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HISTORY
OF
**Chickasaw and Howard
Counties, Iowa**

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VOLUME II

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W. C. Brown

BIOGRAPHICAL

WILLIAM C. BROWN.

Not by leaps and bounds but by orderly progression did William C. Brown advance from a humble position on a western railroad to the presidency of one of the greatest railroad systems of the country. Today he is practically living retired personally overseeing the operation of one of the finest farms of Iowa, situated near Lime Springs, in a district in which his boyhood days were passed. He has thus come to a fulfillment of one of the dreams of his life, his attention being now given to improved and scientific agriculture. Mr. Brown was born in Norway, Herkimer county, New York, July 29, 1853, his parents being the Rev. Charles E. and Frances (Lyon) Brown. He comes of Scotch Irish ancestry, the line being traced back to William Brown, who came from England in 1686 and established his home in Massachusetts, where he became a leader in civic affairs of the colony. He served as judge of the colonial court and was also a military officer. His son, Captain John Brown, was born near Concord in 1703 and served as a soldier in the French and Indian war, commanding a company in the Louisburg expedition of 1745. He became one of the prominent and influential citizens of his district and was a member of the general court of the colony for twenty years. His son, Parley Brown, born May 27, 1737, was one of the farmers who responded to the call of Paul Revere on his famous night ride on the 18th of April, 1775. He was in the fight at Lexington and was a member of the company commanded by Captain Seth Washburn at the battle of Bunker Hill, in which engagement his brother, John Brown, was badly wounded. Parley Brown carried his brother from the battlefield and afterward went west with the American army under command of General George Washington and was killed in the battle of White Plains, New York, on the 28th of October, 1776.

Nathaniel Brown, son of Parley Brown, was born in Leicester, Massachusetts, November 5, 1767, and afterward became a resident of Vermont, from which state he removed to New York, then a western wilderness. He died in Hamburg, New York, in 1854. His son, the Rev. Philip Perry Brown, was born in Bennington, Vermont, September 17, 1790 and was a Baptist missionary and preacher of central New York to the time of his death, which occurred in Madison, that state, on the 23d of September, 1876.

Charles Edwin Brown, father of William C. Brown of this review, was born February 23, 1813, in Augusta, New York, which at that time was situated on the frontier. In a volume of personal recollections written in his eightieth year, Elder Brown says "it was a new and heavily timbered country, and here, amid the privations and hardships of pioneer life with very limited means, we lived until my eighteenth year." He was converted at a revival meeting in September, 1832, was baptized by his father and joined the Baptist church. He became very strongly impressed with the conviction that it was his duty to preach the gospel and, giving up his employment, he entered upon a course of study preparatory for the ministry at the Hamilton Literary and Theological Seminary. By working after study hours and during vacation periods, in cutting timber in the woods and doing other jobs of manual labor that he could get, he met the expenses of his college course and was able to complete his studies in 1838. On the 20th of September of that year he was regularly ordained to the ministry and on the 26th of September he was married to Frances Lyon at Little Falls, New York. His bride was a school teacher, a woman of marked refinement and liberal education, a devoted Christian, and a

once entered with earnestness upon the work of the church and Sunday school. For almost fifty years she was a loving and devoted helpmate and companion to her husband. Her happy, cheerful disposition made the cabin of the pioneer preacher out on the frontier, as well as the more pretentious home of later years, the abode of happiness and contentment. In a volume of recollections published by Elder Brown near the close of his life, the title page bears the following: "In loving remembrance of my wife, Frances Lyon Brown, who for nearly fifty years shared with me the labor, trials and privations of pioneer missionary life, whose cheery presence made the humble log cabin on the western frontier the happiest of homes and whose sunny, hopeful disposition found for every cloud a silver lining, these recollections are affectionately inscribed."

For four years the Rev. Charles E. Brown was minister of the Baptist church at Norway and Warren, New York, both in Herkimer county, after which he had the opportunity of carrying out a long cherished desire of becoming a home missionary in the west. He was sent to the "forks of the Maquoketa river" in the territory of Iowa and for nine years continued his missionary work, preaching in log cabins, organizing new churches, making long journeys across the trackless prairies of that western frontier, and then on account of impaired health was obliged to return to the state of New York. He spent six years thereafter in preaching in various localities in central New York and was then again sent by the Baptist Home Mission Society to Iowa, where he was permitted to select his own field of labor. In July, 1857, he arrived in Howard county, which became the field of his future life work. In August, 1857, he located at Vernon Springs, organized the Baptist churches at Vernon Springs and Lime Springs and was pastor thereof for many years. His work extended all over Howard and adjoining counties and there are few of the old pioneer schoolhouses in which he did not preach and organize Sabbath schools. He was always deeply interested in the public schools and became the first superintendent of schools in Howard county and was one of the early teachers in the school at Vernon Springs. In the late '70s he was selected to represent his district in the state legislature and was a leader in every movement for public improvement and civic betterment. Throughout his life he was intensely loyal and patriotic, an uncompromising enemy of the liquor traffic, and he advocated his religious and political opinions with earnestness, sincerity and fidelity. He had the courage of his convictions and when his conclusions were reached upon any subject they were definite and positive. He was never known to compromise with what he believed to be wrong. He passed away July 23, 1901, in his eighty-ninth year, and was laid to rest by the side of his wife, who died in 1887, in the beautiful cemetery of Lime Springs. The legislature during the session of the following winter passed the following resolutions:

"WHEREAS Rev. Charles E. Brown, an honored member of the seventeenth general assembly of Iowa from Howard county, died in Ottumwa, July 23, 1901, and,

"WHEREAS The life and character of the deceased were such as to command our love and esteem, and his public services to the state and country were of such distinction as to demand the respect and gratitude of his fellow citizens; therefore be it

"Resolved, That in his death the state has lost an able, conscientious citizen, a man who suffered the inconvenience and hardships of pioneer life in the cause of religion, and state that we extend to his children our sincere sympathy in their affliction.

"Resolved, That these resolutions be entered in the Journal of the House and that chief clerk of the House be instructed to present engrossed copy thereof to his sons."

Amid the environment of a Christian home upon the frontier William C. Brown spent the days of his boyhood and youth, working on the farm in the summer months and attending the district school in the winter seasons. From 1857 the home of the Brown family was maintained in Howard county save for the years 1868 and 1869, during which Elder Brown was pastor of the Baptist church in Thompson, Illinois, and it was with keenest pleasure that William C. Brown returned to the scenes

of his boyhood after putting aside the arduous cares of railroad management. While living at Thompson, when sixteen years of age, he began work with a shovel as a section hand on the southwestern division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad and while thus employed he took advantage of an offer of the station agent of the privilege of learning telegraphy by studying and practicing nights in the office. A year later, the family having returned to Howard county, he continued his studies in the telegraph office at Lime Springs and in the summer of 1870 secured his first position as an operator. In the summer of 1871 he was made night operator in the train dispatcher's office at Minneapolis and a year later was offered and accepted a position as train dispatcher for the Illinois Central at Waterloo, Iowa, in which position he remained for two years. While there residing he returned to Lime Springs and on the 3d of June, 1874, he was married to Miss Mary Ella Hewett, a daughter of Squire C. C. Hewett, one of the early settlers and prominent citizens of Howard county. Three daughters and seven grandchildren, all living in Chicago, comprise the family.

In 1875 Mr. Brown was made train dispatcher at Wilton Junction, Iowa, for the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, and a year and a half later secured employment as train dispatcher on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, with which road he remained for twenty-six years, being promoted from one position to another in the regular line of service until he became general manager of the system east of the Missouri river on the 1st of January, 1896, with offices in Chicago. On the 1st of July, 1901, he was offered and accepted the position of vice president and general manager of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad and Lake Erie & Western Railroad, with headquarters in Cleveland, Ohio. On the 1st of March, 1902, he was made vice president of the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad, in addition to the lines west of Buffalo above mentioned, and on the 1st of June, 1906, he was elected senior vice president of all the roads in the system of the New York Central, comprising about twelve thousand miles of important railroad, extending from New York and Boston on the east to Chicago and St. Louis in the west and from Montreal, Canada, and Mackinack City on the north to Louisville, Kentucky, and Cairo, Illinois, in the south. On the 1st of February, 1909, Mr. Brown was elected president of the New York Central System and continued in that position until he tendered his resignation in a letter addressed to the board of directors which gave his reasons for desiring to lay down the heavy burdens of official railway work, as follows: "I have for two years contemplated asking to be relieved of the very exacting duties and responsibilities of the position of chief executive of the New York Central Lines. I have been in railroad service continuously for more than forty-four years, twelve years of this service with the New York Central Lines, five years in charge of the operation and maintenance of the property, two years as senior vice president and five years as president, and feel that I have earned that freedom from care, hard work and responsibility which can only be secured by retiring from active service. In addition to my desire to be relieved of the burden and responsibility of my position, I am admonished by my failing hearing that I cannot, without serious embarrassment, continue to perform the duties of the position, either in the board room or in frequent important conferences in which I must necessarily participate. For these reasons, I beg to very respectfully tender my resignation as president, effective January 1, 1914. In leaving the service, I desire to express my sincere and grateful appreciation of the cordial cooperation which has always been extended to me by this board, and of the loyal, intelligent and efficient support rendered by all the officers of the company.

Very respectfully yours,

W. C. Brown."

At a meeting of the several boards of directors held in New York on November 18th the resignation was accepted and the following resolutions unanimously adopted.

At meetings of the boards of directors of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway Company, the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad Company, the

Michigan Central Railroad Company and the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railway Company, held at the general office building, Grand Central terminal, city of New York, on Tuesday the 18th day of November, 1913, Mr. William C. Brown having presented his resignation as president of the companies named, effective December 31, 1913, the following was presented and adopted:

"This board accepts with regret the resignation of President William C. Brown. When he joined our System he had been for thirty-two years in active railroad work. He had risen from the bottom through every grade of operation and administration to the highest positions in the important lines with which he was connected.

His demonstrated ability as vice president and general manager of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway Company, led by rapid promotion to vice president in charge of operation and maintenance of the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad Company, vice president in charge of maintenance and operation of all the railroads in the Central System; senior vice president in charge of all the departments of the entire System, and president.

He had won all these positions through a wide and varied experience, hard work and close study. He was unusually equipped for its great responsibilities when he came to be the executive head of this System with its twelve thousand miles of railroad, extending through nine states and into the Dominion of Canada, and having in its employment one hundred and sixty thousand men. He has kept in harmony while maintaining discipline and efficiency with this great working force.

Under his administration the relations have been cordial between the railroads and the people in the territory which it serves. The business of the system has doubled in revenue and tonnage.

The vast construction and engineering work in the remodeling and remaking the New York terminal and station has been uninterruptedly carried on, and railway operators at home and abroad have expressed their admiration that difficulties have been so overcome that train service has been maintained, and the electrification of the Central in and about New York carried to completion without delaying or retarding the engineers, architects and contractors.

Mr. Brown has been a pioneer in agricultural experiments for the increase of the output of the farms, at the expense of and under the management of the railroad company. It brings the railroads and the farmers together for their mutual advantage.

At three score, and after forty-four years of unremitting labor in his chosen profession, Mr. Brown has earned the privilege of retirement from active and exacting responsibilities. He leaves this company carrying with him our highest respect for him as an official, and our warmest regard for him as a man. May he enjoy long years of health and happiness.

Resolved that this minute be engrossed and attested by the officers of the company and presented to Mr. Brown.

(Signed)

Chauncey M. Depew, Chairman,
D. W. Pardee, Secretary."

Since his retirement from active service Mr. Brown has continued as a member of the board of directors of several of the roads and makes occasional trips to New York to attend meetings and renew acquaintances of his many friends there, both in the service and in other lines of business; but his chief interest is in his farms and in the important subject of improved agriculture, to which he gave much attention during his railway life. He owns farms in Iowa, Colorado and California, the management of which gives him congenial and ample employment. Oaklawn Stock Farm, located on the bank of the Upper Iowa river, one mile north of the village of Lime Springs and the home of Mrs. Brown's grandfather, M. M. Marsh, is perhaps his favorite, and a more beautiful location or a finer farm could scarcely be found in the entire state. The farm residence is a solid, comfortable

stone house built by Esquire Marsh a half century ago, and there in the shade of the fine oak trees on the lawn, under which they played as children, Mr. and Mrs. Brown are spending the evening of life. They also have a home in Pasadena, California, to which they go to escape the rigors of the northern Iowa winters. Mr. Brown is most happy amid his present surroundings, as it has ever been the dream of his life to return to the farm, for he is a lover of nature and the various phases of outdoor life.

EDMUND GILLETTE.

Edmund Gillette is a valued and respected citizen of Cresco now living retired, although for many years he was actively, prominently and successfully connected with agricultural interests in Howard county, where he has a circle of friends almost co-extensive with the circle of his acquaintance. He came to the middle west from the Empire state, his birth having occurred in Benton Center, Yates county, New York, October 9, 1828. He is a son of Jewel H. and Mabel (Bainbridge) Gillette. His father was born in Orange county, New York, in 1789, while the mother was a native of Seneca county, New York. They were married in that state, where the father engaged in business as a miller, operating flour mills for a number of years. In 1843 he removed westward with his family to Niles, Michigan, at which period that district was wild and undeveloped. He purchased farm land and began the cultivation and improvement of his fields, converting the farm into a very productive tract of land. At the time of his arrival there was much wild game in the country and comparatively little indication of progress and improvement there, but he took his part in the work of bringing about changed conditions until death suddenly cut short his career, for he was killed in a runaway accident in 1844. His wife survived until 1869 and was seventy-two years of age at the time of her demise. In his political views the father was a democrat. The ancestry of the family can be traced back to a very remote period, for the first of the name came from France to the United States in 1634, making settlement in New York, where successive generations of the family have resided. The grandfather of Edmund Gillette was Jeremiah Gillette, a native of Orange county, New York, his birthplace being on the Hudson river. He built the first mill at Penn Yan, New York, and remained a substantial citizen of that place until his death, which occurred in 1844. His wife also passed away there.

Edmund Gillette spent his boyhood days in the Empire state to the age of seventeen years and then accompanied his parents on their westward removal to Niles, Michigan, after which he spent two years upon the home farm. He then entered the employ of the Michigan Central Railroad Company, assisting in building the road in the capacity of labor foreman, and subsequently removed to Chicago, where he became identified with the lumber business of Charles Mears, with whom he continued for two years. He also managed a lumber camp for the company in northern Michigan and while thus engaged did some trading with the Indians. Later he assisted in building the Michigan Southern Railroad, doing contract work, and afterward he was connected as labor foreman with the Chicago & Galena Union Railroad on construction work. He next became active in the construction of the Illinois Central Railroad and occupied the position of paymaster with office at La Salle, Illinois. In the winter of 1854-5 he came to Iowa, establishing his home near what is now the town of Cresco, but the district was then a wild prairie tract. He took up his present farm as a claim, securing one hundred and sixty acres which he at once began to develop and improve. From that day to the present he has been an active, valued and honored resident of Howard county. In the early days McGregor was the nearest market and the unsettled condition of the country is indicated by the fact that there were many Indians here. His labors have been of the greatest benefit in promoting public progress and his enterprise made him one of the foremost farmers of this section of the state. As the years passed his lands were brought under cultivation and returned to him very substantial and gratifying harvests.

In 1856 Mr. Gillette was united in marriage to Miss Helen M. Barber, a daughter of Horace and Elizabeth (Burbank) Barber, the father a furniture manufacturer of

Laporte, Indiana, at which place Mrs. Gillette was born. To Mr. and Mrs. Gillette have come six children: Nettie M., who died in 1891; Fred E.; Arthur B.; Edmund C.; Nellie M.; and Gertrude E.

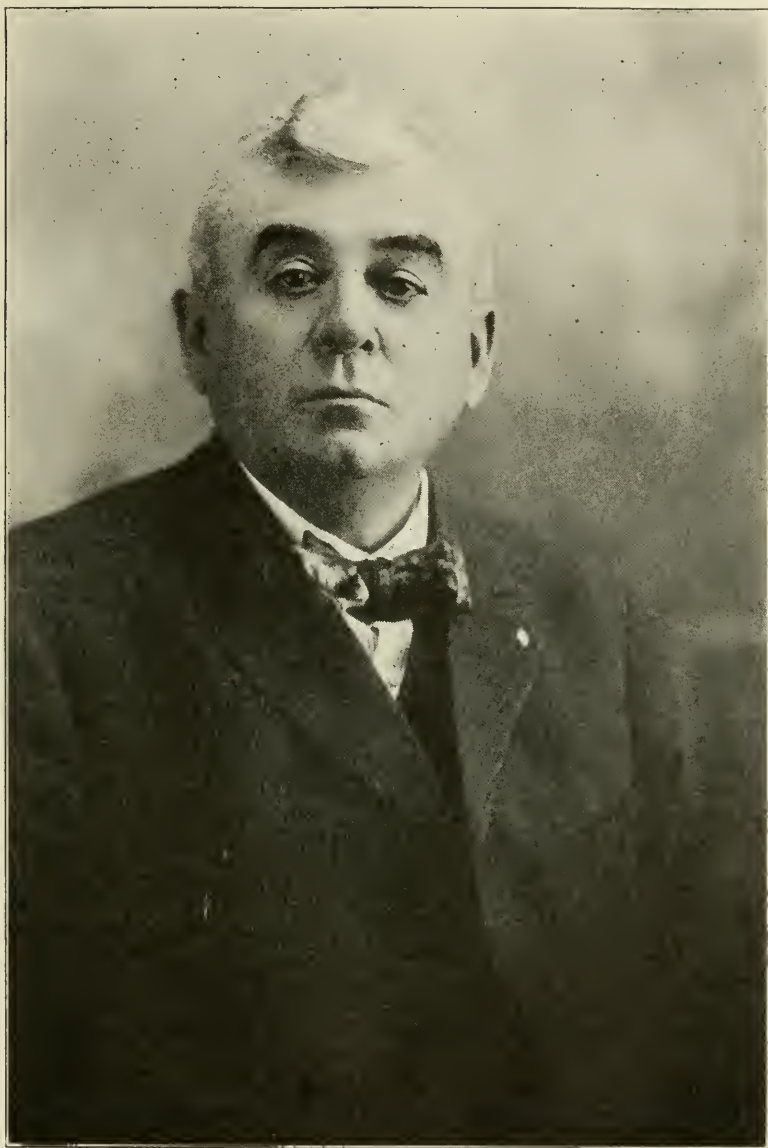
Mr. Gillette has taken an active part in public affairs as the years have gone on. In 1855 he was elected clerk of the district court, which position he acceptably filled for ten years, and he was also elected to the office of sheriff of Howard county. For sixteen years he filled the position of justice of the peace and he has also served in other offices of public honor and trust. His political support is given to the republican party and his religious faith is that of the Congregational church. His life has ever been actuated by high and honorable principles and his entire record is that of an upright man and public-spirited citizen. He still occupies the old homestead farm on which he has lived for so many years, but now having almost reached the ninetieth milestone on life's journey, he is living retired and in fact for a number of years has enjoyed a well earned rest.

TIMOTHY T. DONOVAN.

Timothy T. Donovan, banker, has spent practically his entire life in Iowa, having been but two years of age when brought to Chickasaw county. The record of his career therefore is as an open book to his fellow townsmen, who have watched his continuous progress as the years have passed—a progress that has resulted from close application, keen study of existing business conditions and a recognition of opportunity. He is the vice president of the First National Bank of New Hampton, the president of the First National Bank of Fredericksburg, president of the Alta Vista Savings Bank of Alta Vista, Iowa, vice president of the Security National Bank of Mason City, vice president of the Farmers' & Traders' Savings Bank of Bancroft, Iowa, and a member of the board of directors not only of all these institutions but also of the Mason City Loan & Trust Company of Mason City, Iowa.

Mr. Donovan was born in New Market, Rockingham county, New Hampshire, on the 8th of June, 1856, and is a son of Timothy and Abbie (Harrington) Donovan, extended mention of whom appears elsewhere in this work. He was but two years of age when brought by his parents to Chickasaw county, which was then largely an undeveloped wilderness. His boyhood days were spent in one of the old pioneer log cabins and his educational opportunities were limited to those offered by the public schools and the Decorah Institute. During his boyhood and young manhood he resided upon his father's farm and his early life was passed in a manner usual to that of most farm-bred boys of the middle west. Early in life, however, his ambition to make for himself a place in the business world was developed. He likewise became keenly interested in politics in early manhood and on the 1st of March, 1884, became deputy auditor and deputy clerk of the courts. On the 2d of November, 1886, he was elected clerk of the district court and was re-elected to that office November 6, 1888. He served for four years as clerk of the district courts, performing the duties of the office without the aid of a deputy.

On the 1st of August, 1890, Mr. Donovan was elected cashier of the First National Bank of New Hampton but did not take charge of the work in the bank until January 1, 1891, when he assumed the duties of cashier, in which responsible position he continued to serve until the 11th of June, 1906, when he was elected vice president of the bank and has since acted in that capacity. During this period he has assisted materially in advancing and maintaining the high standards of the institution and making it one of the strong financial concerns of northern Iowa. In becoming connected with banking Mr. Donovan found the line of life for which he evidently was best fitted, as his success from that time has been continuous. Extending the scope of his activities, he has been instrumental in founding other banks and has become identified with other financial institutions until his name is today a well known one in financial circles of northern Iowa. He has also become the possessor of heavy land holdings in Chickasaw county and his investments have



TIMOTHY T. DONOVAN

been most judiciously placed. His real estate interests include one of the finest homes in New Hampton.

Mr. Donovan is a member of St. Joseph's Catholic church, is a member of the assembly of the Knights of Columbus and of the council of that organization. He likewise belongs to Charles City Lodge, B. P. O. E. He has always been a stalwart advocate of democratic principles and in 1895 was chosen a delegate to the democratic national convention in Chicago and was again elected a delegate to the democratic national convention in St. Louis in 1917. He served on the democratic state central committee for the fourth Iowa district for twelve years and was a member of the city council of New Hampton for ten years, exercising his official prerogatives in support of many well defined plans and measures for the general good. He is now the president of the New Hampton library board and there is no phase of the city's welfare in which he is not vitally interested. He is a charitable man and yet his philanthropy is of a most unostentatious character. He is always courteous, kindly and affable and those who know him personally have for him a warm regard. A man of natural ability, his success in business from the beginning of his connection with banking has been uniform and rapid. As has been truly remarked, after all that may be done for a man in the way of giving him early opportunities for obtaining the requirements which are sought in the schools and in books, he must essentially formulate, determine and give shape to his own character and this is what Mr. Donovan has done. He has persevered in the pursuit of a persistent purpose and gained a most satisfactory reward. His life is exemplary in all respects and he has ever supported those interests which are calculated to uplift humanity, while his own high moral worth is deserving of the highest commendation.

JOHN A. DOSTAL.

John A. Dostal, cashier of the Bohemian Savings Bank of Protivin, Howard county, was born in Spillville, Winneshiek county, Iowa, on the 15th of July, 1871, a son of John and Mary (Rihe) Dostal, both of whom were also of Bohemian birth. The father came to the United States in his boyhood days—a lad of twelve years—in company with his parents, the voyage across the Atlantic being made in 1854. The family home was established in Davenport, Iowa, but after two years a removal was made to Spillville, Winneshiek county, where John Dostal learned the wagon making trade. He developed considerable efficiency in this connection and for many years conducted a wagon shop in Spillville. He still survives and now resides with a daughter in Minneapolis, Minnesota. His wife came to the United States in young womanhood, her parents remaining in Bohemia. Mrs. Dostal has passed away, her death occurring in February, 1917.

John A. Dostal whose name introduces this review was reared under the parental roof and is indebted to the schools of Spillville for his educational opportunities. He passed through consecutive grades until he became a student in the high school and when nineteen years of age entered upon an apprenticeship to the creamery business and thoroughly learned the art of butter making, serving as apprentice in Manly, Worth county, where he remained for a period of four years. He next became connected with the Spillville Creamery, where he was employed as butter maker for six years, and in 1899 he removed to Protivin and for ten years was butter maker in the creamery at this place. In 1910 he became one of the active factors in the organization of the Bohemian Savings Bank of Protivin and was made secretary on its organization. The company owns a modern bank building, in which the doors were opened for business on the 19th of September, 1910. Mr. Dostal was made cashier of the institution and in that important position has since most efficiently served. He has thoroughly acquainted himself with every phase of the banking business and the institution of which he is now an active official has had a remarkably successful growth, its deposits at the present time amounting to two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. He is most systematic, careful and reliable in the conduct of the business of the bank and is a popular official by reason of his courtesy and obliging disposition.

In 1893 Mr. Dostal was married to Miss Mary Kuchar, of Worth county, Iowa, and to them have been born five children, three of whom are yet living: William C., who is assistant cashier of the Bohemian Savings Bank of Protivin; and Anna and Celia, both at home.

In his political views Mr. Dostal is a democrat and is the present mayor of Protivin, having filled that position for six years. His long continuance in the office is certainly an indication of his marked capability and progressiveness in all municipal affairs. He has introduced various needed reforms and improvements and exercises his official prerogatives at all times on the side of order, progress and improvement. He and his family are consistent members of the Catholic church and he belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters and to the Catholic Workmen and he is one of the leading and representative men of Howard county whose activities have constituted an important element in the business development and public progress of the northern section of the state.

EUGENE JULIUS FEULING.

Eugene Julius Feuling, who since February 7, 1910, has been the publisher of the New Hampton Tribune, was born in Ionia, Chickasaw county, October 8, 1881, a son of Julius and Magdalena (Zimmer) Feuling, who are natives of Ionia, where the father is engaged in the harness making business. He was born in Germany and came to America in 1868, while his wife, a native of Luxemburg, crossed the Atlantic in the same year. They established their home in Ionia in 1871 and have there since remained.

In the public schools of his native city Eugene J. Feuling acquired his early education, which was supplemented by a course of study in the Iowa State Teachers' College at Cedar Falls, from which he was graduated. He has since taken post graduate work in Chicago University. He was reared to farm life but early turned his attention to the educational field and taught school at Bassett, Iowa, for a half year. He was later superintendent of the city schools of Marathon, Iowa, for three years and was superintendent of the city schools of Lawler, Iowa, for a year and a half. On the 1st of January, 1909, he was called to the office of county superintendent of schools of Chickasaw county and occupied that position four years, doing much to further the interests of public education during that period, introducing many improved methods and advancing the general standard of the schools in the county. On the 7th of February, 1910, he became the publisher of the New Hampton Tribune, of which he has since been owner.

On the 31st of July, 1907, Mr. Feuling was married to Miss Edna Pearl Miller, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Miller, auditor of the De Wolfe Grain Company and residing at Marathon, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Feuling have two daughters and a son: Lucile, Louise and John. The parents are members of the Roman Catholic church of New Hampton.

Mr. Feuling's military experience covers three years' training in the battalion at the Iowa State Teachers' College. His political endorsement is given to the democratic party and fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Knights of Columbus. He also belongs to the New Hampton Club. He is widely known in his section of the state, where his influence and efforts have ever been of a character that have contributed to public progress and improvement.

A. J. CRAY.

A. J. Cray, president of the Exchange State Bank of Lime Springs, was born in Howard county on the 1st of August, 1864, a son of Joseph and Matilda (Coombs) Cray, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work in connection with the sketch of their son, John A. Cray. Upon the old home farm A. J. Cray was reared and in the district

schools acquired his education, supplemented by a short term at the Brekenridge school in Decorah, Iowa, and also by study in the State Normal School at Cedar Falls. Following the completion of his studies he taught for three terms in the district schools and in September, 1886, accepted a position in the freight and passenger offices of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at Beardstown, Illinois. There he continued in office work for the road for eight years, leaving that employ in September, 1894. He then returned to Lime Springs and purchased the lumberyards of G. G. Thomas and for the following thirteen years was identified with the lumber business at Lime Springs and in Bonair, Iowa. In 1905 he entered into partnership with F. M. Clark, his father-in-law, and built the first modern elevator in Howard county, located at Lime Springs. In 1907 he disposed of his lumber interests and the same year became one of the incorporators of the Exchange State Bank of Lime Springs and was made president of the institution, in which capacity he has since served. Later he sold the elevator to the Hunting Elevator Company and has since concentrated his entire attention and efforts upon the conduct of the bank, the business which has steadily grown in volume and in importance. He has thoroughly acquainted himself with every phase of the banking business and his progressiveness is tempered with a safe conservatism that wins the confidence of the general public. He has also acquired extensive land holdings in Howard county and is one of the prominent and representative business men of the district.

On the 5th of January, 1898, Mr. Cray was married to Miss Letitia Clark, a daughter of F. M. Clark, the founder of the first bank in Lime Springs and one of Howard county's most prominent and influential citizens. Mr. and Mrs. Cray have had no children of their own but have reared three girls: Margaret, who has been adopted; and Laura and Helen Palmquist, who still retain their parents' name. Margaret is attending Principia College of St. Louis, Missouri, and Laura, was graduated from that school in the class of 1917, and Helen in the class of 1919. Laura graduated from a kindergarten course in Miss Wood's School in Minneapolis in the class of 1919, and Helen is taking a course in domestic science at Bradley College, Peoria, Illinois.

In politics Mr. Cray is a republican and has served as town clerk and town treasurer of Lime Springs and has also filled the position of mayor. He belongs to Howard Lodge, No. 244, A. F. & A. M., in which he has passed through all of the chairs and has occupied the position of treasurer since 1907. He is interested in all those forces which make for good in the community, which look to the betterment of civic conditions and which uphold the legal and moral status. His business career has been characterized by a steady progression that has brought him from a humble place in the business world to a position of leadership in his community as the head of one of the strong banking institutions of Howard county.

HENRY T. REED.

Henry T. Reed, United States district judge for the northern district of Iowa, resides at Cresco, Howard county, and has been identified with the Iowa bar since 1872. He was born in the town of Alburgh, Grand Isle county, Vermont, in October, 1846, his parents being George and Jane Reed. The father was born near Belfast, Ireland, and was married to Miss Jane Sherry, also a native of that locality. They came to the United States about 1830, settling in Vermont, where Mr. Reed devoted his time and attention to the occupation of farming until 1855, when he brought his family to the middle west, establishing his home in Albion township, Howard county, Iowa, in 1856, near what is now Cresco, where he built his home and lived until about 1880, when he moved to Cresco, where he died in 1897 at the advanced age of eighty-seven years, surviving his wife who died in 1871 at the age of sixty-six years.

Judge Reed spent his boyhood days in the vicinity of Cresco upon his father's farm, attending the public school and a private school; studied law and was admitted to practice in 1872, and thereafter followed its practice until March, 1904, when he was

appointed United States district judge for the northern district of Iowa to succeed the late Oliver P. Shiras of Dubuque, who retired November 1st preceding.

In 1868 Judge Reed was married to Miss Laura J. Webster, daughter of Julius F. and Eliza J. Webster. Her father was a native of Laporte county, Indiana, and in 1857 removed westward to Howard county, Iowa, settling in Howard Center township. He died in August, 1892, at the age of seventy-four years, while his widow died at the home of her daughter Mrs. Reed in Cresco, in February, 1916, at the advanced age of ninety-two years.

Judge and Mrs. Reed have two children: Carl W., who is practicing law in Cresco; and Kate C., who is now the wife of Dr. W. T. Daly of Cresco. The family is one of prominence in the community. Carl W. Reed has carried forward the work begun by his father, assisting in the upbuilding and development of this section of the state, and is now a member of the Iowa senate for the Howard-Winneshiek district.

A. T. BROOKINS.

Perseverance and energy feature as salient factors in the business career of A. T. Brookins and have brought him to the responsible position of cashier of the First State Savings Bank of Ionia. He was born December 16, 1883, on a farm within three miles of his present home, his parents being Franklin W. and Mary (Chamberlin) Brookins, the former a native of the state of New York, whence he removed westward to Wisconsin in young manhood. He was there married, in the town of Necedah, to Miss Chamberlin and for some years thereafter he engaged in the lumber business and in farming in Juneau county, Wisconsin. Subsequently he came to Iowa and purchased a farm in Bradford township, Chickasaw county. About 1888 or 1889 he removed to Ionia, where he resided until 1901, when he became a resident of Charles City, Iowa, and later he and his wife took up their home with their daughter, "Mrs. Charles Gray, of New Hampton. The mother's death there occurred about 1913. In subsequent years the father has made his home among his children.

A. T. Brookins was educated in the town schools of Ionia and in the Charles City high school before entering the Charles City College. He was graduated from high school with the class of 1902 and following the completion of his studies he taught school for eight years, during which time he was principal of the schools of Floyd, Iowa, and also at Defiance, Iowa. He proved an able educator, having the happy faculty of interesting the children and imparting readily to them the knowledge that he had acquired. At length, however, he gave up his educational work in the spring of 1910 and went upon the farm. During the following six years he devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits and in September, 1915, he received his initial training in the banking business by entering the First State Savings Bank of Ionia in the position of assistant cashier. He made good in this connection and in January, 1919, was advanced to the position of cashier in which capacity he is now serving, having charge of the financial policy of the bank.

In 1906 Mr. Brookins was united in marriage to Miss Ruth Alys Dodge, of Osage, Iowa, by whom he has a son, Paul Dodge. In politics Mr. Brookins is a republican and in the November election of 1914 was the nominee of his party for the position of county auditor, running against Peter McGinn. He was nominated in the republican convention but not through the primary, and the election board of the county, then controlled by the democrats, ruled his nomination irregular and his name was not placed on the ticket. Notwithstanding this fact there were enough who wrote his name on the ticket to almost defeat his opponent, a fact indicative of his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him. He is now serving for the second term as justice of the peace in Chickasaw township and through his influence and his counsel to litigants he has succeeded in having all cases compromised and settled out of court, no cases ever having come to trial in his court. This is certainly a notable record and the influence of his work cannot be overestimated, as an amicable adjustment is far preferable to litigation, which is sure to leave behind it a trail of unpleasant feeling. Mr.

Brookins belongs to Nashua Lodge, No. 110, K. P., also to the Masonic lodge of Nashua and has taken the Royal Arch degrees at New Hampton. He and his wife are consistent and faithful members of the Congregational church and they are keenly interested in everything that has to do with the uplift of the individual and the upbuilding of the county. Their circle of friends is almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintances and throughout Chickasaw county Mr. Brookins is spoken of in terms of high regard as a representative business man and citizen.

FRANK TETZNER.

There was an old belief that the success of the farmer depended upon his industry and the weather, but it is a recognized fact today that there are other elements which enter into his success. He must possess the sound judgment that is essential in any undertaking and moreover, he must have an understanding of the scientific principles which are basic elements in the production of crops. Well qualified in all of these particulars is Frank Tetzner, who is living on section 18, Howard township, Howard county. He was born in Traer, Iowa, October 30, 1888, a son of John and Margaret (Odson) Tetzner, both of whom were natives of Germany, where they were reared and married. About 1884 they came to the United States, settling in Tama county, Iowa, near Traer, where the father took up the work of cultivating rented land. He was thus engaged until 1910, when he purchased his present farm and removed to Howard county, where he has since lived. In 1915, however, he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away on the 20th of May of that year. They were the parents of twelve children, nine of whom survive, namely: Alvina, who is the wife of Claus Solto, of Reinbeck, Iowa; Lena, the wife of Frank Manlick, who follows farming in Oakdale township, Howard county; Minnie, the wife of Jacob Solto, of Bingham Lake, Minnesota; Anna, who gave her hand in marriage to Henry Jebens, of Davenport, Iowa; John C., a farmer residing at Reinbeck, Iowa; Herman, a resident of Reinbeck, Iowa; Frank, of this review; Dora, who is the wife of Martin Shoemaker, of Waterloo, Iowa; and Albert, who for ten months served on the Alsace front in France as a member of Company F, Three Hundred and Fifty-second Infantry, in the Eighty-eighth Division, known as the Clover Leaf Division.

Frank Tetzner, whose name introduces this review, having acquired a fair education in the district schools of Tama county, concentrated his efforts and attention upon farm work on his father's place and thus gained the practical experience which has constituted the basis of his later successful effort. In October, 1915, he was united in marriage to Miss Ida Lambert, of Howard township, Howard county, and in the following spring he took charge of the home farm and has since cultivated it. He carries on general agricultural pursuits and the progressive methods which he employs have gained him place among the successful farmers of Howard township.

In his political views Mr. Tetzner is a republican and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, thus being able to support his position by intelligent argument. Both he and his wife are consistent members of the German Lutheran church and they are well known people of the district in which they reside, their substantial traits of character gaining for them the warm regard of those with whom they have been associated.

FRANK E. HOWARD.

Frank E. Howard, editor and owner of the Elma New Era, one of the leading weekly publications of Howard county, was born in Howard Center, Iowa, January 17, 1875, a son of Daniel and Margaret (Creamer) Howard, the former a native of County Cork, Ireland, while the latter was born in Columbus, Ohio. The father came to the United States when a lad of fourteen or fifteen years in company with his father, his

mother having previously died on the Emerald isle. They settled on a farm in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where the grandfather of Frank E. Howard passed away. The marriage of Daniel Howard and Margaret Creamer was celebrated in Cresco, Iowa, about 1870. The mother's parents had come to Howard county from Columbus, Ohio, prior to the Civil war. Following their marriage the parents began their domestic life upon a farm in Winneshiek county five and a half miles from Cresco and there resided until 1893, when they removed to Howard county, establishing their home upon a farm in Vernon Springs township six and a half miles northwest of Cresco, where the mother passed away in 1900. The father is still living and now makes his home with his son William in Sidney, Montana.

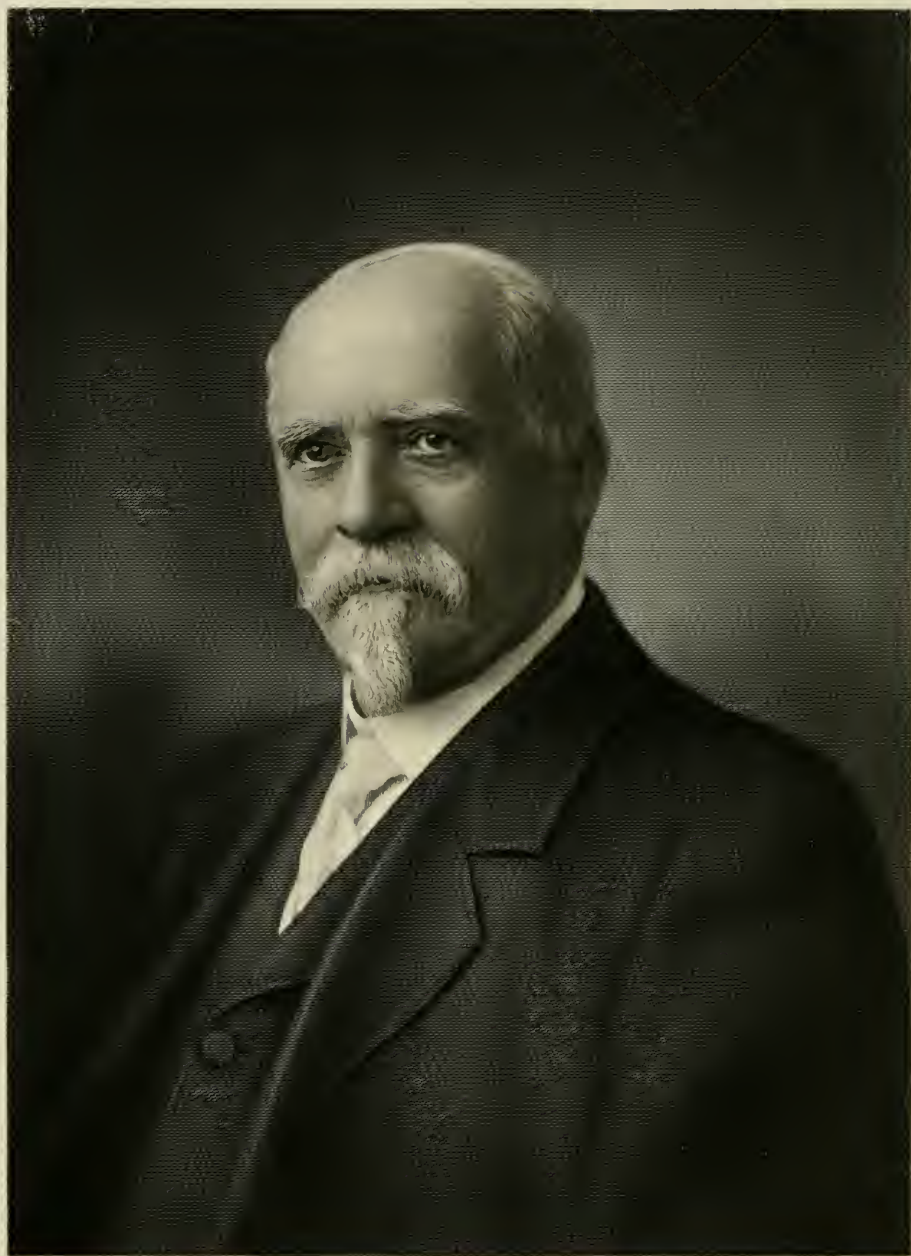
Frank E. Howard of this review was educated in the country schools of Winneshiek and Howard counties and took up the profession of teaching in 1894, or prior to his eighteenth year. He was engaged in educational work for four years and remained upon the home farm until January, 1900, when he removed to Elma and became connected with newspaper publication in partnership with A. R. McCook. They purchased the Elma News Register, changing the name of the sheet to the Northern Iowa Democrat. Both were ardent democrats in political faith, and imbued with a desire to advance the interests of the party, they applied themselves diligently to the task which now confronted them. They did active campaign work in behalf of democratic candidates, in addition to their earnest efforts in the publication of a democratic newspaper. After three or four years the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Howard changed the name of the paper to the Elma New Era, under which title it has since been published as an independent organ. As a free lance he supports any political principle or candidate that he desires or seeks to advance the interests of any candidate whom he regards as best qualified for the duties of the position which he seeks. He is himself an able public speaker and has done very active campaign work in the interests of candidates throughout his district. He is quoted as one of the best orators of northern Iowa and also as one of Howard county's ablest writers.

On the 25th of June, 1901, Mr. Howard was married to Miss Maud O. Rowley, of Elma, a daughter of Charles W. and Amelia (Ronco) Rowley. Her father, now deceased, was a prominent stock and grain buyer of Howard county. The mother survives and makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Howard. In religious faith Mr. Howard is a Catholic, and he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. His business career and public work have brought him a wide acquaintance throughout his section of the state and while he has many political opponents, he has a very extensive circle of warm friends.

THOMAS HOOPER.

The experiences and activities in the life of Thomas Hooper have been most varied, bringing him wide knowledge of many things of intense interest. He has witnessed much of the development of the west and in many ways has been identified with the work of progress and improvement, especially in connection with the utilization of the natural resources of the country. He now makes his home at Cresco, occupying an attractive residence at No. 434 North Elm street.

He was born at Chasewater, in Cornwall, England, March 1, 1842, and when seventeen years of age ran away from home, prompted by the spirit of adventure so often found in the youth, and came to the United States. He worked his way westward to Houghton county, Michigan, where he was employed in the old Quincy mine for about a year. He afterward worked in the old Minnesota and National copper mines at Rockland, Ontonagon county, Michigan, and subsequently he became superintendent of the old Union mine in that county. Later he took charge of a group of silver mines at Iron River but after a few years removed to Marquette county, Michigan, where he took charge of the Champion iron mine. All through the years he was making steady progress, assuming larger and larger responsibilities as his powers developed through experience and study. In 1873 he again took charge



Thomas A. Brown



FOUR GENERATIONS OF THE HOOPER FAMILY

of the silver mines in Ontonagon county and after several years of prospecting and mining, in which he met with little profit, the mines were closed down. Mr. Hooper then took charge of the Nonesuch copper mine, but one year later, on account of the death of the president, R. P. Wade, of Cleveland, this mine was closed. Mr. Hooper afterward leased the mine for a period of seven years and completed the railroad track extending from the mine to Lake Superior. He also built a dock on the lake shore and put in a small stamp mill at the mine. After a very successful operation of this mining property for two or three years he located elsewhere, owing to the fact that the mine was sold to a Milwaukee-Chicago syndicate.

It was then that Mr. Hooper removed to Baraga county, Michigan, where he took charge of a slate roofing quarry. After seven or eight years the quarry was finally closed owing to the scarcity of the product. During its operation that quarry furnished the best slate found anywhere in the country. It was about this time that the silver mines in Canada were receiving the attention of the public and some excellent mines were discovered. Accordingly Mr. Hooper left Michigan to take charge of the Beaver silver mine in the district of Algona, in the province of Ontario. He there remained for eight years and at about the end of that period silver mining slumped all over the country, so that Mr. Hooper left that district. He then removed to Howard county, Iowa, and purchased the farm that is at present being conducted by his son, Thomas J. Hooper, who is engaged in raising thoroughbred cattle and horses. In 1902 Mr. Hooper was asked to take charge of the Victoria mine in Ontonagon county, Michigan, but refused, stating that he was through with all mines and mining. However, after some persuasion an arrangement was entered into whereby he accepted charge of the mine. For two years he there continued and completed one of the most startling engineering feats ever accomplished in connection with mining history. Without the use of a pound of coal or the turning of a wheel he was able to supply all the power needed to operate the mine machinery and engines. By diverting the course of a river into one, two or three large cylinders built in the rock sufficient air pressure is formed to run all the necessary machinery by compressed air. In 1905 Mr. Hooper's son George took over the superintendency of the mine and Mr. Hooper went to Goldfield, Nevada, where he became superintendent and manager of a mine syndicate. He there did considerable prospecting for four or five years but failed to find any bonanza ground and shortly afterward suspended operations. Since leaving Goldfield he has not been actively engaged in business, living retired at Cresco in the enjoyment of a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves.

On the 4th of July, 1862, Mr. Hooper was married to Miss Henrietta Augusta Firman, at Rockland, Michigan, a daughter of William Firman. Mr. and Mrs. Hooper have become the parents of six sons and six daughters. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal church, and in politics Mr. Hooper gives his support to the republican party. His has been a most active life, fraught with many interesting experiences and much hard labor. He has worked diligently and persistently, making the best possible use of his time and opportunities, and as the years passed he became a well known figure in mining circles by reason of his ability and the successful achievement of his purpose. He is now numbered among the highly esteemed residents of Cresco, having a circle of friends almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintance.

ROBERT A. DUNCAN.

The home farm of Robert A. Duncan is pleasantly situated on section 8, Deerfield, township, Chickasaw county, and in its development and improvement Mr. Duncan has displayed a progressive and enterprising spirit. He was born in Blackhawk county, Iowa, August 27, 1857, and is a son of Robert and Margaret (Walker) Duncan, who were natives of Scotland, the former born June 1, 1821, and the latter on the 11th of May of the same year. They were reared in the land of hills and heather and were

there married in 1846, after which they came immediately to the United States. They first settled near St. Charles, Illinois, where they resided for only a brief period and in the spring of 1850 came to Iowa, taking up their home in Blackhawk county. In 1864 they removed to Chickasaw county, settling on the farm where their son, Robert A., now resides, the father purchasing eighty acres of land on which he made his home until his death in April, 1870. His widow survived him for forty-five years and passed away July 25, 1915, at the notable old age of ninety-four years, two months and ten days. In early life both were devout members of the Presbyterian church but after coming to Chickasaw county joined the Methodist Episcopal church. They ever lived consistent Christian lives and their many sterling traits of character endeared them to all who knew them. They were the parents of eight children: Jennett P.; Alice J.; John R.; William W. and Robert A., twins; Mary A.; James E.; and Thomas A. Of this family only three are living—Robert A., William W. and James E.

Robert A. Duncan has always been a resident of Iowa and his educational opportunities were those afforded by the district schools of Chickasaw county, to which his parents removed from Blackhawk county during his early youth. He was but thirteen years of age at the time of his father's death and for some years thereafter the cultivation of the home farm devolved upon him and his brothers, John and William, the eldest of the three being then but fifteen years of age, while Robert A. and William W., twins, were thirteen. Robert A. Duncan remained upon the home farm until about 1882, when he began farming on his own account, purchasing eighty acres of his present holdings on section 8, Deerfield township. In subsequent years he has bought more land from time to time and has acquired the ownership of the old homestead. His present holdings aggregate two hundred and eighty acres, constituting one of the excellent farm properties of Deerfield township. He is also a stockholder in the Colwell Grain Exchange and in his business career has demonstrated what can be accomplished through individual effort and perseverance. Steadily he has worked his way upward and may well be classed with the self-made men of Chickasaw county.

On the 1st of January, 1895, Mr. Duncan was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Newbury, a daughter of George Newbury, who was one of the early settlers of Floyd county, Iowa, and is now living retired at Osage, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Duncan have become the parents of four children, namely: Gladys M., Margaret R., Ruth A. and Donald G.

In his political views Mr. Duncan is a republican, having supported the party since attaining adult age. While he has never been an aspirant for public office, he has always taken an active and helpful interest in public affairs and has been especially active in support of educational work, serving for a number of years as a member of the school board. He was active in the organization of the Colwell consolidated school district, which includes the district in which Mr. Duncan resides, and he took a helpful interest in building the schoolhouse. Fraternally he is connected with Charles City Lodge, No. 65, I. O. O. F., and he and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he is serving as steward and trustee. Deerfield township names him as one of her most prominent and influential citizens—a man whose life has been of worth to the community, while at the same time he has carefully directed his business affairs so that he has advanced from a humble position in financial circles to one of affluence.

THOMAS J. COROLAN.

Thomas J. Corolan is a successful agriculturist residing on section 5, Vernon Springs township, Howard county, where he has owned and operated a farm of one hundred and sixty acres for the past twenty-one years and also cultivates a rented tract of similar size adjoining. His birth occurred in Winneshiek county, Iowa, on the 26th of June, 1867, his parents being John and Johanna (Casey) Corolan, natives of Ireland, who emigrated to the United States in young manhood and young womanhood. Both were in straitened financial circumstances and after coming to America began working by the month, being employed in New York and Ohio and journeying westward until

they reached Winneshiek county, Iowa, where they were married. They had become acquainted while working in Ohio. After his marriage Mr. Corolan rented a farm in Winneshiek county and so successfully operated the place that prosperity attended his efforts and he was enabled to purchase property of his own, acquiring two hundred acres of land which he cultivated throughout the remainder of his active business career. Since his retirement he has made his home with a daughter.

Thomas J. Corolan obtained his education in the district schools and early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist as he assisted his father in the work of the fields. When twenty-three years of age he rented a tract of land and began farming independently in Winneshiek county, where he remained until 1898. In that year he came to Howard county, here purchasing his present home place of one hundred and sixty acres in Vernon Springs township, where he has since remained and has won well merited success in his farming operations. He likewise cultivates an adjoining quarter section of rented land and his fields respond readily to the care and labor which he bestows upon them, annually yielding rich and abundant harvests.

In 1893 Mr. Corolan was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Drew, of Winneshiek county, by whom he had eleven children, nine of whom still survive, namely: Agnes; Charles, who is in France with an Iowa infantry of the Eighty-eighth Division; Mary; Francis; Thomas; Effie; Rosetta; Louis; and Margaret. All are still under the parental roof.

In politics Mr. Corolan is a democrat, while his religious belief is that of the Catholic church, to which his wife and children also belong. Fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Columbus and the Modern Woodmen of America, as are also two of his sons, Charles and Francis. The family is widely and favorably known throughout the community and Mr. Corolan enjoys an enviable reputation as a substantial agriculturist and representative citizen.

L. W. CLARK, M. D.

Dr. L. W. Clark located at Chester in September, 1913, and since then has been actively engaged in medical practice. He and his wife also conduct a drug store there. His birthplace was Maquoketa, Iowa, and his parents, Mortimer W. and Fannie (Evans) Clark, still reside at that place. He acquired his education in the Maquoketa high school, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Chicago, and the medical department of the State University of Iowa at Iowa City, where he received his degree in medicine in 1909. Subsequently he located at Onaka, Faulk county, South Dakota, where he practiced medicine and conducted a drug store until the fall of 1913, when he came to Howard county.

In 1910 Dr. Clark was united in marriage to Miss Rubie M. Richardson, of Maquoketa, and they are the parents of two sons, Richardson Evan and William Jerome. Dr. Clark and his wife have ever the welfare of the public before them and believe in giving their time and energy to the betterment of the community in which they reside.

GEORGE E. WILKINS.

George E. Wilkins, county treasurer of Chickasaw county, Iowa, was born in Williamstown on the 25th of September, 1867, but now makes his home at New Hampton. His parents were Charles and Eliza (Stubbins) Wilkins, natives of England, both having been born in Somersetshire, in the town of Wookey, near Wells. They came to the United States, the father in young manhood, and the mother when a girl with her parents. They were married in Wisconsin and two or three years later removed to Iowa, settling on a farm at Williamstown, making this removal immediately after the close of the Civil war. The father purchased two hundred acres of land and subse-

quently added to the property until the farm, which he still owns, comprised three hundred and twenty-seven acres. He resided thereon until about 1890, when he retired from active business life and removed to New Hampton, where he still makes his home. For several years, however, he has spent the winter seasons in California. His wife died in July, 1907. She was a lifelong member of the Methodist Episcopal church and possessed many excellent traits of heart and mind.

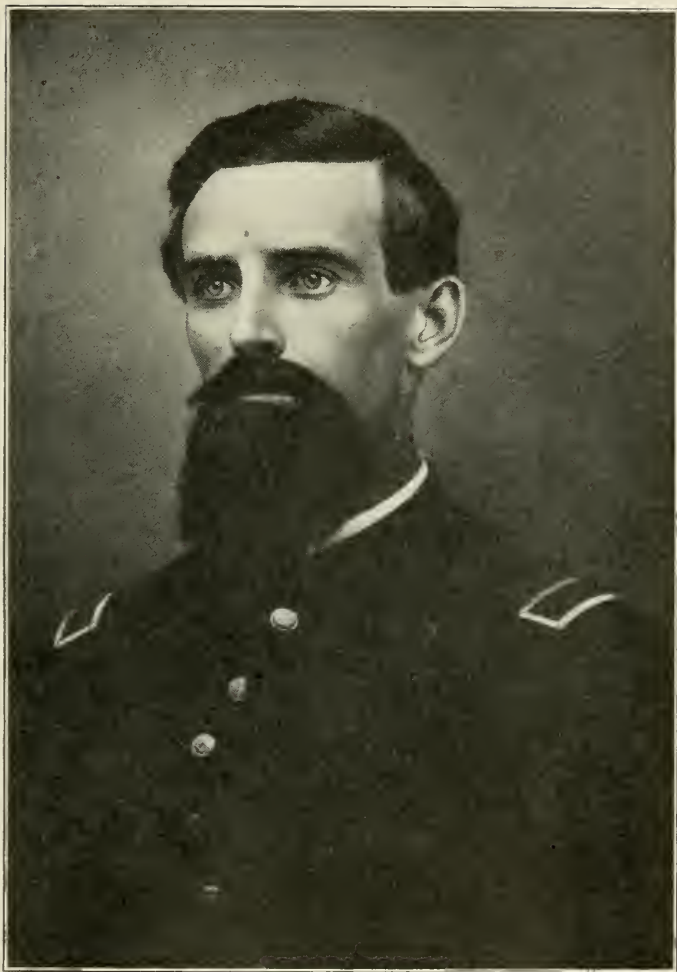
George E. Wilkins was educated in the district schools and in the New Hampton high school and also pursued a commercial course in the Lincoln Business College at Lincoln, Nebraska. There he became ill and afterward resumed his studies in the Upper Iowa University at Fayette. He then went to Britt, Iowa, in April, 1889, and entered the Citizens Bank in the capacity of bookkeeper, thus serving for two years. Later he was made cashier of the institution and was identified with the bank for a decade. In 1899 he returned to New Hampton and previously had become interested with a brother in the drug business. After his return he spent almost two years in the store and later was employed by the Deering Harvester Company as collector, his field covering Iowa and Nebraska. He was thus engaged for three years, after which he turned his attention to the jewelry trade in New Hampton and conducted a store for seven years, when failing health compelled him to retire from that field of labor. He was advised by his physicians to live an outdoor life and removed to the home farm in order to recuperate, spending his time on the farm until his election in November, 1916, to the office of county treasurer. His first term's service received endorsement in reelection in 1918, so that he is the present incumbent in the position.

On the 23d of November, 1892, Mr. Wilkins was united in marriage to Miss Clara A. Morrison, of Britt, Iowa, a daughter of Horatio L. and Mary A. (Sawyer) Morrison, both of whom were natives of New Hampshire but were of Scotch descent. On her mother's side Mrs. Wilkins is a relative of the man who discovered Pike's Peak, which was named in his honor. To Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins have been born a daughter, who is deceased, and a son, George M., who is a sophomore in the high school at New Hampton.

In politics Mr. Wilkins has always been a republican and gives loyal and stalwart support to the party and its principles. He belongs to Arcana Lodge No. 274, A. F. & A. M., also to Adelpia Chapter, No. 115, R. A. M. Both he and his wife are members of New Hampton Chapter, No. 75, O. E. S., of which Mrs. Wilkins is a past matron and is acting conductress. She is also grand representative for Vermont to the Grand Chapter of Iowa. She belongs to the Christian Science church and is keenly interested in all that has to do with the welfare and progress of the community. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins are held in high esteem and he has long occupied an enviable position in business and political circles.

BARSNETTE DELL EVERINGHAM.

In a history of Howard county mention should be made of Barsnette Dell Everingham, who for more than a half century was a resident of Cresco, where he long carried on business as a contractor and builder. He was born in Niagara, Ontario county, Canada, on the 18th of January, 1832, and passed away at Cresco on the 15th of November, 1916, so that he had reached the notable old age of eighty-four years at the time of his demise. He was a son of Jacob and Margaret (Dell) Everingham. His father was of English descent and birth and after coming to the new world established his home at Niagara, Ontario county, where he followed the occupation of farming. He afterward crossed the border into the United States and took up his abode at Freeport, Illinois, where he also carried on farming for some time. Still attracted by the opportunities of the west, he later made his way to Dubuque, Iowa, and subsequently became a resident of Wagner, Polk county, Iowa. During the period of his residence there he lived retired, making his home with his son, Barsnette D. Everingham. His wife died near Lawler, Iowa, at the home of her son William. Mr. Everingham was a democrat in his political views and in his fraternal relations was a Mason.



BARSNETTE DELL EVERINGHAM

Barsnette D. Everingham of this review spent his boyhood days in Canada, and in Freeport, Illinois, to the age of fourteen years, when in 1846 he removed to Dubuque, Iowa, and later became a resident of Wagner, where he continued until after the outbreak of the Civil war. Aroused by the attempt of the south to overthrow the Union, he offered his services to the government in 1862 and joined the "Boys in blue" of the Thirty-eighth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until 1865. He was made a sergeant in 1864 and later was advanced to the rank of second lieutenant. He participated in the siege of Vicksburg, in the expedition to Jackson, Mississippi, in the pursuit of General Johnson, in the capture of Brownsville, Texas, in the siege of Fort Morgan on Mobile bay and in the battle of Blakeley, Alabama, which was the last engagement of the war. He was a brave and loyal soldier, always faithful to his duties, performing any task that was assigned him most capably and bravely. When the country no longer needed his aid he returned to his home with a most creditable military record, making his way to New Oregon, Iowa, where on the 29th of August, 1865, he was mustered out. Through the intervening period to the time of death Mr. Everingham was engaged in carpentering, first in the employ of others and later as a contractor. He was very active in the building of the town of Cresco and of the courthouse. He put up many of the public buildings and residences of the city and on all sides are to be seen monuments to his skill and handiwork. In addition to his connection with the contracting business he was engaged in agricultural pursuits, owning a farm south of Cresco, comprising eighty acres of land.

In 1857 Mr. Everingham was married in Minnesota to Miss Elizabeth Moon, who died some time later. There were five children of that marriage, Frank D., Helen M., Mamie, Emma and Ida. In 1873 Mr. Everingham was again married, his second union being with Miss Helen D. Hunt, a daughter of Warren B. and Mary Ann (Moon) Hunt. She was born in Chautauqua county, New York, of which district her parents were also natives. They came west in an early day, settling first at Janesville, Wisconsin, where her father was engaged in the restaurant business. Later he removed to Iowa, establishing his home in Clayton county, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he owned and cultivated for a number of years. He afterward removed to New Oregon, Howard county, where he conducted a general store in connection with his brother-in-law, M. M. Moon. His wife died in this county, after which he returned to New York and spent his remaining days in the Empire state. To the second marriage of Mr. Everingham there were born seven children, Effie F., Edith L., Mabel D., Bertha F., Alice E., William W. and Elias L. The last named was run over by a train on the "Soo" Line and left a wife and two children.

The family circle was again broken by the hand of death when in 1916 Mr. Everingham was called to his final rest. In politics he was a democrat and he belonged to the Masonic fraternity, which found in him a worthy representative. "As the day with its morning of hope and promise, its noontide of activity, its evening of completed and successful effort, ending in the grateful rest and quiet of the night," so was the life of this man. He lived to round out more than four score years and his record was one of usefulness and honor.

JOSEPH CRAY.

Among the most prominent and influential pioneers of Howard county was Joseph Cray, who came to this locality in 1857 and always took a very active part in the up-building and development of this region. He was born on the 9th of March, 1825, at Buckland, near Frome, Somersetshire, England, and was the third son in the family of George and Ann Cray, who were the parents of seven children, five sons and two daughters. At the early age of seven years he began working for his father, who was the owner of a lime kiln at Buckland, and continued with him until his marriage, delivering lime at Frome with a horse and cart.

On reaching manhood Mr. Cray was married June 26, 1845, to Miss Matilda Coombes, who was born at Graytown, near Frome, November 25, 1825. They had previously planned to leave their native land and make a home for themselves in America. Accordingly on the 7th of July, 1845, they bade adieu to their home and friends and embarked on a sailing vessel at Southampton bound for the new world. On the whole the voyage was a very pleasant one, as they encountered but little rough weather and at the end of six weeks landed at Quebec, Canada. They proceeded up the St. Lawrence river by boat to western Canada and located thirty miles from London, in South Zora township, where they made their home nearly twelve years. For some time Mr. Cray was in the employ of a wealthy landowner from England as gardener, working with the flowers and plants out-of-doors in the summer time and in the greenhouse during the winter. He and his wife were both very ambitious and industrious and she, being an excellent seamstress, found plenty of work to occupy all her spare time from her household duties. They saved their earnings for future investment. While residing in that locality five children were born to them, namely: Frances Matilda, Rhoda Ann, Mary Jane, George and John Austin. The first named died in January, 1850, at the age of three years and two months, but the others reached years of maturity.

During his residence in Canada, Mr. Cray made several trips to the United States and worked for one season at Ogdensburg, New York. In the spring of 1851 his youngest brother, John, came from the "homeland" and lived with him for several years, working at different points near-by. Finally the western fever gripped them both and in 1856 John made his way to Michigan and brought back favorable reports of that state and also of the prairie lands of Iowa. During the winter of 1856-7 he again came west and settled in Chester township, Howard county, Iowa, his plan being to take up homesteads for both himself and brother. On the 1st of April, 1857, Joseph Cray, accompanied by his wife and four children, started for Iowa, traveling by train to McGregor and by team in a lumber wagon to Howard county, reaching their destination in Chester township on Sunday afternoon late in April. On passing through Lime Springs they found only one log house to mark the site of that town, this being the store of A. D. C. Knowlton, and a buffalo robe was hanging on a rail fence outside to dry.

The two brothers filed on adjoining claims in Chester township and held the same throughout the remainder of their lives. In the summer of 1857 this land was placed upon the market and they bought it for the government price of one dollar and a quarter per acre. The family found shelter in the home of an early settler, William Munger, who had come to the district with his family from Illinois in 1856. After staking off their claims Joseph Cray and his brother would start out every morning with an axe in hand to cut down the poplar trees, which were the only kind of any size that grew near-by, to build a house in which to live. These logs were cut the desired length and then hewed down to equal size. At the end of two weeks the house was ready to occupy and the family moved in. During those early days they endured many hardships and privations but without complaint. Their humble cabin was scantily furnished, containing only three chairs made of young saplings cut from an adjoining grove by a young man named Thomas Lewis, who lived on a claim a half mile away. Several crude benches were made from poplar slabs, and besides these the house contained a table bought from a family named Bovee, and a stove with a high elevated oven common in those days. The winter of 1856-7 was very severe and the only means of bringing wood from the groves was the home-constructed hand sled drawn by man. No water was obtainable except melted snow and the principal food was corn meal, which some of the early settlers ground in coffee mills. By economy and industry a few comforts were gradually added to the home of Mr. Cray and the amount of cultivated land was increased. He and his wife were instrumental in starting a school in the settlement, it being opened in the spring of 1858 in a log house on the bank of Beaver creek and taught by Mrs. A. A. Sage, the wife of one of the early settlers. For years this was known as the Beaver Creek school. Mr. and Mrs. Cray also helped to organize and maintain religious services, which were held in the homes of the settlers, some having to travel many miles in order to enjoy the privilege of attending church. At different times Mr. Cray filled nearly all of the various offices connected with the schools

and municipal affairs of his township. He was highly respected in the community for his integrity and his honorable dealings.

For the first years during their residence in Howard county the family obtained their supplies from Decorah, it requiring about three days to make the trip with oxen. Mr. Cray always tried to lay in his supplies for the year between planting and harvest time, generally going to market during the long, pleasant days of June, and in this way he saved both time and money. In 1861, when the Civil war broke out and many young men were called into the service, the early settlers were hard pressed, as help was scarce and prices, especially for clothing, soared high, almost beyond the reach of the poor man. Mr. Cray was never one to complain of conditions but worked early and late on his own farm and then joined with neighbors in making a "bee" to help the less fortunate, especially those where the husband or sons had been called to the service of their country.

As the years went by, his family outgrew the little log house and he saw the need of erecting a larger and better one. In the summer of 1863 he began getting together material with which to build. This he bought at McGregor, about eighty miles away. He would take a load of grain to market and then return with a load of lumber, it requiring six or seven days to make the trip with oxen. A number of loads were on the ground the first year and in June, 1864, more material was brought and in the fall of that year the house was erected but not completed until the summer of 1865. All the material and furnishings were hauled from McGregor with ox teams. In August, 1865, the family moved into their new home, which was thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed by them. As time passed he kept adding to his stock until he was managing one of the largest dairy farms in Chester township. In the summer of 1867 Mr. Cray purchased his first team of horses, a span of sorrels, which were kept as long as they lived. The buying of these horses was put off until he had the cash ready to pay for them, one of his characteristics being never to go in debt, and this was well instilled into the minds of the family. He owned the first wagon that was made in Howard county. It was constructed by Alvarado Jones and A. A. Sage in a little log workshop on the bank of the creek, about a mile and a half from the farm, and was used for about forty years.

One of the strong points in the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Cray was their strict observance of the Sabbath day, no unnecessary work being permitted. While the hum of machinery and the voices of workmen were heard on adjoining farms, with the plea of the crops spoiling, Mr. Cray always said there was nothing gained by that, believing that both men and teams should rest for one day in the week. During the winter months he would cut and haul timber from Root river, a distance of from fifteen to twenty miles, for fencing and stove wood for the year. This was a hard and tedious job, as the weather was often extremely cold and the snow deep. He would start out long before daylight in the morning and often would not return until after dark, having nothing but a cold lunch at noon and this sometimes frozen. None but those who have experienced such things can realize the hardships endured by the early settlers in this new country.

Five more children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Cray in their prairie home, these being Rosa Matilda, William Washington, Eliza Emma, Albert Joseph and Seymour Romeo, making a family of nine who grew to manhood and womanhood on the homestead. On the 18th of September, 1882, the wife and mother passed away and her loss was keenly felt by all. Her life had been devoted to her home and family and much credit was due her for their prosperity. In early life both Mr. and Mrs. Cray united with the Episcopal church in England and continued members of that denomination during their residence in Canada but later joined the Methodist church at Lime Springs. They were always interested and liberal in support of Christian work and faithful in their attendance on church services. In December, 1884, Mr. Cray was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Mary E. Searles, the widow of an early settler, and they remained on the farm until 1892, when they removed to the village of Lime Springs. From a small beginning in 1857, his farming interests grew until he became the largest landowner in Chester township and one of the largest in Howard county. The fact that his children were loyal and faithful to the home and farm made this

possible. He was called upon to mourn the loss of his second wife, who died September 16, 1903, leaving him very lonely in his old age.

The last project in which Mr. Cray took special interest was the building of the new Methodist church just across the street from his home in Lime Springs. This he watched closely day by day and was privileged to be present at its dedication in December, 1894. He was the largest contributor to its erection and thus helped make it possible to build such a fine church. After a useful and well spent life he passed to the home beyond February 21, 1906. Being a man of temperate habits, he always enjoyed good health. As a citizen he desired to do his whole duty and all who knew him appreciated the friendship of one who was upright in character and one who would value those things which are for the good of the community and all mankind. His nine children were all present at the funeral and all of them still live near the old home. It was a source of great satisfaction to him to see his children do well. His sons, when grown to manhood, began filling positions of responsibility and proved themselves worthy of such. Today the sons and grandsons of this honored pioneer are among the most highly respected business men of Howard county.

LIEUTENANT WILLIAM H. PARKER.

Lieutenant William H. Parker, deceased, was for many years one of Lawler's foremost citizens, actively identified with merchantile and banking interests and at all times contributing through business and other channels to the upbuilding and developing of his section of the state. He was a native of New England, his birth having occurred in Weathersfield, Vermont, March 20, 1840. He came of Puritan ancestry. Butler's history of Groton, Massachusetts, and the genealogy of various Parker's e. g. William Thornton Parker, give Captain James Parker as one of five brothers, founders of the American branch of the family. James was born in 1617 and it is presumed he came from Wiltshire, England, some time prior to 1640 as she was in Groton at that time. He married Elizabeth Long of Charleston in 1643. He settled first at Woburn, then removed to Chelmsford and later to Groton, of which place he and Joseph were the original proprietors. James' tract was fifty acres. His house lot lying directly across the principal street near the center of town. He held many town offices and his name appears in the town records as a member of various committees of a public nature. Isaac, the grandfather of Lieutenant William H. Parker, (direct male line from James—Eleazer, Zachariah) fought in the Revolutionary war with the Connecticut militia. He was in Captain Experience Storr's company, Colonel Israel Putnam's regiment. His father, Dexter Parker was born at Weathersfield, Vermont, May 30, 1799, and married Esther Piper, January 24, 1824. He was for years prominently identified with the cotton weaving industry, serving as superintendent of mills in Lowell, Massachusetts, with twelve hundred operatives under his management. In May, 1844, he came west, settling on a farm at Rutland, Dane county, Wisconsin, about fifteen miles south of what is now Madison. The future capital city was then a hamlet of but four log cabins. Dexter Parker died in May, 1853, his early death due to the treatment given by physicians at that time for fever. The physician treating him for malaria, took blood from his system three times. Mr. Parker was a foremost citizen of his community, serving in various local offices. He was a county supervisor at time of his death.

Lieutenant William H. Parker was a boy of thirteen at the time of his father's death and all opportunity for education, thus far acquired in the country schools, ceased at this time. He was a constant reader, however, and through his reading, study and observation, became possessed of a good practical education and he was well informed on subjects of general interest. Following his father's death, he and his brother Amasa, under the guidance of their mother, worked the home farm and in the fall seasons operated a threshing machine. The mother passed away November 16, 1888, at the advanced age of ninety-one. Of the practical, capable, pioneer type, she was looked up to by her family and held in high esteem by a large circle of friends.

After the death of his young wife (nee Louisa Smith) Lieutenant Parker enlisted



Wm. H. Parker

February 20, 1864, as a private in the Union army, becoming a member of Company B, Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. When the company was mustered in he was made second sergeant and was commissioned second lieutenant, June 27, 1864. On the 10th of November, 1864, he was advanced to the rank of first Lieutenant of his company, which he commanded in two engagements—one at Deep Bottom, Virginia, and the other the battle of Ream's Station on the 25th of August, 1864, in which he and the greater part of his regiment were taken prisoners, one hundred and forty-eight of the one hundred and eighty-five who went into this battle being either killed, wounded or captured. He was confined in Libby prison, also at Salisbury and Danville for a period of six months, being paroled on the 22d of February, 1865. After arriving at Annapolis, Maryland, he was granted a leave of absence (prison fare had left him weak and emaciated) of thirty days. He rejoined his regiment at Burkville, Virginia, and was offered a position on the brigade staff which he declined. He was also offered the command of a division of the provost guard but declined this also, expressing himself as preferring to remain with his men.

He participated in the battles of North Anna, Totopotomoy Creek, Bethesda Church, Cold Harbor, the charge over the Melon Patch, Jerusalem Plank Road, Deep Bottom, Petersburg and Ream's Station. The thirty-sixth Wisconsin's percentage killed was fifteen and four-tenths per cent as compared with the average loss of the whole northern army of five per cent. This shows that its service of but one year and two months was located where action was severe and incessant. Lieutenant Parker had command of one company front, or twenty files, in the Grand Review at Washington, D. C., on the 23d of May, 1865.

After his regiment was mustered out, July 12, 1865, Lieutenant Parker returned to Dane county, Wisconsin, and engaged in the grain business at Brooklyn near his old home. This, however, did not prove a financial success and he traded his warehouse and stock of grain for a half interest in a mercantile business at Clermont, Iowa, thus becoming identified with the interests of this state. His partner was Isaac Mason, later, his father-in-law.

It was at Clermont, on the 30th of December, 1866, that lieutenant Parker married Ettie Mason. In 1870 he removed with his wife and one daughter to Lawler, Chickasaw county, where he resided at the time of his death, June 12, 1912. Following his removal to Lawler he engaged in the implement business, which he continued seven years. He then traveled for the Walter A. Wood Harvester Company for three years through eight midwestern states. In 1887 he purchased the Bank of Lawler, afterward the First National, and actively managed the business until the last six months of his lifetime. He was a man devoted to his undertakings and carefully developed his interests making his institution a valuable asset to the business interests of the community.

In politics, Lieutenant Parker was a republican and became a prominent factor in his party's councils in Iowa. He served repeatedly as a delegate to county and state conventions and in 1896 was chosen an alternate delegate from the fourth congressional district of Iowa to the republican national convention in St. Louis. From 1881 until 1886 he was postmaster of Lawler and again from 1890 until 1893, occupying that position for nine and a half years. His interest in national affairs never abated. At noon on the day of his death he walked to the telephone and asked that his daily paper be brought to him that he might see "what they are doing in Chicago." The republicans were in national convention and nominated Taft that day. He was town mayor and a member of the school board at various times and served many years as a member of the town council.

Mr Parker inherited the strong character and sterling integrity of his Puritan forefathers. While he was ever kindly to his fellowmen, he held them to the strictest accountability and gave honor only where it was due. He shunned the unworthy or dishonorable. In works of charity, he was entirely free from ostentation but those familiar with his private affairs found repeated evidence that he wilfully let his heart govern instead of his keen shrewd knowledge of human nature and loaned where he knew there would be no day of settlement. He enjoyed helping young men establish credit and liked to recall that he seldom found his credit or confidence misplaced. He

was absolutely honorable in all his dealings with the public and this principle through life gained him the confidence and esteem of the people. It also was an element in his success, which was of a very substantial nature. He left a valuable estate in farm lands, town properties and stocks. True to the habits of lifelong foresight, he conveyed all his holdings to his family and no court procedures were necessary. Two daughters, Cora A., aged eighteen, and Elizabeth Frank, aged twenty-seven, preceded him in death. The four children left to mourn the loss of a devoted father are Lucisa May, wife of Andrew Z. Bailey, a substantial merchant of New Hampton, Iowa; Henrietta, wife of Charles J. Martin, cashier of the Rock County Bank of Luverne, Minnesota; Fannie Esther, wife of George E. Himes, cashier of the First National Bank of Lawler; and Clifton Mason Parker, who as president of the bank has continued the business capacity and integrity of his father. Lieutenant Parker repeatedly expressed himself as satisfied if permitted to continue his labors until all his children had received the benefits of college education for it was his great desire to thus prepare them for the practical responsibilities of life. He succeeded not alone in doing this and leaving them a substantial competence also but by his upright life left the priceless heritage of a good name; his memory revered by all his associates. Mrs. Parker, a genuine helpmeet and mother, now makes her home among her children. There are eight grandchildren, Cora A. Martin-Benton, Fannie May Martin, Henrietta Elizabeth Martin, Esther Lenore Martin, Charles Andrew Martin, May Himes, William Clapham Parker and Catherine Parker.

BERT MILES.

Bert Miles, who follows farming on section 29, Saratoga township, Howard county, has always made his home in this township, where his birth occurred September 22, 1871. He is a son of William and Jane (Arnold) Miles, the former a native of Indiana, born March 10, 1837, while the latter was born in Ireland, January 11, 1835. The youthful days of Bert Miles were spent in the usual manner of the farm lad. Through the winter seasons he attended school and in the summer months worked upon the home farm with his father and throughout his entire life he has carried on general agricultural pursuits. He has followed farming independently for a long period and is now the owner of one hundred and fifty-six acres of excellent land lying in section 29, Saratoga township. This he has carefully developed and his fields are well tilled, returning to him golden harvests as a reward for his labor. Mr. Miles was the trainer and owner of Penica Maid one of Iowa's famous trotters, which was afterward sold for twenty-five thousand dollars. She was the champion state trotter of 1909.

Mr. Miles was united in marriage to Miss Annie Koinek at Owatona, Minnesota, October 7, 1903. They have one daughter, Gladys Leone, now attending school. In politics he maintains an independent course, supporting men and measures rather than party. He has never sought or desired political office but is recognized as a good, substantial citizen and one whose cooperation can be counted upon at any time to further the general welfare.

ADOLF ZAHASKY.

Adolf Zahasky is a farmer of Utica township, Chickasaw county, living on section 23, where he is engaged in the raising of registered Poland China hogs and thoroughbred black polled cattle, his activity and success along this line having numbered him with the representative stock raisers of this section of the state.

He was born upon the farm which he now owns, his natal day being August 24, 1887. His parents were Frank and Catherine (Fisher) Zahasky, the former a native of Bohemia, while the latter was born in Spillville, Winneshiek county, Iowa. The father came to the United States about 1853, when a child of six years, in company

with his parents, who settled in Winneshiek county, Iowa, the Zahasky family being among the earliest of the pioneers in that section of the state. Following his marriage Frank Zahasky settled on a farm in Winneshiek county, where he continued to reside until about 1879, when he removed to the farm upon which his son Adolf now lives. He was quite successful in the conduct of his business affairs, was recognized as a good manager and a progressive, enterprising and industrious agriculturist, and as the years passed he acquired four hundred acres of land, thus leaving his family in comfortable financial circumstances when, on the 2d of May, 1905, at the age of fifty-eight years, he passed away. His widow is still living and resides at her own home in Utica township.

Adolf Zahasky was educated in the district schools and in the Bohemian school of Protivin. In October, 1908, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Klimesh, a daughter of Frank J. Klimesh, an implement dealer and one of the leading business men of Protivin, who is mentioned at length on another page of this work.

In the spring of 1909 Mr. Zahasky began farming on his own account on the old homestead, having inherited one hundred and sixty acres of this land after his father's death. He also owns twenty acres on section 3, Utica township, and he has the reputation of being one of the best farmers in the township. His methods are at once practical and progressive. He rotates his crops, keeps his land in excellent condition and studies the nature of the soil. He is careful not to exhaust his fields through over-cultivation and by reason of his sound judgment in business matters is meeting with well deserved success. An important feature of his business is stock raising and he makes a specialty of the breeding of Poland China hogs and thoroughbred black polled cattle, which are eligible to registry.

To Mr. and Mrs. Zahasky have been born four children, namely: Beatrix, Edwin, Majella and Emil. The family are communicants of the Catholic church. In politics Mr. Zahasky is a democrat and for two years he served as a member of the school board but otherwise has not sought nor filled public office. His time and attention are concentrated upon his farm work and in the management of his property he displays his sound judgment and progressive spirit.

J. J. IRVIN.

J. J. Irvin is the owner of an excellent farm property situated on section 2, Afton township, Howard county. His place comprises one hundred and sixty acres of land, which is divided into fields of convenient size that produce substantial harvests annually. It was upon this farm that J. J. Irvin was born on the 30th of May, 1888, his parents being Joseph and Diana Irvin, who came from Pennsylvania, having previously lived in the vicinity of Erie. On removing to Iowa they settled in Afton township, Howard county, and took up their abode fifty years ago upon what has since been known as the Irvin homestead. They were among the earliest of the pioneers of the township and met all of the hardships and privations incident to the settlement of the frontier. With characteristic energy the father bent his efforts to the cultivation and improvement of the land, which was a wild tract when it came into his possession. For a long period he continued to till the soil but about twenty-three years ago left the farm and rented the property for ten or twelve years. The father passed away November 20, 1918, and in his death the community lost one of the representative citizens and pioneer men of Howard county. He was a republican in politics and at one time was the republican nominee for the position of representative in the general assembly but lost the election by a small vote. In public affairs he was keenly and deeply interested and gave his hearty aid and cooperation to all plans and projects for the general good. For only a brief period he survived his wife, her death occurring on the 18th of November, 1917.

J. J. Irvin of this review spent his youthful days under the parental roof and obtained a public school education. In the summer months he worked in the fields and thus early became well qualified to take up farming on his own account. In the spring

of 1919 he returned to the old homestead upon which he had been reared and is now giving his time and efforts to the further development and improvement of this property of one hundred and sixty acres, situated on section 2, Afton township.

On the 6th of June, 1917, Mr. Irvin was married to Miss Verna Perry, a daughter of Orin and Lucy Perry, who were natives of Madison, Wisconsin. Mrs. Irvin, however, was born upon a farm west of Riceville, Iowa. Her father is still living, making his home in Minnesota, but her mother passed away about fourteen years ago.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Irvin are members of the Baptist church and guide their lives according to its teachings. In politics he is a republican but has never sought or desired office. He is, however, a progressive citizen whose cooperation can be counted upon to further any plan for the public welfare. He was a liberal supporter of the Liberty Loan, also contributed freely to the Red Cross and in fact did everything in his power to uphold American interests during the great World war.

GEORGE KESSEL, M. D.

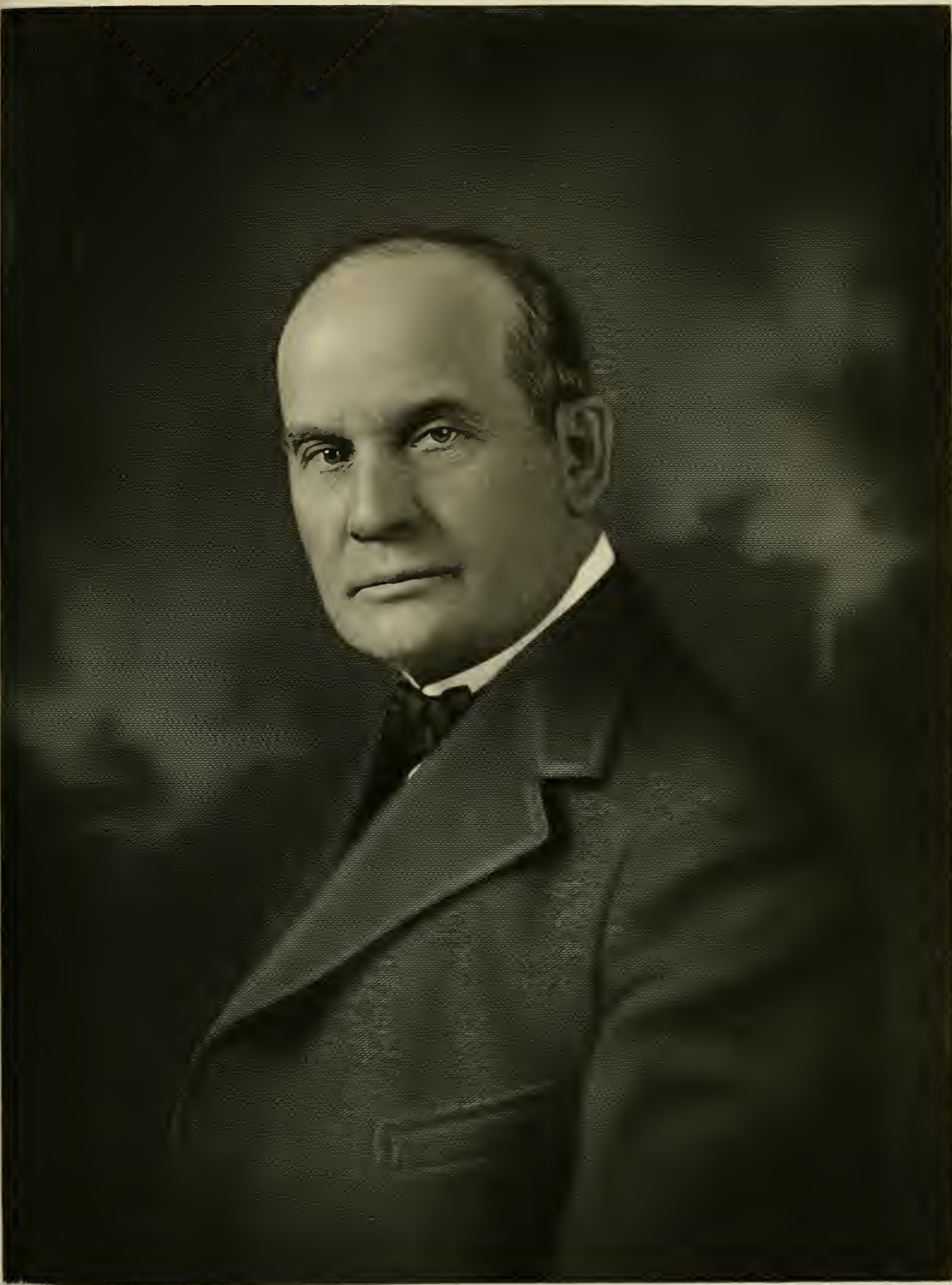
Dr. George Kessel is a prominent representative of the medical profession in Howard county, specializing in the practice of surgery. He makes his home in Cresco and his birthplace was nine miles north of the city. The greater part of his life has been passed in this county and it is his spirit of progressiveness and enterprise which has been one of the factors in the rapid development of northeastern Iowa. After mastering the branches of learning taught by the district schools near his boyhood home, he entered Grinnell College at Grinnell, Iowa, from which he was graduated in 1883, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Arts, thus acquiring a good literary education to serve as a foundation upon which to build the superstructure of his professional learning. Having decided upon the practice of medicine as a life work, he matriculated in Rush Medical College of Chicago and is numbered among its alumni of 1885. He returned to Cresco and entered upon the practice of medicine in that city. In 1889 he went abroad for further study, spending several months in the University of Vienna, coming under the instruction of some of the ablest representatives of the profession in the old world. He afterward did hospital study in Berlin, Germany, where he also took up the study of surgery, and upon his return to the United States opened his office in Cresco, where he has since engaged in practice.

In 1908 he purchased the residence of Mrs. Augusta Beadle, which was one of the first and finest homes in Cresco. The property consisted of sixteen acres of land, in the center of which stood this beautiful home. He converted the residence into a hospital. In 1910 he gave the north half of the property to the Sisters of Mercy of the Catholic faith. Assisted by public subscription, they immediately built a forty-five thousand dollar modern brick addition to the hospital, which is now known as St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital. Dr. Kessel has since acted as surgeon in chief and supervising head of the new institution.

In 1912 Dr. Kessel gave the lower half of his property to the city for park purposes with the understanding that the city authorities should use the same to secure a location for a Carnegie library. In accordance with this condition, the city immediately took the necessary legal steps to secure a central location, and Mr. Carnegie was prevailed upon to give seventeen thousand five hundred dollars with which to erect the building. The Cresco public library is considered to be one of the finest libraries in the state of Iowa. Dr. Kessel was honored with the presidency of the library board, which position he is still filling.

The property given for park purposes is now being improved, and in the spring of 1920 will be put under the control of a park commission which will make further extensive improvements. Dr. Kessel has proposed to erect, at a cost of about ten thousand dollars, a war memorial to the soldiers, sailors and marines who went from this county, and who made the supreme sacrifice of their lives during the Great war. Work on this memorial will begin at the earliest opportunity.

At the beginning of the World war he entered the government service as a member



George Kessel.

of the local exemption board and continued in that position throughout the entire period of America's hostilities with Germany. His spare moments were spent in private work and in speaking at public meetings for the furthering of the work of the various organizations to promote the morale, physical welfare and comfort of the army and navy, and thus working for the speedy end of the war and the best interest of the United States and her citizens.

On the 26th of May, 1886, Dr. Kessel was married to Miss Lila Truitt of Grinnell, Iowa, who passed away in 1898 and was laid to rest in Cresco. They had four daughters, Martha, Julia, Helen and Gertrude. The first named is now Mrs. Raymond Haas of Eldora, Iowa. Julia became the wife of Allan D. Shackleton of Brooklyn, New York, who enlisted at the outbreak of the war in the aviation service and died of influenza and pneumonia in December, 1918, at Kelly Field, San Antonio, Texas. Helen was in the Y. M. C. A. overseas service as entertainer and spent many months in France, entertaining the overseas troops. She and Gertrude are now at home with their father.

Dr. Kessel is a most public-spirited citizen and is constantly putting forth effective effort for the welfare and progress of Cresco and Howard county. It would be difficult to find anyone who has done more effective work for the city or whose public spirit is manifest in tangible results to a greater degree. He cooperates heartily in all plans and measures for the general good but gives the major part of his time and attention to his extensive and important professional duties. He is a warm friend of the Mayo brothers of Rochester, Minnesota. In fact they have worked together on a number of occasions and he is thoroughly in touch with the advanced and progressive measures which those eminent surgeons follow. His own work is conducted along the same lines and his high standing is recognized by the leading surgeons throughout the country. He has membership with several organizations and is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons. The general public attests the fact that he has no superior in surgical work in the state of Iowa.

His political faith is that of the republican party. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons and is continually finding opportunity to exemplify in his life the beneficent spirit of the craft, which is based upon a recognition of the brotherhood of mankind and the obligations thereby imposed. He belongs to the Congregational church and is continually extending a helping hand to fellow travelers on life's journey.

MATTHIAS KOBLISKA.

Matthias Kobliska, devoting his attention to general farming on section 23, Howard township, has made his home in northern Iowa since 1884, in which year he took up his abode in Chickasaw county. He was born in Bohemia, February 2, 1863, a son of John and Rosa (Lukas) Kobliska, both of whom remained residents of Bohemia until death called them. After acquiring a common school education Matthias Kobliska, then a youth of seventeen years, bade adieu to friends and native land and came to the United States in 1880, hoping to find better business opportunities in the new world. He first made his way to Chicago, where he was employed at day labor for four years, and in 1884 he came west to Iowa, settling in Chickasaw county, where he worked as a farm hand for five years. During that period he carefully saved his earnings until the amount was sufficient to enable him to buy a team of horses and the necessary machinery with which to begin farming for himself. He also bought at this time forty acres of land, for which he paid three hundred and fifty dollars. This he began farming and cultivated the tract for two years. He also worked out for others in the meantime in order to gain ready money and after two years he sold his forty-acre tract and made investment in one hundred and thirty acres, for which he paid twelve hundred dollars. The place was at that time said to be the poorest farm in Chickasaw county and some of his friends told him that they would not have it as a gift; but with characteristic energy he began to cultivate and improve the place and converted it into an excellent farm property that is today worth one hundred and fifty dollars per acre. He disposed of that place in 1901 and bought one hundred and sixty acres of his present

home farm on section 23, Howard township. Six or seven years later he acquired another eighty-acre tract adjoining the first purchase and now has an excellent farm property of two hundred and forty acres. The land is rich and arable and his fields annually bring forth large crops as the reward of his care and labor. He is practical in all that he undertakes and his methods exemplify the most modern ideas of farming.

In 1886 Mr. Kobliska was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Kozebroctka, who was also a native of Bohemia and came to the United States when a young woman of seventeen years. To Mr. and Mrs. Kobliska were born seven children, as follows: Barbara, who is the wife of Joseph Etzler, of Philbrook, Minnesota; Mary, the wife of James Obat, who follows farming in Howard township; Anna, the wife of Frank Kaderabek, a butcher of Alta Vista, Iowa; and Frank, Christina, Elizabeth and Joseph, all at home. The wife and mother passed way January 29, 1917, her death being the occasion of deep and widespread regret among many friends.

Mr. Kobliska and his children are communicants of the Catholic church and in politics he is a democrat, having supported the party since becoming a naturalized American citizen. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the new world, for he has here found the opportunities which he sought and in their utilization has won a most desirable place among the substantial farmers of Howard county.

HERMAN RADTKE.

Herman Radtke is one of Alta Vista's oldest business men. For a long period he was actively identified with blacksmithing and wagon making but is now living retired. He was born in Germany, December 3, 1849, a son of Carl and Henrietta Radtke, who came to the United States two and a half years after the arrival of their son Herman in this country. The latter was reared and educated in Germany, attending the public schools. His forefathers in both the paternal and maternal lines as far back as he has any knowledge were blacksmiths and at the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to the trade, serving a three years' term of indenture in his father's shop. He afterward spent the usual five years as a traveling journeyman and in 1871 he came to the United States, making his way first to Chicago. He arrived there at the time of the great fire and was afterward employed in that city as a journeyman blacksmith for three years. In 1874 he came to Alta Vista in search of a location, but the prairie country looked desolate and lonely after life in a big city and he returned to Chicago. He remained there, however, for only a few months and then again made his way to what is now known as Alta Vista. Here he made a permanent location in the fall of 1875 and established a shop, which was the first building of the town. In the intervening period he has conducted business and has become known as one of the most substantial and progressive citizens of the county. He continued in blacksmithing and wagon making, being accorded a liberal patronage, and as the years passed his unfaltering industry and perseverance brought to him a measure of success that now enables him to live retired.

In 1880 Mr. Radtke was united in marriage to Miss Anna Bauer, of Chicago, who was born in Germany. They have become parents of three children, of whom two are living: Harry L., a blacksmith; and Oswald C., who has followed the same business. The latter was a member of the Fifty-fifth Engineers of the United States army, on active duty in France during the great World war. The two sons are now conducting the shop in Alta Vista which was long carried on by their father. Mr. and Mrs. Radtke have also reared a daughter, Mamie, who became a member of their household when two and a half years of age.

In politics Mr. Radtke is a stanch republican and became the first mayor of Alta Vista after the incorporation of the city. He has also served repeatedly as a member of the town board and has likewise been treasurer and member of the school board. Fraternally he is connected with Alta Vista Lodge, No. 658, I. O. O. F. The son Harry L. is a member of Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 528, A. F. & A. M., of Elma, and a member of Alta Vista Lodge, No. 658, I. O. O. F., while the son Oswald also belongs to the Odd

Fellows Lodge at Alta Vista. Mr. Radtke was the first postmaster of Alta Vista, filling that office for thirteen years. His wife is a member of the Lutheran church. The family are widely and favorably known, having a circle of friends almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintance. Mr. Radtke has contributed in substantial measure to the upbuilding and progress of the city, and his worth as a business man and citizen is widely acknowledged.

JOSEPH P. PECINOVSKY.

The farm upon which he now resides, situated on section 12, New Oregon township, Howard county, was the birthplace of Joseph P. Pecinovsky, whose natal day was January 5, 1887. His father is Joseph F. Pecinovsky, who is mentioned at length elsewhere in this work. The son was educated in the public schools of Protivin, in the public schools of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and in the Breckenridge Institute at Decorah, Iowa. After completing his education he returned home and was associated with his father in the farm work up to the time of his marriage, which was celebrated on the 25th of June, 1912, when Miss Anna M. Polashek, of Tama county, Iowa, became his bride. Following the marriage of Joseph P. Pecinovsky his father removed to the town and the son took charge of the old home farm, comprising three hundred and sixty acres of rich and productive land. This place he has since cultivated and of this farm he now owns one hundred and eighty-five acres, his father still retaining the balance of the property. As the years have passed Joseph Pecinovsky has prospered in his undertakings and has thus acquired his personal holdings, constituting one of the excellent farm properties of this section of the state.

To Mr. and Mrs. Pecinovsky have been born two daughters, Adelia and Evelyn. In his political views Mr. Pecinovsky is a republican and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day but does not seek nor desire office. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church. He is regarded as one of the successful farmers and leading citizens of New Oregon township, having devoted his entire life to agricultural interests, so that he is thoroughly acquainted with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops in this section of the country.

H. W. TANK.

On the roster of county officials in Chickasaw county appears the name of H. W. Tank, who is filling the position of county auditor. He was born in Stapleton township on the 16th of January, 1877, his parents being Frederick and Ottelia (Drewelow) Tank, both of whom were natives of Prussia. The father came to the United States when a youth of nineteen years, while the mother crossed the Atlantic when a maiden of fourteen years. For a year Mr. Tank remained in Wisconsin and in 1870 came to Chickasaw county, Iowa. The mother had an aunt living in Chickasaw county, so that she made her way direct to this section on coming to the new world. They were married in New Hampton in 1873 and immediately afterward took up their abode upon a farm of eighty acres in Stapleton township, which Mr. Tank purchased at that time, and both he and his wife resided upon the farm until called to their final rest, his death occurring February 2, 1907, while his wife passed away October 11, 1901.

H. W. Tank was educated in the district schools and as early as his fourteenth year became a wage earner. He secured employment as a farm hand at a salary of eleven dollars per month and continued to work for others until his twenty-third year, when he bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Utica township. This he at once began to cultivate and develop on his own account and for thirteen years operated that farm. In 1914 he sold the property and removed to Lawler, where he was engaged in business for three years, being associated with two brothers in the carpenter's and painter's trades. In 1916 he was elected to the office of county auditor and

in 1918 was reelected to that position, in which he has since most capably served, proving one of the competent and popular officials of Chickasaw county.

On the 11th of February, 1902, Mr. Tank was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Winkelman, of Boyd, Chickasaw county, a daughter of August Winkelman, who came from Prussia to the new world about 1894, settling in Chickasaw county. He is now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Tank have been born two daughters, Esther and Melba.

In his political views Mr. Tank has always been a republican and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, while to the principles and candidates of the party he gives stalwart support. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church and guide their lives by its teachings, ever proving loyal to the church and also giving generous support to every cause or movement calculated to uphold public benefit.

L. E. EMMONS.

The consensus of public opinion places L. E. Emmons with the foremost citizens of Cresco. For a long period he was identified with farming interests in Iowa but is now living retired, enjoying a rest which he well merits owing to the enterprise and industry which he displayed during his connection with the agricultural development of this section of the state.

Howard county numbers him among her native sons, his birth having here occurred on the 28th of November, 1860, his parents being Loren F. and Phoebe E. (Humphrey) Emmons. The father was a native of Hartland, Connecticut, while the mother's birth occurred in Chenango county, New York. They were married in the Empire state and in 1856 the father came west to Iowa, his wife joining him here the following year. Upon his arrival in Howard county, Loren F. Emmons settled upon the farm which his son, L. E. Emmons, left in 1905. The father devoted his remaining days to agricultural pursuits and wrought a marked transformation in the appearance of his place, which he brought under a very high state of cultivation. He died upon the old home farm March 11, 1905, having lived upon that place for a period of forty-nine years. His widow survived him and passed away in Cresco on the 19th of January, 1910, having made her home with her son, L. E. Emmons, following the death of her husband. While never an office seeker, Loren F. Emmons served as county supervisor and filled other local offices, taking an active interest in all affairs pertaining to the county's progress and upbuilding. His worth as a man and as a citizen was widely acknowledged and all who knew him entertained for him the highest respect.

L. E. Emmons, whose name introduces this record, resided upon the home farm for forty-five years. His early training was that of a farm-bred boy whose time is divided between the acquirement of an education in the district schools, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the fields. After he had attained his majority, owing to the fact that he was an only son and his father in ill health and in debt, he felt it his duty to remain at home and look after his parents, and through the following quarter of a century he and his father conducted the farm in partnership, at which time L. E. Emmons inherited the home place. The year following he retired and removed to Cresco. Not long afterward he was made secretary of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company, in which capacity he is now serving. He is also representative of the Iowa Tornado Insurance Company and is a well known figure in insurance circles, for he represents as well the Town Dwelling and the Home Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Iowa. He is also a writer of automobile fire insurance and annually his policies represent a large investment.

On the 8th of April, 1885, Mr. Emmons was married to Miss Susan Farley, a daughter of John J. Farley, who was one of the early settlers of Howard county, arriving here from the state of New York in 1858, when the work of progress and improvement had scarcely been begun in this state. Both he and his wife are now deceased.

In his political views Mr. Emmons is a republican and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. He belongs to Cresco Lodge, No. 285, I. O. O. F., and is a past grand in the

order. Both he and his wife are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he is treasurer of the board of trustees in the church. He gives earnest support to the church financially and otherwise, doing everything in his power to maintain the legal and moral status of the community or to advance its social and intellectual interests. In a word his aid is always given on the side of progress and improvement and he holds to high standards in civic affairs.

ANTHONY MILLER.

Anthony Miller, who carries on general farming on section 2, Chickasaw township, in Chickasaw county, was born in Germany, January 6, 1864, a son of Peter and Anna Mary (Langens) Miller. Both his father and mother remained residents of Germany until their life's labors were ended in death. It was in 1883 that Anthony Miller, then a youth of nineteen years, came to the new world, following his brother Gerhard, who two years before had crossed the Atlantic. Anthony Miller first made his way to Jo Daviess county, Illinois, where he joined his brother, and there he worked by the month as a farm hand for six years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Iowa in company with his brother Gerhard and together they bought ninety acres of land in Dayton township, Chickasaw county, for which they paid eighteen hundred and fifty dollars. They conducted their farming interests jointly for two years and at the end of that time Anthony Miller bought his brother's share in the farm and continued the cultivation of the place for eight years. He then sold the property and removed to his present place on section 2, Chickasaw township, purchasing two hundred acres of land, for which he paid fifty-six dollars per acre. This he has since owned and developed and to his original holdings has added until his place now comprises two hundred and eighty acres. The soil is naturally rich and productive and his labors have made his fields very arable. Large crops are annually gathered and his success has been the direct outcome of persistent and earnest labor intelligently guided.

On the 10th of November, 1890, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Lena Hauser, a daughter of John Hauser, who was one of the first settlers of Washington township, Chickasaw county, where both he and his wife passed away. They died upon the old homestead farm there about twenty years ago. To Mr. and Mrs. Miller have been born four sons and a daughter who are yet living: Edward, Frank, William, Leo and Anna, all at home. Their son Frank served in the American army during the recent World war and at first was attached to the Eighty-eighth Division, while later he was made first sergeant in a machine gun company and remained at Camp Dodge, Iowa, for ten months as an instructor.

Mr. Miller and his family are members of St. Boniface Catholic church, at Ionia. He has served as a school director for four years in Dayton township and for three years in Chickasaw township. He was greatly interested in war work, acting as a member of the Liberty Loan committee on the third, fourth and fifth loan drives in Chickasaw township and doing effective work in this connection, aiding in putting Iowa splendidly over the top, in the early part of the drive.

FRANK SHELHAMER.

Frank Shelhamer is one of the prominent and representative farmers of Afton township, making his home on the northwest quarter of section 1. He is held in high regard as a representative man of Howard county, belonging to that class of citizens whose devotion to the public welfare is manifest in many tangible ways. He was born in Virginia, October 2, 1861, his parents being Charles and Eliza Shelhamer, the latter a native of Pennsylvania. In the year 1866, Charles Shelhamer came with his family to Howard county, Iowa, and for a time was employed in a grist mill. He then purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land about two miles north of the present farm

and took up the arduous task of developing the fields. The place was a tract of prairie land upon which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. He continued to develop this farm for eight years, when he sold the property and removed to Adams county, Nebraska, where he took up a homestead claim, residing there for sixteen years. He then disposed of his property in Nebraska and returned to Howard county, purchasing the present home place of two hundred and forty acres, of which he became owner about 1883. At the time it came into his possession there was only a small house upon it, sixteen by twenty-four feet, and no other buildings worthy of mention. About thirty or forty acres of the land had been broken and he turned the first furrows on the remainder. For two years he cultivated the farm and then sold it to his son Frank, a young man of twenty-three years. Practically all the improvements upon the place have been put there by Mr. Shelhamer of this review.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shelhamer were married in Pennsylvania, but during the early boyhood of their son Frank they removed to Iowa, so that he was practically reared in this state and in Nebraska. His youthful experiences were those of the farm-bred boy on the western frontier. On the 16th of March, 1886, he wedded Elizabeth Young, a daughter of James and Margaret Young, who were farming people of Howard county. They have become the parents of two children, Winnie and Vera. The elder is now the wife of Daryl C. Grover, of Howard county, who is operating land belonging to her father. Vera is the wife of Rev. William Bell, a minister of Howard county. With Mr. and Mrs. Shelhamer resides his mother, the father having passed away in February, 1897, upon the home farm.

In his political views Frank Shelhamer is a republican, always supporting the party at the polls, and while he has never been a politician in the sense of seeking office as a reward for party fealty, he stands as a staunch supporter of all plans and measures for the general good. For a number of years he has served as school director and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. His religious faith is indicated by his attendance at the Baptist church of Riceville. He and his wife are widely and favorably known in this section of the state, having an extensive circle of warm friends, and everywhere they are spoken of in terms of high regard.

MAURICE F. CONDON.

Maurice F. Condon, attorney at law of New Hampton, was born in Chickasaw county September 4, 1873, a son of Maurice and Elizabeth (Dorsey) Condon, who were natives of Ireland. The father came to the United States in young manhood and, his father having died on the Emerald isle, brought his mother with him to this country. For four years he resided in Connecticut, near Hartford, and then came to the middle west, making his way first to Racine, Wisconsin. It was there that he married Elizabeth Dorsey, who came to the new world when eleven years of age with a sister, her parents having previously passed away. Immediately after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Condon came to Chickasaw county, Iowa, settling on a farm in Washington township. This was in the year 1859 or 1860. Mr. Condon purchased a farm and later owned and bought various properties but continued to reside in Washington township up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 21st of June, 1894. His widow survived him for almost two decades, passing away on the 24th of April, 1913, at the age of seventy-three years, while Mr. Condon was seventy-five years of age at the time of his demise. They were of the Catholic faith.

