

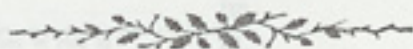
are now living. Mr. Gay was a man of considerable prominence in Sheridan Township, serving as Justice of the Peace, Commissioner and in other public offices. He and his wife were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Reed were William and Sally (Bonesteel) Gay, the latter a native of Germany. They removed from New York to Ohio, where the husband died. The widow subsequently came to Hillsdale County, this State, where she breathed her last many years later. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Reed were Amos B. and Lorinda Emily (Weldon) Pierce, natives of New Hampshire and Connecticut respectively. They came to this State in 1837, first making a home in Lenawee County and later coming to this county, where they were gathered to their fathers.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Reed took place April 19, 1848, and the young husband brought his bride at once to the farm which is still their home. They have become the parents of eleven children, two of whom have preceded them to the silent land. The living are: Mary Lodicia, wife of Abram Hoag and mother of one child and living in Jackson County; Frank, who married Charlotte A. Haney; Ira, who married Inez Smith and has one child; Alfred who married Alma Shipman and has two children; Julian whose present wife is Agnes High and who by a former marriage has one daughter—Blanche May; Milton, a widower with one child—Asa S., who lives in Montana; Willard who married Maude O'Hara; Lewis whose wife was formerly Ona Davis, and Alice, a stenographer in Chicago. Lodicia and Milton were graduated from Albion College, and Willard and Alice from the Albion High School.

The farm of Mr. Reed is devoted to the cultivation of the cereals and to the raising of stock. It is now operated by the sons who are living in this township with the exception of Milton. Frank is now Clerk of Sheridan Township and has been for several years. Not one of the sons uses either liquor or tobacco and all are so conducting themselves as to give their parents reason for pride in their progeny. All are much interested in the cause of education and the father has been School Director for many years. He has been Highway Com-

missioner, Justice of the Peace and served in other official capacities, always winning a good report as a servant of the public. His father was a Jacksonian Democrat and he affiliates with the Democratic party, has frequently been a delegate to the conventions and always attends to his duty as a voter. His personal character is unimpeachable, and he and his wife enjoy the high regard of their neighbors and associates.



AUSTIN W. ALVORD, M. D. is a prominent member of the medical profession of this State, practicing at Battle Creek. He is recognized as one of the leading surgeons of this part of the country, and his reputation as a physician of learning and ability is of the highest. As an officer in the army during the late war when he laid aside his medical studies to offer his services to the Government in the hour of its greatest need he won an honorable military record.

Our subject comes of old New England stock and is himself a native of that part of the country, born in the town of Chester, Mass., February 3, 1838. His parents were the Rev. Alanson and Adeline (Barrows) Alvord. His father was a native of Massachusetts, born in the town of Granby in 1803, and was a resident of that State nearly all his life, which was brought to a close by his death in 1862. He was a minister of the Congregational Church, and was a man of scholarly tastes, and of a pure and noble character. He was educated for his sacred calling at Yale College and at the New York Theological Seminary. He devoted his whole attention to the ministry, the most of his active life as a clergyman being passed in New England. All worthy reforms found in him an earnest champion. Especially was he interested in the cause of the poor slave and was one of the early abolitionists, and a co-worker with such men as Giddings, Garrison and Smith, who honored him with their friendship. The mother of our subject was also a native of the old Bay State, born in the town of Brimfield in 1812. She died in 1849 while yet in early womanhood, leaving a family of three children, as follows: