

WILLIAM HERTZOG COLLINS.

{Sketch by Doctor Elbert Wing.}

WAS born March 20, 1831, at Collinsville, Illinois, and received his preliminary education in the public school of that town. He was a member of the class of 1850 at Illinois College at Jacksonville. Only one member of this class graduated. The others, because of dislike and disapproval of a member of the faculty, left the college in the spring of their graduating year. Mr. Collins was afterward voted his diploma by the trustees of the institution, and has himself been a trustee of his alma mater for many years. After leaving Illinois College he was a student at Yale Theological Seminary for two years. He was for six years pastor of the Congregational Church at LaSalle, Illinois. From this position he went to Jacksonville, Illinois, and became editor of the *Jacksonville Journal*. He entered the Army in August, 1861, as chaplain of the Tenth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Later he resigned this position and assisted in raising the One Hundred and Fourth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served as Captain in that regiment at the battles of Elk River, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge and Ringgold. Following these battles he served on the staff of General John M. Palmer until after the fall of Atlanta.

He was appointed and served as provost marshal of the Twelfth District of Illinois from December, 1864, to December, 1865, and closed the business of the district. From the provost marshal's office he went into the manufacture of plows at Quincy, Illinois, the firm name being Battell & Collins, and later The Collins Plow Company. His association with this business covered a period of about a quarter century. For several years the firm also did an extensive business in the selling, at both wholesale and retail, of a general line of agricultural implements. For several years he also had an interest in, and served as director of, one of Quincy's banks of deposit and loan. During what may be called the business period of his life Mr. Collins has been engaged in two additional widely divergent lines of human activity: occasional preaching and political life, and with marked success in each.

Most of the occasional preaching was done during the first ten years immediately following his military experiences, and was equally popular in the pulpits of several