

THOMAS RIGDON ROBISON.

The value of high character in official and professional life is being every year impressed upon the voting and business population of the United States, and the declaration of ex-President Cleveland that "public office is

a public trust" is now quite generally accepted as a truism. Mansfield, Ohio, has in most periods of its history been favored with the services of good and efficient officials, and few of these in recent years have discharged the duties of public office with greater personal credit or more entirely to the satisfaction of the people than Thomas Rigdon Robison, who was for two terms city attorney and who is now a member of the city council.

Thomas Rigdon Robison was born in Butler township, Richland county, Ohio, in 1866, the only son of George Washington and Mary E. (Stratton) Robison. His father was a native of Juniata county, Pennsylvania, born October 4, 1832, a son of James and Rebecca Robison, who settled in Ashland county, Ohio, in 1835 and removed to Richland county in 1837. In 1868 they went to Indiana, and their son, George Washington Robison, the father of Thomas Rigdon Robison, died in Richland county in 1898. The families of Robison and Stratton have a Civil-war record of which any family in America might be justly proud, all of Mr. Robison's uncles, five of his father's brothers and four of his mother's brothers, having served in the Federal army with bravery and credit, some of them with special distinction.

Mr. Robison attended school in Butler township and then entered Baldwin University at Berea, and after a thorough course in law was admitted to the bar, in 1891, and has since practiced his profession successfully in Richland and neighboring counties. Mr. Robison has served two terms, being a period of four years, as city attorney of Mansfield, and at this time is a member of the city council. No administration of the office of city attorney was ever more satisfactory to the people, and he is popularly regarded as a model councilman. He has taken an active part in politics, on the Democratic side, since he was a comparatively young man, and he has not only been a delegate to several important political conventions but has been the chairman of the Richland county Democratic executive committee. He is a popular Knight of Pythias, and has passed all the chairs in his lodge and is now a representative of the order to the grand lodge of the state of Ohio.

He married Miss Emma Gribben, a daughter of Richard Gribben, a pioneer settler in Ashland county who subsequently located in Richland county, and a niece of Hon. John Gribben, who has ably represented Hancock county in the legislature of the state of Ohio. They have one child, a daughter named Verda S., a bright scholar who has carried off the honors of her classes. Mr. and Mrs. Robison are attendants upon the services of the Lutheran church and liberal supporters of its various interests. Mr.

Robison's well known public spirit renders him a particularly useful member of the city council, in which he favors all measures which he believes promise good to the public, and opposes all such as appear to him to have an opposite tendency.