that of securing means to purchase a home, and six years later had the satisfaction of making a payment of fifteen hundred dollars on his present place. Year by year he was able to make the payments as they came due, and now owns free of debt his fine farm of one hundred and thirty-six acres well improved and well stocked with thoroughbred cattle and sheep.

In Tacoma in 1888, Mr. Anderson and Christina Swanson were united in marriage. Mrs. Anderson, a native of Sweden, born in 1855, to the union of Sven and Maria K. Larson, both deceased, came to the United States in 1883. Three children have been born to this union, Arthur F. and Alice, both at home, and one deceased. Mr. Anderson has a brother, E. M. Anderson, living on Beaver Marsh, and two sisters, Mrs. A. J. Johnson, of Beaver Marsh, and Matilda Anderson, still living in Sweden. Fraternally Mr. Anderson is affiliated with the American Order of United Workmen. In political belief he is a strong advocate of Republican principles, lending the strength of his influence to every honorable means of advancing the interests of his party. The cause of education has always appealed very strongly to him, and during his long years of service on the school board he has advocated progress and improvement. He is a prominent member of the Lutheran church. With the evidences on every side of the prosperity that has crowned his untiring energy, it would be strange indeed were he not enthusiastic over the opportunities afforded in this country to the industrious poor man. He has just completed the erection of a fine and commodious residence, which is modern in every respect, an ornament to the tasteful grounds surrounding it. His earnest, upright life, commands the respect and admiration of the entire community.

OLIVER C. CURRIER, deceased, was numbered among the respected pioneers and energetic men of Skagit county until March, 1900, when he passed out of this life. During all the years of his residence in the La Conner country he maintained a highly enviable reputation for integrity and up-

rightness of character, and the family of which he was the head has ever been and still is counted among the elite of Skagit county's population. A farmer for many years prior to his demise, his last field of endeavor was the well known Currier home, where his widow and one son still live, but for an extended period of time in early manhood he followed the sea, and he had the splendid distinction of having served as an officer in the United States Navy during the Civil War. Mr. Currier's birthplace was York county, Maine, and the date of his birth was November 23, 1841. His parents, Nathaniel and Sophia (Clark) Currier, were likewise natives of Maine, and they passed their lives in that state, following agriculture as an occupation. He lived on the parental homestead, assisting with the work as he was able and in term-time attending the local school until eighteen, when he went to sea. His love of adventure was to be fully gratified before he should return to the life of a land man for in due time he enlisted in the navy as master's mate and he had part in some of the stirring events on sea and river which occurred during the great American fratricidal war. At the close of the struggle he left the navy, came around the Horn to California and there engaged in the lumber business, but after he had spent a couple of years at that he returned to Maine. He was married there in 1870 and soon after went to Cloud county, Kansas, where the ensuing half decade of his life was passed. In 1876 he removed to Skagit county and resumed his farming operations, cultivating for the first five years the Alverson place, then purchasing the fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres which is the present home of the family.

Mrs. Currier, whose maiden name was Augusta M. Kimball, was born in York county, Maine, January 9, 1844, the daughter of Daniel and Rachel (Barnard) Kimball, both natives of that county and state. Her father, a cabinet maker by trade, was an ardent temperance worker, and in politics a very strong Republican. She received a good education in the common schools of her native state and in a private institution of learning. Her children are Mrs. Susan Ornes, born in Kansas, July 25, 1871, now a resident of Mount Vernon; Mrs. Clara S. Hubbard, born in Kansas August 24, 1873, now living in Cedardale; and Oliver D., born in Washington, August 25, 1877, at home with his mother and operating the parental farm. The family belong to the Methodist church and Mrs. Currier is an active worker in the Relief Corps. Mr. Currier, during his life time was an active Mason.

GEORGE ADIN, whose farm lies two and a half miles southeast of La Conner, is one of the highly respected and popular residents of that vi-

cinity, and is typical to a great extent of the school of fine old English gentlemen. Much of his life on the western continent has been spent in mining, but he has lived in Skagit since 1870 with the exception of one year. Mr. Adin was born in England, November 16, 1831, the son of John and Annie (Fletcher) Adin. His parents were farmers in the old country and had ten children, of whom George was fifth. Mr. Adin received his education in the English schools and remained at home until he was twenty-two years of age. At that time he determined to come to America, California and her mines being his goal. He reached there in 1854 and passed several years in mining ventures. He then obtained employment as clerk in a general merchandise store and continued there for a year and a half. At the close of this employment he bought a mining claim and worked it for several years. He then heard of Washington and its many advantages and came here taking up one hundred and sixty acres of land and remained for one year, returning to California on a visit. The interests he had acquired and the high opinion he had formed of the Skagit country were sufficient to recall him after a stay of a few months. On his return he proved up on this land and has lived on the place ever since. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of good land, one hundred and thirty-three acres of it being under cultivation and very carefully attended. Of Mr. Adin's sisters three are living, Eliza, Mary and Esther; a number of the family have never left England. Mr. Adin is prosperous in his farming operations and devotes some attention to livestock, having nine head of horses and two cows. But his chief interest is in the cultivation of the soil, in which he takes deep enjoyment. Mr. Adin is a true lover of nature, quiet in manner and studious and thoughtful in habit. Ever unselfish and guardedly considerate of others feelings, he holds the respect and esteem in a marked degree of his neighbors and acquaintances.

CHARLES OLSON is one of the successful stock farmers of western Skagit county and one of the respected citizens of the community. Mr. Olson is a native of Sweden, born in January of 1865. His father, Swan Olson, is still living in the old country, a farmer by occupation. Mrs. Hannah (Erikson) Olson, likewise a native of Sweden, passed her entire life there, dying in 1905 at a ripe old age. Charles Olson received his education in the schools of Sweden and remained at home with his parents until he was twenty years of age, when he came to the United States and settled at Salina, Kansas, where he remained for nearly two years. He then went to California and worked in a saw-mill for one season. He came to Washington in 1889 and for the subsequent eight years worked as employe on various farms. Making up his mind to

rent a farm and engage on his own responsibility, he leased a place near Marysville for two years, at the end of which time he sold his interest there to go to Alaska. In that territory he followed mining for half a year and returned to La Conner. For one year after his return he worked for Mrs. Conner and then leased the Alverson farm, which he operated for three years. In 1903 he leased the farm he now occupies, two and a half miles southeast of town. Two of Mr. Olson's sisters, Annie and Mary, are with him, keeping house. Erick, a brother, is in Idaho, engaged in farming. The remaining members of the family are still living in Sweden. They are: Mrs. Ida Halmer, Hendrick, John and twin brothers, August and Axel. In politics Mr. Olson is a Republican, and is acting as supervisor of his road district. Mr. Olson and his sisters attend the Lutheran church. In connection with his agricultural work, Mr. Olson is raising livestock, having now fifty head of cattle and fifteen of horses. The farm is well kept and in his management of it he displays industry and business qualities of a high order.

FREDERIC GAGE is one of the prosperous farmers and stock raisers of the country a short distance southeast of La Conner, where he has a modern place of one hundred and sixty acres. Mr. Gage came direct to Skagit county from England. He was born in 1850. Charles Gage, his father, was an English farmer of sterling qualities who stood very high in the minds and hearts of his home people and served as guardian of the poor. His remains lie buried beside those of his ancestors for many generations back. Mrs. Gage whose maiden name was Marion Johnson, is the daughter of the captain of a sea vessel. She is still living at the age of eighty-three years, the mother of nine children, of whom Frederic is next to the oldest. Frederic Gage received a careful education in an English boarding school and was trained to the life of an English farming gentleman. He remained at home until twenty-four years of age, assisting his father in the management of a farm of between six and seven hundred acres, at which time he left home to engage in farming on his own account and for eight years operated a place of four hundred acres under a leasehold. In 1881 he came to Washington territory, forwarding his household effects by vessel around Cape Horn. His first venture in the new country was to lease and operate a four hundred acre tract near La Conner, which he did with marked success and profit. In 1885 Mr. Gage purchased his present place and has cleared and diked sixty acres of it.

In 1875 while still a resident of England, Mr. Gage married Miss Eleanor Louisa Wiggin, daughter of John Wiggin, a leading member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, also Fellow of

the Royal Society of London. Mrs. Gage's mother died when her daughter was quite young. She was educated in a boarding school, and is a very accomplished and cultured woman being conversant with German and French and the literature of those languages. She was teaching school when married at the age of twenty-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Gage have two daughters, both born in England. One is Mrs. Louise R. Valentine, a resident of Seattle, the other Mrs. Edith McNeil, whose home is on the Skagit river. Mr. Gage is a member of the Episcopal church and at present is church warden. In politics he is a Republican, though not deeply interested in political or party affairs. On his farm he has thirty head of cattle and a number of horses. The Gage home is one of the cultured places of the county, savoring much of the tastes and training of the old country life. Mr. and Mrs. Gage are popular in the community and enjoy the highest respect of those who know them.

JOHN H. CHILBERG, one of the public spirited citizens of Skagit county, has made his mark in official life and left his impress on the business community in which he has moved for thirty-four years. Mr. Chilberg's life has been one of activity in different lines, in each of which he has been conspicuous as a man of accomplishments. He was born in Ottumwa, Iowa, in 1857, and came to Washington when a young man. His father, Charles Chilberg, was a native of Sweden, who settled during Iowa's pioneer days in that state, but in 1871 removed to Washington territory. He took up the land where his son now resides, and died there in 1905 at the advanced age of ninety-two years. John Chilberg commenced his education before leaving Iowa and later attended school at Olympia. He passed much of his time on the farm and in the employment of others until he was twenty-one years of age when he went to Seattle determined to gain more education. While pursuing a course in the State University he supported himself by clerking in stores mornings, evenings and Saturdays. Returning to Skagit county, Mr. Chilberg turned his attention to farming, but was unfortunate in losing crops by floods, so in 1886, he went to Tacoma, where for some time he was in charge of a crockery and glassware store. Again coming to Skagit county, he engaged in farming until 1888 when he went to La Conner and started the first saw-mill in that place. He operated this until he received an appointment as postmaster under the Cleveland administration, then sold out. He was postmaster for seven years. In 1897 he went to Alaska and followed mining ventures for two years, returning then to La Conner, where he opened a confectionery store. This he continued until the fall of 1904. At that time, on account of the advanced age of his

father, he determined to take up again the life of an agriculturist so in March, 1905, he moved on the parental farm. The same energy and ambition which enabled him to work out his own way at the territorial university and have characterized all his activities since, whether as farmer, miner, grain buyer and shipper or postmaster, are winning success for him in the cultivation and improvement of his splendid hundred-acre farm.

In January, 1878, Mr. Chilberg married at Whatcom Miss Maggie Jenkins, whose father, John R. Jenkins, a native of Wales, moved to Washington in 1871, after living in Pennsylvania for a time, finally settling in Whatcom county and engaging in mining. Mrs. Jenkins' maiden name was Margaret Evans and she also was a native of Wales. Mrs. Chilberg was born during the residence of her parents in Pennsylvania, but the major part of her education was received in the public schools of Whatcom and in the territorial university at Seattle. After her course in the latter institution, she engaged in teaching in Whatcom, but her career as a teacher was cut short by an early marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Chilberg have had three children, Mrs. Alice Morrow, living near La Conner; Charles, who died in infancy and Lawrence J., born in 1893. Mr. Chilberg is prominent in Odd Fellowship, being a past grand of Delta Lodge, No. 32, and past chief patriarch of Hope encampment, No. 10.

CHARLES CONRAD is one of the Swedish born American citizens who have easily adapted themselves to life in this country, succeeding by thrift and hard work. He was born in the old country early in the year 1861, the oldest of the three children of Conrad and Ulrika (Hector) Conrad, who passed their entire lives in their native land. Mr. Conrad received his early education in the schools of Sweden. When twelve years of age he accompanied an aunt to La Conner and for a time worked on a dairy farm. When fourteen years of age he determined to complete his education and went to Seattle for a course in the schools there. He returned to Skagit county and worked for different farmers until in the spring of 1885 he first leased the land where he has lived for twenty years. In 1881 Mr. Conrad took up a preemption and on proving up sold out. Out of the proceeds of his farming or leased land, Mr. Conrad in 1896 bought a farm near Fir, which he still owns, and operates. Being an energetic, ambitious man he has not rested from his labors until every acre of his farm has been cleared of timber and put in the best condition.

In 1885 at Pleasant Ridge Mr. Conrad married Miss Sophia M. Nelson, who died three years later leaving two children of whom one, Arthur, born June 28, 1888, is living. In 1890 at Seattle Mr. Conrad married again, his bride being Miss Annie

B. Olsen, a native of Norway, born in 1866. Mrs. Conrad's father is still living in the old country. Of this union seven children have been born, all in Skagit county, namely, Sophia, Nellie, John, Sadie, Dewey, Rachel and Edna. In fraternal affiliations Mr. Conrad is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, while in politics he is a Republican, though not very active. The Conrads attend the Lutheran church. Mr. Conrad has lived in Skagit county since 1874 and whether as farmhand or as farmer has earned a reputation for earnestness, uprightness and energy of which he may well be proud. He enjoys in a high degree the confidence and respect of his neighbors and those with whom he comes in contact.

JACOB MAJERUS, who operates a farm seven and a half miles southeast of La Conner, between Brown's and Hall's sloughs, is one of the typical farmers of that section of the county, having his place in an excellent state of cultivation, doing a general farming business, but also raising fine horses. Mr. Majerus was born in Luxemburg late in the year 1856, the son of Nicholas and Mary (May) Majerus who passed their entire lives in their native country. Farm work and schooling occupied young Majerus' attention until he was eighteen years of age, when he determined to join his older brother in Illinois. Letters from the brother had done much in the way of holding out promises of success for the young man and he came to the United States in 1875, settling in Cook County, Illinois. After a few months he passed on to Minnesota and spent the harvest season there. In the closing days he came to Whatcom county with his brother, and in January of the Centennial year to the La Conner flats. For two years the brothers worked at diking, ditching and farm work on the Conner and other farms in the vicinity of La Conner. In those days the country was wild, and on Beaver marsh no diking or farming was being done except one small place. Mount Vernon had not then sprung into existence. In company with his brother and two other Germans, young Majerus leased four hundred acres of land near La Conner and began farming, the venture being successful. After two years of partnership Mr. Majerus lived for two years on the Mike Sullivan place and three on the Conner farm, operating in each instance under a lease. In 1884 he bought his present place and in the following year moved on it, commencing to erect buildings and extend the diking already done. Farming in earnest on his own account, Mr. Majerus went to raising oats, developing hay land and drifting into stock raising.

In the summer of 1887 Mr. Majerus married Miss Louise Gruben, a native of the Province of Rhine, Prussia, born in 1867, the daughter of Nichola and Catherine Gruben, the latter of whom

came to the United States with her son and daughter and still lives at Mankato, Minnesota. As to Mr. Majerus' family, there were ten children of his parents, only three except himself attaining adulthood: Michael, now near Burlington on the Olympic marsh; Mrs. Annie Schmitz, of Olympic marsh, and Annie Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Majerus have seven children, all at home: Michael, Annie, Frank, Louise, Lillian, Willie and Eva. The members of the family attend the Catholic church at La Conner. In politics Mr. Majerus is a Democrat. He owns eighty acres of his own land and operates eighty of school land. He raises some of the best Clydesdales in the county, having recently disposed of one team for \$550. Mr. Majerus is a shrewd, thrifty farmer, well liked and one of the men who are highly esteemed in the community for rigidity of purpose and action.

MORTIMER COOK (deceased), founder of the old town of Sedro, out of which has grown the present city of Sedro-Woolley, has been credited with having been the first manufacturer on the Pacific Coast to introduce the Washington cedar shingle into the Eastern market. Probably no pioneer of Skagit county contributed more to its advancement than this remarkable man, while his relation to the great shingle industry of the Pacific Northwest will forever identify him prominently with the history of this section of the country.

Mr. Cook's career in Skagit county, beginning with his advent in June, 1884, is but one chapter in his busy life. Born September 15, 1826, at Mansfield, Ohio, a descendant of Francis Cook, who came to America in one of the first ships that followed the Mayflower, he was the youngest in a family of thirteen children. His father was a farmer of the Ohio valley. In 1846, at the age of nineteen, the young Ohioan left farm and school to enlist in the First United States Infantry. While in this regiment he served throughout the Mexican War and afterward along the border until 1850, then re-enlisted, this time for service in the quartermaster's department. In 1852 he went up the Pacific coast to California by water and horse. One of the places at which the schooner put in for water was Santa Barbara, the attractiveness of which lingered so graphically in his memory that years later he returned there to live. After several years in the mines of northern California, Mr. Cook joined the rush to Fraser river in 1858, and at a point on Thompson river, still known as Cook's ferry, he built a ferry and opened a general store, the latter at Lytton. Six years later with his fortune he returned to Mansfield and farmed on the old homestead three years, going thence to Topeka and Kansas City. At the former place he built the first iron toll bridge across the Kaw river, selling it in 1871 to

the city of Topeka for \$100,000 in bonds. With this fortune he went direct to Santa Barbara and established the First National bank, building also the well-known Cook block of that city. He became president of the bank, serving it as such five years. He was twice elected mayor of the town. During his thirteen years' residence his public spirit and whole-souled way of entering upon anything he undertook identified him with every improvement in the growth of the community. Financial reverses finally overtook him in southern California, however, resulting in the loss of all his property, even to his household goods. He soon accumulated a few thousand dollars and once again commenced the building of a fortune.

With this money he came north to Puget sound, selected the undeveloped Skagit valley as the field of his operations and immediately began his career in this section. To afford an outlet to the Skagit river for two thousand two hundred acres of fine timber land which he had purchased, he bought a thirty-four-acre tract on the river at a point south of his timber land, where the river was unusually straight. Here he erected a residence and established a store in 1885. A post-office was secured right away and thus inception was given to the town of Sedro. This musical, appropriate name was formed from the Spanish word for cedar. Much humor came out of the naming of the place, Mr. Cook at first being determined that it should be known as Bug. His wife, who was ever a power for good in the community, joined him the following year, June, 1885, with their two daughters. In the spring of 1886 Mr. Cook built what was then the largest shingle mill on the coast and at the same time erected a drier. He was the originator of the idea of reducing the weight of shingles by drying them in order to lower the freight sufficiently to warrant establishing an Eastern market. The idea was scoffed at by most men who heard of it, all sorts of objections being raised against its success, but Mr. Cook persevered as he always did, and success came to him. The plan of drying shingles was suggested to him by observing how much lighter a few hand-made shingles became after lying by the fireplace. Then he experimented with a bunch weighing them before and after drying. The first Eastern buyers were skeptical of the cedar's enduring qualities, of its red streaks, and other features, but once they had been given a trial, the battle was won. The first car load went to Mansfield, Ohio, and brought about \$4 a thousand. The drawbacks at the mill were also serious—unskilled labor, isolation and expensive transportation—but all were eventually overcome. Early in 1889 Mr. Cook sold his timber land for five times what he paid for it and at the same time the mill, McEwen & McDonald being the purchasers. About the same time the Fairhaven & Southern railway was built and

the town of Sedro platted, Mr. Cook's thirty-four acres being embraced in the original town site. In the establishing of the new town he took an active part, though almost wholly in a business way. He never was a politician in the ordinary sense of the word, but was a lover of good government and never shirked his responsibilities as a citizen.

Shortly after selling his timber and milling interests, Mr. Cook invested in six hundred acres of Olympia marsh land, to the draining and making a model ranch of which he now devoted his exhaustless energies, still retaining his store at Sedro. Hard times overtook him, however; the ranch was lost to him and he again entered with vim into the mercantile business in the town of Woolley, operating this store successfully until 1898, and living to see the two rival towns merged into one prosperous beautiful little city with a unity of action and aims.

The last page in his history is consistent with his energetic life, for at the age of seventy-two he sailed for the newly acquired Philippines, to develop the hard wood timber industry in the Orient. With broken fortunes and delicate health, but with the fire of youth, he was steadily forging ahead, when the deadly malaria of the wooded regions attacked his wonderful constitution. He died in the United States Brigade hospital at Iloilo, November 21, 1899, and, though thousands of miles from his native land, he yet was laid at rest beneath the Stars and Stripes he loved so well. Though he left no riches in the material sense, he left to his family and friends the memory of an honest, square, blunt man, a devoted husband and father and a friend loyal to the last. He was peculiar in many ways, and stories of his eccentricity are familiar to every pioneer, but his peculiarities were but the mark of an exceptionally strong personality. Of sanguine temperament and ceaseless activity, he embraced his opportunities with such vigor and enthusiasm that he was ever a leader. It is said that he made and lost four large fortunes. His fraternal affiliations were confined to Masonry and Odd Fellowship. The name of Mortimer Cook is still a household word in Skagit county; it has been indelibly written upon the pages of local history, and deservedly so.

Mr. Cook was united in marriage January 14, 1865, to Miss Nancy P. Pollock, the daughter of a well-known Mansfield family, after a long romantic courtship. She survives him and is at present residing with her daughter at Rockford, Illinois. Of her three children, all daughters, Fairie, Fanny and Nina, the first and last named are also living; Mrs. Fairie Litchfield, at Chicago; Mrs. Nina Budlong, at Rockford.

HON. CHARLES E. BINGHAM, banker, and mayor of Sedro-Woolley, is a Pennsylvanian by

birth, born in New Columbus, Luzerne county, November 6, 1862. His father was R. S. Bingham, an educator and a native of the Empire state who located in Pennsylvania about the middle of the nineteenth century. The earlier years of his professional life were spent as an instructor in the common and high schools of New York and Pennsylvania. In 1875 he removed to Iowa, where he was successively superintendent of the schools of Marengo, Cedar Falls, and of Clinton county. Later in life he became prominently connected with the educational institutions of the Pacific coast; he came to Tacoma in 1888 and for a number of years was superintendent of her schools. From Tacoma he went to California, where he died in 1903. He was of English descent. The mother of Charles E. Bingham, Sophia (Brooks) Bingham, was born in Oneida County, New York, and is of English and Scotch parentage.

Charles E. Bingham received his early education in the common schools of New York and Iowa and was eventually graduated from the Marengo (Iowa) High School. At the age of sixteen, he accepted a position with the First National Bank of Marengo, remaining with the institution till 1890. In July, 1890, he came to Sedro, Washington, and opened a private banking house which was known as the Bingham & Holbrook bank. This partnership was dissolved in 1896, Mr. Bingham purchasing the Holbrook interests, and since that date the establishment has been conducted under the firm name of C. E. Bingham & Co. It is one of the most successful and reliable banking institutions of this section of the state. Mr. Bingham's banking interests are not fully represented by the local house; he is president and a heavy stockholder of the Arlington State Bank, of Arlington, Washington. Although his life has been devoted to the advancement of his personal business interests, in which pursuit he has manifested a very high degree of business ability, yet he is widely known as a public spirited citizen, and has always been deeply interested in all that is best in American civil life, having a long and honorable record of service to his community and of devotion to the public welfare. He has been four times elected mayor of Sedro-Woolley. Since locating in Sedro in 1890 he has served almost continuously as member of the city council and as mayor, first in Sedro and later in the united corporation of Sedro-Woolley, no movement for the betterment of public conditions ever having failed to enlist his liberal and hearty support.

In 1885, while a resident of Marengo, Iowa, Mr. Bingham was united in marriage to Miss Julia T. Reno, daughter of Louis Q. and Amelia (Nicholas) Reno. Louis Reno, of French descent, was a merchant citizen of the Old Dominion state, who migrated to Iowa in the fifties and there followed mercantile pursuits until his death in 1883. Amelia

Reno, now residing in Sedro-Woolley, is a native of New York. Mrs. Bingham was born February 15, 1864, in Marengo, Iowa, and, like her husband, finished her education in the Marengo High School. Following her graduation she taught school for a number of terms, giving up the work at the age of twenty to become the wife of Charles Bingham. Mr. and Mrs. Bingham have three sons, all born in Sedro: Quinby, in July, 1892; Charles S., in April, 1894, and Albert H., November 7, 1895. Mr. Bingham is a prominent Mason. He is influential in the councils of the Republican party; was a Washington delegate to the National Republican Convention in Chicago in 1904. Besides his property holdings in Sedro-Woolley, he has large investments in the farm lands of Skagit county, these evidencing his faith in the future of his home community. He is recognized as a man of exceptional executive ability, whose untiring efforts have been largely responsible for the rapid growth and development of the town and surrounding country. In all the walks of life and with all classes he is held in the highest esteem because of his spirit of devotion to the public weal and for his sterling qualities of mind and heart, both as friend and citizen.

U. E. FOSTER, postmaster of Sedro-Woolley and editor of the Skagit County Courier, has for a number of years been connected with the printing and publishing business, and since he established his present paper has made of it an unqualified success and is giving his constituents an able publication. Mr. Foster was born in Racine, Wisconsin, February 26, 1866, the son of Isaac L. Foster, a native of Oswego, New York. The elder Foster early in life went to Wisconsin and engaged in farming. In the early days of the Civil War he enlisted in the Twenty-Second Wisconsin Volunteers, and he served through the entire war, much of the time under Rosecrans, participating in Sherman's march to the sea, suffering incarceration in Libby prison, and otherwise experiencing the hardships of war. After the close of hostilities he moved to Iowa and later to California, and he died at Long Beach, in the latter state, in 1902, at the age of seventy years. Mrs. Betsy M. (Titus) Foster was a native of Kokomo, Indiana, of English extraction.

The subject of this sketch is the only child of his parents and he remained with them on the farm and attending school until, at the age of seventeen years, he commenced to learn the printer's art at Spencer, Iowa, in the composing room of the Clay County News. After a year as printer at Parker, South Dakota, Mr. Foster tried railroading, but while at Sioux City once more turned his attention to printing. He went into the newspaper publishing business at Norfolk, Nebraska, first with the

Herald and then with the Norfolk Journal. Leaving there for Plainview, Nebraska, he passed seven years as editor and publisher of the News. In 1901 he sold out and came to Everett, and later to Sedro-Woolley, establishing the Skagit County Courier at the latter point in the month of May, in company with W. H. Totten. Mr. Foster has always taken an interest in matters political and while living in Nebraska served during one session of the legislature as journal clerk. In April, 1904, he was appointed postmaster of Sedro-Woolley, the duties of which office he still continues faithfully and efficiently to discharge.

In 1886, at Spencer, Iowa, Mr. Foster married Miss Ida Crozier, a native of that state, born November 22, 1866. Her father, Samuel Crozier, was in early years captain of a Hudson river steamboat, and later was in the transportation business on Lakes Erie and Ontario. He is now living at Spencer, Iowa, in retirement. Mrs. Foster is the younger of two daughters. In fraternal circles Mr. Foster is a member of the Knights of Pythias, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Concatenated Order of Hoo Hoo, and the Dramatic Order of Knights of Khorassan. He has the honor of having established the first Republican paper in the Sedro-Woolley section of Skagit county, and developed it into a journal of influence and large circulation, successful alike in its editorial and job printing departments.

HOWARD SEABURY. An ardent love for that profession which has to do with that which has its seat in the bosom of God and whose voice is the law of the universe was developed very early in life in the breast of the rising young man whose career is the theme of this article, and his life story is largely made up of chapters dealing with his struggles under difficulties to obtain a deep and comprehensive grasp of the principles of jurisprudence. Success in good measure has attended his efforts, and it is but reasonable to assume that the achievements of the past, though really noteworthy, are but trifling compared with those that are yet to be.

Mr. Seabury is a native of Dennison, Iowa, born September 4, 1874, the son of I. C. and Eliza (Wakeham) Seabury, natives respectively of New York state and Southampton, England. His father, who was born near Albany, March 20, 1838, is now residing in the vicinity of Sedro-Woolley. He takes not a little pride in the fact that he belongs to one of the most ancient families on the American continent, his lineage being traceable through his mother's people, the Brewsters, to the Pilgrims who came from Europe in the Mayflower. Our subject's mother, the date of whose birth is August 3, 1848, came to the new world with her parents in 1855.

When four years old Howard Seabury, of this

article, was taken by his parents to Nebraska, and in Crawford valley, Antelope county, that state, he obtained his preliminary educational training. Before reaching his majority he had qualified himself for school teaching, a line that he followed for several years. But his ambitions took a different trend. When twelve years old he had, from the Youth's Companion, as a premium for taking subscriptions, secured a copy of "Law Without Lawyers." The perusal of this book stimulated in him a desire for the further study and practice of law, so all through his years of teaching he had devoted his spare time to the reading of legal works. In 1897 he came to San Francisco where for a time he was employed as claim agent for a fire insurance company, and during his stay in that city he worked industriously in spare moments at his law books, keeping pace with the students of the Hastings Law School, four of whom were accustomed to meet him and another young man regularly in the office of J. N. Young for mutual assistance in the common study. Later Mr. Seabury was placed in charge of the fire insurance company's interests in Missouri, but for some reason the climate of that state disagreed with his health, and in 1898 he returned to his home in the middle West. For the next year he was a partner of M. H. Leamy, a lawyer of Plainview, Nebraska, but upon being admitted to the bar in June, 1900, he severed his connection with Mr. Leamy and began practice on his own sole account. May 3, 1901, he opened a law office in Sedro-Woolley, where he has ever since practiced. He took in as a partner C. P. Gable, and the two practiced together until May 26, 1905, when, on account of ill health, Mr. Gable was obliged to retire. In the five years of his residence in Sedro-Woolley, Mr. Seabury has achieved an enviable success in his profession, building up a very good business, one that takes him into all the courts of the state. For the past four years he has been city attorney of his home town and he is also an active worker in its commercial club. His present standing in his profession has not been thrust upon him by Fortune, but has come as a legitimate result of hard, unceasing work; and this genius for prolonged effort, together with good, native talent for the law, is still his to rely upon for the accomplishment of yet greater things in time to come.

In November, 1901, Mr. Seabury married Miss Margaret Morrow, a native of Iowa and a daughter of T. J. Morrow, who recently located in Sedro-Woolley. Mrs. Seabury is a graduate of Norfolk High School, Nebraska, and for several years previous to her marriage was in the teaching profession. She takes an active interest in the work of the Sedro-Woolley Congregational church. Mr. and Mrs. Seabury have one child, Esther, born December 18, 1902. In politics Mr. Seabury is a Republican, but of somewhat liberal views; in fraternal

affiliations he is an Odd Fellow, a Royal Highlander, and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Uniformed Rank of the Knights of Pythias.

PHILIP A. WOOLLEY, founder of the town of Woolley and contractor of large experience in varied lines, has been one of the leading forces in Skagit county and was the first to put ax to a tree on the site of the town which bears his name. He has made his home in Washington since 1889, but his operations have been widely extensive and not confined to his home county or state. Mr. Woolley was born at Malone, in the St. Lawrence valley of New York, on the 11th of February, 1831. He is descended on the paternal side from English ancestry and on the maternal side from the German and French, but in each case his forebears had for generations been residents of the United States, many of them occupying honored and useful positions in life. The Woolleys were represented in the Revolutionary War, espousing the cause of the colonies and independence. Mr. Woolley's father, Dr. Emerson Woolley, was for many years a practicing physician and representative citizen of Ogdensburg, the chief city of northern New York and a prominent shipping point on the St. Lawrence waterway from the Great Lakes to the Gulf. Mrs. Magdaline (Ulman) Woolley was a native of Morrisburg, across the St. Lawrence in the province of Ontario. The elder Woolley died in 1880 and his wife two years later. Their two daughters, sisters of the subject of this biography, Miss Margaret Woolley and Mrs. Alice Chrisler, are residents of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Philip H. Woolley attended the schools of the Empire state until he was eighteen, when he commenced life on his own recognizance. His first undertaking was a lumber contract, but shortly after the completion of this work he entered the mercantile business at Russell, Canada, where he continued for a number of years. While in Russell, Mr. Woolley commenced to engage in contracting work, so that in 1864 he was prepared to accept a contract for railroad work at Escanaba, Michigan, in the construction of the road between that point and Green Bay, Wisconsin. Three years were consumed in completing this work and then Mr. Woolley went to Grand Haven, Michigan, where he had a government contract which occupied his attention and energy for ten years. During this period he also carried on railroad work. For the next subsequent thirteen years Mr. Woolley made his headquarters at Elgin, Illinois, from which place he directed a great amount of contract work for the Chicago & Alton railway. It was in 1889 that Mr. Woolley came to Washington and Skagit county. Here he purchased a large tract of land and so great was his foresight and his faith in the future development of the country that amid trees

which had never known the ax he laid out the site of the town which was to bear his name, himself felling the first tree on the town site. For a time Mr. Woolley engaged somewhat in mining and one of his enterprises was the construction of a large lumber and shingle mill, which he afterward sold. He has made Woolley his headquarters ever since, continuing an extensive contracting business with operations in various parts of the country. In 1901 Mr. Woolley secured the contract for furnishing all the materials for the Sea Board Air Line, which contract will not terminate until 1908.

In January of 1857, while a resident of Russell, Canada, Mr. Woolley married Miss Catherine Loucks, daughter of Hon. W. G. Loucks, a merchant of Ottawa, the capital of the dominion. Mr. Loucks was descended from immigrants from Luxemburg, Germany, who on settling in Canada became adherents to the loyalist cause. In his later years he was in the civil service department of the Canadian government. He passed away in March, 1900, a prominent and highly respected citizen of the community in which he had passed his life. Mr. and Mrs. Woolley have two sons and two daughters. The sons, William and Philip, are associated with their father in his contracting enterprises in Georgia, Florida and other Southern states. One of the daughters, Zaida, is the wife of Horace Pinhey, a government official of Ottawa; the other, Kate, is the wife of Dr. C. C. Harbaugh, a prominent physician of Woolley. In fraternal circles Mr. Woolley is a member of the Masonic order and also of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In religious affiliations he has been a lifelong Presbyterian. In politics he is a Republican and has always taken a commendable interest in political matters, though in no sense is he an active politician. His time and attention are too deeply engrossed in the management of his business to permit him being active in the usually accepted sense of politics. The political work for the family is done by Philip Woolley, who has several times served as secretary of the Republican county central committee. Industry, enterprise and public spirit have characterized Mr. Woolley's life here in the Pacific Northwest, as they also marked his career in other parts of the country. He served as mayor of his home town two terms of two years each.

CALVIN L. FARRAR, son of Rev. Robert Buchanan Farrar and Martha E. (Thompson) Farrar, was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, on April 28, 1875. His parents came west in 1881, the family stopping in Iowa while the father was sent to the Pacific coast as a Sunday school missionary of the Presbyterian church. He spent considerable time in Portland, going up the Columbia and staging across to Spokane and Walla Walla,

afterwards visiting Seattle, which was then, in his own words, "a thriving village," and coming north across Skagit county to Whatcom (Bellingham). Afterwards he returned east and settled in Dakota. There, in the country of cattle and wheat, the subject of this sketch lived most of the time until 1898 (except a few winters spent in school at Parsons College, Fairfield, Iowa), when he came to Skagit county, settling at Mt. Vernon. In the fall of the same year he went to Ballard and obtained a position as tallyman in Stimson's mill, which he held for some time, finally leaving that to engage in carpenter work in Seattle.

In 1900 he purchased the Robert Kerr ranch at Marblemount, where he lived for about five years. He served as deputy county assessor for the upper Skagit district for the seasons of 1901, 1902 and 1905, giving general satisfaction to the county officials and to the taxpayers. He has spent a great deal of time in the mountains prospecting and is now interested in some very promising mining claims. He was appointed a United States forest ranger and served during the season of 1903 in the Ruby Creek district of the Washington Forest Reserve. The next year, as his farming interests had increased, he resigned this position and remained on the farm, but as he sold the farm the next winter he afterwards took the civil service examination and was again appointed forest ranger, and in the past season (1905) was on special duty in the new additions to the reserve.

Mr. Farrar's father died in 1888, while pastor of the Beaver Creek Presbyterian church, Rock county, Minnesota, leaving a widow, who now lives at Ballard, and eight children, whose names and residences are as follows: Frank A., Ballard, principal of the East Side school, formerly of Mt. Vernon, where he was for many years editor of the Skagit Valley Herald and was well known throughout the county; Nellie F. Kinnear, Spokane; Myrta A., Ballard; Robert W., Washington, D. C.; Luella M. Haroldson, Brookings, South Dakota; Calvin L., Sedro-Woolley; Mary P., Ballard; Grace H., Ballard.

The Farrar family are direct descendants of James Farrar, born in England in 1732, who came over to America when a boy and settled in New Jersey. Several of the colonial Farrars served in the French and Indian War and Andrew Farrar, grandfather of our subject, when but fourteen years old, went into the Revolutionary army as a teamster, while all his other brothers served as soldiers, two of them dying on the infamous prison ship, Jersey. Mr. Farrar's father was in the theological seminary at the time of our Civil War, and, although he was never an able bodied man, yet he volunteered as a nurse and served at the battle of Shiloh and in the campaign of "The Wilderness" and at several other times.

In fraternal circles Mr. Farrar is a member of Patrons of Husbandry, Ridgway Grange 147, and the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he is a Republican, but always votes for an honest man when one is put up against a rogue. He will always oppose any man or any policy that he thinks will become an obstacle to the progress of the neighborhood and for that reason has often been called "The Marblemount Agitator."

HIRAM HAMMER, one of the leading citizens of Sedro-Woolley and a prominent educator of Skagit county, has been called upon to perform many public duties, which in every instance he has done with great credit to himself. He was born in Blackford County, Indiana, July 11, 1849, the son of Peter Hammer, who was a native of Ohio. He was a mechanic in that state, but later became a merchant in Indiana, where he passed away in 1862, a victim of smallpox. The mother, in maiden life Miss Mary Chandler, was of a pioneer Ohio family, her father being an English born Quaker. She died in Indiana when Hiram was eleven years old, leaving six children. Hiram Hammer obtained his early education in the common schools of Indiana, graduating from a high school and later attending the state normal at Bloomington, Illinois, but his studies were interrupted by the demand of the government for more troops. He felt the need of his country and when only fourteen years old, enlisted in Company I, One Hundred Thirty-eighth Indiana Infantry. This was in 1864, and he served till the close of the great struggle, being finally mustered out in Indianapolis. In spite of this serious interference, he stuck to his determination to obtain a thorough education, and during the following years he was engaged alternately in teaching and going to school. For twelve years he was an instructor in Indiana, Illinois and Kansas, to the last mentioned of which states he went in 1871. There, in 1879, he was elected county clerk of Lincoln county, a position which he filled for six years. He also was two years register of deeds and in 1890 had the responsible task of gathering mortgage data for twelve Kansas counties, for the United States census. Upon finishing this work he came west and for four years after his arrival he taught school in different places in Skagit county. He was chosen county auditor in 1894, and served for the ensuing four years, then for half a decade he was connected with the Green Shingle Company, but he taught again in the school year of 1903-4. He was elected city clerk, police judge and justice of the peace of Sedro-Woolley in 1904.

In Salina, Kansas, in 1877, Mr. Hammer married Miss Catherine Doumyer, daughter of Jacob Doumyer, a native of Pennsylvania of Dutch descent, who became a wheat and corn raiser of Kan-

sas. The mother, who in maiden life was Miss Sarah Baumgartner, was also of Pennsylvania Dutch origin. Mrs. Hammer was born in the Keystone state in 1857 and received her education there and in Kansas, at one time being a pupil of her future husband. Of this union have been born three children: Harriet A., now wife of Hon. N. J. Molstad, representative in the last two sessions of the state legislature, and one of the prominent merchants of Mount Vernon; Kathryn S., bookkeeper and stenographer at Sedro-Woolley, and Hiram J. In politics Mr. Hammer is a Republican and in fraternal affiliations a blue lodge Mason and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He has accumulated considerable city property. Mr. Hammer is one of the best known and most highly respected citizens of Skagit county, a worthy representative of his high profession.

SAMUEL S. GAY, the popular boarding house man at Burn's mill, Sedro-Woolley, was born in King County, Prince Edward Island, Canada, January 26, 1832. His parents, Andrew and Flora (McPhail) Gay, still are living at his boyhood home. The father, who was born in England in 1837, has spent his entire life on the farm. The mother is a native of Nova Scotia, born in 1849. Like many another successful man, Samuel S. Gay started for himself at an early age. He left home at fourteen and served a three-year apprenticeship in a carpenter shop, then worked at his trade two years in North Dakota before coming to Washington in 1893. Times were hard and work in his line was scarce, so, with the energy and determination so characteristic of the man, he worked at whatever offered itself for the first year, then located at Cokedale, where he was employed at the coke furnaces three years. He was employed by the Pacific Coast Steamship Company for a year and went to Skagway, his capable wife assisting him by cooking for the company. While in this employment they saved what they could, laying the foundation for their future prosperity. Eventually returning to Cokedale, he had charge of a boarding house and store there until he sold the latter to the company. A year later he sold the boarding house also and purchased a ranch of forty acres two miles east of Woolley, which, after greatly improving it, he sold five months later at a good profit. He invested his earnings in real estate in Everett, where he still holds a lot and a two-story hotel on Rucker avenue, a half block from Hewitt street. Having rented this, he returned to Cokedale, where he was employed by the same coal company until the mines closed. He was with the New York Life Insurance Company for a year afterward, then entered the employ of Mr. Burn as manager of the boarding house at his mill, a position he still retains.

Mr. Gay married, while living at Cokedale, Miss Lena Johnson, the daughter of John and Mirandy (Anderson) Johnson. When Mrs. Gay was fourteen her mother died, and she came with her father to Skagit county, where he since has been a resident. Mr. and Mrs. Gay have three children: Randolph, born October 8, 1894; Florence, July 14, 1898, and Arthur C. J., February 20, 1901. The family attends the Methodist church of which both he and his wife are members. Mr. Gay is a Republican and has been a member of the Republican central committee and a road supervisor, discharging the duties of these positions in a creditable manner. He is a public-spirited citizen whose influence can be relied upon to support anything for the good of his town and county. He adheres strictly to sound business principles and attends carefully to the comforts of his patrons, thus establishing an enviable reputation for his house.

WILLIAM H. PERRY, the well known and able attorney-at-law, has had more varied and interesting experiences than have fallen to the lot of most residents of Sedro-Woolley. He was born in Jefferson County, New York, May 22, 1850, the son of Holbrook Perry of New York, a prominent Horace Greeley man who died in 1881 when sixty-one years old. The mother, Mary (Ross) Perry, was born in 1825, a descendant of the famous General Ross of England. She died in August, 1862. The seventh child of a family of nine, William H. Perry began working for himself when ten years old, his first employment being on a farm hoeing corn. For several years he worked out summers, returning home winters to attend school, and later he worked for his board while he continued his education. By diligently improving every opportunity, he acquired an excellent preparation for the profession he afterwards entered. After moving to Illinois he still worked and went to school until 1867, when he went to Minnesota as a trapper. He remembers that, while on his way to Fort Abercrombie with a load of flour to exchange for furs, he was forced to spend one terribly cold night in his wagon because he had failed to reach the usual stopping place, and that his partner by making a grass fire, set the whole prairie afire, almost burning the fort. They were badly cheated in their trade and the few furs they did receive his partner shipped to Chicago, disappearing himself. Mr. Perry took a claim near Osakis, Minnesota, but abandoned it later to go to Fort Wadsworth, South Dakota. There he lived among the same Indians who perpetrated the horrible Minnesota massacre in 1860. He cut cord wood for a living at first, then drove oxen for a contractor who was furnishing supplies for the fort. One trip with the oxen he will never forget. The first night he slept in an Indian tepee

near Buffalo lake, where a war dance was in progress. Two nights later he was caught in a blizzard, lost the trail, and was obliged to corral the cattle and sleep as best he could in a sled. In the morning he found his boots frozen so stiff it was impossible to put them on. The rest of the winter he cared for his cattle and traded with the Indians and in the spring took up a claim in Stevens county, Minnesota, which he sold three years later. He had long cherished an ambition to enter the legal profession, so now he began reading Blackstone and later entered the state university at Minneapolis. He applied himself too closely to his books and found after two years that his health was failing, so went to Illinois for a rest, but resumed his study the following spring, completed his course and was admitted to the bar in 1883. He practiced law three years in Villard, Minnesota, then practiced in Alexandria in the same state, then in Hamilton, Washington, and finally in 1895 opened an office in Sedro-Woolley, where he still lives. He has a brother, George W. Perry, who has resided in Seattle since 1887, and a sister, Mrs. Harriett Martin, who lives in Kansas. Mr. Perry became a staunch Prohibitionist in 1886 and has since worked loyally for the interest of that party. He is a prominent worker in the Independent Order of Good Templars and a faithful member of the Methodist church. He showed his energy and ability as a solicitor on one business trip by insuring every building between Hamilton and Sauk. On one occasion he insured a house in the afternoon and that night it burned to the ground. The next morning he adjusted the loss, sending in a claim for loss with the application for insurance. Mr. Perry is an energetic man of irreproachable character who enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens.

MENZO B. MATTICE, M. D., the pioneer physician of Sedro-Woolley, Washington, is a native of Albany, New York, born April 2, 1855. He is the son of John J. and Emeline (Canada) Mattice, natives and esteemed residents of the Empire state, who were born about the close of the first quarter of the nineteenth century. The elder Mattice was engaged in mercantile pursuits until the year 1861, when he enlisted in the Ninety-first New York Volunteers, for service in the Civil War. Although among the very first of New York's patriotic citizens to answer the call to arms, he was not destined to serve the full time for which he enlisted. Because of physical disability he received an honorable discharge from the service in 1863 and returned to the North. He never recovered from the effects of disease contracted while in the discharge of his duties as a soldier and died in 1868.

Menzo B. Mattice is the third in a family of five children. The years of his boyhood and youth

were spent in the state of his birth where he also received his education. After a course in the schools of his home city he was graduated from the academy at Fort Plain in the central part of the state. In 1881 he received a certificate of graduation from the Albany Medical College and soon afterwards located in Brookings, South Dakota, where he began his career as a practicing physician. In 1883, at Brookings, he married Miss Fannie Plocker, daughter of James and Fannie (Spaulding) Plocker, the father a native of England, of Holland-Dutch extraction; the mother born in Augusta, Maine. James Plocker was a graduate of the Amsterdam (Holland) University; was a man of exceptional literary attainments and achieved distinction in his day as a writer. He was a pioneer of Wisconsin and died in that state. Mrs. Plocker died at Brookings, South Dakota. Mrs. Mattice claims Wisconsin as the state of her nativity, the date of her birth being April 21, 1858. There, in the common schools and in the State Normal, she received her education. Following her graduation, at the age of seventeen, she became a teacher, in which profession she continued for eight years, meeting with marked success; at the age of twenty-five she abandoned her work in the schools and became the wife of Dr. Mattice.

After a residence of ten years in Brookings, South Dakota, Dr. Mattice came to Washington, locating at Sedro, which afterwards was joined to the town of Woolley, the two communities uniting in the municipality of Sedro-Woolley. At the time of his coming, there was no physician between Sedro and Snohomish, and the boundary of the territory over which his practice extended formed a circle whose radius was forty miles long. Here the Doctor has watched and participated in the growth and development of the town and the surrounding country, in the meanwhile contributing very materially to their general advancement. He has built up an extensive practice and an enviable professional and social reputation. In addition to caring for his general practice he has for many years served the Northern Pacific Railroad as Company Physician, and as a condition of the pioneering days we may mention the fact that he was allowed the use of the company's "speeder" in visiting patients living along the right of way. For a number of years he was company physician for the Cokedale Mining Company. Ever watchful of the interests of his home community he has given liberal support to all public enterprises, devoting his energies especially to the advancement of the schools. He has for twelve years been an active member of the school board, and is largely responsible for their high standing among the educational institutions of the county. Both Dr. and Mrs. Mattice believe thoroughly in the advantages of practical education as is evidenced by the care they are taking with that of their five children, here

named. The eldest, Albert F., who was born in Brookings, South Dakota, December 26, 1884, was first graduated from the South Dakota State College, and has just received his diploma from the School of Pharmacy at the State College at Pullman, Washington. He has also devoted considerable time to the study of music. Clyde M., born in the Dakota home January 21, 1887, is now in the high school at Sedro-Woolley. Cornelia, also born in Dakota, her birthday being March 16, 1889, is at present a student in the Pullman College. Mildred and Menzo, Jr., born in Sedro, the former November 8, 1895 and the latter April 21, 1901, are at home.

Dr. Mattice's fraternal connections are with the Knights Templar, the Knights of Pythias, and the Odd Fellows; he is also prominent in the Skagit County Medical Society. The family attend the Presbyterian church in which the Doctor has been a trustee since its organization. In politics he affiliates with the Democratic party. He is a stock holder in the Citizens Bank of Anacortes and in the State Bank of Arlington; is interested also in the oyster beds at Bay Centre. His varied property holdings and his professional success make him a leading and influential citizen in financial and professional circles, as well as in the political and other public councils of this section of the state. In church and social circles Dr. and Mrs. Mattice have many personal friends, and here, as well as in the more public walks of life, they are held in the highest esteem.

CHARLES VILLENEUVE is one of the men whose activities in Skagit county commenced in the days when settlers were few and communications difficult. He and Mrs. Villeneuve were the real pioneers of Conway, where they still have interests, though living in Sedro-Woolley and operating the St. Charles hotel in that city. Mr. Villeneuve was born in Ottawa, Carlton county, in the eastern part of the province of Ontario, February 18, 1830. His father, Charles Villeneuve, was a native of Quebec where his ancestry had gone to engage in the fur trade. He took sides with the American revolutionists when the struggles of the colonists commenced with the mother country, and as one result of this, the Villeneuve estates were forfeited. Mrs. Ann (McKusick) Villeneuve was a native of Ireland. Charles, who was the only son of his parents, attended school until he was sixteen years of age, and his interests being in common with those of his parents, he continued to reside with them long after he had attained to man's estate, but in 1868, shortly after his marriage, he went to San Francisco, where he passed three years in a sash and door factory, his natural ability with tools supplying in a great measure what he had lacked in experience and training. He finally

determined to come to the Puget Sound country and boarded the *Forest Queen* for the trip to Port Gamble, in Kitsap county, reaching his destination after an exciting voyage in which the vessel was driven 200 miles to the south of the Golden Gate on the third day out from San Francisco. At Port Gamble Mr. Villeneuve passed two years in a saw-mill, engaged in sawing and tallying, then he went back east and visited his family and friends for six months, returning with his daughters. In the fall of 1873 Mr. Villeneuve came to what is now Skagit county and took up land where now stands the town of Conway. In a few months his family came. On the east side of the river at that time were Big Wilson, Little Wilson, Willard Sartwell, Orin Kincaid and Billy Johnson. During the following summer an Englishman named Marshall started a little trading post across the river where Fir now stands. Marshall had to leave because he was selling whiskey to the Indians, and a Frenchman named Longpre, who became his successor, left after a time for the same reason, but was later caught by the authorities and had to serve a term in prison. The stock of goods was bought by Charles Mann early in 1876, and the steamers, which by that time came up the river quite frequently, gave the place the name of Mann's Landing. Further up the river were Joe Lisk, William Caton, James Abbott and John Wilber, in regular order toward Mount Vernon, all squaw men. Next came Thomas and John Moore with their white wives, and Robert Gage and McAlpin came next after them, all on the west side of the river. To the south was Tom Jones, who came shortly after the Villeneuves. There were no roads, and travel was wholly by boat. Mrs. Villeneuve had preceded Mrs. Tom and Mrs. John Moore, and was thus the first white woman in that section of the county. At that time on the site of Mount Vernon were Mrs. Jasper Gates, Mrs. Hartson and her mother, Mrs. Kimball and Mrs. Ford, the Washburn family not coming till later. In order to get lumber with which to build his house Mr. Villeneuve went to Utsalady, on Camano island, made the lumber into a raft and towed it behind his Whitehall boat. The tides greatly hindered progress, and he was four days in making the return trip. The house built from that lumber was the first board structure in this section of the country. A suggestion as to the utter wildness of the country may be gathered from the fact that on the site of Mann's landing was an old Indian burial place and bodies were found wrapped in blankets and hung in canoes in the trees, which were removed by the first two traders because they caused so great a stench. Many of the Indians at that time had long fiery red hair.

January 29, 1868 at Ottawa, Ontario, Mr. Villeneuve married Miss B. A. Treacy, daughter of

William and Rachael (Dagg) Treacy, who were of Irish descent. Mrs. Villeneuve was born in Ottawa in 1847, the tenth of a family of eleven children. She and Mr. Villeneuve have six children: Mrs. Drusilla T. McGregor; William Eugene, now in Alaska; Mrs. Ida Emogen Lloyd, wife of John Lloyd; Charles F. and Joseph Benjamin, both of whom are in British Columbia; and Cecilia, living at home. In politics Mr. Villeneuve is a Democrat, always active in attending the conventions of that party and prominent in its work. He was postmaster at Conway for eight years, during the last three of which he was a resident of Sedro-Woolley and conducted the post-office through a deputy. When Mr. Villeneuve first settled on the Skagit where Conway now is, he worked in the woods and logging camps for a number of years. In 1880 he sold out and went to Snohomish county, taking up a preemption near Stanwood, but on proving up, he came back to Skagit county in 1885. For a year after his return he ran a hotel at Fir. Later he purchased land on the east side of the river hard by Conway and commenced to operate a ferry across the Skagit, also built the first store in Conway and arranged for keeping boarders. When he attempted to get a post-office located there, he met with opposition from the people of Mann's Landing who looked with displeasure on the rival town across the river. In 1897 Mr. Villeneuve came to Sedro-Woolley and built the Hotel Royal, now the Vendome, the largest hostelry in the city, in the meantime renting out his property in Conway and ultimately selling it. In 1903 Mr. Villeneuve sold the Hotel Royal and built the St. Charles which he continues to operate. In addition to his hotel property he owns seven acres of the town site. During his residence at Conway and in Snohomish county he was justice of the peace; he was a member of the city council at the time of the consolidation of Sedro and Woolley and is still a member of that body, also is secretary of the Skagit County Pioneer Association. Mrs. Villeneuve, who is deeply interested in education, was the prime mover in the establishment of the first school built on the Skagit river, the lumber for which was brought by boat at half charge owing to Mrs. Villeneuve's individual effort and public spirited action.

OTTO K. VON PRESSENTIN and his father are pioneers of Skagit county, the latter as a farmer and the son as a teacher, and, in more recent years, a hardware merchant. Charles von Pressentin, the father, is a native of Germany, descended from one of the old families of that country which dates back to the thirteenth century without a lapse in the family record. Mr. von Pressentin came to America, landing first at Quebec; but in 1867 he moved across the border into Wis-

consin and remained there a short time before going to Michigan. In the Peninsula state he worked in a logging camp and afterwards became bookkeeper for Louis Sands, with whom he continued for two years; he was also town clerk in his home town. In 1877 Mr. von Pressentin crossed the plains and came to Washington via San Francisco, settling at Birdsvew and taking up a homestead. Mrs. Wilhelmina (May) von Pressentin was also born in Germany of an ancient family, but as a girl accompanied her parents to Michigan in 1869, marrying in that state. She is the mother of seven children, six of whom are living, Otto being the third. Otto von Pressentin was born in Manistee, Michigan, June 4, 1876. After his parents came to Washington he attended school in Birdsvew and prepared himself for teaching, in which vocation he engaged when twenty years old, in a school at Marblemont. Two years later, in 1898, he and his brother Paul opened a general merchandise store in Marblemont and continued to run it for four years, at the end of which time he sold out to his brother Paul and engaged with the Great Northern railway as timber cruiser. During his business partnership with his brother in the general store, he had been forest reserve ranger. In 1903 Mr. von Pressentin took a two-months' trip through the eastern states, and on his return, went to work in Fritsch Brothers' hardware store. Six months later he bought the hardware store of R. Lamont at Sedro-Woolley, which business he is conducting with marked success at the present time. Mr. von Pressentin has five brothers: Bernhard, now in the Klondike; Paul, in the general mercantile business at Marblemont; Frank, in the hotel business at Marblemont; and Hans and Charles in the employ of the government at the Birdsvew fish hatchery. In politics Mr. von Pressentin is a Republican and in church relations a Lutheran. He is one of those whose qualities are such that he attracts men to him, and is very popular with all classes. He is a successful business man, full of energy and enterprise, and whatever he undertakes, he throws his whole soul into its accomplishment.

J. WILLIAM KYLE, a well educated and cultured gentleman, proprietor of the Sibley & Kyle Mercantile Company of Sedro-Woolley, was born in Jamestown, Ohio, May 25, 1858. His father, Doctor Joseph A. Kyle, a native of Green County, Ohio, born in 1811, passed away in 1884, after a long and useful life. Mrs. Sarah (Mooney) Kyle, the mother, was born in 1824 in Indiana and died in 1895. Intending to follow his father's profession, J. William Kyle supplemented his excellent high school training by a course in the Kansas City Medical college, but on completing his studies he took up an entirely different line of

work, entering the employ of the Union Pacific Railroad company, as agent. He was ten years in this service in Kansas and ten more in Elgin, Oregon, after which he went to Portland. He soon after accepted a position in the Great Northern office at Sedro-Woolley, which he held until 1891, when he resigned to begin a mercantile career. He formed a partnership with Mr. Sibley and established the business of which he now is the sole owner, having bought out the interest of Mr. Sibley soon after the partnership was formed.

Mr. Kyle married Lizzie E. Farringer in Kansas City in 1883. She is a native of the Buckeye state, as also was her father, Philip Farringer. Her mother, Sarah (Singleton) Farringer, was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, in 1812 and died in 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Kyle have two children living, Edwin, born December 21, 1893, and Elizabeth, November 15, 1883, now a student at the Anna Wright seminary in Tacoma. Mr. Kyle heartily endorses Republican principles but never has had political aspirations. In religious faith he is a Presbyterian. He takes pride in the fact that he is a descendant of the Covenanters who were driven out of Scotland during the terrible persecutions of the seventeenth century. Besides his business and other real estate he is the owner of the property of the Mortimer Cook estate, comprising twenty-four city lots. He is a man of sterling character, enjoying the entire confidence of his fellow citizens, and possessed of keen, practical business ability.

FREDERICK R. FALLER, one of the skilled mechanics of Sedro-Woolley and also vice president of the Sedro-Woolley Iron Works, is a man of recognized ability in his special line of work and a business man of excellent standing. Mr. Faller is a native of Germany, born at Seppenhofen in 1872. Matthew Faller, the father, was born in England, but moved to Germany when a boy with his parents and became a bookkeeper by profession. Mrs. Helena (Wetzel) Faller, the mother, was born in Germany, the daughter of German parents, and continued to reside there until her removal to the United States. She is now living at Everett with a daughter, Mrs. Sophia Creese. Frederick Faller came to the United States with his mother in 1883 and lived in Illinois during the years of his early youth and young manhood. On the completion of his education, he came to Snohomish County, Washington, and entered Sumner's Iron Works, at Everett as apprentice to the iron workers' trade. In 1900 he went to Seattle, and he put in the next year and a half there in the shops of Moran Brothers, shipbuilders. Coming to Sedro-Woolley in 1902, he became one of the organizers of the Sedro-Woolley Iron Works, accepting the position of vice-president of the com-

pany, and he has devoted all his time since then to this business, contributing much to the success it has attained.

In 1898 at Everett Mr. Faller married Miss Myrtle A. Havercroft, daughter of Thomas Havercroft, an English carpenter, who is now a resident of Everett and janitor in the schools of that city. Mrs. Sarah (Collins) Havercroft, the mother of Mrs. Faller, a native of Nebraska, is now living in Everett. She has four children, Mrs. Faller, Mrs. Eliza Squires, Mrs. Ethel Hotchkiss and Henry Havercroft. Mrs. Faller was born in Nebraska in 1878 but received her education in Everett, graduating from the high school. She and Mr. Faller have four children, Herbert, Edna, Freddie and Pearl. In politics Mr. Faller is a Republican; in fraternal affiliation a member of the Masonic order. He is now serving in the city council. He owns a one-third interest in the Sedro-Woolley Iron Works, which employs fifteen men and has a payroll of \$1,200 a month. Since coming to Sedro-Woolley he has not only established himself firmly in business, but has won popularity with all classes of citizens, and is now enjoying in full measure the respect and confidence of those who have been associated with him.

DARIUS KINSEY, the popular photographer of Sedro-Woolley, learned the art before the Skagit county communities had developed sufficiently to warrant the establishment of a gallery, but as soon as the population increased enough to make it profitable he entered the business which he and Mrs. Kinsey have successfully conducted ever since. Mr. Kinsey was born in Nodaway County, Missouri, in 1869, the son of Edward J. Kinsey. The father, of German and English descent, was born in New Jersey in 1844, learned the trade of carpenter and cabinet maker, went to Missouri just after the Civil War had closed, moved to Barton county in 1880, in 1882 went to the Indian territory, returned to West Virginia in 1887 and two years later came to Washington, locating at Snoqualmie in the hotel and mercantile business; he died there in 1896. The mother, Mrs. Louisa (McBride) Kinsey, of Scotch lineage, a native of Boone County, Illinois, born in 1846, became the mother of six children, Darius being the second. Darius Kinsey received his education in the schools of Kansas. He remained at home until he was twenty-one years old, when he learned the artistic and professional ends of the photography business and went to Seattle. After one year's experience, so skillful had he become, he was engaged by the Seattle & Lake Shore Railroad company and spent five years taking views along its line. In 1895, while temporarily in Sedro, he conceived the idea of establishing a branch gallery in that community, which he did in 1897. He rightly judged that

the place would give good support to a first class artist.

In 1896 Mr. Kinsey married Miss Tabitha Pritts, daughter of Samuel A. Pritts, a Pennsylvanian, of German descent. Adam and Andrew Poe the historical Indian fighters were his great uncles.

Mrs. Pritts came to Washington in 1881 and located at Nooksack as a farmer. Mrs. Elizabeth (Berg) Pritts, Mrs. Kinsey's mother, of Pennsylvania Dutch stock, still is living in the Sound country. Mrs. Kinsey was born in Minnesota, May 24, 1875, and received her education in Whatcom county, this state, marrying when twenty-one years old. She and Mr. Kinsey have one child, Dorothea, born in Sedro, May 30, 1901. Mr. Kinsey owns his home. He is a prominent worker in the Methodist church, and superintendent of its Sunday school. He believes in the duty of the people to abolish the liquor traffic and that the only means of doing it is through the Prohibition party. Mrs. Kinsey also is a photographer and takes charge of the office. Mr. Kinsey's camera is said to be the largest in the state of Washington and he is especially skillful in scenic work. He is in great demand for outside photography, while at the same time he and Mrs. Kinsey have the reputation of conducting one of the best galleries north of Seattle.

WILLIAM J. THOMPSON, the well known liveryman of Sedro-Woolley, was born February 2, 1862, in Perth, Ontario, which was also the birthplace of his parents, William C. and Margaret (Gamble) Thompson. His father, born in 1831, is now a retired farmer living in his native city, his mother, born in 1837, died in December, 1902, after a long life of devotion to her husband and children. Leaving home at the age of twenty, William J. Thompson went to Assiniboia and took up land near Moosomin remaining three years. At that time no settler had penetrated farther into the Northwestern part of Canada. When the Northwest rebellion broke out in 1885, he volunteered to go as one of Major Bolton's scouts, and he was in several skirmishes before the uprising was put down. Having spent the following winter in Moosomin, he went to Donald, British Columbia, where he worked two years in constructing bridges on the Canadian Pacific railroad which then terminated at that point. He spent some time in Vancouver, later made Seattle his home, being employed in building docks there for a year, after which he came to the present site of Bellingham. He worked the next three years in logging camps, and during the first four years of his residence in Sedro-Woolley was also engaged in logging, being manager of the Sterling Mill company's camp. Eventually moving into town, he opened the livery barn that he now owns. While convalescing from a severe attack of appendicitis in the fall of 1904,

he made his first visit to his old home in the East from which he had been absent twenty-three years.

Mr. Thompson in 1892 married Louise Graham, a native of Berlin, Germany. Her father died in Germany when she was a small girl, and she immigrated with her mother to Michigan, coming later to Whatcom with a sister. Her mother died in Michigan in 1896.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have two children, Margaret, born September 26, 1893, and William G., born July 31, 1895. Mr. Thompson is active in fraternal circles, being a member of the Masonic lodge, Number 90, and Truth lodge, Number 147, Odd Fellows, also of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, while Mrs. Thompson is actively identified with the Rebekahs. In politics Mr. Thompson is a loyal Republican. Peculiarly fond of horses from his boyhood, he is especially fitted for the business that now claims his attention, and in which he is winning marked success. He gratifies his passion for fine horses by keeping the pedigreed stallion Nortwood, which though never entered in a race, has paced a mile under 2:17, and a half mile in 1:05; also a pedigreed gelding, Teddy C., with a record of 2:24 as the result of two months' training. He does not keep these horses for racing purposes, but simply because they are splendid specimens of what years of careful, scientific breeding have succeeded in producing. Few men in the Northwest enjoy a wider reputation for accurate knowledge in regard to horses than does Mr. Thompson, whose excellent judgment is relied upon by those less familiar with the subject. A man of broad intelligence, public spirited, and withal possessed of a reputation for strict integrity, he enjoys an enviable position in his community.

FRANK J. HOEHN, who gives his name to the livery and stage business of F. J. Hoehn & Company of Sedro-Woolley, has had an interesting and successful career and has been engaged in many operations in many parts of the United States. Mr. Hoehn is a native of Posey County, Indiana, born August 28, 1864. His father, Blasius Hoehn, was a New Englander by birth, of French descent and of ancient family, who became a farmer in the early settlement of the Hoosier state. Mrs. Josephine (Phister) Hoehn, was a native of Ohio, of German descent, the mother of nine children of whom Frank is the youngest. The others still living are Charles, George L. and Mary, all residents of Indiana. School and boy's work around a farm occupied young Hoehn until thirteen years of age when he abruptly left home and started for himself in Illinois. The year 1877 found him in Texas riding cattle ranges for a living, and he continued at this work three years, during which time he made frequent trips north to Niobrara river points in Nebraska. In this work he was employed

by Irving Brothers. He was with them in all five years, then entered the service of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad at Gordon, Nebraska, continuing with the company for a year and a half afterward. In the fall of 1886 he went to Douglas, Wyoming, and entered the second hand and brokerage business, later going to a mining camp called Hartville, but eventually he determined to try the Pacific coast. He started overland by team from Laramie, Wyoming, in July, wintered in Boise, Idaho, resumed his journey in the spring, stopped at Ellensburg, Washington, a short time and finally reached Sedro-Woolley, February 28, 1890, with fourteen head of horses. The Fairhaven & Southern railroad was under construction, and Mr. Hoehn used his horses in freighting and packing for the road. He did the same when the Cokedale road was built. For the following three seasons he dealt in horses which he bought in the Ellensburg and North Yakima country and sold at a good profit in Skagit county. He spent one season breaking horses on a ranch and for four years was foreman of the Hightower Lumber Company's logging camp and mill, and in 1904 he, with J. T. Hightower and W. M. Kirby bought the livery stable and business of William Thompson. It has since been managed entirely by Mr. Hoehn, his partners being mill men. The business is in excellent condition. It includes the operation and ownership of a stage line between Sedro-Woolley and Burlington. Mr. Hoehn never was married. In fraternal circles he is an Odd Fellow, including membership with the Rebekahs and in the Encampment; he also is a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and recently has joined the Masonic order. In political faith, he is a Republican. He is an active man, of generous nature, good administrative ability and of much shrewdness, all of which qualities have contributed to his present prosperity.

DANIEL A. MCGREGOR, contractor and builder, of Sedro-Woolley, Washington, is a native of Bruce county, Ontario, born December 14, 1868. He is the son of Angus and Catherine (McLennan) McGregor, natives of Ontario, of Scotch ancestry. Angus McGregor, a farmer and stock man now living in Bruce, Ontario, was born December 14, 1841, in Nova Scotia. His parents were native Scotch Highlanders, his great-grandfather having been a companion of Rob Roy and an active participant in the councils of the famous McGregor clan. His life companion,—still his companion in the Canada home,—was born in America in 1852, and is of Scotch ancestry, tracing back to the clans of the Highlands. She is the mother of eight children, of whom the following are living: Daniel A., of this article; Richard, a stock dealer of Canada who ships to Buffalo, New York, and to Boston, Massachusetts; Murdock, at present in Eu-

rope; Angus, living in Manitoba; Joseph, a bicycle expert, and Ross, a teacher in the schools of Ontario. As a lad, Daniel A. McGregor lived on the home farm and attended school. From the common schools he entered Queen's College, Toronto, and he was graduated from McMaster's Hall at the age of eighteen with the degree of B. A. Early in life he evinced a fondness for mechanics, even in his boyhood days being skilled in the use of tools, so much so that at one time he succeeded in making an excellent model in miniature of his grandfather's mill. Shortly after graduation he went to Fargo, North Dakota, and engaged in carpentering, with the idea of ultimately establishing himself as a contractor in wood work. He spent nine years in Fargo in contract carpenter work and in metal and other fire-proof roofing, then, in 1897, started for the Klondike country. Arriving in Seattle he formed a company for the purpose of packing goods over the trail into the mining regions of Klondike, himself investing \$1,500 and his partner \$600 in the venture. They started at once with their first, and what proved to be their last, train of loaded pack mules. Skagway was their starting point, Lake Lindeman their destination. In attempting to get over the White Horse pass the whole outfit was swept down the mountain side and buried beneath an avalanche of snow, Mr. McGregor himself narrowly escaping death. Returning to Seattle he spent two years there in contract work, coming then to Sedro-Woolley. This was in 1899 and until 1902 he worked at the carpenter's trade, establishing himself then as a contractor. Since that time he has done the woodwork on every brick building erected in the city and on many of the buildings has also had the contract for the brickwork.

In April, 1902, Mr. McGregor married Miss Zella Villeneuve, daughter of Charles and Betsy A. (Treacy) Villeneuve, two of the earliest settlers of southwestern Skagit county and at present proprietors of the St. Charles hotel in Sedro-Woolley. Mrs. McGregor was born in San Francisco in 1873. To Mr. and Mrs. McGregor have been born three children, Anna Catherine, Helen and Charles Wallace. Mr. McGregor is a member of the American Yeomen, and is at present Foreman of the Homestead,—the chief office in the local branch of the order. In politics he affiliates with the Republican party, taking an active interest in primaries and conventions. He is proud of his Scotch ancestry and holds that it makes a better American citizen of one, if one does not forget old country associations and history. Success is crowning his efforts in business life, and with success have come the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens.