Maurice F. Condon was educated in the district schools and in the Decorah Institute at Decorah, Iowa. He taught school for three years in order to earn the money with which to pay his tuition in the institute. He also attended the New Hampton Business College and afterward became a student in the law department of the Iowa State University at Iowa City, winning his law degree from that institution on the 6th of June, 1899. He had previously read law and acted as stenographer in the law office of Springer & Clary of New Hampton for a period of two



MAURICE F. CONDON

and a half years. He then entered the university and following his graduation he returned to New Hampton, where he entered into partnership with his former preceptors, thus becoming a member of the law firm of Springer, Clary & Condon. In 1906 he was elected to the office of county attorney of Chickasaw county, in which capacity he efficiently served for four years. During this time, or in 1909, the Darrow Brothers Bank was converted into the Darrow Trust & Savings Bank and Mr. Condon took a prominent part in its reorganization and was later associated with the institution as cashier until 1914. In the meantime he retained his active association with the law firm of Springer, Clary & Condon. In 1912 Mr. Springer was elected to the bench and the firm became Clary & Condon, the association being thus maintained until the death of Mr. Clary in 1916, since which time Mr. Condon has practiced alone. He enjoys an extensive clientage and is one of the best known members of the northern Iowa bar, his practice being of a most important character.

In 1914 Mr. Condon was united in marriage to Miss Ida Kelson, of New Hampton, a daughter of Ole and Belle Kelson, the former now deceased, while the latter resides in New Hampton. Mr. Condon is a democrat in his political views and served for a number of years as chairman of the democratic county central committee. He is now a member of the city council and has occupied that position on several different occasions. He belongs to the Catholic church and is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters. He likewise has membership with the Modern Woodmen of America and with Charles City Lodge, No. 418, B. P. O. E. Mr. Condon is a man of wide acquaintance in Chickasaw county, occupying a prominent position at the bar, exercising considerable influence in citizenship and at all times commanding the respect and confidence of those with whom he comes in contact.

P. J. COMMERFORD.

P. J. Commerford, who is engaged in general merchandising at Jerico, Chickasaw county, has for the past fifteen years served as treasurer of the Jerico Creamery Association and throughout his life has been an active and influential factor in the business development of his section of the state. He was born in Chickasaw county, March 24, 1859, and is a son of Terrence and Mary (Galligan) Commerford, who were natives of Ireland. They were married, however, in Wisconsin, both having come with their respective families to the new world in early life, the father arriving in 1849 and the mother in 1850. They continued their residence in Wisconsin until 1854 and then removed to Iowa, settling in Utica township, Chickasaw county, at which period the homes in the township were widely scattered, the inhabitants being very few in number. Terrence Commerford homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, whereon he built a log cabin and this continued to be the family residence for a number of years. He did his marketing in and hauled his grain to McGregor by ox team, it requiring a week to make the trip. The family shared in all of the hardships and privations incident to settlement upon the frontier and the father performed the arduous task of developing the wild land and converting it into a good farm. As the years passed he prospered and after some time he built a modern home and became owner of one of the well improved farm properties of his township. He also extended the boundaries of his place by additional purchase until he had two hundred and forty acres of land, of which he afterward donated fifteen acres to the Catholic church, and upon that tract has been erected the present handsome church edifice that now stands at Riley Ridge. Mr. Commerford died at the comparatively early age of fifty-four years, while his wife reached the very advanced age of eighty-five years.

P. J. Commerford was educated in the district schools, which he attended to the age of twelve years. His father died about that time and he and his brothers took up the active work of further cultivating and improving the home farm, upon which he lived until 1892, when he removed to Jerico and established his present mercantile

business. In the conduct of the store he has been very successful and he now carries a large line of carefully selected general merchandise, meeting all of the requirements of the purchasing public. His business methods are thoroughly enterprising and reliable and his success is the merited reward of persistent and earnest labor. In addition to winning for himself a place among the substantial merchants of the county he has made an excellent record as an office holder, having served for fifteen years as postmaster of Jerico, or until the postoffice was abandoned. Mr. Commerford has also served as treasurer of the Jerico Creamery Association for the past fifteen years.

In 1901 Mr. Commerford was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Welch, of Jacksonville township, Chickasaw county. They have become the parents of four children: Genevieve, who died of influenza while attending Mount St. Clare Academy at Clinton, Iowa; and John, Mildred and Eugene, all at home.

In his political views Mr. Commerford has always been a democrat and has given staunch support to the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and he is identified also with the Knights of Columbus, a fraternity which draws its membership only from people of the Catholic faith. He ranks with the well known citizens of Chickasaw county, his personal worth, his progressiveness in business and his loyalty in citizenship winning for him an enviable position in public regard.

BYRON P. NORTON.

The life record of Byron P. Norton indicates most clearly the possibilities for successful achievement on the part of the individual, for by well directed efforts he has worked his way steadily upward, becoming one of the prosperous business men of Howard county. At all times he has been ruled by a progressive spirit that has been manifest in everything which he has undertaken. He is now living retired, for his possessions are such as bring to him a most substantial annual income, relieving him from further necessity for labor and from all financial care.

Mr. Norton was born in Homer, Cortland county, New York, November 9, 1844, a son of Solomon G. and Margaret Jane (Arnold) Norton. The father's birth occurred at Scott, Cortland county, New York, on the 26th of January, 1815, and the mother was born in the same locality April 4, 1821. They were married in that county and Mr. Norton gave his attention to general agricultural pursuits and also carried on a livery business at Scott until about 1855, when he removed with his family to the west, settling first at Whitewater, Wisconsin, where they remained for a year. They next took up their abode at what is now London, Jefferson county, Wisconsin, where the father continued to operate a farm for several years. He next went with his family to Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming, and in the fall of 1863 arrived in Howard county, Iowa, purchasing a farm three miles from Vernon Springs. He afterward sold that property and bought land south of Cresco, upon which he lived for four years. His next purchase made him the owner of the old farm of Byron P. Norton east of Cresco, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of rich and productive land. Solomon Norton passed away upon that farm June 24, 1893. He had for two decades survived his wife, who died in 1873 on the same farm. His political allegiance was given to the republican party; his religious faith was that of the Congregational church and it constituted a guiding force throughout his entire life.

Byron P. Norton spent his boyhood with his father on the various farms mentioned and continued his education in the public schools of Howard county, where he arrived with the family when a youth of eighteen years. Throughout the period of his minority he assisted his father in the development of the farm lands and early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He afterward became a salesman and collector for the McCormick Machinery Company, which position he acceptably filled for four years. In 1871 he was appointed deputy sheriff and occupied that position for four years. He next took up his abode upon the old farm near Cresco, purchasing the interests of the other heirs in the property and

then concentrating his attention upon dairying, later becoming state dairy commissioner. As his financial resources increased he extended the boundaries of his farm until it comprised three hundred acres. This he continuously cultivated and improved, transforming it into a very valuable and productive tract. Upon his farm he erected one of the finest homes in northern Iowa and also put up all new buildings for the shelter of grain and stock. His equipment was of the most advanced type, as he was at all times actuated by a progressiveness that manifested itself in every phase of his farm. He had electric appliances to do all his threshing, churning and creamery work, his house and barn were lighted with electricity and the farm was strictly modern in every particular. He ground his own feed for his cattle, piped water to the barn for his stock and for many years conducted a most profitable dairy business, first shipping butter to Chicago, while later he shipped to New Orleans. In addition to the home property he owned land in South Dakota, having an entire section in Sully county.

In 1874 Mr. Norton was united in marriage to Miss Stella A. Johnson, a daughter of Parker and Mary (Lowrey) Johnson. Mrs. Norton was born in the town of Waterloo, Jefferson county, Wisconsin, while her father and mother were natives of Massachusetts, in which state they were married. In the spring of 1846 they removed to the town of Waterloo, where the father took up government land and built a log house. Soon afterward he sold that property and purchased a farm at the head of Rock lake, Lake Mills, Wisconsin, upon which he built a good frame dwelling and then carried on the work of improving his place. He operated his land until 1867 and then removed to Chickasaw county, Iowa, settling near Bradford, where he purchased a farm of eighty acres. To that he added at a later date and spent his remaining days upon that place, his death occurring in 1877, when he was fifty-four years of age. His wife long survived him and had reached the age of eighty-one years when she passed away June 24, 1907. To Mr. and Mrs. Norton has been born a daughter, Ida J., who is now the wife of W. P. Bennett, of Austin, Minnesota.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Norton is an Odd Fellow and he belongs to the Congregational church. His aid and influence have ever been given on the side of progress and right and Howard county has long numbered him among its valued and progressive citizens. Moreover, he is one of its pioneers, for there were only two or three houses in Cresco at the time of his arrival and he has lived to witness the substantial growth of the city and county as the years have gone by. In fact, he has borne a most important part in the agricultural development of this section of the state and at all times the course which he has followed has made him a man whom to know is to esteem and honor. His memory forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present and his name stands high on the roll of the valued pioneer settlers of the community.

THOMAS J. DARGAN.

Thomas J. Dargan, a farmer living on section 28, Jamestown township, Howard county, was born in Columbus, Wisconsin, November 27, 1868, and is a son of John E. and Mary A. (Conlin) Dargan. The father is a native of Ireland, while the mother was born in the Badger state. Both are living and Mr. Dargan is now filling the position of postmaster in Riceville, Iowa.

Thomas J. Dargan spent his youthful days under the parental roof and acquired a public school education. When he was quite young his parents came to Howard county, settling in Jamestown township, where he was reared and where practically his entire life has been passed. On the 23d of February, 1914, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary H. Maruska, a daughter of Frank and Margaret (Rousch) Maruska, the former a native of Bohemia, while the latter was born in the United States. They are still living and make their home in Howard township, Howard county. Mr. and Mrs. Dargan have become the parents of two children, Margaret M. and Thomas F., aged respectively four and two years.

Mr. and Mrs. Dargan are communicants of the Catholic church at Riceville and

he is also identified with the Knights of Columbus, having membership in Council No. 1168 at Oelwein, Iowa. His political allegiance is given to the democratic party and for two terms he served as school director in Jamestown township. His attention, however, is chiefly given to his farming interests and he works diligently and persistently in the cultivation of his crops and the improvement of his property, having thus become the owner of an excellent farm in Jamestown township.

EZRA M. COLE.

Ezra M. Cole is one of the most venerable citizens of Howard county. He was born April 11, 1839, in Du Page county, Illinois, and makes his home on section 2, New Oregon township, in Howard county, Iowa. His father was born in Pennsylvania in the year 1808 and spent his last days in Howard county, where he departed this life at the age of ninety-two years. The mother was born in the state of New York and both were members of old families of the east.

Ezra M. Cole was a youth of fourteen when he accompanied his parents on their removal from Illinois to Howard county, Iowa, where the father, who had been educated in the public schools of Pennsylvania and had lived for some time in the Mississippi valley, now turned his attention to farming as one of the early residents of northern Iowa. Ezra M. Cole pursued his education in the public schools of Pennsylvania and of Howard county, Iowa, and through the periods of vacation worked upon the home farm. He continued to assist his father until 1862, when he felt that his first duty was to his country and he enlisted in defense of the Union. He went to the front and for three years fought in the Civil war, taking active part in the battles waged in defense of the Union until 1865, when victory crowned the efforts of the armies of the north. He was a private of Company I, Ninth Iowa Infantry, and on many a hotly contested battlefield he proved his loyalty to the Union cause by devotion to the duty assigned him.

Following his return from the war Mr. Cole was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Duff, of Howard county, who passed away in the year 1902. They were the parents of two sons and four daughters.

Mr. Cole is a school director and was sergeant at arms in the Grand Army of the Republic, a position which he filled for a number of years, while for the past eight years he has been flag bearer. He has ever been a loyal supporter of his country's best interests and manifests the same allegiance to every progressive movement that he displayed when he marched with the armies of the north to the defense of the Union. Those who know him, and he has a wide acquaintance, esteem him highly, finding that his life has ever measured up to the highest standards of manhood and citizenship.

ALF O. VAALA.

Alf O. Váála, county superintendent of schools of Chickasaw county, was born in Saude, in the same county, on the 22d of April, 1885, a son of Ole and Carrie (Johnson) Váála. The father was born in Norway and came to the United States, as an infant but a few months old, being brought to this country by his parents in 1849. The family home soon thereafter was established in Chickasaw county, so that Ole Váála was numbered among the oldest of the pioneer settlers of this section of the state. The grandfather of Alf O. Váála homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Utica township, on which he lived to the time of his death, converting the tract, which was wild and undeveloped when it came into his possession, into rich and fertile fields. This farm afterward passed into the possession of Ole Váála and he resided thereon until 1916, when he removed to New Hampton, where he is now living retired in the enjoyment of a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves. He is a democrat in his political views and he served for four years as a member of the board of county

supervisors, occupying the position from the 1st of January, 1910, until the 1st of January, 1914.

Alf O. Váála was educated in the Luther College at Decorah, Iowa, spending three years in the preparatory department and four years in pursuing the college course, after which he was accorded the Bachelor of Arts degree upon his graduation with the class of 1907. Subsequently he took post graduate work in the Iowa State University. During his stay here he became a charter member of the Pi Kappa Mu, an honorary educational society. In 1907 and 1908 he taught in the Orphans Home at Twin Valley, Minnesota, after which he taught for two years in Grand Forks College at Grand Forks, North Dakota. Later he spent three years as a teacher on the Fort Peck Indian reservation at Wolf Point, Montana, while he filed on a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres near the reservation, on the south side of the Missouri. He still owns that property. In 1913 he returned to Chickasaw county and was chosen superintendent of the Alta Vista city schools, where he remained five years. In April, 1918, he was elected county superintendent of schools for Chickasaw county, in which capacity he has since served, making a most creditable record by his marked devotion to duty. He has instituted various improvements in the schools of the county and has maintained the highest standards. He is an enthusiastic supporter of his profession and inspires teachers and pupils under him with much of his own zeal and interest.

On the 12th of June, 1912, Mr. Váála was married to Miss Ellen Natvig, of Saude, and to them have been born two children, Ruth D. and Ovey N. The parents are members of the Lutheran church and Mr. Váála belongs to Alta Vista Lodge, I. O. O. F. His genuine worth entitles him to the warm regard of all who know him. Much of his life has been passed in this county, so that his record is as an open book, and in the educational field he has made for himself an enviable position.

PETER BROWN.

Peter Brown, who carries on general farming on section 14, Afton township, Howard county, is numbered among those citizens that Wisconsin has furnished to Iowa, for he was born in Springdale township, Dane county, Wisconsin, August 6, 1853. His parents were Michael and Margaret (Lynch) Brown. The father was born in Queens county, Ireland, while the mother was a native of Canada.

At the place of his nativity Peter Brown was reared and the public schools of the county afforded him his educational privileges. He was trained to habits of industry and thrift by his parents, who were sterling people of the community. The father had come to the United States in 1847, landing at New York city, after which he worked at Hoboken, New Jersey, until 1848. In that year he removed westward to Wisconsin and secured employment on a farm in Dane county. Some time later when his means justified he purchased land and began farming independently. In Dane county he wedded Margaret Lynch and both remained residents of Wisconsin until called to their final rest, the death of the father occurring in 1899, while the mother passed away in 1918.

Peter Brown remained a resident of Dane county, Wisconsin, until he reached the age of twenty-two years and then came to Howard county, Iowa, where he has lived since 1875. He was first employed at farm labor here and about 1884 he purchased land and began the development of his present home place, which comprises eighty acres of land situated on section 14, Afton township. He has since carefully cultivated his fields, which yield to him golden harvests annually. His success has had its root in his diligence and perseverance and his life record shows what can be accomplished through industry, intelligently directed.

In 1888 Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Mary Hogan, a school teacher of Afton township and a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hogan, of Farley, Dubuque county, Iowa, both of whom are now deceased. They came to the new world from Ireland and for many years were worthy residents of this state. To Mr. and Mrs.

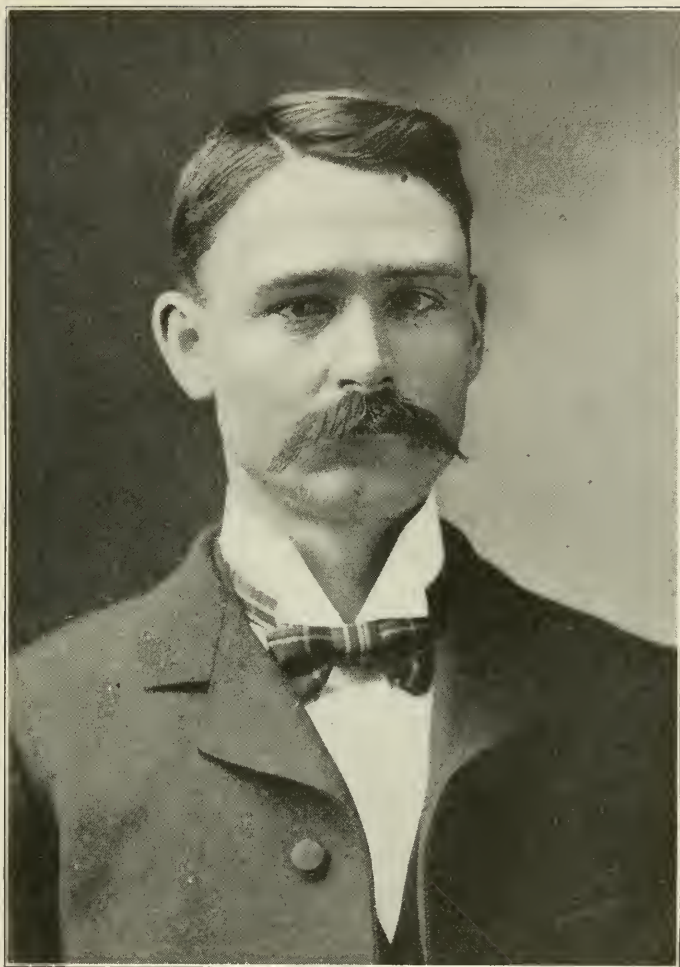
Brown have been born five children but they lost their eldest, Nellie, at the age of eighteen years. The others are: Mike, who is a dealer in hogs and wool; Louis, who was stationed at Camp Dodge with the Field Artillery for ten months; Peter A., who is now serving a four years' term in the United States navy; and Mary M.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and they belong to the parish at Elma. In politics Mr. Brown is a democrat, having given stanch support to the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He served as school director for three or four years and is regarded as one of the substantial and valued citizens of the community in which he has made his home for more than forty-four years. He has therefore witnessed much of the development and progress of this section of the state and has contributed in no small measure to the advancement of the county along agricultural lines.

M. H. JONES.

An outstanding figure in Lime Springs is M. H. Jones, who is now filling the office of mayor and who is actively connected with its commercial interests as a dealer in agricultural implements and hardware. Business enterprise and progressiveness in citizenship have brought him to the front and at all times his labors have been of a valuable character to the community. Mr. Jones was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, on the 6th of January, 1868, and is a son of Hugh T. and Elizabeth (Pritchard) Jones, both of whom were natives of Anglesey, North Wales, where they were reared and married. Immediately thereafter they came to the new world, seeking the opportunities offered on this side of the Atlantic. They arrived in America just after the close of the Civil war and for two years were residents of Wisconsin. In April, 1868, they removed to Howard county, Iowa, and for several years the father cultivated rented land, during which time he carefully saved his earnings until the sum was sufficient to enable him to purchase a farm. He became owner of what is known as "the old Cook homestead," two miles west of Lime Springs, and year after year he carefully cultivated his fields and by his progressive methods enhanced the productiveness of the place. His wife passed away there about 1896, but the father continued to reside upon the farm until 1912, when he retired from active business life and removed to Lime Springs. In 1914 he started on a visit to his native land and was on the ocean when the European war broke out. He remained in Wales for a year and then returned by way of Canada to escape trouble, but the ship was chased by a German gunboat. However, it managed to elude its pursuer and Mr. Jones in time reached home in safety. However, he passed away six weeks later, being then seventy-three years of age.

M. H. Jones is indebted to the public schools of Lime Springs for the educational advantages he enjoyed in his youth. He had a sister who died at the age of eighteen years, and as he has never married, he has not a relative in the world that he has ever seen. As a young man he assisted largely in the work of clearing the old home farm and grubbing up the stumps and on reaching his majority he took charge of the farm work. He made a specialty of raising thoroughbred shorthorn cattle for many years and developed one of the finest herds in the county. Year after year he carefully and profitably cultivated his fields and conducted his live stock interests until 1912, when he removed to Lime Springs with his father. Three years prior to the establishment of their home in the town he had engaged in the implement and hardware business at Lime Springs, purchasing the store of J. F. Moore, who had conducted business here for twenty-eight years. During the three years in which he remained upon the farm Mr. Jones drove back and forth each day to his business. After his removal to the town he continued to operate the farm until 1915, when he sold the property. The same year he admitted W. O. Davis to a partnership in his mercantile business, under the firm style of Jones & Davis, and they began the erection of a modern business block which is today one of the best commercial houses in Lime Springs.



M. H. Jones

Mr. Jones is a republican in politics and has served as township assessor for a period of eight years. For several years he was a member of the board of township trustees and was also township clerk. He likewise served as a member of the township school board and has been secretary since he was twenty-one years of age. He is now filling the office of mayor of Lime Springs for the second term, his re-election coming to him in merited recognition of his able service during his first term, in which he instituted various improvements in city management. He belongs to the Welsh Presbyterian church and his has been a most upright and honorable life and useful career, placing him with the valued residents of Howard county.

JESSE MILES.

The farm property of Jesse Miles is situated on section 19, Saratoga township, Howard county, and embraces three hundred acres of land which is naturally rich and arable and responds readily to the care and labor which he bestows upon it. Mr. Miles has always been a resident of Howard county, his birth having occurred in Howard Center township in 1863. His parents were William and Jennie (Arnold) Miles, the former a native of Indiana, while the latter was born in Ireland. The father still survives and makes his home with his son, Bert Miles, in Saratoga township, but the mother passed away in the same township in 1916.

Jesse Miles throughout his entire life has been identified with agricultural interests. Twenty-four years ago, or in 1895, he purchased his present home farm, making investment in one hundred and sixty acres of land, and the property that he bought for fifteen dollars per acre is today worth from one hundred and seventy to two hundred dollars per acre, owing to the improvements which he has placed upon it and the natural rise in land values, brought about through the settlement of the district. He has carefully tilled his fields and has gathered good harvests. He has also been the president of the Farmers Cooperative Creamery Company of Saratoga for the past two years and is recognized as a man of good business judgment and of unfaltering enterprise.

In 1897 Mr. Miles was married to Miss Flora Watson, of Saratoga township, a daughter of A. A. and Mary Nellie Watson, the former now deceased, while the latter is living with Mr. and Mrs. Miles. Two children have been born of the marriage of this worthy couple, Alice and Nellie, who are still under the parental roof.

Mr. Miles was one of the directors of the school district as long as his daughters were attending school, and passing through consecutive grades, they in due time were graduated. Politically Mr. Miles maintains an independent course and is a member of the Union church of Saratoga. From early pioneer times the family name has been associated with the agricultural development of this section of the state and from his youth to the present time Jesse Miles has borne his share in promoting the development of the land, thereby adding to the material progress and prosperity of Howard county.

T. F. LONG.

T. F. Long, who follows farming on section 28, Paris township, Howard county, is a worthy representative of one of the pioneer families of this county. He was born, however, in Fillmore county, Minnesota, on the 10th of March, 1859, his parents being John T. and Mary E. (Ryan) Long, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Massachusetts. At an early day the family removed to Howard county and the parents continued to make their home here until called to their final rest, the father dying upon the present farm of our subject in 1889 and the mother passing away at a place south of Lourdes several years ago. They experienced all of the hardships and privations incident to establishing a home in a new country and were numbered among the representative citizens of their community.

During his boyhood and youth T. F. Long secured a good practical education in the local schools and acquired an excellent knowledge of agricultural pursuits under the direction of his father. About forty years ago he purchased his present farm on section 28, Paris township, and has since engaged in its operation. He was married in 1899 to Miss Katherine Daley, a daughter of Martin and Bridget (Butler) Daley, who were also early settlers of Howard county, having come to this country from Ireland.

Mr. and Mrs. Long are faithful and consistent members of the Catholic church of Lourdes and he is also affiliated with the Farmers Equity of Elma. He gives his political support to the men and measures of the democratic party and aids in all enterprises which he believes calculated to promote the general welfare.

JOHN LUSSON.

John Lusson is a successful farmer residing on section 10, Vernon Springs township, where he has carried on general agricultural pursuits through the past sixteen years. His birth occurred in La Salle county, Illinois, on the 28th of November, 1868, his parents being Joseph and Catherine (Perry) Lusson, more extended mention of whom is made on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of their son, Theodore Lusson.

John Lusson, who was but six years of age when the family home was established in Fayette county, Iowa, was there reared to manhood under the parental roof and acquired his education in the common schools. He was married when a young man of twenty-four years and then began farming for himself as a renter. Five years later, owing to his careful economy and untiring industry, he had acquired sufficient capital to enable him to purchase property of his own and came into possession of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Fayette county, which he continued to cultivate successfully through the succeeding five years. On the expiration of that period, in 1903, he disposed of the place and came to Howard county, purchasing his present home farm in Vernon Springs township, which was then an unimproved and undeveloped property. As the years have passed his labors have wrought a marked transformation in the appearance of the tract, for he has erected modern and substantial buildings thereon, has also fenced the fields and has brought the land under a high state of cultivation, so that his is today one of the excellently improved farms of the township. He annually gathers good crops which find a ready sale on the market and is widely recognized as one of the representative and prosperous farmers of Howard county.

In January, 1893, Mr. Lusson was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Robinet, of Sioux county, Iowa, by whom he has seven children, as follows: Joseph, who follows farming in Vernon Springs township; Susan, the wife of Edward Bouska, a farmer of Vernon Springs township; and Matilda, Anna, Mary, Victor and Eleanora, all yet at home.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Lusson has supported the men and measures of the democratic party, believing firmly in its principles. Fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Columbus and he and his family are communicants of the Catholic church. His life has been upright and honorable in every relation, commanding the respect and esteem of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

RICHARD E. MCCARVILLE.

The name of McCarville has long figured on the pages of Howard county's history and Richard E. McCarville is now numbered among the representative farmers of Paris township. He was born in Lafayette county, Wisconsin, November 3, 1865, a son of Philip and Elizabeth (Woods) McCarville, who were natives of Ireland. In early life they came to the United States and for a time the father worked around the harbor of the city of New York. After a brief period, however, he left the eastern metropolis and

made his way into the interior of the country, settling in Darlington, Lafayette county, Wisconsin, where he took up the occupation of farming. There he remained until 1870, when he brought his family to Iowa and purchased a farm in Howard county. He then bent his energies to the further development and improvement of that place, on which he lived until his death on the 27th of September, 1884. His had been an active and useful life, winning for him the confidence and respect of all who knew him.

Richard E. McCarville was reared under the parental roof and his educational opportunities were those accorded by the public schools of Howard county. At the time of his father's death he took over the home farm in connection with his brothers and after a few years he purchased the interests of the other heirs in the property and began operating the farm independently. The improvements upon the place at the present time were put there by him and stand as monuments to his progressive spirit and enterprise. He has ever been diligent and determined in carrying on his farm work and his labors have been productive of splendid results.

On the 29th of August, 1891, Mr. McCarville was married to Miss Theresa Byrnes, a daughter of Charles and Ann Byrnes, of Cresco, Iowa. She was born at Fox Lake, Wisconsin, a daughter of Charles and Ann (Madden) Byrnes. Mr. and Mrs. McCarville began their domestic life upon the farm which is still their home. To them have been born six children: Raphael E., Florence C., Mary L., Gladys E., Regina A., and Margaret, who died in infancy. The living children are all with their parents upon the home farm and are being accorded good educational opportunities, the three oldest daughters being graduates of the Cresco high school.

Mr. McCarville has been school treasurer for the past sixteen years and has otherwise filled public office, serving as superintendent of road improvement for the last three years. In politics he is a democrat. Mr. McCarville and his family attend the Catholic church of Lourdes, and the son, Raphael E., is a member of the Knights of Columbus, which fraternity draws its membership only from people of Catholic faith. While born in Wisconsin, Mr. McCarville has spent almost his entire life in Howard county and has been a witness of the rapid changes which have occurred as this district has been converted from a wild and unimproved region into one of rich fertility, constituting one of the excellent farming districts of the state.

SIDNEY W. LARRABEE.

Sidney W. Larrabee, who is engaged in general farming on section 33, Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, was born near Rockford, Illinois, April 5, 1856, a son of William H. and Esther (Tibbits) Larrabee, the former a native of Pennsylvania, while the latter was born in the state of New York. They were married in the Empire state, the father having removed to New York with his parents when a lad of nine years. After his marriage he removed westward with his bride to Mentor, Ohio, where he lived for a number of years, devoting his attention to farming during that period. He afterward spent two years in Cleveland, Ohio, where he engaged in teaming and draying. He was a resident there during the cholera scourge of 1850. From Cleveland he went to Illinois, settling on a farm near Rockford, and in 1856, when his son Sidney was but three weeks old, he brought his family to Chickasaw county, Iowa, then a frontier district in which the work of development and improvement had scarcely been begun. He secured a pre-emption claim of forty acres on section 8, Deerfield township, for which he paid a dollar and a quarter per acre, and upon that farm he lived for four years. He then sold the property and made investment in eighty acres on section 33, Deerfield township, and occupied that place throughout the remainder of his active business life. His wife passed away in 1878 and after her death Mr. Larrabee took up his home with his son Sidney, with whom he lived until called to his final rest in 1914, when eighty-seven years of age.

Sidney W. Larrabee acquired a district school education and spent his youthful days in the usual manner of the farm-bred boy, early acquiring knowledge concerning the best methods of tilling the fields that has been of great value and use to him in later years. On the 11th of May, 1878, Mr. Larrabee was united in marriage to Miss Alice A.

Granger, a daughter of Aaron F. Granger, who removed from Delaware county, New York, to Chickasaw county, Iowa, in 1872, settling in Deerfield township. Subsequently, however, he made his way to Minnesota and thence to Canada, in which country he spent the remainder of his life. Mr. and Mrs. Larrabee have become parents of six children, as follows: William A., at home; Fred F., who is deceased; Nellie, the wife of John North, of Alta Vista, Chickasaw county; Alice L., the deceased wife of Lee Beard; Hettie A., the deceased wife of Glen Tedey; and Harry S., who went to France with the United States forces and died four days after arriving in that country. Fred F., Alice L. and Hettie A. all died of influenza within a week.

Subsequent to his marriage Mr. Larrabee began farming on the old homestead, which he purchased at that time from his father. In later years he has bought other lands and his holdings now comprise two hundred and forty acres. In 1894 he removed to his present home farm and has thereon since resided. In 1914 he built upon this farm the largest and one of the finest barns in Chickasaw county, the dimensions of which are forty-four by one hundred and four feet. He has added all other buildings and modern equipments, including the latest improved farm machinery, and everything about his place indicates his progressive spirit and his indefatigable industry, which is one of his dominant characteristics.

In his political views Mr. Larrabee is a republican and for many years he has served as a member of the school board, proving ever a stalwart champion of the cause of education. He has not sought or filled other public offices, however, yet his aid and support can be counted upon for any measure that tends to benefit the community in which he lives or advance its upbuilding. While born in Illinois, practically his entire life has been spent in Chickasaw county and his memory forms a connecting link between the primitive pioneer past and the progressive present.

HON. CHARLES H. WALLACE.

Hon. Charles H. Wallace, member of the state legislature from Howard county, is now living retired from business cares in Saratoga, although he is still the owner of valuable farm property. He was born in the state of New York, November 15, 1858, and is a son of Henry and Huldah Wallace. The mother died in the Empire state, after which the father removed to the west and spent his last days upon the farm now owned by his son Charles.

It was in 1870 that Charles H. Wallace accompanied his father to Iowa, at which time the latter purchased a farm on section 32, Saratoga township, Howard county. Charles H. Wallace was a youth of but eleven years at that time. He pursued his education in the public schools and worked with his father upon the home farm through the period of his boyhood and youth. He is still the owner of this place, known as The Oaks, which now comprises two hundred and forty acres of excellent land, and for a long period he was active in farm work but is now living retired, leaving the care of the place to his son. In business matters he was ever found reliable, and his straightforward dealing as well as his energy constituted a factor in his growing and substantial success.

In 1881 Mr. Wallace was united in marriage to Miss Delia Miller, a resident of Saratoga township, where her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Miller, were well known farming people, then owning what is now known as the Alfred Miles farm in the town of Saratoga. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wallace: Grace H., who passed away at the age of eighteen years, and Frank M., who was married in 1917 to Elsie Mae Kakac, a daughter of Thomas Kakac, conducting a general store at Saratoga, and they now have an interesting little son, Arthur Lee.

Fraternally Charles H. Wallace is connected with the Masonic lodge at Riceville, Iowa, and also with the Modern Woodmen of America. His religious faith is that of the Congregational church, and his wife is also a member of that church. In politics Mr. Wallace is a democrat, giving earnest support to the party, and he has been called upon to fill several local positions. For the past nine years he has been a member of

the board of supervisors of Howard county, and in 1918 higher political honors came to him in his election to the state legislature, of which he is now a member. Since taking his place in the general assembly he has given earnest consideration to all the vital questions which have come up for settlement and upon any important problem his position is never an equivocal one. Howard county numbers him among her representative and honored citizens.

GODLOVE G. LUKES.

Godlove G. Lukes, who follows farming on section 25, Utica township, Chickasaw county, was born February 13, 1892, in the county which is still his home, his parents being Joseph J. and Anna (Nohale) Lukes, the former a native of Winneshiek county, Iowa, and a son of Martin Lukes, who at an early period in the development of that section of the state took up his abode in Winneshiek county, coming to the new world from Bohemia. Joseph J. Lukes after his marriage removed to Chickasaw county, settling in Utica township upon a farm adjoining the town of Protivin. Here he acquired two hundred acres of land, forty of which he owns and farms. The other one hundred and sixty acres of the tract he has sold to his son, Godlove G. Lukes. For many years he has been numbered among the progressive agriculturists of this district, where his carefully directed labors brought to him the measure of success which now enables him to live practically retired.

Godlove G. Lukes was educated in the public schools of Protivin, and his training was that of the farmbred boy who divides his time between the work of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the cultivation of the fields. When he had attained his majority he was married on the 1st of October, 1912, to Miss Cecilia T. Novak, a daughter of Louis Novak, a native of Winneshiek county, whose father, Thomas Novak, settled in that district when it was largely an undeveloped region, coming to this country from Bohemia. Mrs. Lukes' father now lives retired in Protivin but for a long period was identified with farming interests in this section of the state.

Soon after his marriage Mr. Lukes settled upon his present home farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he rented from his father that year. In the fall of 1913 he purchased the property and since buying the place has built thereon a large modern barn and other farm buildings and made thoroughly up-to-date improvements, including a wind brake and orchard. He now has one of the excellent farm properties of Utica township and by the consensus of public opinion he is classed with the progressive agriculturalists of this section of the state. He breeds polled Angus cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs and makes stock raising one of the important features of his business. At the same time he annually produces large crops, conducting the development of his fields along the most progressive lines.

To Mr. and Mrs. Lukes have been born four children, namely: Helen T., Robert L., Daniel J. and Joseph G. In his political views Mr. Lukes is a democrat and he has served as a member of the school board but has never been ambitious to hold public office. He and his family are of the Catholic faith and he has membership with the Modern Woodmen of America. A well spent and useful life has gained him classification with the representative citizens and successful farmers of Chickasaw county.

JAMES W. ROBERTS.

James W. Roberts, who successfully follows farming on section 17, Forest City township, Howard county, was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, January 18, 1856, a son of William and Jane (Doyle) Roberts, who were natives of Wales and came to the United States in young manhood and womanhood. They settled in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where they were married and resided until called to their final rest. The father devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits and was the owner of a farm of two hundred acres,

preempted from the government, which he brought under a high state of cultivation. Both he and his wife lived to reach an advanced age, the former dying at the age of eighty, while the latter reached the eighty-second milestone on life's journey.

James W. Roberts was reared at home and pursued a district school education, while later he attended the high school at Columbus, Wisconsin. When he had completed his studies he devoted his entire time and attention to the work of the home farm until he reached his twenty-eighth year. In the fall of 1884 he came to Iowa, settling in Howard county. He had previously purchased his present farm, so that when he arrived he took up his abode upon the place which has now been his home for thirty-five years. He has carefully, persistently and intelligently carried on farm work and the results which accrued have been very satisfactory. Year after year he has gathered good crops and the wise expenditure of his time has brought gratifying results.

In February, 1896, Mr. Roberts was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Evans, of Osage county, Kansas, and to them have been born seven children. Archie, the eldest, now at home, was a member of the army, stationed at Camp Dodge with the Headquarters Troop of the Nineteenth Division of Cavalry. Dewey is also at home. Mabel is a student in the Upper Iowa University at Fayette. Ruby, Pearl, Sidney and Catherine are likewise under the parental roof.

In politics Mr. Roberts is a democrat, having always given his political allegiance to that party. For the past fifteen years he has served as treasurer of the school board and the cause of education finds in him a stalwart friend who is ever ready to champion the interests of the schools. In fact in all things relative to the welfare and progress of the community he stands on the side of advancement and his support is of a practical and resultant character.

JOHN BURKE.

John Burke is a well known and prominent citizen of Riceville, where he is conducting a hotel and is also engaged in the real estate business. He was born January 1, 1859, in the city where he still resides, a son of Edward and Mary (Mahoney) Burke. The father was born in Ireland, September 3, 1829, and passed away in Mitchell county, Iowa, June 8, 1889, when sixty years of age. He had come to the United States when a little lad of but four years, or in 1833, in company with his parents, the family home being established in the state of New York. The mother was born in Canada and died in Mitchell county, Iowa, January 20, 1895. Edward Burke, removing westward to this state, established his home in Jenkins township, Mitchell county, settling on the northeast quarter of section 36, where in 1856 he built a log house. In that pioneer cabin he and his wife established their home and upon the farm resided until within a few months of his death. He was an enterprising citizen, taking an active part in the organization of township and county and doing everything in his power to promote public progress and improvement. He brought the first team of horses into the township and was otherwise connected with progressive affairs that indicated his interest in the welfare and upbuilding of the district. His son, Thomas Burke, still occupies the old homestead, which the father secured as a pre-emption claim. His other children are: John, of this review; W. S., also a pioneer of Howard county but now a resident of Chicago; Mary, the wife of E. C. Richmond, a druggist of Riceville; and Nellie, the wife of William Roache, also a druggist of Riceville.

John Burke, spending his youthful days under the parental roof, was educated in the public schools and after attaining his majority was married to Miss Kate Connors, of Howard county, in the year 1884. Up to the age of twenty-six years he had worked on the old homestead farm and at that time turned his attention to the further development of a farm in Douglas township, Mitchell county. He resided upon that place until forty-one years of age and then engaged in the machine business, to which he devoted two years. He next became connected with the operation of an elevator and the conduct of a creamery, poultry, egg and produce business,



JOHN BURKE

which claimed his attention and brought to him a substantial measure of success until 1909, when he and his son established a real estate office under the firm style of John Burke & Son. Mr. Burke still continues in all of these enterprises and is one of the alert and energetic business men, wide-awake to opportunities, which he utilizes and improves to good advantage. Whatever he undertakes he carries forward to successful completion, allowing no obstacles or difficulties to bar his path if they can be overcome by persistent and earnest effort. In addition to his other interests he is the proprietor of the Burke Hotel and his social characteristics as well as his business qualities have gained for him warm regard among all who know him.

To Mr. and Mrs. Burke have been born six children: Raymond, who is married and is engaged in the real estate business with his father; Mary, who is looking after the hotel; Kittie, who works in the drug department of the Emporium at St. Paul, Minnesota; Norbert, who enlisted in the navy May 6, 1917, and saw twenty-nine months of service, making nine round trips across the Atlantic; and Florence and Genevieve, at home.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and fraternally Mr. Burke is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he maintains an independent course but is keenly interested in all matters of progressive citizenship and was one of the very earnest workers in support of the Liberty Loan drives, doing everything in his power to promote the bond sales. He also served as food and fuel administrator of his township during the period of the war. He is one of the most prominent and influential residents of Riceville and without invidious distinction might be termed its foremost citizen.

JOHN C. WEBSTER.

John C. Webster who died May 2, 1918, was owner of farm lands and engaged in the sale of such property and in the abstract business in Cresco. He was born in Crawfordsville, Indiana, in 1856, a son of William and Mary Ann (Todd) Webster. The father was born in County Armagh, Ireland, as was the mother. The former left the Emerald isle when a youth of fifteen years in company with his parents and after reaching the United States they made their way westward to Montgomery county, Indiana. After their marriage William Webster and wife removed to Fremont township, Winneshiek county, Iowa, where they arrived in 1856. It was a wild and unsettled region at that time and Mr. Webster took up government land upon which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. He built a log house upon the place and began the improvement of his farm. At that date McGregor was the nearest market and teaming to and from the town was done with oxen, so that the journey was a long and tedious one. The family remained upon the farm until 1902, at which time William Webster removed to a farm of forty acres adjoining the city limits of Cresco and spent his remaining days there, passing away in 1901, when seventy-six years of age. His wife had been brought to the United States by her mother when a little maiden of thirteen summers, the family settling in Elgin, Illinois. Her father had died in Ireland in 1837, after which the mother and her two daughters crossed the Atlantic and from Illinois they removed to Fremont township, Winneshiek county, Iowa. Three brothers of Mrs. Webster also became residents of this country. Following the death of her husband Mrs. Webster became a resident of Cresco, where she passed away in 1910. When Mr. Webster settled in Winneshiek county, the country was very new and wild—a tract of undeveloped prairie—and the Indians were numerous in that section of the state. The most farsighted could scarcely have dreamed of the changes which were to occur and bring about the present-day development and progress. The religious faith of Mr. and Mrs. Webster was that of the Presbyterian church and to its teachings they loyally adhered. In his political belief Mr. Webster was a republican and staunchly supported the principles of the party. He served on

the school board and was ever interested in matters pertaining to general welfare and progress.

John C. Webster spent his boyhood days upon the old home farm in Fremont township and early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He remained in Winneshiek county until he reached the age of twenty-two years and during that period pursued his education in the district schools, while for a time he was a student in the Breckenridge University at Decorah, Iowa. Later he took up the profession of teaching at Granger, Minnesota, and for a time was also a teacher in the country schools of Fillmore county, Minnesota, after which he was elected to the position of superintendent of schools in Riceville, Iowa. Later he became superintendent of the schools of Howard county and at a subsequent period he turned his attention to the real estate business, handling farm loans and also conducting an abstract business. He became president of the American Loan & Investment Company at Cresco in which connection an extensive business was built up. His clientage was large and the interests which he conducted were most important. Throughout his entire career Mr. Webster was actuated by a progressive spirit that enabled him to make good use of his time, his talents and his opportunities and he became well established in a profitable and growing business in Cresco.

In 1917 occurred the marriage of Mr. Webster and Miss Anna E. Trumbull, a daughter of William H. Trumbull, of Howard county, Iowa, who was one of the early merchants of Cresco and a representative pioneer citizen who aided in laying broad and deep the foundation upon which has been built the present progress and prosperity of the community. His widow still survives and is living in Port Townsend, Washington.

Mr. Webster was a staunch supporter of the republican party, always having voted with it after attaining his majority. He was a Mason of high rank, having attained the Knights Templar degree in the commandery, while with the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine he crossed the sands of the desert. He held membership in the Congregational church, to which his wife also belongs and they occupied an enviable position in those social circles where intelligence and true worth are received as the passports into good society.

JOHN TIETJEN.

On the roster of county officials in Chickasaw county appears the name of John Tietjen, who was elected sheriff in 1918 and is now ably discharging the duties of that position. The period of his residence in the county covers more than a quarter of a century and prior to his election to public office he had been a prominent factor in the business life of the community. His birth occurred in Jackson county, Iowa, on the 25th of June, 1873, his parents being Albert and Marie (Timmerman) Tietjen, both of whom were natives of Hanover, Germany. They crossed the Atlantic to the United States as young people and took up their abode in Bellevue, Jackson county, Iowa, where their marriage was celebrated. They began their domestic life on a farm which the father purchased in that county and continued to reside thereon throughout the remainder of their lives, Mr. Tietjen passing away in 1891, while his wife was called to her final rest in March, 1900.

John Tietjen pursued his education in the district schools of his native county and when twenty years of age started upon an independent career, coming to Chickasaw county and beginning the cultivation of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Washington township which his father had purchased for him. He worked earnestly and untiringly to develop the property and the well tilled fields annually yielded golden harvests in return for the care and labor which he bestowed upon them. In 1911 he disposed of the farm and removed to Alta Vista, where he was engaged in the hardware business for four years. On the expiration of that period he became proprietor of a garage and also had the agency for the Oldsmobile, winning a gratifying patronage in this connection. After seven years' identification with the business

interests of Alta Vista he was called to public office, being elected in 1918 to the position of county sheriff, in which capacity he is making a most creditable and commendable record.

On the 12th of November, 1895, Mr. Tietjen was united in marriage to Miss Mina Glade, of Grand Island, Nebraska. They have a daughter, Hazel, who was educated in the New Hampton high school and has also pursued a business course. Mr. Tietjen gives his political allegiance to the republican party and fraternally is identified with the following organizations: Decorah Lodge, No. 443, B. P. O. E.; Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 528, A. F. & A. M.; Adelpia Chapter, No. 113, A. & A. S. R.; and Alta Vista Lodge, I. O. O. F. Mrs. Tietjen and her daughter belong to the Order of the Eastern Star, while the religious faith of the family is that of the Lutheran church. They are highly esteemed in the community in which they reside and where Mr. Tietjen has long been recognized as a representative, progressive and enterprising citizen.

JOSEPH W. WELLS.

Joseph W. Wells, who is carrying on general agricultural pursuits on section 34, Albion township, Howard county, is accounted one of the enterprising and progressive citizens of this section of the state and is now serving as a member of the board of county supervisors. He was born on the 17th of September, 1866, a son of Jonathan E. and Mary E. (Burgess) Wells, the former a native of Vermont, while the latter was born in England. The mother came to the United States in childhood with her parents and was married in Luana, Iowa, Mr. Wells having removed to this state from Vermont at the age of eighteen years. He therefore cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers who took up their abode in Clayton county in 1856. He was born in Fletcher, Vermont, March 20, 1838, and was in the eighty-first year of his age when on the 29th of January, 1919, he was called to his final rest. It was on the 25th of September, 1861, in Luana, Iowa, that he was married and in 1866 he removed with his little family to Howard county, settling on a farm six miles north of Cresco, whereon he resided until 1898, giving his attention to the further development and improvement of the property. In that year he retired from active business and removed to Cresco, where he spent the last twenty years of his life. He was a loyal member of the Masonic fraternity for more than forty years and was regarded as one of the sterling men of Howard county.

Joseph W. Wells received his education in the district schools and after his school-days were over remained at home, assisting his father in the further development and improvement of the home farm until a year after his marriage. It was on the 12th of July, 1893, that he wedded Miss Lucinda Easler, of Fremont township, Winneshiek county, a daughter of David Easler, one of the pioneer settlers of the county, who came to the United States from Alsace-Lorraine in 1838 and took up his abode in Portage county, Ohio. In 1853 he arrived in Winneshiek county and therefore is numbered among the pioneer settlers of this section of the state. In 1860 he wedded the mother of Mrs. Wells and in that year took up his abode upon a farm, where he resided to the time of his death, which occurred on the 6th of May, 1908, when he had reached the age of seventy-six years.

In 1894 Mr. Wells located on a farm in Albion township which was deeded to him by his father. In 1912 he sold that property and in 1913 removed to his present farm, which also came into his possession through his father. This is a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, which was improved when it came into his possession. He has given his attention to its further development and progress and has made it one of the best improved farms in the township, equipped with most attractive modern buildings, while in the cultivation of the fields he utilizes the latest machinery and follows the most progressive methods. To Mr. and Mrs. Wells has been born a son, Leslie Edson, who is at home with his parents.

In his political views Mr. Wells has always been a republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He served for six years as a member of the board

of township trustees and for seven years as a member of the school board, while in 1916 he was elected a member of the board of county supervisors and in 1918 was reelected to the board, his second term to date from January 1, 1920. He is most loyal in the discharge of his public duties, recognizing fully the obligations that devolve upon him in this connection and actuated at all times by a progressive spirit that has produced most substantial results for the public welfare. Mrs. Wells is a member of the Baptist church and both are highly esteemed in the community in which they make their home, having an extensive circle of warm friends in Howard county.

BERNARD E. THORNE.

Bernard E. Thorne, station agent for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad at Bonair, Iowa, was born in Schoharie county, New York, December 16, 1868, a son of Reuben and Mary Ellen (Cole) Thorne. The father was a native of Albany county, New York, while the mother's birth occurred in Schoharie county. They continued their residence in the Empire state until 1882, when they came west to Howard county, Iowa, where the father took up the occupation of farming, continuing active in agricultural pursuits to the time of his death. He rented the old George Webster farm and was quite successful in its conduct. He died in 1911, having for a considerable period survived his wife, who passed away in 1889.

Bernard E. Thorne was a lad of thirteen years when he came to Howard county with his parents. He was educated in the common schools and at the Lime Springs high school and also attended teachers' institutes. Through eight winter seasons he engaged in teaching school and made an excellent record in that connection, imparting readily and clearly to others the knowledge that he had acquired. On the 23d of May, 1903, he was appointed station agent at Bonair, in which capacity he has since served.

On the 23d of March, 1889, Mr. Thorne was married to Miss Mary Richards, a daughter of Thomas J. Richards, one of the pioneer settlers of Howard county. He is a native of Wales, born in 1840, and when a lad of twelve years came to the United States with his parents, who settled in Ixonia, Wisconsin, where they remained until called to their final rest. Their son, Thomas J., however, came to Howard county in 1868 and purchased land near Lime Springs. He now lives retired and is enjoying vigorous health, making his home in Lime Springs at the age of seventy-nine years. To Mr. and Mrs. Thorne have been born two children: Donald, who is a graduate of the Cresco high school of the class of 1918 and is now employed by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad; and Dorothy, who is a sophomore in the Cresco high school.

In his political views Mr. Thorne is a republican and fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. He has become a splendid representative of western enterprise and that he is a trusted railroad employe is indicated in the fact that he has so long been retained in his present position at Bonair.

CHARLES COMMERFORD.

Chickasaw county enjoys a well deserved reputation as a great agricultural district because of the fertility of the soil, which has been splendidly developed through the efforts and enterprise of such progressive farmers as Charles Commerford, who is living on section 1, Jacksonville township. He was born near Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 28, 1851, a son of Terrence and Mary (Galligan) Commerford, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work in connection with the sketch of their son, P. J. Commerford.

Through his boyhood days Charles Commerford was a pupil in the district schools

and when his father died the former was a youth in his twentieth year and took charge of the home farm in connection with his younger brothers. They cultivated the old home place for some time and in 1874 Charles Commerford purchased one hundred and forty acres of his present home farm on which he took up his abode. He at once began the further development and improvement of this property and subsequently he bought one hundred and eighty acres more, so that he is today the owner of a valuable place comprising an entire half section of land. In the spring of 1884 he left the farm and opened a meat market at New Hampton, which he conducted for two years, but in 1886 he again took up general agricultural pursuits and devoted the succeeding six years to general farm work. In 1892 he bought a general merchandise store in Jerico and after a brief period was joined in the ownership and conduct of this business by his brother, P. J. Commerford. Still later the brother became sole owner of the business and Charles Commerford returned to the home farm, whereon he has since resided. He has diligently and persistently developed his fields, making his labors count for the utmost in the improvement of the property, and is now owner of an excellent place.

In 1884 Mr. Commerford was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Mullen, of Dayton township, Chickasaw county, by whom he had five children, as follows: Terrence J., who is deceased; Marie, the wife of William Costigan, of Utica township, Chickasaw county; Nellie, who is the wife of James Carrigan, of Wenatchee, Washington; Grace, who is the wife of John Shekelton, of Stapelton township, Chickasaw county; and Olive, at home. The wife and mother passed away in 1896 and in 1912 Mr. Commerford was again married, his second union being with Miss Anna McBride, of Jacksonville township, Chickasaw county.

Politically Mr. Commerford is an earnest democrat and for a number of years he served as a member of the board of trustees in Utica township, while subsequently he filled the office of member of the board of county supervisors for a period of six years or two terms. In public office he has been most loyal to the interests and welfare of the community which he has represented and he is justly accounted one of the foremost business men and officials of his section of the state. His religious belief is that of the Catholic church. He is a man of resolute purpose and his efforts have always been most intelligently directed. Aside from his farming interests he was one of the organizers of the Jerico Creamery Association and for six or seven years after the company was formed he served as its treasurer. He is now concentrating his time and thought, however, upon the further development of his home place, which constitutes one of the attractive features of the landscape owing to the care and labor which he bestows upon his fields.

FREDERICK MORTIMER CLARK.

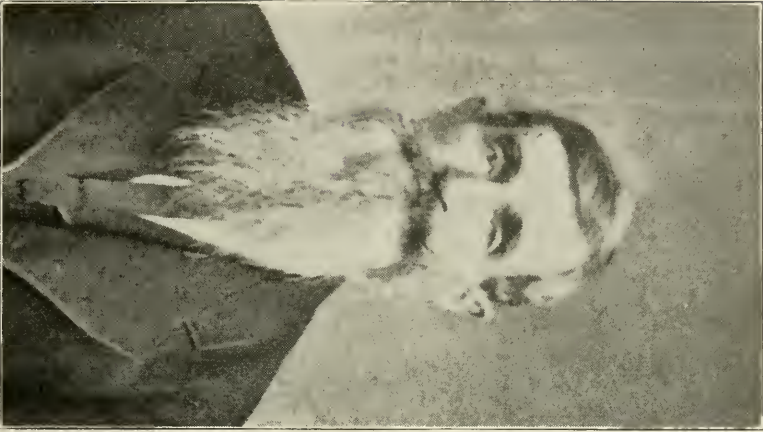
Frederick Mortimer Clark, the founder of the first bank of Lime Springs and for many years a most honored and influential citizen of Howard county, was born in Oneida county, New York, January 11, 1836. He was a youth of seventeen years when in 1853 he accompanied his parents on their westward removal to Illinois, the family home being established near Chicago. In 1854 he became a resident of Waukon, Iowa, where he taught a term in a country school and then at the age of eighteen entered the employ of L. T. Woodcock, who was engaged in merchandising at Waukon. New York was then the market and Mr. Clark made trips to that city to buy goods for the store. He afterward took up the study of law with his father, John T. Clark, and on attaining his majority was admitted to the bar. The same year, on the 26th of November, 1857, he wedded Laura Ann Tuell, of Waukon, Iowa, and they became the parents of seven children.

In the year 1859 Mr. Clark removed to Decorah, Iowa, where he engaged in the practice of law with his father until 1862. Feeling that his duty to his country was paramount to all else, he then joined the army on the 4th of November, being mustered in at Dubuque as a member of Company E, Thirty-eighth Iowa Volunteer Infantry.

He went to the front as a sergeant and was afterward promoted to the rank of second lieutenant. He was on detached service, on staff duty, as adjutant of the regiment and again as quartermaster and commissary, occupying these various positions most of the time and proving a very efficient officer. He participated in the siege of Vicksburg and on account of illness was honorably discharged July 25, 1863. For a year after his return home he was unable to resume business. He then took up merchandising which he followed for nearly two years in the old town of New Oregon, Iowa, when he again became a resident of Waukon, where he conducted a store until 1879 with the exception of a period of four years spent in Postville, Iowa. In August, 1879, he removed to Lime Springs and was thereafter identified with merchandising and banking. In 1882 he organized the Exchange Bank, of which he remained president to the time of his death on the 18th of February, 1907. He was a man of excellent business ability, farsighted, energetic and determined, and the integrity of his methods was above question. He was a consistent member of the Masonic fraternity and his home lodge had charge of the funeral services when his remains were laid to rest. In every relation of life he commanded the respect, confidence and good will of those who knew him and he left to his family the priceless heritage of an untarnished name, while in his business enterprise and progressive citizenship he builded to himself an enduring monument in Howard county.

WILLIAM L. ASHLEY.

Historical records indicate the fact that the Ashley family have been identified with the development and upbuilding of Chickasaw county from pioneer times. It is of this family that William L. Ashley is a representative and he is now numbered among the prosperous farmers of Deerfield township, making his home on section 30. He was born in this township, April 11, 1865, his parents being Thomas and Lucinda H. (Larrabee) Ashley, who were natives of Deerfield and of Greenfield, Massachusetts, respectively. The mother was born June 7, 1882, and became the wife of Mr. Ashley on the 13th of November, 1851. In 1854 they joined a colony of Deerfield families that left Massachusetts for what was then the far west. They came to Chickasaw county, Iowa, and the district in which they established their homes they named Deerfield township in honor of their old home in Massachusetts. From that time forward the father was identified with the farming interests of Iowa. He was born in Deerfield, Massachusetts, January 18, 1822, and the schools of his native town afforded him his early educational opportunities, while later he was a pupil in Powers' Institute in Bernardston, Massachusetts. He was twice married, his first wife being Miss Marietta Hoyt, whom he wedded in Bernardston, October 9, 1844. They became the parents of two children, both of whom died in infancy, and the mother passed away in Deerfield, Massachusetts, August 18, 1849. It was subsequent to this time that Mr. Ashley wedded Lucinda H. Larrabee and started for the west. On coming to Chickasaw county he, like a few others who had money, made extensive investments in land, which then sold at a very low figure. However, grain brought but a small price and the farms were far distant from market. Grain had to be hauled eighty miles, for there were no railroads. After a few severe winters and a crop failure Mr. Ashley found himself with enough land on which to establish a colony, but there was no sale for farm property and no profit in farming. However, he continued to further develop and improve his fields and managed to pass over this period of distress. As the years went by and the country became more thickly settled he prospered in his undertakings and continued to carry on farming to the time of his death, which occurred January 28, 1888. He was an honest, upright citizen, a devout Christian man whose life was at all times characterized by high principles. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity and was ever a loyal follower of the craft. His second wife died on the 17th of February, 1870. They were the parents of seven children, of whom four are yet living: Charles Hart, a resident of Deerfield, Massachusetts; Mrs. Mary E.



THOMAS W. ASHLEY



WILLIAM L. ASHLEY

Larrabee, of Fayetteville, Arkansas; Mrs. Fannie Beard, who is living on the old Ashley homestead in Chickasaw county; and William L. of this review.

The last named has spent his entire life in Chickasaw county and in the district schools obtained his education. He was married in Charles City, Iowa, March 15, 1894, to Miss Alice Louise Ferguson, a daughter of William Henry and Ida Joanna (Snyder) Ferguson. The young couple took up their abode upon his present home farm of one hundred and fifty-one acres, and he has since further developed and improved the property, which is now under a high state of cultivation and is equipped with all modern accessories and conveniences. Here Mr. and Mrs. Ashley have since resided and here they reared their only son, George Dewey Ashley, who is now farming the old home place. He wedded Etta Marie Rodamaker and they have one son, Thomas Williams Ashley, who is of the fourth generation of the family to live upon this farm. Mrs. Ashley was a teacher prior to her marriage and devoted seven years to educational work.

Mr. Ashley is a member of the Beaver Valley Farmers Equity Association. He is also identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and gives his political support to the republican party. He is widely and favorably known throughout this section of the state and has long been regarded as one of the representative, progressive and successful farmers of Deerfield township.

EDMUND DUGSTAD.

A spirit of modern business enterprise finds expression in Edmund Dugstad, a dealer in lumber and building materials at Chester. He ranks with the foremost business men of the town and his activities have been an element in its commercial development. Mr. Dugstad was born near Spring Valley, Minnesota, on the 4th of March, 1880, a son of Sever S. and Caroline (Johnson) Dugstad, the former a native of Norway, while the latter was born on a farm near Harmony, Minnesota, her parents having emigrated to this country from Norway. Sever S. Dugstad carried on general farming near Spring Valley, Minnesota, up to the time of his death. In the spring of that year he started on a visit to Norway and died in Liverpool, England, ere reaching his destination. His remains were brought back home for interment. His widow is still living and now resides in Spring Valley.

Edmund Dugstad was reared upon the home farm and early became familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the farm-bred boy as he divides his time between the attainment of a public school education, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the fields. He attended the district schools and afterward became a student in the Decorah (Ia.) Institute. When twenty-one years of age he removed to Chester and during the summer months worked in the lumberyards of Bratrud Brothers. In the winter seasons he continued his education in the Decorah Institute and following the completion of his studies he gave his entire time to the lumber business in connection with yards at Chester. On the 26th of December, 1903, he formed a partnership with John Bratrud, a brother of the former owner, and purchased the business of Bratrud Brothers. For six years they conducted the yards under the firm style of Bratrud & Dugstad, but in 1910 Mr. Dugstad purchased the interest of his partner and has since been sole owner of the business. He has a large lumberyard, carrying an excellent stock of lumber and builders' supplies, and his business has reached gratifying proportions.

On the 27th of June, 1906, Mr. Dugstad was married to Miss Harriett Halver, of Chester, a daughter of William Halver, a well known stock buyer of the town. To Mr. and Mrs. Dugstad have been born two children, Donald E. and Evelyn G.

In his political views Mr. Dugstad is a republican and has served as mayor of his city and also as member of the town council, taking active interest in promoting the welfare and upbuilding of the city through the exercise of his official duties. Fraternally he is connected with Chester Lodge, No. 444, I. O. O. F., and also with the Modern Woodmen of America. He belongs to the Lutheran church and is interested

in everything that has to do with the welfare and upbuilding of his city and the maintenance of its legal and moral standards. As the years have passed he has prospered in his business undertakings and aside from the lumberyard is now the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in South Dakota. He is forceful and resourceful, progressive and diligent, and deserves much credit for what he has accomplished.

CHARLES B. BOUSKA.

Charles B. Bouska is a representative farmer, residing on section 13, New Oregon township, in Howard county. He was born December 31, 1886, upon the farm which is still his home, and belongs to one of the representative old Bohemian families of this section of the state, mentioned at length in connection with the sketch of John Bouska on another page of this work. The family has always followed farming and Charles B. Bouska worked with his father upon the old homestead until September 8, 1914, when he was united in marriage to Miss Christina Kobliska, a daughter of Frank and Barbara Kobliska, of Chickasaw county. Her parents were also pioneer settlers of Iowa, being among those who settled in Winneshiek county when it was a frontier district. Her father engages in farming and is today one of the leading agriculturists of Chickasaw county, Iowa. Both he and his wife were educated in the public schools of Winneshiek county, while Mrs. Bouska pursued her education in the public schools of Chickasaw county.

Charles B. Bouska of this review is indebted to the public school system of Howard county for the early educational opportunities which he enjoyed and he also spent two seasons in pursuing a normal course at Decorah, Iowa, and for a brief period pursued two short courses in the Agricultural College at Ames. His attention has always been given to the raising of live stock as well as the production of grain. In September, 1914, following his marriage, he took over the home farm from his father and has steadily cultivated it. He has a thoroughly modern place and the indications for his future are very bright. He is energetic and progressive and his dominant qualities promise further success.

To Mr. and Mrs. Bouska have been born two daughters and one son, Evelyn C., Agnes A. and Daniel C. The parents attend the Catholic church at Protivin and Mr. Bouska gives his political support to the democratic party. For the past eight years he has served as a trustee of his township and has made an excellent record in that office by his loyalty to the public welfare. Practically his entire life has been spent in Howard county but in 1907 and 1908 he was in the Imperial valley of California, residing upon a ranch there. This experience was of great help to him in learning how to take care of himself and become an enterprising business man. That he is such today is well known and his prosperity is well deserved.

JOSEPH J. FRANTZEN.

Joseph J. Frantzen, who carries on farming in Washington township, Chickasaw county, was born in Sioux county, Iowa, April 12, 1882, a son of Peter and Catherine (Steichen) Frantzen, who are natives of Luxemburg. The father came to the United States when twelve years of age and the mother crossed the Atlantic when but four years old with her parents, who settled in Dubuque county, Iowa, where the Frantzen family was also established. After reaching manhood Peter Frantzen removed to Sioux county, Iowa, and there took up a homestead claim. It was in that county that he met and married Catherine Steichen and he has since resided in Sioux county, yet occupying the old homestead, which comprises two hundred and forty acres of excellent farm land.

Joseph J. Frantzen was educated in the public schools, was reared to the occupation of farming and after his marriage began the cultivation of a tract of rented land in

Marshall county, on which he lived for three years. He then bought his present home farm of one hundred and sixty acres and removed with his family to Chickasaw county, since which time he has concentrated his efforts and attention upon the development and cultivation of his farm. He has greatly improved the property by the erection of fine modern buildings and has made his place one of the very attractive farms of Washington township.

In 1908 Mr. Frantzen was united in marriage to Miss Rose Stalzer, a daughter of John Stalzer, of Marshall county, Iowa. They have become the parents of six children, five daughters and a son, namely: Oliva, John, Marie, Dorothy, Frieda and Bernice.

In politics Mr. Frantzen is a democrat but has never been an office seeker. He was one of the active supporters of war work and served on all of the Liberty Loan committees. In his business affairs he has ever been actuated by a spirit of progress and his labors have found expression in the splendid development of his home farm. He has been gradually tiling his land, putting in nine thousand tile in 1918 and fourteen thousand in 1919, thus greatly enhancing the productiveness of his place. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and their sterling worth is recognized by all with whom they have been brought in contact.

J. P. WHELAN.

The spirit of business progress finds exemplification in the life record of J. P. Whelan, the proprietor of the Whelan Produce Company at Elma. One of Iowa's native sons, he was born in Chickasaw county on the 14th of March, 1869, a son of Thomas and Mary A. (Reilly) Whelan, the former a native of Kilkenny, Ireland, while the latter was born in Boston, Massachusetts. They were married in Boston, the father having come to the new world in young manhood in 1845. In 1850 he removed westward to Iowa, settling in Chickasaw county upon a farm. He was actively engaged in general agricultural pursuits from that period until his declining years and contributed much to the agricultural development of the district. He served in the office of justice of the peace for thirty-five years and for about the same length of time held the office of town clerk. His death occurred October 9, 1903, when he had reached the age of seventy-seven years, and his wife passed away in 1893, when fifty-seven years of age.

J. P. Whelan was educated in the district schools and remained upon the home farm until his twenty-second year, when he accepted a position as helper with the Jervise Creamery Company. He learned the butter making trade in that establishment during the following two years and was then offered and accepted the position of head butter maker by the creamery. He served in that important capacity for four years, after which he became the manager of the creamery at Lourdes, Iowa, for W. R. Owen. A year later he went to Blue Hill, Nebraska, where he managed a large creamery for a year, and in 1902 he accepted the position of manager and butter maker with the Elma Cooperative Creamery Company of Elma, Iowa, over which industry he presided for fifteen years, resigning his position in 1917. In the fall of the same year he bought out the business of O. A. Dunton, a dealer in cream separators and gasoline engines and also handling cream, poultry and eggs. He has continued the business under the name of the Whelan Produce Company and in the spring of 1918 he equipped his plant with a modern butter making outfit and has since conducted a creamery business in connection with the handling of produce, his sales in both departments having reached an extensive and gratifying figure.

In 1906 Mr. Whelan was united in marriage to Miss Ella G. Fitzgerald, of Elma, and to them have been born four children, two sons and twin daughters, namely: Thomas J., John Gerald, Muriel and Miriam.

In his political views Mr. Whelan is a democrat and has served as mayor of Elma for one term. At the present writing, in 1919, he is a member of the city council and has occupied this position twelve years, his record being a most commendable one, marked by faithful service and progressiveness. He is likewise a member of the Elma Board of Education, in which capacity he has continued for a period of ten years. His religious

faith is that of the Catholic church. Elma justly accounts him one of her leading citizens and most progressive business men, while the same spirit of advancement is manifest in all of his relations to the public.

JAMES MUSSEL.

James Musel, busily engaged in the further development of his farm on section 4, Paris township, Howard county, is a native son of Iowa, his birth having occurred in Tama county. September 8, 1869, his parents being Albert and Ann (Herska) Musel, who were born in Bohemia. They came to the United States in youth with their respective parents, both families settling in Iowa. For a short period they were residents of Iowa City and then made permanent location a year or so later in Tama county, being among the first of the settlers in that part of the state. The first habitation of the Musel family was a dugout in the side of a hill with a board lean-to. It was in Tama county that the parents of James Musel were married and they are still residents of that county. They have lived to witness many changes as the work of progress and improvement has been carried forward and their present comfortable home bears no resemblance to the pioneer dwelling which they occupied.

James Musel was educated in the district schools but his opportunities were somewhat limited, for from the age of ten years he assisted in the work of the fields. Whenever there were tasks to be done on the home farm he had to remain to assist in the work. The teacher, however, always boarded at the Musel home and James Musel was given much help in his studies in the evenings by reason of this fact. On the 2d of January, 1894, he married Miss Fannie Upah, of Tama county, and following his marriage carried on farming for a few years in that county. He afterward devoted four years to general agricultural pursuits in Pocahontas county and on Christmas day of 1912 removed to Howard county, purchasing his present home farm, which is a valuable tract of land of three hundred and four acres. This he has brought to a high state of cultivation and the many modern improvements which he has added make it one of the valuable farm properties of the district.

To Mr. and Mrs. Musel have been born eight children, namely: Charles, Carrie, Albert, Edward, Lucille, Leo, Pauline and Joseph. The family are members of the Catholic church, and Mr. Musel is a member of the Farmers Catholic Workmen. His political endorsement is given to the democratic party but he has never sought nor desired office. His time and energies have ever been concentrated upon his business affairs and his close application and unremitting industry constitute the foundation of his growing success in business.

DIEDRICH LAUE.

There seems to be a considerable similarity in the lives of the farmers and yet there are in each individual certain traits of character which set him apart from his fellows—qualities and characteristics which he manifests that are the basic elements of his success or his failure. Diedrich Laue is now busily engaged in farming on section 5, Howard township, but has not devoted his entire life to agricultural interests. However, since taking up farm work he has displayed a ready adaptability that has enabled him to steadily progress and he now occupies an enviable position on the plane of affluence. He is also the secretary of the Maple Leaf Creamery Company and one of Howard county's foremost business men. He was born in Germany, January 1, 1860, a son of Henry and Betha (Christopher) Laue, both of whom spent their entire lives in Germany.

The son, however, when but fourteen years of age left that land and went to sea. He followed a seafaring life for five years and first touched at New York in 1874. In 1879 he determined to make permanent settlement in the United States and estab-

lished his home in Brooklyn, New York, where he remained for two and a half years. He then removed westward to Nebraska, where he was employed at farm labor for a year and a half, and later he removed to South Dakota, spending about eight months near Sioux Falls. The year 1882 witnessed his arrival in Iowa, at which time he became a resident of Bremer county, where for a number of years he worked at the carpenter's trade.

On the 14th of September, 1892, Mr. Laue was united in marriage to Miss Mary S. Schrater, a native of Tripoli, Bremer county, Iowa, and soon after his marriage he was appointed to the position of town marshal and night watchman of Tripoli, in which capacity he efficiently served until March, 1902. He then came to Howard county and took up his abode upon his present home farm of eighty acres, which he had purchased two years previously. He has recently sold this farm, however, and in March, 1920, will remove to the Maple Leaf Farm, comprising two hundred and thirty-five and a half acres of rich and productive land, which he purchased after selling the old home place. He has ever been very energetic and progressive in carrying on his farm work and his labors have met with a substantial measure of success. For fifteen years he has also served as the secretary of the Maple Leaf Creamery Company and has contributed in marked measure to the success of this undertaking.

To Mr. and Mrs. Laue have been born eight children, all of whom are yet living, as follows: Be'ha, who is the wife of Louie Deterding, a farmer of Howard township; Minnie; Richard C.; Paul J.; Herman H.; Arnold J.; Carl; and R. Ida. With the exception of the married daughter, all are still under the parental roof.

In his political views Mr. Laue has been an earnest democrat since becoming a naturalized American citizen. He served for eight consecutive years as township assessor and has recently been reelected, so that he is the present incumbent in the office, serving for the eleventh year in that capacity. For a number of years he was also a member of the school board and did everything in his power to advance and uphold the standards of education. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church and fraternally he is connected with Alta Vista Lodge, No. 658, I. O. O. F., of which he has been a representative for twenty years. He is likewise a member of the Modern Brotherhood of America and the Modern Woodmen of America and is held in the highest esteem not only by his brethren of these organizations but by all who know him, for he is regarded as one of the most reliable and leading citizens of Howard county.

R. M. THOMSON.

R. M. Thomson, owner of one of the most valuable farms in Howard county, resides on section 22, Vernon Springs township, where he is actively and successfully engaged in general agricultural pursuits. His birth occurred in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on the 24th of January, 1881, his parents being Robert and Eva (Tillson) Thomson, the former a native of Scotland, while the latter was born in Waukesha, Wisconsin. The father came to the United States when eighteen years of age, locating at Bay View, Wisconsin, where he worked in the iron mills. In 1886 or 1887, he established his home permanently in Iowa and became the founder of the Cresco Union Savings Bank, of which he has remained at the head throughout the intervening period of one-third of a century. The institution has enjoyed a most prosperous existence and Mr. Thomson has long been recognized as one of the leading and representative citizens of Cresco.

R. M. Thomson pursued his education in the graded and high schools of Cresco and after putting aside his textbooks turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits on his own account, renting the farm which he now owns and still operates. He was married five or six years later and at that time purchased the property, which comprises one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 22, Vernon Springs township, constituting one of the most valuable and productive farms in the county. The neat

and thrifty appearance of the place indicates the progressive spirit of the owner, whose capable management of his farming interests has resulted in well merited success.

In 1905 Mr. Thomson was united in marriage to Miss Jessie Steinman, of Vernon Springs township, by whom he has a daughter, Evelyn A. Mr. Thomson gives his political allegiance to the republican party. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons, belonging to the lodge at Cresco. His religious belief is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church, while his wife is of the Baptist faith. He has lived in Howard county from early boyhood and has gained a circle of friends that is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintance.

REV. B. H. FORKENBROCK.

A man of untiring zeal in behalf of his church, one whose labors have been productive of splendid results, Rev. B. H. Forkenbrock is greatly endeared to the people of his parish. He is in charge of St. Mary's Catholic church in New Hampton, Chickasaw county, and the story of his life is an interesting one, displaying marked devotion to the cause to which he has dedicated himself. He was born at New Vienna, Iowa, October 17, 1865, and on October 19th was baptized by Rev. Anton Kortenkamp, of Dyersville, Iowa. His early education was acquired in the parochial schools at New Vienna and Dyersville, where the family moved in 1874 and where the father died May 27, 1916, the dutiful mother having been called to her eternal reward February 1, 1908. R. I. P. At the age of twelve he was sent to St. Francis Seminary, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. There he attended school six years and four months, eighteen months at St. Joseph's College, Dubuque, followed, and three more years at St. Francois Seminary completed his college education. He received his first Holy Communion May 12, 1878, in St. Francis church, Dyersville, Iowa, and at St. Francis seminary, St. Francis, Milwaukee county, Wisconsin. He was confirmed June 29, 1879, and received tonsure and minor orders March 17, 1888, and sub-deaconship and deaconship April 5 and 6, 1889, respectively.

On June 24, 1889, he was ordained priest by the Most Rev. Archbishop M. Heiss, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. On July 2, the Feast of the Visitation, he read his first Holy Mass at Dyersville, Iowa. Six months later he was appointed to assist Rev. A. Sauter in work at Festina, where he made the friendship and won the affection of the people, who still hold him in high esteem. He remained at Festina until his appointment to St. Mary's Parish, July 2, 1894. On July 5, 1894, he drove into New Hampton from Festina, being obliged to make the drive on account of the great railroad strike of that year. In 1906 he was elected president of the Catholic Mutual Protective Society of Iowa, and in October, 1918, was elected for the seventh successive term. On June 24, 1914, he celebrated his silver jubilee. The occasion was made a memorable one, many representatives of the Catholic clergy arriving to participate in the silver jubilee celebration. The building of St. Mary's church was begun in 1892 and it was but two years later when Rev. Forkenbrock was appointed to take charge of the parish by the bishop of the diocese. Extensive and fitting ceremonies marked the occasion of the celebration, solemn high mass being observed at nine o'clock, with Rev. Forkenbrock acting as celebrant, while Rt. Rev. G. W. Heer, P. A. M. R., delivered a sermon. At eight o'clock in the evening a reception was held by the parishioners at the Auditorium, on which occasion a most attractive program was rendered. St. Mary's parish dates back to 1890, when an organization was perfected and steps taken to establish a parochial school, a school committee being elected on the 18th of October. This committee selected a beautiful site south of the business section of the city and work was at once begun on the school building. Following the arrival of Rev. Forkenbrock in 1894, he at once secured the services of the Franciscan Sisters, who had taught in the school since September of that year. The school developed so rapidly that in 1897 a new and larger building was erected and still the school grew so that in 1908 a large addition thirty-four by sixty feet was built, St. Mary's now having a fine



REV. B. H. FORKENBROCK

parochial school. The development of the church has been along similar lines, improvements being constantly made in the church property, which in 1914 was entirely cleared of debt. The work of the church has been splendidly organized under Father Forkenbrock and has long been a potent force for good in the community.

Rev. Forkenbrock is a genial, companionable man in social life, a thorough business man in the administration of the business affairs of his church, a liberal, tolerant man on religious and political questions and a conscientious Christian. Since coming here he has demonstrated his fitness and ability and his rapidly growing congregation stands as an evidence of the fact.

L. J. HILDMAN.

L. J. Hildman is a leading merchant and representative business man of Ionia, where he has successfully conducted a general store for the past eighteen years. He was born in Germany on the 22d of September, 1869, a son of Cristoph and Catherine (Grose) Hildman, who spent their entire lives in that country. His education was acquired in the public schools of his native land and there he spent the period of his minority. In 1890, when twenty-one years of age, he determined to try his fortune in America, having heard many favorable reports concerning the advantages and opportunities to be enjoyed on this side of the Atlantic. After reaching the United States he spent one month in Albany, New York, and thence made his way into the interior of the country to Iowa, locating at North Buena Vista in Clayton county, where he secured employment as a farm hand. In 1891 he removed to Dubuque county and went to work as clerk in a general store at Holy Cross, where he remained for eleven years and laid the foundation for his later business success. In the fall of 1901, feeling that his capital and experience justified him in embarking in business on his own account, he came to Ionia and established his present mercantile interests. He had previously made a trip to Ionia in search of a business location, had purchased a building and made other preparations for his later removal. During the eighteen years of his connection with the town he has built up an extensive and gratifying patronage as a general merchant, for he has gained a well merited reputation for thorough reliability and spares no effort in meeting the needs and wishes of his customers. His store is neat and attractive in arrangement and he carries a large and well selected line of general merchandise at reasonable prices.

In 1897 Mr. Hildman was united in marriage to Miss Angela Gotto, of Holy Cross, Iowa, by whom he has nine children, as follows: Emma; Raymond, who is acting as assistant cashier of the First State Bank of Ionia; Leo; Mathilda; Olivaria; Florence; Clair; Matona; and John Louis. All are still under the parental roof.

In his political views Mr. Hildman is a democrat, loyally supporting the men and measures of that party at the polls. He is a devout communicant of the Catholic church and also belongs to the Roman Catholic Protective Society. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the new world, for here he has found the opportunities which he sought and through their wise utilization has won a place among the substantial and respected citizens of his community.

W. O. DAVIS.

W. O. Davis, of the firm of Jones & Davis, dealers in farm machinery and hardware in Lime Springs, is a most alert and energetic business man who is ready for any emergency or for any opportunity. Working steadily upward along the legitimate lines of trade, he now occupies an enviable position in commercial circles. Howard county numbers him among her native sons, his birth having here occurred September 7, 1888. His parents were John W. and Ann J. (Thomas) Davis, the former a native of Columbus county, Wisconsin, and a son of William P. and Catherine (Davis) Davis, both of whom were

natives of Anglesey, Wales. They are mentioned on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of their son, D. W. Davis. The father of W. O. Davis was born November 27, 1850, and was therefore a lad of eleven years when his parents removed west of the Mississippi, settling in Fillmore county, Minnesota. In 1869 he arrived in Howard county, Iowa, with the family and soon after reaching his majority he began farming on his own account on a tract of land five miles northeast of Lime Springs which he purchased. He afterward added to his holdings as his financial resources increased until he was the owner of two hundred and eighty-four acres of valuable farm land. He also acquired a farm adjoining on the south, comprising one hundred and seventy-two acres, and for many years he was actively identified with the agricultural development of his section of the state. He carried on his farm work according to most progressive methods and his enterprise and energy enabled him to overcome all difficulties and obstacles in his path. At length he retired from active business and removed to Lime Springs in 1912. There he spent his remaining days, his death occurring January 26, 1918. He was a republican in his political views and was an influential factor in the local councils of his party.

W. O. Davis was reared upon the old homestead farm and the district schools afforded him his early educational opportunities, while later he attended the Lime Springs high school, from which he was graduated with the class of 1910. He remained upon the home farm for two years thereafter and in 1912 became a resident of Lime Springs, where he engaged in the pump and windmill repairing business, following that trade until June, 1914, when he entered into partnership with M. H. Jones and purchased the site of the store now occupied by the firm. They began the erection of their modern brick block, which is the finest business block in Lime Springs. The firm of Jones & Davis was organized in February, 1915, and in December, 1916, they removed into their new building and have since enjoyed a large and growing trade, their establishment being the expression of modern business enterprise.

Mr. Davis is a member of Howard Lodge, No. 214, A. F. & A. M.; Shiloh Chapter, No. 65, R. A. M.; and Utopia Chapter, No. 379, O. E. S. He is keenly interested in all that tends to promote the interests of the fraternity or to upbuild the county in which he has spent his entire life. He is actuated by a progressive spirit that prompts his hearty cooperation in plans and measures for the general good and many tangible evidences of his public-spirited citizenship may be cited.

CARL PRINZ.

Carl Prinz, engaged in general farming on section 19, Saratoga township, Howard county, was born in Germany, May 28, 1850, and in that country his parents, Frederick and Marie (Will) Prinz, spent their entire lives, both having now passed away. Under the parental roof Carl Prinz remained until he had attained his majority. In fact it was not until July, 1889, that he came to the United States, at which date he made his way across the country and established his home in Saratoga township, Howard county, Iowa. Here he began work as a farm hand and was thus employed for a number of years. He likewise worked at the mason's trade. He was ambitious to engage in business on his own account, however, and carefully saved his earnings until he was able in 1901 to make investment in land and became the owner of seventy-six acres, constituting his present farm. Through the intervening period of eighteen years he has carefully, systematically and profitably cultivated his land and his fields now return to him a gratifying annual income. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Cooperative Creamery Company of Saratoga and is constantly studying questions that have to do with the welfare and progress of the farming community.

In 1876 Mr. Prinz was united in marriage to Miss Marie Schubir and they have become the parents of six children: Ida, who is married and resides in Colfax, Washington; Charles Warren, who is married and makes his home in St. Paul, Minnesota; Minnie, who is married and lives in Howard township, Howard county; Emma, at home; Otto, who is married and resides upon the home farm; and August, who became a

member of the One Hundred and Eighteenth Infantry of the Thirtieth Division and went to France for active service with the American army on the European battle front.

Mr. Prinz and his family are members of the German Lutheran church and his political endorsement is given to the republican party. He is interested in all matters of civic moment and supports various plans and measures for the general good, while in his farm work he so directs his efforts that his persistency and energy have gained for him a comfortable competence.

REV. MICHAEL H. CAREY.

Rev. Michael H. Carey is the beloved pastor of St. Joseph's parish of the Roman Catholic church at New Hampton, where he has thus labored with excellent results for the past seven years. He is a native of Wisconsin, his birth having occurred in Shullsburg, that state, on the 5th of September, 1858. His classical education was acquired in St. Marys College of St. Marys, Kansas, and later he took a philosophical course in Dubuque College of Dubuque, Iowa, while his theological studies were pursued in Grand Seminary of Montreal, Canada. On the 22d of December, 1900, he was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Bruchesi of Montreal and his first assignment was as assistant at the Cathedral in Dubuque, in which capacity he continued for five and a half years, subsequently serving as pastor there for about six years. In April, 1912, he was transferred to New Hampton as pastor of St. Joseph's parish, over which he has since presided. The modern parsonage in which he resides was built under his direction in 1917 at a cost of thirteen thousand dollars, while the church and parochial school buildings could not be erected at the present time for a hundred thousand dollars. He removed and rebuilt the convent at a cost of five thousand dollars. St. Joseph's parish has enjoyed splendid growth both in a material and moral sense and will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary on the 2d of July, 1919. Father Carey is popular not only among his parishioners but among people of all denominations in New Hampton, being uniformly esteemed as a man of consecrated zeal whose efforts have proven a potent element in the moral upbuilding of the community.

HENRY SCHWICKERATH.

Among the substantial citizens of Chickasaw county who have always lived within her borders is Henry Schwickerath, who makes his home on section 17, Dayton township, and who was born in Washington township, October 18, 1880, his parents being Joseph and Katherine (Puitz) Schwickerath, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father came to the United States when eighteen years of age—a poor boy with no capital, but ere death called him he had won a place among the prosperous farmers of Iowa. He first settled in Wisconsin but afterward removed to Washington township, Chickasaw county. In the meantime he had been married in Wisconsin to Miss Katherine Puitz. Much of his life was devoted to general agricultural pursuits and he became a prosperous farmer. He removed to New Hampton in 1900 and died there in 1914. He is still survived by his widow, who yet makes her home at New Hampton.

The youthful experiences of Henry Schwickerath were those of the farm-bred boy who attends the district schools and works in the fields. He continued to assist his father until his marriage and then began farming on his own account. The years have registered his substantial success as the result of his industry, enterprise and close application. He is now profitably breeding registered Hereford cattle, to which business he has directed his energies for seventeen years, being recognized as one of the well known and successful stock raisers of this part of the state. His property holdings now embrace three hundred and four acres of land in Dayton township, together with a tract of twenty acres in Chickasaw township. His place is known as the Hereford Stock Farm and is one of the most modern and best improved stock farms in Iowa.

pleasantly and conveniently situated about three miles northeast of Ionia. He has splendid buildings upon the place, furnishing ample shelter to grain and stock, and the equipment of his farm is up-to-date in every particular.

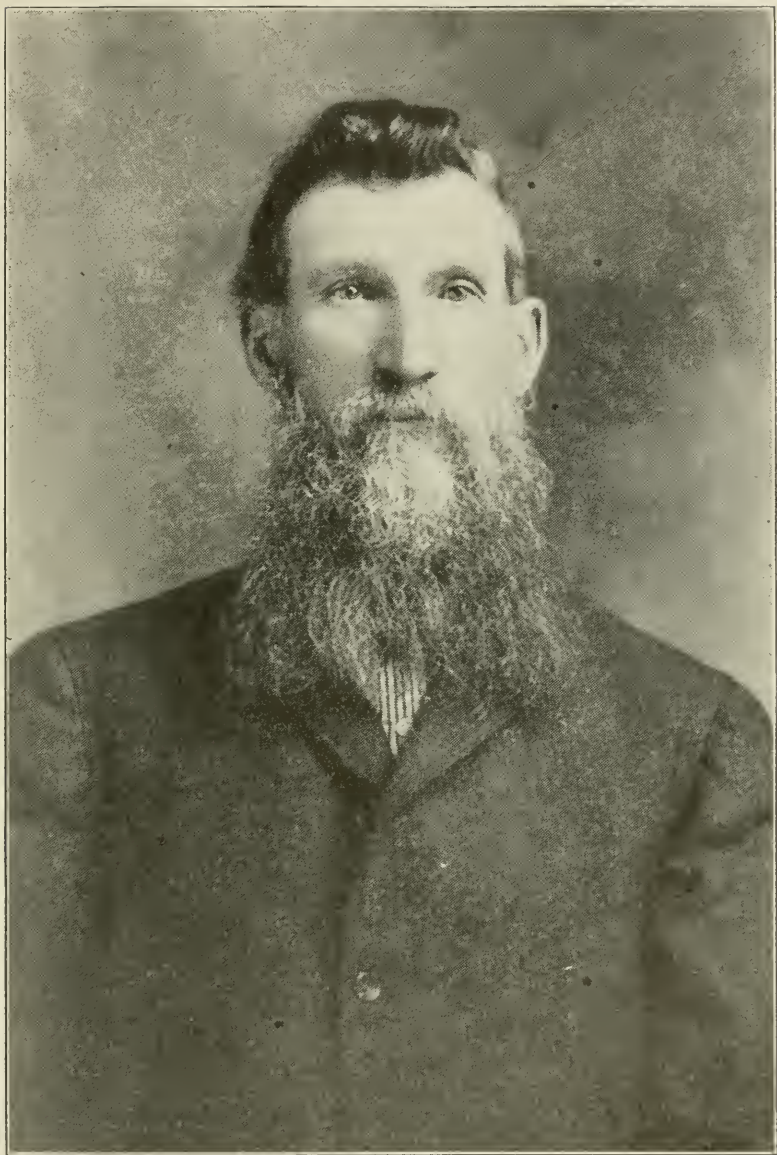
On the 25th of November, 1902 Mr. Schwickerath was united in marriage to Miss Christina Diederich, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Diederich, the former now living at North Washington, Iowa, while the latter passed away there in 1916. Mr. and Mrs. Schwickerath have seven children, three sons and four daughters: Gertrude, Margaret, Marie, Lucille, Clarence, Norbert and Jerome, all yet under the parental roof.

The family are adherents of St. Boniface Catholic church of Ionia. In politics Mr. Schwickerath maintains an independent course, voting according to the dictates of his judgment. He has recently joined the Knights of Columbus Council No. 1697 at New Hampton and he has always given his aid and support on behalf of those projects and interests which have to do with the common weal. In business affairs he is most alert and energetic and his close application and unfaltering industry have resulted in the attainment of very substantial success as one of the leading stock raisers of northern Iowa. He is a member of the Chickasaw County Equity Cooperative Association of New Hampton.

JOHN BOUSKA.

John Bouska is one of the conspicuous figures in connection with the history of New Oregon township and the town of Protivin, his progressive spirit constituting a dominant element in the work of general development and upbuilding. He has retired from farming, with which he was actively connected for many years, but is still the vice president of the Bohemian Savings Bank of Protivin. He was born in Bohemia in July, 1847, a son of Frank and Josephine (Kouldaka) Bouska, who came to the United States in 1853 and after spending six months in Cleveland, Ohio, continued their westward journey to Iowa. They took up their abode in Winneshiek county, where the father secured a homestead claim of eighty acres in Sumner township. Later he preempted forty acres and subsequently purchased a tract of eighty acres, thus owning two hundred acres in Winneshiek county. In the '90s he purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land in Howard county and some time later in the same decade removed to his Howard county property and remained thereon to the time of his death, which occurred in 1900, when he had reached the venerable age of ninety years. His wife died in 1908 at the age of eighty-eight years.

Mr. Bouska of this review was a lad of seven years at the time of the emigration of the family to the new world. He has since lived in Iowa, where he was reared and educated, attending the district schools, although his opportunities in that direction were somewhat limited, and his lessons of life have been largely learned in the school of experience. It was only in the winter months when farm work was practically over for the year that he found opportunity to attend school. He worked in the fields from the time of early spring planting until crops were harvested in the late autumn and he continued to assist in the further development and improvement of the home farm to the time of his marriage, which was celebrated in 1874. In that year he wedded Anna Fencel, a daughter of Frank Fencel, who came to Winneshiek county, Iowa, from Bohemia in 1856. Immediately following his marriage Mr. Bouska removed to Howard county, settling on land which his father had previously purchased adjoining the townsite of Protivin, and for forty years he was actively engaged in general agricultural pursuits. He was very successful in his undertakings during that period and acquired as the years passed extensive landed possessions, embracing over thirteen hundred acres in Howard and Winneshiek counties. His investments were most judiciously made and his holdings made him one of the prosperous men of this section of the state. In late years he has divided his property among his children save that he retains a twenty acre tract of land as his home place. Mr. Bouska was one of the founders



JOHN BOUSKA

of the Bohemian Savings Bank of Protivin and has been one of the officers of the institution since its organization. He served for some time as president of the bank and is filling the position of vice president and is also serving on the board of directors. In all business affairs he has displayed sound judgment and sagacity as well as unfaltering industry and enterprise and his dominant qualities have brought to him a most gratifying measure of success.

To Mr. and Mrs. Bouska have been born thirteen children, nine of whom are yet living. Frank W., who is a graduate of the State Agricultural College at Ames and was at one time a member of its faculty, afterward became assistant state dairy commissioner of Iowa, a position which he filled for two years. He is now dairy expert for the National Dairymen's Association, with offices in Chicago. Mary is the wife of Anton Blazek, a resident farmer of Chickasaw county. John A. follows farming in Winneshiek county. Caroline is the wife of Frank Klimesh, a resident farmer of Chickasaw county. Frances is the wife of Ludwig Ptacek, living at Cresco, Iowa. Joseph D. is manager of the telephone and electric light plants at Protivin, is also owner of a garage, is interested in farming and at the same time is serving as a notary public. Louisa is the wife of Adolph Busta, who carries on farming in Winneshiek county. Albina is the wife of John Swoboda, a farmer of Howard county. Charlie B. carries on farming in Howard County and is the youngest of the family.

In his political views Mr. Bouska is a democrat and a stalwart champion of party principles. He has served for several years as a member of the board of township trustees and president of the school board. He is keenly interested in all that has to do with the welfare and improvement of the district in which he lives. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and he is justly accounted one of the most progressive men and leading citizens of Howard county. He deserves much credit for what he has accomplished as his success is the direct outcome of his persistent and earnest labor. Step by step he has worked his way upward and each forward step has brought him a broader outlook and wider opportunities.

DARYL C. GROVER.

Daryl C. Grover is actively engaged in farming on section 1, Afton township, devoting his attention to the cultivation of the land belonging to Frank Shelhamer. He has for a number of years been a substantial resident of Howard county but is a native son of Minnesota, his birth having occurred in Fillmore county, October 7, 1889. He is a son of Alvin B. and Emma L. Grover, who are likewise natives of Minnesota. The father was a butter maker by trade, carrying on business along that line at Grand Meadow, Minnesota, where he owned a creamery which he successfully conducted for twelve years. He then disposed of his creamery and removed to Riceville, Iowa, in 1900. There he also became identified with the creamery business and was a well known butter maker of that place for about fourteen years. Eventually, however, he withdrew from the creamery business to engage in the draying business to which he still devotes his energies. He is still a substantial resident of Riceville, where he is widely and favorably known. He has held membership with both the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Masonic fraternity for a number of years.

Daryl C. Grover spent the first ten years of his life in his native state and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Iowa. His education was acquired in the public schools of both states and throughout his business career he has followed the occupation of farming. He now makes his home on section 1, Afton township, where he is devoting his time and energies to the further development and improvement of a farm belonging to Frank Shelhamer, his father-in-law. He is diligent and determined in the conduct of his business affairs and his labors have brought him substantial results.

On the 30th of December, 1915, Mr. Grover was united in marriage to Miss Winnie Shelhamer, a daughter of Frank Shelhamer, who is mentioned at length on another page of this work. They have become the parents of two sons, Paul Daryl and Franklin

Robert. The family is well known socially, their friends in this section of the county being many. In politics Mr. Grover is a republican and stanchly supports the principles of the party, with which he has voted since age conferred upon him the right of franchise.

CHARLES S. MULKS.

Charles S. Mulks, living on section 27, Jamestown township, Howard county, was born November 14, 1872, in Whitewater, Wisconsin, a son of Daniel S. and Hanna J. Mulks, who for many years made their home at Whitewater. The grandfather in the paternal line went to Wisconsin in pioneer times and secured a homestead in that state, obtaining a tract of government land upon which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. He devoted his energies to the cultivation of the land for a number of years and after the grandfather retired the farm was taken over by his son, Daniel S. Mulks.

It was upon this place that Charles S. Mulks was reared and he early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He attended the public schools of his native county and when twenty-two years of age left home and made his way to Howard county, Iowa, since which time he has been identified with the interests and with the development of this section of the state. As he was in limited financial circumstances at the time of his arrival he first rented a farm, which he cultivated on shares for about twenty years. He then purchased his present farm property, which is situated on section 27, Jamestown township, and he now has a good place, to the further development and improvement of which he is bending his efforts and energies.

On the 14th of November, 1894, Mr. Mulks was married to Miss Julia E. Taft, a daughter of Clarence R. and Frances M. Taft, of Whitewater, Wisconsin. They have become the parents of two children, William Glendon and Dorothy, who are at home, the son assisting his father in the further development of the farm. He saw service with the United States army for four and a half months, being a member of Battery E of the Coast Artillery, stationed in Florida and Virginia.

Mr. Mulks gives his political support to the republican party but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him. He is a worthy representative of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Riceville Lodge, No. 119, A. F. & A. M. The teachings of this fraternity he exemplifies in his life and he is regarded as a straightforward, honorable and reliable man who enjoys and well merits the high esteem of those with whom he has been associated.

DAVID J. FERRIE.

David J. Ferrie, the efficient sheriff of Howard county and a well known resident of Cresco, was born in Howard county, on the 18th of December, 1873, his parents being John and Esther (Ackerson) Ferrie. The father is a native of the state of New York, while the mother was born near Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. John Ferrie left the Empire state when a small boy in company with his parents, who removed to Wisconsin, from which point some years later they made the trip to Paris township, Howard county, Iowa, with ox teams. This was in the early '60s and there were many evidences of frontier life in all this section of the state. The father took up government land, securing a claim of one hundred and sixty acres which was wild and unimproved. He built a log house upon it and at once began the arduous task of developing a new farm. As the years passed he added many improvements to the property and extended the boundaries of his farm until it comprised three hundred and twenty acres. Both of the paternal grandparents of David J. Ferrie passed away on the old homestead in Howard county. Their son, John Ferrie, spent his boyhood days here amid pioneer sur-

roundings and conditions and later he homesteaded a tract of land a mile south of his father's farm, thus securing one hundred and sixty acres of Iowa's rich and productive land. He also built a log house and began the development of his fields. McGregor was at that time the nearest market and travel in those days was mostly with ox teams, so that it was a long and tedious trip to market. There were plenty of Indians in the neighborhood and all of the hardships and privations of pioneer life had to be met by the early settlers, but with resolute spirit they faced these conditions and lived to witness a remarkable transformation in the appearance of the county and in the conditions existing here. John Ferrie remained upon his first farm for a number of years or until the failure of the wheat crop, when he sold his place and rented another tract of land in the same township. At a subsequent period he purchased the Ackerson farm, owned by his wife's father, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of land, and upon that place he resided until about twelve years ago, when he retired from active business life and removed to Cresco, where he is now living at the age of seventy-seven years, while his wife has reached the age of seventy-four years. Mrs. Ferrie had come to Howard county with her parents in her girlhood days and her father, like the other early settlers, secured a claim from the government and began the development of a new farm. His home, too, was constructed of logs after the primitive manner of the times and for twelve years he continued the development and cultivation of his land, after which he removed to Cresco, where both he and his wife spent their remaining days. His son, David Ackerson, was at one time sheriff of Howard county, filling the position for four years.

David J. Ferrie, whose name introduces this review, was reared upon the old homestead farm amid the usual environment and conditions of pioneer life. The public schools accorded him his educational privileges and on reaching the age of twenty-four years he was married and removed to the old Thomas Dale farm, which he cultivated and developed for two years. He next took up his abode upon the Robert Thompson farm, where he lived for two years, and then upon the E. H. Jones farm, comprising a half section of land in Center township, Howard county. There he continued to make his home for six years, after which he removed to the A. A. Reynolds farm of four hundred and eighty acres in Center township and continued thereon for six years. In 1913 he was elected to the office of sheriff and has since served in that capacity, making an excellent record by the prompt and faithful manner in which he discharges his duties. He performs every official service without fear or favor and his course has won him high commendation.

In 1898 Mr. Ferrie was married to Miss Mary Walsh, a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Kerns) Walsh and a native of Cresco. Her father is with the Milwaukee Railroad Company. To Mr. and Mrs. Ferrie have been born six children: Gerald, Irene, Leland, Donald, Kenneth and Harold, all of whom are at home. Mr. and Mrs. Ferrie are well known in Howard county, where they have long resided, both being representatives of old pioneer families. Mr. Ferrie has spent his entire life here and the work which was begun by his grandfather and continued by his father is being further promoted by him.

JESS HAYES.

Jess Hayes has been a lifelong resident of New Oregon township, Howard county. His present farm is situated on section 12, and it was here that he was born on the 20th of February, 1872. Through all the intervening years he has been identified with the agricultural interests of the district and is a representative of one of the oldest and best known pioneer families of this part of the state. He is the only son of Jacob and Bettie (Malone) Hayes, who for many years occupied the farm, in fact resided thereon until death called them about three years ago. The father, Jacob Hayes, was one of the first settlers of New Oregon township, taking up his abode within its borders when the work of progress and improvement had scarcely been begun. He aided in the task of general development here and his labors were productive of excellent results.

Jess Hayes of this review spent the days of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof and early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. As time passed he assisted more and more largely in the work of the fields and eventually took charge of the old home place. On the 14th of March, 1894, he was united in marriage to Miss Ruth Money, a daughter of Harrison and Florence (Mowry) Money, of Minneapolis. To Mr. and Mrs. Hayes have been born the following children: Hulbert, who for nine months was connected with the American army and is now employed in Ord, Nebraska; Esther, at home; Paul, who is now residing in Ord, Nebraska, with his father's sister; and Percy, Isabelle, Lucile, Eva, Marion and Lawrence, all yet at home.

Mr. Hayes and his wife attend the Methodist church at Cresco. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, which he has supported since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He has been keenly interested in educational activities in the community and has served as a director on the school board for four terms. He cooperates heartily in all plans or movements for the general good and his work along various lines has produced results that have been most beneficial. In a business way he has never dissipated his energies over a wide field but has concentrated his efforts and attention upon a single line and his close application has been a salient feature in the attainment of his present day success.

D. A. PALMER.

D. A. Palmer is half owner and manager of the Cresco Creamery Company, in which connection a successful business is being conducted in Cresco, Howard county. He was born in Marquette, Michigan, July 20, 1856, and is a son of Benjamin H. and Angeline (Taylor) Palmer. The father was born in Madison county, New York, while the mother was a native of New Hampshire. They were married in the Empire state, where Mr. Palmer followed carpentering and contracting until 1856. He then removed to Forestville township, Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he homesteaded land and built a log cabin, after which he began the improvement of his farm, doing all of his work with ox teams. Many Indians still lived in the neighborhood and the family met all of the experiences, hardships and privations of pioneer life. After thirteen years a removal was made to Strawberry Point, Iowa, where Mr. Palmer purchased a farm and again he concentrated his efforts and attention upon the further development and improvement of his land, which he converted into one of the excellent farm properties of the district. He died at the age of seventy-nine years and eleven months, while his wife reached the notable old age of ninety-three years. His political allegiance was given to the democratic party. He took an active interest in promoting the welfare and progress of the district in which he lived and ranked with the leading agriculturists of the neighborhood.

D. A. Palmer spent his boyhood days at Strawberry Point, Iowa, upon the old homestead farm and pursued his education in the common schools. He afterward learned the creamery business and subsequently went to Hayward, Minnesota, where he was connected with a creamery for three years. He afterward spent a similar period in the same line of business at Rochester, Minnesota, and for ten years was located in Monticello, Iowa, where he also conducted a creamery. In 1906 he removed to Cresco and entered into partnership with N. H. Nelson, now of Charles City, Iowa, in purchasing the Owens creamery in Vernon township, Howard county. They purchased the site where the present creamery now stands in Cresco and erected thereon a fine brick building. Since then they have enjoyed a profitable and steadily increasing patronage, their business having now reached extensive proportions. They make large shipments of butter to New York, Chicago and other points in the country. It is their policy to pay cash for all cream purchased and they are developing a patronage which is most gratifying. Their business is carefully systematized and the most sanitary conditions prevail in their creamery. Mr. Palmer also held the position of dairy freight agent for the Wabash Railroad Company in his younger years.

Mr. Palmer has been twice married. In 1880 he wedded Miss Clara King, a daughter of James and Ann King, who were natives of Indiana. Her father was a blacksmith by trade but at the time of the Civil war put aside all business and personal considerations and responded to the country's call for aid, enlisting in 1861 as a member of the Union army. He served for almost five years and participated in a number of hotly contested engagements. With a most creditable military record he returned to his home and took up his abode in Hopkinton, Iowa, where he continued to follow his trade until his demise. His wife has also passed away. Their daughter, Mrs. Palmer, died in 1902, at the age of forty-two years, leaving two children, Maud L. and Lorena. Mr. Palmer has since married again, his second union being with Miss Jennie G. Rensiek, a native of Wisconsin and a daughter of John Rensiek. Her parents were natives of Holland and in early life came to the new world. The father was a farmer, devoting his entire life to agricultural pursuits, and both he and his wife have now passed away. Mr. Palmer is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and his political allegiance is given to the republican party, which he strongly supports, yet he does not seek nor desire office as a reward for party fealty. He prefers concentrating his energies and attention upon his business affairs and his well directed efforts are bringing to him deserved and gratifying success.

JOHN KUBIK.

John Kubik, devoting his time and energies to general farming in Paris township, Howard county, has always resided within the boundaries of this county, his birth having here occurred March 8, 1885. The record of his parents is given in the sketch of Anton Kubik on another page of this work. No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for John Kubik in the days of his boyhood and youth. He pursued his education in the public schools and when not busy with his textbooks aided in the work of the farm, so that he was well trained to the labors of the fields when he began farming on his own account. He worked diligently and persistently and his land is now highly cultivated, bringing forth rich harvests.

On the 14th of June, 1909, Mr. Kubik was united in marriage to Miss Stella Mrchek, of Chickasaw county, Iowa. They now have five children, namely: Clarence, Raymond, Gertrude, Helen and Arthur.

