

COMMEMORATIVE
BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD

OF THE COUNTIES OF

HARRISON AND GARROLL, OHIO,

CONTAINING

Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative
Citizens, and of Many of the Early
Settled Families.

ILLUSTRATED.



CHICAGO :
J. H. BEERS & CO.
1891.

Miller, a native of Philadelphia, and of German ancestry. [See sketch of Charles J. Fox.]

William S. Fox spent his boyhood and young manhood on his father's farm, but from youth he was of a studious nature, constantly in pursuit of knowledge, and after finishing his course of study at the common district school of his native township entered Hopedale College, and graduated therefrom in 1860. He then returned to his father's residence, and was for a short time engaged as a teacher, but his health failed him somewhat, which obliged him to give it up. In search of health, he went, in 1863, to the Granville Water Cure, and in 1864 spent six months in Minnesota, receiving much benefit from the trip, and then returned to Harrison County. In 1876 he chose, as his life's companion, Miss Esther J. Moore, daughter of Jeremiah and Sarah (Evans) Moore, of Clearfield County, Penn., who died at Grampian Hills, Penn. William S. Fox and his bride came to Harrison County, and in the spring following their marriage, made their home five miles and a half from Cadiz, on the Cadiz and Harrisville pike, where they have since resided. The house into which they moved was an old one, having been erected in 1845, but in 1882 it was remodeled, and now, with the addition of a new barn, their home is one of the pleasantest in Short Creek Township. The farm consists of ninety-four acres, and is in a high state of cultivation. Here Mr. Fox has for the last few years given special attention to the culture of fish, possessing now one of the best ponds in the county, well stocked with carp. The pond itself is a perfect oval in shape, arranged with mathematical precision. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Fox: Mary Moore, John Francis and Erie Esther. In political affairs Mr. Fox has always taken an active part in the interest of the Republican party, with which he has ever in his politics been identified, and of which he is likely to remain a strong supporter. Those who represent the party in his community have never failed to look to him as the promoter of measures calculated to insure its

success. Religiously he is a member of the Hicksite Friends.

The confidence that the people of Short Creek Township repose in Mr. Fox, and the esteem in which he is held by the community, are shown by the fact that he has held nearly every position in the gift of the people in his township, having served as township trustee seven years; was elected justice of the peace, and continuously re-elected until he had served six years in that office; in 1880 he was land appraiser; he has served in the capacity of surveyor and engineer for fifteen years, having done the surveying and computing the work of the Cadiz & Harrisville Pike; he also for six years has been notary public, and is now serving his third term. For many years Mr. Fox has been one of the directors of the First National Bank of Cadiz. In addition to having won the confidence and respect of his fellow-citizens in more than an ordinary degree, Mr. Fox is in all respects a thoroughly-representative citizen of the county.

THEODORE W. SMITH, an enterprising young farmer of North Township, Harrison County, was born in Freeport, Harrison Co., Ohio, March 17, 1846, and is a son of Thomas Smith, a native of Ireland. John Smith, the father of Thomas, brought his family to America in 1818, and entered a tract of land from Gov. Hare, in Nottingham Township, Harrison Co., Ohio, where he passed from earth; his widow died at Deersville, Ohio, at the advanced age of ninety years. They were the parents of the following children: Thomas (the father of our subject), Robert, William and John, all deceased; Sarah, Mrs. F. T. Simonton, of Deersville, deceased, and an infant that died unnamed.

Thomas Smith passed the earlier part of his life on the home farm, sharing in the general duties pertaining to its care. As he approached his majority he went to Cadiz, Ohio, and entered the office of the *Republican*, where he learned the printing business, after which, in 1838, he paid a visit to Ireland for the purpose of securing

his bride, Miss Mary Hopkins, whom he married in Bride Street Church, Dublin, in conformity with an arrangement previously made by the parents on both sides. Returning to Cadiz, Mr. Smith entered into mercantile business, and thence he moved to Freeport, Ohio, where for twenty-five years he carried on a general store. This he sold in 1863 to James Clendenning, and removed to Leesville, Carroll Co., Ohio. He next bought the farm in North Township, Harrison County, where his son, Theodore W., now lives. Here he died on February 23, 1881, aged seventy-two years, having been born May 6, 1809; his widow was born August 27, 1813, and died June 5, 1882. They were the parents of six children, as follows: Joseph J., in Cleveland, Ohio; Robert H., who died in Pittsburgh, December 12, 1885; Edward A., killed by lightning on the farm of our subject; Theodore W., whose name heads this sketch; Alice J., who died in Leesville, unmarried, and Sarah E., deceased wife of M. Friesbaugh. Mrs. Mary (Hopkins) Smith, a lady of marked characteristics, sociable and possessing fine conversational powers, was educated in Dublin, Ireland. Just before her death she had made arrangements to visit her only brother, Abram Hopkins, a practicing physician in Canada, and the only member of the family besides herself that had come to America. He died in 1882, leaving a family, who are residents of Canada.