JAMES RITCHFORD, shingle manufacturer of Sterling, was born in Ontario, Canada, July 23,

1850, but since twenty-four years of age has resided south of the international boundary line. He is one of the pioneers of Skagit county who have prospered with the development of the valley's resources. His father, William Ritchford, also a native of Canada, born in 1816, died in Ontario in 1876. Mrs. Elizabeth (Wickie) Ritchford, born in 1826, still is living in the province of Ontario, the mother of eight children, of whom James is the fourth. When twenty-three years old James Ritchford left home and worked in the forests and mines of California until 1883, but in that year Mr. Ritchford came north to Seattle, and soon moved to Sterling, where he has lived ever since. He brought his family up the river in a row boat, a mode of travel which is in sharp contrast with the present manner of traveling up and down this rich valley. Mr. Ritchford worked seven years in the woods, then took up ninety acres of land and began farming. High water in the spring of 1897 swept away all his improvements; he then went to work for others on the mill at that time being built at Sterling. With the beginning of the year 1905, Mr. Ritchford leased this mill, which he now is operating with marked success.

Mr. Ritchford married Miss Addie Findley, a native of California, in 1883. Her father, Joseph Findley, crossed the plains in the early days from Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Ritchford have seven children, Adelbert, Guy W., Janeta, Royal, Cecil, Florence and Muriel. Mr. and Mrs. Ritchford are members of the Order of Pendo and attend the Presbyterian church. In politics Mr. Ritchford is independent. He owns five acres of land adjoining the mill and keeps a few cows and some poultry. His good memory and early associations have made him the possessor of many interesting reminiscences of the days when settlers were few and conveniences meager. He has borne a material share in the development of the country in which he has made his home, enjoys the confidence of friends and associates, and is well entitled to a place of honor among the pioneers of Skagit county.

DAVID M. DONNELLY, a prosperous business man of Sedro-Woolley and for fifteen years a citizen of Skagit county, was born in St. Clair county, Michigan, May 12, 1864, the son of James C. and Esther T. (Norman) Donnelly; the parents are now residents of Skagit county. The elder Donnelly was born in 1830 while his parents were crossing the Atlantic to America from the old country home, which was in Queens county, Ireland. He settled with his family in Michigan,—then a territory, and eventually made a home at Port Huron, where he resided until coming to Skagit county, Washington, in 1895. Esther T. Donnelly is a native of Queens County, Ireland, but was brought by relatives to Michigan when a small

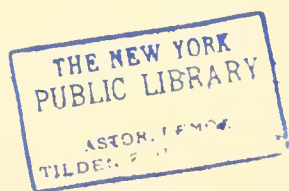
child; here until the time of her marriage she made her home with an uncle and aunt. She is the mother of six children, of whom David M. is the fourth. It was in St. Clair County, Michigan, that David M. Donnelly received his early education. At the age of thirteen he left the paternal roof and began life in its truest sense, as a self-supporting and responsible individual. He found employment in a logging camp of his native state, beginning as a helper in the cook's department, but soon becoming himself a skilled cook. For thirteen years he followed the lumbering business in Michigan, leaving the state then and coming to Washington. He settled first at Edison, Skagit county, and for one year worked for the Blanchard Logging Company. He followed this period with a service of one and one-half years in the logging camp of Pat. McCoy, and then opened a butcher's market at Wickersham. Eighteen months later he removed to Woolley and purchased the meat market business of Grethus & Burmaster, managing the establishment successfully until the year 1900. At this time he sold to Phillips & Carstens; in 1902 he repurchased the business, which he again sold out in May, 1904.

The marriage of David M. Donnelly and Miss Mary A. Halloran was solemnized in Skagit county in 1894. Mrs. Donnelly is the daughter of Patrick and Bridget (McGinty) Halloran, the former a native of New Brunswick, of Irish parentage, and the latter a native of Ireland. The mother came to Canada with a brother when a small child. Patrick Halloran was elected treasurer of Skagit county at the fall elections of 1904 and took charge of the office January 1, 1905. The biographies of Mr. and Mrs. Halloran will be found elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Donnelly was born in Michigan in 1872 and came with her parents to the Puget Sound country when a child. Her education was obtained in the common schools, and in the Sister's Academy at Seattle. Previous to her marriage she taught school for several years and still holds a first grade teacher's certificate. Mr. and Mrs. Donnelly have three children: James N., born in Edison August 25, 1896; Mary E., in Woolley May 12, 1898, and David M., in Sedro-Woolley in 1904. In Mr. Donnelly the fraternal spirit is strong; he is an active member of the following orders: the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Knights of Maccabees, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Woodmen of the World, the Yeomen, the Catholic Order of Foresters, and the Fraternal Order of Eagles. In church membership Mr. and Mrs. Donnelly are Catholics. Mr. Donnelly owns a one-half interest in 160 acres of land on the Olympia marsh where he has an extensive herd of cattle and hogs, held for the supply of his home market. Here also he makes a specialty of the dairy business. He is proprietor of the city cold storage plant of Sedro-Woolley. He has always been active in the councils of the Republican

party and was a member of the first town council of Sedro-Woolley. In political, fraternal and commercial circles he is a man of acknowledged influence. His business ability is of the highest order; he is popular with his fellow citizens and holds their confidence and esteem.

HENRY H. DREYER, one of the prosperous farmers of Skagit county, has lived a life of more than the usual experiences, embracing German farm life, travel as a sailor to nearly every country of the globe, logging and "roughing it" on the Pacific coast, and the attainment of prosperity on a Skagit county farm. He was born October 22, 1848, at Hanover, Germany, the son of Harms Dreyer, a farmer, born in 1816. His mother Treante (Hines) Dreyer, born in 1812, is still living in the old country, the mother of six children of whom Henry is the third. At the age of seventeen Henry H. Dreyer left the fatherland with a determination to see the world, so went to England and shipped as a sailor, following the sea for six years thereafter during which time he touched at ports of nearly every civilized nation of the earth. In 1873, while in the harbor of San Francisco, he decided to give up a sea-faring life and become a farmer. He worked for others seven years. In 1875 he married, came to what was then Whatcom county and began working in a logging camp near where Mount Vernon now stands. After a year of this work he went to the Willamette valley, Oregon, and remained nine months, returning then to Skagit county. In later years, speaking of this trip to Oregon, of herself and husband, Mrs. Dreyer jocularly gave as the reason: "Mosquitos drove us from Skagit county, and Willamette flies drove us back." After eight months of work in the woods Mr. Dreyer preempted some land and later sold it, in the meantime having taken a homestead on which he still lives. His new home was in a deep forest and it was with difficulty that he cleared enough ground for the erection of a shack, twelve by sixteen feet. He still holds the one hundred and sixty acres he took at that time and has cleared forty of them. His house is large and commodious, with ten rooms and the conveniences of a modern home. His barn also is a large building, its ground dimensions being fifty-two by sixty feet.

May 5, 1875, Mr. Dreyer married Miss Alma Nash, a Massachusetts girl, who went to California when sixteen years old. She is the daughter of Terry von H. Nash, a German, born in 1825, who came to this country and died in the Bay state in 1866. Mrs. Dreyer's mother was Sarah (Rumrell) Nash, a native of England, who died in 1899 at the age of eighty years. Mrs. Nash was the mother of eight children, Mrs. Dreyer being the sixth. To Mr. and Mrs. Dreyer have been born six children,





HENRY H. DREYER



MRS. HENRY H. DREYER



JOHN KIENS



DAVID BATEY



MRS. DAVID BATEY



JOSEPH HART



JOSEPH WILSON



WILLIAM A. DUNLOP

one of whom died in infancy. The living are: Ernest H. T., born in Santa Clara, California, March 26, 1876, now living in Alaska; Mrs. Wagneta T. Osborne, born in Napa County, California, February 10, 1879; Mrs. Maud T. Southermark, born May 21, 1881, near Sterling, and now a resident of Dawson; Mrs. Elizabeth A. Averill, born in Sterling August 27, 1883, and Wetzel H. Dreyer, born September 17, 1887, now living with his parents. Mrs. Dreyer has a brother and sister living in Massachusetts. Mr. Dreyer is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which organization he has taken the encampment degree; and with his wife he is a member of the Rebekahs. In religious persuasion they are Methodists, in politics Mr. Dreyer is a Republican. He has served as road-master and member of the school board. A believer in varied farming, he keeps fowls of several varieties, cattle of mixed breeds, and other live stock of unusual strains. Mr. Dreyer has lived a busy life, and so closely has he applied himself to his work that it was not until recently that he found time to visit the land of his nativity, which he had not seen for thirty-three years. He conducts his business with intelligence and is one of the successful and public spirited citizens of Skagit county, a man always ready to assist any needed improvement.

JOHN KIENS is one of the pioneer farmers of the section of Skagit county just north of the thriving city of Sedro-Woolley, and since 1884 has prospered on land he took up in that year and converted into a home farm from its native state as a part of the heavy forest of the Puget Sound country. Mr. Kiens is a native of Germany, born November 15, 1851, the son of Fred Kiens, a German miner who passed his entire life in the land of his nativity. John Kiens received his education in the German schools before coming to the United States and on reaching Illinois in 1872 learned the trade of blacksmith, finishing what he commenced while still in his native land. He then went to work on a farm and remained in agricultural pursuits eleven years. In 1884 he came to Skagit County, Washington, and took up his present farmstead of one hundred and sixty acres, of which he has about twenty acres under cultivation, part of it in orchard. Mr. Kiens is one of three children. Theresa Kiens, his sister, who was a Sister of Charity, died in Iowa some years ago, and his brother, Fred Kiens, is a farmer, living near him. Mr. Kiens has six head of cattle at the present time. As a farmer he is recognized as one of the conservative kind, preferring the ordinary lines rather than the speculative and unusual. He is highly respected in his community, as a man of sterling manhood, and it is with pleasure that we accord him a place in this work as one of those

who, during his residence of over twenty years in the county, has aided materially in its development and progress.

DAVID BATEY is one of the men who know from experience what pioneer life in Skagit county was, for he and his wife and family have seen the country developed from a roadless forest with scarcely a human habitation into its present state of civilization and advancement, contributing not a little to the change. Interwoven in the history of the county are the lives of this noble man and woman and their vigorous, brave sons and daughter. They suffered privations and hardships, enjoyed the pleasures and romances of frontier life, shared their own scanty stores with those who had still less, ministered to the sick and distressed, laid the foundation for their future prosperity and were the means of bringing many other sturdy settlers to the community.

Mr. Batey was born in Carlise, Cumberland County, England, May 21, 1849. He cannot recall the name of his father, because the latter died when he was very young and his mother, Mrs. Ann Batey, remarried, so the memory of the elder Batey faded from the child's mind. The lad attended school until twelve years of age, then went to work on a farm, remaining at farm work a year and a half, when he became apprenticed to the carpenter's trade. He stood the abuse he received here for a year, then ran away and for the next two years worked at making pickhandles. At Newcastle he completed his training as a carpenter and he worked at the bench until 1872 when he left England for the United States. He was in Syracuse, New York, one year and in Omaha, Nebraska, another, then went to San Francisco, where for the ensuing half decade he was engaged in carpenter work. He was accompanied from Omaha to the West, by William Dunlop, whom he had known as a boy in England, and at San Francisco the two rejoined Joseph Hart, another boyhood friend. The three became interested in the sound country, and in August, 1878, Hart and Batey came to what has since been organized into Skagit county. Mr. Batey took up the land where he now resides. There were no permanent settlers in his neighborhood, though a couple of miles down the river was Ball's logging camp. William Dunlop came a little later and took land adjoining Mr. Batey's. Mrs. Batey came two years later. Before her arrival the men had many bitter experiences. Potatoes were scarce and had to be brought down the river thirty miles from Amasa Everett's place, while other supplies were brought from Seattle by the steamer Gem, which sometimes did not arrive when expected, causing distress to the isolated men. Sometimes they could catch fish, which were a great help, but often they could not.

On one occasion Mr. Hart became exhausted from lack of food. To add to their distress at that time fire destroyed their shack, blankets and other supplies including a part of their weapons, but Mr. Batey managed to shoot a duck and some pheasants, thereby replenishing the larder. He also treed three animals which he afterwards learned were coons.

When the men were ready to stock their places they had to go to the White river country for their cattle which were brought up the Skagit by vessel to Frank Buck's place, below where Mount Vernon now stands, but it took longer to get the animals from the landing to the new ranches, than to make with them all the rest of the journey from White river. Mrs. Batey and her two sons came in 1880 and brought sunshine to the community, but this was not the end of their hardships. At one time one sack of flour had to last the entire family three months. During these years Mr. Batey worked some at carpentering, building the first store in Sedro, for Mortimer Cook, who was determined to call the new town, Bug. There was much bantering over the name. Mrs. Batey was appealed to and she suggested the word "Sedro," the Spanish for "Cedar" which grew so plentifully in the woods. Her discussion of the appropriateness of the word was published in the Skagit News and was sent to several eastern states by Mrs. Batey's friends. Mr. Batey painted a large sign "Sedro" and nailed it up on one of the buildings. These circumstances finally induced Mr. Cook to accept the name "Sedro." One man brought from Seattle a large sign reading "Charlotte," in honor of his daughter, but the other name was chosen.

In 1890 Mr. Batey and Mr. Hart started a saw-mill plant under the name "Sedro Saw & Planing Mill." To this plant later was added a shingle mill and the business was continued by Messrs. Batey and Hart as a stock company. Just as they were beginning to see some substantial profits in the business and when the plant was running twenty hours out of every twenty-four, it was destroyed by fire, a severe financial blow to the owners. At this time, also Mr. Batey was unfortunate enough to be stricken with sciatic rheumatism which kept him confined for sixteen months. On his recovery in 1898 he began the manufacture of vinegar, in which industry he has continued up to the present time.

Mrs. Batey, whose maiden name was Georgiana Farrar, was born in Southwestern Wisconsin, not far from Dubuque, Iowa, October 2, 1838, the daughter of Rev. Edward Y. Williams and Mrs. Naomi (Jones) Williams. Mr. Williams was a native of Manchester, England, who came to the United States when a young man. Both he and Mrs. Williams have been dead many years. As a young woman Mrs. Batey, in 1852, commenced to

study medicine with an uncle, Dr. Steele, and she finished her medical education in Hughes & Sanford's Medical College in Keokuk, Iowa. She was one of the pioneer practitioners of this part of the country, and is today registered at Olympia and at Mount Vernon. She was the only physician in the vicinity of Sedro in the early days, the nearest one beside her being Dr. Calhoun at La Conner, and she rendered invaluable service to the early settlers, traveling day and night by horseback and by boat, wherever called. She continued in active practice until about six years ago. In those days Mrs. Batey was as active in religious matters as in the practice of her profession, and it was she who was chiefly instrumental in securing the first clergyman for Sedro, giving her personal guarantee of his salary. This man was Rev. McMillan, under whose leadership the first church in the vicinity was organized. Mrs. Batey was the first superintendent of the Sunday school, appointed by Presiding Elder Atwood of Seattle. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Batey: John Henry, living in New Mexico; Robert Bruce, a traveling insurance man; Mrs. Susanna Fuller, the first white child born in the Sedro community, now living at Santa Rosa, New Mexico, where her husband is a merchant. Mr. Batey is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which fraternity he is a past grand, also belongs to the Encampment and Mrs. Batey is a Rebekah. They are members of the First Presbyterian church of Sedro-Woolley, and both are prominent in the Skagit County Pioneers' Association, of which Mr. Batey is president and Mrs. Batey vice-president. In politics Mr. Batey is an ardent Republican and in former years he was active in all the councils of his party. Though at one time he operated a dairy farm, he now is devoting his attention principally to the manufacture of apple vinegar, his factory being on the south border of Sedro-Woolley. He has a large orchard and is building up a fine business. Formerly he owned three hundred and twenty acres of land, but in the days of financial distress following the destruction of his lumber and shingle mill, he disposed of all but sixty-five acres, but he also owns an addition to the city of Sedro-Woolley and considerable other town property. A public spirited citizen, he donated to the railroad company its entire right of way through his lands, and in numerous other ways he has manifested an interest in the general progress. He is one of the most energetic citizens of the county and has done more than most others for its development.

Mrs. Batey's sister, Mrs. Isabella Marean, of Ocala, Florida, is also a woman of high intellectual attainments. She is an author of note and has written, under the nom de plume of Beatrice Marean, many works, one of the most popular being "The Tragedies of Oakurst," which has had wide circulation.

JOSEPH HART, a well known and well-to-do lumberman, and one of the honored pioneers of Sedro-Woolley, was born in Durham, England, July 4, 1852, the son of Robert and Barbara (Franklin) Hart. His father, a native of Yorkshire, England, followed railroading until his death in 1883, and his mother, who was born in Durham, died in 1899. Joseph Hart left home when fourteen years old and spent two years in the iron works learning the trade of machinist, but finally abandoning this, spent three years at work in a saw-mill in Yorkshire and two in another mill at his own home. He then came to America. After a stay of eighteen months in Lyons, Iowa; he reached San Francisco in August, 1874, where he secured employment as saw filer in a large factory. He worked until the spring of 1876, then moved to Seattle and the White river district, but in 1878, returned to San Francisco and met David Batey, whom he had known in England. The two came together to Sedro, Washington, which then was a wild and desolate country with only four white settlers on the river. Two months later they were joined by William Dunlop and the following year by William Woods. The four brave pioneers took adjoining land and laid the foundation for the present beautiful town of Sedro-Woolley. Mr. Hart went to Seattle some years later, but continued to make yearly trips to the little settlement until 1890, when he became a permanent resident here. He and Mr. Batey built a saw-mill that year, and together they operated it two years, thereupon forming the Sedro Lumber & Shingle Company. When the mill was burned in 1896, Mr. Hart resumed work in other mills, making his home on his original farm of 160 acres, which he still owns with the exception of three acres sold.

Mr. Hart was married December 27, 1887, the lady being Emma L. Anderson, a native of Sweden, born in 1863. Her father, Nels P. Anderson, now lives with his son-in-law, Mr. Hart. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Hart has been brightened by the advent of two children, Emma F., born January 20, 1890, and Dolly B., August 10, 1896. Mr. Hart is a member of the Pioneer Association and he and Mrs. Hart are identified with the Order of Pendo. In political belief Mr. Hart is a Socialist. In addition to his valuable ranch he is interested in city property in Everett, also owns considerable live stock. During his long residence here he has witnessed a marvelous transformation, in which cities and towns have taken the place of the dense forests, fulfilling his own prophecies of what the future held for this peculiarly favored region. He is recognized as a broad-minded, public-spirited citizen, one of the progressive, substantial men of the county.

JOSEPH WILSON. Well at the top of the roster of pioneers of Skagit county is to be found

the name of Joseph Wilson, the subject of this biographical article, who first made his advent into Fidalgo Island in 1868, came to the mouth of the Skagit river in 1869 and became a land holder in 1870, at that date taking up a pre-emption on the lower Skagit river. Here he was living and improving his land at the time of the murder of Barker, the trader, by the Indians, and the summary execution of the murderers by the whites. He it was who took what there was remaining of Barker's goods up to Whatcom, the then county seat of the present Skagit and Whatcom counties, in a canoe, and delivered them to the authorities. Born in Sweden in 1839, the son of Sven Monson and Charlotte Hagland Monson, born respectively in 1806 and 1812, in the fatherland, where they lived until the close of life on their own farm land, Joseph was there reared to the age of seventeen on the farm, and was instructed in the traditions of a long line of Swedish ancestors as well as in the rudiments of book learning. However, the former seemed to make the stronger impression, the blood of the Viking forebears coursed hot in his veins, untempered by age and the lessons of experience, and called him to the sea. Hither he went at the age of seventeen, securing the consent of his father by agreeing to pay for the services of an assistant on the farm, and for years he followed the life of the sailor before the mast on the coast vessels, finally becoming owner of a vessel himself, which he ran until he came to the United States in 1863, shipping before the mast from France to Boston on an American vessel. For five years he followed the sea, shipping from the United States to the leading ports of the world, first reaching San Francisco in April, 1865, just at the time of the death of President Lincoln. In a trip to Shanghai, China, he was taken with the smallpox and left by his vessel, which he was later enabled to join in Japan through the good offices of the resident United States consul at Shanghai, returning to Port Townsend in 1868. The transition from sailor to logger and lumberman was readily made by Mr. Wilson and a few short weeks found him in the logging camps of Fidalgo, applying himself diligently and tactfully to the mastery of the new calling; while only a few months later he was settled on his own pre-emption claim on Dry slough, near the mouth of the Skagit, now known as the Good place, clearing, diking and wrestling energetically with all the combined obstacles, so familiar to the sturdy frontiersman of all ages and sections of this recently vast wilderness. At the end of six years the claim was traded for lots in the city of Seattle, and Mr. Wilson became connected with an enterprise that forever associates his name with the benefactors of Skagit county in a most creditable manner. After disposing of his ranch he removed to Mount Vernon, and there in connection with McDonald, Hines and Minnick, he conceived the idea of removing the his-

toric log jam from the Skagit river. This "jam," an accumulation of logs, rolled upon each other by the force of the swift river current, until in places they mounted to the height of fourteen feet from base to top, and upon the surface of which grew trees three and four feet in diameter, had been for ages forming, its beginning passing beyond the knowledge, and even tradition, of the Indians of the surrounding country. The vast collection of logs and debris so changed the natural channel of the river as to cause overflow of the rich, fertile valley and worked serious damage to the settlers along its course. The government engineers sent to view the situation had estimated the cost of removal of this obstruction way up into the tens of thousands of dollars, the exact amount varying with the different pioneers interviewed from \$25,000 to \$125,000. However, the government failing to take action in the matter, Mr. Wilson and the other bold spirits who became associated with him, determined upon a practical demonstration of paternalism themselves, and at once decided that they would undertake the removal of the jam, without promise of reward from either government, municipality or citizens, other than what might accrue to them from the sale of the logs upon their removal. Upon this plan they began operations, the first part of February, 1876, with but little moral support and few words of encouragement from the citizens in general, and no capital but courage and muscle with which to carry on the enterprise. Believing the project to be feasible, and that with sufficient funds to supply the needed provisions they could carry it to successful issue, Mr. Wilson made a trip to Whidby island to see his old friend, Major Haller, who at once fell in with the idea, when presented to him, and offered to back Mr. Wilson with cash or his name to the completion of the enterprise. Much against the protests of the Major he was given as security for the first \$200 that went toward the removal of the famous "jam," a mortgage on the lots owned by Mr. Wilson in Seattle, which represented so many years spent in hard labor on the pioneer claim on the Skagit river, and which canceled mortgage he has in his possession at this writing, prizing it far beyond its original cost. Major Haller expected that the government would help reimburse the men for their work. From February until August, Mr. Wilson continued to push the work on the jam, and on July 4th had the satisfaction of witnessing the passage through the lower jam in a canoe of Mr. and Mrs. Jasper Gates. Some intermeddling at this time caused differences to arise, and in August Mr. Wilson withdrew from the work, allowing others to carry it on to final completion. He lost \$700 and his summer's work. For several years following this he engaged at work in the logging camp of William Gage and on the Ford ranch, three years of the time operating a saloon in Mount Vernon;

until in 1885 he took up a homestead on Skiou slough, three miles east of Sedro-Woolley, and engaged in farming for himself. Here he continued to reside for thirteen years, at the end of which time, 1898, he removed with his family to Seattle, where he has since resided, an honored and respected citizen. He is the only one of the original promoters of the removal of the log jam living to-day, and is personally acquainted with the founding of the towns of Mount Vernon, Sedro and Woolley, and was one of the citizens who went up the Skagit river to investigate the Indian uprising at the time Amasa Everett shot the two Indians.

Mr. Wilson was married in 1876, the wife dying a few months after their marriage. He was united in marriage at Mount Vernon in 1882 to Charlotte Beckman, daughter of Gustave and Hilda (Amon) Beckman, both natives of Sweden, where they died several years ago. The father was a teacher by profession. Mrs. Wilson was born in Sweden in 1858, and came to the United States in 1882. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have been born three children, Gustave, Alma and Albert, all natives of Skagit county. Mr. Wilson is of a retiring disposition, and little given to talking of his adventures by land and sea. He owns some property in Seattle and still retains a portion of his homestead near Sedro-Woolley and holds a position with the Seattle Electric Company. Well and favorably known among the pioneers of Skagit county, it was by frequent mention of his name in connection with the early events in the county that the writer was led to interview Mr. Wilson, and thus spread on the pages of history the honorable part he has taken in helping to redeem Skagit from its wilderness state.

WILLIAM A. DUNLOP, the well known pioneer of Sedro-Woolley, residing at the foot of Sixth street, was born in Northumberland county, England, October 25, 1848. His father, also a native of England, is a stonemason. Marjorie (Alexander) Dunlop, the mother, was likewise born in England. Apprenticed to a carpenter at the age of fifteen, William A. Dunlop thoroughly mastered the trade, working with his employer three years after serving his prescribed term. At the age of twenty-two he went to Crook, England, and he worked in other portions of the land of his nativity till 1873, when he emigrated to Syracuse, New York. A few months later he went to Omaha, thence to San Francisco, where he made his home for five years, making two trips to Portland, Oregon, in the meantime. In 1878 he made an extended trip through the Northwest, coming up the Skagit river on the steamer "Gem" to Sedro-Woolley to join Joseph Hart and David Batey, old friends of his, who had located there a few months previous. It was a desolate country, which, as Mr. Dunlop says, might have been more aptly named

"Wildenwoolley." William Wood was the next settler. With the exception of the men in a logging camp at Sterling, there were no neighbors nearer than five miles at first, and for several years settlement was slow. Having pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres, eighty of which he afterward sold, Mr. Dunlop at once began the task of clearing the land, preparatory to cultivating it, and by the time Sedro-Woolley became a town he had cleared six acres. He now rents the portion of his farm that is in condition to cultivate, and devotes his entire time to his trade. Last year he made his first trip east, visiting the St. Louis fair, where the Pioneer Association with which he is identified was formed. Mr. Dunlop is a loyal Republican, though he has never manifested any political aspirations. He is a thoughtful, intelligent man, esteemed throughout the community as a man of strict integrity.

FRANK A. DOUGLASS, druggist, is one of the self-made men of Sedro-Woolley, and success in his profession has come to him as a reward for his courage and strict application to business. He was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, September 16, 1857, the son of Albert C. Douglass, a native of Michigan. The elder Douglass, when a boy of fourteen, came with his parents to the Badger state and he used to relate that when en route their wagon and team were mired at a point now in the heart of the city of Chicago. He was a butcher by trade. He died in 1899 in the state where Frank A. was born. His wife, Mrs. Mary (Beach) Douglass, was born in Connecticut in 1832, and when a girl came with her parents to Wisconsin, where she died in 1893, leaving three children, of whom Frank A. is the second. Frank A. Douglass, when eleven years of age, went to Broadhead, Wisconsin (where his father opened a butcher shop and meat market) and received his education there, entering a drug store as clerk when sixteen. He thoroughly mastered the drug business by practice in the store and by his own study of pharmaceutical works. When twenty-one he went to Oberlin, Kansas, to clerk for Bariteau Brothers there, and in a few years he and Frank Coard were able to and did purchase this store, which they together conducted for twelve years. Mr. Douglass's capital in this venture was small, but by careful business methods and the exercise of professional sagacity, he prospered. In 1890 he sold out his Kansas holdings and came to Washington, stopping at first for a short time at North Yakima, but ultimately proceeding to Woolley, where he opened the first drug store in the town. Increasing business demanded larger and better quarters, so in 1903 he erected the building his store now occupies.

In 1881 Mr. Douglass married Miss Minnie Ormsby, daughter of John and Nancy (Martin) Ormsby, the former of whom was killed in Iowa in

1866 while sheriff of Fremont county. He was of Irish descent. Mrs. Ormsby, a native of Indiana, died in Sedro-Woolley Oct. 18, 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Douglass have had eight children, of whom the first two, John and Jennie, were in the first and second graduating classes of their home high school, and the youngest in their respective classes. John is now pursuing a course in the Washington State College at Pullman. The living children are: John, born April 8, 1886; Jennie, March 21, 1888; Arthur, April 6, 1890; Inez M., August 5, 1892; Nellie, on New Year's day, 1895; Frank H., October 17, 1899; William, April 2, 1901, and Minnie, May 29, 1905. Their one deceased child, David L., was born March 2, 1897, and died December 31st of the following year. Mrs. Douglass's brother, Norris Ormsby, proprietor of the Sedro-Woolley Transfer Company, was the first mayor of Sedro-Woolley. Mr. Douglass is a charter member of Truth Lodge, No. 147, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he has been secretary since its formation; also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and now is clerk of his camp, while Mrs. Douglass is a member of the Rebekahs and Royal Neighbors. In politics Mr. Douglass is a Republican. He was a member of the last city council of Woolley, also of the joint committee which arranged the consolidation of the two towns which compose the present municipal corporation. He was the only member of the city council who was re-elected in 1899. He also has been town clerk. Mr. Douglass is one of the substantial citizens of Sedro-Woolley, broad-minded in public affairs and energetic in the conduct of his own business.

GEORGE O. WICKER is the pioneer blacksmith of Sedro-Woolley, and has seen both Sedro and Woolley grow from mere centers for loggers and traders into the modern city they now form. He has grown with the community and has kept abreast of all lines of development. Mr. Wicker was born in Chillicothe, Iowa, September 4, 1857, the son of Andrew Wicker, an Ohio stonemason, who became a pioneer of Iowa in 1845 and remained in that state until his death. Mrs. Janet (Butin) Wicker, a native of Ohio, was the mother of six children, of whom George was the fourth. Our subject attended the public schools at Chillicothe until sixteen years old, when he was apprenticed to the trade of blacksmith and continued three years at the same forge until he had mastered his trade. He worked for himself at the anvil in Iowa until 1881, then came to Washington territory and joined his brother at Sedro. He was blacksmith at the Charles Jackson logging camp, a year later at the Mortimer Cook camp and in the summer of 1886 opened the first blacksmith shop in Sedro. Later he built the first shop at Woolley but sold out to Mr. McCabe. He followed his trade for a num-

ber of years, working both in camp and in town, until in 1904 he opened his present shop. He has secured a long list of customers and secures some of the best trade in the community which comes to him because of the high quality of his work.

In 1883, while still a resident of Iowa, Mr. Wicker married Miss Maggie Nelson, daughter of George Nelson, who was of German birth, but was educated and trained in Iowa, where he followed the barber trade until his death. Mrs. Wicker was born in Bloomfield, Iowa, in 1867, and received her education there, marrying when seventeen years old. To Mr. and Mrs. Wicker have been born five children, as follows: Frank, January 29, 1885; Bessie, 1889; Mitchell, 1890; Edna, 1896; Ervan, 1902. In fraternal circles Mr. Wicker is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, the Foresters and the Royal Neighbors. The family attends the Methodist church and in politics Mr. Wicker is a Democrat. The "Sedro" part of the present name of the city was selected by Mr. and Mrs. Wicker. Mrs. Batey and Mortimer Cook, the name being the Spanish for "Cedar." Mr. Wicker is a well-informed, substantial and respected member of the community.

GEORGE W. RATCHFORD has been a resident of Skagit county for fourteen years, during which time he has prospered in his blacksmithing and in other employments, and he now is one of the respected property holders of Sedro-Woolley. He was born in Prescott, Ontario, April 17, 1863, the son of William Ratchford, a native of Quebec, born in 1816. Mrs. Elizabeth (Wilkie) Ratchford was the mother of eight children of whom George was youngest. The death of his father having occurred when he was fourteen, George W. started into the world to fight his own battles at that early age. A rather unusual thing for a boy, he rented a farm and ran it successfully for two years, finding time to attend school in winter. The next three years the young man hired out to other farmers, then he learned the trade of blacksmithing, receiving \$50 a year for the three years of his service as an apprentice. He ran a farming business again for a few months, then opened a blacksmith shop and continued in the business eighteen months, relinquishing it to take a farm on which to keep the cattle he had been compelled to accept in payment for blacksmith work he had done for farmers. He continued on the farm for two years, then ran a shop again for a few months, then crossed the continent to Mendocino, California. This was in 1890. After passing a year there, he came to where Sedro-Woolley has since grown, finding Sedro a camp with a mill in process of erection. The Fairhaven & Southern railroad, since abandoned, has just been constructed. He worked as mill blacksmith eighteen months, then spent two years barking logs for Smith & Bechtel and for Matt McElroy, then hav-

ing met with an accident, he came to town, where he worked three years as driver for Hightower Brothers. In 1896 he entered into partnership with Hightower & Kirby in contracting single bolts for the Green Shingle Company, a partnership which continued three years, at the close of which time Mr. Ratchford was bought out by the others. He thereupon returned to town, put up a shop, and began once more the pursuit of his handicraft, which he has followed continuously since. He has added two more lots to his holdings and has built a fine, modern eight-room house.

December 18, 1897, Mr. Ratchford married Miss Clara Miller, who was born in Iowa and who came to the coast with her father, Samuel Miller, and her brother, after her mother's death. Mr. Miller was a Virginian by birth but spent most of his life in Iowa before coming to Sedro-Woolley, where he died in 1904. Mrs. Ratchford's mother also was a Virginian. Mr. and Mrs. Ratchford have three children: S. Floyd, born June 20, 1898; W. Wyman, May 2, 1900, and George E., May 25, 1902. In fraternal circles Mr. Ratchford is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and of Truth Lodge, No. 117, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, while Mrs. Ratchford is a member of the Rebekahs. In politics he is a Republican. He once served in the city council, having been elected by the largest majority of any one on the ticket. The family attends the Methodist church. Mr. Ratchford's real estate holdings are all in city property. He believes in the future of Sedro-Woolley and Skagit county, and is contributing his mite toward the general progress of both, at the same time retaining the respect of all for his industry and worth.

NORRIS ORMSBY, the first mayor of Sedro-Woolley, and for the last twelve years a member of the town council, is a native of Illinois, born in Shelby county in 1856. His father, John J. Ormsby, was of Irish ancestry, but a native of Baltimore, Fairfield County, Ohio. In the sixties John J. Ormsby moved to Fremont County, Iowa; he became sheriff of that county and was killed while in the discharge of his official duties. The mother of Norris Ormsby, now residing with him in Sedro-Woolley, is Nancy (Martin) Ormsby, a native of Indiana; she is the mother of six children of whom our subject is second. Norris Ormsby attended the Iowa schools until his twelfth year, at this time entering the employ of a merchant with whom he remained for three years. Close attention to his duties and the confinement necessarily incident to his clerkship affected his health to such an extent that a change in his every day life became imperative. He therefore severed his connection with the store and became an attaché of a livery barn, remaining so employed for fourteen years. He then removed to Nebraska and for two years operated

a hotel at Odell, selling out the business at the end of this period and going to Kansas, of which state he continued a resident for three years or until 1890, when he came to Washington. His first stopping point was North Yakima in the arid section east of the Cascades, but in the summer of the year 1891 he came to Woolley and forming a partnership with his brother-in-law, F. A. Douglass, opened a drug store. A year later he sold his interest in the drug venture to Mr. Douglass and at once established himself in the transfer and draying business which he has ever since followed with marked success.

May 11, 1879, while residing in Missouri, Mr. Ormsby married Miss Sena Taliaferro, a native of that state, born in 1859. She, however, received her education in the schools of Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Ormsby have one daughter, Mrs. Hallie Holbrook, wife of J. B. Holbrook, a partner of Mr. Ormsby in the transfer business. In fraternal circles Mr. Ormsby is a member of the Knights of Pythias, a past chancellor of the local lodge; in politics he affiliates with the Democrats. In addition to his transfer business he has considerable real estate in Sedro-Woolley, a town in whose future and tributary wealth he has much faith. He is a business man of superior ability and the success that has attended his years has been but the natural result of energy and application, of business capacity coupled with strictest integrity and a spirit of fairness in all his dealings. He has many personal friends and holds the respect of all.

JAMES McDONALD, one of the best known and most highly respected pioneers of Sedro-Woolley, was born in Lanark, Ontario, April 14, 1845, the son of Archibald and Martha (Kelsey) McDonald, both natives of Scotland. The father moved to Canada in early life and was engaged in farming and teaching there until his death in 1873. The mother, a native of Glasgow, died in Lanark in 1877. When only thirteen years old James McDonald began to support himself, and he earned his first pair of shoes by driving cattle for a butcher, of whom he learned the trade, remaining with him nine years. After spending twenty-five years in the woods of Michigan and Minnesota, he came in 1889 to Mount Vernon where he worked in a butcher shop, later opening a shop of his own in Sedro. The only homes there at that time were those of William Dunlop, William Woods and Mortimer Cook, a logging camp and a few shacks comprising the rest of the town. Soon after this the town boomed and real estate advanced with amazing rapidity. The following year the town of Woolley came into existence. Mr. McDonald sold his meat business at the end of two years and for several years thereafter drove a freight team, after which he engaged in contracting and various

other kinds of work. He has established for himself a reputation for faithfulness and ability that secures for him ample employment.

In 1873 Mr. McDonald was married to Miss Irene Jewell, a native of Aroostook county, Maine. Her father, David Jewell, born also in Maine, moved to Minnesota when Mrs. McDonald was a young girl, farming there until his death in 1887. Abigail (Brothers) Jewell, her mother, was born in Nova Scotia, but was living in New Brunswick at the time of her marriage. Her death occurred in Maine, in 1870. She was the mother of nine children, Mrs. McDonald being the oldest. Of the eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. McDonald only three are living: Alexander, born in 1879, now in Sedro-Woolley; Mrs. Flora Bresce, born in 1881, residing in Sedro, and Janette, born in 1891, at home. Mr. McDonald loyally supports the Republican party, though he never has accepted office. He is interested in real estate, owning eight dwellings in Sedro, five lots in Sedro-Woolley, and his own commodious home. Mr. McDonald is known throughout the community as a man of thrift and industry.

FREDERICK J. JARVIS, driver on the grocery wagons of Howard & Reynolds of Sedro-Woolley, is one of the energetic and enterprising young citizens of that city and resides a short distance west of town. Mr. Jarvis is a native of Astoria, Illinois, born in 1883, the son of George E. Jarvis, an Englishman, who emigrated to this country in 1875 and first located in New York as a railroad engineer. The elder Jarvis came to Skagit county in 1894, locating at Sedro-Woolley, where he became engine hostler for the Northern Pacific, remaining in that position until his death, in the summer of 1902. Mrs. Charlotte (Davis) Jarvis, is a native of Wales, and now lives at Sedro-Woolley, the mother of five children, those besides Frederick being: Thomas, Emily, John and William. Frederick J. Jarvis graduated from the grammar schools of Seattle and immediately thereafter took up the responsibilities of life. He has been in the employ of his present firm for a period of three years.

In 1904 at Sedro-Woolley Mr. Jarvis married Miss Nora McCarthy, a daughter of Michael and Mary McCarthy, and a member of a family of six children, the other members being: George, Maggie, Thomas, Lucy and Leo. Mrs. Jarvis was born in Wisconsin and received her education in that state, but came thence to Skagit county with her parents in the fall of 1903. In politics Mr. Jarvis is an independent, in lodge affiliations a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and in church membership an Episcopalian. He enjoys the highest confidence of his employers and is popular with the people with whom he comes in contact, admired

for his energy and devotion to the duties which devolve upon him.

GEORGE COX, the superintendent of the Sedro-Woolley Ice Company's plant is a man whose life has been one of constant endeavor and steady progress. He was born in Port Huron, Michigan, in 1850, the son of James A. Cox, a vessel owner of the Great Lakes, who died at the age of thirty-two. The mother, Mrs. Emily (Whiting) Cox, also a native of the Peninsula state, died in the Centennial year, after having borne eight children of whom George was third. When thirteen years old George Cox left school and started in life for himself, becoming a sailor. His first job was as cook on a boat plying between Chicago and Buffalo, later he went before the mast, still later he was promoted to mate, and he first became a captain when on the "Uncle Sam." He afterward commanded the "Dreadnaught," the "E. M. Carrington," and the schooner "Louise," remaining in charge of the last named for two years. When he married at the age of twenty-five he left the lakes and went to farming in summer and lumbering in winter near Port Hope, also studied engineering. He went to South Dakota in 1885. In 1888 he moved to Washington and became engineer at Allen & Horton's mill in Olympia. After spending two years there he became engineer in the Olympia Sash & Door factory at Elma, Washington, whence in 1891 he came to Everett to take the position of engineer in the nail works in that place. He afterward was engineer for the Rockefeller smelter and for the ice plant of the Washington brewery. Coming to Sedro-Woolley in 1903, he entered upon the duties of engineer of the local ice plant and he has remained here ever since, later becoming superintendent.

On Independence day, 1875, Mr. Cox married Miss Delia Birtch, a native of St. Mary's Ontario, born in 1857, daughter of George Birtch, a millwright. Her mother, Mrs. Matilda Birtch, is still living, making her home in Everett. In fraternal associations Mr. Cox is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and Degree of Honor, also retains his membership in the Shipping Masters' Association, with headquarters at Buffalo, New York. Mrs. Cox attends the Methodist church. In politics Mr. Cox is an ardent Republican. In Sedro-Woolley he is known as a painstaking man of sterling qualities, one whose integrity never is questioned. He is the owner of considerable property in Everett.

SYLVESTER BURNS, proprietor of the Sedro-Woolley steam laundry, owns a thriving business in that city which he has built up by his own energy. He was born in Prairie City, Jasper County, Iowa, in

1859, the son of Jerome S. Burns who was born in Missouri in 1827. The elder Mr. Burns was a pioneer farmer in Jasper county and crossed the plains to California in 1859 but soon returned to his old Iowa home. In 1888 he went again to California and now is living at San Jose, where he owns a farm. Mrs. Mary (Kuhns) Burns, the mother, is a native of Pennsylvania of Dutch ancestry, who was taken by her father and grandfather by ox-team to Iowa. Eleven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Jerome S. Burns, eight of whom are living, Sylvester being fifth. Until twenty-two years old he remained on the farm in Iowa, attending school and passing the life usual with farmers' sons in Jasper county. In 1882 he went to Nebraska and remained two years, accompanying his father to San Jose and farming there for a year. He went to Lake View, Oregon, one hundred and sixty miles from railroads, where for two years he was in charge of sheep camps. He then went to Portland, then to Seattle and Port Townsend. In 1891 he came to Sedro-Woolley and started a laundry, having the valuable assistance of Mrs. Burns, who was a laundress by trade. He built his laundry, operated it for a year and a half, and went to Pullman, Whitman County, Washington, where he established another laundry. He sold out after ten months and farmed four years near Portland. In 1896 he was in the laundry business eight months in San Jose, was in Seattle a short time, then returned to Sedro-Woolley, where he still held his property, which he reopened in 1900. He sold his laundry, but the purchasers were burned out, and Mr. Burns bought what was not destroyed in the fire and erected his present building in 1903. He has built up an excellent business, being ably assisted by the practical knowledge of Mrs. Burns who is fully conversant with all branches of the work.

In 1889 Mr. Burns married Miss Emma Taylor Knepp, a native of Pennsylvania, one of the best laundresses in that state. She was active in her husband's business until 1902 when she was injured by a kick from a horse. Mrs. Burns is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics Mr. Burns is a Republican and while living in Oregon was justice of the peace. Since living in Sedro-Woolley Mr. Burns has been unusually successful and claims to have the best paying business in the city, with the exception of the bank and one mercantile establishment. He is highly respected and enjoys the confidence of his fellow men.

CHARLES WARNER. Foremost among the men who have taken advantage of the splendid business openings afforded by the great forests of the Northwest, is Charles Warner, born in Whatcom county, Washington, February 6, 1867. His father, Captain John M. Warner, was a native of

Maine, born in 1827, who spent his early life on the Great Lakes until 1857, when he left his boats and took a prairie schooner for California. He mined near Sacramento a year and went to the Fraser river mining district in British Columbia when the excitement there was most intense. He made a stake at Spencer Bridge and then went to the present site of Bellingham, Washington, where for six years he was engaged in timbering the coal mines. He moved to Samish and took a homestead where he resided twelve years, being one of the first five settlers in that district. He disposed of his property at Samish and was the first man to take land on Warner's prairie, building a twelve mile road in order to reach his property. Convinced that it was a region of great fertility, he endeavored, but in vain, to induce others to come. Five years later, after the real estate boom had commenced, he was offered ten thousand dollars for his one hundred and sixty acres. His death occurred December 9, 1903, on the prairie which bears his name and which for so many years was his home. Ellen Warner, the mother, was born in British Columbia in 1837 and after a long and useful life died on Warner's prairie in 1881. She was the mother of eleven children. Remaining at home until twenty-two, young Charles Warner ably assisted his father in the support of the family, but was able to spend but nine months in school. He applied himself diligently to study at home, however, and was able to acquire a good business education. When he left home he did logging for Mortimer Cook on the ground now occupied by Sedro-Woolley. He has followed logging much of his life.

Mr. Warner and Louise Yates were married October 9, 1884. She is a native of British Columbia, the daughter of William Yates of Scotch nativity. He went to Hope, British Columbia, in 1859, and was employed by the Hudson Bay Company. He still resides there. Mrs. Elizabeth Yates, the mother of Mrs. Warner, was born in British Columbia, where she still lives. Mr. and Mrs. Warner have one child, Nellie, born in British Columbia, September 17, 1887. Mr. Warner is a Forester and a member of the Ancient Order of Foresters. He is a loyal Democrat but never has cared to take an active part in politics. After his father's death, Mr. Warner sold the home place on Warner's prairie and bought his present home in Sedro-Woolley. Mr. Warner is ambitious and energetic, a man of much worth, popular in his community.

ADAM W. DAVISON has spent his entire life in the atmosphere of logging and lumbering and now is one of the stockholders and active men in the management of the Green Shingle Company of Sedro-Woolley. He is a man greatly admired for his excellent business qualities. He was born

in Pennsylvania, August 17, 1857, the son of Daniel Davison, a lumberman of that state. His mother, Mrs. Mary (Pickard) Davison, a native of New York, is still living in Pennsylvania, the mother of twelve children, of whom Adam is fourth. The Davisons are of German extraction but this branch has been in America many years. Adam Davison acquired his education under difficulties in the common schools of the state, walking seven miles to school, but since those days he has picked up, by observation and reading, a large amount of general information. When fifteen years old he went to the Michigan woods and worked three years, then returned to Pittsburg and stayed a year. Two years more were spent lumbering in Michigan and in 1878 he came to San Francisco, later to Portland, and in the fall of that year he entered the employ of Stetson & Post in their mill at Seattle. He soon after went to San Juan island, where he was employed by James McCurdy two years working in and around a lime kiln. He then worked two years on Vashon island in the woods for Saywood & Meigs, then was made foreman of the logging camp of William Cochran where he remained two years more, thereupon returning to San Juan island, where he quarried limestone until July, 1890. He then came to Sedro where Mortimer Cook had already established a small store and had secured a postoffice. Under contract he took out lumber for the Fairhaven Land Company for two years; then built a saw-mill on the Seattle & Northern railroad at Woolley which he operated for two years more; then he moved his plant to a location on the Seattle & Lake Shore road where he operated it half a decade longer, eventually selling out to Shrewsbury & McLane. He later entered the logging business in partnership with W. W. Caskey, and after three years, both he and Caskey went into the Green Shingle Company.

On San Juan island on Christmas eve, 1882, Mr. Davison married Miss Betsy Firth, daughter of Robert Firth, a Scotchman who had entered the employ of the Hudson Bay Company and had come to Victoria, British Columbia, in 1851, later taking up his residence on San Juan island. Mrs. Firth, whose maiden name was Jessie Grant, came to Victoria on her wedding tour, being six months on the overland journey. Mrs. Davison was born and educated on San Juan island. She and Mr. Davison have nine children: Roche L., born December 21, 1884; Irthamore R., August 24, 1886; Lexie, October 12, 1887; Olive C., October 8, 1891; Bessie G., November 27, 1893; Inez R., August 1, 1895; Hazel E., July 14, 1897; Mary L., March 17, 1901, and Adam W., May 14, 1903. Mr. Davison is a Mason, which order he joined when twenty-one years old; he also is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In religion he is a Presbyterian and in politics a Republican. He is not especially ambitious politically.

though taking always the interest in the public affairs of his community that a good citizen should, and at times manifesting his public spiritedness by accepting such offices as school director and city councilman. In the realm of industry his ambition has had its chief field of activity and there his hard work and faithful endeavor have won an abundant reward.

FRANK BRADSBERRY, logger of Sedro-Woolley, has firmly established himself in the business community of Skagit county in a little more than twenty years and has formed for himself a large place in the estimation of the public as a man of spirit and energy. He was born in Missouri in 1860, the son of John B. Bradsberry, a native of Pennsylvania of Dutch descent who began life as a shoemaker and later went to Missouri and became a farmer. Mrs. Nancy (Tucker) Bradsberry, the mother, was born in Indiana, but died in Missouri in 1896. Young Bradsberry was trained and brought up by his mother, the father having died when he was but a year old. He attended the schools at home and remained on the farm with his mother until he was fourteen years old, at which time he went to Kansas. A year later he engaged to accompany a man who was taking a band of horses and mules to Texas, and so well did the young man carry himself in his part of this work that the owner gave him entire charge of the expedition and left the outfit in western Kansas. Young Bradsberry delivered the stock at Stevensville, Texas, without a mishap. He then made a trip across the international border into Mexico, but remained there only a short time, returning home by horseback from Alma, Texas, to Wichita, Kansas, a distance of about a thousand miles, and at one time experiencing the unpleasant predicament of having his horse stolen at night while he slept. He spent a year at the old Missouri home and in 1879 went to Colorado, where for a year he operated a logging camp for Joseph Lamb. The mining excitement was running high, and Mr. Bradsberry put in two years at prospecting in Utah and Arizona. In 1881 he passed five months in California, but went back to Colorado to work in a saw-mill. He was there a year this time, then returned to California for what proved to be a short stay before coming to Washington in 1884. In March of that year Mr. Bradsberry located in the Skagit valley, and began working in a logging camp at Sterling. After three years of this he engaged in logging on his own account in the Sauk valley and he has since been in the logging business in this county, forming the Bradsberry Logging Company in 1901.

March 30, 1890, Mr. Bradsberry married Miss Marinda Kelley, daughter of Leander Kelley, who came from Ireland to the sound country in 1865 and has since died near Fir. Mrs. Bradsberry is a native of Skagit county, born in 1873, and educated in

the local schools. Three children have been born of this union, Emerson, George and Ernest Q. In fraternal circles Mr. Bradsberry is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Concatenated Order of Hoo Hoo. A Republican in politics and active in the councils of that party, he has even been called upon to attend some of its state conventions. The Bradsberry Logging Company, of which he is the president and manager, owns four thousand acres of timber land, which is rapidly being converted into farms as the forest is removed, also the mill which it operates in Sedro-Woolley. Mr. Bradsberry is a very public-spirited man, a hard worker at anything he undertakes and one of the substantial citizens of the community.

JOHN LLOYD is one of the natives of the Province of New Brunswick who have prospered in Skagit county. He was born in 1868. His father, Michael Lloyd, of Welsh extraction, crossed from Ireland and engaged at first in lumbering in New Brunswick, but late in life took to farming. He died in 1894. Mrs. Lloyd, the mother of the subject of this sketch, was born in New Brunswick of Irish parentage, and died in that province in 1881. She was the mother of four children, Mrs. J. P. Collins of Portland, Maine; William and Daniel, living on the old farm in New Brunswick, and John, logger and real estate owner of Sedro-Woolley, Washington. The early life of John Lloyd was like that of other lads on Eastern farms. He attended school some, helped with the crops during harvest, and worked in the woods in winter. When nineteen he left home and went to the Rice Lake district of Byron County, Wisconsin, where he spent one season logging and driving. He then passed some time in the lumber town of Stillwater, Minnesota, but was working westward and reached Seattle in July, 1888. Having been connected with the lumbering industry, he naturally looked for an engagement in that line, so went to the Skagit valley, landing at the mouth of the river in the days when there was nothing there but a logging camp dignified by the name of Fir. The nearest mill, however, was Decatur's at Mount Vernon. Mr. Lloyd found a half brother, Michael, at Fir, and for him he began working, logging off the brother's claim. He also took up a homestead near Arlington in Snohomish county, upon which he proved up six years later. His homestead adjoined that on which James Cavanaugh had filed and the two men decided, while improving their places, to combine their efforts, working part of the time on one homestead and part of the time on the other, Mr. Lloyd making his home with Mr. Cavanaugh and wife in a shack they had erected. Mr. Lloyd worked at logging in Skagit county mostly until 1897, when he went to Alaska, with a partner, Eugene Taylor. They each packed eighty-five pounds over the White Pass from Skagit

way to Lake Bennett, and that summer they put in whipsawing lumber, receiving six hundred dollars per thousand for their product. With a new partner, Fitzpatrick, they went the next spring to Dawson City, but returned to Mount Vernon in 1898. Mr. Lloyd has done a varied business, dealing in any kind of property which gave promise of legitimate profit. He has bought much timber and from it furnished bolts to shingle mills.

In the summer of 1900 Mr. Lloyd married Miss Ida Villeneuve, who was born near the mouth of the Skagit river in 1877. She is a daughter of Charles and Bridget Anna (Tracy) Villeneuve, pioneers of Sedro-Woolley and now proprietors of the St. Charles hotel in that city. Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd have one child, Frances, born September 15, 1902. Fraternally, Mr. Lloyd is a member of the Knights of Pythias; in religion he is a Catholic; in politics a Republican. Mr. Lloyd's holdings now consist of one hundred and sixty acres of timber and forty acres of farm land between Edison and Bay View together with a number of lots in Anacortes, Mount Vernon and Sedro-Woolley. He is recognized as one of the substantial citizens of the county, a man who has won success because of the possession of those sterling qualities so characteristic of many of the privates in the great army of settlers that has subdued the forests of the Northwest and established its commercial and industrial institutions.

SAMUEL E. SHEA, liquor dealer of Sedro-Woolley, one of the most successful business men of the place, has prospered by buying and selling Skagit county realty. He was born in Woodstock, New Brunswick, August 2, 1852, the son of William Shea, also a native of Woodstock, and of Mrs. Margaret (McCauley) Shea, who was born in Springhill, New Brunswick. Both parents of Mr. Shea died in the province where they were born. They had ten children, of whom our subject was the fifth. Samuel Shea remained at home until 1876, then he went to Wisconsin, where two years were passed in the woods. He then spent two years more at the old New Brunswick home, then a brief period in Minnesota, whence, in 1883, he came to Seattle. After a short stay in the Queen City, he went to Edison and worked in the woods a few months, returning eventually to Seattle, but in 1884 he was again in Edison, this time in the employ of D. Storrs & Company, for whom he worked two years. Thence he came to Mount Vernon and for three years was with Clothier & English in the lumber, real estate and mercantile business, occasionally dealing in land on his own account. During this period he bought forty acres of land at Burlington, an interest in land at Avon, one hundred and twenty acres on Walker prairie and located two timber claims. He sold these holdings to good advantage and when Sedro was platted purchased property

there. He also homesteaded the land where Rockport now is and by another deal acquired part of the Charles Martin ranch at Clear Lake, which he still owns. Later Mr. Shea ran a camp for Kane, Shrewsbury & McLean, was in the employ of Parker Brothers, spent a year with the Lyman Lumber Company, worked for Hyatt & McMaster and built the road for the Hightower Company at Sedro-Woolley. All this time he kept his eyes open for bargains in real estate and was shrewd enough to recognize and seize them when they came. In May, 1902, he erected a building on the lot bought earlier in the history of Sedro and established his present business, opening one of the finest establishments of its kind in the city.

Mr. Shea never has married. In 1903 he returned to his childhood home in New Brunswick and renewed old acquaintances, also spent two months visiting at Houlton, Bangor and Milo in Maine and Woodstock, Frederickton, Hartland, Marysville and Stanley in his native province. In politics Mr. Shea is a Republican but has firmly refused all requests to accept public office. He has engaged in many lines of business both before and since coming to Skagit county and has had the ability to prosper in all his ventures. At present he is erecting a modern six-room house in the western part of Sedro-Woolley.

EMMETT VAN FLEET, living one mile east of Sedro-Woolley, is one of the early pioneers of Skagit county who knew no neighbors but themselves and counted the later settlers as one by one they came into that wilderness of trees. Mr. Van Fleet was born in Lackawanna county, Pennsylvania, January 23, 1849, his father, George Van Fleet, being one of a family long established in that section of the Keystone state. James Van Fleet, father of George and grandfather of Emmett, was well known in the community and in his honor the postoffice at his home was named Fleetville. The Van Fleets originally came from Holland. Mrs. Lexa (Thacher) Van Fleet, mother of Emmett Van Fleet, was a native of Pennsylvania of Scotch descent. She died two years ago at the age of seventy-seven. Emmett Van Fleet attended school and grew to manhood on his father's farm, learned the carpenter's trade and followed it five years in Scranton, Pennsylvania. After this he leased and ran his father's farm until he came to his present home in 1880. Not a white woman or a white child was then in all the section from Lyman to Sterling, then called Ball's logging camp. His nearest neighbor was Dan Benson, well known as a pilot on the Skagit river. Messrs. Woods, Dunlop, Hart and Batey were further down the river. His brother, Luther Van Fleet, who had preceded him to Skagit county, was to the north, on what was called the "fern land," a name given to land burned over by

Indians where an abundance of ferns grew. There were no roads and few trails in those days, and the river constituted the chief highway. Mr. Van Fleet commenced clearing his land and bought cows with which he started dairying. He was much troubled by bear and cougar, and killed many of them.

December 23, 1874, before leaving Pennsylvania, Mr. Van Fleet married Miss Eliza Farnham, who was born in Lackawanna county, the daughter of Granville and Harriet (Sprague) Farnham. The Farnhams are well known in Pennsylvania, having lived there on land granted by the government to Captain Eliab Farnham, for his services in the Revolutionary war, when he served as captain of a company of the Green Mountain Boys. On this land now stands the city of Hawley, Pennsylvania. Captain Farnham's son, Eliab, was born in August following the capture of Ticonderoga and Crown Point by the Green Mountain boys under Ethan Allen, and his son, Stephen, was the father of Granville Farnham, who still is living. On her mother's side, Mrs. Van Fleet traces back to the Spragues of Rhode Island, who held eighty acres of the city site of Providence. The noted war governor of Rhode Island was a cousin of Mrs. Van Fleet's mother. Mrs. Van Fleet is the oldest of four children and is the only one in the west. The others are Eliab, Charles and Robert Farnham. She came west with her husband and was the first white woman in this vicinity. Mr. and Mrs. Van Fleet have three children: Eva, born in Pennsylvania on the last day of the Centennial year; Ethel, born in Skagit county, August 17, 1887, and Earl, born here, March 30, 1889. Mr. Van Fleet is an Odd Fellow, member of Truth lodge at Sedro-Woolley, and he and Mrs. Van Fleet are Rebekahs. She is a member of the Methodist church. In politics he is a Democrat and active in primaries, and often is sent to county and state conventions. The Van Fleet place contains 140 acres, is worked as a general and stock farm, and has a highly productive orchard. Mr. Van Fleet also has a large colony of bees, his stand last year producing over a ton of honey. On this pioneer farm was erected, years ago, the first schoolhouse in that part of the country, its owner donating liberally towards its construction. He is greatly interested in the schools and has served as school director. Mrs. Van Fleet has many interesting reminiscences of pioneer life, some of which she published in the School Journal, when Mrs. Currier Ornes was superintendent. The article received much praise for its literary merit. Mr. Van Fleet is a loyal American citizen who is entitled to unlimited credit for the part he took in opening one section of the great west.

FRANK R. HAMILTON.—Although there are a few men in Skagit county whose advent long antedates that of Mr. Hamilton, yet that gentleman has

probably seen as much of pioneering and pioneer conditions as any one, and he has certainly done his full share toward blazing trails, beating back the forests, overcoming the obstacles and ushering in the better day. His pioneer experiences include the management of Indians disposed to be unfriendly, for the home of the Hamiltons was claimed by the red men, their presence in the upper valley was distasteful to the members of the inferior race who foresaw defeat in the irrepressible race conflict, and at one time the white settlers had good reason to fear an uprising, but the privations of the early days were bravely endured, the dangers were safely passed and surrounded by the blessings of the civilization which they helped to establish. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton are spending the evening of their lives near the thrifty town of Sedro-Woolley, in the enjoyment of abundance of everything which can add to their material comfort, and none the worse for the pictures of trying experiences which hang on memory's wall.

Mr. Hamilton was born in Wapello county, Iowa, in 1857, the son of William Hamilton, a native of Ohio and a wheelwright and carpenter by occupation. The elder Hamilton, a native of Ohio, was left an orphan at an early age, and was bound out and raised by a strange family. He eventually moved to Iowa, whence, in 1862, he crossed the plains with ox teams to California, accompanied by his family, and he died in the Golden State in 1873. Our subject's mother, Mary E. (Prather) Hamilton, who was born in the year 1832, is still living in Oakland, California. Though a native of Iowa, as heretofore stated, Frank R. Hamilton became a resident of the Pacific coast very early in life, crossing the plains, as heretofore stated, with his father in 1862. After spending short periods of time in Petaluma and Santa Rosa, he moved, at the age of thirteen years, to Nevada, and he finished his education and took his first lessons in the art of selling goods behind the counter in Virginia City, that state. He resided in Nevada until 1880, though making frequent trips to California, but in the year mentioned he put into practice a resolve to leave both states permanently, and with his newly wedded wife to make a home in the wild, undeveloped but rich and promising Skagit valley. He chose as the scene of his home-building venture a point far up the Skagit river, where it receives the waters of the Baker, beyond the outmost bounds of settlement at that time. His only neighbors were Mrs. Hamilton's half-brother, Theodore Sunter, Mr. Sunter's mother, Mrs. Emily Glass, who was the first white woman to go that far up the river, Amasa Everett, Orrin Kincaid and a man named Anderson. The family had much ado to obtain subsistence at first. Mr. Hamilton traded with the Indians and miners and when logging camps began to be established that far up river sold them the products of his farm,



FRANK R. HAMILTON



MRS. FRANK R. HAMILTON



GEORGE G. ARNOLD



SAMUEL S. TINGLEY



MRS. SAMUEL S. TINGLEY



AMASA EVERETT



JOHN SUTTER



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in this manner supporting his family. The battle with natural conditions was severe enough to try the sturdiest, but its rigors were aggravated by fear of trouble with the Indians, who strenuously objected to surveyors and settlers. At one time a party of surveyors, with Amasa Everett and Willard Cobb, had some difficulty with the Indians and two of the red men were shot and wounded, but the dispute was settled without further trouble, much to the relief of all the whites, though real security was not had till soldiers entered the country.

Mr. Hamilton kept steadily at the task of developing and opening up his farm until by 1897 he had it in condition to produce five hundred sacks of grain and one hundred tons of hay; then disaster came. That was the year of the memorable flood which did so much damage throughout the length and breadth of the Skagit valley. The rampant waters surrounded his house and outbuildings, compelling him and his family to seek safety in a canoe, while the excellent crops of hay and grain went to destruction, as well as his forty head of cattle and fifteen fat hogs. After the waters subsided Mrs. Hamilton and the family went to live on land they owned near Sedro-Woolley; later Mr. Hamilton disposed of his up-river farm and joined them, and they have been farming and stock raising in that locality ever since. Their farm contains 105 acres of land in excellent condition for the maintenance of stock, and they give much attention to the rearing and care of high-grade cattle, especially of the Jersey strain.

Though he has battled with the wilderness diligently and with great assiduity, Mr. Hamilton has always taken time to discharge well the duties which have devolved upon him as a good citizen, his public spirit finding expression principally in efforts to promote the cause of popular education so far as he was able. For a number of terms he served on the school board of his district. He also, several times, consented to accept the office of justice of the peace of his precinct while living in the upper valley. He is prominent in Odd Fellowship, having passed through all the chairs in his home lodge and being now a member of the grand lodge. In politics he is a Republican.

In 1880 Mr. Hamilton married Miss Adelaide S. Glass, a native of Iowa and a daughter of James and Emily (Provost) Glass. Mrs. Hamilton takes a just pride in her family history, for her ancestry can be traced in this country back to 1624, when the first Provost established himself on American soil. He was a man of unusual ability, a deep student of the Latin language and very thoroughly versed in classic lore. He belonged to that famous class of Frenchmen known as the Huguenots, the flower of France, in expelling whom from her borders, it is said, France slit the veins of her own national life. The family is well known in the his-

tory of Massachusetts, and it is worthy of mention that the first Episcopal bishop of New York was a Provost. One of Mrs. Hamilton's brothers enlisted in 1861 for service in the Civil War as a member of the Sixteenth Iowa, and he continued to follow the flag until the last disloyal gun had been silenced. He spent two months in Andersonville prison. In 1878 he settled near Baker river in Skagit county, becoming the first settler in that locality, and on the 10th of April, 1881, he passed away at La Conner. Three of Mr. Hamilton's brothers were also veterans of the Civil War. Mrs. Hamilton's father, James Glass, was born in the north of Ireland, but early in life came to New York and engaged in the mercantile business there. He was a relative of A. T. Stewart, the well-known multi-millionaire merchant. In 1855 he migrated to Iowa and purchased a thousand acres of land. He was preparing to go into the mercantile business there when he was caught in one of the blizzards which are so common in some parts of the middle west and lost his life. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton have two living children, namely, James B., the first white child born so far up the river, now bookkeeper in the bank of C. E. Bingham & Company at Sedro-Woolley, and Frances A., attending the high school at present. One of their children died October 17, 1901, at the age of nine years.

GEORGE G. ARNOLD, farmer, stock raiser and dairyman, seven miles east of Sedro-Woolley, is a man whose days have been filled with the excitement which attends a succession of reverses and successes, and now in the evening of life he is enjoying the smiles of fortune. Mr. Arnold was born in Harrison county, West Virginia, November 14, 1836, and inherits from both sides of his ancestry the blood of patriots and pioneers. His father, George Arnold, was born in West Virginia, moved to Missouri late in life, and ultimately settled in Oregon, where he died fifteen years ago. He was of Scotch-English parentage, his mother's people having settled in Albemarle county, Virginia, in the early days of the colony. His father was a veteran of the War of 1812. Mrs. Rebecca (Green) Arnold, also of English descent, was born in Pennsylvania. Members of her family served both in the Revolution and in the War of 1812. George G. Arnold is the third of her family of ten children. The early years of Mr. Arnold's life were spent on a farm and as was often the case in families living in the states along Mason and Dixon's line, he disagreed with his brothers on the issues of the Civil War. He stood alone in his family for the union cause. At the outbreak of the war he was working on a road building contract near Charleston, West Virginia. An argument arose about the size of the ball a nearby cannon would throw. He stepped to the muzzle of the piece and was measuring the bore when he was placed under

arrest and conveyed to General Wise's headquarters as a spy. He made his escape and had enlisted in Company A of the Fourth West Virginia Volunteer Infantry before the close of 1861. He saw service under General Ewing, was with Grant's victorious army at Vicksburg, endured the hardships of hunger and participated in the glories of Sherman's operations around Atlanta and on the march to the sea. After four years of service he was mustered out at Wheeling. All this time three brothers were wearing the Confederate gray—James S., Floyd and William Pitt, the last named being killed in the battle of Winchester. At the close of the war Mr. Arnold returned for a time to Gilmer county, West Virginia, and after marriage went to Cass County, Missouri. In 1872 he came to Seattle, which at that time did not number over 1,000 inhabitants, with bears plentiful within the city limits. For twelve years he followed the logging business at Seattle, and in the latter part of the seventies was interested in the Ruby creek mining development. Mr. Arnold and Al. Spalding conceived the idea of building a saw-mill on Granite creek and with the help of a third man they carried a shaft weighing 400 pounds sixty miles to the site of their mill operations. The venture proved a flat failure and only one log was sawed. Mr. Arnold secured mining property in company with Colonel Larrabee, but after financial losses withdrew from the district to recoup in the logging business. His attention had been directed during his experiences in the Skagit valley to the possibilities in this county, and in 1883 he moved here and settled near Lyman, then only a trading post for barter with the Indians. He filed on a homestead, which he developed into a farm. One of his early ventures was in hop raising, leasing the hop ranch of Alvin H. Williamson, formerly of New York, later a partner of Ezra Meeker in hop growing at Puyallup. Mr. Williamson was the pioneer hop grower of Skagit county, if not of the entire state. When Mr. Arnold settled here there were no roads, and the one trail in that section passed directly in front of the spot on which the present Arnold house stands. Since coming to Skagit county Mr. Arnold has done no logging except on his own farm. His early clearing was done with cattle, six yoke of which he brought with him from Seattle. He it was who had the first team of horses in this section. After he had become settled, he turned his own place into hops and became one of the big producers of that product in this county, twice harvesting a crop worth \$15,000. In some years reverses would sweep away the profits of preceding years and for that reason Mr. Arnold quit hop raising several years ago. Mr. Arnold formerly owned 160 acres of land, but he has disposed of half of it. He has a fine herd of selected milch cows and engages in dairying.

April 5, 1866, in West Virginia, Mr. Arnold

married Mrs. Mary Nutter, born in the Old Dominion, daughter of Thomas and Martha McDaniel, natives of that state, of English descent. Mr. McDaniel was a colonel in the Civil War. Mrs. Arnold was a widow with three children at the time of her marriage to Mr. Arnold, and by him she is the mother of three others, Olive, Laura and Albert. By her former husband her children are William, Thomas and Mary, the first named being dead. The name of her first husband was Davis. In fraternal circles Mr. Arnold is a member of the Odd Fellows and of the Knights of Pythias. In politics he is an active and ardent Democrat. He has served as committeeman and has attended every county convention of his party, save one, since coming to Skagit county. Mr. Arnold served as member of the school board for many years, but retired in 1904. He always has been active in work for the schools and has contributed liberally toward building schoolhouses. Mr. Arnold is one of the leading citizens of Skagit county, honored and respected by all who know him. He is just such a man as one would picture who knew of the vicissitudes through which he has passed.

SAMUEL SIMPSON TINGLEY, farmer and stock raiser, located across the river from Lyman, is one of the very earliest settlers of Skagit county and a man who has had a remarkably active career. Mr. Tingley was born at Violet Brook, Aroostook county, Maine, February 12, 1836, the son of John C. Tingley, a native of New Brunswick. He became a farmer and shipbuilder in the Pine Tree State, whence in later years he removed to Skagit county, and he died in Skagit City in 1896. The elder Tingley had three brothers in the battle of Lundy's Lane, in the War of 1812, one of whom was on the side of the British. Mrs. Sophia (Boline) Tingley, mother of Samuel, was also a native of Maine. Samuel S. Tingley lived on the home place until ten years of age, when he was bound out to learn the trade of machinist. He worked two years in the shop, then spent a like period on a boat, learning to handle steam; then he shipped for deep water work, and in 1859 was on Puget sound helping to build the revenue cutter, I. I. Stevens. After working a year and a half, he started home in 1861 to attend a military school, and while on his way fell in with the Tenth Maine Infantry at Eastport en route to the front for service in the Civil War. The ardor of young Tingley was so fired that he at once enlisted in the command. A short time later, in company with some 400 others, he was transferred to the engineer corps and he continued in that line of duty and in the secret service until the close of the war. After spending some time in Pennsylvania he came around the Horn on the old Continental, and landed at San Francisco, later coming to Puget sound on the George Washington, and going to Port Orchard,

where he was engaged in shipbuilding. In 1867 Mr. Tingley went to the mouth of the Skagit river, on the south side of the north fork, and took up a claim. Messrs. Abbott and Sartwell were the only men on the south fork at that time, though up by La Conner were Mike Sullivan and Sam Calhoun, both of whom had some land diked in. Mr. Tingley went to diking, soon had a small farm in cultivation, and lived there until, in 1879, the Rubv creek excitement lured him away. In the winter of 1880-1 he came to Mount Vernon, built a blacksmith shop and moved his family to that town. Three years later he came up to his present place, which he had taken in 1880 while timber cruising for Clothier & English, and commenced clearing and raising stock. Mr. Tingley has done considerable logging and has also been in demand for building ferries, having had a hand in the construction of nearly every boat of that character on the river. His experience in the army engineer corps also makes him almost indispensable in raising boats which sink on the Skagit.

