

penter by trade and died in 1868, leaving two children,—Bella, deceased, and Archie, of Chicago; Daniel, born in 1840, in Scotland, married Christie Martin (first), who died leaving four children, Christina, John, Archie and Ella, all of Chatham, and his second marriage was to Mary Black, who had one son, Harry (Daniel lived and died in Chatham); Margery, born in Scotland, married Benjamin Fields, of Santa Cruz, California, and they have one son, Martin; Neil, born in 1843, in Canada, married a Miss Wilkinson, of Wheatley, Ont., where he died in 1880, leaving one son, Harry.

John J. McCoig was the fourth member of the above family. He gained his early education in the schools of Scotland, and was thirteen years old when he came to Canada. His youthful life was similar to that of the majority of the farmers' sons of the locality—school in winter and farm work in summer, and he remained under the parental roof until grown to maturity and ready for his marriage. This took place in 1861, to Miss Jane McKerrill, of Chatham township, and he subsequently took the management of the present farm. Here Mrs. McCoig died in 1868, leaving a son, Dougal, who resides near his father on the Hawley farm; he married Christian Taylor, daughter of William Taylor, and they have one daughter, Margaretta. In 1872 Mr. McCoig was married (second) to Miss Amelia Hamil, who was born in 1848, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Kenny) Hamil, and grew up in Harwich. Mr. and Mrs. McCoig then settled on the old homestead, where he erected his present fine brick house in 1890, and he has also put up all the substantial buildings which contribute so much to the air of comfort and prosperity which surrounds this pleasant home.

In 1869 Mr. McCoig was elected market clerk for the city of Chatham and County of Kent, and filled the office for seven years in all, during which time he resided at Chatham, renting the farm. There he was a large grain and pork buyer for James Lamont, and for three years was engaged in a grocery business there. Since returning to the farm he has continued agricultural life. The children of his second marriage are as follows: John, born in Chatham, died in childhood; Lizzie, born in Chatham, was educated for teaching in the Ridgetown Collegiate Institute, and for five years has followed that profession in the county;

Lena, born in Harwich, was also educated in the Collegiate Institute and the London Normal school, and for three years has been a successful teacher; Laura, born at the present home, first attended the local school, then graduated from the Ridgetown Collegiate Institute, taught for three years in County Kent, and subsequently took a course in the London Normal School from which she graduated in 1903; Marguerite is in the advanced class in the home school; John and Alice are still students in the local schools. Mr. McCoig's family is unusually intellectual and the young ladies are types of culture and refinement. He was one of the founders of the Bethel Presbyterian Church, which was built on land deeded by him for that purpose. All his family are members and liberal supporters of the same. In politics he is identified with the Reform party. He is widely known and most thoroughly respected for his many sterling traits of character.

JAMES L. WEIR. The Weir family has been identified with the County of Kent for many years. John Weir, the grandfather of James L., was born in Scotland, July 24, 1765. He was a sea-faring man, captain of the "Janet and Margaret," which sailed from the port of Greenock, and he died in his native land when his son Malcolm was but a young boy.

Malcolm Weir, son of John, was born in Scotland July 25, 1812, and there grew to manhood. In 1834 he came to Ontario, locating on Lot 14, River Front, Raleigh township. In 1850 he accepted a position with the Bank of Upper Canada, located at Chatham, and with this institution he remained until about the time it closed its business, in 1863. For some time prior to this Mr. Weir had been treasurer of Chatham, in which capacity he continued until 1884, when he practically retired from active life and died in 1887. Politically, he was a Liberal. His religious views were in accordance with the Presbyterian Church. In 1837 Malcolm Weir married Miss Amelia E. McIntosh, a daughter of James Lochlin McIntosh, who was born on the River Spey, in Scotland, in 1759, and who became a member of the 71st Highlanders, entering as a drummer boy at the age of fifteen years. He came to Canada with Gen. Cornwallis and served in the Revolutionary War, his distin-