Mr. Kubik attends the Catholic church of Protivin and he gives his political endorsement to the democratic party. He is well known in Howard county, where his entire life has been passed, and his energy and enterprise have stood him in good stead in the development of his business affairs, while his sterling qualities have gained for him the warm friendship and respect of many with whom he has been brought in contact.

CHARLES KALISHEK.

Charles Kalishek is the proprietor of the High View Farm, a valuable property situated on section 26, Utica township, Chickasaw county. He is numbered among the native sons of Winneshiek county, Iowa, his birth having there occurred August 19, 1878. His parents, Martin and Elizabeth (Novotny) Kalishek, were natives of Bohemia and came to the United States with their respective parents in childhood. They were married in Winneshiek county and settled on a farm four and a half miles southeast of Protivin, where the father still owns two hundred and twenty acres of rich and productive land. He continued to reside upon that farm until April, 1918, when he retired from active business life and removed to Protivin, where he now resides. In the meantime he had acquired a substantial competence as the reward of his industry and diligence and well deserved success has come to him.

Charles Kalishek was educated in the district schools and was reared in the usual

manner of the farm lad of northern Iowa. When he reached man's estate he resolved to establish a home of his own and to this end was married June 17, 1902, to Miss Mary Kovarik, of Winneshiek county. The following spring the young couple located on their present home farm of two hundred acres, eighty acres of which was given to Mr. Kalishek by his father. He afterward purchased eighty acres from his father and subsequently invested in a forty acre tract, so that within the farm boundaries are now comprised two hundred acres of rich and arable land that responds readily to the care and labor which he bestows upon it, for his efforts have converted the place into productive fields, from which he annually gathers large harvests. He is also a stockholder in the Bohemian Savings Bank of Protivin, and Utica township numbers him among her leading citizens.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kalishek have been born two children, Bennie C. and Marcella C. The parents and children are members of the Catholic church and in his political views Mr. Kalishek is a democrat, having supported the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He is now serving on the township board of trustees and in all matters of progressive citizenship is deeply interested, aiding freely any plan or project for the general good.

J. H. WHALEN.

J. H. Whalen has long been known in Chickasaw county, where he now makes his home on section 25, Jacksonville township, while his birth occurred in Utica township. His natal day was September 11, 1866, his parents being Thomas and Mary (Reilly) Whalen, who were natives of Ireland. The year 1854 witnessed the arrival of the father in the new world, at which time he took up his abode in Georgia. He afterward removed to Iowa and established his home in Utica township, where for a time he engaged in farming. Later he removed to Jacksonville township and settled upon the place which is now the home of his son, J. H. Whalen. Year after year he carefully tilled the soil and brought his fields to a high state of cultivation, annually gathering large crops as a reward for his diligence and his thrift. He died upon the old homestead in 1903. His wife was born in Massachusetts and came to Iowa with her parents, Sylvester and Bridget Reilly, who located in Utica township, where Mrs. Whalen was reared and married. It was her father who donated fifteen acres of land where the Catholic church of Reilly Ridge now stands, and upon that tract a house of worship was erected. This tract was named in his honor and the church stands as a monument largely to his generous spirit and devotion to the cause of religion. Mr. and Mrs. Reilly were among the oldest of the pioneer settlers of Utica township and in the work of development and progress there they took an active and helpful part. In community affairs Thomas Whalen took a deep and helpful interest and was regarded as a most public-spirited citizen. He served as town clerk of Utica and Jacksonville townships for a period of thirty-six consecutive years and no higher testimonial of his efficiency and fidelity could be given than the fact that he was so long retained in that office. Never for a moment did he disregard his duty or hold it in slight consideration. He was likewise justice of the peace for twenty-eight years and his decisions in that connection were strictly fair and impartial, "winning him golden opinions from all sorts of people." In educational matters, too, he was deeply interested and for a number of years served as treasurer of his school district in Utica township. A life of great usefulness and worth ended when he was called to the home beyond. His wife was a woman of many admirable traits of heart and mind, and her death, which occurred November 18, 1893, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret.

J. H. Whalen, spending his youthful days under the parental roof, pursued his education in the public schools of Jacksonville township and when his textbooks were put aside he continued upon the home farm with his father until the latter's death and remained throughout that period his father's active assistant. He was reared as one of a family of ten children, having four sisters and five brothers, all



J. H. WHALEN



THOMAS WHALEN

of whom are yet living, namely: Mike, Sylvester, John, Charles, Roger, Mrs. Gus Fox, Mary, Mrs. Cornelius Mulcahy and Mrs. Leo Mitchell. All of the members of the Whalen family are identified with the Reilly Ridge Catholic church and loyally follow its teachings.

In his political views J. H. Whalen has ever been a stalwart democrat, giving unfaltering allegiance to the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He has served as constable and justice of the peace in Jacksonville township and, like his father, has made a most creditable record in public office. He prefers, however, to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs and now owns and cultivates the old home place of one hundred and twenty acres, constituting one of the well developed farm properties of Chickasaw county.

FRANK A. ZAK.

Frank A. Zak, who carries on general farming on section 11, Howard township, has spent the greater part of his life in Howard county, although born at Calmar, Iowa, in September, 1883. His parents were Frank and Catherine (Horkey) Zak, both of whom were natives of Bohemia, whence they came to the new world in young manhood and womanhood. They became acquainted and were married in Winneshiek county, Iowa, and settled on a farm near Calmar, Mr. Zak there renting land until about 1893 or 1894, when he purchased the farm in Howard county upon which his son, Frank A., now resides, acquiring title to one hundred and twenty acres of land. His attention was then given to the further development and improvement of this property up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1912. His wife had passed away two years after their removal to Howard county.

Frank A. Zak began his education at the usual age, attending the district schools and the parochial school at Spillville, Winneshiek county. Through vacation periods he aided in the work of the home farm and after reaching his majority he remained upon the old homestead and assisted his father in the further cultivation and development of the place. About four years prior to his father's death he took over the operation and management of the farm as a renter and about a year prior to his father's demise bought the home place, which he still owns and cultivates. He has worked diligently and persistently as the years have passed on and his success is the direct result of earnest labor. He is also a stockholder in the Maple Leaf Creamery Company.

In 1911 Mr. Zak was united in marriage to Miss Nettie Maravetz, a daughter of Joseph Maravetz, who is now living retired in Cresco. They have become the parents of three children: Ralph F., Jerome J. and Richard A.

In politics Mr. Zak is a democrat, but has never been an office seeker, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his farming interests. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church and in the community where they reside they have become widely and favorably known. At an early age Mr. Zak realized that industry is the basis of all honorable success and throughout his entire life he has been a most industrious man, his labors bringing about the careful cultivation of his fields, resulting in the gathering of golden harvests.

RASMUS R. OSWOLD.

On the list of Howard county's substantial farmers appears the name of Rasmus R. Oswald, who is living on section 18 in Forest City township, where he is operating the Grant Jones farm, an excellent tract of land of three hundred and twenty acres which is now under a high state of cultivation. Mr. Oswald is a native of Norway, his birth having occurred in the land of the midnight sun October 13, 1877. His parents were Rasmus and Carrie (Mallen) Oswald, who came to the United States in the spring of 1892, establishing their home in Chester township, Howard county,

Iowa, where the father's death afterward occurred May 12, 1912. The mother makes her home at Elmore, Minnesota.

Rasmus R. Oswald was a youth of seventeen years when the voyage was made to the new world. He acquired his education in the common schools of Norway and after reaching Iowa started out to provide for his own support. In March, 1902, he was united in marriage to Miss Anna Ness, a native of Fillmore county, Minnesota, and in the spring of the same year he began farming for himself. He rented the farm of Otto Olson, which he continued to cultivate for five years, and in 1907 rented the Grant Jones farm, upon which he has resided for the past twelve years. He is classed among the most progressive farmers of Howard county, his labors being intelligently directed, while his energy is proving most resultant in the development and cultivation of the crops.

To Mr. and Mrs. Oswald have been born three children, two of whom are yet living, Bernice and Violet, and they have an adopted son, Wilbert, who is the eldest of the three children of the household. Both Mr. and Mrs. Oswald are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their sterling worth has gained for them the high regard of those who know them. In his political belief Mr. Oswald is a republican and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day but does not seek nor desire office, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs, which have brought him to a position among the men of affluence in his community.

JAMES H. SEERY.

James H. Seery, who follows farming on section 7, Jacksonville township, has been a lifelong resident of Chickasaw county and is a representative of one of its old and honored pioneer families. He was born August 10, 1864, his parents being Thomas and Mary (Donohoe) Seery, who were natives of Ireland. The father arrived in the new world when a youth of twelve years and the mother was brought to America when a maiden of sixteen summers. They were married in Lowell, Massachusetts, and three children were born to them during the period of their residence in the east. In 1863 they came to Iowa, establishing their home in Chickasaw county, where Mr. Seery purchased a farm of forty acres in Jacksonville township. As the years passed he prospered in his undertakings and from time to time made other investments in land until his holdings comprised three hundred and forty acres, making his property a very valuable one. It is said by his many friends that he was one of the finest men who ever settled in Chickasaw county. He was most charitable, freely aiding those who needed assistance, and in manner was ever kindly and genial. His many substantial and admirable traits of character won for him the love and friendship of all. He passed away January 10, 1910, at the advanced age of eighty-four years, and on the 11th of April, 1911, the mother was called to her final rest, being then about eighty years of age.

James H. Seery is indebted to the district school system of Chickasaw county for the educational opportunities which he enjoyed. After reaching manhood he worked with his father upon the home farm until about 1894, when he began farming independently on his present place, which comprises one hundred and eighty acres of land that was deeded to him by his father at that time.

In 1896 Mr. Seery was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Ralph, a daughter of John Ralph, one of the early pioneer settlers of Chickasaw county who is now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Seery have been born five children, three of whom survive, namely: Francis Ralph, James Virgil and Mary Viola.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Seery brought his bride to the home farm and through the intervening period has remained thereon, devoting his energies and attention to the development and improvement of the place and by reason of his industry and diligence winning an enviable position among the substantial men of Jacksonville township. He is also a stockholder in the Jerico Creamery Association.

Mr. Seery and his family are members of St. Joseph's Catholic church and are gen-

erous contributors to its support. In politics he is a democrat but has never been an office seeker, although he served for some years as a member of the school board. He represents a substantial and honored pioneer family of Chickasaw county and for fifty-five years he has resided in this county—an interested witness of its development and improvement.

P. G. BUTTON, D. V. S.

Dr. P. G. Button, one of the best known veterinarians of northern Iowa, has continuously practiced his profession in Cresco for more than a quarter of a century and throughout the past eighteen years has ably filled the position of assistant state veterinarian. His birth occurred in Ringwood, Ontario, Canada, on the 30th of March, 1864, his parents being Newberry and Catherine (Bartholomew) Button, who spent their entire lives in Ontario, where the father followed the occupation of farming.

P. G. Button acquired his education in the graded and high schools of Ringwood and later, in preparation for his chosen life work, entered the Ontario Veterinary College, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1892. Crossing the border into the United States, he made his way direct to Cresco, Iowa, where he began practice and has successfully followed his profession throughout the intervening period of twenty-seven years. He has won a well earned reputation in this connection and has become widely known in this part of the state. About 1901 he was appointed assistant state veterinarian under Governor Cummins and has since continued in the position, being reappointed by each succeeding governor. His long retention in the office clearly indicates his professional skill and his faithfulness in the discharge of duty.

In 1893 Dr. Button was united in marriage to Miss Emma L. Crawford, of Cresco, Iowa. He gives his political allegiance to the republican party and is now serving as a member of the city council, making a most commendable record in that connection. Fraternally he is identified with Cresco Lodge, No. 150, A. F. & A. M., and with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Woodmen of the World. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Episcopal church, to which his wife also belongs. They have become widely and favorably known in the community in which they make their home, the circle of their friends being almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintances.

ADOLPH KAKAC.

Adolph Kakac is living on section 2, Howard township, in Howard county, and is the owner of a farm of seventy-two acres. His parents are Joseph and Frances Kakac, now residents of Saratoga, Iowa. They are natives of Bohemia and came to the United States in 1883. They made their way westward to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and there resided until 1887, during which period Mr. Kakac worked at the shoe-maker's trade, which he had previously learned in his native land. He then came to Iowa and took up his abode in Saratoga township, Howard county, where he resided for a period of two years. He next removed to Howard township and in 1892 purchased the farm upon which his son, Adolph Kakac, now resides. For seventeen years he bent his energies to the development and improvement of that property, residing there until 1909, when he retired from active business life and established his home in Saratoga, where he and his wife now reside, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of their former toil. Mr. and Mrs. Kakac are the parents of three sons and five daughters, the brothers and sisters of Adolph Kakac being as follows: Frank, Joseph, Frances, Mary, Tillie, Rose and Josie. The daughters are all married.

When the father left the farm Adolph Kakac assumed its management. He was born in Bohemia on the 9th of June, 1880, and was therefore but three years of age when brought by his parents to the new world. When a lad of seven years he accom-

panied his parents on their removal to Iowa, where he was reared and educated. At the age of thirty years he wedded Mary Kubichek, whose parents, natives of Bohemia, are still living. It was in 1910 that Mr. and Mrs. Kakac were married and they have become the parents of two children, Edward Adolph and Gladys Marie, aged respectively five and two years.

Mr. Kakac and his family are members of the Presbyterian church and he belongs to the B. Z. Y., a Bohemian society of Cedar Rapids. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he is keenly interested in the vital questions and issues of the day but does not seek office as a reward for party fealty. His time and attention are given to his business affairs and aside from his farming interests he is identified with the Maple Leaf Creamery Company as a stockholder. He works diligently and persistently in the development and improvement of his farm and his labors have brought to him substantial returns.

E. W. KELLERSHON.

E. W. Kellershon, manager for the Northern Lumber Company at New Hampton and an alert and progressive business man, was born in Germany, October 19, 1865, a son of William and Catherine (Schmidt) Kellershon, both of whom spent their entire lives in Germany. The son was there educated in the public schools and also spent a term as a pupil in a district school in Wisconsin after coming to the new world. In November, 1884, following the attainment of his nineteenth year, he crossed the Atlantic and first made his way to Newark, New Jersey, where he spent the winter. In the succeeding spring he traveled westward and for one year was a resident of Hartford, Wisconsin. In the spring of 1886, however, he arrived in Chickasaw county, Iowa, locating in Lawler, where he hired out to a farmer for the following summer. In the fall of that year he took up his abode in New Hampton and began work in the lumberyard of John Foley, in whose employ he remained until Mr. Foley sold the business to the Northern Lumber Company on the 1st of November, 1902. At that date Mr. Kellershon was made manager of the business at New Hampton and has continued to fill this position of responsibility to the present time. For more than thirty years he has been connected with the business and its growth and development are attributable in no small measure to his close application, his energy and thorough reliability. As manager he is now bending his efforts to administrative direction and executive control and he has built up a large trade for the company which he represents.

On the 2d of May, 1899, Mr. Kellershon was married to Miss Barbara Burget, of Chickasaw county, and to them have been born nine children: Irene, Romana, Hilda, Sybilla, Frank, Selma, Walter, William and Marie. They have also reared an adopted daughter, Anna. All of the children are yet at home. Mr. Kellershon's first wife was Frederika Piehn, whom he married in 1890.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and Mr. Kellershon is a member of the Knights of Columbus and of the Catholic Order of Foresters. He is today accounted one of the prominent and well known business men of New Hampton, his residence in Chickasaw county covering a third of a century, during which time his sterling personal worth and business enterprise have been again and again demonstrated.

E. D. CAPPER.

E. D. Capper, a man of marked business enterprise, is a member of the firm of Capper & Thomas, owning the leading general merchandise establishment of Chester. He was born in Fayette county, Iowa, May 20, 1864, a son of John and Dorinda (Brooks) Capper, both of whom were natives of Carroll county, Ohio, where they were reared and

married. About 1854 or 1855, soon after their marriage, they came west to Iowa, settling in Fayette county, where the father purchased a quarter section of land from a man who had preempted the tract from the government. Mr. Capper resided upon that farm until his declining years, when he retired from active agricultural pursuits and established his home in Elgin, Iowa, where he passed away on the 7th of May, 1911. He had for many years survived his wife, who died on Christmas day of 1893.

Mr. Capper of this review was educated in the district schools and on attaining his majority became identified with the creamery business. He thoroughly learned the art of butter making and was active along that line for thirteen years. In 1898 he established a mercantile business in Chester and in the past twenty-one years has had three different partners, Charles H. Thomas, his present associate, buying into the business on the 14th of February, 1911. The business relation between them has thus been maintained for eight years and the firm of Capper & Thomas has the leading general mercantile house of Chester, carrying an extensive line of goods and putting forth every effort to please their patrons, so that their trade is constantly growing.

On the 3d of May, 1885, seventeen days prior to the celebration of his twenty-first birthday, Mr. Capper was married to Miss Helen B. Snyder, of Fayette county, Iowa, and they have become the parents of two children: Earl C., who is butter maker in a creamery at Blue Grass, North Dakota; and Archie F., who is cashier of the Farmers' National Bank of Aurelia, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Capper are both consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Capper also belongs to Chester Lodge, No. 444, I. O. O. F., and to the Modern Woodmen of America. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, but he has never been an aspirant for office, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs. He is never remiss in the duties of citizenship, however, but cooperates in all well defined plans and measures for the general good.

HON. J. E. GARMEN.

Hon. J. E. Garmen is the mayor of New Hampton and one of the progressive business men of the city, being senior partner in the firm of Garmen & Forkenbrock, hardware dealers and steam fitters. He comes to Iowa from Ohio, his birth having occurred near Alliance, in Columbiana county, on the 9th of August, 1857, his parents being Samuel and Susan (Bruner) Garmen, both of whom were natives of Switzerland, whence they came to the United States, the father making the trip in young manhood, while the mother crossed the Atlantic with her parents in young womanhood. Both became residents of Columbiana county, Ohio, where they were married. They settled upon a farm in that district and upon the outbreak of the Civil war the father enlisted for active service in defense of the Union and was killed at the battle of Gettysburg. The mother afterward became the wife of Christian Greenewald, and following the close of the Civil war they removed to Wisconsin, settling near Monroe, where they resided until 1874 and then came to Iowa, establishing their home in Chickasaw county, where Mrs. Greenewald continued to reside to the time of her death in 1915.

J. E. Garmen was a youth of seventeen years when he came to Chickasaw county with his mother. He had been educated in the district schools of Wisconsin and Iowa and on attaining his majority he located in New Hampton, where he entered the employ of O. B. Sherman & Son, general merchants. He continued with that firm and their successors for a period of fifteen years, a fact indicative of his capability and faithfulness. He entered the store as general utility boy and rose to the position of manager of the clothing department. He recognized the fact, however, that there is little in working for some one else and bought the interest of F. S. Briggs in the hardware business of Dixon & Briggs, the firm style being then changed to Dixon & Garmen. About 1898 Joseph I. Forkenbrock took over the interest of Mr. Dixon in the business and the present firm style of Garmen & Forkenbrock was assumed. They have since conducted a successful hardware and steam fitting business and now enjoy a liberal patronage.

Mr. Garmen was united in marriage to Miss Sarah J. Shaffer, a daughter of H. H.

Shaffer, one of the pioneer settlers of Chickasaw county, and to them have been born three children: Charles J., who is cashier of the First State Bank of Elma; and Hattie E. and W. Glenn, both deceased.

In politics Mr. Garmen is a republican and in April, 1917, he was elected to the mayoralty of New Hampton. He closely studies the needs and opportunities of the community and discharges his duties with regard to civic improvement and advancement. He is well known in Masonic circles as a member of Arcana Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; the chapter, R. A. M.; Eudoria Commandery, K. T.; and the temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. Both he and his wife are consistent members of the Baptist church and they rank high in social circles of the city. Mr. Garmen has ever been a substantial factor in the business and public life of his community and for eighteen years served as chief of the fire department of New Hampton. The honors which have come to him in public life are well deserved, indicating his worth and its recognition on the part of his fellow townsmen.

J. J. LUKES.

The farming interests of Chickasaw county find a worthy representative in J. J. Lukes, who is living on section 24, Utica township, where he has a tract of good land well developed. He was born in Sumner township, Winneshiek county, February, 13, 1857. Two years before this his parents, Martin and Annie (Kondelka) Lukes, had come to the United States. They were of Czecho-Slovak nationality and were married in their native land. Believing that they might have better business opportunities on this side of the Atlantic, they made the voyage across the ocean and established their home in Sumner township, Winneshiek county, Iowa, where the father worked as a farm hand for a time. He then purchased land and devoted the remainder of his active business life to the further development and improvement of his property. He died at the home of his son, J. J. Lukes, in 1907, and the mother remained a member of the household of her son until 1911, when she, too, was called to her final rest. In his business affairs the father had been quite successful and ere his death had acquired two hundred acres of rich and valuable land in Chickasaw county.

J. J. Lukes was educated in the common schools of Winneshiek county, where he lived upon his father's farm, early becoming familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. At the age of twenty-three years he was married to Miss Anna Tupy and they became the parents of three children: Stella, Francis and Rose. The wife and mother passed away in 1886 and in 1887 Mr. Lukes was again married, his second union being with Anna Nohale, a daughter of Joseph Nohale. Of this marriage seven children have been born and six are now living, namely: Mary, Robert, Anna, Godlove, Rudolph and Lizzie. Alois is deceased.

Mr. Lukes and his family are members of the Catholic church of Protivin and he is identified with the Catholic Order of Foresters at that place and with the Modern Woodmen Camp there. In community affairs he is much interested and has served as trustee of Utica township and also as township clerk and assessor, giving to his locality valuable and efficient service along those lines. He has lived in Utica township since his first marriage in 1880 and through the intervening period, covering more than a third of a century, has been classed with the representative farmers and substantial citizens of his part of the state.

HENRY MANNING.

Progressive methods of farming have placed Henry Manning in a creditable position among the leading agriculturists of Chickasaw county. His home is on section 19, Deerfield township, where he has an excellent tract of land of four hundred and seventy-five acres, upon which he has lived since 1911. He is of German birth but was



J. J. LUKES

only four years of age when brought to the United States by his parents, of whom mention is made in connection with the sketch of their son, Wilhelm Manning, on another page of this work. The birth of Henry Manning occurred October 21, 1857, and for a brief period in his youth he was a resident of Illinois, for his parents settled in Cook county, that state, when they came to the new world. The father passed away in Chicago and the mother, following the disastrous Chicago fire of October, 1871, came with her three sons—Wilhelm, Henry and Herman—to Iowa. All three brothers farmed together until 1886 and throughout the period of his residence in this state Henry Manning has devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits. He has worked diligently and persistently to gain a start and to win the prosperity which is now his. In 1911 he took up his abode upon his present place, which he purchased, adding to his holdings until he now has four hundred and seventy-five acres in the immediate vicinity of his home farm. He ranks with Deerfield township's most successful and progressive farmers, following the most modern methods in the further development and improvement of the fields and thus greatly enhancing the productivity of his land.

On the 1st of December, 1886, Mr. Manning was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Kumrey, a daughter of Henry and Henrietta Kumrey, who were natives of Germany, whence they came to the United States. The father was for a long period a resident of Iowa and passed away in Deerfield township, Chickasaw county. The mother died in 1911 in Floyd county, this state. To Mr. and Mrs. Manning have been born three children: Edward H. and John H., who are married; and George A., who is assisting his father in the further development and improvement of the home farm.

The religious faith of the parents is indicated in their connection with the German Lutheran church of Bassett. For fifty-seven years Henry Manning has resided on this side of the Atlantic and is thoroughly American in spirit and interests. The greater part of his life has been passed in Iowa and the agricultural development of Chickasaw county has been promoted in no small measure through his untiring industry and progressiveness.

HUGH H. SAUL.

Prominent among the energetic, farsighted and successful business men of Howard county is numbered Hugh H. Saul, who is actively identified with farming interests on section 15, Howard township, and is also the president of the Maple Leaf Creamery Company. His business affairs are most wisely directed, his judgment at all times being sound and his methods thoroughly reliable. Iowa numbers him among her native sons and the greater part of his life has been spent within her borders. He was born near Reinbeck, Grundy county, on the 31st of August, 1878, his parents being Thomas K. and Anna (Dyer) Saul, the former a native of Ireland, while the latter was born in Illinois. The father came to the United States in young manhood and settled in Forreston, Illinois, where he was subsequently married. About 1868 he removed to Iowa and made his first investment in Iowa farm land by the purchase of a tract in Franklin county, for which he paid four dollars per acre. After living upon that farm for only a brief period he traded the property for land in Grundy county, for which he paid seven dollars per acre, acquiring one hundred and forty-seven acres. For thirty years he lived upon that place and converted it into a most productive tract, his fields responding readily to the care and labor which he bestowed upon them. After leaving the farm he removed to Reinbeck and later to Waterloo, where he and his wife remained until called to their final rest. The death of the father occurred in 1912, while the mother survived him for three years.

Hugh H. Saul was a pupil in the Ellsworth College at Iowa Falls, Iowa, after completing his district school course, and took up the profession of teaching, which he followed through two winter terms. He also spent two years at work at the painter's trade and in 1902 he began farming on his own account, his practical training received upon the old homestead now coming into good play. He cultivated two hundred and

fifty acres of land, ninety acres of which came to him through his father, while the other one hundred and sixty acre tract was rented. After five years he sold his property and went to Texas, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Randall county, and his father bought another quarter section in the same district, Hugh H. Saul living upon and operating his father's land. He continued a resident of the Lone Star state for three years, after which he returned to Iowa, becoming a resident of Howard county. Here he has acquired two hundred and forty acres in Howard township and his place is most fertile and productive. His farm is now under a very high state of cultivation and constitutes one of the attractive features in the landscape by reason of its splendid growing crops, its substantial buildings, its modern machinery and its high grade stock. Mr. Saul's business ability is also manifest along another line, for he has for a number of years been a director of the Maple Leaf Creamery Company and in 1918 was elected president of that corporation, in which capacity he is now serving, the business being carefully and successfully carried on under his direction.

In 1903 Mr. Saul was united in marriage to Miss Anna Anderson, a native of Ireland, by whom he had one child, Neiley E. The wife and mother passed away in 1906 and two years later Mr. Saul was again married, his second union being with Miss Margaret Barry, of Canyon, Texas. By his second wife he has six children, namely: Anna Irene, Thomas Allen, Violet V., Mildred E., Hugh H. and James Perry.

Mr. Saul votes with the republican party, to which he has given his support since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. For several years he has served as a member of the school board and is a stalwart champion of the cause of public education, but otherwise he has never sought or filled public office. He is a member of Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 528, A. F. & A. M., of Elma, and both he and his wife are members of Maple Leaf Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. They likewise hold membership in the Presbyterian church and are faithful followers of its teachings. Their social qualities, their kindly spirit and their reliability have won for them the warm friendship and high regard of all who know them and it is to such substantial people that Howard county owes her upbuilding and progress.

ROBERT W. DAVIS.

No student of the history of Howard county can carry his investigations far into its public annals without learning how closely, helpfully and prominently has the Davis family been associated therewith. Robert W. Davis, for many years actively and successfully engaged in farming, is now living retired in Lime Springs, his business interests being only those of a director of the First National Bank of Lime Springs save for the supervision which he gives to his investments. He was born in Beaver township, Fillmore county, Minnesota, October 2, 1862, a son of William P. and Catherine (Davis) Davis, mentioned in connection with the sketch of their son, D. W. Davis, on another page of this work.

The old homestead farm was the place upon which Robert W. Davis was reared and in the district schools he pursued his education. He was but a lad of seven years when his parents removed to Howard county, so that practically his entire life has been spent within its borders. At the age of twenty-six years, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary L. Jones, of Kingston, Wisconsin, and he then took up farming on his own account. He had acquired two hundred and forty acres of the old homestead and upon this place he engaged extensively in the breeding of thoroughbred shorthorn cattle and built up one of the best herds in the county. He imported pure Scotch cattle and increased his herd to one hundred head, all registered animals. For twenty-two years he continued in this business and won a place among the foremost stock raisers and shippers of northern Iowa. His business enterprise not only contributed to his personal success but was also a potent feature in the development of the live stock interests of the state, for he did much to improve the breed of stock raised by the farmers of his section. In 1912 he disposed of his live stock interests and removed to Lime Springs, having previously purchased an interest in the First National Bank upon its incorpora-

tion. He was made a member of the board of directors at that time and through the intervening years since his removal to the town he has given much of his time to the conduct of the bank's affairs. He is still the owner of two excellent farms in Howard county, including the old homestead of two hundred and forty acres and another tract of one hundred acres, while in addition he also has a timber tract of forty acres. His real estate possessions likewise include a farm of one hundred and sixty acres near Aberdeen, North Dakota, and a place of one hundred and sixty acres in Alberta, Canada. His profits have been wisely placed in real estate, the safest of all investments, and from his property holdings he derives a most substantial annual income.

To Mr. and Mrs. Davis has been born a son, Sergeant Newton E. Davis, who enlisted for service in the European war and was for six months on active duty in France. In politics Mr. Davis is a republican and for five years served as assessor of Lime Springs, while in 1915 he was appointed census enumerator. He belongs to Howard Lodge, No. 214, A. F. & A. M., and also to Shiloh Chapter, No. 150, R. A. M., while both he and his wife are members of Utopia Chapter, No. 379, O. E. S. They also hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and in these associations are indicated the nature of their interests and the rules that govern their conduct. They are highly esteemed people, enjoying the warm regard of all who know them, and the hospitality of the best homes of the county is freely accorded them.

THEODORE LUSSON.

Among the progressive business men of Cresco is Theodore Lusson of the firm of McHugh & Lusson, implement dealers who also have the Ford agency and garage. Their plans have been well defined and promptly executed and success in substantial measure has come to them, while their labors have been a contributing factor to the commercial upbuilding of the city.

Mr. Lusson was born in Peru, Illinois, May 5, 1873, a son of Joseph and Catharine (Perry) Lusson. The father was born in Luxemburg, Germany, as was the mother. When a young man he crossed the Atlantic to the United States, making the voyage on a sailing vessel, and after a number of weeks spent upon the water he reached the American port. From the eastern coast he made his way into the interior, settling at Port Washington, Wisconsin, where he secured land which he owned and cultivated for some time. Later he removed to Fayette county, Iowa, where he purchased a farm and this he developed and improved, his labors bringing to him substantial harvests annually. He lived upon that place until his death, which occurred when he had reached the advanced age of seventy-nine years, and his wife was seventy-three years of age at the time of her death. Both were devoted members of the Catholic church and Mr. Lusson gave his political allegiance to the democratic party.

Theodore Lusson, whose name introduces this review, spent his youthful days in Fayette county, Iowa, where he was educated and later engaged in clerking in a hardware store, where he continued for two years. In the fall of 1899 he came to Cresco, where he took up his abode and embarked in the general merchandise business, becoming connected with F. A. Huber in this undertaking. He was thus actively associated with commercial interests of the city for five years, at the end of which time Mr. Huber disposed of his interest to J. F. Zbornik, with whom Mr. Lusson continued in business until 1909. They built up a large and gratifying trade and found that well satisfied patrons were their best advertisement. They put forth every effort to please their customers, therefore, and their trade steadily grew. In 1909, however, Mr. Lusson disposed of his interest to J. W. Zbornik and later formed a partnership with O. J. McHugh. They purchased the implement business of D. A. Lyons and in that line Mr. Lusson is still engaged. The firm of McHugh & Lusson entered upon a profitable existence, having a large and well appointed implement store and at the same time they own and conduct the Ford agency and garage in Cresco, being liberally patronized along that line as well.

In 1904 Mr. Lusson was married to Miss Anna Meyer, a daughter of John and Caroline (Horn) Meyer, who were farming people living for many years in Howard county.

Iowa. The father has now retired from active business and he and his wife make their home in Cresco. Mrs. Lusson was born in Howard county and by her marriage has become the mother of four children: Irvin, Bernadetta, Leo J. and Jerome. The family are well known in Cresco, where they have an extensive circle of warm friends.

Mr. Lusson votes with the democratic party, which has received his earnest support since he attained his majority. He has always been a believer in the principles of the party yet he has never sought or desired office. He stands, however, for all those interests which he feels will prove of benefit and value to the community and his cooperation can always be counted upon to support any measure of public worth.

HENRY SCHWAKE.

Henry Schwake, a Howard county farmer living on section 12, Afton township, was born in Maxfield township, Bremer county, Iowa, April 10, 1872, a son of Conrad and Marie (Hassey) Schwake, both of whom were natives of Germany. They came to the United States in 1866. The father is still living but the mother passed away in Howard township, Howard county, in 1917. After crossing the Atlantic they took up their abode in Chicago. Each crossed the ocean alone and for two years they resided in the new world before they were married. After a residence of two years in Chicago they removed to Bremer county, Iowa, where the father rented a farm which he conducted for six years. He then removed with his family to a place about twenty miles eastward, near Buckcreek, there purchasing a tract of land which he continued to cultivate and improve for fourteen years. On the expiration of that period he sold his property and came to Howard county, where he bought three eighty acre tracts of land four and a half miles northeast of Elma. With characteristic energy he bent his efforts to the further development and improvement of that place and resided thereon until 1909, when he retired from active business life and took up his abode in Busti.

Henry Schwake was reared under the parental roof and has been a lifelong resident of Iowa. His youthful days were passed in the usual manner of the farmbred boy who attends the district schools and works in the fields when not busy with his textbooks. After his schooldays were over he concentrated his efforts and energies upon farm work, thus aiding his father up to the time of his marriage, which was celebrated in 1901. Subsequently he bought his present home property on section 12, Afton township, and has since occupied this place. Its attractive appearance is the direct outcome of his labors and perseverance. He has worked diligently and persistently in the development of the fields and annually gathers golden harvests.

On the 28th of March, 1901, Mr. Schwake was married to Miss Fredericka Bayer, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Bayer, who were natives of Germany and have now passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Schwake have become parents of a daughter, Marie, who is now in school. They are members of the Lutheran church at Elma and in political belief Mr. Schwake is a democrat. He served for seven or eight years as school director but otherwise has not held or desired public office. He was a supporter of the Liberty Loans and the Red Cross and he has ever been keenly interested in all projects for the upbuilding and progress of his county, commonwealth and country.

JOHN A. CRAY.

John A. Cray, one of the earliest of Howard county's pioneer settlers, arriving here with his parents in 1857, was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, on the 27th of August, 1856, a son of Joseph and Matilda (Coombs) Cray, both of whom were natives of Somersetshire, England, where they were reared, educated and married. Immediately after their marriage they came to the new world, emigrating



John A. Gray.

in 1849 and taking up their abode in Canada, where they resided for eight years. In 1857 they came to Howard county, Iowa, and the father purchased eighty acres of land from the government, the tract being situated four miles west of Lime Springs. Thereon he resided to the time of his retirement from active business in the late '80s, at which time he removed to Lime Springs, where his death occurred. His wife died in September, 1882.

John A. Cray was reared from infancy in Howard county and has therefore been a witness of practically its entire growth and development. He was educated in the district schools, attending school in private homes before a schoolhouse was erected in the section of the county in which he lived. He shared with the family in all the hardships and privations incident to the settlement of the frontier and through the period of his youth he aided in the work of the home farm, early becoming familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. After attaining his majority he continued to farm the land on which he had been reared, for the father and sons had acquired more than a section, to a part of which John A. Cray held title. Year after year he gave his attention to agricultural pursuits, continuing the further development and improvement of his farm until 1894 save for a short period spent in the western country. In 1894 he took up his abode in Lime Springs, where he has since made his home. In the fall of 1892 he was elected to the board of county supervisors and abandoned farming in order to give more time to the duties of the office, for in those days much of the bridge building and other work of the county was done under the supervision of the supervisors and not through contract as is now the custom. Following his removal to Lime Springs, Mr. Cray became associated with his brother, S. R. Cray, in the farm implement and hardware business. They continued active in that line of trade for a number of years but finally sold their interests to A. E. Marsh. Through the intervening period Mr. Cray has lived retired, enjoying well earned rest which is possible through the fruits of his former toil.

In his political views Mr. Cray is a democrat, with firm faith in the principles of the party, and he has served as a member of the board of township trustees for many years. He was called to that office about the time he attained his majority and continued to fill the position until his removal to Lime Springs in 1894. Since that date he has served continuously as a member of the town council. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and is a generous and earnest supporter thereof. He is keenly interested in everything that has to do with public welfare and progress and at all times he has contributed to the upbuilding and development of his section of the state. More than six decades have been added to the cycle of the centuries since he became a resident of Howard county and through this period he has witnessed the wonderful transformation wrought by time and man, Howard county taking its place with the most progressive counties of this great commonwealth.

O. A. CERWINSKE.

O. A. Cerwinske, who follows farming on section 8, Chickasaw township, in Chickasaw county, has been a lifelong resident of Iowa. His birth occurred near Rockford, in Floyd county, February 8, 1882, his parents being Joseph and Lena (Balitz) Cerwinske, who were natives of Germany but in early life came to the United States. They met and were married in Floyd county, Iowa, where for many years the family home was maintained.

O. A. Cerwinske, after attending the district schools of Floyd county, continued his education in a college at Charles City, Iowa, where for two years he pursued a commercial course, thus becoming well qualified for the duties and responsibilities of business life. During his youthful days to the time of his marriage he remained upon his father's farm and on the 16th of August, 1904, he wedded Cornea Robison, a daughter of George and Alice Robison, who are yet residents of Charles City, Iowa. The father of Mr. Cerwinske died in Floyd county in 1902, but the mother still survives,

making her home at Missouri Valley, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Cerwinski have been born three children: Maurine, six years of age; Joseph, aged three; and Sheldon, who is one year old.

After the death of his father Mr. Cerwinski carried on the home farm in connection with his brother for five years and then began farming on his own account in Floyd county. In 1913 he removed to his present farm in Chickasaw township, Chickasaw county, and made purchase of eighty acres of land, which he is now carefully cultivating according to improved and modern methods of agriculture. His labors are bringing about good results and his success has placed him among the substantial young farmers of this section of the state. His property is located just south of the corporation limits of Bassett and he is engaged extensively and profitably in the breeding of registered Poland China hogs.

In his political views Mr. Cerwinski is a stalwart republican and is now serving for the second term as mayor of Bassett, giving to the town a businesslike and progressive administration. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and he and his family hold membership in the Methodist church of Bassett. His fellow townsmen attest the sterling worth of his character and class him with the leading and representative residents of his section of Chickasaw county. He has ever been imbued with the spirit of enterprise and progress that has been the dominant factor in the upbuilding of the west and this spirit has been manifest in his connection with public affairs as well as in the control of his private business interests.

WILLIAM M. KALISHEK.

William M. Kalishek is actively identified with commercial interests in Protivin as a dealer in groceries and meats. He has built up a business of substantial proportions and his trade is constantly and steadily growing. Mr. Kalishek is a native of Winneshiek county, Iowa, his birth having there occurred November 11, 1881. His parents were natives of Bohemia. His father came to the United States when a youth of twelve years and was employed on a farm in Winneshiek county for a number of years, during which time he carefully saved his earnings until his industry and economy had brought him sufficient capital to enable him to purchase property. He invested in farm land in Winneshiek county, becoming owner of two hundred and twenty-seven acres, which he carefully and successfully cultivated for a considerable period. Several years ago he retired from active business life and he and his wife removed to Protivin, where they are residing at the present time. From his farm he secures a good rental which supplies him with all of the necessities and many of the luxuries of life. In early manhood the father, Martin Kalishek, wedded Elizabeth Novotny, who had come to Iowa from Bohemia with her parents when quite young, the family home being established in Winneshiek county.

William M. Kalishek of this review was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with all of the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the farmer. He assisted his father with farming until he was about twenty-five years of age, when he was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Kovarik, a daughter of John and Barbara Kovarik, of Spillville, Iowa. Following his marriage Mr. Kalishek removed to North Dakota and purchased a farm near Lisbon, that state. He continued to cultivate the property for seven years, after which he rented his land in North Dakota and removed to Protivin, where he purchased a meat market. This he has conducted for the past five years and has built up a business of substantial proportions. He has a thoroughly modern store in its equipment—a credit to the town of Protivin. He is a progressive and enterprising business man and is well liked by the community.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kalishek has been born a son, Richard, who has enjoyed the advantages of the public schools. It was such training that qualified Mr. Kalishek of this review for life's practical and responsible duties, for he was educated in the schools of Winneshiek county. He and his family attend the Catholic church at Protivin and he gives his political allegiance to the democratic party. He has never sought

nor desired office for himself, but his father served as school director and was road supervisor for fifteen or twenty years. While William M. Kalishek does not desire public office, he is always loyal in matters of citizenship and gives his earnest support to every plan or project for the public good.

M. R. HOFFMANN.

M. R. Hoffmann, actively engaged in general farming on section 24, Washington township, Chickasaw county, was born in Jackson county, Iowa, April 16, 1869, a son of Charles and Susan (Loux) Hoffmann, who were natives of Germany and came with their parents to the new world. They became acquainted and were married in Jackson county, near Dubuque, Iowa, and for many years the father followed farming in that county, meeting with a fair measure of success. He died in Alta Vista, Iowa, December 17, 1913, while his wife survived until October 9, 1915, and also passed away in Alta Vista.

M. R. Hoffmann acquired his education in the parochial schools of Jackson county and remained with his father through the period of his minority, assisting in the farm work from the time that he was old enough to manage the plow until he reached his twenty-eighth birthday. It was then that he was married and rented a farm in Henry township, Plymouth county, Iowa, near Remsen, upon which he lived for a year. He afterward rented land in Nassau township, Sioux county, for a period of seven years and later he took up his abode upon his present home place in 1907, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he has since greatly developed and improved. He has erected a beautiful residence, in the rear of which stand substantial barns and out-buildings, some of which have been put up by him. These in turn are surrounded by fields of convenient size which are highly cultivated, so that he annually harvests good crops. He has added to his original quarter section by additional purchase and his farm now comprises two hundred and forty acres of land.

Mr. Hoffmann was united in marriage on his twenty-eighth birthday to Miss Rosa Herbst, by whom he had four children who are living: Florence, Raymond, Elma and Arnold. The wife and mother passed away August 15, 1906, and on the 14th of May, 1912, Mr. Hoffmann wedded Anna Sassen, a daughter of Herman and Mary (Westendorf) Sassen, who now reside at Adrian, Minnesota. Three children have been born of the second marriage: Rosella, Naomi and Louraine.

The family are members of St. Bernard's Catholic church of Alta Vista and Mr. Hoffmann is identified with the Catholic Order of Foresters. He belongs to the Alta Vista Farmers' Equity Association and he gives his political endorsement to the democratic party. The activities and interests of his life have been well balanced, making him an evenly rounded character.

WILLIAM B. RINN.

William B. Rinn, a representative farmer whose home is situated on section 20, Paris township, Howard county, is not only active as an agriculturist but is an influential factor in connection with the public interests of the community. He is serving at the present writing as chairman of the board of township trustees and at all times his aid and cooperation can be counted upon to further measures for the general good.

He was born in Jones county, Iowa, October 11, 1857, and is a son of Peter and Ann (Rowley) Rinn, who were natives of Ireland and came to the United States in young manhood and womanhood. Peter Rinn was accompanied by his father, who, however, died on the voyage across the Atlantic and was buried at sea. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Rinn were among the earliest of the pioneers of Jones county but subsequently removed to Eau Claire, Wisconsin, where they resided for a number of years. Some time later, in the '60s, they came to Howard county, where Mr. Rinn purchased one hundred acres of

land, constituting the present home farm of his son William. He and his wife occupied that place until they were called to their final rest.

The memory of William B. Rinn compasses the period when the country was wild and undeveloped and the farm was alive with rattlesnakes. The family first lived in a little log cabin and they faced many of the hardships, trials and privations of pioneer life. In fact conditions were very disheartening and they felt that they could not remain in such a country, yet they persevered and by reason of their determination and energy they developed what was once a tract of wild land into rich and fertile fields. The father died when but thirty-five years of age. He left a heavy indebtedness upon the little farm and William B. Rinn, although but a boy in years, put his shoulder to the wheel, discharged the indebtedness and in subsequent years has added to the farm property until today he is the owner of two hundred and sixty acres of Howard county's most fertile farm land.

On the 25th of June, 1888, Mr. Rinn was married to Miss Margaret Woods, of Howard Center township, Howard county, and they became the parents of eleven children, of whom two died in infancy, while a son died after being called for examination for service in the European war. Eight of the children are still living, as follows: William E., at home; Mary, the wife of William Conry, residing at Loudres, Howard County; Clara, Anna, the wife of William Bauster, a farmer of Paris township, Howard county; and Ella, Regina, Marguerite and Thomas, all at home.

In his political views Mr. Rinn is a democrat and for many years served as president of the school board and also as school director. He has likewise been a member of the board of township trustees for a number of years and is its present chairman. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and he belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters and the Modern Woodmen of America. He ranks with the most progressive men of Paris township and has always stood for everything of worth to the community, the commonwealth and the country. During the recent war he served on the Liberty Loan committee and was a most earnest champion and supporter of Red Cross work and other war activities. His life has been made a factor for good and usefulness in the community in which he makes his home and at the same time he has so conducted his business affairs as to win substantial prosperity.

L. D. WHITNEY.

L. D. Whitney is now living retired from business, but for many years was actively identified with farming on section 9, Deerfield township, Chickasaw county. He makes his home in the town of Deerfield and is enjoying a rest which he has truly earned and richly merits, for through earnest and persistent labor he won a substantial competence. He was born August 4, 1861, on the farm which he still owns, his parents being Moses and Mary (Hoyt) Whitney, who were natives of New Hampshire, where they were reared and married. In September, 1854, they came west with other pioneers to Iowa and the first winter Mr. Whitney purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 9, Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, buying this from the government at the usual price of a dollar and a quarter per acre. In April, 1861, responding to the country's call for troops, he enlisted for service in the Civil war and was on active duty on the frontier as a cavalryman, fighting Indians. He was wounded near Sioux City, Iowa, and died from the effects of this injury in the hospital at Davenport in September, 1862. Immediately after the death of her husband, owing to straightened financial circumstances, Mrs. Whitney was obliged to sell eighty acres of the home farm in order to help support the family. In 1867 she was again married, becoming the wife of Joseph Stram, and her death occurred on the 12th of October, 1883.

L. D. Whitney was educated in the district schools and from the time that he was old enough to handle a plow his services were required on the farm. At eighteen years of age he began farming on his own account, cultivating the land owned by his mother. In 1881 he made his first purchase of property, buying forty acres of brush land, for which he paid six dollars and a quarter per acre. This he cleared and placed under

cultivation, and after his mother's death the forty-acre tract which belonged to her came to him by inheritance, as he was an only child. In 1893 he bought an adjoining forty-acre tract, so that his holdings now embrace one hundred and twenty acres. As the years have passed he has diligently carried on the farm work, following progressive methods in all that he has undertaken, and year by year he was able to add to his financial resources and is today in most comfortable circumstances. Aside from the farm, from which he derives a good income, he is a stockholder in the Colwell Grain Exchange.

In 1900 Mr. Whitney was united in marriage to Mrs. John Johnstone, who in her maidenhood was Miss Eliza Biggs, a native of the province of Ontario, Canada, where her parents lived and died. By her former marriage Mrs. Whitney had seven children, five of whom survive, as follows: Arthur A. Johnstone, who is with the Northwestern Trading Company of New York city; William O., who is engaged in the operation of the Babcock farm near New Hampton; Margaret I., who is a kindergarten teacher in Charles City; Ethel R., the wife of T. R. Ballentyne, who cultivates her father's farm; and Gladys E., who is employed in the navy department at Washington, D. C.

In his political views Mr. Whitney is an earnest republican, and while not an office seeker, he has served as president and secretary of the school board for several years. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and both are highly esteemed throughout the community by reason of their sterling worth, their social qualities and their thorough reliability. Whatever success Mr. Whitney has achieved is attributable entirely to his own labors and perseverance. He has worked his way steadily upward and his industry and determination have constituted the foundation of his prosperity.

W. H. OWENS.

W. H. Owens, a representative farmer of Vernon Springs township living on section 14, is well known in Howard county by reason of the progressive methods which have brought him to a prominent position among the agriculturists of this section of the state. Iowa numbers him among her native sons, his birth having occurred in Chickasaw county on the 22d of February, 1863, his parents being Hugh and Sarah (Cull) Owens, both of whom were natives of Ireland. They came to the United States in early life and the father first made his way to Rock county, Wisconsin, while the mother became a resident of New Haven, Connecticut. It was about 1858 when Hugh Owens removed to Iowa and in 1860 the lady whom he afterward made his wife also became a resident of this state. It was in April, 1862, that they were married in Festina, Iowa, and soon afterward they removed to Chickasaw county, where Mr. Owens settled on a tract of virgin prairie in Washington township. There he built a log cabin and began the development of a farm upon which he resided for three or four years, when he removed to Conover, which was then the terminus of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. At that date he opened a hotel, which he conducted for a number of years, when the railroad was extended and he removed to Cresco; he was also proprietor of a hotel there for several years. Later he purchased a farm in Vernon Springs township and for a few years devoted his attention to the cultivation and development of that property. In 1900 he retired from active business life and removed to Cresco, where he spent his remaining days, his death there occurring April 26, 1907. He had for a number of years survived his wife, who died on the 1st of July, 1900.

Their son, W. H. Owens, was educated in the public schools of Cresco and also in the Upper Iowa University, in which he studied for a term. After reaching his majority he cooperated with his father in the further development of the home farm until 1900. On the 2d of May of that year he was united in marriage to Miss Anna Dorgan, a daughter of Lawrence and Mary (Killo) Dorgan, the former a native of Pennsylvania, while the latter was born in Wisconsin. They were married on the 3d of October, 1871, in Keyesville, Wisconsin, and the father devoted his active life to agricultural pursuits. He is still living and resides at Richland Center, Wisconsin but the mother passed away on the 15th of November, 1908. Mr. Dorgan has always been

an ardent republican but is liberal in his views. He served for many years as justice of the peace and notary public and he has been an influential factor in the political councils of his party.

Following his marriage Mr. Owens rented and cultivated his father's farm for four years. In 1902 he purchased his present home property, to which he removed in March, 1904. In 1915 he built one of the handsome country homes of Howard county and he has erected all of the substantial and attractive buildings which are upon his farm and his is one of the most attractive properties in Vernon Springs township. He follows the most progressive methods in the conduct of his interests and his energy and enterprise have brought to him a very gratifying measure of success.

To Mr. and Mrs. Owens have been born five children: John Cletus, who is attending Dubuque College, in which he is pursuing a scientific course; William L.; Raymond A.; Sarah Geraldine; and Eleanor Mary.

The parents are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Owens belongs also to the Knights of Columbus. In politics he is a democrat. He is regarded as one of the leading citizens of Vernon Springs township and his life is indicative of the forcefulness of energy and enterprise as factors in business. Steadily he has worked his way upward and his progress is manifest in the fine appearance of the farm which he now owns.

W. L. DARROW.

W. L. Darrow, who was a successful banker of New Hampton, passed away March 31, 1919, honored and respected by all who knew him in northern Iowa. He made his entrance into Chickasaw county behind a flock of sheep which for ten weeks had been driving across the country from New York to Iowa. He was then in limited financial circumstances, but was attracted by the opportunities of the west and was possessed of laudable ambition and determination—qualities that readily wrest fortune from the hands of fate. He became the president of the Darrow Trust & Savings Bank, one of the strong financial institutions of northern Iowa.

He was born in Genesee county, New York, September 18, 1835, a son of Luther and Hannah (Kinney) Darrow, both of whom were natives of the state of Vermont. They were married at Rupert, Vermont, and afterward took up their abode upon a farm in Genesee county, New York, which the father had previously secured, this being a part of the Holland land purchase. It was covered with a native growth of timber and he at once set himself to the arduous task of clearing away the trees, plowing the land and improving the place. His wife died there when their son, W. L. Darrow, was but five years of age. The father continued to reside upon the old homestead to the time of his death, which occurred when he was seventy-two years of age. He was a son of Zachariah Darrow, a Revolutionary war soldier, who died in Pembroke, New York, at the advanced age of ninety years. The maternal grandfather of W. L. Darrow was also a Revolutionary war hero and passed away at Rupert, Vermont, when ninety years of age.

In the common schools of Pembroke, New York, W. L. Darrow pursued his education and while still but a youth went to work for a brother in a mercantile store in Pembroke. At the age of eighteen years he first came to the west, making his way to the territory of Minnesota, where he drove oxen used in hauling logs during the first summer. For two or three years thereafter he worked in a store at Oronco and eventually made his way to Iowa. In this state he taught school in the winter months, while in the summer seasons he was employed in various ways until he returned to Pembroke, New York, about the latter part of the year 1856. Through the following eight years he taught school during the winter seasons and worked the farm during the summer months.

In 1864 Mr. Darrow was united in marriage to Miss Maria Douglas and the same year he again started for Iowa, making the entire journey on foot, driving



W. L. DARROW

a flock of sheep across the country with the assistance of a dog. He was ten weeks upon the road, camping out by the wayside at night. He left his bride in New York, sending for her the following spring. She journeyed westward by train as far as Waverly, Iowa, where she was met by Mr. Darrow with a team and wagon and thus taken to her new home. Mr. Darrow, upon his arrival, had settled upon a farm in Deerfield township and later he purchased a farm from a Mr. Door, who had taken up the property as a homestead claim. Mr. Darrow continued upon this place for four or five years and concentrated his efforts and attention upon the development of his fields through the summer seasons, while in the winter he taught both common schools and singing schools. At the end of that period he removed to New Hampton and secured a contract for carrying the mail from that place to Deerfield. He likewise continued his work as a singing school teacher. He was frugal and industrious and thus was soon able to loan money in a small way. This constituted his initial step toward his banking experience. Later he became the agent for eastern capitalists in loaning money on farm mortgages and other property and in this he proved quite successful displaying sound judgment in placing the loans. For some years he was identified with his brother, Asa K. Darrow, in a private banking business and about 1910 the Darrow Trust & Savings Bank was incorporated and W. L. Darrow became the president of the institution. He thus gradually worked his way upward in financial circles until he occupied a prominent position as one of the bankers of northern Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Darrow became the parents of but one child, Verna, who is now the wife of A. F. Markle, vice president of the Darrow Trust & Savings Bank. Mrs. Darrow is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Darrow was also a member of the same church and also of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the lodge, chapter, commandery and shrine. In politics he was a republican and for several years served as town clerk but otherwise did not seek or fill public positions. He certainly deserved much credit for what he accomplished as he worked his way steadily upward through persistent effort and indefatigable energy. As a business man he was conspicuous among his associates, not only for his success, but for his probity, fairness and honorable dealing. In his life his continuous and intelligently directed activity had been accorded the due recognition of labor which is substantial success. His interests were thoroughly identified with those of Chickasaw county, where he made his home for fifty-five years, and at all times he was ready to lend his aid and cooperation to any movement calculated to benefit this section of the country or advance its wonderful development.

THOMAS J. HOOPER.

One of the most prominent and widely known of the farmers of Howard county is Thomas J. Hooper, whose place is on sections 24 and 25, Paris township. The landed possessions he superintends aggregate ten hundred and twenty-four acres and the careful cultivation and development of his fields have placed him with the prosperous and representative agriculturists of this section of the state. Mr. Hooper was born in Ontonagon county, Michigan, on the 27th of August, 1871, and is a son of Thomas and Henrietta Augusta Hooper, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work.

Thomas J. Hooper of this review spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native county to the age of seventeen years and acquired his education in the public schools, while in farm work he was well trained. Leaving home in 1888, he went to Fort Arthur, Ontario, Canada, where he was employed in a silver mine until 1893. He then left that district and removed to Great Falls, Montana where he engaged in working in a smelter. He spent about two years in that locality and in February, 1895, left Montana and made his way to Howard county, Iowa, where he took up his abode upon his father's farm, which he has since occupied. This place is one of the largest and finest farms of the county. It is equipped with every modern convenience and accessory known to the model farm property of the twentieth century. The buildings are large

and substantial and in addition to a most attractive residence there are commodious barns and outbuildings that furnish ample shelter to grain and stock. The place is divided into fields of convenient size by well kept fences and the work of cultivation is conducted according to the most progressive methods. Mr. Hooper studies closely everything that has to do with scientific farming and his labors have produced excellent results.

On the 7th of October, 1895, Thomas J. Hooper was married to Miss Emma A. Oakland, a daughter of Henry T. and Isabella Oakland. Mrs. Hooper was born in Boone county, Iowa, but when she was only a year old her parents removed with their family to Minnesota, where they remained upon a farm for ten years. They then went to Athol, South Dakota, where they resided for six years, the father being engaged during that time in farming and in the implement business. They next took up their abode at Great Falls, Montana, and there the father of Mrs. Hooper turned his attention to real estate dealing. He was a native of Norway, born in the land of the midnight sun in 1848, and was a young man of nineteen years when he came to the United States. He sought broader business opportunities than could be secured in his native country and through the utilization of the advantages that came to him in a business way he steadily progressed and had no reason to regret his determination to come to the United States. He died at Great Falls, Montana, August 15, 1894.

Mr. and Mrs. Hooper are the parents of five children: Harry Verne, Harold Maurice, Charles Donald, Stanley Dean and William Howard. All are yet under the parental roof and are being educated in the public schools of Howard county. The son Harold has finished his work in the grades and is taking a general course in the high school at Greenland, Michigan. Mr. Hooper has ever been a strong believer in education and desires that his children shall have good opportunities in this direction. His own liberal training has constituted the foundation of his success, for after attending the graded schools he pursued his studies in a boarding school at Lansing, Michigan, and still later took a course in the agricultural school of that state. He likewise attended a commercial school in Toronto and thus he has been well trained in all methods of scientific farming and is able to direct his labors in the fields with sound judgment.

He and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church of Cresco and Mr. Hooper is a member of Cresco Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and is likewise connected with Beauseant Commandery, K. T., at Decorah, Iowa. Since 1894 he has been a member of the Woodmen of the World and he is always loyal to the teachings of these organizations. His political endorsement has been given to the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, but he prefers that his public duty shall be done as a private citizen and not as an office holder. The extensive farming interests under his control make heavy demands upon his time and energies, but he has his work thoroughly systematized. He forms his plans most carefully and is determined in their execution, and when one avenue of accomplishment seems closed he carves out other paths whereby he can reach the desired goal. In his vocabulary there is no such word as fail and his determination and perseverance constitute important elements in the attainment of the very substantial success that is now his.

JOHN SIMON KACHER.

The home farm of John Simon Kacher is situated on section 13, Utica township, Chickasaw county, and comprises two hundred and eighty acres of rich and valuable land. Since coming into possession of this property he has concentrated his efforts and attention upon its further development and improvement and has made it one of the valuable farms of his part of the state.

Iowa claims him as a native son, his birth having occurred in Winneshiek county, December 24, 1873, his parents being Frank and Kate (Payer) Kacher, both of whom were natives of Bohemia. They came to the United States with their respective parents and it was in Winneshiek county that they became acquainted and were married. The

father was killed in 1874 when he was run over by a wagon that was loaded with bundles of wheat. His widow long survived him and departed this life in Winneshiek county in 1915.

John S. Kacher was only a year old at the time of his father's demise. Reared in his native county, he attended its common schools but his opportunities in that direction were somewhat limited, for owing to his father's early death it became necessary that he provide for his own support when he was still quite young. He left home at the age of twelve years and began working as a farm hand. His youth was therefore a period of earnest and unremitting toil and he early learned the value of industry and perseverance as factors in the attainment of success. These qualities have characterized his entire life. For a considerable period he worked for others and then began farming on his own account on rented land, which he continued to cultivate for nine years. He then made investment in one hundred and sixty acres of his present farm in 1903 and since that time has enjoyed a substantial measure of prosperity. As the years have passed and his moneyed resources have developed he has bought other land and now owns two hundred and eighty acres in the home place, in addition to an excellent tract of one hundred and twenty acres in Winneshiek county.

On the 25th of September, 1894, Mr. Kacher was married to Miss Stella Shindlar, a daughter of Frank and Nellie Shindlar, who were also natives of Bohemia and became pioneer residents of Winneshiek county, where the mother still makes her home. The father, however, passed away in the year 1893. Mr. and Mrs. Kacher have become the parents of six children: James, who is married and follows farming in Utica township; and John, Frank, Pauline, Adeline and Stanley, all at home.

Mr. Kacher and his family are members of the Catholic church at Little Turkey. His political belief is that of the democratic party and to its principles he has given his earnest allegiance since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He is truly a self-made man and deserves great credit for what he has accomplished, as he was forced to start out in the business world empty-handed when a little lad of but twelve years. From that time forward he has worked diligently and his success has come to him as the reward of his earnest toil. He is today the owner of valuable farm property and his holdings are the visible evidence of his life of well directed energy and thrift

JOSEPH F. PECINOVSKY.

Joseph F. Pecinovsky, occupying a central place on the stage of public activity in connection with the history of New Oregon township and the town of Protivin, is widely known as the president of the Bohemian Savings Bank but otherwise is living retired from active business, although he was for many years actively identified with interests which have constituted an important element in the development and business progress of this section of the state. He was born in Davenport, Iowa, March 21, 1858, a son of Joseph and Rosalie (Holub) pecinovsky, both of whom were natives of Bohemia. The parents came to the United States in young manhood and womanhood, landing in New York city on the 1st of January, 1855. They were from the same locality in Bohemia and crossed the ocean on the same vessel. With the father came his parents and three brothers, while the mother accompanied her mother, three brothers and a sister to the new world, her father having died in Bohemia. Joseph Pecinovsky, Sr., was a tailor by trade and located in Davenport, where he worked at tailoring for seven or eight years. His parents then came on to Howard county, while the family of Mrs. Joseph Pecinovsky stopped in Davenport, Iowa. Some of the brothers of Mrs. Pecinovsky, however, finally drifted further west and located near Prairieburg, in Linn county, Iowa. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pecinovsky, Sr., was celebrated in Davenport a year or so after they had come to the new world and two children were born to them in that city. In 1863 they came with their little family to Howard county, Iowa, and purchased forty acres of government land just north of the present town of Protivin. Here the father engaged in farming very successfully and as the years passed he added to his landed possessions until he had ac-

quired four hundred and eighty acres. He and his wife are still living, he having reached the notable old age of ninety-two years, while Mrs. Pecinovsky is eighty-five years of age. For several years they have made their home with their son Joseph.

In the district schools of Howard county Joseph F. Pecinovsky of this review pursued his education and also spent two short terms in the city schools of Cresco. His early training was that of the farmbred boy who soon becomes familiar with the work of the fields through actual experience. In 1880, having reached man's estate, Joseph F. Pecinovsky was united in marriage to Miss Teresa Moudry, a native of Bohemia, who came to this country two years before her marriage. Mr. Pecinovsky after assuming the duties of head of a household opened a country store, but three years of failure of wheat crops at that period led him to the belief that there was no money to be made in merchandising and he therefore turned his attention to farming. His father retired from active business at that time and the son took charge of the old homestead property. As the years passed and he prospered in his undertakings he made investment in farm lands until his landed possessions aggregated five hundred and thirty acres. This he held in his own name for a considerable period but in later years has divided his property among his children save for one hundred and sixty acres which he still retains as the home place. In 1910 he was one of the dominant factors in the organization of the Bohemian State Bank of Protivin and was made the first president of the institution. He has served as president of the bank continuously since with the exception of one year, when he withdrew to give his attention more fully to the duties of the office of county supervisor. The success of the bank is attributable in no small measure to his efforts and cooperation and the sound business policy which he has instituted in connection with the conduct of the bank. He is likewise a stockholder in the Protivin Telephone Company, a stockholder in the First National Bank of Cresco and for years was a member of the board of directors of the Protivin Creamery Association. He is likewise treasurer of the Bohemian Mutual Protective Association of Spillville, Iowa.

To Mr. and Mrs. Pecinovsky have been born six children, of whom one died in infancy, while five are yet living, namely: Rosa M., the wife of John C. Svetska, a resident farmer of Howard county; Mariana, the wife of Frank Wagner, a farmer of Winnesheik county; Joseph P., who carries on farming in New Oregon township, Howard county; Charles L., a resident farmer of New Oregon township; and Theresa V., at home.

Mr. Pecinovsky and his family are consistent members of the Catholic church and he is a member of the Western Bohemian Catholic Union. In politics he has always been a republican and in 1910 was elected to the board of county supervisors, in which important office he served for six years in a most capable manner, his course being highly satisfactory to the people most concerned. He is ever loyal to the best interests of the community and stands for progress and improvement in public affairs at all times.

CASPER HELLER.

The occupation of farming claimed the efforts and energies of Casper Heller, whose home was situated on section 6, Afton township, where he was engaged in the cultivation of a good tract of land. He was born July 22, 1840, in Germany, and was a son of Ambrose Heller. He spent the first twelve years of his life in the place of his birth and then came to the United States in 1852 with his parents, who after landing on the eastern coast at once made their way across the country to Watertown, Wisconsin. The father there rented a tract of land and remained in that district for several years, devoting his attention to farming there. Eventually, however, he and his wife took up their abode in the city of Watertown, where they continued to reside until called to their final home.

Casper Heller was reared under the parental roof upon the old homestead near Watertown, Wisconsin, and after he had attained his majority he wedded Johanna



MR. AND MRS. CASPER HELLER

Meyer, of Watertown, who was also of German lineage, her parents having been born in Germany. The young couple began their domestic life upon a farm at Watertown which Mr. Heller rented and there they continued to reside for several years. Two children were born to them ere they left Wisconsin. In 1870 they severed home ties in that district and came to Iowa, taking up their abode upon the farm on which Mrs. Heller yet resides. Mr. Heller first purchased one hundred acres of land and from time to time as his financial resources increased he extended the boundaries of his farm until it comprised three hundred and seventy acres of land, upon which he continuously made his home to the time of his death, which occurred on the 31st of March, 1909.

To Mr. and Mrs. Heller were born eight children, namely: Mrs. Frances Worple, Mrs. Dorothy Krueger, Mrs. Annie Schmidt, Mrs. Lizzie Krueger, Willie, Theodore, Emma and Casper A. Mr. Heller belonged to the Lutheran church of Riceville and his family are also adherents of that faith. He voted with the republican party and was keenly interested in the questions and interests of the day. His was an active, useful and upright life which won for him the respect and confidence of all and by reason of his diligence and industry he was able to leave his family in very comfortable financial circumstances.

JOHN N. MUSEL.

John N. Musel, a well known and progressive young agriculturist of Paris township, has for the past six years been actively engaged in the operation of his father's farm of three hundred and twelve acres on section 5. His birth occurred in Tama county, Iowa, on the 15th of February, 1885, his parents being Albert and Anna (Herska) Musel, more extended mention of whom is made on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of James Musel, brother of our subject.

John N. Musel acquired his early education in the public schools of his native county and subsequently attended St. Procopius College at Lisle, Illinois, while later he entered the Cedar Rapids Business College, being graduated from the latter institution in 1908. He was then employed for one year in the office of the Farmers' Insurance Company of Cedar Rapids and next secured a position in the office of the Linn County Lumber Company of Cedar Rapids, with which concern he remained for eight months. He afterward spent a year and a half in the drug store of H. C. Caulson at Chelsea, Iowa, and then obtained employment in the general merchandise establishment of Charles Tappen at the same place, continuing in the latter position for two years. In 1913 he came to Howard county to take charge of his father's farm of three hundred and twelve acres in Paris township, which he has cultivated successfully throughout the intervening period, the well tilled fields annually yielding golden harvests as a reward for the care and labor which he bestows upon them.

On the 6th of April, 1910, Mr. Musel was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Pollshek, a graduate of the parochial school of Tama, Iowa. They now have two children, Leona Loretta and Raphael Jerome. The parents are devout communicants of the Catholic church and are widely and favorably known throughout the community in which they reside.

F. B. STRIKE.

F. B. Strike, filling the office of city clerk of New Hampton, was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, February 14, 1861, a son of William and Mary A. (Roe) Strike, both of whom were natives of England. They came to the United States after attaining their majority and settled in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, where they were subsequently married. In 1882 they removed to Chickasaw county, Iowa, establishing their home upon a farm two and a half miles from New Hampton. Two years later they removed

to a farm in Richland township, where they resided for ten years, and on the expiration of that period the father purchased a farm in Chickasaw county west of Ionia, occupying the place for a number of years. He then retired from active business life, sold his farm property and established his home in Nora Springs, Floyd county, where a daughter was teaching in the college. He passed away there two years later but the mother is still living at the advanced age of ninety-three years and is remarkably well preserved. She insists in going about the household duties as a younger woman and lends considerable assistance to her children, with whom she makes her home.

F. B. Strike was educated in the public schools, in Bradford Academy, in the Decorah Institute and in the Rich's Business College at Decorah, thus making steady advancement along lines that have rendered him an efficient factor in the world's work. He began his career as a school teacher and for ten years taught in the district schools, while for one year he was principal of the public schools of Bradford and for three years was connected with the schools of New Hampton, spending one year as principal and two years as superintendent. He became a resident of New Hampton in 1889 and in 1892, after giving up educational work, engaged in the fire and accident insurance business, with which he was identified for nine years. In 1901 the city took over the light and water plant. Mr. Strike was elected city clerk and was also installed as manager of the municipal plant, in which important capacity he has served continuously and most efficiently for eighteen years. The first year of municipal ownership of the plant the receipts were less than four thousand dollars. In 1918, with more than seven hundred patrons, the receipts reached twenty-two thousand dollars and the plant has fourteen thousand dollars in the city treasury. This is due to the excellent business management and splendid service given to the public under the direction of Mr. Strike.

In 1887 Mr. Strike was married to Miss Delphine M. Sheldon, of Richland township, Chickasaw county, a daughter of John Sheldon, who was one of the early pioneers of this county. To Mr. and Mrs. Strike were born nine children. Clarence L., who is a graduate of the University of Iowa in both the electrical and civil engineering courses, served with the rank of major with the One Hundred and Ninth Engineers in France. Clifford I., also an electrical engineer, is now superintendent of the electric light plant at Eureka, South Dakota. Hazel is the wife of G. L. Sheehy, a farmer of Chickasaw county. Clara acts as housekeeper for her father. Wallace was sergeant of Company B, One Hundred and Ninth Engineers, in France. Celia is a senior in the high school at New Hampton. Marion is a junior in the high school. Cora and Edith are also pupils in the public schools of this city. The wife and mother passed away March 20, 1909, her death being the occasion of deep regret not only to her immediate family but to her many friends throughout the community.

Mr. Strike gives his political allegiance to the democratic party and fraternally is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, while he and his family religiously are of the Baptist faith. He is keenly interested in everything pertaining to the welfare and progress of his city and his cooperation has been most resultant in promoting public progress. He is now president of the city school board and his influence is ever on the side of advancement where the cause of public education is concerned.

OWEN O. WILLIAMS.

Owen O. Williams, a resident farmer of Howard county, his home being on section 18, Albion township, was born in Forest City township of the same county June 15, 1871, a son of Owen H. and Jane (Davis) Williams, both of whom were natives of Wales. The father came to the new world in young manhood, while the mother crossed the Atlantic when a maiden of thirteen years, making the voyage in company with her parents. They became residents of Waukesha county, Wisconsin, where their marriage was celebrated later, and after the close of the Civil war they came to Iowa. They took up their abode in Forest City township, Howard county, and in 1879 removed to the present home farm in Albion township, where the family has now lived for the past forty

years. The father died on that place on the 6th of July, 1913, but the mother survives and still occupies the old homestead.

Owen O. Williams was reared upon the old home farm and received a district school education. After his textbooks were put aside he concentrated his efforts and attention upon the development of the fields and continued to work in cooperation with his father until the latter's death and still is in active charge of the farm, which comprises one hundred and thirty acres of rich, fertile and valuable land. He is regarded as a type of the progressive young farmer of the county and his intelligent direction of his labors is producing excellent results. Both he and his mother are consistent and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church and in politics Mr. Williams is a republican but while giving loyal support to the party does not seek nor desire office as a reward for party fealty, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs, which are bringing to him well deserved success.

WILL BRUGER.

Will Bruger, who carries on general agricultural pursuits on section 15, Jamestown township, has spent almost his entire life in Howard county, although he was born in Germany on the 22d of January, 1889. He is a son of Fred and Sophia (Bruno) Bruger, who were also natives of Germany, whence they came to the United States in 1891, settling first in Blainstown, Iowa, where the father worked for a time by the day at tiling and also at farming. He continued to make his home at Blainstown until about 1901, when he removed with his family to Calhoun county, Iowa, where he purchased a farm and there carried on general agricultural pursuits on his own account for a period of three years. At the end of that time he sold his farm property in Calhoun county and came to Howard county, settling in Jamestown township, where the parents have now resided since 1914.

Will Bruger, spending his youthful days in his parents' home, acquired a common school education in Calhoun county and when not occupied with his textbooks gave his attention to farm work, being thus employed to the time of his marriage. In 1912 he wedded Miss Erma Stilling, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stilling, who came from Germany to the new world. Her father is still living but her mother has passed away. To Mr. and Mrs. Bruger have been born two children: Amanda, five years of age; and Naomi, who is in her second year.

The parents are members of the German Lutheran church of Riceville and loyally follow its teachings, seeking ever the uplift of the individual and the upbuilding of the community at large. Mr. Bruger is identified with the Farmers Equity Association of Riceville but otherwise concentrates his efforts and attention upon his general agricultural interests. He works diligently and persistently in the development of his farm, to which he has added many modern improvements, and as the result of his earnest labor is meeting with a fair measure of success.

GLENN D. KEPPLE.

Glenn D. Kepple is junior partner in the firm of Kepple & Huffman, leading merchants and foremost business men of Ionia. He was born in the city of Chickasaw on the 23d of March, 1889, and is a son of Hon. Presley L. and Lizzie (Raumbaugh) Kepple, both of whom are natives of North Washington, Chickasaw county, and representatives of early pioneer families of this section of the state. The father is the present representative from his district in the general assembly of Iowa and for twenty-five years he was a prominent figure in the business circles of Ionia. He served for several years as postmaster of Ionia and is now for the third term member of the house from his district, his frequent reelections coming to him in recognition of his marked devotion

to duty, his high ideals of citizenship and his statesmanlike qualities. He is indeed one of the most distinguished of Ionia's citizens.

Glenn D. Kepple was educated in the public schools of Ionia, being graduated from the high school with the class of 1906. He afterward attended the Capital City Commercial College at Des Moines and when he had completed his business course he received his initial practical training in his father's store. In 1910 he engaged in business on his own account as a member of the firm of Rink & Kepple and a year later his father purchased Mr. Rink's interest in the business, at which time the firm style of Kepple & Son was assumed. During the following year Joshua Huffman purchased the interest of the father in the store and the name of the firm was then changed to Kepple & Huffman, under which style the business has since been conducted with splendid success. In June, 1917, the firm purchased a store in Floyd, Iowa, and Mr. Huffman took charge of the Floyd establishment, while Mr. Kepple manages the Ionia store. Their business has steadily increased and has now assumed very gratifying proportions, the partners being progressive and representative business men of this section of the country.

In 1910 Mr. Kepple was united in marriage to Miss Edith Peterson, of Nashua, Chickasaw county, by whom he has two children, Merrill L. and Margaret E. In politics Mr. Kepple is an earnest republican and has always been keenly interested in political questions and well informed concerning the issues of the day. He is now serving as township constable and is also a member of the Ionia school board. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. He has made for himself a creditable place in business circles and his position in regard to public questions is always on the side of progress and improvement.

JAMES L. PANOS.

James L. Panos, whose time and energies are concentrated upon general farming on section 2, Utica township, Chickasaw county, is numbered among the native sons of the county whose continuous connection with this region throughout the entire period of their lives indicates the attractiveness of northern Iowa as a place of residence, for among the citizens are many men of ambitious and progressive spirit who would seek homes elsewhere if they felt they could have better advantages.

Mr. Panos was born August 17, 1891, in the township where he still resides and is of Bohemian descent. His parents, Albert and Barbara Panos, were natives of Bohemia, the former coming to the new world in young manhood, while the latter crossed the Atlantic with her parents in her girlhood. Both became residents of Chickasaw county and some years later were married. They settled upon what has since been known as the old home place on section 11, Utica township, and the father still survives, now making his home with his son, A. J. Panos, who today owns the farm. The father first purchased eighty acres of land and as the years passed and his financial resources increased added to his possessions until his holdings aggregated five hundred and forty acres. This he has since divided among his children, enabling them to share in his prosperity. His wife passed away in 1900, her death being the occasion of deep regret to her family and to many friends.

At the usual age James L. Panos entered the district schools and therein mastered the lessons constituting the common school curriculum. His training in farm labor was not meager, for from an early age he assisted in the development of the fields on the old home place and when he had attained his majority he began farming on his own account, well equipped by previous training and experience for the responsibilities and duties that now devolved upon him. He rented from his father his present home farm of one hundred and twenty acres and as time passed he was able to save from his earnings a sum sufficient to enable him to purchase the farm about 1914.

On the 17th of August, 1916, Mr. Panos was married to Miss Emma Teepy, of Winneshiiek county, a daughter of Michael and Anna Teepy, who was one of the early settlers of that county. Mr. and Mrs. Panos have two children, Viola and Clarence. The parents

are communicants of the Catholic church and the democratic party receives the support of Mr. Panos at the polls. He has never been an active political worker nor office seeker, however, for he feels that his business affairs need his entire time and attention. He is a young man, having not yet passed his third decade, but already he has made a creditable place among the progressive farmers of Chickasaw county.

R. P. KEEFE.

Farming interests of Howard county are well represented by R. P. Keefe, who makes his home on section 33, Afton township, where he is busily engaged in the cultivation of a farm of one hundred and twenty acres. Iowa numbers him among her native sons, his birth having occurred at Stacyville, Mitchell county, May 27, 1872. His parents were John M. and Anna (O'Neil) Keefe, the former a native of County Meath, Ireland, while the latter was born in Elgin, Illinois. Coming to the new world in early life, John M. Keefe responded to the call of his adopted country for service in the Civil war and went to the front in defense of the Union, participating in a number of hotly contested engagements. Recently a most interesting letter has come to light which was written by Mr. Keefe during his Civil war experience and is as follows:

"Fackler Station, near Stevenson, Ala.,

"Feb. 1st, 1864.

"Mr. Thos. Milnamore,

"Dear Sir: It is with great pleasure that I now take the liberty on myself of addressing you with a few lines which gives me the satisfaction to announce to you of the present condition of my health since I returned to the sunny south. I never felt better in my life than I do at the present, thank God. I hope these few lines will find you and family enjoying the same blessing.

"I have seen in the columns of the northern newspapers that you had a hard winter during December and also of many people getting frozen with the cold. About the time I got down to this place we had a cold snap lasting for many days which made camp life a little disagreeable for a while, but the Almighty God seemed to take an interest in our cause and so delivered us from the cold by restoring to us fine, pleasant weather which now exists here. We cannot bear to wear a coat on us during the day because it is so warm. The nights are also close and warm, so you see that I had luck to return here before the cold weather set in. I will now make you a few remarks on the present condition of our army in this part of the south. The very best feeling is entertained amongst us that we are now capable of defeating our enemy at all points and in the wind-up of ending the rebellion. This spring the enemy is getting very much disheartened and discouraged of accomplishing their ideas. They are deserting in large numbers every day into our lines and giving themselves up for protection under the old flag. They also confirm the news that is now in circulation concerning Johnson's army. It takes one-half of his men to guard the others from deserting over to us. There is a rumor in camp today that we are going to make a move on closer to the enemy, but I cannot say it for a fact; but I know myself that there are two corps of the army now en route to the front. There is one thing sure—we will have an early campaign of it this spring, as it looks very much like it now. The roads are in good order at present to renew the combat.

"This, our regiment, is in the best of health. There are not five men on the sick list in our whole command. I can miss many faces from our regiment in our military family that were very familiar to me. Before I got enlightened, when I inquired about some old acquaintance, they will tell me that he is dead—he fell on the memorable charge, which showed what Irishmen can do as they have done at Missionary Ridge and many other gory fields.

"I will close. I have no news of importance to mention this time. I wish you to sit down some of those long nights and write me.

"I am your humble servant,

"JOHN KEEFE.

"P. S. Company G, Ninetieth Regiment Illinois Volunteers. First Brigade, Fourth Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, near Stevenson, Ala."

In the summer of 1868, John M. Keefe removed to Mitchell county, Iowa, driving across the country from Illinois. He cast in his lot among its pioneer settlers and contributed to its early development and improvement. He died September 9, 1917, and is still survived by his wife, who now makes her home in Elma. In politics Mr. Keefe was a republican but never held office.

R. P. Keefe was educated in the public schools of Paris township, Howard county, and when not busy with his textbooks worked in the fields. After his school days were over he continued to assist his father in the improvement of the home farm up to the time of his marriage. He then began farming on his own account. He has been a resident of Howard county for forty-three years and has done not a little to further its agricultural progress. His landed possessions now comprise one hundred and twenty acres, which he has brought under a high state of cultivation and from which he annually gathers rich harvests. He is also a stockholder of the Howard County Equity Co-operative Society. For the past eighteen years he has lived upon the farm which is now his place of residence and its excellent appearance attests a life of thrift and activity.

On the 5th of February, 1901, Mr. Keefe was married to Miss Elsa Richardson, who was born in Butler county, Iowa, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Marlow) Richardson, who have passed away. Her father was a native of the state of New York, while her mother was born in Jo Daviess county, Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Keefe have been born six children: Edward R., who is now a high school student; Gertrude, Leila and Katherine, who are attending the public schools; Veronica, who is four years of age; and John F., two years old.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church, of which they are faithful adherents. Mr. Keefe has been a member of the school board in his district for the past fifteen years and is now acting as president of the board. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and his political belief is that of the republican party. While he has never been ambitious to hold office, he has always stood for progress and improvement in the county in which he lives and has cooperated in movements of general worth. During the war he was a liberal supporter of all the Liberty Loan drives and gave generous aid to the Red Cross. His son donated a pumpkin to the Red Cross chapter which netted them three hundred and forty-seven dollars and twenty-five cents, while pies made from the pumpkin brought a total of seventy-one dollars. Mr. Keefe was a prominent worker for the sale of War Savings Stamps and there was no feature of war work which did not receive his generous assistance and endorsement.

JAMES F. BABCOCK, Sr.

It would be impossible to dissociate the life record of James F. Babcock, Sr., with the history of New Hampton and of Chickasaw county. He has long been a dominant figure in the development and upbuilding of this section of the state and has left the impress of his individuality upon many lines of business advancement and public progress. He was the builder of the first brick building in New Hampton and established its first drug store. He has actively engaged in farming and stock raising and banking interests have felt the stimulus of his cooperation and profited by his sound judgment. Nor has he made business the end and aim of his life. He has given to the city effective service as New Hampton's first mayor and he has contributed in substantial measure to the moral development of the district. His life record indeed constitutes an integral chapter in the annals of northern Iowa.

James F. Babcock was born in Steuben county, New York, November 27, 1833, a son of Amos and Elma (Cornell) Babcock, both of whom were natives of the Empire state, where they were reared and married. In 1868 they came with their



JAMES F. BARCOCK, SR.



JAMES F. BARCOCK, JR.

son James to Chickasaw county and made their home with him and their other son, Dr. Amos Babcock, throughout their remaining days, Dr. Babcock having become a resident of New Hampton a month or so after the arrival of his brother, James F. The father died at the venerable age of eighty years, while the mother reached the age of seventy-eight years. James F. Babcock supplemented his common school education by study in the Western Reserve Teachers' Seminary at Kirtland, Ohio, where he continued his attendance for several years and taught in the seminary, thereby helping to pay his tuition. Later he became a teacher in the schools of Winnebago county, Illinois, where he worked during the summer season at the trade of brick and stone mason and also followed plastering. His parents joined him while he was still a resident of Illinois. He first came to Iowa in 1854 and purchased a farm in Fayette county. He made several trips from Illinois to this state to look after his farming interests during the succeeding four years and in 1858 he took his parents to his Fayette county farm, whereon he resided for ten years, carefully continuing its cultivation and further development and improvement. During four years of that decade he also served as sheriff of Fayette county and filled the office of town clerk for several years, while for a time he was likewise justice of the peace.

In 1868 Mr. Babcock removed to New Hampton, where he continued to work at the trade of brick and stone mason for a number of years and erected the first brick business block in New Hampton. Later he built two other brick business blocks in the city, laying practically every brick himself. After coming to New Hampton he opened the first drug store of the town and conducted the business for ten years. The store is still in existence, being now owned by Olmstead & Gardner, who still occupy the original brick building which Mr. Babcock erected and which was the first in New Hampton. In 1877 he purchased his first farm land in Chickasaw county, investing in three hundred and fifty-two acres adjoining the town, a portion of which now lies within the corporation limits of the present city. He resided upon the farm for ten or twelve years and actively cultivated the place during that period but has recently transferred the ownership to his son, James F. Babcock, Jr. Early in the '80s he introduced Holstein cattle into Chickasaw county, paying what was thought at that time to be an exorbitant price—one hundred dollars for a suckling calf. In later years he considered this the best investment that he ever made. In subsequent years he engaged extensively in the breeding of registered Holstein cattle and also conducted a large dairy business. His place was registered as the Holstein Farm, by which name it is still known. His efforts constituted a most important element in improving the grade of cattle raised in this section of the state and thereby contributed in marked measure to the prosperity of the region. Mr. Babcock was also one of the leading factors in the organization of the State Bank of New Hampton and has been one of the principal stockholders and a member of the board of directors since its establishment. Following the organization of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company of Chickasaw county he was elected to its presidency and served in that important capacity for twenty-one years. Thus his business activities have covered a broad scope and have ever been of a character that has contributed to general progress and prosperity as well as to individual success. In business affairs he displays notably sound judgment and has readily discriminated between the essential and the non-essential, quickly eliminating the latter and utilizing the former to the fullest extent. Moreover, the integrity of his business methods has been one of the elements of his success. His name has ever stood as a synonym for honorable endeavor and he has ever held a good name above riches.

It is but natural that a man of Mr. Babcock's capabilities and powers should be called upon for public service, and in addition to his office holding in Fayette county he has been chosen for political honors in Chickasaw county. He was the first mayor of the city of New Hampton, following its incorporation, and he has repeatedly served as a member of the town council and for one term as chairman of the board of county supervisors. In 1882 he was elected to represent Chickasaw county in the state legislature and in the discharge of his official duties he has

brought to bear the same thoroughness, progressiveness and integrity of purpose that has characterized his activity along other lines.

On the 1st of January, 1862, Mr. Babcock was married to Miss Mary L. Robison, of Fayette county, Iowa, and they became the parents of four children, of whom two are living: James F., Jr., mentioned elsewhere in this work; and Mary, the wife of Charles A. Larson, a banker of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Babcock are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he is well known in Masonic circles, having for fifty-three years been a loyal and exemplary follower of the order, joining the lodge at West Union, Iowa, in 1866. He now holds membership in Arcana Lodge, No. 274, A. F. & A. M.; Adelpia Chapter, No. 113, R. A. M.; Eudora Commandery, No. 53, K. T. In 1877 Mr. Babcock made an extended tour of Europe, visiting England, Belgium, France, Holland and Germany, and on his return to this country wrote a series of letters for the press concerning his travels. He has always been a democrat in politics and is one of those who were fortunate enough to hear the famous Lincoln and Douglas debate at Freeport, Illinois, during the campaign when those two great statesmen were contending for senatorial honors. His life experiences have been broad, varied, interesting and educational in their scope and purpose. There are few men whose lives are crowned with the honor and respect which are uniformly accorded to James F. Babcock, for through more than a half century's connection with Iowa's history his has been an unblemished character. With him success in life has been reached by his sterling qualities of mind and a heart true to every manly principle. He has never deviated from what his judgment would indicate to be right and honorable between his fellowmen and himself. He has never swerved from the path of duty and now after a long and eventful career he can look back over the past with the consciousness of having gained for himself, by his honorable, straightforward career, the confidence and respect of the entire community in which he lives. We read of the lives of the heroes of the past and they not only prove of historical interest but serve to inspire and encourage. Yet we need not go to former ages for examples that are worthy of emulation. The men of today who have won distinction and honor excel in exemplary traits of character many of those who have passed away and the life record of James F. Babcock may well prove of great benefit if one will but heed and follow the obvious lessons which it contains.

JAMES F. BABCOCK, JR.

James F. Babcock, Jr., is a retired farmer and dairyman who is the present owner of the Holstein Farm, which adjoins New Hampton and which was originally established and developed by his father. It was upon this farm that James F. Babcock, Jr., was born October 19, 1875. He was educated in the city schools of New Hampton, in the New Hampton Business College and in the Iowa State Teachers' College at Cedar Falls. His father had founded the Gazette of New Hampton and the son entered the printing office, working at the trade for eight years. He then took up the operation of his father's farm, on which he continued actively and extensively in the dairy business which had been established by his father. He was thus active until the death of his mother on the 10th of August, 1918, when he left the farm and removed to the family home at New Hampton, in order to look after the care and comfort of his father in the sunset of his life.

In 1903 James F. Babcock, Jr., was united in marriage to Miss Pearl Poppleton, a native of Chickasaw county and a daughter of Oscar O. Poppleton, who came to the county in 1854, when the work of development and improvement was in its pioneer stages. He became one of the leading apiarists of the United States and conducted business along the line for a number of years in Florida, being known as the bee king of the eastern coast. He introduced migratory bee culture, having three hundred colonies of bees on a lighter which he moved up and down the coast wherever there was a crop of honey to be gathered. He was in Cuba for two years

in charge of a large apiary. He was likewise known as a veteran of the Civil war, having served as a lieutenant of his company, and after hostilities had ceased he was detailed for special duty, serving in that way for eight years. He died at the soldiers' sanitarium at Hot Springs, South Dakota, and was laid to rest in the Republic cemetery in Chickasaw county, Iowa. One of the proudest achievements of his life was his organization of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company of Chickasaw county, in the work of organization walking over the entire county, doing all of the work himself. As stated, it was his daughter who became the wife of James F. Babcock and to them have been born three children: Hersey P., who was in the hospital service in France during the European war; Ruth, who is now a freshman in high school; and James O.

In his political views James F. Babcock, Jr., is a democrat and has filled the offices of township trustee and justice of the peace. He belongs to Arcana Lodge, No. 274, A. F. & A. M., and is now master of the lodge. He is also identified with Adelpia Chapter, No. 113, R. A. M., and Eudora Commandery, No. 53, K. T. He is likewise a member of Phoenix Lodge, No. 556, I. O. O. F., of which he is the secretary, and both he and his wife are members of the Order of the Eastern Star. They likewise hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and are keenly interested in all that has to do with the vital progress and upbuilding of the community along material, intellectual and social lines. Opportunity early came to James F. Babcock, Jr., and this opportunity he utilized, soon proving his worth in the business world by the capable manner in which he took up the duties that developed upon him. While he inherited wealth, he has made wise use of it for the benefit of others and the improvement of public interests. His own career, measuring up to high standards of manhood and citizenship, has made him one of the valued residents of this section of the state.

W. C. SOVEREIGN.

W. C. Sovereign is engaged in the cultivation of a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, situated on section 4, New Oregon township, Howard county. It was upon this farm that he was born on the 30th of June, 1878, the property being the old family homestead. For many years the father here carried on general agricultural pursuits and brought his fields under a high state of cultivation. He died upon this property on the 8th of June, 1900, but his widow survived until December, 1901, when she, too, passed away.

W. C. Sovereign of this review inherited one of the forty acre tracts comprising the old homestead and he now cultivates the other two forties, which he has purchased. He spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon the old homestead and began his education in the district schools, wherein he mastered various branches of learning. He afterward spent two terms as a pupil in the Cresco Normal school and thus became well qualified for life's practical, responsible and onerous duties. He is today one of the oldest settlers in the locality in which he resides. For seven years he rented the home place and gave his attention to the further cultivation of three hundred and twenty acres for the D. S. Edmisten estate. He has recently returned to the old home farm, however, resuming the cultivation of that property in the spring of 1919.

On the 1st of January, 1900, Mr. Sovereign was united in marriage to Miss Florence Eugene River, a daughter of William F. and Carrie River, both of whom were natives of Iowa and were among the early settlers of Howard county. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Sovereign, namely: Claud, who completed a course in the graded schools and recently graduated from the University of Southern Minnesota on the completion of an engineering course, since which time he has been assisting his father in the cultivation of the home farm; Gladys, who has just completed the work of the graded schools and will attend high school in the following year; and Gerald, Clark and Doris, all yet in school.

Mr. Sovereign and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church of Cresco.

He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and his political views are in accord with the teachings and principles of the democratic party. He has served as township trustee for the past three years, so that he has now entered upon the second term in that position. His entire life has been passed in this section of the state and the worth of his character is widely recognized by those with whom he has been associated. He holds to high standards of manhood and citizenship and in all public affairs has proven himself one hundred per cent American.

FRANK ZOBECK.

Frank Zobeck, a resident farmer of Howard county, his home being on section 24, Howard township, was born October 19, 1893, on the farm which he now owns, his parents being Joseph and Barbara (Mashek) Zobeck, both of whom were natives of Bohemia. They came to the United States in early life. The father was a young man when he crossed the Atlantic and was accompanied by his parents. The mother came alone to the new world in young womanhood, her parents having died in Bohemia. Both Mr. and Mrs. Zobeck established their home in Howard county and later were married here. Joseph Zobeck afterward bought the farm upon which his son now resides, becoming owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he carefully cultivated and improved throughout his remaining days. He passed away January 22, 1917, having for a number of years survived his wife, who died in 1906.

Frank Zobeck, spending his youthful days under the parental roof, entered the district schools at the usual age and this constituted his educational opportunities. His training at farm labor was not meager, for as soon as old enough to manage the plow he took his place in the fields and thus he had gained valuable practical experience when he started out as a farmer on his own account. On the death of his father he inherited a part of the home property and acquired ownership of the entire farm by the purchase of his sisters' shares in the estate. He is now busily engaged in its further development and cultivation and has added various modern improvements to the place, which is now an excellent farm, bringing forth substantial harvests as a reward for the care and labor bestowed upon it. Mr. Zobeck is also a stockholder in the Maple Leaf Creamery Company and is accounted one of the progressive young farmers and business men of Howard township.

In his political views Mr. Zobeck is a democrat and is well informed on the questions and issues of the day but does not seek nor desire office as a reward for party fealty. The high principles which govern his life are manifest in his membership in the Catholic church.

AMOS E. BARKER.

Amos E. Barker is an attorney of Howard county and the efficient mayor of Cresco, guided in all that he does for the city by a most public-spirited devotion to the general good. He was born in Indiana on the 23d of April, 1854, a son of Jeremiah and Jane (Kerlin) Barker, the former a native of Indiana, while the latter was born in Tennessee. They were married in the Hoosier state, to which Mrs. Barker had removed during her girlhood days with her parents. In 1857, Jeremiah Barker came to Iowa with his family and purchased a farm in Howard county about a mile east of the present site of Cresco. He later acquired several other farms and became one of the heavy landholders of the county. In all of his business affairs he displayed keen discrimination and sound judgment and prospered in whatever he undertook. He died in the year 1858, while his wife passed away in 1877.

Amos E. Barker was educated in the district schools of Howard county and in the high school of Cresco and after completing his course there he took up the profession of teaching, which he followed for several years in Howard and Winneshiek counties and

also in South Dakota. He made an excellent record as an educator, imparting clearly and readily to others the knowledge that he had acquired, and later he was elected county superintendent of schools in Day county, South Dakota. He abandoned the profession of teaching in 1895, however, and took up the study of law, having two brothers who were members of the bar, practicing in Cresco. He entered their office and subsequently became a student in the law department of Drake University at Des Moines, there pursuing his studies until admitted to the bar in 1899. He returned to Cresco, where he began active practice, and in the intervening twenty years has built up a large clientage in Howard county.

In 1885 Mr. Barker was married to Miss Ada Galloway, of Day county, South Dakota, who had been a schoolmate of his in the Cresco high school. She, too, was identified for several years with educational work and was teaching in Day county, South Dakota, at the time of their marriage. They have become the parents of three children: Irene, the wife of Cloyd Lybarker of Lake Helen, Florida; Mattie C., overseer of the bookkeeping department of the St. Paul Gas & Electric Light Company; and McKinley, living in Cresco.

In politics Mr. Barker is a republican and is deeply interested in the vital questions and issues of the day. He has several times been called to public office and is now a member of the county board on insanity and is serving for the third term as mayor of his city, to which he is giving a most businesslike and progressive administration that has resulted in bringing about various needed reforms and improvements. He earnestly seeks the welfare of the community and his efforts are far-reaching and resultant. Externally he is connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and both within and without the organization he has many warm friends.

TOLLEF C. BRATRUD.

While thirteen years have been added to the cycle of the centuries since Tollef C. Bratrud passed away, he is yet remembered by many of the citizens of Chester and of Howard county and his memory is cherished by those who knew him because of the prominent place which he occupied in the community, because of his kindly spirit and his loyalty to every interest which he espoused. He was born near Pilot Mound, Fillmore county, Minnesota, on the 28th of August, 1861, and in the acquirement of his education attended St. Olaf College at Northfield, Minnesota. He afterward became a student in a business college at La Crosse, Wisconsin, and was thus well qualified for life's practical and responsible duties. For several years he worked with S. C. Lobdill at Spring Valley and there learned the tinner's trade. Following his marriage he removed to Preston, Minnesota, where he established a hardware store that he conducted successfully until 1890, in which year he became a resident of Chester, Iowa. Here he opened a hardware store and lumberyard. The town was then a little village and his business activity and enterprise contributed to its steady and substantial growth. In all business affairs he was thoroughly reliable, honesty and industry being among his marked characteristics. He never was afraid of hard work and his diligence also contributed to his success.

It was on the 6th of December, 1886, that Mr. Bratrud was united in marriage to Miss Betsey Thorson and they became the parents of a daughter, Alma, who is a cultured and accomplished young lady. She was educated at the Minnesota State Normal School at Winona, Minnesota, and in the Northwestern Conservatory of Music and Art at Minneapolis, from which institution she received her degree in public school drawing and art work. On May 1, 1919, she was married to Dr. G. I. Badeaux of Brainerd, Minnesota, who has commenced practice at Crosby, Minnesota.

Mr. Bratrud was always keenly interested in everything that had to do with the progress and welfare of his adopted city and state and lent hearty aid and cooperation to any movement for the public good. He was a faithful and exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the order at Preston, Minnesota. He was likewise a member of Chester Lodge, No. 444, I. O. O. F., and of the Modern Woodmen of America,

and his daughter, Alma, is a member of Utopia Chapter, No. 379, O. E. S. Mr. and Mrs. Bratrud and the daughter all held membership in the United Lutheran church. He guided his life by the teachings of the church and was a most honorable and upright man. In his business affairs he prospered and was thus able to leave his family in comfortable financial circumstances. In addition to his hardware and lumber business he was an extensive operator and owner of real estate, both in Iowa and Minnesota and he rejoiced in his success because of the opportunity which it gave him to provide liberally for those near and dear to him. He passed away April 5, 1906, to the deep regret not only of his immediate family but of all who had come in contact with him. His course in life had ever measured up to the highest standards of manhood and citizenship and he left to his family the priceless heritage of an untarnished name, which is rather to be chosen than great riches.

REV. P. H. RYAN.

The Church of the Assumption (Roman Catholic) was established in Cresco in 1870. Prior to that time, the religious needs of the few Catholic families were administered by pastors from Decorah, Fathers Linehan, Lowry and Harding. In 1869 the foundation to the present building was started, under the guidance of Father Harding. The following year Father McCartney was assigned as resident pastor, with out parishes at Lourdes and Plymouth Rock. The building was completed in 1871 and, with additions and improvements, still remains. Shortly after his assignment, Father McCartney organized a St. Matthews Temperance Society, which organization flourished and boasted an enrollment of practically every Catholic man in the parish. In 1883, the Worden Strother home was purchased by the parish and, after being remodeled, was used as a parochial school, under the direction and tutelage of the Sisters of Charity, B. V. M., and supervision of the Motherhouse at Dubuque, Iowa. The school and buildings were enlarged and remodeled to meet the demands of increased enrollment and modern methods, and in 1910 the old school buildings were replaced with a modern fireproof structure, suitably equipped and adapted to all school uses and so located as to afford excellent playgrounds. In recognition of his executive ability and untiring zeal in this portion of the Lord's vineyard and the generous and unselfish response which was accorded to his every undertaking, the parish of Cresco was raised to the dignity of a deanery and Father McCartney was honored with the title of its first Very Reverend Dean. At the present time it has an enrollment of two hundred pupils, in the grades and high school courses, and the curriculum and course of study pursued are of the approved requirements.

In December, 1909, Father McCartney died, after having been pastor of this parish for thirty-nine years, during which time he had the respect and confidence of the whole community, regardless of creed. He had been a tireless worker in the cause of temperance and was an enthusiastic leader in civic affairs until the last few years of his life, when age had robbed him of his strength and, like the other pioneers, he was forced to surrender to the younger and more vigorous the tasks which he had so nobly and so capably started.

After Very Rev. Father McCartney's death, the duties as pastor were assumed by Very Rev. T. J. Murtagh, formerly of Masonville. In order to care for Mercy Hospital, which had been recently built, Father John Murtagh was assigned as assistant pastor and was succeeded as such in 1915 by Rev. Ernest J. McDonald, who, in 1918, was summoned to take charge of the parish at Sabula, Iowa, and whose place was taken in this parish by Rev. E. J. Bendlage. The Very Rev. Father T. J. Murtagh, under whose supervision the new school was erected, was called to his heavenly reward in 1918 and was succeeded as pastor of this parish by Very Rev. P. H. Ryan, formerly of Lawler and Ryan, Iowa.

The Assumption parish consists of one hundred and eighty families and during the late war boasted a service flag of forty-seven stars. At the present time the



REV. P. H. RYAN

grounds surrounding the church and school are being improved and the erection of a large, modern brick church to accommodate its increasing needs is contemplated. The property occupies the north half of the block between Second and Third streets West on Third avenue, West.

The present pastor, Very Rev. Father Ryan, was ordained to the priesthood at St. Joseph's College of Dubuque, where he completed his studies in 1882. After his ordination his first appointment was that of assistant pastor at the Dubuque Cathedral. His next charge was that of the first pastor of a little settlement of Catholics in Delaware county consisting of about seventeen families. As the support and accommodations which they were able to extend to him were but meager, he was compelled to live in one of the two sleeping rooms in the home of one of his poor but devoted parishioners for a number of years. Today that little settlement, with a foundation of seventeen families, has one of the best equipped parishes, consisting of a beautiful brick church, school and parochial residence, in the Archdiocese of Dubuque. These buildings are located in what is now known as the town of Ryan, which name was given to it in recognition and appreciation of the untiring labor of Father Ryan in behalf of his people and the community at large.

Father Ryan is yet an unusually active worker in the Lord's vineyard; and when the new church which he has in contemplation is completed, the Assumption parish of Cresco will be among the best equipped and most substantial in the whole Archdiocese of Dubuque.

STEPHEN A. HAMILTON.

Stephen A. Hamilton, well known in industrial circles of Howard county as the proprietor of the Cresco Novelty Works and also identified with public interests as a member of the city council, was born in Clayton county, Iowa, October 15, 1860, his parents being John and Orilla (Miller) Hamilton, the former a native of Ireland, while the latter was born in Vermont. They were married in Clayton county, Iowa, to which place the mother had removed in her girlhood days with her parents, while Mr. Hamilton took up his residence there in young manhood. In 1868 he removed to Howard county, settling on a farm twelve miles southwest of Cresco, and six years later took up his abode in Lime Springs, where he resided until within four years of his death. His last years, however, were passed in Cresco.

Stephen A. Hamilton received a limited district school education, for the school facilities were very poor in those pioneer times, the sessions being held in the homes of the early settlers. On reaching his sixteenth year he entered upon an apprenticeship to the blacksmith's trade and after completing his term of indenture conducted a shop in Lime Springs for a year. He then went to Emmetsburg, Iowa, where he worked as a journeyman for two years, and in 1882 or 1883 returned to Howard county, establishing his home in Cresco, where he has been in business on his own account most of the time continuously since. He carries on his interests under the name of the Cresco Novelty Works, doing blacksmithing and wagon and carriage repairing, also horseshoeing. He does engine, boiler and plow repair work, making gas engines and combination hog racks and wood tanks. He has the best equipped machine shop in Howard county and by reason of his skill is able to turn out a variety of wood and iron work.

In 1885 Mr. Hamilton was married to Miss Minnie Hilke, of Cresco, and they have become the parents of five children: John F., who assists his father in the conduct of the business; Mabel O., who is employed in a millinery store in Chicago, Illinois; S. Archer, at home; George C., who is first class mechanic on the U. S. S. Panther, having served for two years in the navy; and Harry H., who is at the Dunwoody naval training station at Minneapolis.

Mr. Hamilton maintains an independent course in politics, voting for men and measures rather than party. He is serving for the second term as a member of the city

council of Cresco and is keenly interested in everything having to do with its welfare and upbuilding. His religious faith is that of the Congregational church, while his wife holds membership in the Lutheran church, and both are most highly esteemed in the community in which they live. Mr. Hamilton belongs to Cresco Lodge, I. O. O. F., also to the Modern Woodmen of America and to the Royal Neighbors and is loyal to the teachings and purposes of all these different organizations.

D. E. HORTON.

D. E. Horton, postmaster of Lime Springs, was born in Vestal Center, Broome county, New York, November 15, 1860, a son of J. A. and Laura A. (Platt) Horton, the former a native of New York, while the latter was born in Pennsylvania. During the infancy of their son, D. E. Horton, they removed westward to Fillmore county, Minnesota, settling there when the subject of this review was less than a year old. The father purchased the place known as the Willow Creek Farm but after five years sold that property and purchased another farm near Granger, thereon residing up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1913, when he was eighty-six years of age.

