MRS. ANNA GUY, Turkey Creek Township.

Mrs. Anna Guy, widow of the late James H. Guy, was born in the year 1823, in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and when five years of age, removed with her parents to Miami County in the same State. From thence, one year later, the family removed to Elkhart County, Ind. After a residence of six years in the latter county, they removed to Kosciusko County.

In 1847, she gave her hand and heart in marriage to James H. Guy, a man of great industry and energy, who, during his life, labored earnestly to secure a competence for his loved ones, and succeeded. The farm upon which his family now resides was then a wilderness, and was cleared and improved by his own strong arm. He proved himself a model husband, and a kind father; and during his residence in the township, his manly qualities gained him many friends, by whom his death was sadly lamented. He died in December, 1875, since which time his wife has conducted the farm, and, in the management of the estate, has proven herself a lady of more than ordinary ability. She is thoroughly systematic in matters pertaining to the farm, and its well-tilled fields all attest the skill of its proprietress. Her friends are many, and she is beloved by all who know her, for her gentle nature and kindness.

Their wedded life was blessed by two sons—Perry and Anderson. The former died in 1871; the latter only survives.

HON. WILLIAM WILLIAMS, Warsaw.

BY COL. J. B. DODGE.

William Williams was born May 11, 1821, near Carlisle, Cumberland Co., Penn., and removed with his parents to Perrysburg, Ohio, in July, 1834. In 1836, his father came with his family to Kosciusko County. They were among the earliest settlers south of the Tippecanoe River.

The subject of this sketch enjoyed such educational advantages as were afforded by the schools of that period, which were, at best, very indifferent.

He lived with his parents about two miles north of the present site of Warsaw at the time the county seat was located, and was one of the chain-carriers at the time when the town plat of Warsaw was surveyed.

April 19, 1840, he was united in marriage with Miss Eliza J. Douglas. They have eight children living.

In 1841, he was admitted to the bar, but made no strenuous efforts to build up a practice, preferring real estate transactions to the dull technicalities of the law. In 1852, he was nominated by his party for the office of Treasurer of Kosciusko County, to which office he was elected. Before the expiration of his term, he was nominated for Lieutenant Governor of the State. He immediately resigned as Treasurer of the county, and began a canvass of the State with his opponent, Hon. Ashbel P. Willard. That was, perhaps, one of the most exciting canvasses ever made in the State. Both were very eloquent speakers, and were everywhere greeted by immense audiences. They held a joint debate in sixty-five counties, traveling by private conveyance, the only railroad in the State at that time being the road from Indianapolis to Madison.

Mr. Williams was defeated, although he ran several thousand votes ahead of the candidate for Governor on the same ticket.

He then engaged in banking at Warsaw, owning and managing the "Bank of Warsaw," one of the few free banks of this State which closed its doors, after redeeming its entire issue, without a blemish upon its reputation. He also took a prominent part in securing the location of the railroad, then known as the Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, through Warsaw, and was a Director of that road for a number of years.

In 1859, he was elected one of the Directors of the Northern Prison at Michigan City, Ind., a position which he filled with credit to himself and the State. In the summer of 1862, he was appointed Commandant of Camp Allen, at Fort Wayne, Ind., with authority to raise troops; and within six weeks three full regiments (the Seventy-fourth, Eighty-eighth and One-Hundredth,) were ready for the field. In recognition of his service he received the appointment of Paymaster of Volunteers, with headquarters at Louisville, Ky., where he remained until the close of the war, engaged in the duties of his position.

In 1866, he was nominated by the Republican party for Representative to the Fortieth Congress of the United States, and was triumphantly elected. In 1868, he was elected to the Forty-first, and in 1870, to the Forty-second Congress from this district, and in 1872, was elected to the Forty-third Congress as a member from the State at large.

At the close of his term of office, he returned to Warsaw and engaged in the practice of law.

He is one of the most pleasant of public speakers; has a wonderfully happy way of making comparisons, and by his reasoning and wit, has great control over his audiences. During every political campaign, his services are in great demand, and he has canvassed nearly one-half of the New England and Northern States in the interest of his party.

Believing implicitly in its doctrines, he is always ready to defend them, and an abler advocate could scarcely be found.

PHILDON ROMINE, Harrison Township.

