

THOMAS L. KNAUF, postmaster at Calla, and one of the leading citizens of Green township, was born March 16, 1864, in Green township, Mahoning County, Ohio, and is a son of John and Amelia A. (Ewing) Knauf.

The father of Mr. Knauf was born in Green township and the mother in Canfield township, both coming from old pioneer families of this section. **Nicholas Knauf, the grandfather of Thomas Knauf, was born in Germany and was six years of age when he accompanied his parents to America. They landed at Philadelphia and shortly afterward died there of yellow fever. Nicholas Knauf was brought to Mahoning County and was reared in the family of John Baird, of the Ridge, in the northern part of Green township, where he lived until his death, dying in old age respected and esteemed.** John Knauf became also a man of character and substance, a supporter of the public schools and was a liberal member of the Lutheran Church. He died May 4, 1903; Mrs. Knauf died May 15, 1905.

The surviving children of John Knauf and wife are: Etta E., who married Warren L. Cook, residing in Green township; Thomas L.; Rose, who married Alexander T. Hendricks, residing in Green township; Harvey W., residing in Green township; Martha, who married Frank T. Rogers, residing at Calla; Arthur and Hugh A., both residing in Green township, and Eunice J., residing at home.

Thomas L. Knauf was reared in his native township and attended the public schools. After reaching manhood he engaged in farming and stock-raising up to the time he was appointed postmaster at Calla, in August, 1905. He still retains his valuable farm of 140 acres, but resides in his fine, modern residence, which he erected at Calla, in the summer of 1906, it making a beautiful, convenient and comfortable home, one that ranks with the best in the village.

On September 29, 1887, Mr. Knauf was married to Elva D. Cochel, who is a daughter of Joseph M. Cochel, of Calla, and they have three children, Hazel B., Ruby A., and Roy J.

Mr. Knauf has been an active factor in politics in Green township for a number of years. He was elected township trustee on the Republican ticket, serving in this office for six years, and during a part of this time was president of the board. He is a man of good citizenship in all that the title implies and enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. His portrait accompanies this article.

BENJAMIN F. BAILEY, one of the best-known citizens of Smith township, who has resided on his present valuable farm of 120 acres, which is situated in section 14, for considerably over a quarter of a century, was born at Lordstown, Trumbull County, Ohio, October 11, 1845, and is a son of Peter and Rufina (Kistler) Bailey.

The Bailey family came to Mahoning County from Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, the grandfather, Abraham Bailey, settling at a very early date in Austintown township, where his son, Peter, was reared. They were of German extraction and Peter learned both the German and English languages, and later taught both German and English schools in that neighborhood. Later he engaged for four years in clerking, in the general store of John R. Church, at Canfield, but after his marriage he moved to Newton township, Trumbull County, where he resided for many years. He then settled at Lordstown, which was his place of residence until his death.

Benjamin F. Bailey was educated in the public schools of Lordstown, and resided in that place until his marriage, in January, 1870, to Sarah Kistler, who is a daughter of Daniel B. Kistler, late of Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. They have had seven children born to them, as follows: James E., residing at Meadville, Pennsylvania, where he is chief train dispatcher for the Erie Railroad; Charles D., residing at Mt. Union, Ohio, where he is part proprietor of the Mt. Union grist mills; George S., a resident of Alliance, who is train dispatcher for the Lake Erie, Alliance &

FRANK HITCHCOCK, president of the Andrews & Hitchcock Iron Company, one of the most extensive industries of Youngstown, Ohio, was born in this city, and has been more or less identified with it all his life, the exception being the time spent at school in Massachusetts.

The large business at which Mr. Hitchcock is the head, was established in 1859 by C. H. Andrews and William J. Hitchcock, now both deceased. For many years they were two of the leading spirits in the great iron industry of the Mahoning Valley, and more extended mention of these business pioneers will be found in another part of this volume.

The Andrews & Hitchcock Iron Company was incorporated in 1892, with a capital stock of \$400,000. The officers of the company are Frank Hitchcock, president; W. J. Hitchcock, vice-president and superintendent, and H. W. Heedy, secretary and treasurer. The company is engaged in the manufacture of Hubbard Scotch foundry products and Bessemer pig iron.

