

SOLOMON EVARTS.

Solomon Evarts, who follows farming in Sandusky township, was born in Jefferson township, Richland county, April 19, 1829, and thus for more than three-score years and ten he has been a witness of the progress and development of this section of the state. His father, G. C. Evarts, was born in Vermont, in 1813, and was reared in Canada. The grandfather, Timothy Evarts, came to Ohio about 1817 and died on his farm south of Bellville, about

1846, at a very advanced age. He married Hannah Bigelow and they had a large number of sons and two daughters.

G. C. Evarts was the second eldest of the seven sons, all of whom were married and had children. His brother Reuben had twelve children, ten of whom reached mature years, and the father of our subject also had twelve children, ten of whom grew up to manhood or womanhood. His wife bore the maiden name of Catherine Walters and was born in Jefferson county, Ohio. They were married in Jefferson township, Richland county, about 1827, the bride being fifteen years of age. Their eldest child, Mary Ann, is now Mrs. Paxton, a widow, of Robinson, Kansas; Solomon is the next younger; Susan, the wife of Thomas Bull, had five children and died in 1899, at the age of sixty-eight years; Mrs. Sarah Beal had two children and died at Bellville, May 2, 1867; Gilbert, who engaged in railroading, died in Fort Wayne, Indiana, leaving three sons and two daughters; George, of Murphysboro, Illinois, has four sons and three daughters; Mrs. Rebecca Reed died in Crestline, Crawford county, Ohio, leaving four children; Mrs. Lucy Baer is living in Robinson, Kansas, and has four daughters and two sons; Matilda is the wife of H. Hiskey, of Kansas, and has two sons; and Harriet, the wife of James Stough, Bucyrus, this state, has one son and one daughter grown up. One child, Reuben, died in infancy and a daughter also died in early life. The father's death occurred in Robinson, Kansas, March 12, 1886, when he was eighty-two years of age.

Solomon Evarts was reared to farm life. He began following the plow when only nine years of age and when it got fast in the furrow he had to hitch the team to the rear of the plow to pull it loose. His educational privileges were limited, for his services were needed on the home farm and he remained upon that place, comprising one hundred and ninety-two acres, until he was twenty-five years of age. He was then married, on the 6th of October, 1853, to Lucy Ellen Coile, a daughter of David Coile, of the Shenandoah Valley, in Virginia. He was born April 25, 1811, and came to Ohio in 1830, following farming in Morrow county. He married Amanda Osborne, of Knox county, Ohio, and to them were born nine children, of whom four sons and four daughters are yet living. The mother was born in 1819 and died March 12, 1888, and the father, whose birth occurred in 1811, was called to his final rest on the 10th of June, 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Evarts have but two children: Amanda Melvina, who was born October 14, 1854, and is the wife of E. A. Ashbaugh; and John M., who was born August 10, 1857. He wedded Sarah Harris, of Springfield township, Richland county, and

they have a daughter, who is now living in Baileyville, Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. Evarts have one great-grandson, Eugene A. Morehead.

For thirteen years Mr. Evarts rented land in Springfield township and in 1882 took up his abode on his present farm of eighty acres in Sandusky township. He also owns another tract of twenty-seven acres near by, and has timber upon both of these. He carries on general farming, raising crops and stock, making a specialty of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs. In politics he is a stalwart Republican, and, though living in a Democratic stronghold, he has served as road supervisor and school director. He and his wife hold membership in the Methodist church in Blooming Grove. He is a man of even temper and genial disposition, possessing many admirable qualities that have gained him warm friendship.