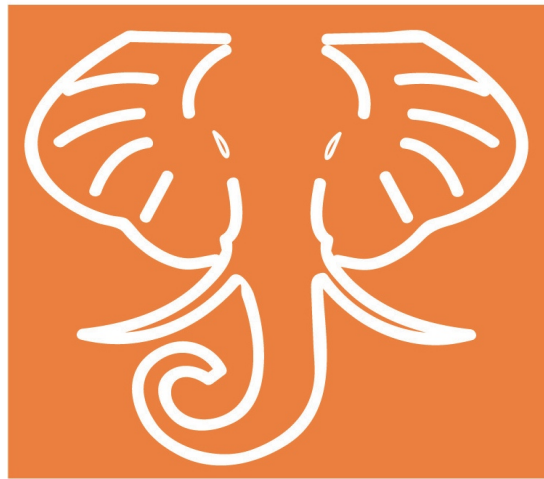


## Portrait and biographical album of Oakland county, Michigan.

Chicago : Chapman bros., 1891.

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York City, and after coming to Michigan in 1842 he continued at this trade for ten years. In 1850 he took a very important step in taking to himself a wife, Sarah A. Beardsley, a native of New Jersey. The young couple made their new home on the farm where they now reside, and after a little moved into a small frame house. The farm comprised at first eighty acres.

Four children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Erwin, namely: Virginia G., the wife of James Beattie, residing in Shiawassee County; George M. L., residing at Duluth, Minn.; William Ira, residing in Groton, S. Dak., and Mary A., who is still at home. The home farm consists of one hundred and sixty acres of well-improved land upon which general farming is carried on. Mr. Erwin is a Republican in his political views, and religiously is connected with the United Presbyterian Church in which he is a Trustee and where he has been an active member for forty years. He is a Sunday-school worker as is also his wife, and he superintended the school for more than twelve years. He came a poor boy to Michigan and by honesty and frugality has acquired a handsome property, and at the same time his honorable dealings with all men win for him the universal esteem of his fellow-citizens.

Among the finest homesteads of Southfield Township is that of Mr. Erwin and we are pleased to present a view of this place to the readers of this volume.



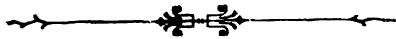
**T**RUMAN S. TIBBALS. A traveler over this county could scarcely enter Avon Township without hearing mention of "Oak Grove," a farm that has long been known by that name, because of the giants of the forest that stand near the house. It is a beautiful tract of land of one hundred and forty acres on section 35. This valuable farm is owned and occupied by the gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs, and to whose life history we purpose to call the attention of our readers. He makes quite a specialty of raising fine stock, but does not neglect other agricultural interests, and his labors

have been rewarded by financial prosperity and a first-class reputation as a farmer.

Mr. Tibbals is a son of Lewis and Betsey (King) Tibbals, who were natives of Monroe County, N. Y., and Suffield, Conn., respectively, and established their home in this State as early as 1826. They crossed the lake on the steamer "Walk-on-the-Water," landed at Detroit, and came at once into this county, locating three and three-fourth miles west of Rochester. Mr. Tibbals had at first but a "squatters" right, but after the survey was made he entered one hundred and sixty-six acres of land under the Homestead Act. Mr. Tibbals was a farmer by occupation and when he came here also followed milling. He belonged to a Vermont family and his remote ancestors were English. He died May 4, 1876, at the venerable age of eighty-nine years and one month. His wife passed away July 8, 1868, when seventy-six years old. To them had been born ten children, eight of whom grew to mature years. Four of these are now deceased, namely: Bradford; Benjamin, who was drowned in Lake Ontario in 1846; Mrs. Norton, who died July 4, 1848; and Benoni, who was killed by a threshing-machine. The living are Barnabas, whose home is in Riverside, Cal.; Mrs. Berthania Elderkin, whose home is in Detroit; Thomas, who lives in Bay City; and Truman S., our subject.