D. E. Horton had the usual experiences of the farm-bred boy who acquires his education in the district schools and divides his time between the schoolroom and the fields. He also attended the high school at Preston, Minnesota, from which he was graduated, and later he pursued a commercial course in the J. L. Wallace Business College at La Crosse, Wisconsin. On the completion of his studies he returned to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he engaged in farming, being identified with that business for a period of twenty-three years. He brought his fields under a very high state of cultivation and the neat and thrifty appearance of his place indicated his practical and progressive methods. In 1907 he rented his farm and removed to Lime Springs, Iowa, where he engaged in the drug business. In 1916 he was appointed postmaster and took charge of the office on the 16th of August of that year, at which time he sold his store in order to give his entire attention to the duties of the position, which he has since most capably, systematically and promptly discharged.

On the 1st of October, 1890, Mr. Horton was united in marriage to Miss Jessie O. Boice, of Fillmore county, Minnesota, and to them were born seven children, six of whom are living: Gertrude M., the wife of Emil Debban, a farmer of Howard county; Vincent J., who is in the United States Navy, stationed at the Great Lakes near Waukegan, Illinois; Violet, a clerk in the postoffice of Lime Springs; and Laura A., Millard R. and Lillian, all at home.

Mr. Horton has been a lifelong democrat, giving stalwart support to the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He is a member of Howard Lodge, No. 214, A. F. & A. M., and he and his family are members of Utopia Chapter, No. 379, O. E. S. He is likewise connected with Harmony Lodge, I. O. O. F., at Harmony, Minnesota, and belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. He is highly esteemed in these various orders with which he is connected and he is justly accounted one of the leading citizens of Lime Springs, the circle of his friends being almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintance.

THOMAS F. SEERY.

Thomas F. Seery, engaged in general farming in Jacksonville township, Chickasaw county, was born in New Jersey, September 28, 1859, a son of Thomas and Mary (Donohoe) Seery, mentioned in connection with the sketch of their son, James H. Seery, on another page of this work. Thomas F. Seery was a pupil in the district schools and when not busy with his textbooks worked upon the home farm and continued to assist his father in its further development until his twenty-eighth year. In the spring of 1887 he began farming for himself on a tract of land of one hundred

and sixty acres in Jacksonville township. He rented this place for a period of four years and later he purchased a livery barn at Alta Vista, where he conducted business for a year. He then disposed of the livery stable and resumed the occupation of farming. For a year he cultivated rented land and in the fall of 1895 he removed to his present home place of one hundred and twenty acres, which he purchased at that time.

On the 9th of October, 1888, Mr. Seery was united in marriage to Miss Julia Dowd, a daughter of John Dowd, who was one of the early settlers of Jacksonville township, Chickasaw county. Mr. and Mrs. Seery have become parents of twelve children, nine of whom survive, as follows: Nellie, who is the wife of Nicholas Aegeiter, of Sumner, Iowa; Mamie, a resident of Davenport, Iowa; John J., at home; Earl T., who is engaged in teaching school; and Regina C., Ulysses M., Waldo W., Francis H. and Kenneth J., all of whom are yet under the parental roof.

The family are adherents of the Catholic church and two of the sons, John J. and Earl T., are members of the Knights of Columbus. In politics Mr. Seery is a democrat and for six or eight years served as a member of the school board but has never sought political office. His place in agricultural circles and his devotion to the general welfare, however, rank him with the valued and substantial residents of his community.

GUS O'DONNELL.

Gus O'Donnell, manager of the yards of the C. W. Chapman Lumber Company at Elma, was born at New Diggings, Wisconsin, on the 7th of April, 1876, and was the fourth child in a family of thirteen children, eight of whom are still living. His parents were John and Mary (Rooney) O'Donnell, the former a native of County Monaghan, Ireland, while the latter was born in County Cavan. They came to the United States on sailing vessels in their childhood days, the father crossing the Atlantic by way of the Gulf of Mexico with his parents on a voyage that covered eleven weeks, while the mother was thirteen weeks upon the water. She, too, made the trip to the new world in company with her parents. Both families settled in St. Louis, Missouri, where the father and mother of Gus O'Donnell reached adult age and were married. Soon thereafter they removed to Wisconsin, settling at New Diggings, where the father engaged in farming. In 1863 he responded to the call of his adopted country for military aid and joined a Wisconsin regiment, with which he served until the close of the Civil war, participating in several hotly contested engagements and at length winning an honorable discharge. He then returned to his family and resumed his farm work in Wisconsin, residing there to the time of his death, which occurred in 1900. His wife died in November, 1912.

Gus O'Donnell acquired a common school education and when eighteen years of age left home to begin his career, going to Dubuque, Iowa, where he secured employment in the Cooper wagon factory. He remained at that place for about a year and a half and then went to Jackson, Minnesota, where he was employed by the firm of James Lowe & Company, live stock shippers, with whom he was associated for two years. During this time he was married to Miss Mary Miller, of Jackson, Minnesota, and from Jackson he removed to Rockwell, Iowa, where he became assistant manager for the L. Lamb Lumber Company. While thus engaged he acquired a comprehensive knowledge of the lumber trade and remained with the company for more than two years, after which he returned to Jackson, Minnesota, and became manager of the lumberyards of R. S. Robertson & Company, occupying that position for three years. Later, at Cartersville, Iowa, he was manager for the grain and lumber business of the Nye-Snyder-Fowler Company, with which he continued for three years. In 1905 he came to Elma as manager of the Elma yards of the C. W. Chapman Lumber Company, in which important position he has since served.

Mr. and Mrs. O'Donnell are members of the Catholic church and he has member-

ship with the Knights of Columbus. To Mr. and Mrs. O'Donnell has been born a son, Leo A., who is with the Buck Mercantile Company of Sioux City, Iowa.

Mr. O'Donnell is recognized as one of the alert and energetic young business men of Elma. He was in charge of Red Cross work during the World war and how well he succeeded with the aid of his able lieutenants constitutes an important chapter in the history of Elma, indicating the patriotic support of the government by the district and the most efficient organization work done by the one in charge. In his political views Mr. O'Donnell is a republican but is an American first and a partisan afterward.

ANTON J. KUBIK.

Anton J. Kubik, who follows farming in Paris township, is a native son of Howard county, his birth having here occurred August 4, 1875. His parents, Vincent and Antoinette Kubik, were natives of Bohemia and came to the United States in the spring of 1875, the year in which their son Anton J. was born. They established their home in Howard county and the father engaged in farming for several years. Subsequently he bought one hundred and sixty acres in Paris township and afterward purchased another farm of one hundred and fifteen acres. Still later he made investment in the farm of one hundred and sixty acres which his son Anton now owns. He came to this country a poor man, borrowing money with which to pay his passage across the Atlantic. He was unable to meet the payments on the first team which he bought and therefore had to forfeit the team, but he was undaunted and his courage and perseverance at length enabled him to triumph over hardships and difficulties. He is now the possessor of a handsome competence as the reward of earnest, persistent and honorable labor. His first wife died in 1888 and he afterward married Miss Anna Voves. They are now making their home with his son Anton.

In the district schools Anton J. Kubik pursued his education and after his school-days were over he worked with his father until he reached the age of twenty-nine years, assisting him in the work of making the payments upon his purchases of land. In 1901 he bought the present home farm of one hundred and sixty acres but did not take possession thereof until 1905. The following January he was united in marriage to Miss Elenore Falada, of Paris township, and they have three children, John, Adolf and Alois.

Mr. and Mrs. Kubik are consistent members of the Catholic church. In politics he is a democrat and keeps well informed concerning the questions and issues of the day but does not seek nor desire public office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his farming interests. He has worked diligently in the development of his fields and his energy has brought to him well merited success.

THEODORE ROTHs.

For more than a quarter of a century Theodore Roths has made his home in Chickasaw county and is now busily engaged in farming on section 13, Chickasaw township. He was born in Jo Daviess county, Illinois, July 13, 1874, and is a son of Mathias and Katherine (Trappen) Roths, both of whom were natives of Germany, where they were married, crossing the Atlantic to the new world in the '60s. They first settled in Jo Daviess county, Illinois, where the father worked as a farm hand for a time. He later engaged in the cultivation of rented land and in 1892 brought his family to Iowa, settling in Chickasaw township, Chickasaw county, where for two years he again cultivated a rented farm. He afterward bought property, on which he spent his remaining days, his death occurring in Chickasaw township in 1909. For about two years he had survived his wife, who passed away on the old homestead in 1907.

At the usual age Theodore Roths became a pupil in the district schools of his native county. He accompanied his parents to Iowa and remained upon the home farm with his father until the time of his marriage. It was on the 25th of April, 1900, that he wedded Susanna Peters, a daughter of Nick and Lena (Durgey) Peters, who are of German birth but came to the United States in early life and were married on this side of the Atlantic. They are now residents of Dayton township, Chickasaw county. Mr. and Mrs. Roths have become parents of five children: Mabel, Carl, Arlene, Marie and Charles Theodore, all at home.

Following his marriage Mr. Roths cultivated a rented farm for eight years and then made investment in his present farm property of one hundred acres, which he has since carefully cultivated and improved, greatly enhancing the productiveness and the value of his land through the care and labor which he has bestowed upon it. At the same time he finds opportunity to assist in matters relative to public progress and upbuilding. He and his family are members of St. Boniface Catholic church of Ionia and he is a member of the Knights of Columbus Council, No. 1697 at New Hampton. In politics he is a democrat, and while he has never been an office seeker, he did active work for his country as a member of the Liberty Loan committee during the third, fourth and fifth loan drives. He is a man of resolute spirit, accomplishing what he undertakes, and his success in business is the direct outcome of earnest and persistent labor. Aside from his farming interests he is today a stockholder in the Ionia Farmers' Creamery Association and has won for himself a place among the substantial residents of Chickasaw township.

F. J. KLIMESH.

F. J. Klimesh, a dealer in agricultural implements and one of the foremost business men of Protivin, was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, about three miles east of Protivin, on the 9th of July, 1861, his parents being John and Anna (Mikota) Klimesh, both of whom were natives of Bohemia. The father came to the United States when twenty-eight years of age, bringing with him his mother and sister, his father having died in the old country. Mrs. John Klimesh was a maiden of fifteen summers when she came to the United States with her parents. The families settled in Winneshiek county, where the parents of Mr. Klimesh were later married and made their home until called to their final rest, the father dying in 1909, while the mother passed away in 1906. He was a farmer by occupation and became the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of valuable land in Winneshiek county. He was a poor man when he came to the United States, owing five dollars on his passage across the Atlantic at the time he landed on American shores. He was a mason and worked at his trade while paying for his land. When he had cleared it of all indebtedness he concentrated his efforts and attention upon farming and as the years passed won a place among the substantial agriculturists of his section of the state.

F. J. Klimesh had but limited educational opportunities. He attended the district schools for about two months and for about eight months was a pupil in the parochial school at Spillville. This constituted the extent of his educational training, but in the school of experience he has learned many valuable lessons, and possessing an observing eye and retentive memory, he has constantly broadened his knowledge through reading and observation.

In 1882 Mr. Klimesh was united in marriage to Miss Lena Sobolik, of Winneshiek county, and in the spring of 1883 he began farming on his own account, having previously purchased eighty acres of land in Utica township, Chickasaw county, for which he paid twelve dollars per acre. In subsequent years he bought an additional forty acres, also an eighty acre tract and another tract of one hundred and forty-three acres but since that time has divided all of his land among his children with the exception of eighty acres, which he retains in his home farm. He operated a threshing machine for thirty-two seasons and it was said of him that he was one of the most efficient and successful threshers in this section of the country, for he stayed with his machine, fixed

it up at night and it was always ready for service in the morning. In January, 1904, he purchased the implement business of John Fencil, of Protivin, and continued to engage in farming and threshing until 1912, when he took up his abode in the town and has since given his undivided attention to the conduct of his commercial interests, carrying a large and carefully selected line of hardware, farm implements and kindred lines. His capable management and enterprise have been dominant factors in the upbuilding of a trade which has now reached gratifying proportions.

To Mr. and Mrs. Klimesh have been born ten children, nine of whom are yet living: Frank and John J., who are resident farmers of Chickasaw county; Lena, the wife of Robert Lukish, who carries on farming at Lisbon, North Dakota; Mary, the wife of Adolph Zahasky, a farmer of Chickasaw county; Rose, a Sister in St. Joseph's convent at Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and Barbara, Lewis, Joseph and Adaline, all at home.

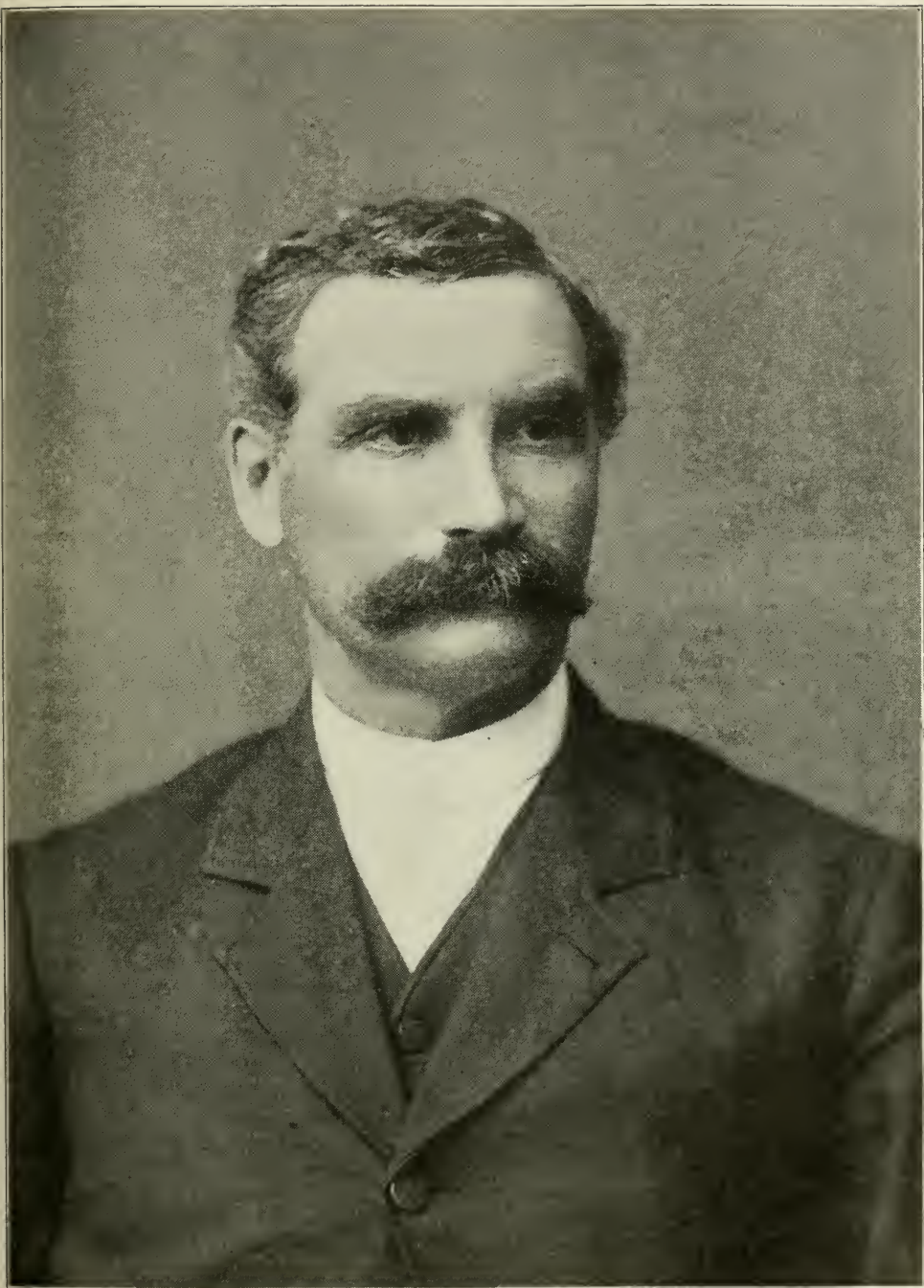
In politics Mr. Klimesh is a democrat and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day but does not seek office as a reward for party fealty. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and he is keenly interested in everything that pertains to the welfare and progress of the community, cooperating heartily in all plans and projects for the general good.

COLONEL L. WHITCOMB.

Colonel L. Whitcomb is the secretary of the Fredericksburg butter factory and thus closely associated with the business activity and development of the city of Fredericksburg, of which he is now serving as mayor. He was born in Palatine, Cook county, Illinois, August 23, 1843, a son of Justus and Lovisa (Putnam) Whitcomb, both of whom were natives of Stockbridge, Vermont, where they were reared and married. They came west to the Mississippi valley on their wedding trip in 1836 and took up their abode in Cook county, Illinois, at which time Chicago was but a village, having not yet been incorporated. Mr. Whitcomb settled upon a farm about three miles from Palatine and continued to live at that place to the time of his demise.

Colonel L. Whitcomb was reared upon the home farm and received his education in one of the old-time log schoolhouses of the frontier with its puncheon floor and slab seats. In September, 1862, he responded to the country's call for troops to aid in crushing out the rebellion in the south and enlisted as a member of the One Hundred and Thirteenth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until the close of the war. He took part in the siege of Vicksburg, was with Sherman on the celebrated march from Atlanta to the sea and participated in a number of hotly contested engagements under Generals Sherman and Grant. He was honorably discharged at the close of the war and returned to his home with a most creditable military record in July, 1865.

For a few years thereafter Mr. Whitcomb was engaged in farming near Palatine, Illinois, and then removed to Chicago, where he became foreman of the western division of the Street Railway Company, occupying that responsible position for two years, during which period the street cars of the city were run by horses. Later Mr. Whitcomb removed to Kane county, Illinois, where he engaged in the dairy business, continuing active along that line for ten years. In 1881 he came to Iowa, settling in Chickasaw county, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres two and a half miles east of Fredericksburg. He continued for a long period in the dairy and stock business and while he still calls his farm "home," he has spent much of his time in Fredericksburg since the death of his wife in 1901. In 1890 he was one of the dominant factors in the organization and building of the Fredericksburg factory and was made vice president when the company began operations. A year later he was elected to the presidency and served in that capacity for fourteen years. In 1905, however, he withdrew from the executive position and was elected secretary of the company, in which capacity he has served for fourteen years, being the incumbent in the office at the present time. The success of the creamery is attributable in very large measure to his efforts and cooperation, for from the beginning he has been one of its officials and active in shaping its policy.



HON. H. H. BAILEY

because it was well known that he was a man of keen sagacity, who in all business matters readily discriminated between the essential and the nonessential.

Fraternally Mr. Bailey was connected with the Masons, the Elks, the Eagles and the Modern Woodmen of America. He was likewise identified with the Grand Army of the Republic and the Woman's Relief Corps and he was the organizer of the Fredericksburg Corps, G. A. R. For years he served as commander of the post, which in his death lost one of its most valued representatives. In fact his demise was the occasion of deep and widespread regret wherever he was known, for he was one of the most honored and beloved citizens of New Hampton and Chickasaw county, having endeared himself to all who knew him by "his many little unremembered acts of kindness and of love." After the death of her husband Mrs. Bailey removed to New Hampton, where she is now making her home. She is a woman of natural refinement and kindly spirit, who at all times was a worthy helpmate as well as a cherished companion to her able and honored husband. A well known writer has said: "Small kindnesses, small courtesies, small considerations, habitually practiced in our social intercourse, give a greater charm to the character than the display of great talents and accomplishments." Such were manifest in the career of Mr. Bailey, whose life record reminds us of the words of the Greek sage Euripides, who said: "It is a good thing to be rich and a good thing to be strong, but it is a better thing to be beloved of many friends."

LOUIE DETERDING.

Louie Deterding is the owner of a good farm property of one hundred and twenty acres situated on section 6, Howard township, and through his industry and perseverance has won classification with the representative farmers of Howard county. He was born in Germany, March 14, 1877, a son of Henry and Charlotte (Gevecke) Deterding. He came to this country with his parents when a youth of sixteen years and the family made their way direct across the country to Iowa. Their first home was in Tripoli, Bremer county, where Louie Deterding resided for a period of eight years. He then came to Howard county, arriving here in 1901. Two years before, or in the spring of 1899, his father had taken up his abode in this county.

Louie Deterding attended the public schools of Germany and also continued his education after becoming a resident of Bremer county. He was married on the 11th of May, 1911, to Miss Bertha Lone, a daughter of Dick and Mary (Schrader) Lone, of Tripoli, Bremer county. By this marriage there are three children: Marie and Henry, who are public school students; and Edna.

Throughout his active business life Mr. Deterding has followed general agricultural pursuits and is now the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and twenty acres. His diligence and industry have been the basis of his success and aside from his farming interests he is connected with the Maple Leaf Creamery Company as a director and stockholder. In his political faith he is a democrat but has never held or desired office. He and his family attend the German Lutheran church at Maple Leaf and they are widely and favorably known in this section of the state, where their circle of friends is almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintance.

NORMAN ALLEN HAVEN.

Norman Allen Haven, deceased, was for many years a most highly respected and valued resident of Howard county. He made his home on section 18, Forest City township, where he followed farming, and his place is still in possession of the family, being conducted by his son George. Norman A. Haven was born in Ellisburg, New York, on the 28th of November, 1842, and was a son of Daniel and Tamar Haven. He represented one of the old New England families, being a descendant of Colonel Ethan Allen,

who led the American forces in the capture of Fort Ticonderoga in the Revolutionary war, a campaign which won for him the title of general.

It was during the childhood of Norman Allen Haven that his parents removed from New York to Canada, where they resided for a few years. In the year 1856 they again crossed the border between Canada and the United States and established their home in Rock county, Wisconsin, where the father engaged in farming until 1858, in which year they removed to Foreston township and there resided until 1859. In that year the family home was established in Forest City township, Howard county, Iowa. Norman A. Haven accompanied his parents on their various removals and was a youth of seventeen years when he took up his abode upon what is now known as the old Haven homestead. There he attained his majority and through the period of his youth and early manhood his attention was given to the farm work, so that he became thoroughly familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops and was able to take charge of farming interests on his own account when he established a home of his own.

In the year 1883 Mr. Haven was united in marriage to Miss Mary Jane Jones and to them were born two sons, George B. and Norman Allen, Jr. The son George B. was married in 1914 to Miss Ruth Dykeman and they have two children, June Marie and Leonora Esther. The other son is mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

The death of Norman Allen Haven was a matter of deep and widespread regret not only to his immediate family but to all who knew him. He passed away at his home in Forest City township, Howard county, May 23, 1911, and was laid to rest in Pleasant Hill cemetery three days later. He was a man of upright character and of strong convictions, to which he was always true and loyal. His sterling worth was recognized by all with whom he came in contact. In politics he was a republican but never sought or desired office as a reward for party fealty. He gave loyal support, however, to measures and movements which he believed would prove of worth to the county and the commonwealth and in matters of citizenship his aid and influence were always on the side of improvement.

ALBERT J. MIKESH.

Albert J. Mikesch, a merchant of Protivin, who for two years has conducted one of the excellent stores of the town, was born in Spillville, Iowa, April 22, 1869. His father, John W. Mikesch, was a native of Bohemia and came to the United States when twelve years of age. He made his way to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he was employed as a farm hand for a few years, during which time he carefully saved his earnings until his industry and economy had brought him sufficient capital to enable him to purchase land. He became the owner of a farm at Spillville and continued its cultivation and improvement to the time of his death, which occurred in 1914. He erected all of the buildings upon the place and converted it into a modern farm, equipped with all the improvements and accessories of the model farm of the twentieth century. His first purchase made him owner of forty acres of land, to which he gradually added as his financial resources increased until he was the owner of one hundred and ninety acres. He married Frances Janoush, a daughter of John Janoush, of Spillville, and passed away in 1914, at the age of seventy-two years, on the old home farm, which he had so long owned and occupied. He had filled the office of road supervisor for a number of years and was interested in the welfare, upbuilding and progress of the community. But a young lad when brought to America, he supplemented his education, acquired in Bohemia, by attending the public schools of Winneshiek county. When the country needed his aid in the preservation of the Union he joined the army of the north and was wounded in battle but entirely recovered and throughout his remaining days he displayed the same loyalty to his adopted land that he manifested when he followed the nation's starry banner on the battlefields of the south. At the time of the father's death his son, Louis Mikesch, took over the farm and has since continued its cultivation.

Albert J. Mikesh was reared on the old homestead and worked with his father on the farm to the age of seventeen years, when he took up carpentering, devoting his energies to that trade for twenty years and thus being identified with many important building operations in the county. On the expiration of that period he established a general store at Protivin and now has an excellent store, which he has been successfully conducting for twenty-six years. He carries a large and well selected line of goods and his enterprising methods, his reliability and his earnest desire to please his patrons have been potent elements in his continued success.

When twenty-five years of age Albert J. Mikesh married Miss Mamie Novak, a daughter of Tom and Verona Novak, of Spillville, and they have become the parents of three children: Nellie, the wife of Ben Bouska, of Schley; and Edith and Leo, at home. The family attend the Catholic church at Protivin.

Mr. Mikesh gives his political allegiance to the democratic party. He is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of Iowa and his entire life, covering a period of fifty years, has been passed within this state, so that he has been a witness of much of the growth and development of this section of the country. At all times he has borne his part in the work of general progress and improvement and is regarded as one of the substantial citizens of Protivin.

G. H. MILLENBAUGH, D. O.

Dr. G. H. Millenbaugh is a well known osteopath of New Hampton, where he has successfully practiced his profession since 1916. He was born in Putnam county, Ohio, on the 27th of June, 1891, a son of Joseph and Anna (Yocklin) Millenbaugh, the latter a native of Germany, while the former was born in Ohio of German parentage. Dr. Millenbaugh attended the common schools of his native county in the acquirement of an education and in 1913 entered upon preparation for his chosen life work as a student in the American School of Osteopathy at Kirksville, Missouri, from which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1916. He then located at New Hampton, where he has continued throughout the intervening period of three years and where he has built up an extensive and gratifying practice that is steadily growing as his skill is becoming more and more widely recognized.

Dr. Millenbaugh is a communicant of St. Mary's Catholic church and also belongs to the Knights of Columbus. He is popular in both professional and social circles of the community in which he makes his home and has already gained an enviable measure of success for one of his years.

G. M. SPENCER.

A well known representative of business enterprise in Chester is G. M. Spencer, who is conducting a general contracting business. He was born in the state of New York, March 7, 1875, a son of Ransom and Anna (Fox) Spencer, who were born, reared and married in the Empire state. In 1876 they removed westward to Iowa and took up their abode upon a rented farm near Lime Springs in Howard county. The father there engaged in cultivating the soil for eleven years and in 1887 removed to Chester, where he has since made his home and is now living retired from active business, enjoying well earned rest.

G. M. Spencer was an infant of but a year when his parents came to Howard county, so that practically his entire life has been passed here. He acquainted himself with the elementary branches of learning as a pupil in the district school near his father's home and later he attended the public schools of Chester. As early as his fifteenth year he took up the work of carpentering, possessing natural mechanical skill and ingenuity, so that he took readily to the use of tools. It was but a comparatively short time until he was a master carpenter, and by the time he reached his

eighteenth year he was bidding on building contracts. From that date to the present he has been a dominant factor in the building operations of Howard county. Many large contracts have been awarded him and his work has always been of an important character. He has built the greater number of the business blocks as well as of the better residences in Chester and has long employed a force of competent workmen in the prosecution of his tasks.

Mr. Spencer was married in 1896 to Miss Nona McDowell, of Osterdock, Iowa, and to them have been born two sons and a daughter: Otto, who is in the United States marine service, stationed at Paris Island, South Carolina; and Marion and Eva, both at home.

Mr. Spencer votes with the republican party, which he has supported since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He belongs to Chester Lodge, No. 444, I. O. O. F., and to the Modern Woodmen of America and is loyal to the teachings and purposes of those organizations. The major part of his time and attention, however, is concentrated upon his business affairs and it has been by reason of his close application and determined effort that he has gained a place among the most substantial citizens of Howard county. He is now the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Pennington county, Minnesota, while in Chester he is controlling a business of substantial and gratifying proportions.

WILLIAM W. DUNCAN.

William W. Duncan is now living retired in Colwell, Floyd county, but for many years was actively identified with farming in Deerfield township and was classed among the representative and influential residents of Chickasaw county. He was born in Blackhawk county, Iowa, August 27, 1857, a son of Robert and Margaret (Walker) Duncan, who are mentioned elsewhere in this volume in connection with the sketch of their son, Robert A. Duncan.

William W. Duncan, after mastering the branches of learning taught in the district schools, concentrated his efforts and attention upon farm work. Following his father's death in 1870 he remained upon the home farm, which he cultivated in connection with his brothers up to the time of his marriage. He then began farming on his own account, renting the Perry Curtis property on section 32, Deerfield township, and for seven years he resided upon that place. During that period he carefully saved his earnings until his industry and economy had brought him sufficient capital to enable him to purchase land. It was in 1888 that he bought two hundred and thirty acres on section 5, Deerfield township, and thereon he lived for thirty-one years or until the summer of 1919, when he retired and removed to Colwell, where he now makes his home. His present land holdings comprise two hundred and ninety-six acres, constituting a rich and valuable farm from which he annually derives a substantial income. Year after year he worked diligently in the development of his fields and the large crops which he gathered enabled him to gain a most substantial competence.

In 1880 Mr. Duncan was married to Miss Nettie Clark, of Floyd county, Iowa, and they have become the parents of five children: Robert Ray, who follows farming in Deerfield township, Chickasaw county; Nellie M., the wife of M. J. Dickson, an agriculturist of Deerfield township; James Hugh, at home; William Earl, who is deceased; and Nettie Marie, who is the wife of J. T. Easterly, of Colwell, Iowa.

Mr. Duncan is now a stockholder in the Colwell Grain Exchange. Fraternally he is connected with Charles City Lodge, No. 165, I. O. O. F., and his political allegiance is given to the republican party. He has filled the office of road supervisor and has done active work in behalf of the cause of education as a member of the school board during several years' service in that office. He is now a member of the board of directors of the Colwell consolidated schools and he is in hearty sympathy with every plan and project to advance the educational interests of the community. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and his life has

ever been an upright and honorable one, commending him to the confidence and good will of all. The most envious cannot grudge him his success, so honorably has it been won and so worthily used. He is now occupying a pleasant home in Colwell, enjoying not only the necessities and comforts of life but many of its luxuries as well.

WILLIAM B. GARDNER.

William B. Gardner, a lifelong resident of Iowa, is now carrying on general agricultural pursuits on section 29, Howard township, in Howard county. He was born in Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, July 23, 1878, and is a son of William and Mary (Brokamp) Gardner, the former a native of Germany, while the latter was born in Cumberland, Maryland, and her parents came to this country from Germany. William Gardner crossed the Atlantic in his childhood days with his father and mother and became a resident of Iowa. He was married in Festina, Winneshiek county, this state, and immediately afterward he and his wife began their domestic life upon a farm in Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, where they resided for many years. There the father passed away in 1907, but the mother survives and yet occupies the old homestead.

William B. Gardner attended the Normal & Commercial College of New Hampton and the Highland Park College of Des Moines, Iowa. Following his graduation from the latter institution as a member of the class of 1906 he returned to the old homestead and began farming on his own account, purchasing eighty acres of his present place from his father. This was a tract of wild prairie land upon which not a furrow had been turned for an improvement made. He erected farm buildings and began the further development of the property and is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land, constituting one of the splendidly improved farms of Howard township. There are good buildings upon it and the place is divided into fields of convenient size by well kept fences. He uses the latest improved machinery to promote the work of the fields and annually gathers large crops as the reward of his labors.

In 1907 Mr. Gardner was married to Miss Mayme Butler, of Dyersville, who is a graduate of St. Francis Academy of Dyersville of the class of 1895 and who for nine years was engaged in educational work prior to her marriage. She has become the mother of six children, five of whom are living, namely: Linus J., Frank W., Joseph C., John P. and Marcella E. Marie Z. was killed by an automobile at the age of six years.

In politics Mr. Gardner is a democrat and in religious faith he and his family are Catholics. Political honors and emoluments, however, have no attraction for him as he has always preferred to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs and aside from farming he is a stockholder in the Elma Cooperative Creamery Company, of which he is the president, and a stockholder in the Howard County Equity Cooperative Association of Elma. His interests are therefore broad and varied, making him a leading and representative business man of Howard county.

JAMES PRASKA.

James Praska, who is carrying on general farming on section 34, Paris township, is a native son of Howard county, his birth having here occurred on the 20th of July, 1895. He is a son of Frank Praska, who was born in Bohemia and who came to the United States when a youth of eighteen years. Crossing the Atlantic, he made his way direct to Howard county and for several years was employed as a farm hand. When about twenty-five years of age he invested his earnings in a tract of farm land, which he sold a few years later. About nineteen years ago he purchased the present home farm, comprising two hundred and forty acres of rich and productive land.

James Praska was reared in the usual manner of the farm-bred boy. He at-

tended the district schools and in vacation periods worked in the fields, early becoming familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He continued to assist his father in the further development of the home place until twenty-two years of age, when he took over the home farm, which he has since cultivated, bringing the fields under a high state of development and adding many modern improvements to the farm as the years have passed on. He rotates his crops and keeps the soil in good condition and annually gathers good harvests.

On the 29th of October, 1918, Mr. Praska was married to Miss Celia Panoch, of Howard county, a daughter of Frank and Barbara Panoch, farming people of this section of the state. Mr. Praska and his wife are members of the Catholic church at Protivin. He votes with the democratic party, which he has supported since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He is yet a young man but already has made for himself a creditable position in agricultural circles and the qualities that he has displayed argue well for a successful future.

CHARLES L. PECINOVSKY.

Charles L. Pecinovsky, who is engaged in farming on section 23, New Oregon township, Howard county, was born on the old homestead farm just north of Protivin on the 1st of March, 1888, and is a son of Joseph F. Pecinovsky, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. He obtained his education in the public schools of Protivin and of Cresco, the period of his youth being largely devoted to the mastery of the branches of learning constituting the curriculum of the public schools in those places. On the 29th of October, 1912, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Berka, of New Oregon township, Howard county, a daughter of James Berka, who was also a native of Howard county and a son of Joseph Berka, who was one of the pioneer settlers of this section of the state, coming to Iowa from Bohemia in pioneer times.

In the spring following his marriage Mr. Pecinovsky began farming on his own account on the land which he now owns but which then belonged to his father. In 1915 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of the old homestead and has since given his attention to its further development and improvement. He has brought this land under a high state of cultivation so that he annually harvests good crops. The farm presents a most neat and thrifty appearance, indicative of the careful supervision and the practical and progressive methods of the owner.

To Mr. and Mrs. Pecinovsky have been born three children, two sons and a daughter: William L., Anna S. and James. The parents are members of the Catholic church and in his political views Mr. Pecinovsky is a republican, having always supported the men and measures of the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He is one of the successful farmers of the district who never stops short of the successful accomplishment of his purpose if his object can be won through earnest and honorable effort.

NELS LARSON.

Nels Larson, now one of the well-to-do farmers of Howard county, living on section 5, Howard township, arrived in Iowa with but fifty cents in his pocket. Thus empty-handed he started out in the business world, employed at farm labor, and through the intervening period his steady progress has brought him to the front as one of the substantial agriculturists of northern Iowa.

He was born in Denmark, November 6, 1848, a son of Lars and Johanna (Tom-person) Larson, who spent their entire lives in Denmark. The son was reared in his native land and acquired a common school education there. The favorable reports which he heard concerning the opportunities of the new world led him to the determination to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic and in 1870 he bade adieu to friends and native country and came to the United States, being then a



NELS LARSON AND FAMILY

young man of twenty-two years. He arrived in Cresco, Iowa, with fifty cents as his sole capital and began work on a farm, being employed through that summer at a wage of twenty dollars per month. During the winter months he worked for ten dollars per month and for five years remained in the employ of others. He was desirous, however, of engaging in business on his own account and utilized every means possible to promote that end, carefully saving his earnings until he felt justified in starting out independently. In 1875 he began farming as a renter and continued to cultivate leased land for eleven years. He practiced strict economy during that period and at the end of that time purchased eighty acres of his present farm, which now comprises one hundred and ninety acres of rich and arable land. His progress is the direct result of hard and unrelenting toil. He has worked persistently as the years have passed, making good use of his time and opportunities, and he certainly deserves much credit for the success to which he has attained.

In 1875 Mr. Larson was united in marriage to Miss Anna Louisa Johnson, a native of Sweden, by whom he has three children, namely: Rosalie, the wife of Frank Inward, of Ottertail county, Minnesota; Orvilla, who is the wife of Fred Inward, of Riceville, Iowa; and Elmer, who married Rosabelle Inward and is operating the home farm. Two other children of the family have passed away.

In politics Mr. Larson is a republican and has served for several years as road boss. He and his family are of the Lutheran faith and guide their lives by the teachings of the church. Mr. Larson is a man of many splendid traits of character. He has not only been progressive but also thoroughly reliable in his business affairs and his life record should serve to inspire and encourage others, showing what may be accomplished through individual effort and determination.

F. J. CONLEY.

For seven years F. J. Conley has been engaged in the practice of law at New Hampton and previous to that time was identified with educational interests in this state. He is a native son of Chickasaw county, his birth having occurred in Chickasaw township, January 17, 1879, his parents being Michael and Margery (McGettigan) Conley, the former a native of Vermont, while the latter was born in Chickasaw county, representing one of its old pioneer families. In his boyhood days the father came with his parents to Iowa, settling in the county where he still lives. He yet occupies the old family homestead in Chickasaw township which for many years has been his place of abode.

F. J. Conley completed his public school education by graduation from the high school of Ionia with the class of 1887. He afterward attended the Iowa State Teachers College and then took up the profession of teaching, with which he was identified for seven years. He made steady progress in that field and was superintendent of the schools of Lawler for two years, while for five years he served as county superintendent of schools of Chickasaw county. It was his desire, however, to become a member of the bar and he entered the St. Paul College of Law, from which institution he received his degree of LL. B. in the class of 1912. He was then admitted to practice at the Iowa State bar in October of that year and opened a law office in New Hampton, where he has since built up an extensive practice, in the conduct of which he is very successful. The thoroughness with which he studies, investigates and prepares his cases, combined with his clear and concise presentation of his cause, has constituted a most potent element in the attainment of his success. In 1914 he was a candidate for the office of county attorney and again in 1918 but was defeated by a small majority on both occasions.

On the 17th of October, 1904, Mr. Conley was married to Miss Jensena Rose Larson, of Lawler, Iowa, and to them have been born six children, of whom four are living: Eileen Agnes, Mary Gertrude, Margaret and Frances.

Mr. and Mrs. Conley are members of the Catholic church and he is identified also with the Knights of Columbus. His time and energies are chiefly devoted to his pro-

fessional interests and in a calling where advancement depends entirely upon individual merit and ability he is making steady progress. During the World war he actively participated in the speaking campaigns for Liberty loans, the Y. M. C. A. and other war service.

JOHN FISCHBACH.

John Fischbach is the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 10, Chickasaw township, Chickasaw county, which he purchased in 1905 and which he has since owned and occupied. He was born in Germany, October 2, 1860, a son of Nick and Gertrude (Wagner) Fischbach, both of whom died in Germany.

John Fischbach spent the first twenty-eighth years of his life in his native country and acquired a public school education there. He crossed the Atlantic in 1888 and first made his way to La Crosse, Wisconsin, where he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Becker, a daughter of Christoph and Elizabeth (Molitor) Becker, who were also of German birth and remained residents of their native land until called to their final rest.

Following his marriage Mr. Fischbach worked on the roads at La Crosse, Wisconsin, for six years and then, hoping to find better business opportunities and conditions elsewhere, he removed to Chickasaw county, Iowa, and for seven years resided upon a rented farm in Chickasaw township. He afterward spent three years upon another farm which he leased and all through this period of a decade he was carefully saving his earnings and utilizing his opportunities in the hope of ultimately becoming the owner of a farm. The year 1905 saw the realization of his dreams in the purchase of eighty acres of the one hundred and sixty acres on section 10, Chickasaw township, constituting his present home property. In the intervening period of fourteen years he has bent every effort to the development and improvement of his farm and has converted it into an excellent place that annually returns to him a gratifying income. He has also become a stockholder in the Ionia Farmers' Creamery Association.

Mr. and Mrs. Fischbach are the parents of four children: Hannah, now the wife of Henry Friedman; Clara Elizabeth, at home; Peter R., who died in France on the 5th of July, 1919, having gone to that country for overseas service in the great war; and Michael C., who is assisting his father. The son, Peter R., went to France with the September automatic replacement infantry troops, arriving at St. Nazaire, October 6, 1918. He later became attached to the embarkation staff at that place and died from disease July 5, 1919.

Mr. Fischbach and his family are members of St. Boniface Catholic church of Ionia. He has served as school director in Chickasaw township but has never been active as an office seeker. His life has been one of unfaltering diligence. He has worked hard and his ceaseless toil and endeavor have constituted the foundation upon which he has built his present-day success.

M. J. McARTHUR.

M. J. McArthur has for thirty-five years been identified with the lumber business in Cresco and by reason of his activity in this field is most widely known. He is also serving at the present time as city clerk. A native son of Iowa, he was the first male child born in the city of Davenport, his natal day being May 4, 1840. His parents were Gabriel and Elizabeth (Glaspell) McArthur, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of New Jersey. The parents were married in Cincinnati, Ohio, to which place the mother had removed with her parents during her girlhood days. In August, 1839, they came west to Davenport, Iowa, and were accompanied by the maternal grandfather, James Glaspell. He was in comfortable financial circumstances for a man of that period and was enabled to buy eighty acres of land for his family of eight children. The father

removed to the farm given his wife in 1844 and thereon resided to the time of his death in 1861.

M. J. McArthur was educated in the common schools but had the privilege of attending for only two or three months in the winter season. After his father's death he continued upon the home farm for a year and then turned the place over to his brother, while he rented a farm in Scott county, Iowa, thus making his initial step in an independent business career. He subsequently purchased a small plot of ground of twenty acres two and a half miles from Davenport and there engaged in gardening, remaining thereon until 1871, when he removed to Hopkinton, Iowa, and with others took up the business of merchandising and dealing in live stock. He was quite successful in his undertakings there and remained at that place until 1894, when he removed to Cresco and became manager of the Hollister Lumber Company, in which capacity he served six years. In 1900 he was sent by the company to Merrill, Wisconsin, as lumber buyer for their line of seventeen lumberyards and remained at that point three years. Subsequently, in connection with others, he built a mill at Bruces Crossing and organized the McArthur Manufacturing Company, of which he became the secretary and manager. In that position he served for three years and then sold his interest in the company, returning later to Cresco. When a year had passed he removed to Madison, South Dakota, as manager of the yards of the Coleman Lumber Company at Ramona, where he remained four years. He then again returned to Cresco, where he has since lived retired, enjoying a well earned rest.

In Davenport, Iowa, Mr. McArthur was married in 1861 to Miss Missouri Jane Moore and to them were born four children: Ann Elizabeth, Milton H., James and John. The wife and mother passed away and in 1899 Mr. McArthur was married to Miss Ada C. Brown, of Cresco.

Politically Mr. McArthur is a republican and is the present town clerk of Cresco, a position which he has most capably and ably filled for the past five years. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and his life has ever been guided by high and honorable principles, making him a man whom to know is to esteem and honor. His course has ever measured up to high standards and his splendid qualities are attested in the strong friendships which are his.

JOSEPH JINDERLEE.

Joseph Jinderlee is numbered among those men who have made Howard county a great agricultural center. He follows farming on section 21, Howard township, and still gives his personal attention to the development and improvement of his land. As the years have passed he has added to his holdings until his possessions now comprise six hundred acres. Mr. Jinderlee is a native of Bohemia. He was born March 13, 1842, of the marriage of Martin and Anna Jinderlee, who spent their entire lives in Bohemia.

In the public schools the son acquired his education and in 1866, in order to evade the Prussian-Austrian war, he fled the land of his birth and came to the United States, first making his way to La Crosse, Wisconsin, where he obtained work on a steamboat plying between St. Louis and Minneapolis. He spent five or six years on the river, working in that way during the fall seasons, while in the spring and summer months he was employed in a brickyard in La Crosse. The winter months were passed in the lumber camps and thus his life was one of industry and ceaseless toil. When he first went to Minneapolis he could have purchased an entire block of ground on what is today the main business thoroughfare of that city for fifty dollars and the most farsighted could scarcely have dreamed of the rapid strides which would be made in the development of the west.

In 1871 Mr. Jinderlee came to Iowa in search of land as an investment. He traveled over the Milwaukee Railroad westward to its terminus at Algona, but not liking the country there, he returned east to Charles City and bought land in Floyd county, ten miles southwest of Charles City. He then began the development and improvement of that place and farmed thereon for a period of twenty-eight years. In 1899 he disposed

of his lands in Floyd county and removed to Howard county, where ten years before he had purchased two hundred and forty acres of his present holdings. Since then he has added to his possessions from time to time until his landed interests in Howard county comprise six hundred acres. He is today numbered among the substantial residents of the county and, moreover, he is a self-made man who by persistent effort and straightforward dealing has gained his prosperity. While he is now in the seventy-eighth year of his age, he is still able to make a hand in the harvest field.

In 1873 Mr. Jinderlee was married to Miss Mary Kubesh, of Winneshiek county, who was born on the ocean while her parents were coming from Bohemia to the United States. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Jinderlee are the following children: J. W., a practicing physician of Cresco, Iowa; William and Frank, who operate the home farm; Charles F., a ranchman residing near Spokane, Washington; John, who follows farming and makes his home at Little Falls, Minnesota. The parents are members of the Catholic church. During the period of their residence in Howard county they have won many friends and enjoy the high regard and esteem of those with whom they have been associated.

L. F. GORDON, D. V. S.

Dr. L. F. Gordon, engaged in the practice of veterinary surgery at New Hampton, was born in Postville, Iowa, April 28, 1890, a son of James and Susan (McGreevy) Gordon, the former a native of Allamakee county, Iowa, born near Postville, while the latter was born in Fayette county, Iowa. The father was a butter maker by trade and conducted the Postville Creamery for nineteen years and the creamery at Preston, Iowa, for six years. He was there stationed at the time of his death, which occurred on the 30th of September, 1918. The mother survives and now makes her home with her son L. F.

In the public schools of Postville, Dr. Gordon began his education, passing through consecutive grades to his graduation from the high school as a member of the class of 1908. During the succeeding five years he devoted his attention to clerking, spending one year in a general store in Postville, while for four years he was employed as a salesman in a clothing store in Preston. In 1913 he took up the study of veterinary surgery, entering the Chicago Veterinary College, from which he was graduated as an alumnus of 1916. Following the completion of his course there he made his way at once to New Hampton, where he entered upon the active work of his profession, and in the intervening period of three years he has built up a large and lucrative practice. It is a recognized fact that he is thoroughly familiar with the latest scientific methods of veterinary surgery and his work has been productive of excellent results.

In 1912 Dr. Gordon was united in marriage to Miss Blanche Milar, of Preston, Iowa, and in the social circles of the city they have made many warm friends. They are members of St. Mary's Roman Catholic church, and fraternally Dr. Gordon is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he maintains an independent course, supporting men and measures rather than party. He is a young man who in professional circles has already won a creditable position and by reason of his thoroughness and efficiency is destined to gain still further success.

JOHN E. DAVIS.

John E. Davis, who is busily engaged in farming on section 24, Forest City township, Howard county, was born upon the farm which he is now operating, his natal day being February 26, 1889. His parents, Richard E. and Mary E. (Hughes) Davis, were natives of Wales and had reached adult age when they came to the new world. They made the trip with their brothers and sisters, their respective parents having died in their native land. Richard E. Davis first settled in Wisconsin after coming to the United

States and there was employed for several years at farm work. About 1870 he removed westward to Iowa and for some time worked on the construction of the Union Pacific Railroad through Nebraska. He afterward came to Howard county and about 1884 was married. He then settled on a part of the present home farm, having acquired eighty acres of land through holding a mortgage on the property. Later he added to his original tract until his farm comprised one hundred and eighty acres, upon which he resided to the time of his death, which occurred February 26, 1907. His widow survives and yet occupies the old home place.

John E. Davis of this review was educated in the district schools while spending his youthful days under the parental roof. In the winter seasons he mastered the branches of learning which constituted the public school curriculum and in the summer months he aided more or less in the work of the home farm until his father's death, which occurred when the son was eighteen years of age. Upon his young shoulders then devolved the care of the farm, which he has since cultivated and which is now owned by himself and his sister, Jessie M. Davis.

In his political views Mr. Davis is an earnest republican, believing firmly in the principles of the party, and he has served as a delegate to its county conventions, while at the last election he was chosen to the office of township assessor. On account of being alone upon the farm, however, he could not serve as it would require too much of his time. He is well known as an exemplary member of Howard Lodge, No. 214, A. F. & A. M., and also of the Modern Woodmen of America and is equally faithful as a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is regarded as one of the progressive young men and successful farmers of Howard county and enjoys the respect of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

JOHN J. PECHOTA.

John J. Pechota, engaged in farming on section 12, Utica township, Chickasaw county, is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Chicago, December 28, 1881, his parents being Frank and Mary Pechota, who are mentioned in connection with the sketch of their son, Wenzel A. Pechota, on another page of this work. With the removal of the family to Iowa, John J. Pechota became a pupil in the district schools of Chickasaw county and through the period of his youth aided in the cultivation of his father's farm. Following his marriage he located upon the place where he now resides—a tract of one hundred acres which his father deeded to him. The sons had assisted materially in the development of the old homestead and in the acquirement of their father's property, and he recognized their assistance in substantial gifts of land at the time the sons were married.

On the 1st of May, 1906, John J. Pechota wedded Miss Catherine M. Panos, a daughter of Albert Panos, who is spoken of at length in connection with the sketch of his son, James L. Panos, in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Pechota have two interesting children, Eugene and Dora.

The religious belief of the parents is that of the Catholic church and in the exercise of his right of franchise Mr. Pechota supports the democratic party. He is above all, however, a successful farmer who, working diligently and persistently along the line which he has always followed, has gained a place among the representative agriculturists of Chickasaw county.

W. E. TORNEY.

An excellent farm property of one hundred and fifty-one acres situated on section 7, Saratoga township, Howard county, pays tribute to the care and labor bestowed upon the place by the owner, W. E. Torney, who is classed with the representative agriculturists of that community. He was born August 8, 1856, in Canada, a son of Thomas and

Marguerite (McDowell) Torney, who about 1870 left Canada and came with their family to Howard county, Iowa. At that time the father purchased what is now the home farm of W. E. Torney and concentrated his efforts and attention upon its further development and improvement until the time of his death, which occurred April 17, 1899. For five years he had survived his wife, who died March 27, 1894.

W. E. Torney was a lad of but fourteen years at the time the family home was established in Howard county and his youthful experiences were those of the farm-bred boy who attends the public schools and works in the fields through vacation periods. He had begun his education in Canada and he continued his studies in Mitchell county, Iowa, when the parents came to this state. Since his father's death he has assumed the management and operation of the old home farm and now has one hundred and fifty-one acres of excellent land from which he derives a substantial annual income, for his methods of cultivating his fields are most practical and resultant.

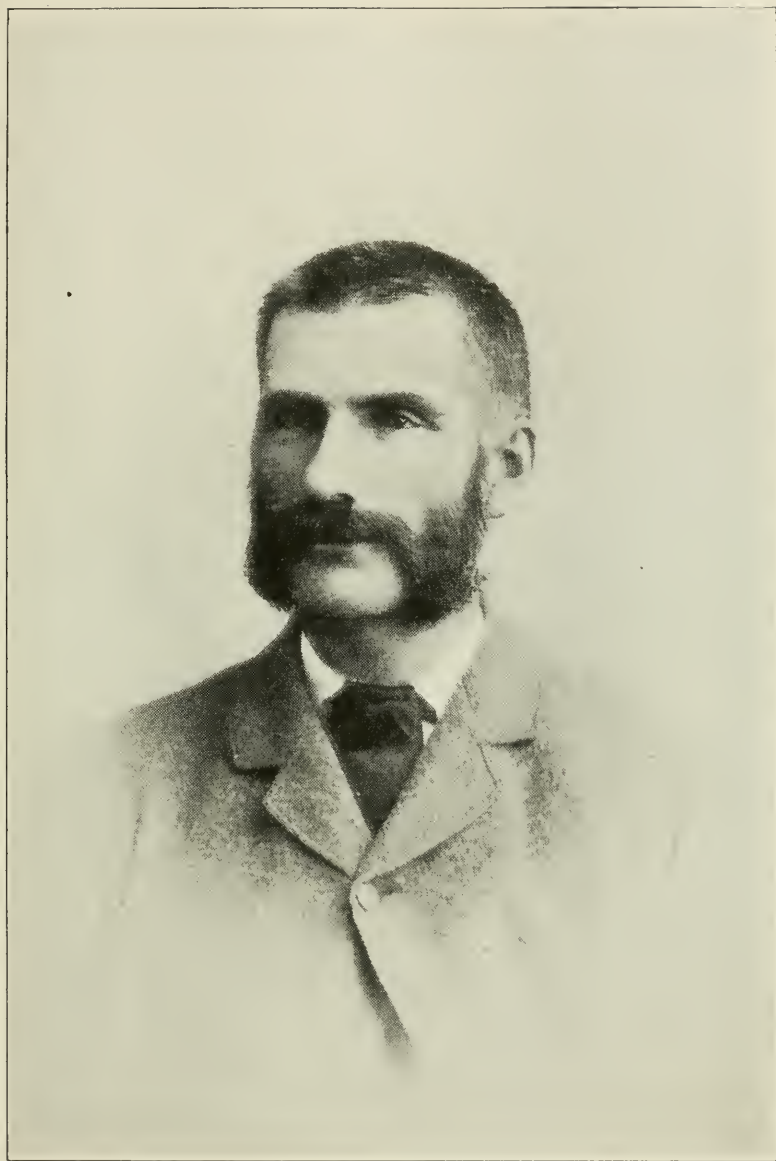
On the 25th of June, 1895, Mr. Torney was married to Miss Emma Gertrude Mason, a daughter of Patrick James and Marguerite (Covey) Mason. Mrs. Torney was born in Canada and her people never came to Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Torney have no children of their own but are rearing an adopted daughter, Nellie Marie, who is now attending the public school.

In political belief Mr. Torney is a republican but has never been an office seeker. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Lodge No. 211, and also has membership with the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Eastern Star. He is now occupying the position of township trustee for the first term. He and his family attend the Congregational church and their sterling worth has gained for them a circle of friends almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintance.

FRANK KOBLISKA.

Frank Kobliska is numbered among those who have transformed Chickasaw county from an undeveloped tract into one of the garden spots of Iowa, beautiful in the development and improvement of its farming land. He makes his home on section 32, Deerfield township, and is surrounded by highly cultivated fields, from which he annually gathers substantial harvests. He was born in Bohemia in September, 1858, a son of Wensel and Eleanora Kobliska. He came to the United States when a lad of twelve years in company with his parents, the family home being first established near Spillville, in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where the father purchased a farm and continued to carry on general agricultural pursuits for nineteen years. He then removed to Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, and settled on a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, which remained his place of residence until his life's labors were ended in death in 1881. The mother survives and yet occupies the original old home place near Spillville, having returned to that farm after the death of her husband, taking her family with her. Her son, Matt Kobliska, is now conducting the farm.

Frank Kobliska was educated in the public schools of Spillville and at the time of his father's death, which occurred when he was twenty-three years of age, he inherited eighty acres of land in Deerfield township. A year later he was married to Miss Barbara Hernecek, the wedding being celebrated on the 20th of November, 1882. She is a daughter of Frank and Anna Hernecek, both of whom were natives of Bohemia. Following his marriage Mr. Kobliska took his bride to the farm which he had inherited and for eight years he devoted his attention to its further development and improvement. He then sold that property and bought his present place in 1891, becoming the owner of two hundred acres of land. He has since extended the boundaries of his place and in addition to his farm in Deerfield township, which now comprises two hundred and forty-nine acres, he owns three hundred and twenty acres in North Dakota. His success has been attained through persistent effort, intelligently directed. He has worked long and earnestly and by reason of his careful management and straightforward dealings has gained a



COLONEL L. WHITCOMB

On the 9th of September, 1868, Mr. Whitcomb was united in marriage to Miss Minda C. Webster, of Cook county, Illinois, who died in January, 1901. They became the parents of three children, but only one survives, a son, Guy F., who is operating the home farm. He married Ruby Eastland, of Chickasaw county, and to them has been born a son, Howard R.

In his political views Mr. Whitcomb is a republican and has filled various local offices, serving as a member of the board of township trustees for several years, while at the present time he is serving as mayor of Fredericksburg. His interest in community affairs is deep and sincere, and he cooperates heartily in all plans and projects put forth for the benefit of the city, the development of its business conditions and the upholding of its civic standards. Fraternally he is connected with Mount Horeb Lodge, No. 33, A. F. & A. M., and his identification with Masonry covers a half century. He is also a member of J. V. Carpenter Post, G. A. R. He attends the Methodist Episcopal church, and his whole life has been characterized by high and honorable principles that have made him a man whom to know is to esteem and honor.

REV. JOHN P. WAGENER.

Rev. John P. Wagener, priest of St. Joseph's Catholic church at Cresco, was born at St. Donatus, Iowa, January 16, 1879, his parents being Nicholas and Elizabeth (Siren) Wagener. The son spent his boyhood days upon his father's farm at St. Donatus, where his youth was passed in the usual manner of the farm-bred boy, but he became ambitious to secure an education and ultimately formed the plan of preparing for the priesthood. In 1893 he became a student in St. Francis Seminary near Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he remained until 1896, when he entered St. Joseph's College at Dubuque, Iowa, and was graduated therefrom with the class of June, 1899. He next entered Grand Seminary at Montreal, Canada, and after studying theology there for a time was ordained to the priesthood on the 20th of December, 1902.

It was on the 3d of January, 1903, that Rev. Wagener was appointed assistant of St. Joseph's Catholic church at Bellevue, Iowa, where he continued until May 7, 1910. He was then appointed priest of St. Joseph's Catholic church in Cresco and has since continued his labors there. The church property is one of the finest in northern Iowa and the work of the church is splendidly organized and is being pushed steadily forward through the earnest and untiring efforts of Father Wagener.

In July, 1910, he was instrumental in building the Sisters' residence, which was completed in October of that year. It was in September, 1910, that the Sisters of Notre Dame of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, established the parochial school and parish and in 1912 a new parochial school was erected. The present church was built in 1916 and the church, the residence and parochial school are all clear of debt, all indebtedness having been discharged on the completion of the different buildings. To Father Wagener is due the credit for promoting the work in these connections. He has labored most untiringly, earnestly and effectively to upbuild the Catholic cause in Cresco and in Howard county and his labors have been far reaching and resultant.

H. P. NEHL.

H. P. Nehl is numbered among the residents of New Hampton who have justly won the proud American title of a self-made man. With limited educational opportunities and no special advantages in life, he has steadily worked his way upward and is now recognized as one of New Hampton's representative business men, engaged in real estate dealing. He was born in Sauk City, Wisconsin, September 9, 1868, a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Beck) Nehl, who came to Chickasaw county from Sauk City on the 6th of September, 1874. They took up their abode upon a farm near North Washington, where both the father and mother remained until called to their final rest.

Their son, H. P. Nehl, was educated in the district schools but his opportunities in that direction were very limited, as he was able to attend only three months in the year after reaching his eleventh year. He remained upon the home farm until 1891 and during the latter five years of that period had charge of and operated the farm. Desirous of establishing a home of his own, he was married in 1891 to Miss Mary M. Hentges, of Dubuque county, Iowa, and after his marriage he took up his abode upon a farm in Washington township which he purchased at that time. This property he continued to further develop and cultivate until 1905, when he removed to New Hampton and turned his attention to the real estate business, concentrating his efforts upon the buying and selling of farm lands in North and South Dakota and in Iowa. He now has extensive land holdings in the Dakotas and for the past fourteen years has been one of the large land dealers of New Hampton. He has closely studied every phase of the real estate business in the line in which he specializes and has so directed his labors that success in substantial measure has come to him.

To Mr. and Mrs. Nehl have been born four children, Agnes, Lena, Justina and Martha. All are graduates of St. Mary's College at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. Mr. Nehl and his family are communicants of St. Mary's Catholic church and he is also identified with the Knights of Columbus. In politics he maintains an independent course, nor has he ever been ambitious to hold office, preferring ever to concentrate his time and energies upon his business affairs, which have been carefully directed and have brought to him the substantial measure of success which he now enjoys. He is regarded as a thoroughly reliable real estate man and his enterprise and progressiveness have been dominant features in the attainment of his present prosperity.

FRANK J. PANOS.

Frank J. Panos, busily engaged in general farming on section 12, Utica township, Chickasaw county, was born on the old family homestead in this township, May 5, 1883, his parents being Albert and Barbara Panos, who are mentioned in the sketch of their son, James L. Panos, on another page of this work. The district schools afforded Frank J. Panos his educational opportunities and on the 29th of May, 1906, having arrived at years of maturity, he was married to Miss Fannie Shileny, a daughter of Frank Shileny, a native of Bohemia, who established his home in Winneshiek county during the period of its early development and who has now passed away.

In the spring after his marriage Mr. Panos engaged in farming on his own account, taking up his abode upon the place where he still resides, which was then owned by his father, who deeded the property to him at the time of his marriage. It comprises one hundred and twenty acres of very fertile and valuable land and responds readily to the care and labor bestowed upon it by the owner, who in his farm work manifests a most progressive spirit. What he undertakes he accomplishes, and his fields now present a neat and thrifty appearance, promising large harvests.

To Mr. and Mrs. Panos have been born four children, of whom three are living, George, Louis and William. In religious faith the parents are members of the Catholic church, and in his political views Mr. Panos is a democrat. He concentrates his efforts and attention, however, upon his farming interests and has made for himself a place among the substantial agriculturists of Utica township.

W. C. BAETHKE.

W. C. Baethke, who carries on general farming on section 18, Saratoga township, Howard county, was born in Germany, March 24, 1889, a son of C. F. and Minnie (Johlas) Baethke. The parents came to the United States in 1898 and made their way at once to Iowa, establishing their home in Saratoga township. The father worked as a farm hand for two years, but desirous of engaging in business on his own account,

then rented a farm, which he continued to cultivate for nine years. During this period he carefully saved his earnings and in 1909 bought the farm which is now owned and occupied by W. C. Baethke.

The latter was a lad of but nine years when he bade adieu to friends and native country and accompanied his parents to the United States. He was reared under the parental roof and the educational opportunities which he enjoyed were those afforded by the public schools of this county. In the fall of 1918 he was united in marriage to Miss Emma Hinz and they are well known and highly respected people of the district in which they live. They hold membership in the German Lutheran church and are loyal to its teachings and generous in its support. In politics Mr. Baethke is a republican. He has a brother, August C., who is with the American army of occupation in Germany, and the family are most loyal in their support of American interests. On coming to this country Mr. Baethke entered fully into the life and welfare of America and in the support of the institutions and principles of American life he has measured up to the one hundred per cent mark.

A. G. MERRILL.

A. G. Merrill, a general farmer of Howard county living on section 22, Saratoga township, was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, December 28, 1869. He has always remained a resident of this state and the spirit of progress and advancement which has been the dominant factor in the upbuilding of the west has been manifest in his life record. He was reared as a farm boy, dividing his time between the work of the fields, the pleasures of the playground and the duties of the schoolroom.

Mr. Merrill had attained his majority when in February, 1902, he was united in marriage to Miss Dora Enos, whom he met and married in Saratoga township. Her parents were Joseph and Alice Enos, the former of whom passed away in October, 1918, while the latter is now living with a son, W. H. Enos. The family is mentioned elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Merrill began their domestic life upon a farm and he has throughout his business career been identified with the active work of tilling the soil, making his home on section 22, Saratoga township. He has here sixty acres of land and is leading a life of industry and thrift, resulting in the further development of his farm property, his labors greatly enhancing its productiveness. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Cooperative Creamery Company of Saratoga.

Mr. Merrill is a supporter of the republican party and fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Royal Neighbors at Saratoga, while his wife is a member of the Congregational church. Both are well known in this section of the state, where they are highly esteemed, and the hospitality of the best homes is freely accorded them.

ALBERT REINHART.

Albert Reinhart, a representative farmer of Howard county, living on section 11, Paris township, was born in Elgin, Iowa, September 24, 1860. He is of Swiss descent, his parents being Samuel and Anna (Lehman) Reinhart, both natives of the land of the Alps. They came to the United States in early life. The father, however, was a young man when he crossed the Atlantic with his parents. The mother came to the new world as a maiden of thirteen or fourteen years with her father and mother, who settled in Elgin, Fayette county, Iowa, where they resided until called to their final rest. It was in Elgin that Anna Lehman became the wife of Samuel Reinhart in May, 1853. They remained residents of that place until 1864 and then removed to the vicinity of Lawler, Iowa, where they made their home for a quarter of a century. Subsequently they took up their abode in Howard county and after spending several years on a farm in Paris township they removed to Cresco, where they resided for eighteen years. They

then took up their abode in the home of their son Samuel in Alta Vista, Iowa, where the father passed away March 2, 1913, at the advanced age of eighty-five years, ten months and twenty-six days. The mother is still living and now makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Fred Heimerdinger, in Paris township, Howard county. She is now in her eighty-second year but is still quite active and well preserved.

Albert Reinhart, after attending the district schools near his father's home, assisted in the work of the farm up to the time of his marriage. In 1886 he wedded Miss Anna Albers, of Winneshiek county, Iowa, and the young couple began their domestic life upon their present home farm, which now comprises three hundred and forty acres of rich and productive land. At first, however, Mr. Reinhart bought only one hundred and twenty acres but in the intervening period he has added to his property from time to time until he has become owner of more than a half section and his farm is splendidly improved. He erected all of the buildings upon the place and has carefully cultivated his fields, so that he now gathers golden harvests. In addition to the tilling of the soil he raises black polled cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs, handling only pure blooded stock eligible to registry.

To Mr. and Mrs. Reinhart have been born eleven children, nine of whom are yet living, namely: Clara, the wife of Frank Dreckman, of Alta Vista; Henry and Albert, who are engaged in farming in Howard county; Esther, the wife of Clifford Platz, also a farmer of Howard county; Luella, who married Fred Rethamel, of Charles City, Iowa; and Earl, Edwin, Alfred and Harvey, all yet at home.

By reason of his success Mr. Reinhart has been able to provide a most comfortable living for his family. In addition to his farming interests he is a stockholder in the Farmers Creamery of Jerico and a stockholder in the Farmers Cooperative Lumber Company of Alta Vista. In his political views he is an earnest republican and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. In religious faith he and his wife are Methodists and their sterling worth has made them highly esteemed throughout the community in which they live. In every relation of life Mr. Reinhart has been honorable and upright, and his integrity in business affairs has been one of the strong forces in his success.

O. A. TAYLOR.

O. A. Taylor, alert and energetic, is now successfully managing the interests of the Gilchrist Elevator & Grain Company at Ionia. He is numbered among the substantial residents that the Empire state has furnished to Iowa, his birth having occurred in Tioga county, New York, August 11, 1851, his parents being Luther and Maria (Jacobs) Taylor, both of whom were natives of the state of New York, where they were reared and married. In 1856 they became residents of Wisconsin, settling on a farm near Janesville in Rock county, and about 1877 they arrived in Chickasaw county, Iowa, taking up their abode on a farm near Lawler, where the father passed away three or four years later. The mother afterward made her home with her children and departed this life in 1916, at La Crosse, Wisconsin, where she was living with a daughter.

O. A. Taylor supplemented his common school education by study in the Milton College of Milton, Rock county, Wisconsin, and later he followed the profession of teaching for two years, spending one year of that time in Michigan and the other year in Wisconsin. During this period he worked on his father's farm through the summer months. In 1875 he came to Iowa and entered into active association with the firm of Gilchrist & Company, grain dealers, in whose employ he has remained for forty-four years. No higher testimonial of efficiency, fidelity and capability could be given. He spent one year in their elevator at Cresco, Iowa, and thence was sent to Lawler as manager of their business at that point. He remained there for fifteen or sixteen years and was afterward sent to Fredericksburg, while a year later he was transferred to Ionia as manager of the interests of Gilchrist & Company at this place. Here he has since remained and he is today one of the best known grain buyers of

northern Iowa. There is no feature of the business with which he is not thoroughly familiar and his labors have been of immense benefit to the firm which he represents, while at the same time his efficiency has enabled him to command an excellent salary.

In 1876 Mr. Taylor was united in marriage to Miss Ellen Noon, of Chickasaw county, by whom he had seven children, five of whom survive, as follows: George R., who is grain buyer at Jackson Junction for Gilchrist & Company; Oliver B., who is engaged in buying grain for Gilchrist & Company at Lawler, Iowa; Claude L., who is managing an elevator for Gilchrist & Company at Devon, Iowa; Maud, who is the widow of Patrick Conley and resides at Maquoketa, Iowa; and Ruth, the wife of Christian Osterwalder, of Rock Island, Illinois.

In his political views Mr. Taylor is an earnest democrat and is recognized as one of the local party leaders. He served for two or three terms as mayor and for several terms as a member of the city council and is acting in the latter capacity at the present time. His wife is a member of the Catholic church. Both Mr. and Mrs. Taylor are well known in Ionia and this section of the state and the hospitality of the best homes is freely accorded them. Progress has characterized the entire business career of Mr. Taylor and advancement has come to him in recognition of his ability and merit.

BERNARD FLOOD.

For the past third of a century Bernard Flood has resided on his farm of one hundred and six acres on section 15, Vernon Springs township, adjoining the city limits of Cresco on the north. It is a most valuable and highly improved property and its owner is widely recognized as one of the leading and representative agriculturists of Howard county. He was born in Baltimore, Maryland, on the 21st of May, 1848, his parents being Bernard and Rosanna (Clark) Flood, both of whom were natives of Ireland, whence they emigrated to the United States as young people. They were married on Staten Island, New York, and subsequently removed to Baltimore, Maryland, in which city they continued to reside throughout the remainder of their lives. The father was a laborer.

Bernard Flood spent the period of his minority in his native city and attended the public schools of Baltimore in the acquirement of an education. When twenty-one years of age he left the parental roof and made his way westward to Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, where he was employed in a hotel for eighteen months. On the expiration of that period he went to Sioux City, Iowa, where he worked in a hotel for one year and then removed to Northfield, Minnesota, there conducting a restaurant for a year. Later he spent three years in Minneapolis, Minnesota, as a restaurant proprietor and subsequently secured employment in the roundhouse of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad at Minneapolis, remaining in the latter connection for two and a half years. The year 1879 witnessed his arrival in Howard county, Iowa, and here he worked as a farm hand for a period of six years. At the end of that time, in 1885, he purchased his present home farm of one hundred and six acres adjoining the city limits of Cresco on the north, now conceded to be one of the finest and best located farms in the county. The operation of the place has claimed his attention continuously since and he has erected all of the buildings thereon, making it a most excellently improved property. Mr. Flood is the second owner of the land, having purchased it from the widow of a Mr. Williams, who homesteaded the tract. The latter, however, went to the front during the period of the Civil war and never returned.

On the 18th of May, 1874, in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, Mr. Flood was united in marriage to Miss Nellie O'Malley, by whom he had two children: Bernardina, the wife of William Mullen, who follows farming in Vernon Springs township; and Matthew C., who cultivates the home place. The wife and mother passed away on the 1st of September, 1908, and her demise was not only felt as a great loss by the members of her immediate family but also by a large circle of friends.

In politics Mr. Flood maintains an independent course, supporting the candidate

whom he deems best qualified for office without regard to party ties. In religious belief he is a Catholic. He has now passed the seventy-first milestone on life's journey and his career has ever been such that he can look back over the past without regret and forward to the future without fear.

HON. H. H. BAILEY.

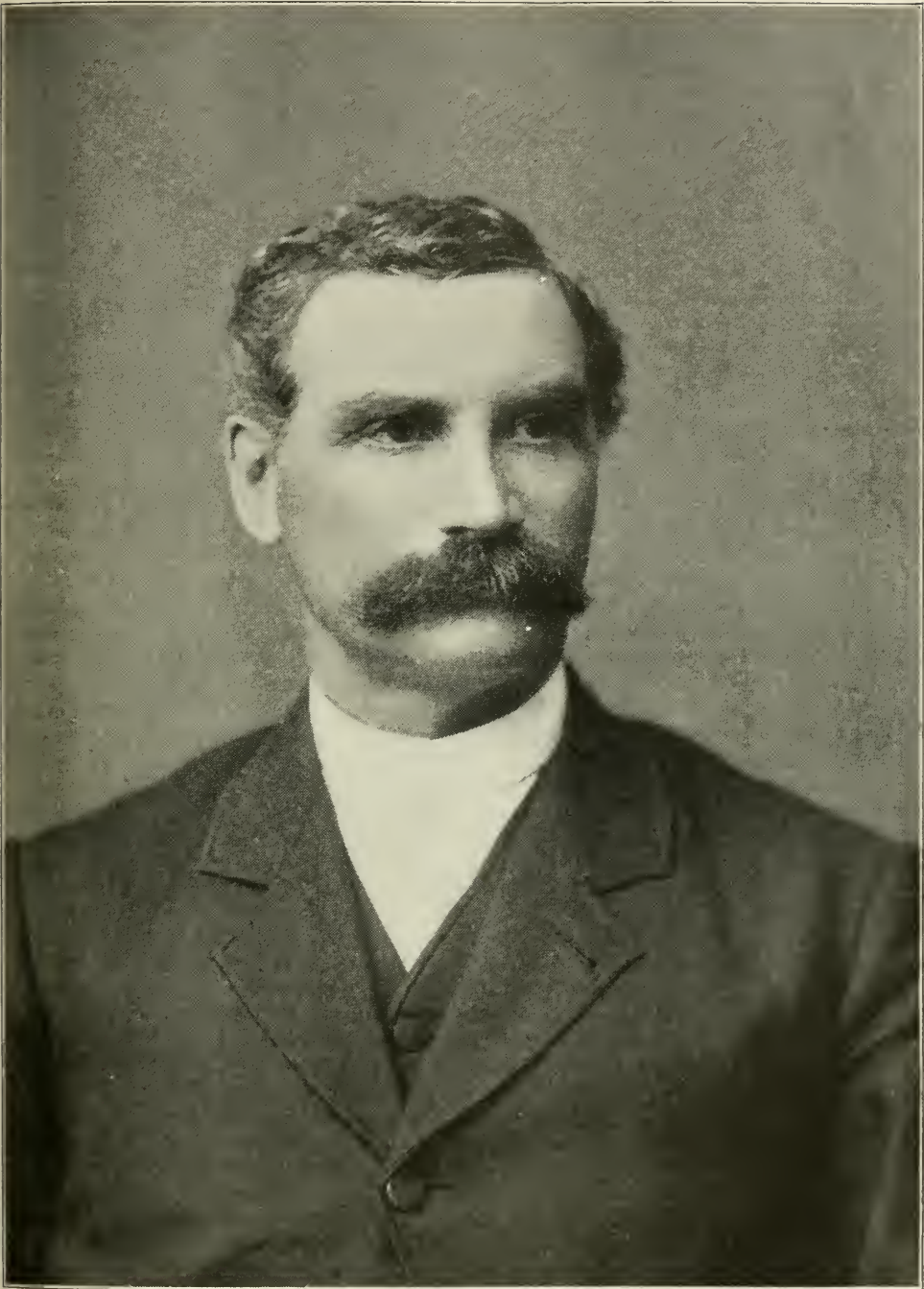
Hon. H. H. Bailey, deceased, was one of Chickasaw county's most prominent pioneer settlers and honored citizens. He was born in Vermilion, Ohio, September 26, 1837, and passed away in St. Joseph's Hospital in New Hampton, Iowa, June 10, 1918. His early life was one of hard knocks. The difficulties and obstacles in his path were many. When he was a child of but seven years his father died and his mother soon afterward married again. He was sent to live with his grandparents, who put him out to work for neighboring farmers. He was thus employed at a wage of seven cents per day and when his wages were increased to ten cents per day he felt that he was receiving a munificent salary. His educational opportunities were limited to a few months' attendance in the old log schoolhouse with its slab benches and other primitive furnishings, while the methods of instruction were almost equally crude. As he grew older he realized the need of a better education and for two terms attended Oberlin College at Oberlin, Ohio, working his way through school during that period.

In the spring of 1855 Mr. Bailey came with an uncle to Chickasaw county, Iowa, and later homesteaded on the section of land in Richland township which remained his place of residence up to the time of his death. On the outbreak of the Civil war he was on a visit to his mother at the old home in Ohio and while there he responded to his country's call, enlisting on the 1st of July, 1861, as a member of the Seventh Ohio (Rooster) Regiment. He served with this command for almost four years, being mustered out on the 3d of January, 1865. He participated in the battles of Gettysburg, Antietam, the second battle of Bull Run, Chancellorsville, Lookout Mountain, which was fought above the clouds, and many other notable engagements. He was three times wounded, being once shot through the neck, again through the right limb and a third time through the left hand. After receiving his discharge Mr. Bailey returned to his Iowa home and on the 6th of January, he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah P. Birdsall, a daughter of S. S. Birdsall, who was also one of the pioneer settlers of the county. Five children were born of this marriage but only two are now living: Louis P., who is engaged in merchandising at Williamstown, Iowa; and Paul J., a farmer who is operating the home farm.

Mr. Bailey possessed the intellect and ability that made him a man among men. He was most progressive and public-spirited and was always the leader in any movement that tended to promote the welfare and upbuilding of the district in which he lived. He possessed many sterling characteristics and it was said of him that he had a heart as big and kind as the master of men could put into a single body. He was unostentatious, was most liberal and charitable to every good cause. All who knew him spoke of him in terms of high regard and his sterling worth was recognized by all with whom he came in contact.

In politics Mr. Bailey was an ardent republican and was recognized as one of the foremost men of his party in Chickasaw county. He served for years in the various township offices and was for years a member of the board of county supervisors. He also represented his district in the twenty-first general assembly of Iowa and gave most thoughtful and earnest consideration to the vital questions which came up for settlement.

In financial affairs, too, Mr. Bailey was equally forceful and his success was notable. At the time of his death he owned two farms, the home place of two hundred acres, situated on sections 12 and 13, Richland township, and another tract of two hundred and ten acres on section 10 of the same township. His property interests were acquired as the result of close application and unabating industry, carefully directed by sound judgment. He was a stockholder and one of the members of the board of directors of the State Bank of New Hampton and in these various connections his judgment was sought



HON. H. H. BAILEY

because it was well known that he was a man of keen sagacity, who in all business matters readily discriminated between the essential and the nonessential.

Fraternally Mr. Bailey was connected with the Masons, the Elks, the Eagles and the Modern Woodmen of America. He was likewise identified with the Grand Army of the Republic and the Woman's Relief Corps and he was the organizer of the Fredericksburg Corps, G. A. R. For years he served as commander of the post, which in his death lost one of its most valued representatives. In fact his demise was the occasion of deep and widespread regret wherever he was known, for he was one of the most honored and beloved citizens of New Hampton and Chickasaw county, having endeared himself to all who knew him by "his many little unremembered acts of kindness and of love." After the death of her husband Mrs. Bailey removed to New Hampton, where she is now making her home. She is a woman of natural refinement and kindly spirit, who at all times was a worthy helpmate as well as a cherished companion to her able and honored husband. A well known writer has said: "Small kindnesses, small courtesies, small considerations, habitually practiced in our social intercourse, give a greater charm to the character than the display of great talents and accomplishments." Such were manifest in the career of Mr. Bailey, whose life record reminds us of the words of the Greek sage Euripides, who said: "It is a good thing to be rich and a good thing to be strong, but it is a better thing to be beloved of many friends."

LOUIE DETERDING.

Louie Deterding is the owner of a good farm property of one hundred and twenty acres situated on section 6, Howard township, and through his industry and perseverance has won classification with the representative farmers of Howard county. He was born in Germany, March 14, 1877, a son of Henry and Charlotte (Gevecke) Deterding. He came to this country with his parents when a youth of sixteen years and the family made their way direct across the country to Iowa. Their first home was in Tripoli, Bremer county, where Louie Deterding resided for a period of eight years. He then came to Howard county, arriving here in 1901. Two years before, or in the spring of 1899, his father had taken up his abode in this county.

Louie Deterding attended the public schools of Germany and also continued his education after becoming a resident of Bremer county. He was married on the 11th of May, 1911, to Miss Bertha Lone, a daughter of Dick and Mary (Schrader) Lone, of Tripoli, Bremer county. By this marriage there are three children: Marie and Henry, who are public school students; and Edna.

Throughout his active business life Mr. Deterding has followed general agricultural pursuits and is now the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and twenty acres. His diligence and industry have been the basis of his success and aside from his farming interests he is connected with the Maple Leaf Creamery Company as a director and stockholder. In his political faith he is a democrat but has never held or desired office. He and his family attend the German Lutheran church at Maple Leaf and they are widely and favorably known in this section of the state, where their circle of friends is almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintance.

NORMAN ALLEN HAVEN.

Norman Allen Haven, deceased, was for many years a most highly respected and valued resident of Howard county. He made his home on section 18, Forest City township, where he followed farming, and his place is still in possession of the family, being conducted by his son George. Norman A. Haven was born in Ellisburg, New York, on the 28th of November, 1842, and was a son of Daniel and Tamar Haven. He represented one of the old New England families, being a descendant of Colonel Ethan Allen,

who led the American forces in the capture of Fort Ticonderoga in the Revolutionary war, a campaign which won for him the title of general.

It was during the childhood of Norman Allen Haven that his parents removed from New York to Canada, where they resided for a few years. In the year 1856 they again crossed the border between Canada and the United States and established their home in Rock county, Wisconsin, where the father engaged in farming until 1858, in which year they removed to Foreston township and there resided until 1859. In that year the family home was established in Forest City township, Howard county, Iowa. Norman A. Haven accompanied his parents on their various removals and was a youth of seventeen years when he took up his abode upon what is now known as the old Haven homestead. There he attained his majority and through the period of his youth and early manhood his attention was given to the farm work, so that he became thoroughly familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops and was able to take charge of farming interests on his own account when he established a home of his own.

In the year 1883 Mr. Haven was united in marriage to Miss Mary Jane Jones and to them were born two sons, George B. and Norman Allen, Jr. The son George B. was married in 1914 to Miss Ruth Dykeman and they have two children, June Marie and Leonora Esther. The other son is mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

The death of Norman Allen Haven was a matter of deep and widespread regret not only to his immediate family but to all who knew him. He passed away at his home in Forest City township, Howard county, May 23, 1911, and was laid to rest in Pleasant Hill cemetery three days later. He was a man of upright character and of strong convictions, to which he was always true and loyal. His sterling worth was recognized by all with whom he came in contact. In politics he was a republican but never sought or desired office as a reward for party fealty. He gave loyal support, however, to measures and movements which he believed would prove of worth to the county and the commonwealth and in matters of citizenship his aid and influence were always on the side of improvement.

ALBERT J. MIKESH.

Albert J. Mikesch, a merchant of Protivin, who for two years has conducted one of the excellent stores of the town, was born in Spillville, Iowa, April 22, 1869. His father, John W. Mikesch, was a native of Bohemia and came to the United States when twelve years of age. He made his way to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he was employed as a farm hand for a few years, during which time he carefully saved his earnings until his industry and economy had brought him sufficient capital to enable him to purchase land. He became the owner of a farm at Spillville and continued its cultivation and improvement to the time of his death, which occurred in 1914. He erected all of the buildings upon the place and converted it into a modern farm, equipped with all the improvements and accessories of the model farm of the twentieth century. His first purchase made him owner of forty acres of land, to which he gradually added as his financial resources increased until he was the owner of one hundred and ninety acres. He married Frances Janoush, a daughter of John Janoush, of Spillville, and passed away in 1914, at the age of seventy-two years, on the old home farm, which he had so long owned and occupied. He had filled the office of road supervisor for a number of years and was interested in the welfare, upbuilding and progress of the community. But a young lad when brought to America, he supplemented his education, acquired in Bohemia, by attending the public schools of Winneshiek county. When the country needed his aid in the preservation of the Union he joined the army of the north and was wounded in battle but entirely recovered and throughout his remaining days he displayed the same loyalty to his adopted land that he manifested when he followed the nation's starry banner on the battlefields of the south. At the time of the father's death his son, Louis Mikesch, took over the farm and has since continued its cultivation.

Albert J. Mikesch was reared on the old homestead and worked with his father on the farm to the age of seventeen years, when he took up carpentering, devoting his energies to that trade for twenty years and thus being identified with many important building operations in the county. On the expiration of that period he established a general store at Protivin and now has an excellent store, which he has been successfully conducting for twenty-six years. He carries a large and well selected line of goods and his enterprising methods, his reliability and his earnest desire to please his patrons have been potent elements in his continued success.

When twenty-five years of age Albert J. Mikesch married Miss Mamie Novak, a daughter of Tom and Verona Novak, of Spillville, and they have become the parents of three children: Nellie, the wife of Ben Bouska, of Schley; and Edith and Leo, at home. The family attend the Catholic church at Protivin.

Mr. Mikesch gives his political allegiance to the democratic party. He is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of Iowa and his entire life, covering a period of fifty years, has been passed within this state, so that he has been a witness of much of the growth and development of this section of the country. At all times he has borne his part in the work of general progress and improvement and is regarded as one of the substantial citizens of Protivin.

G. H. MILLENBAUGH, D. O.

Dr. G. H. Millenbaugh is a well known osteopath of New Hampton, where he has successfully practiced his profession since 1916. He was born in Putnam county, Ohio, on the 27th of June, 1891, a son of Joseph and Anna (Yocklin) Millenbaugh, the latter a native of Germany, while the former was born in Ohio of German parentage. Dr. Millenbaugh attended the common schools of his native county in the acquirement of an education and in 1913 entered upon preparation for his chosen life work as a student in the American School of Osteopathy at Kirksville, Missouri, from which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1916. He then located at New Hampton, where he has continued throughout the intervening period of three years and where he has built up an extensive and gratifying practice that is steadily growing as his skill is becoming more and more widely recognized.

Dr. Millenbaugh is a communicant of St. Mary's Catholic church and also belongs to the Knights of Columbus. He is popular in both professional and social circles of the community in which he makes his home and has already gained an enviable measure of success for one of his years.

G. M. SPENCER.

A well known representative of business enterprise in Chester is G. M. Spencer, who is conducting a general contracting business. He was born in the state of New York, March 7, 1875, a son of Ransom and Anna (Fox) Spencer, who were born, reared and married in the Empire state. In 1876 they removed westward to Iowa and took up their abode upon a rented farm near Lime Springs in Howard county. The father there engaged in cultivating the soil for eleven years and in 1887 removed to Chester, where he has since made his home and is now living retired from active business, enjoying well earned rest.

G. M. Spencer was an infant of but a year when his parents came to Howard county, so that practically his entire life has been passed here. He acquainted himself with the elementary branches of learning as a pupil in the district school near his father's home and later he attended the public schools of Chester. As early as his fifteenth year he took up the work of carpentering, possessing natural mechanical skill and ingenuity, so that he took readily to the use of tools. It was but a comparatively short time until he was a master carpenter, and by the time he reached his

eighteenth year he was bidding on building contracts. From that date to the present he has been a dominant factor in the building operations of Howard county. Many large contracts have been awarded him and his work has always been of an important character. He has built the greater number of the business blocks as well as of the better residences in Chester and has long employed a force of competent workmen in the prosecution of his tasks.

Mr. Spencer was married in 1896 to Miss Nona McDowell, of Osterdock, Iowa, and to them have been born two sons and a daughter: Otto, who is in the United States marine service, stationed at Paris Island, South Carolina; and Marion and Eva, both at home.

Mr. Spencer votes with the republican party, which he has supported since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He belongs to Chester Lodge, No. 444, I. O. O. F., and to the Modern Woodmen of America and is loyal to the teachings and purposes of those organizations. The major part of his time and attention, however, is concentrated upon his business affairs and it has been by reason of his close application and determined effort that he has gained a place among the most substantial citizens of Howard county. He is now the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Pennington county, Minnesota, while in Chester he is controlling a business of substantial and gratifying proportions.

WILLIAM W. DUNCAN.

William W. Duncan is now living retired in Colwell, Floyd county, but for many years was actively identified with farming in Deerfield township and was classed among the representative and influential residents of Chickasaw county. He was born in Blackhawk county, Iowa, August 27, 1857, a son of Robert and Margaret (Walker) Duncan, who are mentioned elsewhere in this volume in connection with the sketch of their son, Robert A. Duncan.

William W. Duncan, after mastering the branches of learning taught in the district schools, concentrated his efforts and attention upon farm work. Following his father's death in 1870 he remained upon the home farm, which he cultivated in connection with his brothers up to the time of his marriage. He then began farming on his own account, renting the Perry Curtis property on section 32, Deerfield township, and for seven years he resided upon that place. During that period he carefully saved his earnings until his industry and economy had brought him sufficient capital to enable him to purchase land. It was in 1888 that he bought two hundred and thirty acres on section 5, Deerfield township, and thereon he lived for thirty-one years or until the summer of 1919, when he retired and removed to Colwell, where he now makes his home. His present land holdings comprise two hundred and ninety-six acres, constituting a rich and valuable farm from which he annually derives a substantial income. Year after year he worked diligently in the development of his fields and the large crops which he gathered enabled him to gain a most substantial competence.

In 1880 Mr. Duncan was married to Miss Nettie Clark, of Floyd county, Iowa, and they have become the parents of five children: Robert Ray, who follows farming in Deerfield township, Chickasaw county; Nellie M., the wife of M. J. Dickson, an agriculturist of Deerfield township; James Hugh, at home; William Earl, who is deceased; and Nettie Marie, who is the wife of J. T. Easterly, of Colwell, Iowa.

Mr. Duncan is now a stockholder in the Colwell Grain Exchange. Fraternally he is connected with Charles City Lodge, No. 165, I. O. O. F., and his political allegiance is given to the republican party. He has filled the office of road supervisor and has done active work in behalf of the cause of education as a member of the school board during several years' service in that office. He is now a member of the board of directors of the Colwell consolidated schools and he is in hearty sympathy with every plan and project to advance the educational interests of the community. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and his life has

ever been an upright and honorable one, commending him to the confidence and good will of all. The most envious cannot grudge him his success, so honorably has it been won and so worthily used. He is now occupying a pleasant home in Colwell, enjoying not only the necessities and comforts of life but many of its luxuries as well.

WILLIAM B. GARDNER.

William B. Gardner, a lifelong resident of Iowa, is now carrying on general agricultural pursuits on section 29, Howard township, in Howard county. He was born in Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, July 23, 1878, and is a son of William and Mary (Brokamp) Gardner, the former a native of Germany, while the latter was born in Cumberland, Maryland, and her parents came to this country from Germany. William Gardner crossed the Atlantic in his childhood days with his father and mother and became a resident of Iowa. He was married in Festina, Winneshiek county, this state, and immediately afterward he and his wife began their domestic life upon a farm in Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, where they resided for many years. There the father passed away in 1907, but the mother survives and yet occupies the old homestead.

William B. Gardner attended the Normal & Commercial College of New Hampton and the Highland Park College of Des Moines, Iowa. Following his graduation from the latter institution as a member of the class of 1906 he returned to the old homestead and began farming on his own account, purchasing eighty acres of his present place from his father. This was a tract of wild prairie land upon which not a furrow had been turned for an improvement made. He erected farm buildings and began the further development of the property and is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land, constituting one of the splendidly improved farms of Howard township. There are good buildings upon it and the place is divided into fields of convenient size by well kept fences. He uses the latest improved machinery to promote the work of the fields and annually gathers large crops as the reward of his labors.

In 1907 Mr. Gardner was married to Miss Mayme Butler, of Dyersville, who is a graduate of St. Francis Academy of Dyersville of the class of 1895 and who for nine years was engaged in educational work prior to her marriage. She has become the mother of six children, five of whom are living, namely: Linus J., Frank W., Joseph C., John P. and Marcella E. Marie Z. was killed by an automobile at the age of six years.

In politics Mr. Gardner is a democrat and in religious faith he and his family are Catholics. Political honors and emoluments, however, have no attraction for him as he has always preferred to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs and aside from farming he is a stockholder in the Elma Cooperative Creamery Company, of which he is the president, and a stockholder in the Howard County Equity Cooperative Association of Elma. His interests are therefore broad and varied, making him a leading and representative business man of Howard county.

JAMES PRASKA.

James Praska, who is carrying on general farming on section 34, Paris township, is a native son of Howard county, his birth having here occurred on the 20th of July, 1895. He is a son of Frank Praska, who was born in Bohemia and who came to the United States when a youth of eighteen years. Crossing the Atlantic, he made his way direct to Howard county and for several years was employed as a farm hand. When about twenty-five years of age he invested his earnings in a tract of farm land, which he sold a few years later. About nineteen years ago he purchased the present home farm, comprising two hundred and forty acres of rich and productive land.

James Praska was reared in the usual manner of the farm-bred boy. He at-

tended the district schools and in vacation periods worked in the fields, early becoming familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He continued to assist his father in the further development of the home place until twenty-two years of age, when he took over the home farm, which he has since cultivated, bringing the fields under a high state of development and adding many modern improvements to the farm as the years have passed on. He rotates his crops and keeps the soil in good condition and annually gathers good harvests.

On the 29th of October, 1918, Mr. Praska was married to Miss Celia Panoch, of Howard county, a daughter of Frank and Barbara Panoch, farming people of this section of the state. Mr. Praska and his wife are members of the Catholic church at Protivin. He votes with the democratic party, which he has supported since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He is yet a young man but already has made for himself a creditable position in agricultural circles and the qualities that he has displayed argue well for a successful future.

CHARLES L. PECINOVSKY.

Charles L. Pecinovsky, who is engaged in farming on section 23, New Oregon township, Howard county, was born on the old homestead farm just north of Protivin on the 1st of March, 1888, and is a son of Joseph F. Pecinovsky, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. He obtained his education in the public schools of Protivin and of Cresco, the period of his youth being largely devoted to the mastery of the branches of learning constituting the curriculum of the public schools in those places. On the 29th of October, 1912, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Berka, of New Oregon township, Howard county, a daughter of James Berka, who was also a native of Howard county and a son of Joseph Berka, who was one of the pioneer settlers of this section of the state, coming to Iowa from Bohemia in pioneer times.

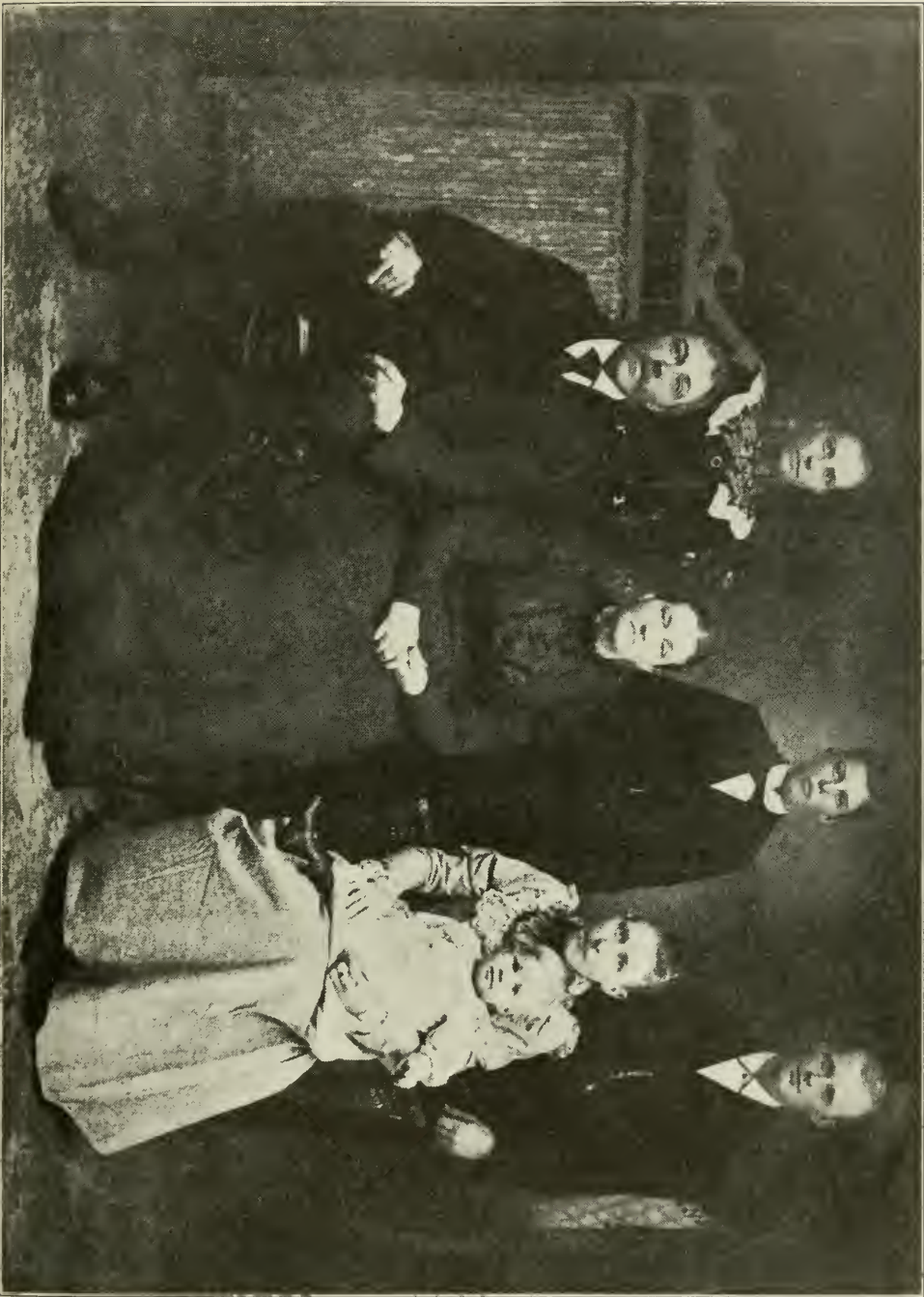
In the spring following his marriage Mr. Pecinovsky began farming on his own account on the land which he now owns but which then belonged to his father. In 1915 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of the old homestead and has since given his attention to its further development and improvement. He has brought this land under a high state of cultivation so that he annually harvests good crops. The farm presents a most neat and thrifty appearance, indicative of the careful supervision and the practical and progressive methods of the owner.

To Mr. and Mrs. Pecinovsky have been born three children, two sons and a daughter: William L., Anna S. and James. The parents are members of the Catholic church and in his political views Mr. Pecinovsky is a republican, having always supported the men and measures of the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He is one of the successful farmers of the district who never stops short of the successful accomplishment of his purpose if his object can be won through earnest and honorable effort.

NELS LARSON.

Nels Larson, now one of the well-to-do farmers of Howard county, living on section 5, Howard township, arrived in Iowa with but fifty cents in his pocket. Thus empty-handed he started out in the business world, employed at farm, labor, and through the intervening period his steady progress has brought him to the front as one of the substantial agriculturists of northern Iowa.

He was born in Denmark, November 6, 1848, a son of Lars and Johanna (Tom-person) Larson, who spent their entire lives in Denmark. The son was reared in his native land and acquired a common school education there. The favorable reports which he heard concerning the opportunities of the new world led him to the determination to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic and in 1870 he bade adieu to friends and native country and came to the United States, being then a



NELS LARSON AND FAMILY

young man of twenty-two years. He arrived in Cresco, Iowa, with fifty cents as his sole capital and began work on a farm, being employed through that summer at a wage of twenty dollars per month. During the winter months he worked for ten dollars per month and for five years remained in the employ of others. He was desirous, however, of engaging in business on his own account and utilized every means possible to promote that end, carefully saving his earnings until he felt justified in starting out independently. In 1875 he began farming as a renter and continued to cultivate leased land for eleven years. He practiced strict economy during that period and at the end of that time purchased eighty acres of his present farm, which now comprises one hundred and ninety acres of rich and arable land. His progress is the direct result of hard and unrelenting toil. He has worked persistently as the years have passed, making good use of his time and opportunities, and he certainly deserves much credit for the success to which he has attained.

In 1875 Mr. Larson was united in marriage to Miss Anna Louisa Johnson, a native of Sweden, by whom he has three children, namely: Rosalie, the wife of Frank Inward, of Ottertail county, Minnesota; Orvilla, who is the wife of Fred Inward, of Riceville, Iowa; and Elmer, who married Rosabelle Inward and is operating the home farm. Two other children of the family have passed away.

In politics Mr. Larson is a republican and has served for several years as road boss. He and his family are of the Lutheran faith and guide their lives by the teachings of the church. Mr. Larson is a man of many splendid traits of character. He has not only been progressive but also thoroughly reliable in his business affairs and his life record should serve to inspire and encourage others, showing what may be accomplished through individual effort and determination.

F. J. CONLEY.

For seven years F. J. Conley has been engaged in the practice of law at New Hampton and previous to that time was identified with educational interests in this state. He is a native son of Chickasaw county, his birth having occurred in Chickasaw township, January 17, 1879, his parents being Michael and Margery (McGettigan) Conley, the former a native of Vermont, while the latter was born in Chickasaw county, representing one of its old pioneer families. In his boyhood days the father came with his parents to Iowa, settling in the county where he still lives. He yet occupies the old family homestead in Chickasaw township which for many years has been his place of abode.

F. J. Conley completed his public school education by graduation from the high school of Ionia with the class of 1887. He afterward attended the Iowa State Teachers College and then took up the profession of teaching, with which he was identified for seven years. He made steady progress in that field and was superintendent of the schools of Lawler for two years, while for five years he served as county superintendent of schools of Chickasaw county. It was his desire, however, to become a member of the bar and he entered the St. Paul College of Law, from which institution he received his degree of LL. B. in the class of 1912. He was then admitted to practice at the Iowa State bar in October of that year and opened a law office in New Hampton, where he has since built up an extensive practice, in the conduct of which he is very successful. The thoroughness with which he studies, investigates and prepares his cases, combined with his clear and concise presentation of his cause, has constituted a most potent element in the attainment of his success. In 1914 he was a candidate for the office of county attorney and again in 1918 but was defeated by a small majority on both occasions.

On the 17th of October, 1904, Mr. Conley was married to Miss Jensena Rose Larson, of Lawler, Iowa, and to them have been born six children, of whom four are living: Eileen Agnes, Mary Gertrude, Margaret and Frances.

Mr. and Mrs. Conley are members of the Catholic church and he is identified also with the Knights of Columbus. His time and energies are chiefly devoted to his pro-

fessional interests and in a calling where advancement depends entirely upon individual merit and ability he is making steady progress. During the World war he actively participated in the speaking campaigns for Liberty loans, the Y. M. C. A. and other war service.

JOHN FISCHBACH.

John Fischbach is the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 10, Chickasaw township, Chickasaw county, which he purchased in 1905 and which he has since owned and occupied. He was born in Germany, October 2, 1860, a son of Nick and Gertrude (Wagner) Fischbach, both of whom died in Germany.

John Fischbach spent the first twenty-eighth years of his life in his native country and acquired a public school education there. He crossed the Atlantic in 1888 and first made his way to La Crosse, Wisconsin, where he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Becker, a daughter of Christoph and Elizabeth (Molitor) Becker, who were also of German birth and remained residents of their native land until called to their final rest.

Following his marriage Mr. Fischbach worked on the roads at La Crosse, Wisconsin, for six years and then, hoping to find better business opportunities and conditions elsewhere, he removed to Chickasaw county, Iowa, and for seven years resided upon a rented farm in Chickasaw township. He afterward spent three years upon another farm which he leased and all through this period of a decade he was carefully saving his earnings and utilizing his opportunities in the hope of ultimately becoming the owner of a farm. The year 1905 saw the realization of his dreams in the purchase of eighty acres of the one hundred and sixty acres on section 10, Chickasaw township, constituting his present home property. In the intervening period of fourteen years he has bent every effort to the development and improvement of his farm and has converted it into an excellent place that annually returns to him a gratifying income. He has also become a stockholder in the Ionia Farmers' Creamery Association.

Mr. and Mrs. Fischbach are the parents of four children: Hannah, now the wife of Henry Friedman; Clara Elizabeth, at home; Peter R., who died in France on the 5th of July, 1919, having gone to that country for overseas service in the great war; and Michael C., who is assisting his father. The son, Peter R., went to France with the September automatic replacement infantry troops, arriving at St. Nazaire, October 6, 1918. He later became attached to the embarkation staff at that place and died from disease July 5, 1919.

Mr. Fischbach and his family are members of St. Boniface Catholic church of Ionia. He has served as school director in Chickasaw township but has never been active as an office seeker. His life has been one of unfaltering diligence. He has worked hard and his ceaseless toil and endeavor have constituted the foundation upon which he has built his present-day success.

M. J. McARTHUR.

M. J. McArthur has for thirty-five years been identified with the lumber business in Cresco, and by reason of his activity in this field is most widely known. He is also serving at the present time as city clerk. A native son of Iowa, he was the first male child born in the city of Davenport, his natal day being May 4, 1840. His parents were Gabriel and Elizabeth (Glaspell) McArthur, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of New Jersey. The parents were married in Cincinnati, Ohio, to which place the mother had removed with her parents during her girlhood days. In August, 1839, they came west to Davenport, Iowa, and were accompanied by the maternal grandfather, James Glaspell. He was in comfortable financial circumstances for a man of that period and was enabled to buy eighty acres of land for his family of eight children. The father

removed to the farm given his wife in 1844 and thereon resided to the time of his death in 1861.

M. J. McArthur was educated in the common schools but had the privilege of attending for only two or three months in the winter season. After his father's death he continued upon the home farm for a year and then turned the place over to his brother, while he rented a farm in Scott county, Iowa, thus making his initial step in an independent business career. He subsequently purchased a small plot of ground of twenty acres two and a half miles from Davenport and there engaged in gardening, remaining thereon until 1871, when he removed to Hopkinton, Iowa, and with others took up the business of merchandising and dealing in live stock. He was quite successful in his undertakings there and remained at that place until 1894, when he removed to Cresco and became manager of the Hollister Lumber Company, in which capacity he served six years. In 1900 he was sent by the company to Merrill, Wisconsin, as lumber buyer for their line of seventeen lumberyards and remained at that point three years. Subsequently, in connection with others, he built a mill at Bruces Crossing and organized the McArthur Manufacturing Company, of which he became the secretary and manager. In that position he served for three years and then sold his interest in the company, returning later to Cresco. When a year had passed he removed to Madison, South Dakota, as manager of the yards of the Coleman Lumber Company at Ramona, where he remained four years. He then again returned to Cresco, where he has since lived retired, enjoying a well earned rest.

