

they surrounded. Mr. Conger several times ordered the wretch to come out and surrender himself; the latter refusing, the Colonel threatened to set fire to the barn, in order to drive him out. Accordingly he soon commenced a fire, when Sergeant Corbett shot Booth, wounding him, and the *posse* took him out by force to the porch of a house near by, where he soon afterward died.

All through the war Colonel Conger was faithful both as a soldier and an officer, winning the highest mead of praise. After the close of the Rebellion he practiced dentistry about two years. In 1869 he commenced the study of law in the office of Crebs & Conger, at Carmi; was admitted to the bar in 1871, and began the practice of his profession in this place; but he was soon elected Police Magistrate, which office he retained until some time in 1880, when he was appointed one of the Federal Judges of Montana Territory. This appointment, which he now holds, is a high testimonial to the ability and integrity of this ex-soldier and jurist.

THE PRESENT BAR.

Colonel John M. Crebs, the oldest member of the bar in the Twelfth Judicial District, was born in Loudoun County, Va., April 9, 1830. His parents were Berry and Lucy (Wilson) Crebs, father a native of Frederick County, Va., and mother, of Loudoun County. In 1836 the family emigrated to this county and settled about eight miles southwest of Carmi. In 1852 the subject of this biographical notice was admitted to the bar, and in December he opened an office in Carmi and commenced the practice of his profession. In August, 1862, he entered the service of the United States as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Eighty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry and served until July 5, 1865, when he was discharged. The history of this regiment is given in Chapter VIII. During all this service the Colonel was never sick or wounded. After the close of the war he commenced the practice of law again in Carmi. In 1866 he was nominated by the Democracy of Illinois for Superintendent of Public Instruction. In 1868 he was elected to Congress from the Thirteenth District, and re-elected in 1870. Since 1860 he has been in partnership with Judge C. S. Conger in the practice of law, excepting one year, and until the latter was elected Judge. Colonel Crebs is a Deacon in the Presbyterian church; is a man of considerable property and of well-known liberality, having done much for local improvements and philanthropic enterprises of all kinds.

He was married Oct. 13, 1857, to Miss N. E. Stewart, daughter of Dr. Josiah Stewart, so well known in the early history of White County. Mr. and Mrs. C. have had seven children, all of whom are living. The eldest, Edwin E., is married and living in Mount Vernon.

Charles E. McDowell, attorney and counselor at law, a native of Mt. Carmel, Wabash Co., Ill., was born July 22, 1838, and was a son of James and Elizabeth P. (Watson) McDowell. The grandparent on the McDowell side was William McDowell, of Scotch-Irish descent, a physician from the north of Ireland, and on the Watson side French-English. In December, 1859, Mr. McDowell moved to White and read law with Colonel John E. Whiting, and was admitted to the bar in the latter part of 1861, where he has since been in active practice. Mr. McDowell, in 1862, was appointed County Superintendent of Schools, and was afterward elected to the position and served until 1869, a total of seven years. In 1869 he was elected a member of the State Constitutional Convention from the district composed of the counties of White and Edwards. In 1876 he was elected a member of the State Senate from the Forty-sixth District, comprising the counties White, Hamilton and Jefferson. In 1881 he was Grand Master of the A. O. U. W. for the State of Illinois. He is still in the practice of law, making real estate a specialty. Since 1861 he has been in partnership with J. I. McClintock. The foregoing facts are a sufficient testimonial to the high standing of Mr. McDowell without any additional words from us.

Oct. 25, 1864, he married Mary C., daughter of John F. Youngken and a native of Wabash County, Ill. They have one child living, Hattie by name.

James I. McClintock, attorney at law and County Superintendent of Schools, was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, Aug. 17, 1837. His parents were James and Elizabeth (English) McClintock, also natives of Ohio.

He was educated in the district schools until ten years of age when he entered the Chillicothe Academy, a school of great note in its day. At the age of sixteen years he entered the Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, and graduated in the classical course in 1857, and in 1860 received the degree of Master of Arts from the same college. After graduating he engaged as salesman in a store in Chillicothe until the summer of 1858, when he emigrated to Wabash County, Ill., and engaged in farming. In the

fall of 1859 he began teaching school in Mt. Carmel, Ill., and was principal of the High School for several years. In 1863 he removed to Bloomington, Ill., and was Deputy County Clerk until July, 1864, when he entered the mustering and disbursing office at Springfield. In April, 1865, he became Principal of the High School at Rochelle, in Ogle County, but in July, 1865, removed to Carmi; taught school in Carmi for one year, and was admitted to the bar in 1867, since which time he has been in the practice of law in partnership with Hon. C. E. McDowell.

Mr. McClintock was elected County Superintendent of Schools of White County in 1869; resigned that office in 1872 and was elected County Attorney, which office he held until 1876; he was again elected County Superintendent in 1877, and again 882. He has been Secretary of the Normal School at Carmi since its institution, and is also Treasurer of the Agricultural Board. He is a member of Carmi Lodge, No. 272, A. F. & A. M., of which he has been W. M. for a number of years; also belongs to Carmi lodge, No. 121, A. O. U. W.

His wife, Mary E., is a daughter of Judge James McDowell, deceased, late of Mt. Carmel, Ill., and they have five children.

J. R. Williams, attorney at law, Schumaker's block, Carmi, is a native of this county, and was born in Burnt Prairie Township, Dec. 27, 1851. His parents were Thomas and Susan (Rawls) Williams, a further notice of whom is given in Chapter XVI. He was brought up on a farm; attended graded school in Carmi and Enfield; entered the Indiana State University at Bloomington and graduated in the classical course July 7, 1875, devoting a portion of his time to the study of law; finished his law course June 10, 1876, at the Union College of Law in Chicago; was admitted to the bar in July following, and Aug. 1 opened his office for practice in Carmi. Was Master in Chancery from January, 1880, to January, 1882; last April he was nominated by the Democratic Convention for County Judge, by a majority of 1,295 over his opponent, and Nov. 7, was elected. Mr. Williams has ever taken an active part in politics, and is a rising young man of great promise. He is a member of the Phi Cappa Psi fraternity.

Frank E. Pomeroy, attorney at law, was born in White County, Ill., Nov. 22, 1858. He is a son of James M. Pomeroy, one of White County's pioneers and prominent citizens, whose biography replete with interest will be found in this work. Lawyer Pomeroy made his home with his father till he was about twenty years of age,

when he went to Lebanon, Ohio, and entered the National Normal University of that place. He commenced the study of law Aug. 13, 1879; was admitted to the bar August, 1881, at Mt. Vernon, Ill. In October, 1881, he and C. P. Berry formed a partnership in the practice of law. This partnership existed six months, when Mr. Berry went West and the partnership was dissolved. Mr. Pomeroy is now engaged in the practice of law alone, and for a young man of his natural ability we cannot but bespeak a brilliant career. The confidence the older members of the bar impose in him indicate worth in Mr. Pomeroy that should be the envy of all young men.

R. L. Organ was born in Wayne County, Ill., Dec. 8, 1849. He is a son of Henry A. Organ, a native of Tennessee, who moved to Wayne County in an early day, with his widowed mother and family. He made that his home till his death, Nov. 27, 1864. He was a farmer. R. L. Organ made his father's house his home until he was a young man. In 1868 he entered the Indiana State University, at Bloomington, and graduated in 1872. He then commenced to study under Attorney-General James McCartney, of Fairfield, Ill., and remained with him about a year. He was admitted to the bar at Mt. Vernon, Ill., in June, 1873. The following year he studied law in connection with legal writing. In 1874 he commenced to practice in Carmi in company with Allen Bleakley, the firm being known as Bleakley & Organ. This partnership continued until 1880, when they dissolved and Mr. Organ has conducted his business alone. At the time of their dissolution they had a good many abstracts; these Mr. Organ purchased of Mr. Bleakley and now has the only set of abstract books in the county. In 1877 he was elected Justice of the Peace, and in 1881 was re-elected. He was married Sept. 7, 1876, to Alice M., daughter of J. M. Damron, of Carmi. They have two children—Mabel, aged five, and Joseph L., aged two and a half years.

Nathaniel Holderby, attorney, of White County bar, is one of the pioneer children of White County. His parents were Nathaniel and Nancy (Harvey) Holderby, natives of Gallatin County, Ill., and Virginia, respectively. They were among the first settlers of White County. His father died in November, 1864. His mother is still living with her son on the old homestead farm, in Hawthorne Township. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. They had a family of thirteen, nine living, all residing in White County—John, who married Mary Shirrell (they

reside in Hawthorne Township); Thomas, who married Mrs. Louisa (Dagley) Wilson; James, married Ellen Evelett; Alfred, married Jane Sherrill; Nathaniel, married Cynthia Graham, and William, unmarried. The girls are—Mary, wife of Andrew Bowen; Tabitha, wife of John Gaines; and Elizabeth. Nathaniel Holderby remained on the old homestead until fourteen, when his father died. He then lived with his brother Alfred, working on the farm and attending school winters for two years. He then attended the common and graded school in Hawthorne Township for two years; then taught school winters for eight years, until 1875, when he read law in the office of Colonel Jasper Partridge for ten months; then read with P. A. Pierce fourteen months; then was admitted to the Illinois bar, at Mt. Vernon, in 1877. He then located in Carmi and established his present office. Mr. Holderby was married to Cynthia Graham, Jan. 1, 1878. She was born in White County, and was a daughter of Nathaniel and Susannah (Frazier) Graham, early settlers of White County. Mr. and Mrs. Holderby are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He has been Superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Sunday-school for the past four years. They have two children—Amy, born Nov. 29, 1879, and Nellie, born Jan. 24, 1882. Mr. Holderby is a member of the A. O. U. W., Carmi Lodge, No. 121; Royal Templars, Carmi Lodge, No. 63. In politics he is a Republican. Mr. Holderby is one of the self-made men of White County, and procured an education through his own exertions.

Charles P. Berry was born in Hartford, Conn., Sept. 12, 1859. He was a son of Benjamin Berry, a contractor in Colt's Armory, at Hartford. He was by birth an Englishman, born in Yorkshire, England. Chas. P. Berry received his education in Hartford, Conn. He came to Illinois in 1878, though he had previously visited friends in this State. The winters of 1878 and 1879 he taught school at Elm Grove, White County. Immediately following this date he entered Colonel Creb's office as a law student; was under his instruction three years; was admitted to the bar May 10, 1881, at Mt. Vernon, O., and then received his license. In October, 1881, he opened a law office in Carmi in company with F. E. Pomeroy. This partnership existed six months under the name of Berry & Pomeroy. Since that date Mr. Berry has been alone in the profession.

William Harrison Johnson was born in this county near the present site of Enfield, March 3, 1840, and lived on a farm until

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the breaking out of the Rebellion. He was the second man to enlist in a company raised in this county, and entered the service as Orderly Sergeant of Company I, First Regiment Illinois Cavalry; was mustered out June 16, 1865, as First Lieutenant, Company I, Eighty-seventh Regiment Illinois Volunteers, having served over four years, and until the close of the war. During the service he was mainly with the armies operating on and near the Mississippi River, and participated in nearly every important campaign of those armies. After the war Mr. Johnson entered the law office of Colonel John E. Whiting, and was admitted to the bar in December, 1867. He was Presidential Elector for the Nineteenth Congressional District of Illinois at the election of Garfield and Arthur in 1880, and is now (Nov. 3, 1882) the Republican nominee in the Forty-sixth Senatorial District of Illinois, comprised of the counties of Hamilton, Lawrence, Wabash and White, for Representative in the next General Assembly.

