

# HISTORY OF MACOUPIN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

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**LEONARD KETCHUM.** A worthy representative of one of Macoupin county's pioneer families is to be found in the person of Leonard Ketchum, who is cultivating the farm on which he was born on the 21st of April, 1842. His parents were Ira and Phoebe (Fitzgerald) Ketchum, the father of English and the mother of Irish extraction. Ira Ketchum was a native of Vermont, his birth having occurred about 1816, and he is a son of Ira and Rebecca (Palmer) Ketchum, his father having been born and reared in the vicinity of Waltham, Vermont. When a youth of sixteen years he came with his mother and her brother, William Palmer, to Illinois, locating on what is now known as Palmer's Prairie in Jersey county, Illinois. There he lived with his uncle William until about 1837, when he took possession of eighty acres of land preempted for him by his uncle in Macoupin county. He subsequently purchased another eighty acres adjoining his tract, making the aggregate of his possessions one hundred and sixty acres. It was all raw prairie, never having been broken or improved in any way. He erected a log cabin and such other buildings as were necessary to shelter his stock and began breaking the land, placing it under cultivation as rapidly as he was able. The operation of his home farm continued to engaged his attention until his demise on the 5th of May, 1853. The mother of our subject was a native of New Jersey, her birth having occurred about 1816 also. In 1833 she came with her parents to Illinois, the family locating near Palmer's Prairie in Jersey county, and there Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald died about 1854.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ira Ketchum eleven children were born: Alfred is living in the vicinity of Pasadena, California; Daniel, who was a member of Company F, Thirty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war, and was with his brother when wounded at the battle of Shiloh, is now living near Pattensburg, Davis county, Missouri; Leonard is the next of the family; David, a member of Company F, thirty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, died in the army from the effects of wounds sustained at Shiloh; Edmund H., also deceased, was a member of the One Hundred and Twenty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry; Franklin is residing in the vicinity of Jerseyville, Illinois; Rebecca is the wife of James Chism, of Medora; Charles is living in Alton, Illinois; Ira is a resident of Macoupin county. The two youngest members of the family died in infancy. After the death of her first husband Mrs. Ketchum married Henry Cooper, by whom she had one son, Eli, who is living in Pasadena, California.

In general the early life of Leonard Ketchum did not differ from those of other lads of the pioneer period. Upon him early devolved many chores about the home, these being increased with the development of his strength, while his education was pursued in the district schools near by. He remained at home until he was seventeen years of age and then worked by the month as a farm hand until the breaking out of the Civil war. When Lincoln's second call came for troops, the patriotic spirit of the youth was deeply stirred and he responded by going to Springfield, where he enlisted in October, 1861. His brothers Daniel and David had gone to the front in the

preceding August, and the younger brother, Edmund H., joined near the close of the war, four members of the family having been in the army. He became a member of Company F, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, his regiment being sent to the Shenandoah valley, Virginia, joining General Buford's command. His first experience on the battlefield was at Sharpsburg, where his command had a severe engagement with Ashby's Black Horse Cavalry, this being the first sabre charge of the Civil war. He was captured at the surrender of Harper's Ferry by Stonewall Jackson's command and held under parole about six months and was then exchanged. He rejoined his regiment at Dumfries, Virginia, being assigned to do skirmishing and scouting duty throughout the state. His most notable battle was probably that of Gettysburg, in which he participated for two days, and then returned with his regiment to Brandy Station where they wintered. He did skirmishing in Virginia until mustered out in October, 1863, for reenlistment in the same company and regiment and was sent to New Orleans. He was assigned to duty along the Mississippi river and was in the Red River expedition under General Banks, and was at Memphis at the time of Lee's surrender. His regiment was held in service until 1866, being sent to Texas on scout duty, and they received their discharge at Springfield, Illinois. Among the most valued possessions of Mr. Ketchum are the sabre and carbine he carried the entire period of his service in the army.

After he was mustered out he returned to Macoupin county and rented land, which he cultivated for five years. At the expiration of that period he removed to the old family homestead, a small portion of this being his heritage, while the remainder he purchased from the other heirs. This consists of one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 18, Chesterfield township. He has wrought many changes in the place since he settled here, all of the buildings now standing having been erected during the period of his occupancy. It is one of the most attractive and valuable properties of Chesterfield township, being well improved and under a high state of cultivation. Mr. Ketchum calls his place Corn Land Farm, and here he devotes much attention to stock feeding, making a specialty of raising Poland China hogs and fine horses.