Mr. Hitchcock was united in marriage with Bertha R. Cowles, of Utica, New York, who is a daughter of George O. Cowles. They are members of St. John's Episcopal Church, in which Mr. Hitchcock is a vestryman.

FRANK KNAUF, whose well-improved farm of 55 acres is situated in Ellsworth township, four miles southwest of Canfield, is a successful nurseryman and florist. He was born August 15, 1856, in Ellsworth township, Mahoning County, Ohio, and is a son of Joseph and Hannah (Goodman) Knauf.

Joseph Knauf, father of Frank, was born in 1827, in Green township, Mahoning County, Ohio, and was a son of **Nicholas Knauf**. **The latter was brought to Mahoning County in childhood, by the Beard family, who traveled over the mountains from Pennsylvania, in great covered wagons and settled in the**

dense forest which then covered almost all this territory. It is probable that Nicholas Knauf was an orphan. He grew to manhood in Mahoning County and started one of the first mills in this section. It was run by water power and was a great convenience to the settlers for miles around. The old mill structure is still standing on what is known as the John Unger farm through which an electric railroad line has been surveyed, but doubtless this old landmark will soon be removed. Frank Knauf remembers many occasions when he and his boyhood companions bathed in the cool waters which served to turn the great mill wheel. There were to of the children of Nicholas Knauf who grew to maturity, namely: Sarah, who married John Unger; Lydia, who married John Ewing; Elizabeth, residing in Tennessee, who married Abraham Bair; Annie, who married Michael Cronick; Mrs. Daniel Goodman; Joseph; Samuel; John; Jacob, and Eli, residing in Pennsylvania. Nicholas Knauf and wife died in advanced years.

Joseph Knauf was reared on his father's farm and assisted him in his mill business. In early manhood he married Hannah Goodman, who was a daughter of William Goodman, a pioneer in Green township. They had seven children, namely: Elizabeth, who married (first) Jacob Hively, and (second) Jacob Toot; Isaac; Lydia, who married John H. Lower; Nicholas; Frank; Alice, who died in 1881; and Martin, residing at Tacoma, Washington.

After marriage, Joseph Knauf moved to a farm in Ellsworth township, adjoining the present farm of Frank Knauf, which Nicholas Knauf had purchased for his son, and on this farm Joseph Knauf lived until his death, in 1881. His widow still survives and continues to reside there. Joseph Knauf was one of the township's substantial citizens. He owned land in Pennsylvania and also in Goshen township together with his land in Ellsworth township. Politically he was a Republican and held township offices at various times.

Frank Knauf obtained his education in the district schools and remained at home until

his marriage, when he came into possession of his present farm as a part of his father's estate. Mr. Knauf makes a specialty of nursery and greenhouse stock, and has equipments on his farm for the growing of all varieties of plants and fruit and other trees. He disposes of his stock mainly in Youngstown, having his place of business on West Federal street. He has made many fine improvements on his property, including the building of a commodious frame residence, in 1881, and does enough general farming to supply his own wants.

In September, 1880, Mr. Knauf was married to Mary E. Winans, who is a daughter of Austin and Mary (Broadsword) Winans, and was born in Ellsworth township, in November, 1858. Her father died in 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Knauf have two children, Herbert and Nellie M. The former operates his grandmother's farm of 79 acres. He married Emma Goodman.



JOHAN H. FITCH. In noting the leading commercial factors at Youngstown, where particularly prosperous business conditions are apparent, prominent mention should be made of John H. Fitch, who is either at the head or owns a controlling interest in many of the successful enterprises here. He is president of the John H. Fitch Wholesale Grocery Company, president of the Youngstown Ice Company, a director in the Youngstown Dry Goods Company, a director in the Dollar Savings and Trust Company, president of the Ohio Merchandise Company, president of the Belmont Cemetery Association, a member of the board of trustees of the Youngstown Chamber of Commerce, and was formerly president of the People's Bank, prior to its merger with the Dollar Savings and Trust Company.

