

occupation which his father had followed all his days. In 1853 he crossed the plains to California and on the journey met with many of the hardships which then befell so many travelers; the party was troubled with Indians, and had some horses stolen, but escaped themselves uninjured. On reaching California Mr. Pike engaged in mining in Yuba River and was quite successful. But after three years of life on the Pacific coast, one having been spent at work in a steam saw-mill, he returned to Sterling, Illinois. In 1850 he had been united in marriage to Caroline Claypole, and to them were born eight children: Eva M., wife of Jephthah Grove; Nettie, wife of Daniel Hall; Jane, wife of Jacob F. Hoop; Henry, Frank, Ovilla, wife of D. N. Crosby; Edward and Luella.

After his return from California Mr. Pike bought a farm near Sterling, Illinois, and resided there until 1868, when he emigrated to Iowa, and settled on his present farm of 120 acres. It was then wild prairie, but by perseverance and industry it has been converted into a fine, fertile farm. He had many hard experiences in his first settlement here and endured many privations, and his descendants may well be proud of his success.

Mrs. Pike died July 21, 1888.

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**F**RANCIS M. McPIKE was a veteran soldier in the war of the Rebellion, and as such deserves mention in this connection. He was born on a farm in Lawrence County, Indiana, in 1842, and is a son of James McPike, and one of a family of twelve children. His mother's maiden name was Nancy E. Dayton. The father died on his farm in Lawrence County, Indiana, in 1865, at the age of seventy-five years. He was a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal

Church, and a soldier in the war of 1812. He was very prosperous in his business and owned at the time of his health 500 acres of land in Lawrence County.

Francis M. McPike was reared to the occupation of a farmer, but at the age of eighteen years, when Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 troops to go to the defense of this nation, he abandoned agriculture and enlisted for three years' service in Company A, Twenty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Port Gibson, the sieges of Vicksburg, Jackson, Mississippi, and Blakely, Alabama. He was under fire in all about sixty-five times; he was wounded over the left eye with buck shot at the siege of Port Gibson in 1863. He was exposed a great deal during the time that he was in the service and contracted rheumatism, from which he has never recovered. He served out his term of enlistment and re-enlisted January 1, 1864, in the same regiment and company for three years more, and served until the end of the war, when he was mustered out and honorably discharged at Galveston, Texas, November 15, 1865. He then returned to Indiana and farmed in Boone County until 1874.

Mr. McPike was united in marriage in 1867 to Miss Martha Gullion, daughter of William and Mary E. (Young) Gullion. Two children have been born of this union: Myrta E. and Lillie A. Mr. McPike came to Page County, Iowa, and bought a homestead near Braddyville in 1883. Since 1874 he has been disabled from active work by rheumatism, but he was not granted a pension by the Government until 1882. Mrs. McPike died in June, 1887. In his political opinions Mr. McPike is a strong Republican. He passed his young manhood in the service of his country, and has an honorable record as a soldier and a citizen, and his descendants for genera-

tions will refer with pride to the military career of their revered ancestor. Mr. McPike is a member of Warren Post, No. 11, G. A. R., of Clarinda, Iowa.

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U. LYMER, ex-auditor of Page County, has been so prominently identified with its political history that a record of the leading citizens would not be complete without him. In order to learn something of his earlier history we will go back to the old "Keystone" State, where he first saw the light of day in Mercer County, April 13, 1811. His father, John Lytner, was, a son of Richard Lymer and a native of England; he married Elizabeth Jaquiss, also a native of England, and a daughter of Benjamin Jaquiss; these young people emigrated to America in 1843, and settled in Mercer County, Pennsylvania. The father was a potter by trade, but when he came to this country he learned cabinet-making, which he followed during the remainder of his life.

R. H. Lymer was reared to farm life and received his education in the common schools. In 1861 he began the study of medicine, but abandoned this work to go to the succor of his country; he enlisted in August, 1861, in the One Hundredth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, Company G, and in December, 1862, he was discharged on account of disability; after he recovered his health he re-enlisted in the One Hundred, and Thirty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, Company A, and served until the close of the war. He made a long and gallant fight in behalf of his nation's flag, and was twice wounded, first on James Island, and again at Fisher's Hill; this latter proved rather serious, as he lost his index finger and crippled his right hand; he did not leave the field at the time, but was afterward confined in the hospital. He

was in many decisive engagements, and was present at Lee's surrender, and then at the grand review in Washington. He was honorably discharged, and returned to his home in Pennsylvania to take up again the study of medicine. In March, 1866, he was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, the oldest institution of the kind in the United States. He practiced about one year with his old preceptor, Dr. George Bagnall, and then located at College Springs, Iowa; he remained there five years engaged in successful practice, but at the expiration of that period of time he abandoned the profession and embarked in the drug trade; this he continued until 1881, when he was elected auditor of the county. He has served four terms in succession, a record which speaks for itself and needs no further comment. He retired from the office in January, 1890.

Mr. Lytner was married in Mercer County, Pennsylvania, April 29, 1867, to Miss Sarah Bagnall, niece of Dr. George Bagnall and daughter of Charles and Anna (Ibbs) Bagnall, descendants of English ancestors. Eight children have been born of this union, one of whom died in infancy: Anna Elizabeth, Mary Agnes, who is engaged in the profession of teaching; Sarah Franceb, John Charles, George Henry, Sidona Jane and William Barker.

Mr. Lymer affiliates with the Republican party, and is a strong advocate of the principles of this party. He is a member of Warren Post, No. 11, G. A. R., serving as Commander. He belongs to Clarinda Lodge, No. 109, I. O. O. F. He and his wife and three daughters are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he has served as trustee of the society.

John Lymer and wife reared a family of five children, two sons and three daughters. The father died in the spring of 1869, and the