

7. Thos. P., born 1818; died unmarried.
8. Asaph Hunter, born 1820.
9. Susan Slaughter, born 1833; married Wm. Dicus, in Missouri.

#### JAMES S. SPEED.

James Stephens Speed, the fifth child of the foregoing John Speed and Mary Stephens, was born in 1811 on his father's farm, about nine miles from Louisville, on the Salt river road. At the age of seventeen or eighteen he determined to go into the city of Louisville to make his living. He did so, and succeeded so well that he became one of its foremost citizens, and mayor of the city.

It is remembered that he said in after life that he was much discouraged when looking for employment in Louisville. That he was watching the erection of a large building, and resolved to apply for work to the man who had charge of the work. The answer he received was an inquiry "what could he do?" He replied, "almost anything." His manner attracted the man, who was Mr. Pickett, a contractor for buildings and railroads. He took the young man into his family and put him in charge of his books. At the age of twenty-one he gave him a full interest in the business, and the firm of Pickett & Speed did a successful business for years.

The firm had a contract to build a church in the Pond Settlement neighborhood, and during that work James Speed met Miss Julia A. Kearney, whom he wooed and married. Her family were Catholics, and though his were Protestants, yet he and their children all became Catholics.

James Speed very rapidly became an important and influential man in Louisville. He was universally popular. His manner was hearty and cordial, and he had a remarkably quick and ready wit, and strong common sense. He was a great friend of Geo. D. Prentice. It is related that in the Harrison campaign in 1840, at a public meeting, Prentice was called upon to speak. He excused himself, but called on James Speed as the man who did all his speaking. Speed did not hesitate, but responded in a speech full of wit and