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S. C. LEWIS.

HON. SANFORD CLARENCE LEWIS, a distinguished citizen and business man of Franklin, ex.Mayor of that city, and President of the Eclipse Refining Company, was born on March 13, 1846, in Cleveland, Ohio, where his father, the late Sanford J. Lewis, was a prominent wholesale dry goods mer-

chant. His grandfather, Chittenden Lewis, was one of the early settlers of Cleveland, coming there from Vermont in 1830. He was educated in the public schools of his native city, and was graduated from the high school in his nineteenth year. While pursuing his youthful studies, he had in mind the profession of medicine as a life vocation, and was making preparation to enter a medical college, when his father was overtaken by mercantile reverses, and the young man's plans, of necessity, were interfered with. Compelled in a measure to provide for his own support, he quickly abandoned his pet project, and going to St. Joseph, Missouri, entered the service of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad Company. In 1868, vielding to the spirit of adventure, he gave up his railroad position, and joined a gold-hunting expedition which went to the United States of Colombia. Owing to the unsettled political condition of that Republic, and the frequent occurrence of revolutions, very little could be accomplished, and he and his associates returned to Cleveland, after an absence of one year. Shortly after his return he secured a position as Secretary and Treasurer of the People's Gas Company of Cleveland, and for seven years filled it with high satisfaction to all concerned. Warned by the condition of his health that he should relinquish indoor work, he resigned this position, and began preparations for a sojourn on a cattle ranch in Texas. Just as he was about to leave the city, the Standard Oil Company made overtures to him to enter their service, and somewhat reluctantly he gave up his projected journey to the South and accepted their offer. His impression at the time of doing so was that after a few months' trial he could resign if the position was not to his liking. Engaging with the company, he was sent to the city of New York as eastern agent of the Eclipse Refining Company, a corporation owned and controlled by the Standard Oil Company. Here he was placed in charge of all export sales. He remained in New York seven years. Before the close of this period he was made Vice-President and Treasurer of the Chesebrough Manufacturing Company, then re-organized for the manufacture of vaseline. In 1882, following the consolidation of the oil refining interests at Franklin, Pennsylvania, effected by the Standard Oil Company, he was chosen President of the Eclipse Refining Company at that place, the works of which are to-day the largest in the country. These works, at the time he came to the Presidency of them, gave employment to eighty men and produced eight hundred barrels of refined oil daily. At the present time, having been greatly enlarged, and provided with every added facility and improvement that modern science can supply, they give

steady employment to a force of nearly five hundred men, and manufacture every commercial product made from petroleum. They have, besides the refinery at Franklin, three others, located at Erie, Olean and Oil City. The output in refined oil alone amounts to about five thousand barrels daily. Mr. Lewis, as the President of this large corporation. has, one would think, all that a man could do to manage its affairs. Yet, like all earnest workers, he has everything systematized, and the operations proceed almost with the regularity of clockwork. With genuine public spirit, Mr. Lewis has identified himself with most of the prominent enterprises of Franklin, which, since 1882, has been his home. He is a Director in the Franklin Natural Gas and Fuel Company, was one of the organizers and incorporators of the American Oxide Lead Works, now controlled by the Lead Trust, and also one of the organizers of the Liege (Belgium) Anglo-American Oxide Company. He holds a Directorship also in the First National Bank of Franklin, and in the Franklin Pipe Line Company, both leading corporations. He is largely interested in the recently organized American Axe Company, (a consolidation of all the axe companies in the United States); also in several mining companies in Montana and Colorado; a bank in New Jersey and a bank in North Carolina, and several other manufacturing enterprises. Occupied so extensively and with such important interests in his keeping, he refrained from taking any special part in politics until 1887, in which year he was nominated for Mayor of Franklin, by both the Republican and Democratic conventions. His election was virtually unanimous. for in all the city, after the most careful canvas of the votes, only seventeen ballots were found deposited against him. This remarkable showing is one of the best proofs of his great personal popularity, and is largely owing to his well known regard for the rights and interests of the whole people. His administration was distinguished for its businesslike methods. The public business was expedited and all measures and appropriations scrutinized with the same good sense and care that would mark transactions in the counting-room of a great corporation. It is needless to say that the results merited, as they received, the warm approbation of the public. In every position that he has held Mr. Lewis has demonstrated fitness for responsible duties. His rise has been rapid, and has been based upon solid qualities and not upon meretricious claims. He is still a young man, and the possibilities of his career can only be measured by his opportunities. But should he never exceed the honors that have already been bestowed upon him, he may well be proud of the confidence and respect which these imply. Mr. Lewis married in 1870 Miss Nellie Hayward, daughter of Judge Joseph Hayward, of Cleveland, Ohio. By this marriage there have been two children; Marjorie and Anna Hayward Lewis. The latter is now the wife of W. B. Cockran, formerly of Franklin, Pennsylvania, but now a resident of New York State. Mr. Lewis is thoroughly an American by descent, he being of the tenth generation of his family in this country, the founder, Richard Lewis, coming to Rhode Island in 1662. One of Mr. Lewis' direct ancestors was killed with Montgomery at Quebec. Another was Captain of a company all through the Revolutionary War.