JAMES ADAMS was born in Martha's Vineyard, Mass., on the 21st of December, 1839. When he was but two years old his parents removed to Newburgh, Ohio, whence he came to Buffalo when he was ten years of age, and entered the employ of his uncle, Cyrus Athearn, in a tobacco factory, where he remained until 1854, when he bought and carried on the business himself. The factory was located in a building next to the present postoffice, on Washington street. Mr. Adams' present business office being upon the same site. During the war of the rebellion Mr. Adams took an active interest in the raising of troops for the army and otherwise assisting the Union cause. He became favorably known at that time to the Sanitary Commission, as one of the most charitable men in Buffalo towards any monster designed to aid and relieve the Union soldiers.

In 1864 he was appointed Quartermaster and stationed at Fort Porter, where he efficiently filled the responsible position. He went with the 115th Regiment to Maryland, but soon returned. Though never seeking public office, he was made one of the first Police Commissioners of the city, and rendered valuable assistance in the organization of the present police force. He was elected Alderman of the Ninth ward in the year 1879, and held the office two years, discharging its duties to the eminent satisfaction of his constituents. He was president of the Buffalo, New York & Philadelphia railroad, and president of the Buffalo Creek railroad, which he built. He has been president of the Buffalo & Jamestown railroad, and is now vice-president of the Brath Electric Light company.

In these various positions of trust and responsibility, Mr. Adams has developed and exhibited traits of character and business qualifications of a high order, and by the efficiency and integrity of his course, public and private, has gained the esteem of all with whom he has been associated.

Mr. Adams was married in the year 1852, to Miss Catharine Simon, daughter of Judolphus Simon, of Chautauqua county, N. Y. Three children have been born to them, George F. Adams was born June 12, 1853, and died from an injury in an elevator on the 12th of April, 1895. The oldest daughter is the wife of Dr. W. H. Heath, a physician in the Buffalo Marine Hospital. The younger daughter in Miss Jennie Adams.

Mr. Adams is now and has been for a number of years the senior member of the firm of Adams & Moulton, among the largest lumber dealers of Buffalo. He has been eminently successful in his business enterprises, and is still one of the most active and energetic men in the community.

STEPHEN GOODWIN AUGUST.—The father of the subject of this sketch was Joseph Augus- tin, of Suffield, Connecticut; his mother was Sarah Goodwin, daughter of Captain Goodwin, of Goshen, in the same State. Stephen Goodwin August was the youngest of three sons and was born on the 28th of October, 1871. His educational advantages were exceptionally good for that period, beginning with a preparatory course of studies at the academy in Westfield, Mass. In 1881 he entered as a freshman at Yale College, completed the full regular course and graduated with honor on the 13th of September, 1883, under the presidency of Dr. Dwight.
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Immediately after his graduation, Mr. Austin entered upon the study of the law in the office and under the guidance of Daniel W. Lewis, Esq., in Geneva, N. Y., where he remained until fully prepared for his profession. On the 17th of January, 1849, he received at the hands of Hon. Ambrose Spaugt, then Senior Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, a license to practice in (1849). He soon after left Geneva and removed to the then small village of Buffalo; (before the close of the year 1849) and began the practice of his profession. His license to practice in the Court of Chancery for the State of New York, was dated February 22, 1849—Kent, Chancellor.

At his time of Mr. Austin's removal to Buffalo, the project of constructing a safe harbor for the port, upon which the future commercial importance of the village so largely depended, with the desired object of making Buffalo the terminus of the projected Erie canal, was topics of anxious and exciting discussion. Their favorable decision meant the building of a great city at the foot of Lake Erie. That they would be favorably decided, Mr. Austin early foreknew, and this fact confirmed, if it did not originate, in his mind the determination to make Buffalo his permanent home; this determination was fulfilled by a long life of active usefulness in the city.

Mr. Austin, although possessing acknowledged ability, integrity and other qualifications that fit a man for public service, never sought political or other public offices; indeed, he repeatedly declined it, when solicited by his fellow citizens to accept high positions for which he was eminently qualified. The only office he held was that of Justice of the Peace, the duties of which he discharged, as he did all of his life-work, with fidelity and skillfulness.

In the year 1857, the degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon him by his Alma Mater.

In his profession Mr. Austin was characterized as a man of clear insight, a thorough knowledge of the law and its principles as applicable to any case in hand, and of careful judgment based upon close and generally accurate analysis. He possessed a mind of quick perception and intellect at once acute and active. These traits, supplemented by unfailing industry, unfaltering perseverance and the most thorough devotion to the interests of his clients, made him a formidable legal opponent, and secured for him an extensive and lucrative business. In later life much of his time and attention were devoted necessarily to the care of a large estate which had accumulated through judicious investment and excellent business acumen.

Mr. Austin's character was in all respects above reproach; he was at all times and in all places the perfect gentleman, kind and devoted in his domestic relations, an honored member of the elevated social circles in which he lived, and unanimously respected by the community at large.

On the 1st of October, 1849, Mr. Austin was married to Miss Lucretia Hard, daughter of Jane Hard, Esq., of Middleham, Cona., a niece that was in all respects an accomplished one. Four daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. Austin, one of whom died an infant, and a second at two years of age. A third daughter (Louisa) married W. F. Russell, of Philadelphia, and died in 1874. The other daughter is the wife of T. G. Avery, Esq., a well-known citizen of Buffalo. Mr. Austin's death occurred on the 10th of June, 1877.

