

returned home, a wreck of his former fine physique. The wife's brothers, Henry and Lewis Bachman, served in the German army. Com. Messinger's is one of those sunshine natures, and his devotion to the country in her hour of need shows the nobility of his nature, for even now he says, "I would go through it all again, if need be, to see the Stars and Stripes float over a united Nation." He has been a Mason since 1868, having taken the third degree. He holds a position of honor and trust as car inspector in the railroad yard. Sherwood Post is favored with his membership. He lives with his interesting family at Salamanca, N. Y.

SPENCER S. PEAKE

A son of Olive and Miranda (Strong) Peake, was born Sept. 30, 1832 at Delhi, N. Y., and settled in this county in 1854. He was engaged as a bookkeeper and had learnt the carpenter trade before the war. When the War began, he at once enlisted, April 14, 1861, in the three months service and later sworn in for a longer period, in Co. K, 85th N. Y. V. I., 4th A. C. He was the first private to enlist in his company, and before the close of his service was promoted to 2d Lieut. In July, '62 he was sick with the fever in field hospital near New Kent C. H., and for the greater part of the time was insane, sent to hospital at White House Landing on July 4, 1862, at Yorktown he came to for a time because of the roar of the cannons, and at last was sent to Portsmouth Grove, R. I., where he remained till Sept., 1862, rejoining his command at Newport News. They were immediately in action, skirmishing from Suffolk, thence to Newburn, N. C., where they wintered 1862-3. He was on the expedition to burn the railroad bridge near Goldsboro, being gone 21 days. From Newburn they moved to Plymouth, where forts were built and he was among the heroic defenders of this fort when the rebels laid siege to and captured it. He relates the story of the battle: "April 18, 1864, in the grey of the evening, the rebels attacked the fort; after a few volleys I was wounded in the spine and lay behind a log till after midnight, captured and sent to Macon, Ga., in the hospital six weeks, where he heard the guns of Sherman on his way to the Sea; from thence he was sent to Savannah and at last to Charlestown. "How glorious was the sight of the star-spangled banner engravened upon the clear emerald sky on that beautiful morning! There were tears of joy in our eyes as we beheld that flag floating so calmly above the forts at Wilmington. I shall never forget that sight." For six weeks he witnessed the bombardment under Gen. Gillmore, when the famous "Swamp Angel" did her noble work on the rebel forts. From thence he was transferred to hospital at Columbia, where he remained during the winter, having often to walk to keep from freezing to death; from thence he went to Charlotte,

and on Mar. 1, 1865 he went to Wilmington on the cattle cars, a terrible storm of sleet and rain came and he was almost exhausted when he reached his destination. Mar. 13, 1865 he was discharged from the service at Annapolis, Md. Feb. 9, 1870 he was united in marriage to Louisa A. Fay, daughter of Benjamin and Phoebe M. (Shaver) Fay. She was born Dec. 27, 1838 at Hinsdale, N. Y. Four children have hallowed their home ties, E. Earle b. Nov. 17, 1870, Mearle B. b. Dec. 21, 1877, Lua A. b. Nov. 18, 1872, and Lilian E. b. June 21, 1874. His uncle, Elijah Peake, was in war of 1812; wife's brother, Walter M. Fay, Co. K, 85th N. Y. V. I., died of fever on hospital ship near Portsmouth Grove, R. I. Com. Peake had the misfortune to have a log roll on his right foot, resulting in the amputation of that member in 1867. He is a farmer by occupation, and one of the honored men of his county; he may be addressed at Hinsdale, N. Y.

LYMAN THORNTON.

A son of Alonzo R. and Adaline (Steward) Thornton, was born Jan. 14, 1846 at Yorkshire, N. Y. He was aged 16 years when he enlisted July 29, 1862 at Isehua, N. Y. in Co. C, 154th N. Y. V. I., 3d Brig., 2d Div., 11th A. C. With this noble regiment he fought at Gettysburg, Lookout Mt., Missionary Ridge, Wauhatchie Valley, Manassas Gap, and the pursuit of the "Johnnies" from Missionary Ridge to Knoxville. In May, 1863 he was in hospital at Acqua Creek for one month on account of diarrhea, and in Nov., 1864 was in hospital at Nashville, later at Cincinnati, and from there received a furlough, returning to command in Spring of 1865 at Raleigh, N. C. Comrade Thornton was considered the best "Jay-hawker" of the 154th N. Y. Many are the stories he can tell of the foraging. He relates one: "We had been marching all day and of course were tired and hungry. Our Colonel dropped back, and in a low tone, said to me, "I haven't any thing to eat for supper." "Colonel, I'm powerful tired, but I'll try. So I lagged behind and soon fell out of ranks, then took it cross country about a mile, came to a farm house. Two fat turkeys strutted in the yard; I entered the house; two women were sitting there. "How much for your turkeys?" I asked. "Ten dollars" was the reply. "All right, go get them." While they were gone, I rummaged the house and found some meal and other stuff, put it in a bag and set it down by the door. They soon returned, bearing the two fowls with legs tied together. "How much for this," I pointed to the bag on the floor. "Four Dollars." "That makes fourteen don't it?" Shouldering my bag and taking the turkeys by the legs I said, "Charge it to Uncle Sam, if you are loyal, you will get your pay," then marched off." After he had served his country faithfully, he was given his honorable discharge June 11, 1865 at Washington. Nov. 12, 1865, at Machias, N. Y., he

