

the war Mr. Templeton enlisted in the Marine Corps, was stationed at Washington, District of Columbia, and rose to the rank of lieutenant, and in 1881-82 was master of arms on the school ship *Saratoga*. His resignation was due to one of those incidents only too frequent in the army circles, a quarrel between a West Point graduate and an officer who had risen from the ranks. As a result of the trouble with the West Pointer, Mr. Templeton resigned, and in 1883 came West to *Missouri*, locating at Kidder, in *Caldwell County*. There he began farming and engaged in the cattle business, and in 1891 moved to Cowgill, where he opened a meat market. While there he obtained the contract for furnishing meat to the tie, bridge and steel gangs employed in the building of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway. In 1892 he went South to the Panhandle country of Texas, was engaged in the boot and shoe business there, and in 1898 sold out and moved to North Dakota. In 1900 Mr. Templeton returned to *Missouri*, located at Liberty, and was engaged in the mercantile business until his death. He was a republican in politics and an active member of the Grand Army, having served as post inspector of *Missouri*.

William E. Templeton was educated partly in Washington, District of Columbia, and was graduated in 1889 from the Kidder Institute at Kidder, *Missouri*. After that he was assisting his father until 1891, then became bookkeeper in the Cowgill State Bank, was promoted to assistant cashier, and in 1892 came to Excelsior Springs as assistant cashier of the Farmers & Merchants Bank. In 1893 Mr. Templeton became cashier of the old Excelsior Springs Company and continued with that corporation until it was dissolved. He was then with the Excelsior Springs Bottling Works until 1895, and since 1900 has been engaged in the real estate business. Mr. Templeton was appointed postmaster at Excelsior Springs in 1900 by President McKinley, and served for three full terms in that office, retiring on August 4, 1913. During all that time there was not a legitimate complaint against the service of the local postoffice, and his record was one of admirable efficiency. After leaving the postoffice Mr. Templeton was in Texas for his health until January 7, 1914, at which date he acquired an interest in the *Clay County* Hardware Company, and is now once more in the full swing of merchandising. Mr. Templeton is a republican, fraternally is affiliated with the Royal Arch Masons and the Modern Woodmen of America.

On January 30, 1892, Mr. Templeton married Margaret Swaveland. She was born October 7, 1872, in Ray *County, Missouri*, a daughter of Franklin and Martha (Strader) Swaveland. He was a native of Pennsylvania and came out to Mercer *County, Missouri*, in 1847, subsequently settling in Ray *County*, and finally in *Clay County*, where his father died April 14, 1911, aged seventy-six. The mother died on April 17, 1901, at the age of fifty-eight. Mr. and Mrs. Templeton have an adopted daughter, Eugenia.

JUDGE A. H. SHELTON. Enjoying an active and useful old age at Excelsior Springs, where he is police judge, justice of the peace and notary public, *Judge Shelton* is a Northwest Missourian with a record beginning back in pioneer times of *Clay County*. He was a hard and faithful fighter under the flag of the Confederacy, lost an arm in service, and in spite of that handicap has for fifty years done more than most men in farming, business and public duties.

A. H. Shelton was born in Todd *County, Kentucky*, December 21, 1839, a son of Charles C. and Emeline (Scott) *Shelton*. His father was born in Virginia, June 27, 1815, and died in *Clay County, Missouri*, at the age of eighty-five. Charles was a son of Beverly B. *Shel-*

ton, who served during the War of 1812 around Norfolk, Virginia, and at the beginning of his service was a sergeant and later a major in his regiment. Judge Shelton's mother was born in Todd County, Kentucky, in 1821 and died in 1889. Of their thirteen children six are living: Judge Shelton; Beverly B.; Miss Ella; Emma V.; Don S., and Stephen D., all of whom live at Excelsior Springs.

Judge Shelton's parents came to Missouri in 1842, driving across the country with wagons, and first locating in Ray County four miles east of Excelsior Springs, but in 1846 removed to near Barry, in Clay County. The father bought a farm three and a half miles north of town, subsequently moved to the vicinity of Kearney, and continued farming all his life. He was a democrat, and with his wife a missionary Baptist.

Judge Shelton was about two years old when the family came to Missouri, and consequently has no recollection of that journey. Reared on a farm, it was with an exceedingly meager schooling that he began life. His youth and young manhood were spent in Clay County, with such activities as engaged the young men of that time and place, and on June 17, 1861, he became a soldier, joining the State Guards under Captain Thompson in the Confederate army. He was in the battles of Carthage and Lexington, and many skirmishes, and afterwards transferred to the cavalry branch of the army under General Shelby. In June, 1863, Mr. Shelton was wounded and was left on the field at Springfield, was captured and sent to City Point, Virginia, where after his exchange he joined Cockrell's Brigade. With this command he participated in the battle of Baker's Creek, and while at Vicksburg was again made prisoner by the Federals, but got away and took part in the Georgia campaign, being with the troops that harassed Sherman on his march to the sea, and later was with Hood in his final Tennessee campaign. On April 9, 1865, at the time of Lee's surrender, Mr. Shelton saw his last fight. He was around the bay at Fort Blakely when he lost his left arm. Judge Shelton went through the war from beginning to end, was in some of the hardest campaigns and never shirked a duty. He was paroled at Jackson, Mississippi, May 26, 1865. A few months after the war, on September 21, 1865, Judge Shelton married Hattie J. Wheat, who was born in Virginia and died January 10, 1911.