In Davenport, Iowa, Mr. McArthur was married in 1861 to Miss Missouri Jane Moore and to them were born four children: Ann Elizabeth, Milton H., James and John. The wife and mother passed away and in 1899 Mr. McArthur was married to Miss Ada C. Brown, of Cresco.

Politically Mr. McArthur is a republican and is the present town clerk of Cresco, a position which he has most capably and ably filled for the past five years. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and his life has ever been guided by high and honorable principles, making him a man whom to know is to esteem and honor. His course has ever measured up to high standards and his splendid qualities are attested in the strong friendships which are his.

JOSEPH JINDERLEE.

Joseph Jinderlee is numbered among those men who have made Howard county a great agricultural center. He follows farming on section 21, Howard township, and still gives his personal attention to the development and improvement of his land. As the years have passed he has added to his holdings until his possessions now comprise six hundred acres. Mr. Jinderlee is a native of Bohemia. He was born March 13, 1842, of the marriage of Martin and Anna Jinderlee, who spent their entire lives in Bohemia.

In the public schools the son acquired his education and in 1866, in order to evade the Prussian-Austrian war, he fled the land of his birth and came to the United States, first making his way to La Crosse, Wisconsin, where he obtained work on a steamboat plying between St. Louis and Minneapolis. He spent five or six years on the river, working in that way during the fall seasons, while in the spring and summer months he was employed in a brickyard in La Crosse. The winter months were passed in the lumber camps and thus his life was one of industry and ceaseless toil. When he first went to Minneapolis he could have purchased an entire block of ground on what is today the main business thoroughfare of that city for fifty dollars and the most farsighted could scarcely have dreamed of the rapid strides which would be made in the development of the west.

In 1871 Mr. Jinderlee came to Iowa in search of land as an investment. He traveled over the Milwaukee Railroad westward to its terminus at Algona, but not liking the country there, he returned east to Charles City and bought land in Floyd county, ten miles southwest of Charles City. He then began the development and improvement of that place and farmed thereon for a period of twenty-eight years. In 1899 he disposed

of his lands in Floyd county and removed to Howard county, where ten years before he had purchased two hundred and forty acres of his present holdings. Since then he has added to his possessions from time to time until his landed interests in Howard county comprise six hundred acres. He is today numbered among the substantial residents of the county and, moreover, he is a self-made man who by persistent effort and straightforward dealing has gained his prosperity. While he is now in the seventy-eighth year of his age, he is still able to make a hand in the harvest field.

In 1873 Mr. Jinderlee was married to Miss Mary Kubesh, of Winneshiek county, who was born on the ocean while her parents were coming from Bohemia to the United States. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Jinderlee are the following children: J. W., a practicing physician of Cresco, Iowa; William and Frank, who operate the home farm; Charles F., a ranchman residing near Spokane, Washington; John, who follows farming and makes his home at Little Falls, Minnesota. The parents are members of the Catholic church. During the period of their residence in Howard county they have won many friends and enjoy the high regard and esteem of those with whom they have been associated.

L. F. GORDON, D. V. S.

Dr. L. F. Gordon, engaged in the practice of veterinary surgery at New Hampton, was born in Postville, Iowa, April 28, 1890, a son of James and Susan (McGreevy) Gordon, the former a native of Allamakee county, Iowa, born near Postville, while the latter was born in Fayette county, Iowa. The father was a butter maker by trade and conducted the Postville Creamery for nineteen years and the creamery at Preston, Iowa, for six years. He was there stationed at the time of his death, which occurred on the 30th of September, 1918. The mother survives and now makes her home with her son L. F.

In the public schools of Postville, Dr. Gordon began his education, passing through consecutive grades to his graduation from the high school as a member of the class of 1908. During the succeeding five years he devoted his attention to clerking, spending one year in a general store in Postville, while for four years he was employed as a salesman in a clothing store in Preston. In 1913 he took up the study of veterinary surgery, entering the Chicago Veterinary College, from which he was graduated as an alumnus of 1916. Following the completion of his course there he made his way at once to New Hampton, where he entered upon the active work of his profession, and in the intervening period of three years he has built up a large and lucrative practice. It is a recognized fact that he is thoroughly familiar with the latest scientific methods of veterinary surgery and his work has been productive of excellent results.

In 1912 Dr. Gordon was united in marriage to Miss Blanche Milar, of Preston, Iowa, and in the social circles of the city they have made many warm friends. They are members of St. Mary's Roman Catholic church, and fraternally Dr. Gordon is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he maintains an independent course, supporting men and measures rather than party. He is a young man who in professional circles has already won a creditable position and by reason of his thoroughness and efficiency is destined to gain still further success.

JOHN E. DAVIS.

John E. Davis, who is busily engaged in farming on section 24, Forest City township, Howard county, was born upon the farm which he is now operating, his natal day being February 26, 1889. His parents, Richard E. and Mary E. (Hughes) Davis, were natives of Wales and had reached adult age when they came to the new world. They made the trip with their brothers and sisters, their respective parents having died in their native land. Richard E. Davis first settled in Wisconsin after coming to the United

States and there was employed for several years at farm work. About 1870 he removed westward to Iowa and for some time worked on the construction of the Union Pacific Railroad through Nebraska. He afterward came to Howard county and about 1884 was married. He then settled on a part of the present home farm, having acquired eighty acres of land through holding a mortgage on the property. Later he added to his original tract until his farm comprised one hundred and eighty acres, upon which he resided to the time of his death, which occurred February 26, 1907. His widow survives and yet occupies the old home place.

John E. Davis of this review was educated in the district schools while spending his youthful days under the parental roof. In the winter seasons he mastered the branches of learning which constituted the public school curriculum and in the summer months he aided more or less in the work of the home farm until his father's death, which occurred when the son was eighteen years of age. Upon his young shoulders then devolved the care of the farm, which he has since cultivated and which is now owned by himself and his sister, Jessie M. Davis.

In his political views Mr. Davis is an earnest republican, believing firmly in the principles of the party, and he has served as a delegate to its county conventions, while at the last election he was chosen to the office of township assessor. On account of being alone upon the farm, however, he could not serve as it would require too much of his time. He is well known as an exemplary member of Howard Lodge, No. 214, A. F. & A. M., and also of the Modern Woodmen of America and is equally faithful as a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is regarded as one of the progressive young men and successful farmers of Howard county and enjoys the respect of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

JOHN J. PECHOTA.

John J. Pechota, engaged in farming on section 12, Utica township, Chickasaw county, is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Chicago, December 28, 1881, his parents being Frank and Mary Pechota, who are mentioned in connection with the sketch of their son, Wenzel A. Pechota, on another page of this work. With the removal of the family to Iowa, John J. Pechota became a pupil in the district schools of Chickasaw county and through the period of his youth aided in the cultivation of his father's farm. Following his marriage he located upon the place where he now resides—a tract of one hundred acres which his father deeded to him. The sons had assisted materially in the development of the old homestead and in the acquirement of their father's property, and he recognized their assistance in substantial gifts of land at the time the sons were married.

On the 1st of May, 1906, John J. Pechota wedded Miss Catherine M. Panos, a daughter of Albert Panos, who is spoken of at length in connection with the sketch of his son, James L. Panos, in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Pechota have two interesting children, Eugene and Dora.

The religious belief of the parents is that of the Catholic church and in the exercise of his right of franchise Mr. Pechota supports the democratic party. He is above all, however, a successful farmer who, working diligently and persistently along the line which he has always followed, has gained a place among the representative agriculturists of Chickasaw county.

W. E. TORNEY.

An excellent farm property of one hundred and fifty-one acres situated on section 7, Saratoga township, Howard county, pays tribute to the care and labor bestowed upon the place by the owner, W. E. Torney, who is classed with the representative agriculturists of that community. He was born August 8, 1856, in Canada, a son of Thomas and

Marguerite (McDowell) Torney, who about 1870 left Canada and came with their family to Howard county, Iowa. At that time the father purchased what is now the home farm of W. E. Torney and concentrated his efforts and attention upon its further development and improvement until the time of his death, which occurred April 17, 1899. For five years he had survived his wife, who died March 27, 1894.

W. E. Torney was a lad of but fourteen years at the time the family home was established in Howard county and his youthful experiences were those of the farm-bred boy who attends the public schools and works in the fields through vacation periods. He had begun his education in Canada and he continued his studies in Mitchell county, Iowa, when the parents came to this state. Since his father's death he has assumed the management and operation of the old home farm and now has one hundred and fifty-one acres of excellent land from which he derives a substantial annual income, for his methods of cultivating his fields are most practical and resultant.

On the 25th of June, 1895, Mr. Torney was married to Miss Emma Gertrude Mason, a daughter of Patrick James and Marguerite (Covey) Mason. Mrs. Torney was born in Canada and her people never came to Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Torney have no children of their own but are rearing an adopted daughter, Nellie Marie, who is now attending the public school.

In political belief Mr. Torney is a republican but has never been an office seeker. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Lodge No. 211, and also has membership with the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Eastern Star. He is now occupying the position of township trustee for the first term. He and his family attend the Congregational church and their sterling worth has gained for them a circle of friends almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintance.

FRANK KOBLISKA.

Frank Kobliska is numbered among those who have transformed Chickasaw county from an undeveloped tract into one of the garden spots of Iowa, beautiful in the development and improvement of its farming land. He makes his home on section 32, Deerfield township, and is surrounded by highly cultivated fields, from which he annually gathers substantial harvests. He was born in Bohemia in September, 1858, a son of Wensel and Eleanora Kobliska. He came to the United States when a lad of twelve years in company with his parents, the family home being first established near Spillville, in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where the father purchased a farm and continued to carry on general agricultural pursuits for nineteen years. He then removed to Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, and settled on a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, which remained his place of residence until his life's labors were ended in death in 1881. The mother survives and yet occupies the original old home place near Spillville, having returned to that farm after the death of her husband, taking her family with her. Her son, Matt Kobliska, is now conducting the farm.

Frank Kobliska was educated in the public schools of Spillville and at the time of his father's death, which occurred when he was twenty-three years of age, he inherited eighty acres of land in Deerfield township. A year later he was married to Miss Barbara Hernecek, the wedding being celebrated on the 20th of November, 1882. She is a daughter of Frank and Anna Hernecek, both of whom were natives of Bohemia. Following his marriage Mr. Kobliska took his bride to the farm which he had inherited and for eight years he devoted his attention to its further development and improvement. He then sold that property and bought his present place in 1891, becoming the owner of two hundred acres of land. He has since extended the boundaries of his place and in addition to his farm in Deerfield township, which now comprises two hundred and forty-nine acres, he owns three hundred and twenty acres in North Dakota. His success has been attained through persistent effort, intelligently directed. He has worked long and earnestly and by reason of his careful management and straightforward dealings has gained a



measure of prosperity that now classes him with the prosperous and representative farmers of his section of the state. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Lumber Company of Alta Vista and in the Farmers Elevator at Coalville and he is a member of the Farmers Equity Association of Alta Vista.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kobliska have been born twelve children: Frank W. and Joseph, both of whom are married; Mrs. Christina Bouska; Louis, who is also married; and Barbara, Anna, Mary, Carrie, Charles, John, Cecelia and Leonora, all yet at home. Mr. Kobliska and his wife are members of St. Cecelia's Catholic church of Afton township, Howard county, and in that faith have reared their family. He has never been an aspirant for public office and in fact has always declined to serve in positions of public trust. His attention has been concentrated upon his agricultural interests and he has developed his business affairs along lines which have led to gratifying success and have won for him as well the respect and confidence of his fellowmen.

WILLIAM WILSON.

William Wilson, who is living on section 11, Paris township, Howard county, and has gained recognition as one of the progressive and alert farmers of the district, was born in Howard county on the 5th of October, 1875. His parents were William and Helen Wilson, the former a native of the state of New York, whence he removed westward to Iowa at the age of eighteen years in company with his parents. The family homesteaded in Howard county, being among the first people to take up land within its borders. They shared in all the hardships and privations of pioneer life and lived in a log cabin in the early days, while they had to haul their produce to McGregor, it requiring from two weeks to a month to make the round trip. Not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made upon their land when it came into their possession and the arduous task of developing a new farm confronted them; but the work was diligently accomplished by Mr. Wilson, who converted the place into rich and fertile fields.

After the death of the father the farm was rented until William Wilson was twenty-one years of age, when he took over the property and began farming on his own account. All of the modern improvements upon the place have been put there by him and he now has an excellent farm property of one hundred and sixty acres on which are substantial buildings, the latest improved farm machinery and all up-to-date equipments.

On the 1st of May, 1900, Mr. Wilson was married to Miss Julia Woods, a daughter of Patrick and Ann Woods, of Howard county. They have become parents of three children: William Emmett, Floyd James and Gertrude L. The elder son has completed the public school course in his home neighborhood and is now attending high school in Cresco.

The family are communicants of the Assumption Catholic Church of Cresco and fraternally Mr. Wilson is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, with which he has been identified for four years. His political endorsement is given to the republican party and he has held several local offices, including that of school director. His entire life has been devoted to agricultural interests and by reason of his thoroughness, his persistency of purpose and his laudable ambition he has made steady progress in his chosen life work.

MICHAEL NOSBISCH.

Michael Nosbisch is now living retired at New Hampton after many years of active connection with farming interests in this section of Iowa. He was born in Germany, June 9, 1849, a son of John and Margaret Nosbisch. In 1865 he came to the United States with his parents and first settled in Jesup, Iowa, where the father

purchased a tract of land of eighty acres which he farmed for three or four years. He then sold that property and removed to a farm near Gilbertville, Iowa, investing in another eighty acre tract of land, which he successfully cultivated to the time of his retirement from active business life. He then established his home in Gilbertville, where he remained to the time of his death, and his wife also passed away in that town.

Michael Nosbisch was educated in the parochial schools of Germany. In December, 1874, he married Katherine Spaden, a daughter of John and Margaretta Spaden, and following his marriage he located upon a farm in Washington township, Chickasaw county, upon which he resided until 1913, when he retired and took up his residence in New Hampton. Through all the intervening years he was numbered with the progressive and enterprising agriculturists of the district. Year after year he carefully tilled his fields and kept in touch with advanced agricultural methods. As a result of his untiring labor and perseverance he gathered good crops and as time passed added materially to his annual income. He is still the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of land and from this property he derives a very substantial annual income.

In 1903 Mr. Nosbisch was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away on the 10th of October of that year. They were the parents of fourteen children, all of whom survive, namely: Mrs. Jacob Hoffman; John, who married Susie Zeyen; Carl, who married Lena Kuehn; Mrs. Chris Gebel; Nick, who married Susie Hentges; Peter, who married Veronica Ries; George, who wedded Martha Zimmer; Mrs. Joe Pannworth; Mrs. Louis Streit; Michael, Jr., who married Christina Brost; Mrs. Edward Ries; Henry; Mrs. George Nehl; and Clara, who is acting as her father's housekeeper.

Mr. Nosbisch is a member of St. Mary's Catholic church of New Hampton. His political endorsement is given to the democratic party and he served as township trustee of Washington township for several years. He was also supervisor at the same time. His attention has been chiefly given to his farming interests, however, and he still retains two hundred and eighty acres of his original four hundred and twenty acre tract. He has lived an active and busy life and his success is the direct outcome of his labors.

BENJAMIN HUNTTING.

Benjamin Hunting was a representative business man of Cresco and his worth in commercial and personal connections caused his death to be the occasion of deep and widespread regret to all who knew him. For a long period he was engaged in the grain trade and the integrity of his methods as well as his enterprise brought to him a substantial measure of prosperity. He was born in Southampton, Long Island, on the 4th of December, 1833, and was a son of William and Ann (Foster) Hunting. After acquiring a public school education he became a sailor on a whaling vessel and afterward returned to Long Island. From there he went to California and eventually became a resident of McGregor, Iowa. Following the outbreak of the Civil war his patriotic spirit was aroused, so that he could no longer content himself to remain at home and, eager to aid in the defense of the Union, he joined the army as a member of Company C, of the Third Iowa Infantry. With the "boys in blue" he then went to the front and served until wounded at the battle of Blue Mills in Missouri, suffering the loss of an arm. This incapacitated him for duty and he returned to McGregor, where later, as a member of the firm of Bassett & Hunting he entered the grain trade and as the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad was extended through the country he moved from point to point along the line, living for a time at Postville and afterward at Conover. From the latter place he came to Cresco, where he built a warehouse in the fall of 1866. He then began buying grain at this point and remained in the same business for thirty years. He prospered in his undertakings here and remained a prominent figure in the grain trade of northern Iowa for many years.

In fact his name became a synonym for enterprise and progressiveness among the grain merchants of this section of the state.

In 1866 Mr. Huntting was united in marriage to Miss Mary Thomas, a daughter of Ebenezer and Isabel (DeWolf) Thomas and a native of Eagle, Waukesha county, Wisconsin. To Mr. and Mrs. Huntting were born two children: William, who is now engaged in the grain business at the old location where his father so long remained; and Frank, living in Fairmont, Minnesota.

The year 1877 marked the big wheat crop in this vicinity and Mr. Huntting handled a tremendous volume of business in the elevator. He was a man of keen business discernment and enterprise whose plans were always carefully formulated, and his energy and determination brought to him a measure of success that was most gratifying. Moreover, the integrity of his business methods was never called into question, so that he left to his family the priceless heritage of an untarnished name when in July, 1896, he passed away. His political support was given to the democratic party and he always stood for that which is progressive in citizenship. His widow died in 1918, aged seventy-seven years, at Cresco. As a pioneer resident of Iowa, Mr. Huntting was well known and the value of his activities as a factor in the world's work was widely acknowledged in the community in which he resided.

M. B. DAVIS.

M. B. Davis, manager of the interests of the Huntting Elevator Company at Lime Springs, was born December 13, 1870, in the town in which he still lives. He is a son of John M. and Ann (Thomas) Davis, both of whom were natives of Wales, where they were reared and married. Soon afterward they came to the United States, crossing the Atlantic about 1868 or 1869 and making their way direct to Howard county, Iowa. They settled in Lime Springs, where the father engaged in the hardware business and later followed various commercial enterprises. Both he and his wife have passed away. The family of this name is not connected with the other Davis families here.

M. B. Davis was reared at Lime Springs, where he has always made his home. In the pursuit of his education he passed through consecutive grades to the high school. After reaching manhood he became identified with farming, which he followed for a number of years, and later devoted four years to work in a lumberyard in Lime Springs. For the past twenty-two or twenty-three years he has looked after the interests of the Huntting Elevator Company, having in charge their grain business at Lime Springs. His capability, faithfulness and business enterprise are manifest in the fact that he has so long been retained in the service of this company.

On the 25th of October, 1905, Mr. Davis was married to Miss Ella May Pettit, of Lime Springs, a daughter of Alonzo Mills and Ella Jane (Williams) Pettit. The father was born in New York state August 5, 1825, and his parents were Susan Christy and William Pettit. When Alonzo Pettit was ten years old the family moved from Mayfield, New York, to Alexander Bay, on the St. Lawrence river. When eighteen years old he went to Milwaukee and worked in a shingle yard packing shingles. He worked there for about three years, when he went to Rockton, Illinois. At that time he weighed sixty pounds. He worked in the paper mill in Rockton, and coming west with John F. Thayer's family in 1856, he located in Howard Center. He was the first postmaster there. When Lime Springs was started he left Howard Center and was the first postmaster in Lime Springs, which office he held until his death, January 17, 1888. He was married August 9, 1876, to Ella J. Williams, of Chatfield, Minnesota, and they became the parents of five children, Ella, Belle, Alonzo, Chester and Mary, of whom the four first mentioned are living. His widow survives and makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Davis, who by their marriage have become the parents of three children: Anna May, Morgan Benjamin and John Rollins.

In politics Mr. Davis is a republican, giving stalwart allegiance to the party and its principles. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Both are

held in high esteem, having many warm friends in Lime Springs, while the hospitality of the best homes is freely accorded them. No higher testimonial of capability and fidelity on the part of any business man could be given than the record of Mr. Davis, who for about twenty-three years has been a representative of the Hunting Elevator Company, controlling the interests of the company at Lime Springs, where large responsibilities devolve upon him and where he has made an excellent record of faithful service and sound business judgment.

GEORGE B. DARROW.

George B. Darrow, who follows farming on section 4, Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, was born May 28, 1870, on the place on which he now resides—a fact indicative of long connection of the Darrow family with the interests of northern Iowa. His parents were Byron R. and Sarah A. Darrow, who removed from the state of New York to Iowa in pioneer times and established their home in Deerfield township. For many years the father remained a resident of this section of the state but passed away about four years ago. His widow survives and now makes her home in Spooner, Wisconsin.

In his boyhood days George B. Darrow was a pupil in the district schools of Deerfield township and through vacation periods he became active in the work of the home farm, assisting his father in its development and improvement for a long period. Eventually he came into possession of the place, which comprises one hundred and thirty acres of arable land. Careful cultivation has kept the farm in excellent condition. He practices the rotation of crops, judiciously employs the use of fertilizers and does everything in his power to keep his farm up to the highest standard in a state where agricultural progressiveness has reached its zenith. In addition to tilling the soil he handles registered shorthorn cattle and registered Poland China hogs and is one of the well known and prominent stock raisers of his section of the state.

Mr. Darrow was united in marriage to Miss Minnie North, a daughter of George and Katherine North, who are natives of Germany but have long resided in Iowa, their home being now in Alta Vista. Mr. and Mrs. Darrow have a family of two children, Adelbert and Grace, both at home. In his political views Mr. Darrow is a republican and votes for the men and measures of the party but does not seek office as a reward for party fealty. His interest in community affairs is manifest in many tangible ways and enterprise and progress along agricultural lines have been conserved and fostered through his efforts.

PEDER NELSEN.

Peder Nelsen, a farmer living on section 28, Saratoga township, Howard county, was born in Norway, April 20, 1853, a son of Nels Peterson and Bertha Nelsen. The father died in Norway in 1885 and the mother remained a resident of that country to the time of her demise in 1888. In their family were the following named, Peder, Nels, John, Belle and Maggie, all of whom are married.

Peder Nelsen remained in the land of the midnight sun until he had reached the age of seventeen years, when he determined to come to the new world. Accordingly he bade adieu to friends and native country in 1880 and with his wife and two children crossed the Atlantic, making Decorah, Iowa, their destination. Mr. Nelsen worked for three years as a farm hand, or until 1883. He then removed to Howard county, settling in Saratoga township, where he again secured work on a farm, and was thus employed until 1890. He carefully saved his earnings throughout the intervening period and in that year bought one hundred and sixty acres of land situated on section 28, Saratoga township. He then took up his abode upon this place, which was at that time largely undeveloped and unimproved. He had to grub out the stumps

from the entire quarter section but he did not hesitate to undertake this arduous labor. He has since worked diligently and persistently and as the years have passed he has prospered. In 1909 he bought another quarter section not far from his original purchase and is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of rich, valuable and productive land. He is now annually harvesting good crops and is reaping the merited reward of his earnest effort.

In 1874 Mr. Nelsen was married to Miss Petra Nella Johnson and they became parents of six children: Bertha, Belle, Julia, Lena, Mary and Louis, all of whom are married. The wife and mother passed away in January, 1913, her death being deeply regretted by many friends.

Mr. Nelsen and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and he gives his political endorsement to the republican party, which he has supported since becoming a naturalized American citizen. He served as school director for five years and is keenly interested in everything that has to do with the welfare and progress of the community in which he makes his home. That he has ever been a peaceable and law abiding citizen is shown in the fact that he has never been engaged in a lawsuit in his life. He pursued the even tenor of his way, treating all men justly and fairly, and his business record indicates what can be accomplished in a material way through perseverance, industry and fair dealing.

W. J. KALISHEK.

W. J. Kalishek is one of the successful business men of Protivin, where he is conducting a restaurant and ice cream parlor. Close application and business enterprise constitute the salient features in his growing success. He is a native of Winneshiek county, Iowa, where his birth occurred April 11, 1885, his parents being Frank and Josephine (Novotny) Kalishek, who were natives of Bohemia and came to the United States in boyhood and girlhood with their respective parents.

After mastering the branches of learning taught in the schools of Protivin, W. J. Kalishek continued his education in the Cresco Normal school. When fourteen years of age he practically took charge of the operation of the home farm and for eleven years continued to cultivate the place, winning substantial success in the conduct of his business interests. On the 23d of November, 1909, he was united in marriage to Miss Emma Lentz, of Winneshiek county, and the following spring they took up their abode in Protivin and Mr. Kalishek established the restaurant and ice cream business of which he is still the owner. He has been very successful in its conduct, receiving a liberal patronage, and is today ranked among the leading business men of the town. He is actuated by a spirit of progress in all that he undertakes and has won his patronage by reason of the excellence of his products and the reliability of his business methods.

Mr. Kalishek votes with the democratic party and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day but does not seek her desire office. To him and his wife have been born a daughter, Wilma. They are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Kalishek is also identified with the Catholic Order of Foresters and with the Modern Woodmen of America. His entire life has been spent in this section of Iowa, where he has a wide acquaintance, and all with whom he has come in contact speak of him in terms of warm regard.

WILLIAM M. WILKINS.

The farm which he now owns and cultivates on section 17, Dayton township, Chickasaw county, was the birthplace of William M. Wilkins, whose natal day was June 1, 1869. He has always lived upon this farm save for a brief period which he spent at Webster, South Dakota, and he is a representative of one of the old pioneer

families of this section of the state. His parents were William and Margaret (Sweck) Wilkins, who were married at Charles City, Iowa, where they had become acquainted some time before. Both passed away in Chickasaw county.

In his youthful days William M. Wilkins attended the district schools and when not busy with his textbooks aided his father in the work of the farm. He continued to assist in its further cultivation and improvement until he reached the age of twenty-four years. Removing to Webster, South Dakota, in 1893, he there engaged in the livery business for a period of six years, or until 1899, when he returned to the old homestead in Dayton township, Chickasaw county, his father having deeded to him eighty acres of land. He has since bought an additional tract of thirteen acres, so that he now has a good farm of ninety-three acres. Upon this place he has continuously resided for twenty years and has made it an excellent farm property of the district. He is also a director of the Chickasaw County Equity Cooperative Association of New Hampton.

While residing at Webster, South Dakota, Mr. Wilkins was married on the 14th of November, 1893, to Miss Jessie Faling, of that place, a daughter of William F. and Mae (Higgins) Faling, who are still living at Webster. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins are parents of ten living children and eight of the number are still at home. In order of birth these are: William, who married Reta Griffin; Frank; Henry; Mary, the wife of James McGrane; Jessie; Bertha; Laura; Margaret; Clara; and Earl.

Mr. Wilkins gives stanch endorsement to the republican party and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He served on the Liberty Loan committee for Dayton township during the third, fourth and fifth loan drives and he also did active work as a member of the Red Cross committee. He is the secretary of Blotti Local and he is widely and favorably known in Chickasaw county, where the greater part of his life has been passed and where his labors have been so directed as to win for him substantial success, while the ruling principles of his life are such as have won for him confidence and regard.

J. M. PHILLIPS.

J. M. Phillips is one of the venerable citizens of Albion township, Howard county. He has passed the eighty-seventh milestone on life's journey, for his birth occurred in the state of New York, May 11, 1832. He now makes his home on section 28, Albion township, where he owns one hundred and twenty acres of land. During his boyhood days he left the Empire state in company with his parents, William and Elizabeth (Runceman) Phillips, who removed to Michigan. They, too, were natives of the state of New York, but the opportunities of the west were so alluring that they left the Atlantic coast and made their way to the Mississippi valley. They remained, however, for only a brief period in Michigan and then removed to Indiana. It was in the year 1855 that J. M. Phillips of this review became a resident of Howard county, Iowa, taking up his abode in Albion township, where he resided until 1861. He then put aside all personal considerations and business cares and responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting as a member of the Thirty-eighth Iowa Regiment in defense of the Union cause in the Civil war. He served at the front until the close of hostilities in 1865, when he received an honorable discharge and returned to his home in Howard county. He then resumed the occupation of farming, which he made his life work. It was three years before he entered the army that he was united in marriage to Miss Rosetta Hurley and to them were born nine children, of whom seven are yet living, as follows: Llewellyn R., Howard C., Leon, Lizzie, Bert, May and Ulysses.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Phillips is a Mason, belonging to Lime Springs Lodge, No. 214. He has ever been a loyal exemplar of the craft and is keenly interested in the promotion of the principles which constitute the basic elements of the society. In politics he has long been a republican and he was a strong supporter of Abraham Lincoln in 1860. He gave equally loyal allegiance to Garfield and to



J. M. PHILLIPS

Roosevelt and in fact he has been a stalwart advocate of the leading statesmen which the republican party has put up as its standard bearers. He has long been regarded as a very substantial and honored citizen of Albion township and ranks with its pioneer settlers who for many years have contributed to its upbuilding and progress. His has been an active and useful life and in all matters of citizenship he has been as true and loyal to his country as when he wore the nation's blue uniform and followed the starry banner of the Union on the battlefields of the south.

JOE WILLIAMS.

Joe Williams, who is engaged in blacksmithing at Lime Springs and is numbered among the pioneer settlers of Howard county, was born in Wales on the 12th of June, 1850, a son of John H. and Mary (Jones) Williams, who came to the United States about 1851. They made their way to the interior of the country, settling in Cambria, Wisconsin, where they resided until 1869, when they came to Lime Springs, Iowa. After two years here spent, however, they returned to Wisconsin and became residents of Randolph, where they remained until called to their final rest.

Joe Williams was educated in the common schools of Wisconsin and preceded his parents to Howard county, where he arrived in June, 1869. His brother, John B. Williams, had already become a resident of Lime Springs and was conducting a blacksmith shop, which Joe Williams entered as an apprentice. He completed his term of indenture in his brother's shop and together they carried on the business for ten or fifteen years, at the end of which time John B. Williams went to Montana and Joe Williams continued to conduct the smithy in Lime Springs. He has now been identified with the trade in this town for a half century and is one of the best known and most highly respected citizens of the community, for his record throughout this entire period has been that of an honorable and straightforward man.

In 1877 Mr. Williams was married to Miss Lydia Frisbie, of Lime Springs, a daughter of Chester Frisbie, who was one of the early settlers of Lime Springs, where he arrived in 1866. To Mr. and Mrs. Williams were born two children: David Roy, railway agent at Hall, Montana, for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company; and Beulah Fay, the wife of C. V. Summers, living at Charles City, Iowa. Mrs. Williams was born in Middletown, New York, on the 11th of March, 1852, and died in Lime Springs, April 26, 1905. She was a member of the Presbyterian church and her many good qualities of heart and mind endeared her to all who knew her. Mr. Williams is well known in Masonic circles, belonging to Howard Lodge, No. 214, A. F. & A. M.; Shiloh Chapter, No. 150, R. A. M.; and Joppa Commandery, No. 55, K. T., of Charles City. Mr. Williams and his family are members of Utopia Chapter, No. 379, O. E. S. In politics he is a republican, well informed on the questions and issues of the day, but he has never been an aspirant for political office, always preferring to give his undivided thought and attention to his business affairs. That he is a man of sterling worth is indicated by the high regard in which he is uniformly held in the community in which he has made his home for a half century.

RALPH E. WATTS.

Ralph E. Watts, a hardware dealer of Ionia and one of the leading business men, was born in Chickasaw county, about one mile east of Bassett, on the 17th of November, 1893, his parents being Charles D. and Catherine (Miller) Watts. The father was a native of England and the mother was born in Chickasaw county, Iowa, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. DeWitt Miller, who were among the earliest of the pioneer settlers of this section of the state. Charles D. Watts was twice married. In 1874 he wedded Miss Nettie Longley, who passed away in 1890, leaving two daughters: Eva, now the wife of

George Hurlbut, of Charles City, Iowa; and Mamie, the wife of O. H. Potter, of Bassett, Iowa. Having lost his first wife, Charles D. Watts wedded Catherine Miller and of this marriage Ralph E. Watts is a son. The father was brought to the United States when but two years of age in company with a brother who was ten years his senior. They lived with foster parents in Elgin, Illinois, where they grew to manhood, and there during his youthful days Charles D. Watts worked for a number of years in the state institution for the insane. In 1874 he came to Chickasaw county and some time afterward purchased a farm near Bassett. About 1903 or 1904 he took up his abode in the town of Bassett, where he conducted the hotel for a year and then removed to Ionia, where he was hotel proprietor until 1908. In that year he purchased the hardware business of Daniel Butterfield and conducted the store up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 3d of October, 1912, when he was fifty-nine years of age. His widow is still living and has become the wife of F. K. Ashley, her home being now in Charles City, Iowa.

Ralph E. Watts was educated in the public schools of Bassett and in the Ionia high school, from which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1912. He worked as a clerk in his father's store while not in school and after the father's death took charge of the business, which he conducted for his mother up to the time of her marriage to Mr. Ashley, when she turned over the business to him and he has since been sole owner. He carries a good line of shelf and heavy hardware and is enjoying a very satisfactory trade.

In 1915 Mr. Watts was united in marriage to Miss Doris Gladys Cagley, of Bradford township, Chickasaw county, by whom he has two children, Margaret E. and Doris L. In politics Mr. Watts is an earnest republican and in religious faith he and his wife are Congregationalists. They are well known in Ionia and he is a dynamic force in the business circles of the city. Alert and energetic, he never loses sight of a legitimate opportunity for the advancement of his interests and it is to such class of men that the progress and upbuildings of a community are due.

JOHN S. SWENSON.

John S. Swenson, one of Howard county's foremost manufacturers and an inventor of more than local renown, is proprietor of the Swenson Grubber Company and secretary and treasurer of the Electra Lightning Rod Company of Cresco. He was born in North Cape, Wisconsin, September 26, 1872, a son of Lorens and Anna (Johnson) Swenson, both natives of Norway, who in childhood days came to the United States with their respective parents. The paternal grandparents of John S. Swenson established their home near Milwaukee, Wisconsin, when that city was but little more than a trading post, while the maternal grandparents settled near Black Earth, Dane county, Wisconsin. Following their marriage, which was celebrated in the Badger state, Mr. and Mrs. Lorens Swenson began their domestic life at North Cape, Wisconsin. Early in life Mr. Swenson manifested marked inventive genius, being a natural-born mechanic. Among his many inventions may be mentioned the Swenson steam valve and the original Swenson mower, which was among the first mowers brought forth in this country. In association with Ole Storle he invented one of the first self-binders of the United States, the knot-tying device of which was later sold to one of the large reaper manufactories at a substantial figure. Another product of his mechanical skill and ingenuity was the stump puller, now manufactured by the Faultless Stump Puller Company of Cresco. In 1895 Lorens Swenson and his son, John S. Swenson, founded the Faultless Stump Puller Company, engaging in the manufacture of stump pullers at Cresco until 1899, when they sold the business. While the father was in Waukegan, Wisconsin, looking after the interests of his steam valve, John S. Swenson invented his present stump puller, which won the gold medal at the Lewis and Clark Exposition at Portland, Oregon, in 1905. In 1900 he and his father had founded the Swenson Grubber Company and began the manufacture of this invention, which is sold from coast to coast, while prior to the recent great war the company also did an extensive export business in South America. In 1907 John S. Swenson acquired his father's interest in this concern and became sole owner. On account

of impaired eyesight the latter retired from active business in 1907 and has since resided in Longmont, Colorado.

It was in May, 1907, that John S. Swenson and Frank E. Stehlik established a plant for the manufacture of lightning rods in Cresco and began business under the name of the Electra Lightning Rod Company. Mr. Swenson had become acquainted with Mr. Stehlik by reason of the fact that the latter sold him wire rope for his stump pullers as a salesman for the American Steel & Wire Company. On the 16th of March, 1909, the Electra Lightning Rod Company was incorporated with F. E. Stehlik, as president and J. S. Swenson, secretary and treasurer. Mr. Stehlik maintains an office for the company in the Stock Exchange building of Chicago. The company manufactures exclusively for dealers and has built up a trade which extends throughout the United States, turning out more than a million feet of copper rods annually. In the conduct of his business affairs Mr. Swenson displays sound judgment, keen sagacity and unfaltering enterprise and has long enjoyed a leading position among the representatives of the industrial interests in northeastern Iowa.

In 1907 Mr. Swenson was united in marriage to Miss Dora Carver, her father being Chester M. Carver, who came to Howard county, Iowa, before the railroad was built and before the town of Cresco came into existence. Mr. Carver married the daughter of Elder Fall, one of the pioneer preachers of Howard county, who performed the marriage ceremony for hundreds of the county's young people and was one of the best known divines of this part of the state. Mr. and Mrs. Swenson have one daughter, Mary Aedeline.

In his political views Mr. Swenson is a staunch republican, loyally supporting the men and measures of that party at the polls. Fraternally he is identified with Cresco Lodge, No. 150, A. F. & A. M., and in his life exemplifies the beneficent spirit of the craft. Both he and his wife have an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the community and occupy a most enviable social position here.

HON. HENRY CLAY BURGESS.

A history of Howard county would be incomplete and unsatisfactory were there failure to make prominent reference to the Hon. Henry Clay Burgess, who was prominently identified with the commercial and political history of the state and who left the impress of his individuality for good upon its material development and upon its legislative records. Actuated at all times by an earnest desire to make his life of worth to the community in which he lived, his labors wrought for good and he enjoyed the respect and confidence of all who knew him. He was born in Fairfield, Maine, on the 20th of December, 1846, and in 1864 his parents removed westward with their family, establishing their home in Lansing, Iowa, but two years later they came to Howard county.

After reaching man's estate Henry Clay Burgess took charge of a lumberyard for Fleming Brothers, and with them continued for seventeen years, having charge of their yards at Ossian and at Hull, Iowa, and also at Mitchell, South Dakota, while finally he came to Cresco to assume the management of the lumber interests at this place. In 1885, after a six years' stay in Cresco, Mr. Burgess purchased the interests of his employers and continued active in the lumber trade of the city. He was thus long connected with that line of commercial activity and had a splendidly appointed lumberyard, carrying a large line of builders' supplies of all kinds. Moreover, he was faithful to the terms of every contract and the integrity of his business methods as well as his enterprise constituted an important feature in his growing patronage. In the latter part of his life he turned the business over to his sons, although he still remained the owner to the time of his death. His sons had been actively engaged with him in business for several years and in addition to conducting the lumberyard in Cresco, Mr. Burgess had established lumberyards in neighboring towns throughout the country, conducted by his successors.

In 1869 Mr. Burgess was united in marriage to Miss Emily J. Cooper, a daughter

of J. L. and Ellen Cooper. She was born in Newcastle, Pennsylvania, and was taken by her parents to Ohio, where they resided for a time, and then became residents of Wisconsin. They afterward removed to Ossian, Iowa, and it was there that the marriage of Mr. Burgess and Miss Cooper was celebrated. They had a family of four children, of whom Harry H. died in infancy, while Charles, Ray and Joseph are continuing in the lumber trade as their father's successors in the conduct of the yards in Cresco and elsewhere.

Mr. Burgess was a republican in his political views and in 1906 was elected to represent the forty-second district, comprising Howard and Winneshiek counties, in the state senate, where he gave most careful consideration to all the vital questions that came up for settlement. He held membership in the Masonic fraternity, was a charter member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and his religious faith was that of the Congregational church. He came to Cresco when the country was wild and he lived to see it develop from a little village on the western prairie to a thriving and enterprising town. His death, which occurred on the 8th of March, 1917, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret because of the many sterling traits of his character. His personal qualities, too, were such as made for popularity among those who knew him, for he was of a kindly and genial disposition, often extending a helping hand to those who needed aid. In his business affairs he was thoroughly trustworthy and at all times he stood for progressive elements in citizenship. He had passed the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten when called to his final rest, his death occurring when in his seventy-first year. Thus was terminated a life of usefulness, in which he accumulated a comfortable competence, but not only did he leave this to his family, but also that priceless heritage of an untarnished name, which is rather to be chosen than great riches.

P. H. BRANNON.

P. H. Brannon, numbered among the enterprising, farsighted and successful business men of New Hampton, is well known as the proprietor of the Brannon Grain Elevator. He is a western man by birth, training and preference. He was born at Waucoma, Iowa, on the 11th of October, 1857, and is a son of Lawrence and Julia (Griffin) Brannon, both of whom were natives of Ireland. The father came to the United States in his boyhood days with his parents in 1839, the family home being established in Ohio, and the mother came to this country to join an older brother after the death of her parents. This brother, Thomas Griffin, is a resident of Howard county, Iowa. In the spring of 1853 Lawrence Brannon removed with his parents to Iowa, the family home being established on a farm near Waucoma. In June, 1856, Lawrence Brannon and Julia Griffin were united in marriage and took up their abode upon a farm near Waucoma, where the active years of their life were spent. After his retirement from business they removed to Lawler, Chickasaw county, where they continued to reside until called to their final rest. Mr. Brannon passed away at the notable age of ninety-one years, while his wife died at the age of seventy-five.

Their son, P. H. Brannon, was educated in the common schools and in the Decorah Institute. Prior to becoming a student in the institute he taught school and later resumed educational work, covering a period of twenty-one terms. In 1892 he removed to New Hampton and has since been identified with the live stock and grain business, in which connection he has won substantial success. The Brannon Grain Elevator is now one of the important business features of the city and its annual purchases and sales reach a large figure.

In 1889 Mr. Brannon was united in marriage to Miss Catherine I. Quirk, of Delaware county, Iowa, and to them were born two children, but only one, Mary S., is now living. The wife and mother passed away in January, 1901, and in February, 1906, Mr. Brannon was married to Miss Hannah T. Boyle, of Edgerton, Wisconsin, by whom he has four children, namely: Grace Madeline, Lawrence V., Patricia Adelaide and James E.

In his political views Mr. Brannon has always been a democrat since age conferred

upon him the right of franchise and for some time while at Lawler he filled the office of justice of the peace. He has served as a member of the town and city council of New Hampton, covering a period of fourteen years, a fact indicative of his loyalty to the best interests of the city and his active work for the upholding of its civic standards. He and his family are members of St. Joseph's Catholic church and he is a fourth degree member of the Knights of Columbus. Alert and energetic, he accomplishes what he undertakes, allowing no obstacles or difficulties to bar his path when they can be overcome by persistent and earnest effort. The reliability as well as the enterprise of his methods has been one of the strong features of his growing success, placing him with the prosperous business men of New Hampton.

FRED LEBOW.

Fred Lebow, living on section 6, Afton township, Howard county, was born in Germany, January 6, 1848, and is a son of Joseph and Frederika Lebow who in the year 1859 bade adieu to friends and native land and sailed for the United States with their family. They did not tarry on the Atlantic coast but made their way at once into the interior of the country, settling at Racine, Wisconsin, where the father worked out by the day. For ten years the family resided in Racine and then came to Iowa, settling in Afton township, Howard county, where Mr. Lebow purchased the farm upon which his son Fred now resides. He continued to devote his time and energies to the development of his fields until called to his final rest and his wife also died upon this farm.

At the death of his parents Fred Lebow came into possession of the old home place by the terms of his father's will and has since owned and occupied it. He had previously acquired a common school education and had been trained in the farm work by his father, so that he was well qualified to take up the duties and responsibilities that devolved upon him. He is now numbered among the substantial and successful farmers of Afton township, having between five and six hundred acres of excellent land, so that he is now in very comfortable financial circumstances, his well tilled fields annually bringing to him golden harvests that find a ready sale on the market.

In 1874 Mr. Lebow was married to Miss Bertha Gamrow, a daughter of Fred Gamrow, of Afton township, and both her father and mother have now passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Lebow have become the parents of five children: Minnie and Will, at home; Ephraim, who is married; Gustie Klingbottle, at home; and Fred, who is also married.

The religious belief of the family is that of the German Lutheran church and in his political faith Mr. Lebow is a republican. For several years he served as school director but has never sought or desired political office, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs. He has worked diligently and persistently in the further development and cultivation of his farm and has added to it many modern improvements, which make it one of the fine places of this part of the state.

CHARLES A. MEAD.

For fifty years Charles A. Mead has resided upon the farm on section 31, Howard township, in Howard county, which he now owns. Because of his long residence here he has been a witness of much of the growth and development of this section of the state and at all times has been keenly interested in its progress and has contributed in no small measure to its agricultural advancement.

He was born in Fayette county, Iowa, March 3, 1868, a son of Willis and Lodema (Smith) Mead, who were natives of Pennsylvania, where they were reared and married. About 1858 they came to the west, making Iowa their destination. They settled upon a farm a mile and a half east of West Union, in Fayette county, and there remained until the fall of 1868, when they removed to Howard county, establishing their home in Howard township, where they continued to reside until called to their final rest. The

father was a lifelong republican in politics but never an aspirant for political preferment. He belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and was one of the foremost citizens of Howard township, highly respected because of the sterling traits of character which he displayed in every relation of life.

Charles A. Mead was educated in the district schools and he has always possessed an observing eye and retentive memory and in this way has become a well informed man. Reading has ever been a matter of interest to him and he has thus kept in touch with the trend of modern thought and progress. In 1890, on reaching his twenty-second year, he took charge of the home farm in connection with his brother, W. W. Mead, and for three years the two brothers cultivated the place together. In 1891 the farm was divided between them and Charles A. Mead came into possession of one hundred and twenty acres of this farm through purchase, while his brother took over the remaining one hundred and twenty acres. In 1893 they separated their business interests and have since farmed independently. In addition to the original tract which he acquired, Charles A. Mead owns three hundred and twenty acres of land in the province of Alberta, Canada. He has been most energetic and progressive in the development of his home place, which is now one of the excellently improved properties of the district. Its highly cultivated fields, its modern improvements and high grade stock all indicate the practical and progressive spirit of the owner. Mr. Mead is also a stockholder in the Howard County Cooperative Equity Association and in the Elma Cooperative Creamery Company.

In 1895 Mr. Mead was united in marriage to Miss Grace Luella Pooler, of Afton township, Howard county, who was a graduate of the Elma high school of the class of 1894 and who successfully taught school for one year. She also served as secretary of the school board of her district for a number of years and the cause of education ever found in her a warm friend. She belonged to Elma Chapter, O. E. S., and was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the faith of which she passed away July 23, 1918, leaving three children: Harland W., Inez C., and Robert E., all at home. Two other children have departed this life.

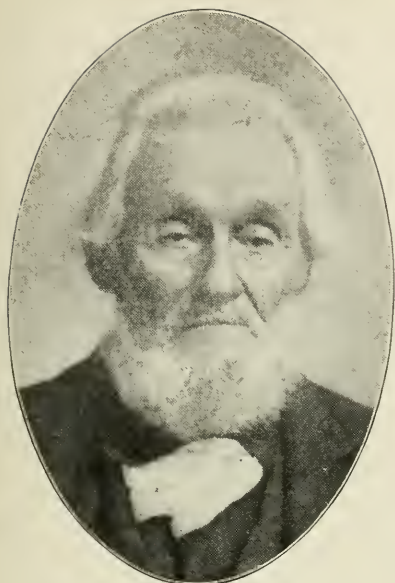
Mr. Mead is an exemplary member of Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 528, A. F. & A. M., of Elma, to which his son, Harland W., also belongs. Politically he is a republican and has served as township assessor for one term, while for many years he has been a member of the school board in his district and was president of the board for several years, while at this writing, in 1919, he is serving as school treasurer. Every project or plan that tends to benefit the community in which he resides receives his earnest support and he is actuated by a progressive spirit that has made him a valuable citizen. He has watched the progress and development of this section of the state until the years, added to the cycle of the centuries, have numbered fifty. Great changes have been wrought during this period and no one rejoices more heartily in what has been accomplished along the line of public improvement and benefit than does Charles A. Mead, now one of the honored pioneer settlers of this region.

E. R. FRAZEE.

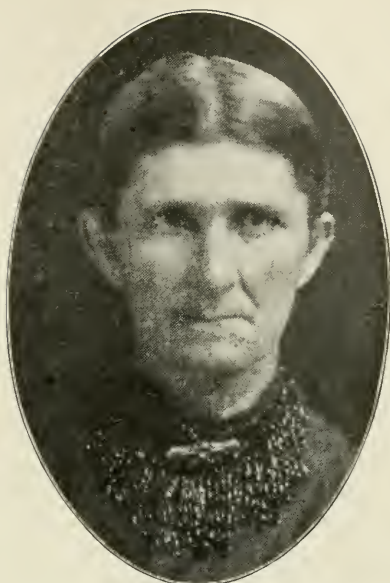
E. R. Frazee, carrying on general farming on section 32, Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of this section of the state and was born upon what is known as the old Frazee homestead in Chickasaw township on the 10th of March, 1867. His father, Benjamin Frazee, is mentioned at length on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of his son, James O. Frazee.

Spending his youthful days under the parental roof, E. R. Frazee at the usual age became a pupil in the district schools and in periods of summer vacation he worked in the fields. He remained upon the home farm after reaching early manhood, cooperating with his father in its further development and improvement up to the time of his marriage.

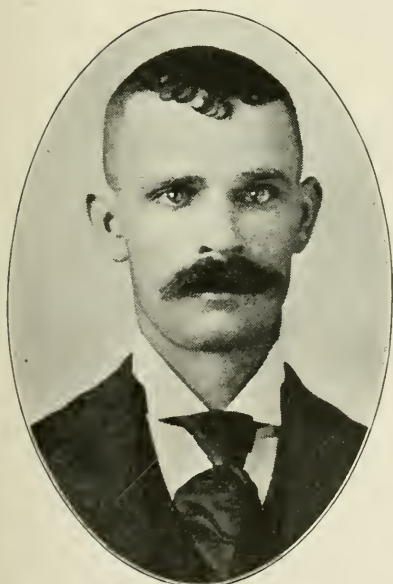
On the 28th of April, 1897, Mr. Frazee wedded Miss Clara B. Dickson, a



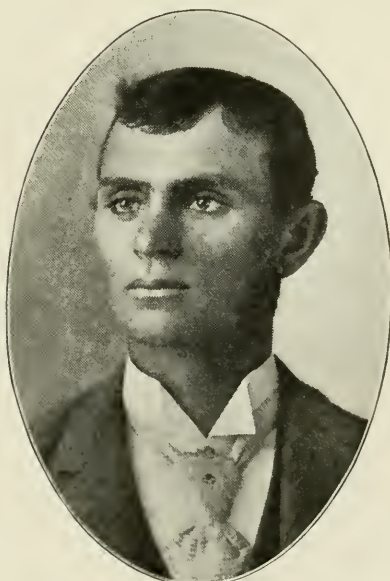
BENJAMIN FRAZEE



MRS. BENJAMIN FRAZEE



E. R. FRAZEE



JAMES O. FRAZEE

daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Hine) Dickson. Her father came to Chickasaw county from Illinois in his boyhood days with his parents, arriving in 1855, while the Hine family came to this county from Indiana in 1853. For seven years following his marriage Mr. Frazee engaged in farming three different tracts of land in Chickasaw county and in 1904 he took up his abode upon his present home place, which was then owned by his father and to which he acquired title after his father's death. He is now devoting his energies, efforts and attention to the further development and improvement of this property, which is one of the excellent farms of Deerfield township. He carefully tills his fields and annually gathers good harvests. He raises the cereals best adapted to soil and climate and is meeting with substantial success.

To Mr. and Mrs. Frazee have been born three children: R. Wayne, Wendell D. and Grace M., who are still under the parental roof. In his political allegiance Mr. Frazee is a democrat, having supported the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He has served for one term as a member of the board of township trustees and for a number of years has been a member of the school board, being keenly interested in educational progress and in the welfare of the community at large. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and he is widely known in Deerfield township and throughout this section of the state, where he has ever commanded and enjoyed the respect and confidence of all who have known him. He represents one of the old pioneer families and has himself been a witness of the development and progress of this section of the state for more than a half century. Throughout the entire period the Frazee family has been identified with farming interests and their labors have been a marked element in contributing to the agricultural development and progress of northern Iowa. The work begun by his father is now being carried forward by E. R. Frazee and his labors are attended with excellent results.

JAMES O. FRAZEE.

James O. Frazee has spent the forty-eight years of his life upon the farm on section 5, Chickasaw township, Chickasaw county, on which he now resides. This was his birthplace and his natal day was January 30, 1871, his parents being Benjamin and Mary S. (Michael) Frazee. The father, a native of Perry county, Ohio, was born June 11, 1828, and the mother was born in Carroll county, Indiana, December 30, 1845. The paternal grandfather was James L. Frazee, who was born in Westmoreland, Pennsylvania. His wife, Mrs. Susanah Frazee, was born in the state of Maryland. They settled in Clinton county, Indiana, in an early day and removed to Chickasaw county, Iowa, in the early '50s, when pioneering was extremely difficult and when this section was still a hunting ground for the Indians. James L. Frazee established his home in Chickasaw township, near Bassett, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of the old homestead farm from the government, paying a dollar and a quarter per acre. It was entirely destitute of improvements, the work of cultivation having not yet been begun. Upon this he built one of the old-time log cabins, but a year later he was able to replace this primitive dwelling by the present home residence, hauling the lumber from Conover, a distance of fifty miles or more. This house when built was considered a mansion and was probably the finest home in Chickasaw county at the time. James L. Frazee belonged to that class of sturdy pioneer stock that feared nothing, and, blazing a way through the wilderness, planted the seeds of civilization on frontier soil. He endured all of the hardships and privations incident to settlement in a far western country and his labors made it possible for a later generation to live in peace and plenty. He continued to further develop the old homestead until his death, which occurred October 14, 1884, when he was eighty-one years of age. He and his wife had a family of two sons and two daughters, all of whom reached a notable old age.

His son, Benjamin Frazee, was born in Perry county, Ohio, June 11, 1828, and was reared to manhood in Frankfort, Indiana, where he taught school for several years, and in 1854 he came with his parents to Chickasaw county, Iowa, being then a young man of about twenty-six years. Ten years later, on the 29th of December, 1864, he wedded Miss Mary S. Michael and they became the parents of four children, two of whom, a son and a daughter, died in early childhood. The two surviving sons are James O. and E. R. Frazee, the latter also mentioned in this work. The father was a man of sterling character and all who knew him were glad to call him friend. He possessed a quiet, retiring disposition, and his sterling worth was widely recognized and commanded for him the confidence and regard of all. He ever took an active interest in public affairs, yet he was never an aspirant for office, preferring to devote his time to the enjoyment of the companionship of his family and the management of his private business interests. However, he served many times as assessor, trustee and school director. As a farmer he was quite successful, and, adding to his holdings, he acquired five hundred and sixty-seven acres of the fertile land of Chickasaw county. Wherever he was known he was spoken of in terms of high regard. He reached an honored old age, passing away February 8, 1914, at the age of eighty-five years, seven months and twenty-eight days. His widow survived him for about five years, her death occurring July 4, 1919.

James O. Frazee is indebted to the district school system for the educational opportunities that qualified him for life's practical and responsible duties. On the 26th of August, 1901, he was united in marriage to Miss Lena Albertson, a daughter of F. D. Albertson, of Chickasaw township. Two years prior to his marriage Mr. Frazee had begun farming for himself, taking charge of and operating the old home place, which he inherited following his father's demise. His landed possessions now comprise three hundred and six acres, constituting a well improved farm property that gives every evidence of his careful supervision and practical methods. He has worked diligently and his labors have brought good results.

To Mr. and Mrs. Frazee has been born a daughter, Gertrude May, who is the life and light of the household. Politically Mr. Frazee is a democrat and while not a politician in the usually accepted sense of office seeking, he is interested in all that pertains to the welfare and progress of the state. He has been a member of the school board on several different occasions and rejoices in whatever is accomplished for the welfare of community and commonwealth. He represents one of the old pioneer families and the work which was instituted by his grandfather and carried on by his father is still being promoted by James O. Frazee, whose diligence and determination are recognized characteristics.

JOHN C. SVESTKA.

John C. Svestka, carrying on general farming on section 9, New Oregon township, Howard county, was born January 10, 1880, on the farm which is still his place of residence, his parents being Jacob and Mary (Kalishek) Svestka, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this work in connection with the sketch of L. V. Svestka. He was educated in the district schools, and having arrived at years of maturity, was married on the 14th of October, 1902, to Miss Rosa Pecinovsky, a daughter of Joseph F. Pecinovsky, who is also represented elsewhere in this work. In the year following his marriage Mr. Svestka began farming on his own account, his father removing to Protivin, while John C. Svestka took charge of the old homestead farm. The following year he purchased the property and has continued to make his home thereon throughout the intervening period. He today owns and cultivates one hundred and twenty acres and is also farming eighty acres of rented land, situated just across the road from his home place. He has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and annually gathers good crops as a reward for the care and labor which he bestows upon his land. He employs the

most progressive methods in the care of his crops and his energy and industry are producing excellent results, so that he annually gathers good harvests.

To Mr. and Mr. Svestka have been born six children: Emma, Eloise, Theresa, Leonard, Godlov and John. The parents and children are all members of the Catholic church and Mr. Svestka is likewise identified with the Catholic Workmen. His political views accord with the teachings of the republican party, to which he gives his support at the polls, but the honors and emoluments of office have never attracted him as he has always preferred to concentrate his efforts upon his business affairs, in which he is now meeting with creditable and substantial success.

JAMES PRASKA.

A valuable force in the development and upbuilding of Chickasaw county and northern Iowa is that furnished by its citizens of Bohemian birth, of which class James Praska is a representative. He now makes his home on section 19, Jacksonville township, but was born in Bohemia, November 5, 1857, his parents being Frank and Katie Praska. The first thirteen years of his life were passed in his native land and he then came to the United States with his parents, the family home being established in Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, where the father purchased land. His remaining days were devoted to agricultural interests in this part of the state and his death occurred in Deerfield township in 1913. His wife had passed away on the old homestead two years before.

James Praska obtained his education in the parochial schools of his native country and after coming to the new world with his parents devoted his time and efforts to the work of assisting his father in the improvement of a new farm. His training along that line was comprehensive and constituted the foundation upon which he has built his success in later life. He is now the owner of one hundred acres of land, which is at present being cultivated by his son-in-law, with whom he now resides.

It was in 1883 that Mr. Praska was united in marriage to Miss Katie Mashek, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vencil Mashek, who came to America from Bohemia. Mr. and Mrs. Praska had three children, of whom two have passed away. The daughter Carrie is now the wife of James Chihak and they reside upon the farm of Mr. Praska, for his wife died about twenty-one years ago in Paris township, Howard county.

Mr. Praska is also the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land in Paris township. After a busy and useful life he is now in considerable measure living retired, leaving the further development and improvement of the farm property to his son-in-law. He and his family are members of the Catholic church of Lourdes, and his political endorsement is given to the democratic party.

JOHN NOVOTNY.

John Novotny, busily engaged in general farming on section 11, Utica township, Chickasaw county, was born in March, 1880, in the township where he still makes his home. His parents are John J. and Teresa (Vovas) Novotny, natives of Bohemia. In that country they were reared and married and three children were born to them ere they emigrated to the United States about 1870. After crossing the Atlantic they at once made their way into the interior of the country, settling in Chickasaw county, Iowa, where the father's first purchase was a modest forty-acre tract of land, on which he built a little frame dwelling or shack that served as the habitation of the family for some time. He afterward sold this property and for a number of years rented land but subsequently made investment in two hundred acres. He is still living and now resides at Little Turkey in Utica township.

John Novotny is indebted to the district school system of Chickasaw county for the educational opportunities that qualified him for life's practical and responsible duties.

He had reached man's estate when on the 2d of May, 1905, he wedded Miss Nellie Kurash, a daughter of Albert Kurash, of Fort Atkinson, Winneshiek county, and they have become the parents of three children, two of whom survive, Adeline and Adnes.

Following his marriage Mr. Novotny settled on his present home farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which he purchased from his father, and through the intervening period he has concentrated his efforts and attention upon the further development of the land. He has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and annually gathers rich crops as the reward of his care and labor. There are excellent modern improvements upon the farm and thoroughly up-to-date machinery enables him to develop his fields.

In his political views Mr. Novotny is a democrat, voting with the party since he attained his majority. He and his family are members of the Catholic church. They are well known people of this community, enjoying the warm regard and friendship of many with whom they have been brought in contact.

JOHN MISHAK.

John Mishak, who follows farming on section 2, Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, was born in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, June 9, 1867, a son of Felix and Mary (Andreaska) Mishak both of whom were natives of Germany, where they were reared and married. In 1864 they left that country and came to the United States, establishing their home at Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, where the father, who was a wagon maker by trade, established a shop which he conducted for eight or ten years. He then removed to Iowa, taking up his abode in North Washington, Chickasaw county, where he also was proprietor of a wagon shop for several years. Subsequently he engaged in farming and remained a resident of North Washington to the time of his death, which occurred in 1914.

John Mishak was educated in the district schools and in 1889 began farming on his own account, at which time he purchased his present home place of one hundred and sixty acres. For two years he devoted his time and energies to the development of the farm and kept bachelor's hall during that period. In 1891, however, he was united in marriage to Miss Helen Marion, of Deerfield township, a daughter of Max Marion, one of the pioneer settlers of this part of the county, who is now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Mishak have been born seven children: Evelyn, Loretta, Viola, Mildred, Verna, Ralph and Ray. All are still under the parental roof.

In his political views Mr. Mishak has always been a democrat since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He has served for a number of years as a member of the board of township trustees and is the present clerk of the board. He stands loyally for all that he believes to be for the best interests of the community and he and his family are identified with its moral progress as members of the Catholic church. In his business career he has made steady advance and his diligence and enterprise have been the foundation of the success which is now his.

PETER HANSEN.

Peter Hansen, who has been actively identified with farming interests in Howard county for the past forty-four years, resides on section 22, Vernon Springs township, where he owns one hundred and sixty acres of rich and productive land, while his holdings also embrace a tract of one hundred and twenty acres in Howard Center township. His birth occurred in Denmark on the 9th of May, 1853, his parents being Lars and Cecilia (Petersen) Hansen, who spent their entire lives in that country.

Peter Hansen acquired his education in the district schools of his native land and there remained until he had attained his majority. His father owned but a small farm of ten acres and the country offered comparatively meager opportunities to a young

man. In 1874, therefore, desiring to enjoy the advantages of the new world, he crossed the Atlantic to the United States and for one year worked as a farm hand in New York. He then came west to Iowa, locating in Howard county, within the borders of which he has resided continuously since. During the first summer he was employed at farm labor by M. B. Doolittle and he continued working as a farm hand until the spring of 1881. The previous year he had purchased a tract of seventy acres in Vernon Springs township but after operating the place for two years disposed of it and for some years thereafter devoted his attention to the cultivation of rented land. In 1888 or 1889 he bought his present home farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 22, Vernon Springs township, which he had operated as a renter before becoming the owner. The further development and improvement of the property has since claimed his time and energies and he derives therefrom a gratifying annual income. He likewise owns one hundred and twenty acres of land in Howard Center township, which he purchased about 1908. In the work of the fields he utilizes the most advanced methods, so that his labors are attended with the best results, winning him a place among the representative and successful agriculturists of the district.

On the 6th of April, 1885, Mr. Hansen was united in marriage to Miss Marie Christensen, a native of Denmark and a daughter of Christ and Elizabeth Christensen, both of whom passed away in that country. Mrs. Hansen came to the United States in 1883 and by her marriage has become the mother of five children, four of whom still survive, namely: Ellen K., the wife of Alfred Gesell, who operates her father's farm in Howard Center township; Henry M., who is now filling the office of county treasurer of Howard county; Lewis N., who is engaged in the automobile business at Granger, Minnesota; and Samuel P., at home.

In his political views Mr. Hansen is a republican and he has given able service to his fellow townsmen as a member of the board of township trustees, in which capacity he served for four years, and also as a member of the school board, with which he was connected for a number of years. His record is indeed commendable, for he came to the new world empty-handed and through his own efforts has won prosperity, now owning two hundred and eighty acres of Howard county's most valuable land.

F. G. HARNOSS.

F. G. Harnoss is a farmer residing on section 22, New Oregon township, Howard county, where he owns one hundred and twenty acres of land, constituting one of the excellent farms of the district. He was born in Germany, August 10, 1873, a son of Frederick and Rosie (Mikush) Harnoss. He came to this country with his grandfather and an aunt in the summer of 1883, when a lad of but ten years, and thus for thirty-six years has resided on this side of the Atlantic. In the fall of the same year his parents came to the new world. They made their way direct to Iowa and settled in Fayette county.

F. G. Harnoss was educated in the public schools while spending his youthful days under the parental roof. His father continued to carry on farming and was thus engaged at the time of his death, which occurred September 17, 1915. For four years he had survived his wife, who died August 24, 1911.

F. G. Harnoss was reared to the occupation of farming, which he has followed as a life work, and there is no phase of progressive agricultural life with which he is not familiar. For seven years he has resided upon the place which is now his home and he has here one hundred and twenty acres of land, which he has carefully and systematically cultivated and which annually returns to him a gratifying income upon his investment.

On the 14th of February, 1895, Mr. Harnoss was united in marriage to Miss Marie Hagge, a daughter of Christ and Minnie (Raymond) Hagge, both of whom were natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Harnoss have become parents of four children, three of whom are living, but their first born, a son, Louis J., died February 16, 1917. The other children are: Alfred W., Dorothy L. and Raymond C.

Mr. Harnoss served on the school board in Fayette county before his removal to Howard county. In politics he is a republican but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs. He and his family attend the German Lutheran church in Cresco. His worth as a man and a citizen is widely recognized, for he has led a life of industry and perseverance—qualities which have constituted the foundation of his growing prosperity.

W. W. CRAY.

W. W. Cray is the president of the Farmers Bank at Chester, Iowa, and has made for himself an enviable position in financial circles by reason of the progressiveness, tempered by a safe conservatism, that he has manifested in the conduct of the bank. He is one of Howard county's native sons, having been born on a farm a mile and a half south of the present town site of Chester on the 13th of May, 1860, his parents being Joseph and Matilda (Coombs) Cray, of whom extended mention is made in connection with the sketch of their son John on another page of this work.

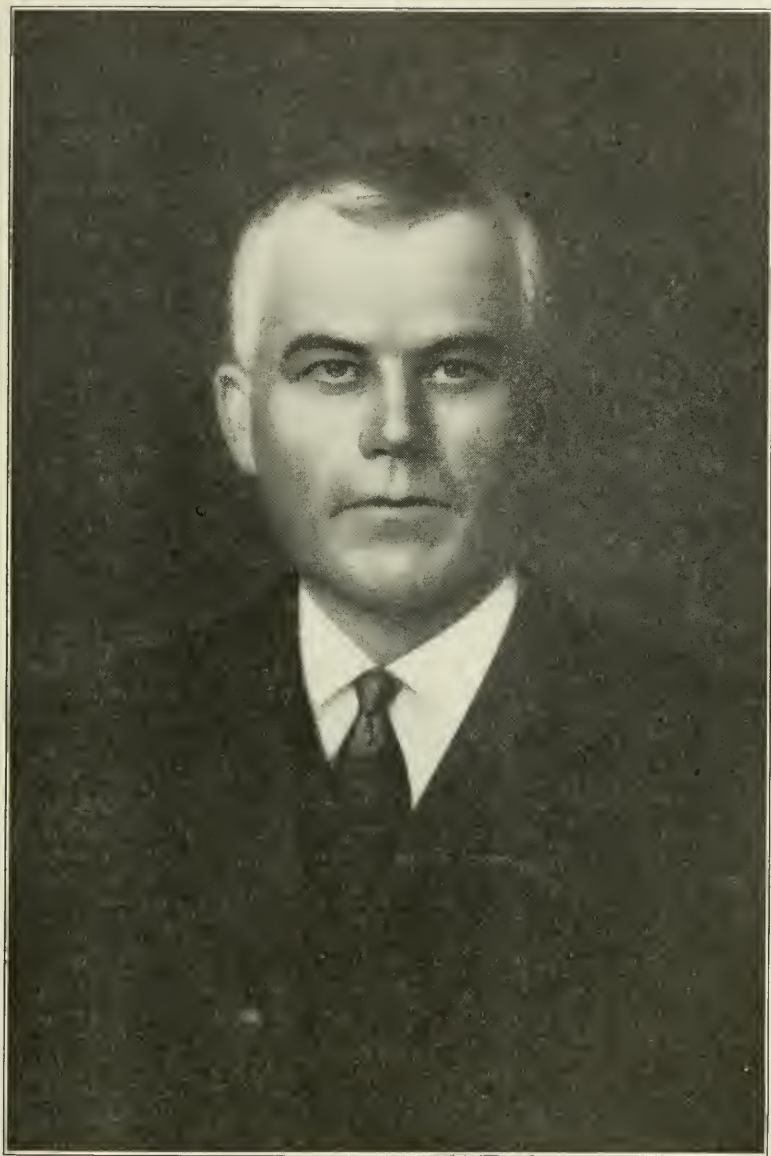
W. W. Cray was reared upon the home farm and was educated in the district schools. Soon after reaching his majority he bought a farm of his own, on which he resided, and continued to cultivate that tract until 1913, when he removed to Chester. The following year he founded the Farmers Bank, which he has since successfully conducted, and through the intervening period has gradually developed its business, securing for it a constantly increasing clientele that is at once indicative of the progressiveness and reliability of his business management and the confidence reposed in him by the general public. As the years have passed he has made extensive and judicious investments in real estate and has heavy land holdings in Howard county. In fact he is one of the county's most substantial business men.

Mr. Cray was married to Miss Elizabeth Bullis, of Chester township, Howard county, and to them have been born two children: Joseph B., who is cashier of the Exchange State Bank of Lime Springs; and Winfield, who is with the army of occupation in Germany.

In politics Mr. Cray is a democrat and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, but never seeks nor desires office. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and they occupy a very enviable social position, the hospitality of the best homes of Chester being most cordially extended them, while in all matters of public concern Mr. Cray's position is one of leadership.

MICHAEL L. BARNES.

Michael L. Barnes, a farmer residing in Schley, Paris township, Howard county, was born February 2, 1875, in the county which is still his home, his parents being Sylvester and Catherine (Ferrie) Barnes, who were natives of the state of New York. The father was born February 22, 1840, and came to Howard county in his boyhood days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Barnes, who settled in Vernon Springs township, being among the earliest of the pioneers of this section of the state. At the outbreak of the Civil war Sylvester Barnes joined the Union army and served throughout that memorable struggle. He married Catherine Ferrie, who had come to Howard county with her parents in her girlhood days, they, too, being among the early residents of the county, settling in New Oregon township. Mr. and Mrs. Barnes were married in Vernon Springs, December 25, 1862, and their later years were spent in Howard and Chickasaw counties. Mr. Barnes purchased the farm which his son Michael now owns and also established a country store. He likewise founded the town of Schley and for several years served as its postmaster. He was one of the well known and highly esteemed men of his community and his death, which occurred April 9,



W. W. CRAY

1912, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret. His widow survives and makes her home with a son in Cresco.

Michael L. Barnes was educated in the district schools of Howard and Chickasaw counties and spent his youthful days under the parental roof. In 1901 he was married to Miss Verona Novak, a daughter of Thomas Novak, one of the early settlers of Howard county, now living retired in Cresco. In 1900 Mr. Barnes began farming on his own account on rented land and was thus engaged for five years, during which time he carefully saved his earnings, and in 1905 purchased the old homestead farm at Schley, which is regarded as one of the best farm properties in Howard county.

Mr. and Mrs. Barnes have become the parents of eleven children, ten of whom are yet living, namely: Harry J., Cornelius M., Inez H., Winifred M., Kenneth G., Edmund T., Deloras T., Celesta E., Georgenia S. and Cyriac D. Virgil V., the eighth in order of birth, is deceased.

The family are communicants of the Catholic church, and Mr. Barnes is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and in politics is a republican. His entire life has been passed in Howard county, and he has carried forward the work of development and improvement which was begun by his father and which has connected the name of Barnes with the up-building of the county from pioneer times.

THOMAS KAKAC.

Thomas Kakac is conducting a general merchandise establishment at Saratoga and the large line of goods which he carries signifies the liberal trade accorded him. He was born in Moravia, Austria, July 17, 1863, a son of Thomas and Anna (Popelka) Kakac, who in the year 1868 bade adieu to friends and native country and with their family sailed for the United States. They made their way to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where they took up their abode, and the father followed cabinet making in that city for a year. He then removed with his family to Chicago following the Chicago fire and Mr. Kakac worked at the cabinet maker's trade and afterward at cigar making until 1873, when the family home was established at Ely, Iowa. There Mr. Kakac resumed work at the carpenter's trade, which he followed until 1875, when he turned from industrial to agricultural pursuits and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Saratoga township, after which he bent his energies to the development and improvement of his farm. The mother of Thomas Kakac of this review died in 1897 and in 1898 the father married again and is now living at Haugen, Wisconsin, having reached the age of eighty-one years.

Thomas Kakac accompanied his parents to the new world and was with them on their various removals. He continued under the parental roof until 1878 and afterward went to Chicago, where he attended the public schools and then returned home, again taken up his abode upon the farm in Saratoga township in 1880. In 1881 the father rented the farm for five years and took his family to Chicago, where he engaged in carpentering, and there the son Thomas became active in the real estate business, in which he remained for six years.

While in Chicago, Mr. Kakac was married July 21, 1887, and not long after he and his wife, together with his parents, returned to the home farm in Saratoga township, Howard county. A year and a half was devoted by Mr. Kakac to general agricultural pursuits, at the end of which time he returned to Chicago with his wife and there became engaged in the insurance business, to which he devoted another period of a year and a half. Once more he came to Howard county and in connection with his brother John established a general store on the farm, conducting the business there for six months. Subsequently they bought out the business of C. W. Fields at Saratoga and for a year conducted the store. Later they erected the present store building which they now occupy. The brothers continued the partnership until 1906, when they divided their interests, Thomas Kakac remaining as owner of the store, while John Kakac took the farm as his share of the property. Thomas Kakac is now enjoying a liberal

and gratifying trade, his annual sales bringing to him a substantial profit. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Cooperative Creamery Company of Saratoga.

Mr. Kakac was married in Chicago, as previously stated, to Miss Mary Fischer, whose parents have passed away. By her marriage she has become the mother of five children: Anna Rose, who is the wife of Fred Vagts; Elsie Mae, the wife of Frank Wallace; Thomas John, who was with the Twentieth Infantry Headquarters Band as a member of the American army but is now at home; Mildred B., who is now a nurse in the Michael Reese Hospital at Chicago; and Mae Julia, who is attending high school at Cresco.

Mr. Kakac filled the office of justice of the peace for eighteen years in Saratoga township, continuing in that position until 1911. He had been postmaster of Saratoga since 1906. His political endorsement has always been given to the republican party, for he is a firm believer in its principles. Both he and his wife attend the Presbyterian church of Saratoga and are highly esteemed throughout the community in which they reside. For twenty years Mr. Kakac has been a faithful member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging now to Relief Lodge, No. 211, A. F. & A. M., at Riceville, Iowa, while his wife is a member of the Eastern Star. Mr. Kakac is also connected with the Modern Woodmen camp at Saratoga and has been clerk thereof since 1906. He likewise belongs to the Modern Brotherhood of America at Mason City, Iowa, and has been treasurer of the local lodge since 1913. He is likewise a member of the C. B. Z. J., a Bohemian secret organization of Cedar Rapids, with which he became connected in 1914. His interests are thus broad and varied. He is a forceful and resourceful man, displaying ready adaptability and keen discrimination in business affairs and at all times standing for the welfare, benefit and progress of the community in which he makes his home.

F. P. WENTZ.

F. P. Wentz is a representative of the automobile trade of northern Iowa as the head of the Wesp Motor Company of New Hampton, agents of the Buick, the Cadillac and the Chevrolet cars. Iowa numbers him among her native sons, his birth having occurred in Winneshiek county, March 9, 1872, his parents being William and Anna M. (Dietrich) Wentz, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, where they were reared, while their marriage occurred in that state in 1866. Three years later they made their way westward to Calmar, Iowa, and settled upon a farm near the town. Later the father engaged in the butchering business in Calmar and in 1891 he removed to a farm near New Hampton, whereon he continued to engage in general agricultural pursuits until 1906. He then retired from active business cares and took up his abode in the city of New Hampton, where he resided to the time of his death in 1910. His widow survived him for almost a decade, passing away on the 23d of January, 1919.

F. P. Wentz was educated in the parochial and public schools of Calmar and Ossian, Iowa, and remained at home until he reached his twenty-fifth year, when he rented land and began farming on his own account. He cultivated leased land for seven years and in 1902 removed to New Hampton to accept a position with the firm of Wesp & Gray, dealers in agricultural implements. Six months later he resigned this position to engage in building and land speculation and has since been prominently identified with business of that character. In 1913 he also entered the automobile field, organizing the firm of Wentz & Rosaner, but in 1917 he sold his automobile interests. A year later, however, he bought a half interest in the business of A. H. Wesp, organizing the Wesp Motor Company, one of the leading business houses of New Hampton. They handle the Buick, Cadillac and Chevrolet cars and sell a large number annually. Their business has now reached very substantial proportions and their success is due to their thorough understanding of the cars which they handle, their enterprising methods and reliable dealings.

On the 28th of January, 1902, Mr. Wentz was united in marriage to Miss Estella Emiessy, of New Hampton township, Chickasaw county, and they have become parents

of four children: Orville and Raymond, both of whom are high school students; Luella, who is still in the grades; and Merle.

In politics Mr. Wentz maintains an independent course, but his interest in community affairs is deep and sincere and is manifest in many tangible ways. He served for one year as secretary of the Commercial Club of New Hampton. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, with the American Yeomen and the Knights of Columbus and he and his family are members of St. Joseph's Catholic church. Starting out in life without any special advantages, he has steadily worked his way upward, for he early recognized that there is always room at the top and he resolved not to be one of the laggards in life. He has brooked no obstacle that could be overcome by determined and persistent labor, and while there have been no spectacular phases in his career, the sterling worth of his character and the reliability of his business methods have commanded for him the respect, confidence and good will of all.

EWING L. BRADLEY.

Ewing L. Bradley, who is engaged in the undertaking business in Cresco, was born near Hopkins, Missouri, June 23, 1880. His father, Alonzo S. Bradley, was a native of Illinois, born in Monmouth, and at the place of his birth he remained until ten years of age, when his parents removed with their family to Siam, Iowa, where the grandfather traded a wagon for eighty acres of land. He then began the development of that tract, which was entirely wild and unimproved when it came into his possession, and throughout his remaining days he resided thereon. Following his demise his widow removed to Bedford, Iowa, where she lived with her daughter, with whom she remained until death called her to the home beyond. Their son, Alonzo S. Bradley, was reared on the old homestead in Iowa, where he continued until his marriage, after which he started out in farming on his own account on rented land, his first home being a log cabin. He occupied that place for four years and then with his earnings purchased a farm west of his former place, comprising eighty acres, which he owned and cultivated for eight years. He next sold that property and bought one hundred and twenty acres about two miles west and concentrated his efforts and attention upon its further cultivation, while to the farm he added many modern improvements. Upon that place he continued for four years and later established his home on a tract of one hundred and sixty acres one-half mile east of Siam. This, he continued to further develop and improve until 1900, when he sold his land and took up his abode at Gravity, Iowa, retiring from active business cares. Both he and his wife have reached the age of fifty-nine years. They are consistent members of the Christian church and Mr. Bradley gives his political allegiance to the democratic party. He is now enjoying the fruits of his former toil and his perseverance and energy have been the salient features in winning for him a competence that now enables him to rest from further labor.

Ewing L. Bradley spent his boyhood days upon his father's farm in the vicinity of Siam, pursuing his early education in its public schools, while his preliminary training was afterward supplemented by study in the normal school at Bedford, Iowa, which he attended during the summer months. He afterward took up the profession of teaching, which he followed for six years in his old home, and for two years he taught school at Gravity. On the expiration of that period he settled at Lenox, Iowa, where he taught for a year, and then, thinking to find a broader and more profitable field of labor along commercial lines, he turned his attention to the furniture trade and to undertaking in Lenox. For five and a half years he was connected with business interests at that place and in 1914 came to Cresco, where he entered the employ of the Meverden Furniture & Undertaking Company, with which he continued for three years. He then established business on his own account and now has a well appointed store and undertaking parlors. He practices the most scientific methods in the care of the dead and has a liberal patronage in that connection.

In 1901 Mr. Bradley was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Wheeler, a daughter of Elisha and Ellen (Torrance) Wheeler. She was born in Siam, Iowa, and by her marriage has become the mother of four children, Cecyle, Norman, Luella and Lester.

Mr. Bradley votes with the democratic party, which he has supported since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, and he is anxious for its success because of his firm belief in the efficacy of its principles as factors in good government. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, the I. O. O. F., Woodmen of the World, the Modern Woodmen and the Christian church, associations which indicate much of the nature of his interests and the rules that govern his conduct. His fellow townsmen speak of him in terms of high regard and he has many warm friends in Cresco and throughout Howard county.

J. P. ROTHS.

J. P. Roths, who follows farming on section 15, Chickasaw township, in Chickasaw county, was born in Illinois, October 4, 1880, his parents being Mathias and Katherine (Trappen) Roths, of whom more extended mention is made on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of Theodore Roths, brother of our subject. In his youthful days J. P. Roths was a pupil in the district schools of Jo Daviess county, Illinois, and when twelve years of age he removed with his parents to Iowa and assisted his father in farm work until he reached the age of twenty-three. He was then married to Miss Minnie Pitz, a daughter of Mrs. Amelia Pitz, the wedding being celebrated February 12, 1904. Her father died in Chickasaw township a number of years ago, but the mother is still living and now makes her home in Ionia. To Mr. and Mrs. Roths have been born the following children: Alfred, Irene, Carrie, Missela, Arthur and Carolina.

Subsequent to his marriage Mr. Roths settled upon a farm in Deerfield township, which he rented for six years. On the expiration of that period he came to his present home place, purchasing the farm which he now owns and which comprises one hundred and thirty acres of land. He has since lived upon this property and his labors have wrought a marked transformation in its appearance and value. He has carefully tilled his fields and his efforts have been rewarded with a measure of success that places him among the well-to-do farmers of the county.

During the period of the great World war Mr. Roths' son Alfred served in the army from September 5, 1918, until January 16, 1919, being with the Second Infantry of the Nineteenth Division. He was in training at Camp Dodge when the armistice was signed. Mr. Roths has never been an office seeker nor has he sought to figure prominently in public life, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs, whereby he has provided a comfortable living for his family.

A. G. WILKES.

A. G. Wilkes, who on the 27th of January, 1910, departed this life, was identified with the pioneer development of the west and for many years was numbered among the highly respected citizens of Howard county. He devoted considerable time to general farming and stock raising, and his diligence and perseverance were the elements of growing success. He was born in Chautauqua county, New York, May 4, 1861, a son of John and Henrietta (Starks) Wilkes, who were also natives of the Empire state. They removed westward with their family when their son, A. G. Wilkes, was a youth of seventeen years and the father purchased a farm upon which they resided throughout the remainder of their days and which is now occupied by Mrs. A. G. Wilkes. Year after year the father carried on the farm work and his labors wrought a marked transformation in the appearance of the place, which he converted into a valuable farm property. He was thus busily engaged to the time of his demise, which occurred in 1891. His widow survived him for about two decades, passing away in 1911.

A. G. Wilkes obtained his education in the district schools of his native county and after the removal of his parents to Iowa he assisted his father in clearing the land and developing the home property, being thus engaged for about a year. He then began

work in the pineries of Wisconsin, where he was employed for five years, and on the expiration of that period he was married and in connection with his brother took up carpentering, which he followed until 1889. In that year he returned to farm life and about 1894 bought his father's old homestead place and lived thereon to the time of his death. His first purchase made him the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land north of Riceville and at the time of his demise he was the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of excellent farm land in Mitchell and Howard counties, including the thirty acres in Riceville, upon which the old homestead of the family still stands. After removing to the old home farm in 1894 he devoted his attention largely to the buying and selling of stock and became one of the prominent live stock dealers of this section of the state. He won very substantial success in the conduct of that business and was thus able to leave his family in comfortable financial circumstances.

On the 3d of June, 1884, Mr. Wilkes was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Smith and they became the parents of eight children: Mrs. Gertrude Mae Sivalia, Mrs. Florence Genevieve Herdman, Mrs. Blanche Aileen Blandin, Robert John, Mrs. Amy Violet Mahaffey, Joseph Adelbert, Frederick Mason and Caroline Mary.

The family are adherents of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Wilkes' political endorsement was given to the democratic party and for nine years he served as a member of the school board of Riceville and was always deeply interested in everything that tended to uplift the individual and upbuild the community. His support was always given on the side of progress and improvement, and his labors were far-reaching and resultant. In addition to developing his farm he was a stockholder in the electric plant of Riceville and at all times was recognized as a man of good business judgment whose labors were an element in the material development of his section of the state. To his family he was a devoted husband and father, and to those who knew him a faithful friend. He had many excellent traits of character, and his life was filled with the "many little unremembered acts of kindness and of love."

WILLIAM. J. MERRICK.

William J. Merrick is engaged in the development and improvement of a farm of two hundred acres situated on section 29, Howard township, and has gained recognition as one of the representative agriculturists of northern Iowa. He was born in Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, July 26, 1874, and is a son of Barney and Catherine Merrick, who were natives of Germany. The father came to the United States when but seven years of age and both of his parents died while they were on the voyage to the new world. The little son made his way to Burlington, Wisconsin, and thrown upon his own resources at this tender age, worked as best he could to provide for his own support. When about twenty-five years of age he joined the Union army and participated in the Civil war, acting as a teamster in hauling provisions. While various difficulties and obstacles beset his path, he nevertheless made progress in a business way and when about thirty years of age bought a farm in connection with three other men. They drew straws for their shares of the land and cleared the place and built their log houses thereon. Mr. Merrick became owner of eighty acres of the tract and to his original possessions he added as his financial resources increased until he had acquired two hundred and forty acres. He placed all of the improvements upon the property and resided thereon until about sixty years of age, when he retired from active business life and removed to Alta Vista, renting his farm to his sons. At one time he filled the office of road supervisor. He deserved much credit for what he accomplished, as he started out in life with a great handicap. Such a record should serve to encourage and inspire others, showing what may be accomplished when there is a will to dare and to do.

William J. Merrick was reared upon the old homestead farm and was early trained to the practical work of the fields. He was thus well acquainted with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops when his father left the old homestead and gave the farm over to the management of his sons. For a time he rented land

and then came to his present place, which is situated on section 29, Howard township. He is today busily engaged in the cultivation of two hundred acres of arable land and the results of his labors are seen in the splendid crops which he annually gathers.

On the 27th of October, 1904, Mr. Merrick was united in marriage to Miss Josephine Gardener, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gardener, of Howard county, who were early settlers and farmers there. Mr. and Mrs. Merrick have become parents of six children: Mildred, Leon, Victor, Florence, Frances and Clarence, all of whom are living upon the home farm with their parents.

In his political views Mr. Merrick is a democrat and he closely studies the questions and issues of the day. For three years he has filled the office of township trustee and aside from his public duties and farming interests is a stockholder in the Farmers' Lumber Company of Alta Vista and one of its directors. The religious faith of Mr. Merrick and his family is that of the Catholic church and they are connected with the parish at Elma.

WILLIAM W. MILES.

William W. Miles is an honored citizen of Howard county, where for many years he followed farming but is now living retired, although still owning a place of one hundred and sixty acres on section 18, Saratoga township. He was born in Ripley county, Indiana, March 10, 1837, a son of Jesse and Martha (Beckert) Miles. The father left Indiana when the son was but four years of age and settled in Janesville, Wisconsin, but never came to Iowa, remaining a resident of Wisconsin until his death.

William W. Miles acquired his early education in the public schools of Wisconsin and also attended a commercial college at Madison, that state, being there graduated. He was likewise for a time a student in the academy at Milton, Rock county, Wisconsin, and liberal educational advantages thus qualified him for life's practical and responsible duties.

In October, 1862, Mr. Miles was married to Miss Jennie Arnold and in the same year they came to Saratoga township, casting in their lot among the earliest settlers of Howard county. Six children have been born to them, namely: Jess, Fred, Harry, Alfred, Bert and John. All are married and reside in Saratoga township with the exception of Harry, who lives in Jamestown. Fred, who is now deceased, was for a number of years principal of the West Concord high school, at West Concord, Minnesota.

In politics Mr. Miles has ever been a stalwart republican and in every relation of life he has displayed qualities which have commanded for him the respect and confidence of those who know him.

PETER JOHNSON.

When Chickasaw county was in a wild and undeveloped region Peter Johnson took up his abode within its borders and now follows farming on section 27, Jacksonville township. He was born in Norway, January 25, 1844, and is a son of John and Julia (Peterson) Johnson, who came to the United States in 1847, when their son Peter was but three years of age. They settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, where the father purchased a farm of eighty acres and built thereon a log cabin in the midst of the forest. He at once proceeded to clear away the timber and developed his fields, and as time passed on he purchased other land and became the owner of two hundred and forty acres, constituting one of the excellent farms of that district. There he and his wife resided until called to their final rest, the death of Mr. Johnson occurring when he was about ninety years of age, while his wife reached the very advanced age of ninety-two years.

Peter Johnson was educated in the primitive country schools of that early period



WILLIAM W. MILES



SONS OF WILLIAM W. MILES

and remained upon the home farm until October 1, 1864, when at the age of twenty years he enlisted in response to the call of his adopted country for military aid. He became a member of Company B, Fifteenth Wisconsin Regiment, which was wholly composed of Norwegians. The command went south and served under Sherman, taking part in the celebrated march from Atlanta to the sea. Mr. Johnson received his discharge April 1, 1865, and returned to his home in Wisconsin, where he spent the succeeding four years. In December, 1869, he removed to Chickasaw county, Iowa, driving through with team and wagon. He was accompanied by his brother Tollif and together they purchased two hundred and forty acres of land, upon which Mr. Johnson now resides. In June of the following year he was married and the brother was married in October of the same year. A division of their landed interests was then made, Peter Johnson taking one hundred and twenty acres, which forms a part of his present home farm that now comprises one hundred and sixty-five acres. He has lived continuously upon this farm for a half century and probably not another settler in Jacksonville township has remained for so extended a period upon one farm.

On the 24th of June, 1870, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Martha Attleson, a daughter of Attle Attleson, who came to Chickasaw county from Dane county, Wisconsin, in 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have become the parents of twelve children nine of whom survive, namely: John, who operates the home farm; Edward, an agriculturist of Jacksonville township; Peter a lumber dealer residing at Willow City, North Dakota; Gilbert, who served in the European war and is now assistant cashier of a banking institution at Humboldt, Iowa; Grover, who also served with the American forces in the great World war; Sarah, who is the wife of Martin Johnson, of Dane county, Wisconsin; Martha, the wife of Carl Offerdahl, of Mount Horeb, Wisconsin; Anna, who resides in Madison, Wisconsin; and Hattie, at home.

In his political views Mr. Johnson is a democrat and for four terms he filled the office of township assessor of Jacksonville township. He was also for several terms a member of the township board of trustees and for a number of years served on the school board. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church and are people of genuine worth, their many sterling traits of character winning for them warm regard. Mr. Johnson certainly deserves much credit for what he has accomplished, as his success has come to him as the direct reward of earnest labor. Not only is he the owner of a valuable farm property but is also a stockholder in the Jerico Creamery Association. Long residence in Jacksonville township has brought him a wide acquaintance and he is now numbered among her prosperous and valued citizens.

ALBERT HOVORKA.

Albert Hovorka, who is engaged in farming in Howard county, his home being on section 29, New Oregon township, is of Bohemian birth. His natal day was December 18, 1863, and his parents were John and Anna (Rajzner) Hovorka, who came to the United States about eight years after the emigration of their son Albert to the new world. They at once made their way westward to Iowa, settling in Paris township, Howard county, and for many years the father was engaged in farming but eventually retired from active business life and took up his abode in Protivin, where he passed away in 1912. His widow is still living and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. James Berka, who is living in Winneshiek county.

Albert Hovorka was reared upon the old homestead until his nineteenth year and was educated in the public schools of his native country, mastering the branches of learning that usually constitute the public school curriculum. In 1882 he came to the United States, attracted by the opportunities offered in the new world. He made his way at once to Protivin, Howard county, where he began work as a farm hand, and for six years he was thus employed for wages, during which time the highest salary he received was twenty dollars per month. Out of this sum he managed to save more than eight hundred dollars and he then made investment in eighty acres of farm land in Paris township, paying one-half down and having enough money left to buy a team

of horses, harness and a wagon. With characteristic energy he then began the development of this property, which he continued to cultivate until 1912, when he sold the farm and bought his present home place of one hundred and sixty-six acres. Through the intervening period he has carried on its further development and improvement and his place is now most fertile and productive.

In 1889 Mr. Hovorka was united in marriage to Miss Mary Marovitz, of Paris township, Howard county, and to them have been born six children: Anna, the wife of Henry Novak, a farmer residing on section 6, New Oregon township, Howard county; Lizzie, the wife of Albert Cisar, who follows farming in Chickasaw county; and Aloise, Celia, Clara and Edward, all yet at home.

In addition to his home property Mr. Hovorka owned another farm of one hundred and sixty-two and a half acres, situated in Center township, Howard county, which he purchased in 1917 and sold in 1919. His landed possessions are the visible evidence of his life of well directed energy and thrift, showing what can be accomplished through determination and industry. In politics Mr. Hovorka is a democrat, keenly interested in the success of the party, yet has never been an office seeker. His religious faith is that of the Catholic church. He is regarded as one of the leading citizens of New Oregon township. He has never regretted his determination to come to America, for here he has found the business opportunities which he sought and in their employment has laid the foundation of a very substantial fortune. He is now classed with the representative and prosperous farmers of Howard county and his success is attributable entirely to his individual effort.

EDWIN A. CHURCH.

For a quarter of a century Edwin A. Church has been an active member of the bar, practicing since 1904 in Cresco. He is a native son of Howard county and his professional record stands in contradistinction to the old adage that a prophet is never without honor save in his own country, for in the community in which he was reared Edwin A. Church has made for himself a most creditable name and position. He was born in New Oregon township, April 20, 1867, a son of Gaius H. and Adeline R. (Gillette) Church, both of whom were born in South Bainbridge, now Afton, Chenango county, New York, and they were married while still residents of that state. The father in early life went to California but later returned to New York, and then, removing westward, settled in New Oregon township, Howard county, Iowa, where he took up land from the government. His were the usual experiences of pioneer life. He built a log cabin and the family faced many hardships and privations while they were making a start in the new country but the years wrought a change in their condition as a result of their persistent labors and for twenty-five years Mr. Church cultivated and improved his farm, which he transformed into a valuable property. He afterward sold his original claim and purchased another farm of eighty acres near Cresco. This he continued to further develop and improve for some time but ultimately retired from active business cares and took up his abode in Cresco, where he spent his remaining days in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. He died in 1903 at the age of seventy-three years, while his wife passed away in 1914, at the age of seventy-eight years. They were both consistent members of the Congregational church and people of the highest respectability, who enjoyed the warm regard, confidence and goodwill of those with whom they came in contact.

Edwin A. Church spent his boyhood days upon the old home farm near Cresco and pursued his education in the public schools, being graduated from the high school of Cresco with the class of 1889. He determined upon a professional career and with that end in view went to Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he entered the State University, there pursuing a law course. He there completed his studies in 1892 and in the spring entered upon the practice of his profession at Albert Lea, Minnesota, where he remained for about eleven years. In 1904 he returned to Cresco, where he opened an office and has since followed his profession. He prepares his cases with great thorough-

ness and care and is seldom if ever at fault in the application of legal principles. He is strong in argument, logical in his deductions and careful in his analysis and, possessing the requisite qualities for success at the bar, has won a most creditable position among the lawyers of Howard county.

In 1895 Mr. Church was united in marriage to Miss Bernice B. Chapman, a daughter of A. C. and Tina (Squires) Chapman. Her father was a lumberman of Two Rivers, Minnesota, and it was there that Mrs. Church was born. By her marriage she has become the mother of six children: Donald H., who died in his sixteenth year; Gordon C. and Edwin H., both of whom are now members of the Thirty-eighth Aerial Squadron of the United States army and are in training at Rantoul, Illinois, having been stationed at Camp Chanute; Edwin H. has been made a sergeant (first class) and has charge of the supply department there. The other children of the family are Bruce, George H. and Robert C., all at home.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Congregational church and fraternally Mr. Church is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and his wife occupy an enviable position in social circles, enjoying the goodwill and kindly regard of all who know them, while his professional brethren speak of him in terms of confidence and of admiration. That his has been a well spent life is, moreover, indicated in the fact that many of his stanchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time.

W. N. WESP.

The story of successful endeavor in the life record of W. N. Wesp should serve to inspire and encourage the man who thoughtfully regards the work of other individuals. It shows what can be achieved through personal effort when guided by sound judgment and characterized by resolute purpose. Year after year Mr. Wesp carried on farming and promoted business interests and prospered in all that he undertook. His activities, too, were of a character that contributed to the welfare and progress of the community at large and at length, having become possessed of a handsome competence, he put aside business cares and is now enjoying a well deserved rest. His home is at New Hampton.

W. N. Wesp was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, March 9, 1856, and is a son of Frederick J. and Mary (Davis) Wesp, the former a native of Germany, whence he went with his parents to Canada when a lad of but six years. The mother was of Welsh parentage but was born in North America. Throughout his active life Frederick J. Wesp followed the occupation of farming. He crossed the border into the United States about 1858 or 1859, becoming a resident of New York. Subsequently he removed to Wisconsin and in 1869 drove across the country to Iowa with team and covered wagon, establishing his home in Chickasaw county, where he purchased two hundred acres of land situated four and a half miles south and two miles east of New Hampton. On this farm he continued to reside until called to the home beyond, his widow surviving him about six years.

W. N. Wesp was educated in the common schools, but his opportunities of attending school were somewhat limited after he reached his thirteenth year. He was, however, a diligent reader and a close observer of men and events and in these ways he acquired a thorough practical education and became a well informed man of sound judgment and of keen discrimination. In 1878 he was united in marriage to Miss Helen Fuller and the same year began farming upon rented land. He had previously been working with a threshing outfit during the threshing season and after his marriage he continued in the same line of work in connection with the development of his farm.

In 1879 Mr. Wesp removed to Nebraska and for two years was engaged in farming on his own account as a renter in that state. During the first year, however, crops were a complete failure, but the second year he raised a crop and made good. He then entered the employ of a man at a salary of five hundred dollars per year and furnished a team of horses. He continued to work in that way for three years and during that

time he purchased and paid for an eighty-acre farm in Iowa and moreover had enough money with which to build a residence and a small barn and buy a team of horses, a set of harness and a wagon. Not long afterward he made investment in a threshing outfit and in addition to cultivating his own eighty-acre tract he also engaged in farming a rented tract of one hundred and sixty acres. He likewise operated his threshing machine every fall and in this way he gradually won success. Year after year he harvested good crops and added to his income, bringing his farm under a high state of cultivation and development. In 1899 he gave up farming and removed to New Hampton with the intention of retiring from business, but indolence and idleness are utterly foreign to his nature and after thirty days he was persuaded to work for Grover & Company in the implement business. Two years later he became a member of the firm of Shaffer Brothers & Company, successors to Grover & Company, and in the succeeding years, through the numerous changes in the personnel of the firm, Mr. Wesp continued with the business and contributed in substantial measure to its growth and success. In 1914 this business was incorporated under the name of the New Hampton Motor & Implement Company, but the business was carried on under the firm names of the Wesp Motor Company and the New Hampton Implement Company. Subsequently there was a division of the business and Mr. Wesp and Shaffer Brothers acquired the motor branch of the business, with which Mr. Wesp was identified until March 21, 1918, when the business was sold to his son, A. H. Wesp, and F. P. Wentz. This is still being conducted by these partners under the firm style of the Wesp Motor Company. Since that date W. N. Wesp has lived retired, enjoying a well earned rest. It is doubtful if there is a man in New Hampton who has lived a more active life and his energy and enterprise have proven the foundation upon which he has built his well merited success.

To Mr. and Mrs. Wesp have been born three children: Arthur H., now of the Wesp Motor Company; Lottie B., the wife of F. H. Ackley, who cultivates her father's farm; and Marilla, the wife of F. S. Howard, a railroad man of New Hampton. The parents are consistent and loyal members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Wesp also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. His political endorsement is given to the republican party and for four years he served as township assessor but has always preferred to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business interests. It has been by reason of this thoroughness and close application that he has made the advancement that has brought him from a humble position in the business world to a place of prominence and affluence. The methods that he has ever followed will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny and all who have had business transactions with him speak of his thorough reliability as well as his progressiveness. A thoughtful consideration of his career should serve to inspire and encourage others, showing what can be accomplished when there is a will to dare and to do. He early realized that the price of success is earnest and self-denying effort and he was willing to pay the price in order to reach the creditable position which he now occupies as one of the substantial and representative citizens of Chickasaw county.

EDWARD T. JONES.

One of the successful and substantial citizens of Howard county is Edward T. Jones, a retired farmer making his home at Lime Springs. He is a native of Wales, his birth having there occurred on the 17th of March, 1844, his parents being Thomas and Catherine (Jones) Jones, who spent their entire lives in their native country. Both lived to an advanced age, the father being eighty-four years of age at the time of his death, while the mother was ninety-seven years of age.

Edward T. Jones was reared in Wales and acquired his education in that country, but his opportunities in that direction were limited, as he had no chance to continue his studies after he had reached his eleventh year. His father conducted a large farm there and Mr. Jones preferred working on the farm to attending school. At length he determined to try his fortune in the new world and in 1867 crossed the Atlantic, landing in New York city in June of that year. He did not tarry on the eastern coast, how-

ever, but made his way at once westward to Columbia county, Wisconsin, where for three years he was employed at farm labor. In March, 1870, he came to Howard county, Iowa, and in that summer rented a farm three miles from Lime Springs. In the following fall he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 16, Albion township, and thereby laid the corner stone of his later success. He purchased this farm for twenty-one hundred dollars and five years later sold the property for forty-five hundred dollars. He then bought three hundred and twenty acres on section 28, Howard Center township, and remained upon that place for seven years, but his labors were not attended with success during that period, so he turned the farm back to the party from whom he had originally bought it. His father-in-law then gave Mrs. Jones forty acres with a good residence and Mr. Jones purchased of his father-in-law an eighty-acre tract adjoining. Subsequently he added to this until the farm comprised three hundred and twenty-one acres and he is still the owner of the property, which is located on section 20, Albion township. He continued not only to further develop and improve but also to occupy that farm for twenty-seven years, on the expiration of which period he removed to Lime Springs in October, 1908. Through the intervening period he has made his home in the town and is accounted one of its valued and substantial citizens.

On the 14th of November, 1871, Mr. Jones was married to Miss Elizabeth Jones, a daughter of Richard Jones, a native of Wales, who came to the United States with his parents as a boy of nine years. He became a resident of Howard county, Iowa, in 1871, having previously purchased land here. To Mr. and Mrs. Jones have been born three children: Richard E., who resides at home; Thomas E., a member of the faculty of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, who was appointed a captain in the National army, serving as staff officer; and Owen G., who is operating the home farm.

Mr. Jones is a republican in his political views and gives stalwart support to the men and measures of the party. Both he and his wife are members of the Welsh church and guide their lives according to its teachings. Both are highly esteemed throughout Howard county and their circle of friends is almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintance.

C. J. GARMEN.

C. J. Garmen, cashier of the First State Bank of Elma, was born in New Hampton, Chickasaw county, June 24, 1882, a son of John E. Garmen, the present mayor of New Hampton, where he is also engaged in the hardware business and where he is regarded as one of the foremost residents of the city.

In the acquirement of his education C. J. Garmen passed through consecutive grades to the New Hampton high school, from which he was graduated with the class of 1901. He subsequently entered the State Agricultural College at Ames, in which he remained for two years, and after the completion of his studies he turned his attention to the banking business, receiving his initial training along that line as assistant cashier in the Bank of Elma, now the First State Bank, in which he is serving at the present time as cashier. A year following his entrance into the business he went to McIntire, Iowa, where he was made cashier of the Aetna Savings Bank, in which capacity he continued for three years. The Bank of Elma having been reorganized and incorporated in 1905 as the First State Savings Bank, Mr. Garmen returned to Elma for the purpose of becoming cashier of the institution and at once assumed charge of its financial policy. He is a courteous and obliging official and the business of the bank has continually increased under his direction. Since he assumed the cashiership its deposits have been constantly augmented, increasing from forty thousand to four hundred thousand dollars. Mr. Garmen is thoroughly familiar with every phase of the banking business and his close application, his progressiveness, tempered by safe conservatism, and his sound judgment have constituted the salient features in the continued growth of the banking business.

In 1909 Mr. Garmen was married to Miss Claire Church, a daughter of F. W. Church, one of the early pioneers of Howard county and one of the well known citizens of Elma.

Mr. Garmen is a member of Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 508, A. F. & A. M., also of Adelpia Chapter, R. A. M., and his wife is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. They are most loyal to the teachings of these organizations and in the social circles of the city they occupy an enviable position, while warm regard is entertained for them by all who know them.

THOMAS H. JONES.

