

A. Mrs. Troeger was born in the county where she was married, Nov. 15, 1833.

Mr. and Mrs. Troeger are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and of the American Bible Society.



David Smith, the oldest living pioneer of Shabbona Township, residing at Shabbona, was born in Chatham, Canada East, Dec. 10, 1820. He is a son of James and Sally (Straw) Smith, formerly residents of Waterbury, Vermont, and who were temporarily absent from that State, in Canada, at date of the birth of their son.

David was reared on a farm, and spent his years prior to 13 in farm labor and attending the common schools in Vermont. His father deceased, and his mother was married to Edmund Town, now deceased, who also was one of the early settlers in Shabbona Township.

When 13 years old Mr. Smith, accompanied by his mother, came to Paw Paw, Lee Co., this State, arriving there in October, 1834. His stepfather arrived in December of the same year, and he and Mr. Smith erected the first house in Shabbona Township. The house was located on section 26, was constructed of logs and was raised on the first day of January, 1835. They entered at once on the laborious task of improving the land and made that their home. In 1835 David, then only 14 years of age, improved a claim, the same being the land now owned by Peter V. Miller and known as the southwest quarter of section 24. He sold his claim and improved another, southwest of the last named, which he was compelled to relinquish on account of his minority. Later he improved still another claim, and subsequently traded it for the place he now owns. Mr. Smith has added to his land until he is at the present time the owner of 400 acres, situated on sections 11, 27 and 34.

In 1850, when the news of the discovery of gold in California was received, Mr. Smith went overland to that State. He arrived there in safety, and at once engaged in placer-mining. He made a claim full of promise at the time, and did turn out rich in ore, but he was taken with a severe attack of typhoid fever

and lost the benefit of his discovery. His brother, who was with him, was stricken with the same disease and died, and Mr. Smith concluded to return home. He returned, *via* the Isthmus, arriving here in December, 1852, and has since been residing on his farm and in Shabbona. He moved into the village in 1879, and has five acres of land and several village lots there.

Mr. Smith was married in Brooklyn Township, Lee Co., this State, June 7, 1839, to Miss Eliza J. Carr. She was born in the city of New York, Aug. 10, 1818, and was the daughter of James and Eliza (Johnson) Carr. She came to Illinois when seven years old. Of their union six children were born: Mary A., the wife of Frank Crowell, of Waterman, this State. Rebecca, wife of Bradford Heath, resident at Shabbona. Israel married Miss May Thomas and resides in Shabbona. Henry married Miss Jennie Neal and resides in Shabbona. Warren married Cate McFadden and resides at Shabbona. Eliza, youngest daughter, is unmarried and resides at home.

Mrs. Smith died in August, 1880, in Shabbona, and July 7, 1883, Mr. Smith was again married, to Miss Annie Seyler, daughter of George and Mary Seyler. She was born in Cedarville, Stephenson Co., this State, Dec. 28, 1849.

Mr. Smith politically is a Republican. He is a member of Spartan Lodge, 272, I. O. O. F., at Paw Paw, Lee County.



Charles Kittelson, general farmer on section 17, Milan Township, was born Oct. 28, 1851, in Earl Township, La Salle Co., Ill. His parents were Kettle and Lavinia (Sanderson) Kittelson, and he was but 11 years of age when his father died, in March, 1863. He was mainly dependent on his own efforts for a livelihood after that event, previous to which he had received only a common-school education. He gave considerable attention to the proper training of his mind, and also contributed to the family maintenance, as there were four children younger than himself. They are named: Austin, born Dec. 1, 1853; Emma, April 6, 1856; Adolph, Oct. 5, 1858; and Knute, Nov. 12, 1862. Emma is the wife of Goodman Jacobs, a farmer of Milan Township. The mother and three brothers named live