

## KANSAS COLLECTION BOOKS

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 William G. Cutler's *History of the State of Kansas*


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# MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Part 8



## BIOGRAPHIES (SALTER - TRUBY).

HON. MELVILLE J. SALTER, Farmer and Register of the United States Land Office, was born in Sardinia, Wyoming Co., N. Y., June 20, 1834. His grandfather, Peter Salter, was a soldier in the Revolutionary army, and served under Washington in several historic engagements. His father, David N. Salter, was one of the founders of Battle Creek, Mich. The subject of this sketch went from Michigan to California, where he remained from 1852 to 1856, when he returned to Michigan, experiencing many thrilling adventures on the voyage. In 1871, Mr. Salter removed to Kansas, and located on a farm near Thayer, his selection being the northeast quarter of Section 22, Chetopa Township, The year following, he was elected trustee of the township, an office held by him for five successive years. The township had voted \$35,000 to a "paper" railroad and, against all manner of denunciation, both by the parties interested and people, who believed that the railroad operators would act in good faith, he persistently refused to sign the bonds or permit their issue, resisting legal processes, and ultimately carrying the point. The wisdom of this course was soon demonstrated, and his constituents re-elected him to office. In 1872, great excitement prevailed among the settlers on the Osage ceded lands. Mr. Salter, although not resident on the lands involved, was chosen chief counsellor of the farmers, and a protective association was organized. During the agitation open outrages were committed against the farmers, and three men were seriously injured. Some of the members of the association favored retaliation, but Mr. S. addressed the exasperated people in so effective a manner that summary vengeance was averted and the law sustained. The farmers succeeded, by peaceful measures in maintaining their rights. In 1874, Mr. Salter was elected Lieutenant Governor of Kansas, and re-elected in 1876. One year later he was appointed Register of the United States Land Office at Independence, which position he still holds. He has also served as chairman of the board of regents of the agricultural college for four years. On the 22d of October, 1856, Mr. Salter was married to Miss Sarah E. Hinkle, a native of Lehigh, Pa. They have three children--Louis A., Albert L., and William E. In political sentiments Mr. Salter is a prominent Republican, and is by religious[sic] preference an active member of the Baptist Church.

L. SHADLEY, Sheriff, was born near Zanesville, Licking Co., Ohio, June 4, 1844. In October, 1848, his parents removed with their family to Davis County, Iowa, where he was reared; and in July, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, Thirtieth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. Participated in battles of Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Raymond, Miss., Jackson, Miss., Siege of Vicksburg from May 18 to July 4, at seven days battle at Jackson, Miss., Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Ringgold, the Atlanta

member thereof until after the admission of the State in 1861. He was a member of the Kansas House of Representatives during the session of 1864-65. He served several years as Alderman and Member of the School Board at Humboldt. He was one of the original members of the Chetopa Town Co. He served for about one year during the War of the Rebellion, as Major of the Allen County Battalion. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church and of the A., F. & A. M. He was married at Lafayette, Ind., October 30, 1851, to Elizabeth Tipton, a native of Cincinnati, Ohio. They have seven children living--Frank, Fred E., Joseph, Oliver H., Edwin, Arthur and Allan. Lost three children--Cynthia died at the age of twelve years; Alice was only two years old at the time of her death, and Ella was six years of age when she died.

MOSES

M. S. STAHL, proprietor of the Main Street Hotel, was born in Belfast Township, Bedford Co., Pa., December 10, 1826, lived there until 1839, when his parents, with their family, moved to Blackford Co., Ind., which county he made his home until 1870. He was educated at the University of New York City, and Rush Medical College, Chicago, Ill., graduating from the latter institution, he began the practice of medicine at Hartford City, Blackford Co., Ind. He went to Texas and remained two years, being surgeon of the Texas Rangers. After this he spent about three years in Kansas, Missouri, and in the Rocky Mountains as far west as the Rio Gila, and the land of the Apache. Becoming tired of this nomadic life, he returned to the States in 1875, and located in Independence, Kan., where he has since been engaged in the hotel business. He was married at Hartford City, Ind., March 20th, 1856, to Mary A. Ransom, a native of Ohio, but reared in Indiana. They have two children, May W., and Florence V. Mr. S. is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

F. W. SWAB, merchant tailor, was born in Quincy, Ill., July 12, 1856. He learned tailoring, and in 1876 went to Chicago, where he worked a year and a half for H. A. Koehn & Co., manufacturers of clothing and wholesale dealers, the last year having charge of a department. He returned to Quincy, where he was in business for a year, and then moved to Mendon, Ill. In 1878 he came to Kansas and located at Independence. In partnership with J. W. Don Lavy he was in business until March 1, 1883, when he sold out and opened another house with F. A. Bellman, firm name Swab & Bellman. They carry a nice stock of cloths, suitings, trimmings, etc., and are very artistic workmen, doing a good business. He is a member of the Masonic order and of the K. of P. He was married, December 23, 1880, at Independence, Kan., to Miss Lou Shank.

JOHN THIBUS, hardware merchant, was born in Prussia, January 1, 1845. His parents removed with their family to Cooper County, Mo., in 1848, living there three years, then to Moniteau County, Mo., where both his father and his mother died. Their names were Mathias and Anna Mary (Vogel) Thibus. John Thibus removed to Lawrence, Kan., in 1869, lived there eight months, six months at Topeka, and afterwards at Chanute till February 26, 1872, when he came to Independence. For about two years after coming here was employed as a tinner, that being his trade. For over eight years he has been engaged in business for himself. He deals extensively in hardware, stoves, tinware, wagon woodwork, etc. Mr. T. was married, at Garnett, Kan., to Jennie Vogt, a native of Germany. They have four children--Katie, Charles, Fred and Oscar.

L. M. TROTTER, farmer, P.O. Independence, was born in Guilford County, N.C., July 10, 1852. In 1865 he removed to Knox County, Tenn., with his parents, where he lived