

W. H. H. CHAPMAN

HIS WAS A LIFE WELL SPENT

William Henry Harrison Chapman, second son of George W. and Abigail J. Chapman, was born near the summit of the Green mountains in Washington, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, November 9, 1841.

His parents migrated to the wilds of Michigan before William reached his first anniversary, arriving in Chesaning October 28, 1842. After some years' residence here, the family returned to the eastern states in October, 1847, residing for a time near Claremont, N. H.; going thence to Wells River, Vermont, and next to Brays Hill and Bloomsburg, New Jersey. In October, 1852, they moved to Thorold, Canada; three years later went to Jersey Shore, Penn., and in the spring of 1859, returned to Chesaning.

After two or three years work on the farm, he was employed as foreman by J. Napoleon Smith—a relative—who had extensive contracts in the construction of the Philadelphia and Erie railroad. Soon after his father, having large contracts in construction of railroads in southern Ohio, desired William to return home and look after the farm.

His father, having completed his railroad work, returned home in December, 1864, and William went to Washington county, Ohio, and found employment on a steam shovel which was operating at Vincent and Fleming. A little later went to Ludlow Grove, a suburb of Cincinnati, where he continued to operate a steam shovel. From there he went with the steam shovel to Connersville, Ind. Soon after Mr. Chapman returned to Michigan and assumed the general management of the saw mill and lumbering interest of Chapman & Hipple in the township of Albee. Afterwards he was engaged in the mercantile business as junior member of the firm of Bentley & Chapman. In 1847 his brother, Lyman, purchased the interest of H. J. Bentley, and the firm became Chapman Bros. In the spring of 1882, William sold his interest to E. C. Waldron, and with his brother, Oliver D. Chapman, purchased the Chesaning flouring mill. A few years later he disposed of his interest in the flour-