

ROBERT W. HAZLETT.

Upon the old Hazlett homestead of one hundred and twenty acres the subject of this review is living, his attention being given to the conduct of the farm. Here his birth occurred June 13, 1828, and for more than seventy years he has been a witness of the advancement made in the county, as it has adopted progressive methods and gained a place among the leading counties of the commonwealth. The family is of Scotch lineage, for the grandfather of our subject, Robert Hazlett, was a native of the land of hills and heather, whence he emigrated to Pennsylvania during early manhood. There he spent his remaining days, devoting his energies to weaving and farming. He died at the age of sixty years.

Samuel Hazlett, the father of our subject, was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and in the Keystone state spent his childhood. In 1823 he came to Worthington township and entered from the government

the land now owned by our subject. It was covered with heavy timber, and wolves, bears and other wild game roamed there in abundance, and furnished many a meal for the early settlers. They had to endure many hardships and trials incident to life on the frontier, but also enjoyed many pleasures that are unknown at the present day. Mr. Hazlett followed farming throughout the remainder of his life. He wished to serve his country in the war of 1812, but was only fifteen years of age at the time of the inauguration of hostilities and his parents would not give their consent to his entering the army. In politics he was a Democrat in early life, but at the time of the Civil war he espoused the cause of the Republican party. For several years he served as a township trustee, and of the Presbyterian church he was a faithful member. Although a self-educated man, he became well read and was always informed on the issues and questions of the day. His honesty was proverbial and in business life he was very successful. He married Mary Wilson, who was born and reared in Pennsylvania, a daughter of John Wilson, a native of Ireland. Her father died at the age of eighty-five years. He, too, was a Democrat in his political belief. Mrs. Hazlett was born April 1, 1799, and died April 1, 1885, at the age of eighty-six years. Like her husband, she held membership in the Presbyterian church and she aided him in drying the lumber used in the construction of the house of worship of that denomination in Bunker Hill. In their family were ten children, eight of whom reached years of maturity, while six are still living. The father passed away at the age of seventy-three years.

Robert W. Hazlett remained at home until eighteen years of age, when his father gave him his time and he entered upon an independent business career. He went to Bellville, where he learned the tanner's trade, after which he spent two years on a farm, and on the expiration of that period he purchased a tannery in Bellville, conducting the enterprise with success for six or seven years. He then sold out and carried on a store and merchant tailoring establishment in Bellville for about a year. He next came to Worthington township and purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, devoting his energies to agricultural pursuits for about eight years, when he removed to Butler. After seven years' connection with the grain trade in that place he went to Knox county and bought a farm, which he operated for six years, when he traded it for property in Worthington township and returned to the old homestead. His land is rented and he derives a good income from the property, which comprises one hundred and twenty acres that are well improved with all modern accessories and conveniences.

Mr. Hazlett was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Hill, of Bell-

ville, who died January 21, 1900, at the age of sixty-five years and six months. She was a member of the Presbyterian church and an ardent Christian woman, whose many excellent qualities endeared her to her large circle of friends. Mr. and Mrs. Hazlett had six children: Edgar M., a farmer of Knox county, Ohio; Ida May, the wife of M. L. O'Hearn, of Worthington township; Cora E., the wife of Samuel Criswell, of Ashland county; Myrtle B., the wife of H. A. Pierce, of Butler, Ohio; and two who died in infancy.

Mr. Hazlett is a staunch Republican and has served as a trustee of the township. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and withholds his support from no measure or movement that is calculated to prove of public benefit. He is now practically living retired in the enjoyment of a well earned rest, and his life demonstrates what may be accomplished through determined purpose, which serves as an inspiration to those who are forced to depend upon their own exertions for advancement.