Theodore W. Smith was educated in the common schools of Harrison County, and assisted his father on the farm and in the mercantile business, but since coming to North Township he has followed agriculture. December 8, 1870, he married Miss Malila, daughter of James and Ann (McCarroll) English, and born in North Township, one and one-half miles from her present home. Here they resided one year, and then moved to Leesville, Carroll County, where, in company with his brother, Robert H., Mr. Smith was for four years engaged in mercantile pursuits; he then returned to his farm, which has ever since been his home. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been born

three children: Alice C., Charles S. and Anna L., all at home with their parents. This home was also shared by James Wilfred Smith, son of our subject's brother, Edward A., and born July 31, 1870. The mother of this young man died when he was but two years of age, and he was only nine years old when his father was killed by lightning. James Wilfred was a bright, intelligent young man, loved and respected by all, for his many virtues. After a lingering illness of three months he died, June 25, 1890, in the twentieth year of his age.

In politics Theodore W. Smith has always been a Republican. He has lived a temperate life, but is charitable almost beyond his ability. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, toward the support of which Mr. Smith also contributes liberally. Mr. Smith is a strong advocate for the education of the young, and believes that every man should think for himself. During the Civil War he was a member of the home organization formed for the checking of the John Morgan raid, and lost a horse while in Shackleford's army. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and enjoys the esteem of a wide circle of friends. His farm comprises 160 acres situated on the edge of Connotton, and his pleasant dwelling was erected in 1865.

JESSE B. CREW (deceased) was descended from an English family of Friends, his ancestors coming to America at an early day, and locating in Virginia. He was born in Charles City County, Va.; where his parents, Robert and Nancy (Torroll) Crew, belonged to Wayne-Oak Meeting. The father, being a man of fine intelligence, was clerk of the Yearly Meeting, also superintendent and instructor in a boarding school. The subject of this sketch was the sixth child in a family of twelve children, ten of whom grew to maturity. About 1831 there occurred a negro insurrection in their neighborhood, and the worthy Quakers,

received the rudiments of an education in the log school-house, furnished with split-log benches and desks. He wore home-made clothing, and often he watched his mother as she wove the cloth, and he has now at his home the old spinning wheel upon which his mother spun many a pound of yarn. This wheel he values highly as a keepsake—a memento of those early times. He was early thrown upon his own resources, and with his meager earnings assisted his mother in the support of the family. When sixteen years of age he engaged as a clerk in the store and post-office with Charles McKean at Bowerston, and here about five years of his life were spent; then embarking for himself in the sewing-machine trade, he followed this profitably for ten years. In 1882 he established himself in his present line, and is now one of Bowerston's leading business men. In 1871 Mr. Newell married Charlotte, daughter of Daniel Weyandt, an early settler of Bowerston, and this union has resulted in the birth of four sons and three daughters. Mr. and Mrs. Newell are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church; politically he is a staunch Republican. He is a charter member of Bowerston Council, No. 67, J. O. A. W., in which lodge he is a counselor; he is a charter and efficient member of Centennial Lodge, No. 94, K. of P., at Bowerston, and was chosen representative to the grand lodge two years. Mr. Newell is a public-spirited gentleman, and is highly respected.

SAMUEL B. MCGAVRAN, M. D. Among the able physicians of Harrison County whose lives are devoted to the benevolent work of alleviating the sufferings of humanity, none stands more prominent than Dr. McGavran. He was born near the town of Conotton, Harrison County, November 25, 1847, a son of William H. and Elizabeth (Brown) McGavran. His mother was a native of the Keystone State, of Irish descent. His father is a native of Maryland, whither his ancestry had come at an early day. He removed to Harrison

County, Ohio, about 1840, and carried on cabinet-making, and to some extent farming. In 1859 he was elected to the Ohio Legislature, from Harrison County, as a Republican, and was a member of that body at the opening of the great Rebellion of the South; he was also, for many years, a justice of the peace. To Mr. and Mrs. W. H. McGavran were born six children, viz.: James B., deceased; Henrietta, now Mrs. W. H. Masters, residing at Scio, Harrison County; George W., deceased; Samuel B.; Elizabeth, deceased wife of N. E. Clendennin; and William Thomas, now residing on the old home place, in North Township, Harrison County.

Samuel B. McGavran, from early boyhood, had to rely very much upon his own resources. Until the age of fourteen he attended the common schools, and later, for two years, New Hagerstown Academy, after which he taught school for five years, to obtain funds with which to take a collegiate course. He entered college at Scio, in Harrison County, reaching his senior year in 1869, when he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. William Beadle, at Scio, and continued his studies with him after his removal to Green Township. In 1870 he entered the Cleveland (Ohio) Medical College, graduating from there February 29, 1872. On account of his high standing in his examinations he was made valedictorian of a class of twenty-nine, and delivered the address. In June, 1874, he commenced the practice of his profession at Bowerston, Harrison County, where he was eminently successful, but being desirous of establishing himself in the chief town of the county, he removed to Cadiz, December 1, 1882, where he has since resided, and where he has built up a practice second to none in the county. The Doctor is a public-spirited citizen, always foremost in any enterprise for the benefit of town or county, whose interests and welfare are dear to his heart. In his practice he does a large amount of charitable work, and is a liberal man to the poor.

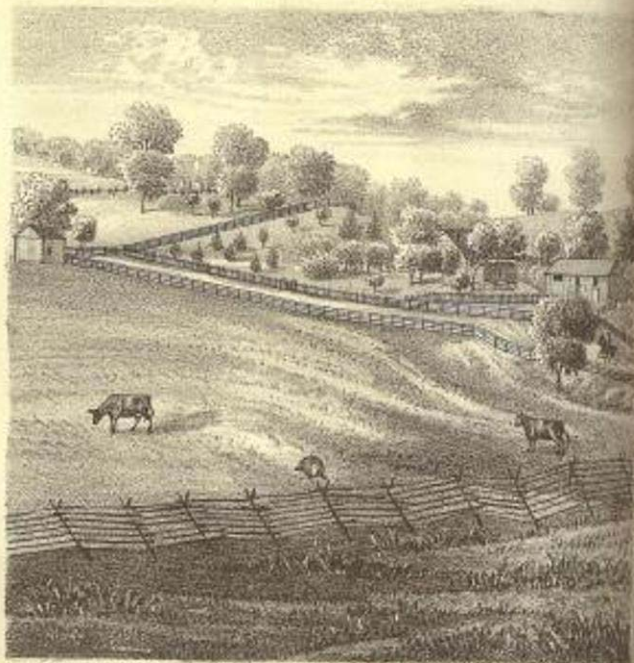
In August, 1872, Dr. McGavran was mar-

ried to Miss Jennie E. Johnston, of Carroll County, Ohio, who has borne him four children, viz.: Mary Brown, Charles William, Francis Johnston and George Clark. The parents are members of the Presbyterian Church at Cadiz, the Doctor being clerk of the session and a ruling elder. Politically, he is a Republican, and, while at Bowerston, was elected to represent the county in the State Legislature, running far ahead of his ticket in his township, and having in the county as large a majority as was ever cast in the county for that office. He was on many committees, and his work at all times was pronounced to be most satisfactory to his constituents, and highly creditable to himself. The Doctor is examining surgeon for the county pension board. In the positions which he has held, and as an experienced physician, Dr. McGavran enjoys the esteem, the respect and the confidence of all.

HENRY PETTY. The Petty family came west from the State of Virginia, where the ancestors settled about 1750, having come from England. There they engaged in agriculture, generally, though some took up various trades and professions. The head of the now resident family of Washington Township, Harrison Co., Ohio, was Leroy Petty, who, with his wife (Keziah Tipton), came to the county at its earliest settlement. They entered a quarter-section, on which they built their log cabin, and immediately set about clearing enough space to furnish a living. Here they struggled together until the death of Mrs. Petty, which occurred in 1853. She was the mother of five children: Henry, John, Mary Ann, Elizabeth and Martha. For his second wife Mr. Petty married Hannah Hogue, who bore him two children, Levi and Harriet. Mr. Petty was a Republican in politics, and took an active interest in the success of his principles as well as party. He was a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for over forty years, and was one of its most enthusiastic

workers. His influence on the community in which he resided was wonderfully beneficial, and every one felt proud of his acquaintance. August 31, 1882, he passed away; his widow still resides at West Chester, Ohio.

