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MICHAEL F. COLLINS was born in this city Sept. 27, 1854. His parents were Patrick and Alice Collins. He has always resided in Troy. Mr. Collins was fortunate in his educational advantages, having attended the public schools and the Christian Brothers' Academy until thoroughly fitted for the real work of life. He learned the trade of compositor, working on the *Troy Weekly Press*, *Troy Sunday Telegram*, *Troy Daily Press* and *Troy Standard*. From 1869 until 1877 Mr. Collins worked assiduously at his trade. In the latter year he, with several associates, founded the *Troy Standard* and for two years was its efficient city editor. In 1879 he purchased the *Troy Observer*, which paper he has made one of the leading Democratic journals of the country. In 1886 he was elected Assemblyman from the First District of Rensselaer County, and the following year was reelected by a largely increased majority. In the fall of 1888 he was nominated by the Democratic party for State Senator, and was elected, notwithstanding the fact that for years the district had been largely Republican. Mr. Collins is president of the famous Pilsner Democratic Club. He is married; his wife being Miss Carrie E. O'Sullivan. They have four children, two boys and two girls. Mr. Collins was a delegate to the Democratic State Convention in 1889 which nominated Grover Cleveland for Governor. He was also an alternate to the National Democratic Convention at Chicago in 1884, when Mr. Cleveland was named for the Presidency.