

HENRY M. KELLY.

Henry M. Kelly, a rising young attorney of Ottawa, was born in this city, May 22, 1865, and is a son of Martin and Ellen (Maher) Kelly. His grandparents, James and Margaret (Redmond) Kelly, came from the picturesque but unhappy island of Ireland in 1830 to seek the land of freedom and plenty so graphically described by those who had previously braved an ocean voyage and settled on the sun-kissed shores of America. Arriving in New York city, they traveled west to Buffalo, where they made their home for a few years, and then moved to LaSalle county, Illinois, locating in Ottawa in 1837. James Kelly was a stone mason and found plenty of work in Ottawa and vicinity putting up buildings and laying cellar walls and foundations for dwellings, stores, churches and other structures. He was a hard-working, honest man, who did his work conscientiously and well. He moved to a farm upon which he died in the year 1855. His wife, who survived him until 1893, was the mother of six children who grew to mature years. They are John W.; Martin; Maria, now Mrs. John Bailey, of Chicago; James, of Ottawa; Catherine, Mrs. Michael J. Fire, of Chicago; and Margaret, Mrs. De Forest, also a resident of Chicago.

Martin Kelly was born in this city when it was but little more than a village, fifty-nine years ago. He attended school here until he was sixteen years of age, when his parents moved upon a farm and he accompanied them, finding life in the country a pleasure. He remained at home until he was twenty-one and then purchased a farm in Manlius township, this county, where he was engaged in agriculture until his removal to this city, where he still lives. He was united in marriage to Miss Ellen Maher, a daughter of Michael and Catherine (Peters) Maher, in 1861. They have had six children, viz.: Margaret, the wife of Richard Halligan; George J.; Henry M., our subject; Catherine, Mrs. Hackett, of Chicago; Mary, the wife of

John Gay, a prominent attorney of Tolono, this state; and Flora, who resides at home. Mr. and Mrs. Kelly are devout members of the St. Columba's Catholic church.

Henry M. Kelly graduated at the Ottawa high school when he was but eighteen years old, and at once entered the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company. He remained with them two years and resigned at the expiration of that time to accept a better office in the service of the Chicago & Rock Island road. He was here, also, two years, and during that period spent all his leisure time in the study of law, in an earnest endeavor to fit himself for the ranks of that profession. He entered the office of John W. Black, where he studied until he was admitted to the bar of the supreme court at Ottawa in 1891. He continued with Mr. Black for some time and later formed a partnership with that gentleman, under the style of Black & Kelly, and continued in that relation three years. Since dissolving his partnership with Mr. Black, Mr. Kelly has practiced alone, and is meeting with the success his merits deserve. Keen, logical and quick at repartee, he has prospered from the start.

In 1894 he was married to Miss Mary Morrissey, a daughter of Laurence Morrissey, ex-sheriff of LaSalle county. Mr. and Mrs. Kelly live in a beautiful home which he erected in 1895, and have three interesting children: Harry and Marie, born in April, 1895; and Emmett, born August 19, 1897.