NICOLLET AND LESUEUR COUNTIES, MINNESOTA.

307

HON. JOB W. LLOYD.

The well-known Lloyd family of LeSueur county has been represented hereabout since the days of the beginning of a social order in this section of the state, the founder of the family in these parts having been David Lloyd, one of the leading members of that valiant Welsh colony which settled in the wilderness here back in 1856 and did so much toward bringing about proper conditions and preparing the way for the wonderful development which the succeeding generations have carried on so grandly.

The Hon. Job W. Lloyd, former state senator from this district and one of the best-known and most substantial retired farmers of LeSueur county, is a native of that same county, having been born on the pioneer farm on which he still makes his home, in Sharon township, on September 29, 1856, being the first white child born in that locality, son of David and Margaret (Lewis) Lloyd, both natives of the gallant little land of Wales, the former of whom was born at Llanarth, January 4, 1811, and the latter, at Llanon, March 4, 1814, and who later became influential pioneers of this section of Minnesota.

David Lloyd was the son of Rees and Catherine Lloyd, substantial residents of their neighborhood in Wales, and grew to manhood in his native land, where he married and where his eldest child was born. In 1843 David Lloyd and his wife and their infant son, John, not then a year old, came to America and settled at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. David Lloyd worked in the coal mines there for ten years, at the end of which time, in 1854, he and his family migrated to the Old Man's creek section of Iowa, where they made their home for about eight months, after which they returned East and for six or eight months lived at Irontown, Ohio. In the spring of 1856 David Lloyd and his family joined the Welsh colony which came to this section of Minnesota at that time and cast their lot definitely with the destinies of this region. Upon arriving here David Lloyd pre-empted a quarter of a section of timber land in Sharon township, LeSueur county, and there established his home in the wilderness. Clearing a small place in the forest he erected a log cabin for his family and all hands, for by this time he had several lively and sturdy youngsters in his family, set about clearing the homestead tract and bringing it to a proper state of cultivation. David Lloyd had never used an ax before coming here, but his years in the mines had inured him to hard physical toil and it was not long until he was performing wonders as a woodsman. At that time the Indians were still numer-

-and Lesneur counties, Minnesofa: ustries, and institutions: with biographical intative citizer anilies.

NICOLLET AND LESUEUR COUNTIES, MINNESOTA.

ous hereabout and, happily, were on friendly terms with the settlers, living in peaceable neighborliness, John Lloyd, the elder son of the family not infrequently going hunting with the young "braves," with no thought of the terror the Indians later were to inspire in the hearts of the settlers. John Lloyd was not twenty years old when the Civil War broke out, but in August, 1862, he enlisted for service in the Union army in Company E, Ninth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, with which he served valiantly until the close of the war.

David Lloyd presently began to see his way clear in the work of making a home in the wilderness and it was not long until he was accounted one of the most substantial and influential residents of his section of the county. He was a Republican and took an active part in political affairs during the formative period of the local government, his sound judgment and wide knowledge of local conditions giving much weight to his counsels in the deliberations of the party managers. He and his wife were earnest members of the Methodist church and took an active part in the organization of that church and the promotion of its interests. Mrs. Lloyd died on April 26, 1894, and Mr. Lloyd died on September 10, 1895, both having lived long and useful lives, doing well their part in the development of the social activities of this region. David Lloyd and wife were the parents of seven children, namely: John, who was born at Dowlais, Wales, December 5, 1842, a veteran of the Civil War, mention of whom is made above; Catherine, born at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, September 10, 1844; Susanna, at Pittsburgh, August 16, 1846; David Rees, at Pittsburgh, November 26, 1848; Thomas, at Pittsburgh, April 14, 1850, who died in 1865; Evan D., at Old Man's Creek, Iowa, August 26, 1853, and Job W., the only one of the family born in LeSueur county, the immediate subject of this biographical sketch.