DAVID S. BENNETT.—Among the citizens who have borne a prominent part in the commercial and political history of Buffalo, during the last quarter of a century, few have made more durable marks than the Hon. David S. Bennett. He came to the city in 1853, with a moderate capital and an excellent business training. Born and bred on a farm in the most fertile district of Onondaga county, within the town of Camillus, he owed to that wholesome, industrious country life the habits and the character which are at the bottom of so many success in the world. The vigorous blood of New England was in his veins, his father, James Bennett, having been a native of Connecticut, who emigrated westward into Central New York while a young man, and acquired, by his own thrift and energy, a more than comfortable estate in wellchosen lands. Of the large family which James Bennett reared, David was next to the youngest child, and the hardships which the pioneer father encountered had disappeared before he came upon the scene. He was well disciplined in industry, but not forcibly. As a boy, he had good opportunity for common school education and two years of study at the Onondaga Academy.

On reaching manhood, Mr. Bennett had two hundred acres of his father's farm made over to him, partly as a gift, anticipating his share of the inheritance, and partly to be paid for by his earn-
ings from it. He soon after marriæ Miss Harriet A. Burcham, daughter of Mr. Truman Burcham, of Bridgewater, Orange county, and made his settlement in life most happily complete.

For four or five years he continued the cultivation of his farm with success, meantime buying and selling other pieces of property with such judgment that his capital was considerably increased. The commercial instinct, in fact, was native and strong in Mr. Bennett, and naturally it led him, ere long, to withdraw from the pursuits of agriculture and to enter the more active avenues of trade. First in Syracuse and afterward in New York he established himself in the produce business, his elder brothers, James O. Bennett and Miles W. Bennett, then cashier of the Salmon Bank of Syracuse, being at different times interested and connected with him. Finally, in 1855, the operations of the New York firm, Bennett, Hall & Co., brought about his removal to Buffalo, where important transactions were carried on. Since that time Mr. Bennett has been among the leaders of enterprise in Buffalo, so far as concerns the great grain traffic of the lakes, the canal and the rail. One of the earliest of Mr. Bennett's undertakings in the city was the purchase of the Dort Elevator, which is believed to have been the very original, not only here, but in the world, of those warehouses with steam machinery, and with the endless belt and bucket conveyors for lifting grain from the holds of vessels, which have since become so common in American ports. A little later, in conjunction with the late George W. Till, he built an elevator on the Ohio Basin. Again, in partnership with Monett, A. Sherwood & Co., he erected another on Colt Slip, which was afterward burned. In 1862 he engaged, alone, in a far greater undertaking of the same kind, by commencing the construction of the Bennett Elevator, a huge and massive structure which cost, with its site, nearly a half million of dollars and which was not finished until 1866. The contiguous Union Elevator was also built by Mr. Bennett, and both, with a combined capacity for handling 20,000,000 bushels of grain per annum and storing 300,000 bushels, are still his property.

The singleness and energy which Mr. Bennett exhibited in business did not fail, in due time, to mark him for selection by his fellow citizens as one who might serve them usefully in public affairs. He had identified himself early with the Republican party and distinguished himself during the war for the Union by the eager and unmeasured liberality with which his wealth and his personal resources were devoted to the national cause. In the employment of volunteer officers and soldiers, in the maintenance of soldiers' families, and in contributions to every movement and organization by which the army was cheered and strengthened, he had expended more than a moderate fortune during the first years of the war. There were many reasons, therefore, for the spontaneous movement in the Republican party in 1865, which put him forward, quite against his inclination, as its candidate for the State Senate. He was elected by an overwhelming majority, and his service for two years in the Senate proved eminently satisfactory to his constituents. He gave special attention to the interests of the canals and urged strenuously a measure for the enlargement of the locks of the Erie and Oswego canals to pass boats of six hundred tons burden, forestalling the diversion of traffic that has since been brought about as a consequence of the inadequate capacity of the locks employed. But his efforts were defeated by the selfish jealousy of the districts interested in the lateral canals. Among the bills of most local importance which he carried through the Legislature was one reorganizing the police department of the city, another which founded the now flourishing State Normal School at Buffalo, and another which gave existence to the Reformatory for Boys established by Elder Hemen at Limestone Hill.

The close of his State senatorial term found Mr. Bennett without a rival in popularity at home, and his nomination for Congress in 1868 was a foregone conclusion. Again his election was triunphant, by a great majority, and he took his seat in the Forty-First Congress under auspices most flattering. Although a new member, he was assigned to an important place on the Committee on Commerce.

Convinced by his experience in the New York State Legislature that the State would undermine no sources of canal improvement liberal enough and vigorous enough to meet the pressing demands of commerce, and seeing how broadly national the question of cheap and adequate communication by water between the great lakes and the seaboard really is, Mr. Bennett boldly advanced the proposition that it should be the duty of the general government to enlarge the Erie and Oswego canals and to maintain them without toll, as free to navigation as the rivers of the continent. He introduced in Congress a bill to that end and found much readiness among the representatives of
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the West to give it support. The Committees on Commerce and Appropriation both signified their willingness to report the bill if the State of New York, by its Legislature, would indicate a disposition to accept her preferred aid. But the spirit of the New York Legislature was the spirit of the dog in the manger. It would do nothing for the canal on its own part; it would suffer no one else to do anything for them. And as it were left to fall into desuetude, their concern to do battle with, until even the despising policy of making them free will not win traffic for their decayed fleets. There are not many now who will dispute that Mr. Bennett surveyed the canal question in 1808, and in the after years while he presided-legislative-aligning policy, with more foresight into those who opposed and fought him down.

In the two years of Mr. Bennett's service in Congress he accomplished a number of important things—the authorizing of the construction of the International Bridge across Niagara river at Buffalo; the re-commission of the revenue cutters on the lakes, and the practical extension of the park system of Buffalo over the grounds of Fort Schuyler, among the rest.

Since his returns to private life, Mr. Bennett has occupied himself much with various important projects for the advancement of the commercial interests of Buffalo. In 1834 he was instrumental in organizing a company known as the "Buffalo Central Railway Company," for the purpose of establishing connections by rail through the city, and with its docks and warehouses, for the equal and common use of all railroads. His far-sighted plans were not carried out as he designed them to be, by an independent corporation, originating monopoly in the railway privileges of the city; but they have been realized by the New York Central and by the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroad companies, each securing for itself the great advantages which Mr. Bennett strove to open to all.

A canal under the Niagara river is another of the enterprises which Mr. Bennett has strive for years to obtain encouragement for among his fellow citizens, and time will most likely vindicate his judgment in that, as in various other matters of public policy; but the day has not yet come.

This sketch of Mr. Bennett cannot be closed more aptly than by the following extract from a biographical article that appeared not long since in the Buffalo Sunday Morning Times:

"It will be seen from this brief sketch of Mr. Bennett's career that he has been throughout life a man of infinite activity, showing market and many-versed capabilities. The quality which distinguishes his character more of all is the incomparable spirit of perseverance with which his plans are pursued. That is the real quality in human nature—perhaps more than any other—which matters most and things and dominates the circumstances of the world. Hot, headlong and obstinate energy is plentiful enough among men, and wrecks half good as often as it triumphs. But the patient, persistent, cumulative kind, which is generated from innumerable sources of invention and calculation and wears stronger by exercise—that is something much more rare. It is the quality which exhibits itself in Mr. Bennett in surprising degree. He is a man who will not turn—cannot he correct—very few purposes which he has once determinedly formed. To that which he has undertaken to do, being convinced that it is a right and useful thing to do, he is lustily pledged, by that he is a man of his word. If one path he sees closed he closes his back, and he goes another, but the effort on which he has once set his eye is never abandoned. He pushes toward it through all channels and crosscurrents, instilling with ardor, for abstracts to be made, he has perfect passion for the thing accomplished, and is impervious toward any variation of that which he has committed himself to. Mr. Bennett has confidence. He can bear much and do much in the face of adversity but not one sprig of hope or courage or change has ever seemed to be broken in him."

"That the undertakings of Mr. Bennett, both in public and private affairs have been gigantic, almost always, is undeniable. Events have vindicated his superior foresight and his shrewd appreciation of difficulties or of both. In these cases he has met with most antagonism and opposition, and regards the moral policy of the State, the municipal policy of our city in relation to its railways, and the general intercourse of our commerce, Mr. Bennett was far ahead of most men in discerning exigencies and tendencies which all can now recognize very early."

"It is inevitable that one so positive in character as Mr. Bennett, so active in progressive projects and so determined in pursuing them, will provoke animosity and raise enmities around him, will rankle in some of the minds of those who have promised much and attained little, and his strength will be the weakness of those who oppose him. His volume of work cannot be matched with his friends. The two opponents go together and cannot well exist apart. He who has no enemies can have no friends, is a maxim with which critics adopt among themselves. Mr. Bennett has few enemies and many friends, in a proportion which is flattering to him. If his enemies are sometimes bitter, his friends have warmed enough to more than meet them. In his own nature there is a want of kindness and geniality and generosity which kindles expressive feelings, and those who know him best, are the more of his daily life and how much of his time and care are given, with paralyzing consideration, to his serving and pleasing of other people, are sure to be the highest in their esteem."
PHILANDER BENNETT..."Philander Bennett, the father of Philander Bennett, was born in Stan- lisham, now Westport, Conn., and about the year 1795 was united in matrimony to Sarah Cable, a native of the neighboring town of Norwich. Shortly after their marriage they removed to Catskill, State of New York, where Philander was born on the 26th day of April 1825. They resided a few years at Catskill, and then moved to Clinton, Onondaga county, where Philander prepared for and entered Hamilton College, from which institution he graduated in the year 1846. In the next year that he left Clinton, with a companion by the name of Scribner, and proceeded across the Allegheny mountains in a covered wagon, containing a stock of goods, established himself in business with Scribner, at Delaware, Ohio. This enterprise not proving profitable as they antici- pated, they sold out the business, and Scribner, returning to the East, purchased a new stock of goods which he shipped by lake to Sandusky, where they had a store, but the vessel containing the goods, being driven by a storm upon the beach near Buffalo, they thought it best to dispose of the goods at that place; accordingly Mr. Bennett joined Scribner at Biffl's, where they resorted a store on the corner of Main and Eagle streets, and did business for two years under the firm name of Scribner & Bennett.

On the 15th of December, 1837, he married Henrietta, daughter of Nathaniel and Pamela Goddard, of Clinton, N. Y. In 1839, withdrawing from the mercantile firm, Mr. Bennett entered the law office of Henry B. Parke, then District Attorney of the county of Erie. In October, 1832, he was admitted as an attorney in the Supreme Court, and in February, 1840, became a counsel in the Court of Chancery. He was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1842. In 1850 he was, with Silas Wright, Jr., secretary of the State Convention which nominated Van Buren for Governor, and in the same year was nominated for state Senator, but the Democratic party being in the minority in his district, he suffered defeat. In 1859 he was a Justice of the Peace, and in the same year was appointed First Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for the county of Erie, which position he held by three successive appointments, until January, 1875, when on account of ill health, he resigned the office. Upon the death of Martin Chittenden, in 1852, he performed for several months the duties of Surrogate of the county of Erie. He was elected an Alderman of the city of Buffalo in 1842; was re-elected in 1855, and again in 1860 and 1874.

In 1861 Mr. Bennett was appointed by Gov. Clinton Judge Advocate of the 4th brigade of infantry, but in the latter part of his life was deeply interested in the anti-slavery cause, and upon the organization of the Republican party became one of its members.

He was for a short time president of the old City Bank of Buffalo, and for several years vice- president of the Buffalo & Amherst railroad company. Upon the visit of President Van Buren to the city of Buffalo, in 1842, he was made chairman of the committee of citizens appointed to receive the President, and upon his occasion delivered the address tendering to him the hospitality of the city. In 1842 he erected on the corner of Main and Pearl streets, the old nine-room mansion in which his widow now (1853) lives, and where may be seen the first marble mantles brought to this city. Mr. Bennett's father removed from Clinton to Williamsonville, in the country, in 1810, and resided there until 1838. They were members of the old Buffalo Land Company and as such, were largely interested in real estate in what is now the cities of Tonawanda and Cheektowaga.

Philander Bennett was for many years prominently identified with the interests and growth of the city of Buffalo, and was conspicuously known as a lawyer, a judge, a member of the City Council, and a business man generally. In all the winding lines of life his conduct was marked by notoriety for the feelings of others, and kindness and benevolence to those who might look to him for sympathy and aid. As a business man, in middle life, he was noted for his clear-sighted and ad- versary policy. The old mercantile firm of Means & Bennett, of which he was the senior member, was for many years the largest mercantile house west of Albany; and the building of the Buffalo & Amherst railroad, which was the last link in the chain of subways now forming the New York Central & Hudson River road, was mainly due to the enterprise, foresight and capital of some half dozen individuals, of whom he was one. For the last sixteen or seventeen years of his life he lived in quiet retirement, sometimes engaged in foreign travel, but mostly occupied with horticultural pur- suits, and in studies and reflections suited to an enlightened Christian and philosphical mind. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church.
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Judge Bennett was in height nearly six feet, of a fine erect bearing. His eyes were hazel and unusually bright and penetrating. He died July 22d, 1865.

He had four children: Griffin, who died at sea, on his passage from St. Croix to New York, March 14, 1847, in his 2nd year; Mary Jettie, who died June 11, 1859, and who married the late George Edward, who lives at the old homestead; and Charles, at 20.

MAURICE H. RIEGE, one of the leading business men of Buffalo, and a prominent manufacturer, was born on the 20th day of July, 1824. He is descended from hardy and heroic New England ancestors. His father was Elijah Riege, who was born in Lenox, Mass., and rendered his country valuable service in the war of 1812, dying in Underhill, Vt., at 73 years of age. David Riege, grandfather of M. H. Riege, was a native of Woodbury, Conn., born in 1743; he was a soldier in the war of the Revolution, and died at the age of 82 years, at Underhill, Vt.

The early life of the subject of the sketch was divided between hard labor as his father's farm in the town of Underhill, Chittenden County, Vt., and the common schools, supplemented by study at an unknown institution. Arrived at the age of thirteen years, the young man entered a store as clerk, in Middlebury, Vt. Here he rapidly acquired those correct business principles and laid the foundation of the thorough mercantile education that served him so well in later years, in the upbuilding of a great establishment.

Mr. Riege first began business for himself in dry goods and general store in Middlebury, Vt., in the year 1843. In August of the year 1854, he sold his interest in this store to his partner and came directly to the city of Buffalo, where he has ever since resided. In October of that year he began his business career of fifty years in this city, during which period he has by persistent energy and active enterprise, built up a cell-paper manufactory that is second to none in the country, the sale of the product of which forms one of the leading important mercantile interests of the city.

Mr. Riege has never sought nor held public office of any kind. His life has been eminently a practical one. Of a naturally retiring disposition, he has felt little ambition to appear before the world in any public capacity. His business reputation is one of which any one might well feel proud; his integrity and fairness have never been questioned; his judgment and foresight, as shown in the development of his extensive establishments, are remarkable, giving him a foremost position among the leading business men of the city.

Mr. Riege has been for many years a member of the First Presbyterian Church, where he commands the respect of the entire society; he is now an Elder in the church.

On the 31st of October, 1857, Mr. Riege was married to Elizabeth Ann Kingsey, daughter of Rev. Phineas Kingsey and wife of Shealon, Vt. Your children have been born to them: Julia F. Riege, Mary G. Riege, George S. Riege and Henry M. Riege. The three are both married, live in Buffalo and are engaged with their father in the manufacture and sale of wall papers. The daughters reside a home with their parents.

Although Mr. Riege has not occupied a station in life that has brought him very prominently before the public gaze, he has the satisfaction of knowing that he has acquired a reputation for integrity, enterprise, industry and general work as a man and a citizen of Buffalo, that cannot be questioned.

SAMUEL NELSON BRAYTON.—The ancestors of the subject of this sketch were New Eng- länd people who were descended from three brothers who came from England about the time of the arrival of the Pilgrims. These immigrants, like the majority of those who left the mother country in that early period, were tillers of the soil, and many of their descendants have followed the same honorable occupation. They settled in the Eastern States and from thence the family has spread west. The family has spread west. Among the descendants of the three early immigrants was Moses Brayton, who was born and reared upon a farm in Queensbury, Warren County, N. Y. He was the father of Samuel Nelson Brayton, of whom it is our purpose to write, and who was born at the parental homestead on the 22d of January, 1829.

