

happy wedded life Mr. Richmond was deprived of his loving companion by death. She was a noble and lovable Christian woman and had many sincere friends. Her death occurred June 17, 1890, at her home in Manistee.

During 1879 and 1880, and until January, 1881, Mr. Richmond engaged in practice at Bear Lake, when he removed to this city. In the fall of 1880 he was elected Circuit Court Commissioner on the Republican ticket and served for two years. He has always taken great interest in political affairs and has given some time to campaign work. He is a practical stenographer, and writes the Standard American system. His office is supplied with a typewriter and a fine legal library of great value. He is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, belonging to the official board, and is one of the Trustees.



HON. LEVI A. HARRIS, M. D. Nature has often been accused of partiality in endowing some of her children more richly than others with those qualifications which insure them success in life, but when such provision supplements the disadvantages of lack of education and means, everyone must rejoice at such endowment. The subject of this sketch was in early life thrown upon his own resources for his support, and his advantages for an education were only those he could obtain for himself; but he was more fortunate than many in being possessed of excellent judgment and more than ordinary business ability, which have thus aided him in making a success of his profession.

It was during 1886 that Dr. Harris came to Vanderbilt, and here he has since resided, being the only physician in the village, where he also has a drug store. In addition thereto, he is at present filling the position of Judge of the Probate Court. He was born in Utica, Macomb County, Mich., September 20, 1858, and is the son of Alexander

and Remember (Lockwood) Harris, both of whom were natives of Monroe County, N. Y. His paternal grandfather, Timothy Harris, came to Michigan about 1830 and settled in Oakland County, of which he was a pioneer. The maternal grandparents also settled in Michigan about 1830, at which time they settled in Macomb County.

While living in New York, Alexander Harris followed the trade of a ship-builder, but after coming to Michigan he devoted his attention to general carpenter work. He continued to reside in Macomb County until his death, which occurred at the age of sixty-one years. His widow still survives and makes her home in Macomb County. Their family consisted of six children, named in the order of birth as follows: Lucy, wife of William Clark, of Macomb County; Levi A.; Alvaretta, a resident of Macomb County; Mary, who makes her home with our subject; Anson, a carpenter of Detroit; and Alice, who resides in Macomb County.

After some time spent in the prosecution of the ordinary branches of study in the Utica High School, our subject secured a position as teacher, and was thus engaged for one term. He commenced the study of medicine with Dr. William Brownell, of Utica, and later entered the Detroit Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1884. Opening an office at Augusta, Kalamazoo County, he remained there for a short time, after which he settled in Vanderbilt.

The political views of Dr. Harris have led him to affiliate with the Democratic party, and he believes that its platform embodies the principles which will insure the greatest prosperity to this country, if carried to a proper issue. For a time he held the office of Township Treasurer, and in the fall of 1892 he was elected Probate Judge, which position he has since held. He is also serving as United States Examining Surgeon.

The lady who presides over the Doctor's home became his wife in 1886. She was born in Galesburg, Kalamazoo County, Mich., and bore the maiden name of Lillie Morey, being the daughter of Eli Morey, an artist and painter, who makes his home with Dr. Harris. Fraternally our subject is connected with the Masonic order, and is also identified with the Knights of the Maccabees. Pro-

gressive and enterprising, he is numbered among the valued citizens of Otsego County, and those who know him esteem him highly for his sterling worth.



JOSEPH C. BONTECOU, editor and proprietor of the *Petoskey Record*, was born in Bristol, R. I., November 5, 1838, and is a son of James C. and Abbie (Connable) Bontecou, natives, respectively, of New Haven, Conn., and Bernardston, Mass. Besides himself there were two children, both daughters, one of whom died in infancy, and the other, Sarah C., is living, unmarried. The father was a man of considerable prominence in the Methodist Church, being a minister of that denomination, a member of the New England Conference, and the founder of the Martha's Vineyard Camp Meeting Association. For some time he served as pastor of the church at Edgartown, and also filled other pastorates. In 1840 he came as far west as Ohio, and for eighteen years preached the Gospel in and around Cincinnati, being a charter member of the Cincinnati Conference. His death occurred at Xenia, Ohio, in 1876, when he was seventy-five years old. His wife, who was also a devout Methodist, died in 1846.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was a native of Connecticut, but removed thence to New York, and settled at Coeymans, where he died at the age of nearly ninety years. In early life he worked at the trade of a shoemaker, but later devoted his attention entirely to agriculture. He was the son of a Revolutionary soldier, who enlisted in the defense of the Colonies and served with a zeal and fidelity of which his descendants may be justly proud. In disposition he was retiring, reticent and unobtrusive, and in religious belief belonged to the Methodist Church.

Our subject's maternal grandfather bore the name of Joseph Connable and was a native of Massachusetts. It is worthy of note that his father and grandfather served in the same company and reg-

iment in the War of the Revolution. He made farming his life occupation, and to this work he devoted his entire attention during active life. A man of strong intelligence, fixed opinions and great energy, he was fitted to be a leader of others, and in his community he was influential, his opinion always carrying weight. At the time of his death he was about seventy years of age.

In the various removals made by the family, our subject took part, his education being obtained in the common schools of the different places where he lived. After completing the studies of the common schools, he entered the preparatory department of Miami University, and later attended the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware. At the time the war broke out he was Superintendent of the schools of Newtown, Ohio. He had inherited the spirit of his Revolutionary forefathers and, fired with patriotic zeal, he enlisted as a member of Company G, Second Kentucky Infantry, in which he served for two and one-half years. In 1861 he served as a scout and assistant engineer under General Cox, and then joined Buell and took part in the battle of Shiloh, where, the Captain being killed, he took the command of the company. He participated in the battle of Pittsburg Landing, and at Corinth led the assault on the Tishomingo bridge. In guarding a bridge just south of Nashville, while serving as Captain of his company, he was taken prisoner, and was in Oglethorpe, Salisbury and Libby prisons for eight months. On being released from prison, he resigned and re-enlisted as a private in the Tenth Ohio Battery, and eighteen months later, in August, 1865, he was mustered out as Second Lieutenant. In all the battles of the Atlanta campaign and in the fight with Hood at Nashville he took a part.

After the war our subject read law in Chicago, but, owing to failing health, he changed his occupation and became a commercial traveler. Later he was on the lecture platform, principally in temperance work. About 1880 he returned to Michigan and was made Secretary of the State Temperance Alliance, with headquarters at Lansing and Jackson. In the spring of 1883 he moved to Petoskey and bought the *Record*, which he has owned and controlled ever since. This is a weekly paper,