

### MRS. SARAH JANE ARTER.

Mrs. Sarah Jane Arter is one of the estimable ladies of Sandusky township, Richland county. She has long resided here, so that she is widely known in the community. She is the widow of George Arter, who died on the old home farm June 21, 1896, in his seventy-fifth year. He was born in Sandusky county December 20, 1822, and a son of Henry Arter, who was born in Maryland in 1799 and died in Wyandot county, Ohio, in 1879. His father, George Arter, was a slaveholder in Maryland. The family originated in Germany. Henry Arter came to Ohio about 1830, previous to which time he had wedded Miss Susannah Musselman, also a native of Maryland. Coming to the Buckeye state, they began life anew in the woods in Springfield township, two miles from the present Arter homestead. There they reared seven of their nine children. After the death of the mother the father wedded Delilah Huddle, who bore him three children, and of his ten sons and daughters who reached mature age and were married four are yet living, namely: Musselman, who resides in Williams county, Ohio, at the age of seventy-four; Elizabeth, the widow of Timothy Young, and is living in California, at the age of seventy-one years; John, who is living in Bushnell, Illinois, at the age of sixty-nine; and Daniel, who also is living in Bushnell, at the age of sixty-seven.

George Arter was reared amid the wild scenes of frontier life in Richland county, and after he had arrived at man's estate he wedded Sarah Jane Walters, a daughter of George and Mary (McGrew) Walters. Her father was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, in 1799, and her mother in Jefferson county, Ohio, in 1803. They were married about 1820 and located on a tract of timber land east of Mansfield, this having been entered by his father from the government. There they became the parents of five children, three of whom reached adult age, namely: John, who was born in 1822 and is now a retired farmer of Crestline; Rebecca, the wife of Matthew Reid, who went to California, her death occurring in Los Angeles, that state, about 1890; and Mrs. Sarah Jane Arter. The father died in 1875, being killed on the railroad track. His wife survived him until 1879, passing away at the age of seventy-six.

Mrs. Arter acquired a good education in the district schools and was early trained to the work of the household. On the 31st of December, 1846, she gave her hand in marriage to George Arter and they began their domestic life in Putnam county in the midst of the forest. The land had been entered from the government by her father, but was wild and unimproved. After making some improvements there they sold the property and removed to Crawford county, locating near Crestline. This was in 1850. Again Mr. Arter began the development of a new farm in the midst of a forest, having sixty acres of land, which he cleared and placed under a high state of cultivation. He erected good buildings on the place and made many substantial improvements, after which he sold the property and came to the homestead in Sandusky township in 1874. Here he secured one hundred and five acres. He improved the land and continued to make his home upon the place until his death. He followed progressive methods of farming. He built a new house upon his farm and carried on his place with marked energy. His determined purpose enabled him to conquer all difficulties and work his way steadily upward. Thus he acquired a handsome competence, becoming one of the wealthy agriculturists in his section of the county.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Arter were born nine children. They lost one son in infancy, and John D., their fourth child, died at the age of seventeen years. The others are: Rebecca Ellen, the wife of Daniel Bean, a farmer of Sandusky township; George Fremont, who follows farming in this locality; Mary Alwilda, the wife of Aaron Oldfield, of Crawford county; Sarah Jane, the wife of John Hout, of Springfield township; Delilah Grace, the wife of Frank Smith, of Crestline; Charles Henry, who cultivates the old home farm of one hundred acres; and Florence Bell, the wife of Willard Frank, of Galion. These children were all reared to farm life and received good educational privileges. Mrs. Arter has lost one grandchild and now has eleven granddaughters, ten grandsons and four great-grandchildren. She is still vigorous in mind and body,—a most estimable lady, who enjoys the high regard of many friends. Her home is close to that of her son Charles, the two residences standing in the same yard.

Charles Arter was married, in 1891, to Miss Mollie L. Parke, who died in 1895, leaving two children: Ruth E., born October 24, 1891; and Charles Parke, who is now seven years of age. The father was again married in 1898, his second union being with Nora Shambaugh, by whom he has a little son, Clarence Albert, born September 9, 1899. Mr. Arter is a Repub-

lican and has served as highway commissioner and is a member of the school board.

George Arter, the husband of Mrs. Sarah Jane Arter, was a vigorous and healthy man during the greater part of his life, and was a great worker, continuing his active connection with business affairs until but a short time before his death, when a small cancer developed upon his temple, soon terminating his life. He possessed excellent business and executive force. He was a man of keen discernment and of marked energy, carrying forward to successful completion whatever he undertook. He left to his family an estate valued at about one hundred thousand dollars, and thus his widow is amply provided with all the necessities and many of the luxuries of life. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church and with that denomination Mrs. Arter is still identified.