

November, 1898. Only five of Captain Sawyer's men signed the petition, or "round robin," gotten up by the disaffected for discharge, while all the others present drew up another petition without Captain Sawyer's knowledge and sent it to the secretary of war praying that the company be transferred and kept in the service. Captain Sawyer has always regarded that as the best and highest compliment ever paid him. The company of which he was captain was Company L of the First South Carolina Volunteers, commanded by Col. Joseph Alston, who died in the service.

In 1899 he was appointed by President McKinley one of two captains from South Carolina and was assigned to the Thirty-Eighth Infantry, commanded by Col. George S. Anderson. Under the plan of organization of that army all the field officers above captain, and some of the captains, were regulars, and all but one in this regiment were West Pointers, so that the conditions were in all respects those of the regular establishment, and the army was very efficient, so far as the officers and men could make it so, but Congress was derelict in its duty and the soldiers in the Philippines suffered hardships seldom exceeded. Captain Sawyer was in the Philippine insurrection from 1899 to June 30, 1901, during which time he was in many engagements and was recommended by his commanding officers for brevet for his meritorious services. He acted as major, commanded a number of expeditions; and was in command of a fort for two months and commanded a post and large military district for four months, served as provost judge and in his district he organized civil government, established schools and taught the Filipinos the meaning of liberty. Though he turned over his command of the post and left his headquarters, at midnight a large concourse of natives came to see him off, expressed every degree of affection and grief at his departure. Through his experience and intimate contact with the Filipinos Captain Sawyer wrote a letter to Senator McLaughlin to oppose the giving up of the Philippines, since the islands and the people needed a long period of education and training before they were ready for self-government. This letter got into public hands and was published, and Roosevelt in his Baltimore speech in 1900 used it as an argument of particular value as coming from a democrat. Then some of the people of South Carolina abused Captain Sawyer and declared he was a republican, and caused his defeat for state senator in 1902.

At the time of the World war Captain Sawyer was too old for service, but gave nearly all his time to local work without a cent of remuneration. His law partner, Herbert E. Gyles, was made food administrator and at the time of the second draft became naturalization examiner. The firm's stenographer was taken, and in the endeavor to handle the business of the firm and other duties Captain Sawyer was under a strain from which today he is suffering almost a physical incapacity. In April, 1917, he organized a patriotic league in Aiken. Many of the qualified leaders of the community were not allowing their voices to be heard on one side or the other, but Captain Sawyer appointed a committee to interview every man and explain

that only two kinds of people could exist in such a national crisis, and each side must show his true colors. Through Captain Sawyer was held the great patriotic parade of May 1, 1917, and after that reusing demonstration men who hitherto had been quiet assumed the conventional leadership and, as is the way with popular opinion, much of the credit for local war work goes to them. Such are some of the more notable facts in the lifetime of a man who will receive greater honor and esteem in after years than in his own immediate generation.

EUGENE MURRELL PEOPLES. One of the worthy native sons of Hampton County, South Carolina, is Eugene M. Peoples, the popular and efficient clerk of courts of Hampton County, who is easily the peer of any of his fellows in the qualities that constitute correct manhood and good citizenship. He is what he is from natural endowment and self-culture, having attained his present standing solely through the impelling force of his own strong nature. He possesses not only those powers that render men efficient in the material affairs of the community, but also the gentler traits that mark genial and helpful social intercourse. In his daily affairs he manifests a generous regard for his fellows, and he therefore commands the good will of the people of his community, where he has spent his entire life.

Eugene Murrell Peoples was born in Hampton County, South Carolina, on October 10, 1871, and is the son of A. McB. and Carrie Julia (Murrell) Peoples. The father, who was also a native of Hampton County, was a man of much local prominence and served as treasurer of the old Beaufort District. He followed the mercantile business and was the first settler at Varnville. He erected the railroad depot at that place and was appointed the first railroad agent there. In 1883 he retired from active business on account of the failure of his eyesight. During the Civil war he was an officer in the Confederate army and was severely wounded at the battle of Pocotaligo. His father, W. W. Peoples, was a farmer all his life and lived to the advanced age of ninety-three years. He was born in Cedar Grove, Hampton County, and was of English descent. The subject's mother was a native of Charleston, South Carolina, and the daughter of Walter Murrell, who was a soldier in the Confederate army during the Civil war and was killed in the service. The subject is the eldest of the nine children born to his parents.

Eugene M. Peoples is indebted to the common schools for his educational training, though he has all through his life been a close reader, a deep thinker and keen observer of men and events, so that today he is considered a well informed man on general topics. At the age of sixteen years he was appointed station agent at Varnville, also acting express agent and operator. He held this position for eight years, when he was transferred to Hampton in 1894, and assigned to similar duties. After nine years faithful service in that position Mr. Peoples was appointed postmaster of Hampton, filling the position for seven years to the entire satisfaction of the postoffice department and the patrons of the office. During this period he was also engaged

in the mercantile business, in which he demonstrated business-abilities of high order. In 1911 Mr. Peoples sold his business interests and resigned the post-mastership in order to make the race for the office of clerk of courts at Hampton County. The election in 1912 was in his favor by a very decided majority; he receiving 1,190 votes out of a total vote of 1,595, which was certainly a very marked and gratifying testimonial to his popularity and the confidence of the people in him. At the end of his first term of four years, he was re-elected, his opponent being a former clerk, whom he beat by a majority of over 200. Mr. Peoples has discharged the responsible duties of his official position in so satisfactory a manner that no words of criticism have been heard, even in the heat of a political campaign.