The gentleman of whom we write was born in Avon Township November 8, 1834, and was educated in the common schools. As he grew up he did more and more farm work until he became proficient in every detail of the pursuit in which his father was engaged and capable of managing an estate for himself. He was married October 19, 1865, to Miss Rosira Koch, daughter of Jacob and Lucinda (Hurlburt) Koch. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania and Connecticut respectively and never lived in the West. The daughter came to this State to teach school and for nearly four years was thus engaged, with knowledge and tact, by which she made her mark in her profession. The dwelling over which she has charge is a beautiful one, in and about it may be seen the evidences of her good taste and housewifely ability.

Mr. Tibbals has never held public office nor desired it, as his taste is decidedly for the quietude of home life and the pleasures of a congenial social circle. He takes considerable interest in politics, attending every caucus, and is a staunch Democrat, who has voted for every candidate of his party since the days of James Buchanan.

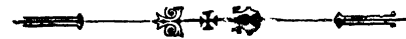


**G**EORGE E. DAINES is engaged in the business of an undertaker and furniture dealer in Birmingham and is also proprietor of the National Hotel. He was born at Bloomfield Center, October 30, 1850, and is a son of John and Alice A. (Watkins) Daines. That couple were born in New York and came hither about 1840. Mr. Daines was a potter and carried on a pottery at Bloomfield Center a few years, then engaged in the manufacture of tile. He was the second man in the United States to manufacture drain tile, in which business he continued until the fall of 1865. Owing to poor health he abandoned the work and took up his residence in Birmingham, buying the National Hotel property and carrying on business there seventeen months. He then traded for a farm in Bloomfield, lived on it two years, and then bought the hotel back again and returned to the village. He carried on the hotel until his death May 16, 1873, at the age of fifty years. He was in good circumstances, worth perhaps \$10,000 when he died. He was a Mason and an Odd Fellow. He never held any but town offices, but took an active part in party work and was a staunch Democrat. His widow survives and is now sixty-seven years old. Their children are Florence, Rosetta, George E., Minnie and Addie.

The gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs was reared in Bloomfield and received a common-school education. He began clerking in a drug store in Birmingham when quite young, and when his father died he took charge of the hotel for his mother and carried it on for her about ten years. He then bought the house which he is still managing. In the business of undertaking he is in partnership with J. O. Beattie. He abounds in

physical energy and activity, has good capacity for affairs and possesses the geniality that makes a good host. Notwithstanding the demands upon him by his business interests, he finds time to discharge the duties of a member of the Village Board, in which he has acted for fifteen years. He votes the Democratic ticket.

March 27, 1874, Mr. Daines was married to Miss Harriet Hoffman, who died after a few years of wedded life. The date of her demise was May 31, 1890, and her age thirty-nine years. She was born in Mt. Clemens and was a daughter of Vincent and Harriet (High) Hoffman. At the time of her marriage her home was in Birmingham. She had but one child, a daughter, Winifred, who is now twelve years of age and as bright a little lass as one can wish to see.



**J**AMES H. HAINS. Among the citizens of this county few have shown more enterprise than Mr. Hains, whose pleasant farm is located on section 1, Oxford Township, and comprises one hundred and sixty acres of good land. Beginning with limited means, he has surrounded his family with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life, has wisely used his income in aiding public enterprises, and is now devoting his land to general agriculture and stock-raising. He stands high socially, as well as in business circles, and is identified with the Patrons of Industry, the Grange and the Masonic fraternity. His excellent citizenship and the uprightness of his life make him a valued member of the community, in which he wields a decided influence.

Mr. Hains is a native of the Empire State, born in Monroe County July 6, 1828. In that State his father, Benjamin Hains, was also born, and thence he removed in May, 1832, to Michigan, accompanied by his family. The land which he purchased had just been taken up from the Government and was located in Washington Township, Macomb County. It was then wild land, on which a small log house had been built, and he endured all the hardships to which the pioneers were