The boyhood home life of the average American farmer's boy is worth the same, whatever the surrounding circumstances, as it mostly made up due attendance at public schools in which some portion of the summer was used with such work as he was capable of doing. This was the experience of the son of Moses Brayton until he was fourteen years old, when he was barmate
enough to be able to enter the High School at Lawrence, Mass., where he obtained a thorough classical education. Leaving this institution, Mr. Brayton proceeded to carry out his already formed resolution to enter the medical profession. To this end he entered the office of the late Dr. Walter Burham, of Lowell, Mass., as a student. His studies were supplemented by attendance upon a regular course of lectures in the College of Physicists and Surgeons, in the medical department of Columbia College, New York, where he graduated with honor in 1861. While attending lectures, Dr. Brayton was employed as physician and surgeon in a hospital on sixty-fifth street, New York, where opportunity was given him to put into practice his knowledge of his profession gained in office and college. In 1861 Dr. Brayton, appreciating the value and importance of the medical and surgical experience to be gained in the army and navy, entered the United States service as an assist- ant surgeon and was assigned to duty in the Boston Navy Yard. He was transferred thence to the United States frigate, Sabine, and subsequently to the ironclad Monticello, which served so conspicuously in the active operations of the navy for the suppression of the Rebellion. The vessel was one of the first sections of the war, among which was the destruction of the Neuse-ville, on the Pamlico river, one of the most formidable of the rebel gunboats. Dr. Brayton was on board of the Monticello during that engagement; he was also on duty during the eight months naval siege of Port Moultrie and Sumter, off Charleston Harbor.

At this time Dr. Brayton's impaired health, incident upon a long period of arduous and exhaus- ting service in the Southern climate, prompted him to a short period of rest. After three months' retirement from duty, he was detailed for service on the Pacific, on board the frigates, St. Mary's and Cyane where he remained two years. At the close of this period of duty and while plans were being consummated for joining a squadron on a cruise in the Mediterranean and other foreign waters, an attractive business opportunity was offered Dr. Brayton in New York city, and he resigned his position in the navy to accept it. He remained in New York one year, engaged in the drug and medicine business in connection with his professional practice, and then sold his business there and established himself at Hoosier Falls, Monroe county, N. Y. Here he was in active practice for ten years. At the end of this period Dr. Brayton felt that his varied experience and practice were worthy of a broader field; his ambition in this direction he gratified by a removal to the city of Buf- falo in 1877, where he formed a partnership with Dr. Elbridge Foster; this continued for one year, when Dr. Brayton succeeded to the business and has since practiced alone and with the most gratifying success.

Previous to his removal to Hoosier Falls, Dr. Brayton adhered to the Allopathic school of practice in which he was educated; but when he left New York he determined to adopt the Homoeo- pathic tenets. He has not, however, confined himself strictly to the newer school of medicine, but freely uses the remedies and follows the principles in medical practice that his studies and experience have taught him are best. He entertains no extreme views that might prevent him from testing every individual case according to what, in his opinion, seem to be its needs.

Dr. Brayton was advanced to an honorable and successful position in the profession in Buffalo; his connection with Dr. Foster gave him prominence, as well as to important professional engagements. The large practice enjoyed by his former partner has not only been kept up by Dr. Brayton, but has been greatly increased. Dr. Brayton was one of the incorporators of the Buffalo College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1879, and has been a member of the Faculty since the establishment of the Institution, as Professor of "Theory and Practice of Medicine." In 1881 Dr. Brayton was promoted to the rank of Dean of the College, which position he still occupies.

In addition to the duties incumbent upon his college office, Dr. Brayton has editorial charge of the "Physician's and Surgeon's Journal," a monthly journal of medicine and surgery, which is the organ of the homoeopathic of this vicinity. The journal is now in its fourth volume and its pages show that its editor is as successful in that sphere as in the other branches of labor to which he has been called.

Dr. Brayton was married to Miss Frances Huydp, of Hoosier Falls, in 1856. Personally, Dr. Brayton is a man of engaging manners, imposing presence and magnetic temperament, which favorably impress those with whom he comes in contact; he possesses a robust and vigorous physique and a countenance that shows marked traits of character. He is unassuming and unemotional in his profession, which he loves for its own sake, and in which he has already attained a most enviable position.
ALEXANDER BRUSH.—Alexander Brush was born in a brick hamlet called Brushland, in the town of Bolton, Delaware County, N. Y., on the 8th of February, 1824. He was the third son and fourth child of a family of ten children belonging to Isaac Brush and his wife, whose names before her marriage was Heather Cushing; she was from Dutchess County, N. Y. The Brush family are of Scotch ancestry, and Alexander Brush, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, emigrated from New England and settled in Delaware county, where he became a well-to-do farmer, erected a grist-mill and saw-mill and became a prominent man in his vicinity. The settlement that grew up around him was called "Brushland." In his honor, he had three sons. Joel, Jacob and Alexander, the second of whom was the father of the present Alexander Brush, of whom we are writing. Jacob Brush removed from Brushland to Lebanon, Columbia County, N. Y., in 1827, where he remained several years, and again removed, to settle in Knox, Wayne County, N. Y., purchasing about six hundred acres of unimproved land. At the age of this last removed the subject of this sketch was eleven years old. His boyhood was passed in a manner not essentially different from that of most farmers' boys of that period; he worked hard at home on the farm about nine months of each year, attending a district school the other three months. Such was the life that occupied many of the youth of the early years of this century, who allowed pleasure by it in some of the walks of life. Soon after the family were settled in Wayne county, Jacob Brush died, leaving his widow with ten minor children to care for, and a farm of six hundred acres had partly paid for. It was not a very encouraging outlook for the family; but the mother was possessed of the qualities necessary to carry the family successfully through their time of trial. She undertook the management of the farm, placed her sons out to work when they were not needed at home, their earnings helping to accomplish the releases from debt.