Phildon Romine, son of Noah and Hannah Romine, was born April 5, 1815, in Fayette County, Ohio. His maternal grandfather, Eden Clevenger, was a soldier in the war of the Revolution and served his country from 1776 until the close of the war in 1783. His father, Noah Romine, removed from Ohio to Clinton County, Ind., when there were but few families in that county. He was killed by a falling tree, and left a wife and eight children in very limited circumstances in the heart of the wilderness. The noble mother struggled bravely against hardship and want, and reared her family to honorable and useful maturity. In those days, schools were few, and those few very imperfect. As a natural consequence the subject of this sketch grew up with scarcely any educational privileges and with a limited ability to obtain books for self-culture; but he improved such opportunities as he enjoyed, and, through this means, together with patient study in later years, acquired a good, practical education. In 1836, he came with his mother and her family, to Kosciusko County, and, being then in the twenty-first year of his age, proved himself the main support of the family, during the ordeal of making a farm in the backwoods. He was a strong, healthy young man, and few men of his age, perhaps, ever accomplished more work of the same character than he. The wild game which inhabited the woods close at hand often fell the victim to his trusty rifle, and supplied the family with meat. They struggled on, year by year, until better days came and prosperity smiled upon them. The mother survived until 1876, when she died, at the advanced age of eighty-one years. Of her family, all are deceased, save the subject of this sketch and one brother and two sisters, one of whom—Elizabeth—has, for many years, kept house for her brother, Phildon, who has never married.

Between the years of 1845 and 1850, Mr. Romine traveled extensively through the States of Illinois, Iowa and Missouri, but found no place more satisfactory than his home in Indiana, and always returned well satisfied. His name has been associated with the township, and he has been identified with its growth and improvement for many years; and none occupy a more enviable place in the estimation of their fellow-men. Nearly all who were associated with him in early days have passed away, but he still remains, almost a solitary landmark, and a connecting-link between the past and present. In many of the improvements inaugurated in the mean time, he has borne a part, and the result is gratifying to him. He has reached the "shady side" of life; yet, in the sixty-fifth year of his age, he is still vigorous and in possession of all his faculties unimpaired.

W. J. BESSON, Harrison Township.

William J. Besson is a native of the township in which he now resides. He was born August 16, 1857. Before he had reached his second year, his mother died, and scarcely two months had elapsed thereafter when his father, too, was called from earth. His mother, Mary A. Besson, was the sister of Phildon Romine, and, after the decease of his parents, the orphan boy found a good home and a tender love in the house of his uncle. At the proper age, he was sent to school, and there improved the opportunities he enjoyed, devoting his winters to the acquisition of knowledge. During the remainder of the year, he was employed on the farm of his uncle; and, as he increased in years and strength, he was able to relieve him of much care and responsibility, at the same time learning lessons in the art of farming, which have proved of great value to himself. He was reared under Christian influences, and his life has been, to a great extent, free from those vices into which young men so often fall. In 1877, he identified himself with the United Brethren Church, and has since been an active and consistent member. He joined the Patrons of Husbandry in 1875, and is still in active fellowship with that order.

In all his transactions in life, he has proved himself a young man of good principles, and is respected by all who know him.

GEORGE W. RYERSON, Washington Township.

George W. Ryerson was born April 9, 1811, in Butler County, Ohio. His father, John Ryerson, was born in New Jersey in 1774, and married Anna Van Nollen, a native of the same State, by whom he had five children. In 1808, he removed to Cincinnati, Ohio, and subsequently to Middleton, Butler Co., Ohio. In the latter county he resided three years, when, with his family, he removed to Darke County, in the same State. Driven from his new home by the Indians, he returned to Butler County, where he remained until 1814. The Indian difficulties having then been satisfactorily adjusted, he returned to Darke County, and was prominently associated with its early settlement. His son, George W., grew to manhood in the woods of Ohio, amid circumstances not the most favorable to intellectual improvement, enjoying but few educational privileges. He was early instructed in the art of farming, and, as he grew older, accepted that occupation as his life-work.

In the spring of 1833, he was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Lipps, a native of Greenbrier County, Va., and, in the fall of the same year, came with his wife to Indiana, locating at Ft. Wayne, where he continued to reside three years, at the end of which time he located in Kosciusko County, on Turkey Creek Prairie, where he resided until 1839. In that year, he removed to Washington Township, and purchased a tract of woodland, from which he subsequently developed a fine farm.

