

he chose for his helpmate on life's journey was Martha A. Smith, daughter of Russel O. and Abigail (Mathewson) Smith. They were united in marriage, by Lowell B. Starr, a Baptist minister of Hamlet, N. Y., Sept. 15, 1855, at Smith Mill, N. Y. Mrs. Benett was born Oct. 3, 1837, in Villinova twp. N. Y. Five children have graced this happy union, Alice L., (Smith,) Warren R. dec., Agnes L. dec., Herbert S. and Mattie B. When the war clouds settled over our fair country, Mr. Benett was following his profession as cabinet-maker and undertaker; true to his adopted country and her flag, he tried several times to enlist but was rejected on account of physical disability; not until Lee invaded the North and every man was needed to drive his victorious army back, was he allowed to enter the ranks. He was enrolled June 25, 1863, at Hamlet, N. Y., in Co. H, 68th N. Y. N. G. Private Bennett, although not engaged in active hostilities, underwent the hardships of army life, doing guard and garrison duty until discharged July 23, 1863, at Elmira, N. Y. William C. Smith, brother of Mrs. Benett, was also a member of the 68th N. Y. N. G. Mr. Benett was honored by many public offices; Justice of the Peace, Town Clerk, Supervisor, also Loan State Commissioner. At Dallas, Ga., on the evening of June 17, 1889, just as the sun sank in the West, and the evening shadows were lengthening into night, the spirit of David S. Benett, took its flight into the Great Beyond, to be with Him whom he had trusted all through life. His death was caused by hernia.

ORVILLE BISHOP.

The son of Levi and Hannah (Hinman) Bishop, was born Aug. 6, 1823, at Boston, Erie Co., N. Y. His parents have entered the land "of cloudless day". Father served in the War of 1812, and lost an arm at Queenstown. August, the 20th was the wedding day of our Comrade and Miss Mary Eddy, at Gowanda, N. Y., the bride's native town was Hamburg, N. Y. Two children were given to this union, Harriet, born Aug. 15, 1849, and Eddie, born Nov. 18, 1861. Mrs. Bishop died Nov. 11, 1858. After years of loneliness, Comrade Bishop was again married to Miss Almira D. Henry, of Gowanda, N. Y. May 12, 1859. Four children were born to them, Lucy A., Mary V., Blanch Ida dec. and Josephine I. Again the Death Angel came to the home of our Comrade and the wife died April 22, 1889. Mr. Bishop's ancestral line is full of military men, his grandfather served in the Revolutionary war; his brother, Hiram died in the hospital at Washington, Thomas killed at Chancellorsville. Mrs. Bishop's brother served in the Civil war. While running his trains as railroad man and keeping informed of the progress of the war, waiting only for the hour of his country's greatest need, Comrade Bishop enlisted June 22, 1862,

at Dunkirk, N. Y., in Co. A, 154th N. Y. V. I., 2d Brig., 2d Div., 11th A. C.; later transferred to the 2d Brig., 1st Div., 20th A. C. in which he was Drum Major. At Missionary Ridge, he was wounded by a piece of shell while carrying a stretcher on which was a wounded picket. May 1, 1863, at Chancellorsville he was captured and spent about five months in Libby, Bell Isle and Castle Thunder; after this about two months in the hospitals at Washington and Annapolis, Md. Again our hero seeks his regiment and finds them at Alexandria about the 15th of March 1864. With pardonable pride he recalls some of his battles, Wauhatchie, Lookout Mt., Missionary Ridge, Rocky Face Ridge, Resaca, Chancellorsville, Franklin, Atlanta, March to the Sea, Savannah and the pursuit of Johnston until his surrender. At times he became very hungry and he often stole the corn from the poor mules. After his return home, he was appointed the P. M. of Gowanda, N. Y. Although the weight of years and the effects of his suffering in the army and in prison have almost wrecked his strong constitution, he does not regret that he did the patriots part for the union of our beloved country. He was discharged June 23, 1865, at Bladensburg, Va.

DR. GEO. E. BLACKHAM.

Geo. E. Blackham, a son of David and Susan (Nolan) Blackham, was born Aug. 28, 1846, at Jersey City, N. J. and came to this county in 1850. When the Civil war began, he was engaged as a R. R. clerk and at the last call for volunteers, when only 18 years of age, he enlisted August, 1864, at Dunkirk, N. Y., in Co. I, 187th N. Y. V. I., which was assigned to the 2d Brig., 1st Div., 5th A. C. and on arrival at City Point, he was appointed Regimental Hospital Steward. The following are the principal battles in which his regiment was engaged: 1st and 2d Hatcher's Run, Graveley Run, Amelia C. H., Fife Forks, Weldon R. R., South Side R. R., Jetersville, Farnville and Appomattox C. H. In December, 1864 he received a ten days furlough and rejoined his command before Petersburg. When the war closed and his services were no longer needed, he was discharged July, 1865 at Arlington Heights, Va. On returning home, Comrade Blackham studied medicine and devoted himself to the practice of his profession; of late years he has confined his practice to diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. Dr. Blackham was united in marriage, Nov. 11, 1886, at Fredonia, N. Y. to Edith M. Annas, a daughter of A. A. and Maria A. (Didama) Annas. Mrs. Blackham was born in 1868, in Cazenovia, N. Y. Two children have graced their hearthstone, William C. and Edith M. Dr. Blackham is a man of rare ability and since returning to civil life has built up an excellent practice at his home in Dunkirk, N. Y. He is the Post surgeon of Wm. O. Steven's Post, No. 393.