In 1867, at Portland, Oregon, Mr. Tingley married Miss Maria Kinney, a native of Canastota, New York. She was one of the seventy-five school teachers who came around the Horn through the influence of A. S. Mercer in behalf of the schools of the Northwest in 1867. It so happened that Mr. Tingley met her on the trip of the Continental coming to San Francisco on the same boat. Mrs. Tingley died in 1874, leaving two children, Ida and Oliver. The present Mrs. Tingley was born in Pennsylvania in 1840, the daughter of Dr. Herman and Elizabeth (Easterbrook) Knapp, and received an excellent education, not the least part of which was a thorough knowledge of the use of drugs and medicine. Mrs. Tingley was a widow at the time of her marriage to Mr. Tingley and had one son, Warren Taylor. She had come west in 1872. To Mr. and Mrs. Tingley have been born five children: Mary Elizabeth, graduate of the Whatcom Normal School and for six years a school teacher; Hiram B., Henry, Martha, now acting matron of the Sedro-Woolley hospital, and Lillian, a trained nurse by profession. In fraternal circles Mr. Tingley is a Mason. In politics he is a protection Republican, sufficiently active to attend all local conventions and to serve as committeeman. The present Tingley farm consists of 200 acres, ten of which are in fine orchard. The house is a homelike structure built in Southern style, and suggestive of hospitality and comfort, with fireplace, fur rugs, literature in abundance and musical instruments of many kinds. The Tingley family is one of culture and refinement, possessing especial aptness in music. During her residence in Skagit county Mrs. Tingley has frequently been called upon to administer to the suffering and her knowledge of nursing and medicines has proven of great assistance to the settlers,

especially in the early days, when no call upon her skill and sympathy went unheeded. Among the Skagit county pioneers few antedate Mr. Tingley in point of arrival, and few have been more active in affecting the many changes making for development and progress, and few are better known throughout the county.

AMASA EVERETT, now farmer and stockman and town site owner at Baker, Washington, is a pioneer of Skagit county and one of the men who discovered the agricultural value of the upper valley and also its mineral deposits. He is one of the men who, coming here in the early days, have contributed much to the laying of foundations in Skagit county. Mr. Everett was born in Washburn, Aroostook county, Maine, June 3, 1849, the son of Lyman Everett, a native of New Hampshire, born in 1803, of English descent, who died in 1865. His mother, Mrs. Regina (Sperry) Everett, was a native of Switzerland, of German parentage, and came to the United States when a child. She died in 1890, the mother of eleven children, of whom Amasa was the ninth in order. Young Everett grew to manhood in the woods of Maine and followed lumbering in that state. On the death of his father he took charge of the logging camp and operated it successfully, but at the age of nineteen left for Minnesota, where he was engaged in lumbering for three years. The summer of 1874 he spent at La Conner, Washington, and that fall commenced prospecting in the upper Skagit valley. It was Mr. Everett who discovered the coal deposits at Hamilton. Finding his first bits of coal on the high hill, he carried the samples out in his hat. While on this expedition Mr. Everett met with the misfortune which cost him the loss of a leg. He was drinking from a creek when a landslide occurred and a large boulder struck and broke the bones of the limb. An Indian was with him at the time and the red man was sent for Lafayette Stevens and Orlando Graham, the other members of the prospecting party. On their arrival they tore up a shirt and splinted the member, but later Seattle surgeons had to amputate it. The prospectors, in company with J. J. Conner, who had grubstaked them, formed a company for developing the coal find and spent several thousand dollars in sinking a shaft. They went down 120 feet and sent a quantity of the coal taken from the excavation to San Francisco for a test, which proved it to be excellent for blacksmith purposes. Mr. Everett finally abandoned the work after having given James O'Laughlin a half interest in his share. In the fall of 1875 Mr. Everett came further up the valley on a prospecting tour. He had no intention of taking up land, but built a cabin at the mouth of Baker river and put in a garden, which so prospered that he did not care to leave

it. For five years he prospected and worked at the trade of carpenter during a part of the year, in order to maintain himself, at the same time clearing a little of his land at intervals, until the place finally developed into proportions large enough that it might be denominated a ranch. In 1879, in company with William Cobb, Mr. Everett grubstaked a party consisting of Charles von Pressentin, Jack Rowley, John Sutter and John Duncan to look into the Ruby creek district. The prospectors brought out large nuggets, but big boulders in the ground interfered with anything like success in the development of the placer mines. Mr. Everett did not travel into the mining country, but remained at home ranching, at which he made money, but his profits were all consumed by the miners, who stampeded out from Ruby creek after the boom broke. In 1880, after government surveyors had arrived in the upper valley and had had trouble with the Indians, who broke the instruments, Mr. Everett advised the surveyors to kill a few red men if they did not let the whites alone. Two Indians heard this statement and advice of Mr. Everett, and in a spirit of vengeance entered his house and attacked him with knives. He stopped one with a bullet in the jaw and shot the other, "Bill" by name, in the body. The savage continued to advance and Mr. Everett shot him the second time, after which both he and the other Indian lay apparently dead, but both recovered. The surveyors sent to Port Townsend for soldiers and Mr. Everett gave himself up to the authorities at Mount Vernon. On the trial he was acquitted, many of the Indians testifying to the bad character of those who had attacked him. A big powwow was held, and on Mr. Everett's paying \$20 for each of the Indians shot matters were patched up and he was on friendly terms with them ever after; they in their turn reimbursed him for depredations committed. In the aftermath of the incident numerous agents were sent out by the government to investigate the occurrences, one of whom, a Colonel Pollock, bragged considerably of his bravery and aggressiveness. To try him Mr. Everett and an Indian agent assembled some Indians behind an ambuscade on the river bank as the brave colonel passed down the river in boats. A volley from the ambuscade, directed to the rear of the boats, was sufficient to send the doughty colonel hustling down the river out of range. Mr. Everett continued to work his ranch and in 1885 discovered a ledge of marble on his place which he considered was valuable for lime manufacture. He also found a deposit of clay from which he built two brick fireplaces. In 1904 an expert, examining the marble and clay, said that the clay was more valuable for cement than for brick. The upshot of this incident was that E. C. Miller, acting for what is now known as the Washington Portland Cement Company, recently bought forty-five acres of the land, and he is

now arranging for the erection of a large plant at the point. Mr. Everett has platted a town site called Cement City and is soon to put lots in it on the market.

October 21, 1891, at Seattle Mr. Everett married Miss Mary Seeger, a native of Germany, daughter of Frederick and Charlotte (Harding) Seeger, the latter of whom is still living in the old country, the mother of eight children, of whom Mrs. Everett is next to the youngest. She came to this country in 1888 and settled in Wisconsin. She and Mr. Everett have five children: Leonard, born in 1892; Nina, in 1893; Elva, in 1895; Edward, in 1898, and Ruth, in 1904. In politics Mr. Everett is an ardent Republican and an attendant at most conventions. He has long been a member of the school board and is an earnest advocate of the betterment of schools. He owns and operates eighty-five acres of land and is in very good circumstances, financially, and also enjoys the respect of the community in which he has played so active a part.

JOHN SUTTER, of Sauk, has had much to do with the opening up of the upper Skagit valley, and by reason of years spent in the hills prospecting for mineral wealth probably is more familiar with the Cascade mountains and their western foothills than any other man now living. He has been a pioneer in every line of activity known to the upper part of the Skagit. Mr. Sutter was born in Maine January 12, 1849, the son of James and Catherine Sutter. Of his mother he knows little. His father was a native of New York, born in 1797, who went to Maine when a very young man and led the life of a lumberman and farmer there until his death fifty-two years ago. John Sutter is the only child of his parents who is now living. He left home at the age of fourteen, going to Pennsylvania, where for four years he followed the lumber business. In 1870 he went to Florida and he was connected with the lumber industry of that state for the next two years. He then went to Dakota and started for the Black Hills, but the government, owing to Indian troubles, stopped the wagon train and refused it permission to go on. Mr. Sutter then went to California, whence after a short time he came on to Washington. He first stopped at Port Townsend, but soon went thence to Port Gamble, where he put in two years working on a logging boom. He moved to Sauk in the centennial year and lived there for the ensuing twenty-seven years, coming to his present place, five miles east, in 1903. He was, however, absent in Alaska for a time in 1898 and had some experience in mining and logging there. Though he has always made his home in the upper part of the valley, he has put in much time prospecting. In 1876, in company with John Rowley, George E. Sanger and Will Cobb, he went into the Baker river

district and located some quartz mines, and it was during one of his trips to this region that Mr. Sutter explored Baker lake, gaining the distinction of being the first white man to do this. Of the quartette of men mentioned, who did much prospecting together, Mr. Sutter and Will Cobb only are living, the latter in Seattle. Sanger lost his life on Porcupine creek, Alaska, and Rowley died in Arizona. In company with Rowley and Frank Scott Mr. Sutter prospected in the Ruby creek district in 1876, four years prior to the excitement which later attracted many to the diggings. Rowley, Cobb and Sanger had come up the river just a few days before Sutter got there and the four men were almost inseparable for years afterward. Mr. Sutter has not been active in prospecting since 1892, having settled down to the life of a farmer. He owns 160 acres of land, of which forty are cleared, and on which he has built a fine seven-room house. He has thirty head of cattle, an equal number of sheep and horses enough for the operation of his farm. An incident of Mr. Sutter's early days on the upper Skagit was the piloting of the steamer Chehalis from Sauk to the portage sixteen miles above Marblemount. Captain Brannon had brought his steamer up as far as Sauk, but being unfamiliar with the channel of the river above that point hesitated about continuing. He eventually sent for Mr. Sutter, who pointed out the channel and showed the way safely to the destination. Mr. Sutter enjoys the reputation of being reliable in all ways and is highly respected by the people of his community. Probably no man is so familiar with the trailless country around the head waters of the Skagit and its tributaries as this old-time pioneer and prospector.

In 1897 Mr. Sutter married Alice Wilson, daughter of Joseph Wilson, one of the very oldest settlers in Skagit county, having come to the region during the Fraser river excitement of 1858, and having located in the county two years later. He died there in 1893. Mrs. Sutter was born on the Skagit river in 1875 and acquired her education in the schools of the county.

WILLIAM BARRATT, living across the river from Marblemount, is one of the men who have secured a competence since coming to Skagit county and are well satisfied with the good fortune which directed them to this part of the country. He is a native of London, England, born January 13, 1851, the son of Alexander Barratt. The elder Barratt was born in London in 1820 in the house in which his father before him had first seen the light of day. He is still living in the English capital and running a shoe store there. Mrs. Sarah (Montgomery) Barratt, the mother of William, was a native of Scotland, but was taken when a mere child by her parents to London and lived there until her death

in 1901. William Barratt has three brothers and one sister, Alexander B., Charles, James and Sarah. Young Barratt grew up in the world's metropolis, went to work when very young and so was unable to obtain more than a meager education. He lived with his parents until he was nineteen years of age, when he crossed the Atlantic alone and settled in Canada, in which country he remained three years, working on farms in the summers and at the shoe bench in the winters. In 1873 he went to Chicago, where he put in eight years driving team and following various lines of occupation. In 1884 he came to Washington, stopping at Seattle for a time, and then coming to Mount Vernon. Here he commenced driving a logging team for Clothier & English, and he continued at that line of work for seven years, then came up the river, took a pre-emption near Sauk and lived there three years, moving on to his present place in 1891. He has resided here ever since.

In 1878, while living in Chicago, Mr. Barratt went back to Canada and married Miss Maggie Glover, daughter of David Glover, a native of Canada, a farmer who had moved to Marlette, Michigan, where he still resides, having accumulated sufficient of this world's goods to live the life of a retired gentleman. Mrs. Catherine (Ramsay) Glover, the mother of Mrs. Barratt, is a native of Scotland, but came to America when a girl after receiving her education in the land of her nativity. For a time after coming to Canada she worked out. She is still living, the mother of six children: Archibald, Martha, Maggie, William, Mary and David. Mrs. Barratt was born August 15, 1861, and was educated in the Canadian schools, living with her parents until her marriage. She and Mr. Barratt have five children: William A., Barbara L., Cleveland, Charles W. and Lola M. In politics Mr. Barratt is a Republican and in fraternal affiliations an Odd Fellow. The Barratt farm consists of 120 acres of excellent land, half of which is under cultivation, the whole being now valued at \$8,000. Upon it are fifteen head of cattle and five horses at present. In addition to his farm Mr. Barratt has a half interest in four good mineral claims on the Skagit river. Many changes have taken place since he came to Skagit county. The railroad at the time of his arrival had not reached Mount Vernon and but a very little diking had been done. The town site had not been fully laid out and no roads worthy of the name had been built. In the Sauk country there were no roads and no trails, so Mr. Barratt had to bring his family here in a canoe, taking four days to pole up from Mount Vernon. He was instrumental in establishing the school at Sauk and later the schools at Rocky Creek and at Marblemount, and he has further manifested his interest in popular education by serving as school director for sixteen years. He cleared his own land by hand.

The distinction is his of having put in the first cattle ferry at Marblemount, his present farm being across the river from that town. Mr. Barratt is one of the leading citizens of the up-river communities and is respected and honored by his fellows.

JAMES M. YOUNG, farmer and stock raiser, living seven miles east of Sedro-Woolley, is one of the pioneers of the upper Skagit valley who has participated in all the changes which have taken place in the county since he came in 1878. His unerring foresight told him twenty-seven years ago of the future of that section and he has been an important factor in laying the foundation of a prosperous community. He was born in Ireland in 1845, the son of Hamilton and Sarah (Mitchell) Young, who came to America when James was eighteen and settled in Dearborn county, Indiana. They died in Kansas more than a quarter of a century ago. James was the oldest of seven children and on coming to this country commenced the life of a farmer. At twenty-one years of age he went into the brick manufacturing business, in which he continued until he moved to Lawrence, Kansas, in 1868. Seven years later he went to Nevada and worked in the timber two years, then came to Skagit county and located on his present place. Messrs. Duffey, Connrey and Lagget were his nearest neighbors, and Mount Vernon was the only postoffice within reach. The only white women in that section were Mrs. Minkler and Mrs. Charles von Presentin, but Mrs. Van Fleet and Mrs. Batey came soon after and located down the river. Mr. Young helped cut the first road to where Sedro afterwards grew up, all travel before that time being by canoe on the river. Soon after he arrived there was an Indian scare and the men gathered at the logging camps and stood guard. The country was a wilderness of timber with bears everywhere. He spent parts of his first few years working in the logging camps and the rest of the time clearing the timber from his land.

In 1890 in Seattle, Mr. Young married Miss Mary Matthews Cochrane, a native of Ireland, daughter of Adam and Elizabeth (McKibbin) Cochrane, the eleventh of their fifteen children. In 1905 Mr. Young sold seventy of his 170 acres, including improvements and most of his live stock, and he has since built a handsome new home. Mr. Young is a member of the Sedro-Woolley lodge of the Order of Pendo. His services and good judgment have been in demand in the county where he has been called upon to fill the offices of road supervisor, clerk of the school board and twice the office of county commissioner. While he was in the latter position the new county jail was built. He has manifested his deep interest in popular education by at all times favoring tax levies for school purposes.

Mr. Young has been an active man and a successful one, enjoying the respect of the pioneers and the confidence of the newcomers.

WILLIAM WOODS is a well-educated and well-read farmer who has resided in Skagit county for twenty-six years and has a good stock farm adjoining Sedro-Woolley on the east. He was born January 17, 1835, in County Tyrone, Ireland. His father, William Woods, born in 1810, spent his life in Ireland, engaged in farming until his death in 1843. Ellen (McLaughlin) Woods, the mother, also of Irish nativity, was born in 1812 and died in Syracuse, New York, in November, 1891. William Woods, though only a boy of eight when his father died, bravely shouldered the responsibilities of life and relieved his mother of much of the care of the farm, remaining at home until nineteen, when he found he could be spared. He then went to England and obtained a position as furnace man in a chemical manufacturing establishment, where his work was so satisfactory that his employers were glad to keep him four years, at the end of which time he determined to return to America. After a visit of a month with his mother at her home he crossed to Quebec, in which province he was employed for a year on a farm and for another year in a mill. He then went to Syracuse, New York, and worked twelve years there for a salt company. In 1875 he removed to California. He stayed in Colfax for the winter, then went to San Francisco, and thereafter he was engaged in operating a hoisting works in Knoxville for nine months, and spent a year in the mines of Southern California. He had heard much of the Puget sound country and having finally determined to investigate it for himself, came here in 1878. After working for a time in the logging camps of Hood's canal he moved to Sedro-Woolley in the fall of that year and took 147 acres of land under the pre-emption act. His present home is a part of this claim. During the boom he sold ten acres of this land for \$8,000, receiving one-half of the purchase price at the time of the sale. When the financial crash came he bought back the property on a tax sale. Later he divided the land with the man who had purchased it and presented him with the mortgage he held on it. This transaction is characteristic of the straightforward dealings which have established his reputation. Neighbors were few in the first year of his residence in the valley, Joseph Hart, David Batey and William A. Dunlop being the only men living within seven miles. Mrs. Van Fleet, who came two years later, was the first white woman on that part of the river. Mr. Woods is an independent Democrat and has been several times the recipient of honors at the hands of his party, having been the second mayor of Sedro-Woolley, a member of the city council and more than once

Democratic central committeeman. He is an adherent of the Catholic faith. Prosperity has attended his efforts until to-day he is one of the well-to-do residents of the county. He owns 100 acres, seven of which are cleared and under cultivation, also some good town property. He raises beef cattle on the home place.

FRED KIENS, a farmer, a half mile north of Sedro-Woolley, has made a success of farming in Skagit county, at the same time winning by degrees the high respect and esteem of his neighbors and all those with whom he comes in contact. Mr. Kiens was born in Germany January 9, 1859, the son of Fred Kiens, a miner, who never left the Fatherland. The mother died when the subject of this sketch was two years of age. Fred Kiens received his early education in Germany, and after completing it remained on the parental farm until eighteen years of age, when he entered a steel factory. He was there for the next three years, leaving only to take up the military service incumbent on every able-bodied male citizen of Germany. After he had served the required number of years in the Kaiser's army he returned to the steel factory, determined to save money until he should have enough with which to come to America. Having realized his ambition in about six months, he crossed to the United States in 1883 and settled in Illinois, but after eight months there he came to Skagit county, arriving in April, 1884, and took up the land comprising his present home farm. He has since lived on this place, and has acquired another farm also, making his holdings at present aggregate 260 acres, eighty of which are under cultivation and producing the crops for which Skagit county is famous.

In Seattle in 1885 Mr. Kiens married Miss Mary Teal, daughter of Bert Teal, a farmer of Germany. Mrs. Kiens was born in the old country in 1859 and received her education there. She had known her husband before he left Germany and when he was so situated as to justify marriage, the old acquaintance was renewed and she traveled across an ocean and a continent to be wed. Mr. and Mrs. Kiens are the parents of seven children, all born in Skagit county: Dena, Frank, Lizzie, John, Anna, Joseph and Mary. In fraternal connections Mr. Kiens is a member of the Improved Order of Red Men and in church membership a Catholic. While in politics he is a Republican generally, he is not bound so strictly by party ties as to overlook a good candidate on the opposing ticket. In addition to a few horses for farm purposes, Mr. Kiens keeps twenty-five head of cattle. He is recognized as one of the solid conservative farmers of the Sedro-Woolley section of Skagit county and he enjoys the full confidence of his neighbors.

PLIN V. McFADDEN, farmer and stock raiser, residing a mile and a quarter east of Sedro-Woolley, is one of the Skagit county men who with their own hands have cleared their farms and turned the heavy forest into pleasant and profitable dwelling places. Mr. McFadden was born near New Philadelphia, Ohio, September 21, 1849, the son of Wilson McFadden, whose father was one of the pioneers of Guernsey county, later moving to Harrison county. Wilson McFadden was of Scotch-Irish descent and died in 1892 at the age of eighty-four. Mrs. Tilitha (English) McFadden was a native of Harrison county, descended from Pennsylvanians of Irish, Scotch and English extraction. Plin V. was next to the youngest of her ten children. Until fourteen years old he attended school in Ohio and worked on the farm, but in 1863 on his parents' removal to Iowa he accompanied them. A little later, when still a young boy, he enlisted in the Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry and in the closing days of the Civil War saw service in Arkansas. On his return to Iowa he operated a ferry near Ottumwa on the Des Moines river. He came to Skagit county, Washington, in 1885 and bought of Mortimer Cook his present farm. The place at that time was without improvement and the forest was so dense that his only glimpses of the sky were from directly overhead. Clearing the place was a great undertaking and at times Mr. McFadden was discouraged, but matters brightened as soon as he had cleared enough for a garden and had set out an orchard. When not engaged in clearing his place he worked in logging camps, returning home only at the end of the week. Those were trying days for Mrs. McFadden. Bears were plentiful and would come to the house, driving away the dogs and compelling the brave woman to bar doors and windows for her protection. In such times she had as companion in trouble her neighbor, Mrs. George Wicker, and the two managed to keep away the wild beasts.

September 22, 1872, while still living in Iowa, Mr. McFadden married Miss Olive A. Wicker, a native of Wapello county, and daughter of Andrew and Jenetta (Butin) Wicker. Her father, at different times, was merchant, bricklayer and farmer, and was one of the pioneers of Wapello county. Mr. and Mrs. McFadden have four living children: Lillie Pearl, Anna Belle, Edith C. and Cecil C., the last of whom was born in Washington. Mr. McFadden is a Democrat and an active worker in the party, attending primaries and conventions. He was a delegate to the first Democratic county convention after Skagit county was formed from a portion of Whatcom county. He has been a director of schools and is an ardent advocate of better education. As a farmer he has been successful. His live stock consists of cattle, hogs and sheep, the latter being of the Cotswold breed. He is experimenting with Angora goats, keeps bees and has

a good orchard. Mr. McFadden is highly thought of by his neighbors and is one of the leading men of the community.

JAMES M. HARRISON, dairy farmer, living two miles east of Sedro-Woolley, came to Skagit county, bought land, and with his own hands changed an uninviting tract into a modern, highly improved farm. He is a native of Harrison county, Ohio, born November 4, 1855, the son of John Harrison, who still is living on the old homestead, which was taken by his father, Joseph Harrison, in 1816. The Harrisons are of English parentage. Mrs. Euphemia (Patterson) Harrison, the mother of James M., was born in the same county and was a schoolmate of the lad who afterwards became her husband. She is of Scotch descent. She is still a resident of Ohio, the mother of twelve children, of whom eight are living, all in the East except the subject hereof. James M. Harrison lived on the farm and attended school, which included a short course in college, until eighteen years old, when he commenced to teach and he taught for five years, then he and his father built a drain and tiling factory on the home farm, which he operated eight years, after which he bought a half interest in his grandfather's place, but continued in the management of the factory, becoming an expert on the subject of drainage and kindred matters. In 1885 he delivered an address on this subject, which has been incorporated in the Ohio state history. Mr. Harrison spent the year 1887 in California with an invalid brother, and on his return sold his interests in Ohio, moving to Skagit county in the spring of 1889. He purchased the pre-emption claim of Mr. Moody of Mount Vernon, where he has since made his home. A cabin was the only evidence that the property had been located, though some timber had been removed. Mr. Harrison personally has done all the work of improvement on this place, which consists of one hundred and thirty-three acres, thirty of which are cleared and the rest in pasture. In 1892 he sold one hundred cords of shingle bolts and hauled them to Batey's mill.

In 1880, while yet living in the Buckeye state, Mr. Harrison married Miss Ora E. Holmes, daughter of George W. and Mary (Quiplever) Holmes, both natives of Pennsylvania of Dutch stock. Mrs. Harrison was born in 1859. She is the mother of three children: George H., Elmina and John. Mr. Harrison is a member of the Knights of Pythias and in politics is an influential member of the Republican party, attending primaries and conventions, and in 1901 representing his district in the lower house of the state legislature. He is deeply interested in schools, has been president of the public school board and a director of the district; also has spent some time organizing new school dis-

tricts. Besides his home place he has a farm on the Skagit river of nearly the same acreage. His cattle are of the roan Durham breed, good milkers and good for beef. He milks thirteen head and separates his cream at home. He also raises fine fruit of many varieties and has a large stand of bees which thrive well and produce highly in this county. In addition to his activity on the farm and in educational matters, Mr. Harrison keeps abreast of the times and is well informed. He is in demand in political campaigns, is an interesting and forceful speaker and has delivered addresses in nearly every school-house in the county. Mr. Harrison has large private interests, but finds much time to give to public affairs where his assistance is in great demand.

JOHN KELLEHER, a thrifty and industrious farmer, residing two and one-half miles northwest of Sedro-Woolley, was born in Killarney, Ireland, August 19, 1862, the son of Maurice and Julia (Crean) Kelleher, also natives of Ireland. The father, born in 1818, was a farmer in his native country till his death in 1881. The mother, emigrating to the United States after the death of her husband, died in 1902, after a lifetime of devotion to her family. She was the mother of twelve children. After acquiring his elementary education in the common schools of the country, John Kelleher studied for some time under a private instructor, thus enjoying unusual advantages. On coming with his mother to this country in 1881, after the death of his father, he located in Massachusetts, where he worked as helper in a blacksmith shop for four years. He then decided to investigate the superior advantages offered by the Northwest, so moved to Washington in 1885. He stopped a short time in Olympia and Tacoma, then came on to Mount Vernon, filing on a pre-emption claim on the Olympia marsh that fall. Three years later he took up his present property, then a wilderness, and he has made it his home for the past seventeen years. Toiling arduously year by year, he has cleared off eighty acres, but he has now sold off all of the homestead except fifty acres. No finer land can be found in the state than this portion of his ranch, which is peculiarly adapted to raising fruit and oats. His four-acre orchard yields the choicest varieties in the market. He has a splendid dairy and a number of horses. In political belief Mr. Kelleher advocates the single tax principle, adhering to no party. He is a hearty supporter of the Catholic church, to which he belongs. The Ancient Order of United Workmen claims him as a worthy member, and he is also identified with the Good Templar lodge. Being of a happy, genial disposition, he makes friends of all with whom he comes in contact, while his untiring energy and careful manage-

ment have made him one of the successful and well-to-do farmers of this locality.

HANS PETER SORENSEN is developing an excellent farm in an untraveled part of Skagit county, where he will own a handsome and valuable property when transportation comes. His place is eight miles east of Sedro-Woolley on the south side of the river, where cougar, bear and deer are found. Until a year ago he could come and go only by canoe and brought in his supplies in the same way. Now there is a road. Mr. Sorensen was born in Omaha, Nebraska, April 30, 1874, the son of Peter Sorensen, who was born in Denmark about sixty years ago, came to the United States when a young man and ultimately took up land where his son now is living. This was in 1880. He had been a tailor before coming to the West, and later he moved into Sedro-Woolley and re-entered the business. He now lives in Oakland, California. His wife, Mrs. Christina (Petersen) Sorensen, a native of Denmark, died in America in 1901, the mother of three children, of whom Mrs. Christina Johnson and Hans Peter Sorensen are living. The latter attended the schools of San Francisco until thirteen years old; also went to school in Skagit county after his parents came here. When he came there was no town of Woolley. The chief industry of the farm has been cattle raising and growing peas, hay and oats. Recently thirty-three head of cattle were sold at a good price.

In 1902 Mr. Sorensen married Miss Carolina B. Moe, a native of Norway, born at Trondhjem in 1883, and educated in the old country. Her parents, Ole and Beret (Einersen) Moe, were natives of Norway, the father a brickmason. Mr. and Mrs. Sorensen have two children, Harry, born May 21, 1903, and Nels, born March 20, 1905. In politics Mr. Sorensen is a Republican and generally is a delegate to conventions. He has served as justice of the peace for two years and had been on the school board several years prior to 1905, taking an active interest in the improvement of the schools of the neighborhood. The Sorensen place contains two hundred and twenty acres of unusually fertile land. Mr. Sorensen is a bright young man, certain that the future will make his place one of great value, hence quietly developing it and biding his time.

JAMES SCOTT, farmer and stockman, four and a half miles east of Sedro-Woolley, on the Lyman road, is one of the pioneers of that section of the county and has watched the development of the community from a forest land to a country of farms and homesteads. Mr. Scott was born in Ireland of Scotch parentage November 15, 1843. His

father, John Scott, was a native of Glasgow, Scotland, who moved to Ireland, and later, in 1844, came to the United States and settled in Pennsylvania. Mary Ann (Thompson) Scott was a native of Scotland and after marriage followed the fortunes of her husband, both dying in Pennsylvania. Nine children were born to them: Joseph, Mary Ann, John, Robert, Margaret, Jane, Nancy, James, Samuel and Thomas. James lived with his parents until he was twenty years of age and during the Civil War was employed by the government in the construction corps. At the close of the war he enlisted in the regular army and served a term of three years, seeing Indian fighting with the Sioux. On receiving his discharge he farmed in Dakota for a time and then passed the greater part of a year in California. Then followed work in a logging camp at Olympia, this state, and in 1875 he came to Skagit county and located on a place up the river near Hamilton. For a number of years he followed prospecting and mining, during which time he located some of the coal claims in the vicinity of Hamilton, but lost valuable property there through the rascality of his partner. In 1892 he returned to his homestead and lived there until he sold out in 1897 and purchased the place on which he is still living.

In politics Mr. Scott is a Socialist and in fraternal circles a member of the Knights of Pythias. He has 113 acres of land, forty of which are cleared. He has two horses and twenty-five head of stock cattle in addition to six milch cows. His cattle are of the Durham breed and one of his horses is descended from the famous Messenger. He is a well-to-do farmer who has prospered by conscientious work and upright dealings.

WOODBIDGE ODLIN, retired farmer and lawyer, two and a half miles west of Sedro-Woolley, has had a career of more than the usual activity and excitement and is now spending the evening of his life on a Skagit county farm. Mr. Odlin comes of a family which has a record for energy and public service, and his own life has shown him no unworthy member of that family. Mr. Odlin was born in Dayton, Ohio, in 1833, the son of Peter Odlin, a native of Trenton, New Jersey. The elder Odlin was prominent in legal and political circles in Ohio and was the law partner of Robert C. Schenck, at one time representative of the United States at the court of St. James. He served in the lower house and the senate of Ohio and was a member of one of the electoral colleges. For thirty-two years he was president of the bank at Dayton, now the Dayton National bank. His father, Peter, was a sea captain and owner of West India merchantmen which were impressed into the federal service during the War of 1812, he re-

ceiving pay for them. Mrs. Ann Maria (Ross) Odlin, mother of our subject, was a native of Philadelphia, to which city her mother had gone from her home in Washington, D. C., during the cholera epidemic of 1797. Her people came from the stock of the Perrys, of which Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, the hero of Lake Erie, was one. She died in 1812, the mother of nine children, of whom Woodbridge was the fifth in order and the oldest son. Young Odlin grew up in Dayton, attended the schools and graduated from Kenyon College at Gambier, Ohio, afterwards taking up the study of law. He went to Wabunsee county, Kansas, in 1856, when Kansas was a territory, and took up a claim a short distance west of the Pottawatomie Indian reservation. At the time of the breaking out of the Pottawatomie troubles and the Civil War, Mr. Odlin was in Junction City and received appointment as United States district attorney for six counties of Kansas. He had been prosecuting attorney for Wabunsee county for a term and a half prior to this. But when the war actually broke out Mr. Odlin enlisted in Company E of the Second Kansas Infantry, which was organized even before Lincoln's first call for troops. He was commissioned third lieutenant, but resigned to return to Kansas and raise a regiment, which he did, the Second Kansas Cavalry. He rose through successive promotions from private to captain. His service included the battle of Wilson's creek, where General Lyon was killed. At about this time, while carrying dispatches from General Lyon to Fort Leavenworth, Mr. Odlin was arrested as a spy by Price's men, taken to Independence and tried by a court-martial in the court-house, the finding being a sentence of death. Mr. Odlin pleaded for the three enlisted men with him and agreed to acknowledge his guilt if they were held as prisoners of war. The scaffold was built under the very window where the prisoner was confined. Owing to illness he was attended by a physician, and through him the prisoner got word to Fort Leavenworth of his predicament. He was rescued by Captain Sully and General Thayer on the morning of his intended execution. The soldiers entered Independence but two hours before high noon, the time set for his execution.

Mr. Odlin suffered cruelties and indignities at the hands of Price's men, being forced by punches in the back to stand by the window and watch the progress of the construction of the gallows upon which he was to be hanged. They even went so far as to suspend a sandbag, in effigy of a man, from the same rope which was to stretch his own neck in a few hours. After the death of General Lyon Mr. Odlin served as a scout under General Blunt. He participated in the battle of Prairie Grove, under that leader, a severe engagement, in which he was slightly wounded. He was sent at

one time to St. Louis in charge of military prisoners and improved this opportunity to visit his brother, James H. Odlin, a captain in charge of troops at Cairo, Illinois. Here he was made provost marshal of the district of Cairo under General Braman and while acting in this capacity secured thirty-two steamers which were used in conveying supplies to Sherman's army just prior to its march to the sea. In later years Mr. Odlin was in the secret service and he was finally mustered out at New Orleans in April, 1865. Shortly after his return from the south he went to Ohio, where he lived until he came to Skagit county in 1889, and located on his present place; here he has resided ever since.

In 1854 in Ohio Mr. Odlin married Miss Lizzie Thompson, a native of Preble county, Ohio, daughter of Andrew and Susan (Johnson) Thompson. The mother was a first cousin of President Andrew Johnson. Mrs. Odlin died in December, 1904, just after she had celebrated her golden wedding. She was the mother of three children: Mrs. Eleanor J. Pelham of Washington, D. C.; William T. Odlin, president of the Citizens' bank of Anacortes, and mayor of that city; and Harry N. Odlin, now residing in Vancouver, British Columbia. In fraternal circles Mr. Odlin is an Odd Fellow and a thirty-second degree Mason. He was born a Whig and raised a Republican and has not wavered in his party allegiance. Since the death of his wife he has retired to his farm and gives his attention to raising hogs and fine horses. Mr. Odlin has never drawn a pension and will not consent to accept anything along that line from the government. In his early days in this county he was more active than at present and served as road supervisor for a number of terms, traveling facilities when he first came not admitting of wagon traffic. Under his supervision the "Cook road," accredited with being a fine piece of work, was constructed; also the Odlin road, which is named for him. Mr. Odlin is highly esteemed by his neighbors, is an entertaining man, with a host of friends among his many acquaintances. During his sixteen years of residence in Skagit county he has been identified, directly or indirectly, with many of the steps taken in the course of its development and progress. Among business and professional men he has a wide acquaintance, and in these circles as elsewhere he is known as a man of superior intellectual attainments and generous public-spiritedness.

JOHN EGELKROUT, dairy farmer, two miles west of Sedro-Woolley, is one of the energetic young men of the central part of the county and a man who has made his way in the world with very little assistance from others. He educated himself for civil engineering, but relinquished that for the

life of a prosperous Skagit county agriculturist. Mr. Egelkrout was born in Germany, November 30, 1869, the son of Nicholas and Sophia (Hero) Egelkrout, neither of whom left their native land. He is one of two children, having a brother, George Egelkrout. As a lad he attended the common schools and the high school in Germany, intending to prepare himself for a career as civil engineer; but the death of his father spoiled his plans and he came to the United States and worked as a farmhand in Indiana for four years. With the money thus earned he took a course in school in Cincinnati and came to Washington in 1889. He went to Birdview and later took up a homestead on the Baker river. He worked in logging camps on the upper Skagit and at odd times improved his land. He had cleared fifteen acres when a portion of his land was included in the forest reserve. This fact and the isolation of his land determined him to sell out. Mr. Egelkrout then purchased his present place in the Lindsay tract in 1902. It was unimproved, but he has built a house and barns and converted the place into an attractive farmstead.

In 1891 Mr. Egelkrout married Miss Myrtle Reidhead, a native of Minnesota, born in 1882, the daughter of Pearl and Lydia Reidhead. Mrs. Reidhead makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Egelkrout. To this union have been born two children, Mildred and Alma. In fraternal circles Mr. Egelkrout is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In politics he is a Democrat. Mr. Egelkrout is one of the men who firmly believe in increasing the efficiency of the schools, and he works in their interests. His home farm consists of forty acres of land, which is chiefly devoted to dairying. His herd consists of six milch cows, and his dairy is modern in its equipment. He is a young man of high standing in the community and enjoys the best of repute among the men of the business and social life. Possessing the will to do and the ability to direct, he is making a success of the industries in which he is now engaged, and being a man of correct principles and strict integrity, he will ever command the respect which is now accorded him by all with whom he is associated.

GEORGE WHEELER, dairy farmer, two miles west of Sedro-Woolley, is one of the young farmers of the community who have made a recent start in farm life in Skagit county; but he is already recognized by those with whom he comes in contact as a man of integrity and sincerity of purpose, promising success as the years go by. Mr. Wheeler is a native of Pennsylvania, born October 9, 1870, of Yankee stock. His father, Cyrenius Wheeler, is living in the vicinity of Sedro-Woolley, but the mother, Mrs. Abigail (Bragg) Wheeler, died in 1900. Mr. Wheeler is one of seven children. His

parents moved to Minnesota when he was a year old and he grew up there and received his education in the common schools. At eighteen years of age he started for himself, working on farms for several years and then buying a place in Wadena county. He remained there until 1898, when he sold out and came to Bellingham. He lived in the Whatcom county city for two years, working at various lines of occupation. He then came to Skagit county, went to the Baker river and engaged in the shingle bolt camps for a time. Then in company with his brother-in-law, John Egelkrout, he bought eighty acres of land a short distance west of Sedro-Woolley and has lived there ever since.

July 4, 1893, Mr. Wheeler married Miss Alma Reidhead, who was born in Minnesota in 1876, the daughter of Pearl and Lydia Reidhead. Of this union have been born two children: Pearl, born November 5, 1897, and Ruby, born July 8, 1905. In church affiliation Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler attend the Methodist Episcopal. In politics he is a Republican and is now serving as clerk of the school board. In his dairy business Mr. Wheeler has seven cows and separates the cream before putting it on the market. He is a young man who is just getting well started in Skagit county and enjoys the respect and well wishes of all who know him, a man of energy and definite purpose in life, possessing those qualities of mind and heart which ultimately lead to success. He believes in the future of his home county, takes an interest in educational matters and in general progressive movements, and must of necessity become a man of influence in the councils of his fellow-citizens.

SIGURD IVARSON, farmer and ferryman, five miles east of Sedro-Woolley, is one of the popular Scandinavian-American citizens of Skagit county, who is much respected by those who meet him and are acquainted intimately with him. Mr. Ivarson was born in Norway August 18, 1859, the son of Ivar and Ragnild (Quiten) Ivarson, natives of the land of fjords, who never left their native shores. They were the parents of two children besides Sigurd, Mrs. Carrie Hanson and Ivar Ivarson. Sigurd lived with his parents and attended school in boyhood, but when twenty-one years of age came to the United States and located in Wisconsin. He worked in the logging camps, in the saw-mills and on the railroads from 1882 to 1885, moving to Skagit county, Washington, in the last named year. He located on a farm two and a half miles east of Sedro-Woolley on the river and remained there until 1900, when he came to his present place of ten acres and engaged to operate Anderson's ferry. Mr. Ivarson's later years have been much clouded by the death of his brother by drowning in the river in 1889. The brother had come to the United States

seven years prior to Sigurd's arrival and the two had come to Skagit county and had been inseparable. In politics Mr. Ivarson is a Democrat and in church adherence a Lutheran. He owns ten acres of land, three of which are cleared, and he makes his home there. This little farm and the revenue received from the county for operating the ferry together give Mr. Ivarson a very good living. He is pleasant and genial, a faithful soul and to those who gain his confidence reveals himself as a worthy man. A reliable and esteemed citizen of his locality, he is entitled to honorable mention in the history of his home county.

DAVID ROSS, residing one mile west of town, is one of Sedro-Woolley's prosperous farmers who is making a success of life. He was born March 18, 1847, in Rosshire, Scotland, which also was the birthplace of his parents, Alexander and Christina (Ross) Ross. The father, all his life, was an agriculturist in his native land. Both died at their old home, he ten years ago and she in 1900. Young David Ross remained at home for the first twenty-four years of his life, acquiring an education in the schools of Scotland. In 1872 he came to San Francisco, where he made his headquarters for fourteen years, during which time he followed various pursuits. He worked in a wood and coal yard for six months, was employed in a saw-mill, then on a farm in the San Jose valley. He managed a farm for three years in San Rafael, then returned to San Francisco and with his brother purchased a wood and coal yard which they owned four years. He bought a hay press and for two seasons furnished baled hay under contract. He took advantage of numerous opportunities in California, then in 1884 came to Skamania county, Washington, and took a homestead which he occupied for six years and partially cleared. In May, 1891, he bought a few acres of land in Lyman, Skagit county, which he farmed with his brother. Later he came to Sedro-Woolley and purchased his present fine property, which consists of forty acres with a splendid orchard of 700 trees; also rented the adjoining place of 160 acres. He still holds his homestead, but has disposed of his Lyman property.

Mr. Ross and Miss Hannah Anderson were united in marriage October 2, 1886. Mrs. Ross was born in Sweden January 16, 1849, the daughter of Andrew and Hannah (Jones) Johnson, both natives of Sweden. Her father was born and has lived all his life in South Rarum, where he has been a farmer and a packer of fish and meat. The mother, born in 1827, three years before the father, died in her native land in 1890, leaving six children, of whom Mrs. Ross is the oldest. Mr. Ross is a popular member of the Odd Fellows' lodge and is a member of the Presbyterian church, while Mrs.

Ross is a Lutheran. He is a Republican, but never has sought office at the hands of his party. He is a holder of considerable property and is making a specialty of dairying, having thirty-five head of Durham stock, besides horses, Berkshire hogs, and other high grade live stock. He is a man of upright character, thrifty and industrious, who is achieving a large measure of success, and at the same time is enjoying the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens.

WILLIAM O. GREGORY, the genial postmaster and merchant of Burlington, was born December 24, 1844, in Portage county, Ohio, fifty-five miles east of Cleveland, which was also the birthplace of his father, William Gregory, an engineer, who died in Michigan in 1880. His mother, Mary L. (White) Gregory, was a native of Ohio, and died in Michigan in 1846. Left motherless at the age of two, William O. Gregory was adopted by a family in Michigan with whom he lived until he was seventeen, then started out for himself as a railroad employee. Of a mechanical turn of mind, he was able after two years service with the railroad to acceptably fill the position of engineer in a saw-mill, and he followed the lumber business for twenty years. Leaving Michigan, the state that had been his home for so many years, he came to what is now Burlington, then only a tiny hamlet consisting of a few rude shacks, a hotel, store and a shed used for a depot. He found employment as engineer in the shingle mill of Larson and Luddington for the first two years and a half; then served as mail carrier for four years. He received the appointment of postmaster at the end of that time, which public position he still fills with eminent satisfaction. Having met the losses incident to most business careers, Mr. Gregory has not always known the prosperity that is his to-day. He now owns five lots and a neat, commodious house.

Mr. Gregory was married in August, 1865, to Fannie Ledwill, a native of Ohio. Her father was Robert Ledwill, born in Ireland. Coming to this country in early life, he settled in Ohio, there engaged in farming till the time of his death, some sixteen years ago. Her mother is Rachel (Wilcox) Ledwill, born in New York. Mr. and Mrs. Gregory have one child, Mrs. Emma Read, of Burlington. Mr. Gregory is past grand of the Odd Fellows order, of which he is an active and prominent member. Mr. and Mrs. Gregory are actively identified with the Congregational church, while she is one of the moving spirits in the Rebekahs. Politically Mr. Gregory is a staunch Republican, but, with that commendable spirit which so generally characterizes the American citizen, his zeal is tempered with moderation and fairness toward his neighbor of opposing views. Ever a firm believer

in educational progress, he was for six years connected with the school directorate of his community, in which capacity, as in his entire connection with the community, he has contended for advancement, and is justly esteemed one of the worthy citizens of Burlington.

JESS H. KNUTZEN, the prominent merchant, farmer and creamery man of Burlington, was born in 1850, in Schleswig, Germany, the birthplace of his parents, Hans C. and Annie (Peterson) Knutzen. His father, a manufacturer of brick, was born in 1807, and continued to reside in the old country until his death in 1884. His mother was born in 1816, and after a lifetime of devotion to husband and family of seven children, died in 1886. Leaving home at the age of fifteen to become a sailor, Jesse H. Knutzen spent seven years on the sea, receiving frequent promotions until he was at last captain of the vessel. He then decided to find a home in the United States, and came first to Chicago, where he worked at whatever he could find to do for the first year, then went to Buena Vista county, Iowa. Employed on a farm the first year, he then purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he farmed for twelve years. During that time he became the owner of a second farm comprising one hundred and twenty acres. Disposing of all his property, he came to Washington in 1891, first settling in Fidalgo, and later on Olympia Marsh, there renting a farm. The first season he put in twenty-five acres of oats, increasing the acreage to one hundred and fifty the second year. The first two years the crop was a partial failure owing to its tardy maturity and the frequent rains. The third year he rented another farm, of one hundred and sixty acres, entirely covered with brush. Purchasing a mowing machine, which he used to cut down the brush, he cleared the entire farm in the course of a year. In the fall of 1895 his barn, containing five head of horses and one cow, was destroyed by fire, also five thousand sacks of grain just thrashed. The flood of the following year, so well remembered by the inhabitants of that part of the state, caused him the loss of three thousand sacks of grain. Meeting this accumulation of reverses with the uncomplaining fortitude so characteristic of the man, Mr. Knutzen toiled on, and in 1898 bought one hundred and sixty acres. Two years later he opened a creamery on Olympia Marsh, which was destroyed by fire July 24, 1905. He opened his present store in 1901.

In 1873 Mr. Knutzen and Mattie Hanson were united in marriage at the old home, where both had been born. Her parents were Hans F. and Annie K. Peterson, also natives of Schleswig, Germany. The father, born in 1809, died in 1851. The date of the mother's birth was 1811, that of her death

1883. Mr. and Mrs. Knutzen have seven children, as follows: Chris, born in 1871; Hans F., born in 1875; Alfred P., born in 1876; William G., born in 1878; George F., born in 1880; Edward H., born in 1882, and Harry S., born in 1887, all of them claiming Iowa as their native state. The youngest son, a graduate of Anacortes Business college, is now in the postoffice at Burlington. Mr. Knutzen is a loyal member of the Republican party. For five years he was dike commissioner, an office which he filled with great credit to himself. He has also given his services to the educational matters of the community, serving for some time on the school board. He and his family attend the Lutheran church. The entire family being interested in the business, Mr. Knutzen and his sons farm one thousand acres, six hundred devoted to oats, the remainder to hay. They have an immense dairy, consisting of two hundred head of cattle, owning also thirty draft horses, forty sheep and one hundred Poland-China hogs. Mr. Knutzen owns the store, creamery and three hundred and twenty acres of land, which yield him a large annual income. A successful agriculturist, a capable and honorable business man, Mr. Knutzen holds an enviable position in the community.

WILLIAM HURLEY. Among the successful shingle manufacturers of Skagit county is the well known Burlington citizen whose name gives title to this biographical record. For twelve years past he has been identified in various capacities with the shingle industry of this section of Puget sound and for nearly fifteen years he has resided in Skagit county and partaken in its general development. Under the firm name of Hurley, Marshall & Ritchford, he and his associates are now operating a well-equipped mill of medium capacity, having leased, on January 1, 1905, the plant of the Sterling Mill Company, situated on the Skagit river three miles above Burlington.

Mr. Hurley is a native of Illinois, born at Havana, October 6, 1857, and comes of good old pioneer American stock. Originally his people came to America from Ireland and England. John Hurley, the father of William, was born in New Jersey in 1822. When a young man he sought a home in the newly opened country beyond the Alleghanies, settling on the frontier of Illinois and engaging in farming. At the advanced age of eighty-four he is still living in that state. Julia (Baldwin) Hurley, his wife, was one of Ohio's pioneer daughters, Cleveland having been her birthplace. She passed away in 1889 at an advanced age. To this union eight children were born, of whom William Hurley, of this review, is the fourth child. Until he was twenty-eight years old he resided with his parents, assisting his father on the farm and in a business

way, after finishing his education in the public schools of the district. He then leased a place and operated it four years, selling out in 1889 to go west as his father had done half a century earlier. While living in Illinois he had learned mechanical engineering, so when he reached Jackson County, Oregon, on the very shores of the Pacific, he took up this trade as an occupation and during the next two years was thus engaged in southern Oregon. Believing the Puget sound offered greater opportunities than Oregon, however, in 1891, he came north to Skagit county, settling first at La Conner, where he pursued his trade three years. He became a resident of the little village of Burlington in 1894, while it was only a junction point, hardly more than a hamlet, and with the exception of a few months spent in Santa Rosa, California, in 1897, has lived there ever since. With characteristic public spirit and energy, he early became prominent in the community and when Burlington was organized as a city he was selected as one of its first councilmen. In a modest though forceful way Mr. Hurley has continued his public activities for the betterment and development of his home city with profit to his fellow citizens. His home is one of the coziest and most hospitable in Burlington, around which has grown a wide circle of acquaintances and loyal friends. From 1894 until the organization of the present firm, Mr. Hurley was connected with the Sterling Mill Company, principally as engineer, excepting during his absence in the South. In political matters he is affiliated with the Democratic party, though a man of liberal views on all subjects, who believes first of all in good government by competent, honest men.

Miss Lizzie Shampaugh, a native of Illinois, too, was united in marriage to Mr. Hurley in 1886, while residing in Kansas. Her father and mother, both of whom died many years ago, were pioneers of Illinois and descended from American forbears. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hurley, all of whom are at home: Uquinna, born September 14, 1887, employed at present in the Skagit State bank at Burlington; Cline W., Nellie B. and Wil-lard.

ORSON PEASE, hotel proprietor, is one of the old settlers of Burlington, where he has lived and prospered for fifteen years. Webster Pease, his father, was born in New York in 1810 and moved to Illinois in early life, crossing in 1845 into Iowa, where he secured deeded government land which was sixty miles from the nearest postoffice. Orson Pease's mother was Lucy (Older) Pease, born in Connecticut in 1818. She was the mother of eight children, Orson being third and one of a pair of twins. He was born in Illinois May 14, 1848. He lived at home until twenty-six, when he married and

leased an Iowa farm, living in different parts of the Hawkeye state until 1890, when he came to Burlington and erected the first dwelling in the town. It was a logging camp and its only building was occupied by a saloon. The Great Northern railroad was clearing its right of way. Mr. Pease has some interesting reminiscences of those early days. The smallest coin used was the twenty-five cent piece, called "two-bits." On his arrival he was asked to do some work and was greatly surprised at an offer of two dollars and a half a day and board; he had been accustomed to seventy-five cents in Iowa. At one time he worked as a butcher for McKay & Millet. They would kill a steer wherever they found him and haul him into camp on a skid, selling chunks of the carcass cut out of the hide to customers along the trail. The skid road was the best highway in those days. Wild blackberries were plentiful, but the picker had to carry his gun, for there was "a bear in every clump of berry bushes."

While living in Iowa, Mr. Pease, in 1874, married Miss Caroline Beaver, who was born in Wisconsin in 1856. She died in 1882, the mother of four children: Henry, born in 1875, now a resident of Burlington; Erve, born in 1877, now living at Friday Harbor; Myrtie, born in 1879, who died when twelve years old, and Clair, born in 1881, now living in North Dakota. In 1890 Mr. Pease married Miss M. E. Thomas, daughter of Daniel Thomas, a native of Ohio who moved to Iowa and late in life came to Burlington, where he died in 1901. Mrs. Pease's mother was Philena (Foote) Thomas, born in Ohio in 1839, now spending the evening of her life in Burlington. Mrs. Pease is one of twelve children. Of this second marriage there have been born three children, Roy, Mossey and Fay, the second dying when five years old. Mr. and Mrs. Pease are Mac-cabees and he is a member of the Masonic order. The family attends the Baptist church. In politics Mr. Pease is an active Republican. For six years he filled the difficult position of road supervisor to the satisfaction of his neighbors and later was a member of the city council for two terms. He owns his hotel and twenty city lots. Mr. Pease's integrity has made him popular among the citizens of Burlington, who are glad to have his wise counsel in the city government.

ALBERT LUNDIN, one of the successful hotel men of Burlington, was born at Stromsholm, Sweden, in October, 1849, and first came to Skagit county in 1883. His father, Lars Erick Lundin, was in the government employ as an expert in stock raising, his special study being horses. He died at his Stromsholm home, just outside of Stockholm, in 1860. Five children were born to Lars and Anna Lundin, all now deceased except Albert and his

brother Carl, who is gardener at the Swedish capital. As a lad young Lundin attended the common schools and assisted at gardening, later following the occupation of coachman. He came to the United States in 1869, reaching Chicago in June. He had not expected to remain in this country, but receiving an offer of employment he engaged to the McCormick implement house and continued there for several years, later entering a grocery for two years until 1874, when he went to Michigan and followed lumbering for nine years. His last engagement there was with Saling, Hanson & Co., of Greeling, by whom he was sent to the Puget sound country to cruise timber. Following that year he alternately cruised and drove logs on the Skagit river, settling down in Mount Vernon. In 1890 he moved to Burlington, built his present home and entered upon his career as hotel keeper. Two years from 1898 to 1900 were spent at prospecting and mining ventures at Dawson and Nome, Alaska. Some of his claims were good, but on the whole his Alaskan experiences netted him but little.

In 1888 Mr. Lundin married Miss Anna Beckman, a Swedish girl who came to this country two years before, and who has three sisters here, Mrs. Charlotte Wilson, Mrs. Alma Bramm and Mrs. Clara Peterson. Mr. and Mrs. Lundin have one child, Carl Gustav Albert Lundin, born March 8, 1889. Mr. Lundin is a member of the Mount Vernon lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In politics he is an active Republican, not seeking office but doing work in the interest of his party at caucus, primary and convention. Mr. Lundin is an ardent exponent of the view that the school system cannot be too good or too effective, and his service as a member of the school directorate is but one instance of his earnestness in this matter. Mr. Lundin's real estate holdings consist of a half block, which includes his hotel property.

OLE JOHNSON. It is a noticeable fact that many of the most successful farmers of the Northwest are natives of the Scandinavian peninsula, as is he whose name forms the caption of this biography. Born in Norway April 15, 1858, his parents were John and Josie (Ingobar) Johnson, born like their ancestors for generations, in Norway. The father died there in 1902, the mother in 1890. Starting out for himself at the age of fourteen, Ole Johnson spent three years on a farm, acquiring the practical knowledge that was to prove so valuable in later life. Many of his countrymen having found homes in the United States, he decided to seek his fortune here also, coming to Wisconsin when seventeen years old. Working in the woods as teamster for the first three years, he then went to Seattle, locating in La Conner five months later. He

rented sixty acres of land, farming it for five years, then rented a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. Three years later, having met with success in his previous business ventures, and having found that he could handle still a larger acreage, he rented three hundred and twenty acres for four years. Prior to this, however, he had invested in sixty acres on Beaver Marsh, which he made his home at the expiration of the four year lease, renting one hundred and sixty acres adjoining his farm. At the end of the fifth year, he moved to his present home, situated just north of Burlington, renting three hundred and twenty acres.

Mr. Johnson was married December 28, 1890, to Hannah Erickson, who made the trip from her native land, Sweden, to the state of Washington, entirely alone, in the year 1888. Her father, Erick Erickson, came to Washington in 1893, locating in La Conner, this being his home at the time of his death in 1901. His wife still resides here. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson's children are as follows: Minnie, Alma, Axel, Hulda, Olga, Eveline, and an infant son, who died July, 1905. Mr. Johnson is an honored member of the American Order of United Workmen. In political belief he is a Republican. Always interested in educational matters, he served one year on the school board. Mr. Johnson is a thoroughly practical farmer, giving personal attention to the details of the work on his extensive farm. He is thus able to secure much larger returns than would be possible were the responsibility delegated to others less familiar with the duties, or less conscientious in the performance of them. He has now two hundred and twenty-five acres in grain and pasture. His splendid dairy of one hundred Durham cows yields a substantial yearly income. His farm is also stocked with draft horses, Berkshire hogs and fine poultry. He raises only the best stock, believing that to be the only kind that it is profitable to keep. It must be gratifying to Mr. Johnson to sometimes remember that he has secured his present business standing wholly by his own efforts, and that, too, in the face of heavy losses. The flood of 1894, remembered by many residents of La Conner, swept over his farm, devastating the one hundred and eighty acre oat field that he had just seeded and the hay fields upon which he was dependent for the winter's supply of hay, causing a loss of more than a thousand dollars. Redoubling his energies in the succeeding years, he is now enjoying the reward of his earnest efforts. A man of strict integrity, and noble impulses, he commands the respect of all who are associated with him either in a social or business way.

T. NELSON OVENELL, the well known and prosperous farmer residing just at the edge of Burlington, was born on Whidby island August 25, 1861, the son of the distinguished pioneers, Thomas

P. and Nancy Adelaide (Miller) Ovenell. The father was born in England in 1835, and came to Whidby island, Washington, in 1858. His death occurred in California. The mother, born in Connecticut in 1838, came with her parents to Whidby island when fifteen years of age, the trip from New York to San Francisco via Cape Horn occupying six months and ten days. There were only a few other white families on the island at that time. When fifteen years old, his parents having moved to La Conner, T. Nelson Ovenell did a large share of the farm work, being able to assume the entire charge of the farm at the time his step-father, Joseph S. Kelly, was drowned, five years later. Three years afterwards he purchased a seventy-five acre farm at Stanwood, living there for several years. He then sold it, and leased the adjoining property. In 1889 he located in Avon, he and A. D. Fraser purchasing together a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in the vicinity of Burlington. In 1904 the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Ovenell has since farmed his eighty acres alone.

On June 2, 1890, Mr. Ovenell and Hattie Callahan were united in marriage. Born in Aurora, Indiana, Mrs. Ovenell came with her parents to La Conner in 1876. Her father, James Callahan, was born in Limerick, Ireland, and was brought by his parents to Indiana when a child. He later came to Washington, and now lives at Fredonia. Her mother, Harriet E. (Ball) Callahan, is a native of Ohio, born in Harrison county. She is the mother of nine children, Mrs. Ovenell being the second. Mr. and Mrs. Ovenell have four children, Bertha E., born May 15, 1891; James T., born February 21, 1893; Albert R., born April 18, 1898; George E., born April 4, 1900. Mr. Ovenell is a prominent member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He loyally adheres to Republican principles. The members of the family are regular attendants of the Catholic church. Identified for so many years with this state, Mr. Ovenell has had an opportunity of observing some remarkable fluctuations in real estate values. When he located in La Conner there were no roads, the only way of traveling being by boat. Land which to-day cannot be purchased for less than one hundred dollars per acre could not then be sold at any price. Believing in the future of Avon, he bought his farms, and the years 1891-2 demonstrated the wisdom of his course, for he could then have sold his lands for thirty thousand dollars. The three succeeding years witnessed hard times and a surprising depreciation in real estate, and he, like many others, was forced to dispose of a portion of his land to save the remainder. The prices have again changed, however, and the land is once more steadily rising in valuation; in the meantime it is yielding him a fine yearly income. Being known throughout the community as a man of industry,

skill and strict integrity, Mr. Ovenell has a host of warm personal friends.

MRS. NANCY A. KELLY, daughter of pioneers and herself one of the early settlers in Skagit county, is a native of Connecticut, born March 18, 1838. Her parents, Caleb and Esther M. (Pierce) Miller, both born in Massachusetts, made the trip from New York to San Francisco via Cape Horn in 1853, the journey occupying six months and ten days. After a three weeks' visit in San Francisco, they came to Whidby island, arriving January 2, 1854. Here they were met by two sons, who had preceded them to the sound country. There were then only a few white families on the island, their other neighbors being Indians whose language was utterly unintelligible to them. They were forced to learn Chinook in order to be able to make themselves understood. The dauntless courage of the pioneer father has been the theme of many a song and story, but fewer pens have written the equal bravery of the pioneer mother. Left alone while the husband and father toiled in the dense forests to make a clearing, often with a family of little ones around her, she must learn to still the wild beatings of her heart when dusky faces presented themselves at her door, or entered, uninvited, the little home. Self-reliant, resourceful and cheerful must she be when illness threatened the little circle, for many miles intervened between herself and the nearest physician. She might not even anticipate the visit of a kind, sympathetic neighbor, ready with helpful suggestions. Small wonder that such an ancestry produced a character so worthy of emulation as that of the one whose biography we are privileged to chronicle. Living with her parents till her marriage to Thomas P. Ovenell in 1860, Mrs. Kelly became familiar with all the dangers and difficulties incident to pioneer life. She was divorced from Ovenell in 1864, was married to Joseph S. Kelly in 1865, and in 1867 went with her husband to White river, returning to Whidby island six months later. They remained on the island till 1876, when they moved to the Swinomish flats. He farmed there till October, 1882, when he was drowned in the Swinomish slough. Upon his death Mrs. Kelly's son, T. N. Ovenell, rented the farm and also managed her affairs when she moved to Stanwood. Five years later she came to Avon, purchasing her present property, located one-fourth of a mile from the city, and consisting of thirty acres partially cleared. She is also interested in Avon city property, owning two blocks. Mrs. Kelly has one daughter, Mrs. Ella R. Larrison, of Preston, California. Her husband, Mr. Kelly, was a native of England, born in Whitehaven in 1839. His death occurred at La Conner in 1882. He was a Mason and member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Mrs. Kelly is a



MRS. NANCY A. KELLEY



FREDERICK KALSO



MRS. FREDERICK KALSO



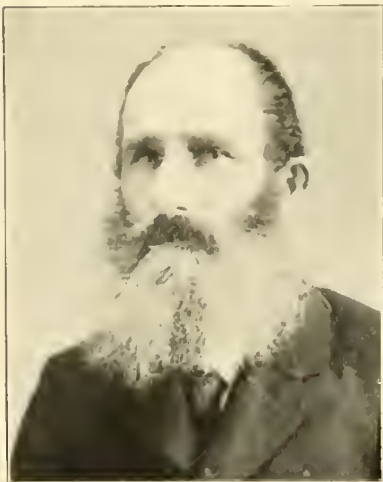
OLE J. BORSETH



MRS. OLE J. BORSETH



JOHN B. GATES



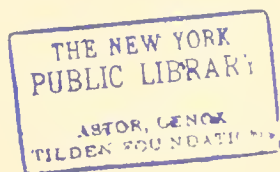
FRANKLIN BUCK



GEORGE J. HANSON



MRS. GEORGE J. HANSON



prominent member of the Episcopal church. A capable, energetic woman, possessed of peculiar gifts and graces, she is one of the best-known residents of Skagit county.

OTTO KALSO, a leading farmer of the Bay View district and a man who has won the respect and esteem of all because of his sterling qualities, is a native of Wisconsin, born in 1856. His father, Frederick Kalso, was born in Germany and spent his early manhood there, working on the farm, learning the trade of shoemaking and attending the German schools, but when still quite young he set sail for the new world. Settling in Iowa county, Wisconsin, he commenced business there as a shoemaker, from which peaceful occupation he was summoned to participation in the stirring events of the Civil War. He had objected to military service in his native land, feeling it an injustice that he should be required to spend some of the best years of his life in the army to help maintain the peace of Europe, but when needed to support a cause he considered just he was quick to respond. Answering the first call of President Lincoln upon the people of Wisconsin, he enlisted in Company G of the twenty-seventh regiment, and thereafter until the close of hostilities he followed the flag wherever it might lead. The war over, he took a homestead in Iowa, and for the ensuing eleven years he was numbered among the agriculturists of that state, but in 1877 he came to Washington. He lived in Blaine, Whatcom county, for a brief period of time, then came to the Swinomish flats country, purchased a tract of eighty-five acres a mile and a quarter south of Bay View and identified himself permanently with the agricultural industry in Skagit county. His original home in the vicinity of Bay View is still his place of abode, and in April of the current year he celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his wedding. Though now far on in life's journey he is hale, hearty, active and keenly alive to all that is going on around him. None enjoys, in a fuller measure, the confidence and good will of the people of his neighborhood. The mother of our subject, Henrietta (Hintz) Kalso, was also a native of Germany and was educated there. She was the parent of nine children, four of whom are still living, namely, Otto, Fred, Mrs. Emma Hoppner and Mrs. Minnie Crumrine.

Otto Kalso, of this article, though born in Wisconsin as before stated, received his education in the public schools of Iowa. He has always remained with his parents, never marrying, and at present he resides with his father and brother Fred in the pleasant family home near Bay View. He has, however, accumulated property interests independent of this home and in which no other person has any share; indeed his separate estate includes some

of the finest land in an exceedingly rich country, the site of Whitney station being his. For a number of years after purchasing this tract in 1883 he cultivated it himself, but recently he has been leasing it to other farmers. It contains two hundred and twenty acres. Mr. Kalso belongs to the Lutheran church and in political faith is a Republican. His influence in the community is always on the side of progressiveness, good government and social good order, and his industry, force and business ability make him a potential factor in the industrial life of his community and county.

FRED KALSO. Among the young men who are carrying forward with efficiency and success the work so well begun by their pioneer fathers in Skagit county is Fred Kalso, who, though born in Iowa, is to all intents and purposes a son of the West, having accompanied his parents to Washington when only four years old, and having acquired his education in the schools of this state. He is a brother of Otto, and a son of Frederick and Henrietta (Hintz) Kalso, to whom more extended reference has been made elsewhere in this volume. Like his older brother he has always made his home with his father, but his agricultural operations extend beyond the bounds of the parental farm, and at present he is cultivating some two hundred acres of rich Skagit county land. Ever since his twenty-second year he has been in full charge of the home place. His intimate knowledge of the peculiarities of Skagit county marsh land, gained by concentrating the efforts of a lifetime to the mastery of this species of farming, and his natural industry, steadiness and business ability have enabled him to achieve an excellent success as an agriculturist. Born in 1873, he is still a young man, yet he already has a start in life such as many have striven in vain for years to secure, and a standing among agriculturists that many nearly twice his age might envy.

In 1896, at Padilla, Washington, Mr. Kalso married Miss Elizabeth Jenne, whose father, George Jenne, was a successful farmer on the Swinomish flats until his death in the year 1902. Though born on Whidby island, Mrs. Kalso, like her husband, acquired her education in the public schools of Skagit county. She and Mr. Kalso have two children, Melvin, born in 1897, and Willie, born in 1898. In politics Mr. Kalso is a Republican, somewhat active in the work of his party but not ambitious for personal preferment, though he is serving at present as dike commissioner.

OLE J. BORSETTI, of Fir, is one of the solid, substantial business men of south Skagit county, who since coming here in 1882 has accumulated considerable of this world's goods in Skagit real estate

operations and in other fortunate and well considered investments. Nominally, Mr. Borseth is a farmer at Fir, but his holdings there represent but a small part of his estimated wealth. He was born in Christiansund, Norway, on May 7, 1857, the son of Johan J. and Marit (Jordal) Borseth, who died in their native land, the former in 1882, aged sixty-seven, and the latter in 1873, aged fifty-three. Four children survive, the subject of this sketch and Marit, both in the United States, and Magnhild and Brit, both in Norway. Ole Borseth lived at home and attended school until he was sixteen years old. He entered the military college at Christiania at the age of twenty-one and at the close of a three years' course he left the army, coming to the United States in 1882, settling in Michigan. He remained there for seven months, working in lumber camps, and then came to Fir and worked in a logging camp for six years. He was of a speculative turn of mind and determined on dealing in real estate. He platted land at the town site of Woolley and dealt in land in a very successful manner. In 1890 Mr. Borseth spent three months in his old home in Norway and on his return bought a store at Fir, which he conducted with marked success until in 1902 he sold his stock and leased the store to C. F. Treat. While running the store he continued dealing in real estate at Sedro-Woolley and investing his capital judiciously. Early in 1905 he sold out all his real estate holdings except twenty-five acres, which he still retains as a farm and home place.

In 1891 Mr. Borseth married Miss Dordi Furseth, a native of Christiansund, Norway, born February 18, 1867. Her parents, Ole and Brit (Oien) Furseth, yet reside on their old Norwegian homestead. Mrs. Borseth remained with her parents until 1890, when she came to the United States with Mr. Borseth on his return to Skagit county, and they were united in marriage at Fir. Of this union there are eight children, John Daniel, Bertha Malinda, Mabel Gudrun, Ole Alfred, Marit Sigfrid, Nils Bernhard, Clara Dortha and Gladys Olina. In fraternal circles Mr. Borseth is an Odd Fellow, being now a past grand. The family attends the Lutheran church. While Mr. Borseth has been unusually successful in his speculative ventures and has built up quite a fortune, he is the last man to boast of his achievements or make unusual display of the same. On his twenty-five acre home he has a good dwelling, furnished in a comfortable manner and with every convenience afforded. Among his investments in recent years are three hundred and twenty acres of timber land in Oregon. If Mr. Borseth has a hobby it may be said to be the advancement of the effectiveness of the schools. He has served as school director, giving his time and energy to increase their efficiency. He was largely instrumental in having his home school at Fir graded and placed on its present footing in the schools of the

county. Mr. Borseth is a quiet and unassuming man, though one of great energy and accomplishment, and is recognized as one of the leading factors for progress and advancement in the community.

JOHN B. GATES. Much that recalls times of trouble for the American Union is suggested by the life of the late John B. Gates, one of the pioneers of Skagit county and Whidby island, who died January 12, 1905, after a career full of years of activity and of good deeds. At the time of his death Mr. Gates resided on the place he had cleared of the virgin forest and that is now the home of his widow and those of his children who still surround her. Mr. Gates was a native of Missouri, born in Pike county on October 6, 1831. His father was Abel Gates, a native of Massachusetts and a son of Colonel Gates of Revolutionary fame. It was in the schools of Missouri that John B. Gates gained his education, and it was there also that he imbibed the spirit of loyalty to the cause of the Southern states in their great conflict with the American Union. The year 1862 found him enlisted in the Confederate army, in which he served throughout the war, rising to a sergeancy in his company.

At the close of the conflict he returned to his native state, bringing with him a bride of South Carolina, Sarah Turner, whom he had married at Hamburg in the Palmetto state in the closing days of the Lost Cause. Mr. and Mrs. Gates resided in Missouri until 1871, when they came to Washington and took up a homestead near Mount Vernon, the place now sheltering Mrs. Gates and on which she has had many unusual experiences incident to pioneer life in a new country. For five years much of Mr. Gates' time was spent on Whidby island, working for others, but during that time he cleared twenty-three acres and commenced the orchard and meadow land home which was his until death. Robert Turner, the father of Mrs. Gates, was a native of Dublin, Ireland, coming to the United States with his parents when eighteen years of age. The Turners settled in Edgefield county, South Carolina, and resided there until their death. At the outbreak of the Civil war Mr. Turner cast his fortunes with those of the Confederacy and during the engagement resulting in the fall of Fort Sumter received a wound from the effects of which he died. Mrs. Turner, the mother of Mrs. Gates, was a native of Wales, but came to South Carolina with her parents when a child. Mrs. Gates was born in South Carolina and received her education there. She was twenty-four years of age when she married. To the union ten children were born: John, Robert, Edwin, Lamora, Adaline and Dortha, all deceased; David and Henry A., at home, and two married daughters, Mrs. Mary L. Moore and Lillian M. Slosson, having homes, respectively, near Mount

Vernon and on Whidby island. The family generally are Methodists, though David has embraced the Catholic faith. John B. Gates' widow is still living on the land which her husband wrested from its native state to become one of the farm homes of the Puget sound country. She vividly remembers her early days on that ground, the woods alive with wild beasts, and recalls with distinctness the circumstances under which many of her domestic animals were carried off under her very eyes by the bears. She has lived to see the wilderness of trees turned into human habitations, the wild creatures disappear, and to note the work done by herself and her husband in effecting the transformation from forest to family fireside.

FRANKLIN BUCK transplanted to the shores of Puget sound the traditions of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and the hardihood which is given the Pennsylvania Dutch. His present home is three miles southwest of Mount Vernon, where he has developed from a homestead a fine farm of more than half a hundred acres. Mr. Buck was born in the Keystone state on September 5, 1837, his father being Henry Buck, son of the Buck of Pennsylvania who in the years of the American Revolution gave his name to the famous county. Judice (Weitel) Buck, the mother of the subject of this sketch, was also of Pennsylvania Dutch stock. She gave the world ten sturdy children, of whom Franklin is seventh in order of birth. Franklin Buck received his education in the schools of Pennsylvania and did not leave the parental roof until after he had attained the age of eighteen years and had become thoroughly acquainted with the tobacco trade. He left home then to enter the government service as teamster, in which he continued for two years, to later re-enter the tobacco trade in Chicago and St. Louis. After two years in the tobacco business Mr. Buck decided to try his fortunes on the Pacific coast and started overland by ox team in 1855 across the plains on a trip that consumed four months before San Francisco was reached. Reaching California in the wake of the "Forty Niners," he spent eighteen months pursuing wealth in the gold districts in the fall and winter of 1856-7. The following year, while in San Francisco, he learned of the Puget sound country in "Old Oregon" to the north of the Columbia. Mr. Buck's first stop on the sound was at Steilacoom, where he entered a logging camp and remained until 1861. Tiring of the life of a logger he went to the Snohomish river, where he took a pre-emption claim on unsurveyed land, remaining there until 1868. His name appears on the census roll of that county taken in 1862. In the year 1868 he returned to his native state, traveling via the Panama route, but stayed at the old home only eight months. The spirit of the

West called him and he spent the summer of 1869 in Kansas. Puget sound drew him further west the following spring, when he took up the homestead which is now his farm home.

Mr. Buck married a native of Skagit county and to the union there have been ten children, all but one of whom are living: Martha Jane Fellows and Sarah A. Church, of Clear Lake; Emma A. Payne, of Mount Vernon, and Mamie, Dora, Joseph, Frank, Henry and Edward, living at home. A married daughter, Elizabeth, is dead. Mr. Buck is a Republican and in an early day served as justice of the peace and county commissioner of Snohomish county. Fraternally, his affiliation is with the Masonic order. His farm is an illustration of what may be carved out of the woody wilderness of the western slope of the Cascades, having its dairy, orchard and general sections, a typical Skagit county farmstead. Mr. Buck stands high in the esteem of his fellows as a successful business man and an exemplary exponent of American civilization and American energy.

GEORGE J. HANSON has transplanted the ideas of Maine to the country of Puget sound, and much of the thrift of the most easterly state in the Union is to be seen about his place in the country of the great gulf of the Pacific coast. Much of this is the result of the first transplanting of Maine traditions by the father, James Hanson, who was born in Ripley and lived there until he came to Snohomish county more than twenty years ago. The mother of the subject of this sketch was also a native of Maine. George J. Hanson was born in Maine in 1860, and was a lad of very few years when his father entered the ranks of the Thirteenth Maine infantry in the war of the Rebellion, serving for thirteen months. The son came with the father to Snohomish county, and his mother, Mrs. Emiline (Whitney) Hanson, resided with him until her death in 1895. She was the mother of ten children, six of whom are living, namely, Eliza, Emma, May, George, Charles and Frank. For a time after coming to Snohomish county George J. Hanson joined with his father in leasing a farm. At the close of that lease period he took with his brother a similar lease and they remained together until they came to Skagit county in 1896. Then George bought forty acres, which with one hundred and twenty since purchased constitutes the Hanson home of the present time.

In 1890 Mr. Hanson married Miss Lena Gordon, daughter of Stephen and Nancy Gordon, both natives of Maine, the former still living, the latter having passed away there twelve years ago. Mrs. Hanson was herself a native of Maine, born in 1873. One child was the fruit of this union, a son named Guy. Mrs. Hanson passed away in 1895 and

seven years later Mr. Hanson married Miss Anna Snook, a native of Kansas, the daughter of Mrs. Ellen Snook, and one of a family of five, her brother and sisters being Bert Snook, Mrs. Nellie Dean, Mrs. Rita Johnson and Mrs. Cora Dean. Mrs. Hanson's mother is still living at Mount Vernon. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hanson, Vesta and Marie. The Hanson farm is well improved, fifty-five of the one hundred and twenty acres being under cultivation. The house is a modern eight-room structure, with all up-to-date improvements. On the home place are twenty-five cows, forty-three head of stock cattle, horses and colts, hogs and other live stock. In addition to this place Mr. Hanson operates rented land, raising about three thousand sacks of oats per year in Skagit county. He is the inventor of a dike-building machine with which he has built one hundred and fifty rods of dike on his own property. He is a raiser of hay and has baled more of that commodity than any other man on Snohomish county land, in one year having put up as many as two thousand two hundred and twenty-two tons. In all the years since he left his native state Mr. Hanson has lost none of the Maine idea of public spirit. With all the weight of management of his affairs he does not forget his duty to the community at large, and is one of the most public spirited citizens in the Skagit valley. He is one of the reliable men of the community and is large hearted and liberal in his dealings with his fellow men. In politics he is an advocate of Republican principles.

WALTER S. BURTON, one of the active business men of Burlington, was born in Lapeer county, Michigan, October 16, 1870, the son of Esquire D. Burton, a veteran of the Union army and now a resident of Skagit county. The elder Burton is a native of New York, but had gone to Michigan before the breaking out of the Civil war. Responding to Lincoln's call for volunteers, young Burton enlisted in the Eighth Michigan infantry and saw some rough service while his regiment was with the Army of the Potomac and General McClellan, and in later campaigns. Notwithstanding his many exposures, chief of which was when the Eighth Michigan was badly cut up at Bull Run, Mr. Burton was never wounded. After the war Mr. Burton returned to Michigan and remained there until 1876, when he moved to New York and was there until February, 1882, when he crossed the continent, going first to San Francisco and thence coming to Skagit county, where in August he located at Mount Vernon and engaged in market gardening. He later took up land at Avon, but is now residing on land of which he has a life lease from his son, the subject of this sketch. The elder Burton's first wife was Sylvia Burton, the mother of one child, Walter

S. She departed this life in 1872, and the husband remarried. Walter S. Burton was only twelve years of age when he began life for himself, working in California for a few months prior to his arrival with his father in Washington. His first work in Skagit county, as a mere boy, was greasing skids for loggers below Mount Vernon. He "logged" on the site of Burlington before there was any settlement, and the trees were thick upon the land. He followed the woods and timber until he was nineteen years old, attending school whenever he had the chance. His first venture in business for himself was the purchase of a hay baling outfit, which he successfully operated on the Olympic marsh for twelve seasons, during which he bought one hundred and seventeen acres of land on the marsh. About this period Mr. Burton erected the first building in Burlington, in which for a year he operated a general mercantile business which he later sold to Thomas Wilson, now of Anacortes, returning to his farm. During the days of his connection with logging, Mr. Burton worked for such well-known men as William Gage, Ball & Barlow and William McKay. He was one of the stockholders in the Burlington shingle mill and for three years supplied it with bolts. Early in 1905 Mr. Burton formed a partnership with Mr. Knutzen and opened the City meat market in Burlington, since which time he has purchased the entire business and has also become interested in the Burlington electric light plant, of which he is a trustee.

In 1899 Mr. Burton married Miss Sarah M. Ward, born in Hartland, Niagara county, New York, in 1881, June 3, the daughter of Jabez and Mary J. (Vanorman) Ward, both of whom were of English descent. Mr. Burton is one of the Knights of the Maccabees and an Odd Fellow, while Mrs. Burton is a member of the ladies' auxiliaries to those orders, being secretary of the Rebekahs and record keeper in the Maccabees. In politics Mr. Burton is a Republican. In addition to his meat business Mr. Burton has a farm of one hundred and seventeen acres three-quarters of a mile west of Burlington.

SANDS C. PETTIT is one of the successful contractors and builders of Burlington. He was born in Orleans county, New York, September 21, 1855, the family name being one well known in that part of the Empire state. His father was Charles P. Pettit, born in New York in 1818. The father went to New York city when a young man and conducted a successful business as a commission merchant, later going to Orleans county, and in 1867 to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he remained until his death in 1897. The mother, Mrs. Elizabeth (Schofield) Pettit, a cousin of Major General J. M. Schofield, was born in New York city June 16,

1831. She was the mother of three children, two of whom are living. She died June 14, 1885. Young Pettit, at sixteen, began to learn the carpenter's trade, working in the summer and attending school during the winter. He was graduated when eighteen from the state normal school at Lake City, Minnesota, and a few months later completed a business course at the Minneapolis Commercial college. Leaving school he worked a short time at his trade, then went to Dexter, Minnesota, where he opened a grocery and drug store. He also conducted a lumber and wheat buying business with his brother-in-law, Alexander Stewart, who is now president of the Monarch Elevator Company. He continued in this business three years, when he disposed of his interests and went to Australia. After remaining almost a year, he returned to San Francisco; then went to Eureka, where he stayed a year and a half; then moved to Seattle and secured three building contracts, upon which he was engaged six months. He was afterward in La Conner for five months, and has resided in this county continuously since that time, with the exception of about sixty days, in 1898, while on a trip to the East.

Mr. Pettit was married October 2, 1876, to Miss Mary Arnold, who was born June 16, 1857, and who died December 27, 1886. She was a graduate of the Minnesota Normal school, and taught in several schools of that state. Her parents, J. Wesley and Harriet (Hyde) Arnold, both were natives of Ohio, the father born in 1825, the mother ten years later. Mr. Arnold, a farmer by occupation, died in 1902 in Minnesota, where Mrs. Arnold still lives. Mr. and Mrs. Pettit have two children. Lee, the elder, was born June 4, 1875. He graduated at Carlton college at Northfield, Minnesota, and now is studying law at Pasadena, California. Charles Wesley was born October 27, 1877. When sixteen he graduated from the state normal, at seventeen from the state university, and a few months later from Carleton college. He received his diploma from the Minnesota State Medical college in 1902 and now is practicing medicine in Minneapolis. In 1892 Mr. Pettit purchased eighty acres of timber land on San Juan island, which he has leased to A. C. Brown. S. C. Pettit has made Burlington his home for ten years. He is a Royal Arch Mason, being a member of Spring Valley lodge, No. 57, North Star chapter, at Chatfield, Minnesota. He is a staunch Republican and in Minnesota held the offices of county assessor and county commissioner. He is a man of genial disposition and sound judgment, popular with all who know him.

DAVID KOCH, millwright and carpenter as well as successful small farmer, is one of the pioneers of the city of Burlington. He was born in

Stark county, Ohio, March 22, 1835, and resided there until he reached his majority. He was the son of John and Mary (Buchtel) Koch, natives of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, born in 1792 and 1795 respectively. The father in early life removed to Ohio and in 1817 to Indiana, where he died in 1874. Mr. Koch, his wife, died in 1865, the mother of twelve children, of whom David was the tenth. When he reached the age of twenty-one David Koch selected the trade of millwright and apprenticed himself, receiving fifty dollars a year for the two years of his service. He followed this calling until the Civil war, when he enlisted in Company D of the Twenty-third Missouri infantry, under Captain Robertson. His first fight was at Shiloh, where he was captured by the Confederates; he was released on parole and exchanged after six months. He immediately returned to his command. Young Koch fought bravely at Iron Mountain and at Rawley, his regiment later being joined to General Sherman's corps, participating in the operations around Atlanta and in the famous march to the sea. He was in twelve of the hardest fights connected with the siege of Atlanta. His last battle was at Jonesboro, and he was mustered out at Savannah, Georgia, December 30, 1864. He returned to Missouri at the close of the war, resumed his trade and followed it for twelve years. He then went to Hastings, Nebraska, where he resided thirteen years, leaving there for the state of Washington. On his arrival at Burlington he found it to be "merely a hole in the woods," as he expresses it. He took a pre-emption claim and relinquished it to his son, later taking a homestead in the vicinity of Burlington, which he still retains, having cleared a small part of it. A five acre tract and one of twenty acres also are among the holdings of Mr. and Mrs. Koch. Mrs. Koch owns the five acre place, which she paid for by the earnings of two cows, purchased in 1893.

Mr. Koch married Miss Sarah Garl April 1, 1860. She was born in November, 1842, the daughter of John and Sarah (Buchtel) Garl, natives of Summit County, Ohio. To Mr. and Mrs. Koch have been born six children, of whom four are living. John B. Koch, Mrs. Sarah A. Cressey, Abraham A. Koch and Mrs. Rose E. Hamilton. Mr. Koch is a member of W. T. Sherman post, No. 97, Grand Army of the Republic, at Sedro-Woolley. He is a Republican and served in the first city council of Burlington. Mrs. Koch is a Congregationalist. There are nine head of Jersey and Holstein cattle in the Koch dairy and White Wyandotte and Leghorn chickens are raised. Mrs. Koch is a lover of flowers and has a great variety of beautiful ones in her garden. She has a dozen varieties of cactus, some of them of giant size. The flower beds at this home have a reputation which extends all over Skagit county. Mr. Koch's life record is one of

which any man may be proud—a rich legacy to his posterity.

THOMAS SHAUGHNESSY, of Burlington, was born in Tipperary, Ireland, November 11, 1845, one of the two children of Michael Shaughnessy and Annie (Burke) Shaughnessy. Of his parents Mr. Shaughnessy has little record, he having left home at the age of ten years to find support for himself. For five years the lad made his living by doing odd jobs in different parts of his native isle. In 1860 he set out for Liverpool, England, where he worked for about two years, leaving for New York in 1862. The young man was anxious to see the world, preferring not to remain in one place, so alternately traveling and earning his livelihood, he passed the years until 1880 in different parts of the Southern and Western states, arriving in the Pacific Northwest in that year. For seven years he followed railroad work in British Columbia, and then made his headquarters in Seattle. It was about this time that a big development boom was on at Anacortes, and thither Mr. Shaughnessy went and remained until 1891, but did not lose any money in the speculations. He was the representative of the Oregon Improvement Company for a time. After leaving Anacortes Mr. Shaughnessy took the contract for clearing the timber from the town site of Burlington. There were only three houses there when he commenced operations. When his contract was completed he decided to remain in Burlington and embarked in the meat business, opening a market there and continuing to run it for several months. He then took up the liquor trade and opened the World's Fair saloon, which he has conducted until the present time. He has been away from Burlington for an extended stay but twice since he located there. In 1903 he made a trip to Ireland, remaining three months on his native island. A year later he crossed the continent to Fall River, Massachusetts, where he visited his daughter, Mrs. Mary A. Murtagh, in her home there. Mr. Shaughnessy is a member of the Foresters of America. In politics he is a Democrat and of the type which has never held or desired public office; in religious faith he is a Catholic. During his residence in Burlington Mr. Shaughnessy has accumulated valuable property, including five acres of land a half mile southeast of the town, his saloon property, a hotel and two store buildings. The success that has come to him is evidence of his ability as a business man, and of the possession of other traits of character necessary in anyone who successfully courts prosperity.

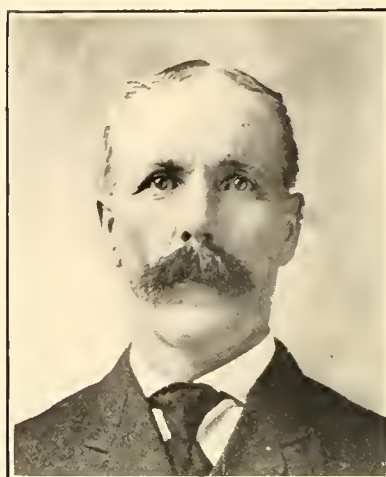
JAMES M. NORRIS, after a number of years of construction work in connection with the es-

tablishment of two of the transcontinental railway systems, has settled down to the life of a farmer on the outskirts of Burlington. He was born near Belleville, Hastings county, Ontario, September 29, 1864. His father was a native of New Foundland, born in 1821. Matthew Norris spent many years of his early life as a sailor on the great lakes, but eventually settled down in the province of Ontario, where he died in 1885. His wife, Rhoda (Frederick) Norris, was born in Ontario in 1825, where she is still living. She is the mother of ten children, of whom James M. is the youngest. Young Norris left home when he was twenty-two years of age and engaged in the work of constructing snowsheds for the Canadian Pacific railway. This work ultimately brought him to Donald, British Columbia, where he built warehouses and helped put up snowsheds in the Selkirk mountains. The fall of 1886 found him in Ashland, Wisconsin, where he went to work for the Lake Shore railroad. He continued with this company until the following July, when he engaged with another road, with which company he had charge of the construction of bridges for more than a year. Mr. Norris then spent some time at Escanaba, Michigan, in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road. A few months later he went to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and there engaged himself to the Great Northern road, the scene of his operations being at Minot, North Dakota. He was transferred to Teton, Montana, and remained with the Great Northern for two years. A little later he was in Spokane, Washington, and assisted in the erection of the Auditorium theater, at that time the largest structure in that city. He next went to Portland, Oregon, and after a short time to Seattle, where he made his headquarters for a number of months, during which he was connected with the San Francisco Bridge Company. He then came to Skagit county and Burlington, where he bought five acres of land which to-day constitute a part of his home farm. He worked for a time for the Great Northern on the portion of the road between Everett and Spokane. Mr. Norris was attacked by the Alaskan fever and put in two and a half years there, doing fairly well. In the days of 1896, when Rossland, British Columbia, was booming, Mr. Norris went there and engaged in timbering the property of the C. & K. Mining Company. Upon the completion of that work, he spent some time in the Cariboo mining country, returning home to Burlington in 1900. He made a purchase of land adjoining his former holding and has now forty-five acres of cleared land, with five acres of orchard and considerable meadow. Mr. Norris does a dairying business, thirty-five head of Durham cattle constituting his present supply. He has horses and raises pigs, also paying attention to poultry, having black Minorcas and buff Leghorns in his chicken yards.

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WM. HENRY HARRISON CRESSEY



ALEXANDER D. FRASER



WILLIAM H. HALPIN



JOHN LEWIS



THOMAS D. THORNE, D. D.



WOODBURY J. THORNE



MRS. ADELIA LATHROP THORNE

November 19, 1881, Mr. Norris married Miss Mary A. Stewart, a native of the province of Ontario. Her father, Alexander Stewart, died during the year of her birth, 1863. Mrs. Eliza (Crosby) Stewart was born in County Down, Ireland, December 26, 1836, but in childhood went to Ontario, where she still lives. Mr. and Mrs. Norris have six children: Murny E., Grace B., Stewart M., Pearl R., Guy J. and Ross H. Mrs. Norris is a member of the Ladies of the Maccabees and of the Rebekahs. Mr. Norris is a Democrat in politics. The family is affiliated with the Presbyterian church. The Norris home is one of the pleasant ones of Skagit county, having all modern conveniences to be seen in any suburban farmhouse. Mr. Norris is making a success of life and is well esteemed by all his associates.

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON CRESSEY was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 30, 1839. His parents, William and Jane (Börman) Cressey, were natives of Lincolnshire, England, who came to the United States within two years after the downfall of Napoleon at Waterloo. By occupation the older Cressey was a pattern and model maker in iron foundries. After a short stay in New Jersey he moved to Philadelphia, where he had the distinction of introducing into this country through his employers, Morris & Tasker, the use of the small pipes so familiar at the present time for conveying gas for the purposes of illumination. The idea he had brought from England, and he introduced it while he was constructing the first furnaces for the manufacture of gas in Philadelphia. The first gas system in Cincinnati, Ohio, was installed by him. During the Kansas excitement Mr. Cressey went to that state and he resided for a time at Lawrence, but left there just before the raid of the famous guerrilla leader and bandit, Quantrell. He returned to Lawrence in 1868 and died there a few months later. The Cresseys are an ancient family in Lincolnshire, tracing their ancestry for two and a half centuries in English history. Mrs. Jane Cressey died in 1861. Nine children were born to this couple, of whom the living at present are Mrs. Rachel P. Mills of Philadelphia, George G. Cressey of Philadelphia, and William H. H. Cressey of Burlington, Washington.

William H. H. Cressey, of whom this is written, followed the movings of his parents while a youth, going to school and working in the foundries. He also accompanied his father to Kansas. In 1860, when twenty years old and a resident of the Quaker city, he heard the first call of Lincoln for volunteers, and less than two days after he had entered the ranks of the Twentieth Pennsylvania Infantry, sometimes known as the "Scott Legion." A month

later the command, under General Paterson, was in Virginia, a part of the army of the Potomac. His baptism of fire came at Falling Waters, the scene of the first fight of the war on the soil of the Old Dominion. At the close of his two-year enlistment young Cressey was mustered out and at once returned to the iron works of Morris & Tasker, with whom he continued fifteen years. In the course of the years which followed Mr. Cressey worked at his trade in the railroad shops at Pittsburg and Altoona, Pennsylvania. He came west in 1890 and settled in Skagit county, living for one year at Anacortes. He later bought land a mile southeast of Burlington, upon which, with the help of his sons, he cleared at first enough for his home, and after moving upon it he cleared enough more to permit the keeping of a small dairy. This was the beginning of his dairy and stock raising enterprises, now grown to handsome proportions. He furnishes cream to the creamery company.

In 1865 Mr. Cressey married in Philadelphia Miss Rachel P. Walton, daughter of Amos H. and Sarah (Whartnaby) Walton. The Walton family was one of the earliest settlers of Philadelphia. It located originally at Beybrey, and has since been prominent in that part of the state, Harry Walton, at the time of this writing, being speaker of the lower house of the Pennsylvania legislature. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cressey: Robert S. Y., George G. and William, all of whom reside near their father in Skagit county; Lewis W., living at Marysville, Snohomish county; and Madge F. and Victor Hugo, living on the home farm. Of the deceased children, B. C. True Cressey died at Newark, Ohio, of yellow fever contracted during his service with the Twentieth United States Infantry in Cuba, where the young man participated in the battles of El Caney and Santiago. Mr. Cressey is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and has served as commander of D. A. Russell Post, No. 35, at Mount Vernon; also has the distinction of having been a Blue Lodge Mason for forty years. In politics Mr. Cressey is an active Republican. He has served his party as central committeeman, but has done more for his friends in a political way than for himself. He served as assistant superintendent of the Baker lake government fish hatchery, holding this position three years. As might be expected of a man who has had such varied experiences in life, Mr. Cressey is well posted on all current questions, keeping abreast of the times in everything useful. Since leaving the iron trade he has devoted his study to stock raising and dairying, and his sons, residing on their own farms, have the benefit of his advice and experience. Mr. Cressey, a man full of years and honor, occupies a large place in the esteem of those with whom he comes in contact.

ALEXANDER D. FRASER. Among those who have witnessed the wonderful transformations wrought in Skagit county in the last twenty-five years stands he whose name initiates this biography. He was born in Pictou county, Nova Scotia, May 2, 1861, the son of John and Ellen Fraser, both natives of Glasgow, Scotland. The father was born in 1819, becoming a resident of the United States in early life. His death occurred here in 1904, that of his wife, some nine years previous, in 1895. The fourth of a family of ten children, Alexander D. Fraser relieved his parents of his support when but fourteen years of age, hiring out to a saw-mill company for three years, then teaming for a railroad the following two years. Returning to his old home, he served an apprenticeship of three years in a blacksmith shop, becoming a partner in the business at the expiration of that time. Six months later he sold out his interest, going to Charlottetown, on Prince Edward island, where he did teaming for a brick manufacturer. Influenced by the accounts of the wonderful mineral deposits of California, he went there later, locating in Sierra county. Three months of mining having satisfied him that his trade yielded a more certain income, he moved to Nevada county and was employed at blacksmithing for the next four years. In 1880 he went to Seattle, then a town of less than three thousand inhabitants, remaining during the summer. Spending the following eighteen months in San Francisco, he then came to La Conner, hiring out on a ranch for five years. He and his employer, T. Nelson Ovenell, having formed a partnership, they purchased one hundred and sixty acres of timber and marsh situated one mile north of Burlington. The nearest road being two miles from the ranch, it was impossible to drive a team on it. When at last a road had been built to the ranch, it was necessary for the horses to wear "tule" shoes to keep them from sinking in the mire. Dissolving the partnership in 1897, Mr. Fraser continued the work of draining and clearing his farm, now having eighty acres in cultivation. He has built a neat, convenient seven-room house, a barn seventy-six by twenty feet, and a granary and workshop, each forty by twenty feet.

Mr. Fraser was married May 3, 1894, to Altha Scott, a native of Tennessee, as were her parents, Albert H. and Eliza (Prather) Scott, who came to Washington in 1880 and are now living in La Conner. Two children have brightened the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fraser: Alice Rosina, born February 28, 1895, and Bessie, born May 2, 1897. Mr. Fraser is a prominent member of the Maccabee fraternity; his wife is actively identified with the Order of Pendo. Both regularly attend the Methodist church, contributing liberally to its support. Mr. Fraser is a Republican, has held the office of road supervisor, and was for some time a member of the school board, there manifesting his deep interest in

the educational affairs of the community. He has been very successful in his business undertakings, owning, in addition to his fine farm, a house and twelve lots in Burlington, where he now resides, having sold his stock and rented his farm. December 23, 1905, he purchased a half interest in the business of the Burlington Mercantile-Grocery Company, to which he is now directing his attention. Inheriting the ability and force of character possessed by his Scotch ancestry in such a marked degree, Mr. Fraser is a man of influence in his community and enjoys the confidence and esteem of the entire county.

JOHN LEWIS, farmer, three and a half miles south of Edison, is one of the respected and esteemed young men of the community. He is the son of one of the pioneers of Skagit county, and though not a native, is in reality a product of this section of the sound country. Here he received his education and here he is making a home for himself and a reputation for probity and forcefulness. Mr. Lewis was born in Pennsylvania January 11, 1814. His father, the late John T. Lewis, was a native of Wales, born August 16, 1819; he remained in that country until he was married, then, in 1860, came to the United States, eventually locating in Pennsylvania. He came to Washington in the fall of 1877 and settled at Seahome, Whatcom county, where he worked in the coal mines for three months. Coming then to the Samish flats, he rented a place of his brother, taking up the present home of his sons, Alfred and John, in 1879. It was then a wilderness, Mrs. Lewis being one of the first white women in that part of the county. Seven years were spent here by the elder Lewis, then he returned east, and he died in New York four years later. The mother of our subject, Mrs. Mary T. (Daniels) Lewis, who was also a native of Wales, died in Skagit county February 2, 1900, aged seventy years, three months and five days. Of her children, Alfred is the fifth and John the youngest. The others are Ann, wife of David Richards, born in Wales and now living in South Africa; Mrs. Elvira Thomas, who died in Pennsylvania; John D., who died at the age of twenty years in Pennsylvania; David T., living in New York; Mrs. Emma Lynch of Seattle; Lewis, living at Sylvana, Snohomish county; William, living in Seattle.

John Lewis received his education in the schools of Skagit county, where he has lived ever since he was three years old. When he was thirteen he went to work in the logging camps and he continued to work in the woods until 1895, when he began farming in company with his brother, Alfred. They have one hundred acres of land, thirty-five of which are under cultivation. On the home farm are raised cattle and sheep; it is also well stocked with work

horses. The Lewises are developing their place into one of the best farms of the country. Being of pioneer ancestry and possessing high intellectual and moral qualifications, they are well equipped for success in this rich field of endeavor. The future is full of promise for them. By their fellow-citizens they have long been classed with the reliable and substantial members of the community. Ready ever to bear his share of the public burdens, the subject of this review is now discharging with faithfulness the duties of the unremunerative and often thankless office of school director. He is a Republican in political faith.

WILLIAM H. HALPIN, a resident of Washington for the past twenty-five years, now engaged in farming near Campbell lake, was born in Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, June 23, 1842. His father, Patrick D. Halpin, a native of Ireland, born in 1818, emigrated to America in early life, and was a soldier in the Mexican War. His death occurred in 1858. The maternal ancestor was Eunice P. (Woolley) Halpin, born in New York, December 1, 1811. After a long, useful life she died in 1898. The oldest of a family of four children, William H. Halpin began his career at the early age of twelve years, working on a farm, and in the meantime, by diligent improvement of every opportunity, securing his education during the winter months. Six years later he ran a "Yankee" huckster wagon, his first business venture. Having learned the cooper's trade later, he worked at that three years, going then to Virginia City, Montana, in the spring of 1865, where he spent two years in the mines. Not as successful in finding a fortune in the mines as he had hoped to be, he turned his attention to ranching on the Jefferson river, and raised cattle for some time. He next located in Helena, devoting his time to market gardening. Going by boat from Fort Benton to Sioux City, Iowa, he proceeded to Lamars, Iowa, and established the Northwestern nursery. The destructive grasshoppers that infested that region during the summer and the severe weather of the following winter caused him to fail in this enterprise and return to gardening. Lured by the tales of the wonderful fertility of the land of the Northwest, he sailed for Puget sound from San Francisco. After a short residence on Fidalgo bay, he settled near Seattle, but soon returned to Fidalgo, taking up a homestead which he sold at the opportune time during the boom. For three years he was in business at Deception, now known as Dewey. He purchased fifteen acres, property which he still owns, and at once began clearing it. He has it now in fine shape, with a three-acre orchard that yields him a substantial return each season. His farm is well stocked with

Holstein and Jersey cattle and a large band of fine sheep.

Mr. Halpin and Hannah R. Seid were married at Des Moines, in 1876. A native of Germany, Mrs. Halpin came with her parents to Iowa at the age of fifteen. Her father, William F. Seid, met his death by falling down a coal shaft in his own mine in Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Halpin have two children: William S. and Ida R., both born in Iowa and now at home. Mr. Halpin is a well-known Republican, though he has never sought office. He is deeply interested in the educational affairs of the community, and he has served on the school board, advocating progressive ideas. He and his family attend the Methodist church. His genial nature and recognized industry and enterprise secure for him the lasting esteem of his many acquaintances.

WOODBURY J. THORNE, one of Thorne's most popular and prosperous farmers, was born in Lewiston, Maine, May 6, 1851. His father, Thomas D. Thorne, D. D., born August 29, 1815, at Lewiston, Maine, traces his ancestry back in an unbroken line to the sixteenth century. To him belongs the honor of having been the first alderman of Lewiston, and the first Republican in either that city or Auburn, he having identified himself with that party in 1854. He has given to his son the genealogical record of the family. Jane M. (Merrill) Thorne, the mother, was also a native of Lewiston. Her death occurred many years ago. Late in life the elder Thorne remarried, Mary H. Bickford becoming his wife, and to this second union one child was born, Harry, now residing in Auburn, Maine. Both Dr. Thorne and his wife are living.

By diligently applying himself to his studies, Woodbury J. Thorne, of this article, acquired a good education while yet a boy, and at the age of eighteen had completed an apprenticeship to the bricklaying trade, which he followed till he went to San Francisco in 1877. He was employed in a shoe factory in the Golden Gate city for seven years, then opened a fruit and produce store, a business which he conducted successfully for the ensuing twelvemonth. Eventually selling out his interests in San Francisco, he came to Skagit county, Washington, and took as a homestead the farm he now owns. After clearing off a small place in the dense forest, he built a house upon this land, and this has been his home ever since, though at times he has been employed temporarily in other parts of the county. In 1890 he made a three months' visit to his old home in Maine.

Mr. Thorne was married April 5, 1892, the lady being Adelia M. Lathrop, a native of Cambridge, Vermont, and a member of an illustrious family the lineage of which can be traced directly

to the time of Mary, Queen of Scots. One member of the family was a high priest in the Queen's court, and at the time of her capture by the British was in extreme peril. The manner of his escape was indeed novel. He caused himself to be concealed in a hog'shead and to be shipped on a vessel about to sail for America, nor was he released from his voluntary imprisonment until far out to sea. Two brothers of this celebrated progenitor held military positions. The coat of arms which was his as a member of the royal court is now in the Boston museum. Mrs. Thorne's father, a blacksmith of the old school, skilled in many arts not taught to the apprentice of to-day, also a manufacturer of tools, farm implements, carriages, etc., who also had a salesroom in Montreal, went to California in 1850 and made his home there for four years, thereupon returning to Vermont, whence he later moved with his family to Wisconsin. He made his home in that state for a number of years, but ultimately located in South Dakota, spending the remainder of his life there. He died in 1885. His forefathers were prominent in Revolutionary times, one of them especially being made famous through his associations with the illustrious Miles Standish. Maria Louisa (Newton) Lathrop, the mother of Mrs. Thorne, who was born in Vermont August 8, 1813, was the daughter of a well-known physician, a graduate of Dartmouth college. Her death occurred in November, 1888.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Thorne there have been three children, the oldest of whom, born January 29, 1893, died when five days old. Marion Adelia, born September 30, 1895, died March 26, 1899, while L. Seth Weston, born July 6, 1897, is still living. Mrs. Thorne was appointed postmistress at Thornwood at the time the office was opened in 1900, and has discharged the duties of the position in a very capable manner ever since. For twenty years she was a teacher in the schools of Wisconsin, South Dakota and Washington. She is a devoted worker in the Good Templars' lodge and an active member of the Congregational church, while Mr. Thorne adheres to the Baptist faith. Mr. Thorne is a member of the Pioneer Association and in fraternal affiliation a prominent Mason. In politics he is a Republican, firmly believing in the fundamental principles of the party. His holdings consist of one hundred and twenty-one acres of land, fifty of which are in crops and pasture, and he is giving much attention to dairying, keeping always a fine herd of Jersey cattle. Uniting with his unquestioned ability and industry a generous, upright character, he naturally holds the abiding esteem of his fellow-citizens.

TOBIAS STEVENS, one of the farmers and stock raisers of Skagit county, was born at North-

cote, Winnischick county, Iowa, in 1863. His father, Stoller Stevens, was of Norwegian birth, but came to the United States, became one of the first settlers in Winnischick county, and died there in 1870 at the age of fifty. His widow, Rachel, has since married and lives in Iowa. Tobias Stevens was the oldest of his parents' children; his sister Betsy has died, but two others, Mrs. Sarah Jacobson and Stena Stevens, are still living. Mr. Stevens passed the life of a farmer youth, going to school and working on the farm, until he was twenty-three and then spent a year in Minnesota, after which he came to Skagit county. He was at La Conner for a year, working on the dikes. In company with Jacob Hogan he bought a place on Olympia Marsh, but later sold out to his partner. Some time was later passed in work on different farms, after which he made a trip to his old Iowa home. He remained there but a short time and on his return bought his present one hundred and sixty-acre farm, one mile north of Burlington, and traversed by the Great Northern railway. Mr. Stevens' most exciting experiences were during his occupancy of the Olympia Marsh land. The uncleared portion was under water and covered with brush, which afforded plenty of shelter to bear and other game, which came near the houses. It was not an uncommon thing to suspend work for a moment and bring down a bear or a deer. The first threshing on the marsh was done by Ovenell & Troser on the land now owned by Mr. Stevens. Mr. Stevens is a member of the Lutheran church and in politics is a Republican. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of land, over one hundred of which are under cultivation. The raising of short horn cattle is his specialty, and his producing herd numbers twenty-eight head. He also breeds Norman horses and has an interest in one of the finest stallions of that species on the coast. In addition to these branches, Mr. Stevens owns and operates during the season a threshing outfit. By honorable dealings with his fellow-men he has established for himself a reputation with which any man may be well satisfied, and he enjoys the good will and esteem of all his associates.

GEORGE G. CRESSEY has the kind of grit and perseverance which could develop ninety cents, his sole wealth in the spring of 1890, into the holdings of farmer, promoter, landowner and man of independence in 1905. His younger days in Pennsylvania indicated that he had the energy which constitutes one of the chief characteristics of a successful man. He was born in Philadelphia March 6, 1869, the son of William H. H. Cressey, iron worker and union soldier of the Civil War, now farmer and cattle raiser near Burlington. The mother was Rachel Walton, daughter of Amos H. Walton, one of the early settlers of Philadelphia,

the history of whose family constitutes much of the history of the early days of the Quaker city.

When seven years old George Cressey was in Forest county, Pennsylvania, where in the country schools he obtained the rudiments of an education, making his home with his grandfather. While attending school he walked through the woods three miles, with no house in sight, in order to secure instruction. A number of years were spent in Forest county in school and doing what work the lad could find. At the age of eleven, while living near Bradford in the oil district, he took a contract to cut wood for the oil drillers, and had the perseverance to carry out his agreement. Later he engaged in peeling tanbark for a tannery. When the family moved to Marionville, Forest county, the hamlet had no railroad, and until the establishment of a postoffice the mails were carried twenty-two miles on horseback. It was about this time that young Cressey entered the employ of L. S. Clough, now one of the largest manufacturers of hardwood products in the East. He managed the cabinet shop for Clough for a time and was foreman when the Forest county industry was established. It was through the efforts of Mr. Cressey that large tracts of hard native wood were located, and these locations were the commencement of the policy of buying up all the hardwood land obtainable. About this time, in dull seasons, Mr. Cressey, acting as guide for hunting parties, turned his knowledge of woodcraft to advantage. It was perhaps during these trips Mr. Cressey acquired his desire to get away from Pennsylvania. At any rate, with his brother Will, he left his home state and went to Minnesota, a little later following the westward course into Montana, and in the spring of 1890 the brothers stood in Seattle and counted ninety cents in their pockets, all their worldly possessions. On May 23d of that year they reached Anacortes on the boat "Seahome," Judge Joiner, the well-known jurist, being a passenger on the same boat. The first job obtained was transferring railroad iron at the time of the construction of the Seattle & Northern railroad. During the boom in Anacortes Mr. Cressey turned his hand to any kind of work, felling timber as an employe of Lathrop, later doing similar work by contract, or filing saws. Wages were good and the brothers saved their money, and in February, 1891, bought the place they now occupy, east of Burlington, into which town the Great Northern was then completing its road. Mr. Cressey has made his home on this farm ever since, though much of his time is required in Seattle, where he has large interests, located chiefly in West Seattle and on the shores of Lake Washington, to develop and promote.

Mr. Cressey, in February, 1895, married Miss Alice Koch, a native of Johnson county, Missouri, who came to Skagit county with her parents in

1890. Mrs. Cressey's father is a carpenter and built the greater part of the substantial business section of Burlington. He is a veteran of the Civil War, having served over three years in the Twenty-third Missouri regiment. He and Mrs. Koch are of German descent, though the families have been in this country for generations. Mr. and Mrs. Cressey have four children: Leonore R., Jefferson K., Georgia G. and Donald C. In politics Mr. Cressey is an active Republican. He has served as constable, deputy assessor, member of the road commission, road overseer, notary public and deputy postmaster. He has a deep interest in the schools and was a member of the board of directors when the Burlington school building was completed. With his father and brothers, Mr. Cressey promoted the incorporation of Burlington and was active in extending the town limits to take in territory and population not first included. They also were in the first telephone and electric light companies. Hard work, alertness and adaptability to whatever lay at hand are the chief elements which have contributed to the success which has crowned the efforts of this young man.

HARLTON R. UMBARGER of Burlington and his heroic mother have had eventful lives in their struggle against poverty and western hardships, the story of their bravery and endurance being a romance of Civil War days and pioneer life. Mr. Umbarger was born in Sauk county, Wisconsin, September 21, 1863, and when two years old was taken by his fearless mother to Iowa, traveling by ox team. Samuel Umbarger, the father, was born in Wisconsin and died in New Mexico in 1865 while a member of Company C, Third United States Cavalry. Mrs. Mary (Rowley) Umbarger, the mother, even before the death of her soldier husband, was called upon to provide for her children. What she accomplished proves her to be a woman of remarkable perseverance and force of character. She was born in 1811 of sturdy Pennsylvania stock. While her husband was in the army she purchased on credit a yoke of oxen, placed her children in the wagon, and wielding the whip herself started for Fort Dodge, Iowa. Under her rights as a soldier's wife she filed on one hundred and sixty acres in Pocahontas county, Iowa, which became hers in her own name on the death of her husband. On this western homestead this remarkable woman was able to care for her children, manage a farm and go to school in order to prepare herself to teach, which she did for thirty years in Iowa and Washington. In 1883 she heard that a brother whom she had not seen for thirty years was at La Conner, Washington, and there she went, leaving her boys, then grown, in charge of the Iowa farm. She found her brother and remained in Washington, teaching

first near La Conner, then opening the first school at Avon. Her oldest son came to Washington and took up eighty acres at Fredonia. A cousin was working in the woods at Burlington for McKay & Millet, and to him young Umbarger went one day to deliver some mail. While talking with the cousin a gun slipped from a log and was discharged, the ball entering young Umbarger's throat, killing him instantly. The shock nearly killed the mother. She was forced to take charge of his claim, on which she proved up. Later she was quite successful in land speculations. In 1888 she married James McCain, an ex-soldier, who died in 1891. She lived with her stepchildren until the McCain estate was settled, when she returned to Avon and resided until failing health compelled her to accept a home with her son, Harlton, who had come to Washington. She died June 28, 1901.

Harlton R. Umbarger remained seven years on the Iowa farm after his mother came to Washington, when he followed and did teaming for a year at Woolley; then moved to Burlington, built for himself a small house and began hauling shingle bolts for the new mill of T. L. Fox & Son. He and his mother bought eighty acres on the Olympia marsh, to which place he moved in 1895. He was unfortunate here and the place was lost under a mortgage. He returned to Burlington; then went to Whatcom county and prospected on Canyon creek, hiring out his team of horses at Burlington, where their earnings were the chief support of the family during his absence. Those horses now are pensioners on the Umbarger place, fondly remembered for their services in days of need. Mr. Umbarger prospected four years, during that time purchasing two acres at Burlington, partly on time. He cleared enough for a house which he built and has since occupied. At one time he would have lost his home property but for a fortunate sale of a mining claim which gave him just enough money to make the needed payment. The claim never amounted to anything.

Mr. Umbarger was married November 4, 1885, to Miss Frances E. Thomas, daughter of Daniel Thomas, an early Iowa settler, who came from Ohio. In 1891 Mr. Thomas came to Burlington and died here, March 4, 1901. Philena (Foote) Thomas, mother of Mrs. Umbarger, native of Ohio, is now living in Burlington. She has been the mother of twelve children. Mr. and Mrs. Umbarger have six children: Clarence, born August 18, 1886; Frank, born September 1, 1888; Mary P., born May 23, 1890; Ellsworth, born April 29, 1893; Bernard, born February 11, 1895, and Goldine, born July 26, 1896. Mr. and Mrs. Umbarger are members of the Maccabees; in politics Mr. Umbarger is a Republican and has served a term in the city council. The home farm consists of thirty-two acres, chiefly used for pasturing a herd of fine

Holsteins. Harlton R. Umbarger, since the time his mother left him on the old Iowa homestead, has had a career of endeavor and disappointment, but the sagacity and determination which he inherited from his mother have enabled him to overcome all obstacles and he now is recognized as a successful man.

WILLIAM CRESSEY, Jr., one of the prosperous young farmers near Burlington, is a native of Philadelphia, born May 17, 1872. William H. H. Cressey, his father, born in 1839, is also a native of the Quaker city, where he followed the trade of a moulder. He is a veteran of the Civil War, now living in Burlington. Rachel P. (Walton) Cressey, the mother of William, Jr., likewise was born in Philadelphia, springing from the well-known family of Walton, which is prominent in Eastern Pennsylvania. She has had eight children, of whom William is the fourth. Mr. Cressey of this review left home when eighteen and was in Anacortes during the boom days of that town. He arrived in the city at four o'clock one morning and at seven o'clock had secured a position and was at work. Two months after reaching Anacortes he took a contract to clear land and completed the work in six months, making a good profit on the venture. He then came to Burlington, bought ten acres of timbered land and erected the house in which he is now living. The financial depression of the early nineties fell heavily on the young man and stripped him of everything but his home and his land. Years of suffering followed, one of the most trying experiences being when he was beaten out of land on which he had taken homestead rights.

In 1900 Mr. Cressey married Miss Maud Thompson, daughter of Charles Thompson, a native of New Jersey, who passed much of his life in the states of Illinois and Nebraska and later in Washington. He is now living at Burlington, this state. Mrs. Cressey is a native of Illinois and during her school days there fitted herself for teaching, which vocation she followed at Clear Lake and other places in Washington until her marriage. She and Mr. Cressey have had two children, Luzelle, born October 15, 1901, who died when one week old, and Madge L., born January 19, 1903. Mr. Cressey's home farm consists of thirty acres, and is devoted largely to the growing of fruit, though he does general farming, and raises Chester White, Berkshire and Poland China hogs. He has triumphantly recovered from the effects of the hard times. He has always taken an active part in Republican politics and has the distinction of having been the first clerk of the city of Burlington. He is a man of splendid ability, capable of adapting himself with ease to whatever task is before him, and is rec-

ognized as one of the successful and wide-awake young men of the vicinity of Burlington.

WILLIAM H. MILLER is one of the pioneer farmers of Skagit county, having resided here since 1874. He was born in Ohio January 13, 1845, the son of George W. and Margaret (Weaver) Miller, natives of Ohio, both of whom died in Skagit county. Mr. Miller, the elder, passed away near Mount Vernon in 1890 at the age of eighty-three years, while Mrs. Miller succumbed to the dread reaper at Burlington five years later, at the age of seventy-seven. William H. Miller is the fourth of ten children. In 1861 he enlisted for the Civil War in Company A of the First Missouri Cavalry, Captain Jackson commanding. He was with his regiment at the battles of Lone Jack and Lexington and carried his saber all through Price's raiding in Missouri. He was wounded during the engagement of Mine creek, receiving a bullet in the side of the head. After being mustered out at Benton barracks in St. Louis, he made his home in Sullivan County, Missouri, where he worked at farming for seven years. In 1874 he came to the site of the present Mount Vernon, finding at that time only five white families on the Skagit river. About ten years were passed in various logging camps, then Mr. Miller took up land where Avon now stands, but he sold his holding in 1891 to purchase his present farm one mile east of Burlington on the railroad. The farm is all cleared and under cultivation. Mr. Miller gives his attention chiefly to fruit raising, though he has considerable meadow and raises many vegetables.

In 1866 Mr. Miller married Miss Mary Kimball, whose father, David Kimball, still lives near Mount Vernon. Mrs. Miller was born in September, 1848. She is the mother of four children, the last of whom, William, died in 1875 at the age of one year. The surviving children are Mrs. Viola A. Swauk, who lives near Burlington; Nathaniel Miller of Burlington and Mrs. Annie Bell Slater, who lives on her father's farm. Mr. Miller is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and in politics is a Republican. He has been deputy sheriff and constable of his home precinct. A man of worth and influence in the community, he enjoys the esteem of his fellow-citizens of Skagit county.

CHARLES A. LINDAMOOD is one of the hustling young men of Skagit county, combining farming with the business of contracting in land clearing. He was born in Illinois March 8, 1879, and came to Washington with his father in 1890. The elder Lindamood, whose given name is Washington, was born in Ohio March 8, 1837. He was a successful farmer and was one of the immigrants

who were attracted to this state soon after it was received into statehood. He is still living at Burlington. Mrs. Lindamood, whose maiden name was Hannah Smith, was a native of Ohio and died there in 1886, leaving five children, of whom Charles A. was the youngest. On coming to Washington young Lindamood went to Avon and worked on various farms for four months. Later he bought forty acres of timber land a mile and a half southwest of Burlington and he has made his home there ever since. Ten acres are now cleared, two of which are in orchard, the remainder being given over to dairying, of which business Mr. Lindamood has made a special study, intending ultimately to develop this line of activity to a greater degree. About the first of the year 1905 Mr. Lindamood joined with G. C. Drown in the purchase of a donkey engine outfit for clearing land of trees and stumps, and since that time they have been doing a contracting business in this line.

Mr. Lindamood has never married, but finds pleasant company in the family of his brother John, who lives on an adjoining farm. Fraternally he is a member of the Order of Washington; in politics a Republican. His dairy stock at present consists of Durhams and Guernseys, in all twenty head, and he also keeps other live stock, horses, hogs, etc. He is a young man of energy and integrity who is well respected and whose future holds good promise of success.

JOHN B. LOCKWOOD has a pleasant place three miles northeast of Burlington, on the road to Sedro-Woolley, where he owns forty acres of excellent land. He was born in Hillsdale, Michigan, August 3, 1846, and before coming to Washington spent most of his life in Wisconsin and Minnesota. He is the son of Levi Lockwood, a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, born in 1818, who moved to Michigan and later to Wisconsin, dying in South Dakota in 1886. Mrs. Thankful (Jenkins) Lockwood, born in Vermont in 1822, was the mother of eight children, of whom John B. is the second. She died in 1880. Until he was twenty-seven years old, John B. Lockwood lived with his parents, then he married and took his father and mother into his own home. Prior to this time he had worked at threshing during the harvest seasons and in the woods in the winters. After marriage he sold the old farm in Wisconsin and moved to South Dakota, where he took three hundred and twenty acres of land, which he held for fourteen years. He resided on this place two years, then moved to Millbank, South Dakota, and went into the farm implement business, which he conducted with success for eight years, part of that time being also deputy sheriff. After disposing of his implement store, he returned to Wisconsin and opened a

grocery and meat market in Ashland. After a year and a half there he returned to Millbank and ran a livery business for three years. He spent the next four years leisurely traveling with his family through Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Arkansas in quest of farm land in a milder climate than where they had lived. He had sold his real estate before starting on this trip. He remained at some places several months, looking over the country or taking contracts, but eventually he returned to Minnesota, satisfied that what he wanted was not in any of the states he had visited. The following spring he came to Washington and purchased fifty-five acres of partly cleared land near Burlington. Of this land a spring freshet took away three acres, twelve he sold and forty he retains. His land is so rich that he does not need it all, and being an adept in intensive agriculture, he is satisfied to cultivate only four acres and says he could make a good living off the product of half that much.

In 1873 Mr. Lockwood married Miss Flora Southard, a native of Wisconsin, born in 1851, the daughter of James W. Southard, a Pennsylvanian, born in 1825, who later removed to Wisconsin. Mrs. Mary (Hanna) Southard, the mother of Mrs. Lockwood, was born March 7, 1827, and died in Burlington March 20, 1899. She and Mr. Southard had come to Skagit county in 1890. To Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood have been born five children: Ernest Jay, March 12, 1875, now living in North Dakota; James E., May 20, 1877, at home with his parents; Mrs. Winnie Brider, December 29, 1878; J. Fay, May 6, 1881; and Mrs. Genevieve Rundquist, June 18, 1883. Mr. Lockwood makes a specialty of growing garden produce and small fruit, but also carries on a small dairy business and raises poultry. In politics he is a Republican. The family attends the Methodist church, in the Ladies' Aid Society of which Mrs. Lockwood is an active worker. Mr. Lockwood is a resourceful man of energy and good business ability; one who is actuated by honorable motives in all his dealings with others, and therefore enjoys their esteem and good will.

RUDOLPH PULVER, one of the foremost among the popular and successful farmers of Burlington, is a native of Switzerland, as were his parents, Rudolph and Katrina (Von Kael) Pulver. The father, born in 1820, followed farming until his death in 1888. Mrs. Pulver, born in 1819, passed away in 1871, the honored mother of eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second. Rudolph Pulver, the son, was born in Berne canton June 25, 1853. He remained at home nineteen years, attending the schools of the country and acquiring a practical knowledge of farming. By the time he was twenty, however, he had served

at different times in the army, his entire time of service amounting to two years. When he left home he found employment on a farm, then drove a mail wagon four years, then accepted a position as coachman at the Steinburg hotel, situated at the famous pleasure resort at the Jungfrau, in the valley of Lauterbrunnen. For four years he viewed the matchless Alpine peak, resplendent with the snows of countless centuries, and he still carries with him a never-to-be-forgotten picture of its grandeur. He was married in this charming spot, and he and his wife the following spring came to New York, then to Richway, Pennsylvania, where for eighteen months he was employed in a tannery. He came to Mount Vernon in 1884 and worked for Peter Lee in Skagit City two months, then rented for two years the ranch owned by D. Storrs. At the end of this time he took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres on Olympia marsh, and during his first four years there he packed all his family supplies on his back from Mount Vernon. Few young women of to-day would be willing to make the trip which Mrs. Pulver made in June, 1886, when she went to this new home. In high rubber boots she waded three miles through the water, while her husband carried the children. It was a year and a half before she saw another woman of her own race and two years and a half before she left this home. This farm, which consisted of one hundred and twenty acres, was densely covered with brush, and elk, deer and bears frequently came to the house. Now there are one hundred acres of cleared land with eighty in crops. One of Mr. and Mrs. Pulver's boys was the first white child born on the Olympia marsh. During the panic Mr. Pulver sold oats for seven dollars a ton and hay for three dollars and a half a ton, but since then he has prospered. He has a fine twelve-room house and two large barns on his ranch. He devotes special attention to raising oats, hay, cattle and horses, being the owner of fifty-two head of fine Durham and Guernsey stock.

Mr. Pulver and Miss Anna Ammeter were married in 1881 in Switzerland. Mrs. Pulver was born in 1861. Her parents were Peter and Anna (Boss) Ammeter, both natives of Switzerland, where the father was a well-known farmer, stockman and cheesemaker till his death, April 19, 1905. The mother died August 25, 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Pulver have had eight children: Anna, born December 4, 1882; Rudolph, May 24, 1885; Fred, December 19, 1886; Peter, February 10, 1890; Mary, April 14, 1892; Edward, April 14, 1893; Lena, December 20, 1897; Frank, March 19, 1902. In fraternal circles Mr. Pulver is a prominent member of the Masonic order and the Maccabees, and in politics he is an active Republican, deeply interested in the welfare of the party. He and his family attend the Lutheran church. Mr. Pulver is one of the substantial citi-

zens of Skagit county, surrounded by evidences of the prosperity which has rewarded his years of toil, and is also rich in the respect and esteem of the community.

MICHEL MAJERUS, a well-to-do farmer of of Skagit county, residing two and one-fourth miles west of Burlington, was born in Luxemburg, Germany, in November, 1847. His parents, Nicholas and Mary (May) Majerus, were born in the same part of Germany, and there spent their entire lives. The oldest child of a family of ten, Michel Majerus remained at home till he reached the age of twenty-four, assisting his father in the support of the family, and meanwhile attending the common schools in which he received his education. His first work away from home was in a quarry in France, where he spent three years. Desiring to visit the United States, he sailed for New York in 1871, going at once to Chicago, and he soon found employment twenty-five miles out of the city. Four years later he went to Iowa, thence to Dakota and Minnesota, residing in the latter state a year, at the end of which period he came to the Puget sound country. After a brief stay in Seattle and Whatcom, he located in La Conner, hiring out to John Conner to construct ditches on the Conner ranch. The following year he and a brother and two other men rented four hundred and fifty acres, and they farmed it for two years, during which they met with excellent success. Having dissolved partnership, Mr. Majerus took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, which he held for five years, selling it just prior to his removal to Samish. He then invested in one hundred and seventy acres of marsh land, and began the arduous task of diking and improving it, making it his home for the ensuing twenty years. He still owns the property. Thirteen years ago he purchased eighty acres of school land, but in the succeeding years permitted his title to lapse, and now rents the property. He has it all cleared, and has been using it for raising hay, intending, however, in the near future to sow it to oats. He has a brother, Jake, who lives on the north fork of the Skagit river. Mr. Majerus is a loyal Republican, but has never sought any political office. He is a prominent member of the Catholic church. A man of intelligence and good judgment, he is one of the respected residents of the county, and one of those who have won a competence by skillfully making use of the advantages it offered.

GEORGE A. BROSSEAU, formerly engaged in railroad work, both in the East and in the West, now a successful farmer residing between Burlington and Sedro-Woolley, was born in Chittenango,

New York, December 22, 1847. His father, Luke Brosseau, was born in Quebec, Canada, February 29, 1820, moving to New York in early life, there owning and operating a blacksmith shop in connection with a livery stable. His death occurred September 3, 1887. The mother, Jane (Hood) Brosseau, was born March 30, 1824, and died September 12, 1891. Remaining at home the first twenty-two years of his life, George Brosseau attended the schools of the state, acquiring a practical education, of which he has made excellent use. Entering the shops of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railroad as car inspector, he remained for eighteen years in the employ of the road at Adrian and Grand Rapids, Michigan, establishing for himself an enviable reputation for skill and faithfulness. He started for Seattle August 29, 1888, making only a brief stop there, however, as he went on to Tacoma to accept a position on the Northern Pacific railroad. Wearying of that kind of employment, he went to Coupeville, on Whidby island, renting a farm of eight hundred acres for a year; later, after a three months' visit to California, moving to Sedro. He purchased ten acres where he now lives, adding seventeen acres of timber land to his original farm some years afterward. He now has eighteen acres in cultivation, eight of which are in orchard. He has built a neat, convenient six-room house, a barn and fruit dryer, and otherwise greatly improved the ranch which he devotes to diversified farming. Mr. Brosseau has witnessed great changes in the town since he came to it. He was present at the first Fourth of July celebration held here, a unique feature of which was the hoisting of a flag sixteen by forty feet, made by the ladies at the home of Mrs. Brosseau, the flagpole being a cedar tree two hundred and twenty-six feet in height stripped of all its branches. During the first summer the town consisted principally of saloons and dance halls. The first Presbyterian service was held in a partly furnished saloon, with a bar in the same building. The first church was built by the members of the congregation, the men making board walls and the ladies a roof of canvas, this serving as a house of worship for nearly a year. Mrs. Brosseau is the only surviving member of that early congregation. Perhaps the most impressive sight at that time was the burning of immense fir trees, the grandeur of which can never be surpassed by the most elaborate modern fireworks.

Mr. Brosseau and Edna Parsons were united in marriage March 2, 1870. Born in Woodstock, Michigan, December 23, 1849, Mrs. Brosseau is the daughter of Hiram Parsons, a native of New York, born December 26, 1803. He followed farming till his death on October 7, 1850, at Woodstock, Michigan. Her mother, Sarah A. (Loss) Parsons, was born in Oneida county, New York, November 10, 1807, and died in Adrian, Michigan, March 2, 1884.

She was the mother of five children, Mrs. Brosseau being the youngest. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Brosseau, Dwight M., born January 9, 1871, now living at Bellingham; Frank L., born January 12, 1873, now deceased, his death occurring at Grand Rapids, Michigan, November 15, 1879. Mr. Brosseau is a Democrat. He is a member of the school board, cheerfully giving his time and attention to educational matters, which he deems of such vast importance. He and his family are identified with the Presbyterian church. He is a man of sterling worth, honored and esteemed by all who come in contact with him, either in business or social relations.

FAYETTE L. JONES, a well-known farmer and stockman, residing two miles west and one south of Sedro-Woolley, was born in Waseca county, Minnesota, May 20, 1869. His father, James E. Jones, was born in England, where for twenty-five years he was connected with the navy. He came to the United States in 1861, settling in Minnesota, where he died August 7, 1905, at the age of ninety. Louisa (Brossard) Jones, the mother of our subject, was born in New York in 1845, and is still living. She bore to her husband eleven children. Fayette L. Jones spent the early years of his life at home, securing an education and assisting his father in the support of the family. Leaving home at the age of twenty, he worked for a few months on a farm, coming to Sedro in December, 1890. He worked for the first two years in the woods and mills; also leased five acres of land, which he cleared during the first year, and which he held for half a decade. Eventually he returned to the East, expecting to make that his home, but found, as so many others do, that Western life has an almost irresistible charm for those who have once known it. After a few months' visit he came again to Sedro, and invested in ten acres of timber land, to which he soon added sixty acres more, and of the whole he already has twenty acres cleared and in cultivation.

Mr. Jones was married in December, 1898, to Vera E. Brosseau, born in Detroit, Michigan, the daughter of Frank and Anna (Moll) Brosseau. Her father was born in Chittenango, New York, in 1854, and died at Sedro-Woolley in 1897, while her mother, born in Sherrell, New York, in 1849, is still living at Clear Lake. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have two children, Leslie R., born August 18, 1900, and Marie A., August 11, 1904. Another son, Earl B., born February 15, 1903, died April 27, 1903. Mr. Jones is a prominent member of the Modern Woodmen of America. In political belief he is a Republican, supporting the party in every possible way. He keeps only the best stock on his farm, fifteen head of thoroughbred Durham cattle, twenty-five

Cotswold and Lincoln sheep, Poland China hogs and several horses. He is a practical farmer, earnest and energetic, familiar with the various departments of the work, and he is meeting with the success that his efforts so richly merit.

EDWARD D. SOUTHARD, now residing two and one-half miles southwest of Sedro-Woolley, has been a resident of Skagit county for fifteen years, having first located at the old town of Sterling. He has inherited from pioneer ancestors the perseverance and fortitude that have made success possible under frontier conditions; also the superior qualities of mind and heart that inspire confidence and command respect. Mr. Southard is a native of Buffalo county, Wisconsin, born September 12, 1864, the son of James W. and Mary (Hanna) Southard, natives of Pennsylvania. James W. Southard was born May 9, 1824; he spent his youth and early manhood in the Keystone state, but in the early forties began the life of the pioneer in Wisconsin. Thirty-five years later (1879) he removed to Grant county, South Dakota, where he farmed for eight years. At the end of this period he went to Becker county, Minnesota, remaining there until 1890, when he came with Peter his son to Sterling. Mary (Hanna) Southard was born in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, March 7, 1827, and after a long and useful life passed away at Sterling March 20, 1899. She came to Washington with the subject of this review and rejoined her husband at Fidalgo City.

Edward D. Southard acquired his early education in the schools of his native state, but he continued his studies for some time after the family located in South Dakota, which change of residence was made in his fifteenth year. He began the active and independent discharge of life's responsibilities in 1886, when he filed on a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Minnesota. After farming the place for four years he signed a relinquishment to another for a consideration, having decided to locate in the Northwest, where he believed the possibilities of success to be greater for one engaged in agricultural pursuits than in the Minnesota wheat region. In the summer of 1890 he started West, arriving at Fidalgo City July 19th, and at once securing employment in a saw-mill. Three months later he settled on the place that is now his home, having eventually secured it by purchase after the government had completed its survey. The location is near the former town of Sterling, whose site was absorbed by the Skagit river. To the original purchase Mr. Southard has added fourteen acres, and the whole has been transformed from a forest into a valuable farm and comfortable home. Here he is engaged profitably in diversified farming and stock raising, fruit growing and dairy-

ing. The rapid changes of the past two decades are nowhere more apparent in visible results than in this portion of Skagit county, and no farm shows more plainly the results of method and industry than that of Mr. Southard.

While the care of the details of his operations keeps Mr. Southard busily employed at all seasons, he yet finds time for attention to the public affairs of neighborhood and county, in which he is always interested. He is not a politician in an active way and has never been a seeker for political preferment; but he supports the Democratic party with his influence and vote. He has won and will always holds the esteem of his fellow-citizens because of his integrity, honesty of purpose and fairness in his dealings with others; his name will always be associated with the names of those who have converted the forests and swamps of the Skagit into fertile fields, thus making possible the building of towns, cities, industries and homes for a happy people.

MRS. ELIZABETH JEWELL, a practical farmer a mile and a half east of Burlington, is one of the women of Skagit county who are active in the management of good farming property and have shown themselves possessed of executive ability of a high order. She was born in Sherman, Maine, in 1849, the daughter of John McCarron, a native of Ireland, who came to Canada when a lad and worked at farming and lumbering in Canada and Maine, dying in the last mentioned place in 1876 at the age of seventy-four. The mother, Mrs. Margaret (Kearns) McCarron, was born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1800 and died in Maine in 1889, the period of married life covered by Mr. and Mrs. McCarron being forty-seven years. Of this union there were eight children, of whom the living are Thomas McCarron, Mrs. Rose A. Hogan, Mrs. Catherine R. Patterson, Mrs. Margaret Finnegan, Mrs. Ellen Duffy, John McCarron and Mrs. Jewell. One daughter, Mrs. Mary A. Goodwin, is now dead. Mrs. Jewell lived with her parents until her marriage at Benedicta, Maine, in 1877, to Charles J. Jewell, whose father, Jacob Jewell, a native of Maine, died when his son was a small boy. His mother, Mrs. Elathier (Stuart) Jewell, is still living in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Charles J. Jewell was born September 27, 1850, and lived at home until his marriage. Coming to Skagit county in 1886, he located at Lyman, and he has lived at different places in the county up to the present time and has been a factor in the development of the county. Mrs. Jewell is the mother of ten children, of whom the living are Frederick V., Walter S., Charles E., Wallace X., Emma E., Elizabeth G. The names of the deceased are John, Harry A., John Ira and James D. Active in the management of

the farm as his mother's assistant is Walter S. Jewell, the second oldest of the living sons of Mrs. Jewell. The farm work done is general in character, the fifty acres being all under cultivation. The dairy consists of five cows. Mrs. Jewell in the time since she has had the management of the farm has proved herself to have great business ability. In church affiliations the Jewells are Catholics.

GEORGE McMILLIN, dairy farmer and breeder of thoroughbred cattle, two and a half miles northeast of Burlington, is one of the newcomers to Skagit county, but has already gained for himself a prominent place in the community. He was born in Dark county, Indiana, March 15, 1859, the son of Edward and Mary E. (Mott) McMillin. Edward McMillin was a native of Gallia county, Ohio, the son of a pioneer of that state, but later removed to Iowa, where he died in 1881. Mrs. McMillin, the mother of George, was a native of Pennsylvania, of Dutch descent, the daughter of a blacksmith. She had two brothers in the Civil War. George McMillin is one of five children and the only one who is living in the West. When he was but a lad his parents removed to Taylor county, Iowa, and there he received his education, attending school in winter and working on the farm in summer. He left home at seventeen years of age to do for himself, and married at twenty-three. For a number of years he operated a rented farm in Iowa county in the center of the state. Early in January, 1899, he came to Skagit county and bought his present place of one hundred and forty acres. At that time seventy acres had been slashed or partly slashed, and there was an old house on the place and a very few other improvements, but under Mr. McMillin's management it has become one of the most attractive and valuable farms in the entire section.

In 1882 in Iowa Mr. McMillin married Miss Mary Alice Hartley, who was born August 15, 1861, in Allamakee county, daughter of John and Sarah Hartley, natives of England. Mrs. Hartley is still living at Tacoma. Mr. and Mrs. McMillin have one child, Martin L. Roy, born in 1887. In fraternal affiliation Mr. McMillin is an Odd Fellow; in politics a Republican. He served as constable for ten years in Iowa and was for five years marshal of Ladora. He began his dairy and breeding herds with thoroughbred short horns which he brought from Iowa. He has stock in the Sedro-Woolley creamery, and after separating the milk from his twenty-four milch cows disposes of his cream to that establishment. He has also dealt in horses to some extent and has disposed of eight carloads he shipped into this country. The McMillin farm is a part of the old Mortimer Cook holding, which consisted of a whole section. Both Mr.

and Mrs. McMillin like Skagit county far better than the Iowa place and hold that with an equal amount of work better returns come to the farmer than in the prairie state. Mr. McMillin is a genial man, a hard worker, energetic and respected by his fellows in business and in general society.

PETER SCHMITZ, one of Burlington's popular citizens, has won his present prosperity in the face of almost overwhelming adversity. He was born in Luxemburg, Germany, August 22, 1857, his parents being John and Margueretta (Ryferts) Schmitz, also natives of Germany. The father, a dye worker, died in 1861; the mother in 1874. Left fatherless when he was but four years old, Peter Schmitz began early to support his mother and himself, at twelve years of age hiring out to neighboring farmers, who were very willing to lend a hand to the sturdy, energetic boy. Six years later he found employment in the mines and smelters of that country, proving so valuable a worker that he was retained for five years. After a year's residence in France, he sailed for America in 1880, reaching Chicago in the fall and proceeding at once to Michigan. He soon went to St. Louis, where he worked for a butcher one winter, going thence to Springfield, Illinois, the following summer. Returning to Michigan he worked at logging another season, then moved to Iowa, and later to Belleville, Illinois, mining in the latter state for four years. Having spent the two succeeding years in the mines of Iowa, he then went to Dakota, but failed to find a position, so was forced to walk to Livingston, Montana. He worked on the railroad there a few months, then took charge of a number of men working in the Yellowstone National Park. Later, however, he went once more to Iowa and resided there one winter, deciding then to go to the mines of Roslyn, Washington, where he worked eight consecutive years, at the end of which time, on account of labor troubles, he went back to Montana. A year later he came to Edison, Washington, and married a lady who had a forty-acre farm and upon this they made their home. The years that followed were full of trials and disappointments sufficient to daunt the courage of a less determined nature. Several times floods devastated the farm, destroying in a few hours the work of many months, the most severe one causing him a loss of \$1,500. The stock had to be driven to the hills for safety, water was sufficiently deep all over the marsh to float an ordinary steamboat, and the current was so swift that fording was impossible. A neighbor rescued the family on a raft. The water did not subside for a week. Another season the flood from the melting snows in the mountains completely ruined a hay crop amounting in value to another \$1,500, but notwithstanding all these reverses, Mr. Schmitz has

prospered and he now owns one hundred and sixty acres of land in a fine state of cultivation, forty acres in pasture, and a half interest in a warehouse in North Avon. Upon his home place he has built a cosy six-room house and a barn forty by seventy feet. He has his farm well stocked with fine cattle and horses.

Mr. Schmitz was married in 1896 to Annie Majer, who was born in Luxemburg, Germany, and who came alone to America. Her parents are dead, the mother having passed away in 1903 at the age of seventy-four. Mr. and Mrs. Schmitz have one child, Alfred M., born January 16, 1899. Mr. Schmitz is identified with no political party, preferring to vote each time for the man whom he considers to be the best qualified to fill the office, and as for himself he has never had any political aspirations. He and his family are members of the Catholic church. A man of recognized skill and industry, a loyal citizen and kind neighbor, he holds an enviable position in the community.

CHARLES H. WILLIAMS, farmer and dairyman, three miles south of Edison, has had a very interesting career which covers work as a lad in a knitting factory in Connecticut, service as a volunteer in the Civil War, and experience as a farmer in Iowa and Washington. Mr. Williams was born in Wallington, Connecticut, in 1848, the son of David and Caroline (Chamberlain) Williams, farmers of the Nutmeg state, and parents of eight children, of whom the subject hereof is sixth. After attending the common schools Charles W. went to work at the age of twelve years in a knitting factory, and he was employed there for the next four years, then, in the month of December, 1862, he enlisted in the First Connecticut heavy artillery, and he served continuously thereafter till the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. The war over, he went back to his old work in the knitting factory, remaining until 1878, then going to Iowa, in which state he farmed for seven years. In 1885 he came to Washington and, locating at La Conner, put in a number of months in work at different places on the flats. The following year he filed on his present place. It was a dense forest; no trail led to it, and it was necessary to carry in his first stove on his back. He has lived there since that time and has cleared enough to permit of the establishment and operation of a dairy business.

In 1869, in the state of Connecticut, Mr. Williams married Miss Ellen Crandall, daughter of Aldon B. Crandall, a native of Massachusetts, and by occupation a farmer. The mother, Mrs. Rachel (Usher) Crandall, was a native of Rhode Island, but died in Connecticut. Mrs. Williams was born in the latter state in 1847 and received her education there. She died December 20, 1904, leaving

three children: Mrs. Jennie R. Cornelius, who is living on Pleasant Ridge; Charles Henry Williams, Jr., and Mrs. Mary Inman, who is living at home. In politics Mr. Williams is a Democrat. His home place consists of eighty acres of land and his dairy herd numbers twenty head. Here he is spending the remaining days of his life, in comfortable circumstances, and in the full enjoyment of the respect and esteem of all who know him. The twenty years of his life in Skagit county have been full of earnest endeavor, entitling him to share with his fellow-citizens the honor of having developed a considerable section of the Northwest from its primeval state into a region of fertile farms and comfortable homes. His name must ever be associated with the names of those who are responsible for the wonderful progress of Skagit county.

EARL H. STEARNS, of Edison, has been identified with the agricultural interests of Skagit county since 1883, practically since the organization of the county, and is at present one of the Samish district's well-known farmers. By birth a native of the Keystone state, he was born in Wayne county, May 9, 1852, to the union of Sheldon H. and Mary J. (Monroe) Stearns, both Pennsylvanians also. The elder Stearns was born in 1822 and resided in Pennsylvania until 1855, at that time settling in Jones county, Iowa, where he spent ten years. In 1865 he removed to Linn county, Kansas, still pursuing farming as a vocation, and four years later secured a rich claim on the newly opened Osage reservation, now Chautauqua county, Kansas. He took a prominent part in developing the new region and there resided until his death. Mrs. Stearns, the mother, was born in 1830, and is at present living in Whatcom county. The subject of this review is the second of her children and an only son. His rearing and education were received in Iowa and Kansas for the most part, so that he is practically a Western product. At the age of twenty-one he commenced to do for himself, the first year operating his father's farm. He was engaged in farming in Chautauqua county until 1883, at that time emigrating to the Pacific Northwest. The Skagit country appealed most strongly to him, so he rented the Byron house on the Swinomish flats. The next year he rented E. A. Sisson's farm at Padilla for a period of three years, upon the conclusion of which he went into the Samish district, purchasing fifty acres there. Three years later he sold this tract to John Harrell (now it is the property of Nick Bessner) and made a three months' trip back to Kansas. Upon his return he bought what is known as the Cook place at the mouth of Joe Larry's slough, and there resided until 1891, when he removed to Bay View to obtain better educational advantages for his children. In 1898 he rented

Otto Kalso's place near Whitney station, which was his home for the ensuing five years, or until the fall of 1903. He then purchased eighty acres two and a half miles south of Edison, and to this he has devoted his energies and skill since the spring of 1904. It is all in cultivation, producing oats and hay, one of the highly improved farms of the Samish and consequently of more than ordinary value and this, too, in one of the richest farming regions in the United States. The place is equipped with modern machinery, is well stocked and well improved with buildings, all denoting progress and energy on the part of the owner.

Miss Margaret A. Closson became the wife of Mr. Stearns in Chautauqua County, Kansas, in 1875. She was a native of the Hoosier state, born in June, 1854, and when a little girl lost both her father and mother by death. Grandparents reared her to young womanhood. At the age of sixteen she commenced teaching in Iowa and was engaged successfully in that calling when married four years later. Coming west with her husband she shared with him the vicissitudes of pioneer life and the successes of later years, but at Seattle, June 3, 1905, succumbed to an operation, an irretrievable loss to a devoted family and an unusually wide circle of friends. Of the four children born to this union, Mrs. Jessie Bradley, the wife of R. L. Bradley, prominent merchant of Anacortes and state representative from his district, is the oldest; she was born in Kansas November 20, 1875. Clinton E., now living at Edison, was born in Kansas February 5, 1880; Mrs. Kathryn McCullough, wife of Charles McCullough, the well known Samish farmer, born April 15, 1881, is also a native of Kansas; and Claudia is one of Skagit's daughters, born May 29, 1892. Both older daughters received a good education and previous to marriage taught in the public schools. A spirit of progress and culture pervades the Stearns home; success and esteem have followed in the wake of Mr. Stearns' numerous activities, placing him among the substantial citizens of his community. His wife and children are members of the Methodist church and he has been a life-long believer in the Universalist faith.

JAMES J. SULLIVAN, hop grower one mile east of Belfast, is one of the successful and prosperous men of Skagit county, a man who has obtained his worldly possessions by his own energy and ability. He was born in Cork settlement, New Brunswick, April 17, 1876, the son of John and Margaret (Donovan) Sullivan, both of whom were natives of New Brunswick and died there a number of years ago. Young Sullivan received a common school education in New Brunswick, then in 1889 came to Edison, Washington, going to work at once for his uncle, Daniel Sullivan. He re-

mained in his employ for seven years, then leased sixty acres of land on Jarman prairie. Seventeen acres of this land are in hops and part of the rest in hay, the two being the principal crops of the farm.

In 1900 Mr. Sullivan married Miss Phoebe Chessie, a native of Hanwell settlement, New Brunswick, born in 1876. She is the daughter of Ephraim and Frances (Burgoyne) Chessie, farmers of the province, until they came to Washington and settled in Skagit county, on Jarman prairie. Mrs. Sullivan is one of their seven daughters, all of whom reside on Jarman prairie or in its vicinity. Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan have three children: John A., Daniel L. and Phoebe L. In politics Mr. Sullivan is an Independent, in church membership a Catholic. He raises some live stock, having eight head of draft horses, fifteen hogs and twenty-five head of cattle, some of the last named being for dairy purposes. Mr. Sullivan is an active man, one of energy and shrewdness. He is one of the popular men of his community, respected by all for his excellent traits of character.

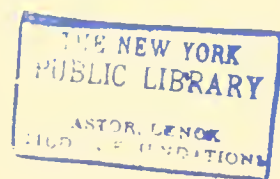
DANIEL P. SULLIVAN, living one mile east of Belfast, is one of the successful young farmers of the community and has already established himself on a firm business footing in Skagit county as an agriculturist and stock raiser. He was born in the Cork settlement in New Brunswick, January 12, 1873, the son of John and Margaret (Donovan) Sullivan, who passed their entire lives in the gulf province and died a number of years ago. Daniel P. Sullivan received a common school education in New Brunswick and in the summer of 1888 came to Washington, settling at Edison, where he passed eight years at work on the farm of his uncle, Daniel Sullivan. At the end of that period the young man leased two hundred and eighty acres on Jarman prairie, fifty of which are in grain, the remainder devoted to pasturage. While his chief crop is hay and oats, he raises considerable live stock. Mr. Sullivan has remained in Skagit county ever since his first coming with the exception of trips back to his old home in New Brunswick, the first in 1894 and the second in 1899.

In the latter year in New Brunswick Mr. Sullivan married Miss Frances Chessie, born in Hanwell, New Brunswick, in 1878, daughter of Ephraim and Frances (Burgoyne) Chessie, natives of New Brunswick and farmers there until they came to Washington. They are now living on Jarman prairie. For a few months after her marriage Mrs. Sullivan remained in New Brunswick, while her husband returned to Skagit county and arranged for their home. Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan have two children, Ephraim L. R. and James Wesley. In politics Mr. Sullivan is a Republican, but aside from serving as road supervisor he has never held or

sought office. The family are adherents of the Catholic faith. Aside from raising crops of hay and oats Mr. Sullivan raises live stock, keeping sixty head of graded cattle, a few horses, a number of hogs, etc. Mr. Sullivan is one of the bright young men of the community, a man of energy and accomplishment, enjoying the respect of all for his innate qualities of mind and heart.

AL BENSON is one of the prosperous and successful farmers of the Edison region of Skagit county, his home place being a mile and a half south of town. He has seen some of the pioneering life of the early eighties, but in recent years has been comfortably situated on his own property. Mr. Benson was born in Norway April 13, 1869, the son of Aleck Benson, a Norwegian farmer who came to the United States in 1902 and is now living with his daughter, Mrs. Anderson. Mrs. Carrie (Sorneson) Benson, the mother, was a native of Norway and passed her entire life there. She had five children. Young Benson attended the common schools, remaining at home until he was seventeen years of age, when he determined to come to the United States. He arrived on the La Conner flats in 1884 and at once went to work on the farm of John Ball, by whom he was employed for two years, then he was engaged for successive terms of one year each by Patrick Smith and Daniel Sullivan. Three years of work for his brother, Ben, followed; then Mr. Benson obtained a lease of a farm from John Miller. After operating this for two years he was in a position to buy a place of his own. What he chose was raw land, but he has cleared eighty of the one hundred and twenty-five acres in the tract and now has an excellent farm on which he raises oats as his principal crop. On this place Mr. Benson has lived since 1899.

In 1900 at Whatcom Mr. Benson married Miss Serena Anderson, daughter of Anders and Hannah (Nelson) Sorneson, who are still living in Norway. Mrs. Benson was born in 1874 and received her education in the schools of Norway. On her arrival in the United States she went first to Minnesota. She and Mr. Benson have four children, Agnes, Herman, Esther and Walter. In politics Mr. Benson is a Republican and in religion the family belongs to the Lutheran church. Since he has been farming for himself Mr. Benson has exhibited good business judgment and he has become recognized as one of the successful men of the community. In live stock he has sixteen cattle and eight head of horses. It has been by the exercise of energy and economy that Mr. Benson has placed himself in the position of independence he now enjoys and his career in Skagit county is like that of many another young man coming from foreign shores, who, by strict attention to business, have placed themselves in a few years in an enviable position. He has the fruit of





ANDREW S. JOHNSON



RASMUS S. JOHNSON



NELS ANDERSON



FLETCHER W. CONN

his years of toil about him, and is also rich in the confidence and respect of those who have been his associates and co-laborers.

ANDREW S. JOHNSON, living two and a half miles southwest of Edison, one of the large farmers of that section of the county, has gained possession of his holdings and attained his prominent place in the business community by hard work, aggressiveness and commercial acumen. He was born in Norway December 3, 1854, the son of Soren and Annie (Larsen) Johnson, neither of whom left their native land, dying there some years ago. The elder Johnson was a pilot and fisherman. Young Johnson received his education in the schools of Norway, but at the age of seventeen left the land of fjords for the United States. On his arrival here he went to Minnesota and passed two years at farm work there, then moved to Wisconsin and worked as farmhand for four years in that state. In 1880 he went to Norton county, Kansas, where he passed two and a half years. Returning to Minnesota at the end of that period he worked on a farm there for one summer, then went to Duluth, where he followed the Lake Superior fisheries for a number of years. In 1883 he made a trip to the old country, returning the next year. In 1888 he came to Edison and went to work for Nels Richard, from whom he took a contract to clear five acres of land. On the completion of this Mr. Johnson entered the employ, successively, of William Gilmore and Daniel Sullivan, for short terms, and in the fall of that year he bought one hundred and twenty acres of land of Will Gilkie, near Edison, which he at once commenced to clear. The whole tract is now in cultivation. Later Mr. Johnson bought forty acres of F. W. Conn and this tract also is cleared. Afterwards he acquired forty acres of Mr. Ames, and still later he bought of Mr. Watson the place on which he now lives. After clearing about eighty acres he slashed eighty more and evidently desiring a still larger field for his teeming energy he has, since coming upon this place, increased his holdings by the purchase of twenty acres that formerly belonged to Curtis Loop. It has been only since 1903 that Mr. Johnson has maintained his home on its present site.

In 1903 at Whatcom Mr. Johnson married Miss Louise Ondal, daughter of Swvend and Bertha (Nelson) Ondal, who are still living in their native Norway. Mrs. Johnson, born in 1877, was educated in the schools of her native land and came to Washington in 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are Lutherans and in politics he is a Republican. Mr. Johnson's real estate holdings now comprise three hundred and eighty acres, two hundred of which are under cultivation, and upon which he raises hay and oats principally, but he also keeps forty head of cattle. He has mining interests in British Columbia in

addition to his farming. Mr. Johnson was comparatively a poor man when he first came to Skagit county, but his ability to work, his business foresight and his penchant for taking advantage of every opening, have combined to put him in an excellent financial position. He commands the respect of all with whom he had business dealings and is personally popular with those with whom he comes in contact. Not many of the citizens of Skagit county have accomplished so much in the work of developing its varied industries and in making of it a region of comfortable homes and splendid farms, as has Andrew S. Johnson.

RASMUS S. JOHNSON, a farmer just south of Edison, is one of the strong men of that section of the county, and has built up a highly successful farming business there. He was born in Norway early in 1851, the son of Soren Johnson, who was a Norwegian pilot and fisherman. Mrs. Annie (Larsen) Johnson, also a native of Norway, was the mother of eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch is next to the youngest. Rasmus S. Johnson received the education afforded by the common schools of Norway in the middle of the last century, and when but fifteen commenced the life of a sailor. He continued to follow the sea until twenty-one years of age, then came to the United States and settled in Waseca county, Minnesota, where he was engaged in farming for two and a half years. He then returned to the old country and again entered upon the sailor's life, remaining for four years, but in 1878 he came once more to the United States. That same year he took a pre-emption claim in Norton county, Kansas, where he remained for two and a half years, going thence to Duluth, Minnesota. For the eight years ensuing he followed fishing on Lake Superior. In the fall of 1889 he came to Washington and settled on the Samish flats, where he was engaged in fishing and farming alternately until 1898. He then joined in the rush to Alaska and remained in the North mining for a year and a half, when he returned to Skagit county and embarked once more in the fishing business, which he followed until he bought his present place in the fall of 1900. It consists of one hundred and fifty-five acres of the original purchase and twenty which have been added since. His special crops are oats and hay.

In 1889 at Chicago, Illinois, Mr. Johnson married Miss Johanna Lund, daughter of John and Christina Lund. She passed away after having borne him two children, and in 1902 at Seattle he married Miss Anna Benson, daughter of Ben and Carmelena (Orneson) Benson, natives of Norway. Mrs. Johnson was born in the old country and received her education there, but later came to Wisconsin, and thence to Seattle. She and Mr. Johnson have one child, Berger, born October 17, 1903.

Mr. Johnson's children by his first wife are Ruth and Samuel, both natives of Skagit county. In politics Mr. Johnson is independent. He takes a lively interest in the cause of popular education and has served as school director of his home district. He has a fine eight-room house and excellent outbuildings and in all respects his place is well improved, furnishing not a little satisfaction to its owner. Mr. Johnson is recognized as one of the sterling citizens of the county, a man who may be depended on to do the right thing, and to contribute his share toward the promotion of the common weal whenever opportunity offers.

NELS ANDERSON, farmer and stock raiser two miles and a half southeast of Edison, has demonstrated his capabilities by going, within comparatively few years, from the position of farmhand to that of proprietor of a large and successful farming and stock raising business. He now is recognized as one of the wealthy men of his community. Mr. Anderson was born in Norway May 9, 1871, the second of the seven children of Anders and Hannah (Nelson) Sorneson, both of whom are still living in the old country. After attending school until he was seventeen years of age, young Anderson determined to come to the United States. He stopped for a short time in Minnesota and put in eight months fishing on Lake Superior; then came to Washington and the Samish flats. Here he worked for Charles Motson and Michael Myers for nearly two years; then he went to Whatcom county, where he followed the fisherman's occupation for nine years. In 1898 Mr. Anderson bought his present place of three hundred and ninety-four acres, which was covered with heavy timber. He has now one hundred and fifteen acres of this cleared and is raising hay and oats and giving much attention to live stock.

In 1899 on the Samish flats Mr. Anderson married Miss Celia Benson, daughter of Altag Benson, a native of Norway, who is now making his home with his daughter, her mother having died in the old country. Mrs. Anderson was born in Norway in 1873 and attended the schools there, coming to Washington when eighteen years of age. She and Mr. Anderson have two children: Helen, born in 1903, and Carl, in 1901. The family attends the Lutheran church, and in politics Mr. Anderson is a Republican. His farm is one of the best in this section of Skagit county and is being operated according to modern methods. While the chief agricultural crop consists of hay and oats, Mr. Anderson has gone in quite heavily for raising Hereford cattle for the markets. His herd at present consists of two hundred and twelve head of that breed. Mr. Anderson is wide awake and active in watching his business interests. He has done much toward supplementing his early education, becoming one of

the well-informed men of the community, while his business methods are honorable and such as to win him esteem. In short, Mr. Anderson is a striking illustration of the immigrant of a score of years ago developed into an aggressive and public spirited American citizen,—a man of intelligence and integrity who has succeeded because of inborn strength of character and native ability to remove obstacles from his path and to choose well the road to independence.

FLETCHER W. CONN, farmer, two and a half miles south of Edison, is one of the prosperous agriculturists of Skagit county. He was one of the early settlers and his career illustrates the possibilities in Skagit for a man of energy and application. Mr. Conn is a native of the province of Ontario, Canada, born February 14, 1850, the son of Wesley Conn, a Canadian carpenter, whose father was one of the pioneers of Ontario. Mrs. Hester (Blackburn) Conn was also a native of Canada and passed all her life there. She was the mother of eleven children, of whom the subject hereof is the second. Fletcher W. Conn received his education in the Ontario schools, remaining at home until he was sixteen years old, when he went to New York state and spent a year in farm work. The ensuing twelve-month was passed in the lumber woods of Michigan, then Mr. Conn went to New York city and engaged as a sailor. He followed the sea for the next six years, reaching San Francisco in 1872, where at a later date he bade farewell to a seafaring life. He remained in the California metropolis for some time, but in the Centennial year came thence to the Puget sound country. His first summer in this region was spent on Whidby island in the lumber trade, but in the fall he moved to the Samish flats and took up a homestead, upon which he lived for the eight years ensuing, eventually selling out to Mr. Shumaker and purchasing his present place. Mr. Conn had his first farm in a good state of cultivation. His new place was wild when he bought it and the process of clearing and putting the land into shape had to be gone through once more by him, but he bravely faced the task and now has it in excellent condition.

In the summer of 1877, at Whatcom, Mr. Conn married Miss Ida A. Gilkey, daughter of Franklin E. Gilkey, a Pennsylvania farmer who subsequently left the Keystone state, farmed in Kansas for a time, came to Washington in 1875, and now is a resident of Snohomish county. Mrs. Eliza (Bowen) Gilkey was a native of the Keystone state and married there, but died in Skagit county in 1898. Mrs. Fletcher W. Conn is likewise a native of Pennsylvania, but went to Kansas in childhood and was educated there, preparing herself for the teaching profession, which she followed for a time after coming to Washington. She is a member of the Metho-

dist church. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Conn: Mrs. Maud Streeter of Skagit county; George, at home; Mrs. Annie Kerr, living near her father's home; Frank, recently returned from a sojourn of eighteen months in the Philippines, followed by a year and a half in Arizona; Bert, in the Okanogan country of British Columbia; Clifford, at home; Raymond, in the British Columbia Okanogan country; Charles, William, Ralph, Fred and Bessie. In fraternal circles Mr. Conn is an Odd Fellow and a past grand; in politics an independent, choosing candidate, not party. He served as county commissioner in 1891-2. The Conn homestead now contains ninety acres of excellent land, all but fifteen of which are under cultivation. Mr. Conn has twenty head of cattle and other live stock. He is one of the prominent men of the vicinity of Edison and has made a great success on the Samish flats; is capable as a manager, honorable in all his dealings with others, actuated always by worthy motives; and possessed of the esteem of his fellow citizens.

BERENT A. BENSON, one of the leading farmers of the Edison section of Skagit county, his place being three miles southwest of town, has made an unqualified success since coming here, through application to business and watchfulness for opportunity. He was born in Norway June 12, 1860, the eldest of the six children of Aleck and Carlen (Sorenson) Benson. The mother died in Norway, but the father is living with a daughter, Mrs. N. Anderson, in Skagit county, though now seventy-five years of age. Young Benson received his education in the schools of Norway. He remained at home until twenty years' of age, then came to the United States and the first five months of his stay here were spent in the employ of an uncle in Minnesota. Two years and a half followed in the fisheries of Lake Superior, then in 1881, Mr. Benson came to the Puget sound country. After a short stop in the Hood's canal section he came to the Swinomish flats, where he worked on the farm of John Ball for three years, then leasing Swan Johnson's farm on the Samish flats. Next he took up a place on the Olympia marsh, where he remained until 1896. The succeeding five years he passed in fishing, his ventures proving successful financially, but in 1901 he sold out his interest in the fishing business and bought his present place, at once going extensively into oat raising. For him to reap a hundred bushels to the acre of this cereal is no uncommon thing.

In 1901 on the Samish flats Mr. Benson married Miss Clara Boe, daughter of Olaus and Enger (Orestad) Boe, both of whom are living in Norway. Mrs. Benson was born in Norway in 1881 and received her education there. She and Mr. Benson have two children, Carl, born in 1902, and

Enga, in 1904. In church membership the Bensons are Lutherans; in politics he is a Republican. He has served as road supervisor of his district and is now dike commissioner. In addition to his two hundred and ninety-seven acres of Skagit county land, one hundred and seventy-five of which are under cultivation, he owns one hundred and sixty acres in Oregon. In live stock he has ten head of cattle and eight horses. Mr. Benson is considered a wealthy man, his success in the industrial world being due solely to his business ability in putting through his ventures both in fishing and in agriculture. He is personally popular and highly esteemed by those who know him, and the results he has accomplished in the development and progress of this section of the Northwest entitle him to enrollment among the substantial, progressive men of the country.

JAMES NEELY, farmer, four miles south of Edison, is one of the respected men of his community and though not one of the large land holders is successful and prosperous in his business. He is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Clarion county in 1847, the son of Jacob Neely, a native of the Keystone state and a potter by trade, who eventually settled in Illinois. When the Civil war broke out the elder Neely enlisted in the Thirty-seventh Iowa volunteer infantry, known as the gray beard regiment, and he served until sickness overtook him. His death occurred in Alton, Illinois. Mrs. Neely, whose maiden name was Priscilla Walters, was born in Pennsylvania and died in Iowa, the mother of twelve children, of whom the subject of this review is the youngest. James Neely attended the schools of Iowa after his parents removed to that state. At sixteen years of age, his father having just died, he started to do for himself and he passed the next four years at farm work, then went to work in the coal mines at Flagler and continued there until 1886, when he came to Washington. His first employment in the new state was furnished by John Polson near La Conner and later he worked for Charles Elder. In 1888 he moved to Edison, where he was engaged in the Howard saw-mill for two years, leaving to enter the McCoy logging camp, in which he remained one year then and later two and a half years. Upon leaving this camp he bought his present farm. Of the eighty acres in his original purchase he has cleared twenty and sold twenty. For the two years from 1896 to 1898 he operated a leased farm on the Olympia marsh, then he went to Sedro-Woolley, but in 1899 he moved back to his own farm.

In 1876 at Pella, Marion county, Iowa, Mr. Neely married Miss Mary E. Horn, daughter of Elias and Mary (Blodgett) Horn, natives of Ohio, whose lives were spent as farmers in Indiana and Iowa; they passed away in the latter state. Mrs.

Neely is the third of their ten children. She was born in Ohio in 1857, but received her education in the common schools of Iowa and in Central university. Mr. and Mrs. Neely have had two children: Edward, born in Iowa in 1877, died in Skagit county in 1900; and Lois, born in Skagit county in the summer of 1901. In politics Mr. Neely is a Republican. He is an active member of the Methodist church at Bayview and at present one of the trustees of that organization. His home place consists of sixty acres, upon which he keeps a considerable number of live stock. He is highly respected in the community, being an earnest, efficient man, active, industrious and capable and a forceful factor in the promotion of every cause which appeals to him as worthy.

ANDREW J. MOORE is one of the prosperous farmers and successful business men of the district just to the south of Edison. His chief occupation is logging and in that he is accumulating money readily and has been doing so since he was twenty years of age. Mr. Moore was born in Ontario, Canada, in 1876, the son of Andrew D. Moore, a native of Ireland, who was brought when an infant to Canada, where he grew to manhood and became a farmer. He migrated to Washington in 1888, settled in Skagit county and is still living there near Bayview. Mrs. Isabella (McGillivray) Moore, who was born in Scotland and brought to Canada by her parents when she was very young, is also living near Bayview. Andrew J. Moore was twelve years of age when he came to Skagit county with his parents, and he received the most of his education there. At twenty he commenced work in a logging camp and thereafter he was employed in various localities until 1900, when he went into the logging business for himself on the Joe Leary slough. He continued there two years, then bought a place of three hundred and twenty acres, for the sake of the timber standing on it. Having moved onto this place in 1902, he has since logged off much of the timber and has cleared about half the land.

In 1901 at Vancouver, British Columbia, Mr. Moore married Miss Maggie Young, daughter of George Young, who was born in Ontario, Canada, in 1844, to Scotch parents, and on reaching young manhood became a mechanic. He is now living with Mrs. Moore. Her mother, Mrs. Jessie (McGillivray) Young, a native of Canada, is living at present in Montana. Mrs. Moore was born in Canada in 1877 and was educated in the schools of Manitoba. She and Mr. Moore have two children, William J., born in 1902, and John W., in 1904. In church membership Mr. Moore is a Presbyterian and in politics a Republican. While heretofore he has directed most of his attention since the purchase of his place to the timber upon it, he has cleared enough to start an excellent farm. His stock at

present consists of ten head of cattle and eight horses. Mr. Moore is a level headed business man, as is shown by his career, and is possessed of those sterling qualities which command the esteem of all classes of citizens. In the history of Skagit county his name will be associated with the development of the greatest industry of the Northwest, and with those of the men who have been most active and successful in its upbuilding.

EDWARD REED, whose farm lies two miles east and two south of Edison, is one of the young men who have made an unqualified success since coming to Skagit county. Beginning his industrial career as a boy in the logging camps, he is now operating with ability a farming venture of his own. He was born in Sweden March 5, 1872, the sixth of the twelve children of Charles Reed, a native of Sweden, who is now living in Des Moines, Iowa. Mrs. Frederika (Anderson) Reed, the mother, also a native of Sweden, died in her Iowa home. Young Reed obtained his education in the schools of his native land, but has added much thereto since coming to this county. At seventeen years of age he began working in the logging camps of Skagit county and he remained at that employment ten years. In 1901 he purchased his present place of eighty acres, which was all in timber at the time he acquired it, but he now has ten of it under cultivation, and the timber has been removed from the remainder. He has made his home on the place since he purchased it.

In 1901 while on a trip to Iowa Mr. Reed married Miss Emma Linderson, third of the six children of Otto R. and Ida (Johnson) Linderson, natives of Sweden who came to the United States and settled on a farm in Iowa in 1866 and are still living there. Mrs. Reed was born in Jefferson county, Iowa, in 1875 and was educated there, teaching school for several terms prior to her marriage. She and Mr. Reed have one child, Earl, born in Skagit county, February 27, 1902. The family are adherents to the Lutheran faith and in politics Mr. Reed is a Republican. He has eight head of cattle and one horse. Though one of the less extensive farmers of the community, Mr. Reed is just now beginning to get good returns from his place and the future looks bright for him, as he is a young man of thrift and character and possesses the qualifications which will enable him to win his share of the good things the rich Skagit country has in store for men of application and energy.

JOHN W. JACKSON, whose farm lies five miles southeast of Edison, is one of the early settlers in this part of Skagit county, having been identified with the Samish flats and vicinity since 1888. He was born in Harrison county, Indiana, May 15,

1853, the son of Silas Jackson, whose people were among the early settlers of that section of the Hoosier state. Mrs. Lewene (Horner) Jackson, a native of Indiana also, who died in 1873, was the mother of eight children, of whom John W. is the oldest. Our subject received his education in the Indiana schools. He remained at home until reaching his majority, then went to Illinois, but after spending a year at farm work there he went back to his native state. He worked in an Indiana coal mine for a time, then rented a farm and he continued to till the soil of the Hoosier state until 1887, after which he spent sixteen months in Elk County, Kansas. In 1888 he came to Washington territory and located in the Samish country, and he worked as a farm hand on the river and flats until January of 1903, when he bought his present place. The entire farm is slashed and a part of it is in cultivation.

In 1875 in Indiana Mr. Jackson married Miss Ellen Colegrove, daughter of James C. and Martha (Mason) Colegrove, New Yorkers who came to Indiana in their early years, but passed most of their lives in Kansas, where they are still residing. Mrs. Jackson, born in 1860, was a native of the Hoosier state and received her education there. She died in Kansas May 12, 1887, leaving four children: Mrs. Martha Moore, now in Kansas; Mrs. Maemie Easley, now of Skagit county; Mrs. Cora Anderson, of Kansas, and Mrs. Lizzie McCoskey, also of the Sunflower state. In politics Mr. Jackson is a strong Republican and an active party worker, but for himself has sought no preferment, though he has served as dike commissioner of Samish flats district No. 5. He is a type of the men who came to Skagit county in the early days to carve fortunes from its forests and river valleys. He possesses in a marked degree those personal traits of character which lead to ultimate success in whatever field of endeavor the possessor chooses to expend the energies of his mind and body. He has won the esteem of his fellow-men by the exercise of a spirit of fairness in all his dealings, and by the application of correct principles and sound judgment in all matters pertaining to the advancement of the general interests of the community.

MICHAEL SPAULDING, whose pleasant place of eighty acres lies four miles south of Edison, is one of those early Skagit county settlers who have seen the wilderness changed into a land of rich gardens, waving grain and well fed cattle. In this transformation he has done his share. He was born in Switzerland April 23, 1865, the son of John and Annie Spaulding, both citizens of the Alpine republic who came to America while he was still an infant and found a home in Erie county, New York, not far from Buffalo. The father had been a farmer in the old country and continued to till the

soil in his new home, while the boy went to school, helped on the farm and grew to manhood. Both parents now are dead. The young man was engaged in railroad work for a year in Minnesota and Dakota and came west in 1886. He came direct to Skagit county, which has since been his home. In 1890 he filed on a homestead near Birdsvew and lived there five years, during which period he was engaged quite extensively in logging. He next spent several years in and around La Conner, working four years for J. O. Rudene. In 1900 he bought a place on Beaver marsh which he held five years and sold to P. Person. Mr. Spaulding purchased his present farm in June, 1905. This tract is exceedingly fertile and is said to be one of the finest farms in that part of the county. Mr. Spaulding is a Democrat in politics. He never has married. He is well to do, amiable by nature and popular in his community, one of the county's stalwart citizen farmers.

WILLIAM GEESAMAN, a farmer one mile east and four miles south of Edison, is a man who within the past few years has literally chopped a home for himself and family out of the virgin forest. Where once the monarchs of the woods stood in their solitude has arisen one of the cozy small farms of which Skagit county boasts, and the transformation has been effected by Mr. Geesaman since 1895. He was born in Allen county, Indiana, of Pennsylvania Dutch stock February 1, 1864, the youngest of the thirteen children of Henry and Mary (Work) Geesaman. The elder Geesaman was born in the Keystone state in 1815, and in 1833 began clearing up a home for himself in Ohio. He later went to Indiana and still later to Iowa, where he died in 1882. Mrs. Geesaman, the mother, was a native of Ohio.

William Geesaman of this review received his education in the schools of Cedar county, Iowa. He remained on his father's farm until he was eighteen years of age, then went to Kansas and spent a year in nursery work. Subsequent years were passed at different lines of employment, including farming, until in 1890 he came to Washington and located on the Samish flats. His first year in this state was passed as a laborer, but in 1892 he leased the Nick Beaser place for one year. Two years were then spent as lessee and operator of the Mike Myers farm, after which Mr. Geesaman went to Samish island for a year and a half. In 1895 he bought his present place of forty acres, which at that time was covered with heavy timber and dense brush. The thirty-two acres of it which are cleared are considered equal to the best land on the marsh—land which in 1904 produced an average of one hundred and thirty bushels of oats to the acre.

At Eureka, Kansas, in 1888, Mr. Geesaman married Miss Annie McKibben, daughter of Joseph

McKibbin, a native of Ireland who came to the United States when nine years of age. He served in the Civil war as a member of the Eleventh Iowa volunteers. The mother of Mrs. Geesaman, Mrs. Eliza (Chase) McKibbin, was born in Illinois. Mrs. Geesaman is the second of five children. She was born in Cedar county, Iowa, in 1868 and educated in the Iowa schools, but when nineteen years of age went to Kansas, where she met and married Mr. Geesaman. Mr. and Mrs. Geesaman have two children: Pearl E., born in Kansas in 1889, and Florence E., born in Skagit county in 1890. In fraternal circles Mr. Geesaman is an Odd Fellow and his wife is a Rebekah; in politics he is a Republican. He has manifested his public-spirited interest in the cause of education by serving as a member of the school board. Mr. Geesaman is a hard worker, thrifty, energetic, public spirited and successful in all the walks of life. His home is one of the pleasantest places in Skagit county.

JOHN HUSTON WILSON is one of the prosperous farmers of the Edison country of Skagit county. As a young man he took charge of his father's interests in this county and is showing his energy and good management, his ability to make a success of the business he is now pursuing. He was born in Marysville, Tennessee, in the spring of 1875, the son of Samuel C. Wilson, a native of Tennessee, born in 1850, who later became a farmer in Illinois and ultimately moved to Skagit county, Washington, settling on La Conner flats in 1887. He is now in business in Bellingham. Mrs. Annie (Martin) Wilson, also a native of Tennessee, is the mother of three children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the oldest. John H. Wilson attended school in Illinois, from which state he came to Washington with his parents when he was twelve years of age. He passed his life in work for his father until he was twenty-six, when he took charge of the place on the Samish flats and commenced to make a specialty of raising hay and oats, the latter yielding not less than one hundred bushels to the acre. For the seven years of his stewardship he has been successful as a grower and marketer and in everything relating to the business.

In January of 1901 on the Swinomish flats Mr. Wilson married Miss Pearl Sisson, daughter of E. A. and Ida L. Sisson, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Wilson was born in Bayview in the summer of 1877, and received her education in the schools of Skagit county and in the Baptist seminary in Seattle. She and Mr. Wilson have one child, Carroll S., born in April of 1902. The family belongs to the Baptist church and in politics Mr. Wilson is a Republican, though of the independent type, which considers the qualification of the candidate and is not bound always by party bias. Mr. Wilson keeps six horses and a few cows, but is

not a stock raiser, preferring to confine his energies to cereal production. He has some interests as a stockholder in coal mines in Alaska.

In the cultivation and management of his excellent eighty-acre farm, he has been very successful, applying his abundant energy in a way to achieve the best results; and in all the relations of life he demeanors himself in a manner calculated to win and retain the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens.

FREDERICK C. KUNZMANN, whose place lies some two miles west of Edison, has been in Skagit county since 1882, and has been steadily increasing in worldly possessions and the esteem of the community since his arrival. He is now the proprietor of an excellent farming business. Mr. Kunzmann was born in Germany in the spring of 1853, the son of Jacob and Caroline (Kleiber) Kunzmann, farmer folk who never left their fatherland. Frederick Kunzmann, fifth of their eight children, received his education in the German schools, which he attended until he was fifteen years of age. At that time he commenced to learn the trade of bricklayer and continued at the same until at the age of eighteen he was considered to have mastered the craft. The next nine years were passed in bricklaying in Germany, then, in 1880, he came to the United States and settled in Wisconsin. After following his trade for one summer in the Badger state, he came to California and passed a summer there on a farm, then came to Whatcom county and worked one winter in the woods. In the spring of 1882 he came to the Samish flats, where he worked for wages on a farm for the ensuing six years, at the end of which period he purchased a place two miles south of Edison, consisting of eighty acres, which he cleared, and on which he lived until 1904, when he leased the H. S. Conner place. He farmed there two years, but at present is living on the George Hoffman ranch.

In 1889 Mr. Kunzmann married Miss Anna G. Wieber, daughter of Conrad and Elizabeth (Isa-ri-el) Wieber, both of whom lived and died in the old country. Mrs. Kunzmann was born in Germany in the summer of 1863 and received her education in the schools of the old country. She and Mr. Kunzmann have three children: William H., born in 1890; Caroline E., in 1892, and Carl F., in 1894, all of whom are natives of the Samish flats. In fraternal affiliation Mr. Kunzmann is a member of the Fraternal Union of America; in church membership he is a Lutheran, and in politics a Democrat. For nine years he has been a member of the school board, and he has also served the public as dike commissioner. Cattle sufficient to supply the home with dairy commodities and ten head of horses are maintained on his farm.

Manifesting abundantly the thrift which is so

prominent a characteristic of the sons of Germany, and possessed of an enviable reputation for integrity of character, Mr. Kunzmann maintains a high standing among his neighbors and fellow-citizens as a worthy and forceful member of society.

NELSON B. RICHARDS, one of the sturdy agriculturists of the valley in the vicinity of Edison, came to Skagit county when the country was new and has carved his fortune out of the then wilderness of woods. His farm, located four miles southwest of Edison, is one of the prosperous places of Skagit county. Mr. Richards was born in Fulton county, Illinois, in September of 1859. His father, John V. Richards, a native of Pennsylvania and a farmer by occupation, became a resident of Illinois in the early fifties. Mrs. Sarah (Crowley) Richards, mother of our subject, was a native of Ohio. Of her seven children, Nelson B. was the sixth, and he was but six years old at the time of her death. Young Richards received his educational discipline in the Illinois schools. At the age of thirteen he was sent to his uncle's stock ranch in Texas, where he remained three years. Returning then to his native state, he put in three years as a farmhand, then went to Kansas City, where for two years he worked in a packing house. He spent the next year in railroad work in Arizona, then spent seven months in California. In the fall of 1884 he came to Washington and entered the employ of R. E. Whitney, with whom he stayed three years. In 1887 his present home place was bought, then all raw land, now all in cultivation and with excellent buildings erected upon it. Mr. Richards has made this his home ever since, except for three years, when he leased the place.

In 1893, at Victoria, B. C., Mr. Richards married Miss Lydia Price, daughter of Thomas Price, a merchant, native of Wales, who came around the Horn in the early sixties in a sailing vessel to Victoria, in the employ of the British government, in whose service he helped blaze the first trail into the Cariboo mining district. Mr. Price died in Skagit county. Mrs. Jane (Howells) Price, mother of Mrs. Richards, was also a native of Wales. She died in Bayview in 1893. Mrs. Richards was born in Westminster, British Columbia, in August of 1865, and received her education in a Victoria convent. She came to Skagit county with her mother in 1887. In fraternal circles Mr. Richards is an Odd Fellow, in church membership a Presbyterian and in politics a Republican. At present he is serving as clerk of the school board. Mrs. Richards adheres to the Episcopalian faith. The Richards home is on two hundred acres of land, one hundred and twenty of which are under cultivation, the remainder being excellent timber land. In live stock Mr. Richards has twenty head of cattle, ten horses, a number of sheep, etc. He is considered one of

the strong men of the county, a farmer of ability and skill and in all the relations of life a man of unquestioned integrity.

LINUS ABBOTT is one of the men of pure Yankee stock who have helped in the work of turning Skagit county from a wilderness into a community of agriculture and farm homes. His life has been one of travel, yet for more than a quarter of a century he has been a successful farmer in the Puget sound country. Mr. Abbott was born in Windsor county, Vermont, in 1813, the son of Elam Abbott, whose father, Daniel, settled at Stockbridge, Vermont, among the very first settlers, and there founded the Stockbridge branch of the Abbott family. Elam Abbott was born at Stockbridge February 26, 1805, died June 22, 1895, and was buried in the Sunnyside cemetery, Coupeville. The mother, Mrs. Roxey (Ellison) Abbott, born February 24, 1806, was likewise of Vermont nativity; she died February 14, 1885, the mother of nine children, of whom Linus was next to the youngest. At nineteen years of age, after attending school, Linus Abbott sailed from New York, bound for San Francisco, via the Panama route. The trip occupied forty-nine and one-half days. The first year and a half of young Abbott's life in California was spent in farming and dairying at Bloomfield. In the fall of 1863 he came north to Victoria, spending but a short time there before going to Seattle. The following year Mr. Abbott returned to Victoria, and he followed the carpenter trade there for a twelvemonth, or until he went to Coupeville, Whidby island, where he passed three years at farming. The year 1868 found him first at St. Helens, Oregon, and later working at the carpenter's bench in San Francisco. Again coming north, he located at Napton, on the Columbia river, in Washington, and helped build a saw-mill, remaining there eight months. At this time he decided to go back to the Green Mountain state, and there for a number of years followed agriculture. But the sound still attracted him, and in March of 1879 he returned to Coupeville, where he leased a farm and was engaged in tilling the soil for seven years. Early in 1886 Mr. Abbott came to Skagit county and rented a farm, also purchased eighty acres of wild brush land from R. H. Ball. Sixty acres of this were cleared and brought under cultivation when Mr. Abbott also bought the relinquishment of C. Dicks, filed on it as a pre-emption and later moved there. On his acquisition of this land it was largely in brush and had only a cabin in the way of improvements. After clearing sixty acres of it, he purchased forty more lying west, which had been part of the E. S. Jones homestead.

March 30, 1871, while residing in Vermont, Mr. Abbott married Miss Lucy S. Putnam, born October 5, 1849, of good old Yankee stock. Her father

was Ezra N. Putnam, whose father was a soldier of the War of 1812, and a relative of General Israel Putnam of Revolutionary fame. Mrs. Lucy (Washburn) Putnam, her mother, was a native of Vermont, springing from old pioneer stock of the Green Mountain state. Mrs. Abbott received her education in Vermont, eventually graduating from the State Normal school at Randolph, then following the teaching profession until her marriage. She died in Skagit county, October 6, 1889, and was buried in the Sunnyside cemetery near Coupeville. She was the mother of five children: Mrs. Mary L. Callahan, who lives near Fredonia; Hollis R., Nelson S., Hattie R. and George W., the last named dying in infancy. July 30, 1891, Mr. Abbott married Miss Harriet L. Underwood, the daughter of Jonas Ralph Underwood, who was born in Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, October 4, 1828. He was a pioneer in Kansas prior to the Civil War. At the beginning of hostilities he enlisted in Company F, Thirty-second Iowa Volunteers, and died October 12, 1863, after serving a little over one year. The mother, Harriet Louisa (Lewis) Underwood, was also born in Susquehanna county, the date being September 22, 1836, and is now a resident of Skagit county. After the death of Mr. Underwood she became Mrs. Waters. Mrs. Abbott was born in DeKalb county, Illinois, May 17, 1863, received her education in Kansas, graduated from Gould college and followed teaching for several years, until her marriage. She died June 15, 1903, and was buried in Sunnyside cemetery. Two children survive, Lucy A. and Louisa R.

Politically Mr. Abbott affiliates with the Democratic party. In addition to the pursuit of the other forms of agriculture, he devotes much time to stock raising, making a specialty of hogs, of which he has at present one hundred and fifty head; but he also has a fine herd of cattle and a number of good horses. His one hundred and twenty acres of land are all under cultivation and are so systematically farmed as to reflect great credit upon the worthy owner. Mr. Abbott has the energy and push necessary to win success in a business way, and also is possessed of that affable, sociable turn which wins and maintains for its possessor a high place in the regard and esteem of his fellow-citizens.

GEORGE HOFFMAN, a farmer residing southwest of Edison, is one of the men who have deserted the shoemaker's last and hammer for the farmer's plow and harrow. His experiences since coming to the United States cover numerous states, at last to become those of a pioneer in the woods of Skagit county. Mr. Hoffman was born in Germany in the summer of 1835, the son of John and Margaret (Decker) Hoffman, who passed all their lives in the old country. They were parents of two children, George and a girl, who died in infancy.

George Hoffman received his education in the old country, then served a three-year apprentice to the shoemaker's trade, commencing when but fourteen years of age. On the completion of this term he came to the United States, and he spent the first two years of his residence here at work at his trade in New York city. In 1864 he began pursuing his calling in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, remaining there for the next two years. At Wheeling, West Virginia, he remained four years, and in Chattanooga two years; then, in 1872, he came West to Dayton, Washington. After remaining in the Columbia county town two years, he came on to Seattle, where he spent the next twelvemonth. He then went to eastern Oregon, and remained a year, thereupon coming to La Conner. Soon after arriving in that town, he came over on the Samish flats and filed on a homestead, upon which he has resided since 1879. At that time the land was covered with brush, but he went to work with energy and in due time got it ready for the crops of the farmer. Mr. Hoffman has never married. In church membership he is a Catholic; in political faith a Democrat, believing that in that party is more independence than in any other political organization. Mr. Hoffman, while leading a very quiet life, is one of the respected and esteemed citizens of his community.

BENGT JOHNSON, living a half mile south-east of Milltown, is one of the prominent men of that section of Skagit county, and he has amassed his present property only after much discouragement and in the face of many obstacles. His life has been a useful one and in his career he has given his attention to many lines of work and activity. Mr. Johnson was born in Sweden December 21, 1844, the son of John and Hannah (Knudson) Johnson, who have passed their entire lives in the old country. Mr. Johnson had few educational advantages as a boy, but his native qualities have stood him well in hand. At the age of twenty-three years he left Sweden for the United States, landing in New York May 16, 1868. He went to Pennsylvania and worked a short time in a tannery, then went to Omaha, Nebraska, where he worked on a gravel train for the construction department of the Union Pacific. He remained at this work for some time and was present at Ogden, Utah, when the golden spike was driven in commemoration of the completion of the first transcontinental railroad in America. Mr. Johnson returned to Omaha, then went to Iowa and worked at hauling ties for a time; later he moved to Missouri and did railroad work. This he relinquished for farming in Kansas, where he resided until 1876. There grasshoppers and cinch bugs ruined his crops, and he sold out his farm and stock, coming to the Puget sound country via San Francisco. He worked seventy-six days at \$1 per day, but had the misfortune to lose the very



LINUS ABBOTT



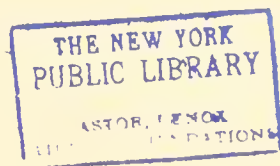
GEORGE HOFFMAN



BENGT JOHNSON



CHARLES ALSTRAND



first money he made in this part of the country. Mr. Johnson then went to Stanwood and worked at diking for Mr. Hancock. In company with two other men he built four hundred rods of dike. He also diked the town of Stanwood, accomplishing the work in six months. He pre-empted his present place in the fall of 1877, built a cabin, diked the adjoining place and lived in his cabin until 1880; then put up a dwelling near where his present house stands, and where he has cleared and diked one hundred and twenty acres. Litigation with the Puget Sound Mill Company lasted three years and cost Mr. Johnson \$750, but he had the satisfaction of winning and keeping his place. It seems that the company proved up on the place on which he had lived and upon certain allegations received the patent. Mr. Johnson carried the case up and ultimately the decision of the land office was reversed. The one hundred and twenty acres of Mr. Johnson's bottom land are all under cultivation and are very fertile. He has sowed two hundred acres of higher land to timothy and clover and uses it for pasture, and he has yet another hill tract of one hundred and sixty acres which is not sown. At present Mr. Johnson has eighty head of good cattle. He is a Republican in politics. One of his ventures in the early eighties was a partnership with William and Jefferson Sill and Mr. Forsyth in the butcher and meat business at Stanwood. The firm fattened two hundred and fifty head of cattle and three hundred and fifty hogs and Mr. Johnson went to Seattle to sell them. On his return trip the steamer Josephine blew up and killed ten men, also breaking one of Mr. Johnson's legs. He was laid up for five weeks, then sold out to his partners. Mr. Johnson has been in other accidents and has had some narrow escapes. When he was running on the gravel train on the Union Pacific, a wreck mixed up twenty-four carloads of telegraph poles and killed ten men, Mr. Johnson having a narrow escape. When he was working in the Pennsylvania tannery he was nearly drowned in one of the tanning tanks. Since coming to the sound country he narrowly escaped drowning in the Skagit river, being unable to swim, and only by chance getting a foothold on the bottom sufficient to permit him to crawl to shore. Mr. Johnson has never married. He is well esteemed in the community, a man possessing sterling characteristics, but one who, in his daily intercourse with his associates, is unpretentious and straightforward. The degree of prosperity that has come to him is the direct result of perseverance, of honest endeavor and of square dealing with his fellow-citizens.

CHARLES ALSTRAND, farmer, stock raiser and dairyman, living a short distance northeast of Belleville, after a few years of hard work and struggle with nature, is now well on the road to

prosperity and is already enjoying a competence. During the past few years he has labored well, and now the results of his efforts are taking material form and bringing substantial returns. He is a native of Sweden, born July 8, 1867, the son of Knute Benson Alstrand, a farmer of the old country, who died in 1875. Mrs. Johanna (Martinsen) Knutsen, the mother of the young man of whom this is written, was born in Sweden, but came to this country in 1898, when seventy years old, and made her home with her son Charles until her death last fall. She was the mother of ten children, two of whom are now dead. Besides Charles the living are Johan and Alexander, in the old country; John and Mrs. Bettie Hughes, southwest of Seattle; Mrs. Christina Holmberg, in Kansas; Mrs. Josephine Alstrander, in Seattle; and Mrs. Bena Swanson, in Skagit county. Charles Alstrand grew to manhood on the farm in Sweden, attending school in the winter and herding sheep in the summer, until fifteen years old, when he started for himself. He first hired out to a widow by the year, then did blacksmithing for awhile. When nineteen he decided to try his fortunes in the new world, so came to the United States with his older sisters, Bettie and Christina, and located at Osage City, Kansas, where for two years he found employment in the mines. He then came to Washington and worked on a White river hop farm south of Seattle for a time, then for seven years rented land in that section. In 1897 he came to Skagit county and with his brother John bought the place where he now lives, eighty acres, of which only three acres were cleared at the time of the purchase. All the other improvements on the place have been made by the brothers. Charles borrowed money and laid the foundation of his present dairy business by buying one cow, also worked in shingle bolt camps at intervals to obtain money with which to make improvements on the farm and to buy calves. During the first year his residence here began, his aged mother came over from Sweden and became his housekeeper. She died September 16, 1905, aged seventy-seven years. Little by little the stock has been increased and improvements made until early in 1905 Charles Alstrand was in a position to buy his brother's interest in the farm, and he has since been sole owner. He raises hay and oats principally, but keeps thirty head of shorthorn and Durham cattle, also forty head of Poland China and Berkshire hogs. He is a Republican in politics, but consistently refuses office, recently declining to serve as road overseer. Mr. Alstrand is a thrifty, hard worker, progressive, strong willed and determined to attain a position of independence. He has a nice house, good barns and is now approaching the full realization of the hopes of the past, the goal of his ambitions. He is persevering and in all things honorable, and must ever command the respect and confidence of his fellows.

EUPHRONEOUS E. WATKINSON, who lives four miles south of Bow, is one of the agriculturists of that section who are making a success of diversified farming. He was born in Linn county, Oregon, the son of Robert Watkinson, who crossed the continent to Oregon in pioneer days, and later contributed to the development of communities in that state and Washington. On coming to this commonwealth, the elder Watkinson located in Mason county. A somewhat fuller sketch of his career and that of his worthy helpmeet will be found in connection with the biography of another son, Melbourn Watkinson, which precedes this biography.

Euphroneous E. Watkinson, of this review, was brought by his parents to Mason county, Washington, in 1869, when about four years old, and was educated in the public schools there established. When he was sixteen, in 1880, his parents removed to Skagit county and he accompanied them here, though for two years previous he had been earning his own living. After locating in Skagit county, he followed logging and other work in the woods until the year 1900, when he decided to engage in farming. He had previously purchased a place of ten acres, all in timber, and had cleared and otherwise prepared it for cultivation, but he preferred to locate on the old home of his parents in the vicinity of Bow, and the parental place has been the scene of his operations since.

In 1900 Mr. Watkinson married Miss Lena Lonsdale, a native of Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Ole Lonsdale, her father, who is a native of Norway, born July 28, 1846, came to the United States in early manhood and engaged in farming in Minnesota, but in 1888 came to Washington and is now living at Edison. Mrs. Mary (Christianson) Lonsdale, mother of Mrs. Watkinson, was born in Norway in 1845, came to the United States in 1868 and lived for a time with her brother in Minnesota before marrying Mr. Lonsdale. She passed away in 1887, the mother of nine children, of whom Mrs. Watkinson is fourth. Mr. and Mrs. Watkinson are the parents of three children: Georgie May, born September 26, 1901; Walter, March 15, 1903, and Herbert M., January 18, 1905. In fraternal circles Mr. Watkinson is an Odd Fellow and in politics a Democrat. He is engaged in general farming, including stock raising, and now has nine head of cattle, horses sufficient to cultivate the place to advantage, and other live stock. Mr. Watkinson is a man strong in character and capable of hard work, and his success is the legitimate result of his earnest endeavor and good business ability.

WILLIAM J. BROWN, retired farmer at Bow, is one of the pioneer men of Skagit county, who is intimately connected with the opening up of the country. He probably knows as much about the

topography of Skagit county from actual experience as any other man now resident here. Before he came to this country Mr. Brown had been through experiences in the world which do not usually fall to the lot of the average man. Mr. Brown was born at the Bow in London, England, October 15, 1850, the son of William M. Brown, who was born in 1815, became a civil engineer in the employ of the British government, and who is still living. Mrs. Louisa (Wisbey) Brown, also a native of London, born in 1817, of Irish extraction, is also still living.

William J. Brown, of this review, left home when he was fourteen years of age, his father having bought him a commission on board a man-of-war sailing from Plymouth. During his service on the seas he visited Madeira, the Cape of Good Hope, Angie Point at the southerly extremity of India, Singapore and Penang. From the latter point he went to the Nicobar islands, near the Philippines, thence to Hong Kong and back to Bombay. He was in the Red sea at the time of the war between Abyssinia and Great Britain, and was one of the expedition against King Theodore under Lord Napier. Another trip was made through the straits of Malacca and up to Yokohama, crossing from Japan to Victoria, British Columbia. At the last named place Mr. Brown severed his connection with the Queen's navy, then he came to Utsalady and commenced to tally lumber for shipping, remaining at that work for about two years. He then came to Fidalgo island and bought 160 acres of land on Similk bay, which he later sold, in the fall of 1871. Mr. Brown then came to Samish island and located on the place where he now resides. During these years he was also engaged in sailing, running a sloop, the "True Blue," on the waters of the sound. After two years of this traffic he sold the vessel to John J. Comer, one of the founders of La Conner. Between his trips on the sloop Mr. Brown had been careful not to allow his rights ashore to lapse. Since leaving the shipping business, he has done much cruising on timber lands, eighty per cent. of the timber locations between Samish and the Prairie having been made by him. He has also been deputy county surveyor and in this capacity surveyed the first road between Edison and Lake Samish and between the county line and Wickersham. During his lumber cruising days Mr. Brown located the first claim for Patrick McCoy, was in charge of the holdings of W. H. Miller of Wisconsin, and did all the location work for Clothier & English. Mr. Brown is also the founder of Bow, named by him and platted on his land in recent years. Its history is given elsewhere.

In 1872 Mr. Brown married Miss Jennie Tahati, who is now the mother of seven children: Mrs. Kate Lonsdale, living near Bow; William, Minnie, Joseph, Louisa, Jennie and Mary. In politics Mr. Brown is a Republican. He is the owner of two

hundred and ten acres of land, including a large proportion of the town site of Bow. Mr. Brown is now devoting most of his time to his orchard of four hundred trees and his seventy stands of bees. He is one of the old-timers in the county, a man of force of character and respected by all.

WILLIAM A. DAWSON, a pioneer of 1877, has participated in the development and progress of Skagit county, beginning his individual operations in the days that preceded the removal of the famous Skagit river log jam, over which as a young man he made his first crossing of the Skagit. Mr. Dawson was born in Gordon county, Georgia, June 2, 1859, the son of Ratliffe Boone Dawson, named after the famous old pioneer of Kentucky, Daniel Boone, who was a cousin of his mother. The elder Dawson was a farmer in his early days, but espoused the cause of the Confederacy during the Civil War and served through the great conflict with the Third Georgia Volunteers, closing his army career under Lee at Appomattox, and returning to his Georgia farm after the surrender. In 1877 he came to Washington and he remained here for eight years, ultimately going back to Georgia, where he still resides. Mrs. Mary (Terrell) Dawson, mother of our subject, is one of the old Talt Terrell family, well known in Georgia, and is still living, the mother of nine children, of whom William A. is the oldest. William lived at home until he was twenty-one years of age, coming to Washington with his parents, but declining to return with them. They had bought two hundred and twenty acres of land here, and after they had sold out he determined to remain. He bought an acre of ground a half mile west of Bow, on which he is still living, and from which, as a center, he conducts his logging operations. Soon after his parents returned to Georgia, Mr. Dawson commenced logging, and during two later years he conducted logging operations in a camp of his own near Edison. He has followed logging ever since, his yearly output sometimes reaching as high as three million feet.

In 1881 Mr. Dawson married Miss Jennie Walker, a native of Canada and the daughter of Andrew P. Walker, who was of Scotch birth, and all of whose brothers became officers of the British army. Mr. Walker was but a lad when his parents removed to Canada. He grew up there, but spent some time in Minnesota, and ultimately came to Washington, where he died in 1881. Mrs. Eliza J. (Bingham) Walker, mother of Mrs. Dawson, is a native of Canada, and at present is residing in Anacortes, having since the demise of her first husband married B. C. Ranous of that city. Mr. and Mrs. Dawson have five children: D. Ray, Rexford P., Maxwell B., Ruby E. and Ralph F. Mr. Dawson is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, he and Mrs. Dawson belonging also to the

Pioneer Association. In politics he is a Democrat. He is a man respected in the neighborhood and recognized by his business associates as one who has business ability and business integrity. During a residence in Skagit county of more than a quarter of a century he has applied his energies almost exclusively to the development of the one industry in which he is now engaged. He has demonstrated his ability not only to master the details of his business, but so to manage it that it will yield its largest returns. His name must ever be linked with those of the pioneers of this section who found it a primeval forest and have converted it into a habitable region, with its homes, farms, towns, cities and innumerable industries.

JOHN L. DALE, postmaster of Edison, came to Skagit county several years after his parents, being attracted West by the possibilities of the country as represented to him by his father. He has prospered since coming and to-day is not sorry that he joined his fortunes with those of the Skagit county pioneers. Mr. Dale was born in Venango county, Pennsylvania, September 7, 1854, the son of John L. Dale, a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1814, an attorney at law, who practiced his profession for twenty years in River Falls, Wisconsin, then moved to Tennessee. The elder Dale came in the centennial year to Edison, where he died in 1878. He saw long service in the Civil War, and at the time of his discharge was a second lieutenant in the Thirtieth Wisconsin. Mrs. Massey (Jordan) Dale, a native of the Keystone state, born in 1833, shared the fortunes of her husband until his death. She passed away in Skagit county on Independence day of 1887, leaving five children, of whom John L. is third. Mr. Dale attended the schools of Wisconsin and worked on his father's farm in that state until twenty years old, then accompanied his parents to Tennessee, where he leased land and operated farms for twelve years. He remained in that southern state when his parents moved to Washington, but ten years later he followed them. For four years after his arrival here he worked in different places in the vicinity of Edison, and in 1890 he bought land which he sold to advantage in 1900. He then purchased the house and lot in Edison where he now resides. July 16, 1897, he was appointed to the postmastership of Edison, a position which he still holds at this writing. He was chosen county commissioner in the fall of 1892 and served four years, all of the time as chairman of the board.

December 28, 1875, Mr. Dale married Miss Lucy J. Brown, a native of Nashville, Tennessee, and a daughter of Aquila Brown, a prominent citizen, at one time sheriff of Davidson County, Tennessee, for eight years. He is still living at the advanced age of eighty. Mrs. Martha J. Brown, the mother of Mrs. Dale, was a native of Tennessee and was

reared and married there. She died in Nashville in 1884, leaving six children, of whom Mrs. Dale is third. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dale: Annie L., Robert L., Jennie C., John L., Jr., and Edna M. In fraternal circles Mr. Dale is an Odd Fellow and Mrs. Dale and her oldest daughter are Rebekahs. In political faith Mr. Dale is a Republican. He is one of the prominent and influential citizens of Edison, a man of energy, whose attainments are the results of earnest endeavor, assiduously continued, and in no degree of fortuity.

WILLIAM GILMORE. To the man whose life work it is now our task to treat of in brief outline, it was not given to move in those larger affairs of life which call forth elements of greatness, if such exist, but pioneer conditions in Skagit county furnished abundant opportunity for the exercise of one element of greatness, and by universal consent a very essential element, namely: self-abnegation, with its necessary concomitant, an enlightened philanthropy. This splendid quality William Gilmore possessed in a high degree and its exercise in the days when the struggle for existence was to most people a hard one rendered many of the pioneers his debtor for numerous and much needed benefactions. He undoubtedly stands out as one of the most prominent figures in the early days of Skagit county. His faith in the future of that section never wavered, hence he feared not to forge ahead boldly in industrial and commercial ventures and he was always in the forefront of the progressive movements of his day. Later developments have justified his faith. His ventures proved as successful as he anticipated and as a reward for his strenuous and prolonged endeavor he acquired for himself and his descendants a splendid fortune, not a dollar of which came to him by other than legitimate means. He bequeathed to his progeny the noblest heritage that it is possible for any man to leave behind, the memory of a life well spent, a work well done, a name untarnished.

Mr. Gilmore, like many other forceful men in the development of American communities, was a native of the Emerald isle, born in 1840, and his educational training was acquired in the excellent public schools of that land. In early manhood he decided to seek his fortune in America, and in 1870 emigrated to the United States. His first home in the new world was in Lucas County, Iowa, where he farmed continuously for six years, thereupon embarking in the mercantile business, to which he devoted himself assiduously and uninterruptedly until 1882, when he sold out and changed his place of residence, coming to Edison, Washington. Shortly after his arrival he purchased the merchandise stock of Captain A. J. Edwards, the pioneer merchant of the little town, and indeed the only merchant who had established himself there up to that

time. This business he carried on successfully for many years. In many other ways also he took a leading part in the transformation of the struggling little town into a thriving business center and in the development of all the country tributary to it. The magnitude of his agricultural operations may be estimated from the fact that at the time of his death April 4, 1900, he was one of the largest land-owners and one of the heaviest taxpayers in all Skagit county, where so many wealthy men dwell. And though this wealth was acquired by his own unaided effort, the struggle for its possession did not warp any of the finer sentiments in the man, nor had it any tendency to develop miserly qualities in him, as such a struggle so often does in smaller men. On the contrary, he was always remarkably generous with his means and no worthy cause appealed to him in vain. It frequently happens that a community fails to recognize its debt of gratitude to great, public-spirited men until death has claimed them, but fortunately this was not so in Mr. Gilmore's case. It was given to him to enjoy the appreciation and honor of his fellow-citizens while he was yet among them, the best reward that it is in their power to give for a life replete with unselfish and kindly deeds.

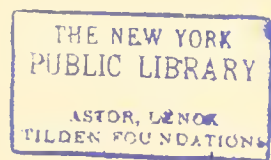
In 1870, before leaving Ireland for the new world, Mr. Gilmore married Mary McCullough, also a native of the "Little Green Isle," born at Grey Abbey, County Down, in 1844. She accompanied him across the waters and made his path in the new continent a pleasant one, sharing in his successes and burdens up to January 10, 1883, when she succumbed to a short illness and was buried in the cemetery at Edison. They became the parents of five children, two of whom are still living, William N. and John A.

Later in life Mr. Gilmore remarried, from which union one child was born, Hugh J., who now resides in Olympia. Though active in so many other lines, Mr. Gilmore never manifested political ambition, but during a period of residence at Olympia he served on the city council there.

William N. Gilmore, eldest son of William Gilmore of this article, was born in Lucas County, Iowa, February 10, 1872. Upon completing his elementary education, which he did in the public schools of Edison, Washington, he attended the college at Olympia for a year. At the age of sixteen he became a clerk in his father's store, and as soon as he attained his majority the elder Gilmore rewarded the faithfulness and aptitude for business which he had displayed by making him a partner in the establishment. To his strict adherence to sound business principles and careful study of the requirements of his patrons, the reputation of the house is in no small measure due. He is a young man of industry, integrity and ambition, a worthy son of his worthy sire, destined, if indications are to be trusted, to win for himself a splendid success



WILLIAM GILMORE



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PATRICK McCOY

in the commercial world. His land holdings consist of a half interest in an eleven hundred-acre farm, of which five hundred and sixty acres are in cultivation.

In his home town, Edison, in 1899, Mr. Gilmore married Minerva Butler, a native of Pennsylvania, where she received a careful and thorough education. Her parents were Andrew and Rebecca (Moore) Butler, both natives of the Keystone state, the former of whom, a lumberman, was killed while she was yet a child, the latter of whom died in Edison. Mr. and Mrs. Gilmore have two children, Reba J., born July 2, 1901, and Helen W.; December 24, 1904. The family are regular attendants of the Congregational church, and in politics Mr. Gilmore is a loyal Republican, while his fraternal affiliations are with the Masonic order.

John A. Gilmore, another of the sons of the subject hereof, is likewise a native of Lucas County, Iowa, the date of his birth being March 21, 1877. His common school education, acquired in Edison, was supplemented by a course in the Olympia high school and another in the state university at Seattle, and that he might be still better fitted for a business career he spent a twelvemonth in the Acme Business college, which is likewise located in the Queen city. Upon returning to Edison he entered his father's mercantile house, and in 1898 he, too, became a partner. After his father's demise the firm name was changed to Gilmore Brothers & Company. An upright, energetic and ambitious young man, he is contributing his full share to the success of the establishment, at the same time taking the first steps in a career which gives promise of much to be realized in the future. Like his older brother, he is a Republican in politics and in religion a Congregationalist. His marriage was solemnized in Bayview October 31, 1900, when Mary McKenna, daughter of the well-known W. J. McKenna, became his wife. Mrs. Gilmore is a native of Eureka, California, born in 1878, but was educated in the public schools of Bayview and Anacortes. She and Mr. Gilmore are parents of two children, both born in Edison, J. Wayne, September 29, 1901, and Constance M., July 20, 1903.

PATRICK MCCOY of Edison, one of the most widely known lumbermen of the Northwest, was born in Quebec, Canada, April 24, 1854, the son of Walter and Ann (Burk) McCoy, both natives of Ireland. The father was one of the pioneer settlers in the southeastern part of Canada. The youngest of a family of ten children, Patrick McCoy attended the common schools, diligently making use of every opportunity to secure an education. At the age of fifteen years he began work in the woods, following it till 1878. After working on a farm for a time he went to the woods of Michigan, and two years later to Butte, Montana, still engaged in lum-

bering. After stopping at Wood river, Idaho, a few months, he went to Seattle in 1882, thence to Stanwood, and that fall filed on a timber claim and a homestead near Edison. The next fall he and F. E. Gilkey became proprietors of a hotel, which they owned for two years, at the end of which time Mr. McCoy returned to his former occupation. After logging in the McMroy, now known as Blanchard slough, two years, he moved his camp to the Samish river, in 1887, remaining there for the next six years. In 1893, however, he located on the Nooksack river, in Whatcom county, but two years later he again made Skagit county his home. He was employed by the Atlas Lumber Company from that time until 1898, then resumed work on the Samish river, and since that time has been a resident of Edison. In 1902 he put in between six and seven miles of standard gauge railroad for logging purposes, which was thoroughly equipped with rolling stock, etc. He is a very large operator in timber, among the largest in this section of the state.

Mr. McCoy was married in Edison, January 20, 1889, to Gertrude Butler, a native of Pennsylvania, born June 3, 1867. After completing her education in the schools of her native state, she came with her mother to Washington in 1887, and for several years after her arrival she was one of the successful and popular teachers of Skagit county. Her parents were Andrew and Rebecca (Moore) Butler, both born in Pennsylvania. Her father, a well-known lumberman, was killed when she was a small child. Mr. and Mrs. McCoy have the following children: Annie, born in Skagit county April 28, 1890; Edna, in Edison, February 17, 1892, and Wade, also a native of Edison, the date of his birth being July 8, 1894. Mr. McCoy is a member of the Catholic church, and in politics is a prominent member of the Democratic party. He was elected representative of Skagit county in 1902 and served two years, and for four years he was postmaster of Edison, during Cleveland's second administration. Mr. McCoy is a man of splendid business abilities. He is a recognized authority on all matters relating to the lumber industry, to which he has devoted the best energies of his life. The large measure of success attending his labors has come as a reward for years of unrelenting toil. Few men in the county can claim so large a circle of admiring friends as can he, for his frank, manly bearing and sterling character attract all who are thrown in contact with him, either in business or society.

THOMAS CAIN, one of the wealthy and influential citizens of Edison, Washington, was born November 15, 1847, in Port Calborn, Canada. His father, John Cain, a native of Ireland and by occupation a shoemaker and farmer, was brought by his parents to New York state at the age of eight years, becoming a pioneer of Erie county. He died there

at the age of ninety-eight. Mrs. Bridget (Quinn) Cain, the mother, also born in Ireland, died in Canada in 1862. She was the mother of ten children. After receiving his education in the public schools of Canada, Thomas Cain, at the age of fifteen, went to work in the lumber camps of Michigan, where he remained ten years. In 1873 he located in Colorado, but soon moved to Texas to accept a position with the Baltimore Bridge Company, engaged in constructing railroad bridges. One year later he migrated to Wisconsin and took charge of a logging camp. In 1876 he came thence to Washington. He was in Tacoma a few months, then came to Seattle and for two years managed a logging camp at Port Ludlow, owned by Arthur Phiney, who at that time had the most extensive lumber business in the state. At Mr. Phiney's death Mr. Cain was appointed one of the administrators of the estate, which was closed up in eight months. He then assumed the management of a logging camp on Whidby island, owned by Edward Oliver, but three months later he broke the bone in his hip and for nearly a year and a half afterward he was disabled. He entered the custom service at Port Townsend under A. W. Bash, in 1881, and continued there until the spring of 1884, when he resigned, and entered into partnership with Messrs. Churchill, Boyce & Sweeny, to put in the second store in the town of Edison. Later he built the first hotel, which he owned and operated seventeen years. During this time he purchased five hundred and thirty acres of land near the town, all heavily timbered, and he now has two hundred and twenty-five acres of it cleared and in cultivation, the cost of clearing a part of it being \$100 an acre. Recently he has let a contract for clearing the trees and stumps from one hundred acres of his timber tract. He gives special attention to raising cattle, keeping some fine Durhams.

In Edison, in 1894, Mr. Cain married Miss Eliza M. Duffy, who was born in Canada in 1862, the daughter of James Duffy, a native of Ireland. Her father is a well-known pioneer, now residing in the province of Ontario. Her mother, Mrs. Mary (Kelly) Duffy, was born in Canada and died there in 1888. Mrs. Cain received a thorough education in her native country, graduating from Brandford university, and for a number of years she was one of the most popular and successful teachers of Skagit and Whatcom counties. Two children have come into the home of Mr. and Mrs. Cain, Arthur T., born in Edison February 24, 1896, and Eugene, born in Edison December 16, 1899. Mr. Cain is prominent in the Knights of Pythias fraternity, and he and his family attend the Catholic church. He adheres loyally to the principles of the Republican party, always attending county and state conventions and giving his influence to every movement that he considers promotive of good government. For many years he has been importuned to accept office, but has refused, contenting himself with ef-

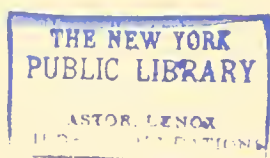
forts to fill posts of trust in private life. He was, however, postmaster of Edison from 1889 to 1893, under appointment by Harrison. Unselfish devotion to the interests of county, state and nation is one of the marked characteristics of this all-round man, who holds the unbounded confidence of all who have had the privilege of association with him. His genial, social disposition, combined with strict integrity and high ideals, has given him an honored position in the community.

DANIEL SULLIVAN. Prominent among the agriculturists who have amassed great wealth in the fertile lands of the Northwest, stands the one whose name initiates this article, a well-known resident of Edison, Washington. He was born in New Brunswick, December 20, 1841, the son of Daniel and Mary Sullivan, both natives of Ireland. Having completed his education in the schools of his native province at the age of sixteen, Daniel Sullivan began working in logging camps, following that for the ensuing eleven years. In 1869 he removed to California, and he was employed in the lumber business in the Golden state for more than two years, but in January, 1872, he located in Washington, taking a pre-emption on Samish flats and becoming one of the earliest pioneers of that section. He raised his first grain in 1876. Two years previous, in 1874, he filed on a tract two miles east of his original claim, under the homestead act. Sixty acres of the homestead were in marsh lands; the rest covered with brush and trees. He now has seven hundred acres on Samish flats, all in a splendid state of cultivation; one hundred and sixty acres on Olympia marsh, in cultivation; one hundred and twenty acres of farm land and three hundred and forty acres of timber, on Jarman prairie, and another timber tract comprising three hundred and twenty acres.

Mr. Sullivan was married in Seattle in 1882 to Ellen Daily, a native of New Brunswick, born February 22, 1852. Her parents, Timothy and Mary (Made) Daily, were born and married in Ireland, but were among the early settlers in New Brunswick. Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan are parents of the following children, all natives of Skagit county, namely: Mary M. E., born July 21, 1883, now at home; Nellie F. M., February 28, 1885, the wife of J. Fredricks, of Clear Lake; Katie J., January 28, 1887; Amelia V. L., died June 27, 1905; Maggie M. L., May 26, 1890; John A., January 26, 1895, died July 10, 1895. Mr. Sullivan is a prominent member of the Catholic church. In political matters he is a firm believer in Democratic principles, but has never desired for himself any political prominence. His splendid business abilities are apparent in the wise and careful way in which he manages his vast holdings, comprising nearly nineteen hundred acres in Skagit county, one thousand



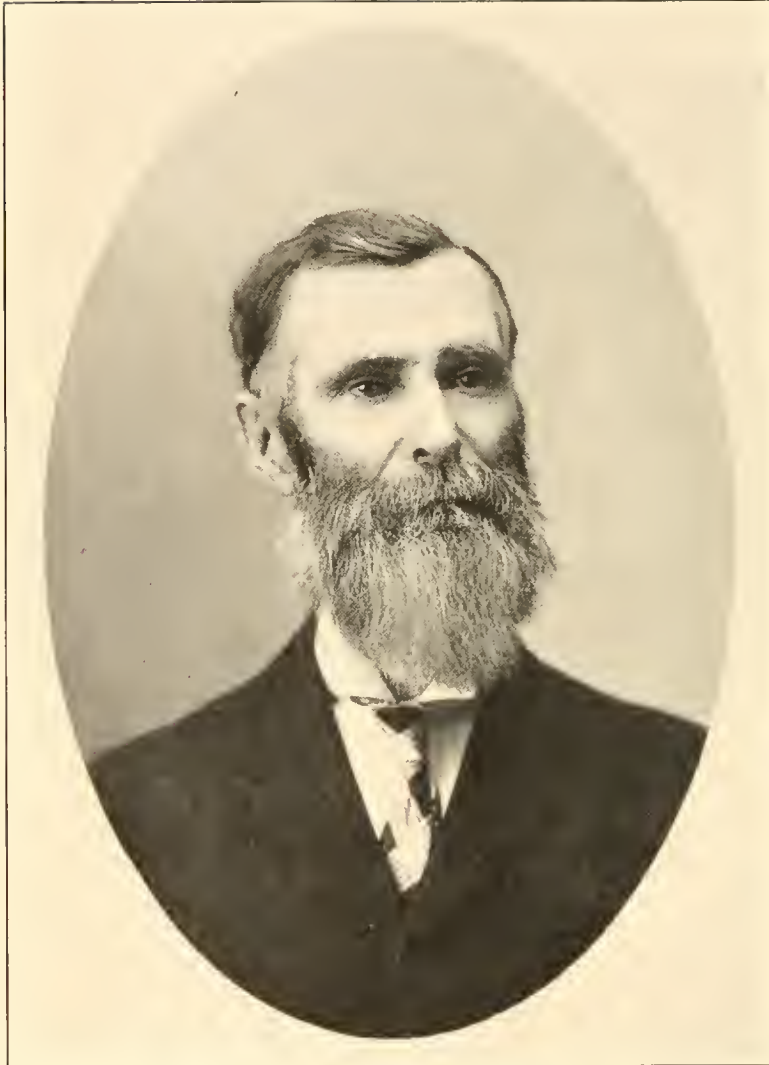
THOMAS CAIN



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EDWARD W. McTAGGART

of which are in cultivation. Although occupied with the multiplicity of details incident to the ownership of such an estate, he yet finds time to watch carefully over the welfare of county and state and freely gives of his time and wealth to the advancement of any enterprise which will redound to the public good. It is not possible to estimate the advantages that accrue to the community and the common-wealth because of the activities of such men as Daniel Sullivan. Like so many American citizens who have sprung from Celtic ancestry, he possesses in a marked degree the power of organization, of systematizing his efforts for the accomplishing a given purpose. During the thirty-four years of his residence in Skagit county he has perhaps accomplished more in the development of its agricultural resources than any other one individual, and these results have followed the formation of definite plans and the painstaking execution thereof. The development of the homestead of 1874 into the vast estate of 1905 is an attainment that evinces indomitable courage, keen foresight and superior executive ability. Of the pioneers of the early seventies in Skagit county, no one is more worthy of the profound respect and admiration of his fellow-citizens; no one is better entitled to prominence in the pages of the county's history, than is Daniel Sullivan of Edison.

NICHOLS SHUMAKER, a prosperous farmer residing near Bow, one-half mile southwest of Edison, was born October 7, 1851, in Germany, the native land of his parents, Henry and Catharine (Sonntaeg) Shumaker. His father, born in 1807, was a shoemaker; he died in Germany in 1901, where the mother's death also occurred. Having acquired his education in the common schools of Germany, Nichols Shumaker was apprenticed at the age of sixteen to learn his father's trade, which he followed a number of years. A longing to try his fortune in the United States, whither so many of his countrymen had journeyed, at length seized him and in 1872 he sailed for the new world. He located in Chicago, found employment in a soap factory owned by James Kirk, and remained there two years. Afterwards he farmed nearly a year and a half in Iowa, returning then to Illinois. In 1878 he came to La Conner, and he worked for J. S. Conner until the summer of 1880, when he filed on a homestead on Samish flats, becoming one of the first men to dike land in that vicinity. He worked two years before he had the land in condition to raise crops. This place is still his home.

Mr. Shumaker was married in Whatcom, March 8, 1885, to Catharine Denis, born in Minnesota, October 19, 1864. Her father, Claude Denis, was born in France in 1833 and emigrated to Minnesota in 1863. Ten years later he took up his residence in Whatcom, finding employment in the coal mines

there, but after three years' experience as a collier he moved to La Conner and rented a farm from J. S. Conner for one year. He then leased a place of the Puget Sound Mill Company, upon which he lived three years. In 1881 he returned to Whatcom, where he later proved up on a homestead. In 1886 he came to the Samish flats and bought one hundred and ten acres of land, upon which he resided till his death, January 25, 1893. Elizabeth (Bessner) Denis, mother of Mrs. Shumaker, was born and married in Germany, but died in Washington in 1898, her demise occurring at Edison. Mr. and Mrs. Shumaker have the following children, all born in Edison: Alice, December 26, 1886; Louisa, October 13, 1888; Bertha, December 10, 1890; William, February 13, 1894. Mr. Shumaker and his family are members of the Catholic church and he is a well-known Republican. He has been deeply interested in educational matters, and has cheerfully given his time and influence to advancing them, having served as school director for the past eleven years, and being now chairman of the high school board. He owns one hundred and twenty acres, all in a fine state of cultivation; keeps a large number of thoroughbred cattle, and is surrounded on every hand by evidence of the prosperity that his years of arduous toil so richly merit. He is recognized as one of the substantial, public-spirited citizens of the town and enjoys the confidence and respect of all who come in contact with him.

EDWARD McTAGGART. Probably no man in Skagit county has been more actively connected with the development of the community which claimed him as a citizen than has the gentleman whose name initiates this article, with that of Edison and the Samish country, to which he came in 1870. At the time of his advent into that section the Samish flats were a wilderness, with but one or two settlers for miles around, no roads nor trails, and the dugout and canoe the only means of ingress and egress. The land was boggy and subject to overflow and covered with almost impenetrable forests of mammoth trees and underbrush. Here he took up land and begun the fight against wilderness and flood; and with that broad grasp of possibilities which is peculiarly characteristic of the man, and that progressive public-spiritedness which has ever marked his course in life, he soon begun casting about to see what could be accomplished in the way of development and progress. He it was who deeded the land for the first store to Captain A. J. Edwards, as an inducement to him to bring in a stock of goods, in 1882, and one year later he was instrumental in getting William Gilmore to come to Edison and buy the Edwards stock; and it was at his place the meeting was held by the settlers on March 26, 1876, for the securing of a post-

office and he was selected to fill the position of postmaster. The name Edison, adopted as the name of the postoffice, was of his suggesting, and he appointed Swen Johnson as mail carrier in June, being personally responsible for his conduct until official action could be taken by the postoffice department. He went before the county commissioners in the early eighties and urged upon them the dire needs of his community for a bridge across the south branch of the Samish river, pledging to raise half of the expense of building the bridge among the settlers, and standing personally responsible for the sum. He had been instrumental in having a bridge built across the north branch of the Samish by the settlers prior to this, and had taken the lead in digging a ditch along the south side of the main Samish river and constructing an elevated footpath in the shape of a dirt dike thrown up for a half mile or so, with two small bridges across the salt water sloughs which it intersected, thus affording a means of connection between that community and Samish island, where the Seattle steamers landed. Between the years 1870-78 Mr. McTaggart practiced in the United States land office at Olympia, during which time he secured to the settlers of the Samish and other parts of Skagit county their title to lands. Since 1879 he has held the position of state lumber inspector for the district in which he has resided, having received his appointment first from Governor Elisha P. Ferry, for district No. 9, composed of Whatcom county, and on the construction of district No. 1, by the legislature in 1881, which comprised the counties of Island, Whatcom, Skagit and Snohomish, Governor Newell appointed him as inspector of that enlarged territory. Since that time he has successively been appointed to the same position by Governors Squire, Semple, Acting Governor Laughton and Governor McGraw. He is now living the life of a retired gentleman, in the city of Bellingham, respected and honored by all, and loved and esteemed as a friend and brother by the old-time citizens of Edison and community, where he is still interested largely, and to which he makes regular visits to look after his interests and talk over old times with his former neighbors.

Mr. McTaggart comes of good old Scotch stock and himself is a native of Argyllshire, born in 1833. At the age of six years he was brought to the United States by his parents, Edward and Mary (McGeachy) McTaggart, who settled in Virginia in 1839, and engaged in farming. Here young McTaggart was reared and educated, dividing his time between the farm and school until twenty-six years of age, when he turned his face toward the Pacific coast, traveling to San Francisco via the Isthmus of Panama. He turned his attention to mining, and for five years wooed fortune in the gold fields of California, then he returned to his former home and entered the mercantile business with his

brother Archibald. Four years of this business sufficed, then he again sought the genial clime of the Pacific coast country, purchasing a farm near Los Angeles, where he continued to live one year. Then after a visit home he came on up the coast to Olympia, then to Seattle, and in October of 1870 he first landed on the Samish flats, in what was then Whatcom county.

In 1878 Mr. McTaggart and Miss Mary L. Judson, daughter of Holden A. Judson, of Lynden, Whatcom county, were united in marriage. Mrs. McTaggart's father was a native of Ohio, as was also the mother, Mrs. Phoebe N. (Goodell) Judson. Her parents crossed the plains in a very early day and settled at Olympia, where the husband engaged in farming and later in the mercantile business. Still later he came to Whatcom county, and in 1877 he laid out the town of Lynden, of which he was the pioneer merchant. He passed away in 1890. Mrs. Judson shared with her husband all of his pioneer experiences, gaining the distinction of being the first white woman to settle north of the town of Bellingham. She still lives at Lynden. Mrs. McTaggart was born in Olympia in 1861 and received her education in the capitol city. She taught school in Whatcom county for a time prior to her marriage. She departed this life in 1894, leaving two children, Edward L. and May E., born in Edison, the latter of whom died in February, 1905.

Politically Mr. McTaggart is a staunch Republican. In 1873 he served his district as a member of the board of county commissioners, of which he was the chairman. He served as member of the school board at Edison and furnished the lumber and personally assisted in the erection of the first school-house in district No. 7, after having secured a grant of land from the government for the site. Broad-minded, energetic and liberal to a fault, Mr. McTaggart has left his impress on the Edison community in such a manner that it will never be effaced, and has made a place for himself in the hearts of the people by his many acts of unselfishness that will last indefinitely.

NATHANIEL McCULLOUGH, whose farm is about two miles southwest of Edison, is one of the prosperous and well-to-do agriculturists of Skagit county, owning a farm of three hundred and twenty acres, all of which is under cultivation and admirably adapted for raising oats. Mr. McCullough is a native of the north of Ireland, born March 21, 1852, the seventh of the eight children of Nathaniel and Jane (Beck) McCullough, both of whom passed their entire lives as farmers of the Emerald isle. The elder McCullough died when his son was but a lad and the latter remained on the farm with his mother until he was nineteen years of age, receiving a common school education.

He then emigrated, and, in the fall of 1871, settled in Lucas County, Iowa, as a farmer, and continued there until 1890. In 1883 he made a trip to Skagit County, Washington, and his permanent settling here is the result of that visit seven years before. Mr. McCullough bought his present place on the Samish flats and later added one hundred and sixty acres more, secured by purchase, to his original tract.

In 1876, in Lucas County, Iowa, Mr. McCullough married Miss Amy Young, daughter of William and Sarah (Graham) Young, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, but settled in Lucas County, Iowa, in the pioneer days of 1856. They have both died within a comparatively few years. Mrs. McCullough was born in the Keystone state in 1854, and received her education in Iowa, marrying when twenty-two years of age. To this union have been born three children: James, in 1877; Charles, November 20, 1879, and Ivy, May 20, 1884. The family attends the Presbyterian church, and in politics Mr. McCullough is a Republican. The principal crop raised on the McCullough farm is oats, the land being of excellent quality for that crop. He also raises considerable live stock, keeping at present fifty head of cattle and fifteen horses. Mr. McCullough is not only prosperous as a farmer and business man, but stands high in the esteem of his fellow-citizens. Though he is a newcomer, as compared with some of the earliest settlers of Skagit county, he has gained for himself a reputation for energy and thrift, has proved himself a man of integrity and fair dealing, and has enrolled himself with the substantial men of the community whose influence weighs for higher standards, good citizenship, right government and material progress.

MELBOURN WATKINSON is one of the old-time men of Skagit county and has done his share toward developing the resources of the country. His life, like that of his father, has been the life of the pioneer farmer and timber man. Mr. Watkinson was born in Linn County, Oregon, May 3, 1857, the son of Robert Watkinson, a native of Manchester, England, who came to the United States and was a school teacher in New Orleans, in Ohio and in Indiana. In 1852 he crossed the plains by ox team and settled in Linn County, Oregon, taking up a homestead and teaching school. He also spent two years in California, but returned to his Oregon home, and in 1869 came to Washington and settled on Hood's canal in Mason county. Two years he passed as a merchant, and then took up a pre-emption and lived on it for ten years. He visited for one year in his old haunts in Canada and died in Skagit county in 1902. Mrs. Rebecca (Beeler) Watkinson, now living in Skagit county, was born in Missouri, but crossed the plains with her father

in 1852 and was married in Oregon, becoming the mother of ten children, of whom Melbourn is the oldest. Melbourn Watkinson received his education in the schools of Oregon and Washington, and at the age of sixteen commenced to do for himself, working with Chris Johnson for four years in a logging camp. He afterwards engaged in logging in his own interests and then cruised timber for a year from Hood's canal to Quinault, on the Pacific coast, traversing the Olympic range of mountains. In 1880 he came to Skagit county and for a year worked for Joe Miller in a logging camp. Then, in company with his brother-in-law and six other men, he formed a plan to take up land and follow logging. This arrangement was successful and continued for two years, at the end of which time he bought his present home place of one hundred and forty-two acres, a little over two miles south of Edison. It was then in its raw state, but Mr. Watkinson has diked and cleared the entire tract and erected a fine eight-room house and large barn.

In 1882 Mr. Watkinson married Miss Ada G. Gilkey, daughter of Franklin and Eliza (Bowen) Gilkey, natives of Pennsylvania, later farmers in Kansas, and Washingtonians since 1875. Mr. Gilkey, who was born in 1840, is living in Snohomish county, but Mrs. Gilkey died here in 1898. Mrs. Watkinson was also a native of the Keystone state, born in 1865, but educated in the schools of Kansas and Washington. To Mr. and Mrs. Watkinson have been born ten children: Melville E., living at home; Cora M., who died in 1904; Arthur P., Nellie F., Ida, Alice, Nora, Myrtle, Blanch and Frankie. In politics Mr. Watkinson is a Democrat. He is farming but sixty acres now; the place is well stocked with horses and cattle. He is recognized as one of Skagit's citizens of sterling worth and integrity and is a man respected by all.

CLEMENT CULVER, one of the successful farmers of the Edison section of Skagit county, residing two miles and a half south of town, was born in Michigan in 1851, the second of the eleven children of Lyman and Mary (Closson) Culver. The elder Culver, who was a native of Ohio, was for years a farmer in Michigan and Iowa, but came to Washington in 1885 and has since died here. Mrs. Culver was also a native of the Buckeye state. Our subject received his education in Iowa, whither he was taken when a child by his parents. In 1867 the family went to Kansas. When young Culver was twenty-one years of age he joined a surveying party in Oklahoma, but later he engaged in farming in Neosha County, Kansas, where he resided continuously until 1875. In that year he went to the mines of Cherokee County, Kansas, and he stayed there two years, then going to farming near Chautauqua, in the same state. In 1888 he came to

Washington. The first summer of his residence here he ran a threshing machine for Mr. Dawson on the Samish flats, then he rented the Ed Ames place and farmed it two years. For the ensuing four years he was lessee of the McCullough place, and subsequently he moved onto the Conner farm, which he operated for six years. During his tenancy of this place he purchased sixty-eight acres of it. After the termination of his lease he added forty acres more to his holdings, and upon the splendid farm thus secured he has ever since lived, successfully and profitably cultivating the whole.

In Neosha, Kansas, in 1874, Mr. Culver married Honor Eller, daughter of Henry Eller, a native of Indiana, who became a pioneer farmer of Kansas, later, however, moving to Colorado, where he now resides. Mrs. Culver was born in the Hoosier state in 1856, but attended school in Kansas. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Culver, of whom the living are Delbert E., now in Oregon; Alfred and Leo. In fraternal circles Mr. Culver is a prominent Odd Fellow. He is a past grand in the order and was a member of the grand lodge that met in Spokane in 1894 and Seattle in 1900. In politics he is a Republican. Though like most of the farmers in his part of Skagit county, he gives most of his attention to cereal production, he does not neglect live stock, but keeps eighteen head of cattle and a number of horses. He is a prosperous farmer and a man in whom people repose confidence because of his integrity and worth. The success that has attended his efforts under the many difficulties that have beset his paths during the seventeen years of residence in Skagit county, is abundant evidence of the possession of those sterling qualities of character so characteristic of the substantial citizens of any community. He is justly entitled to enrollment with the progressive men of Skagit county.

PETER DENIS, one of the prosperous farmers of the Edison part of Skagit county, in which he has lived continuously since boyhood, was born in France, June 17, 1860, the son of Claude and Elizabeth (Bessner) Denis. The father, a veteran of the Crimean War, came to the United States in 1863 and settled on a farm in Minnesota. Nine years later he came to Washington, located in Walla Walla and opened a harness shop there, which he ran for a twelvemonth. Coming then to Whatcom, he spent four years in the coal mines near that city. His next occupation was farming near La Conner, but eventually he returned to Whatcom and took a homestead in the vicinity, on which he spent a half decade. At a later date he became once more a resident of Skagit county, but he was again in Whatcom when death claimed him, January 25, 1893. Mrs. Elizabeth Denis, the mother of our subject, was a native of Luxemburg, Germany.

The school opportunities enjoyed by Peter Denis were curtailed by the removal of his father when he was a lad of thirteen to Whatcom. The next year he entered the Seahome mines and for two years thereafter he enjoyed the distinction of being the youngest operative employed in them. When his father rented the J. S. Conner farm he moved with him onto it, deserting the mines. After becoming of age he took a pre-emption, but for the next half decade he devoted most of his time to laboring for others in the vicinities of La Conner and Whatcom. Eventually he came to the Samish flats, where he worked for awhile for his father, finally, in 1889, renting his farm from him. This he operated for three years, thereupon leasing the Gilmore place, upon which he has ever since resided, though he has one hundred and sixty acres of land of his own, which he purchased originally from the state, it having been school land.

In 1890 Mr. Denis married Miss Mary Thein, daughter of Peter Thein, a native of Luxemburg, who came to the United States in the early fifties and settled in Minnesota. He was a blacksmith by trade. Mrs. Cathron (Felton) Thein, the mother, was also a native of Luxemburg. Mrs. Denis was born in Minnesota November 17, 1871, and received her education in that state. Mr. and Mrs. Denis have four children: Thomas P., born November 27, 1890; Eugene C., July 5, 1894; Marie, December 8, 1896, and Leona, May 3, 1903, all in Skagit county. The members of the family are adherents of the Catholic faith and in politics Mr. Denis is a Democrat. He has served as dike commissioner and road supervisor. He now owns one hundred and sixty acres of land, half of which is cultivated, and has twenty-five head of cattle, as well as draught and road horses. Mr. Denis is an open-hearted gentleman, successful in business, rich in the esteem of his neighbors and ever contributing his full share to the developing of the resources of Skagit county.

JOHN W. MARTIN, whose farm is about three miles southwest of Edison, devotes much of his attention to the industry of raising oats, and in this line of activity has achieved a high degree of success. He is a native of Tennessee, born in Blount county, April 4, 1856, the eleventh of twelve children of Moses and Celia (Carr) Martin. The elder Martin was a native of North Carolina, but moved to Tennessee when a lad and spent the remainder of his years there. Mrs. Martin was a native of Tennessee. John W. Martin received his early education in his native state, in the common schools and the college at Marysville, but when nineteen he left home for Illinois to work at farming. He, however, afterward put in several winters in school, supplementing his formerly acquired scholarship. After a few years in Illinois he re-

turned to his Tennessee home and operated his father's farm there until he was thirty years of age, at which time his attention was called to the resources of Washington, and in 1888 he came to Skagit county. He leased land on the Samish at first, but a little later purchased eighty acres of Samish land, cleared it and placed it entirely under cultivation. He, however, rents the place on which he now lives, though he still has land of his own.

In 1888, in Loudon County, Tennessee, Mr. Martin married Miss Letcia Kerr, daughter of James C. and Harriet (Newell) Kerr, natives of Tennessee, where the father is still living. Mrs. Martin was born there in 1862 and received her education in the schools of her native state. To this union have been born eleven children: Celia (deceased), Ora, Clinton, Rosa, Gracie (deceased), Ruby, Everett, Mary E., Iva and Ida, twins, and Lida J. The family are attendants of the Methodist church. Mr. Martin is an Odd Fellow and a past grand in the order. In politics he is a Republican. He owns sixty-five acres of land, and though he makes a specialty of oat raising keeps considerable live stock, having at the present time twenty-four head of cattle and nine horses. In his early years in Skagit county he taught school at both Mount Baker and Edison. He is a thorough-going farmer, a man of attainments and highly respected by the members of the community, where his influence is always exerted for the betterment of general conditions and for the elevation of the standard of citizenship.

EUGEN DANIELS, a farmer, residing four miles southwest of Edison, came to Washington with his parents in 1883, and has ever since resided in Skagit county, where he enjoys the respect of a wide circle of acquaintances. He was born in Crawford County, Iowa, September 17, 1861, the fifth of eleven children of John R. and Lenora (Lupton) Daniels. The elder Daniels, who was a native of Ohio, went to Iowa in the early days, married in that state and followed farming there until 1867, when he moved to Brown County, Kansas. He later returned to Iowa and farmed in Crawford and Howard counties until 1883, when he came to Washington, settling first on La Conner flats, but moving after two years to the Samish flats, where he died in 1885. Mrs. Daniels, the mother, was a native of Illinois, but when two years of age removed with her parents to Iowa and acquired her education there. Her children are James N., a carpenter; Alice L., William A., Josiah H., Eugen, Charles (deceased), Ellis Q., Mrs. Rosa Stump, wife of a farmer near Edison; Marion and Mahlon, twins, and Mrs. Eva Streeter, wife of a farmer on the Samish flats. Eugen Daniels was educated in the Kansas schools, being only three years of age when his parents left Iowa for the

first time. He lived with his parents until after they came to Washington, but eventually purchased the farm that is now his and began making a home for himself and family. The forty acres constituting his place were bought in 1892. They were then covered with timber and brush; but he has cleared and brought under cultivation every acre of his land. A small orchard upon it forms the beginning of a venture in the direction of horticulture.

In 1898, at Mount Vernon, Washington, Mr. Daniels married Miss Margaret Duren, daughter of Marion and Emalie (Allen) Duren. The father, a school teacher by profession, served during the Civil War in the Southern army. He and Mrs. Duren are still living in Arkansas, of which state Mrs. Daniels is a native, and in which state she received her education. One child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Daniels, namely, Raymond V. In politics Mr. Daniels is a Republican. He is highly esteemed in his neighborhood, as a hard working, industrious man, successful in his business and efficient in promoting the general progress. His mental and moral traits are such as will make him a man of influence and one who will be found always on the right side of questions that have to do with the forward march of county, state or nation.

NICHOLAS BESSNER, engaged in farming three miles south of Edison, is one of the most prosperous agriculturists of that section, a man of energy and application, popular in the community because of his innate good qualities. He was born in Mansfield, Ohio, December 17, 1859, the son of John Bessner, who was born in Germany November 5, 1829, and came to the United States in 1857, settling in the Buckeye state. In 1860 he (John Bessner) moved to Minnesota, and for the next fifteen years he farmed there, but on coming to Washington in 1875 he engaged in mining in what is now Bellingham. After spending two years at that, he moved to La Conner. He was there a year, then leased the Williamson place, three miles north, remaining upon it for the next three years. In the spring of 1882 he bought land on the Skagit delta, which was the scene of his farming operations until February 12, 1905, when he died. His wife, Mary (Berenger) Bessner, was likewise a native of Germany, born November 25, 1837. She died in Skagit county April 4, 1901, the mother of twelve children, of whom the subject hereof is the oldest.

Nicholas Bessner, of this article, secured his educational training in Minnesota. Coming west at the age of seventeen, he worked in the mines of Washington for a time, then found employment in the vicinity of La Conner for four or five years. In 1885 he moved to Samish flats and for the next four years was engaged in farming leased land

there. He purchased his present fine farm in 1890, and to its cultivation and improvement he has ever since devoted himself with assiduity and success.

On the 20th of February, 1890, on the Samish flats, Mr. Bessner married Mrs. Mary Hoffman, daughter of Mathias Hazer, a German by birth and a pioneer farmer of Iowa, in which state he died. Her mother, Mrs. Marie (Nausbaum) Hazer, was also a native of Germany, and she, too, sleeps in Iowa. Mrs. Bessner was born in Jackson County, Iowa, December 29, 1859, and received her education in that state, remaining until 1883, when she came to Washington. She and Mr. Bessner have two children, both born in Skagit county: William, born April 27, 1891, and Viola, born June 11, 1894. In fraternal affiliation Mr. Bessner is a member of the Woodmen of the World; in church membership a Catholic, and politically a Democrat. He was a member of the board of county commissioners for the term 1902-4. Mr. Bessner's home place contains one hundred and forty acres, all under cultivation, and he also owns sixty acres on the Skagit river. His chief crops are oats and hay. He takes special pride in his horses, of which he has thirteen head, four of them thoroughbred animals brought from Portland, Oregon. Mr. Bessner has made an unqualified success of farming in Skagit county. The qualities of his mind and heart recommend him to all with whom he comes in contact, for he is a genial, whole-hearted man and public-spirited citizen.

JAMES T. SQUIRES. Among the younger farmers who are making a success of the business in the Samish country is James T. Squires, a man of ability and education and one who enjoys in abundant measure the esteem and regard of his fellows. Though compelled by opposing circumstances to abandon the professional career he laid out for himself in boyhood, he is yet making his mark in the world as a man of ability and force of character. He is a native of Smith County, Tennessee, born August 9, 1867, the son of James M. and Amelia (Jones) Squires. His father, a man of unusual ability and force, was very ambitious to become a physician, so much so that he attempted to fit himself for the medical profession by studying at odd moments while plowing. He was ruined financially by the exigencies of the war, but was rapidly regaining his lost fortunes when death overtook him, December 24, 1875. The mother of our subject, who was a native of Nashville, Tennessee, died on the 3d of July of the year just mentioned, so young James T. found himself orphaned and adrift at the tender age of eight. For six years he remained around the old place, then an uncle, a practicing physician, took charge of him, giving him support and an opportunity to attend school. This uncle, John L. Jones, intended giving his nephew

a professional education: circumstances prevented, but to this day Mr. Squires accords him filial reverence. At the age of nineteen young Squires was a common work hand on a Mississippi plantation, but he soon became foreman, and he passed two years in that capacity. He then went to Napa County, California, and worked in vineyards and wine cellars for a year, thereupon moving to British Columbia, but in 1891 he came to Edison, a town in which he had neither friends nor acquaintances, arriving with just thirty-five cents in his pocket and with no reserve bank account anywhere. Going to work on a farm, he spent the ensuing year and a half as a laborer, then he leased forty acres of land and began cultivating the soil on his own account. He worked this land from 1895 to 1903. In 1898 he leased two hundred and forty-five acres of school land and went into the business of raising oats, for this purpose diking eighty acres of the marsh land included in the tract, and, like most other oat raisers, he is now rapidly accumulating a competence. A believer in diversified agriculture, he is giving some attention to live stock, keeping at the present time twenty head of graded cattle, eleven head of work horses, eight head of fancy South-down sheep, etc. He also owns a share in the imported stallion Duke of Illinois.

November 20, 1895, Mr. Squires married Miss Theodosia E. Giles, daughter of T. J. Russell Giles, a native of Tennessee, who came to Skagit county in 1891, and is now living at Rosario. Mrs. Squires' mother, Martha (Best) Giles, also a native of Tennessee, is likewise living. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Squires three children have been born, namely, Theodora, James T., Jr., and Mary Gladys. Mr. Squires is a member of the La Conner Camp of Woodmen of the World and with his wife affiliates with the Fraternal Union of America. He belongs to the Democratic party, which in 1898 honored him by making him its candidate for county treasurer. In religion the family are Congregationalists. Mr. Squires is one of the popular men of his community, energetic, refined, well informed on all topics, progressive and ambitious.

WILLIAM WOOD, engaged in farming a mile and a half south of Fravel, is one of the pioneers of Skagit county, having come here in 1867, and it is noteworthy that he has not since been farther away from his original homestead than Olympia. In his early days he was a prospector and on one occasion nearly met death with four others while on a trip up the south fork of the Nooksack. The men started out with their provisions on their backs and camped the first night at Whatcom lake. From the lake they journeyed on, making but a single mile the first day owing to the thickness of the brush and the steepness of the mountain. That night they camped without water and were with-

out it until the middle of the following afternoon, when they had to take their choice of bear-tainted pools or nothing. The sufferings of the men were intense, and Mr. Wood says he then came nearer death than at any other time in all his pioneer experiences. Mr. Wood was born in Liberty, Maine, January 27, 1839, the second of five children of Phineas and Mary (French) Wood, both of whom were natives of the Pine Tree state. They were of a sturdy, patriotic stock. Mr. Wood's grandfather left Admiral Cockburn's fleet in the Revolutionary War to espouse the cause of liberty.

At fourteen years of age William Wood of this article left home and came to San Francisco via Cape Horn. He remained there but a year, however, then returned to New York, via Cape of Good Hope, but in 1859 he was once more in San Francisco. He remained a year there, then came on to Whatcom and made that place his home until 1867, when he came to Skagit county. During the time spent in Whatcom he followed fishing in the summers and working at different callings in the winters. On one hunting trip he saw a herd of twenty-seven deer, so plentiful was game in those early days. Mr. Wood left Whatcom direct for the country where Edison now is, accompanied by Ben Samson, Captain John Warner and Watson Hodge, none of whom is now living. The four squatted on land near each other, and there Mr. Wood has since resided. He had to wait four years for a surveyor.

In 1863 Mr. Wood married Mary Wood, and they have had fourteen children, eight of whom are living: Mrs. Annie Smith of Fravel; Lucy, in Whatcom; John, in Alaska; Andrew, at Gray's Harbor; Ella, at Whatcom; and James, Thomas and Fannie, at home. One daughter, Mrs. Nettie Crane, died at New Westminster, B. C., in December, 1905. In politics Mr. Wood is a Democrat, but aside from serving as justice of the peace on Fidalgo island and as road supervisor, he has never held any office of a political nature. He has one hundred and twenty acres of land, all but twenty of which are cleared and devoted principally to raising hay and oats. In live stock he has six head of horses, fourteen head of cattle, a number of hogs, etc. He is one of the old-time citizens of Skagit county and has seen the country pass from a state of absolute wildness to its present condition of prosperous settlement, himself keeping fully abreast of all this progress. He enjoys the esteem of pioneers and later comers alike.

ALFRED J. LAWSON is one of the prosperous farmers of the Fravel region of Skagit county, his place being but half a mile from the town. Here, by energy and business ability, he has within a few years accumulated a small fortune and he still continues to increase his substance. Mr. Lawson was born in Henry County, Illinois, Feb-

ruary 19, 1862, the seventh of the ten children of Charles and Annie C. (Wiren) Lawson, natives of Sweden, who came to the United States in early life and became prosperous farmers in Illinois. The elder Lawson came to Washington six years ago and is living in Seattle, where four of his daughters reside. He also has a son at La Conner. Alfred J. Lawson remained at home in Illinois until his marriage, then rented a farm for two years. On coming to Washington he spent a few months in Seattle, then bought seventy-five acres of timber land, a portion of which he cleared during the five years of his residence upon it. He came to La Conner in 1895 and leased six hundred and forty acres of land, two hundred and forty of which were under cultivation. He continued there until January 1, 1904, then bought the one hundred and fourteen acres where he now lives, all of which is in cultivation, his specialty being hay and oats.

In 1888 Mr. Lawson married Miss Emily Peterson, a native of Illinois, daughter of John and Margaret (Johnson) Peterson, who were born in Sweden, but came to this country and settled in Moline, Illinois, where Mr. Peterson operated a wagon shop until his death in 1871. Mrs. Lawson is the youngest of five living children, her four brothers being now residents of Seattle. Mr. and Mrs. Lawson have six children: Minnie M., Ruth M. A., George B., Maurice W., David J. and Willard A. In politics Mr. Lawson is a Prohibitionist. He is serving at present as a member of the school board. The family are adherents of the Methodist faith, of which church Mrs. Lawson is a member of the aid society. While putting his greatest efforts in the direction of raising hay and oats, Mr. Lawson has considerable live stock, which includes ten head of horses, four of which are of Hambletonian stock and the remainder largely Percherons. Mr. Lawson is a man of energy and force of character, highly respected by all who know him, of recognized integrity, successful in business and a commanding figure in his community.

GEORGE ECKENBERGER, whose farm is a mile and a quarter east of Samish, was one of the first settlers on Samish island, and has experienced all the vicissitudes which come to the pioneer in the timbered country. He was born in Posey County, Ohio, December 23, 1843, the third of the six children of Leonard and Henrietta Eckenberger. The father died when the son was young during the cholera epidemic, and the mother subsequently married Captain Vocham of the union army. She lived until 1900. Mr. Eckenberger of this article left his home in 1860 and went to Alabama to follow steamboating. When the Civil War broke out he came north, enlisted in the Thirtieth Ohio under Captain Riley and served with that command at the second battle of Bull Run and in other engage-

ments. He was at home on sick leave when the war closed, but soon after went to Indiana, and at Evansville, in that state, he worked twelve years at masonry. He then crossed the continent by rail to San Francisco and came thence to Seattle, during his two years' residence in which city he made a trip to Samish island and took up the land on which he now lives. Mrs. Eckenberger was the first white woman on the island, and preceded the second one by seven years. She held the place at intervals while he was in Seattle, and at one time passed eighteen months without once looking upon the face of a white woman. The claim was under heavy timber, and thousands of feet of good merchantable trees had to be destroyed to make way for the clearing and the crops. The third year that they lived here a forest fire swept the island, leaving them with only a sack of flour and a couple of blankets, and things looked so discouraging that Mr. Eckenberger then offered to sell his place for \$300, but could not find a purchaser. Hard times were experienced until the boom commenced in 1881-2, then Mr. Eckenberger's knowledge of the country stood him in good stead in locating settlers. Until recent years he has held all his original land, but now has sold all but sixty acres. This remnant he devotes to cattle raising, dairying, hay and fruit, seven acres of it being in orchard of first quality.

In Evansville, Indiana, June 5, 1865, Mr. Eckenberger married Miss Elizabeth Garis, who was born July 4, 1842, daughter of Benjamin and Alice (Hayes) Garis, of whom little record exists to-day. Mrs. Eckenberger had two brothers in the union army. She and Mr. Eckenberger are the parents of eight children, of whom five are living: Fred C., Mrs. Lucy Rhodes, Mrs. Martha Hopley, George and John. Mr. Eckenberger is a Democrat in politics, interested in matters of public concern, as a good citizen should be, but not an office seeker. He has, however, served as road supervisor and member of the school board. Though he has passed through the extremes of hard times, he has always rallied and is now in good financial circumstances. He is respected in his community as a man of many sterling qualities of character.

GEORGE DEAN, a shipwright by trade, for many years postmaster at Samish, one of the early comers to Samish island, has made a success in business, though at times he has had trying experiences. He was born in Banffshire, Scotland, January 15, 1850, the fourth of the ten children of William and Catherine (Horn) Dean, both of whom lived and died in the old country. When a lad of fourteen years George Dean left home to serve a five years' apprenticeship to the trade of shipwrighting. On receiving his papers he worked at Aberdeen, Dundee and Glasgow, Scotland, and New-

castle, England, each time changing location on account of labor troubles. In 1875 he came to the United States, landing in New York, and started on a tour of the country, which was finished at Seattle in the fall of 1875, Mr. Dean arriving there on the first iron steamer which entered that port. The city boasted of but two hotels then, the Occidental and the New England.

After looking over Seattle for two weeks, Mr. Dean came to Samish, where a brother was keeping store and postoffice at the steamboat landing. Samish was then the chief distributing point for the whole valley back as far as Warner's prairie, but there was but one white family on the Samish flats. Mail came by the steamer "J. B. Libby" once a week and the steamer "Dispatch" from Port Townsend also stopped once in seven days. It was not an unusual sight to see a band of one hundred Samish Indians about the store and postoffice, and Mr. Dean soon became able to converse with them. Much of the water front around Edison had been taken up, but no one lived there until about 1880, when settlement began in earnest. Soon after his arrival Mr. Dean built a saw-mill, using wind as motive power, and with lumber turned out from that mill he built a schooner which he sailed for nine years; then he built the steamer "Mary Purley" and operated that for three and a half years, eventually selling out. On the death of his brother Mr. Dean took charge of the property. A difficulty arose with the shipowners and none would stop at his wharf or warehouse except the independent boats, but he did business with these for two years. He continued to be postmaster until 1897, when he went to Unalaska to build river boats, in company with J. F. T. Mitchell of Seattle, for the Boston & Alaska Trading Company. On his return Mr. Dean worked out the details of a new fishing device which combines the qualities of the purse seine with those of the pile trap, and is adapted for work in either deep or shallow water. The device has been patented, and the authorities consider it the most valuable thing of the kind developed in this state for a decade and a half. Mr. Dean has never married. In politics he is a Republican. He is a man of energy, wide awake, thorough in business and possessing traits of personal character that win for him the confidence of his associates and the respect of all whom he meets.

CHARLES W. HODGE, farmer of Samish, is a native of the Puget sound country and one of the large poultrymen of Skagit county. He was born in Bellingham, October 22, 1868, the fifth of the nine children of Watson and Jennie Hodge. The elder Hodge, a native of Burlington, Connecticut, started for the Pacific coast when a young man. He came around the Horn and was shipwrecked on the coast of Panama some three hundred miles

from a shipping point. In company with another man he purchased a horse for the transportation of their belongings, but the partner stole the horse and Mr. Hodge's boots as well, forcing the unlucky traveler to cover the remaining distance in his sock feet. That was not the only unpleasant experience of this eventful trip, for at one place Mr. Hodge was arrested as a suspicious person by the Mexicans and held for a month. Eventually, however, he arrived safely in California, but was soon drawn into the gold excitement at Cariboo, British Columbia, where he spent six years, doing well. He then came over to Bellingham and engaged in business there, later, however, moving to Edison and preempting one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he held for six years, and upon which the town was built. On selling out he went to Samish island and took a homestead of eighty acres, which is now held by his heirs. He died in 1905.

Charles W. Hodge attended school until he was fourteen years of age, then went to work in a logging camp in the vicinity of Edison. He followed logging at various points along the sound for twenty-two years and ten years ago took up farming.

In 1895 Mr. Hodge married Miss Alice Hansen, daughter of William and Jennie Hansen. The father was born in Norway, but came to the United States in 1853 and soon after took up his residence in the Pacific Northwest. He lived in Skagit county until 1898, farming on the Samish river, and is now a resident of Tacoma. Mrs. Hansen, a native of British Columbia, was the mother of fourteen children, of whom Mrs. Hodge is the tenth. Mr. and Mrs. Hodge have six children: Herbert E., W. Douglass, Lydia M., Ivan Roosevelt, Stanley W. and Glenn L. In politics Mr. Hodge is a Republican. He has been road supervisor of his district, but aside from that has not held any public office. Most of his land is devoted to the poultry business, his yards containing at present a magnificent and numerous flock of Brown Leghorns. He is also well provided with horses and cattle of the best grades for the operation of the farm. Mr. Hodge is one of the representative citizens of his community; a wide-awake, active man, who enjoys the esteem of all who know him, and ever shows himself an aggressive influence in the progress of its people and its industries.

FRITZ JOHNSON, a farmer, stock raiser and dairyman just outside of Belleville, though born in Sweden in 1869, is in reality a pioneer of western Skagit county. He is the son of John S. and Hannah (Carlson) Johnson, neither of whom ever left their native country, and both of whom have passed away. They were parents of five children: Mrs. Lena Olson, wife of S. P. Olson of Brown's slough; Fritz, Gust, Annie and Carl, the last three of whom live in Seattle. Up to the time he was

fourteen years of age young Johnson attended the schools of Sweden. He then started out for himself, coming to the United States, and in 1883 settled on the north fork of the Skagit river, going to work on the farms of that section, among them that of Peter Oleson on Brown's slough. Mr. Johnson remained in that part of the county for fifteen years and saw its development from a few little tracts on which some were doing such farming as could be done between stumps, to a country with large areas of cultivated land which form one of the best agricultural districts in the Pacific Northwest. In those days there were no roads, the river was the highway and canoes the means of transportation. Since then fine highways have been built and gasoline launches have come to ply the waters of the river and sound. The man of the early eighties who made his shack with axe and saw, now directs his agricultural operations from a modern and princely home. In 1899 Fritz Johnson and Ole Johnson leased the W. E. Schrieker farm near Burlington and together they worked it for the next three years. At that time Fritz Johnson and his nephew, Albert Olson, bought their present place of ninety-seven acres on the outskirts of Belleville, which they have converted into a splendid farm. It was formerly the property of W. E. Harbert. In fraternal affiliation Mr. Johnson is an Odd Fellow, in church membership a Lutheran, and in politics a Republican. While Messrs. Johnson and Olson raise large quantities of oats and hay, their live stock business is considerable. They take especial pride in their graded stock, which consists of short-horn cattle, Berkshire and Poland China hogs. Their facilities for conducting an up-to-date dairy business are excellent, and in this they are meeting with splendid success. The house and barns on the place are large and of modern construction. Mr. Johnson is a genial man, one of good sense, energetic and thrifty. Since coming to Skagit county he has supplemented his education acquired in Sweden by a course in the normal school at Lynden, Whatcom county, and by diligent reading he has ever since kept well abreast of the times. His intellectual attainments, coupled with his excellent personal traits of character, make of him a man of influence and win for him the confidence of his associates in business and social life.

WILLIAM J. McKENNA. A veteran of more than six decades, almost all of which were passed on the Pacific coast, a pioneer of the pioneers, and a man of great activity always, the subject of this review has stamped his impress upon the history of more than one of our Western communities, exerting his influence always on the side of progress, ever taking a leading part in the ushering in of better conditions. In mercantile life, as a real estate dealer, in the service of the public and in all his

relations with his fellow-men, he has maintained a high reputation for integrity and uprightness, and now, in the early evening of his life, he has the satisfaction of realizing that the ideals of his youth have been kept unsullied. He also has the further satisfaction of knowing that in the great industrial development he has witnessed he himself has borne no sluggard's part, but that on the contrary he has been in some measure a leader in pushing on the work.

The father of our subject, William McKenna, was a native of Belfast, Ireland, but some time in the thirties he sailed to far-away Australia, and it was there that William J. was born, the date of his birth being 1843. The family came to California a few years later, and in 1849 the elder McKenna entered the federal service in Benicia, that state, as master mechanic. He had learned the trade of a carpenter in his native land. Our subject received an unusually good education, taking the course offered by the public schools of the Golden state and one in the university at Eureka, also one in the celebrated Heald's business college of San Francisco. At the age of twenty-six he began clerking in a general store in Eureka, and after two years had been spent in that occupation, he went to Hoopa, Humboldt county, to assume charge of a mercantile establishment for Greenbaum & Chapman. He managed their business at that point successfully for a period of two years, then was promoted to the charge of their wholesale trade at Arcata, Humboldt county, where two years more were spent. Mr. McKenna then engaged in the mercantile business in Arcata on his own account, going into partnership with a man named Harpst for that purpose, but he soon after sold out to his partner and retired from that line of business for a time. In 1874 he was elected to the county clerkship of Humboldt county, an office which at that time carried with it the duties of auditor, clerk of supervisors and clerk of the court, but so efficient was his discharge of them all that he was twice elected by the people and kept in the office until he was ready to leave the country. In 1880 he was drawn to Washington by the excitement over mining in the Ruby Creek district. Upon arriving in Skagit county he opened the second store in the now thriving town of Mount Vernon, and he continued in business there a couple of years, going thence to Bay View, where in company with W. A. Jennings, a wholesale merchant of Seattle, he embarked in another mercantile venture. This, however, unfortunately failed, owing to the failure of the Seattle house with which Mr. Jennings was connected.

In 1884 Mr. McKenna was nominated on the Republican ticket for the office of county assessor, and so completely had he won the confidence of the people in the few years of his residence in the country that he was easily elected. He served with efficiency and in 1886 the electors signified

their satisfaction with his administration of the office by giving him a second term. This completed, he engaged in the real estate business with T. B. Elliott. One of the most noteworthy things accomplished by the firm was the foundation and promotion of the town of Bay View, a splendid monument to their enterprise, but the story of its inception and growth is told elsewhere in these pages. In 1890, during the boom days at Anacortes, he moved to that city, and being possessed of good judgment, plenty of experience and a sharp eye for opportunities, he naturally did well during the two years of his operations there. His residence in the town of Bay View was renewed in 1900, in which year he was appointed United States census enumerator for that part of Skagit county. He has been in the service of the government almost ever since, becoming postmaster soon after the work on his census returns was completed. He is also engaged in the mercantile business (that line in which he has been so well qualified by long experience to succeed), the stock of the former postmaster having been purchased by him. He devotes his spare time to looking after his property interests in the town, and more especially at present to the improvement of a sixteen-acre tract near by, for he is still ambitious to do his full share toward the subjugation and improvement of the section in which he makes his home.

In 1872, while in Humboldt County, California, Mr. McKenna married Miss Mary E. Campton, whose father, a physician, had crossed the plains from Wisconsin in 1855. She was born in the Badger state in 1844, but acquired her education in the public schools of California and in the university at Eureka. She and Mr. McKenna have had five children, namely: William A., a resident of Mount Vernon, who owns a logging camp on Fidalgo island; Mrs. Louise Risbell, a resident of Mount Vernon; Mrs. May Gilmore, wife of a merchant of Edison; Puget, living at home, and Margery, who died at the age of eight years. Mr. McKenna has been a loyal Republican during all the years of that party's existence, and takes not a little pride in the fact that his first vote helped to swell Abraham Lincoln's majority. For forty years he has been identified with the splendid Odd Fellows' fraternity, which has frequently honored him with a seat in one of its chairs and in which he is a past grand. In politics, in fraternal relations and in all the associations of private and business life he has invariably proved himself a loyal, "true blue" man, and he has the full confidence and respect of every community in which he has lived.

OTTO KLINGENMAIER, a well-known citizen of the Bay View district of Skagit county, is one of the members of a highly esteemed family of pioneers which came from Nebraska to Washington in

1875 and settled near Bay View a few years later. The father, John Klingenmaier, was a native of Wittenberg, Germany, and in the old country followed farming until his emigration from Europe to the United States. He was married while still a resident of Germany, his wife, Mrs. Anna Klingenmaier, becoming one of Skagit's earliest pioneer women. Reaching America, the husband settled in Pennsylvania. Two years later he removed to Omaha, Nebraska, and there followed dairying with fair success. Thence he came direct to Puget sound, obtaining employment here in the newly opened coal mines at Newcastle, King county. His family joined him at Newcastle the following year, and a year and a half later he abandoned mining for the healthier, pleasanter occupation of farming. At that time what is now Skagit county contained only a few hundred people, being in a frontier condition. With commendable courage and energy, however, he filed on a homestead a half mile north of the present town of Bay View, and later on a pre-emption claim adjoining the town site. This last claim he took in 1877 and for the next twenty years, or until his death, followed farming and logging with substantial results. He came into that region as one of its earliest pioneers and to him and his family Skagit's future generations will owe a heavy debt for the part they have taken in laying the foundations for the broader civilization that is following in their wake.

Otto Klingenmaier received the rudiments of his education in Skagit county, but, as is the lot of the young pioneer, his opportunities have been limited, though he has made the most of them. His attention has been chiefly occupied by logging and farming operations, principally the former. In this work, however, Mr. Klingenmaier has attained success and is especially favorably known among the lumbermen of his section. One brother, Henry, who came to Skagit as a lad of nine, lives near Bay View, engaged in farming, while three sisters have found homes elsewhere. Mrs. Anna Butters and Miss Bertha Klingenmaier reside at Clear Lake, Skagit county, the latter with the former; the remaining sister, Miss Victoria Klingenmaier, lives in Tacoma. The family reputation for integrity, industry and ability to perform whatever work they undertake, is still zealously maintained by the younger generation. One hundred and ten acres constitute the family estate near Bay View, which is counted a valuable holding.

JOHN PURCELL, for thirty-five years past identified with the development of Puget sound and for a quarter of a century one of the well-known citizens of Skagit county, is well worthy of a place among these biographical records. His career as a lumberman on the sound covers a period of thirty years, with the exception of five spent in British Columbia, he having retired five years ago to the

more peaceful pursuit of farming, his place lying just south of Bay View. A native of New Brunswick, born in 1844, John Purcell comes of Irish parentage, the son of pioneers of the Gulf province. William and Catherine (Burke) Purcell came to New Brunswick when young people, where the husband followed the carpenter's trade until his death at the age of seventy-eight. Mrs. Purcell, also deceased, was the mother of twelve children. John passed his youth attending school and working with his father, leaving home at the age of twenty to seek his fortune. Going to Wisconsin, he first spent six years with a lumber firm, then went across the plains to Colorado. The same fall he pushed on across the Rockies and later across the snowy Cascades to the territory of Washington, reaching here late in 1870. Here he worked at Utsalady two years, then crossed the sound to Hood's canal and was there engaged in logging until 1875. The next five years he spent at pile driving in Seattle, during its transformation from a town into a little city. At the close of that period he came north to what is now Skagit county and in the Skagit valley spent the first four years of his residence in that section in the logging industry. From there he went on the Samish, then alternated for several years between that river and Skagit, finally taking a pre-emption claim in 1891. A year later he left that, residing at various points in the county until 1896, when he accepted the position of foreman of the Hastings Mill Company's camp in British Columbia, with which he remained five years. Upon reaching the end of this engagement, Mr. Purcell, wearied with the hard life which is the logger's lot, returned to the beautiful Swinomish flats and bought his present place of thirty-two acres, lying a mile south of Bay View, which he has brought under a high state of cultivation and improvement.

At Seattle, in 1875, Mr. Purcell and Miss Alice McGroaty were united in marriage. Her father, Patrick McGroaty, was born in Ireland and by trade was a shoemaker. He settled in Wisconsin in an early day and at the outbreak of the Civil War gallantly joined the boys in blue and upon a Southern battlefield nobly sacrificed himself upon the altar of his adopted country. His widow, Mrs. Catherine (Rock) Lloyd, is still living, residing with her husband near Fir, Washington. Mrs. Purcell was born in Wisconsin in 1858, receiving her educational instruction within the borders of the Badger state. Mr. and Mrs. Purcell are the parents of four children: Mrs. Eliza Tholstrup of Wenatchee; Mrs. Catherine Tholstrup of Seattle; Edward W., and Leonard J. The family are adherents of the Catholic faith. Politically Mr. Purcell is a Democrat. His well stocked, neatly improved farm bears the same marks of thoroughness and industry which brought him success in the lumber business, and his personality has won him a host of warm friends.

EDWARD CRUMRINE, a young man of Skagit county birth, has already assured success for himself in the management of a farm, and he enjoys a reputation for executive ability of a high order. He was born in 1880, the son of Thomas and Minnie (Kalso) Crumrine. The elder Crumrine was born of Irish and Dutch descent in Indiana, and after a few years in South Dakota came to Washington, in 1875, locating at Blaine, in Whatcom county, in 1878, and later coming to the Bay View country. Mrs. Crumrine was born in Wisconsin in 1862, receiving her early education in that state and coming to Washington with her parents when fifteen years old. The younger Crumrine received his education in the Skagit county schools and has been at home all his life, in late years operating his mother's farm, a mile and a half south of Bay View, and in the neighborhood of his mother's people, the well-known Kalso family, sketches of whom appear also in this volume.

In April of 1905 at Bay View Mr. Crumrine married Miss Anna Jergenson, daughter of James and Mary A. (Sorenson) Jergenson, natives of Denmark, who came to Washington in 1896. Mr. Jergenson was a tailor by trade and followed tailoring at Bay View until his death in 1900. Mrs. Jergenson is still living at Bay View. Mrs. Crumrine was born in Wisconsin in 1882 and received her education before coming to this state. She was twenty-three years of age when married. The Crumrine farm consists of fifty-seven acres, all of which are under cultivation. The live stock maintained is for the use of the family, consisting of four head of cattle and five horses. The Crumrines attend the Methodist church. In fraternal circles Mr. Crumrine is an Odd Fellow, and is now serving a term as noble grand of Bay View lodge, No. 128. His mother is an ardent member of the Daughters of Rebekah and a woman much esteemed in Odd Fellow circles as well as by the citizens of Bay View generally. The Crumrine place is one of the pleasant ones near Bay View and in its management Edward Crumrine is showing all the faculties essential to success on a modern farm.

EDGAR A. SISSON, proprietor of the Fairview farm near Padilla, is one of the pioneers of Skagit county who has done as much as any other man to develop the resources of his section of the state. He has been active in the life of the community since 1872, when he was one of the men who inaugurated the plan of reclaiming lands from the tide water. Mr. Sisson was born in Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, in 1849, the son of Arnold C. Sisson, a native of Connecticut, and later a merchant and farmer of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Isabel (Green) Sisson, mother of our subject, was born in the Keystone state and is now living at Factoryville. She is the mother of three children. Edgar

A. Sisson received his early education in the common schools, prepared for college in the academic department of the University of Lewisburg, now Bucknell University, and took a course in Cornell University at Ithaca, New York. For two years following his college course Mr. Sisson engaged in market gardening in company with his father. He then came West and in the fall of 1872 joined forces with A. G. Tillinghast and R. E. Whitney in the work of reclaiming and improving tide lands, diking in some five hundred acres, which were put under cultivation. But they did not realize crops of any great consequence until 1876, and in that year the three men dissolved partnership. Of this tract Mr. Sisson pre-empted forty-nine acres, Mr. Whitney one hundred and seventy-four and Mr. Tillinghast one hundred and seventy-one, the balance of the five hundred acres being purchased.

In 1876 Mr. Sisson married Miss Ida Leamer, daughter of David Leamer, a Pennsylvania farmer of Holland Dutch descent, who died in Iowa, where he had farmed a number of years previous to his death. Mrs. Eliza J. (Campbell) Leamer, mother of Mrs. Sisson, was born in Ireland of Scotch parentage in 1818 and died in the Sisson home in 1901 full of good works and beloved by all. Mrs. Leamer was a woman of exceptional culture and tenderest sympathies, and in the early days of the settlements in Skagit county performed many deeds of kindness and self-sacrifice for the less fortunate. She was ever ready to lend her assistance to the needy and often took her boat and crossed the waters to give succor to the distressed. Mrs. Sisson was born in Davenport, Iowa, in 1857, and obtained her early education in that state. On coming to the coast country she attended the Seattle high school and took a course in a convent at Salem, Oregon. She commenced teaching school when fifteen years of age, her first school being at Pleasant Ridge, in Skagit county. Later she became the first woman teacher in the La Conner schools. She also taught at the town of Stanwood, Snohomish county. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Sisson: Mrs. Pearl Wilson, who is living on the Samish flats, near Edison; Mrs. Nettie E. Wright, living in La Conner, and Grant C. Sisson. Mr. Sisson is a member of the Baptist church and in politics is an active Republican. The land at Fairview farm consists of one hundred and sixty acres, all of which is in a state of high cultivation. Mr. Sisson is not only one of the successful men of Skagit county, but also one of the most popular and most public-spirited of citizens. He and the members of his household have played a very important part in the work of developing the wooded and watered wilderness of Skagit county into a place of smiling farms and happy homes, which stand today as monuments to the courage, industry and thrift of the sturdy pioneers.

THOMAS H. TAIT, residing near Padilla, in one of the richest farming sections of the state, is to be truly ranked as an industrious, persevering, capable agriculturist, for within a comparatively few years he has wrested a goodly competence from the soil and become the owner of a large and valuable tract of its broad, fertile acres. Such thrift is worthy of the Scottish blood that flows within his veins and of the substantial qualities which he inherits from his Pennsylvania-Dutch ancestry on the maternal side. Born April 25, 1866, at Joliet, Illinois, he is the fourth child in the family of Thomas and Katherine (Shutts) Tait, the former born in Scotland, the latter in New York state. When the elder Tait was but nine years old, however, his parents brought him to the United States, settling in Illinois, where he followed farming until his death. His wife is still living near Joliet, at an advanced age; she is the mother of eight children. In the common schools of his native state young Tait received his educational training, remaining at home until he was twenty-two. Then he set out to make his own way in life, going at a bound to where the waters of the Pacific wash the shores of California. The Golden state could not hold him, however, for that fall, the fall of 1888, he came north to Whatcom, and after a short stay there entered the precincts of the section which was to become his permanent home. On the Swinomish flats he entered the employ of Peter Downey, for whom he worked steadily nine years, gaining a most profitable experience, forming friendships and accumulating enough to obtain a start for himself. Thus equipped, in 1897, he rented a place on the flats, operated it two years, then bought ninety-seven acres. This tract he is rapidly developing into a fine farm and in the meanwhile is leasing another place of one hundred and sixteen acres from Mr. Downey, upon which he makes his home and has lived since 1900. He owns two hundred and forty acres on the flats and sixty acres on Fidalgo island.

Elsie Layton, a daughter of Olaf and Anna (Johnson) Osland, natives of Norway, became the wife of Thomas H. Tait in 1903, the marriage taking place in Seattle. Olaf Osland came to Michigan direct from Norway in 1879, engaging in the pursuit of his trade, carpentering. From Michigan he shortly went to Chicago, thence to Minneapolis, from there down into Wisconsin, then to Montana, and from Montana removed to Anacortes, Washington, in 1890. He is at present residing at Brighton Beach, near Seattle. Mrs. Osland is also living, now in her fifty-fourth year. Mrs. Tait was born in 1873, November 14th, in Norway, but received her education and rearing in the United States. After leaving school she learned the milliner's trade and followed it six months before her marriage in 1891 to Frederick Layton. Three chil-

dren came of this union, Hazel, Harold and Freda, the second of whom is dead.

In politics Mr. Tait is an active Republican and known as a liberal believer as, first of all, an advocate of good government. Most of his large farm is under cultivation and producing the usual heavy crops of oats and hay characteristic of the Swinomish country, besides being well stocked with horses and cattle. He is a wide-awake farmer of high abilities and endowed with those substantial, sterling qualities which invariably bring success and esteem.

DAVID FULK, an early pioneer of two states and the scion of two well-known pioneer families of the Ohio valley, is prominently identified with the history of Skagit county, both as a pioneer and as a latter-day citizen, progressive and active in its affairs. He has won his success out of the soil and his position among his fellows by reason of his strong individuality. Born in Noble County, Indiana, in 1843, Mr. Fulk is a son of Adam Fulk, a descendant of the Virginians who filed through the passes of the Alleghanies in the early part of the last century and peopled the great Ohio valley after George Rogers Clark had blazed the path with colonial militia. The mother, Eliza (Bonar) Fulk, was also of frontier stock, born in the Ohio country. She passed away in 1901, while residing in Skagit county, the mother of twelve children, of whom David is the second child. After attending the Indiana schools and working at home on the farm, David Fulk, at the age of twenty-three, commenced farming for himself, leasing land for eight years in the Hoosier state. During the centennial year, when so many were attracted by the prospects of Washington territory, Mr. Fulk joined the procession of immigrants to the sound country and located a homestead on Fidalgo island. There he remained seven years, clearing a large portion of his holdings and incidentally becoming thoroughly acquainted with methods of farming the famous flat lands across the bay on the mainland. Then he came to the flats and rented the Purdy place five years, going at the end of that period across the mountains to the Palouse for a change. Upon his return a year later, he rented the O'Loughlin farm for three years, thence farming along the Skagit. At present he is operating the Kalso place, half a mile west of Padilla, one of the highly improved farms on the flats, and one demanding the closest attention and keenest abilities on the part of him who would be most successful and maintain its high standard.

While still a resident of Indiana, in 1875, Mr. Fulk and Miss Frances Bonham, a daughter of Samuel Bonham, were united by the bonds of matrimony. Samuel Bonham, a farmer by occupation, died during the infancy of his daughter. She was

born in 1855, a native of the Buckeye state, where her education and rearing were obtained. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Fulk eight children have been born, whose names follow: Mrs. Alice Harrold, residing in the Palouse region of Washington; Mrs. Della Jost, living near Fredonia, Skagit county; Mrs. Minnie Neil, living near Mount Vernon, and Adam, George, Pearl, Nettie and Puget, at home with their parents.

Mr. Fulk is a public-spirited citizen and in political affairs is active as a Democrat. His farm and live stock bespeak his capability and thrift in those lines of activity, and all his life he has been a close student of agricultural matters. He is accorded a leading position in his community and is respected and esteemed by all who know him for his many sterling qualities as well as his business abilities.

ROBERT WOODBURN. The thrifty and successful farmer of the Padilla country whose life history forms the theme of this article is one of the many men who, by the exercise of economy, energy and good business judgment and the skilful utilization of the enormous resources of Skagit county, have won their way from comparative poverty to independence and affluence, at the same time contributing their share to the general progress. Born in Ireland in 1860, Mr. Woodburn has in his veins the blood of the sturdy Scotch race, known and honored throughout the world, and the warm, generous, impulsive Irish race, of which it is said that it has fought successfully everybody's battles except its own. His father, William Woodburn, though also a native of Ireland, was of Scotch descent, and his mother, Mary (Montgomery) Woodburn, was in the fullest sense a daughter of the Emerald isle. When the elder Woodburn emigrated to the new world, he tried his fortune first in Canada, but eventually moved to New York state, where he now lives, a resident of the city of Lockport.

In the excellent public schools of Canada Mr. Woodburn, of this article, received his educational discipline, having completed which he embarked in the lumber business in the Lake Huron district. Four or five years were spent at that, then, in 1884, he decided to seek a larger and more promising field of activity, so crossed the continent to Skagit county. For three and a half years after his arrival he worked continuously for R. E. Whitney, but he was not the kind of man to remain indefinitely in the service of another, and as soon as opportunity presented itself he began building a home for himself. He took a pre-emption claim at Fredonia and for the ensuing three years lived upon it, giving the major portion of his time, however, to the improvement of an eighty-acre tract he had bought on Olympia marsh. The marsh farm he still owns, but since 1894 his home has been on land a mile west of Padilla, which he and his father-in-law,

John Ball, that year purchased. The home place consists of one hundred and seventy-five acres, all cleared and much of it in a high state of cultivation. It is supplied with a large, convenient barn and other outbuildings, as well as all the necessary implements for the convenient and economical handling of its products. The dwelling house is a large, modern and up-to-date one, erected in 1904.

In Skagit County, Washington, in 1887, Mr. Woodburn married Miss Globe E., daughter of John and Eleanor (Massey) Ball, natives of Ohio and England respectively, to whom more extended reference is made elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Woodburn was born in California in 1868, but came to Skagit county when a mere child and received her public school training there, though her education was completed by a course in the Victoria, British Columbia, high school. She and Mr. Woodburn are parents of two children, Ruby M., born in 1890, and R. E. (so named after his father's first employer in the West, R. E. Whitney), born in 1892. In politics Mr. Woodburn is a Republican and in fraternal affiliation a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. While achieving, through his inherent force of character and his ability to perceive and grasp opportunities, a highly enviable industrial success, he has also won for himself a reputation as a man of sterling integrity and one who stands "four-square to every breeze."

OTTO W. KILANDER is one of Skagit county's progressive citizens who is devoting his energies and skill to the production of cabbage seed with which to supply less favored sections of the world, and in this high class industry has won a goodly success. He is a native of Sweden, born in 1859, the son of Christian and Kajsa M. (Johnson) Kilander, both of whom passed away in their native land, where the husband was a successful farmer. Otto W., of this sketch, received his education in the schools of Sweden. At the age of eighteen he became an orphan, and during the next two years worked at various places in the neighborhood of his old home. In 1881 he bade farewell to the land of his nativity and sought the great republic across the seas. He first settled in Wisconsin, but directly went to Michigan and entered the mines in which he worked four years. At the close of this period he visited the old country, remaining there five years. But the attractions of the new world proved too strong for him to resist and again he crossed the Atlantic, this time pushing westward via Michigan to Puget sound, where he entered the fishing industry. One year later, 1890, he joined George Johnson as a partner in producing cabbage seed. They bought four acres on the flats of western Skagit county and raised two crops as partners. Then Mr. Kilander sold his interest to his partner and rented land by himself, always continuing to

raise seed, however. Ultimately he purchased the thirteen-acre tract two miles west of Padilla, which has since been his home and the field of his horticultural operations.

During his residence in Sweden in 1885, Mr. Kilander and Miss Emma C. Johnson, a daughter of John and Carlina (Johnson) Johnson, were married. Her father still resides in Europe, but her mother died when Mrs. Kilander was five years of age. Mrs. Kilander received her education in Sweden and there passed the first twenty-eight years of her life. To her union with Mr. Kilander five children have been born: Hugo C., in 1886; Eitel A., in 1888, both born in Sweden; Thyra, in 1893; Fritz, in 1894, who died in nine months, and Elvira E., in 1897, born in Skagit county. Mr. Kilander and his family are attendants of the Lutheran church, in politics he is a Republican and fraternally is affiliated with the A. O. U. W. Aside from his home and farm, he owns two houses and lots in Anacortes and sufficient stock to engage all the time he can devote to them. His seed farm, though not as large as an oat farm might be, is ample for the successful prosecution of his specialty in horticulture, and he has won commendable success as a grower of fine seeds. Success in business and esteem and respect socially are his, and justly, too.

BLOOMINGTON R. SUMNER, a man whose life on land and sea has been full of the most interesting events, was born November 30, 1845, at Winter Harbor, Hancock County, Maine, the son of William W. Sumner, a carpenter. Like his ancestors for six generations, the father was born on Battery March street, Boston, the date of his birth being December 12, 1815. His death occurred at Wilton, Maine, in April, 1867. The maternal ancestor was Philena (Leland) Sumner, born in Eden, Maine, in October, 1823. She died in August, 1891, after having been a devoted mother to her eleven children, of whom the living are as follows: Benjamin F., William W. and Philander A., residing at Winter Harbor, Maine; Charles F., of Elliott, Iowa; Mrs. Lizzie M. Hodgkins, of Pasadena, California; Bloomington R.; Mrs. Annette Chappel, of Providence, Rhode Island. Early giving evidence of a love for life on the ocean, Mr. Sumner's first trip, made when he was fourteen, was a fishing cruise to the gulf of St. Lawrence and Chaleu bay. He then attended school for six months. In March, 1860, he shipped on the government transport "Emma Fairbush," sailing from Rockport, Maine, to Fort Monroe in Hampton Roads. Detained six weeks at this fort, the vessel proceeded thence to Yorktown and Shipping Point, and was then ordered back to Baltimore, where it was loaded with mules and potatoes for Whitehouse Landing. Having returned to Baltimore after making the trip, the owners of the ship gave up their

government charter, took a cargo of oak lumber to Bath, Maine, from which point they went to Rockland, and obtained a charter to carry coal to New Haven, Connecticut. Leaving the vessel when it reached Rondout, New York, Mr. Sumner boarded the "Horace E. Bell," chartered to load coal at Delaware City for Salem, Massachusetts, and afterward captured as a blockade runner. He again entered school after returning to Winter Harbor. Enlisting three different times before he was of age, he was each time denied parental consent, but on January 3, 1861, he became a member of the crew of the ship Sacramento, of the North Atlantic squadron, stationed at Fort Fisher. There he saw his first naval battle, later being an active participant in the engagements at Jordan's Landing, Harrison's Landing, Charlestown and Port Royal. Discharged in Boston, January 4, 1864, he still followed the sea, employed in the trade of the West Indies for two years. He then took up the carpenter trade, only to be mastered by his old passion for the ocean, some four years later. Visiting the ports of Africa, the Mediterranean sea and all the maritime nations of Europe, he held every position from that of cook to that of captain. July 4, 1876, he abandoned the life of a sailor, went to Newport, Rhode Island, where he worked at his trade for several years, and thence to Boston, there being employed by the New England Piano Company for ten years. Coming to Avon in 1892, he purchased his present place of two acres, cleared it, and built his house.

Mr. Sumner was united in marriage to Leila E. Flagg, March 6, 1879. Her father, Josia Flagg, was born in England in 1811, and died in Avon March 8, 1892. Her mother was Janette (McCaren) Flagg, a native of New Brunswick, born June 25, 1819. Her death occurred May 27, 1903. Mrs. Sumner has one brother, A. E. Flagg, of Seattle, and two sisters, Mrs. Emma Daggett, of Seattle, and Mrs. Janette Daggett, of Port Kells, British Columbia. Mr. and Mrs. Sumner have four children, Aubrey, at Anacortes, Lelia G., Amy D., and Carleton B., at home. Mr. Sumner is prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of the American Order of United Workmen of Boston; of the Avon lodge of Odd Fellows, and the D. A. Russell Grand Army Post, Washington lodge number two. Mrs. Sumner takes an active part in the Olive Branch Lodge of Avon. She is the able president of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, in the work of which both she and her husband are deeply interested. An active Republican for many years, Mr. Sumner held the office of justice of the peace for eight years, and that of coroner, for five years. He is now a notary public. Educational matters have always claimed his most earnest attention, and during his ten years of service on the school board he has had the pleasure of having at least some of his progressive ideas carried out.

He and his family attend the Baptist church, contributing liberally to its support. Broadened by a lifetime of travel, a keen observer of the countries he has visited and the people he has met, Mr. Sumner is recognized throughout the community as a man of unusual intelligence, whose earnest, upright character renders him a man of influence.

THOMAS P. WILKINS, one of North Avon's prosperous farmers was born February 24, 1839, in Wales, the birthplace also of his parents, James and Elizabeth (Reese) Wilkins. Losing his mother at the age of four, Thomas Wilkins enjoyed but few educational advantages, acquiring his training in the larger school of experience. Child labor had not been abolished in that country, so at the age of twelve he entered a rolling mill in his native country, learning all the departments of the work during the sixteen years he spent there. In 1866, after having mined four years, he came to the United States to seek his fortune, finding employment in the mines at Alleghany, Pennsylvania. Remaining four years, he moved to Iowa, thence to Seattle in 1872. Commercial street had only a few buildings on it then, and had any one foretold the city's present greatness he would have been considered an idle dreamer, indeed. The railroad did not reach the town for years after that date. Taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in what was then Whatcom county, his wife, a woman of rare courage and self reliance, remained upon it while he was engaged in mining. The journey from Mount Vernon to the ranch occupied the time from Saturday morning till noon of the following day. In 1879 he gave up mining, taking up his residence on the homestead and clearing off twenty-five acres in the twelve years he lived there. Having sold it he purchased his present farm, forty acres of timber land, of which he has sold thirty acres. His fine six room house, with its neat and convenient appointments, tells its own story of successful endeavor. Two years after coming to Avon he built a hotel, owning it for ten years, during a part of which time it was rented.

Mr. Wilkins was married in 1859 to Jane Thomas, born in Wales in December, 1835, the daughter of John Thomas, also a native of Wales. Nine children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins, three of whom died in infancy, and one, James, the eldest, born in 1859, died in 1877, at the age of eighteen. The other children are as follows: Mrs. Elizabeth Tingley, born in 1863; Mrs. Adeline Gage, born in 1865; Susan A., born in 1873; Mrs. Hannah Ford, of Seattle, born in 1874; Helen, born in 1877. Mr. Wilkins is a popular member of the Knights of Pythias. He is a loyal Democrat, aiding the party in every possible way. In religious belief he and his family adhere to the Episcopalian faith. A man of industry

and activity, he is meeting with success in his agricultural pursuits, devoting his time principally to dairying, which he believes to be an especially profitable branch of farming, and one to which this state is peculiarly adapted. He is justly considered one of the most intelligent and progressive citizens of the community in which he resides.

WILLIAM MEINS, living west of Prairie, is one of the men who have made a marked success of farming in Skagit county, to which he came when roads were few and everything was in a primitive condition. He was born near Bremen in Germany, August 11, 1862, the son of William and Sophia (Semreng) Meins, farmers of that country who died there many years ago, leaving four children, of whom the subject hereof is third. As a lad Mr. Meins obtained a common school education in the old country and at the age of fifteen started in life for himself, serving three years for his board in order to learn the shoemaking trade. He then worked for wages for several years and had a shop of his own when he left Germany for the United States in 1882, landing at Baltimore. From that city he came to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he worked at his trade six months, going thence to Hennepin county, Minnesota. He remained there two years farming, then migrated to Washington. After a short stay in Tacoma he came to Skagit county and took up a homestead all in timber at Hamilton, to which point, with pack on his back, he walked from Mount Vernon over a road in name only. At one place when undecided as to whether he was really on the road he assured himself by finding a newspaper wrapper dropped by one who had gone along ahead of him carrying the mail. Mr. Meins at once set out to make a home for himself and passed eighteen years there, clearing the land and erecting house and barn. In his later years on the place, he accumulated enough to buy the eighty acres on which he is now living, though he still retains his original farm. In 1904 Mr. Meins made a trip to his native land, stopping en route at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition and in various places in England.

October 15, 1890, Mr. Meins married Miss Sophia Bolhorst, whose birthplace was near that of her husband. She is the daughter of Wilhelm and Sophia (Hespenheide) Bolhorst, who came to the United States when their daughter was a child and settled in Ohio, later going to Minnesota, where the father is still living, and where Mrs. Meins received her education and grew to womanhood. She is a woman of more than ordinary business instinct and capacity, and her husband accords her a large share of the credit for the success they together have achieved. Mr. and Mrs. Meins have three children, Edward W., Charles L. and Harry J. Mr. Meins is a member of the Pioneers' Association

and in politics a Republican. He has served on the school board as well as having been six years road supervisor. In church affiliations he and his family are Lutherans. When Mr. Meins came here he had but two hundred dollars; his accumulations since include, besides his farm lands already mentioned, which are extensive and valuable, some city property in Ballard said to be worth a goodly sum. A believer in diversified farming, he raises a great variety of crops, and keeps, besides other livestock, about twenty-five head of graded cattle. Mr. Meins is personally popular and deservedly so, being a man of energy and forceful character, as well as a kindly neighbor and worthy citizen.

SMITH O. ALLEN, one of Prairie's thrifty and industrious farmers, was born in Mondovi, Buffalo county, Wisconsin, July 5, 1864, the son of Dutee B. and Annis W. (Gleason) Allen, both of whom were born in Greenfield, New York. The father, born October 30, 1823, was a teacher in his early manhood, but later engaged in mercantile pursuits, and at the time of his death, March 10, 1878, was a farmer. The mother, born February 7, 1831, was at one time a pupil of her husband. Her death occurred December 23, 1904. She was the mother of eight children, of whom all except the two oldest are living. His father having died when he was twelve years old, Smith O. Allen left home at that time, assuming self support thus early in life. He farmed and worked in the woods till 1880, then went to Dakota, soon returning, however, to Wisconsin. In 1883 he was employed on a railroad in Nebraska. He located next in Akron, Colorado, where he dug the first well in the town. Going thence to Denver he worked on the Oregon Short Line railroad for a while, then after brief residences in Anaconda, and Helena, Montana, went to Dakota. He returned thence a little later to his native state for a visit, but in 1888, was once more a resident of the large interior territory, which soon after was carved into two splendid states. Desiring, however, to investigate for himself the resources of the great Northwest, he soon went to Seattle; thence to Samish Island, thence to Prairie. In 1890 he took a pre-emption east of where he now resides, consisting of forty acres which he afterward sold; and later he purchased the eighty acre farm that he now owns. He has made this his home for the past seven years, though at the same time he has been engaged to some extent in logging and contracting. He has thirty-five acres cleared, and in excellent shape and gives special attention to dairying, keeping always a fine herd of cattle. He also raises oats, hay and vegetables. Though experiencing during his lifetime some financial disappointments and trials, he is now enjoying the prosperity that his untiring energy so richly merits.

Mr. Allen and Flora Warner were united in

marriage October 16, 1889. She was born in Edinson, Washington, March 9, 1873, the daughter of Captain John M. and Ellen Warner. Her father, born in England in 1828, was brought by his parents to Michigan in infancy, and became one of the famous "Forty-Niners" of California. He went to the Fraser river district during the excitement there, thus becoming a resident of the Northwest. After several years of service in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company, he became the pioneer settler of the prairie that bears his name. He died in Sedro-Woolley in 1903. The mother was born at Yale, British Columbia, in 1845, and died in June, 1890, leaving eleven children, all of whom are still alive. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Allen, namely: Ralph W., July 16, 1890; Burton T., June 17, 1892, died November 15, 1904; Arnold E., November 12, 1893; Annis V., August 17, 1896; Dutee S., March 17, 1898. Mr. Allen is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Maccabees, and in politics an active Republican. He has held the office of justice of the peace for two terms. A man of upright character, he enjoys the respect and confidence of his associates, and is recognized as one of the substantial citizens of his part of Skagit county.

CHARLES F. TREAT, the popular merchant and postmaster of Fir, Washington, the direct descendant of an illustrious family of business men, soldiers and statesmen, with a genealogy tracing back to the fifteenth century, was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut, October 7, 1819. His father, Benjamin Treat, a prominent contractor and builder, died in 1853. One member of the family, Robert Treat, was one of the ablest men that ever filled the governor's chair of Connecticut. Another, a naturalist, bequeathed a fine collection of butterflies and a large number of books to Harvard university. Still other representatives of the family maintained its dignity in colonial and revolutionary times. Treat's island and Treat's sugar refinery in Maine are holdings of the family. The maternal ancestor, Julia A. (Anderson) Treat, born near Belfast, Maine, died in Oakland, California, in 1904. She was the mother of three sons, only one of whom, Charles F., is living. Mr. Treat grew to manhood in the city of his birth, leaving it at the age of twenty-three to locate in Boston, where he entered a wholesale dry goods house. Later he removed to Lynn, Massachusetts, engaging in the coal business, until he came West in 1889 and located in Ballard, Washington. There he opened the real estate firm of Harrison, Treat & Company. In 1892 Mr. Treat incorporated at Seattle the wholesale and retail firm of Harrison, Treat & Co., a glass, bar and billiard supply house, now known as the A. H. Harrison Company. In 1897, when this country was thrilled by news of the

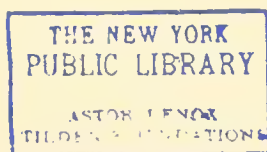
wonderful deposits of gold found in Alaska, he decided to seek his fortune there, being a passenger on the eleventh boat that entered Dawson, which at that time had only two log cabins. During the famine of 1897 he was chairman of the meeting that sent the surplus men out of camp to prevent starvation. He had intended to locate at Circle City, where he had property, but hearing of the strike then in progress there, he changed his plans, remaining at Dawson. There he opened the first brokerage office on the Yukon river, drawing up contracts and agreements, and handling the property of Treat, Crawford & Depreau. In the fall of 1897 he came out on the ice, returning the following summer to remain four years longer. He was owner and operator of thirty-two mining claims at one time, meeting with wonderful success at first, but later suffering some reverses of fortune. He witnessed the marvelous growth of Dawson, which was a city of twenty thousand inhabitants at the time he returned to the United States in 1902. Purchasing his present business upon his return, he increased the capital stock several times over, now owning one of the substantial business houses of South Skagit, handling hay, grain and fish. The firm of Chlopeck of Seattle, one of the largest in the city, is one of his fish customers. He is also postmaster of Fir. Mr. Treat is an enthusiastic member of the Order of Elks of Seattle. Politically he loyally adheres to Republican principles, having always been actively identified with the party. During his residence in Ballard he was the first mayor of the town, elected to succeed himself at the expiration of his first term. Thoroughly conversant with every detail in connection with his large and increasing business, to which he gives the most careful attention, he yet finds time to indulge in his favorite diversions, hunting and fishing. Possessed of rare business qualifications, Mr. Treat unites with them a genial disposition that makes a personal friend of all who come in contact with him, either in a business or social way.

GEORGE H. MANN, the well-known member of the firm of Mann & Wallon, hotel proprietors at Fir, Washington, was born near Lewiston, Maine, January 28, 1871, the son of Orin and Rebecca (Huntington) Mann, both natives of Maine, where the father, a descendant of one of the oldest families, followed farming till the time of his death in 1899. The mother is now living at Edwards, Washington. Having spent his early life on the farm and acquired his education in the common schools, in 1891 Mr. Mann came to Fir, where his uncle, Charles H. Mann, the pioneer merchant of Fir, was engaged in handling general merchandise. To this uncle belongs the honor of founding Fir, which was then known as "Mann's Landing," he having established a trading post among the Indians on

the west side of the south fork of the Skagit river, when there were but few white settlers in the locality. His death occurred December 15, 1899, at the age of fifty-six years. Employed as a clerk in his uncle's store for three years, George Mann became familiar with the business, and later formed a partnership with Axel Anderson, owning a store in connection with the postoffice for some two years, after which they sold out. Later he was proprietor of a meat market for several years. He then decided to engage in farming, leased a large ranch of his uncle and devoted his entire attention to that work, having charge also of his own ranch, situated east of town. In 1903 he traded his property for his interest in the hotel, he and Mr. Wallon forming a partnership, which has been a very successful one. His brothers and sisters are as follows: Laura, Roger, Richmond, Main, Frank and Bert, residing near Fir; Lulu Toop of Ballard.

Mr. Mann was married July 22, 1898, to Helena Swanson, who was born in Sweden in 1871, and came to the United States when but eight years of age. Her father, August Swanson, is now living on the J. L. Downs place west of Fir. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Mann: Hattie, Lottie and Walter. Mr. Mann is a strong Republican, actively engaged in furthering the interests of his party. Believing this to be the finest country he has ever been privileged to see, he is enthusiastic over the almost unlimited opportunities for success. He has seen many fields of grain running one hundred and fifty bushels to the acre, some as high as one hundred and eighty bushels; also hay fields yielding from four to five tons per acre. His own prosperity certainly justifies him in believing that the young man of steady and industrious habits may here find an opening that can be duplicated in but few places in the world.

ALFRED POLSON. Among the young farmers of Skagit county who have won for themselves an enviable position in the community is Alfred Polson, the well-known manager of the Polson ranch, situated eight and one-half miles southwest of Mount Vernon, on the Skagit delta. His father, Olof Polson, a native of Hasslof, Halland's Lane, Sweden, born March 23, 1833, came to the United States October 26, 1868, locating near Ottumwa, Iowa. Removing in 1871 to what was then Whatcom county, he took up a homestead on Brown's slough and transformed it into one of the finest farms in the Northwest. Later he retired from active work on the farm, taking up his residence in La Conner, of which city he was mayor for three terms. Always an active Republican, he attended the conventions, lending his influence to every measure that would advance his party's interests. He was an earnest worker in the Swedish Lutheran church to the time of his death, which





OLOF POLSON



MRS. OLOF POLSON



occurred May 30, 1903. He was married in Munkagardden, Sweden, June 7, 1853, to Gunhilda Nelson, a native of Sweden, born September 25, 1832, and now living at La Conner.

The family having removed to Skagit county when he was but a year old, Alfred Polson spent his early years on the farm acquiring a practical knowledge of the work and at the same time a good common school education. Early giving evidence of unusual business talent, he was placed by his father in charge of the entire farm when the older Mr. Polson moved to La Conner. One year later, on October 1, 1896, he entered the hardware business with his brother, John, in La Conner. The firm name chosen was "The Polson-Wilton Hardware Company." Another brother, Perry, who was in the wholesale hardware business in Seattle, also had an interest in the enterprise. At the end of a year and a half our subject returned to the farm at his father's request, assuming the management of it, that the elder Polson might be free to retire again to his town residence in La Conner, which he had left to oversee the ranch during his son's absence. This estate, comprising three hundred and twenty-five acres, splendidly equipped with houses, barns and warehouses, which in the distance give it the appearance of being a village in itself, has never been divided. Upon the death of its owner it was not probated, the heirs forming a stock company, each holding an equal number of shares, and the mother retaining her interests in her own possession while she lives. Mr. Polson's brothers and sisters are as follows: Perry, president of the wholesale hardware and implement company, of Seattle; Nels, a farmer in Skagit county; Mrs. Pauline Nelson of La Conner; Mrs. Christine Bell and Mrs. Josephine Calkins, residents of Skagit county; William L., assayer and chemist, at Ketchikan, Alaska.

Mr. Polson was married December 6, 1899, to Cora E. Hayton, who was born in 1880, the daughter of Thomas and Sarah E. (Sanders) Hayton. Her father, a distinguished pioneer of Skagit county, and a veteran of the Civil War, is still living, but her mother died November 21, 1896. Mrs. Polson has one sister, Mrs. Laura Hemingway, and six brothers, Jacob, Thomas, Henry, George, James and William. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Polson are Edna May, born May 6, 1901; Florence E., born June 9, 1903, and Genevieve C., born July 1, 1905. Mr. Polson is affiliated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and Woodmen of the World and is an influential member of the Swedish Lutheran church, while his wife is a Baptist, active in the work of her denomination. He is a member of the school board and being an earnest advocate always of the policy of supplying the best educational advantages is now advocating an enlargement of the school building and the employment of an additional teacher in his district. A loyal sup-

porter of the principles of the Republican party, he is active in its councils and a frequent attendant of its county conventions.

Mr. Polson is the owner of a fine tract of one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, which he farms in connection with the family estate. In addition to his own farming operations he is breeding Holsteins for dairy and beef purposes. He is the owner at present of eighty head of cattle. He has his own separator and sells the cream product of the herd to the Pleasant Ridge Creamery Company, in which he is a stockholder. He is also interested in the rearing of fine English Shire horses.

The conditions under which Mr. Polson operates illustrate how farm life may be made easy and delightful in Skagit county. He has every facility for shipping his grain and other products to the markets of the sound, as steamers of a hundred tons burden or even larger come up Brown's slough to his very doorstep. He has a gasoline launch anchored at his landing, making it possible for him to make convenient trips by water as often as he pleases to Mount Vernon, La Conner and other points on the river, sloughs and sound. With rural free delivery, telephone connections with neighboring towns and cities and every modern convenience for lightening the work indoors and out, he and his family live an almost ideal rural life. They have the splendid satisfaction also of realizing that most of the advantages they enjoy came as a reward of their own labor and planning, and that the public institutions which add to their comforts have always received from them a generous encouragement and support.

JAMES B. HAYTON, a prosperous young farmer and stockman, residing seven miles southwest of Mount Vernon, was born in Skagit county on the place where he now lives, February 8, 1877. His father, Thomas Hayton, a retired farmer, born in Kentucky, June 23, 1833, is a well-known pioneer of Skagit county, having come here in 1876, since which time he has been prominently identified with the county and state. He was a member of the constitutional convention when the territory of Washington became a state. He was in active service throughout the Civil War, enlisting in Kentucky, and he experienced the horrors of Libby prison. The mother, Sarah E. (Sanders), was born in what is now West Virginia in 1834 and died in Skagit county November 21, 1896. She was the mother of fourteen children, eight of whom are living, as follows: Jacob, in Oregon; Thomas R., a merchant in Mount Vernon; Henry, in British Columbia; George, in Kitsap County, Washington; Mrs. Laura Hemingway of Fir; William of Skagit county, and Mrs. Cora Polson of Skagit county. Born on the old home place one year after the family had moved there, James B. Hayton completed

his education in the high school and then took up farming under the supervision of his father. Adapted to the work and thoroughly familiar with the detail upon which success in such a large measure depends, he was soon able to relieve his father of the management of the farm. Three years ago he and his brother-in-law leased the father's place of three hundred and sixty acres for a period of three years. In 1903 he purchased one hundred and twenty acres, now farming three hundred and twenty acres in all, the majority of which is in oats. The maximum yield of oats per acre on his farm has been one hundred and sixty bushels to the acre, the average about one hundred bushels. Hay yields from four to five tons per acre. His place is well stocked, having on it about seventy-five head of Durham cattle and horses of the best breed.

Mr. Hayton was married December 25, 1901, to Maud M. Good, born in Washington January 4, 1883. Her parents, Edward and Mary (Forbes) Good, are well-known pioneers of this county. Mrs. Hayton has two brothers, William and Edward. One child, Evelyn, has made happy the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hayton. Mr. Hayton is an active member of the Yeomen fraternity at Mount Vernon. He is also a member of the Baptist church. In political belief he is a strong Republican, loyally supporting the party in every possible way. Earnest and industrious, possessed of youth, health and ambition, it is safe to predict for him a still larger measure of success in the business to which he is devoting his best energies.

ALEX JOHNSON is one of the farmers of Fir who believe in carrying on diversified agriculture, and the sixty-acre place he is master of is the result of his ideas on the best manner of operating a small farm. Mr. Johnson is a native of Norway, where he was born on May 17, 1866, the son of Leonard and Bertha (Erickson) Johnson. The parents passed their entire lives in the old country, the former dying in 1893 at the age of fifty-three and the latter in 1891 at the age of forty-seven. There were three children of the union besides the subject of this sketch, George, Hans and Mrs. Kate White. Alex Johnson attended school until fifteen years of age, then worked on a salary until 1886, when he came to the United States. He first went to Michigan and remained there four years, being employed in lumber camps and mills. Coming to Washington in 1890, he located in King county and worked in a saw-mill at Ballard for seven years. He has been a resident of Skagit county since 1897.

In that year Mr. Johnson married at Seattle Miss Mary Johnson, the only daughter of Ole Johnson, who came to this country from Norway and settled in Skagit county twenty-six years ago, where he still resides. Mrs. Alex Johnson's mother

died while her daughter was an infant, and she was brought to this country by her father in 1879 at the age of nine, and lived in Seattle at the time of her marriage. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson: Louise, Olga, Leonard, Alfred and Carl. In politics Mr. Johnson is a Republican and in church affiliation a Lutheran. Mr. Johnson owns the farm which he operates. It is entirely cleared and devoted to general farming. The main features of the products of the place are oats and cattle, though a little of everything demanded by the markets is raised. Six head of cows are milked and eight head of young cattle range the pastures. Most of the land is in oats. The Johnson home is a pleasant one, filled with interest in the children, about whose education much of the planning in the home circle centers.

ANDREW N. CROGSTAD, the owner of a splendid ranch situated one and one-half miles southwest of Fir, is a native of Norway, born in the state of Trondhjem, June 27, 1852. His father, Nils Andrews, immigrated from Norway to the United States in 1880 and is now engaged in farming in Minnesota. The mother, Carrie L. (Lewis) Andrews, died in 1880. Mr. Crogstad attended the common schools of his country, completing his education by a course in the agricultural schools, after which he took up the trade of ship building, working in the iron department until in 1872, he sought the larger opportunities afforded by the United States, locating in Wisconsin. Employed by a sawmill company at Red Cedar Falls, he there remained for three years, following which he spent the same length of time at another town. Skagit county became his home in 1877, and the next year he leased Captain Loveland's ranch on the Skagit river for three years. A government survey near Wenatchee, on the Columbia river, and in the vicinity of Priest Rapids occupied his time and attention for a while. He then removed to Seattle, where he worked in a foundry for several months, returning at length to Skagit county. After logging near Mill Town a short time he bought his present place in 1889, of Jacob Hoyton, together with a forty acre tract off another place, that had been only partially diked and cleared, but is now in an excellent state of cultivation. He owns one hundred and twenty acres, a large part of which he devotes to hay and oats, the remainder to the cultivation of fruits, of which he has a great variety, cherries, pears, apples, plums and berries. His ranch is stocked with thoroughbred short horn cattle that give evidence of careful attention. Last year he and his neighbors formed a stock company for the purchase of an English shire stallion, that they might be able to breed superior horses. Mr. Crogstad has a brother, Louis Nelson Crogstad, and a sister, Mrs. Jennie G. Long, both residing in Minnesota.

In Seattle, March 8, 1889, Mr. Crogstad was married to Wilhelmina Janssen, a native of Germany, born June 26, 1864. Her father, P. N. Janssen, born on the line near Denmark, immigrated to the United States, locating on White river, near Seattle, in 1873, where he died in January, 1899. Her mother, long since deceased, was Wilhelmina Christine Janssen. Mr. and Mrs. Crogstad have the following children: Carrie Elvina, attending school at Everett, having completed the eighth grade at home; Maurice N., Lottie, Clara and Louis. Mr. Crogstad is an active member of the American Order of United Workmen. Though not identified with any church organization, he contributes liberally to the support of all. As a member of the school board he is an earnest advocate of modern methods, believing that the educational advantages are a vital force in the development and progress of our civilization. In political belief he is a Republican, reserving, however, the right to vote an independent ticket when he deems best. An earnest, intelligent, progressive citizen, possessed of sterling character, he is one of the substantial members of the community, enjoying the confidence and respect of all.

LEWIS P. HEMINGWAY, a successful farmer and stockman residing one and one-fourth miles west of Fir, is a native of Maine, born April 23, 1863, in Rumford, Oxford county. His father, Colman Hemingway, born in Maine, the home of his ancestors for several generations, was a veteran of the Civil War, in the Twelfth Maine Volunteer regiment. Having suffered severely from the effects of exposure during his service in the army, he was the recipient of a pension to the time of his death, in 1904, at the age of eighty-one. The mother, Orpha G. (Pinkham) Hemingway, was born in Penobscot county, Maine, and died in 1903, at the age of seventy-one. Mr. Hemingway grew to manhood on his father's farm, acquiring a practical knowledge of the work which has occupied his attention these later years. At the age of twenty he moved to Lamoine county, North Dakota, there engaging in farming for two years, after which he accepted a position with the Seattle Cereal Company. Later he dealt in feed and grain, spending two years buying oats in Skagit county, which section impressed him at the time as being an especially favored locality for agricultural pursuits. Having made a trip to Maine in 1890, he came to this county two years later, he and his brother-in-law, James Hayton, leasing the old Thomas Hayton ranch of three hundred and sixty acres, for a period of three years. They have now divided the ranch, each farming separately. Mr. Hemingway has recently purchased forty acres of the Cobb ranch, erecting a fine new house on it which he is now occupying. He has four brothers, Myron, Charles, Frank and Willis, the last-named following the carpenter trade in

Sedro-Woolley. His only sister, Maydelle Neal, lives in Maine.

Mr. Hemingway was married August 25, 1898, to Laura M. Hayton, born in Cass county, Missouri, the daughter of Thomas Hayton, a well known pioneer of Skagit county, born in Kentucky June 23, 1833. He came to this country in 1876, and still makes it his home. Mrs. Hemingway's mother was Sarah E. (Sanders) Hayton, a native of Virginia, born in 1834; her death occurred November 2, 1896. The fifth child of a family of eight, Mrs. Hemingway has brothers and sisters as follows: Jacob, in Oregon; Thomas R., a merchant in Mount Vernon; Henry, in British Columbia; George, in Kitsap county; James B. and William, Skagit county, and Cora, the wife of Alfred Polson. Mr. and Mrs. Hemingway have one child, Edith, born September 7, 1900, and twins, born Aug. 23, 1905, Harold and Hazel. Mr. Hemingway is a prominent member of the Woodmen of the World and the Foresters of America, at Seattle. He is actively identified with the Republican party. Thoroughly familiar with every branch of farming, he is one of the successful ranchers in this section, farming two hundred acres, one hundred and thirty-five of which are in oats, the remainder in hay and pasture. Realizing that diversified farming is the demand of the hour, he devotes much time to stock, owning forty head of cattle and twelve horses. Much of the land in this vicinity will average thirty-five sacks of oats, of three bushels each, and three and one-half tons of hay, per acre. Farm hands receive good wages, from thirty to thirty-five dollars per month with board being the usual compensation, thus making it easy for an industrious poor man to gain a footing. Industrious, ambitious, and a man of integrity, Mr. Hemingway is a highly respected citizen, enjoying the confidence of the entire community.

CHRISTOPHER OLSEN is one of the prosperous and reliable farmers of the Fir district, his farm being located about a mile and a half south of town. Here he conducts a successful dairy business. Mr. Olsen was born in Norway in 1853, the son of Ole Christopherson, who is still living in the old country, and Mrs. Gunie (Nelson) Christopherson, who died five years ago in Norway, the mother of nine children, eight living, as follows: Birta, Christopher, Nels, Martin, Ole, Ivar, John and Gunder. Christopher Olson attended the schools of Norway until sixteen years of age and after leaving school entered the fisheries of Norway and continued in that line until his departure for the United States in 1881. He stopped for a year in Michigan and then came on to Skagit county in 1882. He went to work at once in the logging camps and continued at that work for a full decade when he bought his present place and has lived on it ever since.

At Milltown, in 1889, Mr. Olsen married Miss Lizzie Larson, daughter of Lars and Mary Larson, natives of Norway, who never left their native shores and fjords. Mrs. Olsen received her education in the old country and came to the United States in 1886 and worked at dressmaking at Fir until her marriage. Mrs. Olson died in 1902, leaving two children: Minnie, born in 1890, and Ole, born in 1893. In politics Mr. Olson is a Republican and in church affiliations a Lutheran. His farm consists of forty acres, all under cultivation, and he has a nice eight-room house. In his dairy department Mr. Olson milks twelve cows, but he has in addition fourteen head of stock cattle, as well as some sheep and a few hogs and horses sufficient to carry on the farm work. He also owns ten acres of land at Fir. Mr. Olson is one of the substantial farmers of the Fir country, sensible in his views of men and things and reliable in all things. He enjoys the esteem and respect of all with whom he comes in contact.

LEWIS JOHNSON, deceased, was one of the men who started in business in Sagit county when there was little except the wilderness to attract; but before his death he had made a place for himself and family which will not be obliterated in the years to come. Mr. Johnson, during his life in Skagit county, was a respected and honored citizen of the community south of Fir, having his home on Long Island. He was born in Norway January 20, 1849, the son of Christian and Ingelberg Johnson, who passed their lives in that country and were the parents of five children: Berta, Andrew, John, Tena and Lewis. Until he was sixteen years of age Lewis Johnson attended school and then for a period of eight years worked at the trade of carpenter. He came to the United States in 1873 and for six years lived in Michigan, where he engaged in logging and lumbering. On coming to Washington Mr. Johnson located in Snohomish county and took a homestead near Marysville; but at the end of two years moved to Skagit county and rented a place on Brown's slough, where he lived for three years. At the end of that time he moved on his present place, where he lived until his death and where his widow still resides.

January 5, 1881, Mr. Johnson, at Seattle, married Miss Berta Johnson, born in the old country, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Brotten) Bransted, natives of Norway, who passed their entire lives there, the father being a blacksmith by trade. Mrs. Johnson was one of five children, the others being Elizabeth, Ande, Ivar and Rande. She was born July 27, 1846, and grew up at home, attending school; she stayed at home with her parents until in 1873 she came to the United States, went to Michigan and passed two years at domestic work. Six more years were spent thus in Chicago, San Francisco

and Seattle, prior to her marriage. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson—Anna, Mamie, Moone and Julia, of whom Mamie only is living. Mr. Johnson was a Republican in politics. The family are Lutherans in church affiliations. The home farm, which is operated by Mrs. Johnson since the death of her husband, consists of 130 acres, fifty of which are tillable. Mr. Johnson is remembered in the community as a thrifty, hard working, honorable man, and one in whom his fellows placed the highest confidence. His life in Skagit county was that of the pioneer. His share in the development of the section was an important one and his name must ever be inseparably linked with those of the sturdy characters who wrought the wonderful changes that have marked the last quarter of a century.

LEWIS LARSON, a farmer and dairyman a mile and a half south of Fir, is one of the successful agriculturists and stock men of the southwestern part of Skagit county, who have accumulated valuable property interests. Mr. Larson is a native of Norway, born Dec. 26, 1859, the son of Lars Levek, a farmer who lived and died in the old country and put in the regular term of army service demanded of the young men. The mother was Marat Norvek, who had six children, two of whom have died, the living being Christian, Aldre, Dorde and Lewis. Lewis Larson attended school until he was fifteen years of age; then commenced to work for his brother but made his home with his mother until he was twenty. He chartered a fishing boat and operated that for two years prior to coming to the United States in 1882. On reaching this country he stayed for a time in Michigan, but came to Skagit county in the fall, locating at Utsalady, where he remained four years at saw mill work. For a number of years he worked in King county mills, returned to Skagit county in 1896 and located on his present place, where he has resided since.

In 1903, on Christmas Day, at Mount Vernon, Mr. Larson married Mrs. Eldre Schron Dahl, widow of Andrew Schron Dahl of Fir. She was the daughter of Christopher Vike, a native of Norway. There were five children in the Vike family, and those living are: John, Mrs. E. Bransted, Mrs. Larson and Gunder. Mrs. Larson was born in Michigan in 1858, and obtained her education there, residing at home until her marriage. Mr. Schron Dahl was drowned in the Skagit river in 1889. Mr. Larson is a Republican in politics and in church affiliations a Lutheran. He owns forty acres, all under cultivation and well tilled, in his home place; and has also 160 acres of valuable timber land in Oregon. In his dairy barn Mr. Larson keeps eleven cows, but he also has thirty-five head of other cattle, as well as sheep and hogs. Mr. Larson's farm is in its present fine shape solely through the efforts of its

owner, for he cleared it himself and built his own dike. Mr. Larson is very popular in the community; he is a man of energy and industry and keeps abreast of the times. For almost a quarter of a century he has been an active participant in the work of developing the industrial resources of this section, and during this long period of activity has won for himself a reputation in which any citizen may well take commendable pride.

LAFAYETTE S. STEVENS is one of the men who have unbounded faith in Skagit county as a mining district, and his experience as a prospector should enable him to recognize a good mining country when he travels over it. He was born in Illinois August 22, 1847, the son of Alfred and Esther (Kellogg) Stevens, natives of Pennsylvania. The elder Stevens early in life owned 320 acres of the site where Chicago now stands, but left it for Racine, Wisconsin. He died in Illinois in 1874. In early life Mrs. Stevens was a school teacher, but she relinquished the profession when she married. She died in Wisconsin in 1892, the mother of nine children. Young Stevens lived at home and attended school until he was nineteen, then farmed in Illinois for a time, whence in 1870 he went to California. He put in one year ranching at Chico, then went to Nevada and took up the life of a prospector, and during the two and one-half years he was in that state he located a number of good paying claims that cleaned up well. In 1873 he came to the Skagit river, and for the ensuing fifteen years he prospected up and down the entire valley, discovering many indications of minerals. It was the successful operation of placers on Ruby creek, by Mr. Stevens, in conjunction with Otto Clement, Charles Von Presentin and John Rowley, which caused the Ruby creek excitement some years ago. The story of the yield of twenty-five cents to the pan attracted many to the diggings. In 1878 Mr. Stevens located the coal mines of Cokedale, northeast of Sedro-Woolley, and he still believes that the Skagit coal is richest in carbon of any coal in the United States. Mr. Stevens at the present time has four claims on Table Mountain which are supposed to be valuable, as the ore assays \$16 to the ton, appearing principally as gold quartz. This Table Mountain property is in well defined ledges, cased with slate and greenstone, a formation which in Mr. Stevens' mind insures permanency of the deposits. He has planned to carry on the development of this property at once. Mr. Stevens has put in more years in the Skagit county mountains than any other prospector and he has great confidence in their future as a mining region. In 1898 Mr. Stevens left prospecting in Skagit temporarily and went to the Dawson fields, where he spent two years, prospecting and mining, being one of a company of seven men who, as employees, took out \$50,000 from a single claim. On his return to

Skagit county he located in Clear Lake and opened the hotel which he still conducts. At one time Mr. Stevens owned 320 acres of farm land near Burlington, of which 100 were cleared. At the opening of one spring during that period he selected twenty acres and planted garden seed on contract at an agreed price of one dollar per pound for the product; but, unfortunately, the first big spring freshet for fifteen years came down the Skagit valley that season and swept away all of his planting.

Mrs. Stevens, who formerly was Miss Florence Drown, is a native of Wisconsin who came to Skagit county and, December 2, 1888, was married to Mr. Stevens at Burlington. Of this union there have been five children, of whom a daughter, Esther, is dead. The living are: Fred, Laura, Mabel and Ralph. Mr. Stevens is a Republican in politics. While fortune has been against him in the matter of winning financial success, he is very hopeful that his mining properties will soon begin rewarding him for all his labor and faith and at any rate he enjoys the satisfaction of having contributed much to the mining development of the country.

GEORGE W. PHELPS is a product of the development period of the country west of the plains and prairies of the United States, and like most of the men born in the west in the days when the land was being turned from wild nature to the uses of mankind, is a self-made man. He was born at St. George, Utah, August 22, 1863. His father, John Phelps, a native of Ohio, followed the stream of gold seekers to California in the fifties, whence sometime during the decade following he went to Utah, where he resided until his death in 1874. He used to relate an incident which illustrates the feeling entertained by the Indians toward the whites in the days when the country was being settled. Mr. Phelps prepared some flour for cooking and happened to find that it had been well doctored with strychnine. A supposedly friendly redskin was discovered later who confessed that he had added the strychnine to the flour, but blandly assured Mr. Phelps that he had no ill feeling against him, alleging that he simply was experimenting to see if strychnine would kill. Mrs. Phelps, the mother of George, whose maiden name was Phoebe M. Dart, was a native of New York, but raised in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Of her three children, only the subject of this writing still lives. George Phelps lived with his parents until 1875, when he was attracted to the Snake river country of Idaho, where he lived with a bachelor for more than a twelve-month. The year 1877 found him in California, where he passed a year, and at a later date he engaged in caring for stage horses in Nevada. He continued in that country until 1886, when he went to Idaho for his mother and took her to the Skagit valley, settling at Clear Lake. The years between

1894 and 1902 he passed in British Columbia, employed in various lines of work, but since then he has lived on the shores of Clear Lake, successfully conducting the business of a dairy farmer.

In October, 1896, while living at Clinton, British Columbia, Mr. Phelps married Miss Mary J. Kennedy, daughter of Donald Kennedy, the latter a native of Scotland who had been brought to Canada by his parents while an infant. He learned the blacksmith trade when a young man in Canada. Mr. Kennedy was in Michigan for a time. On coming to Puget Sound he located at Arlington in the hotel business, later going to British Columbia, where he died in 1902. Mrs. Kennedy, the mother of Mrs. Phelps, who is also of Canadian birth, still lives, now a resident of Cariboo, British Columbia. Mrs. Phelps was born in Ontario in 1871, and remained with her parents until two years prior to her marriage, when she secured employment away from home. Mr. and Mrs. Phelps have no children. In politics he is a Socialist, though at one period of his life he was a Republican. Mr. Phelps has ninety-five acres of land bordering on Clear Lake, milks sixteen cows and has a number of young cattle. In his young days Mr. Phelps was so situated that he had no opportunity to secure an education, but in later years he pursued studies by himself and has picked up a great fund of information along scientific and sociological lines. In Skagit county he has served as school director and takes a deep interest in school matters, believing the public schools to be fundamental to the best American citizenship. He also has been road supervisor at Clear Lake. He has been compelled to do much work reclaiming his land, but now has a portion of it in shape for cultivation. Straightforward in all business transactions, he holds, for this and other worthy traits of character, the respect of his fellows.

GEORGE W. DUNN, though a resident of Skagit county but a short time, already has won a reputation for himself in the community near Clear Lake as an energetic and progressive man. His ancestry and his own previous career were of substantial character. He was born in Licking county, Ohio, of the sturdy stock of Virginians who poured through Pittsburg and settled in the Ohio basin in the years following the Revolution. His father, born at Charlestown, Virginia, in 1802, first followed the trade of a carder. When twenty-one years old he took up pioneer farm life in Ohio, where he died in 1877. Mrs. Mary A. (Evans) Dunn, mother of our subject, was born in the Buckeye state and remained there all her life, living with her parents until she married. She was the mother of sixteen children, of whom seven are living: Caroline, Alfred, James W., Rebecca, Milligan, George W., and Leonard B. George W. was born May 26, 1846. He remained at home until the outbreak of the war, then enlisted in the One Hundred and

Thirty-fifth Ohio Volunteers. He was captured by the Confederates July 3, 1864, and languished at Andersonville, Charleston and Florence for five months and seven days thereafter, but was given his parole in December, 1864, and received his discharge in January of the following year. He at once commenced planning his future under the Union to be reconstructed, and in the winter of 1865-6 went to Missouri, thence in the spring to Kansas, where he remained three years. He then went back to Missouri and operated a farm in that state for eight years, after which he returned to Ohio, and passed nine more years in farming, then spending an additional two years in the same pursuit in Indiana. Mr. Dunn thereupon took up his abode in Nebraska, where he resided from 1885 to the last days of 1904, engaged in the sheep and cattle industry, a line in which he was quite successful. On coming to Skagit county he bought a tract of land on the Skagit river for \$4,500, upon which are three million feet of merchantable timber. He has cleared eight acres and erected a handsome house and ample barns, and expects to pass the remainder of his days here.

Mr. Dunn, in 1868, while in Missouri, married Miss Mary Deffenbaugh, daughter of John Deffenbaugh, a native of Pennsylvania who had moved west and engaged in farming. Mrs. Dunn's mother, a native of Indiana, gave to the world ten children, two of whom have died. The living are George W., Mathias A., Carrie L., Nettie M., Rolly O., Leslie E., Charles A. and Mrs. Dunn. George W. Dunn is a Republican in politics, and in fraternal connection a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He also belongs to the Methodist church. As a man and citizen his standing in the community in which he lives is a highly enviable one.

XAVER BARTL is one of the very earliest settlers in Skagit county, commencing his residence when there were only seven white men living on the river and when it was necessary to go to Whidby Island to get a day's work. He built the first house in Mount Vernon, and recalls that while living in this house at one time he was out of bread for days because the river was frozen and he could not go to the island. He has lived to see wondrous changes in the Skagit valley. Mr. Bartl was born in Germany in 1846, the son of Franz Bartl, a native of Germany, who came to the United States when thirty years of age, settling first in Wisconsin, then in Missouri, and coming to Skagit county in 1872. The father located at Mount Vernon and operated a farm until his death in 1889. The mother died in Germany when Xaver was six years old. Of this union two sons survive, Frank Bartl and the subject of this sketch, both of whom reside in Skagit county. After continuing with his father until eighteen young Bartl commenced the life of

a farmer on his own account in Missouri in 1864. Three years were spent in Missouri and one in Illinois, then Mr. Bartl located on Whidby Island, Washington, where one year later he moved to Mount Vernon. He chose the land which has since been converted into the fair grounds and lived there until 1884, when he moved to his present farm north of Clear Lake.

Xaver Bartl in 1865, while a resident of Missouri, married Miss Mary Bozarth, daughter of Irvin and Elizabeth (Rice) Bozarth, who were natives of Missouri. Mrs. Bozarth died in her native state, but her husband lived to come to Whidby Island, where he died thirty-five years ago. Mrs. Bartl was born in Holt county, Missouri, in 1847, and after her mother's death lived with her grandfather until her marriage. She is the mother of twelve children, eight of whom are living, namely, Jacob, James, Frances, Eliza Jane, Viola, Lavanchie, Phoebe and David. The deceased are: William, David, accidentally shot, Margaret and Dora. Mr. Bartl's home place consists of fifty-five acres, and he also has a farm of 155 acres west of Clear Lake. His live stock numbers twelve cows, four horses, sixty sheep and a number of hogs. Mr. Bartl is a Democrat in politics and in religion a member of the Methodist church. While his life has been an active one, with many vicissitudes in the earlier days, he is now in a position to enjoy the comforts which his activity has brought to his later and fuller years.

R. H. PUTNAM, a veteran of the Civil War and an honored pioneer of Skagit county, residing a little over a mile by the wagon road from Clear Lake, was born in Essex county, New York, in October, 1846. His father, Daniel P. Putnam, a native of Newberry, in the Connecticut valley, born in 1807, spent most of his life in New York, engaged in carpenter work, and he passed away in that state a number of years ago. The mother of our subject, Mary (Sheldon) Putnam, was a native of Essex county, New York, where her forbears settled before the Revolutionary War, and she used to repeat stories told her by her parents of the stirring events which took place in the Lake Champlain district during that struggle. The family had their stock killed and sustained other losses on account of the depredations of the British soldiers. R. H. Putnam, of this article, after completing his education in the common schools, began working on the neighboring farms, and continued to be employed thus until he reached the age of eighteen, when he enlisted in the Ninety-first New York, for service in the Civil War. The great fratricidal struggle was nearing its close at the time, but he did what he could in the final conflicts, though he was unfortunately too sick to participate in the battle of Petersburg, although within hearing of the guns.

After the war Mr. Putnam moved, in the fall of

1865, to Missouri, and clerked in a store there until 1866, but inasmuch as he did not have good health there, he returned the next year to the Empire state. There he worked with his father at the carpenter's trade until the spring of 1868, when he moved to Minnesota, and for a number of years thereafter he was employed at farm work in various parts of that state, also in Iowa, Missouri, Kansas and California. Finally, in 1876, he came to Puget sound and located on the Skagit river near Burlington, where his home was until 1880. After participating in the Ruby creek rush, he went east of the mountains. He farmed in the Wenatchee valley and in Moses coulee for a time, but in 1883 returned to the Sound and located on his present place near Clear Lake. Here he has a farm of 130 acres, of which about eighty acres are hill land, the remainder bottom land of excellent quality. About thirty-five acres have been cleared and put in cultivation, from a part of which the stumps have been removed. Although Mr. Putnam has an excellent orchard, he has given most of his attention to stock raising and dairying, keeping until recently quite a herd of milch cows, but he is now selling out with intent very soon to try the effect of a southern climate upon his health. Mr. Putnam has never married, but his sister keeps house for him in their pleasant home near the banks of Clear Lake.

JOHN R. SMITH, one of the respected citizens and successful dairy farmers of the Clear Lake region of Skagit county, was born in Nova Scotia, August 28, 1858, the son of Robert W. Smith. The elder Smith left Nova Scotia for New Brunswick in 1865 and continued there as a farmer until 1886, after which he passed two years in Maine. He crossed the continent in 1888, settling in La Conner, and he was a successful restaurant keeper there and in Fairhaven until his death in 1891. Mrs. Sarah L. (Brewster) Smith, a native of New Brunswick, died in 1902 at the home of her son, John R. Smith, leaving six other children. John R. attended school until twelve years old and then worked on the parental farm until twenty-two, at that time securing employment with a neighboring farmer. Later he bought a farm of his own. After successfully operating it for three years, he sold out, and came to La Conner, Skagit county, arriving in 1888. Here he bought a forty-acre farm and conducted it for two years, at the end of which time he entered the dairy business at Sedro-Woolley. In 1895 he went to Fredonia, the following year moving to a place a mile and a half north of Clear Lake, where he has ever since resided.

June 28, 1882, Mr. Smith married Miss Mary E. Downing, daughter of Thomas and Eliza (Fitzgerald) Downing, who lived the life of New Brunswick farmers until recent years, closing their labors only with death. To Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been born six children, of whom Annie, Percy D., Jen-

nie and Thomas C. are living. The Smith home is a pleasant one, and its maintenance, and the preparation of his children for the duties of life, are Mr. Smith's chief care. He owns nearly 170 acres of rich bottom land, ample for the support of his cattle and for the general farming he does. His dairy herd numbers twenty-eight cows and twenty head of young cattle, and while he devotes most of his attention to these, he also keeps other live stock, horses and hogs. Mr. Smith has made two trips out of the state since his arrival within its borders in 1888. September 8, 1894, he left on a reconnaissance of the Alberta country for a satisfactory homestead location, and he had a pleasant trip of twenty-one days, pleasant except for one memorable snow storm. He failed, however, to discover anything more promising than the prospects which Skagit county offered. January 19, 1897, he started on a gold hunting expedition to Alaska, and he remained in the far north until the ensuing June, engaged for the most part in work on the White Pass wagon road. This trip was a profitable one financially, but nowhere has Mr. Smith found opportunities better than in Skagit county, where he is doing well and expects to continue doing well. In politics, Mr. Smith is a Republican. As a man and citizen his standing in the community is a highly enviable one, the esteem and confidence of his neighbors being his in abundant measure.

WILLIAM T. RAINS, a stockman whose ranch is three miles northwest of Clear Lake, has spent fifty years of ups and downs on the Pacific coast. He has experienced the trials and fortunes of the gold hunters of California, Idaho and British Columbia; has cultivated the rich farming land and cut the heavy timber of the Willamette valley in Oregon, and of the Skagit country in Washington; has seen his logs go into the mills and come out as lumber, and at other times has placed his logs in booms only to see them lost by freshet and flood; has farmed in the arid country of the Yakima valley and in the moisture of the Puget Sound district. With all these experiences, Mr. Rains is a hale, hearty, strong souled man who has the esteem of all who know him, a man not soured by misfortune. He was born in Illinois in 1836, the son of Thomas Rains, a Tennessean, born in 1799, who lived the life of a farmer in Tennessee, Missouri and Illinois until his death in 1852. The mother, Matilda (Boyd) Rains, lived to a ripe old age, passing away while residing with her son on the sunset slope of the continent. Of her nine children, but four are living.

William T. Rains, of this article, lived with his parents until eighteen. Six years after the argonauts of '49 uncovered the riches of California he commenced to look for fortune in the mountains of the Pacific coast. During the four years from 1854 to 1859 he mined in California; from 1859 to 1862

he was on the Willamette farming the rich soil of that valley, but the hidden secrets of the mountains attracted him and he went to Florence, Idaho, in the days of the first gold excitement in that territory; a year later he went to Warrens in the same district and remained there until he found a good quartz prospect which he sold in 1868; then he left the country, which has since seen the Buffalo Hump and Thunder Mountain excitements, returned to the Willamette and ran a sawmill for three years. Idaho still called him, and in 1871 he went to a ranch on the Salmon river, a year later going to Warrens and still later to a farm on Camas prairie, where he remained until coming to the Puget Sound country, in 1874. Here he turned logger, but for six months in 1878 he tried the mines of British Columbia. He followed farming near Tacoma, again near North Yakima and once more in the Snoqualmie valley, before he settled down near Clear Lake in 1904. Here he is still residing.

In 1868 Mr. Rains married Miss Vina Frances Boyd, daughter of Rev. J. M. Boyd, a Methodist clergyman of Oregon, and Lavina (Goodrich) Boyd. Mrs. Rains was born in the famous Grand Ronde valley of northeastern Oregon while her parents were crossing the divide from the plains to the coast. Her life until marriage was passed in the home of her parents. She is the mother of twelve children, of whom Thomas, Ida, Joseph, Mary, Martha and Hannah still are living. Mr. Rains owns his home place of sixty-five acres three miles northwest of Clear Lake, and upon it he has sixty head of sheep, twenty-six head of cattle, numerous hogs and other livestock, but keeps only as many horses as are necessary for the farm work. In politics he takes little part, preferring to use his energy developing his holdings. His neighbors know him as a man of wide information, doubtless obtained by his extended travels, and as a man possessing many commendable traits of character.

ALEXANDER K. SMITH is a raiser of vegetables for market, his ranch being on the northeast outskirts of Clear Lake. He was born in Scotland in March, 1835, and during his long life has had an active, varied and useful career. His father was David Smith, whose life spanned the period from the days when the American Revolution was in its throes to those when the nation was deep in the war for the preservation of the Union. David Smith was a fisherman and died in his native Scotland in 1864. Alexander's mother, Mrs. Christina (Clark) Smith, passed away in Scotland full of honor and years. Alexander Smith lived with his parents in the old home until he was twenty-two, obtaining an education and becoming skillful in the carpenter's trade. Until 1857 he worked at the bench in London, Dundee and Edinburgh and then came to the provinces of Canada, whence at a later date he crossed the St. Lawrence to New York. Learning

of the great country across the Rockies, he followed the tide of immigration to the Pacific and reached San Francisco via the Panama route in 1858. He spent some time mining in Shasta County, California, then dropped back to the valley of the Sacramento for several months' stay. He returned at length to San Francisco and worked at his trade there until the spring of 1861, when he went to the Fraser river country in British Columbia during the days of the mining excitement. Here for several years, he combined mining with carpenter work, but eventually went to the San Jose country, California. In 1886 he came to the Skagit and located at Clear Lake, where he has since made his home, engaged in farming and in carpenter work as demand has come for his services.

In 1867, while a resident of Santa Clara County, California, Mr. Smith married Miss Mary Calahan, and the fruit of their union was two children, Charles and Mrs. Christina Bartl. Mr. Smith is the owner of ninety acres of land and divides his time between operating so much of it as is cleared and working at his trade. In politics he is a Republican. His judgment on political matters is considered good, and he is well esteemed by his friends and associates as a substantial member of the community.

THOMAS EDGAR TURNER was one of the first settlers in the Clear Lake section of Skagit county, where, from the wilderness, he has carved out a modern American farm, and now is reaping the reward of his hard work, his frugality and his early hardships. Mr. Turner is a native of Indiana but was taken when very young by his parents to Missouri, where his father and mother still live. The elder Turner was a cabinet maker until he took to farming after he moved to Missouri. Mrs. Catherine A. (Crum) Turner, the mother, was born in Pennsylvania. Her mother dying when she was young, she spent much of her time in early life working for others. She is the mother of seven children, two of whom died when in infancy. The living are: Francis A., born in 1861; Thomas E., the subject of this sketch, born in 1863; Flora B., born in 1869; Harney W., born in 1873, and Emma C., born in 1876. After attending the common schools in Missouri, Thomas E. Turner continued to live with his parents until nineteen, when he left home and spent a year on a farm in Iowa. In 1883 he came to Skagit county and April 29, 1884, took land on Clear Lake, but kept at work in various logging camps for five years. It is interesting in these days of easy and quick transportation to hear Mr. Turner recite incidents of those early times. He tells a story of a lamp chimney, which is very entertaining. Mr. Turner had been to Mount Vernon with a companion to lay in a stock of everyday supplies for their cabin and when crossing the Nookachamp river on their return they nearly cap-

sized the craft and a much needed lamp chimney and some dishes were broken. The Turner cabin was dark at supper that night. The next day another trip to Mount Vernon was made, and during the home coming there was no mishap, but before the lamp was lighted the chimney rolled off the table, fell to the floor and was broken. That night supper was eaten by the light of a flannel wick saturated with bacon fat. Fifty-five miles were traveled before the troublesome lamp was fitted with a chimney. Ferrying across the Nookachamp river in those days was a hazardous undertaking; the Indians were expert oarsmen, but not at all times was there an Indian on hand when the white man wanted to cross. Mr. Turner also recalls many troublous experiences he had with bear during the days when he was a pioneer hog raiser in the wilderness. Bruin took many a porker from his band, but Mr. Turner retaliated by causing an appreciable decrease in the bear census, developing in consequence into one of the most famous bear hunters of the valley.

Mr. Turner has two sons and one daughter: Charles E., John L. and Daisy Belle. The home farm, on the flats southeast of Clear Lake, consists of forty acres, of which ten are in cultivation. Dairying is one of his chief industries, although he is engaged quite extensively in the poultry business. He sells a great deal of butter. In his day he has practiced the strictest frugality and economy, but now congratulates himself that he is in good circumstances, as the result of self-denial in the days when there was little fat in the land. In the political field Mr. Turner is a Republican. Recognized as one of the substantial citizens of the community, he holds the respect of all, as one who has been an active factor in the development and progress of the section.

ALEXANDER B. MELVILLE, whose ranch is a mile and a half southeast of Clear Lake, is one of the young men of that section of the country who believe in diversified farming. He was born in Canada, October 1, 1865, and came to Washington in 1888. His father, Alexander Melville, came from Glasgow, Scotland when a mere lad and grew up in Ontario, Canada. On reaching manhood, the elder Melville entered the hotel business. He came to Tower City, North Dakota, in 1881, but lived only six weeks after he had crossed the boundary line. Mrs. Melville, the mother of the subject of this sketch, was Miss Grace Brown, also a native of the land of the heather. She came to Canada when very young and lived to a ripe age, passing away in Seattle in May, 1905. She was the mother of ten children, all of whom are living, William, Elizabeth, Alexander, Lily, Mary, John, Bella, Maggie, Grace and James. Before leaving home Alexander had been the support of his mother and the family and two years after his arrival in

Washington he brought them west. He lived several years in Olympia, working at masonry, and was in Tenino one year commencing with 1894. He had early learned to run an engine, an accomplishment which stood him in good stead at Tenino, for he was engineer in different mills while there. He then spent two years as fireman on a steamboat at Gray's Harbor, receiving U. S. chief engineer's license of lakes, bays and sound, then, in 1897, he came to Clear Lake and went to work as chief engineer for the Clear Lake Lumber Company, the largest inland saw-mill firm in Washington, using in its work eleven engines and eleven boilers. This position he held until 1902. He had bought his present place in the spring of 1898 and has lived there since retiring from the mill business. The home place consists of eighty acres of excellent land, a considerable portion of which is now devoted to the pasturing of his forty head of cattle, but the acreage that has been stumped and plowed is truly surprising, and speaks volumes for the industry and ambition of Mr. Melville. His capacity for hard work is marvelous.

While living in Olympia, Mr. Melville married Miss Mamie Justice, the daughter of John Justice, who was born on an Indiana farm, and is now residing at Toppenish, Yakima county, this state. She and Mr. Melville are parents of two children, Maudie and Alexander. In politics Mr. Melville is a Republican, in church membership a Baptist. A thrifty, progressive man, he is sure to win a marked success by taking advantage of the excellent opportunities afforded to the worthy in the sound country. He is one of the most promising young men in his neighborhood, and none stands higher than he in the esteem and confidence of his neighbors.

JOHN G. RIEMER, a successful farmer living three miles south of Clear Lake, was born in Germany, January 20, 1852, the son of John G. and Dora Elizabeth (Kerger) Riemer. The father died in Germany, where the mother was still living at last accounts. They had six children, Gottlieb, Paulina, John G., Carl Fred Williams, Carl Henry, and Juliaetta. Until he was twenty years of age John Riemer lived at home, then he served the usual term in the German army, returning at its expiration to the parental roof, where he lived until 1879, then coming to the United States. For several years he worked at various occupations in different parts of the country, coming to Skagit county in 1886, when he located on land he has since developed into a home. The property in its natural state presented many difficulties. Mr. Riemer not only was confronted with great obstacles at home, but had to devise ways and means of getting in and out of his place from and to the regular highways. He solved this problem by building a road of puncheons which has stood the test of time and

gives promise of supporting travel for many years to come.

Mr. Riemer, in 1898, married Mrs. Frank Brosseau, whose maiden name was Miss Annie Moll. She was a daughter of Michael and Mary (Baringer) Mill, natives of Germany, who came to New York and engaged in farm work. Mr. Moll died in 1898, but his wife lives with a daughter in the Empire state. She is the mother of eight children, all of whom are living in New York except Michael and Mrs. Riemer. Mr. and Mrs. Riemer have no children, but Ralph Brosseau, Mrs. Riemer's son by a former husband, lives with them. In politics Mr. Riemer is a Republican, in fraternal circles an Odd Fellow and in church affiliations a Lutheran. His dairy herd consists of twenty milch cows and eleven head of young cattle, the head of the herd being a thoroughbred Durham bull. Mr. Riemer also raises hogs, but dairying is his chief industry. In addition to operating his farm, he has assisted in digging a canal between Beaver and Clear lakes and at times has packed goods to Clear lake, thence forwarding by canal to the Beaver lake settlement. His life has been one of hard work, but he looks back with pardonable pride on what his own energy and his own hands have accomplished in the past few years.

JAMES H. FELLOWS has passed all his life on the Pacific coast, having been born in San Francisco, May 20, 1864. George W. Fellows, his father, a native of the New Hampshire hills, went to California during the gold excitement of the early 'fifties and later embarked in the dairy business in San Francisco, selling his milk to custom trade. He came to Skagit county in 1885 and settled on a homestead, the land adjoining that of his son's present farm. Mrs. Katherine (Hayes) Fellows, the mother of our subject, died thirty-three years ago in San Francisco. She was a native of Boston, and the mother of five children, Mrs. Nellie A. Swift, Mrs. Helena Evans, Thomas J., James H. and George W. James H. Fellows, of this article, lived with his parents in San Francisco until twelve years old; then went to Merced county and made his home with J. Upton until 1879. The two years which followed were passed in the employ of sheep raisers and in working on a ranch; then he came north to Oregon and commenced to learn the trade of carriage painting, but on his father's settlement in Skagit county, he determined to join him here. For several years he worked with and for the elder Fellows and in 1893 purchased of him twenty acres of land. Four years later he went to Alaska, where he remained three years, but returning to Skagit county in 1901, he has ever since made it his home, operating a dairy farm southeast of Clear Lake.

In 1892 Mr. Fellows married Miss Martha Buck at Mount Vernon, a daughter of Franklin Buck, a pioneer of the Skagit valley, a sketch of whose life

appears elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Fellows is one of ten children: Mrs. Emma Payne, Mrs. Sarah Church, Joseph, Charles F., Mamie, Dora, Henry and Edward Buck. Her sister, Elizabeth Buck, died two years ago. Mrs. Fellows is a native of Skagit county, and received her education here, remaining at the Buck home until her marriage. She and Mr. Fellows have had two children, Alice, at home, and Elizabeth H., deceased. In politics Mr. Fellows is an independent Democrat and in fraternal connections a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Mrs. Fellows is a communicant of the Catholic church. The Fellows farm now consists of sixty acres, a portion of which is cleared and under cultivation, the dairy upon it numbers ten milch cows and eight head of young cattle. Mr. Fellows also raises other livestock and keeps enough horses for the work about the place. He is one of the substantial men of the community.

JOHN B. LACHAPELLE, hotel keeper at Big Lake, is one of the most prominent of the citizens of this rapidly developing section of Skagit county, in which he settled late in 1899. Mr. Lachapelle is a native of Montreal, Quebec, born August 27, 1869. His father, John B. Lachapelle, also a native of Montreal, was a successful horse dealer until his retirement a few months ago at the advanced age of seventy-five years. The mother, Mrs. Julia (Lebarge) Lachapelle, is still living in the metropolis of Lower Canada, having attained the traditional three score years and ten. Until he was fourteen years of age young Lachapelle attended school and made his home with his parents, but at that age he set out for himself, going to the woods of Michigan, where he passed five years employed in saw-mills or turning his hand to any kind of work which was available. Then followed a period of a number of years in the timber belt of Wisconsin, working in different capacities, until in 1899 he came to Skagit county and engaged in business in Big Lake, where he has ever since resided, being now a popular hotel man of the place. Mr. Lachapelle owns a forty acre tract just outside of town and has erected a fine cottage there in which he makes his home.

In 1903 at Vancouver Mr. Lachapelle married Miss Nora Anderson, the only child of Andrew N. Anderson, a native of Michigan who is now living at Big Lake. Mrs. Lachapelle was born in Michigan and lived with her parents up to the time of her marriage. In politics Mr. Lachapelle is a Democrat; in lodge affiliation, a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and of the Catholic Order of Foresters; in religion, a Catholic. Mr. Lachapelle has been uniformly and progressively successful in all his business enterprises, now owning his hotel business, with fixtures and furnishings, a forty-acre tract with elegant two thousand dollar cottage on the outskirts of town, another cottage which he leases, and property in Seattle. Mr. Lachapelle

stands high in the esteem of the people of Big Lake and vicinity, being recognized as one of the energetic and reliable citizens of that place.

JAMES LOUGH, who a few months ago went into the dairy business, purchasing a fine piece of property a mile north of Big Lake, has spent all the rest of his life since coming to Skagit county in the timber and lumber industry. He was born in Canada, April 8, 1862, the son of Alexander Lough, a Canadian mechanic born in 1831, now living in Michigan. The mother, nee Mary Wall, born in Ireland in 1833, is also living in Michigan. James Lough is one of twelve children, the others being Samuel, John, William, Hattie, Albert, Susan, Alexander, Mary, George, Robert and Emma. Mr. Lough lived with his parents until he came to Skagit county in 1889, when Mount Vernon, the only town on the Skagit river, was a small village. He was thoroughly familiar with every feature of work in the timber and found ready employment.

In 1888 in Michigan Mr. Lough married Miss Ella McKay, daughter of Neal McKay, a Canadian farmer, born in 1836, who eventually moved to Michigan, where he spent the remainder of his days. Mrs. Lough's mother, Mrs. Anna (McGregor) McKay, born in Canada in 1831 to Scotch parents, is now living in Alpina, Michigan, the mother of nine children, James, Duncan, Alexander, Anna (deceased), Christina, Isabelle, Ella, Kate and Emma. Mrs. Lough was born in Canada in 1869 and lived with her parents until her marriage to Mr. Lough. Of this union four children have been born, James Arthur, Lester Duncan, Katie Leona and Norman Alexander. In politics Mr. Lough is a Republican. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and in church membership is a Presbyterian. The farm purchased by Mr. Lough in 1905 for his home consists of one hundred and forty-five acres, thirty of which have been cleared and prepared for the establishment of a dairy farm. It is located a mile north of Big Lake, in a section of country admirably adapted for dairy purposes. Mr. Lough started his dairy with but five cows and five young cattle, and purposes to develop his place as rapidly as possible, planning ultimately to increase his stock and broaden his work. He is also giving some attention to poultry, having started with thirty selected fowl. Mr. Lough has been successful as a woodsman and has well developed those qualities which are certain to bring good results in the dairy and poultry farming lines. He is a man much respected by those with whom he has worked or has had business connections.

KENNETII MacLEOD is one of the enterprising and successful farmers of the Conway section of Skagit county, having a large and productive

farm well stocked in every way. His home is two miles southeast of town and it is one of the fine places of that part of the county. Mr. MacLeod was born in Canada July 1, 1862, the son of Kenneth R. MacLeod, a native of Scotland who emigrated to Canada with his parents and passed his entire life there, until he came to Skagit county in 1902. The mother, Mrs. Martha (Morrison) MacLeod, is a native of Canada and received her education there. She is still living, at Conway, the mother of eight children: Mrs. Maggie Young, Merdock, Kenneth, Roderick, Annie, Mrs. Mary Finch, Allan and Katherine. Kenneth MacLeod attended school in Canada until he was fifteen years of age. His years as a young man were passed in earning a livelihood at whatever presented itself; in 1885 he came to Skagit county and worked for Richard Holyoke for eight years and eight months. He then bought a place near the Holyoke farm and lived there until 1901, when he sold out and purchased the farm on which he has since resided.

Early in the year 1896 Mr. MacLeod married Miss Maggie M. Finch, daughter of Linus and Annie (McPherson) Finch, both of whom are now dead. Mrs. MacLeod has one sister, Mrs. Ida McBain, and a brother, George. She was born March 20, 1876, educated in the Canadian schools, taking a high school course, and lived with her parents until marriage. Mr. and Mrs. MacLeod have two children: Linus, born in 1898, and Ida, born in 1903. In politics Mr. MacLeod is a Republican, in lodge affiliations a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and in church relations a Methodist. The MacLeod farm consists of one hundred and eleven acres, eighty-five of which are bottom land of great fertility. Fifteen cows constitute the dairy herd, while fourteen head of other cattle and thirty hogs constitute the remainder of the farm's livestock, except horses and a carriage pony. Mr. MacLeod is well satisfied with his fortunes since coming to Skagit county, and has made a success through his energy, thrift and shrewd management of his affairs. He is highly esteemed in the neighborhood and is recognized as one of the leading men of the community.

NILS DONALDSON, farmer and dairyman a mile and a half northwest of Milltown, is one of the men of Scandinavian birth who have made a financial success since coming to Skagit county. He operates a farm, and his place of about ninety acres is one of the fine agricultural properties in his section. Mr. Donaldson was born in Norway April 2, 1853, the son of Donald and Gura Johnson, natives also of Norway, who are spending the evening of their lives with their children in Skagit county, the father with Nils and the mother with a daughter at Fir. They are the parents of six children: John, Brit, Nils, Christian, Louis and Johanna, the two last named being residents of Fir.

Nils Donaldson attended the schools of Norway until he was sixteen years of age and remained in the old country until 1879, when he came to the United States and located in Michigan, where he worked in an iron foundry for two years. He then came to Skagit county and worked in logging camps for six years. In 1886 he went back to Norway for the purpose of bringing his parents to Skagit county and he also brought with him his future wife. On his return Mr. Donaldson located on his present place and has lived there ever since. The land was raw, with no improvements, not even a dike.

At Seattle July 3, 1887, Mr. Donaldson married Miss Anna Erickson, daughter of Erick Erickson, a Norwegian farmer who lived and died in the old country. The mother was Marit Alingson before marriage. She is still living in Norway, the mother of six children: Aling, Sigfrid and Magnus, who live in Norway; Erick, now a resident of Grays Harbor, Washington; Ole, residing at Fir, this county; and Mrs. Donaldson. She was born May 28, 1857, and attended school until sixteen years of age. She then worked out until coming to this country, making the trip with her future husband and his parents. Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson have two living children: Gena, born August 25, 1888, and Mabel, born November 30, 1896. A son, named for his father, was born in 1894, but has died. In politics Mr. Donaldson is a Republican and in church affiliations a Lutheran. He has a farm of eighty-six acres, sixty-seven of which are under dike. His dairy herd numbers twelve cows, while he also has nine head of beef cattle and horses of sufficient number to work the farm. Mr. Donaldson is one of the prosperous men of his community, reliable and well esteemed by his associates. For twenty-five years he has assisted ably in the development of Skagit county and is now aiding effectively in the progress of its people and their industries.

Later.

Nils Donaldson died October 22, 1905, after an illness lasting three months. Since his death the home farm has been sold and Mrs. Donaldson has purchased an improved eight-acre place at Fir, where she and her daughters are now residing.

JOHN ABRAHAMSON, living one mile northwest of McMurray, is of the type of agriculturists who have made a success of land life after having followed the sea for an extended period. His farm home is one of the pleasant places of the McMurray section and the few years he has passed there have shown many improvements. Mr. Abrahamson is a native of Norway, having been born in the land of the fjords February 8, 1863, the son of Abraham and Grata (Jorgenson) Johanson, farmers who died in the old country more than a decade ago. Of their seven children four are dead. The living are John, Jacob and Albert. Young Abra-

hamson lived with his parents until he was sixteen years of age, when he determined to follow the sea for a livelihood. This he did for a period of eleven years, until in 1890 he decided to land in the United States and continue his life as an American. For the first five years of his life on the Pacific coast Mr. Abrahamson was employed on various vessels running in and out of Seattle, but in 1895 he came to McMurray and bought seventy acres of land, ten of which are now cleared and the remainder in slashing.

In 1895 in Seattle Mr. Abrahamson married Miss Agnes Londahl. Mrs. Abrahamson was born March 13, 1862, and lived with her parents until 1889, when she went to Minnesota. After remaining there a year she came to Seattle, where she was employed until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Abrahamson have three children, Alma, George and Oscar. In politics Mr. Abrahamson is a Republican and has served as road supervisor in Skagit county for five years. The live stock on the home place consists of cattle, horses and hogs. Since becoming a farmer Mr. Abrahamson has demonstrated his good business ability; has been successful as an agriculturist and has proven a welcome addition to the settlers in the vicinity of McMurray. Both he and Mrs. Abrahamson are highly respected by a large circle of friends.

HON. BIRDSEY D. MINKLER, the first postmaster of Birdsvew, the man in whose honor that town is named, the mill man of Minkler and the merchant of Lyman, was one of the first of the pioneers on the upper Skagit river. For nearly thirty years he has been an active and important personage in the development of the county. He was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, October 9, 1849, the son of Cyrl and Mary Ann (Thradel) Minkler. The father was a farmer, born in New York state, who came to Wisconsin two years before the birth of his son. In 1852 he started across the plains for California, but was seized with the cholera and died on the Platte river. A part of his family was with him, but Birdsey and two brothers had been left in Wisconsin with the grandparents, and under their charge he grew to manhood, attended the common schools, worked on the farm at home and took a two year course in the Lawrence university at Appleton, Wisconsin. In 1871, he went to Kansas, and two years later to California, where for a short time he was employed in the lumbering business. He came to Port Madison on Puget sound in 1874; in 1876 moved to Seattle and in 1877 came thence up the Skagit river and took pre-emption and timber claims at Birdsvew. His faithful wife braved the dangers and endured the hardships with him, becoming the first white woman in that part of the country. Charles von Pressentin and August Kimrich were the only neighbors. By the first settlers he was called Bird and when the town was estab-

lished and he was made its first postmaster, it was called Birdsvew in his honor. Soon after coming to the county he built a saw-mill and he was engaged in lumbering until 1886, when he sold the mill, moved to Lyman, built another mill and engaged in the mercantile business. He has sold the mill business at Lyman to his son and son-in-law, but continues in the mercantile business. The town of Minkler, two miles west of Lyman, where he built a mill in 1897, was named in honor of Mr. Minkler. He secured the postoffice for this town and his son John is postmaster. The two have a store there. Mr. Minkler is president of the Lyman Lumber & Shingle Company at Minkler. In the early days on the river the only travel was by canoe; later the settlers blazed trails through the dense forests and these trails finally were broadened into passable highways, but he had lived ten years in the valley before there were wagon roads.

Miss Hannah Chisholm and Mr. Minkler were married in 1873, and they have eight children: Maud, John, Garfield, Birdsey, Mattie, Edith and Ethel,—twins, and Elmer. Mr. Minkler is a member of the Knights of Pythias and a Mason. Throughout his residence in Skagit county he has been a man upon whom the Republican party always relies. He was a member of the first state legislature in the winter of 1889-90, served two terms in the 'eighties as county commissioner, and has been delegate to most of the county and state conventions. He is considered one of the best business men in the county, conservative, farseeing and shrewd, and personally he is unusually popular. His name must ever be honorably associated with those of the sturdy characters who, with unfaltering courage and determination, have for more than a quarter of a century battled with nature in her swamp and forest strongholds, bringing order out of chaos, making fertile the waste places, and changing the crooked trails into broad avenues that now front the homes and institutions of civilization, pass through picturesque villages and towns, and lead to the populous centers of commerce, industry and erudition. To such men as Mr. Minkler the Northwest must ever owe an honest debt of gratitude.

HENRY HURSHMAN, merchant of Lyman, who has made a marked success of his business during the fifteen years he has been in Skagit county, recalls the time when there was not population enough up the river to warrant a mercantile venture of any kind. He was born in Springfield, Illinois, April 13, 1862, the son of Charles Hurshman, a German who came to America from the old country and engaged in the meat business. The elder Hurshman, during the Civil war, had a contract with the government to furnish meat to the soldiers at Camp Butler, Springfield. He still is living at the advanced age of seventy-seven. Of his mother

Henry Hurshman remembers but little, for she died when he was a small boy, and the remarriage of his father, coupled with the boy's going to live with one John Lutz, obliterated from his memory much that he knew of her. He was the youngest of five children, the living now being widely scattered. He remained eight years at the home of Mr. Lutz, attending school and working on a farm. At eighteen he commenced railroading, his first work being as fireman running out of Springfield. Mr. Hurshman was an ambitious youth, and during the seven years he was in railroad work he attended the night classes of a business college, ultimately completing a regular course. He came west in 1889 and after stopping a short time in Seattle, moved to Skagit county the same year, settled at Hamilton, and took a contract for clearing a part of the site of the projected town. The roads were bad and he endured many hardships on the trip in, carrying his blankets on his back and in places wading knee deep through mud and water. While working on this contract at Hamilton he took up two claims near the town-site and began improving them. Later he sold these and opened a confectionery store at Hamilton and then a general merchandise establishment at Lyman, but he still claims Hamilton as his place of residence and votes there. He has, however, sold some of his interests in the latter town in recent years. He owns the business and building at Lyman and still holds the building he occupied when in Hamilton. He believes in Skagit county and its great resources and thinks there is no better place anywhere in the world for a man of moderate means who is capable of taking advantage of the opportunities offered. In politics he is an active, enthusiastic Republican.

MRS. MARY MARTIN, in the years that she has operated a farm a mile and a half west of Lyman, has demonstrated that a woman is competent to manage an agricultural industry and earn the respect of the business community. Mrs. Martin is a native of Belgium, having been born there May 13, 1854, the daughter of Joseph Paradise, who died when his daughter was twelve years of age. Of her mother, she recalls nothing, having been reared by a brother. Mrs. Martin is one of five children, the others being Joel, Alexander, John and Felice. After her father's death, the girl lived with a brother until she came to the United States and Chicago a quarter of a century ago. She remained in Chicago for three years, at the end of which period she came to Skagit county and settled at Hamilton for two years; but has lived on the present place for a score of years.

In 1876 she was married to Clement J. Martin, from whom she has been separated for three years. In the separation Mrs. Martin retained the farm and Mr. Martin the stock, the members of the family making their home with their mother. Mr. Mar-

tin has since remarried and is living in Alberta, Canada. Mrs. Martin has had seven children, one of whom is dead. The living are Frank, Jennie, Jule W., Josephine, Maggie and Sylvia. In politics Mrs. Martin's sons are Republicans. Frank is a member of the Knights of Pythias. The family attends the Catholic church. The farm consists of 115 acres of land, 20 of which are cleared, the remainder being in pasture. Mrs. Martin has distinct recollection of the early days on this place, of the clearing made with oxen, of the lack of roads and of the entire absence of facilities of the modern kind. She is an energetic woman, full of resources and of business capacity not uncommon in women of foreign birth. She is honored by her sons and daughters and respected and admired by the entire community.

ALEXANDER ROSS, a farmer, stockman and raiser of registered short horns three miles west of Lyman, was attracted to Skagit county through an early connection in San Francisco with David Batey, one of the pioneers of the upper Skagit valley. Though in those pioneer days he acquired interests here, he did not make Skagit county his home until 1892. He was born in Ross shire, Scotland, in 1853, the third of seven sons of Alexander and Tinne Ross, Scottish farming people, now dead. But three children remain: Donald in Ross shire, David, near Sedro-Woolley, and Alexander. As a boy young Ross passed the life of a Scottish farm lad and at the age of sixteen years was apprenticed to the trade of carpenter. At twenty, having served his term, he came to the United States, and in May, 1872, was at the carpenter's bench in San Francisco. In connection with his work he went to the Hawaiian Islands and helped erect mills for Claus Spreckels, then sugar king. For twenty years Mr. Ross alternated between San Francisco and Honolulu and the other islands of the Pacific group, but in 1892 he came to La Conner and on the advice of his old friend, Mr. Batey, took up his present place, then all in timber. Leaving his brother in charge of his Skagit county interests, he has made frequent trips to San Francisco. On one occasion he imported from California five head of registered short-horns, the first thoroughbreds of that breed to be brought here. They cost considerable money, but the venture has proved highly successful and he has imported a number of registered bulls, the entire series of importation resulting in a very choice collection of cattle. He has also imported some Percheron mares for the purpose of raising draft horses. Mr. Ross is the owner of 140 acres of land, and has recently sold 200 acres, retaining pasture rights on the latter tract. In fraternal circles he is an Odd Fellow and a past grand; in politics he is a Republican and has represented his section in the county conventions. Mr. Ross is a man of considerable means, thoroughly reliable and respected in his community.

PETER W. TRUMAN, a farmer and dairyman, living a short distance east of Lyman, has demonstrated what a man with only \$300 to start with can do in comparatively few years, in Skagit county. By energy, thrifty and constant application to his work, he has accumulated considerable property and now is considered well to do in his community. He was born in Cheshire, England, January 26, 1864, the oldest of the seven children of James S. and Jane (Wright) Trueman. As a lad he worked in a cotton factory four years, then at the age of twelve he went to work in a stone quarry. In 1883, he crossed the Atlantic to Belleville, Ontario, and there he worked for the railroads a few years, later engaging in farming. Early in the year 1888, he came to Seattle, Washington, but eventually selecting Skagit county for his future home, he went up the Skagit river and took land twenty miles above the mouth of Baker river. There were only two white women there at the time, and settlers were few. Four years later, having proved up on his place, he came down to Lyman and commenced work in a logging camp, four miles below the town. After being thus engaged for three years, he married, moved to Lyman, and began work in a shingle bolt camp. In 1898 he purchased land in the vicinity and a year later built the house upon it, in which he now lives. He afterward bought the place adjoining his original Lyman property on the south, and he has since gradually drifted into cattle raising and dairying on his pleasant farm of eighty-eight acres. A firm believer in selected stock, he keeps a fine Jersey bull at the head of his herd, while his hogs are splendid Berkshires, and all his livestock is the best obtainable. He also has a fine young orchard.

In 1895 Mr. Trueman married Mrs. Emma Ries, widow of Nicholas Ries, who bore to her first husband four children, Clara, Josie, Ernest and Albert. The Trueman children are three, namely, Fred, Ruth and Jean H. Mr. Trueman is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Modern Woodmen of America, while the family are adherents of the Episcopal church. In politics he is a Republican, active in primaries, caucuses, and assemblies, having missed only one of the county conventions of his party in eight years. He has been justice of the peace four terms; is clerk of the school board, and was an active and potent factor in the organization of the Hamilton high school district. The Trueman family is one of the most popular and highly respected in the community.

AUGUST W. SCHAFER, manager and cashier of the Bank of Hamilton, is one of the men who have a firm belief in the future of eastern Skagit county and in the speedy development of the resources of the country tributary to Hamilton; and Mr. Schafer's career in the banking business at this point substantiates his willingness to abide by that

belief. He was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1875, the son of August Schafer, one of the prominent educators of the Badger state. The elder Schafer was born in Germany, but came to the United States when a young man. He soon began his career as a teacher, first serving in the country schools and later in the city schools. He served as principal of several of the schools in Milwaukee, also was an instructor in the business college there. He died in 1898 at the age of fifty-two years. The mother, Mrs. Dorothy (Gabel) Schafer, is a native of Wisconsin, of German descent, and is now living with her son at Hamilton. Young Schafer in his boyhood days attended the common schools and later took a course in the college at Mount Calvary, Wisconsin, supplementing it with a course in a business college. He then became clerk in a drug store in Milwaukee and continued so employed for two and a half years, leaving to enter the office of a large manufacturing establishment in that city. In 1893, the year of the World's Columbian Exposition, he went to Chicago and filled a clerical position in the offices of the Pullman Palace Car Company. A year later he came west to Hamilton, Washington, where he had acquaintances, and his visit resulted in his accepting a position as clerk in the bank of L. E. Shraugher & Company. In 1896, on the election of Mr. Shraugher as county attorney and his removal to Mount Vernon, the management of the bank was left in Mr. Schafer's hands. A year later the institution went out of business, liquidating all indebtedness, the entire work of settlement devolving on Mr. Schafer. Called back to Wisconsin by the sickness and death of his father in 1899, Mr. Schafer filled out the unexpired term of his father as an instructor there and settled up the business of the estate. Upon returning to the West he took an active interest in forming the bank known as that of J. Yungbluth & Company, acquiring an interest in the institution and becoming its manager and cashier.

In 1899, Miss Cora Bemis, a native of Michigan and the daughter of Charles E. Bemis, a shingle manufacturer, became the bride of Mr. Schafer, and to their union two children have been born, Dorothy, April 17, 1900, and A. Donald, in November, 1901. In fraternal affiliation, Mr. Schafer is a member of the Foresters and Improved Order of Red Men. His public spirit and the position he occupies among his neighbors are clearly evidenced by the fact that he has served as city clerk, councilman and mayor; member of the school board and its chairman. At present he is clerk of the board of the union high school district. With J. H. Smith and James Cochrane he has helped to push the high school proposition to the front and he is still maintaining his position as a champion of the project. He believes that the resources of the Hamilton district, outside of its known extensive mines, are ample to maintain and increase the business of the

town. Mr. Schafer is one of the highly respected, successful and influential citizens of Hamilton and the upper Skagit country.

GEORGE A. HENSON, the popular mayor of Hamilton, is one of the "Native Sons of California," born July 25, 1856, in the placer diggings at the historic "old Sutter's mill," where his father was mining at the time. He is, however, as proud of the state of his adoption as he is of the place of his birth. His father, William T. Henson, was a native of Kentucky, of German descent, but his forbears had lived in the Blue Grass state for several generations. He was one of those brave men who crossed the plains in 1849. He returned later to Kentucky for a wife, but soon was in California again, and he spent the rest of his days in the Golden state, passing out of life there in 1898, at the age of seventy-four. Mrs. Mary (Allen) Henson, the mother of George A., a native of North Carolina, of French descent, passed away in 1884. George A. Henson was born and raised at Auburn, Placer county, California, the heart of the country which produced the gold excitement of '49. He was educated at Placerville, known in the old gold-seeking days as Hangtown, and was reared in the atmosphere of mines and mining, with the exception of the years of his life between seventeen and twenty-two, when he learned the trade of machinist in the Union Iron Works in San Francisco. After this he had charge of the mine machinery in El Dorado for a time, then he went to the big Mayflower mine in Placer county, where he remained in charge of the pumps and machinery until 1889. In that year he came to Skagit county as machinist for the Skagit-Cumberland Coal Company of San Francisco, which was operating coal mines near Hamilton. By Mr. Henson, who is now superintendent of the machinery was brought by boat and installed mining operations of the company in this county.

In 1894 Mr. Henson married Mrs. Delia Parbury, a native of Amador county, California, but of German descent. Her maiden name was Ludekin. To this union has been born one son, George A. Henson, Jr. Of Mr. Henson's father's family there remain Miss Mary Henson; Mrs. Louise Thompson, wife of an attorney of Portland, Oregon; and three brothers, William, Charles and Henry, living in California. By her first husband Mrs. Henson had three children, Louis, Callie and Claude. Mrs. Henson, who is one of the most popular women of Northwestern Washington, in 1905 received an appointment as one of the hostesses of the Washington State building at the Lewis & Clark Exposition. In fraternal circles Mr. Henson is an Odd Fellow, his membership being in a California lodge; in politics he is a Democrat. He was elected county commissioner in 1902 for the long term, overcoming by his personal popularity a large normal Republican majority. He was one of the organizers of the

Citizens' Bank of Anacortes, in which enterprise he was associated with W. T. Odlin and Dr. M. B. Mattice of Sedro-Woolley, but he has had little to do with its management, which is left largely to Mr. Odlin, though he furnished much of the capital upon which the bank started business. Mr. Henson is one of the substantial citizens of Skagit county, and one who has contributed much to its progress.

JAMES J. CONNER, coal operator and owner of coal and iron lands in the Skagit valley, is one of the oldest settlers in Skagit county, and has done much to develop the resources of the territory. He feels that the opportunities are by no means exhausted by the great influx of people who have come here since he did, but believes that the resources of Skagit have been only touched as yet. Mr. Conner is a native of Ireland, born in 1842, the son of John O'Conner, also a native of the Emerald Isle, who came to the United States in 1843 and began railroading. He was with the Philadelphia & Reading road for thirty-five years, with headquarters at Conner's, near Schuylkill, which was named for his father. Mrs. Nora (Shanahan) O'Conner, the mother, has long been dead. James J. Conner was but a year old when his parents came to this country, and he was left at home with his grandmother for three years, coming with her to Pennsylvania in 1846. He grew to manhood in Schuylkill Haven, Pennsylvania, and received his education there. At sixteen years of age he went to railroading, and followed that until in 1863 General Lee's army began its invasion of Pennsylvania. A year before young Conner had tried to enlist but was rejected. He did manage to get in a short-enlistment term in Maryland, but had not had enough of fighting, and was about to enter the navy, when deterred by his uncle. Instead, he went to Colorado, and a year later was in the Third Colorado, fighting Indians, under Colonel Sivington. The expedition was against the Sioux, Cheyennes and Arapahoes, about 780 of whom were killed before the close of the trouble. Mr. Conner then engaged in mining until 1868, when he passed west along the line of the Union Pacific into Utah, doing a merchandise business. Later he went into the hotel business and served the first meal in the station at Ogden on Christmas Day, 1869, feeding over 300 persons, it being a grand Christmas dinner, the favor of the railroad company. In 1870 Mr. Conner came to the Puget Sound country, reaching La Conner in February. His cousin, J. S. Conner, was there at the time, having purchased a trading post and put in the first real stock of goods. Mr. Conner took up 160 acres of land as a preemption, and in 1872 laid out the town of La Conner, selecting the name in honor of his cousin's wife, Mrs. (Louise) A. Conner. A year later Mr. Conner erected the first hotel in the place, and it was also the first hotel in

what has since become Skagit county. Between 1874 and 1877 Mr. Conner ran a trading vessel on the sound, and entered into partnership with John Campbell, the first man on Skagit river to stay there with a stock of goods. A man named Barker had opened a store about one mile above where Skagit City now stands, but had been killed by the Indians. This store was later removed to the site of Skagit City, on Mr. McAlpin's land. They gave the name to the settlement. Mr. Conner soon bought out Mr. Campbell's interest and in turn was bought out by Daniel Gage in 1876. During these years Mr. Conner kept hotel at La Conner and managed his trading vessel. He also became interested in the coal mines near where Hamilton now stands, and in 1875 took up homestead and mineral claims there. He grubstaked the men who discovered the Ruby Creek mines in 1878-9—Charles von Pressentin, Frank Kohn, Frank Scott and two others whose names have escaped Mr. Conner's memory. He remained in active management of the La Conner hotel business until 1879, when he removed to where Hamilton now is to look after his coal interests. These deposits were the first bituminous coal to be discovered in the Puget Sound country, the exact date of their discovery being in 1873, whereas the Wilkinson mines near Tacoma and Carbonado were discovered a few months later. The first shipments of Mr. Conner's coal were made in 1880 consisting of about 100 tons to down the river points, transportation being by canoes, three tons to a canoe. On tests it showed up excellent as black-smiths' coal, and has since proved to be satisfactory for this class of work. For three days in 1881 it was used in the Seattle gas furnaces and proved reasonably satisfactory for the manufacture of illuminating gas. In 1887-8 Patrick McKay of San Francisco, through his agent, F. J. Hoswell, leased Mr. Conner's mines, and at a later time made an attempt to obtain permanent possession of them in the name of the Skagit-Cumberland Coal Company. Mr. Conner resisted these attempts and threw the mines into court, and the result was a prolonged litigation and the closing of the mines. An adjustment has been reached, and it is probable that the deposits will be reopened shortly. There are about 3,000 acres of coal land here, the Skagit-Cumberland people having about 870 acres and the Conner association about 2,100 acres. At one time the iron holdings could have been sold to a Michigan company to good advantage and the coal output could have been contracted to the Union Pacific, but for the litigation. Mr. Conner sent 3,000 pounds of his iron-ore to the Chicago Exposition in 1893, which Prof. Cherry submitted to a working test and pronounced to be superior for the manufacture of steel to all other deposits in the United States, save one. Mr. Conner shipped 400 tons of his ore to Irondale in 1902, and in May of 1905 sent specimens weighing 2,850 pounds to the exposition at Portland.

The deposits are in two grades of both coal and iron, and now that litigation has been settled, the property awaits development and the influx of some capital.

In 1887 at Coupeville Mr. Conner married Miss Annin M. Kinith, a native of Portland, Oregon, daughter of John and Jane (Carter) Kinith. Through her mother, Mrs. Conner is a member of the Carter family, which at one time owned a large portion of the land on which the metropolis of Oregon now stands. Mr. and Mrs. Conner have six children: Preston J., Ernest J., Mabel N., Cora, Charles and Bessie. The Conner family attends the Episcopal church. In politics Mr. Conner is a Republican and for five years previous to 1903 was postmaster at Hamilton, receiving his appointment from President McKinley. He has served as a member of the school board. In fraternal affiliation, he is a member of the La Conner post of the Grand Army of the Republic. His financial interests all center in the reopening of the coal and iron mines at Hamilton, and he overlooks no opportunity to exploit their value, which is generally considered very great. No citizen of Skagit county probably has been more closely identified with its pioneer history, with the development of its resources and its material progress, than has James J. Conner.

JOHN R. BALDRIDGE, liquor dealer and rancher of Hamilton, has been in Skagit county since 1885, with the exception of two years spent in Alaska during the height of the gold excitement in the northland, where he did well. On leaving Alaska he came back to Hamilton and he has been in active business here ever since. Mr. Baldrige was born in Floyd county, Kentucky, in September of 1865. His father, William Baldrige, was also a native of the Blue Grass state, but came to Skagit county in the late eighties and is still living at Hamilton. The mother, Mrs. Phoebe J. (Beverly) Baldrige, a native of Virginia, died at the age of forty-five years, leaving nine children, of whom the subject of this review is the oldest. John R. Baldrige's life was spent on the old Kentucky farm and in attendance on the schools of his native state, until he was twenty years of age, when he came with his parents to Skagit county. The elder Baldrige took up a homestead up the river, which subsequently was taken as a part of the townsite of Hamilton. The town was laid out in 1889, at which time it boasted only of a store, but the operations of the coal company contributed to the rapid development of the new town, and soon there were 1,500 people there. The senior Baldrige disposed of much of his holding during the boom days, and in the spring of 1890 the junior Baldrige opened up a livery business, which he continued to manage for five years. He went to Skagway, Alaska, in 1896, in time to participate in the rush of a year later. In two years he had cleared up what he considered

sufficient for his plans, and he returned home and opened up the liquor business at Hamilton, which he still conducts.

In 1897 Mr. Baldrige married Miss Nellie Hilt, a native of Wisconsin, daughter of E. W. Hilt, a large tanner of the Badger state, now deceased. In fraternal affiliations Mr. Baldrige is a member of the Improved Order of Red Men; in politics an active Republican, at present serving as central committeeman. He has also been a member of the city council. Mr. Baldrige has an interest in considerable town property, has money on interest, and is, to use a western expression, "well fixed." He also is interested in the development of Hamilton coal and believes it is the best coke coal in the country, though it has not yet obtained the recognition it surely will in the future. Mr. Baldrige has been very successful in business, and is recognized as one of the prominent and substantial citizens of Hamilton.

VALENTINE ADAM, veteran of the Franco-Prussian War, left Germany soon after the great triumph of his country, in which he participated, and in 1877 came to Skagit county. He is one of the pioneers of the upper Skagit valley and now a well-to-do farmer and stock raiser living two miles west of Hamilton. He was born in Rhenish Bavaria, August 24, 1845, sixth of a family of seven children, of whom but one besides himself survives. His father, Michael Adam, was forest overseer in his native country, being employed by several towns, which league together to protect the woods. The mother, Margaret (Yost) Adam, who died in Germany at the age of seventy-seven, often has told her boys about the Napoleonic wars, which she distinctly remembered. Valentine Adam received an education in the German schools, then learned the trade of stone cutter. After the death of his father, he contributed to the support of his mother. At the age of twenty-one he entered the German infantry, and he served his country bravely through the war with France. Coming to the United States in 1872, he worked two years as a stone mason in New York, spent a year in Pennsylvania, then went to California, where he resided until 1877, when he came to Hamilton. He took up the townsite of Lyman and proved up on it, then traded it to Henry Cooper for his present place. This was a wild country in those early days. There were no roads and all clearing had to be done by hand, there being neither horses nor oxen in the country until later. The first roads were built along the river, but much of the time they were impassable because of the floods. Not until 1885 was a road put through to Mount Vernon. When Mr. Adam settled near Hamilton, the chief white man in the neighborhood was R. H. Williamson, who came from Puyallup in 1872, to trade with the Indians, and later established a twenty acre hop farm. Mr. Adam worked some-

times for Mr. Williamson and sometimes farmed for himself. He went through the Indian scare of 1878, when 300 Yakimas came over the mountains and urged the Indians of the Skagit valley to clear that part of the country of all white settlers. There was danger enough, but cool heads quieted the savages.

In 1885 Mr. Adam married Miss Margaret Bruns, who was born in Hanover, Germany, April 12, 1858, daughter of Dietrich and Margaret (Hin-kin) Bruns, both Hanoverians. Mr. and Mrs. Adam have six children, Maggie, Valentine, Walter, Emma, Ralph and Herman. Mr. Adam is a member of the German Reform church, and his wife is a Lutheran. In politics he is a Republican. For a number of years he was road supervisor, and he has served on the school board and otherwise manifested his keen interest in the cause of popular education. He has 240 acres of land, one of the largest farms in the district, and gives much attention to the raising of cattle and hogs, keeping always a fine dairy. Mr. Adam is one of the highly respected men of the community, an intelligent and courteous gentleman.

JAMES COCHRANE, a general farmer residing a short distance east of Hamilton, was one of the men who arrived early in Skagit county. Those who realize the great work which he and his associates did when they cut a channel through the mighty log jam at Mount Vernon, consider them the lasting benefactors of the hustling communities which since have gathered along the Skagit. These pioneers, without capital and with their own hands, removed this historic dam, which a government agent had estimated could not be taken out for less than \$100,000. Mr. Cochrane, Donald McDonald, John Minnick, Joe Wilson, John Quirk, Dan Hines, Fritz Gibbons and Dennis Storrs undertook to free the river of this gigantic obstruction, which had been gathering for a hundred years before the first white man entered the valley. It was a tremendous undertaking, but these strong young men succeeded, in spite of the ridicule of the settlers, who said it could not be done. Mr. Wilson mortgaged some lots in Seattle and purchased flour for the men when they commenced work. They hoped to sell the logs for enough to pay them handsomely for their work, but in this they were disappointed. The jam was composed of big trees which had floated down the river in high water and had become interlocked in a solid mass some places fourteen feet high and extending more than a mile up the stream. Some places trees a foot in diameter grew on top of the jam. The men, with their saws, cut a channel 150 feet wide and about a mile long through the jam. The obstructions were removed by the peavey and the saw, there being no donkey engines in those days. Mr. Cochrane worked thirty-two months in this enterprise and Mr. McDonald just three years.

Mr. Cochrane was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1846, the son of Francis Cochrane, foreman of a dye establishment in Paisley, and later one of the first men to go to the diamond fields of South Africa. Mrs. Catherine (Campbell) Cochrane, the mother, was a native of Scotland who immigrated to the United States; she died at her son's place on the Skagit in 1897. Mr. Cochrane as a lad lived in both Scotland and England, but at the age of twelve years started out for himself, working on steamers plying between Scottish and English ports for four years. He then came to the United States during the days of the Civil War and was on the Orient, engaged in traffic for the North, when she was chased by a Southern privateer. Mr. Cochrane made several trips between New York and Liverpool in the interests of Northern merchants during the war. He continued to follow the sea until 1869, traveling to South Africa in 1867 on a vessel loaded with troops and wool. He also was quartermaster on an English vessel in the expedition to Abyssinia. In 1869 he landed in San Francisco and a year later came to Seattle, then only a small place. He passed some time on Whidby Island, but came to Skagit county in the winter of 1871-2, and engaged in logging with J. F. Dwelley of La Conner on the flats where now are located some of the richest farms in the country. He passed some time in Snohomish county and it was there that he fell in with the proposition to clear the Skagit river of its famous jam. After that work was completed, he went to logging on Freshwater slough, below Mount Vernon, becoming one of the first to put logs into the Skagit river. He later started a camp above Mount Vernon and was with Harry Clothier when that town was started, helping build the first structure there, Mr. Bryson's dwelling house. Mr. Cochrane followed logging on the Skagit for nine years. At one time he took up script land near the city of Mount Vernon, but later he sold this and in 1883 he located his present place as a homestead. Upon it he has ever since resided.

In 1885 Mr. Cochrane married Miss Mary J. Carey, a native of Indiana, daughter of Alfred and Dorcas (Wood) Carey, who came to this county in 1875, having been preceded by their sons, Aaron, Freeman and Jesse, in 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Cochrane have seven children: Colin C., studying practical engineering in electrical shops in Seattle; Robert C., Charles A., Anna, Janet, Dewey and Frances. Mr. Cochrane is a member of the Foresters; also of the Red Men, and in politics he is a Republican, active in the work of the party, attending conventions and participating in their deliberations. He has been a member of the school board for many years and was one of the prime movers in behalf of the high school for Hamilton, also was on the board when the school house was built, lending his influence toward making it one of the best equipped houses of its kind in the country. Mr. Cochrane has a farm of sixty-five acres in his home place,

and has twenty-four acres of farm land in addition, also 170 acres of timber land in Snohomish county and houses and lots in Hamilton. At one time of his life he was interested in mining and in the Ruby Creek excitement took the first pack train into the camp. He and his partners were the only ones to develop their prospect openings to bedrock; mineral in paying quantities was not uncovered, and hence the venture proved a failure. Mr. Cochrane then went to the Fraser river gold fields, where he spent one year operating a tug boat. He has ever been an aggressive character, and is one of the staunch pioneers to whom the present residents of Skagit county are greatly indebted. Without such men to "blaze the trails" and surmount the prodigious obstacles placed in the way of progress by the forces of nature and the savage aborigine, conditions in the Northwest would not be what they are today, and the boundaries of civilization could never be extended with the rapidity characteristic of the last quarter of a century.

GEORGE W. PATTERSON, stock and dairy farmer across the Skagit five miles southwest of Hamilton, is one of the later comers to Skagit county who brings with him a great fund of experience gleaned in the turmoil of a long life of activity. He is a native of Illinois, born in Edgar county, February 22, 1839, the son of Jonathan Patterson, who crossed the plains in 1846 with California as his destination, but the hand of death touched him as he reached the crest of the Sierra Nevadas, leaving the family in a most distressing position. Though he was a native of Illinois, his forefathers came originally from Virginia and Kentucky. William, his oldest son, was but fourteen years of age at the time of his demise. The family was not well provisioned, and its members had to be put on allowance for many days before relief reached them. At the time their company gained the summit of the Sierra Nevada mountains, the celebrated Donner party was at their foot, ready to begin the ascent. The misfortunes of this ill-starred company are well known to readers of California history, who will remember that its members were reduced to the most terrible extremity, being compelled to devour the bodies of their deceased companions before succor reached them. A number of our subject's cousins were in the rescuing expedition and one of the unfortunate survivors was sheltered at his family home for some time. During this period of California history, some of the Indians were hostile, but the misfortunes of immigrants arose out of the rigors of mountain travel in winter, not from the ravages of Indians. Mrs. Christina (Foster) Patterson, mother of George W., was a native of Missouri. After the death of her husband en route to California, she was placed in a very trying position as the head of a family of ten children, but the latter helped in every way they could and the family was

kept together as long as possible. Mrs. Patterson died in 1895 at the age of eighty-four years.

George W. Patterson, of this article, was about seven years old at the time of his father's death. California afforded no schools in the 'forties, and the lad had to do without educational advantages, but he made the best of the situation, and as the years passed worked with a will in the mines and at stock raising. When old enough to exercise his rights as an American citizen, he moved to Oregon, took a homestead and a pre-emption claim, and commenced farming and stock raising on his own account. In the early 'sixties he went to the Boise basin in Idaho and mined there for a time, eventually, however, returning to Oregon, where he followed farming and freighting for thirty years. He had a farm near The Dalles, and assisted in building the Canyon City road. Coming eventually to Skagit county, he located first at Avon and later higher up the river, buying his present place in 1900. He has an excellent farm, well improved, and with evidences of the thrift and good management of its owner visible on every hand.

In 1868, at The Dalles, Oregon, Mr. Patterson married Miss Leviaette Hawn, a native of Yamhill county, Oregon, born December 19, 1849, daughter of Jacob and Harriet (Pearson) Hawn, the former of whom was born in Germany in 1804, the latter in Newark, New Jersey, in 1818. They were married in Newark in 1833, and later coming west, started from St. Louis, Missouri, for Oregon, in 1842. Being diverted to Texas, they spent a year in the Lone Star state, then they set out for Oregon, joining a wagon train of sixty teams. On settling at Oregon City, Mr. Hawn, a millwright by trade, built the first mill at that point. Later, moving to Lafayette, he erected the first hotel in that place. In 1849 he went to California during the gold excitement, and he died there ten years later, though he was back in Oregon in the meantime and he and his two oldest brothers served as volunteers from Lafayette under Captain Hembree in subduing the hostile Indians, during the uprising of 1855-6, and were with the captain when he was killed and scalped by the hostiles. The volunteers were so put to it for provisions that they had to live on horse meat for two weeks. Of Mrs. Patterson's brothers and sisters, the oldest, a girl, was born September 1, 1835, at Green Bay, Wisconsin; Alonzo P. Hawn was born in Caldwell County, Missouri, in 1836; Jasper C., in Texas, February 8, 1840; Newton W., in Missouri, April 20, 1843; and the rest in Oregon. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson have had seven children: Mrs. Henrietta Harding, Mrs. May Harris, Mrs. Myrtle Kerns, Mrs. Ida Horsey, Lester, Fred and Chester, the last mentioned of whom died December 13, 1905. In politics Mr. Patterson has been a Democrat, but of late years has voted independently. He has given a very large share of his attention to cattle raising, but recently has sold a large part of his herd in preparation for re-

moval to another section. He is a man highly respected in the county, honored and esteemed by the pioneers as well as by the later arrivals.

HENRY WILD, a farmer three miles west of Hamilton, early went up the Skagit river to Birdsvew and with his wife endured the hardships and experienced the loneliness of the pioneer. He was born at Unadilla, Otsego county, New York, April 10, 1838, the son of Lewis Wild, a farmer, who died when his son was fourteen years of age. The father of the elder Wild served in the War of 1812. He was of English descent. Mrs. Lucretia (Kidney) Wild, a native of New York, died in La Crosse, Wisconsin, in 1890, the mother of nine children, only one of whom was younger than Henry. Between the ages of ten and fourteen young Wild worked in a cotton factory, but on the death of his father he started out for himself, going first to Ohio for a year and then to Iowa. He remained in the latter state until the outbreak of the Civil War, when he enlisted in Company A, Thirtieth Iowa Infantry, and he served until the close of hostilities. Though Mr. Wild's command saw much of the hard fighting in the South, participating in the siege of Vicksburg and the operations around Atlanta, closing with the march to the sea, he was neither wounded nor captured, but the exposures and hardships greatly undermined his constitution. He returned to Iowa for a short time and then went back to New York for two years. Mr. Wild then decided to go to Minnesota and located on a farm in Wabaska county, continuing for ten years. His next move was to Dakota, where, in Spink county, he took up land and lived until 1888, when he came to the Puget Sound country. He passed one year in Seattle, then came to Skagit county, taking up land on the upper river near Birdsvew. There he cleared off some of the timber and made a home for himself and wife. Neighbors were few and Mrs. Wild's nearest woman friend was the Indian wife of a pioneer, but the dusky lady proved excellent company during the times when Mr. Wild was forced to be absent from home a week at a time. In 1900 Mr. Wild sold out his Birdsvew land and moved to Hamilton. Recently he has taken up his abode at Richmond Beach, in King county, where he has a nice little farm of ten acres.

In 1867 while living in New York, Mr. Wild married Miss Anna M. Cozicar, born in 1848, the daughter of Azias and Melissa (White) Cozicar, New Yorkers of English and Irish descent. Mrs. Wild has one sister, Mary E. Cozicar. Mr. and Mrs. Wild have no children, but have an adopted son, Ernest L. Wild. Mr. Wild in politics is a Democrat and has served as road supervisor. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Sedro-Woolley post. Mr. and Mrs. Wild were among the highly respected people of the Skagit valley, and are rapidly winning for themselves a

place in the esteem and confidence of the people of Richmond Beach, where they now dwell.

DAVID RUSSELL, stock raiser and farmer near Birdsvlew and postmaster of the town, is one of the men who have within fifteen years demonstrated what can be accomplished in Skagit county. Mr. Russell was born in Jackson county, Ohio, December 28, 1854, the son of William Russell, a native of New Orleans, who became a farmer of Jackson county, Wisconsin, in the pioneer days of that state. Mrs. Margaret (Hildebrand) Russell, a native of Ohio, of Dutch descent, died in 1870, the mother of seven children, of whom the subject hereof is third in order of birth. David Russell was raised on the farm in Wisconsin and attended the common schools there, leaving home to do for himself at the age of eighteen years. His first work was in the pineries of Wisconsin, which work he continued until 1885, when he went to Nebraska and became one of the pioneers of Scott's Bluff county. The oldest son of Mr. Russell was the first white child born in that county. Mr. Russell raised stock and continued farming for five years, but in August of 1891 came west and he settled in Skagit county in February of the year following on a ranch in the vicinity of Birdsvlew. Shortly afterwards he entered into partnership with Henry Thompson for bridge building and the two secured the contract for constructing seventeen bridges in the county. In connection with this contract work they operated a sawmill which turned out the lumber and timber requisite for their bridge building operations. Mr. and Mrs. Russell have both taken timber claims, which have proven of great value, and Mr. Russell has also purchased land in various parts of the county. He has been road supervisor for three years, in charge of the road between Lyman and the Baker river. Mr. Russell was made postmaster at Birdsvlew in April of 1905.

In 1884 at Fort Sidney, Nebraska, Mr. Russell married Miss Maggie Conner, a native of Ireland, born in 1861, who was brought to this country by her mother when but six years of age. She is second of the five children of James and Nora (Ford) Conner, the latter of whom is still living in Wisconsin.

To Mr. and Mrs. Russell have been born six children, the names of whom with their respective dates of birth are: James R., December 23, 1885; Joshua, June 14, 1890; Fred, April 30, 1892; Carl, March 1, 1894; Gertrude, July 22, 1896; Lawrence, August 17, 1900. Mr. Russell is a member of the Foresters and in politics a Democrat, active, influential and usually a delegate to county conventions. Mrs. Russell is a member of the Catholic church. Mr. Russell has now in his dairy nine cows, whose cream products he separates at home and ships to Seattle. He still owns several tracts of good land in the county. At present he is engaged part of the

time in timber cruising and in the real estate business, combining these lines with the operation of his farm. He is recognized as one of the progressive, wide-awake and forceful men of the county.

AUGUST KEMMERICH, a farmer and stock raiser five miles east of Hamilton, is one of the men who came into the up-river section of the Skagit valley when settlers were few and the forests high and deep. He now looks back with pleasure on the long years of hard work, for the contrast between his land as he first saw it and his prosperous farm of today is very great. Mr. Kemmerich was born in Germany February 14, 1845, the son of John and Christina (Rembold) Kemmerich. August, the oldest of their five children, worked on the farm and attended school when a boy. His first work away from home was in the coal mines at Essen, the home of the famous Krupp iron works. There he learned of advantages offered for work in the United States, and he determined to try his fortune here, coming in 1869 and locating at Bredwood, Illinois, in the coal mines of that vicinity. After a time Mr. Kemmerich went to Iowa and tried farming, but grasshoppers and hail took his crops and in 1876 he removed to Port Madison, Washington, and engaged in lumbering. Coming to Birdsvlew in February, 1878, he took up his present farm. A few months previous B. D. Minkler had come to Birdsvlew from Port Madison; when Mr. Kemmerich came he was accompanied by Mr. Grandy, and the trio made a comfortable community in the woods, with claims adjoining. The land was covered with large timber. No roads or trails led to it and supplies had to be brought in canoes from Mount Vernon. Some trading was done, however, at Ball's store in Sterling and later Otto Clement put in a store at Lyman. During the period of the Indian scare following threats against the early settlers up the river, they crossed over and took refuge in Minkler's mill. It was eighteen years after they had settled there that these three men could get down the river with wagons and then the route could hardly be called a road. For three years Mr. Kemmerich paid an annual tax of \$20 for road building and also put in considerable work on them himself. In sharp contrast are the fine graveled roads in that district now. Mr. Kemmerich's policy in the early days was not to work out for others but to put in all his time improving his own land. He had hard work and underwent many hardships, but he felt that work done on his own place, in the long run, would prove the best.

In 1884 Mr. Kemmerich went to Chicago and married Miss Barbara Hommerding, a native of that city, who died in 1903, the mother of nine children: Mary, Joseph, Anna, John, Katie, Julius, Laura, Mark and Alphonse. The family are Catholics, and in politics Mr. Kemmerich is a Democrat. He has served as road supervisor and as

member of the school board, being an advocate of good schools and willing to pay liberally for their support. His farm consists of one hundred and fifty-seven acres, all well improved, with a good orchard thereon. His dairy herd consists of seven cows, whose milk is separated at home and the cream marketed at Burlington. Mr. Kemmerich is a prosperous farmer, wide-awake and a hard worker, a man who is highly esteemed by all with whom he comes in contact.

WILSON M. ALDRIDGE, successfully engaged in the mercantile business at Baker, has, during the past five years, been closely identified with the progress of that place and the upper Skagit valley generally. In these days of prosperity and rapid settlement, when changes for the better are being rapidly wrought in all sections of Puget sound, the possession by any community of men of broad views and aggressive energy is a matter for congratulation. The subject of this review, whose position in the community is self-evident, is of Southern birth, born at Granada, Mississippi, November 28, 1859, to the union of Wilson M. and Susan (Wiggins) Aldridge. The elder Aldridge, a merchant and mill owner, was a native of Alabama, whose forbears were also Southerners, for many generations. At the time of the Civil War he was in business at Duck Hill, Mississippi, and had amassed a fortune approximating \$50,000, which he subsequently lost through misfortune and rendering aid to the families of Confederate soldiers. He also incurred a heavy debt, of which, however, before his death he paid the last dollar. Mrs. Aldridge, mother of our subject, was born in Mississippi, a member of families who had been long engaged in the tobacco industry in Virginia and South Carolina; she died during the cholera scourge of 1865.

At the age of ten Wilson M., Jr., was taken by his father to Arkansas, and there attended school, finishing with a course in a business college at Memphis, Tennessee. His first business connection was with Louis Rollage & Company, of Forest City, Arkansas, with whom he remained ten years, becoming toward the last the firm's confidential man. In 1885 he came west, stopping for short periods in New York, California and Oregon, before reaching Spokane. There he spent a year in the cloak department of J. Kellner's establishment, though just previous to this he was employed for a time as timekeeper for the Northern Pacific in the construction of its Coeur d'Alene branch. While in Spokane he was attracted by the gold excitement at Chloride, whither he went, only to enter the employ of W. J. Shelton at that place and Hope, Idaho, the mines being a failure. In 1891, he went to Douglas county, took a homestead claim and at the same time commenced work for E. D. Nash in his store at Waterville. A year later Mr.

Aldridge and W. E. Stevens opened a store of their own at Wenatchee, during the construction of the Great Northern railroad, but later they sold out and the former returned to the service of Mr. Nash at Waterville. Five years later he resigned to enter business for himself at Trinidad, Washington, and in 1900, seeking a better field, he removed the establishment to Baker, Skagit county, where most encouraging success has crowned his efforts, keeping pace with the rapid growth of the community. From observation and experience he believes that this section of the state offers exceptional opportunities to men of energy and will, so rich are the numerous resources.

Although Mr. Aldridge takes a deep interest in everything pertaining to the public welfare, and in Waterville was quite active in public life without holding office, he is a member of no political organization. The condition of his business interests is indicative of the ability and force of the man. The fine southern courtesy and fervor, which are his by right of inheritance and by training, blending with the vigorous, ambitious spirit of the north, have created characteristics at once discernible to all and winning to all.

FRANKLIN J. SPRINGSTEEN, hotel man of Baker, has lived in Skagit county only three years, but already has acquired a reputation for business ability and attention to commercial details, and is one of the prominent and loyal citizens of the county. Mr. Springsteen was born in Pennsylvania, May 20, 1868, the son of Charles and Flora J. (Bassett) Springsteen, both natives of Pennsylvania. The father was born in 1838, lived in the Keystone state until 1873, then moved to Wisconsin, where he resided sixteen years, then came to Lewis county, Washington, where he since has been in the lumber business. Mrs. Springsteen, the mother, lived with her parents until marriage and still is living, the mother of the following children: Jennie, Charles F., Myra, Leslie, Franklin J. and Milton, the last named having died in recent years. Franklin J. Springsteen attended school in Wisconsin and after completing his education remained with his parents until thirty years old. When the family went to Lewis county he entered the milling business there and continued in that line of employment until five and a half years ago, when he moved to Snohomish county. He came to Baker, Skagit county, in 1902 and for two years thereafter managed the Baker River Lumber Company's mill, leaving it to enter the hotel business. In August, 1904, the hotel he was in burned and he rented and moved into the building he now occupies.

In 1898 at Chehalis, Lewis county, Washington, Mr. Springsteen married Miss Anna Bernier, whose parents were both natives of the state of Washington, her father, Peter Bernier, having been born in Lewis county in 1847, where he has passed

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JAMES V. VAN HORN

all his life as a farmer, and Mrs. Eliza (Marlin) Bernier, the mother, having been born in Walla Walla county, in 1855. Her parents at one time owned the land on which the city of Walla Walla now stands. They died while Mrs. Bernier was quite young. The latter received her education in a convent and was married soon after leaving her studies. Her brothers and sisters are as follows: Helen, Moses, Lewis and Edwin (both deceased), and Winifred. Mrs. Springsteen was born in Lewis county in 1876, and received her education there, remaining with her parents until her marriage. One child, Donald W., has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Springsteen. In politics Mr. Springsteen is a Republican, in lodge connection a Woodman of the World and in church membership a Catholic. He is establishing another hotel in the new town of Cement City, where the cement works are being erected.

He believes in and practices what he conceives to be the "square deal" in all the relations of life, and enjoys the standing in his community which is the natural outcome of a straightforward course.

JAMES V. VAN HORN, merchant, real estate owner, mill man and postmaster of Van Horn, has done much in developing the northwestern counties of the state of Washington, and as a slight token of the honor due him for the great services he has done this section, two towns have been named for him, or at his suggestion, Van Horn in Skagit county and Hartford in Snohomish county. In both of these places as well as in many others Mr. Van Horn has left the imprint of his character and energy. He has been an active factor in every place in which he has resided. He was born in Jones county, Iowa, September 14, 1854, the son of James P. Van Horn, a native of Pennsylvania, who, after marriage, removed to the Hawkeye state and lived the life of a farmer until 1866, when he went to Nebraska. In 1885 he went to Dakota and farmed until he passed away in 1902. Mrs. Mary (Raver) Van Horn, the mother of the pioneer of whom this is written, also was a native of the Keystone state, received her education there and remained until her marriage, after which she followed the fortunes of her husband, dying in 1874, when James V. was twenty years old. She left nine children: George, now deceased; William A., Isaiah, James V., Cassandra, Ames (deceased), Valdora, Jefferson D. and Milo, now deceased. James attended school until seventeen years old, then bravely started for himself. He first went to Nebraska and worked at farming until 1875, then continued farming in Dakota until 1892. He was ever alert for any opportunities which nature or the development of a new country might offer. When he left Dakota he came to Snohomish county, Washington, and saw the possibilities in the shingle and mercantile business in the new town, which afterwards was named

Hartford, at his suggestion. He entered these lines of business, and was the first postmaster, a pioneer representative of the United States government in this new community. All parties recognized that no better man could be secured for the postoffice and he retained the position for ten years under Republican and Democratic administrations. Again on the lookout for good town locations he came to Skagit county and went into the shingle mill business on a more extensive scale. He started shingle mills and a settlement sprang into existence, which was called Horn, but which was changed to Van Horn by the postoffice department in recognition of his services. He was again made postmaster. The postoffice receipts at the new office of Van Horn were \$4 the first quarter. His first quarter's receipts when he was made postmaster at Hartford were \$3.75. At the new town in Skagit county Mr. Van Horn's energy, foresight and executive ability have been of as great value to the new community as they were at Hartford. He is interested in shingle mills at both places and also has a sawmill.

In 1879 in Dakota Mr. Van Horn married Miss Catherine Lyons, who was born in Wisconsin December 25, 1859. On the death of her father when she was a little girl, she was taken into the home of Captain W. D. Lucas, a retired officer of the United States army, then residing in Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Van Horn have two children: Ray G. and Cassie Louisa. In fraternal circles Mr. Van Horn is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and of the Concatenated Order of Hoo Hooos. His business holdings include two shingle mills, a sawmill, store and stock and a hotel. The shingle mills have a daily capacity of two hundred and fifty thousand shingles and the sawmill twenty thousand feet. He also owns three thousand acres of excellent timber land, sixteen valuable lots in the resident district of Seattle and two fine lots in the business part of Everett. Mr. Van Horn is a man wide awake to possibilities, energetic in all that he undertakes, quick to see a point of business vantage, and a man who stands high among his fellows.

ROBERT FRANEY, farmer and market gardener, a mile and a half southeast of Van Horn, is one of the successful men of the Skagit valley and has a firm conviction that the Skagit country is one of the very best in the world for a man with pluck and ability. He was born in Nova Scotia, October 5, 1819, the son of Patrick and Mary (Butler) Franey. The elder Franey was a native of Ireland, but came to this country early in life and settled in Nova Scotia. Mrs. Franey was a native of Nova Scotia, born in Halifax. Eleven children were the fruit of their union, namely: Martin, John (deceased), Mary, James, Robert, Agnes (deceased), David, Cassie, Edward, William and Albert. Robert Franey remained at home, attending school and

helping on his father's farm until he was twenty-one years of age, when he went to Boston, Massachusetts, to learn the photographer's art. He remained there only a year, however. In 1872 he was back in Nova Scotia, and he put in the succeeding four years at work in the woods there, then went to Windsor, and operated a hotel for a year, thereupon coming to Seattle. He worked in the woods and in the lumber business in the vicinity of the Queen City, until 1885, when he came to Skagit county. Here he was employed in the camps along the river until 1893, though he took his present place as early as 1887, with intent to settle ultimately upon it. No roads were in existence and what supplies were needed in that part of the country had to be poled in canoes up the river. Deer and fish were plentiful in those days and formed a considerable part of the food eaten. Mr. Franey has lived on the place since 1893, clearing thirty of the one hundred and forty acres in his original tract, and raising vegetables as his principal crop, though he now keeps six head of cattle and two horses. In politics Mr. Franey is a Republican and in church connections a Catholic. As he looks back over the years since he first came to Skagit county, Mr. Franey feels that it is the best thing he ever did when he made up his mind to become a Skagit county farmer. He is prosperous, well liked by his fellows and a man who stands high in the esteem of the people at Van Horn.

JOHN L. BOWEN, postmaster, merchant, millman and prominent citizen of Sauk, came to Skagit county recently but has already by his business qualities put himself in the van of progress in his home community. That Mr. Bowen is not a man easily discouraged is shown by the will with which he set to work to recoup himself from losses during the financial distress of the early nineties. Mr. Bowen was born in Virginia, November 5, 1859, the son of Lorenzo D. Bowen, a merchant and farmer of the Old Dominion. During the Civil War the elder Bowen was in the commissary department of Lee's army. He passed all his life in Virginia. Mrs. Sarah F. (Hopper) Bowen was likewise a native of the Old Dominion. Both are now dead, leaving six children: John L., Ella, William, Herbert W., Emmett and Elizabeth. John L. Bowen remained with his parents until nineteen, receiving a common school education, then left for Fort Benton, Montana. There he remained two years as clerk in a general store. He then removed to Alberta, Canada, and remained for ten years as manager for a large mercantile firm, receiving a handsome salary and commission on the business transacted. He went to Everett, Washington, in 1891, and engaged in the real estate business, but a year later resumed the mercantile trade and followed it eleven years. Mr. Bowen had spent some time in Dawson, directly after leaving Alberta.

working for a mercantile house. He made money but later lost it in real estate business in the early days of the boom at Everett. He purchased lots and made the first payment on them, when competition and the general slump in values caused severe losses. In 1903 Mr. Bowen came to Sauk and bought the store of H. E. Hutchins. He joined with Henry W. Sullivan, J. E. Sullivan, Ralph Sullivan, H. J. Sullivan and C. W. Miley in building the Sullivan Shingle Mill of Sauk, and the store became a part of the property of the corporation. Mr. Bowen is secretary and treasurer of the company and the manager of the store. The capacity of the mill is one hundred and twenty-five thousand per day.

In 1883 while living in Alberta Mr. Bowen married Miss Winifred Thompson at Calgary. She was born November 7, 1865, in Quebec, the daughter of Abram Thompson, a bookbinder of Glasgow, Scotland, who came to Quebec and married Miss Caroline De Tacey, a native of Paris, France. Mrs. Bowen's parents have been dead for many years. She lived with them until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Bowen have five children: Frank, Conrad, Winifred, Olive and Stanfield. Mr. Bowen has a number of lodge affiliations, being a past master of the Masonic lodge and a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, a past grand of the Odd Fellows, a member of the Woodmen of the World and of the National Union. In church membership he is an Episcopalian, in politics a Republican. Mr. Bowen still owns property in Everett, consisting of three lots and an eleven-room house. The present business is prosperous and Mr. Bowen's energy and long experience in mercantile pursuits have contributed to building it up. As a citizen he is highly esteemed, and as a man is honored and respected by all.

ALBERT VON PRESSENTIN, hotel proprietor and store keeper at Rockport, is one of the men who were pioneers in the upper Skagit and who have seen the country fill up with settlers and develop into its now attractive and bustling condition. He was born in Germany, June 13, 1858, the son of Bernard von Pressentin, a civil engineer of repute in the old country, one of the constructors of the water works at Calcutta, India, who came to the United States in 1870 and settled in Ohio, conducting a general merchandise store until his death in 1892. Mrs. von Pressentin, also a native of Germany, was in maiden life, Miss Amelia Brown. She received her education in a seminary and, after completing it, remained at home until her marriage. She is still living in Ohio, nearly eighty years of age, the mother of six children: Court, Charles, Bernard, Otto, Albert and Agnes, the last named being still in Germany. Albert von Pressentin lived with his parents until twelve years of age, then went to Richmond, Virginia, where he took a three-

year general course of study in the St. James school. He then went to Manistee, Michigan, and worked in a saw mill and as log scaler until 1878, when he removed to Muskegon and took charge of a saw-mill for four years. Mr. von Pressentin spent the year 1882 in Gadsden, Alabama, where he had charge of a mill, returning then to Michigan. In 1884 he came to Skagit county and located at Hamilton, remaining there and at Birdsvew for four years, thereupon going to Sauk, where he conducted a general merchandise business for five years. He has been at Rockport for the past twelve years in the hotel and mercantile business. During his life up the river Mr. von Pressentin has made and lost much money. He burned out at Sauk and estimates his losses at more than \$10,000. His store there had been built of lumber taken up the river from Birdsvew in canoes by Indians who charged roundly for their work. That was the first store at Sauk. His hotel at Rockport is a twenty-room building valued at \$5,500 and his store is worth \$5,000. Mr. von Pressentin estimates his annual business at about \$25,000, the largest mercantile commodity being groceries. In addition to this property he owns a large farm near Rockport and three hundred acres of fine timber land, considered very valuable.

In 1884, at Muskegon, Michigan, Mr. von Pressentin married Miss Christina Koehler, daughter of Christian and Dora T. (Ceigler) Koehler, natives of Germany who came to the United States in 1852 and were pioneer farmers of the Peninsula state. Mrs. Koehler is still living there, the mother of six other children: August, Christian, Hunts, John, Frederick and Dora. Mrs. von Pressentin was born in Michigan, June 21, 1867, and lived with her parents, attending school, until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. von Pressentin have six children: Agnes, William, Edward, Walter, Olga and Bert. In politics Mr. von Pressentin is a Republican. At present he is serving as justice of the peace. In fraternal affiliations he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In spite of large losses Mr. von Pressentin has been very successful and he ranks among the leading and influential citizens of Rockport.

THOMAS F. PORTER, a farmer three miles east of Sauk and across the river, one of the pioneers of the upper Skagit valley, has lived on his present place nearly twenty years. He is a native of Pennsylvania, born June 10, 1852. His parents, Robert and Mary Porter, were born in Ireland, came to the United States directly after their marriage in the Emerald Isle and settled in the Keystone state, where Mrs. Porter is still living. They had nine children, of whom the living are: Robert, Ann, Thomas, Mary A., Ellen E., Margaret and Joseph, all in Pennsylvania. Thomas F. Porter received his education in the schools of his native

state, and at the age of fifteen left home to face the world. Between 1867 and 1875 he worked at various occupations in his native state, principally lumbering and carpentering. Two years were then spent in the woods of Wisconsin when, in 1877, Mr. Porter came to Oregon. After remaining there a short time, he came on to King county, Washington, where he secured work as constructor of railway trestles. He continued at this work until 1884, when he came to Skagit county. He took up his present place in 1887. His first visit to the place was made by canoe, the only means of transportation until many years later. The return from his wedding with his bride was made in that species of craft. Mr. Porter, since locating near Sauk, has done considerable logging and lumbering, in addition to clearing his place and bringing it to its present status as a farm.

In 1891, at Lyman, Mr. Porter married Miss Mima S. Kerr, daughter of Robert and Catherine (Getty) Kerr, natives of Ireland and Canada, respectively, who passed all their married lives in Canada. They were the parents of twelve children, in order as follows: Thomas, Elizabeth, Henry, Andrew, Isabel, Sarah, Margaret, Alexander, Mary, John and Robert. Mrs. Porter also has a half sister Ellen. Mrs. Porter was born in Canada December 29, 1863, and lived with a sister after the death of her parents until coming to Skagit county, in 1889, to live with her brother, near Marble Mount. She remained with him until her marriage. She passed away March 24, 1904, leaving six children: Robert H., William A., Bessie E., Lillian V., Theodore F. and Mima S. The Porter farm consists of 160 acres of land, of which fifteen are cleared. In politics Mr. Porter is a Republican, in fraternal connection a Knight of Pythias. He is a school director at the present time, taking a deep interest in the school and the education of his children. Aside from a general farming business, Mr. Porter is in live stock raising to a certain extent, having at present twelve head of good cattle. He is a hard worker, a man respected by the community. Since the death of Mrs. Porter he has had the care of his children, and he takes a deep interest in their welfare. His commendable traits of character and the active part he has taken in the development and general advancement of this section entitle him to special mention in the history of his home county.

PETER LARSEN, a farmer, three miles southwest of Sauk postoffice, during the sixteen years of his residence in Skagit county, has had many of the trying experiences incident to settlement in a new country, without roads, without markets, and without modern facilities for transforming the wilderness by which he was originally surrounded into a valuable producing farm, and for the building of a commodious and comfortable home. He was born in Denmark December 17, 1853, the son of Lars

and Mary (Larsen) Nissen. Lars Nissen was a blacksmith by trade; he and his wife never left Denmark. Peter Larsen received his education in the old country, and lived with his parents until the age of twenty-five. He learned the blacksmith trade from his father and for three or four years before coming to the United States ran a shop of his own. On coming to this country in 1882, he located in New Jersey, where he was engaged in blacksmithing for a year and a half, then went to Pullman, Illinois, and passed four years in the big car shops at that place. In 1888 he came to Tacoma, where he worked in a blacksmith shop for a year, but in 1889, on account of his health, Mr. Larsen decided to get into the country, so he came to Skagit county, and located on his present place. For a while he worked out to obtain a livelihood, putting in his spare time only on his own place in fitting it for cultivation. This period of his life was a hard one, but the reward came surely if slowly.

In 1879 Mr. Larsen married Miss Christina Hansen, daughter of Hans and Elsie Nelson, natives of Denmark, who spent all their lives there. Mrs. Larsen was born in the old country, June 18, 1859, and lived at home until marriage, receiving her education there. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Larsen, two of whom, Hans and Mary, are dead. The living are Hans L., Louis, Morris, Elmer, Harry, Nels and Peter. In church relations the Larsens are Lutherans; in politics Mr. Larsen is a Democrat. He has been road supervisor and has served twelve years on the school board, thereby manifesting his willingness to contribute his share toward the public good. He has seventy-five acres of land, fifteen of which are now cleared. In live stock he has thirteen head of cattle, five horses, etc. A fine house is on the place, which in every way is in sharp contrast to the wilderness which Mr. and Mrs. Larsen found there when they came, for there were no roads; they built the house entirely by hand. One of the keystones of Mr. Larsen's character is his firm belief in the efficacy of education, which his long service as a member of the school board attests. He further is desirous of giving his sons a collegiate education. Mr. Larsen is one of the sterling citizens of Skagit county and a leader in the upper section of the valley.

EUGENE BELOIT, residing two and a half miles northeast of Sauk, was one of the early settlers up the river in the Sauk section of Skagit county. It is related that in the early days the Indians resident in that part of the country had many dogs, and that the animals were a great source of worry and aggravation to the settlers. Mr. Beloit and another man are credited with having taken advantage of the absence of the Indians in the hop fields to rid the community of the annoying animals, and fortunately the incident passed without any complications with the red men. Mr. Beloit

was born in Michigan, February 19, 1844, the son of Joseph M. Beloit, a native of New York, who became architect and millwright and moved to St. Joseph county, Michigan, as a young man, dying there thirty years ago. His wife was Mary Elmore, a native of Pennsylvania, who died in Chicago more than a score of years ago, the mother of seven children: Elmer, Hollis, Laura, Eugene, James M., Jarvis J. and Florence, the last three being now dead. Eugene Beloit lived with his parents until he was fourteen years of age, attending the common schools. Later he went to Pennsylvania and worked in various lines, eventually learning the trade of millwright, after which he worked in the sawmills of the Keystone state. In 1873 he went to Michigan, and for ten years thereafter he continued at his trade in the mills, but in 1883 he came to Skagit county, Washington, and located on a farm below Sauk. After five years he removed to the place he now owns and where he has ever since lived.

In 1902 Mr. Beloit married Miss Mary Hanson, who had obtained a legal separation from her former husband, John Erickson, of Chicago. Mrs. Beloit was born in 1853, in Sweden, the daughter of Christ and Christina Hanson, who never left their native land. She has two brothers, Christ and Andrew. Mrs. Beloit came to the United States in 1883 when thirty years of age, and lived in Chicago until she came west and married Mr. Beloit. She died in the Sedro-Woolley hospital January 15, 1903, leaving six children: Andrew, John and Carolina, by her first husband, and Phillida, Millard and Eva, who are also the children of Mr. Beloit. In fraternal circles Mr. Beloit is a Mason, in politics an Independent and a great admirer of President Roosevelt. The Beloit farm consists of seventy-two acres, ten of which are cleared. Mr. Beloit enjoys the reputation of being a man who stands by his obligations and in whose word confidence may be placed. Though not having had many school advantages, he is an omnivorous reader and one of the best informed men in the upper valley. For twenty-two years he has shared in the prosperity and adversity of the people of the Skagit country, aided in the development and progress of the section, and identified himself with those who have made its history, thus earning for himself an honorable place in these pages.

PAUL VON PRESSENTIN, merchant and postmaster at Marblemount, although not a native son of Skagit county, was only an infant when he commenced to live here, and is thus in the fullest sense, a product of Skagit county institutions and civilization. He was born in Manistee, Michigan, February 11, 1874, the son of Charles von Pressentin, a native of Berlin, Germany, who came to the United States at the age of eighteen, settling in New York and later becoming bookkeeper and clerk in

sawmills and stores of Wisconsin and Michigan. He came to Skagit county and settled at Birdsvew in 1877 and has resided there ever since, serving as probate judge and county commissioner at different times. Mrs. Wilhelmina (May) von Pressentin, the mother, is a native of Germany, born near Berlin, who came to the United States with her parents when a young lady. She was the first white woman on the Skagit river above Mount Vernon, and in the early days suffered many hardships, clothes being scanty and shoes often missing, while she was subjected to frequent annoyances by the Indians. She is the mother of six children: Bernard, Paul, Otto K., Frank, Hans and Charles. Paul von Pressentin received his education in the school at Birdsvew, and remained with his parents until twenty-four years of age. He then started in business for himself, buying the store of Charles Simpson at Marblemount, which he has since conducted with marked success.

October 17, 1898, at Seattle, Mr. von Pressentin married Miss Bertha Kunde, daughter of Charles and Frederika (Pufahl) Kunde, natives of Germany. Her father died near Rockport in 1896; but her mother is still living at Marblemount. She has four children, Mrs. Von Pressentin, and Otto, August and Reinhart Kunde. Mrs. Von Pressentin was born in Germany, but educated in the schools of Tacoma. She resided until marriage with her parents. She and Mr. Von Pressentin have four children: Dorothy, Laura, Wilhelmina and Alice. In politics Mr. Von Pressentin is a Republican. At present he is serving as justice of the peace, also school director and clerk of the board, and postmaster. Aside from his store, he owns several acres of land and a number of head of stock cattle, and he has one of the fine residences of Marblemount. He is a reliable young man, prominent in all the affairs of the community, successful in business and beyond question one of Skagit's rising citizens.

BULLER BROTHERS is the name and style under which a large bolt cutting and lumber industry is being carried on at Marblemount. The trio compose the firm, Carl P., Wade H. and Richard H. L., are all natives of Pennsylvania, children of Henry and Matilda F. (Clark) Buller, both of whom were born in the Keystone state. The elder Buller enlisted with the Pennsylvania volunteers in the Civil War, serving as a private for three years. He died in Seattle in 1903. The mother of the Buller boys is a remarkable woman and one of strong personality, much of her life being spent in the active management of business. She is a direct descendant of Thomas Clark, who came to the Massachusetts shore in the Mayflower. Until marriage

she lived with her parents in Philadelphia and taught school for five years, having obtained a first grade certificate entitling her to be called a "professor," rather than teacher. She came up the Skagit river with her sons in 1889, established the first hotel at Marblemount and continued to manage it for three years. She moved to the place where her sons now live in 1893, after passing two years in Seattle. Three years were spent on the home place, then she went to Burlington and conducted a hotel for part of a year, ultimately taking up her residence in Seattle, where she still lives. In 1899, accompanied by her sons, Carl and Richard, she went to Alaska, and she passed two years at Nome. Though a resident of Seattle, she frequently visits her sons at Marblemount and mentally contrasts transportation facilities of the present day with those when she made her first trip up the Skagit, coming by boat to Sauk and by canoe the remainder of the distance to Marblemount. Mrs. Clark-Buller is the author of "Road House Tales," a compilation of stories she heard in the days when she was keeping hotel, also is a lecturer on Socialism, Mental Science and Theosophy. In her early days up the Skagit she held a private school, at which her younger sons were educated and which was also attended by a number of Indians living in the vicinity of Marblemount.

The lives of the three brothers have been so intimately associated with that of their mother that a review of her life is almost a review of the lives of her sons. Wade and Richard Buller were the two first white boys on the upper Skagit, and all three brothers later became experts in the open life of the early days in and around Marblemount. For three years they followed canoeing as an occupation. They have prospected in the Ruby Creek district and all through the upper Cascade mountains, also have done a great deal of trapping, the woods being full of all kinds of game and the waters abounding in fish in the early days. The boys are second cousins of Sir Redvers Buller of South African fame. They own 800 acres of land, forty of which are cleared and the rest in valuable timber which they are converting in their mill to commercial uses. Wade and Richard Buller attended the Seattle Seminary for four years, the former graduating from the institution. The influence of the mentality of the mother is seen in the intellectual life of the sons. Politically they are all three Socialists, and in church matters are not bound by creed or the formalities of denominational organization, leaning rather toward "free thinking." They are ambitious in business and hard workers, successful in their management and prominent in the town. They make their homes together, as none has married.