The probably of the farm of six hundred acres was found to be too heavy a burden for the family, after the death of its head, and according to was sold and a smaller one bought in the adjoining town of Oxford, where the family remained until the autumn of 1831, when they removed to Buffalo. In 1833, when Mr. Brush was twenty years old, he established himself in the brick-making business in Buffalo. This he has carried on ever since, in connection with his brothers, increasing in largely and extending it from the primitive manner of manufacture at that time to the use of all the later improved appliances. Alexander and William C. Brush have been connected in this business a period of nearly forty years, and are now among the most extensive brick-makers in New York, manufacturing now from 15,000 to 20,000,000 per year.

Nowhere did Mr. Brush's has been as consistently united with political pursuits, he has frequently been called by his fellow citizens to the discharge of official duties. Mr. Brush, in the late campaign of 1848, when Henry Clay ran as the Whig candidate and Buchanan for President for the last time. Upon the formation of the Republican party Mr. Brush became one of its earliest supporters and active workers. He was elected to the office of Alderman from the Third ward, as a Republican, in 1850, at the same time that Lincoln was first chosen President. He was re-elected in 1855 and again in 1857, serving three full terms of two years each, and rendering faithful and efficient service as a member of the Common Council.

Without any subscription on his part his name was presented to the Convention in 1857 for the office of State Commissioner. He was nominated and elected. As an evidence of his popularity, it may be said that Mr. Brush and Joseph Hall, who was elected Overseer of the Poor, were the only Republicans elected on the ticket that Democrats withdrew.
Alexander Brush
Before the expiration of his term as Street Commissioner, Mr. Brush was nominated for Mayor by the Republican Convention of 1869. To his knowledge his name had not been mentioned in connection with the office before the meeting of the convention, but he was nominated with great unanimity and upon a teeming of the results, Mr. Brush determined to go before the convention and decline the nomination. He was met on his way thither by some friends, however, who persuaded him to wait and decline to the city committee, to avoid embarrassing the convention. The delay gave time for other persuasions, and he finally, with great reluctance, consented to run. His opponent was Mr. Thomas Clox, a man of great wealth and wide popularity, and notwithstanding it was a year of Democratic victory, six of the ten city officers being chosen from that party, Mr. Brush was elected by a handsome majority, although Mr. Clark was under the impression until nearly daylight of the day after election that he had been successful.

In 1871 the local Democratic leaders procured the passage of a new charter for Buffalo, dividing the city into twenty-six wards and providing for charter elections in the spring instead of on the same day as the state elections. The persons then in office were continued until the spring of 1872. None of the provisions of this charter were so distasteful to the people that there was a popular demand for its speedy repeal—so much so that the question was made an issue at the election for State officers and members of the Legislature in the fall of 1871. Upon the assembling of the Legislature, among the first bills introduced was one to repeal the new charter and re-enact the old one substantially, providing for a special election to be held in February to choose city officers for the ensuing two years. At this election Mr. Brush was re-nominated for the office of Mayor, by acclamation, and elected by a sweeping majority, carrying with him every candidate on his ticket, a thing that had not occurred before in many years.

At the expiration of his second term, Mr. Brush peremptorily declined to be a candidate for re-election, and retired, as he supposed, although than in the prime of life, to the care and management of his private business. But political parties, like individuals, have exigencies, and one of these occurred to the Republican party in 1875, six years after Mr. Brush had retired from official life. The exigency was a suitable hand to the municipal ticket. The fitness and availability of a man of prominence was discussed, but none seemed to fill the bill like Alexander Brush. And so when the convention was held he was again nominated for the high office, through greatly against his wishes, he begged his friends to release him from the candidacy, but the fear of defeat with any other nominee, prevailed upon them yielding to his solicitations.

His administration of the office has not been noted for any aggressive or radical efforts at reform, yet it was always characterized by that conservatism which is generally in the interest of the people. He managed public affairs as he did his private concerns, upon business principles. There was no effort at public display or to seek popular approval, but his aim appeared always to be to accomplish the greatest good for the greatest number.

Mr. Brush acquired a skill in administration which stands almost without a parallel in Buffalo, for his popularity with the masses never suffered from any official act of his as Mayor. Few men have passed through such official ordeal with cleaner skirts. Fourteen of the twenty-one years since the Republican party came into power he has been in office—six as Altemas, two as Street Commissioner and six as Mayor, and no suspicion of wrongdoing on his part is ever entertained by any one. This is a gratifying tribute in these days of official malfeasance and derelictions in the public service.

In April, 1865, Mr. Brush was married to Louisa Bucklin, of Titusville, Pa. The honeymoon had scarcely passed when his home was turned into a house of mourning. The young wife died in less than a year after marriage. In 1866 Mr. Brush was married to Mrs. Sarah A. Lozier, daughter of D. S. Warner, of South Wales in this county. He never has been blessed with children.

Mr. Brush was brought up in the Methodist faith, although he has never been a communicant of any church. His ancestors were Methodists as far back as he has any recollection or knowledge.

Mr. Brush is literally a self-made man, for all achievements are dependent upon his own exertions. The death of his father when he was a young lad and the subsequent care of the family by a widower-aunt, left the children to their own resources, and they became contributors to the needs of the family rather than beneficiaries from its resources. His educational opportunities were limited. A few weeks in the winter at a country school house two miles away, was all that was afforded in his younger days. His education was continued by one term in No. 5 or the city, a luxury which
be appreciated and regarded as the best part of his school life. But his good sense and practical knowledge have served him much better than a classical education would many persons.