On the 14th of December, 1863, Mr. Ketchum was united in marriage to Miss Jane Hayward, a daughter of Cyrus Tolman and Elizabeth (Olmstead) Hayward. Her father was a representative of one of America's oldest families, his ancestors having been Thomas and Susanna Hayward, natives of Kent county, England. They came to America on the ship Hercules in 1635, landing at Plymouth, and were members of the Plymouth Colony that settled at Duxbury, Massachusetts. They were also among the original settlers of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, and there they died about 1681. Unto them were born five sons and two daughters, all of the former having been born in England. In order of birth they were as follows: Thomas, Nathaniel, John, Joseph, Elisha, Mary and Martha. The two last names were natives of Duxbury, Massachusetts. Mrs. Ketchum traces her descent directly to the fourth son, Joseph, who was two years of age when his parents brought him to America. He married Hannah Mitchell about 1682, and they had nine children. Their son Edward, born in 1689, married Keziah, the widow of Edward White, and to them were born four children. Joseph, their son, was born on the 17th of July, 1753, and married Lydia Barrows, who bore him fourteen children. Their son Joseph, whose birth occurred on the 10th of October, 1784, married Esther Ripley and had a family of eight children. George Adoniram, who was born of this union, married Henrietta Tarbox, who bore him one son, Ansel, who took for his wife Lucinda Tolman, a daughter of Daniel Tolman, of Bridgewater,

Massachusetts. They became the parents of eight children, one of whom was Cyrus Tolman Hayward, the father of Mrs. Ketchum. He was born in Massachusetts on the 4th of June, 1819, and there spent the first nineteen years of his life. In 1838, Anson Hayward sold his farm and came to Macoupin county, Illinois, with his family, settling on a farm on section 18, Chesterfield township. He was a cabinet-maker by trade, having followed that occupation in connection with farming in his native state. He retired from active farming during the latter years of his life and devoted his energies to clock repairing until his death, which occurred on the 30th of November, 1863. He was a veteran of the war of 1812. Cyrus Tolman Hayward lived at home until he attained his majority, assisting his father with the work of the farm. On Christmas day, 1840, he was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Maria Olmstead, and unto them were born eight children: Cyrus W., who is living at Parsons, Kansas; Caroline Matilda, the wife of Frank Silsby; Jane, now Mrs. Ketchum; William Oscar, also living at Parsons, Kansas; Lucinda Cornelia, the deceased wife of Melvin Loper, of Chesterfield township; Eva Josephine, the deceased wife of Emmons Loper, of Chesterfield township; Eldon O., who died at the age of three years; and Eldon Augustus, who died in infancy. The mother of these children passed away on the 8th of July, 1856. On the 21st of September, 1859, Mr. Hayward was married the second time, his choice on this occasion being Mrs. Mary Ann Johnson, a widow. They became the parents of five children: Lilian O., a merchant at Medora, Illinois; Herbert M., who is living on the old home place in Chesterfield township; Mary E., the wife of William Simpson, of Marion, Indiana; Horace L., who is a resident of Chicago, Illinois; and Ida R., who died in infancy. Mrs. Hayward passed away on the 22d of August, 1898. Cyrus T. Hayward learned the cabinet-maker's trade in his early youth, following that in connection with farming for many years. About 1846 he bought eighty acres of land on section 20, Chesterfield township, upon which he settled with his family. He extended the boundaries of his farm in 1858 by the purchase of another eighty-acre tract, continuing to make that his home until his death on the 11th of June, 1904.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ketchum there were born ten children, in order of birth as follows: Louis E., deceased, who was a real-estate dealer of Stuttgart, Arkansas, and was married and had three children; Lawrence C., a farmer of Shipman township, who is married and has four children; Evelina, the wife of A. L. Carter, of Medora, and the mother of one son; Nellie May, the wife of Edward Barnes, a farmer of Jersey county; Elizabeth, the wife of Cary Haynes, of Chesterfield township, and the mother of two daughters; James Wastler, operating the home place, who is married and has one son; Jane S., the wife of John Shields, a retired farmer of Jerseyville, and the mother of two children; and three who died in infancy.

Mr. Ketchum loyally supports the men and measures of the republican party and although often urged to enter public life has never held any office save that of school director. He maintains relations with his comrades of the Civil war through the medium of his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic, in which he has always taken an active interest. Mr. Ketchum is one of the highly regarded citizens of Chesterfield township; intelligent and progressive in his ideas, and he takes a deep interest in community affairs, always giving his support to every movement that promises to serve the best interests of the majority.