

which he moved his family in 1864. He was a sailor during the early part of his life, having made three different voyages around the world, while acting in that capacity. The old gentleman died during the same year in which his family moved to this state. The family remained together on the farm until 1873, when they removed to Savannah, the county seat of Andrew county. Here Homer, the subject of this sketch, was sent to school for a period of four years, after which he began the study of the law. Being in somewhat straitened circumstances, he taught school for two years and also contributed numerous articles to the various papers of the county, for the purpose of obtaining means for the prosecution of his studies. He also practiced law in the Lower Courts with an unusual degree of success. In 1879 he moved to Higginsville and assisted in establishing the *Lafayette County Advance*, the first and only newspaper published there. It is a staunch Democratic paper, very ably and profitably conducted by its young editor, who has the entire control and management of it. Although young in years and having been but a short time in the county, the youthful editor by his fertile brain and indomitable energy has contributed in a great measure, toward the progress and development of its resources. His "maiden vote" was recorded for Hancock and English. On the 22d of November, 1880, he led to the marriage altar, Miss Katie E. Houx, oldest daughter of Geo. Houx, one of the oldest citizens of Lafayette county:

JOSEPH R. MAJOR,

merchant, P. O. Higginsville. Was born in Wellington, this county, Jan. 8th, 1855. Is the son of Wm. B. Major and Prudence E. Warder, who were married in Lexington, Mo. In 1870 he went to Aullville and engaged in mercantile pursuits for two years at the expiration of which time he sold out his stock of goods and went into the grain business. In 1878, April 24th, he was united in marriage to Miss Anna Kellar, of Aullville. In 1880 he removed to Higginsville and opened a hotel, complete in all of its appointments. The town being then in its infancy and the business not meeting his expectation, he sold out and again embarked in the grocery business. Mr. Major is a man of ability and enterprise, courteous and obliging and thoroughly deserving of the liberal patronage of which he is the recipient.

MARK A. BRADY,

merchant, P. O. Higginsville. Is a native of Ireland; born in the Province of Ulster, Aug. 20th, 1837. Emigrated to the United States in 1857 and in 1860, returned to his native land, where he remained until the close of our Civil War. He then returned and settled for a time in Plainfield,

Indiana. June 7th, 1868, he was married to Miss Katie D. P. Taggard, by which union he had two children; one of whom is living: Hugh. The other, a girl, was four and one-half years of age at the time of her decease. Mrs. Brady died June 8th, 1871. Aug. 7th, 1878, Mr. Brady moved to this state and county, locating at Higginsville, where he now resides, engaged in the prosecution of a lucrative mercantile trade. He is an active and consistent member of the Catholic church, and also a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

OWEN V. THORNTON,

merchant, P. O. Higginsville. Was born in West Virginia, in 1844. Moved to Missouri in 1870. In 1872, he was married to Miss Rosa A. Loftus, of Saline county Missouri. They have two children living: George J. and Vincent L. In 1879, he moved to Higginsville, and in the fall of 1880, was elected principal of the high school of that place. He taught during the winter, and in the spring engaged in the mercantile business. Prof. Thornton has been a successful teacher of twelve years experience but he realizing the fact that a business life is much more independent and reliable, though not more honorable, determined to embrace the first good opportunity which presented itself of leaving the profession, and engaging in business. He has opened out a large and handsome stock of furniture, upholstering goods, carpets etc., which he is handling with profit to himself and satisfaction to others.

ROBERT CURTIS CARTER,

physician and surgeon, P. O. Higginsville. Was born in Henrico county Va., January 12, 1838. Moved to Missouri in 1849, and settled at Dover, this county, where he remained until the breaking out of the civil war. He then enlisted in the confederate service under Gen. Jo. Shelby. He was regularly sworn in at Waverly, in August 1862. He was engaged in the battles of Coon Creek, Newtonia and in all of the skirmishes incident to the march of Gen. Shelby, through Missouri, in his endeavor to form a junction with Gen. Raines. After the close of the war he returned to his old home in Missouri, and began the study of medicine; finally graduating from the medical department of the Old McDowell college, in 1868. He then returned to Dover, and began the practice of his profession, which he continued to follow there until the fall of 1874, when he removed to the northern part of the state and located in Gentry county, where he remained, still practicing medicine until March of 1880. He then returned to this county, and settled at Higginsville, where he now resides, the recipient of a large and lucrative practice. In 1868, he was united in marriage to Lenoir C. Campbell, oldest daughter of Capt. J. F. Campbell, one of the oldest settlers of this county. By this union they have four