

America and to Wisconsin, settling in Portertown, Jefferson county, where they remained some ten years, then removing to Reedwood, Dodge county, where the father is now living, all these years following his trade of blacksmith, in connection with farming. The mother died November 20, 1885. John Roller, paternal grandfather of Edward J., came to America from Austria with his children, and died in June, 1891, at the age of eighty-eight years; his grandmother, who at the patriarchal age of ninety years, is now present living at the home of her son John; they had two children—John and Anna.

The subject proper of this memoir was reared on the farm, assisting his father until he was twenty-two years of age, at which time he went to Minneapolis, where he commenced the trade of cooper, which he carried on there some five years, and then selling out in 1883 entered the saloon trade, continuing there at Minneapolis till 1887, in which year he came to Tomahawk, Lincoln county, and opened a general mercantile business, one of the first in that line to be commenced in the place. By strict attention to the wants of his customers, honest dealing and courteous deportment, he succeeded in bringing up a remunerative business and surrounding himself with hosts of friends, among whom he was a recognized leader. In addition to his mercantile business he was interested in other industries, including logging and handling of wood, etc., for he was one of the most active business men in northern Wisconsin. But death interrupted his busy life, he being called from earth January 1, 1893, in the prime of his early manhood and zenith of his usefulness, deeply mourned by all who knew him.

In May, 1885, Mr. Roller was married to Miss Josephine M. Cabott, daughter of Martin and Henrietta Cabott, who were the parents of six children, to wit: Michael, Leonard, Julia, Amelia, Leonard and Josephine M. Martin Cabott, father of this family, was born near Berlin, Prussia, in 1810, learned the trade of carpenter, was married in Posen, Germany, in 1840, came to America in 1855, taking up his residence in Detroit, Mich., where he died

His wife was born in Berlin, Prussia, in 1822, a daughter of Judge John Van der Boon, a man of considerable prominence in that city, who had a family of seven sons and five daughters. After the death of her husband, Henrietta Cabott moved from Detroit to Portertown, Wis., and was there married to Mr. Howard, by whom she had five children, named respectively, Theodore, Albert, Rosa, Ferdinand and Henry. Mr. Howard died in the fall of 1893, but Mrs. Howard is yet living.

To Mr. and Mrs. Howard J. Roller were born two children—Alfred A., and George E., who died in infancy. In national and State politics Mr. Roller was a Democrat, but in local affairs he invariably cast his ballot for the candidate considered best suited for the position, regardless of parties. He served as deputy sheriff two years, and constable four years, filling both offices with eminent satisfaction. The entire family (as was Mr. Roller himself) are competent members of the Catholic Church, and enjoy the highest esteem and regard of the community at large.

**ALBION F. LOMBARD.** If the new and vigorous little settlement at Arnot, Stockton township, Portage county, ever grows to goodly proportions, its start on the road to prosperity will have been given it by A. F. Lombard. If the village does not so thrive, it will be because Mr. Lombard's efforts in its behalf are not seconded. In other words the subject of this sketch is a public-spirited citizen, zealous in advancing the interests of the community in which he lives, and thoroughly alive to the possibilities that might follow wise co-operation.

Mr. Lombard is the son of an early pioneer. The family of Lombards in this country have descended from three brothers who many generations ago came to the United States from the Island of Corsica, and settled at Scituate, a small fishing town on the coast of Massachusetts. **Albion F.** was born at Readfield, Kennebec Co., Maine, October 7, 1842. His father, James Lombard, was born at Gorham, Maine, De-



*A. F. Lombard*

cember 2, 1796, and the grandfather and great-grandfather were likewise both named James. The father (James) was reared at Gorham, and there apprenticed to a saddler and harness-maker by his stepfather. James Lombard opened a shop at Readfield, Maine, where, September 7, 1817, he married Isabella Currier, born August 31, 1799, at Readfield, daughter of Samuel Currier, the leading physician of that village, whose practice years afterward fell to his son George. James Lombard's health was failing at his trade, and he took up the study of medicine, preparing himself by a course at Bowdoin College. Practicing successfully at Readfield, Gorham, and Saccarappa, a suburb of Portland, Maine, Dr. Lombard in May, 1851, started with his family for Wisconsin. Coming by rail from Saccarappa to Buffalo, and by the lakes on the old "Wisconsin" from Buffalo to Sheboygan, they drove by team to Plover, where a son, Lewis, had preceded them. Dr. Lombard was a poor man, and sought a home away from the city where he might rear his large family. His children were James, Charles, Isabel, George, Lewis, Leonidas, Halbert, Orlando, Washington, Horace, Emily, Albion F. and Emma. Of these, George (a farmer of Stockton), Lewis (a farmer of Lanark township), Albion F. and Emma (now Mrs. Sydney Stevens, of Livingston, Mont.), are the only survivors. His first settlement was in Section 32, Stockton township, where Lewis had pre-empted 160 acres before the land was on sale, not receiving his patent until 1858. Dr. Lombard died on that farm in 1858, from the effects of a long-standing complaint. He was buried in a private cemetery on the farm, which in 1891 became public, and is known as "Lombard Cemetery." Dr. Lombard was an intelligent, well-read man, far above the average of the early settlers. In politics he was a stanch Democrat. By the terms of the will the property was left to Albion F. and James, they to provide for the widowed mother, who survived until April 21, 1881, and was buried by the side of her husband.