Mr. Fitch was born on his father's farm in Austintown township, Mahoning County, Ohio, February 5, 1843, and was educated mainly in the local schools, although he en-

joyed one term at Hiram College at the time that James A. Garfield was president of that institution. At the age of 15 years he became a clerk in a store at Austintown Center, in which he bought a half interest in March, 1865, entering into partnership with a Mr. Crum, under the firm style of Crum & Fitch. In 1871 he purchased the Crum interest, and in 1880 he sold a half interest to L. W. Raver and Joseph Smith, the firm becoming Fitch, Smith & Company. Mr. Fitch subsequently went to Leetonia and bought a half interest in the Company store there, operating it for three years. He then returned to Austintown for two years' further residence. In the spring of 1885 he came to Youngstown.

In May, 1885, John H. Fitch and John T. McConnell, under the firm name of Fitch & McConnell, embarked in a grocery business at Youngstown. On June 1, 1886, Samuel Phipp entered the firm, and a change was made to Fitch, McConnell & Phipp, but in July, 1893, Mr. Phipp retired and the old firm style was resumed. In August, 1895, Mr. Fitch purchased Mr. McConnell's interest and the business name became John H. Fitch. On January 1, 1901, the business was incorporated, Mr. Fitch desiring to give some of his faithful associates blocks of stock, partly as a mark of confidence and also as a business incentive. The capital stock of the company is \$300,000, with John H. Fitch as president, Paul P. Fitch, as vice president, Fred G. King, as treasurer, and Charles W. Schaffer, as secretary.

In 1902, the Fitch Company bought out the wholesale grocery firm of Baldwin, Holcomb & Company, their line being coffee, spices and manufactured extracts, and since then the Fitch Company has given considerable attention to the extension of their coffee trade. They have enlarged this department of their business and have fine quarters on the corner of Watt and the Erie Railroad, doing business as the John H. Fitch Coffee Company. The main plant is a commodious brick building, 220 by 51 feet, having 78,000 square feet of floor space here. The factory is located on the corner of Watt and the Erie

Mr. Wick continued to be the head of this business until his death, which occurred June 13, 1890. He was also interested in the Ohio Iron & Steel Company, the Youngstown Rolling Mill Company and the Paul Wick Real Estate Company. In 1846 he was married to Susan A. Bull, a native of Vermont, who died in Youngstown in 1852, aged 56 years. To this marriage six children were born, among whom may be mentioned Myron C., George D. and Fred Wick, prominent business men of the city of Youngstown, and Harriet, the widow of John S. Ford. In 1885 he was married second to Mrs. Margaret L. Haney, of Youngstown. In his political sentiments Mr. Wick was always a staunch adherent of the Republican party, and as a man of high standing, known public spirit and large business interests, was more or less influential in shaping public movements in Youngstown. He served for some years as a member of the city council and for nineteen years was a member of the board of education. In church membership he was a Presbyterian, but his religion was wide enough and broad enough to cover other denominations, and in the dispensing of his charities he knew neither creed, color nor condition. Like most men of affairs, he was a man of practical views, but he was also keenly alive to all that is beautiful and elevating in life.

John S. Ford is survived by his widow and one daughter, Helen, who reside in a beautiful home at No. 509 Wick avenue. Mrs. Ford is a member of the Presbyterian Church, to which Mr. Ford also belonged and in which his Christian character was most highly appreciated.

NICHOLAS KNAUF, who resides on his well-improved farm of 55 acres, which is situated in one of the best sections of Ellsworth township, has long been considered one of the leading men of his community. Mr. Knauf was born July 14, 1854, on a farm in Ellsworth township, some miles west of his present home, in Mahoning County, Ohio, and is a son of Joseph and Hannah (Goodman) Knauf.

Joseph Knauf, father of Nicholas, was born in Green township, Mahoning County, and was a son of Nicholas Knauf, who came to this section of the country with Henry Beard, when pioneer conditions still prevailed. Nicholas Knauf married a member of the Sechrist family and they became well-known residents of Green township. Among their children were: Joseph, Samuel, Jacob, Eli, John, Elizabeth, Lydia and Sarah, and of these Mrs. Elizabeth Bair, Mrs. Lydia Ewing, Mrs. Sarah Unger and Eli Knauf are living at the present time.