Thomas H. Jones, manager of the Alliance Mercantile Association of Cresco, and a leading figure in the business circles of Howard county, was born in Cambria, Wisconsin, on the 17th of August, 1869. His father, Richard Jones, was a native of the north of Wales and was but eight years of age when he left that little rock-ribbed country and came to America with his parents, who settled near Utica, New York, where he was reared to the occupation of farming, to which he turned his attention on reaching young manhood. The family followed farming in the Empire state for a number of years and afterward removed to Wisconsin, settling near Portage, where the grandfather of Thomas H. Jones took up government land. The district in which he settled was wild and undeveloped but with characteristic energy he began the cultivation of his farm and his labors soon wrought a marked change in the appearance of the place. He built a log cabin upon his land and the family met many hardships and privations while attempting to reclaim the wild district for the purposes of civilization. Both he and his wife died upon that farm. As his age and strength increased Richard Jones assisted more and more largely in the work of the farm and spent some time thereon after attaining his majority, but later removed to Albion township, Howard county, Iowa, which was also a frontier district, and he cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers of this part of the state. That the work of improvement had been carried forward to only a very slight degree is indicated in the fact that much of the land was still in possession of the government. He bought a farm which had a log cabin upon it, beginning life in this locality in true pioneer style, but he afterward made substantial improvements upon the place. For several years he devoted his attention to the cultivation of the farm and later removed to Forest City township, where he also purchased land and carried on agricultural pursuits, bringing his farm under a high state of cultivation. His attention was given to its further development throughout his remaining days. He passed away in 1900 at the age of eighty-four, while his wife survived until 1902. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and both were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, guiding their lives according to its teachings.

Thomas H. Jones spent his boyhood days upon the home farm in Howard county and pursued his education in the public schools of Cresco and in the high school of Minneapolis. Through the periods of vacation, or during his boyhood, he assisted in the farm work and after his text-books were put aside he continued to aid in the further development of the home place until after his father's death, when he left the farm and removed to Cresco to become a clerk with the Alliance Mercantile Association. He filled a clerical position until 1906, when he was advanced to the position of manager, and has since acted in that capacity. He is thoroughly familiar with every phase of the business and has made a most excellent record. Purchases are most carefully made and the sales bring to the establishment a substantial financial return, for his business methods are always straightforward and honorable, and thus a liberal patronage has been secured. In addition to his connection with the Alliance Mercantile Association, Mr. Jones has farming interests which are most carefully and wisely directed. The store of which he is now manager is one out of thousands to make good in this line, showing him to be a man of excellent business ability and keen discernment.

In 1904 Mr. Jones was united in marriage to Miss Grace Webster, a daughter of William and Mary Ann Webster. Mrs. Jones was born in Winneshiek county,



THOMAS H. JONES

Iowa, where her father was extensively engaged in farming. Both of her parents were natives of the north of Ireland and came to the United States in early life, while at a subsequent period they took up their abode in Winneshiek county, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Jones have been born three children, Paul W., Faith and Keith.

Mr. Jones votes with the republican party, which he has supported since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He is a Mason of high rank, having attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite, belonging to the Knight Templar Commandary and Mystic Shrine at Cedar Rapids, and he also has membership with the Modern Woodmen of America. The principles which govern his conduct are further indicated in the fact that he has membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and at all times has guided his life according to its teachings. Any course that he pursues must measure up to high standards of manhood and citizenship and his record is one which has commanded for him the good will and confidence of those with whom business, social or political relations have brought him in contact.

C. V. JOHNSON.

C. V. Johnson, who is carrying on general agricultural pursuits in Vernon township, Howard county, his home being on section 2, was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, about three miles east of his present home, on the 31st of December, 1861. He is a son of James and Harriet (Smith) Johnson, the former a native of Boston, Massachusetts, and the latter of Marengo, Illinois. The father was reared in Boston and there as a young man he engaged in the draying business and later came westward to Illinois, where he engaged in farming near Marengo. In 1854 he left that state and came to Iowa, settling in Winneshiek county, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, comprising what is now known as the Headington farm, one of the best in Winneshiek county. He afterward sold that property and bought what is now the L. R. Brown farm of three hundred and sixty acres, also one of the fine farms of Winneshiek county. Believing that the country would never be settled, he afterward sold the property and bought an eighty acre farm in a ravine near a spring. Upon that farm he continued to spend his remaining days. He brought with him to Iowa quite a sum of money and much of it he loaned to other pioneers without security in order to enable them to buy wheat. In this way he lost quite a little of his fortune, as the loans were never repaid. One of his sons brought into the county one of the first buggies seen in this section of the state, but it was too frail a structure for the father to ride in, so he claimed. He always refused to get into the buggy, saying it looked more to him like a spider web than a vehicle in which to ride. He died in 1863, the mother surviving him for several years and passing away when she was sixty-eight years of age.

C. V. Johnson of this review attended the district schools and also Cresco schools and on reaching early manhood he took up the occupation of farming the old homestead, on which he remained for a year. He then went to Cresco and for two years worked in a clothing store but was advised by a physician to obtain outside employment as indoor work was proving detrimental to his health. He then began buying scrap iron and was engaged in that business for a year, during which time his health was greatly improved. He then turned his attention to the restaurant business in Cresco and was identified therewith for three years, following which time he engaged in the grain and feed business for about two years. While thus identified he bought the first full carload of flour ever shipped into Cresco. Subsequently he engaged in the insurance business, with which he was identified for sixteen years, representing the Continental Company of New York and also the Hawkeye Company of Des Moines, Iowa. During those years he wrote more farm insurance than any other cue agent in this section of the state. When S. A. Converse organized the Howard County Farmers Mutual Insurance Company Mr. Johnson withdrew from the insurance business and about 1891 purchased his present home farm of one hundred and sixty acres. In the intervening period he has given his attention to general agricultural pursuits and now has a highly developed property, equipped with

modern conveniences and constituting one of the attractive farms of his section of the state.

On the 15th of September, 1886, Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Justina Norton, a daughter of Justice B. Norton, one of the pioneer residents of Howard county. To Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have been born five sons and a daughter: Justice J., a graduate of Cedar Rapids Business College and a resident farmer of Albion township; Walter L., now engaged in farming in Albion township; Lowell V., who has just returned from service in France; Gladys, a graduate of the Cresco high school and now a teacher in the schools of Winneshiek county; and Aubrey A., who was graduated from the Cresco high school and is at home. In 1917 at a stock grading contest at Des Moines he came within two points of receiving the highest score and was given a scholarship of one and a half years. The youngest of the family is Donald H., also under the parental roof.

In his political views Mr. Johnson is a republican and is a member of the present board of township trustees and also secretary of the school board. He is keenly interested in affairs of public moment and gives his support and allegiance to any cause which he believes to be of benefit to the community at large. He and his family are members of the Methodist church and his life has ever been guided by high and honorable principles, making him a man whom to know is to esteem and respect.

PETER H. PETERS.

Peter H. Peters is devoting his attention to farming on section 23, Saratoga township, where he has one hundred acres of good land, and his success in his chosen life work has given him classification with the representative farmers of Howard county. He was born in Germany June 13, 1867, a son of Peter and Christine (Wackman) Peters, both of whom have now passed away, the former having died April 10, 1899, while the mother survived until March 22, 1902.

Peter H. Peters was reared in his native country and pursued his education in the public schools there, but when eighteen years of age he determined to establish his home and try his fortune in America, having heard favorable reports concerning the opportunities of this land. Crossing the Atlantic, he made his way direct to Cresco, Iowa, and became one of the first settlers of Howard county. After working out by the month as a farm hand for about twelve years he purchased eighty acres of land in Jamestown township and after the death of his father he made investment in his present home farm, which is situated in Saratoga township.

On the 13th of January, 1894, Mr. Peters was united in marriage to Miss Frances Pokorny, a daughter of Vincent and Frances Pokorny, of Austria. Mr. and Mrs. Peters are rearing an adopted son and also have four children of their own, as follows: Bertha, Charlie, Christine and Mary. The two eldest are now attending school.

Mr. Peters and his family attend the German Lutheran church as Davis Corners and his political allegiance is given to the democratic party, but he has never sought or desired office. He is a stockholder in the farmers' creamery at Saratoga and aside from this he has given his entire thought and energies to his farm work, which, carefully managed and directed, has brought to him substantial success.

A. F. KEMMAN.

A. F. Kemman, a civil engineer of New Hampton, was born in La Grange, Illinois, April 29, 1858, his parents being Henry and Louise (Buchholz) Kemman, both of whom were natives of Hanover, Germany. The mother came to the United States in her childhood days with her parents. The father first came to the United States as a youth of eighteen years, making the trip to the new world on a sailing vessel, and on the way across he made himself generally useful aboard ship. After landing in New York city he failed to find any employment and a few days later, seeing the captain of the vessel

on which he had crossed, he asked him for a job. He was accepted and for the succeeding nine years followed a seafaring life, touching all of the ports on the Atlantic and Indian oceans. About 1851, however, he left the sea and took up his abode in the United States, making his way to Chicago, where he worked for a Mr. Dickey, who owned an eighty-acre farm adjoining La Grange, for which he had paid only three dollars and a half per acre. Subsequently Mr. Kemman bought eighty acres of Michigan and Illinois canal land for five dollars per acre, adjoining Mr. Dickey's place, and settled thereon, making it his home for a quarter of a century. He afterward bought another eighty-acre tract in the same section, which is now owned by his sons. Upon the old homestead farm which he there developed and improved the father continued to reside until his death, in 1883, and became recognized as one of the representative agriculturists of that district.

A. F. Kemman was educated in the district schools and at the La Grange town schools, while later he pursued a course in the Metropolitan Business College of Chicago and in the Illinois State Normal University at Normal, Illinois. Still later he attended the University of Illinois but prior to entering upon his university course taught school for three years. He did not thoroughly enjoy professional work of that character, however, and fitted himself for civil engineering by his university course. On the 27th of June, 1882, he came to Iowa, settling on a farm in New Hampton township, Chickasaw county, and for twelve years devoted his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits. This farm, which comprises two hundred and twenty-six acres of rich and productive land pleasantly and conveniently situated two miles east of New Hampton, has been recently sold. In the fall of 1893, however, he took up his abode in the city of New Hampton in order to give his children the advantages of the public schools here. In 1909 he was appointed county surveyor, which office he held until the position was abolished by legislative enactment. He was then made county engineer and afterward county highway engineer, serving in the three offices from 1909 until 1916. He also served for a number of years as city engineer of New Hampton. Since 1916 he has been engaged in the private practice of his profession and is regarded as one of the capable and eminently successful civil engineers of this part of the state. He thoroughly understands every practical phase of the business and its scientific features as well and is now accorded a large clientele.

On the 8th of July, 1883, Mr. Kemman was united in marriage to Miss Louise Schert, of Cook county, Illinois, and they have become the parents of five children, of whom four are yet living: Martha, who is a stenographer in the employ of M. E. Geiser, an attorney of New Hampton; Arthur S., who is serving as a lieutenant in the United States army and is now at the navy yard, Bremerton, Washington; Alvin R., in the State Bank of New Hampton; and Elva, a stenographer in the University of Minnesota. Both of the sons served in the World war.

Mr. Kemman is a democrat in his political views and for twenty-four years was a member of the New Hampton school board. The cause of education has ever found in him a stalwart champion and he puts forth every effort to advance the interests of the schools and promote educational standards. He belongs to Lancelot Lodge, No. 183, K. P., to the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and the Modern Woodmen of America. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church and occupy an enviable social position, the hospitality of the best homes of New Hampton and this section of the state being cordially extended them. Mr. Kemman has ever been actuated by laudable determination and purpose. While content with what he has accomplished as he has gone along, he has nevertheless been actuated by that ambition that has ever prompted him to take a forward step and he has thus broadened the scope of his activity and usefulness.

L. R. WILLIAMS.

L. R. Williams, a resident farmer of Howard county, living on section 13, Forest City township, has spent his entire life in this locality and has therefore for more than four decades been a witness of its growth and development. He was born August 25, 1875, in the township where he still lives, his parents being William R. and Winifred (Wil-

liams) Williams, both of whom were natives of Wales. The father came to the United States when a youth of eighteen years and the mother was brought to the new world when but two years of age by her parents, who settled in Wisconsin. For a number of years William R. Williams remained a resident of the east, working in the slate quarries of Vermont, Maryland and Pennsylvania. Thinking, however, that he might have still better business opportunities in the Mississippi valley, he made his way westward to Wisconsin and it was in that state that he was married. About 1868 or 1870 he came to Howard county, Iowa, taking up his abode upon a farm in Forest City township, having in the previous year purchased the land. With characteristic energy he bent his efforts to the development and improvement of the place, which he successfully cultivated until July, 1903, when he met an accidental death, being killed by lightning while plowing corn. His widow survives and now makes her home in Lime Springs.

L. R. Williams was educated in the common schools and in the Decorah Institute, in which he pursued a normal course during two winter seasons. He then returned home and became an active assistant in the work of the farm, upon which he remained until the time of his marriage. On the 20th of November, 1901, he wedded Miss Jennie Jones, a daughter of William O. Jones, one of the early settlers of Forest City township, who had come to Iowa from Wales.

Following his marriage Mr. Williams took up the occupation of farming independently, renting the Thomas Jones place in Forest City township for four years. He then removed to his present home farm, which he cultivated as a renter for five years, and in the fall of 1910 he purchased the place, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of rich and fertile land. He has put many improvements upon the farm and it is now splendidly equipped, while the highly cultivated fields yield to him golden harvests. An air of neatness and thrift pervades the place and indicates the careful supervision of a practical and progressive owner.

Mr. and Mrs. Williams have become parents of three children, Blodwén E., Harlan and Earl, all at home. The parents are members of the Calvinistic Methodist church, and in politics Mr. Williams is a republican. He stands loyally by any cause or principle which he espouses and his position on any vital question is never an equivocal one. He is indeed a self-made man—one who by earnest effort has worked his way upward, and each forward step has brought him a broader outlook and wider opportunities.

EDWARD T. SMITH.

Edward T. Smith, who follows farming on section 32, Utica township, Chickasaw county, was born June 1, 1858, a half mile west and a quarter of a mile south of his present home. His parents were Thomas and Rose (Galligan) Smith, the former a native of Massachusetts, while the latter was born in Ireland. With their removal westward in 1858 they first settled on section 5, Utica township, Chickasaw county, where the father purchased forty acres of land, for which he paid two and a half dollars per acre. He at once began the development and improvement of the property and continued to reside upon that place until his death, which occurred in the spring of 1912. He had long survived his wife, who died on the old homestead farm in 1872. They were worthy citizens and highly respected people of their community, and in his business career Mr. Smith had demonstrated what may be accomplished through individual effort and ability. Coming to the west without capital, he worked his way steadily upward and was the owner of a valuable farm of two hundred and eighty acres.

The common schools of Utica township afforded Edward T. Smith his educational opportunities. Having arrived at adult age, he was married in 1891 to Miss Margaret Masterson, a daughter of Patrick and Margaret Masterson, who came from Ireland in 1870 and established their home in Jacksonville township, Chickasaw county. They afterward removed to Utica township and were numbered among its worthy farming people to the time of their demise. In this section of the state they reared their daughter, Mrs. Smith, who by her marriage has become the mother of five living children: Eva M., Joseph H., Lucile, Margaret and Charles.

Mr. Smith through the period of his early manhood and until the time of his marriage assisted his father in the development of the home farm and then built upon his present place, which he has since occupied. The father purchased the farm ten years prior to his death and Edward Smith bought the land from his father, becoming the owner of two hundred acres, which he is now successfully cultivating. He raises the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, and his methods are most progressive, bringing him excellent results. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Equity Association of Lawler, a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company of Lawler, and in the Farmers Cooperative Creamery Company of that place. His business interests thus cover a wide scope and, carefully managed, have brought to him very gratifying results.

Mr. Smith and his family are members of the Reilly Ridge Catholic church. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have frequently called upon him for public service and for six years he filled the office of township assessor, for four years was township clerk, for six years township trustee and for four years one of the school directors of his district. He also served on the Liberty Loan committees during the war with Germany and did splendid work in that connection. He stood loyally in defense of American interests at every point and of every measure affecting the welfare of the country in its relation with its allies and in support of her splendid soldiers on the fields of France.

DR. EDWIN C. FORTIN.

Dr. Edwin C. Fortin, a chiropractor of Cresco, who has built up his business to extensive and gratifying proportions, was born in Spink county, South Dakota, on the 30th of September, 1885, a son of Peter and Cordelia (Brosseau) Fortin. His boyhood days were passed in his native state and he there acquired his early education, passing through consecutive grades, and in 1904 entered the Illinois College of Osteopathy at Chicago, from which he was graduated with the class of 1906. He afterward pursued a course of medicine in the Harvey Medical College of Chicago and later went to Colorado Springs, where he practiced for five years. Subsequently he traveled through Central and North and South America, doing research work in medicine and osteopathy, and in October, 1916, he took up the study of chiropractic in Palmer School of Chiropractic of Davenport, Iowa, from which he was graduated in 1915. Following his graduation he practiced for six months in Peoria, Illinois, and in September, 1916, came to Cresco, where he has since been located. He is president of the Iowa State Chiropractors Association and also president of the Northeastern Iowa Chiropractors Association. He has a very extensive business which he is well qualified to handle. He is thoroughly conversant with the component parts of the human body and the onslaughts made upon them by disease. He has studied most broadly having an intimate knowledge of osteopathy, the science of medicine, as well as the science to which he is now directing his energies, and his marked ability is shown in the splendid success which is crowning his labors.

THOMAS CHYLE.

Thomas Chyle, filling the office of postmaster at Protivin, was born in New Oregon township, Howard county, on the 9th of December, 1867, a son of Frank and Mary Chyle, who were natives of Bohemia, where they were reared, educated and married. In the '50s they came to the United States and for a year or two were residents of Dubuque, Iowa, after which they continued their westward journey to Howard county and settled in New Oregon township, where they were among the first of the pioneers. In that township they continued to reside until called to their final rest, the father passing away in 1891 after surviving the mother for more than a decade, her death having occurred in 1880.

Thomas Chyle of this review spent the period of his boyhood and youth in his parents' home in Howard county and was educated in the district schools. On attaining his majority he began hauling cream for the Protivin Creamery and also took the product of the creamery to the shipping point at Cresco. To this work he gave his attention for a number of years and subsequently took up the occupation of carpentering. Many of the residences of the surrounding country, also various barns and sheds stand as a monument to his skill and handiwork. For a few years he was connected with merchandising in Protivin and in 1898 he was appointed postmaster of the town, in which position he has served continuously for twenty-one years. No higher testimonial of his ability, fidelity and trustworthiness could be given than the fact that he has so long been retained in this position under both democratic and republican administrations.

In 1888 Mr. Chyle was united in marriage to Miss Mary Sobolik, a native of Bohemia, who came to the United States as a child of three and a half years in company with her parents, who settled in New Oregon township, Howard county. Mr. and Mrs. Chyle have become parents of four children: Frank H., a musician in the navy on the Cruiser Dixie; Charles J., of Cedar Rapids, who is with the Warfield-Pratt-Howell Company, a wholesale grocery concern; Mary H., the wife of Frank S. Andera, of Protivin; and William W., with the Stepanek & Vondracek Hardware Company of Cedar Rapids.

In politics Mr. Chyle has maintained an independent course, voting for men and measures rather than for party. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church and he has a membership with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Z. C. B. J., a Bohemian secret society. He is one of the esteemed citizens of Protivin, very widely and favorably known. His record as a public official is indeed above reproach and all who know him speak of his unfaltering perseverance and his untiring devotion to duty.

ANDREW J. NYE.

The attractiveness of Iowa as a place of residence is indicated by the fact that many of her native sons have remained within her borders, recognizing the fact that opportunities are here equal to those that can be found in other sections of the country. Among the native sons of the state now living in Howard county is Andrew J. Nye, who was born on the 29th of August, 1876, and who now makes his home on section 8, Afton township. He is a son of Jeremiah M. and Phoebe Nye. The mother was born in Neillsville, Clark county, Wisconsin. The father was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, and in early life left his native state to become a resident of Wisconsin. He followed farming there for a number of years and then removed to Iowa, where his remaining days were passed. He first purchased eighty acres of land and thereon began farming. Later, however, he disposed of that property and bought another farm, situated four miles west of the present home of his family. Eventually he disposed of that place and removed to what is now the homestead of the Nye family, comprising two hundred and seventy-six acres of rich and productive land situated on section 8, Afton township. He gave his attention to the further development and improvement of this property until his life's labors were ended in death on the 28th of March, 1907. He had at that time made his home upon the farm for thirteen years, having taken up his abode there on the 29th of February, 1894. He was regarded as one of the substantial and progressive citizens of his community.

Andrew J. Nye spent his youthful days under the parental roof and at the usual age became a pupil in the district schools, there qualifying for life's practical and responsible duties. His youth was divided between the work of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the tasks assigned him by parental authority. His training at farm labor was thorough and as he grew in age he more and more largely assumed responsibilities in connection with the further development of the home farm. Since his father's death he has had entire charge of the place and is living thereon with his sister, Miss Clara E. Nye, who acts as his housekeeper. Various improvements have been added to the farm since the Nye family took



ANDREW J. NYE AND FAMILY

possession thereof and the place presents a neat and thrifty appearance, indicating the careful supervision and the practical and progressive methods of the owner. In politics Mr. Nye is a non-partisan, voting according to the dictates of his judgment with little regard for party ties. He has never sought or desired political preferment, his attention being always concentrated upon his business affairs, which have been carefully conducted and have brought to him substantial success.

HENRY F. LENTH.

Henry F. Lenth, actively engaged in general agricultural pursuits, his home being on section 4, Jamestown township, in Howard county, was born May 28, 1873, in Clayton county, Iowa, a son of Joe Lenth who for many years resided in Clayton county, where the father followed farming practically throughout his entire business life.

In his schooldays Henry F. Lenth mastered the branches of learning taught in the common schools near the home farm and when not busy with his textbooks worked upon the farm with his father until he reached his majority. He then left home and secured a position as clerk in a store in Monona, Clayton county, where he remained for about six years. He then removed to Howard county and for almost a quarter of a century has lived upon the home farm on section 4, Jamestown township. He has been actuated by industry, perseverance, diligence and thrift. As the years have passed he steadily and systematically developed his farm and is widely known as an extensive breeder of Duroc-Jersey hogs and shorthorn cattle, specializing in these breeds for the last twenty years. He has a very valuable farm and all of the improvements were placed thereon by Mr. Lenth, who is actuated in all that he does by a progressive spirit and is quick to adopt any new or improved methods that facilitate the farm work and his stock raising interests. He is likewise a member of the Cooperative Shippers of Riceville.

On the 25th of November, 1897, Mr. Lenth was married to Miss Mary Blaha, a daughter of Frank and Mary Blaha, of Clayton county, Iowa, where they followed farming. Mr. and Mrs. Lenth have three children, Carl, Lee and Grace, all of whom are yet under the parental roof.

In the cause of education Mr. Lenth has always been deeply interested and for four years served as school director, while about six years ago he filled the office of township trustee. His political allegiance is given to the republican party. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Brotherhood of America and also with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and he and his family attend the Methodist church of Riceville. High and honorable principles have ever found expression in his life and all who know him speak of him in terms of warm regard. He certainly deserves much credit for what he has accomplished in a business way as he started out in life without financial assistance and step by step has advanced until he is now numbered among the leading farmers and stock raisers of Howard county.

JOHN G. ASHLEY.

The farm upon which John G. Ashley was born March 13, 1857, is on the same section of land on which he now resides—section 29, Deerfield township, Chickasaw county. His father, Joshua C. Ashley, was a native of Deerfield, Massachusetts, born March 18, 1818, and there he was united in marriage to Miss Eliza Smith, who was born in Bookfield, Vermont, January 12, 1814. They continued residents of New England until 1854 and then sought the opportunities of the growing west, making their way to Iowa in company with his brother, Thomas Ashley, and other Deerfield families. Arriving at their destination, they took upon their abode in Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, where Joshua C. Ashley purchased one hundred and sixty acres of government land, for which he paid the usual price of a dollar and a quarter per acre. The work of devel-

opment and improvement seemed scarcely begun in this section of the state and the family shared in the hardships of frontier life. Mr. Ashley continued upon the old homestead farm and developed it most successfully to the time of his death, which occurred in 1898. His widow survived him for about fourteen years, passing away in 1912.

John G. Ashley was reared on the old homestead and mastered the branches of learning taught in the rural schools. When he had reached his majority he went into the Wisconsin pineries in 1880 and there remained for three years, thus making his initial step in the business world. In 1883 he returned home and worked with his father up to the time of his marriage, after which he located on his present farm, having previously purchased eighty acres of land soon after his return from the Wisconsin pineries, thus making investment of his savings. Today his farm is an excellent tract of one hundred and sixty acres, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation, for he has carefully, systematically and wisely developed his fields. He is a member of the Beaver Valley Farmers Equity Association of Bassett and is accounted one of the representative agriculturists and business men of his district.

In April, 1893, Mr. Ashley was united in marriage to Miss Mary F. Ferguson, of Floyd county, Iowa, who passed away in July, 1911, leaving four children: John E., Ralph W., Ray and Lloyd, all of whom are yet with their father.

In his political views Mr. Ashley has always been an earnest republican but has never sought nor desired office. He is classed with the leading and well known citizens of Deerfield township, his many friends attesting the sterling worth of his character.

REV. CHARLES B. GOETZINGER.

Rev. Charles B. Goetzinger, pastor of St. Boniface church of Ionia, was born in Luxemburg, Dubuque county, Iowa, on the 18th of June, 1877, and is a son of Nicholas and Catherine (Gutenkauf) Goetzinger, both of whom were natives of Greiveldingen in the grand duchy of Luxemburg. The father came to the United States in 1867 and took up his abode at Luxemburg, Iowa, becoming the pioneer blacksmith of that place. He was married in Luxemburg on the 14th of February, 1871, his wife having come to this country in 1850 with her parents when an infant of but three months. They, too, settled in Luxemburg, where the daughter was reared to womanhood. By her marriage she became the mother of eleven children, eight sons and three daughters, of whom one son and one daughter died in infancy, while the others, seven sons and two daughters, are still living. Of these, three brothers are proprietors of the extensive wagon manufacturing industry at Dyersville, Iowa, conducted under the name of the Nic. Goetzinger Sons Company. Two other brothers are engaged in the general dairy business at Dougherty, Iowa, and the youngest brother, Rev. F. William Goetzinger, is a priest, now acting as assistant pastor at St. Lucas, Iowa. The elder daughter of the family is a sister in St. Francis Convent at La Crosse, Wisconsin, having charge of the X-ray department, and the younger sister is acting as housekeeper for her brother, Rev. Charles B. Goetzinger, and is also organist of the parish at Ionia.

Father Goetzinger of this review acquired his classical education in St. Lawrence College at Mount Calvary, Wisconsin, and pursued his philosophical course at St. Joseph's College of Dubuque, Iowa, while his theological studies were mastered at St. Francis Seminary of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. On the 22d of June, 1902, he was ordained to the priesthood by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Eis of Marquette, Michigan, after which he was given his first charge as assistant at St. Mary's church in Dubuque. Later he was sent to Lyons and to Clinton, Iowa, as assistant and subsequently was assigned to missionary work in Oklahoma and Texas, to which he devoted the succeeding ten years. He then returned to Iowa and was appointed assistant to Father W. Sassen of Petersburg, who was in ill health, so that the duties of the parish fell entirely upon Rev. Goetzinger. On the 26th of May, 1916, the latter was sent to Ionia as pastor of St. Boniface church, over which congregation he has since presided.

Rev. Goetzinger is not only one of the most popular of the Catholic clergy in

northern Iowa but also possesses considerable inventive genius and may well be classed among the skilled craftsmen of this section of the state. He is an electrician, a steam-fitter, an architect and a decorator, having displayed notable skill along all these lines. He installed the steam heating plant in his parsonage and church at Ionia, as well as the electric lighting equipment.

CHARLES G. WALTERS.

Charles G. Walters is a wide-awake and enterprising farmer living on section 32, Paris township, Howard county. Minnesota numbers him among her native sons, his birth having occurred at Granger, Fillmore county, February 7, 1867, his parents being Samuel and Marietta (Rollins) Walters. The father was a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of Canada and they were married in Illinois, after which they removed to Fillmore county, Minnesota, and in 1883 became residents of Howard county, Iowa. Here the father purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land and the farm of Charles G. Walters constitutes the western half of what was once the father's property. The latter resided thereon until about 1900, when he retired from active business and removed to Elma, where he now makes his home.

Charles G. Walters was educated in the district schools of Minnesota and of Iowa and through the period of his youth aided in the farm work when his attention was not occupied with the duties of the schoolroom. After his textbooks were put aside he became the active assistant of his father on the farm and so continued until 1896, when he took up farming independently, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of the old homestead. He has since been active in the further development and improvement of this place and his labors are manifest in the highly cultivated fields and in the rich harvests which are annually gathered.

In 1901 Mr. Walters was married to Miss Nora Norton, a daughter of Barclay Norton, one of the pioneer settlers of Paris township, Howard county, who is still living on his old homestead farm. Mr. and Mrs. Walters have had two children: Charles J., yet living; and Mary, who died in infancy. The parents are members of the Catholic church. In politics Mr. Walters is a republican but has never been an aspirant for public office, as his time and energies have been wholly given to his business affairs, which are bringing him merited prosperity.

JAMES J. SMITH.

James J. Smith, who for many years was identified with farming interests in Howard county, was born March 29, 1864, near Watertown, Wisconsin, and spent his last days in Iowa, where he passed away September 28, 1913. He came to Howard county with his parents when but six years of age and remained upon the old homestead farm of the Smith family until he purchased the farm property that is now occupied by his widow. His education was acquired in the public schools and he worked in the fields through the summer months and after his school days were ended. On the 14th of January, 1892, he was united in marriage to Miss Anna Heller, of Howard county, a daughter of Mrs. Johanna Heller, mentioned elsewhere in this work.

Following his marriage Mr. Smith bent every energy to the development and improvement of his home place and the splendid appearance of the farm is due to his labors and enterprise. He carefully tilled his fields, rotating his crops so as to keep his land in good condition, and as the years passed he gathered excellent harvests. He belonged to the Modern Woodmen of America and was always loyal to the teachings and purposes of that organization.

To Mr. and Mrs. Smith were born four children: Harry B., William E., James J. and Esther M. The son Harry was a member of Company I, One Hundred and Nineteenth Infantry, of the Thirtieth Division, and saw overseas service for a year.

The children are all living at home, the sons assisting in the work of the home farm and relieving their mother of much of the labor incident to its management and further development. The family circle was broken by the hand of death when on the 28th of September, 1913, the husband and father was called to his final rest, leaving a widow and four children to mourn his loss. His death was also the occasion of deep regret to many friends, for he was held in high esteem by all who knew him. Mrs. Smith still occupies the home farm, which is pleasantly situated on section 14, Afton township, and she and her family are widely and favorably known in this section of the state.

JOSEPH E. MALEK.

Joseph E. Malek is living on section 17, New Oregon township, Howard county, where he is engaged in farming. It was in this township that he was born on the 19th of March, 1882. His father, Joseph Malek, and his mother, Mrs. Sophronia Malek, were natives of Bohemia. The former came to the United States when about thirteen years of age in company with his parents and settled in Winneshiek county, where the family took up the occupation of farming. The father of Joseph E. Malek, however, left the farm at the age of fourteen years and went to Cleveland, Ohio, where he turned his attention to the tailoring trade, remaining in that city for two years. He then returned to Winneshiek county and was employed at farm labor in that locality until he was twenty-eight years of age, when he married. After working for three years he became the owner of eighty acres of his present farm, which was then undeveloped and unimproved. He placed all of the improvements upon the property and brought his fields under a high state of cultivation. His father retired about ten years ago and removed to Schley, where he now makes his home, but he still retains title to his farm, which his son now rents from him.

It was on the 4th of June, 1907, that Joseph E. Malek was married to Miss Barbara Pecka, a daughter of Wenzel and Mary Pecka, the former a farmer of Winneshiek county. Mr. and Mrs. Malek have become the parents of five children: Ralph, Clarence, Evelyn, Louise and Helen, all of whom are upon the home farm with their father and mother and are being educated in the public schools of New Oregon township.

Joseph E. Malek is also indebted to the public school system of Howard county for the educational privileges he enjoyed and during his later life he has learned many valuable lessons in the school of experience. He is interested in all that pertains to the public welfare and has served as school director for three years. He has membership with the Modern Woodmen of America, having been identified with that order for about four years. His political faith is that of the democratic party and in religious belief he is a Catholic, his membership being in the church at Protivin. He has been a very active worker in support of the Red Cross and Liberty Loan drives and is one hundred per cent American in all that pertains to the welfare and development of the county, the commonwealth and the country.

JOSEPH KOUDELKA.

Joseph Koudelka, a farmer living on section 14, Utica township, Chickasaw county, was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, March 25, 1881. His parents, John and Catherine (Fencl) Koudelka are mentioned elsewhere in this work in connection with the sketch of their son, Anton Koudelka.

Joseph Koudelka, after acquiring a district school education, worked upon the home farm to the time of his marriage and gained practical and valuable knowledge concerning the best methods of tilling the fields and caring for the crops. On the 11th of June, 1907, he wedded Miss Anna Praska, a daughter of John Praska, one of

the early settlers of Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, who is now living retired at New Hampton.

Following his marriage Mr. Koudelka settled on his present home farm, his father having purchased one hundred and seventy acres of this place for him the year prior to his marriage. In later years Mr. Koudelka has increased his holdings and is now the owner of two hundred and thirty acres. He is regarded as one of the able farmers and progressive men of Utica township, his highly cultivated fields bearing testimony to his diligence and ability. For several years he specialized in the breeding and raising of thoroughbred shorthorn cattle but sold his stock in 1915 and for three years thereafter rented his farm, during which period he was engaged in merchandising at Little Turkey. In the spring of 1918, however, he disposed of the business and the following fall returned to the farm. In the spring of 1918 a cyclone destroyed all of the buildings upon his land, but he has replaced them with modern structures and has one of the best farm residences in Utica township, while barns and outbuildings are large and substantial, furnishing ample shelter to grain and stock. He and his brothers have their own threshing outfit and corn shredder and do all their own threshing. There are five brothers—John, Joseph, Anton, Carl and Frank—and they are among the biggest farm operators in Utica township and are among its most progressive citizens. They thoroughly understand the scientific as well as the practical phases of farming and their progressive methods have resulted in the attainment of splendid results. In 1907, when Joseph Koudelka took up his abode on his present home farm, there was an indebtedness of three thousand dollars upon it. He erected buildings to the cost of six thousand dollars and he paid fifty-five hundred dollars for more land. He also built the modern brick store building in Little Turkey which he still owns. After his farm was devastated by the cyclone he replaced his buildings with better and more modern structures and is today the owner of one of the best improved farms in his part of the county, practically free from all indebtedness.

To Mr. and Mrs. Koudelka have been born two daughters, Helen and Beatrice. The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and Mr. Koudelka is identified also with the Knights of Columbus. In politics he is a democrat and for two terms he served as a member of the township board of trustees, but he has little ambition to hold office, preferring that his time, thought and energies shall be placed upon his business affairs. He has wisely used the opportunities that have come to him and step by step he has advanced along lines that have made his progress of a most substantial character.

D. H. THOMAS.

In business circles of Howard county the name of D. H. Thomas, cashier of the First National Bank of Lime Springs, is well known. He comes to Iowa from the neighboring state of Minnesota, his birth having occurred in Fillmore county, eight miles north of Lime Springs, on the 26th of August, 1874, his parents being William H. and Claudia (Davis) Thomas, the former a native of Wales and the latter of Nebraska. The father was a plasterer and bricklayer by trade and followed those pursuits throughout his entire life. He died in Minneapolis, Minnesota, while working on a contract there in July, 1874. His widow is still living and makes her home in Lime Springs.

D. H. Thomas of this review was educated in the high school at Spring Valley, Minnesota, and was graduated with the class of 1894. He then took up the profession of teaching and through the subsequent five years devoted his time to that work and to farming. In the fall of 1899 he turned his attention to the banking business, entering the bank of which he is now the cashier and financial director. It was then a private bank and his position was that of assistant cashier. In 1902 he was made cashier of the institution, which in 1903 was incorporated as the First National Bank. Mr. Thomas has continued to direct the financial policy of the bank, the business of which has greatly increased under his management. The deposits have grown from

less than fifty thousand dollars to two hundred and fifty thousand dollars since he assumed active control and the bank's business has developed in every particular. The institution most carefully safeguards the interests of depositors and at the same time follows progressive methods that result in the upbuilding of the business.

In 1906 Mr. Thomas was married to Miss Ida A. Jones, of Bonair, Howard county, and they have become parents of four children: Theodore, Gwendolyn, Alice and David H., Jr. In politics Mr. Thomas is a republican and for six years he served as mayor of Lime Springs. His administration was characterized by a most progressive policy, resulting largely to the benefit and upbuilding of the city. He was also a member of the town council for four years and for the past eight years he has served as chairman of the republican county central committee, doing everything in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of the republican party because of his firm belief in the efficacy of its principles as factors in good government. He belongs to Howard Lodge, No. 214, A. F. & A. M., of Lime Springs, and he and his wife are consistent and faithful members of the Presbyterian church, guiding their lives according to its teachings. They are highly esteemed by all who know them and most of all by those who know them best.

A. E. MARSH.

A. E. Marsh is a hardware dealer of Lime Springs and one of the foremost business men of Howard county. Moreover, he is numbered among the pioneer settlers of this section of the state, having for many years not only been a witness of the growth and progress but also a factor in the continuous development of northern Iowa. He was born in Elgin, Illinois, October 14, 1845, and is a son of Melvin M. and Sarah (Mason) Marsh, both of whom were natives of Onondaga county, New York, where they resided until after their marriage. In 1834 they removed westward to Illinois, passing through Chicago when there were but seven houses in the town. Mr. Marsh located on a farm in Kane county, about five miles from where the city of Elgin now stands. He was a railroad contractor and built the first dam and the first bridge across the Rock river at Rockford. He established all of the depots and built many of them on the Fox River Valley Railroad and he also constructed several sections of the road. Subsequently he removed to McHenry, Illinois, and in 1856 came to Howard county, Iowa, settling on the site of the old town of Lime Springs, one mile north of the present town. There he purchased the town plat of sixty or eighty acres from D. C. and Joseph Knowlton and the following year he began the erection of a grist mill, which he completed in the succeeding year. He was busily engaged in the operation of that mill for eleven years, meeting with success in the business until 1869, when he sold the property and afterward lived retired until death called him to his final home. His political allegiance was given to the whig party until its dissolution, when he joined the ranks of the new republican party, of which he was an earnest supporter.

A. E. Marsh was a lad of but eleven years at the time of the removal of the family to Howard county, where he has since made his home, covering a period of sixty-two consecutive years. He was educated in the district schools, also in the Lime Springs Academy and in the Cedar Valley Seminary at Osage, Iowa, before entering the Upper Iowa University at Fayette. After completing his education there he bought out a drug business in the old town and was identified with the trade for fifteen years. He later spent a year in the west as a traveling salesman, covering North and South Dakota, Wyoming and Montana. In the spring of 1878 he returned to Howard county and decided to engage in farming but was unfortunate enough to take up this work at a time when the state had had two years of almost complete failure in the wheat crop. He had therefore invested ten thousand dollars which brought him no return. He next rented the hotel building in the new town of Lime Springs and conducted the hotel for three years, after which he spent a year in looking over Kansas and Indian Territory. However, he returned to Lime



A. E. MARSH AND FAMILY

Springs and engaged in the farm implement business for a period of two years. He then sold his store and purchased the farm that had been preempted by W. O. Chesebrough, his half brother, in 1854. During the following eleven years Mr. Marsh engaged in general agricultural pursuits and this time the venture proved more profitable, as he produced good crops and brought his land under a high state of cultivation. In 1897 he traded his farm property for his present hardware business, which he has since conducted, and he now has one of the well appointed mercantile establishments of Lime Springs.

In 1873 Mr. Marsh was married to Miss Hattie A. Stalker, of Randolph, Wisconsin, and to them have been born three children: Lena J., the wife of Anthony Marshall, of Cresco, Iowa; Eugene S., who is with the New York Central Railroad as traveling storekeeper, with headquarters at Cleveland, Ohio; and Marvin M., who was a commercial salesman and died at Des Moines, Iowa, January 13, 1919.

Mr. Marsh has always maintained an independent course in politics and has steadily refused political preferment. He belongs to Lime Springs Lodge, No. 214, A. F. & A. M., and is its oldest representative. He has ever remained a faithful follower of the craft and is equally loyal in his connection with the Knights of Pythias. His religious faith is that of the Christian Science church. Howard county numbers him among its oldest and best known pioneer settlers and with every phase of the county's development and progress he is thoroughly familiar.

HIRAM H. KNOX.

Hiram H. Knox, deceased, was born in Sheldon, Houston county, Minnesota, September 20, 1871, a son of Hiram and Lovantia E. Knox. The father was born near Augusta, Maine, while the mother was a native of Massachusetts, and their marriage was celebrated near Buffalo, New York. The father followed the occupation of farming as a life work, but in 1849, following the discovery of gold in California, he crossed the plans to the Pacific coast in order to search for the precious metal there and accumulated a considerable fortune. He afterward retraced his steps as far as Houston, Minnesota, where he purchased land and engaged in farming, in loaning money and in the raising of fast horses. He loaned considerable money to the government during the Civil war. He was a well known, prominent and representative resident of Houston county, Minnesota, for many years, there making his home to the time of his death, which occurred in September, 1906. His wife died November 12, 1918, at Sheldon, Minnesota. He held membership in the Presbyterian church and its teachings guided him in all the relations of life. His political support was given to the republican party.

Hiram H. Knox spent his boyhood days in and near Houston, Minnesota, and after acquiring a high school education became a student in Carlton College of Minnesota and later took up the profession of teaching. He was afterward appointed to the position of deputy sheriff of Houston county and served in that capacity for a term, while later he spent one year on a farm in Winneshiek county, Iowa. He next became a teller in the Houston Bank of Houston, Minnesota, and likewise assisted in the conduct of a farm implement, grain and cattle business that was carried on by the bank. He remained in that connection until his death, which occurred on the 10th of January, 1908, when he had reached the age of thirty-six years.

On the 11th of December, 1895, Mr. Knox was united in marriage to Miss Clara Goocher, a daughter of William B. and Mary A. (Bottler) Goocher. Mrs. Knox was born in Orleans township, Winneshiek county, Iowa. Her father was a native of the province of Saxony. He was born March 8, 1828, and on the 2d of July, 1848, started for America as passenger on a United States sailing ship. He took up his abode in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, and later went to Milwaukee, where he resided until 1849. He afterward worked on various farms in order to acquaint himself with the English language and in the spring of 1850 returned to Milwaukee, where he was employed by a stage coach company. He also carried the mail for four years and later purchased a team and conveyed passengers from Dubuque to Decorah, Iowa, making trips to the land office. In

the fall of 1856 he entered into partnership with J. W. Stiles in the livery business and was thus connected for three years. On the 7th of October, 1857, Mr. Goocher was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Bottler, of Decorah, and in 1859 he removed with his family to Orleans township, Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he turned his attention to farming and stock raising. There he carefully tilled the soil and carried on his business, meeting with substantial success in his undertakings until 1894, when he built a home about a mile south of the old farm and retired from active business life, enjoying a rest which he had truly earned and richly deserved. He resided upon that place until his demise, which occurred on the 27th of January, 1897. To Mr. and Mrs. Goocher were born four children, Henry W., George B., Alice and Carrie, but the last named died at the age of three years, and the family circle was again broken by the hand of death when Mr. Knox passed away in 1897.

He had always given his political support to the republican party and he stood for progressive citizenship, cooperating in many well defined plans and measures for the general good. Fraternally he was a Mason and exemplified in his life the beneficent spirit of the craft. He was always thoroughly reliable as well as progressive in his business affairs and his carefully directed interests brought to him a substantial measure of success, so that he was able to leave his family in comfortable financial circumstances, and at the same time he left to them the priceless heritage of an untarnished name.

W. G. SHAFFER.

W. G. Shaffer is president of the Second National Bank of New Hampton and president of the Aetna Savings Bank at McIntire, Iowa. In all of his business career he has been characterized by thoroughness, delving below the surface of things and mastering every problem that has confronted him. He has thus made his labors count for the utmost and his efforts have at all times been guided by a sound judgment that has readily discriminated between the essential and the non-essential. His success in one venture has enabled him to extend his efforts and in addition to his connection with the institutions already named he is president of the First National Bank at Hopkins, Minnesota, vice president of the First State Bank of Fredericksburg, Iowa, and half owner of the Farmers & Merchants Bank of Riceville, Iowa, a private banking institution. He is likewise a director and stockholder in several other banks and his name carries weight in financial circles throughout northern Iowa.

Mr. Shaffer was born in Jacksonville township, Chickasaw county, April 26, 1860. a son of H. H. and Sarah (Albert) Shaffer, both of whom were natives of Butler county, Pennsylvania, where they were reared and married. Soon afterward they removed westward to Iowa, where they took up their abode early in 1855. H. H. Shaffer had previously made a trip to Chickasaw county in 1853 and had located land in Jacksonville township on which he settled with his bride in the spring of 1855. With characteristic energy he began the development and improvement of his farm and thereon continued to reside until his death, which occurred on the 23d of November, 1882. He was a man of strong purpose who accomplished what he undertook and as the years passed he acquired extensive land holdings throughout the county. While his school training was limited, he became through experience, observation and wide reading a well informed man. He taught school for a number of years both in Pennsylvania and in Iowa and was also called upon for public service, filling the position of county surveyor of Chickasaw county for a number of years. His worth was manifest in many directions and Chickasaw county numbered him among her most prominent, influential and valued citizens.

W. G. Shaffer was educated in the public schools of Chickasaw county and also attended the Breckenridge Institute at Decorah, Iowa. After reaching adult age he took up agricultural pursuits as a life work and following his father's death took charge of and operated the home farm. He was thus actively engaged in farming until 1891, when he left the farm and removed to New Hampton. In February of the following year

he opened a private bank in New Hampton and this has constituted the nucleus of his steadily growing banking interests and connections until he is today identified, either as officer or director, with fourteen different banks in this section of the country.

On the 26th of March, 1885, Mr. Shaffer was married to Miss Izettie Markle, of Jacksonville township, Chickasaw county, daughter of Lieutenant Frederick Markle, a veteran of the Civil war, who came to Chickasaw county soon after the close of hostilities between the north and the south. The mother of Mrs. Shaffer was prior to her marriage Miss Alcena Abbott, a daughter of E. C. Abbott, who was one of the early settlers of Chickasaw county, where he served for a number of years as a member of the board of county supervisors. Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer have become parents of eight children, of whom six are living. Frederick Blaine, a practicing attorney of New Hampton, was serving as county attorney when war was declared with Germany. He resigned his office and was specially inducted into the service by General Crowder and ordered to an officers training camp to qualify for service in the heavy artillery branch of the army. He married Katherine Parson, of Algona, and has one son. Myrtle E. is the wife of C. B. Phillips, assistant cashier of the Second National Bank of New Hampton. They have two children, Dorothy and Geraldine, attending school. Grace M. was educated in music at Des Moines College of Des Moines, Iowa, and at Oberlin College of Oberlin, Ohio, and is now teaching that art. Gordon M. became a member of the Second Division Signal Corps and was on active duty in Germany. He went into action on the 17th of March, 1918, and was on the front line and active in the German occupation until September, 1919. He received the decoration of the Cross de Guerre from the French for extraordinary action in several battles, without food and regardless of enemy shell fire. He received other citations for bravery in action and was mentioned for the Distinguished Service Cross awarded by the United States government. Lauren C., attending Des Moines College, completed his military training in the Students' Army Training Corps in the summer of 1918 and at the time of the signing of the armistice was being transferred to the Officers' Training Corps. Alice, the youngest of the family, is at home. All three of the sons, therefore, became connected with the army during the period of the great European war.

In politics Mr. Shaffer is a republican and served four years as mayor of New Hampton, while for four years he was a member of the city council. In the campaign of 1918 he ran for congress in the primary in the fourth district, and while he carried his home county by a large majority, showing his popularity among those by whom he is best known, he failed of nomination. As mayor he had given to his city a businesslike and progressive administration that brought about various needed reforms and improvements and maintained a high standard of civic virtue. He and his family are members of the Baptist church and his connection with banking interests, with public office and with the intellectual and moral development of the community places him among those citizens to whom Chickasaw county is largely indebted for her progress and her welfare.

JOHN LUNDAK.

John Lundak, who follows farming on section 18, New Oregon township, Howard county, was born in Bohemia, June 20, 1864, coming from that land that has furnished so many substantial and representative citizens to this section of the state. He is a son of Joseph and Victoria (Hron) Lundak, who came to the United States in 1867. They did not tarry on the Atlantic coast but at once made their way across the country and took up their abode in New Oregon township, Howard county, where the father resided until his death, his demise occurring on the 11th of November, 1918, the day on which the armistice was signed—a never-to-be-forgotten day in the history of America and the world. Mr. Lundak was then in his eighty-seventh year. He had for three years survived his wife, who passed away September 28, 1915.

John Lundak was but three years of age when the family came to the United States. He was educated in the district schools and spent his youthful days in the usual manner of the farm-bred boy, who divides his time between the acquirement of an education and

the work of the fields. In 1889 he was united in marriage to Miss Veronica Humpal, of Winneshiek county, Iowa, and to them have been born four children: Victoria, now the wife of Frank Voyna, a resident farmer of New Oregon township; William J., who joined the Engineering Corps of the American army and was on active duty with the expeditionary forces in France; and Albert J. and Rudolph, who are at home.

Following his marriage Mr. Lundak took charge of the old homestead farm of the family and was engaged in its further cultivation and development until 1902, when, having carefully saved his earnings, he was able to purchase his present home place, comprising two hundred and thirty acres in New Oregon township. He removed to this place two years after making the purchase and has since resided thereon. He also owns eighty acres of land adjoining the old home farm and is operating both tracts. The old homestead was deeded to his two sons at the time of their grandfather's death. Mr. Lundak has been a most active and energetic farmer and is regarded as a prominent representative of the agricultural interests of his section of the State. In politics he is a democrat and has served as township road boss for several years and also as a member of the school board for a number of years. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. He is regarded as one of the leading citizens of New Oregon township, where the greater part of his life has been passed. He has always been active in farming interests and his progressive spirit has enabled him to overcome obstacles and difficulties in his path and work his way steadily upward. When one avenue of opportunity has seemed closed he has carved out other paths whereby to reach the desired goal and his position among the representative farmers of the community is now a most creditable one.

H. H. THIES.

The agricultural interests of Howard county find a worthy representative in H. H. Thies, who owns and operates an excellent farm of one hundred and seventy-one acres on section 23, Afton township. He was born in Germany on the 10th of June, 1860, a son of Henry and Mary (Tilmann) Thies, who emigrated to the United States in 1869 and took up their abode among the pioneer settlers of Bremer county, Iowa. There the father devoted his attention to farming and won a well merited measure of success in his operations, owning at one time about two hundred and forty acres of land in that county. His demise, which occurred very suddenly about twenty-one years ago, was the occasion of deep regret throughout the community in which he made his home. His widow survived him until eleven years ago.

H. H. Thies, who was a lad of nine years when he accompanied his parents to the new world, spent the period of his youth in the acquirement of a public school education and remained at home until twenty-five years of age. He then purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in Bremer county, where he successfully carried on general agricultural pursuits for more than a quarter of a century or until 1911. In that year he bought his present farm of one hundred and seventy-one acres in Afton township, Howard county, which he has since brought under a high state of cultivation and improvement and which insures him a gratifying annual income. He is a stockholder in the creamery at Elma and enjoys an enviable reputation as one of the substantial and progressive citizens of the community.

On the 10th of October, 1884, Mr. Thies was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Frahm, a native of Bremer County, Iowa, and a daughter of August and Sophia Frahm, who were born in Germany. Both her father and mother have passed away. To Mr. and Mrs. Thies have been born five children, four of whom still survive, namely: William, who has recently returned from France, where he served with Company L, Three Hundred and Fifty-second Infantry, Eighty-eighth Division; John, at home; Emma, the wife of John Crumm, of Elma; and Amanda, who is yet under the parental roof.

In politics Mr. Thies is a republican but has never sought or desired office, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs. Nevertheless he has ever been an active supporter of community, state and national interests and during the

period of the recent great war made large investment in Liberty bonds and also contributed generously to the Red Cross and to the Young Men's Christian Association. He and his family attend the Lutheran church and the hospitality of the best homes of the locality is cordially extended them. Mr. Thies has lived in this part of the state for the past half century and has therefore been a witness of its progress and development from pioneer times to the present, while he has also borne his full share in the work of advancement and upbuilding.

ANTON KOUDELKA.

Anton Koudelka, busily engaged in general farming on section 23, Utica township, Chickasaw county, was born in the neighboring county of Winneshiek on the 13th of June, 1881, his parents being John and Catherine (Fencl) Koudelka, both of whom are natives of Bohemia. The father came to the United States with his parents when about eighteen years of age and the mother made the trip to the new world with her parents when about sixteen years of age. Both families settled in Winneshiek county, where John Koudelka and Catherine Fencl were afterward married. They established their home within the borders of that county and there continued to reside until 1913, when they left the farm and took up their abode at Little Turkey, where they are now living, the father having retired from active business cares. For many years he was an enterprising and successful farmer, who as the years passed and his financial resources increased kept adding to his holdings until he had seven hundred acres of land in Chickasaw county, which he has since divided among his children, enabling them to gain a good start in life.

Anton Koudelka was a pupil in the district schools during his boyhood days and when not busy with his textbooks assisted in the development and improvement of the home farm, aiding his father until he reached his twenty-seventh year. He was united in marriage in 1908 to Miss Anna Infeld, a daughter of John Infeld, who in pioneer times became a resident of Winneshiek county and has now passed away. To Mr. and Mrs. Koudelka has been born one child, James A.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Koudelka received from his father a deed to his present home farm of one hundred and fifty-nine acres, on which he and his bride took up their abode. Through the intervening period he has concentrated his efforts and attention upon the cultivation of his land and today has a highly improved farm property. He has been very successful in the management of his business affairs and Utica township numbers him among her representative citizens. His political views are in accord with the teachings of the democratic party and his religious faith is that of the Catholic church. He is interested in all that pertains to public progress or has to do with the benefit of the community, but his time and energies are chiefly concentrated upon his farming interests and his success is well merited.

WILLIAM OWENS.

William Owens, a substantial and representative agriculturist of Forest City township, Howard county, has successfully cultivated the John Tipton farm on section 8 since the spring of 1913. His birth occurred in Wales on the 2d of May, 1866, his parents being Owen and Margaret (Williams) Owens, who still reside in that country.

William Owens obtained his education in the district schools of his native land and there spent the first eighteen years of his life. In 1885, prior to his nineteenth birthday, he crossed the Atlantic to the United States and for two years thereafter worked as a farm hand in Oneida county, New York. He then made his way westward to Wisconsin, working in different parts of that state through the succeeding thirteen years. On the expiration of that period, or in 1900, he came to Iowa, locating in Forest City township, Howard county, where he was employed at farm work and as a day laborer for

six years. He next rented the forty-acre farm of a Mrs. Thomas in Albion township and when not engaged in the cultivation of this tract worked at day labor. In 1907 he rented a farm across the state line in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he carried on agricultural pursuits for six years or until the spring of 1913, when he rented the property on which he now resides on section 8, Forest City township, to the operation of which he has devoted his time and energies continuously since. In addition to cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he also gives considerable attention to the raising of full-blooded Hereford cattle and Duroc Jersey hogs and in both branches of his business is meeting with well deserved success.

In 1901 Mr. Owens was united in marriage to Miss Tillie Leitz, of Forest City township, Howard county, a daughter of August Leitz, who was one of the early settlers of Forest City township but is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Owens have become the parents of three children, Margaret, Owen and William, who are yet at home.

In politics Mr. Owens is a staunch republican, exercising his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of that party. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the new world, for here he has won prosperity and a position among the esteemed and representative citizens of his community.

GEORGE H. OWENS.

George H. Owens, who is engaged in the real estate and exchange business in Cresco and is also identified with banking interests in Howard county, has throughout his business career been actuated by a spirit of progress and advancement that has led to the achievement of substantial results. Iowa numbers him among her native sons, his birth having occurred near Clermont, Fayette county, August 5, 1876, his parents being William and Mary Ann (Carlin) Owens. The father was born in Ireland, while the mother's birth occurred in the state of New York. William Owens left Ireland when a youth of sixteen years in company with his father and sailed for the United States. He did not tarry on the Atlantic coast following his arrival in the new world but made his way to the town of West Union, Fayette county, Iowa, where he and his father engaged in mercantile pursuits for a number of years, and there the death of the grandfather of Mr. Owens of this review occurred. William Owens afterward engaged in business in connection with his brother John for five years and on the expiration of that period disposed of his interests to his brother and purchased a farm near West Union, comprising eighty acres of land, which he improved and cultivated for a number of years. He then sold the property and came to Howard township, Howard county, Iowa, where he invested in one hundred and sixty acres of land. He then bent his energies to the cultivation and further development of this property, which he continued to own and operate until 1909. He then removed to the town of Elma, Howard county, and retired from active business life. His wife passed away there in 1914 and Mr. Owens afterward came to Cresco, where he made his home with his son George until his death, which occurred in 1917, when he had reached the age of seventy-six years. He and his wife had been married in Fayette county, Iowa, and spent the entire period of their married life in this state. Mrs. Owens had come to the west from the state of New York with her parents, who settled in Fayette county, Iowa, where they engaged in farming throughout their remaining days. Mr. Owens was a democrat in his political faith and stood for all that was progressive in citizenship. He and his wife were well known in the communities in which they lived and commanded the warm regard of all with whom they came in contact.

George H. Owens spent his boyhood days in Howard county and is indebted to its public schools for the educational privileges which he enjoyed. He remained at home until he attained his majority and was well trained in farm work during that period. He then purchased a part of the old homestead and concentrated his



Gen. H. Owens

efforts and attention upon its further development and improvement, continuing to farm there for three years. He next went to Elma, where he bought an ice business, but only remained in that line for a short time, after which he purchased a farm in New Oregon township, Howard county, comprising two hundred and forty acres of rich land. This he owned and cultivated for three years, when he sold the property and became a resident of Cresco in 1904. After a brief period, however, he purchased a hotel in Edmunds county, South Dakota, and conducted it for three years, after which he returned to Cresco, where he established his present real estate and exchange business. He is thoroughly familiar with the property that is upon the market and is most accurate in placing valuations upon real estate. He has built up a good clientage in this connection and has conducted many important property transfers. In addition to his other interests he is known in banking circles as a director of the First National Bank and of the Citizens Savings Bank and he is recognized as a man of sound judgment and clear discernment.

On the 26th of October, 1898, Mr. Owens was united in marriage to Miss Annie Connery, a daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Forester) Connery. She was born in Howard county, but her grandparents were natives of Ireland and came to the United States in early life, the family home eventually being established in Howard county, where they became identified with farming interests. Mr. and Mrs. Owens have become the parents of the following children: Virginia, Paul, Helen, John, William, Rose, Viola, Charlotte, George, Ruth, Mildred and Arthur, all of whom survive with the exception of John, the fourth in order of birth, who died in 1911 at the age of seven years.

The family is well known in Cresco and the hospitality of the best homes of the city is freely accorded them. Mr. Owens, in the conduct of his business affairs, has displayed sterling qualities of perseverance, energy and straightforward dealing and his success is due entirely to his own efforts.

ELLING ELLINGSON.

Elling Ellingson, who follows farming in Howard county, making his home on section 11, Paris township, was born in Chickasaw county, Iowa, October 15, 1882. He is of Norwegian descent his parents, Andrew and Mary Ellingson, having been natives of the land of the midnight sun. The father came to the United States with his parents when a youth of fifteen years the family home being established in Wisconsin, where later he worked as a farm hand for some time. Subsequently the family removed to Chickasaw county, Iowa, and for a few years Andrew Ellingson engaged in the cultivation of rented land, living upon different farms in that county. He carefully saved his earnings, however, until his economy and industry had brought him a sufficient sum to enable him to purchase land and he made investment in a tract in Howard county, which he cleared and developed and upon which he made all of the improvements, his labors resulting in converting it into a valuable property.

Elling Ellingson worked upon the home farm with his father until he reached the age of twenty-seven years and then bought one hundred and twenty-seven acres in Howard county. He afterward traded this land to his father for his present farm of one hundred and sixty-three acres and he has since added some improvements thereto. He is now carefully and profitably cultivating his land, living on the farm with his brother and sister, Carl and Bessie Ellingson.

The family has long been widely and prominently known in this section of the state. The father was a school director for a number of years and the family have ever stood for progress and improvement in community affairs. In pioneer times the father lived in a log cabin and had to haul his produce all the way to McGregor. Since those early days a wonderful transformation has occurred as the work of development has been carried forward by the Ellingsons and other progressive people of the neighborhood.

Elling Ellingson attends the Lutheran church of Jerico and he gives his political allegiance to the republican party, but he does not seek nor desire office, as he finds that his time is fully occupied with his farm work.

NORMAN A. HAVEN.

Norman A. Haven, a farmer of Forest City township, Howard county, was born on the old Haven homestead in this township May 12, 1893. He is a son of Norman A. and Mary J. (Jones) Haven, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work.

Norman A. Haven was educated in the district schools and was but seventeen years of age at the time of the death of his father, after which he and his brother George took charge of the further cultivation and operation of the home farm. In the intervening period of nine years the two brothers have continued as partners in this business and are owners of the property together with their mother. The old adage, In union there is strength, is exemplified in their business career. Through capable management and unfaltering industry they have increased their holdings until they are now the owners of two hundred and sixty-five acres of the most fertile farm land in Howard county. Their fields are carefully and systematically tilled and annually they gather large crops as a reward for their labors.

In 1914 Norman A. Haven was united in marriage to Miss Esther Myrtle Latcham, a daughter of Robert Latcham, one of the prosperous and representative farmers of Chester township, Howard county. Mr. and Mrs. Haven became the parents of two children, of whom one, Chester Allen, is now living. Mrs. Haven is a member of the Presbyterian church.

Mr. Haven is a supporter of the republican party and is keenly interested in affairs of moment to the community and country. They are highly esteemed, enjoying the warm friendship of those with whom they have come in contact. Mr. Haven has spent his entire life in Howard county and is justly numbered among the progressive young agriculturists of this section of the state.

F. W. LEE, M. D.

Dr. F. W. Lee resides on section 7, Jamestown township, Howard county, where he owns three hundred and twenty acres of land. For many years he devoted his life to the practice of medicine in Riceville but has now largely retired from active professional service save that he responds to a few emergency calls. He was born July 18, 1859, in Ashtabula county, Ohio, a son of John C. and Emily Helen (Shotwell) Lee, the former a descendant of one of the old Puritan families of New England. He is still living at the advanced age of eighty-five years and is enjoying excellent health. His wife, however, passed away in 1905.

It was in the year 1868 that Dr. Lee came to Iowa, being then a lad of nine years. He accompanied his parents on their removal to this state, the family home being established in Osage, Mitchell county, where the father engaged in business as a grain buyer. The son attended the public schools of that county and afterward entered the Cedar Valley Seminary at Osage, from which he was graduated with the class of 1884. Later he attended the State Normal School, and pursuing a course in medicine, won his professional diploma in 1887. Immediately afterward he located in Riceville, where he opened an office and has since continued in the practice of his chosen profession although at the present time he does little practicing save in caring for emergency calls. He wishes to retire from professional duties but when there is urgent need for his services he does not hesitate to respond and during the widespread influenza epidemic of last winter he was constantly busy with the calls made upon him for professional service.

On the 8th of November, 1888, Dr. Lee was united in marriage to Miss Irene

Penny, a daughter of Frank and Caroline (Barker) Penny. Mrs. Lee was born in Mitchell county, Iowa, while her father was a native of England and her mother's birth occurred in the state of New York. Dr. and Mrs. Lee have become the parents of a son and a daughter, Robert John and Helen Marie, both attending the public schools. Mrs. Lee came of a family of physicians, her ancestors having given their attention largely to the practice of medicine through various generations. While Dr. and Mrs. Lee have always been residents of the city, his time and energies are now largely given to the development and improvement of a farm and to stock raising interests. He makes a specialty of raising Poland China hogs and has won substantial success in the business.

In political views Dr. Lee has always maintained an independent course, nor has he ever sought or desired office. He was a liberal donor toward the Red Cross during the period of the war and a generous supporter of the Liberty Loan drives. He is an active worker for the Boy Scouts and has given much time to instructing them along the line of first aid. Fraternally he is connected with the Riceville lodge of Masons and in his life exemplifies the beneficent principles of the craft, which is based upon a recognition of the brotherhood of mankind and the obligations thereby imposed. His life has indeed been a busy and useful one and he has continually reached out a helping hand to assist fellow travelers on the journey of life.

ANTHONY KRAMER.

Anthony Kramer, a representative of the farming interests of Chickasaw county, makes his home on section 11, Chickasaw township. He was born in Fayette county, Iowa, September 18, 1858, and is a son of Andrew and Francesca Kramer, who were natives of Germany. They were probably married, however, in Pennsylvania and about 1853 removed westward to Iowa, casting in their lot with the pioneer settlers of Fayette county, where they resided until 1867. They then came to Chickasaw county, taking up their abode in Washington township, where Mr. Kramer bought eighty acres of land, and thereon he resided to the time of his death, which occurred in 1877. He had for a brief period survived his wife, who died April 24, 1874.

Anthony Kramer had but limited chance to obtain an education but when opportunity offered he attended the district schools. His parents were in humble financial circumstances and his aid was needed upon the farm when there was work to be done. He was nineteen years of age when his father died and he and an elder brother took charge of the home place and through the following four years continued its further cultivation and improvement. This period embraced three years of wheat crop failure, and being unable to raise anything, the brothers determined to sell the home place. In 1883, therefore, the family was broken up and Anthony Kramer began work as a farm hand. Times were hard and during many winter seasons he worked for twelve dollars per month. He is now one of the prosperous agriculturists of the county, his present prosperity being in marked contrast to his financial condition of a few decades ago.

On the 25th of February, 1895, Mr. Kramer was joined in wedlock to Miss Elizabeth Jane Conley, a daughter of Michael Conley, now deceased, who was one of the early settlers of Chickasaw township, establishing his home in Chickasaw county about 1855. Previously he had been one of the famous '49ers who made the trip across the plains to California following the discovery of gold on the Pacific coast. In fact he made two different trips to that state.

After his marriage Mr. Kramer located upon his present home farm, which his wife inherited from her father and which is now owned by Mr. Kramer. It comprises one hundred acres of well improved and valuable property, constituting a most pleasing feature in the landscape.

In 1914 Mr. Kramer was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away on the 14th of September of that year, leaving five children: Anna M. P., at home; William Patrick, who died January 15, 1919, of influenza while attending the

Automobile Tractor School in Sioux City; and Mary M., Anthony G. and Catherine F. E., all at home.

Mr. Kramer and his family are members of the Catholic church and he is identified also with the Modern Woodmen of America, while politically he is a democrat, giving his earnest and unfaltering support to the principles of the party because he believes that its platform contains the best elements of good government. His life has been quietly passed in the conduct of farming interests and he has won a creditable place among the successful agriculturists of Chickasaw county.

JOHN E. ERBE.

John E. Erbe, who is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred acres on section 23, Saratoga township, Howard county, was born in that township on the 13th of September, 1880, and is a son of Ernest E. and Elizabeth (Schreiber) Erbe, both natives of Iowa county, Wisconsin, the former born January 16, 1852, and the latter October 16, 1856. They continued to reside in Iowa county, Wisconsin, until their removal to this state in 1876, at which time the father purchased eighty acres of land in Saratoga township, Howard county, a mile west and a mile south of the village of Saratoga. In early life he had followed farming in his native state and continued to engage in the same occupation throughout his active business life. He now makes his home in Saratoga but his wife has passed away, dying at that place on the 5th of January, 1919.

Like most farm boys, John E. Erbe became thoroughly acquainted with agricultural pursuits during his boyhood and during the winter months attended the district schools of the neighborhood. In 1915 he came into possession of his present farm of one hundred acres on section 23, Saratoga township, and has since engaged in its operation. He is an up-to-date and progressive farmer and success has attended his well directed efforts.

On the 14th of August, 1904, Mr. Erbe was united in marriage to Cora Alma Kelsey, whose parents are residents of Todd county, Minnesota. To this union have been born five children: John Edward, Eloise Ethel, Harry Franklin, Franklin Harry and Elma Elizabeth. Mr. and Mrs. Erbe are consistent members of the Congregational church of Saratoga and have many friends in the community where they reside. By his ballot Mr. Erbe supports the men and measures of the republican party but has taken no active part in political affairs, his time and attention being devoted to his farming operations.

FRANK W. KOBLISKA, JR.

Frank W. Kobliska, Jr., actively engaged in farming on section 3, Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, of which township he is a native, was born August 2, 1887, his parents being Frank and Barbara Kobliska, who are still residents of Deerfield township. The district schools near his father's home afforded him his early educational opportunities and he also spent seven months as a pupil in a Catholic school at Spillville. His youthful days outside of school hours were devoted to work upon his father's farm and to that task he devoted his energies until the time of his marriage. On the 9th of November, 1915, he was joined in wedlock to Miss Nellie Dunn and the young couple began their domestic life upon the present home farm, comprising ninety-two acres of land which was given to Mr. Kobliska by his father. He has since occupied this place and his efforts and energies have been concentrated upon its further development and improvement. He has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and all the modern accessories of the model farm property of the present day are found on his land.

Mrs. Kobliska, like her husband, is a representative of one of the old families of this section of the state, her parents being Patrick and Julia Dunn, who are still

living in Afton township, Howard county. Mr. and Mrs. Kobliska have one child, Paul Francis, now in his first year.

The parents are faithful adherents of the Catholic church of Cecelia in Afton township, Howard county, and Mr. Kobliska is identified also with the Knights of Columbus, his membership being in Council No. 1409 at Charles City. He is neglectful of none of the duties and obligations which devolve upon the progressive citizen, but business affairs claim the greater part of his time and he is now successfully developing his farm and raising registered full-blooded Chester hogs. Both branches of his business are proving profitable and he deserves classification with the representative farmers and stock raisers of northern Iowa.

T. K. YOUNG.

T. K. Young, vice president of the Second National Bank of New Hampton and one of the representative business men of the city, was born in New Hampton township, Chickasaw county, March 14, 1878, his parents being William and Susie A. (Kenyon) Young, the former a native of Wayne county, New York, while the latter was born near Madison, Wisconsin. They were married in Chickasaw county, Iowa, the father having come to this section of the state as one of its pioneer settlers, while the mother arrived in Chickasaw county some time later, coming with her parents in young womanhood. After their marriage they settled upon a farm which Mr. Young had previously purchased and on which they continued to make their home until about 1883, when they removed to New Hampton, where Mr. Young became prominently identified with the farm implement and machinery business. He was active along that line for fifteen years and won a place among the substantial business men of the city. He passed away in 1908 and is still survived by his widow, who yet makes her home in New Hampton.

T. K. Young was educated in the New Hampton high school, from which he was graduated with the class of 1897. He afterward attended the Capital City Commercial College at Des Moines and when he had completed his business course he entered the hardware store of E. J. Ure of New Hampton, by whom he was employed for two years. On the expiration of that period he turned his attention to the banking business and entered the private bank of Shaffer Brothers, which in 1905 was nationalized, becoming the Second National Bank of New Hampton. Mr. Young's initial position was that of bookkeeper in the private bank and when the institution was converted into the Second National Bank he was made assistant cashier and about 1908 was elected to the vice presidency, in which important position he has since served. He has made a close study of the banking business and his work has proven highly satisfactory to the institution which he now represents.

On the 26th of June, 1906, Mr. Young was married to Miss Florence Church, of Elma, Howard county. In politics he is a republican, but the emoluments and honors of office have had no attraction for him.

A. R. JOHNSON.

A. R. Johnson, a harness maker and dealer, who is regarded as one of the leading business men of Lime Springs, comes to Iowa from Wisconsin, his birth having occurred in Fond du Lac of the latter state on the 12th of March, 1871. His parents, Lorin J. and Ann (Darry) Johnson, were natives of New Hampshire and of Vermont respectively and were married in the old Granite state. Soon afterward they removed to the west, settling first in Illinois, but after two or three years they took up their abode in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and in the spring of 1872 removed to Lime Springs, Howard county, Iowa, where the father engaged in the harness making business, with which he was identified to the time of his death in 1897.

A. R. Johnson was educated in the public and high schools of Lime Springs and was graduated with the class of 1888. After completing his studies he worked for a year in the Lime Springs postoffice and the following year entered his father's harness shop and began his apprenticeship at the harness making trade. He continued to work with his father until the latter's death, after which he took charge of and continued the business. He has since remained actively identified with harness making in Lime Springs and has built up a trade of gratifying and substantial proportions.

In 1894 Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Augusta Henderson, who passed away in 1900, leaving two children: Lorin W., who is assistant cashier of the Exchange State Bank of Lime Springs; and Pauline A., a stenographer of Minneapolis. Both are graduates of the Lime Springs high school.

In 1901 Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Anna Nagle, of Lime Springs, and to them have been born three children: Mildred, Alta and Helen, all at home, the first named being now a senior in the high school.

Mr. Johnson votes with the republican party, of which he has been a stalwart supporter since reaching adult age. He is a member of the town council and has served in that body for the past fifteen or twenty years—a fact that certainly indicates his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow townsmen. He has also served as secretary of the school board for the past twenty years and the cause of education finds in him a stalwart champion, most loyal to the interests of the schools. He has membership in Howard Lodge, No. 214, A. F. & A. M., of Lime Springs, and also with the Modern Woodmen of America, while his wife is connected with the Presbyterian church. Mr. Johnson well deserves classification with the progressive men of Lime Springs, being keenly interested in everything that has to do with the welfare and upbuilding of the community and the advancement of its substantial growth.

THOMAS J. MURPHY.

Oliver Wendell Holmes has said: "If your name is to live at all, it is so much more to have it live in people's hearts than only in their brains." It is in this way that the name of Thomas J. Murphy lives. His memory is enshrined in the hearts of all who knew him, for he was not only a successful but most progressive and honorable business man, a reliable and substantial citizen, a devoted friend and a faithful and loving husband and father. His many sterling qualities endeared him to all who knew him and in his death Chickasaw county lost one of its valued citizens.

Mr. Murphy was born in Chicago, Illinois, October 1, 1857, and when he was but three years of age was brought by his parents, Michael and Catharine Murphy, to Chickasaw county. His youthful days were spent upon a farm. The family home was established four miles west of New Hampton and when three years later the mother died the father put forth every effort not only to fill his own place in the world, but to take the mother's part in the household and surround his children with that loving care and attention which only a mother knows how to give. Some years afterwards he wedded Miss Alice Cunningham, who proved most devoted to the children that came under her direction.

At the usual age Thomas J. Murphy became a pupil in the public schools and for some years thereafter his time was divided between the duties of the school-room, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the farm. He supplemented his early training in the Bradford Academy, from which in due course of time he was graduated. He then took up the profession of teaching, which he largely followed through the succeeding twelve years, proving himself a capable educator, imparting readily and clearly to others the knowledge that he had acquired. With the death of his father he became the owner of the old homestead and concentrated his efforts and attention upon its management and develop-



THOMAS J. MURPHY

ment. He proved as able in agricultural life as he had in the educational field and by the careful management and improvement of his farm he acquired a very substantial competence. In fact he became one of the well-to-do men of Chickasaw county and what he acquired through his persistent, earnest and honorable labor enabled him in the closing years of his life to live retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil.

On the 14th of January, 1903, Mr. Murphy was united in marriage to Miss Agnes Norton, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Norton, of Howard county, and they became the parents of five children: Alice, Marie, Mercedes, Jerald and Elenor. In 1911 Mr. Murphy removed with his family to New Hampton and erected one of the beautiful residences of the city on Walnut avenue. A contemporary writer has said: "As a husband and father he was above reproach, and it was in the peace and contentment of this happy home circle that he found his greatest enjoyment. The home ties were dearer far to him than public applause and though a man whom the community would have enjoyed honoring, yet he shunned publicity, seeking happiness in that atmosphere of love and affection with which he surrounded his loved ones. As a successful business man he had few equals. To the management of his farm he applied those principles of sound business policy that not only won for him a comfortable competency but marked him as a man of practical affairs; a man whose judgment was respected and sought for by his fellows. In all matters, whether of business or of home, he was the soul of honor and it was this, as well as his kindly disposition, that made for him a place in public esteem held by few."

In his political views Mr. Murphy was always a democrat and his high standing is indicated in the fact that for thirty-two years he was called upon to serve as clerk of Dayton township, while for thirty-five years he was its treasurer. No higher testimonial of his efficiency and fidelity could be given than the fact that he was so long retained in these offices. He held membership in the Catholic church and to its teachings was most loyal. Of him it was said: "He was a Christian both in profession and practice." His religious ideals found expression in his daily life, making him a man honest and reliable in business, trustworthy in citizenship and true to all the high relations of home and friendship. He expressed in his life the spirit of the Emersonian philosophy: "The way to win a friend is to be one." Whenever assistance was needed by anyone he was among the first to respond to the call and the attainment of wealth never in any way affected his relations toward those less fortunate. Death came to him on the 6th of June, 1913, when he was but fifty-five years of age. While it seemed that he should have been spared for many years to come, his life made him ready to meet the Great Beyond. His was a nature that shed around him much of life's sunshine and to his fellow travelers on life's journey he was continually extending a helping hand. Although the work of the world goes on, no one can fill the place of Thomas J. Murphy in the hearts of his family, his friends and close associates.

JULIUS E. DOOLITTLE.

Julius E. Doolittle, engaged in general farming on section 32, Vernon Springs township, Howard county, was born on the old homestead place adjoining his present farm, his natal day being October 4, 1858. He is a son of Moses B. and Jane (Flannigan) Doolittle, the former a native of Mount Holly, Vermont, while the latter was born in Ireland and came to the United States in her girlhood days with her parents. They were married in Vermont and in 1856 removed westward to Iowa, settling in Howard county, where the father of Julius E. Doolittle preempted the old home farm, securing the land from the government, and with characteristic energy beginning its development and progress. He continued to reside upon that place to the time of his death, the property never changing ownership until after his demise. At the time of his death he was the possessor of two hundred and forty acres, constituting one

of the best farms in the township, and its neat and attractive appearance bore testimony to his well spent and well directed energy. He died on the 15th of July, 1913, when in his eighty-first year, having for a considerable period survived his wife, who died about 1898 at the age of sixty-five years. In early life he had given his political allegiance to the republican party but when the greenback party came into existence he became a supporter of the new organization and subsequently was nominated on its ticket as a candidate for congress. While he received the highest vote of any candidate on the ticket, he failed of election. He was one of the foremost citizens of Vernon Springs township, a man of strong convictions, who commanded at all times the respect and confidence of all who knew him.

Julius E. Doolittle was reared upon the home farm, having the usual experiences of the farm-bred boy, his time being divided between the work of the fields and the work of the schoolroom. After attending the district schools he became a high school pupil in his home township and on the 11th of December, 1879, he was united in marriage to Miss May G. Hollister, of Paris township, a daughter of George W. Hollister, who was among the first of the pioneer settlers of Howard county and has now passed away.

For three years following his marriage Mr. Doolittle cultivated the old home farm and then purchased his present place of one hundred acres, to which he removed and upon which he has since resided. He has carefully and persistently carried on the work of development and improvement upon this place and now has an excellent farm from which he receives a substantial income, owing to the care and labor which he bestows upon the fields.

To Mr. and Mrs. Doolittle have been born two sons: Rollo H., who is now a farmer of Wisconsin; and Ralph J., who served with the American army in France. In his political views Mr. Doolittle is a republican and is serving as a member of the board of trustees in his township. He is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and his wife and son Ralph are members of the Congregational church, to which he contributes liberally. He is justly accounted one of the foremost citizens of his section of the state, having been a lifelong resident of Howard township, where his industry and determination have featured as factors in his growing success. He has a wide acquaintance and those who know him esteem him for his sterling worth as well as his business ability and his progressiveness in citizenship.

BARCLAY NORTON.

Barclay Norton, busily engaged in farming on section 3, Paris township, Howard county, has lived in this locality from pioneer times, continuously occupying his present farm for fifty-five years. He has therefore witnessed the entire growth and progress of the county and in fact has borne a very active and helpful part in promoting its development. He was born in Ireland in December, 1830, a son of Peter and Mary (Flaherty) Norton, who spent their entire lives on the Emerald isle.

Barclay Norton acquired his education in the parochial schools and was married in Ireland in 1859 to Miss Bridget Flaherty. Two children were born to them in that country ere they emigrated to the new world in 1864. Mr. Norton brought his family to the United States and spent the following summer with an uncle, but in the fall of that year purchased forty acres of his present home farm, on which he built a log cabin. With characteristic energy he began the development of the fields and for fifty-five years has remained continuously upon this place. He has extended the boundaries of his farm by the purchase of adjoining tracts of land from time to time until he is now the owner of two hundred acres of rich and productive land, from which he annually gathers splendid harvests.

To Mr. and Mrs. Norton have been born eleven children: Peter, residing at Devils Lake, North Dakota; Michael, who follows farming in Paris township, Howard county; Patrick, a resident of Denver, Colorado; Mary, deceased; Margaret, the wife of William McDonald a farmer of Howard county; Catherine, the widow of Owen

Murray and now residing at Cresco; Elizabeth, the wife of Joseph O'Halloran, a resident of Chickasaw county; Nora, who married Charles G. Walters, a farmer of Paris township; Agnes, the wife of James McBride, a farmer of Howard county; John, who operates the home farm; and one who died in infancy.

Mr. Norton never falters in his allegiance as a supporter of democratic principles and for several years has served as township trustee and as road supervisor. He has likewise been a member of the school board and has been keenly interested in everything that pertains to the welfare and improvement of the community in which he has so long made his home. He has now reached the very advanced age of eighty-nine years, while his wife is eighty-two years of age, and they are regarded as one of the most interesting old couples of Howard county, retaining their mental faculties unimpaired and enjoying good health. They are still as active as many people twenty years their junior. While the son operates the farm, the father always finds something to do, for indolence and idleness have ever been utterly foreign to his nature and he still continues active. For a long time in the spring of 1914 he milked fourteen cows a day and did other chores around the place. The conversation of this worthy couple sparkles with good humor and good cheer and one cannot pay them a visit without coming away feeling more kindly toward all the world. They are sterling and lovable people with whom Father Time has dealt leniently and no history of Howard county would be complete without reference to them. They have long lived consistent Christian lives and are communicants of the Catholic church.

AUGUST BARTELS.

For twenty-seven years the Bartels family has been represented in Howard county and August Bartels is now an active and enterprising farmer of Howard township, living on section 17. He was less than a year old at the time of the removal of the family to Howard county, his birth having occurred in Bremer county, Iowa, on the 6th of October, 1891. He is a son of Ernest F. and Sophia (Eikoff) Bartels, the former a native of Illinois, while the latter was born in Germany but came to the United States when a girl of twelve years in company with her parents, who settled in Bremer county, Iowa. There she was reared to womanhood and became the wife of Ernest F. Bartels. They began their domestic life in Bremer county and there remained until 1892, when they removed to Howard county, the father purchasing a half section of land in Howard township. He continued active in farming until 1913, when he retired from business life and removed to Elma, where he now resides. He is numbered among the respected and valued residents of his section of the state because of the sterling worth which he has displayed in business and in citizenship.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for August Bartels in the days of his boyhood and youth, which were devoted to the acquirement of a district school education and such duties as were assigned him by parental authority. In January, 1913, he was married to Miss Fena Arndt, of Alta Vista, Chickasaw county, and in the spring following his marriage began farming for himself on his present home place of one hundred and sixty acres, which he purchased from his father at the time of his marriage. To Mr. and Mrs. Bartels have been born two interesting little daughters, Evelyn and Erna.

Before beginning farming independently August Bartels and his brother took over the operation of the home farm upon their father's retirement and were busily engaged in its further development for three years, at the end of which time their partnership was dissolved. In his chosen life work August Bartels has made steady advancement and each forward step in his career has brought him a broader outlook and wider opportunities. His early practical training well qualified him to begin farming on his own account and since becoming the owner of his present place he has brought it under a very high state of cultivation and made it one of the well improved properties of the district. He raises the cereals best adapted to soil and climatic conditions here and he also makes a specialty of the breeding of Holstein cattle

and Chester White hogs. He is likewise a stockholder in the Howard County Co-operative Equity Association of Elma and in the Maple Leaf Creamery Company.

In his political views Mr. Bartels is a republican but has never been an office seeker. He and his wife are consistent members of the German Lutheran church and they are held in high esteem throughout their section of the county, enjoying the hospitality of the best homes of Howard township. Mr. Bartels has practically spent his entire life in Howard county and his progressive spirit has placed him in an enviable position among the well-to-do farmers.

CHARLES B. ASHLEY.

Charles B. Ashley, an honored veteran of the Civil war and a retired agriculturist now residing in Cresco, still owns the farm on section 35, Albion township, Howard county, which was his home for sixty years. His birth occurred in Livingston county, New York, on the 18th of July, 1841, his parents being Carlos C. and Helen (Messinger) Ashley, who were born, reared and married in Oneida county, New York. Subsequently they removed to Orleans county, that state, and thence made their way to Livingston county, New York, where they resided until 1851, when they joined the procession of pioneers to the western country. After spending two years in Dodge county, Wisconsin, the father brought his family to Howard county, Iowa, in 1859 and purchased the farm in Albion township which is now owned by his son, Charles B. Ashley, buying the property from a man named McCarty, who had preempted the land in 1855. On this place the parents of our subject continued to reside until called to their final rest.

Charles B. Ashley, who was a young man of eighteen years when the family home was established in Howard county, assisted his father in the development and improvement of the home place and acquired possession thereof shortly prior to the latter's demise. In August, 1861, he responded to the country's call for troops to aid in the preservation of the Union, joining Company I of the Ninth Iowa Infantry, with which he served throughout the entire period of hostilities between the north and the south. He was captured in South Carolina, while on detached service as acting ordinance sergeant of the First Division of the Fifteenth Army Corps under Sherman, but succeeded in making his escape a few hours later. Returning to Howard county with a most creditable military record, he resumed the operation of the home farm on section 35, Albion township, and remained thereon continuously until the spring of 1919, when he put aside the active work of the fields and removed to Cresco. During his active connection with agricultural interests he developed one of the excellently improved and most valuable farms of the county, replacing its crude pioneer structures with modern and up-to-date buildings. Success attended his well directed efforts as the years passed by and he is now enjoying the fruits of his former toil in richly merited rest.

In 1872 Mr. Ashley was united in marriage to Miss Emmo Gene Barber, a daughter of William and Eliza Barber. Following the father's death, which occurred in St. Lawrence county, New York, Mrs. Barber came to Iowa with her family of four sons and two daughters, locating in Howard county in 1870. Here the daughter Emmo gave her hand in marriage to Charles B. Ashley, by whom she has five children, as follows: Helen E., the wife of George Richards, of Manitoba, Canada; Sylvia B., at home; Willie R., who operates his father's farm; Erwin M., residing in Manitoba, Canada; and May L., the wife of Rev. Guy Rutherford, of Quasqueton, Iowa.

Politically Mr. Ashley is a staunch republican, giving loyal support to the party which was the defense of the Union during the dark days of the Civil war. He served for a number of years as a member of the board of township trustees, also as justice of the peace and as a member of the school board, at all times discharging his public duties with marked capability and promptness. In 1880 and 1890 he took the United States census of Howard county. He still retains pleasant relations with his old army comrades as a member of Memorial Post, No. 216, G. A. R. His wife and children

are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and the family have an extensive circle of warm friends. The period of Mr. Ashley's residence in Howard county now covers six decades and he is therefore numbered among its honored pioneer settlers, while he is also highly esteemed as a citizen whose aid and influence have ever been given on the side of right, progress and improvement.

LOUIE E. MEYER.

Louie E. Meyer, who carries on general agricultural pursuits on section 32, Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, was born in Benton county, Iowa, September 25, 1876, and is a son of Conrad and Elizabeth (Brennisonn) Meyer, both of whom were natives of Germany but came to the new world during their childhood days with their respective parents. The mother was eighteen years of age at the time of her emigration to America and in 1868 or 1869 became the wife of Conrad Meyer in Benton county. They removed to Chickasaw county, establishing their home in Chickasaw township, where they still reside. For many years the father successfully carried on general agricultural pursuits and the competence thus acquired now enables him to live retired in Bassett.

Louie E. Meyer devoted his youth to the acquirement of a district school education and to the work of the home farm until he reached the age of twenty years, when he began dealing in farm lands. In the same year he also took up the active work of the fields on his own account and at that time purchased a place of eighty acres on section 36, Deerfield township. For a year he cultivated that farm and then sold the property, making investment in his present home place, also a tract of eighty acres. He has carefully tilled the fields through the intervening period and his farm is now in excellent condition, responding readily to the care and labor which he bestows upon it. There are good improvements in the way of buildings and fences and his equipment includes the latest improved farm machinery and all accessories necessary to the development of the fields.

In 1900 Mr. Meyer was married to Miss Lena Otto, of Chickasaw township, and they have become parents of four children, of whom three are yet living, namely: Mildred, Lawrence and Elma. Mr. Meyer votes with the republican party and keeps in touch with the questions and issues of the day. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church and endeavor to make its teachings the rule of their lives. They are now well known in this section of Iowa, where they have always resided, and their sterling qualities are manifest in the fact that their circle of friends is almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintance.

FRANK CHYLE, Jr.

The name of Frank Chyle, Jr., is inseparably associated with the history of Protivin and though he has passed away his memory is revered and cherished by those who knew him. He was one of the early settlers of this section of Howard county and was the promoter of the town of Protivin, which largely stands as a monument to his enterprise and progressiveness. Born in Bohemia on the 1st of December, 1847, he was a son of Frank Chyle, who came with his family to the new world in 1855, settling first in Canada. For a brief period he remained in Hamilton, Ontario, and then crossed the border into the United States and for three or four years was a resident of Dubuque, Iowa. From Dubuque he removed to Howard county, where he arrived about 1858 or 1859. He purchased a farm, securing from the government a tract of land two miles north of the present site of Protivin. It was upon this farm that the family resided for many years, taking active part in the early development and later progress of the district.

It was upon the old homestead that Frank Chyle was reared to manhood, having

the usual experiences of the farm-bred boy who divides his time between the duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the fields. In 1871 he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Jira, also a native of Bohemia, her birth having occurred in the town of Protivin, in honor of which the Iowa town was named. She came to the United States in 1869, when sixteen years of age, and spent two years in Chicago, where she was married to Mr. Chyle. Immediately afterward she accompanied her husband to Howard county. Prior to his marriage Mr. Chyle had purchased the farm on which the town of Protivin now stands and there in 1877 the Catholic church was built and Mr. Chyle platted and laid out the town. He was appointed the first postmaster and gave the name of Protivin to the little hamlet. He served for several years as postmaster of the town and was keenly interested in everything that pertained to the welfare, upbuilding and progress of the community. He was called upon to serve as assessor of New Oregon township for several years, was also notary public for several years and was identified with the insurance business. He ranked with Protivin's most prominent and progressive men and carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook. For a considerable period he was actively engaged in farming and brought his land under a high state of cultivation.

To Mr. and Mrs. Chyle were born ten children, five of whom are yet living: Mary, the wife of L. J. Schor, a resident farmer of Chickasaw county; James T., who carries on general farming upon the old home place; Beatrice, at home; Frank T., a mechanic employed in the Protivin Garage; and Charles W., butter maker at the Protivin Creamery.

The death of the husband and father occurred April 5, 1909. He was a consistent Christian man, holding membership in the Catholic church, and he was a member of the Bohemian Lodge, Z. C. B. J. One of Protivin's most highly esteemed citizens, his worth was acknowledged by all who knew him and when death called him his passing was the occasion of deep and widespread regret. His friends were indeed many and all spoke of him in terms of the highest regard. Mrs. Chyle is still living and occupies the old home in Protivin, where she is well known in the social circles of the city.

A. C. BANDLE.

A. C. Bandle, carrying on general farming on section 16, Howard township, in Howard county, was born on the old home farm, a part of which he now operates. His natal day was December 31, 1866, his parents being William and Mary (Fallgetter) Bandle, of whom mention is made in connection with the sketch of their son, William Bandle, elsewhere in this volume. A. C. Bandle, having mastered the branches of learning taught in the district schools, concentrated his efforts and attention upon farm work and in 1901, when his father left the home farm, he took charge of two hundred and forty acres of this property, which he has since cultivated and further developed. His fields are fertile and bring forth rich crops as the result of the care and labor which he bestows upon them. He employs the most progressive methods of farming in the care of his land, rotating his crops, keeping his soil in excellent condition, and as the result of his energy and close application he is meeting with substantial success. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Cooperative Lumber & Coal Company of Alta Vista and is a stockholder in the Alta Vista Creamery Company and the Alta Vista Telephone Company. Thus broadening his business relations, he has won a place among the substantial business men of his section of the county.

In 1895 Mr. Bandle was married to Miss Mary Erion, of Chickasaw county, a daughter of Michael Erion, now deceased. They have become parents of three children, one son and two daughters: Walter, who has passed away; and Leona and Rosella, both at home.

In politics Mr. Bandle has maintained an independent course, voting for men and measures rather than for party. He has served as a member of the school board and as road boss and is ever willing to do his part in behalf of public progress and improvement. Fraternally he is connected with Alta Vista Lodge, No.



MR. AND MRS. A. C. BANDLE

658, I. O. O. F., and also with Sumner Encampment, while he and his family are members of the Lutheran church. While he never had the advantage offered by higher education, he has been a broad reader and is today one of the well informed men of Howard township who recognizes the opportunities not only for his own advancement, but for the promotion of public welfare and at all times gives his aid and support to movements that are intended to upbuild the community, commonwealth or country.

THOMAS W. MUNSON.

Since 1905 Thomas W. Munson has resided upon the farm which he now occupies on section 20, Jacksonville township, Chickasaw county. In the meantime, however, he has extended its boundaries and has made it a valuable property owing to the thrift and industry which he has displayed in the management of his business affairs. He was born August 1, 1880, in the township which is still his home, his parents being Halvor and Anna (Aberg) Munson, who were natives of Norway. The father left the land of the midnight sun when a boy of eleven years in company with his parents, making the voyage across the Atlantic in 1857. The mother came alone to America when a girl of fourteen years and she, too, crossed the briny deep in 1857. Both became residents of Wisconsin, Mr. Munson living in Dane county and the lady who later became his wife making her home in Madison. The Munson family afterward removed to Union county, South Dakota, settling near Yankton, which was the capital of the territory of Dakota. There Halvor Munson, when not yet sixteen years of age, enlisted for service in the Civil war and was for three years and three months a member of Company I of the First Dakota Cavalry. He participated in a number of hotly contested engagements and with a most creditable military record returned to his home. After receiving an honorable discharge he hired out to the government to drive oxen on a government train used in hauling supplies from Sioux City, Iowa, to Salt Lake City, Utah. Thus the summer was passed and in the following winter he worked in a lumber camp in Montana. In the spring of 1867 he came to Iowa, his parents having removed to this state in 1862, during the Indian outbreaks in South Dakota and Minnesota. They settled in Utica township, Chickasaw county, and it was here that Halvor Munson met and married his life's companion, the marriage ceremony being performed in the church at Saude in the fall of 1867. The young couple located on a farm in Jacksonville township, where Mr. Munson continued to make his home and carried on general agricultural pursuits for thirty-nine years. In 1906 he left the farm and established his home in New Hampton, where he lived retired from active business until his death, which occurred April 26, 1918, when he was seventy-two years of age, for he was born in 1846. His wife, who was born in 1844, passed away December 18, 1915. In his business affairs Mr. Munson had won substantial success and at one time owned an entire section of land in Jacksonville township, Chickasaw county, and had large land holdings in Kansas. He was a republican in politics and he and his wife were members of the Lutheran church, consistently following its teachings. Mr. Munson ever enjoyed a well deserved reputation as an upright citizen and a man of sterling character.

Thomas W. Munson, after acquiring a district school education in Jacksonville township, took up farming on his own account in 1900, at the age of twenty years, operating a part of his father's land. In 1902 he was united in marriage to Miss Anna Robinson, of Jacksonville township, a daughter of Andrew Robinson, one of the early pioneers who is still living in this locality.

Following his marriage, in the fall of 1902, Mr. Munson removed to eastern Kansas, where he resided for three years, owning there two hundred and forty acres of land which he purchased from his father. In 1905 he traded his Kansas property for a part of his present home farm, obtaining one hundred and sixty acres. The boundaries of this he has since extended by additional purchase until he now has three hundred and seventy-six acres. At one time he bought a tract of one hundred and thirty-six acres and on another occasion eighty acres and today he is the owner of an extensive and valuable

farm property, which he most carefully cultivates and which returns to him a gratifying annual income. He is also a stockholder in the Jerico Creamery Association and is a member of its board of directors.

To Mr. and Mrs. Munson have been born six children: Anna P., Alice M., Sigrid M., Harold A., Henry W. and Ruth L. The family is widely and favorably known in this section of the state and Mr. and Mrs. Munson are faithful followers of the Lutheran church, in which they hold membership. In politics he is a republican and in the November election of 1910 was made a member of the board of county supervisors, serving for two terms or six years, his loyal support being given to every plan or measure of the board for the upbuilding of the county and the development of its interests. He is a leading and public-spirited citizen whose life is in many respects most exemplary.

SOLON J. WILMOT.

Solon J. Wilmot is a well known farmer of Forest City township, Howard county, his home being on section 18. He was born in Winona county, Minnesota, March 12, 1865, a son of Allen Wilmot, who was born in the state of New York, August 9, 1823, and died in Dexter, Minnesota, on the 9th of May, 1907, when he had reached the venerable age of eighty-four years. The mother, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Remore, was also born in New York and died in Minnesota when her son Solon was but twelve years of age. The father followed farming in Minnesota and the youthful days of Solon J. Wilmot were passed as a farm-bred boy.

He was twenty-five years of age when he left Minnesota and removed to Howard county, taking up his abode here in 1890. On the 2d of September of that year he was united in marriage to Miss Millie E. Tibbets, who was born in Howard county, and following his marriage he began farming. In 1907 he purchased his present farm property and through the intervening period he has placed the greater part of the improvements upon it. His labors have resulted in transforming it into a productive and valuable tract of land, from which he annually gathers good harvests. He lives a life of thrift and industry and his diligence has been the basis of his growing success.

To Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot has been born one child, Chloe, who is now the widow of John L. Erickson, of Minneapolis. Following his marriage Mr. Erickson worked upon the farm of Mr. Wilmot for four years and then passed away. The daughter remains upon the home farm with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot attend the Methodist church of Lime Springs and contribute generously to its support. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, with which he has been identified for the past twenty years. His political endorsement is given to the republican party and he is well versed on the leading political issues but has never been an office seeker. His entire life has been given to farm activities and the enterprise which he has displayed constitutes the basis of his prosperity.

PAUL H. BARTELS.

Paul H. Bartels, who is engaged in farming on section 17, Howard township, and is classed with the representative agriculturists of Howard county, has throughout his entire life been imbued with the enterprising spirit of the west. He was born in Bremer county, Iowa, July 8, 1889, a son of Ernest F. and Sophia (Eikoff) Bartels, mention of whom is made in connection with the sketch of August Bartels on another page of this work.

In his youthful days Paul H. Bartels was a pupil in the district schools. In 1913 his father removed to Elma, after which Paul H. Bartels and his brother August operated the home farm for three years. At the end of that period Paul H. Bartels became the owner of his present home farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which was the old homestead of his father and mother. It was after his marriage that he and his brother dis-

solved partnership and he has since farmed independently. He is most industrious and diligent in the care of his property and has brought his fields under a very high state of cultivation. He has also added a number of modern improvements to his place and in connection with the further cultivation of his crops he is engaged in the raising of Bull Durham cattle and Chester White hogs, his stock raising interests constituting an important and profitable feature of his business. He is also a stockholder in the Howard County Cooperative Equity Association of Elma and a stockholder in the Maple Leaf Creamery Company of Howard township.

In September, 1916, Mr. Bartels was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Prinz, a daughter of Carl Prinz, of Saratoga township, Howard county, and they have become the parents of a son, Reuben C. E. The parents are members of the German Lutheran church and contribute generously to its support. Mr. Bartels gives stalwart allegiance to the republican party, believing its principles to contain the best elements of good government, and in matters of citizenship his aid is always given on the side of progress and improvement. He is one of the young and representative farmers of his section of the state, actuated in all that he does by a laudable ambition that has enabled him to overcome obstacles and difficulties in his path and steadily mount the ladder of success.

A. H. WESP.

A. H. Wesp, of the Wesp Motor Company of New Hampton, is one of the younger business men of the city whose commercial career is an expression of the spirit of enterprise which has been the dominant factor in the upbuilding of the west. He was born in York county, Nebraska, April 9, 1881, a son of W. N. Wesp, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this work. He began his education in the district schools and afterward attended the Fredericksburg high school, while later he became a student in the New Hampton Business College. On reaching young manhood he took up carpentering and worked at the trade for three years. Subsequently he devoted a year and a half to the baker's trade and eventually entered the employ of the Wesp Motor Company, which business was then owned by his father and the Shaffer Brothers. At a later period he represented the International Harvester Company upon the road for a year and upon the incorporation of the Wesp Motor Company he became a member of the firm. On the 23d of March, 1918, in association with F. P. Wentz, he purchased the business which has since been continued under the old firm name of the Wesp Motor Company. They have built up an extensive trade, having now the agency for the Cadillac, the Buick and other cars. They annually sell a large number of cars and are well known in motor circles. Their business is growing by reason of progressive methods and earnest efforts to please their customers, and the partners in the Wesp Motor Company are recognized as among the leading young business men of New Hampton.

On the 4th of November, 1915, Mr. Wesp was united in marriage to Miss Rose Rieben, of New Hampton, a daughter of Gottlieb Rieben, one of the early settlers of Chickasaw county, now deceased. Mr. Wesp is a member of Lancelot Lodge, No. 183, K. P., and also of Gopher Camp, No. 242, M. W. A. His political endorsement is given to the republican party, and while not an office seeker, he is interested in all that has to do with the welfare and progress of the community in which he makes his home and to that end gives his active aid and cooperation to plans and measures for the public good.

JOSEPH W. JINDERLEE, M. D.

This is an age of specialization. There are comparatively few physicians who do not follow this tendency of the age and concentrate their efforts and attention upon a special line of practice, thereby developing a degree of skill and efficiency of the highest order. Dr. Joseph W. Jinderlee, well known in Howard county, with

office in Cresco, is specializing in the treatment of the eye, ear, nose and throat and his ability in this direction is acknowledged by all who know him.

He was born in Charles City, Iowa, February 8, 1874, and is a son of Joseph and Mary (Kubish) Jinderlee. His boyhood days were spent upon the home farm near Charles City amid the usual surroundings and interests of farm life. His time was divided between attendance at the district school and the work of the fields in the summer months and afterwards he pursued a course in a business college at Cedar Rapids, thus qualifying in considerable measure for life's practical and responsible duties. Subsequently he attended the Dixon Normal School at Dixon, Illinois, and then, having determined upon a professional career, he decided to make the practice of medicine his life work and with that end in view entered the Medical College of Keokuk, Iowa, from which he was graduated with the class of 1903. His course of training was very thorough and he entered upon practice well equipped for the onerous and responsible duties of the profession. Removing to Cresco, he opened an office and here he gave his undivided attention to medical practice until 1909, when he pursued a special course in the treatment of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat in the Chicago Polyclinic and has since concentrated his efforts and attention largely upon ophthalmology, otology, rhinology and laryngology. He also pursued a special course in surgery under Dr. A. H. Andrews and is well skilled in that branch of the profession. Returning to Cresco, he has since enjoyed a large practice and his business is steadily increasing. He always keeps in touch with the advanced thought of the profession and the latest scientific researches and is interested in anything that tends to bring to man the key to the complex mystery which we call life.

In 1904 Dr. Jinderlee was united in marriage to Miss Anna Urban, a daughter of James and Mary (Sikart) Urban. She is a native of Jones county, Wisconsin, and by her marriage has become the mother of a little daughter, Loretta. Dr. and Mrs. Jinderlee are widely and favorably known in Cresco and the hospitality of the best homes is freely accorded them. Dr. Jinderlee has never sought to figure prominently in any connection outside of his profession, preferring always to concentrate his efforts, thought and attention upon his duties as a medical and surgical practitioner, and his continuous study and broad experience have won for him a most creditable name and place as a physician and particularly as a specialist in the treatment of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat.

J. P. CAUDILL.

J. P. Caudill, busily employed in the cultivation and further improvement of a good farm on section 33, Paris township, Howard county, displays in his work a progressive spirit that has characterized him in all that he has undertaken. He is now operating the W. H. Atchison farm of three hundred and twenty acres and is meeting with success in this work. Mr. Caudill is a native of Morehead, Kentucky, his birth having there occurred September 15, 1885. He is a son of James M. and Rebecca (Hammond) Caudill, who were also natives of the Blue Grass state and representatives of old Kentucky families. The father was a farmer and both he and his wife passed away in Kentucky, his death occurring in 1896, when he was forty-eight years of age, while the mother passed away in 1903 at the age of fifty-two years.

While spending his youthful days under the parental roof J. P. Caudill pursued a public school education at Morehead, Kentucky, and having arrived at years of maturity, he was married on the 1st of March, 1911, to Miss Cynthia Jones, a daughter of James Jones of that place. Prior to his marriage he had served for three years in the regular army. With his bride he came to the west and took up the occupation of farming, settling upon a farm in Pembina county, North Dakota, where he remained for two years. In 1913 he arrived in Howard county and rented the farm which he now occupies and operates. He has been very successful in the conduct of this place, upon which he has now lived six years. This fact alone is indi-

cative of the excellent care which he bestows upon the farm and he has made the property profitable to both himself and the owner. His career is an interesting one, for at the age of seventeen years he left home with the intention of seeing something of the world before settling down in life. He visited every state of the Union and in 1902 enlisted in the regular army and while in the service was in China, Japan, the Philippines and the Hawaiian islands. His wide travels have given him a broad view of life and have supplemented his meager school opportunities. An eminent thinker has said that a year's travel abroad is equal to a four year's college education, so that it is easy to see that Mr. Caudill is a well informed man.

To Mr. and Mrs. Caudill have been born two children, Earl A. and Leo J. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Caudill is identified with Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 528, A. F. & A. M., of Elma, with Lovington Lodge, No. 593, I. O. O. F., of Lovington, Illinois, and the Modern Woodmen camp at Elma. His political endorsement is given to the republican party and his position upon vital questions of citizenship and public concern is never an equivocal one as he stands loyally by what he believes to be right and for the best interests of the country at large.

