

ton, May 16, 1882; and William A., October 22, 1886. All the children are living and are the source of pride and comfort to their parents.

Mr. Denton was reared a Democrat, but became a Republican during the war, and voted for General Grant in 1868. He was Highway Commissioner for six years continuously, dating from 1883, and was instrumental in securing a start in the making of good roads in the town of Babylon, converting the highway from a narrow brush road to broad and well made boulevards, and his town is said to have the best roads in this county. In 1890 he was elected Assessor, and has filled that position up to the present time. He has acted as delegate to various political conventions, and has had an influence in the town and county administration of his party. The order of the Knights of Pythias has made him a member at Amityville, and he is a Trustee of Union School No. 22, in the town of Oyster Bay, Queens County.



BYRON GRIFFING, the efficient and popular Supervisor of the town of Shelter Island, is also a member of the well known firm of Griffing & Young, intelligent and thoroughly wide-awake business men of Shelter Island Heights, to whose prosperity they have very materially contributed.

Our subject is a native of Suffolk County, and was born August 9, 1840. His parents were Charles C. and Maria (Havens) Griffing, also born in this portion of Long Island. Charles C. Griffing was captain of the first whaling-vessel, the "Patosa," which sailed from Greenport. He met with ordinary success in this business, and continued to follow it during the remainder of his life. He was the youngest of six brothers, who also followed the sea, engaged in this business, during their active years.

On his maternal side, our subject is descended from one of the most prominent and oldest families on Long Island. Several members of the Havens

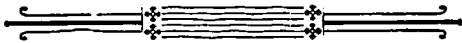
family were present at the first town meeting held on Shelter Island, in 1730, and of the twenty voters then making their home on this now most beautiful island six bore the name of Havens.

Byron, of this sketch, was a lad of seven years when his father died. He was given a common-school education, and remained at home until a young man of sixteen years. He was very fond of the water, and at that time engaged in the coasting trade, following this business with gratifying results for some time. Then, from 1862 until 1875, he gave his attention to the fishing business, which is still carried on with profit by many in this neighborhood.

In the latter year Mr. Griffing formed a partnership with A. S. Cartwright, and together they purchased the stock of general merchandise owned by Capt. D. C. Osborne at Shelter Island Center. The firm name of Cartwright & Griffing existed until May, 1878, when our subject sold out his interest in the business, and the summer of that year he spent in traveling through the West, remaining the greater part of the time in Kansas. On his return to Long Island, he again launched out in the fishing business, giving this industry his attention during 1879-80. The following year we find him established in business at Shelter Island Ferry, where he operated alone until 1891. That year he took in as partner D. H. Young, and the firm now has a wide reputation, doing an extensive business under the style of Griffing & Young. Their storeroom is provided with all the necessary cases and shelves for displaying their goods, which include everything usually found in a first-class general store. The business shows an increase month by month, which result is obtained by the skillful management of Mr. Griffing, who is thoroughly acquainted with the business in which he is engaged.

Politically Mr. Griffing believes that the best interests of the country are maintained by a loyal support of the Republican party. In the spring of 1891 he was elected Supervisor of his town, and such was his popularity that the following year his name was unanimously endorsed by both parties. He was still retained in office the third term, and is now serving as Supervisor with credit

and efficiency. He is one of the Trustees of the Shelter Island Public Library, which was founded by Professor Horsford and his family. By his straightforward and honest dealings, he has won the universal confidence of the people in his community, and it is therefore with pleasure that we present this brief sketch of his life to our readers. He is an Elder in the Presbyterian Church, and contributes liberally to its support.



DAVID HENNESSY, one of the reliable business men of the village of Bay Shore, is the senior member of the firm of R. K. Cornille & Co., who conduct a real-estate and insurance business, their offices being situated at the corner of Union and Park Avenues, opposite the Long Island Railroad Depot. The partnership, which was formed some two years ago, has been very profitable and satisfactory to both parties. Mr. Hennessy was formerly located in Brooklyn, where he was engaged in this business, but removed to Bay Shore some twenty years ago. The office business at this point is in his hands, and he feels very well pleased with the patronage that he has been able to secure in so short a time. It is a business for which he is well adapted, and his wide acquaintance and excellent reputation have been important factors in the success he has achieved.

The father of our subject, John F. Hennessy, died at the age of seventy-two. For many years he was a prominent and successful real-estate man in Brooklyn, where he held the position of Assessor for sixteen years, and was a member of the Board of Education in that city for twelve years. He was a native of the North of Ireland, and was a man of great force of character, exercising much influence in the locality in which he lived. About 1835 he was united in marriage with Hannah Page, who died in 1873, at the age of sixty-three. To this couple were born four children, David being the only one living. John F., William and Francis are deceased.

David Hennessy was born in Brooklyn, Decem-

ber 13, 1842, and resided in that city until he reached the age of fourteen. Then, boy-like, he determined to be a sailor, and was on the water for the next fifteen years. His early education had not been neglected, and, being active and quick, he became a man of much force and influence. When he left the water he entered political life in Brooklyn, and soon became a positive force, being in the Department of City Works for fifteen years. Tiring of politics, however, he sought a more independent and quiet life, and came here thinking he might do well in the real-estate business. He has won a success beyond anticipation, and the firm of which he is a member, though young in years, outranks many of the oldest firms on the island, both in volume and variety of its business. Mr. Hennessy is a Democrat, but has fettered himself with no obligations of church or lodge, aiming always to be a free man, and holding the truth above all price.



HERBERT R. CONKLING is numbered among the leading business men of the village of Mattituck. He was born at his present place of residence, September 26, 1857. His father, Isaac P. Conkling, a native of the same town and a seafaring man, went to California during the gold fever of 1849, and on returning to his native place purchased a farm, where he lived until his death, which occurred in 1860. The grandfather, Platt Conkling, was a shoemaker by trade, and his death occurred in West Hampton.

Mr. Conkling's mother was before her marriage Miss Emma L. Reeve, a daughter of Irad Reeve, of this place. Our subject was deprived of her maternal care at the early age of two years. Her sister, Frances S., married Clark W. Bryan, senior member of the Clark W. Bryan Publishing Company of Springfield, Mass., and also publisher of the "Good Housekeeping."

Mr. Conkling was an only child, and was early orphaned, for his father followed his mother to the grave a year after her decease. He was