Henry Petty, the eldest son of Leroy Petty, was born November 11, 1835, in Washington Township, whose interests he was always seeking to advance during his residence there. Although deprived of an opportunity of receiving the advantages of an educational training, still, by his own efforts, he largely overcame those difficulties which so often are insurmountable to those who endeavor to attain learning by themselves. His was a diversified training, though running chiefly to economics and political questions. A Republican by birth, he soon was convinced by his own investigations that their principles were in accordance with reason, and for the best interests of the masses. In his native township he was ever active in the advancement of his party, and his advice in political matters was much sought after. On November 23, 1858, he was united in marriage with Sarah J., daughter of James Cree, and they immediately thereafter removed to the home place, where the family have since resided, and which they, by their own endeavors, purchased. Their children were as follows: James, born October 24, 1859, died December 26, 1860; Martha, born March 6, 1861, now Mrs. Addison Chandler; Leroy, born March 23, 1863, died October 5, 1864; Nancy, born September 1, 1865, married Patrick Owens, and who died October 19, 1886, leaving one child, Sadie, born September 22, 1883; William, born November 23, 1867, died June 1, 1888; Caroline, born December 15, 1870, died August 2, 1889; Joshua, born September 8, 1874; Carrie, born April 28, 1876, died May 15, 1878; Mary J., born October 12, 1878, died April 28, 1889. On February 27, 1881, Mr. Petty died, and was buried at West Chester. He was a man of sterling integrity, of irreproachable honesty, and one who by his daily life had endeared himself to a large circle of acquaintances. Like his family, he was a



RES. OF HON. WM. H. Mc GAVRAN
UNDERTAKER AND PATENTEE OF BURIAL APPARATUS.
GONNOTTON P. O., HARRISON CO. OHIO.

opening of this sketch. Dr. Crawford, in October, 1846, began his pastoral work in the Nottingham Presbyterian Church, which service the providence of God appeared to control and prosper for two score years until feebleness of health and infirmities of age compelled him to resign his onerous charge, which was then the largest and most prosperous rural congregation in eastern Ohio, numbering nearly 400 members, and about 130 families as parishioners, at the end of this long ministerial service. He received the academic degree of D. D., in 1867, from Franklin College. Dr. Crawford, from the age of sixteen years, and for fifty years onward, did not rest from constant study and laborious work, until he resigned his pastorate October 19, 1886, and after a short rest he entered upon home mission work again. Among his college companions were the Hon. John A. Bingham, of Cadiz, Ohio; Hon. Cowen, ex-United States Senator, of Pennsylvania; Hon. Joseph S. Fowler, ex-United States Senator, of Tennessee; the late Dr. William M. Grimes, of Steubenville, Ohio; Rev. Dr. William T. McAdam, of the United States Army; also the late Drs. W. T. and Samuel Findley; Drs. D. C. Irwin and Joseph R. Wilson, of North Carolina, who are members of the Southern General Assembly.

We further refer the reader for any more information of the life work of the subject of the foregoing record to two volumes of his writings, one published in 1887, of about 200 pages, titled, "Forty Years' Pastorate and Reminiscences of Rev. T. R. Crawford, D. D." and a former one called "A Historical Narrative," published in 1871. These contain a synopsis of an exceedingly busy life of one whom the late Rev. William M. Grimes, D. D., of Steubenville, Ohio (both alumni of the same college and class) said, in the course of an address made before a large assembly on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of Dr. Crawford, which was afterward published: "I met you, my brother, first either in the college hall or on the streets of Athens; and can it be that nearly half a century has passed away?"

My recollections of our past associations are only pleasant. Being close companions, and graduating in the same class, uniting with the church at the same sacramental season, we were at the Lord's table for the first time together. We were ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry by the same presbytery, and for more than twenty-five years were co-presbyters and neighbors, and now, I am proud to say, that in all these associations there never was a jar or bitter word between us. * * * I have watched your work as a minister of Jesus Christ with great interest and delight. We are the servants of God by appointment. There is a great necessity of divine appointment in order to the validity of the ministerial office. But no fears of the Divine sanction should haunt your bosom, my brother, seeing the Holy Ghost has set His seal in such a wonderful manner to your work." It will take much wisdom, religious forethought and conservatism on the part of the elders and successor to the pastorate to direct, under God, the future interests, unity and prosperity of so large a rural congregation and one so successful and influential in the Presbyterian order for nearly a half century.

