

BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD

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THIS VOLUME CONTAINS

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OF

LEADING CITIZENS

OF

OAKLAND COUNTY

MICHIGAN

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“Biography is the only true history.”—Emerson

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to the country and in 1860 purchased the farm his son now operates. In 1888 he retired from active farm work. Mr. and Mrs. Williamson are among the most highly esteemed residents of Bloomfield township. While he prefers to be bound by no political party lines, he was an admirer of the character of the late President McKinley and cast his vote for him in both presidential campaigns. Both he and his wife belong to the Church of England. They reared a family of five children, as follows: Eimer, of Avon township, Oakland County; Louisa, wife of William Kimble, of Avon township, Oakland County; Laura, wife of Fred Kemp, of Pontiac; Frank, deceased; and William H.

The subject of this sketch is the youngest of his parents' children. He was educated in the public schools and has spent the greater part of his life in this section, variously engaged as drover, wool buyer and stockman and is probably one of the best posted men on these subjects in this section of the State. He is not only one of the most prominent agriculturists, but he is also well known in other lines and is financially interested in various enterprises. He is vice-president of the Monitor Insurance Company, has been its acting president for the past eight months and is a director and a stockholder in the Oakland Telephone Company.

In 1888 Mr. Williamson was united in marriage with Nettie Heath, who was born in 1867, in Millford township, Oakland County, and is a daughter of Frank and Louisa (Speller) Heath, natives of New York. Four children have been born to this union: Florence, Mark, Celia and Frank. Fraternally Mr. Williamson belongs to the Knights of Pythias, and is also a Granger and a Mason. Like his father, he prefers to be independent in politics.

DANIEL KIMBLE.

DANIEL KIMBLE, who resides in section 4, Bloomfield township, has been a resident of Oakland County continuously since 1845 and is one of its most substantial and influential agriculturists. He was born in Chili, New York, November 6, 1822, and is a son of Caleb and Azuba (Scott) Kimble.

Caleb Kimble was born in New Jersey April 17, 1785, and died December

30, 1847, in his 63rd year. He was a farmer by occupation and came to Oakland County in 1845, dying in Orion township, where he had lived for a short time previous. His wife, Azuba Scott, was born in Monroe County, New York, May 17, 1791, and died April 2, 1870, at the age of 79 years. Both were members of the Baptist Church. They were parents of 11 children, as follows: Guity, born September 25, 1811, deceased; William, born February 20, 1813, deceased; Lida, born May 9, 1816, who died December 24, 1822; Isaac, born January 9, 1818, who died about 1834; Susan, born October 9, 1820, deceased; Daniel, the subject of this sketch; George, born October 13, 1824; Elizabeth, born July 5, 1826, who is the wife of John Bailey, of Macomb County, Michigan; Martin, born October 17, 1830, who lives in Fenton, Michigan; John, born October 16, 1832, who lives in Royal Oak township, Oakland County; and Solomon, born September 16, 1834, who is living in Linden, Michigan.

Daniel Kimble came to Oakland County with his parents in 1845 and for a time worked by the month, receiving \$12 per month in the summer and \$8 per month in the winter. During the early days he peddled peaches and apples in Detroit and at that time found little trouble in covering the entire city in a day. During the winter months he did the chores about the farm and also engaged in teaming. By hard work and economical living he was able to do better than merely eke out an existence, and each year found him better fixed financially than the preceding one. He now has a fine farm of 267 acres in sections 3 and 4, and another of 88 acres in section 9, Bloomfield township, all of it being valuable land and under cultivation. At an early period he dealt extensively in fine stock.

In 1849, Mr. Kimble was united in marriage with Lucinda Chamberlin, who was born in Bloomfield township in 1830, and is a daughter of John and Rebecca (Wilson) Chamberlin. Mrs. Kimble's great-grandfather, William Chamberlin, was born in New Jersey, September 25, 1736; on June 8, 1757, he was married to Elizabeth Finbrook, who died April 29, 1770. His second marriage was with Ann Park, who died November 12, 1779. His third marriage, which took place in 1782, was with Margaret Park, who died April 29, 1791. On August 16, 1794, he took for his fourth wife Ann Mary Kimble. William Chamberlin died August 21, 1817, having had 22 children, one of whom, also named William Chamberlin, a son of his third wife, Margaret Park, was married June 12, 1792, at Newark, New Jersey,

to Nellie Sutphin, who was a great-granddaughter of Anneke Jans, of Holland. William and Nellie (Sutphin) Chamberlin had 11 children, and of these John Chamberlin, the father of Mrs. Chamberlin, was born December 31, 1799. He married Rebecca Wilson, and had six children, as follows: William, Anna, Mary, Lucinda, Sarah and Joseph. Six children were born to bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Kimble, as follows: Sarah; John and Charles, of Bloomfield township, Oakland County; Wilbur, deceased; Elmer, deceased; and one who died in infancy. Although not a member of any church, Mr. Kimble assisted in paying for the building of the Methodist Episcopal and Presbyterian churches. In politics, he is independent, and cast his first vote in 1840 for "Tippecanoe" Harrison. He has efficiently filled numerous township offices, and as a citizen is held in the highest esteem. Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Kimble accompany this sketch, being represented on foregoing pages.

HON. FRED M. WARNER.

HON. FRED M. WARNER, Secretary of State of Michigan, is not only a prominent political leader, but is also a very conspicuous factor in the State's business and social life. Although still justly reckoned a young man, he has achieved signal success in various lines and has indelibly impressed himself upon the history of Oakland County. Mr. Warner was born July 21, 1865, at Hickling, Nottinghamshire, England, and he was brought to America by his parents, at the age of three months. A few months later, his mother died and he was adopted as the son of Hon. P. D. Warner, of Farmington, Michigan.

In early boyhood the youth displayed unusual intellectual strength and was but 14 years of age when he completed the Farmington High School course, graduating with credit from that institution. After a term spent at the State Agricultural College, he took a clerkship in his father's store at Farmington, and his business ability made him so useful that a few years later the elder partner retired in his favor. Mr. Warner has continued the operation of this store, on a much more extensive scale, conducting at the