JOHN HEIT.

John Heit, a dealer in agricultural implements, machinery, automobile tires and accessories and in fact handling everything in connection with farm machinery, has won a place among the leading business men of Ionia. He has always made his home in Chickasaw county and throughout his life has been actuated by the spirit of western enterprise and progress. He was born in New Hampton township, September 19, 1878, and is a son of William and Margaret (Pappenheim) Heit, the former a native of Germany, while the latter was born in Wisconsin. The father was brought to the United States when a child of but two years by his parents, who landed at New Orleans, where they remained for a brief time. Subsequently they made the trip up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to Cincinnati, Ohio, and a year or so later removed to Iowa, establishing their home at Dyersville. There the father occupied the position of section boss on the railroad for sixteen years. William Heit, the father of John Heit, spent his early life at Dyersville, Iowa, and as a youth worked as a clerk in a general store. In 1870, at the age of eighteen years, he removed to Nashua, Iowa, his father having previously purchased a farm in Chickasaw county. William Heit walked from Nashua to the farm—a distance of sixteen miles, and taking up his abode thereon, made it his home for forty-five years, being long classed with the representative agriculturists of his section of the state. At length he removed to New Hampton in 1915 and has there since lived retired, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned and richly merits. He still owns two hundred and forty acres of land in New Hampton township, which is one of the well improved farm properties of that section of the county.

John Heit was educated in the district schools and in a business college at New Hampton, after which he returned home and assisted in the further development and improvement of his father's farm for four years. On the 12th of November, 1903, he was united in marriage to Miss Lizzie Kleinfehn, of New Hampton township, and they began their domestic life upon a farm of eighty acres adjoining his father's place. This Mr. Heit had previously purchased and thereon he engaged in farming for ten years. In 1913 he purchased the implement business of Dominick Gilbert of Ionia and took possession thereof in October of that year. In the intervening years he has prospered and has built up the business to one of the leading commercial interests of Ionia, his sales reaching a large figure annually. He handles agricultural implements and everything that has to do with farm machinery, also automobile tires and accessories, and his trade is of a most substantial character.

To Mr. and Mrs. Heit have been born three sons: Gallus, Roman and Virgil. In his political views Mr. Heit is a democrat where national questions and issues are

involved, but is somewhat liberal and votes independently of party ties at local elections. He served for five years as assessor of New Hampton township while upon the farm and has served as assessor of Ionia for two years, while at the present writing he is a member of the town council. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and he is one of the directors of the church. He also belongs to the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters. His life has been actuated by a progressive spirit that has brought about substantial results in his business career, while in matters of citizenship his aid and influence are ever given on the side of advancement and improvement.

CHARLES I. VOPAVA.

An excellent farm property of two hundred and forty acres is being carefully cultivated and developed by the owner, Charles I. Vopava. The place is situated on section 5, New Oregon township, Howard county, and its excellent appearance is the visible evidence of the life of thrift and enterprise which the owner is leading. He is one of Iowa's native sons, his birth having occurred in Winneshiek county, August 31, 1887, his parents being Jacob A. and Elizabeth A. (Jarosh) Vopava. His grandparents were among the first settlers in Winneshiek county and contributed to the pioneer development and upbuilding of that section of the state. The parents of Charles I. Vopava are still living and yet occupy the old homestead property in Winneshiek county.

It was there that Charles I. Vopava was reared and educated. At the usual age he became a pupil in the public schools of Winneshiek county and afterward had the benefit of instruction in a business college at Oelwein, Iowa, in which he spent three months. During the period of his boyhood and youth and after his schooldays were over he worked upon his father's farm, being thus employed until five years ago. Since that time he has conducted the farm on his own account and is numbered among the progressive agriculturists of the district. What he has accomplished represents the fit utilization of his innate talents.

On the 30th of June, 1913, Mr. Vopava was united in marriage to Miss Emma Markovetz, a daughter of Antone and Katherine (Kostohayz) Markovetz, who were among the first settlers of Howard county. Mr. and Mrs. Vopava have become the parents of two children, Irene and Georgina. The parents attend the Congregational church at Cresco and Mr. Vopava belongs to the Woodmen of the World and the Modern Woodmen of America and is loyal to the teachings and purposes of those organizations. In politics he is a democrat but has never sought or desired office, preferring that his public duty shall be done as a private citizen. He is loyal to every interest committed to his care and stands at all times on the side of progress and improvement in relation to everything that has to do with the general interests of society.

FRANK J. MARUSKA.

Frank J. Maruska, a hardware dealer of the Maruska-Smith Company and a member of the city council of Cresco, is keenly interested in all plans and projects having to do with the upbuilding and development of his section of the state. He was born in Fort Atkinson, Iowa, October 20, 1878, a son of Frank and Maggie (Rausch) Maruska, the former a native of Bohemia, while the latter was born in Fort Atkinson, Iowa. The father came to the United States about 1870, when a young man of twenty-one or twenty-two years, and made his way directly westward to Iowa, establishing his home in Winneshiek county. He was there married and in 1888 removed to Howard county, where he rented the Bullis farm and later invested his savings in eighty acres of farm land north of Lourdes. There he has



F. J. Maruska,

since resided, his time and attention being successfully given to general agricultural pursuits. His first wife died in Winneshiek county, Iowa, and he was later married in Howard county to his present wife.

Frank J. Maruska was educated in the district schools and at the age of nineteen years started out upon an independent business career. He went first to Elma, Iowa, and began work in the implement house of Frank Smart, with whom he remained through the summer. He then accepted a clerkship in the general merchandise establishment of William Deikmann, with whom he remained for a year. He afterwards worked a short time for the Gilchrist Elevator Company at Elma, Iowa, and then went to Alta Vista, where he entered the employ of Timmermans Brothers, general merchants, with whom he continued for two years. Following this he went to work for E. C. Brenner, a general merchant of the same town, and continued with him for seven years at two different periods. Between these two periods, or in the fall of 1906, he went to Dickinson, North Dakota, to take charge of the grocery section of a department store but in the following year went to the Twin Cities and for four months was employed by the St. Paul Railway Company. He then returned to Alta Vista and again became an employe of Mr. Brenner, with whom he remained until 1910, when he came to Cresco. In July of that year he entered the employ of Peterson Brothers, hardware merchants, with whom he continued until November, 1914. In January, 1915, the Maruska-Smith Company was organized and on the 30th of the month its doors were thrown open for business. Since that time the firm has remained active in the trade circles of the city and they have built up a very substantial patronage. They carry a large line of shelf and heavy hardware and their reasonable prices, straightforward dealing and earnest efforts to please their customers have been the salient forces in the attainment of their success.

In 1901 Mr. Maruska was united in marriage to Miss Clara Ruzicka, of Howard county, and to them have been born six children, as follows: Mildred, Regina, Clarence, Mabel, Agnes and Roger.

In his political views Mr. Maruska is a democrat and in 1912, through the solicitation of his friends, he allowed his name to be placed on the ticket for county clerk of the courts, but he was not desirous of the office and made no effort to be elected. However, notwithstanding the big republican majority in the county, he was defeated by only twenty-two votes, his support indicating his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him. In the spring election of 1918 he was elected a member of the city council of Cresco and is now serving in that body, exercising his official prerogatives in support of all interests for the public good. He is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters and also of the Knights of Columbus and both he and his wife hold membership in the Catholic church. He ranks with the representative citizens of Cresco and is highly esteemed as a man of genuine worth, thoroughly reliable in matters of business and in citizenship.

ADOLPH ARNDT.

Adolph Arndt, busily engaged in agricultural pursuits in Howard county, his home being on section 18, Afton township, was born in Germany, October 20, 1863, and is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Arndt, who in the year 1868 came with their family to the United States. They took up their abode in Mitchell county, Iowa, where they resided for a year, the father working on a farm during that period. He then brought his family to Howard county in 1869 and established his home in Afton township, where he rented a farm, on which he lived for five years. He was very desirous of owning property, however, and the family practiced economy as well as industry in order to gain a start. About 1874 therefore the father was enabled to purchase land, becoming the owner of a farm on which his son Adolph now resides. He and his wife continued to occupy that place until they were called to their final rest, the father passing away in 1912, while the mother's death occurred in 1909.

By the terms of his father's will Adolph Arndt came into possession of the old homestead property and has by an active, useful and well spent life justified his right to be classed with the representative farmers of this section of the state. He was only five years of age at the time of the emigration and a little lad of six years when the family arrived in Howard county. Here he has lived through the intervening period, covering a half century, and has been an interested witness of the development and improvement of this section of the state and has at all times given active aid and cooperation to projects for the public good. His education was acquired in the public schools and his home training made him thoroughly familiar with the best methods of carrying on farm work. On his father's death he took over the management of the old home place, which he now owns and which is an excellent tract of land of one hundred and fifty-seven acres, situated on section 18, Afton township.

In 1899 Mr. Arndt was married to Miss Mary Hohn and they have become the parents of nine children, namely: Arthur, Walter, Gertie, Hedwig, Edith, Elbert, Marty, Edward and Minnie, all of whom are yet with their parents. The religious faith of the family is that of the German Lutheran church, their membership being in the church at Riceville. Mr. Arndt votes with the republican party and is a student of political questions and conditions, so that he is able to support his position by intelligent argument. He ranks with the substantial men and representative citizens of Afton township and with its history is largely familiar, for through fifty long years he has witnessed the changes that have occurred and the work that has been wrought as Howard county has been placed upon a par in its opportunities and advantages with the counties of the older east.

WESLEY O. SWENSON.

Among the attractive mercantile establishments of Cresco is the jewelry store of Wesley O. Swenson, who in the conduct of his business displays marked enterprise and progressiveness, utilizing every means at hand that will bring him legitimate success and basing his efforts largely upon his earnest desire to please his customers. He is a native son of Cresco, his birth having here occurred on the 23d of October, 1872, his parents being Ole and Almeda (Sloan) Swenson. The father was born in Skeen, Norway, in 1836 and was but four years of age when in 1840 he was brought to the United States on a sailing vessel by his parents, the voyage covering nine weeks. After reaching an American port they made their way westward by way of the Great Lakes to Milwaukee and proceeded thence to North Cape, Racine county, Wisconsin. There he remained until the outbreak of the Civil war, when, loyal to the cause of his adopted country, he donned the nation's blue uniform and went to the front as a member of the Union army. He was assigned to duty with Company C of the Fifteenth Regiment of Wisconsin Infantry, with which he remained until honorably discharged on the 31st of December, 1864, at Chattanooga, Tennessee. He participated in many hotly contested engagements, including the siege of Island No. 10 in the Mississippi river on the 10th of April, 1862; the battles of Jacinta and Iuka, Mississippi, on the 9th of September, 1862; of Champions Hill and Lancaster, Kentucky, Knox Gap, Tennessee, Stone river, Chickamauga, Georgia on the 19th and 20th of September 1863; the battle of Missionary Ridge on the 26th of November of the same year; the battle of Charlestown, Tennessee, of Tunnel Hill, Georgia, Dalton and Resaca, of Big Shanty, of Kenesaw Mountain and of Atlanta, Georgia. He was also in the engagement at Jonesboro and in others of minor importance. He participated in a very large percentage of the important battles of the war, however, and always proved a valorous and loyal soldier, patriotically doing his duty, whether called to the firing line or stationed on the lonely picket line. For a considerable period he was under the command of General Sherman. At the battle of Stone river he was taken prisoner on the 31st of December, 1862, by General Joe Wheeler's Texas Rangers but was recaptured by a regiment of United States Cavalry. He took part in eighteen battles altogether and his military record is a most creditable one. Since the 16th

of August, 1883, he has been a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and delights in meeting with his old army comrades and recalling the scenes and incidents of the Civil war, when with the "Boys in blue" he followed the nation's starry banner on the battlefields of the south. He is a Mason and is a loyal exemplar of the craft.

After the close of the Civil war Ole Swenson returned to his home in Wisconsin and in 1866 established a jewelry store at Waterford, that state. There he carried on business for about a year but in 1867 sold out and removed to Cresco, where he also opened a jewelry establishment, remaining in active connection with the business throughout his entire life in this city. He was regarded as a thoroughly reliable and progressive merchant and commanded at all times the confidence and good will of his fellowmen. He married Miss Almeda Sloan, a native of Indiana, and they became the parents of ten children, Etta, Wesley, William, Ole, Mae, Mabel, Winnie, Freddie, George and Emma. The family circle was broken by the hand of death when on the 15th of June, 1906, the father passed away at his home in Cresco, his demise being deeply regretted by all who knew him. His widow survives and yet makes her home in Cresco, where she has so long resided.

Wesley O. Swenson whose name introduces this review has been a lifelong resident of Iowa. Born in Cresco, he began his education in its public schools and after mastering the branches of learning taught in successive grades he attended the Decorah (Ia.) Business College. He afterward returned to his father's farm near Cresco, to the development and improvement of which he devoted his energies for six years, after which he became identified with his father in the jewelry business, that association being maintained until 1890. In 1899 he removed to the building which he now occupies and afterward purchased it. He has here remained for twenty-seven years and is today the owner of the finest jewelry store in northern Iowa. It is most attractive in its appointments, with fine showcases and furnishings, and a most extensive and beautiful line of goods is carried, while the reasonable prices and straightforward business methods of the owner insure to him a continually growing patronage.

Mr. Swenson is a republican in his political views and he has membership in the Masonic lodge and the Eastern Star. He is also a charter member of the A. U. R. J. A. of America and of the Iowa State Jewelers Association. He has always lived in Howard county and the record which he has made places him among its representative citizens. The name of Swenson has long been associated with the jewelry trade in Cresco and the business which was instituted by his father at an early day has been carried forward by Mr. Swenson and for twenty-seven years he has conducted his commercial interests alone, following principles and methods which neither seek nor require disguise, but which on the other hand will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny. He is prompted by a progressive spirit in all that he does and is constantly seeking to upbuild his trade by the adoption of advanced ideas that will add to the attractiveness of his establishment. All who know him speak of him as a most representative, honorable and honored business man of Cresco.

CHARLES SIGLER.

Charles Sigler, a well known farmer of Saratoga township, Howard county, was born on the 11th of May, 1860, on the farm on section 20, where he still resides. His father, Jared Sigler, was a native of Pennsylvania, his birth occurring near McKeesport, November 8, 1813. At the age of eight years, in 1821, he lost his mother and soon afterward accompanied his father and two brothers, Charles and Henry, on their removal to Gallia county, Ohio. It was in that county that he became acquainted with Miss Rhoda Ripley, who subsequently became his wife. She was born in Gallia county, March 6, 1814, and they continued to reside there until 1853, when they came to Iowa, locating first at Nashua, Chickasaw county. Two years later, however, they removed to Saratoga township, Howard county, at which time their worldly possessions consisted of only three cows and three calves and one gold dollar in money and they were unfortunate in having one of the calves killed by a party of hunters from

Lime Springs, who mistook it for a bear. Mr. Sigler preempted one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he purchased at the government price of a dollar and a quarter per acre, and erected thereon a log house in which the family lived for some time. He continued to reside upon his homestead until shortly before his death, which occurred in May, 1888. His wife survived him for some years, passing away in April, 1901. To them were born thirteen children but only three of this number are now living, these being: Mrs. Margaret Payne, of Jamestown township, Howard county; Mrs. I. H. Berg, a resident of Los Angeles, California; and Charles, of this review.

Upon the home farm Charles Sigler grew to manhood, attending the district schools of Saratoga township in the acquirement of his education. Throughout his life he has followed farming to more or less extent but for about twenty-five years also worked at the carpenter's trade. On the old homestead he was married March 20, 1880, to Miss Eliza A. Nemires, whose parents were natives of New York state. Her father died in the Civil war and in 1870 her mother, accompanied by three daughters and one son, came to Howard county, Iowa, and located in Saratoga township, where Mrs. Sigler was reared and educated. After a happy married life of twenty-one years she passed away on the 24th of February, 1901. Of the eight children born to our subject and his wife seven are still living, namely: Florence Mae, the wife of W. E. Pickett, of Preston, Minnesota; Clara Belle, at home; Olive Mae, the wife of Frank Pickett, of Preston, Minnesota; Rose V., who is married and resides in Los Angeles, California; Roy, who is married and is operating the home farm; Mrs. Winnie Robinson, a resident of Upton, Wyoming; and Mrs. Hazel Robinson, of Waltham, Minnesota.

Mr. Sigler is not affiliated with any political organization, preferring to give his support to the men whom he believes best qualified to fill the offices regardless of party ties. Since 1893 he has been a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and takes great interest in the work of that order. His fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, have called upon him to fill several official positions and he has served as assessor of Saratoga township for the past nine years. He was also a member of the board of trustees for one year and has been school treasurer for the past four or five years. He is a man honored and respected wherever known.

WILBUR W. ROSE.

Wilbur W. Rose is the proprietor of the Golden Sunset Farm, situated on section 34, Deerfield township, Chickasaw county. His landed holdings embrace one hundred and sixty acres, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation and to which he has added many improvements. His business enterprise and intelligently directed efforts have gained him place among the substantial agriculturists of his section of the state.

He was born in Columbus county, Wisconsin, April 20, 1858, a son of Samuel and Eliza (Cunningham) Rose. The father was a native of Binghamton, New York, and the mother was also born in the Empire state. There they were reared and married and soon afterward they removed to Wisconsin, where they resided until 1866 and then came to Chickasaw county, Iowa, taking up their abode upon the farm where their son Wilbur W. now resides. The father at once began the development and improvement of the property and continued its cultivation until his death, which occurred December 24, 1894. He had for almost three decades been numbered among the representative agriculturists of the community and was highly esteemed by reason of his sterling personal worth as well as his business enterprise.

Wilbur W. Rose was reared on the old homestead and has resided thereon continuously for a period of fifty-three years. At the usual age he became a pupil in the district school near his father's home and thus acquired his education. After his marriage he took charge of the home farm, which he operated on crop payments. Following his father's death he bought eighty acres of the place and still lives upon the old homestead. He has erected modern buildings and converted this into one of the highly improved farm properties of the township. He has also acquired another eighty acre tract on section 35, so that his farm lands now embrace one hundred and sixty acres. He is very diligent

and persistent in the conduct of his business affairs, and the sterling traits which he displays in the management of his farm have gained him recognition as a leading agriculturist of the community.

On the 14th of December, 1882, Mr. Rose was united in marriage to Miss Eliza Goddard, of Deerfield township, a daughter of George J. Goddard, one of the early settlers of the township. He was born in England and came to the United States when a child of but eight years in company with his parents, who settled first in Connecticut and in 1854 removed from New England to Iowa, locating in Chickasaw county. The grandfather, who was also named George Goddard bought one hundred and sixty acres of land from the government, on which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. The place is situated on section 34, Deerfield township, and there both the father and grandfather of Mrs. Rose resided until called to their final rest. By her marriage Mrs. Rose has become the mother of four children: Jesse W., who is now farming in Chickasaw township; Harry J., who carries on general agricultural pursuits in Deerfield township; Lulu A., the wife of George Venz, a resident farmer of Chickasaw township; and John G., at home.

Mr. Rose is a republican in his political views and has supported the party since reaching adult age. He is one of the foremost residents of his community, a public-spirited citizen whose active interest in the general welfare is manifest in many ways. He has also been a generous supporter of charitable projects and is always ready to extend a helping hand to a fellow traveler on life's journey. His salient characteristics are such as command for him the goodwill and high regard of all who know him.

THOMAS GATES.

In the history of Howard county's business development mention should be made of Thomas Gates, now deceased, who for many years was one of the most prominent stock dealers of the county and for years the only one engaged in that business in Lime Springs. He was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, October 28, 1843, and in early childhood removed with his parents to Illinois, where he resided until 1856 and then became a resident of Fillmore county, Minnesota, where his father homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of government land. There he and his wife spent their remaining days and when called to the home beyond their remains were interred in the cemetery at Le Roy, Minnesota.

Thomas Gates was educated in the district schools of the middle west and in 1864 then a young man of twenty-one years, he responded to the country's call for troops to aid in the suppression of rebellion in the south and enlisted at Rochester, Minnesota, in Company K of the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, with which he served under Captain Beard until the close of the war, being honorably discharged at Louisville, Kentucky, in 1865. He took part in the engagements at Altoona Pass and Savannah, Georgia, and also in many other hotly contested battles which led up to the final victory that crowned the Union arms.

With his return home Mr. Gates took up the occupation of farming in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and there acquired a valuable tract of land of two hundred and fifty acres, which he placed under a high state of cultivation, annually gathering rich harvests as the reward for the care and labor which he bestowed upon his fields.

On the 27th of June, 1872, Mr. Gates was united in marriage to Miss Mary H. Munger, who died in December, 1898, leaving three children, Walter, Fred and Minnie, of whom the first named is now deceased. The second son is a resident of Lime Springs and Minnie is the wife of Erwin Obriham of Lime Springs.

It was in 1876 that Mr. Gates removed with his family to Lime Springs and for three years he was there engaged in the agricultural implement business. He then turned his attention to the buying of live stock and for twenty-two years was prominently identified with the live stock business, handling a large amount of cattle each year. His sound judgment and enterprise in business affairs brought to him a very substantial measure of success and he ranked with the foremost business

men and citizens of his town. He also owned extensive ranching interests in Nebraska and had one hundred and sixty acres of land adjoining the corporate limits of Lime Springs at the time of his death.

It was on the 26th of June, 1901, that Mr. Gates was again married, his second union being with Miss M. Jane Cray, a daughter of Joseph Cray, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this work in connection with the sketch of his son, John A. Cray. Mrs. Gates lived in Howard county during the early pioneer times and when a program was given at the Methodist Episcopal church on the 10th of March, 1916, called the "Old Fashioned School," she was asked to contribute a paper concerning pioneer school days. Her article was a most interesting one, beginning with her early experience as a pupil in the Beaver Creek school, which was a log cabin on the bank of Beaver creek. The school was taught by a neighbor woman, "Mrs. Mary Sage, whose household cares would admit of her being away from home a part of the day, thus avoiding the necessity of a teacher boarding around in the different homes." Only eight children attended that school, four being from the Cray family. They had to walk a mile and a half and the grass was so tall in many places along the path, and so thick, that if the children were a few feet apart they could not see each other. In her article Mrs. Gates says: "In one corner of this cabin which had been built for a dwelling was a ladder which went up to the loft; on the back of this nails had been driven where we hung our sunbonnets and dinner pails. One day when school was dismissed and we went for our things, a large snake was coiled on the floor under the lower round. You can imagine some excitement prevailed and the snake was disturbed; he began to slowly crawl out and around to the door; the teacher got hold of a large stick outside and slew the reptile, which was over eight feet long." In the winter time the children had to pick their way over snowdrifts higher than the fence and sometimes it was all they could do to get through. But there were many jolly good times mixed in with the hardships. After attending district schools in her early girlhood Mrs. Gates became a pupil in a school taught by the Rev. Adam Craig in one room of his house, this constituting the beginning of the Lime Springs Academy. When but fourteen years of age Mrs. Gates received her certificate and at fifteen began teaching school, a profession which she actively followed for several years, making valuable contribution to the intellectual development of the district in which she was employed.

Mr. Gates was a member of Howard Lodge, No. 214, A. F. & A. M., of Lime Springs, and also a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He passed away December 30, 1903, and though sixteen years have since come and gone, he is yet remembered by many of the older people as a most substantial business man and most highly esteemed citizen. In politics he was a republican and served as a member of the town council for several years, during which time he closely studied the needs of the public and put forth every effort to advance the general welfare. His life was a busy and useful one, characterized by the most straightforward principles at all times, and those who knew him entertained for him warm regard. Mrs. Gates, who survives her husband, is a woman of refinement and of no little literary ability. In her home she is a gracious hostess, making every guest feel at ease, and through the long period of her residence in this section of the state she has gained a very extensive circle of warm friends.

L. V. SVESTKA.

The rich farming country of Howard county furnishes excellent opportunities to the progressive agriculturist and L. V. Svestka is numbered among those who have taken advantage of the opportunities thus afforded. He now follows farming on section 14, Paris township, and makes his home in the village of Schley. He was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, October 23, 1873, a son of Jacob and Mary (Kalishek) Svestka, both of whom were natives of Bohemia, where they were reared



L. V. SVESTKA

and married. Coming to the United States about 1866 or 1867, they settled in Winneshiek county, Iowa. They were accompanied by Mrs. Svestka's father, who, as well as Mr. Svestka, purchased forty acres of land in that county. The family there resided for twelve or thirteen years and about 1880 came to Howard county, at which time Mr. Svestka bought eighty acres of land in New Oregon township. He was one of the few men of his neighborhood who passed through the three years' wheat failure without being forced into bankruptcy. However, he escaped by only a small margin. As the years passed, however, his labors were rewarded with good crops and he subsequently purchased other land from time to time until he owned four hundred and eighty acres, which he converted into rich and productive fields. He has since divided this among his children save for the tract of eighty acres upon which he resides. He now makes his home in Protivin. His wife passed away in 1912.

Mr. Svestka was educated in the district and parochial schools of Spillville, Iowa, and in 1896 began farming on his own account, renting one hundred and sixty acres of land in Paris township from his father. The following year he purchased the farm and further made arrangements for having a home of his own by his marriage on the 29th of September of that year to Miss Mary Slama, of New Oregon township, Howard county. They have become the parents of five children: Reuben, Lillian, Grace, Arthur and Louverne, all of whom are yet at home.

In 1902 Mr. Svestka purchased his present home farm adjoining the village of Schley and a year later sold his other farm property. He now makes his home in Schley, so that he is able to enjoy the advantages of town life and at the same time have all of the opportunities afforded by residence on the farm. For several years he has conducted a woodworking shop in Schley, where he does repair work on wagons and also has followed plastering and building. He never served an apprenticeship at either trade but is a natural mechanic and has developed expert skill along various lines.

In politics Mr. Svestka is a democrat and served for several years as constable of his district, while for the past two years he has been treasurer of the school board. He and his family are identified with the Catholic church, and fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. His entire life has been passed in Iowa, and the spirit of western progress and enterprise which has been the dominant factor in the upbuilding of this section of the country has found expression in his life, making him one of the capable and representative farmers and business men of his district.

HENRY M. HANSEN.

On the roster of public officials in Howard county appears the name of Henry M. Hansen, who is ably filling the position of county treasurer. He is numbered among the worthy native sons of the county, his birth having occurred in Vernon Springs township on the 5th of March, 1890. His parents, Peter and Marie (Christensen) Hansen, both of whom are natives of Denmark, emigrated to the United States in young manhood and young womanhood and made their way directly west to Iowa. The father located near Lime Springs, in Howard county, and after his marriage took up his abode on a farm in Vernon Springs township, one mile west of his present home place, which comprises one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land and which he purchased about 1889. Through the intervening period of thirty years he has remained a resident of the same neighborhood and is widely and favorably known throughout the community. In addition to the home farm he owns another tract of one hundred and twenty acres in Howard Center township. Both he and his wife are consistent and devoted members of the Lutheran church.

Henry M. Hansen supplemented his early education, acquired in the district schools, by a course in the Cresco high school, from which he was graduated with the class of 1910. Subsequently he attended the Waterloo Business College and

after completing his studies there secured a situation in the office of the Repass Automobile Company of Waterloo, being thus employed for about one year. He next spent a brief period as an employe in the law office of M. Hartness at Greene, Iowa, and then became connected with the University of Minnesota, as assistant purchasing agent for that institution, in which capacity he continued for a little more than two years. In the spring of 1914 he returned to Howard county and through the succeeding two years operated his father's farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Howard Center township. In the fall of 1916 he entered the office of the county treasurer as deputy and in the November election of 1918 was chosen county treasurer, having since served in that capacity. He discharges his duties with marked efficiency and faithfulness and is making a most excellent record in the office.

On the 1st of December, 1914, Mr. Hansen was united in marriage to Miss Wilma May Barnes, a daughter of Edgar and Florence May (Chapel) Barnes. Both Mrs. Hansen and her father are natives of Howard county, the paternal grandfather, Edwin Barnes becoming one of the pioneer settlers here. Edgar Barnes now makes his home in Arizona, but his wife has passed away. To Mr. and Mrs. Hansen have been born four children, including triplets, but only two of the children survive, Eleanore May and Ruth Marie.

In his political views Mr. Hansen is a republican, while fraternally he is identified with Cresco Lodge, No. 150, A. F. & A. M. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, to which his wife also belongs, and both are highly esteemed for their many excellent traits of character.

HON. LEE W. ELWOOD.

On the list of representative men of northern Iowa the name of Hon. Lee W. Elwood figures prominently, for he is actively connected with the Elwood Land Company, is an attorney at law and, moreover, has served his district as a representative in the thirty-fifth, thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh general assemblies. Along many lines touching the general interests of society, therefore, his labors have been of a most valuable and resultant character. Howard county numbers him among her native sons. He was born December 27, 1888, his parents being Frank D. and Catherine (Harris) Elwood, the former a native of Jones county, Iowa, while the latter was born in Canada. They were married, however, in Howard county, whither the father had removed in young manhood, while the mother came to this county with her parents when a little maiden of but four years. Frank D. Elwood was for many years engaged in farming, continuing active in the work of the fields until 1894, when he removed to Elma and engaged in the live stock and land business. His operations in both lines have been very extensive throughout the intervening period of twenty-five years, placing him in the front rank among the leading and representative business men of this portion of the state. To him and his wife were born four children, of whom three are yet living. Reed is mentioned elsewhere in this work. The second is Lee W., of this review, and the youngest is Francis Dale, at home.

Lee W. Elwood had the educational advantages offered by the State University of Iowa, in which he received his LL. B. degree as a member of the class of 1909. He reached his graduation before attaining his majority and was therefore compelled to wait until the following year before entering upon the practice of his chosen profession, as the law required an attorney to be twenty-one years of age. In 1910 he opened an office in Elma and in 1917 his brother Reed was admitted to a partnership, thus organizing the law firm of Elwood & Elwood. They have since enjoyed an extensive and distinctly representative clientage. In addition to their law practice they are associated in the buying and selling of farm lands and the Elwoods are among the largest operators in real estate in northern Iowa. Their own land holdings in Howard county are extensive and they also have property elsewhere in this part of the state, for they are

not only large dealers in farm lands but they operate all of their holdings and are among the largest known raisers of cattle and hogs in Iowa.

In November, 1912, Mr. Elwood was elected on the republican ticket to the Iowa state legislature, although but twenty-three years of age, becoming one of the youngest members ever chosen to that body. He served through three sessions of the legislature as a member of the upper house and gave thoughtful and earnest attention and consideration to many vital questions which came up for settlement. He is also a member of Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 528, A. F. & A. M., and is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. During the period of the war no one questioned his position. He was an untiring worker in behalf of every agency or avenue through which the interests of the country and her representatives on foreign soil might be furthered. Elma was the only town outside the county seat in Howard county and in fact the only small town in the state that had a Red Cross Chapter, other small towns working under the county seat town and larger city chapters. Mr. Elwood, however, organized the Elma Chapter and was chairman of the organization for the first year. He was also a member of the township organization of the Liberty Loan committee and he did much to promote the loans and advance government interests here.

In June, 1916, Mr. Elwood was married to Miss Alice Church, of Elma, and they have become the parents of a son, Fred. They occupy an enviable social position and their home is the abode of warm-hearted hospitality which is greatly enjoyed by many friends. Mr. Elwood has exerted marked influence over public thought and opinion and his activities have been most wisely directed not only in the upbuilding of his own fortunes but in the development of interests and affairs of public concern.

JOSEPH JIRAK.

The Pleasant Valley Stock Farm, situated on section 25, Utica township, Chickasaw county, is the property of Joseph Jirak, who is classed with the leading and prominent farmers of northern Iowa. He was born in Winneshiek county, May 20, 1862, and is a son of Wenzel and Mary (Dvorak) Jirak who were natives of Bohemia, where they were reared and married. In 1859 they bade adieu to friends and native land and came to the new world, crossing the Atlantic on one of the old-time sailing vessels to New Orleans, where they arrived after a voyage of seventy-seven days. They then proceeded up the Mississippi river to St. Louis, where they arrived on the 24th of December. They were obliged to pause in that city on account of the river being frozen over and they remained in St. Louis until the following spring, when they continued up the Mississippi to McGregor. There Mr. Jirak hired a man to haul his goods to Calmar and he and his wife made the journey on foot, walking behind the wagon. The father first purchased forty acres of land near Calmar, on which the family lived for four years, at the end of which time he sold that property and purchased one hundred acres near Spillville in Sumner township. Upon this farm he resided until about four years prior to his death, when he retired from active business and established his home in Spillville, where he passed away on the 24th of July, 1901, when he had reached the age of seventy-six years, eleven months and nine days. The mother's death occurred May 17, 1910, at the age of seventy-six years, nine months and three days.

Joseph Jirak was reared upon the old home farm in Winneshiek county and through the period of his youth attended the district schools and worked in the fields on the old home place. In 1884, desirous of engaging in business on his own account, he bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Jacksonville township, Winneshiek county, and the following year he made further arrangements for having a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Frances Novak, a daughter of Martin Novak, who came to the United States in 1851. He worked on the Mississippi river steamboats for several years and about 1860 settled permanently in Winneshiek county, where he is still living at the advanced age of eighty-six years.

Following his marriage Mr. Jirak took up his abode upon his Winneshiek county farm and subsequently he extended its boundaries by additional purchases until he be-

came the owner of two hundred and eighty acres. He continued to reside thereon until 1904, when he sold that property and made investment in his present home farm, comprising three hundred and twenty acres of rich and productive land on section 25, Utica township, Chickasaw county, and known as the Pleasant Valley Stock Farm. While he produces excellent crops and his fields respond generously to the care and labor which he bestows upon them in the cultivation of his crops, he also makes stock raising an important feature of his business, handling black polled Angus and shorthorn cattle.

Mr. and Mrs. Jirak are the parents of five children, namely: Frances, who is the wife of John Koudelka, a farmer of Utica township; Leonora, the wife of John Kovar, also an agriculturist of Utica township; Gottlieb, who is engaged in general farming in Utica township; and Stanley and Jerry, both at home.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and in his political belief Mr. Jirak is a democrat. He served for several years as a member of the school board of Winneshiek county but has never been active in political circles as an office holder. He has always preferred to give his time and attention to business affairs and aside from his farming and stock raising interests he is a stockholder in the Waucoma Farmers Creamery Company and in the Lawler Creamery Association. Well directed energy has brought him to a place among the foremost farmers and business men of Chickasaw county and his success is well deserved, as it has come to him as the direct reward of earnest and persistent labor.

J. B. JONES.

J. B. Jones is one of the substantial citizens of Chester and has been a resident of this section of the country from pioneer times. He has therefore witnessed the greater part of its growth and development and has contributed in substantial measure to the work of general improvement. He was born in Beloit, Wisconsin, September 28, 1848, a son of Richard P. and Elizabeth (Davis) Jones, both of whom were natives of Wales, where they were reared and married. In 1846 they came to the United States, settling first in Beloit, Wisconsin, where they resided for six years. On the expiration of that period they removed to a point about one hundred miles north in Green Lake county and in 1865 they made their way west of the Mississippi and took up their abode in Fillmore county, Minnesota. They located on a farm on the southern boundary line of the state, which is also the Howard county line and but four miles north of Chester. In 1904 they moved across the line into Howard county, where they resided until called to their final rest.

J. B. Jones, whose name introduces this review, received but limited educational privileges—such as were afforded by the district schools of that early day. In the school of experience, however, he has learned many valuable lessons. In 1876 his father left the home farm, taking up his abode in Foreston, and the care of the property thus devolved upon Mr. Jones of this review. He cultivated it for a few years as a renter and subsequently purchased the place. He bent every energy to the further development and improvement of the farm, year by year carefully tilling the soil and as the result of his diligence and determination harvesting good crops. He was thus successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1904, when he removed to Chester, where he has since lived retired, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former toil.

In 1876 Mr. Jones was married to Miss Rosa Goite, a daughter of George Goite, one of the earliest of Howard county's pioneers. Mr. and Mrs. Jones became the parents of eight children, seven of whom are living: Roy, a member of the firm of Jones Brothers, hardware dealers of Chester; Clara, the wife of Thomas Williams, a farmer living at Highmore, South Dakota; Arthur, at home; Manney, who is in partnership with his brother Roy; Llewellyn, living at Columbus, Ohio; Myrtle, the wife of Earl Barker, of Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Nellie, a commercial saleswoman

of Minneapolis. The wife and mother passed away in 1912, her death being deeply regretted not only by her immediate family but by many friends as well.

Mr. Jones gives his political allegiance to the republican party and is well versed in the questions and issues of the day. He is one of the well known residents of Chester and of Howard county, having lived in this section of the country from pioneer times. He has therefore witnessed the entire growth and development of the region and has ever borne his part in the work of general improvement and progress.

J. A. BEAUMASTER.

J. A. Beaumaster, a well known farmer residing on section 1, Howard township, in Howard county, has been a resident of northern Iowa since a youth of thirteen years, at which time the family home was established in Chickasaw county. He was born in Racine county, Wisconsin, on the 8th of January, 1863, and is a son of William and Theresa (Wiemer) Beaumaster, who were natives of Germany. They came to America, however, in young manhood and womanhood and were married in Racine county, Wisconsin, where the father had taken up his abode at an early period in the development of that region. There he engaged in farming until 1876, when he removed with his family to Iowa, settling in Washington township, Chickasaw county, where he purchased eighty acres of land. This he afterward traded for town property in Alta Vista and a quarter section in Howard township, Howard county. He was a veteran of the Civil war and his service so undermined his health that he was unable to do the active work of the farm. He suffered from rheumatism and heart trouble for many years and the trouble with his heart ultimately occasioned his death in 1913, when he had reached the age of eighty-seven years. His wife passed away in 1910, at the age of seventy-one.

J. A. Beaumaster began his education in the district schools of Wisconsin and continued his studies in the district schools of Iowa after the removal of the family to this state. His early experiences were those of the farm-bred boy and in 1885, when twenty-two years of age, he began farming on his own account. For nine years he continued the cultivation of rented land and in 1894 he purchased from his savings his present home farm of one hundred and sixty acres, for which he paid thirteen dollars per acre. He had but fifty dollars capital at the time, but he purchased from S. A. Converse, who loaned him three hundred dollars in order to enable him to get a start. He bent every energy toward clearing his place of all indebtedness and the task was soon accomplished as the result of his indefatigable industry, perseverance and economy. That his labors have wrought a marked transformation in the appearance and value of the place is indicated in the fact that he would not today sell his farm for two hundred dollars per acre. He has carefully cultivated his fields and for some years has specialized in the breeding of registered polled Angus cattle and fine Poland China hogs. His stock raising interests have been a very substantial element in his success. Aside from his home place he rents other land and for some years has been farming three hundred and sixty-five acres, annually gathering large crops because of the careful and systematic manner in which he tills his fields. He has ever been keenly interested in those things which have to do with the agricultural development of his district and has quickly adopted all improved methods which he believes will be of sterling worth in promoting farm progress. He served for twelve years as a member of the board of directors of the Elma Cooperative Creamery Company but is not at present a stockholder in that concern.

On the 18th of October, 1892, Mr. Beaumaster was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Fitzgerald, a daughter of Thomas Fitzgerald, who was one of the earliest pioneer settlers of Howard county but is now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Beaumaster have been born five children, four of whom survive, as follows: Mame, at

home; William, who follows farming in Paris township, Howard county; and Lloyd and Esther, who are also yet under the parental roof.

Mr. Beaumaster and his family are members of the Catholic church and his political allegiance is given to the democratic party. He has served for four terms as township assessor and for several years has been a member of the school board, staunchly supporting all progressive measures for the development of the schools of his district. He deserves much credit for what he has accomplished, for his activity has been the basis of his growing success. He is truly a self-made man and his record shows what can be accomplished through individual effort and determination. His labors have been wisely directed and he is today one of the prosperous citizens of Howard county.

GEORGE W. MERRILL.

The home farm of George W. Merrill is situated in Saratoga township, Howard county, where he owns one hundred and sixty acres of land situated on section 27 and eighty acres on section 22. He manifests most progressive methods in the further development of his farm property and his careful tilling of the soil year after year has gained him place among the substantial residents of his part of the state. Mr. Merrill is one of Iowa's native sons, his birth having occurred in Decorah, April 12, 1861, his parents being George and Nancy (Trent) Merrill. The father was born in Oneida county, New York, in 1826, and the mother's birth occurred in Connecticut in 1829. They were married in Waukon, Iowa, in 1853, and in the following year established their home at Decorah. Mr. Merrill gave his attention to farming about a mile and a half north of the city, where he purchased land which he continued to cultivate until 1865. He then removed with his family to Frankville, Winneshiek county, disposing of his land at Decorah and making investment at Frankville. In 1880 he traded the latter place and came to Saratoga township, Howard county. It was in 1883 that he built upon the homestead farm, which comprises two hundred and forty acres of rich and productive land. Throughout the intervening years to the time of his death he lived upon that property and brought his fields under a very high state of cultivation. He died in the year 1907, having for five years survived his wife, who passed away in 1902.

The youthful days of George W. Merrill were spent under the parental roof and he accompanied his parents on their various removals. He was a pupil in the public schools of Iowa and in vacation periods worked in the fields, so that he early became familiar with practical farming methods. On attaining his majority he started out in the business world as a farm hand, working through the summer months, while in the winter of 1884-5 he was again in school. As the years have passed he has concentrated his attention and efforts more and more largely upon farming and is today active in the cultivation and control of two hundred and forty acres of land situated in Saratoga township, constituting one of the fine farms of the district.

Mr. Merrill was united in marriage on the 2d of July, 1900, to Miss Julia Nelson, who was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, in 1879, a daughter of Peter Nelson, who resides in Saratoga township, making his home about a mile south and a mile west of Mr. Merrill's farm. To Mr. and Mrs. Merrill have been born three children, Leona May, George Delbert and Joy Bernice, all at home.

Mr. Merrill and his brother Archie are the only members of the family residing in this locality. A sister, Mrs. Dell Hawes, is living in Santa Cruz, California, and another sister, Mrs. Hattie Chamberlin, in San Francisco. He is the third in order of birth, while he has two younger brothers: Fred, making his home in Ione, California; and Frank, residing in Chickasaw county, Iowa. Another brother, Archie, is living a mile west of George Merrill, in Saratoga township, and the youngest, Ben M., resides in Hartford, Connecticut.



MR. AND MRS. GEORGE W. MERRILL

Aside from his farming interests Mr. Merrill is a stockholder in the Farmers Cooperative Creamery of Saratoga. In the midst of a busy life he has yet found time for public service and for two terms or four years has filled the position of township clerk. His political allegiance is given to the republican party. He is interested in the church and all agencies for the benefit and welfare of the community and his sterling worth is attested by many who know him.

A. J. PIERSON.

A. J. Pierson, leading jeweler and a prominent business man of New Hampton, is the proprietor of one of the most up-to-date jewelry establishments in northern Iowa, which he has conducted for the past seven years. His birth occurred in Bremer county, this state, on the 21st of November, 1869, his parents being Charles A. and Eliza J. (Rickel) Pierson, the former a native of Sweden and the latter of Ohio. The father emigrated to the United States as a lad of twelve years in company with his parents, who settled in Kenosha, Wisconsin, where he grew to manhood. He then accompanied his parents on their removal to Bremer county, Iowa, the family taking up their abode among the pioneer settlers of that section of the state. The Rickel family established their home in that county about the same time and it was there that Charles A. Pierson wedded Eliza J. Rickel, with whom he then located on a farm in Bremer county.

A. J. Pierson obtained his education in the district schools of his native county and on reaching young manhood took up the trade of watchmaking. In 1893 he was graduated from W. F. A. Woodcock's horological school at Winona, Minnesota, and the following year established himself in the jewelry and watch repairing business at Wesley, Iowa, where he continued for four years. On the expiration of that period in 1898, he came to New Hampton, where he worked as a watchmaker for the firm of Wilkins Brothers through the succeeding fourteen years. In 1899 he was graduated from the Omaha Optical Institute in engraving and optics. When he felt that his capital and experience justified him in again embarking upon an independent business venture he engaged in the jewelry business on his own account at New Hampton in 1912 and has since developed his interests until he is now at the head of one of the most modern and successful jewelry establishments in this part of the state.

In 1893 Mr. Pierson was united in marriage to Miss Flora M. Castor, of Nashua, Chickasaw county. In politics he is a republican, loyally supporting the men and measures of that party at the polls. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons, belonging to Arcana Lodge, while both he and his wife are members of New Hampton Chapter, No. 75, O. E. S. He is likewise a Knight of Pythias, having his membership in Lancelot Lodge, No. 183. Mrs. Pierson belongs to the Baptist church. The period of their residence in New Hampton now covers more than two decades and they are well known and highly esteemed throughout the community, while Mr. Pierson enjoys an enviable reputation as one of its most enterprising citizens and foremost business men.

JOSEPH ANDERA.

Joseph Andera, deceased, was numbered among the pioneer residents of Howard county who settled in this section of the state when it was a wild and undeveloped region, giving little promise of future growth and improvement. Mr. Andera was born in Bohemia on the 10th of August, 1850, a son of Frank and Catherine (Chekal) Andera, who crossed the Atlantic to the new world in 1862, settling first in Canada. A year later they crossed the border into the United States and established their home at Spillville, Winneshiek county, Iowa, where both the father and mother continued to reside until called to their final rest.

Joseph Andera was reared under the parental roof and in Spillville, in 1873, was united in marriage to Miss Mary Kovarik, a native of Bohemia, who came to the United

States in 1868 with her parents, John and Marie (Jira) Kovarik, who settled in Winnesaukee county and subsequently took up their abode in the town of Spillville, where they remained until called to the home beyond. In 1886 Mr. Andera with his family of six children removed to Howard county and purchased a farm in New Oregon township six miles west of Protivin. He then bent his energies to the further development and improvement of that property but afterward sold the farm and bought the northeast quarter of section 32. He also rented other land and lived on the section across the road to the north, where his death occurred on the 9th of March, 1904. Mrs. Andera survives and occupies a comfortable home in Protivin.

To Mr. and Mrs. Andera were born eight children, seven of whom are yet living, namely: Joseph, a resident of Protivin, who is living with his mother and owns a farm; John F., a carpenter and building contractor of Protivin; Agnes, the wife of Lewis Pecinovsky, a farmer residing in New Oregon township; James L., a mechanic employed in the garage of the Klimesh Automobile Company; Bozena, the wife of Joseph Michalec, a horse breeder of Protivin; and Charles J., who is a road grading contractor, and Frank S. is a mechanic and owns an auto livery; likewise residents of Protivin. All of the family are members of the Catholic church and the three sons, Joseph, James and John, have membership with the Catholic Workmen. The Andera family is one of the well known families of Howard county, where they have been represented from pioneer times.

J. B. LOWE.

J. B. Lowe is a representative and successful business man of New Hampton, where for the past seven years he has conducted his interests as a well driller and dealer in windmills and pumps. He was born in Delaware county, Iowa, on the 10th of November, 1856, a son of Andrew J. and Mary (Lloyd) Lowe, the former probably a native of Virginia, while the latter was born in Wales. They were married at Mineral Point, Wisconsin, and immediately thereafter came to Iowa, taking up their abode among the pioneer settlers of Delaware county. Andrew J. Lowe located his farm in the timber, although there was plenty of prairie land to be obtained only a half mile distant. About 1875 he went to Dubuque county, Iowa, and when five years had passed removed to Bremer county, while about 1892 he established his home in Crawford county, Kansas, where his demise occurred two years later.

J. B. Lowe pursued his education in the district schools and remained under the parental roof, assisting in the work of the home farm, until he was married at the age of twenty-four years. He then began farming on his own account as a renter and about two years later purchased a tract of land in Bremer county, the cultivation of which claimed his time and energies for three years. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode in Sumner, where he embarked in business as a well driller and dealer in windmills and pumps, with which line of activity he has since been prominently and successfully identified. In 1904 he removed to Mason City, Iowa, but after residing there for eight years came to New Hampton in 1912, purchasing the handsome residence on East Main street in which he has since made his home. Sound judgment, enterprise and industry have characterized him in the conduct of his business affairs, so that substantial prosperity has rewarded his efforts and he has become widely recognized as one of the representative and esteemed citizens of the community.

In 1880 Mr. Lowe was united in marriage to Miss Adaline E. McCormack, of Fayette county, Iowa, by whom he had two children, one of whom has passed away. The surviving daughter is Edna Eugenia, who is engaged in Chautauqua work with the Ellison & White Chautauqua Company of Portland, Oregon.

Mr. Lowe exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the democratic party but has never been an aspirant for public preferment. Fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias, belonging to Lancelot

Lodge, No. 183. His wife and daughter attend the Congregational church. The family are widely and favorably known in New Hampton, where the circle of their friends is almost coextensive with the circle of their acquaintance.

GEORGE H. MILLER.

George H. Miller, residing on section 10, Paris township, Howard county, is a native of Iowa, his birth occurring in Chickasaw county on the 15th of September, 1869. His parents, Charles G. and Julia (Wise) Miller, were both born in Germany and in early life came to the United States, locating first in the state of New York, where they were subsequently married. Not long afterward they came to Iowa and first located in Winneshiek county, but about 1867 removed to Chickasaw county, the father acquiring two hundred and sixty-five acres of land in Jacksonville township, one hundred and eighty acres of which he still owns. He was actively engaged in general farming until 1903, when he retired and removed to New Hampton, which city is still his home. His wife died on the 19th of November, 1914.

In this locality George H. Miller was reared and educated, attending the district schools near his boyhood home. He assisted his father in the work of the farm until his marriage, which was celebrated in November, 1894, Miss Lena Natvig, of Saude, Utica township, Chickasaw county, becoming his wife. They have become the parents of two children, Carl J. and Homer A. G., both at home.

In the spring following his marriage Mr. Miller purchased his present farm on section 10, Paris township, Howard county, becoming the owner at that time of one hundred and sixty acres. Subsequently he bought another forty acre tract on section 14 in the same township and also five acres of timber land in New Oregon township. He has erected all of the present buildings upon his place, doing all of the carpenter work himself. as for two years prior to his marriage he had followed that trade and had become thoroughly familiar with the builder's art. He now has one of the best improved farms of the locality and has met with excellent success in his life work. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Cooperative Creamery Company of Jerico and for several years was a member of its board of directors. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Lumber & Coal Company of Alta Vista and is a most enterprising and progressive business man.

Mr. Miller has been a lifelong republican in politics, taking a very active and influential part in public affairs and serving for the past twenty years as chairman of the republican central committee of his precinct. For six years he was a member of the board of township trustees and he has always given hearty support to any enterprise which he believed would prove of public benefit. In religious faith the family are Lutherans and are held in the highest esteem by all who know them.

GERD MILLER.

Gerd Miller is a farmer and a stock buyer living on section 35, Deerfield township, Chickasaw county. He was born in Germany, November 9, 1857, and is a son of Peter and Mary (Lauges) Miller, who spent their entire lives in Germany. There the son was reared to manhood and acquired his education in the public schools. His father was a veterinarian and in his youthful days Gerd Miller assisted him in work of that character. In young manhood he became employed by the year on neighboring farms and in 1880 he resolved to try his fortune in the new world and came to the United States first making his way to Jo Daviess county, Illinois, where he secured employment as a farm hand. He there remained for seven years and during one year of that time engaged in raising tobacco. In 1888 he removed to

Iowa, becoming a resident of Chickasaw county, and during his first summer here he worked out by the month as a farm hand.

It was on the 2d of October, 1889, that Mr. Miller was married to Miss Anna Peitz, a daughter of Peter Peitz, a native of Germany and a representative of one of the early pioneer families of Chickasaw county. During the spring prior to his marriage Mr. Miller had purchased ninety acres of his present home farm in partnership with his brother Anthony. Following his marriage he located upon this place and has since made it his home. He has prospered as the years have gone by and as the result of his diligence and industry has been enabled to add to his holdings until he is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres of the most fertile land of Chickasaw county. He is ranked among Deerfield township's successful farmers and substantial citizens. In addition to developing his land and producing the crops best adapted to soil and climatic conditions here he has for twenty-three years also been engaged in the buying of live stock and is one of the best known stock buyers of Chickasaw county.

To Mr. and Mrs. Miller have been born seven children, five of whom are yet living: Clara, the wife of George Peitz, a resident farmer of Washington township, Chickasaw county; and Elizabeth, Sarah, Alfred and Raymond, all at home. The family are well known in this locality and are members of the Catholic church.

In politics Mr. Miller is an ardent democrat but has never been an office seeker. He has always preferred to give his time, and close attention to business affairs, and as the result of his unceasing labor, guided by sound judgment, he has gained a very substantial measure of success.

CHARLES D. NICHOLS.

Prominent among the enterprising, progressive and far-sighted business men of Cresco is Charles D. Nichols, owner and manager of the Nichols Clothing store and also active in connection with live stock interests of Howard county. He was born in Albion township of this county on the 26th of August, 1861, his parents being William C. and Lydia R. (Hazard) Nichols. The father was born in Londonderry, New Hampshire, while the mother was a native of Yorkshire Corners, New York. William C. Nichols acquired his education in the public schools of his native town and in Lowell, Massachusetts, and for a period also studied in Boston. With his father's family he removed to Cattaraugus county, New York, where the grandfather engaged in farming. At a later period the family home was established in Ogle county, Illinois, and a part of that trip was made by wagon. The spirit of pioneer enterprise actuated the family and prompted their various westward removals. In 1854 Mr. Nichols again turned his face toward the setting sun and with ox teams traveled westward to Albion township, Howard county, Iowa, securing a preemption claim of one hundred and sixty acres near Granger. For this he paid the usual government price and came into possession of a tract of wild prairie land on which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. He at once built a log house there to shelter his family and in the course of years this primitive frontier home was replaced by a frame dwelling. Year after year he carefully tilled his fields and improved his farm, continuing to reside thereon until his death, which occurred in 1873, while his wife passed away in 1883. They were both consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and were ever loyal to its teachings. Mr. Nichols was a republican in his political views and held a number of township offices, the duties of which he discharged with promptness and fidelity, his course being one which reflected credit upon himself and was highly satisfactory as well to his constituents.

After removing to Ogle county, Illinois, with his parents William C. Nichols began traveling for the Grand Detour Plow Company, selling plows off the wagon for this firm until 1856, when he, too, made his way to Albion township, Howard county, Iowa, and purchased a quarter section of government land south of his

father's old farm. His first home in Iowa was likewise a log house, but when his financial resources increased and lumber could be more easily secured he built a frame dwelling. Year after year he carried on general agricultural pursuits with success and became one of the representative and valued farmers of his locality. At length he put aside active business cares and took up his abode in Cresco, where he spent his remaining days in the enjoyment of well earned rest, passing away in 1901 at the age of seventy-one years, while his wife, long surviving him, died in 1918 at the age of eighty-four years. Mrs. William C. Nichols had removed westward with her parents from New York, the trip being made by boat to Chicago and with ox teams to Ogle county, Illinois. At that period Chicago was a small town and the most farsighted could scarcely have dreamed of the marvelous changes which were to occur within a comparatively short time. Her father took up government land and built a log house, which in time he replaced by a more commodious and modern residence, continuing to develop his farm until his death, and his wife also passed away upon the farm.

Throughout the period of his boyhood and youth Charles D. Nichols remained upon the old homestead farm in Albion township, meeting with all the experiences which fall to the lot of the farm-bred boy who divides his time between the acquirement of an education and the work of the fields. He mastered the branches of learning taught in the district schools, afterward attended the high school at Cresco and later became a student in the St. Paul Business College. He next took up the profession of teaching in Howard county, which he followed for five terms, but in 1882 turned his attention to commercial pursuits, becoming a partner of J. W. Wentworth in the clothing business, in which he has since been engaged, covering a period of thirty-six years. The partnership between them was maintained until 1888, when Mr. Nichols purchased the interest of Mr. Wentworth, who is now in business in Spokane, Washington. Mr. Nichols remained in the old store until 1901 and then erected his present business block, which he at once occupied. Throughout the intervening years he has maintained a most high grade store. In 1911 he admitted his son, William W. to a partnership and their interests are carried on under the name of the Nichols Clothing Store. They have a well equipped establishment, supplied with a very large and attractive stock of clothing and men's furnishings, and their business has reached very substantial and gratifying proportions. Mr. Nichols is also engaged in farming and stock raising, owning the old homestead farm of three hundred acres, in addition to which he has one hundred and twenty-four acres of rich and valuable land in the town of Cresco. This place constitutes the headquarters for the extensive cattle business which he is carrying on and there he exhibits his fine stock. In this undertaking his son Charles is in partnership with him under the name of the Nichols Live Stock Company and they deal extensively in Aberdeen Angus cattle which they import from Scotland. They also handle Clydesdale horses and Shropshire sheep, having imported their first sheep from England. They buy and sell only the finest live stock and Charles D. Nichols has long been engaged in this business. At one time he was a partner with his father in the cattle industry and they imported Holstein cattle from Holland. Mr. Nichols is of a nature that could never be content with the second best. He is continually reaching out along the lines of improvement and successful achievement and whatever he undertakes is carried forward to successful completion. His commercial interests maintain the same high standard as his stock raising interests and he has the finest ladies' ready-to-wear clothing store in Cresco.

On the 1st of January, 1887, Mr. Nichols was united in marriage to Miss Virginia Strother, a native of New Oregon township, Howard county, and a daughter of Werdon and Louise M. (Niles) Strother. Her father was a native of Fauquier county, Virginia, born February 3, 1829, and at the age of eighteen years he removed to Columbus, Ohio, while later he became a resident of Racine, Wisconsin, where he engaged in the implement business. He next removed to Vernon Springs township, Howard county, Iowa, where he engaged in the drug business, taking up his abode in this state in 1856. He continued at his first location for a number of years and subsequently removed to New Oregon. The journey westward was

made by wagon across the country and he cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers of Howard county and became one of the effective and earnest factors in the early development of this section of the state. In 1866, after the establishment of Cresco, he removed his business to the new town and remained a prominent factor in its commercial development to the time of his death, which occurred in the fall of 1899, when he was seventy years of age. His wife survived him for about ten years, dying in 1909 at the age of sixty-four years. For twenty years Mr. Strother was well known as a prominent hotel proprietor of Cresco and also engaged in the implement business. He was one of the early residents of the city and throughout the entire period of his connection with Cresco contributed in substantial measure to its growth, improvement and development. His name was an honored one wherever it was known and his death was the occasion of deep and widespread regret. His wife was born at Niagara Falls, Canada, and with her parents crossed the border into the United States, the family making their home in Vernon Springs township, Howard county, where her father followed the milling business. They arrived here about 1859 and Mr. Niles continued to engage in milling here until his death, after which his widow returned to Canada.

Mr. and Mrs. Nichols have long been consistent and active members of the Congregational church, contributing generously to its support. Fraternally he is a Mason, is also a charter member of the Knights of Pythias and has membership with the Modern Woodmen and the Woodmen of the World. His political endorsement is given to the republican party and he stands for all that is progressive and valuable in citizenship but does not seek nor desire office, preferring to concentrate his undivided attention and energies upon his business affairs. He stands as one of the leading merchants and live stock raisers and dealers in Howard county and the extent and importance of his interests indicate his marked ability and his enterprise. In all business affairs he readily discriminates between the essential and the non-essential and, discarding the latter, utilizes the former to the best possible advantage. He is fortunate in that he possesses character and ability that inspire confidence in others and the simple weight of his character and ability has carried him into important business relations.

JOSEPH D. BOUSKA.

Modern business activity finds expression in the life record of Joseph D. Bouska, who is proprietor of the Protivin Garage, is a successful dealer in automobiles and manager of the telephone company and also of the electric light and power plant at Protivin. He likewise operates a moving picture show and is identified with farming interests as the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of rich farm land, a part of which he personally cultivates. He is also filling the position of notary public and Protivin has no more active or energetic business man or one whose labors are more directly beneficial and resultant. He was born on the old homestead farm in Howard county, adjoining the present town of Protivin, on the 26th of May, 1885, and is a son of John Bouska, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this volume.

The son was educated in the public schools of Protivin and when twenty-three years of age was united in marriage to Miss Julia M. Huber, of Winneshiek county. He then began farming on his own account on a part of his father's land and throughout the intervening period has been identified with agricultural pursuits. Prospering in his undertakings, he has become the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land, which he purchased from his father. In 1911 he organized the Klimesh Auto Company and established a garage at Protivin and also one at Spillville. He became manager of the company and has not only done a garage and repair business, but has also engaged in the sale of automobiles. In December, 1915, he organized the Protivin Electric Light Company, which was incorporated on the 24th of December of that year with a twenty year franchise



Joseph D Bouska

from the town. He installed the plant and wired the town and became manager of the business. He also installed the plant of the Protivin Telephone Company in 1905 and has been manager since its installation. This plant supplies some six hundred telephones and the business has been of incalculable benefit to the district. In 1909 Mr. Bouska was made notary public and has served continuously since. He has been operating a moving picture show for the past four years and presents to the public the finest attractions of the film world.

To Mr. and Mrs. Bouska has been born one child, Clarence. The family is a prominent one socially and in all public affairs Mr. Bouska manifests a deep and helpful interest. In politics he is a democrat and is serving as a member of the town council of Protivin and as president of the school board. He is also a member of the democratic county central committee. Protivin boasts of a winning baseball team and it is Mr. Bouska who has the management of this team. He is also a member of the Protivin Band and does everything in his power to advance the interests of that organization. He likewise holds membership in the Catholic church. In fact there is no movement for the benefit of the community along business, social or moral lines or in connection with matters of public benefit that does not receive the assistance and support of Mr. Bouska, who without invidious distinction may be termed one of the foremost residents of Protivin.

WILLIAM REINHART.

William Reinhart, widely recognized as one of the leading, progressive and enterprising citizens of Howard county, owns and operates an excellent farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 32, Vernon Springs township. He is numbered among the worthy native sons of the county, his birth having occurred in Paris township on the 26th of October, 1873. His parents, Samuel and Anna (Lehman) Reinhart, were both natives of Switzerland, the former emigrating to the United States in young manhood, while the latter came to this country with her parents in her girlhood days. Both made their way directly westward to Iowa, settling in Fayette county, where their marriage was celebrated. After two removals they came to Howard county and took up their abode in Paris township, where the father carried on general agricultural pursuits throughout the remainder of his active business career. His last years were spent in honorable retirement at Cresco, excepting the last two which were spent at Alta Vista, Howard county, where he passed away on the 6th of March, 1914, deeply mourned by all who knew him because of his honorable and upright life. His widow, who now makes her home with a daughter in Paris township, has also become widely and favorably known throughout the community during the long period of her residence here.

William Reinhart acquired his education in the district schools of his native township and was a young man of twenty-four years when he was married and established a home of his own. He then began farming independently, cultivating a tract of rented land in Winneshiek county for five years, at the end of which time he returned to Howard county and continued to carry on general agricultural pursuits as a renter for six years. In 1909 he purchased his present home farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 32, Vernon Springs township, the further cultivation and improvement of which has claimed his attention throughout the intervening decade. He has erected all of the buildings thereon and now owns one of the finest improved farm properties of the district. Moreover, he has won a gratifying measure of success in its operation, annually gathering excellent crops which find a ready sale on the market.

On the 26th of January, 1898, Mr. Reinhart was united in marriage to Miss Nettie Beacher, of Winneshiek county, Iowa, by whom he had six children, four of whom survive, namely: Merle C., Loel V., Virgil L. and Orvin M., all at home.

In politics Mr. Reinhart has ever been a stanch republican and he is now acting as a member of the school board, having served thereon for several years at two

different periods. He enjoys the reputation of being one of the most progressive and public-spirited citizens of the community. During the recent great war he did effective work in upholding the interests of the government and promoting the welfare of the American army, being a leading worker for the Red Cross and the Young Men's Christian Association. He also assisted materially in collecting funds for the Armenians and other suffering peoples of Europe and was a member of the drive committee for the Second Liberty Loan. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, to which his wife also belongs. His entire life has been spent in this part of the state and he enjoys an enviable reputation as one of Howard's county's foremost citizens.

ALBERT HENRY MACKENBURG.

Albert Henry Mackenburg, living on section 5, New Oregon township, Howard county, was born near Watertown, Wisconsin, August 12, 1869. His father, William Mackenburg, was a native of Germany, as was his wife. The parents came to the United States when about forty years of age and made their way to Wisconsin, where the father worked as a farm hand for about two years. They afterward removed to Cresco, Iowa, where they remained for two years, Mr. Mackenburg working on the railroad during that period. He then rented land, which he cultivated for about six years, and during that period carefully saved his earnings until he was able to purchase the present home farm of one hundred and fifty acres. He placed all of the improvements upon the place, clearing the land and cultivating the fields and also erecting the buildings.

Upon the old homestead Albert Henry Mackenburg was reared and early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops through the assistance which he rendered his father. In association with a brother he assumed the management of the old homestead and eleven years ago bought out his brother's interest and is now owner of the home property. He has added many improvements to the place and today has the farm in excellent condition and supplied with all modern equipment and conveniences. He is very progressive in his methods of caring for his land and his work is bringing excellent results.

On the 28th of July, 1903, Mr. Mackenburg was united in marriage to Miss Alvina Prinz, of Howard county, a daughter of Carl and Catherine Prinz, who were farming people of this district. Mrs. Mackenburg was educated in the public schools of Howard county and also attended the Valder school at Decorah for about two terms. To Mr. and Mrs. Mackenburg have been born three children, Ruth, Esther and Theron, all of whom are at home with their parents.

The family attend the Lutheran church at Cresco and Mr. Mackenburg gives his political allegiance to the democratic party. He has served as school director for a number of years and was reelected in 1919. The family has always been a highly esteemed one of the community, the father being held in warm regard by reason of his sterling worth, while the many excellent traits of character displayed by Albert Henry Mackenburg have established him firmly in the good opinion of his fellow townsmen.

J. P. LANDSVERK.

Chickasaw county has become a great agricultural center through the efforts and enterprise of such men as J. P. Landsverk, who follows farming on section 34, Utica township. He was born in that township September 29, 1870, a son of Peter J., and Julia (Anderson) Landsverk, both of whom were natives of Norway, whence they came to the United States in childhood days with their respective parents. The father's family crossed the Atlantic in 1842 and settlement was made in Wisconsin,

where they resided for twelve years, removing in 1854 to Chickasaw county, Iowa. The Landsverk family was one of the first three families to establish a home in Utica township and from pioneer times to the present representatives of the name have been active in the further development and improvement of this district, which has converted the township from a wild and undeveloped region into one of rich fertility and productiveness. It was in the year 1856 that the Anderson family arrived, settling in Jacksonville township, Chickasaw county. From 1854 until his death in 1908, Peter J. Landsverk remained continuously a resident of Utica township, there passing away at the age of sixty-eight years. His widow survives and still makes her home in Utica township.

J. P. Landsverk was educated in the district schools and in the Luther College at Decorah, Iowa, from which institution he was graduated in the class of 1895, winning the Bachelor of Arts degree. Liberal educational opportunities thus well qualified him for the practical duties and responsibilities of life. For two years he successfully taught school, after which he pursued a special course in the Northern Indiana Normal University at Valparaiso, Indiana, with the intention of devoting his after life to educational work. His health, however, would not permit an indoor life, and in 1903 he took up a farm in Barnes county, North Dakota, purchasing at that time three hundred and twenty acres of land. He remained upon that property for eight years and in 1911 he traded the farm for his present home place of one hundred and eighty acres on section 34, Utica township, upon which he has since resided. His labors have converted this into a rich and valuable tract of land, from which he annually gathers abundant harvests. He is also a stockholder in the Saude Cooperative Creamery Company.

In 1903 Mr. Landsverk was married to Miss Gurena Vaala, a daughter of Ole O. Vaala, one of the earliest of the pioneers of Utica township, now living retired in New Hampton. Mr. and Mrs. Landsverk have become parents of six children: Pauline G.; Orval C.; Valborg, who is deceased; Paul G.; Norman R.; and Valdemar.

In his political views Mr. Landsverk is a republican and in religious faith he and his family are identified with the Norwegian Lutheran church. He is always interested in everything pertaining to the welfare and progress of the community in which he makes his home and during four of the Liberty Loan campaigns he served on the loan committees. From a flagpole in front of his home at times floats one of the largest privately owned flags in the county. This is the visible evidence of his loyalty and patriotic spirit, which is manifest in many ways, for he at all times seeks the welfare and upbuilding of community, commonwealth and country.

MARTIN DERR.

Martin Derr, living on section 14, Afton township, Howard county, is numbered among the residents of northern Iowa who have come from Germany. He was born in that country August 4, 1865, and his parents, Michael and Katrina (Amman) Derr, were also natives of the same country. They left Germany, however, in 1867 and came to the new world. They first settled in Stephenson county, Illinois, where for five years the father was employed as a farm hand, but desirous of engaging in farming on his own account and thinking that he would have still better opportunities in Iowa, he came to Howard county, establishing his home near Cresco, where he lived for a quarter of a century. He first rented land in that district and then bought a farm and for twenty-five years was closely associated with the agricultural development of the community. He died upon his farm there in 1888 and the mother passed away in Paris township, Howard county, in the year 1909.

Martin Derr was but two years of age when brought to the United States and under the parental roof spent his youthful days, remaining at home until he reached the age of twenty-four, when he started out in life independently. He had previously acquired a public school education and received thorough training in all branches of farm work. He first rented a farm near Schley, Iowa, upon which he lived for seven years, and on

the expiration of that period he removed to Elma, where he worked on the railroad seventeen years. He next came to what is now the Gesell place, which he leased for five years and when his lease expired he leased it for another period of equal length. The second lease has yet three years to run. He is a splendid tenant, caring for the property as if it were his own, and his careful cultivation of the fields is bringing him a very desirable and gratifying competence. He is today regarded as one of the substantial citizens of his section of the county.

On the 25th of December, 1888, Mr. Derr was united in marriage to Miss Carolina Amman, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Amman, who are now residents of Cresco, Iowa, and who are of German birth. Mr. and Mrs. Derr have become the parents of two children: Albert W., who served with the Forty-seventh Infantry of the Fourth Division of the American army during the great World war and was in France for ten months, participating in the battle of Château-Thierry, where the American troops turned the tide of war by holding the Germans in check, and also participating in the battle of the Marne, where he was wounded in the shoulder by shrapnel; and Lawrence Frederick, also at home. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Elma and guide their lives by its teachings.

Mr. Derr is also a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp of Elma and in his political views is a democrat, loyally supporting the principles in which he believes. He is always faithful to any cause which he espouses and his devotion to the right as he sees it is one of his marked characteristics. He is highly esteemed by reason of his integrity, his straightforward dealings and his lofty purposes and all who know him speak of him as a man worthy of high regard and honor.

BENJAMIN F. DAVIS.

Benjamin F. Davis is an enterprising and progressive business man who is now secretary of the American Loan & Investment Company of Cresco. The intelligent direction of his efforts has led to the attainment of substantial success. He has contributed in marked measure to the growth of the business, with which he became identified on its organization in 1890, and of which he has continuously served as an executive officer. He was born in Marquette, Wisconsin, November 24, 1852, and is a son of William P. and Catherine (Davis) Davis, both of whom were natives of Anglesey, Wales. It was in the year 1849 that they crossed the Atlantic to the United States in one of the old-time sailing vessels which was nine weeks in making the voyage. They did not tarry on the Atlantic coast but proceeded at once to the interior, establishing their home at Marquette, Green Lake county, Wisconsin, where the father purchased farm land and built thereon a log cabin. He at once with characteristic energy began the development of his farm and added various improvements thereto as the years passed by. He continued to cultivate his fields for a number of years, but in 1861 again started westward, making the journey with ox teams and wagons. This was a very slow and tedious method but ultimately he reached his destination—Chester, Iowa. He crossed the river at McGregor, Iowa, which was then the only market in this part of the state. Purchasing one hundred and twenty acres of farm land, he began transforming the wild prairie tract into rich and productive fields and in the course of time his labors wrought splendid results. He lived upon that farm until April, 1869, when he removed to section 10, Forest City township, Howard county, where he improved a farm that included an entire section of land. His life was one of untiring energy, thrift and industry and his labors were crowned with a substantial measure of prosperity. He continued to devote his attention to general agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1883, when he was sixty years of age. His wife survived for six years and died in 1889 at the age of sixty-six. They were loyal members of the Presbyterian church and were people of the highest respectability, enjoying the confidence and goodwill of all. Mr. Davis voted with the republican party but was not a politician in the sense of office seeking as he always felt that his farming interests made full demand upon his time and energy.

Benjamin F. Davis spent his boyhood days upon the old homestead farm in Forest City township and pursued his early education there. It was supplemented, however, by study in the high school at Minneapolis, Minnesota, and in the State University of Minnesota. He afterward took up the profession of teaching, which he capably followed for six terms in Howard county, imparting readily and clearly to others the knowledge which he had acquired. He later devoted two years to farming in Howard county and in the fall of 1883, his fellow townsmen, appreciative of his worth and ability, called him to public office by electing him to the position of county auditor. He made so excellent a record during his first term that he was reelected and at the close of his second term retired from office as he had entered it—with the confidence and goodwill of all. He then took up the abstract business and in 1890 became one of the organizers of the American Loan & Investment Company of Cresco. He was at that time elected its secretary and has since served in that capacity, bending his attention to constructive effort, to administrative direction and executive control. This company has built up the biggest business of the kind in Cresco and Mr. Davis has been an important element in the steady growth of their patronage.

In 1878 Mr. Davis was united in marriage to Miss Ann H. Jones, a native of Wisconsin and a daughter of Richard and Ann (Hughes) Jones, who, like Mr. Davis' parents, were natives of Wales and on leaving the little rock-ribbed country across the sea took up their abode in Wisconsin. Their son, Thomas H. Jones, is a resident of Howard county and is mentioned elsewhere in this work. To Mr. and Mrs. Davis have been born seven children, namely, Alice, William, Elmer, Anna, Catherine, Bess and Benjamin F.

The family is well known in Cresco and Howard county and in social circles the parents occupy an enviable position the hospitality of the best homes of the city being freely accorded them. But Mr. and Mrs. Davis hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. He votes with the republican party but is not ambitious for office. In matters of citizenship, however, he is never remiss and, actuated by a public-spirited devotion to the general good, has given generous and hearty aid to many movements looking to the welfare and benefit of both city and county. He was a little lad of but nine years when he came to Iowa and thus for more than a half century he has been a witness of the growth and development of this section of the state, while at all times he has borne his part in the work of general progress and improvement.

ELTON M. ELDRIDGE.

Elton M. Eldridge, an active and energetic representative of farming interests in Howard county, now makes his home on section 36, Howard Center township. He is one of the native sons of this county, having been born within its borders January 31, 1860. His father, Ira Eldridge, was a native of Burlington, New Jersey, born in January, 1814, and at the age of twenty-five years left the east and became a resident of Columbus, Ohio, where he established a grocery store. In August, 1855, he arrived in Howard county, Iowa, where he established a general store at Howard Center, conducting the business for two years. He then bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Howard county from the government, paying the usual price of a dollar and a quarter per acre. With characteristic energy he began the cultivation and development of the land and continued as an active farmer until he reached the age of seventy years, when he retired and established his home in Cresco. He was married to Eliza Carleton, of St. Clair, Michigan, and they became parents of eleven children, five sons and six daughters. This family was one of the first to settle in Howard county and from pioneer times has been associated with the development of the community.

Elton M. Eldridge was reared upon the old homestead farm with the usual experiences of the farm-bred boy who divides his time between the work of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the tasks incident to the development of the fields. Upon his father's death he took over the management of the farm and has since given

his attention to its further improvement. On the 15th of May, 1893, he was united in marriage to Ada L. Hudson, of Clayton county, Iowa, a daughter of Horace L. and Mary J. Hudson of that county. Her father was a Civil war veteran, having aided valiantly in the defense of the Union. To Mr. and Mrs. Eldridge have been born two children: Hazel J., now twenty-three years of age; and Gertrude M., aged nineteen, both upon the home farm with their parents.

Mr. Eldridge and his family attend the Congregational church. He has been identified with the Yeoman lodge for eighteen years, having become one of its charter members. In community affairs he has taken a deep and helpful interest, has been a township officer, secretary of the school board for the past twenty-four years, township clerk in 1893 and 1894, assessor for the past six years and census enumerator in 1915. He is a most progressive man in matters of citizenship and the same spirit is manifest in the conduct of his farm. All of the improvements upon the property at the present time have been placed there by him and he has one of the most modern and attractive farms in Howard Center township.

J. G. CHANNER.

J. G. Channer, who follows farming on section 4, Chickasaw township, Chickasaw county, was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, May 20, 1867, and is a son of William and Louisa (Borley) Channer, who were natives of England. Crossing the ocean, they became residents of Canada in young manhood and womanhood and were married in Ontario. In 1861 they made their way over the border into the United States and came to Iowa, Mr. Channer purchasing the farm which is now owned by J. G. Channer. Upon this place he and his wife resided throughout their remaining days, his death occurring in 1891, while his widow survived him until 1912.

J. G. Channer has spent practically his entire life in Chickasaw county and was a pupil in the district schools, while through vacation periods and after his schooldays were over he was carefully trained in the work of plowing and planting the fields and caring for the crops. He had attained the age of twenty-four years when his father died and he soon afterward purchased the old home farm of one hundred and twenty acres, upon which he has continuously lived for forty-eight years. His agricultural interests have been carefully conducted and his success is the legitimate and direct outcome of his persistent labor and intelligent effort.

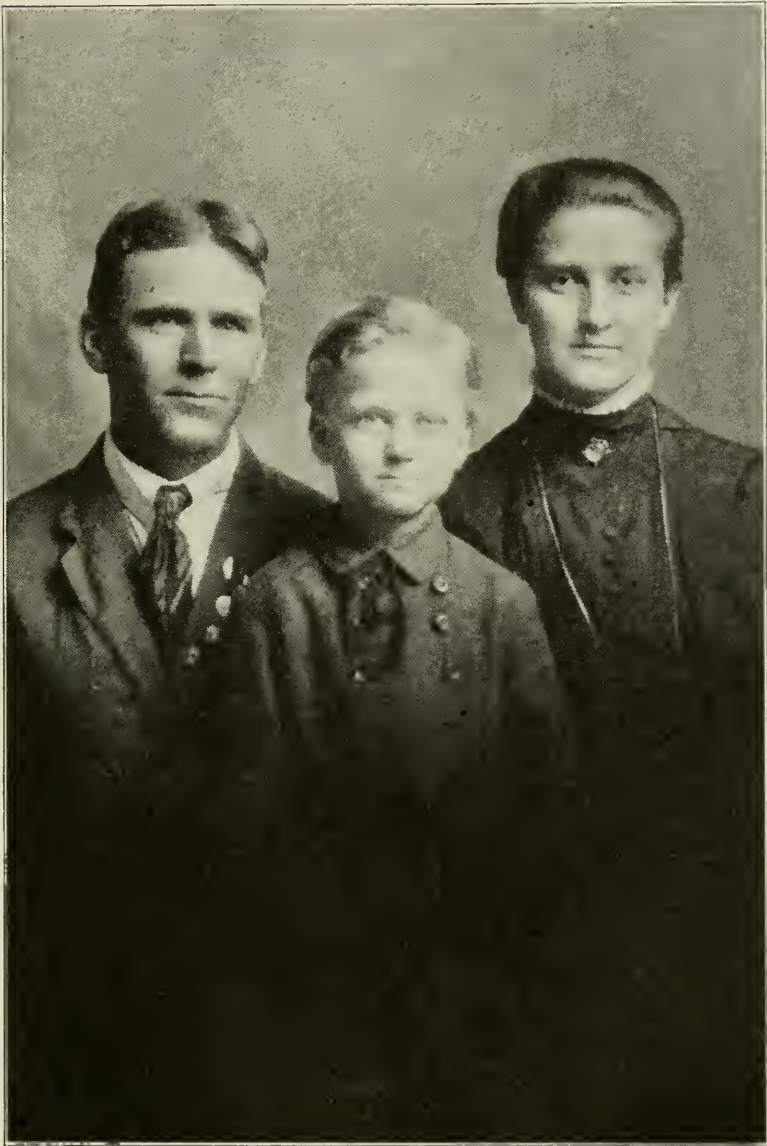
In 1897 Mr. Channer was married to Miss Daisy Scott, a daughter of John Scott, of Chickasaw township, who was one of the pioneer settlers of Floyd county but for the past eleven years has lived retired on a small place adjoining the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Channer. The latter have become the parents of four children: Scott, Malcolm, Isabelle and Mildred, the last two being twins.

Mr. Channer votes with the republican party, feeling convinced that its principles contain the best elements of good government. He and his family are members of the Congregational church. His life exemplifies many sterling traits of character, and his entire career has been actuated by high principles, making him a man whom to know is to esteem.

JOHN J. KLIMESH.

John J. Klimesh, the owner of Maple Side Farm, one of the valuable properties of Utica township, situated on section 35, has been a lifelong resident of Chickasaw county, for his birth occurred February 22, 1886, upon the farm which he now owns and occupies. His father, Frank J. Klimesh, is one of the prominent business men of Protivin, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this work.

The son at the usual age entered the district schools and when his textbooks were put aside he worked with his father and was thus employed until the time



MR. AND MRS. JOHN J. KLIMESH AND SON

of his marriage. In the following spring he took charge of the old home farm, comprising two hundred acres, and upon this place began business independently. In 1914 he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of the farm, but still cultivates the entire tract, renting the additional eighty acres from his father. He has brought his fields to a high state of cultivation and continues the work of further development and improvement, annually gathering large harvests as the reward of his labors and persistent purpose. He is a stockholder in the Provitin Cooperative Creamery and also a stockholder in Beseda Hall.

On the 4th of October, 1910, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Klimesh and Miss Mary Pecinovsky, a daughter of Joseph A. Pecinovsky, one of the prominent and well known citizens of New Oregon township, Howard county, who is represented elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Klimesh have become the parents of a son and a daughter, William J. and Emma M.

In his political views Mr. Klimesh is a democrat, and in religious faith he and his wife are Catholics. That he has always remained a resident of Chickasaw county is one of the indications of the attractiveness of this county as a place of residence. Actuated by a progressive spirit, he did not find it necessary to seek opportunities elsewhere, for he felt that the chances to be obtained here were equal to those which he could find in other regions. Persistently and energetically he has worked his way upward and already has won a measure of success that many a man of twice his years might well envy.

ELLING ELLINGSON.

Elling Ellingson, concentrating his efforts and energies upon the further development of an excellent farm property on section 8, New Oregon township, Howard county, was born in Norway, December 24, 1852, a son of Nels and Martha Ellingson who came to the United States about 1855. The mother died soon after landing in this country and the father with his five children made his way westward to Stoughton, Wisconsin, where he lived for two years and then went to Vermillion, South Dakota. While there he enlisted for service in the Civil war and was on active duty at the front for three years. In 1865 he removed to Iowa, establishing his home in Chickasaw county, where he remained for a time and then went to Nebraska, where he resided a number of years. About 1890, however, he returned to Iowa and made his home with his son Elling, with whom he continued to the time of his death in February, 1900.

Elling Ellingson of this review took up his abode with the family of A. G. Fuller at Yankton, South Dakota, during his father's absence in the Civil war and lived with Mr. Fuller from his eighth to his seventeenth year, at which time he hired out to a man who had a contract with the government to deliver cattle to different Indian agencies. Through the following eight years Mr. Ellingson followed the life of a cowboy, the latter four years of that period being spent on the Platte river in Nebraska. About 1877 he came to Iowa on a visit to his brothers and remained for two years. He then returned to Nebraska, where he took up a claim, but in 1880 he came to Iowa for his bride, whom he took to his Nebraska home in Holt county. He there proved up a claim and resided thereon until 1882, when he again came to Iowa. In the fall of that year he purchased his present home farm, comprising eighty acres of land. In 1885 he once more went to Nebraska, where he lived for two years, taking up a preemption of one hundred and sixty acres while there. In 1887 he made his permanent settlement in Howard county, Iowa, where he has since resided. In the intervening years he has increased his landed holdings to three hundred and twenty acres, two hundred and eighty acres of which he still owns, the other forty acres having been deeded to a son.

In 1880 Mr. Ellingson was married to Miss Julia Holvorson, a native of New Oregon township, Howard county, and a daughter of Helvor Holvorson, who was among the earliest of the pioneers of this section of the state. Her mother was a widow, Mrs. Johanna Kittleson, when she came to Howard county in 1855, and later she became

the wife of Mr. Holvorson. To Mr. and Mr. Ellingson have been born ten children, eight of whom are still living: Henry N., who is a farmer of Chickasaw county, Iowa; Johanna M., at home; Nels A., who carries on farming in New Oregon township, Howard county; Martha, the wife of Paul Eggert, of Bloomfield, Nebraska; Ida, the wife of George Reeves, of Center, Nebraska; Iver A., who has just returned from Germany, where he was on duty with the army of occupation as a member of Company H, Three Hundred and Fifty-seventh Regiment of Infantry of the Ninetieth Division; and Clara and John O., also at home.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Lutheran church and in political belief Mr. Ellingson is a republican. He keeps well informed on the vital questions and issues of the day and supports his convictions at the polls but does not seek nor desire office, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs, which have been carefully and wisely conducted, so that he has become one of the prosperous farmers of his adopted state.

ANTON NEUBAUER.

Anton Neubauer, busily engaged in the further development of a good farm property on section 7, Paris township, in Howard county, was born in Austria, April 2, 1870. His parents were also natives of that country, in which they spent their entire lives. Anton Neubauer was there reared to the age of nineteen, when he determined to try his fortune in America because of the favorable reports which he had heard concerning the business opportunities enjoyed on this side of the Atlantic. He therefore crossed the ocean and made his way direct to Howard county, Iowa. Here he began working as a farm hand and was thus employed for a period of three years, during which time he most carefully saved his money until his earnings were sufficient to enable him to purchase property. He first bought eighty acres of land in Howard county and began farming thereon. Year by year he carefully tilled the soil until 1909, when he sold that place and made investment in his present farm, comprising two hundred acres of land on section 7, Paris township. He has added various improvements to the property since taking up his abode upon it and the farm is most promising in every particular.

On the 4th of October, 1890, Mr. Neubauer was married to Miss Josie Papouch, a native of Howard county, and they have become parents of four children: James, Anton, Joseph and Mary. The son James married Mamie Stephanson, of Howard county, three years ago and is now living upon a farm. The other children are under the parental roof.

The family attend the Catholic church at Cresco and Mr. Neubauer gives his political support to the republican party, voting for its men and measures but not seeking office. He works diligently in the care and development of his farm and the neat and thrifty appearance of his place indicates his careful supervision

LEWIS J. MARAVETZ.

Lewis J. Maravetz, who carries on general farming in Howard county, makes his home on section 26, Paris township, where he has a good tract of land that responds readily to the care and labor bestowed upon it and brings forth rich harvests. His birth occurred in Winneshiek county, Iowa, August 19, 1892. His father, Joseph Maravetz, was born in Bohemia, as was the mother of Lewis J. Maravetz. They came to the United States about 1863 and, making their way westward, settled in Winneshiek county, Iowa. Soon after his arrival the father secured employment as a farm hand and thus worked for a few years. He was then married to Miss Mary Jarosh, who at that time was living in Howard county. He further made arrangements for having a home of his own by purchasing a tract of land near Spillville, Iowa, upon which he

lived for a number of years, carrying on the farm work with good success. He afterward sold that property and made investment in two hundred and forty acres of land in Paris township, Howard county, and until a recent date was numbered among the progressive agriculturists of the community but has now put aside the active work of the farm and is living retired.

Lewis J. Maravetz spent his youthful days under the parental roof and the public schools of the county afforded him his educational opportunities. When his textbooks were put aside he concentrated his entire time and attention upon the work of the fields and continued the operation of the old home place in connection with his father until 1916, when the latter retired and Lewis J. Maravetz took over the management and further improvement of the old home place, which he is now cultivating. He works diligently and persistently and is meeting with good returns from his labors.

On the 10th of October, 1916, Mr. Maravetz was united in marriage to Miss Louise Shimek, a daughter of Joseph and Caroline Shimek, of Howard county. They now have one child, Clementine. The parents are members of the Holy Trinity Catholic church of Protivin and Mr. Maravetz gives his political support to the democratic party. He does not seek nor desire office, however, preferring to give his attention to his business affairs, and he is working diligently to maintain a place among the farmers of affluence in Paris township.

M. P. LYDON.

M. P. Lydon, of Cresco, is widely known throughout this section of the state as a breeder of and dealer in Big Poland China hogs and draft horses, of which he has made a specialty for the past three decades. Howard county numbers him among her native sons, his birth having here occurred on the 22d of August, 1867. His parents, Nicholas and Mary (Foley) Lydon, were both natives of Ireland, the former coming to the United States in young manhood, while the latter accompanied her parents to the new world in her girlhood days. They were married in Baltimore and in 1856 cast in their lot with the pioneer settlers of Howard county, Iowa, the father taking up a tract of government land in Paris township, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits continuously and successfully until 1893. From that year until 1898 he resided in New Hampton, while the remainder of his life was spent with his son, M. P. Lydon, in whose home he passed away in 1903. The death of his wife occurred November 26, 1906. The period of his residence in this part of the state covered nearly a half century, and when he was called to his final rest, the community mourned the loss of one of its honored early settlers as well as representative and esteemed citizens.

M. P. Lydon supplemented a district school education by a course of study in the Capital City Commercial College of Des Moines, Iowa, from which he was graduated in 1889. He then purchased the old homestead farm in Paris township, Howard county, operating it with good success until 1896, when he disposed of the property and took up his abode in Cresco, where he has since resided. About 1889 he began the breeding of pure bred Poland China hogs and has specialized along this line throughout the intervening period of thirty years. For the same length of time he has also been extensively engaged in handling pure bred cattle, sheep and horses, so that he has become widely known throughout this section of Iowa as a breeder and dealer. His well merited reputation for fair dealing and absolute integrity has contributed largely to his success and he has long ranked with the leading live stock dealers of the state.

In 1899 Mr. Lydon was united in marriage to Miss Julia Crapser, of Sextonville, Wisconsin, by whom he had eight children, five of whom survive, namely: Mary Ellen, John C., Benjamin F., Margaret and James. All are yet under the parental roof.

In his political views Mr. Lydon is a democrat and he served as roadmaster and also as secretary of the school board for several years, making an excellent record

in both positions. His fraternal connection is with the Knights of Columbus, which indicates his affiliation with the Catholic church, of which his wife and children are also communicants. His entire life has been spent in Howard county and that his career has ever been upright and honorable is indicated in the fact that the associates of his boyhood and youth are still numbered among his staunch friends.

FRANK J. LUKES.

One of the old and representative pioneer families of Chickasaw county is the Lukes family, to which Frank J. Lukes belongs. He follows farming on section 14, Utica township, and it was in this township that his birth occurred September 29, 1877. His parents, Frank and Barbara Lukes, came to this country from Bohemia in early life, being brought to the new world by their respective parents when quite young, the two families being established in Utica township in pioneer days, when the work of modern progress and improvement seemed scarcely begun. The young people met and were married in Chickasaw county and for many years Mr. Lukes remained an enterprising farmer of Utica township, where he passed away about ten years ago. His widow survived him for a number of years and departed this life in the same township in July, 1919. Thus two of the well known and worthy pioneer people of the state were called to the home beyond but their memory is yet enshrined in the hearts of those who knew them.

Frank J. Lukes was educated in the district schools of his native township and when not busy with the work of the schoolroom he largely devoted his attention to the work of the fields, assisting his father until he reached the age of twenty-two. He was then united in marriage on the 8th of May, 1899, to Miss Mary Sobalsky, a daughter of Frank and Mary Sobalsky. They, too, were natives of Bohemia and on their emigration to the United States made their way across the country to become residents of Utica township, Chickasaw county, Iowa. The father died in that township in 1917, but the mother survives and occupies the old homestead farm. Mr. and Mrs. Lukes have become the parents of a daughter, Emma, who is at home.

It was about the time of his marriage that Mr. Lukes purchased his present home property and he has since lived thereon. He now has one hundred and sixty acres of land and has transformed this place into well kept and highly cultivated fields. There are substantial improvements upon the farm and everything about the place bespeaks diligence and thrift. In politics Mr. Lukes is a democrat, while in religious faith he and his family are identified with the Catholic church of Little Turkey. He has always lived in Iowa and there are few elements in the history of his native county and this section of the state with which he is not familiar, having for forty-two years made his home within the borders of Chickasaw county.

WALTER B. JARRED.

Energy and determination feature as factors in the successful farming interests of Walter B. Jarred, who makes his home on section 17, Chester township, Howard county, and is probably the oldest living resident of the county, for he has continuously made his home within its borders since he was born on the banks of the Iowa river in Chester township, November 1, 1854. His parents were Robert and Elizabeth (Scott) Jarred, both natives of England, where they were reared and married. About 1851 they determined to try their fortune in the new world and, coming to the United States, were for two years residents of Wisconsin, after which they journeyed westward with oxen and a few household effects to Howard county, Iowa. They took up their abode in Chester township, the father securing one hundred and sixty acres of government land on the banks of the Iowa river, and there he established his home, sharing in all the hardships and privations incident

to the settlement of the frontier. He developed his farm as the years went by and continued to reside thereon until his eightieth year, when he retired and removed to Le Roy, Minnesota. He lived to the advanced age of eighty-five years.

Walter B. Jarred, a resident of Howard county for sixty-five years, pursued his education in one of the old-time log schoolhouses which were features of pioneer life. The curriculum was not extensive, but he thoroughly mastered the branches of learning therein taught and thus laid the foundation for his success in the business world. His training at farm labor was not meager and at twenty-two years of age he purchased his present home farm and for nine years thereafter acted as his own housekeeper while tilling the fields. While he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, hard times came on and money was scarce, so he sold eighty acres of the original tract. He worked for fifty cents per day to pay the interest on the mortgage on the other eighty acres. Success ultimately crowns persistent and earnest effort when guided by sound judgment, and so it proved in the case of Mr. Jarred, who for many years has been accounted one of the men of affluence in Chester township.

In 1887 Mr. Jarred was united in marriage to Miss Josie Barnum, of Clayton county, Iowa. They became parents of two sons: Elias, who assists his father in the operation of the home farm; and Howard, a resident of Austin, Minnesota. The wife and mother passed away in 1916 and the son, Elias Jarred, with his wife, now resides with the father upon the home farm and looks after his comfort.

In politics Mr. Jarred is a republican who has long voted the party ticket but has never been an office seeker. There is no story that has important bearing upon the history of Howard county with which Mr. Jarred is not familiar. He has witnessed practically the entire growth and development of this section and his reminiscences of the early days are most interesting, indicating what a marked change has been brought about through time and the effective labors of man.

J. F. BIWER.

When Howard county was first being settled by a class of substantial men who wished to utilize her natural resources and make her agricultural opportunities the source of their success, the Biwer family was established in this section of the state and J. F. Biwer, whose name introduces this review, is now a substantial farmer of Howard township, living on section 36. He was born in this county February 19, 1873, and is a son of John and Margaret (Clear) Biwer, both of whom were natives of Germany. They came to the United States during infancy with their respective parents and both families settled near Madison, Wisconsin, where John Biwer and Margaret Clear were reared to manhood and womanhood. While residing in that state the father enlisted for service in the Civil war, becoming a member of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, with which he was on active duty throughout the entire period of hostilities between the north and the south. After three years' service he reenlisted as a veteran and participated in many hotly contested engagements on the battlefields of the south. Soon after the close of the war he was married and, removing westward to Iowa, purchased a farm in Howard township, Howard county, about one mile from Elma. He took up his abode upon this place and there resided for a number of years, after which he removed to a farm on section 35 of the same township, having previously purchased that property. While the family were living there, the mother and a daughter were killed by lightning on the 18th of July, 1898, the lightning striking the house and running down the chimney into the cellar, where the family had congregated, fearing a cyclone. Following the death of his wife Mr. Biwer retired from active business and established his home in Elma, where he lived for a number of years but afterward went to the Soldiers' Home, where he is now living.

Arriving in Iowa in pioneer times, the experiences of the family were such as come to those who settle upon the frontier. Hardships and privations fell to their lot,

but the resolute purpose and well directed energies of father and sons soon brought about a changed condition. However, during the period of his boyhood J. F. Biwer had but little opportunity to attend school, as he worked from early spring planting until crops were gathered in the late autumn in the fields. He has, however, been a broad reader and his study and experience have made him a well informed man. He continued to assist in the cultivation of the home farm until twenty-six years of age, when his father assisted him in buying eighty acres of land and he began farming on his own account. Ambitious to attain more property, he has added to his holdings as his financial resources have increased and is today the owner of three hundred acres of valuable farm land in Howard county. He also owns a threshing rig and in addition to cultivating his crops he specializes in the breeding of thoroughbred Hereford cattle and Duroc Jersey hogs and is regarded as one of the most successful stock raisers of this part of the state. In fact he carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. In his vocabulary there is no such word as fail and every obstacle and difficulty in his path seems to serve but as an impetus for renewed and persistent effort on his part. He is likewise a stockholder in the Howard County Cooperative Equity Association and a stockholder in the Elma Cooperative Creamery Company.

In 1900 Mr. Biwer was united in marriage to Miss Frances Shatek, of Paris township, Howard county, a daughter of Frank and Mary Shatek, both of whom were born in Bohemia. They have become the parents of six children, namely: Clarence, Paul, May, Joseph, Ralph and Norbert, all at home.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and in politics Mr. Biwer is a republican. His interest in community affairs has been manifest in many tangible efforts for public good. Those who know him, and he has a wide acquaintance, speak of him in terms of high regard, recognizing his progressiveness, enterprise and reliability in business, his loyalty in citizenship and his devotion to high standards of life.

D. W. DAVIS.

The steps in the orderly progression of D. W. Davis are easily discernible. He has steadily advanced in his business career through the wise use of his time, talents and opportunities and has for a long period been numbered among the substantial and successful men of this section of the state. He has now retired from active business and makes his home in Lime Springs. For many years he has been not only a witness of the growth and development of Howard county, but a most active contributor to its upbuilding. He was born in Columbia county, Wisconsin, August 5, 1855, a son of William P. and Catherine (Davis) Davis, both of whom were natives of Anglesey, Wales, where they were reared and married. Soon after, or in the year 1849, they came to the United States, establishing their home in Columbia county, Wisconsin, where they remained until 1861 and then removed to Beaver township, Fillmore county, Minnesota, on the Iowa line. The father secured a squatter's claim but afterward found that it had already been entered. He then bought the land for two dollars and a half per acre and resided thereon until 1869, when he sold his farm and crossed the boundary line into Howard county, where he had purchased land the previous year. The farm was located five miles northeast of Lime Springs and comprised a fractional section of land, most of which was covered with brush that had to be grubbed out. With the assistance of his sons, however, he prepared the land for the plow and in course of time had his fields under a high state of cultivation. For several years he did all of his plowing with oxen, keeping from five to seven yoke on his place. He remained upon the farm until called to his final rest in 1883 and was regarded as one of the representative and substantial farmers of his section of the state.

D. W. Davis of this review early became familiar with all the experiences of pioneer life such as fell to the lot of the farm-bred boy. He did his share in the



D W Davis

work of clearing and improving the farm and promoting its fertility, planting the land and harvesting the crops. His educational opportunities were limited, as there were few school facilities in the district until he had grown older and lost the desire to attend, feeling that he would rather work in the woods. After reaching manhood he and his brother John carried on the home farm for two years and in 1878 Mr. Davis of this review purchased two separate tracts of land of eighty and forty acres respectively. He did not begin their cultivation, however, until 1881. He was for several years engaged in the operation of a threshing machine and also bought horses which he shipped to the Dakotas. In 1883 he invested in one hundred and twenty acres of land lying between his eighty and forty acre tracts, thus extending the boundaries of his farm to include two hundred and forty acres. He then began farming on his own account and in 1889 bought another eighty acres, so that he was then the owner of a half section. Year after year he carefully, persistently and profitably tilled his fields, remaining upon the farm until 1902, when he took up his abode in Lime Springs, where he has since resided. Here he turned his attention to stock buying and built up an extensive business, shipping over a carload of stock daily for several years. In fact his extensive operations made him one of the most prominent stock buyers of this section of the state. He continued in the business until 1918, when he sold his live stock interests and concentrated his attention upon the feed business, having purchased the old Marsh grist mill in 1915. A picture of this mill is shown elsewhere in this work. Mr. Davis rebuilt the mill and equipped it with a modern electric plant that also furnishes electric lighting for Lime Springs and Chester.

In October, 1886, Mr. Davis was married to Miss Maggie Jones, of Lake Crystal, Minnesota, and they became parents of two children, of whom one is yet living, Ruth, the wife of Herman Lidtke, who is operating her father's mill and light plant. Mrs. Davis is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics Mr. Davis is a republican, giving stalwart allegiance to the party, but not seeking or desiring office. His life has been one of intense and intelligently directed activity. He has utilized opportunities that others have passed heedlessly by and has made each move count for the utmost in the conduct of his business affairs. There have been no unusual phases in his life record, but his persistency of purpose and his industry have formed a stable foundation upon which prosperity has been built.

CHRISTIAN FISHER.

Christian Fisher, a farmer residing on section 21, Utica township, is one of the highly esteemed residents of Chickasaw county, everywhere spoken of in terms of warm regard. He was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, August 4, 1853, and is a son of Christian F. and Elizabeth K. (Schenpp) Fisher, who were natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, where they were reared and married. They came to the United States in 1851 and traveled across the country, settling at Fort Atkinson in Winneshiek county, where they cast in their lot among its first residents. Pioneer conditions everywhere existed and the family met the hardships and privations incident to the establishment of a home upon the frontier. The father was a blacksmith by trade and in addition to his work at the forge followed farming, becoming owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land. He passed away at Fort Atkinson about 1884 and for a considerable period was survived by his wife, who died in 1900, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years.

Christian Fisher was reared on the old homestead and acquired a district school education. At the early age of twenty-one years he began farming for himself and for three years cultivated rented land at Little Turkey in Utica township. He then went to Wright county, Iowa, where he purchased a farm of eighty acres, remaining thereon for four years. When he sold that property he removed to Mower county, Minnesota, and bought eighty acres of land, which he further developed and

improved for nine years, converting it into richly productive fields. He then sold his farm in that state and came to Chickasaw county, making investment in one hundred and sixty-five acres of land in Utica township, constituting a part of his present home place. In subsequent years he has added continuously to his farm, extending its boundaries from time to time until his holdings now aggregate four hundred acres in Chickasaw county. This is largely a tract of very fertile land and his energy and industry have made it a highly cultivated tract, producing very substantial harvests annually.

In February, 1875, Mr. Fisher was united in marriage to Miss Emma Leuenberger, a native of Ohio. Her parents emigrated to the United States from Germany and first took up their abode in Ohio, while in 1855 they established their home in Winneshiek county, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher have become the parents of eight children, namely: Anna M., who is the wife of L. G. Cooney, of Stapleton township, Chickasaw county; Jerome H and Louis F., who are engaged in farming in Utica township; Minnie E., who is the wife of William C. Kelley, of Jacksonville township, Chickasaw county; Joseph C., who follows farming in Utica township; and Grace E., Leo E. and Clarence, all at home. The last named served for one year and two days with the United States army in France as a member of Company K, One Hundred and Fiftieth Infantry, Thirty-fifth Division.

Mr. Fisher is an earnest republican in his political views and is recognized as one of the local party leaders. He was a candidate for the office of county supervisor in 1913, and while he made no canvass of his district, he was defeated by only two votes, his large support indicating his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow townsmen. Mr. Fisher is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and he belongs to the Congregational church, while Mrs. Fisher is of the Catholic faith. His position as a substantial and successful farmer of Chickasaw county is an enviable one. His life has been characterized by industry, by progressiveness and straightforward dealing and his prosperity is the direct reward of his earnest and persistent labor.

ADOLF PETER.

Adolf Peter, residing on section 31, Vernon Springs township, where he owns an excellent farm comprising two hundred and eighty acres, is numbered among the substantial and representative agriculturists of Howard county. His birth occurred in Switzerland on the 2d of April, 1867, his parents being Nicholas and Mary (Keck) Peter, who passed away in that country. He acquired his education in the common schools of Switzerland and remained in his native country until he had attained his majority. In 1889, having decided to try his fortunes on this side of the Atlantic, he emigrated to the United States and at once made his way westward across the country to Iowa. He located in Winneshiek county and first worked as a farm hand for about three years, while later he cultivated a rented tract of land in that county for five years. On the expiration of that period he came to Howard county, here carrying on agricultural pursuits as a renter for a number of years or until 1902, when he purchased eighty acres of land on section 31. Vernon Springs township, where he now resides. As the years have passed and prosperity has rewarded his industry and economy, he has added to his holdings by further purchase until at the present time he owns two hundred and eighty acres of well improved and highly productive land, yielding large crops which find a ready sale on the market. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers' Cooperative Creamery Company of Cresco and has long been numbered among the successful farmers and enterprising citizens of his community.

In 1895 Mr. Peter was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Schultz, who was born in Germany but when eight years of age was brought to the United States by her parents, John and Louise Schultz, the family home being established in Vernon Springs township, Howard county, where both Mr. and Mrs. Schultz passed

away. To Mr. and Mrs. Peter have been born ten children, namely: Fred J., who is now in France with the Three Hundred and Thirteenth Engineers Corps of the Eighty-eighth Division; and William R., Elsie, Clara, Helen, Georgia, Lena, Louis, Martha and Edward, all at home.

Politically Mr. Peter is a republican and for some years has served as a school director the cause of education ever finding in him a stalwart champion. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the German Lutheran church, to which his wife also belongs. He well deserves the proud American title of a self-made man, for he came to the new world empty-handed and through intelligently directed effort and indefatigable energy has won the creditable measure of success which he now enjoys.

HARRY H. DANE.

A well known writer has said that a year's foreign travel is equal to a four years' college course. Extended visits to foreign lands have made Harry H. Dane a man of scholarly attainments, largely acquainted with the history of the world and its peoples. For many years he occupied an official position in Washington, D. C., and since then has largely devoted his time to trips abroad, such being of the keenest interest to him. He possesses a most observing eye and retentive memory and association with him means expansion and elevation.

