

the Hedley, Burroughs, and other tracts and additions, and in various sections of this and Niagara counties more recent examples of his professional work are every where seen.

Mr. Garter always took an active part in local affairs and held several positions of trust and responsibility. By education he was eminently fitted to serve in a public capacity, and one year held no less than five elective offices. He was an able exponent of the principles of the old Jeffersonian school of Democracy, but ever regarded personal worth and qualification superior to partisan victory. In every official position he served with marked distinction, with unquestioned fidelity to his constituents, and with the ability and integrity born of an honest purpose. He was supervisor, town clerk, highway commissioner, and assessor of Shelby for several years and long an inspector of common schools.

In religion Mr. Garter inclined toward Universalism, being fitted by life-long study of the Bible to expound the truths of that doctrine. He was practical rather than theoretical, but withal scholarly, accurate, and decisive. He was benevolent to the extent of his means, which were always limited. As a citizen he was public spirited, quick to see the needs of his fellow beings, generous to the poor, and kind hearted.

October 17, 1813, Mr. Garter married Miss Rebecca Churchill, a woman of quiet, unobtrusive characteristics, of sturdy Scotch descent, and of devoted womanly qualities. Their wedded life covered a period of nearly fifty-one years, her death occurring in Medina October 21, 1874, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Andrew Weld. Mr. Garter died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Darius Fuller, in Medina April 5, 1878. Their nine children were as follows: James, born July 16, 1814, died at Belmont, Wis., September 16, 1878; Jonas, born September 9, 1819, living in Lockport, N. Y.; William, born September 1, 1821; Susan (Mrs. Lester C. Downs and afterward Mrs. Andrew Weld), born June 19, 1823, living in Medina; Anna, born May 16, 1825, died unmarried; Churchill, born March 16, 1827, residing at Stony Creek, Va.; Elizabeth (Mrs. George Henderson and afterward Mrs. Darius Fuller), born February 20, 1829, living in Medina; Joseph, now of Buffalo, born June 6, 1831; and Ellen (Mrs. George Kinsley and afterward Mrs. George B. Holdredge), of Middleport, born April 23, 1833.

MORTON A. BOWEN.

MORTON A. BOWEN is a descendant from Dr. Abiel Bowen, his grandfather, who was born in Guilford, Vt., in 1798, and came into Western New York early in the present century. He studied medicine in Middleport, N. Y., and graduated from the Fairfield Medical College. He began practice in Shelby and in 1828 established himself at West Shelby, where he purchased a farm. He practiced until about 1840, and died in 1847. He married in 1826 Anna S. Cone, a native of Vermont, born in 1803; she died in 1852. Among their seven children was Adna Bowen, father of the subject of this sketch, and one of the able and successful members of the Orleans county bar. He was born at

West Shelby November 15, 1829, and died in June, 1883, at Medina. He was educated in the high schools at Millville, and Caryville, and studied law in Batavia, N. Y., beginning practice in Medina soon after his admission to the bar. He was successful in his practice both in a professional and a financial sense. A Democrat in politics, in a strong Republican county, he never held any office except that of justice of the peace, and was canal collector before the canals were made free. He married Eunice Post and they had four children: a daughter who married V. A. Acer of Shelby Center; two are deceased, and Morton A.

Morton A. Bowen was educated in the schools of Medina, studying in the private school of Miss Swift after he was fifteen years old, and finished at the Medina Academy at the age of nineteen years. Leaving school he spent one year in Michigan, and followed that with a course in a Buffalo business college. He then spent three months in the business office of the Buffalo News on special work, returning thereafter to Medina. At about this time the Medina Register office came into possession of his father. Morton A. Bowen is a Democrat in politics and the Register being an organ of the same party, he purchased the establishment and has since found in the editorial and business management of the paper congenial and successful employment. He is a fluent and intelligent writer, and is thoroughly conversant with public affairs. Under his management the Register has attained a gratifying circulation and exerts a wholesome influence in the community.

MAHER BROTHERS.

THE firm of Maher Brother manufacturers of upholstered furniture in Medina, is composed of John, Francis T., Joseph and Robert, sons of John, sr., and Mary (Kimmit) Maher. They spring from substantial Irish ancestry and inherit the sterling characteristics of a sturdy parental race. They are all natives of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, whence they removed to Buffalo, N. Y., in 1867. John Maher, the eldest, was born August 13, 1855, was educated in the schools of Hamilton and Buffalo, and learned his trade of upholsterer in the latter city. In 1874, when less than eighteen years of age, he accepted a position with a firm then doing a large business in Middleport, Niagara county, where he was placed in full charge of their upholstering department. It was not his purpose, however, to work for others all his life, and accordingly, in 1878, with his three brothers, he established a retail business in that village which proved very successful, and which was carried on under the firm name of Maher Brothers until their removal to Medina in 1882, the brothers being taken into partnership as soon as they became of age. In Medina they started a retail establishment which they successfully conducted for several years. In 1887 they began on a small scale the manufacture of upholstered lounges, and thus formed the nucleus of their present extensive business. The retail portion was eventually discontinued and their entire attention was devoted to manufacturing. Traveling men were sent out and their goods found a ready market in several States. The business increased with

rapid strides, taking soon a foremost rank among those of similar concerns. In fact, it is very seldom that any line of manufacturing attains the success that has been achieved by this enterprising firm in the comparatively short period of their operations. Within a year from the time they started they were obliged to increase their facilities by adding a two-story building, 40 by 140 feet, to their plant, the site for which had been purchased in 1887, and which was then occupied by a stone structure.