With the return of peace and settled conditions after the war, Mr. Shelton, in spite of the handicap caused by the loss of one arm, engaged in farming in Clay County, but in 1868 went East and located on a farm in Virginia, and was engaged in agriculture in that state until 1876. He again returned to Clay County, and continued the successful management of his farming operations with only one good arm, and from this active mode of life reared and provided for his family.

In 1904 Judge Shelton moved to Excelsior Springs, and his home has since been in that resort city. In 1912 he was elected police judge, and by reelection in the spring of 1914 is still giving a capable administration to the office. For ten years he has served in the office of justice of the peace, and has also served as constable, and for twenty-two years was clerk of his school district. Since young manhood he has voted with and supported the democratic party. Judge Shelton recalls old memories of the war in company with his comrades of the Confederate Veterans' Association, and has been honored by appointment to the staff of two of the commanders of the association.

Judge Shelton has four sons and one daughter: Otis E., of Sulphur Springs, Missouri; James C., of Excelsior Springs; John B., of Birmingham, Missouri; George, of Muskogee, Oklahoma; and Lillie C. Simerall, of Liberty, Missouri. Judge Shelton's son James C. has had an eventful career. He was born in Bedford County, Virginia, December 1,

1870, was reared on a farm in **Clay County**, educated in the district school for three months of each winter, and at the age of thirteen ran away from home to Oklahoma, in order to satisfy the usual boyhood ambition to become a cowboy and kill Indians and otherwise engage in the wild and lurid life of the frontier. For six years he was in the Government service, working on the survey of the **Missouri** River throughout its entire course. On July 5, 1891, occurred his marriage to Katie Edna Kirk, who was born in Illinois. For the following six years he lived on a farm near **Missouri** City, and then came to Excelsior Springs and bought a hardware store. Eighteen months later this enterprise was sold and he engaged in the real estate and insurance business, and is now one of the successful men of Excelsior Springs.

JOSEPH C. CROWLEY is prominent among the agriculturists and stock raisers of **Ray County**, among whom he worked faithfully and industriously for a long period of time. His career has been one of usefulness to his community, for while he has ever been a busy man with large interests to demand his attention, he has still found the leisure and the inclination to donate of his services to the welfare and advancement of his **county**. He has been a lifelong resident of this section, having been born on his father's farm in the vicinity of Lawson, **Missouri**, February 27, 1867, and is a son of John and Ann (Fuller) Crowley.

Mr. Crowley is a member of a family that has been identified with American history for generations, and members of which have risen to high positions and played important parts in the various activities of life. The first of the family to come to America was Berry Crowley, the great-great-grandfather of Joseph C. Crowley, a native of England, who emigrated to this country prior to the war for American Independence and settled in Kentucky. He participated in much Indian warfare in that state, and eventually met his death in a battle with the hostiles on the Ohio River. One of his sons was James Crowley, the great-grandfather of Joseph C., who was a soldier in the American army during the Revolutionary war and was present at the surrender of General Cornwallis at Yorktown. John Crowley, the grandfather of Joseph C., was born in Alabama, February 2, 1792, and died September 29, 1877, and his wife, Sarah (Mayo) Crowley, was born in Tennessee, October 10, 1797, and died September 10, 1851.

The father of Joseph C. Crowley, John Crowley, was born August 10, 1828, in **Clay County, Missouri**, and was there educated in the early public schools and started to work for his father. He remained on the home farm until he was past twenty-five years of age, when he went to California, having contracted the "gold fever." He started on the long journey from St. Joseph, **Missouri**, May 4, 1853, in company with his brother, Thomas Crowley, and four hired men to drive their cattle. They spent about four and one-half months on this long and tedious overland trip, arriving in California September 16, 1853, and after spending about two and one-half years in the Golden State, John Crowley took passage on a steamship at San Francisco, February 14, 1855, for the isthmus. He crossed among the first passengers on the railroad across Panama and sailed from Aspinwall to Cuba and thence to New Orleans, from whence he came home by river, arriving March 31, 1855. In 1856 Mr. Crowley removed to **Ray County** and located south of Lawson, where he took up a modest piece of land and began farming. From that time forward he was one of the energetic, progressive and successful farmers of his community, and at the time of his death was the owner of 1,000 acres of land, all of which he had improved himself. He also dealt extensively in live stock, was known as a business man of ability and resource, and as a citizen none stood higher. On February 2,