Joseph Knauf settled on the farm of which his son Nicholas now owns a part when the latter was small. In early manhood he married Hannah Goodman, who was a daughter of William and Julia Goodman, residents of Green township, and they had children, namely: Isaac, residing in Geauga County, married Tillie Webb; Nicholas; Frank, farming and operating a nursery and greenhouse, married Mary Winans; Martin, residing in the state of Washington, married Mary Kenreich; Elizabeth, who was married (first) to a Mr. Hively, and (second) to Jacob Toot; Lydia, who married John H. Lower, residing in Ellsworth township; and Alice, who died aged 20 years. The mother survives, but the father died in 1882.

Nicholas Knauf was educated in the district schools and the Union School at Canfield, attended an institution at Washington, Ohio, and completed his studies at Mt. Union College. For some years after attaining manhood he alternated farming and school teaching, according to the seasons, but after his marriage devoted himself entirely to agricultural pursuits. In addition to carrying on general farming, he is much interested in raising strawberries, peaches and apples. He has made many improvements on his property, building a substantial barn and later his comfortable and attractive nine-room residence.

In 1896 Mr. Knauf was married to Lulu Esterly, who is a daughter of Eli and Clara Esterly, formerly of Green township, Mahoning County, and they have had five children, namely: Ethel M., a little miss of nine years;

Laura, deceased; Dorothy Alice, aged 4 years; William Nicholas, a sturdy boy of 2 years; and an infant.

Mr. Knauf has been active in township politics for a number of years and has served for a considerable period as trustee, being elected on the Republican ticket. He is a valuable member of the township school board and takes a deep interest in all that pertains to the advancement of education in his community. He is a member of the F. & A. M. at Canfield.



AB. GILMORE, whose extensive operations in real estate at Youngstown have covered some fifteen years, has been identified with the interests of this city for almost a half century. He was born at Gustavus, Trumbull County, Ohio, in 1846, and is a son of Robert and Elizabeth (Detchon) Gilmore.

The mother of Mr. Gilmore was of English ancestry. Her family settled in Boardman township, Mahoning County, prior to 1803. She died when her son was but four years old, and was survived by Mr. Gilmore for but little more than a year.

The subject of this sketch was thus left an orphan at a tender age. He was taken into the home of an uncle, Elijah Detchon, of Boardman township, where he remained until the marriage of one of his cousins, now Mrs. Joseph Williamson, when he went to live with her in Youngstown. There he was reared and educated and was a pupil in the High School at Youngstown. As soon as he was old enough he made himself useful in many ways, working at the kinds of employment then open to industrious youths and thus providing for his own support. He then made his way to Kansas, where he was employed for two years in a restaurant and bakery business. Upon his return to Youngstown, he embarked in a grocery business for some three years. Mr. Gilmore then began to deal in stock and for about 20 years was a large buyer and seller. Since closing out his stock business he has given his ex-

clusive attention to real estate and for the past 15 years has been one of the largest dealers in this locality. He has platted a number of streets in this city, and one place of 28 lots on which he built seven houses, and has disposed of the larger number of the lots. He handles only his own property and superintends its improvement.

In 1872, Mr. Gilmore was married to Mary J. McKinnie, of Youngstown, who is a daughter of James and Hannah McKinnie, who were among the early settlers of this section. They have two children, Ellen D., and Nettie H., young ladies residing at home, who are prominent in the city's social life.

For the past 20 years Mr. Gilmore and family have been members of the First Christian Church, in which he is an elder, having at various times been trustee and treasurer. He has fraternal connections with the United Workmen and the Heptasophis.

About 1798, the Detchon family came to America.



JOHNS. FORD, who for a number of years was prominently identified with many of the leading business interests of Youngstown, was born September 5, 1856, at Omaha, Nebraska, and died April 8, 1893, in Florida, whither he had gone in the hope of regaining his health. His parents were Gen. James H. and Arabella (Stambaugh) Ford, and his grandparents on the maternal side were John and Sarah (Bower) Stambaugh, early pioneers of Mahoning County.

After completing his education in the public schools of Youngstown, where he acquitted himself creditably, John S. Ford learned business methods with his uncle, the late John Stambaugh. He possessed the natural ability to successfully apply these business methods in his own business life. In the course of events he became interested in the commercial life of Youngstown, where he was one of the original promoters of what is now the Youngstown Dry Goods Company, formerly the firm of