In 1893 a disastrous fire consumed their main plant, and although their loss was large, particularly in its interruption of their business, they were not discouraged, but immediately commenced the erection of their present large establishment south of the railroad, which was completed July 1, 1894. It comprises a three-story brick structure, with floor space aggregating 44,125 square feet, besides a large wooden building and a building used as a storehouse. North of the railroad the firm has another wooden building, supplied with water power, in which their frames used in upholstering are manufactured. They employ from 140 to 150 hands, and have turned out in one year as high as \$300,000 worth of goods, which are sent to all parts of the United States. All kinds of upholstered furniture are manufactured.

Of the individual members of the firm it is eminently fitting that something should be preserved in this volume. Francis Thomas Maher, the second eldest brother, was born November 13, 1860, and learned his trade of John in Middleport. Joseph Maher was born March 22, 1863, while the birth of Robert, the youngest, occurred October 13, 1865. They are all skillful mechanics and thoroughly conversant with the art of upholstering. John Maher, the head of the firm, is a man of energy, intelligence, and indomitable perseverance, qualifications that have enabled him to attain his present prominent position among the manufacturers of the county. This applies to the others as well. Each one is a specialist in the business, fitted by experience to maintain his respective part.

HENRY AUGUSTINE CHILDS.

A GENEALOGY of the Child family shows that Henry A. Childs is in the seventh generation from the original ancestor and is a descendant of Joshua Child, jr., in the fourth generation, son of Joshua and Sarah Child. Joshua Child, jr., was born in Worcester, Mass., September 26, 1725, and married June 2, 1748, Mary Hinds, who was born in Shrewsbury, Mass., August 18, 1726. They had three children, one of whom was Artemas, of the fifth generation, who was born in Northboro, Mass. (whither his parents had removed), August 16, 1762. He married Lucy Keyes, of Wilton, N. H., about 1793. Artemas Child added an "s" to his name and lived in Dublin, N. H., and in Ballston Spa, N. Y., where he died November 9, 1839. He was father of eleven children, of whom five were sons, one of them being Artemas, jr. He was the sixth child and was born in Dublin, N. H., August 12, 1802, and married about 1824 Nancy Dolloff.

Levi Lincoln Childs was the third son and the eighth child of Artemas, jr., and Lucy

Keyes Childs, was born in Dublin, N. H., February 23, 1806, and married about 1832 Ann M. Wright, daughter of Asabel and Polly Wright, who were natives of Vermont, but lived at Middlebury, Wyoming county, N. Y., many years, whence they removed to Gaines, Orleans county, N. Y., where they died. Levi Lincoln Childs lived in Gaines, where he died May 16, 1857. He was father of five children, as follows: Louisa F., born September 30, 1833, married July 4, 1853, Calvin P. Hazard; Henry Augustine (the subject); Mary E., born June 17, 1839, married Edwin Wilson, and died July 19, 1865; Helen A., born July 18, 1842, died August 17, 1851; Albert D., born November 22, 1844, died January 3, 1847.

Henry Augustine Childs, eldest son of Levi L. and Ann M. (Wright) Childs, was born in Gaines, Orleans county, N. Y., July 17, 1836, and married, November 16, 1859, Julia B. Freeman, daughter of Orin and Permelia Billard (both of whom are deceased).

In early life Judge Childs determined to adopt the legal profession, and after securing his education he began the study of law in the office of the late B. L. Bessac, in Albion, N. Y. Four years later he was admitted to the bar and at once opened an office in Medina, where he has ever since resided. He early took a prominent position in the bar of the county, and his ability and his sterling natural qualifications were soon recognized by his fellow citizens. He has always affiliated with the Republican party, and in 1865 was elected district attorney of Orleans county, and served in that responsible office by repeated re-election nine years, leaving an enviable record for industry, legal ability, and close watchfulness of the interests of the community. At the close of his service as district attorney he continued his large practice, his constantly advancing reputation preparing him for a higher position.

In the judicial convention held in Buffalo, October 4, 1883, Judge Childs was placed in nomination for one of the Supreme Court justices for the Western District of New York. He was elected in the following November by a gratifying majority. In the campaign preceding his election the fact that almost nothing was said in public against him was noted in the local press, while his high qualities as a lawyer and a man were extensively published.

In his career upon the bench, now covering a period of more than ten years, Judge Childs has won the unqualified favor of his professional brethren as well as the commendation of his constituents throughout the district. His decisions are rendered with a promptness evincing quick perception and a full and ready understanding of law and equity, and in a manner to at once win the respect and confidence of those having business before the court. Quiet and unostentatious, patient and forbearing under all circumstances, a close analyst of evidence, clear knowledge of law and unflagging industry in clearing court calendars, Judge Childs has exhibited in his judicial career all the qualifications that go to constitute the able and upright judge.

It is proper, perhaps, to quote the following from the Medina Tribune, published at the time of Judge Childs's nomination:

"The people of Medina were much delighted with the nomination of Mr. Childs for justice of the Supreme Court, and the citizens of this county feel greatly honored at his selection as one of the candidates for the position. Mr. Childs is a gentleman in the prime of life, whose character in every respect is above reproach and of the most ex-