

which he was received and raised to the degree of Master Mason. He was chosen secretary of his lodge at the next succeeding election, and, in 1881 and 1882, sat in the chair of master. Having the proud satisfaction of knowing that his lodge was enjoying a high degree of prosperity, he declined reelection as master in 1883. In the year preceding he was made district deputy grand master of the twenty-fourth Masonic district of New York, and after holding that office three years, was, in June, 1885, unanimously elected junior grand warden of the Grand Lodge of the "Empire State," to which exalted station he has been in like manner annually re-chosen until 1891, when unanimously elected senior grand warden, and, in the opinion of eminent masonic authority, there is every possibility that he may yet be called to preside as grand master. In recognition of his distinguished services to masonry, Lockport Lodge, No. 73, and Tonawanda Lodge, No. 247, have conferred upon him honorary membership. In May, 1887, he was appointed grand representative of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Pennsylvania. In 1881 he was appointed grand representative of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi. In 1869 he received the honors of Masonic Knighthood, in Genesee Commandery, at Lockport, and shortly afterwards was complimented by unanimous election to honorary membership in Cyrene Commandery, of Rochester. On the organization of Lock City Lodge of Perfection, A. A. S. R., December 25, 1875, due largely to his initiative, he was elected Thrice Potent grand master, and presided most successfully until 1883, with interregnum in 1881, when he declined. The prosperity of this lodge under his wise, energetic and beneficent administration, was regarded

in masonic circles as phenomenal, and it is probably at the head of this rite in the western part of the State. In September, 1879, at the annual session of the Supreme Council, Thirty-third degree, for the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States, held at the city of Philadelphia, the thirty-third and last degree was conferred upon him as an honorarium, in recognition of his services and zealous devotion in the walks of masonry, and especially in the "Scottish Rite." Again, in September, 1888, the Supreme council crowned him an Active member, and at the same session elected him deputy for the State of New York; again, in 1891, was re-elected deputy for State of New York. The organization of Masonic Veterans of Lockport was the result, largely, of his individual efforts, and of this body he was chosen first president, and still holds the office. The possession of rank, wealth and power is the result of chance or accident, or the special gift of the providential deity called Fortune. But there is no ground for these assertions in this instance, for it must be recognized that the man shaped and moulded his circumstances, and that judgment, foresight and determined purpose, together with the due exercise of intelligent reason, and not blind chance, raised him to wealth and honors. No better illustration of a self-made man can be found in biographical annals. Though possessed of wealth, he prefers hard work to idleness, and finds his greatest pleasure, not in personal enjoyment, but in the happiness he can bring to others.

ANDREW JACKSON BAKER, a produce dealer of Middleport, is a son of Alden S. Baker and Elizabeth W. Baker,

and was born in Middleport, Niagara county, New York, January 6, 1828. He was married June 14, 1854, to Orrill L. Smith, of Homer, Cortland county, New York. Orrill L. Smith was born in Morrisville, Madison county, New York, July 6, 1827. To them were born five children, two sons and three daughters.

Hon. Alden Sprague Baker (father) was born in Westmoreland, New Hampshire, November 10, 1799, and emigrated to the State of New York in 1816. He married Elizabeth Wanton Wickham, at Sodus Point, Wayne county, New York, in 1823, and settled in Middleport in 1824. Elizabeth Wanton Wickham was born December 22, 1803, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. To them were born eleven children, seven sons and four daughters. Alden S. Baker died March 13, 1878. His widow, three daughters, and four sons survive him.

SIMEON TUCKER CLARK, A. M., M. D., one of Lockport's leading physicians, and a man of scientific and literary attainments, was born in the town of Canton, Massachusetts, October 10, 1836, the son of Rev. Nathan S. and Laura S. (Swift) Clark. His paternal ancestry is traced back to one of the Pilgrim Fathers, John Clark, who came over in the *Mayflower*, on which he was chained for a time, for some act of insubordination, but was speedily released, as he was an excellent navigator whose services could not be easily dispensed with in steering along an unknown coast. From John Clark was descended Robert Clark, whose son, Presby Clark, was the grandfather of Dr. Clark. Presby Clark was a native of Massachusetts, where he followed ship-carpentering until



DR. S. T. CLARK.

he became deaf from caulking vessels, and was married to Rebecca Sears, by whom he had four sons and five daughters. One of the sons, Rev. Nathan S. Clark (father), was born in Rochester, Massachusetts, in 1806, and died at Millville, New York, in 1872. He served as a minister in the Methodist church for over forty years, was treasurer of the town of Marion, and, during the years 1847, 1848, and 1849 distinguished himself in the legislature of Massachusetts, of which body he was then a member, by successfully urging several very important measures. His first wife was Laura S., daughter of Benjamin Swift, (maternal grandfather,) of Wareham, Massachusetts, who was a moulder and farmer, and who married Mehitable Stevens, who bore him two sons and one daughter. Rev. N. S. Clark, by his first marriage, had two children: Dr. Simeon T. and Sarah L., now dead, and after the death of Mrs. Clark, married for his second wife Mrs. Harriet Kilborn, of Spencerport, New York.