WILLIAM H. MCGAVRAN, a resident of North Township, Harrison County, was born in Harford County, Md., March 3, 1812, and is a son of William McGavran, who was born on the same farm in 1768, and whose father, John McGavran, a native of Ireland, and a tailor by trade, settled in the colony of Maryland about the year 1755. He (John) was married to a Baptist lady named Margaret Hill, who bore him four children, named Mollie, Margaret, Mark and William. John McGavran died about 1770, at the age of thirty-three years, and his widow married a Mr. O'Daniel, and later died in Fayette County, Penn. The children were all reared in the Protestant faith.

William McGavran received a good educa-

tion for those early times, and became a teacher in the subscription schools, a vocation he followed several years; he was a fine penman, and the young people from all the region round about came to him to learn the art of chirography. He was also a land owner. On March 17, 1791, he married Miss Ann Thompson, a native of Harford County, Md., and daughter of Thomas Thompson. The young couple resided in Maryland until 1818, and then came to Springfield Township, Jefferson Co., now Lee Township, Carroll Co., Ohio, bought 160 acres of land in the woods, and here Mr. McGavran died in 1853, at the age of eighty-six years and nine months; his widow survived until 1863, when she died at the home of her son, in Columbiana County, Ohio, aged ninety-one years. Eleven children were born to them, as follows: Elizabeth, who married Thomas Magntogan, and afterward Benjamin Toland, and died at ninety-six years of age; Mary, wife of Charles Lucy, died at seventy-five, in Schuyler County, Ill.; Sarah, Mrs. Samuel Hill, died in Morgan County, Ohio; John, died in Columbiana County, Ohio; Martha, Mrs. John Mays, died in Illinois; Margaret, married to George Lucy, brother of Charles, died in Kentucky; Thomas, who married Margaret Brown, died in Colorado; Dilly Ann, died at the age of twenty-two, unmarried; Mark, who married Louisa Daniels, and died at Minneapolis; William H., the subject of this sketch; and Stephen, who died in Harrison County, Ohio.

William H. McGavran, the only one left of the above-named family, was six years of age when brought by his parents to Ohio. He became a very good scholar, and when sixteen years old he was apprenticed to a carpenter in Jefferson County, whom he served four years. He then traveled for a time and located in Minerva, Stark Co., Ohio, where he met with prosperity. In 1835 he married Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Hon. James Brown, from near Greensburg, Penn., and a few years later moved to Steubenville, Ohio, where he remained from the spring of 1841 to the fall of 1843, when he

sold his property and purchased a farm in North Township, Harrison Co., Ohio, which was improved. He continued to work at his trade of carpenter, and added cabinet-making and undertaking, making coffins by hand. In 1883 he left the farm in charge of his son, and with his wife took up his residence in Scio. To Mr. and Mrs. McGavran have been born six children, viz.: James B., deceased; Henrietta, wife of William H. H. Masters, of Scio; George W., deceased; S. B., a doctor in Cadiz, Ohio; Elizabeth Margaret, deceased wife of N. E. Clendennin, treasurer of Harrison County, Ohio, and William Thomas, on the home farm. Originally Mr. McGavran was a Whig, and voted for William H. Harrison for president in 1836 and 1840; in 1860 he voted for Abraham Lincoln, and has voted for every Republican nominee since. He served as postmaster under Pierce. In 1859 he was elected to represent his county in the State Legislature, and was serving when the Civil War broke out. James A. Garfield was at this time in the State Senate. For nine years before 1861 Mr. McGavran served as justice of the peace; for thirty-five years he has been a member of the I. O. O. F.; for ten years he was a member of the Baptist Church, and for the past thirty-eight years has been a member of the Church of the Disciples. His wife is a Presbyterian. Mr. McGavran helped to build the Pan Handle Railroad, and also Scio College, investing some money in each.

DAVID C. TOWNSEND. About the year 1812 Joseph Townsend, a native of Bucks County, Penn., emigrated with his family to Ohio and located near Harrisville. Three years later he was accidentally shot by a hunter. The eldest of his family of thirteen children was a son named David, who came to Ohio with his parents, and there married Catherine Cherry, and they resided on the original farm until their deaths in 1874 and 1872, respectively. They had reared a family of four sons and four daughters, of whom the