BRYANT BURWELL was born in Russia, Herkimer county, N. Y., August 26, 1836. After graduating at the Medical College of the State University in 1863, and in Philadelphia in 1866-'71. In 1854 he formed a partnership in Buffalo with Dr. Cyrenius Chapin, where he continued to practice his profession until his death.

Dr. Burwell attained the foremost rank as a physician, and some felt more strongly than he the esprit de corps of the profession. He was prominent in the County, State and National Medical Societies and Associations. He was ever active in measures to advance the science and promote the honor and interests of his profession.

He was a man of warm sympathy, and his benevolent nature made him the special friend of the poor and needy, who ever commanded his gratuitous services. Enrolled with an eminent social nature, his home was the centre of a genial hospitality. He was twice married. On the 18th day of September, 1857, he married Anna Clark, of Newport, N. Y. The children of that marriage were Dr. George N. Burwell, Mrs. Esther A. Glennon and Mrs. Anna C. Rathbone. Mrs. Burwell died on the 14th day of September, 1888. On the 6th day of February, 1845, he married Mrs. Clara, widow of Joseph Clark, Esq., who was one of the pioneers of Buffalo and an eminent lawyer and citizen.

Dr. Burwell died on the 6th of September, 1861.

JOHN WHIPPLE CLARK was born on the 24th of June, 1793, in the village of Newport, Herkimer county, N. Y. His father, Stephen Clark, and his mother, Esther Whipple, were originally from Rhode Island.

Dr. Clark became a resident of the village of "Buffalo", as early as February, 1823. He drove alone in his cutter from his home in Newport, reaching Buffalo after near days of constant driving, but without accident or noticeable detention. Just before sunset on one of the last days of February, he crossed the hill between what are now North and Allen streets, which overlooked the then small, quiet village lying on the border of the lake.

He drove slowly down the road through the village to the corner of Main street and the "Terrace." This was then a precipitous bluff, on the brow of which, to the left, stood Landon's Tavern, now the Mansion House.

Here he stopped for a long look at the lake, the Canada shore beyond, and of "the falls," lying between the Terrace and the Big Buffalo creek. Then turning around he drove back up the road in search of a good place to stop for the night.

On coming down he had noticed a very comfortable looking country tavern, with its barn in the rear, and in the barn-yard a large stack of hay. The place struck him then as a comfortable one "for man and beast," and to it he now drove to seek lodgings for the night.

He found the proprietor to be "Deacon Goodell," of honest fame, who, besides his "tavern" over the nine bars in the rear of it. The house, or "tavern," was on the spot now occupied by the residence of Hon. Elbridge G. Speckling. Dr. Clark has been heard often to speak of the comfortable kitchen, and the generous supper given for him that night by Mrs. Goodell.

Dr. Clark had gone through the regular curriculum of the study of medicine, and had graduated in 1828 at the medical school,—then famous throughout New York,—situated in the town of Fairfield, at that six or seven miles from his father's home.

He came to Buffalo in the fall that it was some days before a place of importance. It had already become a curiosity that the Erie Canal—"Clinton's ditch,"—would be eventually finished through to Buffalo, and the attention of entreprenuing young men throughout the State was being directed to this then frontier town. He came to settle in the practice of his profession, and he was not long in making arrangements for a co-partnership with Dr. Cyrenius Chapin, then a leading physician of the village, and, indeed, of the entire country about it, including that part of Canada bordering on the Niagara river.

Settled a few miles to the east of the village was the tribe of Seneca Indians. The Indians were great friends of Dr. Chapin and soon became friends also of Dr. Clark. His professional experience with them was very interesting, as he knew personally all their chiefs and great men,
as Red Jacket, Young King, Core Planite, Farmer's Brother, Daniel Two Guns, etc. Once, when on a professional visit to the family of Red Jacket, his wife told the doctor he was not sufficient protected from the cold and a light rain which at the time was falling. She got off her blanket and insisted that he should wear it home. She fastened it closely over his shoulders and around him, as it fell in graceful folds over his person (he being on horseback) it completely protected him during his slow and tedious return, by trail, along the numerous windings of the Big Buffalo creek. Dr. Clark could have lived a lifetime neighbour to these wild tribes of the forest without once having a misunderstanding, much less a quarrel with them; such was his thoughtfulness and forbearance for them, and his conveying kindness towards them.

But before his last year in Buffalo was past, with the same foresight that originally induced him to seek his fortune in Buffalo, he relinquished the practice of his profession for the quaker, larger results of a business life. He then turned all his attention and efforts to the development of the interests of the already rapidly growing village.

The next fifteen years of his life were very busy ones, for in addition to his large private business, he undertook the direction of public affairs. In 1820 he was chosen one of the treasurers of the village, which office he held also in 1821 and 1822—previous to its becoming a city. In 1821 he was elected one of the Aldermen from the First Ward of that year.

He had no venturesome project save very large landed interests in the southeastern part of the city, and in the organization of this territory, then mostly farming lands, he was especially prominent; he did most of the planning and laying out and naming of the streets and canals, and the names he gave are without exception those in use at this day.

These were bright, happy days for the citizens of Buffalo. Emigration set in largely to the village, as well as through it to the Western Reserve of Ohio and to the wilds of Michigan. Some venturousome people went as far west as the States of Indiana and Illinois; and Chicago was then just beginning to be spoken of as a 'growing place.'

