

REPRESENTATIVE MEN AND HOMES.

MILTON K. AND FRANK H. WEEMS.

Though among the younger of the representative business men of Quincy, Messrs. Milton K. and Frank H. Weems are among the most prominent and successful. In less than twenty years they have built up the most important laundry business in the west and an extensive artificial ice and cold storage industry. They are the sons of Mr. Jesse E. Weems. Mr. Milton K. Weems was born on a farm near Augusta, in Hancock County, December 1, 1859, and came to Quincy

years ago extensive dye works were added to the laundry business. In 1894 the Pure Ice Company was started, suitable buildings being built on South Front street, a number of artesian wells being sunk to insure an abundant supply of pure water. This industry grew as rapidly as the laundry business. New buildings have been added, including large cold storage warehouses, and the plant now has a capacity for making thirty-five tons of ice per day and stor-



in June, 1870. His first work as a boy was carrying newspapers. In September, 1877, he went into the banking house of L. & C. H. Bull, remaining there nearly two years, when he decided to go into the laundry business. Mr. Frank H. Weems was born in Keokuk, May 21, 1862, and came to Quincy in June, 1870. Like his brother, he was a newspaper carrier for a time and then took a position on Swope's farm, leaving the farm to join in the laundry venture. The wheels of the laundry were started for the first time July 4, 1879, in the small building on Jersey street, east of Seventh. From a very modest beginning, with but little capital, the business grew rapidly and in 1888 they purchased the property and built the present building on Fifth and Jersey streets, one of the largest and most completely equipped laundry establishments in the entire country. Seven

age capacity for 30,000 barrels. Side tracks lead direct to the buildings. Mr. Milton K. Weems is president of the Weems Laundry Company, of Quincy and Springfield, Ill., a large laundry having been established in the latter city, and he is treasurer of the Pure Ice Company. Mr. Frank H. Weems is president of the Pure Ice Company and secretary and treasurer of the Weems Laundry Company. Together the two brothers own the extensive dye works. Last fall the coal business was also taken up and has proven most successful. Starting in business before they had attained their majority, the remarkable success of Messrs. Milton and Frank Weems has not been a matter of accident. They have earned their good fortune by reason of those qualities from which successful men are made, and they are universally respected by reason of their sterling worth.