

## ELMORE WATERS

(Post-office, Catawba).

One of the oldest and best known and most highly respected residents of Caldwell county, Mr. Waters is a man whose life has been an active one not without the substantial rewards of success. In 1855 he came to this county and at once identified himself with her interests. For several years registering officer, he also held the position of justice of the peace, besides other positions of trust and responsibility, not the least of which was that of county judge, the duties of that office being discharged in an efficient manner. During the war, though exempt from military duty, he enlisted in 1862 as a member of the M. S. M. cavalry and served something over a year, receiving a severe wound at the battle of Lone Jack. Though reared a Democrat and under the influence of slavery, he was bitterly opposed to it and has ever acted with the Republican party since its organization. Mr. Waters was born September 17, 1815, in Loudoun county, Va., one of a family of eight children of John and Catharine (Wyatt) Waters, both natives of the Old Dominion. Indeed, their respective

ancestors were colonial settlers of Virginia and of English descent. John Waters and several of his children died in Virginia, but the mother departed this life in Clarke county, O. Elmore remained at home until fifteen years of age, assisting in the duties about the farm, but his opportunities for securing an education were rather meager. In 1829 he entered the U. S. Arsenal at Harper's Ferry and worked at the manufacture of fire-arms for some nine years, but in 1838 he removed to Clarke county, O., which was his home for twelve years, except a residence of eighteen months in his native State. Going to Logan county, Ill., in 1850, he came from there to Caldwell county in 1855, and at once settled where he now lives, his excellent estate embracing 350 acres of land, improved to good advantage. Farming has been his occupation since leaving Harper's Ferry and in all its details he has become well versed, though only by hard work, good management and economy has he risen to his present substantial position. Mr. Waters has been twice married. First January 24, 1839, to Miss Fannie Kidwell, who was born in Loudoun county, Va., May 13, 1817. She died January 20, 1864, leaving eight children: Thomas W., Ophelia M., Sarah A., Joseph W., Elizabeth F., Esther E., Samuel J. and John F. Mrs. Hannah Bennett, *née* Lane, became Mr. Waters' second wife November 10, 1864. She was a native of Illinois, born October 7, 1833. Three children have been born to this estimable couple: Ulysses G., Jacob E. and an infant, now deceased.