Mr. Peoples has for many years taken a very active interest in Sunday school work and has done some very effective work in stimulating and maintaining popular interest in the cause. He has been president of the Baptist Sunday School convention for the past eleven years, and of the Hampton County Interdenominational Sunday School Association, which he organized seven years ago. For the past four years Hampton County has retained the "Gold Star Banner," in this work, being the first county in the state to reach the "gold star" standard in Sunday school work. In connection with this work Mr. Peoples has done a great deal of speaking all over the county and he also "stumped" the county in the interest of the prohibition movement. He served as chairman of the local war board and was chairman of the district Red Cross drive during the days of the World war activities, in which Hampton County made such a splendid record, going way "over the top." He was also chairman of the Young Men's Christian Association drive, which was equally successful. However, as a result of his long-continued activities along these lines, with little or no rest, his health broke down and he was compelled to go to the mountains for a while to recuperate.

Mr. Peoples is the only licensed embalmer in this section of the country and does a general undertaking business, covering a wide radius of the surrounding territory, his place of business being at Hampton. He is a member of the board of trustees of Coker College at Hartsville.

Mr. Peoples was married to Emma Johns, who was born in Colleton County, South Carolina, the daughter of Jasper I. and Rebecca E. (Folk) Johns. To their union have been born three children, Almie, nineteen years old, Eugene M., seventeen years old, and Earl F., eleven years old.

Mr. Peoples is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Knights of Pythias and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, and has held offices in the two first named organizations. He has been successful in business, faithful as a public official, respected in social life and as a neighbor he has discharged his duties in a manner becoming a liberal-minded, intelligent citizen of a state where the essential qualities of manhood have ever been duly recognized and prized at their true value. His chief characteristics seem to be keenness of perception, a tireless energy, honesty of purpose and motive and every-day common sense, and because of these attributes and his genial disposition he has

long enjoyed the confidence and good will of all who know him.

Edward Rutledge, M. D. As a criterion of professional ability and sure success Dr. Edward Rutledge of Charleston proves easily on a plane of fellowship with the leading physicians of South Carolina. He has done much to justify his own worthy ambitions to be a source of usefulness to humanity, and has been an honored member of the medical fraternity of Charleston for over twenty years.

He was born at Charleston in June, 1870. His father, Benjamin Huger Rutledge, was a native of Statesville, South Carolina, and spent his active career as a lawyer at Charleston, where he died at the age of sixty-three. He was of Irish descent. Doctor Rutledge's mother was a member of the Middleton family of Charleston and died at the age of seventy-three. Doctor Rutledge is the youngest of four living children. He was educated at Petersburg, Virginia, graduated in 1891 from the Virginia Military Institute, and his M. D. degree from the Medical College of South Carolina in 1896. The following year he spent in California, and then for a year enjoyed the advantages of work and clinical attendance in New York hospitals. He returned to Charleston in 1899, and since that time has been one of the hardest working local physicians and surgeons. He is a member of the South Carolina and American Medical Associations.

In 1906 he married Miss Lillie Huger Wells, of Charleston. Their three daughters are Anna Wells, Ella Middleton and Eliza Huger.

Dr. J. Alexander Meldau, one of the leading physicians and surgeons of McClellanville, and a man high in his profession, was born in Sumter, South Carolina, November 12, 1858, a son of A. J. and Rebecca L. (Myers) Meldau, natives of Germany and Sumter, respectively. Doctor Meldau was the second in a family of nine children born to his parents.

Growing up in Sumter, Doctor Meldau attended his schools, and then in 1880 began the study of medicine at Reidsville, North Carolina, and at the same time earned his living as a telegrapher. In 1890 he matriculated at the Kentucky School of Medicine at Louisville, Kentucky, and after his graduation was engaged in practice for one year at Corona, Alabama, from whence he moved to Rock-hill, South Carolina, and was there engaged in practice for six years, and was surgeon for the Three Cs Railroad. At the expiration of that period he volunteered for service in the Spanish-American war, but was not accepted. He accepted the appointment as surgeon for the Charleston & Western Carolina Railroad, with headquarters at McCormick, South Carolina. After serving six years as such, he removed to Newberry, South Carolina, leaving there in 1917 for McClellanville. Believing in the efficacy of professional organizations, he is a member of the South Carolina Medical Society and the American Medical Association. During the great war he volunteered for service in the medical department. But having nearly reached the age limit was not accepted, but was later accepted