Entire communities, cities and towns shared in the general but fictitious prosperity of the time. Buffalo, as a great center of commerce and trade, as the junction of the Great Erie Canal and the Lakes, became the seat of a great speculations, and affairs of white went on swimmingly. Buffalos all became rich on paper and in "tomorrow." It used to be jokingly said that a man not worth $20,000 was a candidate for the poor-house.

Dr. Clark shared in the general prosperity, and was considered one of the wealthiest men in Buffalo. But a great reverse came upon the city in 1837, '78 and '93, utterly prostrating financially, nearly the entire population of the city. Dr. Clark felt with the rest.

The next five years of his life were devoted to the saving if possible of something from the wreck of his estate, and by the generous assistance of a friend in the East he was enabled to save a moderate competency, on which he afterwards lived a very quiet and retired life. He never was sufficiently repaid for this by a naturally feeble constitution, rendered more feeble by his woes and struggles with his disappointments. He was of a tender make and of a highly sensitive and nervous character. A large generosity marked all his dealings with his family and friends, and his thoughtful devotion to them was something exceptional. His ideas were definite, his conclusions quickly arrived at, his hold upon them most tenacious; and his expressions of opinion were always most clear, positive and emphatic.

In spite of the great depression that later in 1837, his faith in the destiny of Buffalo was supreme and he never wavered in that belief. To be sure, "I seem to have anticipated largely," he would say in his latter days, "but it will come," and if it came, if not within his life-time, certainly within the eleven years since his death. Even his "South Chaird," as he was called by his newspaper, will one day become an accomplished fact.

Dr. Clark was very fond of science and of books. He took a lead in the early days of Buffalo, in founding and liberally sustaining schools and societies of learning. Miss Denniston—afterwards Mrs. Joseph Dart—opened a school for girls which entitled his active interest and support.

He was foremost in the village circles in getting up courses of scientific lectures. He was one of the most active supporters of the "Buffalo Lyceum," the immediate predecessor of the "Young Men's Association." Of the first organization of the latter enterprise, he was one of the largest. To all these objects his time and personal efforts were most liberally given, and his purse most freely opened. He was also an active Mason, and the lodge of that day, on its disbursing in 1837, was largely his debtor.
His habit was to head the subscriptions for objects desired and then himself personally to circulate them. All this was in his younger and more prosperous days. Later in life he was limited in his activities by his great delicacy of constitution. This delicacy increased upon him with his years, and finally required of him, to make "life worth living," the most constant care in the regulation of his habits and a total avoidance of all unwholesome excesses of business.

Dr. Clark never married, but found always a comfortable home with a cordial sister as long as she lived, and afterwards with a daughter and her husband, where he was always made most welcome and in his invalid age cared for with all the considerate kindness of a brother and son. Dr. Clark was ever most liberal and considerate toward the beliefs and religious convictions of others. He died November 29, 1879, in the congregation of the Episcopal Church.

THOMAS CLARK.—About fifty years ago Mr. James Clark came from England to America, to

prosper. He was a most enterprising young man, and did not fail in the new world the means to give him all a start in life. Leaving his family in their native place until he could provide them a home on this side of the Atlantic, he made the then somewhat perilous voyage in a sailing vessel. He had been bred to the trade of a miller, and he had no idea in finding employment of this character as soon as he reached America. In due time his earnings and savings justified him in writing for his family to join him. Funds were sent to bear the expense of the trip, and the voyage was begun and prosecuted with all the slight anticipations that might be expected in the hope of a speedy reunion in a long-sought, loving family. But little did the wife and children apprehend the sorrowful disapp

ointment that awaited them. Little did they apprehend that the cherished reunion would never occur. Mr. Clark was accidentally killed before the arrival of his family. He was employed in a mill at Troy, N. Y., and in some way was drawn into a bin of grain and smothered before he could be rescued.

The family were in circumstances, and were left to depend upon their own resources. After a brief stay in the eastern part of the State, they came to Western New York, and settled upon a farm in Perry, Wyoming county. By hard work and frugal economy they were enabled to gain the means of a substantial living among good neighbors. One of the last injections of the father before parting with his family was whatever might be left him to have the children educated. In the fulfillment of this trust the widow made many sacrifices to give her offspring an opportunity to attend school.

Thomas Clark was one of the sons of this widowed mother, and he was eleven years old when his family came to this country. He was born at Hull, England, on the 29th of September, 1814, and came to America in 1824. He remained on the Perry farm until he was nineteen years old, or wrought for other farmers in the neighborhood for the stinted wages that were paid farm hands in those primitive days. His schooling was limited to portions of each year in district schools, but he made for none of his opportunities. At the age of nineteen Mr. Clark started out for himself, first going to Oswego, where he found employment for a short time, and then he went to Canandaigua and made his engagement with the forwarding and commission house of Hastings & Field, at thirteen dollars per month. His attention to business and filial disposition of his duties soon gained him the confidence of his employers, and he was promoted to position with the growing firm. In that time he became the confidential man of the establishment, and was entrusted with much of the management of its business. In this capacity he frequently visited Buffalo, and thereby formed a favorable opinion of this city as a promising business point.

After a connection with the house of Hastings & Field of about five years, Mr. Clark came to Buffalo in the autumn of 1872, and first engaged in the distilling business in connection with Honus Williams, in a small building on Ohio Street. The business was carried on under the firm name of Clark & Williams. Mr. Williams was succeeded by B. F. Brown, and the firm was then Brown & Brown. The new concern established a distillery on Elk street near Chicago street, and enlarged their business, but the establishment was soon destroyed by fire. In 1874 the Seneca street distillery, that is still in operation, was established. Upon the death of Mr. Brown, Mr. Clark continued the business in his own name. About the same time the premises at the corner of Washington and