Job W. Lloyd was born in the September following the settlement of his family in Sharon township and his whole life has been spent on the homestead farm there, the original tract of which has been enlarged by later purchases until it now comprises two hundred and forty acres of well-tilled and highly productive land. Job W. Lloyd received his schooling in the little district school which was early organized in the neighborhood of his home and he grew up on the home farm, assisting in the development of the same, and has ever made his home there. In 1880 he became part owner of the place and in 1895 became the sole owner. He has greatly improved the farm, all the fine, modern buildings which now adorn it having been built by himself, and in many ways has developed the place until it is now looked

308

NICOLLET'AND LESUEUR COUNTIES, MINNESOTA.

upon as one of the model farms of that neighborhood. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Lloyd was for years engaged in cattle raising on quite a large scale, his Shorthorn cattle being of the best. He has been successful in his operations and in addition to his large holdings in LeSueur county is the owner of half a section of excellent land in North Dakota. In 1913 Mr. Lloyd retired from the active labors of the farm and now does little more than to give his general oversight to his extensive interests.

While industriously developing his own personal interests, Job W. Llovd has not been unmindful of the larger interests of the commonwealth and for years has given his thoughtful and intelligent attention to public affairs. He is a life-long Republican and even from the days of his youth has taken an active part in local political affairs, beginning early to give his services to the public, responding willingly to all such calls upon his time. He served in most of the township offices at one time and another and in 1890 was elected representative in the state Legislature from his home district and served in the lower house of the General Assembly during the ensuing session with credit not only to himself, but to his district, his services in that relation having been so acceptable to the people that in 1894 he was elected to serve the district in the upper house of the Legislature and for four years his service as a state senator met with unqualified approval. In the first Taft campaign Senator Lloyd was an elector from Minnesota and he was a delegate at large to the Republican national convention in Chicago in 1912. During the campaign of 1914-15 which landed the Hon. H. H. Flowers in the chair of the speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives, Senator Lloyd acted as Mr. Flowers' manager and served as his private secretary during the time he was speaker of the House. Mr. Lloyd is now president of the Consolidated school at Cleveland, being the first president of the first school of its kind in the county. He is also a stockholder and director of the First State Bank of Cleveland, and vice-president of the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company of that place.

In May, 1883, Job W. Lloyd was united in marriage to Mary Jones, who was born in Sharon township, LeSueur county, daughter of William E. and Margaret (Griffiths) Jones, both natives of Wales, who became prominent pioneers of this section. William E. Jones was born in Welshpool, Wales, in 1831, and died on January 14, 1916. He was married to Margaret Griffiths in 1853, who died in 1873, and was married, secondly, in 1881, to Margaret Davies, who resides at their home at Lake Crystal, Minnesota. William E. Jones came to America when about eleven years of age with his

309

NICOLLET AND LESUEUR COUNTIES, MINNESOTA.

father, David Jones, who settled in Ohio, in 1841, whence, in 1856, he came to this section of Minnesota with the Welsh colony which settled here at that time. Pre-empting an eighty-acre tract in Sharon township, William E. Jones started with nothing save willing hands and a stout heart to make a home in the wilderness and succeeded so well that when he retired from the active labors of the farm in 1909 he was the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of fine land. He and his wife were the parents of nine children, as follow: Jane, deceased; Elizabeth, who lives in Blue Earth county, this state; David, Mary, Sarah, Margaret, Anna (deceased), Evan and William.

To Job W. and Mary (Jones) Lloyd six children have been born. Thomas J. and William E., who are engaged in the mercantile business at Cleveland, biographical sketches of whom are presented elsewhere in this volume; Evan J., David, Morgan M. and John Ralph. Senator and Mrs. Lloyd are earnest and active members of the Methodist church and their children have been reared in that faith, the family being held in high esteem throughout the whole countryside.

MARTIN L. FLOWERS.

Martin L. Flowers, a well-known farmer of Cleveland township, Le-Sueur county, was born on a pioneer farm in that same township on January 21, 1870, son of George and Catherine (Rhoades) Flowers, the former of whom is a native of New Jersey, born on February 17, 1831, and the latter of Ohio, born on October 2, 1841, both of whom are still living, making their home in the household of their son, the subject of this biographical review, spending their declining years in quiet comfort, with many vivid recollections of pioneer days in this section, both having undergone all the hardships and privations which the early settlers in Minnesota were compelled to face during the time this region was being made a fit habitation and abiding place for the people of the white race.

George Flowers is a son of George and Elizabeth (Everett) Flowers, who left their home in New Jersey when their son, George, was an infant in arms and migrated to Ohio, where they spent the remainder of their lives and where the younger George grew to manhood. In 1855, he then being about twenty-three years of age, George Flowers, Jr., came to Minnesota with the determination to try his fortunes in the rich country then being opened to settlement hereabout. He obtained a quarter of a section of wild

310