

## FRANK A. ABBOTT.

There is, in the anxious and laborious struggle for an honorable competence and a solid career of the business or professional man fighting the every-day battle of life, but little to attract the idle reader in search of a sensational chapter; but for a mind thoroughly awake to the reality and meaning of human existence, there are noble and immortal lessons in the life of the man, who, without other means than a clear head, a strong arm, and a true heart, conquers adversity, and toiling on through the work-a-day years of a long career finds that he has won not only wealth but also something far greater and higher,—the deserved respect and esteem of those with whom his years of active life placed him in contact.

Such a man, and one of the leading citizens of Shelby, Ohio, is Frank A. Abbott, who was born in Spencer, Medina county, Ohio, March 8, 1857, his parents being Arby Jennings and Martha M. (Thorp) Abbott. The Abbott family is one well known in America, for the name figures conspicuously on the pages of her history in connection with important events. The subject of this review is descended from one of three brothers who came from England in 1648, settling in Massachusetts, and of the same family the celebrated George Abbott was a representative. The paternal grandparents of our subject were Daniel and Sally Bellows Abbott, who removed from the Empire state to Ohio in the year 1833. The father was a farmer and blacksmith, but he was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, his death occurring in February, 1837. In his family were ten children, namely: Daniel, who was born November 3, 1805, and died February 1, 1836; Charlotte, born November 2, 1807, and died September 1, 1836; Leverette, who was born July 15, 1809, and died February 8, 1878; Eliza A., who was born April 20, 1811; Sally, who was born August 5, 1813; Abigail, born March 27, 1815; Charles, born March 8, 1817; Arby Jennings, born November 10, 1819; Elvira, who was born August 10, 1821, and died at the age of ten years, ten months and twenty days; and Sidney, who was born March 8, 1825.

Arby Jennings Abbott, the father of our subject, was born in Lebanon, Madison county, New York, November 10, 1819, and in 1833, when fourteen years of age, he came with his parents to Ohio. In 1846 he was united in marriage to Miss Martha M. Thorp, of New York. Their eldest son was born in May, 1853, and died September 1, 1879. Mr. Abbott was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a man of the highest respectability.

Frank A. Abbott, whose name introduces this review, has spent his entire life in Ohio. The year 1875 witnessed his arrival in Shelby, where he has made his home for a quarter of a century. With his brother, William L., he engaged in the drug business, the partnership continuing until his brother's death in 1879. Mr. Abbott was then alone in business for two years, when he sold his store to J. Frank Rhooks and turned his attention to the hardwood lumber business, to which he has since given his energies. At the present time he is also dealing in carriages and is interested in the patent-right business, under the firm name of Bevans & Abbott, his partner being Dr. Bevans. He has maintained a lively interest in the advancement of the industrial and commercial interests of the city of his adoption and has contributed largely to its progress and substantial upbuilding. In all business transactions he is reliable, energetic and determined, and these qualities have insured him a gratifying success.

In 1884 occurred the marriage of Mr. Abbott to Miss Amy Myers, a daughter of Professor John and Lydia (Hurksler) Myers. Their union has been blessed with three children: William Jennings, born August 2, 1885, and Martha and Myers, twins, born in September, 1886. While Mr. Abbott has not been an aspirant for political honors, he has twice been elected to serve as township treasurer, being chosen for the position on the Republican ticket. A man of genial and social nature and one who is most appreciative of the amenities which go to make up the sum of human happiness, he has identified himself with the Knights of Pythias. He attends the services of the Methodist Episcopal church, and as one of the public-spirited men of the town he withholds his support from no interest or movement calculated to prove of general good.