

## ABRAHAM J. BAUGHMAN.

Abraham J. Baughman, the only son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Cunningham) Baughman, was born on section 22, Monroe township, Richland county, Ohio, September 5, 1838. Abraham Baughman, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born on the Atlantic ocean during the sail voyage of his parents from Germany to America. He married Mary Katherine Deeds and they were the parents of eight children, five sons and three daughters. Jacob Baughman, the fourth son, was born at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, February 19, 1792, and came to Ohio with his parents about 1808, and the family settled in the Black Fork valley, near the old historic Indian village of Greentown, now in Ashland county. Jacob Baughman married Miss Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of Captain James Cunningham, in September, 1825. They were the parents of five children,—Mary K., Hannah L., Margaret A., Abraham J. and Sade Elizabeth. Jacob Baughman died February 21, 1855, and his widow survived him nearly forty years, being called away November 23, 1894, in the ninetieth year of her age. The three older children having been married before the death of the husband and father, Mrs. Baughman and her two younger children—A. J. and Miss Sade—lived together during the remainder of her life. Four decades may seem long when counted by their forty several years, but all too short when blessed with the happiness of a mother's love, making the bereavement at the close the more heartfelt and severe. Soon after being left a widow Mrs. Baughman removed to Bellville, and later to Mansfield, where the son and youngest daughter still reside, at the old home on South Adams street.

A. J. Baughman taught school and read law in his 'teens, but upon the breaking out of the war of the Rebellion he volunteered in Captain Miller Moody's Company I, Sixteenth Ohio Infantry, in 1861, and later enlisted for three years in the Thirty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, but was discharged for physical disability before the expiration of his term of enlistment. Mr. Baughman and his sister are printers and have spent the greater part of their lives in the newspaper business. In 1885 Mr. Baughman was appointed a clerk in the United States senate, and his sister, Miss Sade, was appointed to a clerkship in the treasury department at Washington, which positions they held for several years, Mr. Baughman during that time writing for New York and Chicago papers. Upon his return to Ohio Mr. Baughman devoted his time largely to historical work and the writing of feature

articles for the press, and during a three-years engagement on the Mansfield News he wrote over two hundred feature articles for its Sunday edition, covering, perhaps, a hundred different topics.

Upon the unveiling of the Johnny Appleseed monument in the Sherman-Heineman park, Mr. Baughman delivered the address of the occasion, and the same was copied in whole or part by the leading magazines and in over a thousand newspapers. He has edited and published the Canal Fulton Herald, the Medina Democrat, the Mansfield Call and the Democrat, and the New Philadelphia Evening News; and of the papers upon which he has been engaged mention may be made of the Marion Star, the Steubenville Gazette and the New Philadelphia (Ohio) Democrat; and while the editor of the latter, during the Bryan campaign of 1896, he thinks he did his best political writing and editorial work, the Democracy regaining the county and electing its entire ticket by majorities ranging from five hundred to one thousand. Mr. Baughman has written biographical histories and sketches of several counties, and is conceded to be the best informed man on local history in Richland county; and he knows its townships as a farmer knows his fields. Through the efforts and work of Mr. Baughman the Richland County Historical Society was organized in November, 1898, and he became its secretary, which position he continues to fill. He is also the secretary of the Mansfield Lyceum.

Although German in name Mr. Baughman, in sentiment, is inclined to his mother's (Irish) people, but is thoroughly American in thought, purpose and patriotism, and is a Buckeye, "to the manor born." In his religious views he is a "churchman," believing in the apostolic succession, and was confirmed by the late Rt. Rev. G. T. Bedell, bishop of Ohio, in 1876.

Mr. Baughman is five feet, nine inches in height, with an average weight of one hundred and fifty-five pounds. He has blue-gray eyes, and the dark hair of his youth silvered before he had reached the age of fifty years.