He was a skillful and successful farmer. But few pause to consider what he endured to attain his success: the many months spent in anxious toil ere his farm could be made productive of the ordinary necessities of life; the strict economy necessary during the years of his pioneer life, and the severe physical exertions which reacted in later years; and what is true of him may be said with equal truth of all who come to a new settlement with the same purpose in view.

Throughout a long residence in the township, he sustained the reputation of an honorable and upright citizen, ever ready to lend aid to the needy, and always a hearty supporter of public enterprise. He gained a host of friends, and, throughout his life, maintained their love and confidence. He died November 2, 1871.

WILLIAM KIRKPATRICK, Tippecanoe Township.

William Kirkpatrick was born July 19, 1822, in Clark County, Ohio. His father, John Kirkpatrick, was born in Kentucky March 6, 1795, and emigrated with his parents to Ohio, in 1804. November 15, 1817, he married Jane Cowan, and, on the 17th day of August, 1826, he died, leaving six small children.

William received but a limited education, being thrown upon his own resources to a great extent, at an early age, and felt it his duty to labor for the good of the family and assist in their support. In September, 1836, he came with his mother to Kosciusko County, settling three miles southeast of Oswego, on a quarter-section of heavily-timbered land. They encountered many difficulties, and were unable to make any substantial improvements on their farm; their means became exhausted, and, after five years, they rented a farm, upon which they resided for seven years.

On the 18th day of February, 1847, the subject of this sketch was united in marriage with Miss Ann Pierce, in Madison County, Ohio. Her father, Moses Pierce, was born in Vermont December 8, 1796, and emigrated to New York in 1810, and thence to Clark County, Ohio, where, in 1819, he was married to Mary Cowan.

About one year after his marriage, Mr. Kirkpatrick removed to the farm which he now occupies, and where he has instituted many valuable improvements. He has been, throughout his life, an energetic and faithful laborer, and has been rewarded by the acquisition of a competence in worldly goods. His fine farm bears many evidences of his skill as a tiller of the soil, and marks him as one of the best farmers of that locality.

As a member of the Presbyterian Church, he has lived a consistent life, and, in all his dealings with his fellow-men, has proven himself one with whom honor is paramount on every occasion.

A kind Providence still grants him the companionship of his loving wife, who is a member of the same Church, and, like himself, a devout Christian. Their wedded life was blessed by nine children, three of whom are deceased.

DR. I. H. JENNINGS, Franklin Township.

Isaac H. Jennings was born February 6, 1808, in the State of New Jersey, and emigrated to Ohio with his parents at the age of two years, when that State was almost a wilderness. They settled near the present site of Waynesville, where the subject of this sketch was reared on a farm. He was educated at Oxford, and subsequently studied medicine at Cincinnati.

June 10, 1834, he was united in marriage with Miss Martha A. Halsey, in Springfield, Ohio. He was not satisfied with the medical profession, and, having heard flattering reports of the "Great West," determined to emigrate. Indiana was included in the territory designated by that title, and the "Wabash Country" was the El Dorado toward which a majority of the emigrants shaped their course. He sold his property, purchased a wagon and a span of colts, and, in the spring of 1835, started with his wife on the journey to Northern Indiana. They were two weeks on the road, at the end of which time they reached La Porte Prairie, where they stopped with a friend.

Impressed with the beauty of the country, the Doctor determined to purchase land there, and enter upon the business of stock-raising, but, when the land was finally offered for sale, the country was flooded with rich men from the East, who bought it at good prices, and he was disappointed. He then rented a large farm, and planted a crop of corn, but, in the following June, it was blighted by frost. He was well-nigh discouraged, but, hearing favorable reports from Kosciusko County, came hither to prospect for land during the following winter, and purchased 160 acres, and, in the midst of winter, made his way to his new purchase, through an almost trackless wilderness. He intended to erect a cabin, but was unable to accomplish his purpose. Discouraged, he determined to go still farther west, and started alone on horseback, passing through Chicago when it was a mere village; went through Illinois to Iowa, but found no more favorable location than that in Kosciusko County, and accordingly returned, sold his property, and started with his wife for the old home in Ohio, in May, 1836. After two weeks, they reached home, and he resumed the practice of medicine in Waynesville, where he remained until August, 1837. He then determined to try a second time to make a home in Indiana, and had a better appreciation than formerly of the discouragements they would be called upon to endure. He purchased two pairs of large oxen to haul his household goods, and a horse and carriage for his wife and two little children, and entered upon the weary journey, accompanied by his father and a hired man. A cabin had been previously erected by order of the Doctor, and, although a rude affair, indeed, it was hailed by a grateful party at the end of the long journey.