was united in holy matrimony to Delina A. Chase, daughter of James and Millie (Ellsworth) Chase. Four children came to hallow their home, Francis C., Mildred A., Frederick G., dec., and Baby, dec. After eight years of loving companionship the wife and mother was called to be with Him whom she had trusted all through life, Oct. 6, 1873. His second marriage was solemnized Mar. 20, 1875 to Anna E. (Hanes) Moon. Francis Chase, his first wife's brother, was wounded at Gettysburg, and died July 30, 1863, and her father was also in the Civil War. Private Thornton is a member of the I. O. O. F., the A. O. U. W. for 21 years, and a consistent member of the Baptist Church; he has been honored by many county and town offices and is at present postmaster at Ischua, N. Y. He is a courteous, Christian gentleman and Fair Oaks Post, 616, may well be proud of him as a member; he is one of the foremost business men of his town, influential, just true.

COL. GEORGE NATHANIEL SHEDD.

Feb. 19, 1838 in Jamestown, M. Y. a son took up his residence with John D. and Mary F. Smith Shedd. He was a resident of Ohio when the call came for 75,000 volunteers to don the blue, and he enlisted April 22, 1861 in 3d O. V. I., as a private; this regiment served three months, and was discharged Aug. 18, '61 at Hamilton. He enlisted in Co. F, 69th O. V. I. on its formation, Sept. 15, 1861, as sergeant; his list of battles include Stone River, where he was struck by a six pound solid shot in the right shoulder, completely taking off the top of the deltoid; he was confined in hospital at Nashville for 19 days, from here sent to Cincinnati, and at last to Hamilton. Being rendered unfit for further service he was discharged March 31, 1863 at Columbus, O. August 12, 1862 he had been detailed on special recruiting service for the 69th and it was an honored position as only one out of each 100 men was thus detailed. The 69th shared the fortunes of war with the 1st Div., 14th A. C., and was one of the best Ohio ever sent to the front. Aug. 19, 1863 he was commissioned Lieut. Col. of 3d O. V. I., by Gov. Tod of Ohio, for the term of five years. We need not speak of his faithful service, as it shows plainly that from private to Lieut. Col. was the reward for his gallantry. Once while leaning against a tree a bullet passed between his arms, grazing his moustache, being knocked down by the concussion. At another time with a detachment of 7,000 men, acting as captain of Co. D, 69th Ohio, he went across the Cumberland Mt.; at the foot of the mountain nestled the little town of McMinnville; a rebel flag floated on the tall staff in the commons; He clumb the pole, took down the Stars and Bars, and unfurled the glorious Stars and Stripes; this was a dangerous feat, when we think of it that the rebels were all through the town, and some fanatical symphthizer might have shot him easily. Col. Shedd served his five

years commission faithfully, reflecting honor upon his command. Sept. 13, 1862 while on recruiting service one of the recruits was Mary E. Carr. They were joined in holy wedlock at Hamilton, O. One son Albert C., born March 26, 1864, made sacred this union. He was eight years in the 5th U. S. Regulars. While in the Indian Territory he was injured in artillery practice, discharged, went to New Orleans and was there on the regular police force for two years, stricken with the yellow fever and died. Etta C. Crum, daughter of John and Harriet L. Blankmorr became the devoted wife of Col. Shedd, July 28, 1879 at Randolph, N. Y. John and Hiram Shedd, brothers, were in the 35th Ohio, Co. D. The former was wounded, took sick and died, and the latter died from disease. Uncle John F. Smith, colonel of 112th N. Y., Clement Smith, 2d lieut. of a N. Y. regiment, and Hiram Smith in same command, were devoted soldiers in the Great Cause. Comrade Shedd is a member of the Odd Fellows, is Past Dist. Dept. G. Master, member of Encampment, member of the Canton; a Master Mason of Chapter and Commandery, and is also the Grand Secretary of the State Protected Home Circle, a member of the Sherwood Post, 380, holding membership in fourteen secret orders. His wife is considered the best primary teacher in western New York holding that position in the Salamanca schools for 18 years. Com. Shedd is a harness maker, and lives in a pleasant home on River St., Salamanca, N. Y.

WESTBROOK L. DAVENPORT.

Cyrenus and Cornelia (Launsberry) Davenport were living in Ellensville, N. Y. when a son came to brighten their home, April 3, 1848, and was christened Westbrook L. When only a boy scarcely able to sit in the saddle, he rode the horses on the Delaware and Hudson Canal and worked for years on the tow path. He and his cousin, Levi L. Davenport, were boys together, and after working on the canal they were promised a year of schooling. One morning, after they had been in school a week or so, Levi said "Well, Brook, let's enlist." He realized that it would not be a picnic, but with a crowd of others they gat into a four-horse sleigh and drove to Kingston. The provost-marshal was his former Sunday-School teacher and he took them in and treated them kindly, gave them a week's furlough, and the boys came home to tell their folks the news. Returning to Kingston, they were enrolled in Co. G, 56th N. Y., 1st Brig., 2d Div., 10th A. C., and each paid the three hundred and twenty-five dollar bounty, they came home again for two weeks, and dressed in their new regimentals were the envy of the town boys. "After starting to the front, we went to New York City, crossing the Hudson on the ice from Kingston to Rynbeck, and were placed in Ft. Schuyler as recruits to the 56th N.