Mr. Johnson is a son of the late Dr. Martin Johnson, the original proprietor of the town of Enfield, and one of the early settlers of the county. He is an Elder in the Christian church of Carmi, and is a Sunday-school and temperance worker.

He was married to Margaret Houston, of Carmi, April 1, 1867. Four children—Olive M., Bertha E., Annie Gertrude and Mabel, all living except the last. Mrs. Johnson died in 1878, and April 25, 1881, Mr. Johnson married Ray Piety, of Indiana. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the A. O. U. W., in which last he is Representative to the State Grand Lodge, and District Deputy.

Allen Bleakley was born in Wayne County, Ill., July 8, 1849. He was a son of Joseph and Sarah (Allen) Bleakley, natives of County Tyrone, Ireland. His father came to the United States when he was eighteen, and his mother when she was several years younger. His father spent the first seven or eight years in this country in Massilon, Stark Co., O.; was married there. In 1839, he moved to Wayne County, Ill., where he still resides on the farm he originally entered. His mother died in 1856. They had a family of five children—Mary J., married Charles G. Archibald, a merchant of Cisne, Wayne County; Joseph W. went to California in 1870, and is engaged in mining; Allen is the subject of this sketch; Isabel married Samuel McCracken, a farmer of Wayne County. Allen made his father's house his home till after he was of age. His early education was received in the select schools of

Wayne County. He entered the law school at Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1869, graduating in 1871. After his return from Ann Arbor, he spent five months in the office of Wilson & Hutchinson, of Olney. Then he was admitted to the bar of Illinois, examined by Judge Canby. He began the practice of law in Fairfield in the fall of 1871, and was in the office of Attorney-General McCartney, till July 1, 1873. At that time he became a citizen of Carmi, and formed a copartnership with R. L. Organ. This existed till 1881. Since then he has been practicing alone. He was married Oct. 13, 1875. He has three children—Mamie, aged six; Royton aged five, and Carrie, aged three.

John W. Hon is a practicing attorney in the city of Carmi; office in the Schumaker building. He is a native of White County, and has just been admitted to the bar.

Ross Graham is a practitioner of law in Carmi.

T. G. Parker, also a native of this county, was admitted to the bar in 1874, at the age of twenty-three. His office at present is in the Wilson building, under the *Times* printing office. For a time he practiced in partnership with Jasper Partridge, also of this city.

Jasper Partridge is from Ohio; was a Lieutenant-Colonel in the last war; is now in the practice of law at Carmi, and is also agent for pension claims; office in the Martin building, immediately north of the county offices.

Prince A. Pearce, present County Attorney; office in the Storm's block. Born and raised in White County; admitted to the bar about 1873; is also in the insurance business.

Of Grayville lawyers, there are the following :

Edward Kershaw, born Oct. 10, 1847, in White County, is a son of Merideth Edward and Virginia (Stone) Kershaw. His father is a native of White County, and his mother of the southeastern part of Virginia. Merideth Kershaw's parents came from England in 1818. They landed in Philadelphia, and settled in White County in that year. His mother's parents came from France and settled in Virginia. Merideth Kershaw was born in 1821, and lived the life of a farmer till the war broke out, when he enlisted in the Eighty-seventh Illinois, in 1862, and died at New Orleans in August, 1864. His mother died in 1857 in White County. They raised six children, five of them now living. The oldest son, Ephraim, was killed in the war. Edward Kershaw was brought up on the homestead, and was educated at home at

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common schools, and spent two years at the academy at Lebanon, Warren Co., O. He began the study of law in 1866, and was admitted to the bar in 1871. He has a general practice in all the courts, and is well versed in his profession. He was married April, 1873, to Frances Whiffen, native of Ocolona, Miss. They have two children, daughters. They lost one son, Edward, March 10, 1882, three years and five months old. The daughters are May and Frances, living at home. He enlisted in the army in December, 1861, in the Sixtieth Illinois, Company B, and served nearly four years; was discharged August, 1865; was with the regiment in all the campaigns, engaged with it in about forty battles and skirmishes, and bears the marks of seven different wounds, though not laid up in hospital; was with the command all through.

Leslie Durley, born Nov. 4, 1847, at Hennepin, Putnam Co., Ill., is a son of Jefferson and Eleanor S. (Seadon) Durley, his father, a native of Sangamon County, Ill., and his mother of Kentucky, both living at Hennepin, Putnam County. Mr. D. was reared and educated in Putnam County. Began to study law in 1868, and was admitted to the bar September, 1874. He began to practice law in Greenville, where he has continued ever since. His practice extends in both County and State courts. He was the Republican candidate for State's Attorney in 1876, and was a candidate for State Senator of the same party in 1880 from the Forty-sixth District. The county being largely Democratic, this ticket was elected. Mr. Durley ran ahead of his ticket. He was married in 1876 at Grayville, to Mrs. Mary J. Clayton, daughter of Caleb Butler. They have one daughter. In 1864 he enlisted in the One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Illinois, Company B, and served five and one half months. Has been connected with Illinois militia for four years, and is now Lieutenant-Colonel, in command of Ninth Regiment. Prior to his coming to White County he did the business in the Sheriff's office for three years, his father being Sheriff, but was connected with other business.

Geo. W. Cline, Grayville, is a member of the White County bar.

Wm. H. Gray, born Sept. 1, 1820, in Sumner County, Tenn., is a son of Dr. James M. and Maria R. (Sanders) Gray. His father was a native of North Carolina, and his mother of Virginia; both came to Sumner County when very young. His mother lived there till her death, July 4, 1838. His father went to the northern

part of Mississippi and died there in 1864. Mr. Gray was raised in Sumner County till he was twenty years old, brought up principally on a farm. Educated at Gallatin and Nashville, Tenn. In 1840 he left Tennessee and went to Daviess County, Ky.; was engaged some time in farming and teaching school. He was married Jan. 8, 1843, to Lucinda Bell, a native of Bullitt County, Ky. She died in 1848. In 1851 he moved to Carlisle, Clinton Co., Ill. He first studied law in Gallatin, Tenn., with Colonel Joe C. Guild, now Judge of the United States Supreme Court of Tennessee. He practiced law at Carlisle, Clinton Co., Ill., about twenty-five years, during the best part of his life. He came to White County in 1877, where he has been living ever since. He is now living at Concord, Emma Township, where he has a general store. He also carries on his practice of law to a certain extent, having some cases now pending both in the County and Circuit Court. He was married in 1854 to Mary C. Moore, at Carlisle, Clinton Co., Ill. She died July 11, 1882. They had two children, Emma and Wm. M. Gray, both living in Macon County, Ill. Politically, a Whig; cast his first vote for Henry Clay; remained with that party and all its nominees till the party went down, 1852. Supported Fremont in 1856, and since has been an ardent supporter of the Republican party. Has never been an office seeker. Has spent hundreds of dollars in the interest of the Republican party. His friends did persuade him to serve two years as Township Clerk of Emma Township.

George C. Cross, an attorney, farmer and furniture dealer at Crossville, is also a native of this county. He pays special attention to probate business, divorces and collections.

THE COURT-HOUSE.

The first court-house was a frame building, erected near the public well, a few yards distant from the present public well. At the latter point there was then a sort of knoll or Indian mound. This house was blown down prior to 1824, and court was then held in John Crow's house, now occupied by Robert Stewart. Here the criminal Cotner was tried and condemned to the gallows, but at the last moment was reprieved by the Governor. Until the new court-house was built the county business was done at the respective residences of the officers.

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OF
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With Illustrations

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AND

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