

the Memphis City Bank. Is now President of the Home Insurance Company ; also of the Memphis Grain Elevator and Manufacturing Company, and Dixie Mill Company ; Vice-President of the State Savings Bank ; Director in the State National Bank. This statement of the positions of trust and confidence to which he has been called is enough to show his character. His success is due to his intelligence, self-reliance and integrity. His business ability and judgment and perfect reliability are so distinctly recognized, that he is appealed to to settle disputes among business men to such an extent that it has been remarked that if he had been a lawyer and charged for his counsel, he would by that means alone have been made wealthy. These characteristics were displayed when he was a young man, a little over twenty, as illustrated by the following fact : There was a dispute about the weighing of grain in Memphis, and a firm in the North that was complaining telegraphed to have John K. Speed settle it ; that they would abide by whatever he did.

He occupies an enviable position among the business men of the country, and is especially honored in his own city, for which he has done so much.

He married Lucy R. Clarke, in the city of Peoria, Ill., February 8, 1871. She is the daughter of Chas. S. Clarke, of Peoria, a successful business man, who, by reason of his love for reading and study, was called the " Sage of Peoria." Her younger brother, Charles C. Clarke, has been for two years Mayor of Peoria, being the youngest man who ever filled that office. She is a lady of great culture, refinement and beauty—a worthy companion of an honored husband.

The children of this marriage :

1. Charles Clarke.
2. Julia Ann.
3. Kate Kearney.

BLANCHE SPEED, daughter of James S. Speed, married Dr. John W. Buddeke, of Memphis, December 9, 1885. He was born in Nashville ; was educated at Notre Dame College, Ind. ; studied and graduated in medicine under Dr.