They endured the trials and hardships incident to their position; cleared a farm, raised crops, and linked their names with the history of the township.

Throughout the intervening period, Dr. Jennings has been a prominent and influential citizen. He has lived to witness the development of the locality where he first settled, and has always been a generous contributor to enterprises designed for the advancement of its interests. His energetic life has not been without a reward, and he is the possessor of a comfortable fortune. A man of firm principles and honor, he has gained many friends, and is highly esteemed by all who know him.

JONATHAN MOON.

BY COL. J. B. DODGE.

Jonathan Moon, one of the first settlers, and for years the leading merchant in this county, was born on the 10th day of September, 1811, near the town of Coleraine, in the County of Londonderry, in the extreme northern part of Ireland. His parents were of that hardy race, known as Scotch-Irish, a race that has made itself famous the world over, for its industry, intelligence and thrift, and the tenacity with which it clings to what its members believe to be right, and their undying opposition and hatred to what they believe to be wrong.

His opportunities for accquiring an education were somewhat limited during his boyhood, but were well-improved. One day, in the summer of 1834, he was in company with two of his cousins, and they were talking about the "country beyond the sea," when one of them made a proposition to leave the "Emerald Isle," and go to America. Jonathan, with that quick decision of character that always distinguished him, accepted it at once, and without going home for a change of clothes, but merely sending a "good bye" to the loved ones, embarked for this country, and landed in New York, after undergoing the usual experience of emigrants on board a sailing vessel, as that was before the days of steamers. He soon made his way to Mauch Chunk, Penn., and secured a situation as clerk in a store, in a small mining village near that place. Here his talent for business rapidly developed, and he gained experience that was invaluable to him afterward. Almost the first money he saved, he sent home to Ireland to his brother, now the Hon. George Moon, of Warsaw, to pay his expenses to this country. George came, and, in the fall of 1837, in company with their cousin Edward Archibald, formerly of Leesburg, now deceased, came to this State, and Jonathan and Archibald purchased a tract of land in Clay Township, and commenced to improve it. A short time after, Jonathan was so severely injured, by the caving-in of a well that they were digging on their farm, that it incapacitated him for labor on the farm.

In the spring of 1839, they went to Leesburg, and entered into business together, in the sale of goods, at which they were at once successful. The partnership was continued until the spring of 1843, when it was dissolved, and each of them continued in business in Leesburg, by himself. From this time on, until the end of his life, his business career was one of uninterrupted success. Having, as he well deserved, the entire confidence of every one that knew him, it was no wonder that he built up and retained a very large and lucrative business; and, with a larger field in which to exercise his powers for making money, it is hard to place a limit which he would not have reached, or a height to which he would not have aspired.

He was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca L. Ervin, daughter of Charles Ervin, one of the first settlers of this county, on the 21st day of March, 1841, and, at the time of his death, they had three children living —George J., now in business in Warsaw; John, now in Kansas, and Mary, now the wife of C. C. Miller, of Warsaw. Mr. Moon died in Leesburg, on the 2d day of September, 1855, in the prime of manhood, mourned by all who knew him. He was a large, fine-looking man, physically, an untiring worker at everything he undertook, always full of life and energy, one of the warmest and truest of friends, always ready and willing to aid and assist those who he was satisfied were worthy of assistance, and always ready to assist in every enterprise that was for the public good.

GEORGE ALLEN TIBBITTS.

BY COL. J. B. DODGE.

G. A. Tibbitts, the son of one of the earliest settlers of this county, was born March 16, 1842, in Clay Township, on the same farm that he now owns—his father having owned it before him and cleared it up. His father and mother were both natives of the State of New York. Both came to this State at an early day—his father, George W. Tibbitts, arriving in this county in 1836—and were married June 13, 1839, by "Uncle Peter Warner"—that old apostle of Methodism—in this county.

George A.'s grandfather, George W. Tibbitts, was a soldier in a New York regiment during the war of 1812; and his great-grandfather, Allen W. Tibbitts, was a soldier in a Massachusetts regiment during the Revolutionary war. His opportunities for acquiring an education were limited to