Albion F. Lombard attended the Maine schools diligently till the journey west. For several years there were no schools in

Stockton, but in the winters of 1860, 1861 and 1862 he attended terms on "The Prairie," under that old-time instructor, James Walker. After his father's death he took charge of his half of the farm. In 1863 many boy friends and acquaintances were enlisting in the army, and Albion F. was seized with a desire to become a soldier. He had about concluded to join the Seventh Wis. V. I., then stationed at Arlington Heights, in which an intimate friend, Michael Shortell, later killed on the Rappahannock river, had enlisted, when his brother Horace returned from service and pleaded with him not to volunteer. It took the united efforts of the family a long time to keep the boy out of service. He must go somewhere, however, for the spirit of adventure was in his veins. In the lumber country, along the Big Eau Plaine river, he became cook for the crew of a big raft of lumber and shingles bound for the South. Starting March 25, 1863, the first division of the raft collided at Clint's dam, and one of the crew perished, others narrowly escaping. The second division, containing Mr. Lombard, passed in safety. At Rock Island, Ill., the raft struck one of the bridge piers in the Mississippi river, and was considerably damaged; but by the aid of tug boats repairs were made, and the one million feet of choice lumber loaded with shingles, which the raft contained, reached Quincy, and the lumber was sold for \$18 per thousand feet.

Receiving his pay, the young man started for Pike's Peak. Crossing the bridgeless Mississippi in a skiff, he reached St. Joe by rail, and staged it to Omaha. Impatiently waiting for a train to cross the Plains, he hired out to drive a team of four mules, hauling corn to Fort Laramie, Wyo., at forty dollars per month. He had to shell the corn himself, and started several days later. The wagon boss was brutal and insulting, and after several clashes Mr. Lombard left him, at Julesburg, Neb., obtaining his pay only after threats to sue. He had met trains bound for Denver at Ft. Kearney, and, joining one of them, paid his passage by work. Proceeding by stage to Mountain City, near Central City, Colo., where he expected to

find his brother, Washington, he learned the latter had left for Idaho. Albion secured work as a laborer at a stamp mill, at \$2.50 per day; then worked in a mine at \$3 per day, and later at the Gregory Lode at \$3.50 per day. His brother Horace joined him in the spring of 1865, and they worked as carpenters for a time, when Albion became foreman in a mine at California Gulch, Colo., at \$3 per day in gold. Returning to Black Hawk, he, with the brother took a wagon train for Omaha. Here for a short time he worked for the Union Pacific Railway Co., and, work becoming scarce, hired out in the spring of 1866 as a laborer in the construction of the Union Pacific road at Columbus, Neb., 100 miles west of Omaha. One month of this work was enough, and returning to Omaha he drove wagon to Denver, and mined during the summer. Back to Omaha he went again in the fall to find his brother Horace doing contracting work, and hired out to him as a carpenter, being a great help to him in time of misfortune. During the winter of 1866-67 he hauled wheat to a mill twenty miles up the river from Omaha for Edward Creighton, afterward a multi-millionaire.

Hiring out on bridge construction for the Union Pacific road in the spring of 1867, Mr. Lombard learned on reaching his destination that "no hands were needed." A company of soldiers passing en route to Cheyenne, where barracks were to be erected, he hired out to Col. Carlin for \$100 per month. Six weeks later, because a comrade was discharged, he quit, too, and did job work at Cheyenne for \$10 per day. By fall he had saved several hundred dollars, and he returned to Wisconsin, where he spent the winter. Returning to Omaha in the spring, he was actively engaged in bridge and trestle building for the Union Pacific road as far west as Corinne, Utah. He witnessed the celebrated ceremonies attending the completion of the road, June 9, 1869, and soon after, learning of the death of his brother James, he returned to Stockton township, Portage Co., Wis., and took charge of the farm. He also engaged in the sale of agricultural implements and farm machinery. In 1890 he sold the "home farm," and

erected several buildings at Arnott Station, doing much to establish and improve business at that point. There he erected the first potato warehouse, a building 40 x 60 feet, leasing it to Mr. Carley, who afterward bought it. He also sold other buildings, and thus diversified the interests at the little station. His business in implements and farm machinery grew so rapidly that in 1893 he built a large warehouse, and he has since added a select line of hardware. His present stock would be a credit to a larger town. On April 22, 1895, he met with a heavy loss by fire, amounting to some \$3,500, on which he had an insurance of only \$1,100; but in no ways discouraged, he has rebuilt, and has now an even finer place of business than was his old one.

In politics Mr. Lombard is independent, and votes for the best man. He is well-informed on matters of general interest, and is widely known. He possesses the full confidence and friendship of his wide circle of acquaintances, and a more popular and genial man it would be difficult to find. Sufficiently provided with worldly goods to make labor unnecessary, he enjoys life by building up the interests of the locality in which he lives.

REV. JOHN EISEN, pastor of St. John's Church of Marshfield, Wis., was born in the village of Weiskirchen, Bavaria, Germany, April 1, 1856, and is a son of John Eisen, who was born in the same locality in 1812. He married Margaret Beck, who was born in Bavaria in 1818, and they became the parents of three children: Maria, Michael and John, but the last named is only one of the family that ever came to America. The sister, Mrs. Stoehr, died in 1881. The father was called to the grave in 1865, and the mother, who survived some years, passed away in 1888.

Father Eisen acquired his primary education in the public schools of his native land, which he attended until thirteen years of age when he entered college in the city of Bamberg, there pursuing his studies until 1878. In that year he entered the Univ-