

PORTRAIT AND  
BIOGRAPHICAL

ALBUM

—OF—

JOHNSON AND PAWNEE COUNTIES, NEBRASKA,

CONTAINING

Full Page Portraits and Biographical Sketches of Prominent  
and Representative Citizens of the County,

TOGETHER WITH

PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF ALL THE GOVERNORS OF THE STATE, AND  
OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

CHICAGO:

CHAPMAN BROTHERS.

1889.

is deceased. Mrs. Cathcart is the daughter of Nicholas and Frances Ficken, and was born in Missouri, Dec. 7, 1850, and until her marriage made her home with her parents.

When our subject emigrated to Nebraska from Illinois there were two parties besides himself, viz, his brother, William Cathcart, and a cousin, George Cathcart. They came together with two wagons and teams, bearing their worldly possessions, farm implements, cabin utensils, etc. The journey from Rock Island County, Ill., to this county occupied two weeks, but was filled with pleasing incidents en route. They erected a small frame dwelling, standing 14x16 feet, and constructed out of cotton-wood lumber. This with some slight additions served for himself and family until about four years ago, when he built his present residence.

Mr. Cathcart is an enthusiastic member of the G. A. R., at Talmage, and is at present filling the position of Sergeant Major of the post, and his wife is just as enthusiastic as a member of the Women's Relief Corps. Politically, our subject is a Republican, and as such is deeply interested in the questions from time to time before the people. He is serving his district as Moderator, and for a number of years was School Treasurer. His pleasant home with its neat and tasteful surroundings is shown on another page.

**HENRY W. JONES.** This gentleman has extensive stock interests, and is one of the enterprising and successful farmers of Nemaha Precinct. He particularly favors horses of the well-known and extensively used Hambletonian stock, and breeds among the best in the county. In previous years he has been quite active as a general farmer, but has been gradually retiring from that department. His farm, which adjoins the limits of Tecumseh, is one of the finest of the district, and until he sold part of his property on section 21 was also among the largest. A view of the place is shown on an accompanying page:

The history of Mr. Jones in this State dates from 1836. In that year he took a claim under the

Homestead Law in Helena Precinct, where he lived for about eighteen years, making all needed improvements, bringing the soil to a high state of cultivation, erecting an excellent house and the usual farm buildings. He has put out a fine grove of forest trees, and has planted an orchard that will compare favorably in point of quality and quantity of bearing with many much older properties. Part of the farm is carefully wired, and the remainder is supplied with a well-kept hedge by way of fencing.

Selling his first acquired property in 1881 for \$6,000, Mr. Jones bought the farm upon which he now makes his home, which overlooks Tecumseh, is within easy distance of the city, and offers a fine view of the surrounding country. All the buildings upon the farm, except the dwelling, have been built by our subject. He takes great pride in his farm, and is careful to have it equal to if not superior to those in the vicinity.

Henry W. Jones, the subject of this sketch, was born in Ross County, Ohio, on the 15th of December, 1838. Until he was sixteen years of age his home was made with his parents, who gave him the opportunity of obtaining a fair English education. At the end of that period he migrated to Illinois, and there alone in the world he started to make his fortune. He began by working on a farm in Logan County, Ill., and there continued for fourteen years. While thus employed he was married to Charrissa Shasteen. The union was celebrated on the 25th of March, 1858; there have been born to them four children, who are still living, and whose names are given as follows: Mary, Annie, Edward and James.

Until he came to this State our subject continued to live in Illinois. Since his settlement in Nebraska, however, he has made much progress in the work to which he set himself, and may fairly boast considerable progress. Usually he votes the Republican ticket, feeling more at home with the principles of that party than any other, and at all times ready to engage actively in its interests.

Of the children of our subject Mary is now Mrs. John Stollard, of this county, and is the mother of six children, whose names are as follows: Birdie, Henry, Milo, Wilber, Edward, and one who died in

## JOHNSON COUNTY.

349

childhood, named Clara. Annie is happily married to Henry Wakeman, of Tecumseh; they are the parents of four children, viz: Ralph, Bert, Allie and Jesse. Edward is in business in Lincoln, and James is at home. All have received good practical and business educations.

Clarrissa (Shasteen) Jones, the wife of our subject, was born in Ohio in the year 1844. Her father, Edward Shasteen, was a farmer. She was reared upon the home farm for the first eight years of her life, and then went to Illinois, residing at Irwin, Logan County, until the time of her marriage. Mr. Shasteen is still living, but has moved to this State, and is residing with his daughter in this county, his wife having died in the year 1867.

The father of our subject, Harris Jones, was also a native of Ohio. He followed farming and lived in Ross County until his death, which occurred on the Atlantic Ocean at the time our subject was six months old. He had started to visit England, but the boat upon which he took passage, owing to a storm, went down, with the loss of all on board excepting two only. His wife died in 1880, in Ross County, Ohio. Our subject was bound out and was away from home for sixteen years, during which time he acquired the knowledge of his trade.



**J**OHNS KERSHAW, a well-to-do farmer of Nemaha Precinct, has been engaged in the successful cultivation of 240 acres of fine farming land a number of years, and by his industry and enterprise has surrounded himself with all the comforts of life and many of its luxuries. His property is located on section 16, and besides his farm includes a handsome and substantial set of buildings, a goodly assortment of live stock, and the machinery necessary for carrying on agriculture in a profitable manner. He has been a resident of Nebraska since the spring of 1870, and is numbered among the leading citizens of Johnson County.

Our subject, of English ancestry, is the son of John Kershaw, Sr., who was born in England and when a small boy emigrated with his parents to America. They settled first in New York State, and

thence a few years later pushed on further westward into DuPage County, Ill. The father of our subject lived with his brother until ready to go upon a farm of his own, and became proprietor in due time of a tract of land in Dane County, Wis. He remained a resident of the Badger State until 1870, a period of nineteen years. In the spring of the year mentioned he came to this county and located upon the land which he had secured six years before. In the meantime he had been married to Miss Alice Lee, of Illinois, and a native of England, and to them were born five children, only four of whom are now living, and all residents of Nebraska.

After coming to this county the elder Kershaw put up a fine residence in Tecumseh, where he made his home until his death, which occurred Jan. 18, 1886. He was a man of more than ordinary capabilities, and prominent in the communities where he lived. In Wisconsin he officiated as Surveyor of Dane County and was also Treasurer of the School Board. His political sympathies were with the Democratic party, although he would not be confined to party lines, but aimed to support the men whom he considered best qualified for office.

Mrs. Alice (Lee) Kershaw, the mother of our subject, like her husband a native of England, was born in the city of Manchester, and came to America upon the same vessel which transported her future husband hither. The Lees settled first in Massachusetts, where they lived a period of fourteen years; thence they removed to Wisconsin. John Kershaw, Sr., and his wife began their wedded life together in Dane County, Wis., and there their son John, the subject of this sketch, was born Jan. 18, 1854. He was a youth of fourteen years when the family came to this State and completed his education in the schools of Tecumseh. When starting out for himself he secured a portion of the land which comprises his present homestead, and which he has now occupied for a period of ten years. The improvements which the passing traveler beholds to-day with interest have all been effected by the present proprietor. Many of the fields are divided with beautiful hedge fencing, which adds so greatly to the picturesqueness of the landscape, and Mr.