The old homestead farm of the Dane family in Jacksonville township, Chickasaw county, was his birthplace and his natal day was December 10, 1856. He is the son of Francis and Jane (Crane) Dane, mentioned at length on another page of this work. After attending the district schools near his father's farm he became a pupil in the Cedar Valley Seminary of Osage, Iowa, and later matriculated in the State University of Iowa at Iowa City. He then took up educational work as a teacher and in the spring of 1890 he secured appointment to a position in the department of labor statistics in Washington, D. C. There he was employed for eighteen and a half years and in November, 1908, returned to make his home at New Hampton. During the period of his residence in the national capital he made a number of trips to Europe and since again coming to Iowa much of his time has been spent in further travel and study. In 1910 he visited Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Turkey, Greece and central Europe and in 1912 and 1913 toured other sections of the world, covering India, Ceylon, Burma, the Straits settlements, the island of Java, China, Manchuria, Korea and Japan. In 1911 and 1912 he visited Australia and New Zealand and also made brief stops at the Hawaiian, Fiji and Society islands. In the spring of 1914 he visited the West Indies, Panama and Venezuela and in the summer of the same year, after visiting Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland, was caught at Moscow, Russia, at the time of the outbreak of the great World conflict and experienced not a little delay and trouble in getting out of Russia and returning to the United States. He has ever been a close observer and broad reader, a deep student of the conditions existing in the various countries which he has visited, and his opinions and deductions concerning modern problems are most interesting.

Mr. Dane is a republican in his political views and fraternally is connected with Arcana Lodge, No. 274, A. F. & A. M., of New Hampton.

FRANK MCCARVILLE.

Frank McCarville, who is carrying on general farming on section 15, Paris township, Howard county, was born in Lafayette county, Wisconsin, March 15, 1855. His parents, Phillip and Elizabeth (Woods) McCarville, were natives of Ireland, where they were reared and married but soon afterward came to the United States, establishing their home in Lafayette county, Wisconsin. There they resided until

1870 and then came to Howard county, Iowa, taking up their abode upon the farm in Paris township upon which their son, R. E. McCarville, now resides. The father was prosperous in his farming operations and acquired seven hundred and twenty acres of land. He ranked for many years as a valued and representative resident of this part of the state and is mentioned more at length in connection with the sketch of R. E. McCarville.

The boyhood training of Frank McCarville was that of the farm and he remained thereon until his twentieth year, acquiring his education in the district schools. He then started out in the business world on his own account, securing employment as a farm hand with one of his neighbors. He was ambitious to make advancement and has utilized every opportunity for the attainment of legitimate success as the years have passed. In 1876 he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Jane Brophy, of Paris township, a daughter of James Brophy, one of the earliest of the pioneer settlers of Howard county. About 1880 Mr. McCarville bought one hundred and twenty acres of his present home place from his father and has since added forty acres to that tract. He has converted the place into a valuable and productive farm which annually returns to him a gratifying income.

In 1892, Mrs. McCarville passed away, leaving two children: James J., a resident farmer of Paris township; and Philip J., who also follows farming in the same township. In 1894, Mr. McCarville was again married, his second union being with Miss Amelia Dozark, of Paris township, and they have become parents of six children: Frank A and Joseph P., who served with the American army in France during the recent great war; Vincent W., Leo E., Mary C. and Agnes, all at home.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and in politics Mr. McCarville is a democrat, staunchly upholding the political principles in which he believes. His efforts and attention, however, are concentrated upon his business affairs and the thoroughness with which he attacks any task and the reliability which he displays in business transactions have constituted the basic elements of his growing success.

FRANK TJADEN.

In 1910 Frank Tjaden settled upon the farm on section 31, Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, on which he now resides, although he has since extended its boundaries until the place now comprises two hundred and forty acres of good land, which he is carefully and successfully cultivating. Mr. Tjaden is a native son of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Woodford county, May 3, 1875, his parents being Menka and Anna (De Fries) Tjaden, who were married in Woodford county, where they became acquainted. The mother died in Floyd county, Iowa, but the father is still living and now resides in Oklahoma with his second wife.

Frank Tjaden was educated in the district schools of his native county and throughout the period of his minority remained upon the home farm, assisting in its further cultivation and development. When he had reached man's estate he made his way westward to Washington and afterward became a resident of Pocahontas county, Iowa, where he lived until his removal to Calhoun county. While there he met and married Miss Tena Coleman, whom he wedded on the 5th day of November, 1900. She is a daughter of Bernard and Anna Coleman, both now deceased. The mother died in Nebraska a number of years ago, while the father passed away in Calhoun county, Iowa, September 19, 1911.

Following his marriage, Mr. Tjaden rented one hundred and sixty acres of land in Pocahontas county and conducted that farm for ten years. He then removed to Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, and in 1910 took up his abode upon his present farm, having the previous year purchased one hundred and sixty acres of this tract of land. He has since added to his holdings until within the boundaries of his farm are now comprised two hundred and forty acres. He has made this and excellent place by reason of the care and labor which he has bestowed upon

it and from his fields he now annually gathers abundant harvests. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator of Colwell.

As the years have passed Mr. and Mrs Tjaden have become the parents of seven children: Anna, Ludwig, Bernard, Meta, Jacob, Ernest and Leonard, all yet at home. Mr. Tjaden and his family are members of the German Lutheran church of Alta Vista and his political allegiance is given to the republican party, which he supports at the polls, but otherwise he is not active in politics. His farm claims his entire attention and he works diligently in the further development and improvement of the property, which he has converted into one of the excellent farms of Deerfield township.

ANDREW BARNES.

One who has any appreciation for the wonders of nature cannot but be pleased with the sight of the Evergreen Hill Farm, a property of two hundred acres on section 31, Utica township, which is owned and cultivated by Andrew Barnes. There the rich soil responds readily to the care and labor bestowed upon it and golden harvests are annually gathered. Excellent improvements have been put upon the farm and everything presents a neat and thrifty appearance, indicating the systematic methods and practical supervision of the owner.

Mr. Barnes is a native of Howard county, Iowa, born February 9, 1870, his parents being Sylvester and Catherine (Ferry) Barnes, who were natives of Canada and of Buffalo, New York, respectively. They were married at Strawberry Point, Iowa, to which place they went for the ceremony from Howard county, for the Barnes and Ferry families had been established in Howard county in pioneer times. At that period both the father and mother of Andrew Barnes were children and in Howard county they were reared. After their marriage they settled upon a farm in Vernon Springs township, three miles southwest of Cresco, and there twelve children, ten sons and two daughters were born to them. They were carefully reared upon the old homestead and the family record is a notable one in that all of the sons and daughters are yet living. There are also fifty-eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. The old Barnes homestead was a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, but Mr. Barnes acquired other lands which he afterward deeded to his children when they reached adult age. The grandfather, James Barnes, served as a soldier in the Civil war. The maternal grandfather of Andrew Barnes was John Ferry, who was a miller in New York but followed farming after coming to Iowa. From the period of early development in Howard county the Barnes family has been closely associated with the upbuilding and improvement of this section of the state. Sylvester Barnes remained an active farmer to the time of his death, which occurred in 1911, when he had reached the age of seventy-three years. His widow survives and resides with her son James in Cresco.

After mastering the branches of learning taught in the district schools Andrew Barnes remained upon the home farm and assisted his father in the cultivation of the fields up to the time of his marriage. On the 16th of June, 1897, he wedded Miss Mary Hand, a native of Chicago and a daughter of James and Catherine (Smith) Hand, who came to Chickasaw county, Iowa, during the infancy of their daughter. They settled on the farm which Mr. Barnes now owns. In the year of his marriage Mr. Barnes purchased a tract of land of one hundred and twenty-six acres near Jerico in Chickasaw county and resided thereon for a year, at the end of which time he sold the property and bought the old home of his wife's parents, Mr. Hand having died several years before the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Barnes. By this marriage there have been born the following children: Ethel, Florence, Evelyn, Alvin, Gertrude, Donald, Arline and Charles. All are still under the parental roof.

Mr. Barnes is deeply interested in the cause of education and as soon as his children complete the district school course they are sent to high school in Lawler.

As stated, Mr. Barnes has remained continuously upon his present home place since the year following his marriage and his work has wrought a marked transformation in the appearance of the place, making it one of the model farm properties of Chickasaw county in the twentieth century. He is also a stockholder in the Lawler Shipping Association, engaged in the live stock and grain business, and is a stockholder in the Lawler Creamery Association.

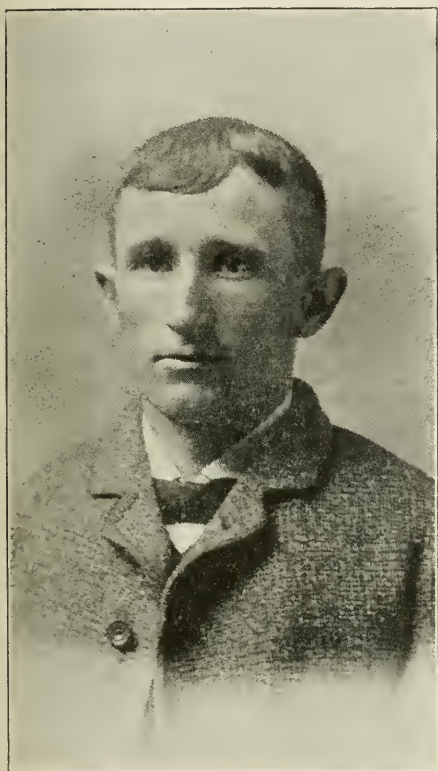
Mr. Barnes and his family are communicants of the Catholic church and he is identified also with the Knights of Columbus and with the Catholic Order of Foresters. His political support is stanchly given to the republican party and for the past five years he has served as treasurer of the school board, while for several years prior to this time he was a member of the board. He has ever been keenly interested in educational progress and was instrumental in bringing the schools of his district up to the present high point of efficiency. He is regarded as one of the foremost citizens of Utica township, manifesting a spirit of enterprise and progress in all that he does or undertakes. He never stops short of the successful accomplishment of his purpose and that his labors have ever been intelligently directed is indicated in the fact that he is today the owner of a valuable place of two hundred acres, the Evergreen Hill Farm being one of the attractive features in the district.

C. J. MILLER.

A fine farm property of two hundred and sixty acres, situated on section 9, Chickasaw township, Chickasaw county, pays tribute to the care and labor bestowed upon it by the owner, C. J. Miller, who has devoted his life to general agricultural pursuits in this county. His birth occurred February 7, 1871, in the township which is still his home, his parents being D. C. and Sophia (Sutton) Miller, both of whom were natives of the state of New York. They came west with their parents and settled at old Chickasaw, where they became acquainted and were married. The father died January 19, 1891, at the age of fifty-four years, four months and three days, while the mother passed away January 24, 1900, aged fifty-eight years, eleven months and eleven days. Both died in Chickasaw township, where they had lived for many years, identified with its agricultural interests. At the time of his death the father was the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of good farm land.

C. J. Miller was educated in the district schools of his native township and in early life assisted his father upon the home farm. In fact he continued to devote his labors to the further improvement of the old homestead till his father's death. He was married March 6, 1892, to Miss Mabel Hoover, a daughter of George and Teresa (Whitehall) Hoover, both of whom passed away in Chickasaw township a number of years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have four living children, two sons and two daughters: Maude, the wife of Ellsworth Idler, who is engaged in the cement block and tile business at Bassett, Iowa; Ada, who is a teacher in the graded schools of Spencer, Iowa; Harland, who enlisted during the World war, but was never sent overseas and now assists in the operation of the home farm; and Earl, also at home.

For a year after his marriage Mr. Miller rented a farm of eighty acres in Chickasaw township and then purchased forty acres in the same township, remaining upon that farm for ten years. On the expiration of that period he purchased one hundred acres of his present home property, but has since extended the boundaries of the place until it now includes two hundred and sixty acres of very excellent land, his second purchase being made in 1904. He is busily engaged in the further development of the place and has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation, while to the farm he has added many modern improvements. He has good buildings upon the place and well kept fences, while modern farm ma-



MR. AND MRS. C. J. MILLER

chinery greatly facilitates the work of the fields. He is a member of the Farmers Equity Association of Bassett.

Mr. Miller is a republican in his political views and fraternally he is connected with the Brotherhood of American Yeomen at Bassett. He and his family are members of the Congregational church of Bassett and they are people of genuine worth who enjoy and merit the warm regard and confidence of all. Mr. Miller represents one of the old pioneer families of Chickasaw county that from early days has been closely identified not only with the material development but with the social, intellectual and moral progress of the community.

CARL W. REED.

Carl W. Reed, filling the position of county attorney in Howard county and ranking with the leading and well known lawyers of Cresco, was born May 6, 1873, in the city where he still resides, a son of Judge H. T. and Laura J. (Webster) Reed, prominent and well known people of the county. He spent his boyhood days under the parental roof and after graduating from the Cresco high school, went to Madison, Wisconsin, where he entered the State University, matriculating as a law student. After spending one year there he entered the law department of the State University of Minnesota, graduating in 1896. Following his admission to the bar he returned to Cresco, and with his father formed a law partnership which continued until 1904, when H. T. Reed was appointed United States district judge. On the first of December, 1910 he became associated with Charles Pergler and has since been an active member of the bar. His ability has been attested in many important cases which he has carried forward to successful completion. In 1914 he was elected to the office of county attorney and in 1918 he was elected state senator from the Howard-Winneshiek district.

Mr. Reed is most pleasantly situated in his home surroundings. In 1909 he married Miss Alice Swenson, a daughter of Fred and Josephine (Iverson) Swenson and a native of Cresco. Her parents came from Wisconsin to this state in 1870 and took up their abode in Cresco, where the father began the manufacture of mowing machines in connection with J. J. Lowry and also operated a steam boiler foundry. To Mr. and Mrs. Reed have been born three children, June, Henry Fred and Richard

The parents are members of the Congregational church and Mr. Reed is identified with various fraternal orders. He has attained the Knight Templar degree in the York Rite of Masonry and the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite and he is also a Noble of the Mystic Shrine. He likewise has membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Woodmen of the World and the B. P. O. E. In politics he is a republican but has never sought or desired office outside the strict path of his profession. He is interested, however, in the vital question and issues of the day and keeps well informed concerning all political problems

WILLIAM BALL.

William Ball, devoting his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits in Howard county, his home being on section 12, Afton township, was born in Waterloo, Iowa, on the 20th of April, 1883. He is a son of Carl and Freda (Hoffer) Ball, who are now residents of Elma, Iowa. For many years the father was connected with agricultural interests in Howard county but in 1911 retired from active business life and is now enjoying a well earned rest, his former toil supplying him with all of the necessities and many of the comforts and luxuries

of life. It was in 1893 that he became a resident of Afton township and took up his abode upon the farm which is now the home of his son William.

After acquiring a public school education William Ball concentrated his efforts and attention upon farm work and at his father's retirement took over the management and operation of the old homestead and has since successfully cultivated the fields. He has closely studied modern progressive methods of farming, keeps his land in good condition through the rotation of crops and the judicious use of fertilizer and has by reason of his success demonstrated that his methods are thoroughly practical and progressive. Aside from carrying on his home place he is a stockholder in the Maple Leaf Farmers Creamery.

Mr. Ball was united in marriage on the 15th of February, 1911, to Miss Clara Baethke, a daughter of Carl and Marie (Schall) Baethke, who are now residents of Saratoga, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Ball have three children: Hilda, Esther and Mabel, aged respectively six, five and three years. The parents are members of the German Lutheran church of Maple Leaf and in his political views Mr. Ball is a republican, having continuously supported the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He is always loyal to any cause in which he has faith and his position upon any vital question is never an equivocal one. It is a recognized fact that his aid and cooperation can be gained for any practical plan for the public good and he does everything in his power to promote the welfare and advance the upbuilding of his section of the state.

D. J. O'DONNELL.

D. J. O'Donnell was born in Riverton township, Floyd county, Iowa, September 29, 1867, a son of Peter and Mary (O'Donnell) O'Donnell, both of whom were natives of Emerald isle. The father came to the United States in young manhood and the mother crossed the Atlantic as a girl with her parents. They were married in Aurora, Kane county, Illinois, and soon afterward removed to Chickasaw county, Iowa, settling in Nashua, but after a short time removing to a farm three miles southwest of the town, the father there purchasing forty acres of government land upon which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. He at once began the development of the farm, upon which he lived until 1874. The previous year he had purchased a farm of one hundred and forty-seven acres adjoining the city of Nashua and he removed to that place, upon which he remained to the time of his death, in 1881. His widow survived for a number of years, passing away in 1894.

Their son, D. J. O'Donnell, was educated in the schools of Nashua, passing through consecutive grades to the high school. He was but fourteen years of age when his father died and for some years thereafter he and his brother operated the home farm, after which the brother left the farm and D. J. O'Donnell continued its cultivation alone. He was thus engaged for several years, after which he and his mother in 1891 removed to Elma, where D. J. O'Donnell has since made his home. In the spring of 1892 he engaged in the fire insurance and real estate business and after about fifteen years he formed a partnership with the Hon. H. L. Spaulding, organizing the firm of Spaulding & O'Donnell to engage in the buying and selling of farm lands. Since then they have conducted an extensive business and they are heavy landholders in Howard county at the present time. Mr. O'Donnell conducts his insurance business independently. He is a member of the National Farm Loan Association and is the vice president of the First State Bank of Elma, of which he was one of the incorporators.

On the 15th of October, 1895, Mr. O'Donnell was married to Miss Agnes Roach, of Afton township, Howard county, and to them have been born eight children, of whom seven are living: Joseph E., who is associated with his father in the insurance business; Mary A., who is attending the Mount St. Joseph College at Dubuque,

Iowa; George Norbert, a student in the Elma high school; Harriet E., also a high school pupil; and Catherine A., Arthur D. and Charles L., all in school.

Mr. O'Donnell and his family are members of the Catholic church and he belongs also to the Knights of Columbus and to the Catholic Order of Foresters and for several years has been chief ranger in the latter lodge. His political allegiance has always been given to the democratic party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He served as town clerk of Elma for five years, was a member of the city council six years, and in March, 1918, was elected mayor of Elma, so that he is the present chief executive of the city. He exercises his official prerogatives in behalf of progress and improvement along every line and while working toward high ideals he employs the most practical methods in their fulfillment. He brings the same keen discernment and unfaltering enterprise to bear in the discharge of his public duties that he displays in the conduct of his private business interests.

FRANCIS DANE.

There are few men who have improved their opportunities so wisely and well as did Francis Dane, who, handicapped in youth by poverty and a lack of liberal education, nevertheless made steady progress throughout his career and contributed not only to the development of his own fortunes but as well to the upbuilding of the district in which he lived. Chickasaw county numbered him for many years as one of its valued citizens who began his labors there in pioneer times. He was born in West Derby, Vermont, October 6, 1828, and came of English ancestry, although the family has been represented on American soil through many generations. The first of the name in the new world came from Hertfordshire, England, about the year 1640 and settled at Ipswich, Massachusetts. They took active part in shaping the history of that period and down to the present time members of the family have left the impress of their individuality and ability upon the development and upbuilding of various localities in which they have lived. One of the early ancestors of the family was John Dane, a man of considerable literary talent, who acted as a juror in the famous Salem witchcraft trials. Nathan Dane, a greatuncle of Francis Dane, served as a member of the Massachusetts general assembly and afterward represented his district in the lower house of the United States Congress. A notable feature of his congressional career was his placing the famous clause in the ordinance which forever prohibited slavery in the Northwest Territory—a work that was of untold worth to that district. He displayed notable prescience as well as broad humanitarianism in this act, freeing the great district from that curse which later involved the entire country in civil war. He it was who founded the law school of Harvard University and his scholarly attainments and statesmanship thus caused his name to be written high on the roll of America's eminent citizens. Another well known member of the family was Major Henry C. Dane, traveler and lecturer, whose interest in the peoples and lands of the world finds a duplicate note in the life of Harry H. Dane, of New Hampton.

James Dane, the father of Francis Dane, came from the state of Vermont, to Chickasaw county, Iowa, about the year 1858. His last days were passed in Waterloo, Iowa, where his death occurred January 21, 1891, when he was in his ninety-third year. He was a man of inventive genius having taken out patents on brick molding machines and on grain harvesting machines.

Francis Dane was numbered among the earliest of the pioneer settlers of Chickasaw county. Making a trip to the west, he entered land from the government, becoming the owner of a tract in Jacksonville township upon which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. Later he returned to Vermont and there, on the 13th of March, 1853, wedded Jane Crane, removing with his bride to Iowa the following year. They took up their abode upon the land which he had entered

and his efforts and attention were concentrated upon the arduous task of turning the first furrows and developing the fields. This place, which became his home farm, remained in his possession until his death and then passed to his descendants. He had been active in its cultivation for many years, but about a decade prior to his death he put aside the active work of the fields and removed to New Hampton, where he continued to reside until called to his final rest on the 11th of April, 1908. For two years he had survived his wife, who died February 21, 1906. They were the parents of two children, the son being Harry H. Dane, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work, while the daughter, Lydia E., became the wife of Albert H. Markle, a prosperous farmer of Chickasaw county. Mr. and Mrs. Markle and family of three children, Eva C., Jane D., and Dane H., now reside at Fayetteville, Arkansas.

With the organization of the republican party Francis Dane espoused its cause and remained ever afterward one of its consistent supporters. He exercised no little influence in political circles in Chickasaw county and his writings concerning the tariff and his arguments for protection of American industry, appearing in the local papers, carried conviction to the minds of the readers. He often addressed the public upon political topics and the soundness of his opinions and the clearness with which he presented his cause made him a most convincing speaker. For a number of years he served as a member of the board of county supervisors in Chickasaw county and advocated many reforms in the management of the county business. He believed in the application of sound business principles to public affairs and upon all vital public questions he looked with a broad-mindedness that indicated his thorough study of the questions and his deep interest in the general welfare. Graft found in him an uncompromising opponent; the public school system found in him a stalwart friend. He was also a consistent member of the Baptist church of Jacksonville township and was keenly interested in the moral advancement of the community. No one ever questioned the integrity of his position or his loyalty to a cause which he espoused. His sterling worth made him the valued friend of many men in public life in the state and was well known throughout Iowa. He used his time and talents wisely and well and his opportunities were made not only to serve his own ends but to further the interests and welfare of the community and the commonwealth in which he lived.

HERBERT L. PERRY.

Herbert L. Perry is a progressive farmer of Howard county, living on section 22, Howard center township, and is also a member of the United Shippers of Cresco. He was born in the state of New York, January 30, 1855, a son of Thomas R. and Eunice A. (Couch) Perry, who were likewise natives of the Empire state. They came to Iowa in 1856 and the father preempted land, upon which his son Herbert L. now resides. The father was a graduate in law, having completed a course in the Auburn (N. Y.) University. He was also numbered among the Argonauts who went to California in search of the golden fleece in 1849. He made the trip by ship around Cape Horn and the ship was becalmed in the Pacific ocean, being out of sight of land for eighty days. After reaching Iowa Mr. Perry here engaged in farming, and during the period of the Civil war he occupied a clerkship in Washington, D. C., for two years. He was a member of the legislature of Iowa at an early day and for many years remained an honored and respected resident of the state, passing away in 1913, when eighty-six or eighty-seven years of age.

Herbert L. Perry was educated in the district schools and after reaching man's estate engaged in farming and in other lines of business to the time of his marriage, which was in 1889. He then went to Fresno, California, where he spent five years on a raisin ranch that belonged to his uncle, Daniel P. Perry. He afterward returned to Howard county and purchased a farm in Howard Center township. Following his father's death he sold this property and bought the old home farm,

comprising two hundred and forty acres of rich and productive land, which he still owns and successfully cultivates.

In 1889 Mr. Perry was united in marriage to Miss Belle Young, a daughter of James Young, now deceased, who was a well known resident of Saratoga township. To this union have been born eight children, four sons and four daughters, namely: Thomas R., who is filling the responsible position of county engineer of Howard county; Harry, who is engaged in farming in Howard county; Madge and Florence, both of whom are graduate nurses; Helen, who is a graduate of the Cresco high school and is now at home; and Leslie, Chester and Edith, all yet at home.

Mr. Perry votes with the republican party and has served for several years as a member of the board of township trustees and for some time as a member of the school board. He belongs to Cresco Lodge, No. 150, A. F. & A. M., and is a worthy follower of the craft, exemplifying in his life its teachings concerning the brotherhood of mankind and the obligations thereby imposed. In his life record there are no exciting chapters but fidelity to principle has marked his career and his business life has been actuated by a laudable ambition that has enabled him to accomplish substantial results.

D. M. BERNETT.

D. M. Bennett, who is successfully engaged in the operation of a fine farm of eighty acres on section 8, Saratoga township, Howard county, was born in Dearborn county, Indiana, November 29, 1877, of the marriage of Daniel and Margaret (Trout) Bennett. On coming to Iowa in 1878 the family located at Ridgeway, Winneshiek county, where the father purchased a farm and engaged in its cultivation for three years. During the following three years he operated a rented farm in that county and then removed to Decorah, Iowa, where he cultivated rented land for ten years. At the end of that time he came to Howard county and located a mile south of Saratoga, where he followed farming for fifteen years. He died on the 9th of September, 1914, but his wife is still living and now makes her home with three of her sons in Waterloo, Iowa.

D. M. Bennett accompanied his parents on their various removals and was reared in much the usual manner of the farm lad, his education being obtained in the district schools near his home. By assisting his father in the work of the farm he became thoroughly familiar with agricultural pursuits and in 1907 he purchased his present farm on section 8, Saratoga township, Howard county, and has since successfully engaged in its operation. He has eighty acres under a high state of cultivation and is regarded as one of the prosperous citizens of his community.

On the 6th of January, 1904, Mr. Bennett was united in marriage to Miss Martha Breitsprecher, a daughter of August and Louise Breitsprecher, and to them have been born three children, namely: Vera Louise, now ten years of age; Arlys Anna, nine years old; and Lois Marie, an infant of six months.

Mr. and Mrs. Bennett hold membership in the Lutheran church and are widely and favorably known throughout the community in which they reside. Mr. Bennett is independent in politics and for five years has faithfully served as a school director in his district.

FRANK KALISHEK.

Frank Kalishek, a retired farmer residing in Protivin, was born in Bohemia, October 9, 1862, a son of Martin and Catherine (Vet) Kalishek, who came to the United States in 1869. Crossing the continent to Iowa, they established their home in Sumner township, Winneshiek county, upon a farm, where they resided until the mother's death in 1875. Two years later the father married Mrs. Catherine

Novotny and continued to further develop and improve his farm until 1900, when he removed with his family to Howard county, settling in Protivin, where his remaining days were passed, his death occurring on the 11th of March, 1913. His second wife has also passed away.

Frank Kalishek was educated in the district schools and was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. On the 15th of January, 1884, he was married to Miss Josephine Novotny, a daughter of his stepmother. In the following spring he began farming on his own account in Winneshiek county on a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres, which he inherited from his father. In 1893 he removed to Protivin, Howard county, where he established a restaurant and pool room, conducting the business for three years, when he turned it over to his son and returned to the farm, whereon he resided for four years. He then retired from active business and has since lived in Protivin, enjoying a well earned rest. He has been an active and useful life in which labor has been crowned with success to the extent of enabling him now to rest from further business cares.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kalishek have been born four children, three of whom are yet living, William J., Adolf M. and Edward F. The last named has recently returned from active service with the American Expeditionary Force in France.

In politics Mr. Kalishek is a democrat and for many years served as a member of the school board and has also been a member of the town council of Protivin. He is keenly interested in all that pertains to the welfare and progress of the community and has heartily cooperated in plans and projects for the general good. He is a stockholder in the Bohemian Savings Bank, also a stockholder in the Protivin Electric Light Company and a stockholder in the Protivin Telephone Company. He has thus done much to encourage projects of public importance and at the same time has thereby promoted his individual interests. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and he has membership with the Catholic Order of Foresters. He is chief farringer of the lodge and he also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. Those who know him, and he has a wide acquaintance, recognize in him a man of progressive spirit whose labors have been widely and beneficially resultant.

ELLERT R. THOMPSON.

Ellert R. Thompson is engaged in the abstract and loan business in Cresco. He was born in Stod, near Stenkjar, Norway, on the 9th of August, 1854, a son of Rasmus and Johanna Gjerstad, who were likewise natives of that locality, where they were reared and married, after which the father devoted his attention to farming in order to provide for the support of his family. Both he and his wife died in the land of the midnight sun.

Ellert R. Thompson spent his boyhood in Norway to the age of eighteen years and in the spring of 1872, attracted by the favorable reports which he had heard concerning America and its opportunities he sailed for the United States. He at once made his way to Iowa, taking up his abode at Lansing, and later he went to Winneshiek county, where he stopped with Peter L. Winnes, on whose farm he was employed for two years, during summer season and he worked for his board and the opportunity of attending school in the winter. He was afterward employed at Decorah, Iowa, and also attended the Breckenridge school there and the Slack Business College, for he was most anxious to obtain a good education, recognizing how valuable it is as a factor in life's success. In 1876 he came to Cresco and was employed as bookkeeper in the general store of Thompson & Johnson. He was afterward with John Stradley in the abstract and real estate business for three years and thus received the initial training which qualified him for his present business. Later he was appointed to the position of deputy auditor and served in that office for two years. The succeeding two years were passed in the position



E. R. Thompson

of bookkeeper in the Kimball & Farnsworth bank and later he was elected to the position of county auditor, in which capacity he acceptably served for five years. In 1892 he turned his attention to the abstract and real estate business in Cresco and has since been active in that field of labor. He has secured a good clientage and has a business that in volume and importance places him among the leading representatives of this line of activity in the state, being an active member of the Iowa Abstracters Association. In 1897 the old National Bank of DeCorah, Iowa, failed and Mr. Thompson with H. C. Hjerleid reorganized the bank, purchased the building and made it the National Bank of Decorah, of which he became a director. He is a man of good business ability, of sound judgment, of unfaltering energy and of keen sagacity and therefore what he undertakes he carries forward to successful completion.

In 1881 Mr. Thompson was united in marriage to Miss Julia Solberg, a daughter of Ulrick Solberg. She was born in Winneshiek county, on the Nels Larsen farm, while her parents were natives of Norway but became pioneer residents of Winneshiek county. To Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have been born five children: Jennie, now the wife of Dr. L. A. Dahl, of Menomonie, Wisconsin; Gertie, the wife of Harry Grindy, of Mitchell, South Dakota; Edward P, living in Cresco; Clarice; and Thelma.

For an extended period Mr. Thompson has been an active factor in republican circles in Howard county. He served as chairman of the republican central committee in 1893-4 and during that period every republican on the ticket was elected. He has filled the office of city recorder, has been a member of the city council, has for nine years served on the school board and during part of that time has been its president. His activities have been pronounced along various lines for the benefit and upbuilding of the county in which he lives and he is regarded as one of the representative and valued citizens, honored by all who know him and most of all where he is best known. His religious faith is that of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

MRS. J. C. ENOS.

Mrs. J. C. Enos, who is well known in Howard county, makes her home on section 28, Saratoga township, where she is the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres. Mrs. Enos is a daughter of Samuel and Eliza (Smith) Sherwood, who were among the early residents of Minnesota and came to Iowa about forty-six years ago. Both have now passed away, the father having died on the 14th of February, 1884, while the death of Mrs. Sherwood occurred July 7, 1894.

Their daughter, Mrs. Enos, spent her girlhood days under the parental roof and obtained her education in the public schools of Minnesota. On the 19th of October, 1872, she gave her hand in marriage in Brownsville, Minnesota, to J. C. Enos, and in 1893 they took up their abode upon a farm in Saratoga township, Howard county, which Mrs. Enos still owns and occupies.

Mr. Enos was born January 8, 1851, in the state of Vermont, and was a son of Joseph and Olive Enos, whose family numbered five children, of whom he was the fourth in order of birth. In early life he became a resident of the middle west and for a considerable period lived in Minnesota. Following his marriage he and his wife began their domestic life in that state and there remained until 1875, when they removed to Lawler, Chickasaw county, Iowa, where they resided for eighteen years. In 1893 they became residents of Howard county, establishing their home in Saratoga township, and through the intervening period Mr. Enos gave his attention to the development and improvement of the property, transforming it into one of the good farms of the community. He was a very diligent man and prospered in his undertakings as the result of his close application and carefully directed energies. To Mr. and Mrs. Enos were born three children, Henry, George W. and Mrs. Dora Merrill.

The family circle was broken by the hand of death when on the 10th of October,

1918, Mr. Enos passed away on the homestead farm. His demise was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for he had become very favorably known throughout the section of the state in which he lived, his sterling traits of character being recognized by all who knew him. In politics he was an earnest republican and was called upon to fill a number of local offices, serving as township trustee for several years and also a director on the school board for several years. He attended the Congregational church, which Mrs. Enos also attends, and he was a very liberal contributor to the church and to various projects for the public good. His was indeed a well spent life and he left to his family not only a comfortable competence but also the priceless heritage of an untarnished name. Mrs. Enos occupies the old homestead and her circle of friends in this community is almost coextensive with the circle of her acquaintance.

J. J. SWENUMSON.

J. J. Swenumson is proprietor of The Old Homestead farm, situated on section 34, Utica township, Chickasaw county. He has lived in this section of the state from pioneer times and has therefore witnessed the entire growth and development of this region and has borne his full share in the work of general progress and improvement. A native of Norway, he was born November 7, 1846, a son of John Swenumson, who came to the United States with his wife and five children in the spring of 1848. He first took up his abode in Racine county, Wisconsin, where the family lived for six years, and in 1854 a removal was made to Chickasaw county, Iowa, where the father secured a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres, constituting the farm upon which J. J. Swenumson now resides. The journey from Wisconsin to Iowa was made with ox team and prairie schooner and the family lived in the wagon while the log cabin was being built upon the homestead claim. Mr. Swenumson continued to occupy the log cabin for a number of years but as he prospered in his undertakings erected a more modern and pretentious residence, which remained his home to the time of his demise. He passed away some time in the '90s. There are only two representatives of the father's family who are still living, J. J. of this review and his brother, Ole Swenumson.

J. J. Swenumson, while born in the land of the midnight sun, was less than two years of age when the family came to the new world and was a lad of only eight years at the time of the arrival of the family in Iowa. Accordingly his education was largely acquired in the district schools of Chickasaw county and when he had reached early manhood he took charge of and operated the home farm. He was the youngest of the children and his father was growing old, being incapacitated for hard work by reason of his advanced years. The burden of the farm therefore devolved upon Mr. Swenumson of this review, who, remaining at home, continued to look after his parents to the time of their death. During these years he came into possession of a part of the old homestead and bought other lands from time to time as his financial resources increased until his holdings comprised five hundred and five acres. However two farms of one hundred and five acres and one hundred and twenty acres respectively have been cut off from his property for two of his sons, so that his present possessions include two hundred and eighty acres. His work has been attended with a high measure of prosperity, coming to him as the direct reward of his persistency of purpose, his honorable dealings and his indefatigable energy. In addition to his farm property Mr. Swenumson is a stockholder in the Saude Cooperative Creamery Company.

In 1875 Mr. Swenumson was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Johnson, a daughter of John Johnson, who came to Chickasaw county from Wisconsin with the Swenumson family in 1854. Mr. and Mrs. Swenumson have become parents of nine children, four sons and five daughters, as follows: Alfred O., who passed away at the age of eight years; Carl, who is a resident of Rochester, Minnesota; Oscar, who follows farming in Utica township; Thomas, at home; Anna, who is the widow

of Andrew Anderson and lives at home; Johanna, the wife of J. G. Johnson, a resident of Minnesota; Etta, who is the wife of Lewis Qually and lives in North Dakota; Thurenia, the wife of Thomas Johnson, of Jacksonville township, Chickasaw county; and Esther, at home.

In politics Mr. Swenumson is a republican and has filled the office of road supervisor, while for a number of years he has been a member of the school board. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church and he is interested in many progressive measures which have had to do with the upbuilding and development of this section of the state. For almost two-thirds of a century he has lived in Chickasaw county and has therefore seen the greater part of its growth and development. In fact there were but very few settlers in the county when the family home was established within its borders and they shared in all of the hardships and privations incident to the settlement of the frontier. Mr. Swenumson's memory now forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present and his reminiscences of the early days are most interesting.

HENRY J. NOVAK.

Henry J. Novak, who follows farming on section 6, New Oregon township, Howard county, was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, March 19, 1888, a son of Thomas and Veronica (Phillip) Novak, who came to the United States in childhood days with their respective parents, the two families crossing the Atlantic on the same vessel. This was about 1855. The Novak family settled in New Oregon township, Howard county, while the mother's people took up their abode in Winneshiek county, Iowa. Following their marriage the father and mother of Henry J. Novak made three or four removals between Howard and Winneshiek counties but are now living in Cresco, where Thomas Novak has put aside business cares, enjoying the fruits of his former toil in a well earned rest.

Henry J. Novak was educated in the schools of Spillville and in 1910, when twenty-two years of age, purchased his present home farm and began its cultivation. He kept bachelor's hall for one year and in 1911 he was united in marriage to Miss Anna Hovorka, a daughter of Albert Hovorka, of New Oregon township, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Novak have become the parents of two children, Leonard H. and Virgil G. The home of the family is an excellent farm property comprising a fractional quarter section. It is well improved and constitutes one of the valuable farms of Howard county, for Mr. Novak has brought his land under a high state of cultivation and has added all of the equipments and accessories of the model farm of the twentieth century. His methods are at once practical and progressive, and the neat and thrifty appearance of his place indicates his careful supervision and enterprise. In politics he is a democrat and he and his wife are members of the Catholic church. Both are highly esteemed in the community where they reside and where they have a large circle of warm friends.

FRED W. TUCKER.

Fred W. Tucker, a farmer residing in Bassett, was born in Chickasaw township, Chickasaw county, about a mile and a half from his present home, on the 14th of May, 1874, his parents being Joseph K. and Elizabeth (Warren) Tucker. The father arrived in Chickasaw county when a lad of but nine years in company with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Tucker, who established their home here in 1854. William Tucker had visited the county the previous year in order to find a suitable location for a home and several months later he brought his family from Wisconsin to Iowa, taking up his abode in Chickasaw township. For several

years he conducted a grist and sawmill and, prospering in his undertakings, he made judicious investments in land, becoming the owner of several farms. In later life he held a position in the pension department at Washington, D. C., for a number of years. Joseph K. Tucker, father of Fred W. Tucker of this review, attained his majority in Chickasaw county and was here married. He then located on a farm in Chickasaw township and was actively engaged in general agricultural pursuits until about 1904, when he removed to Bassett, where he lived retired until the fall of 1916. He then established his home in Minneapolis, Minnesota, but in 1919 returned to Bassett, where he now resides. Almost his entire life has been passed in Chickasaw county and his many sterling traits of character are recognized by all among whom he has lived.

Fred W. Tucker was educated in the town schools of Bassett and when a youth of seventeen years he became a wage earner, working out by the month as a farm hand. When he reached adult age he began farming on land of his own, which came to him as an inheritance from his grandmother. On the 16th of August, 1899, he was united in marriage to Miss Irene Sutherland, of Chickasaw township, a daughter of H. A. Sutherland, now a resident of Charles City, Iowa. Mrs. Tucker is a lady of many accomplishments and for some years prior to her marriage was successfully engaged in educational work. Mr. Tucker brought his bride to his home in Bassett and is now the owner of an excellent farm comprising two hundred acres adjoining the town, eighty acres of which lies within the corporate limits. He devotes his attention to general agricultural pursuits and has brought his fields under a very high state of cultivation and development, so that he annually harvests rich crops for which he finds a ready sale on the market. He was also one of the founders of the State Bank of Bassett in 1910 and was elected a member of its board of directors, in which capacity he has since served.

Mr. and Mrs. Tucker have become the parents of three children, but Clifford K., their first-born, is now deceased. The others are: Neva, who is a junior in the high school; and Alice, who is also in school.

In his political views Mr. Tucker is a republican and for a number of years served as township trustee. He has also been town clerk, member of the town council, assessor and mayor. In fact he has filled every office save that of town marshal and has made a most excellent record by the prompt and faithful manner in which he has discharged his duties. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and has many friends both within and outside of that organization. He has demonstrated his worth in business circles and in public office as well and Bassett presents him as one of her representative citizens.

HON. H. L. SPAULDING.

Hon. H. L. Spaulding, a leading attorney of the Howard county bar living at Elma, was born on the 17th of February, 1863, a son of John F. and Augusta A. (Rowell) Spaulding, both of whom were natives of the New England states and both representatives of old families of that section of the country. In both lines the family was represented in the Revolutionary war and also in the French and Indian war. In 1870 John F. Spaulding came to the west with his family, making his way to Charles City, Iowa, where he lived retired to the time of his death, which occurred in January, 1909, when he had reached the age of eighty years. His wife died in April, 1911, also at the age of eighty.

H. L. Spaulding was educated in the graded and high schools of Charles City and subsequently entered the Iowa State University, from which institution he received his collegiate degree in 1887. In 1888 he won his law degree and in 1890 the degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon him. Following the completion of his education he established his home in Elma and entered upon the practice of law. In the intervening period of thirty years he has been connected with some of the important litigation heard in the courts of the district. He is

also the president of the First State Savings Bank at Elma, having thus served since its reorganization and incorporation as a state bank. For the past few years he has likewise been extensively interested in farming and is a holder of farm lands in Howard county. In this connection he is in partnership with D. J. O'Donnell and together they own over two thousand acres of valuable land in Howard county.

Mr. Spaulding was married in 1896 to Miss Lena K. Wilcox, of Elma, a daughter of E. L. Wilcox, formerly a grain buyer of Howard county. They have two adopted sons, Edwin L. and Robert F.

Mr. Spaulding is a member of Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 528, A. F. & A. M., of Elma, also of Adelpia Chapter, R. A. M., and Eudora Commandery, No. 53, K. T. He has likewise crossed the sands of the desert with the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of El Kahir Temple of Cedar Rapids and he and his wife are members of Oakdale Chapter of the Eastern Star. In politics he has always been a stalwart republican and represented his district in the thirtieth and thirty-first general assemblies, proving a capable member of the state legislature by his strong and influential endorsement of many measures for the general good.

P. M. HEROLD.

P. M. Herold, one of the substantial and influential citizens of Cresco, where he has lived retired for the past decade, was long and actively identified with agricultural pursuits in Howard county and owns altogether five hundred and sixty acres of valuable land within its borders. His birth occurred in Erie county, New York, on the 12th of December, 1850, his parents being Michael and Margaret (Kellner) Herold, both of whom were natives of Prussia and were there reared and married. The father, who was in straitened financial circumstances, decided to attempt to better his condition on this side of the Atlantic and emigrated to the United States about 1846, leaving his family in Prussia until he could earn enough money to pay their passage to America. He sent first for his two older children, while later his wife and the two younger children of the family joined him in the new world. Michael Herold had followed cabinet making in his native country but after coming to the United States could find no work along that line and therefore turned his attention to carpentering. In 1853 he removed westward to Iowa and became one of the earliest pioneers of Winneshiek county, where he took up one hundred and twenty acres of government land, also securing a forty-acre timber tract near Protivin, in Howard county. The remainder of his life was devoted to general farming in Winneshiek county with excellent success and he there passed away in 1885, at the age of seventy-five years, the community thus losing one of its most respected and honored pioneer settlers. His wife died about eight years later, when she had attained the age of seventy-eight.

P. M. Herold, who was not yet three years old when the family home was established in Winneshiek county, Iowa, had but little opportunity to attend school in his youth but acquired a good practical education through reading and self-study. He was married when a young man of twenty-six and the same year began farming independently in Winneshiek county, at the same time undertaking the development of a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved land which his father had purchased for him in Howard county and for which he later reimbursed him. In 1877 Mr. Herold took up his abode on the Howard county property on section 34, New Oregon township, where he resided continuously and successfully carried on his farming operations until 1909. As the years passed and prosperity rewarded his careful economy and untiring industry, he extended the boundaries of his home farm by additional purchase until it embraced four hundred acres. He also acquired another tract of one hundred and fifty acres on sections 3 and 4, New Oregon township, and he likewise owns the ten-acre tract comprising his present home place in Cresco, where he has lived practically retired for the past ten years but still

does a little farming in order to keep busy, indolence and idleness being utterly foreign to his nature.

In 1876 Mr. Herold was united in marriage to Miss Regina Steinmetz, a native of Winneshiek county, Iowa, and a daughter of Joseph and Sophia Steinmetz, the former being born in France, while the latter's birth occurred in Wurtemberg, Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Herold became the parents of fourteen children, thirteen of whom are still living. The record of the family is as follows: Philip J., who is employed in the mill at Spillville, Iowa; Frank J., operating his father's farm of one hundred and fifty acres; Albert D., employed in an elevator at Cresco; Carl E., who cultivates the old home farm of four hundred acres in New Oregon township; Henry L., an agriculturist residing in Vernon Springs township; Andrew P., a merchant of Cresco; John L., at home; William L., who makes his home at Calmar, Iowa; Sophia M., who is the widow of Joseph Meyer and resides in Cresco; Clara R. and Mary A., at home; Louisa, who is deceased; and Anna B. and Agnes P., who are also yet under the parental roof. The wife and mother passed away on the 9th of August, 1917, her demise being the occasion of deep regret to all who knew her.

Politically Mr. Herold is independent, supporting men and measures rather than party. He ably served as a member of the board of township trustees for nine years and was also a member of the school board for many years, the cause of education ever finding in him a stalwart champion. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of Columbus, while his religious faith is that of the Catholic church, in which he has reared his family. Practically his entire life has been spent in this part of the state and he is widely and favorably known as a citizen of worth and high standing. He has witnessed the growth and development which has characterized this region through the past two-thirds of a century, his memory forming a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present.

AUGUST LAUCK.

August Lauck enjoys the reputation of being one of the most progressive farmers of Howard county. He has thoroughly acquainted himself with the science of farming as well as with every practical phase of the work and he occupies a position of leadership in connection with the adoption of new ideas or plans that will further agricultural development. Moreover, he is a most public-spirited citizen and occupies a foremost place in his support of measures tending to the welfare and upbuilding of the community at large. He lives on section 27, Howard township, and is numbered among the native sons of Iowa, his birth having occurred in Bremer county, September 8, 1866. His parents, John and Mary (Lamprecht) Lauck, were natives of Germany, where they were reared and married, but immediately afterward came to the United States, crossing the Atlantic in 1864 or 1865. They spent a short time in Cook county, Illinois, and then removed to Bremer county, Iowa, where they resided for six or seven years. Later Mr. Lauck purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Fayette county, upon which he spent his remaining days to the time of his retirement from active business, when he removed to Oelwein, where his death occurred on the 8th of August, 1914. He had long survived his wife, who passed away in 1882.

August Lauck, whose name introduces this review, was educated in the district schools, but his opportunities in that direction were limited, for his father was then a poor man and needed his assistance upon the home farm. As early as his tenth year he was hired out to neighboring farmers, his wages going to the support of the family. His chances for acquiring an education were thus very meagre, but in the school of experience he has learned many valuable lessons. He remained upon the home farm with his father until his twenty-sixth year, when his father gave him two thousand dollars and he started out in business life inde-



AUGUST LAUCK AND FAMILY

pendently. He purchased a farm in Bremer county, nine miles south of Sumner, but soon afterward disposed of that property and in 1892 became owner of two hundred and forty acres in Howard county, upon which he now resides. It was a tract of raw prairie land when it came into his possession, but characteristic energy and thrift on the part of Mr. Lauck soon brought a marked transformation in the appearance of the place.

In September following the purchase of his land Mr. Lauck was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Smith, of Afton township, Howard county, and thus completed his arrangements for having a home of his own. In the same fall he built a small house and other farm buildings upon his tract of prairie land and started upon what has proven a most successful career as a farmer and dairyman. While he has carefully, systematically and successfully developed his fields in the cultivation of crops best adapted to soil and climate, he has also profitably carried on dairying and the raising of hogs and these different lines of business have brought him a substantial fortune. He has owned and milked as high as sixty cows at one time and the revenue from cream alone during the year 1918 was over thirty-six hundred dollars, while in the month of July, 1919, his sales of cream amounted to four hundred and forty-two dollars and fifty-four cents and his cream check for the month of August exceeded that amount. Thus his business is steadily growing and as the years have passed and his financial resources have increased he has added to his holdings and is now the owner of six hundred acres of land, having made purchases of four other farms, three of which he still holds. He has two hundred acres on section 28 and one hundred and sixty acres on section 9, Howard township.

To Mr. and Mrs. Lauck have been born seven children, of whom six are yet living: Dora, the wife of Henry Rimroth, a resident farmer of Howard township; and Albert, August, Jr., Mabel, Elsie and Rosanna, at home. The son William J., died in France of spinal meningitis November 1, 1918, while in the service of his country. Shortly prior to his entrance into the war Mr. Lauck had deeded to his son a farm and had built for him the finest barn in Howard county. This is the third fine barn which Mr. Lauck has built on his land. The last one has all the modern labor saving devices known in barn construction and is equipped with a ventilating system that would be a credit to a modern sky scraper. It is indicative of the progressive spirit which actuates him in all things. He has a nature that can never be content with mediocrity but always picks out the best and he employs every avenue for improvement in business.

In politics Mr. Lauck is a republican and is keenly interested in the success of his party but is not an office seeker. He and his family are members of the German Lutheran church. He has cooperated in many interests that have been of public benefit and is now one of the directors of the Howard County Farm Bureau. The consensus of public opinion places him among the most progressive and successful farmers of Howard county. His home place is one of the best improved properties in this section of the state and the fertility of his land could not be surpassed because of the care he has given to it, employing all modern scientific methods in the further development of his holdings.

CLYDE HENRY MITCHELL.

Clyde Henry Mitchell is the manager of the Cresco Opera House and has been identified with theatrical interests in Cresco since 1906. He was born in New Hampton, Chickasaw county, Iowa, on the 3d of August, 1882, his parents being Alonzo and Hattie (McCallum) Mitchell. The father spent his boyhood days in New Oregon, Iowa, where he was reared and educated, and then removed to New Hampton, where he lived for some time. He afterward accepted the position of salesman in the music house of George H. Kellogg, in Cresco, Iowa, and traveled through the country as a representative of that house, selling pianos and other

musical instruments. In 1895 he removed with his family to Cresco, where he continued to make his home throughout his remaining days, his death occurring in 1904, when he had reached the age of sixty-three years. His widow survives and is now making her home with her son, Clyde Henry, at the age of sixty-seven years. The father was a republican in his political views and a progressive citizen, interested in the welfare of the community to an extent that prompted him to give hearty cooperation to plans and measures for the general good.

Clyde H. Mitchell of this review spent the first ten years of his life in the place of his nativity and then left New Hampton, Iowa, to go to Chicago, where he lived with his sister, Mrs. E. B. Fritz, and there attended school until fourteen years of age. On the expiration of that period he returned to Cresco, but after a time he again went to Chicago and in fact divided his time between Chicago and Cresco until he had attained his majority. He was employed in the former city by E. B. Fritz, proprietor of a paper store, of which he became assistant manager. On coming to Cresco he learned the decorator's trade, which he followed for twenty-four years, but ultimately turned his attention to the theatrical business. In 1906 he established a picture show house in Cresco where the Freeborn Restaurant is now located and continued at that location for six years. He then conducted the Cozy Theatre and in 1917 took over the management of what is known as The Cresco. This is a fine modern brick theatre and he enjoys a very extensive patronage, giving to the public the best reel productions and constantly presenting the foremost movie stars.

In 1904 Mr. Mitchell was married to Miss Pearl Lewis Ricks, a daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth (Highhouse) Ricks. Mrs. Mitchell was born in Monona, Iowa, and they have one child, Harold Clyde. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell are well known in Cresco, where he has spent much of his life, although at different periods he resided in Chicago. In the conduct of the moving picture business he displays a spirit of marked enterprise and progressiveness that is bringing to him satisfactory and well deserved success.

OTTO MASEMANN.

Otto Masemann, who is engaged in general farming on section 22, Washington township, Chickasaw county, and also in the breeding of Scotch Durham cattle, was born in Germany, September 17, 1865, his parents being John H. and Anna Masemann. They never came to the United States, the father passing away in Germany a number of years ago and the mother still making her home there.

Otto Masemann came to the United States in 1883, when a young man of eighteen years, after having acquired a common school education in his native country. He did not tarry on the Atlantic coast but made his way to the Mississippi valley and took up his abode at Bellevue, Iowa, where he soon secured work as a farm hand. He was thus employed for seven years and afterward he engaged in farm work in Washington township, Chickasaw county, for a year. He was ambitious to own property and carry on farming independently, however, and in 1892 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of the farm upon which he now resides. Since then he has further extended its boundaries by investment in an additional tract of eighty acres, so that he now has two hundred and forty acres of good land. He is regarded as one of the successful farmers of the county, following improved modern methods in the development of his fields. He breeds and raises Scotch Durham cattle and his stock raising as well as his general farming interests have brought to him success. He has made all of the improvements upon his property and it presents a most attractive appearance, constituting one of the pleasing features in the landscape.

At the age of twenty-seven years, on the 17th of March, 1892, Mr. Masemann was married to Miss Elvina Joachim, a daughter of Charles and Mary (Schultz) Joachim, both of whom were natives of Germany and have now passed away. The

father departed this life in Washington township, Chickasaw county, while the mother died in La Grange, Illinois, her remains being brought back to Alta Vista for interment. Mr. and Mrs. Masemann have two living children, Fred and Alvina. The son served with the famous Thirty-third or Prairie Division during the European war, being a member of Company C of the One Hundred and Thirtieth Infantry. He was in France for a year and was on some of the most notable battle fronts.

Mr. Masemann and his family are members of the German Lutheran church of Alta Vista, and in politics he is a republican. He has served as school director in Washington township for several years and is a staunch advocate of progressive methods of education. In fact he stands for all that tends to promote improvement and upbuilding along any line vital to the welfare of the community. In his business affairs he has prospered and has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the new world, for he has here found the opportunities which he sought and in their utilization has gained a place among the substantial farmers and representative business men of northern Iowa.

FRANK SHORES.

The industry, enterprise and perseverance which Frank Shores displayed throughout a long and active business career spelled success which now enables him to live retired. He makes his home in Protivin, having divided the land that he had acquired among his children. He was born in Bohemia, January 15, 1839, and there spent the period of his boyhood and youth. It was in 1867 that he came to the United States, making his way first to Chicago, where he did factory work for three years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Crown Point, Indiana, where he took up his abode upon a farm. He purchased land, which he cultivated and improved for eight years, and on the expiration of that period sold it and removed to Howard county, Iowa, where he made investment in ninety acres of land. This constituted the nucleus of landed interests to which he constantly added as his financial resources permitted. In time he became the owner of four hundred and forty acres of very valuable land, which in recent years, since his retirement from active business, he has divided among his children.

Mr. Shores was married in Bohemia to Miss Josephine Mara and they became the parents of four sons and four daughters: Frank, John, James, Louis, Mary, Barbara, Anna and Emma. The last named is the wife of John Fancel, of Howard county, where he follows farming. All of the sons have married and are living on farms given them by their father.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church, Mr. Shores being a communicant of the church at Protivin, where he now makes his home, occupying a pleasant residence. He served as road supervisor while living in Chickasaw county, occupying the office for a number of years. His political allegiance has always been given to the democratic party and he has ever been loyal to any cause that he has espoused. Those who know him, and he has many staunch friends, entertain for him warm regard, and he ever manifests a kindly spirit in all of his relations with his fellowmen. He has now reached the advanced age of eighty years and is one of the highly respected and substantial citizens of New Oregon township.

JOHN P. BERCKES.

John P. Berckes, who follows farming on section 10, Howard township, and is a well known representative of the agricultural interests of Howard county, was born in Luxemburg, Germany, November 21, 1868, a son of Bernard and Margaret Berckes, who were also natives of Luxemburg, where they spent their entire lives.

At the age of twenty years J. P. Berckes, who had pursued his education in the public schools of his native country, came to the United States, hoping to enjoy better business opportunities than he believed he could secure in his native land. He made his way first to Ionia county, Michigan, where he resided for two years, working on a farm during that period. Later he removed to Chicago, where he lived for a brief time and then went to Wyoming and to Nebraska. He was also in Oregon at one time and in fact visited many points in the west, going from place to place for a number of years, or until 1896, when he came to Iowa, settling first in Chickasaw county. He located at North Washington, where he worked at the printing trade for seven years, and in 1909 he bought a farm in Washington township, which he conducted for three years. In 1912 he made investment in his present farm on section 10, Howard township, Howard county, and has since resided thereon. He is now engaged in the cultivation of two hundred and forty acres of land, which he owns, and his well developed fields are returning to him golden harvests.

On the 11th of August, 1894, Mr. Berckes was united in marriage to Miss Johanna Hurtes, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hurtes, both of whom passed away in North Washington, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Berckes have become the parents of six children: Henry, who served with the eighty-eighth Division of the American Expeditionary Force in France; John; Joseph; Herbert; August; and Bennie.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and they are identified with the parish of Alta Vista. In politics Mr. Berckes maintains an independent course, preferring to support the candidates whom he regards as best qualified for office without regard to party ties. For several years he has served as school director and is also a director of the Farmers Equity Company of Alta Vista. Whatever success he has achieved and enjoyed is attributable entirely to his own labors. He came to the new world with little capital and started in business on this side of the Atlantic as a farm hand. He has been employed in various ways and gradually has made advancement until he is now the owner of an excellent farm property in Howard county, from which he derives a substantial annual income.

A. H. SHAFFER.

A. H. Shaffer is a prominent figure in the banking circles of Iowa. He is the cashier of the Second National Bank of New Hampton and a member of its board of directors, is the president and a director of the First State Savings Bank of Ionia, the president and a director of the State Savings Bank of Orchard, Iowa, a director of the First State Savings Bank of Waucoma, Iowa, a director of the State Savings Bank of Bassett, Iowa, and a member of the board of directors of the First State Bank of Fredericksburg, Iowa. Mr. Shaffer is numbered among the native sons of Chickasaw county, his birth having occurred in Jacksonville township on the 26th of February, 1866, his parents being Henry H. and Sarah (Albert) Shaffer. After mastering the branches of learning taught in the district schools he attended the Osage Seminary and also was a student in the Iowa Business College at Des Moines. On reaching his majority in 1887 he went to western Kansas and preempted one hundred and sixty acres of land in Greeley county. There he built a sod house and proved up on his claim. In the fall of that year he opened a private bank in Horace, which he conducted until the winter of 1892, when he sold his business interests there and returned to New Hampton. In January, 1893, he joined his brother, W. G. Shaffer, who had established a private bank in New Hampton in the previous year. He became a member of the firm and in subsequent years has been closely associated with his brother in his extensive banking interests, as previously indicated. He is thoroughly familiar with every phase of the banking business and his enterprise and progressiveness have brought him prominently to the front in this connection.

On the 13th of November, 1890, Mr. Shaffer was married to Miss Myrtle M. Thompson, of Pueblo, Colorado, and to them have been born two children: N. Lucille, the wife of Joseph A. Miller, of Valley Junction, Iowa; and Harry Allen, who has just completed the high school course, and is now a student at the University of Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. Shaffer is a stalwart republican in politics and has served as city treasurer for a number of years. He and his wife and children are members of the Baptist church, in which he has served as deacon and as superintendent of the Sunday school. He was a dominant factor in the building of the church in 1894 and long served in church offices, filling both the above mentioned positions for twenty-five years. He has also supported a native preacher in India for the past fifteen or twenty years. He was also largely instrumental in building the Baptist church in Horace, Kansas, while a resident of that state. He ranks with New Hampton's most public-spirited, prominent and progressive citizens and there is no plan or measure for the advancement of public welfare in community or commonwealth that does not receive his active and earnest support. He was vice chairman of the last two Liberty Loan drives in New Hampton township and has served on various committees in connection with the war work. He also served as a member of the board of directors of New Hampton Chapter of the Red Cross and did everything possible to uphold American interests during the period of the world conflict and aid in the support of the khaki-clad boys on the fields of France.

ENOCK STROTHER.

Enoch Strother was a mine operator and hotel owner of Cresco. Every feature and phase of western frontier life was familiar to him and he could relate many interesting stories of the early days not only in Iowa but in Colorado and the west. From time to time in the course of life removal brought him westward until eventually he reached Colorado, attracted by the discovery of gold at Pikes Peak. He was born in Westland, Virginia, a son of Enoch and Mary Ann Strother. He left the Old Dominion with his parents during his infancy and the family home was then established in Columbus, Ohio, where he began his education, supplementing his public school training by study in the Columbus University and also in Fulsom's Commercial College. He afterward went to Havana, Cuba, where he remained for two years, and later became a sailor on the seas, sailing from Cuba to Swansea, Wales. Eventually he returned to the United States and made his way to Racine, Wisconsin, where he engaged in the wholesale grocery business for a number of years. He afterward removed to Vernon Springs, Iowa, where he established a general store in 1857. The northern part of Iowa was then largely undeveloped and unimproved and he cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers who were aiding in the work of reclaiming the region for the purposes of civilization. At a later date, in company with Judge Gilchrist, he went west across the plains, traveling with ox teams to Pikes Peak, Colorado, in search of gold. He did not remain there long, however, but continued on his way westward to Sacramento, California. Still he was not satisfied with the outlook in the mining regions of the Pacific coast and retraced his steps across the mountains to what is now Nevada. There he engaged in the mining of silver and gold and also took up the study of law under Judge Gilchrist, using his leisure hours in that way. He was still identified with mining interests in the west at the time of his death, having mining property at Virginia City, Nevada, and it was Mr. Strother who named that place, calling it so in honor of his native state. While living in Nevada he was admitted to the bar and entered upon the practice of law. He also served as judge in the United States bankruptcy court for ten years and was a resident of that state for forty-one years altogether. During that time, however, he made frequent trips back to Iowa to visit his brother in Cresco and look after his interests and investments in this city. His business as well as his friendly relations with Judge Gilchrist continued until the time of the death of the Judge in Nevada. Their relations were ever of a most pleasant and agreeable character and the

firm ranked very high in the legal circles of that state. He became familiar with all of the experiences and phases of western frontier life. In 1861 there was an Indian scare in Nevada, but Mr. Strother had always proved himself friendly to the Indians and they occasioned him no trouble. He found, as many another white man has done, that kind and humane treatment won their lasting friendship and gratitude and that he had nothing to fear at their hands.

While a resident of Nevada, Judge Strother was united in marriage in 1889 to Miss Julia A. Fratt, a native of Racine, Wisconsin. Judge Strother filled various positions of public honor and trust while living in Nevada, acting as justice of the peace for some time, while his fellow townsmen also called him to represent them in the state legislature. He was likewise nominated for the position of governor of the state on the republican ticket and he long exercised a wide influence in republican circles, doing not a little to shape the growth and win success for the party. He served as chairman of the state central republican committee of Nevada, was also its treasurer and was likewise made a member of the republican national committee. He had known many of the most prominent political leaders of the country and his opinions carried much weight in their councils. Fraternally Judge Strother was a Mason and took the Knight Templar degree in the York Rite. He also was connected with the Improved Order of Red Men. He greatly enjoyed travel and made several trips aboard, gaining wide knowledge and that liberal culture which can be acquired in no other way as rapidly as in travel. The interests of his life were most varied and he was associated with events which are as thrilling as any told in tales of fiction. He had been one of the builders and promoters of the west, especially along the line of mining development. His death took place July 9, 1918, regretted by all who knew him.

MAJOR LAWS.

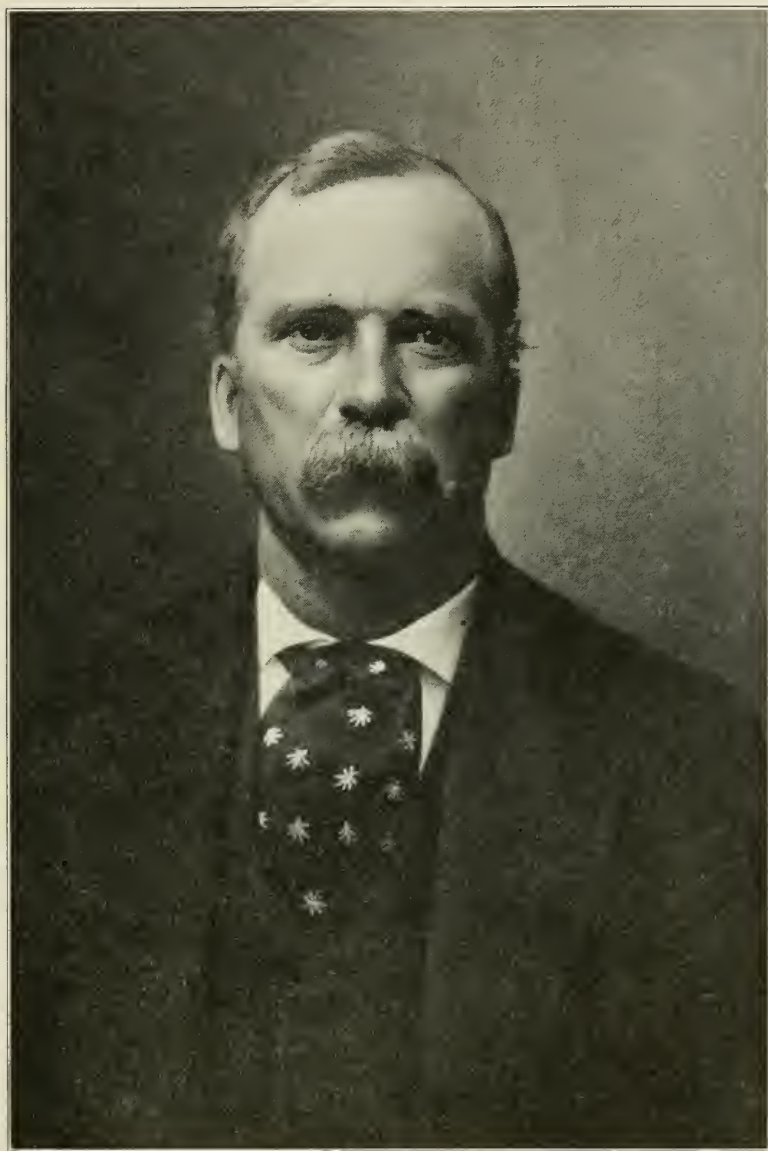
In the history of Howard county it is imperative that mention be made of Major Laws, who was one of the honored pioneer residents of this part of the state. He made his home for many years on section 16, Chester township, and there passed away. He was born at Feltwell, in Norfolkshire, England, June 24, 1844, and was a lad of twelve years when in 1856 he came to the United States with his parents, Mager and Maria (Hensby) Laws. Mager Laws never took up government land nor did he long survive to enjoy his new home, passing away in 1863, when fifty-two years of age. His wife, however, reached the advanced age of eighty-two years.

Major Laws of this review, having accompanied his parents to the United States, remained with them for a year in Wisconsin, after which the family home was established in Howard county, Iowa, in 1857. From that time until his death Major Laws was identified with the development and upbuilding of this section of the state. He established a home following his marriage on the 26th of June, 1871, to Miss Adalaide Nye, a daughter of Jesse A. Nye, of Chester township, who came to Howard county from Wisconsin in 1856.

Following his marriage Mr. Laws continued to engage in farming as a renter until 1879, when, having carefully saved his earnings, he was enabled to purchase what is now the Laws homestead farm, still occupied by his widow and son. Through the intervening years to the time of his death he was busily employed in the further development and improvement of the property and brought his fields under a high state of cultivation.

To Mr. and Mrs. Laws were born thirteen children, eleven of whom are yet living, as follows: Jesse J., who is employed on the Oakdale farm in Howard county; Anna J., the wife of F. W. Whitcomb, of Austin, Minnesota; Fannie M., who is the wife of M. D. Daily, of Taopi, Minnesota; Clarence, living in Absher Montana; Charlie, a resident of Hill City, Minnesota; William, who operates the home farm; Alice, the wife of H. C. Brown, of Rochester, Minnesota; and Elizabeth, Wilbur L., Harold V. and Harvey C., all at home.

The family circle was broken by the hand of death when on the 6th of April,



MAJOR LAWS

1916, Major Laws was called to his final rest. He had long been recognized as a man of sterling and upright character, who made valuable contribution to the development of the district in which he lived by his activity in agricultural lines and his support of all plans and measures for the general good.

WILLIAM BUNSTON.

William Bunston is a well known representative of the farming interests of Howard county and makes his home on section 24, Afton township, where he is engaged in the cultivation of a good tract of land that responds readily to the care and labor which he bestows upon it. Mr. Bunston is a native of England. He was born January 10, 1868, of the marriage of William and Emily (Burt) Bunston, who were also natives of that country. There the father still resides and the mother continued to make her home in England until called to her final rest in 1916.

William Bunston pursued his education in the common schools of his native country and came to the United States in 1887, when a youth of nineteen years. The reports which he had heard concerning business conditions and opportunities in the new world had determined him to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic and he made the trip alone. He was employed in different parts of the country until October 4, 1887, when he removed from Richmond, Virginia, to Dubuque, Iowa. For a short time he there engaged in renting land, after which he went to McGregor, Iowa, where he spent the succeeding winter. He next became a resident of Lawler, Iowa, where he was employed at farm labor for six years.

It was in February, 1895, that Mr. Bunston was united in marriage to Miss Ida Cochran, a daughter of Charles Cochran, of Jacksonville, Iowa. The young couple began their domestic life upon what is now their home farm and this place they have since occupied. As the years have passed they have become the parents of three children: Charles W., who served with Company Eight of the Transportation Corps with the American Expeditionary Force in France; and Emily and Ruth G., both at home.

Mr. Bunston is interested in all that has to do with the welfare and upbuilding of the district in which he resides and for two years he served as school director but has had no time nor inclination to seek public office. He came to the new world empty-handed and has ever bent his energies to the task of making a good living for himself and his family. While he met hardships and difficulties in the early days, he has steadily worked his way upward, advancing step by step, and he is now numbered among the substantial farmers of Afton township.

REED ELWOOD.

Reed Elwood, of the firm of Elwood & Elwood, attorneys at law, and also connected with the Elwood Land Company of Elma, was born on the 1st of October, 1885, a son of Frank D. and Catherine (Harris) Elwood, mentioned on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of their son, Hon. Lee W. Elwood.

After attending the public schools until he had passed through consecutive grades to the Elma high school, Reed Elwood entered the Capital City Commercial College at Des Moines. He then went to Wyoming and occupied the position of cashier in the First National Bank of Wheatland for a period of two years. The bank was sold and Mr. Elwood returned to Elma with the determination of entering upon the study of law. He matriculated in the Iowa State University, where he pursued a two years' law course, and then entered the University of South Dakota, from which institution he received his law degree in 1911. While a student there he became a member of the Delta Phi Delta fraternity.

Returning to Elma, Mr. Elwood became associated with his father and brother, Lee W., in the land business and in 1917 he also became a partner with his brother in the practice of law. The Elwood Land Company has heavy land holdings, handling their own property, and at the same time they are extensively engaged in the raising of cattle and hogs.

On the 30th of June, 1915, Mr. Elwood was married to Miss Goldie Dowd, of Ossian, Iowa, who is a graduate of the Upper Iowa University at Fayette and was principal of the public schools of Elma up to the time of her marriage. They now have one son, Frank D. Mr. Elwood is a member of Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 528, F. & A. M., and gives his political allegiance to the republican party. At the present writing he is serving as a member of the Elma city council and does everything in his power in an official way to promote the welfare and upbuilding of the community. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and took a very active part in Red Cross and Liberty Loan work. In a word their aid is ever given on the side of progress and improvement and their cooperation can at all times be counted upon to further plans and measures looking to the welfare of the district and the support of all measures for the public good.

JOHN F. MULICK.

John F. Mulick, leading a busy and useful life as a farmer of Howard county, his home being on section 33, Afton township, was born in Watertown, Wisconsin, August 3, 1855, a son of Patrick and Mary (McCormack) Mulick. The father was a native of Roscommon, Ireland, born January 1, 1834, and when fourteen years of age he came to America with a younger sister, their parents having died during his childhood days. He first established his home at Port Jervis, New York, and while there residing was married on the 24th of October, 1854, to Miss Mary McCormack. Attracted by the opportunities of the growing west, he started with his bride for Watertown, Wisconsin, in 1855 and after a residence of ten years in the Badger state purchased what was long known as the homestead property east of Riceville. He became owner of this farm in 1865 and at once contributed to the pioneer development of his section of the state. The careful management of his business and the thorough and systematic manner in which he cultivated his fields brought to him a very substantial measure of success. At the time of his death a local paper said: "His farm under his judicious, painstaking care made a life competency for him and his loved ones. How he loved his home! The work and the play! His horses were his personal friends and his flocks and herds received his special, constant care, making an ideal farm home, where love and honor abided." A great blow came to Mr. Mulick in the loss of his wife on the 6th of August, 1903. He remained upon the farm until 1905, when he and his daughter Anna removed to Riceville, where he remained until he passed away on the 8th of November, 1914. He had long been a devoted member of the Catholic church and it was said of him that he was ever a kind, thoughtful neighbor, a loving husband, and through all the trials of pioneer life a thoughtful christian father and at all times a bountiful provider. He was a man of whom it can be truly said that he was generous to a fault, who though jocular by nature never passed a thorn into the side of his fellow.

"Who never did a slander forge,
His neighbor's fame to wound,
Nor hearken to a false report
By malice whispered round."

Mr. and Mrs. Mulick were the parents of four sons and four daughters, of whom Dr. Joseph Mulick and Sister Mary Lenontine passed away in 1909. The others are: John F. and Dr. James Mulick, of Elma; Sister Mary Seratina, of Waterloo; Sister Mary Mark, of Fort Dodge; Anna, who remained with her father until his demise; and Patrick, of Rockford, North Dakota.

Upon the old homestead farm John F. Mulick spent the days of his boyhood and youth. He was reared as a member of a large household and the home training was such as developed in the children high principles and worthy characteristics. He attended the district schools and early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. In 1890 he purchased his present farm and was actively engaged in its further development and improvement until 1914, when his son Frank J. took over the further cultivation and management of the place.

Mr. Mulick was married to Miss Bridget Burns, a daughter of Patrick and Rose Burns, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who came, however, from Ireland to the new world. In 1908 Mr. Mulick was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away on the 29th of July of that year, leaving many friends as well as her immediate family to mourn her loss. Mr. and Mrs. Mulick were the parents of four sons and two daughters: Frank J., who married; Charles G., at home; John B., who is also married; Edmond J., who served for thirteen months with the Twentieth Engineers of the American Expeditionary Force in France; Rose; and Mary. Mr. Mulick and his family are members of the Catholic church at Elma.

He is a democrat in politics and has served for several terms as school director in Afton township. He was also the president of the Farmers Cooperative Creamery of Elma for a number of years and he has always been keenly interested in everything that has had to do with the welfare of the agricultural community. He cooperates in any plan or measure for the general good and his worth as a man and citizen has long been acknowledged by those who know him. The greater part of his life has been passed in this county and his circle of friends is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintance.

JOSEPH M. SVESTKA.

Joseph M. Svestka, who is engaged in general farming on section 9, New Oregon township, Howard county, is the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation. Iowa numbers him among her native sons, his birth having occurred in Winneshiek county on the 24th of February, 1876. His parents were born in Bohemia and the father is now living in Protivin at the advanced age of eighty-five years, but the mother passed away in 1913 at her home in Protivin, when sixty-eight years of age. Forty-six years ago the father came to the United States and rented a farm in Chickasaw county for a few years, after which he purchased eighty acres of his present farm and as the years passed increased it by additional purchase until it became one hundred and twenty acres in extent.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Joseph M. Svestka in the days of his boyhood and youth. He attended the public schools and when not busy with his textbooks worked in the fields. In fact his time was given to planting, plowing and harvesting until the field work was over for the year. He continued to assist his father until twenty-three years of age, when he took over the home farm, purchasing a part of the land at that time and afterward acquiring the remainder by purchase. He has an excellent tract of one hundred and twenty acres, which he is most carefully cultivating, and nearly all of the improvements upon the farm have been placed there by him. He is practical and progressive in his methods and the air of neatness and thrift which characterizes the place indicates the spirit of advancement that actuates him at all times. In addition to his farming interests he is connected with the creamery and the United Shippers of Cresco.

On the 26th of September, 1899, Mr. Svestka was united in marriage to Miss Anna Hubka, a daughter of Albert and Anna Hubka, of Howard county. Mrs. Svestka was here reared and was educated in the graded schools. To Mr. and Mrs. Svestka have been born six children: Adella, Edward, William, Nora, Lillie and Anna, all of whom are upon the home farm with their parents.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church, they being communicants of the church at Protivin. In politics Mr. Svestka is a democrat. He has

served as road boss, and his father was road supervisor for a number of years. Mr. Svestka of this review has also been one of the school directors and is keenly interested in everything that has to do with the progress and welfare of the community in which he makes his home.

GEORGE N. WALKER.

George N. Walker is one of the substantial and well known farmers of Vernon Springs township, Howard county, residing on section 4, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in 1905. He was born in Connecticut on the 13th of March, 1863, his parents being John R. and Mary A. (Palmer) Walker, who spent their entire lives in that state.

George N. Walker acquired a limited district school education and when but fourteen years of age left home and came west to make his own way in the world. Locating at Big Rock, Illinois, he there secured employment on a farm at a wage of five dollars per month and he continued a resident of Big Rock for a period of twenty-six years, working by the month as farm hand and later carrying on agricultural pursuits on his own account as a renter. In 1900 he came to Iowa and settled at Manson, Calhoun county, where he remained for five years. On the expiration of that period, in 1905, he made his way to Howard county, purchasing his present home farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 4, Vernon Springs township. Thereon he resided continuously until March, 1918, when he leased the property and took up his abode in Bonair. After a year's residence in town, however, the call of the land brought him back to his farm and he is now again actively engaged in tilling the soil. The carefully cultivated fields annually yield good crops and his labors as an agriculturist have been attended with a well merited measure of success.

In October, 1895, Mr. Walker was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Tripp, of Kane county, Illinois, by whom he had three children, as follows: Grant, who follows farming in Howard county; Myrtle, who is the wife of William Fisk and resides with her father; and Ruby, who is employed in Cresco. The wife and mother passed away in April, 1915, and her demise was deeply deplored by all who knew her.

In politics Mr. Walker is a staunch republican, exercising his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of that party. His life has been characterized by intense and well directed industry and he deserves mention among the enterprising and representative citizens of his community.

FRANK A. PECINOVSKY.

The attractiveness of Chickasaw county as a place of residence is indicated in the fact that many of her sons have remained within her borders, confident that the advantages here offered are equal to those to be secured in any other section of the country. To this class belong Frank A. Pecinovsky, who now follows farming on section 15, Utica township, Chickasaw county, and who is a native of Howard county. He was born in New Oregon township of the latter county, April 14, 1873, a son of John and Frances (Chyle) Pecinovsky, who came from Bohemia with their respective parents and removed to the middle west. They were married on this side of the Atlantic and for many years the father was identified with farming interests in Howard county, spending his last days in New Oregon township, where he departed this life in 1875. His widow survives and yet makes her home in that township.

Upon the old homestead farm Frank A. Pecinovsky was reared and in his youthful days mastered the branches of learning taught in the district schools near his father's place. He was married on the 23d of February, 1896, to Miss Anthony Blazek and they became the parents of four children: John, Bennie, Mary and

Charlie, all yet at home. The wife and mother passed away in 1911 and in 1918 the father was again married, his second union being with Katherine Krachmer.

Mr. and Mrs. Pecinovsky are members of the Catholic church of Little Turkey and generously contribute to its support. He is a democrat in politics and for ten years he has filled the office of school director in Utica township but has never been ambitious to fill positions of public trust. He has always felt that his time should be given to his business interests and throughout his entire life has been identified with agricultural pursuits. He is now cultivating a good tract of land on section 15, Utica township, and has brought his fields to a high state of cultivation.

RICHARD H. JONES.

Richard H. Jones, who is carrying on general farming on section 13, Forest City township, Howard county, was born in Green Lake county, Wisconsin, June 27, 1862, his parents being Richard and Ann (Hughes) Jones, to whom extended reference is made in the sketch of their son, Thomas H. Jones, living in Cresco. Richard H. Jones acquired his early education in the district schools. He was a lad of but eight years at the time of the removal of the family to Howard county, where he has now resided for almost a half century. He spent his youthful days under the parental roof, remaining at home to the time of his marriage, which was celebrated in July, 1891, when Miss Sarah J. Evans, of Lime Springs, a daughter of John E. Evans, one of the early settlers of Howard county, became his wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones began their domestic life upon the farm which is still their place of residence. It is a tract of two hundred acres of rich and productive land which was deeded to Mr. Jones by his father at the time of his marriage. Through the intervening years he has continued the further cultivation and development of the property and has now a splendid farm, equipped with all modern improvements and accessories, including the best machinery and everything needed to facilitate the work of the fields.

To Mr. and Mrs. Jones have been born eleven children, ten of whom are yet living: Francis H., who is a member of Company I., Three Hundred and Fifty-second Infantry, Eighty-eighth Iowa Division, and has been in active service in France; Dina M.; Emerson H.; Myron J.; Anna E.; Ellis; Edwin; Ellen E. and Elmer E., twins; and Harold. All of the children are yet at home.

In his political views Mr. Jones is a republican and fraternally is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. In these associations are shadowed forth the interests and principles of his life—principles that have made him an honored and valued citizen of Howard county.

JOHN PECINOVSKY.

An excellent farm property situated on section 4, New Oregon township, Howard county, bears tribute to the care and labor bestowed upon it by John Pecinovsky, who is justly accounted one of the representative agriculturists of the community. Howard county is proud to number him among her native sons. He was born in the township in which he still resides on the 16th of June, 1867, his parents being John and Frances (Heley) Pecinovsky, both of whom were natives of Bohemia. The father came to this country when about thirty years of age, accompanied by his parents. The family remained for a short time in Dubuque, Iowa, and thence continued their journey westward to Howard county, where John Pecinovsky, Sr., and his father purchased land together, becoming owner of a farm in New Oregon township. Mrs. Frances Pecinovsky was a child of but nine years when her parents left Bohemia and started with their family for the United States. They journeyed

first to Canada and for a brief period resided in Montreal and in Quebec, whence they came to the United States and took up their abode in Winneshiek county, Iowa. Their voyage to the new world was an eventful one as they made the trip on a sailing vessel and were sixteen weeks in crossing the Atlantic. Cholera broke out on the vessel and many died of that dread disease during the voyage. One member of the Heley family died while the journey to the new world was being made and the father of Mrs. Pecinovsky suffered from the disease when the family were in Montreal. It was in Winneshiek county, Iowa, that Mr. and Mrs. Pecinovsky, the parents of John Pecinovsky of this review, were married. They took up their abode upon a farm in New Oregon township, Howard county, which he had previously purchased, and his remaining days were devoted to the further development and improvement of that property, upon which he continued to reside until called to his final rest in 1878. His widow survives and now makes her home with her son Thomas in New Oregon township, Howard county.

John Pecinovsky whose name introduces this review pursued his education in the district schools near the old homestead, but his opportunities in that direction were limited, as his father died when his son was but eleven years of age and he found it necessary to aid in the support of the family. He was the third in order of birth in a family of seven children and he early found it necessary to begin work upon the farm, assisting his brothers in the development and improvement of the old home property. He was thus engaged until 1892, in which year he was married.

Mr. Pecinovsky was joined in wedlock to Miss Anastasia Prochaska, of Chickasaw county, Iowa, and the young couple began their domestic life upon what is now the home farm, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 4, New Oregon township, Howard county. This tract Mr. Pecinovsky had previously purchased. Year by year he carefully tilled the fields and as season after season passed and he harvested good crops his financial resources increased. In 1913 therefore he was enabled to purchase another farm of one hundred and sixty acres, becoming the owner of a quarter section in Paris township. He also owns ten acres of timber land on section 18, New Oregon township, and his holdings therefore comprise three hundred and thirty acres of valuable land. He has been most active and enterprising in the conduct of his farm and his progressive spirit has brought to him the measure of success which is today his.

To Mr. and Mrs. Pecinovsky have been born seven children. Albina is the wife of Joseph E. Sokup, a resident farmer of Winneshiek county, Iowa. Thomas is at home. Frances is the wife of Eugene Smith, a resident farmer of Chickasaw county, Iowa. Edward, Charles, Cyril and Maurie are also at home.

Mr. Pecinovsky votes with the democratic party and he is serving at the present time as a member of the board of trustees of his township. During eight years' service in that position he has done most creditable and efficient work for the benefit of the community. He is now the treasurer of the school board of New Oregon township. He and his family belong to the Catholic church and his position as a citizen of his community is with the foremost. Those who know him, and he has a wide acquaintance, appreciate what he has done, the effectiveness of his ideas and of his work and the value of his labors in behalf of public progress and improvement.

FRED HEIMERDINGER.

Fred Heimerdinger, a representative farmer of Howard county, lives on section 14, Paris township, where he is busily engaged in the development of an excellent tract of land. He was born in Germany, April 11, 1865, a son of John J. and Dorothy (Brening) Heimerdinger, who came to the United States in June, 1866. They first settled at Ridgeway, Winneshiek county, Iowa, and there the father passed away some years later. The mother afterward became the wife of



MR. AND MRS. FRED HEIMERDINGER

Fred Opitz and with him removed to Howard county about 1880. Mr. Opitz passed away in this county in August, 1902, and following the demise of her husband Mrs. Opitz made her home with her son Fred until her demise, which occurred in December, 1918, when she had reached the notable old age of ninety-three years and eleven months.

Fred Heimerdinger was but a year and three months old when brought to the new world and in Iowa was reared and educated, attending the district schools. As early as his eighteenth year he started out to provide for his own living by cultivating rented land and was thus engaged for a number of years. In 1885, just prior to his marriage, he made his first purchase of land, becoming owner of a tract of forty acres, on which his present farm buildings now stand. Whenever possible he has added to the property and his possessions now include two hundred acres of land and he ranks with the representative farmers of his district. He is likewise a stockholder of the Alta Vista Farmers Lumber & Coal Company and for ten years has been a member of its board of directors. He is a stockholder in the Jerico Farmers Creamery and also a representative of its directorate and is a stockholder in the Grain Belt Packing Company of Dubuque, Iowa. His activities and interests have thus covered a broad scope, and the careful direction of his affairs has brought to him a very gratifying measure of success.

In February, 1886, Mr. Heimerdinger was married to Miss Rosa Reinhart, a daughter of Samuel Reinhart, a pioneer settler of Iowa, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this work in connection with the sketch of his son Albert. To Mr. and Mrs. Heimerdinger have been born eight children, of whom five are living, namely: Emma, Floyd, Louis, Lydia and Celia, all of whom are at home.

Politically Mr. Heimerdinger is a republican and at three different times has served as a member of the township board of trustees and is now a member of the school board. He ranks with the representative and honored residents of his community, and he and his wife are faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

WELLINGTON De NOYELLES.

Death often removes from our midst those whom we can ill afford to lose and it was with great sorrow and regret that the citizens of Cresco learned of the demise of Wellington De Noyelles, who for a considerable period was a well known and prominent hotel man and jeweler of Cresco. The sterling traits of his character gained him many warm friends and won him the respect of those with whom he was associated. He was born in the state of New York in 1856, his parents being Joshua and Almira (Borst) De Noyelles, both of whom were also natives of the Empire state and of French descent. The father engaged in the hotel business in the east and also carried on farming on an extensive scale and owned many fast horses. In his later life he retired from the hotel business but still retained possession of his farm land and continued to make his home in New York until 1870, when he removed westward to Nashua, Chickasaw county, Iowa. There he once more resumed active connection with the hotel business and remained a resident of that place until called to his final rest. His business affairs were wisely and carefully conducted and his interests brought to him a substantial measure of prosperity. His wife also spent her last days in Iowa, passing away in Mason City.

Wellington De Noyelles was largely reared in Cresco and is indebted to the public school system of the city for the educational opportunities which he enjoyed. After his textbooks were put aside he began learning the jewelry trade in the store and under the direction of Charles Webber and afterward he returned to Nashua, Iowa, where he engaged in the hotel business with his father. At a subsequent period he established a jewelry store at Northwood, in Worth county, Iowa, where he remained for two years and then removed to Garner, Iowa, where he engaged in the jewelry business to the time of his demise. For an extended period he was

connected with the jewelry trade of Iowa and his stores were always attractive establishments, well appointed and equipped. Moreover, his business methods insured him a liberal patronage, for he was ever straightforward and honorable in his dealings and built up his interests along constructive lines, his path never being strewn with the wreck of other men's fortunes.

In 1872 Mr. De Noyelles was united in marriage to Miss Emma Caward, a daughter of James and Mary (Brown) Caward, who were natives of England, where they were reared and married. They came to the United States in early manhood and womanhood, crossing the Atlantic about 1843, at which time they established their home in the state of New York, where Mr. Caward followed the occupation of farming. Some time later, however, believing that he might have better business opportunities in the middle west, he removed to North Prairie, Wisconsin, where the father resumed agricultural interests, carefully and systematically conducting a farm there for a number of years. Eventually he removed to Whitewater, Wisconsin, and it was while the family was residing at that place that the birth of Mrs. De Noyelles occurred. While living in Whitewater, Mr. Caward was engaged in construction work on the Chicago, Milwaukee, & St. Paul Railroad from 1857 until 1859. He remained a resident of that place until his death, which occurred when he was forty-nine years of age. His widow afterward removed to Chicago, Illinois, where her last days were spent, and she had reached the age of sixty-eight years ere she was called to her final rest. To Mr. and Mrs. De Noyelles was born a son, Leon Caward. Mrs. De Noyelles is still a resident of Cresco, where she has a fine modern home and is most pleasantly situated.

In his political views Mr. De Noyelles was a democrat, loyal to the party because of his firm belief in its principles. His religious faith was that of the Methodist Episcopal church and he held membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He had many substantial traits of character which won him kindly regard and good will from all who knew him and made his death a matter of deep regret to those who came within the circle of his friendship. Mrs. De Noyelles is widely and favorably known in Cresco and the hospitality of her pleasant home is greatly enjoyed by those with whom she is brought in contact.

A. J. VENZ.

A. J. Venz, a farmer residing on section 17, Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, was born in Germany, July 14, 1862, his parents being William and Hannah (Knepe) Venz, who came to the United States in the spring of 1873 and first settled in Ripon, Fond du lac county, Wisconsin. After ten years they removed to Chickasaw county, Iowa, taking up their abode in Deerfield township on a tract of land of forty acres. A year later, however, Mr. Venz went with his family to Floyd county, Iowa, where he resided to the time of his death, which occurred January 2, 1919.

A. J. Venz was about eleven years of age when he crossed the Atlantic and had attained his majority at the time of the removal of his parents to Iowa. For three years after coming to Chickasaw county he worked for wages as a farm hand and then began renting land which he cultivated for seven years. The profits from his crops were carefully put away until the sum was sufficient to enable him in 1893 to purchase eighty acres of land on section 16, Deerfield township. For twelve years he resided upon and further improved the farm and on the expiration of that period he traded the property toward the purchase of his present home place, comprising one hundred and sixty acres. Today he has a modern farm, improved with good buildings that afford ample shelter for grain and stock. He devotes his attention to general agricultural pursuits, producing the crops best adapted to soil and climatic conditions here, and the results of his labors have been very gratifying.

In November, 1888, Mr. Venz was married to Miss Emma Krumrey, of Chickasaw township, a daughter of Henry Krumrey, who came to Chickasaw county from Germany about 1866. He is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Venz are the parents of three children:

Etta, now the wife of E. W. Manning, a farmer of Deerfield township; George, who married Lulu Rose, a daughter of W. W. Rose, and is now engaged in farming in Chickasaw township; and Wilbur, at home.

Since becoming a naturalized American citizen A. J. Venz has given his political support to the republican party but has never sought nor desired office. His attention has been fully claimed by his business affairs and it has been through his own labor that he has gained his present day success. He started out in life empty-handed and has worked his way upward. He has never been afraid of hard labor, and his diligence and industry have placed him among the substantial farmers of this section.

JAMES W. MULICK, M. D.

Dr. James W. Mulick is a well known physician of northern Iowa practicing at Elma, where he enjoys a large and lucrative practice in medicine and surgery. He was born in Riceville, Iowa, February 4, 1867, and mention of his family is made in connection with the sketch of his brother, J. F. Mulick, on another page of this work. In his youthful days he lived on the home farm of his father and attended the common schools at Riceville. After he had completed the course of instruction in those institutions he became a student in the high school at Osage and was graduated therefrom in due time. In 1895 he determined to make the practice of medicine his life work and with this end in view went to Chicago, where he matriculated in the Rush Medical College, in which he completed the course and was graduated with the class of 1899. For a year thereafter he practiced medicine in McIntire, Iowa, and then removed to Elma, where he has since resided. Through the intervening period a large and very gratifying practice has been accorded him. He has been a most earnest and untiring student in his life's work.

On the 7th of June, 1905, Dr. Mulick was married to Miss Catherine Cullen, of Montreal, Canada, and they became the parents of four children: Mary Mildred, James Arthur, Catherine Marion and P. J. Clarence. The daughter Catherine M. died at Elma, March 15, 1912. The wife and mother passed away after a long illness on the 23d of October, 1918, her death being the occasion of deep and widespread regret, she being a most estimable young woman.

Dr. Mulick is a member of the Catholic church of Elma and belongs to the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters. He likewise has membership with the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Modern Brotherhood of America. During the years 1917-18 he was honored with the presidency of the Howard County Medical Society and he also belongs to the Iowa State and American Medical Associations. His political endorsement is usually given to the democratic party and he feels an interest in its success and the adoption of its principles. When not too busy with his practice he takes a keen interest in the improvement of his farm lands.

JOHN F. BAETHKE.

John F. Baethke, a resident farmer of Howard county, is living on section 6, Paris township, where he owns and cultivates eighty acres of good land. He was born in this county on the 27th of September, 1888, and is a son of Christ and Sophia (Suerbeer) Baethke, both of whom are natives of Germany, although they came to the United States in early life and were married on this side of the water. The father was born May 25, 1858, and after his arrival in Howard county he worked as a farm hand for a short time. He was ambitious, however, to engage in farming on his own account and he carefully saved his earnings, practicing the strictest economy as well as the closest industry in order to gain a start. He then purchased property and for many years was classed with the progressive and representative farmers of the community, tilling the soil until about a year ago, when he retired from active business life, rent-

ing his farm to his son and taking up his abode in Cresco, where he now lives in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. He had pursued his early education in the schools of Germany, but by diligent study after coming to America he has won a place among those who are well informed concerning the history and development of this country.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for John F. Baethke of this review during the days of his boyhood, at which period he divided his time between the acquirement of a public school education and the work of the fields. Through vacation periods he assisted in the task of caring for the crops and was well trained in all branches of farm work when he took over the management of the old home property, to which he is now giving his entire attention. He carries on general farming and the results of his labors are most gratifying.

On the 22d day of January, 1913, Mr. Baethke was united in marriage to Miss Matilda Eberling, a daughter of Fred and Elizabeth Eberling, of Clayton county, Iowa, where the father is now engaged in farming. Mr. and Mrs. Baethke have two children, Violet and Reuben, the former four years of age, while the little son is but a year old. The family attend the Lutheran church at Davis Corners. Mr. Baethke votes with the republican party nor does he lightly hold the duties and obligations of citizenship, but he does not seek nor desire office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his farming interests, which he is now most carefully and creditably managing.

CHAPMAN ALEXANDER MARSHALL.

Chapman Alexander Marshall lived a life of great usefulness, dividing his time between agricultural pursuits and the work of the ministry. He was born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1836, a son of Anthony and Jane (Alexander) Marshall. The father and mother were both natives of the South of England and were married there. The father was an officer of the English army and rose to the rank of lieutenant general. He served his government at Gibraltar, in South Africa, in Nova Scotia, in Canada and in Dublin, Ireland, and for many years remained with the colors, but his last days were spent in England, his demise occurring at Leamington. His wife also died at Leamington and was eighty-four years of age at the time of her death.

Chapman A. Marshall spent his boyhood in various localities, according to his father's places of assignment for military duty. He was at times in Dublin, Ireland, in South America and in Plymouth, England. He came to the United States in 1858, when a young man of nineteen years, and settled in Paris township, Howard county, Iowa, where he purchased a farm, devoting about two years to the development and improvement of the place. In 1860 he returned to Plymouth, England, where he was married, and then with his bride he sailed for the new world, again making Howard county his destination. In the vicinity of Cresco he purchased a farm, which he at once began to develop and improve, and his labors soon wrought a marked transformation in the appearance of the place. When Cresco was organized as a village he established a general store there and conducted the business for some time. As the years passed and his financial resources increased he kept adding to his farm land until he had a valuable place of six hundred acres, most carefully and successfully tilled. In addition he owned a store at Vernon Springs and he also devoted much time to the ministry, giving more and more of his time and energies to the work of the church as the years passed. He was also called upon to aid in public affairs and in 1886 was elected to the state senate, where he made so creditable a record that his fellow townsmen reelected him to the position. He continued a member of the upper house of the Iowa legislature through the second term and gave most thoughtful and earnest consideration to all the vital questions which came up for settlement. Through the period of his residence in Iowa he spent three years at New Hampton and during the following four and a half years resided at Nashua, Iowa. After leaving Nashua he took up his abode in Clinton, Iowa, where he continued for two years, and later

spent thirteen years in McGregor. It was on the expiration of that period that he located in Cresco, where he and his wife spent their remaining days.

It was in 1860 that Mr. Marshall was united in marriage to Miss Eliza Greenway at Plymouth, England, and they became the parents of eight children, namely, Annie Jane, Edith Emma, Henry, Anthony, Chapman A., Florence R., Charles G. and Gertrude E. Both the father and mother have now passed away, the death of the Rev. Chapman A. Marshall having occurred in 1906, while his wife died in 1905. He was a republican in his political views and always stood loyally by the principles of the party, in which he firmly believed. As a minister of the Congregational church he did excellent work for the moral progress of the community, as a member of the state legislature he did effective service in placing important laws on the statute books and as a business man contributed to the material growth and development of Iowa. In a word, his worth was acknowledged along all the lines to which he directed his activities and his entire career was characterized by devotion to duty. He held to high ideals and was continually reaching out a helping hand to assist others on life's journey. A modern philosopher has said: "Not the good that comes to us, but the good that comes to the world through us is the measure of our success," and judged by this standard Mr. Marshall was a most successful man. To know him was to esteem and honor him and thus his death was the occasion of deep and widespread regret in the community in which he so long lived.

JAMES A. WOOD.

For years the most conspicuous figure in the business life of Ionia was James A. Wood, who controlled interests of a most important character, his labors at all times contributing to the progress and prosperity of the community in which he lived as well as to the advancement of his individual fortunes. He was born in Prescott, Canada, September 5, 1836, and in 1880 became a resident of Ionia, Iowa. At that time he was a man without capital, but he took advantage of opportunities which he found at his new location and won success as the years passed. He engaged in the creamery business and prosperity attended his efforts from the beginning. It was but a short time later that he founded Ionia's first bank and not only did he prove himself an efficient and successful banker but also served as postmaster of the city and in addition found time to conduct a livery stable. Whatever he undertook he carried forward to successful completion. In his vocabulary there was no such word as fail, and if one avenue of opportunity seemed closed, he sought out other paths whereby he might reach the desired goal.

Ionia honored him as a citizen by electing him its first mayor and he served as postmaster for four years during the last Cleveland administration. It may also be said of him that he was the advisor to the people of the town. They consulted him upon all vital matters, and if advice were needed, or assistance in financial matters, it was to Mr. Wood that they turned and received from him wise counsel. He was ever ready to lend a willing ear to the troubles of the people of his community and to render such assistance as was possible. It seemed to be one of the vocations of his life and one of his keenest pleasures to help others. It is said that many of the oldest settlers owe their advancement in life directly to his timely help and his efforts in their behalf. He was a man of action rather than of theory and his own activity inspired others to greater effort.

Through the advice of his physician Mr. Wood sold his bank in 1901, but he believed in the old adage that it was better to wear out than to rust out and he could not content himself to remain idle. He therefore turned his attention to the lumber business, which he conducted up to the time of his demise on the 28th of December, 1918, when he passed peacefully away without a pain to the other life which has no ending. He was one of the charter members and one of the principal figures in the organization of the Masonic lodge of Ionia, which later was consolidated with the lodge at Bassett,

and at all times in his life exemplified the beneficent spirit of the craft, which is based upon a recognition of the brotherhood of man and the obligations thereby imposed.

It was on the 4th of September, 1894, that Mr. Wood was united in marriage to Miss Alice A. Harrison, of Nashua, Iowa, a daughter of one of the earliest of the pioneer families of Chickasaw county. In his marriage to Miss Harrison, Mr. Wood found a helpmate worthy of the bigness and broadness of her husband. She was not only his companion but his assistant in all of his business activities, bringing to every question an intelligent understanding. The two were inseparable in all things and much of the business success of Mr. Wood may be attributed to his wife's loving care and assistance. Since her husband's death Mrs. Wood has continued to conduct the lumber business and has proven her ability in business affairs. She is a woman of education and refinement who for eighteen years prior to her marriage was engaged in educational work and during a part of that time taught in the primary department of the New Hampton schools. For several years past she has been a regular contributor to the local papers and has become well known in these and other connections. Her social position is an enviable one and her circle of friends is extensive. In politics Mr. Wood was a democrat but never sought or desired office, always preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs. He had many admirable traits of character and enjoyed the high regard and goodwill of all with whom he came in contact.

FRANK BURNS.

Frank Burns is the proprietor of the Lime Springs Meat Market and is one of the oldest business men of the town in years of continuous connection with the commercial interests. He was born in Watertown, Wisconsin, September 14, 1858, a son of Sylvester and Sarah (Barnes) Burns, both of whom were natives of Oneida, New York, where they were reared and married. In 1843 the father removed westward to Wisconsin and the following year was joined by his wife. They located in Jefferson county, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land near Watertown, at which time, because of the unsettled and undeveloped condition of the country, they did their marketing in Milwaukee—thirty-five miles distant. In young manhood the father lost a leg, which was torn off by the tumbling rod of a threshing machine. This forced him to give up farming and he removed to Watertown, where he conducted a hotel and also secured a government position as a mail carrier on the Star route. He died in 1880.

It was in the following year that Frank Burns removed to Iowa. His brother, Calvin W., was engaged in the butchering business in Lime Springs and Frank Burns joined him in this town, purchasing a half interest in the business. The two brothers then conducted their interests in partnership for about five years, when Frank Burns bought the interest of his brother and became sole proprietor. He has been continuously identified with the commercial activity of Lime Springs for thirty-seven years, there being scarcely anyone else who has so long been connected with business interests at this place. In 1898 his establishment was destroyed by fire when a part of the town was burned. Immediately afterward he began the erection, on the same site, of his present brick business block. The fire occurred in August and on the 1st of December following he resumed business in his new building. He has always carried a large line of fine meats and his reasonable prices, straightforward dealings and earnest desire to please his customers have been salient features in his constantly growing trade.

On the 27th of June, 1882, Mr. Burns was married to Miss Nannie Moore, of Lime Springs, and they had four children: Teresa, now the wife of Charles A. Kohout, a jeweler of Cass Lake, Minnesota; Gladys M., the widow of Lloyd Horton, who died at Camp Grant, near Rockford, Illinois, in September, 1918; Vera, the wife of F. H. Luhman, of Postville, Iowa; and Beryl, who is attending a business college in Minneapolis. The wife and mother passed away on the 15th of July.



Frank A. Burns

1915, her death being the occasion of deep and widespread regret throughout the community.

Mr. Burns is a democrat in politics and has been quite active as a leader in the local ranks of the party. He served as a member of the town council for nine years and for a similar period was a member of the school board, taking keen interest in the development and improvement of the school system of the town. He is a member of Howard Lodge, No. 214, A. F. & A. M., and served as master for five years, while he and his four daughters are all members of Utopia Chapter, No. 379, O. E. S. Mr. Burns is serving as worthy patron, while his daughter, Mrs. Gladys M. Horton, is worthy matron. Mr. Burns also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Burns and his family are consistent members of the Presbyterian church and their aid and influence are always given on the side of right, progress and improvement. He justly deserves mention among the representative and worthy citizens of Howard county.

HON. D. A. LYONS.

Hon. D. A. Lyons has left the impress of his individuality upon the history of Iowa as a member of the state senate during the twenty-seventh, twenty-eighth, twenty-ninth, thirtieth and thirty-first sessions of the general assembly. His influence in public affairs has been a potent one and the results of his labors have been far-reaching and beneficial. He is now living retired in Cresco, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of an active business life, characterized by sound judgment and enterprise.

Mr. Lyons is a native of Chicago, Illinois, born September 8, 1851, his parents being Jeremiah and Ellen (Whalen) Lyons, both of whom were natives of County Waterford, Ireland, where they were reared and married. In 1847 they came to the United States, first settling in Poughkeepsie, New York, which was then a farming district, and the father gave his attention to agricultural pursuits there for three years. In 1850 he made his way westward to Chicago, where he engaged in teaming and in grading work, taking contracts for such work. He continued a resident of Chicago for eighteen years, or until 1868, when he came to Iowa and made investment in a farm in Burr Oak township, Winneshiek county. With characteristic energy he began the development and further improvement of that property and resided thereon for a period of about twenty years. He sold the place in 1880 and removed to Madison, South Dakota, where he lived retired to the time of his death, which occurred about 1892 or 1893. He had for a short period survived his wife, who died in 1890.

D. A. Lyons whose name introduces this review was reared upon the home farm and acquired his early education in the Chicago schools and in the graded schools of Burr Oak township, Winneshiek county, Iowa, following the removal of the family to this state. On attaining his majority in 1872 he came to Cresco, where he entered the implement business and for seven years represented the firm of Strother & Conklin as a traveling salesman upon the road. In 1879 he established an implement business of his own in Cresco and in 1880 entered into partnership with R. J. McHugh, organizing the firm of McHugh & Lyons, which business relationship was maintained until 1894, when Mr. McHugh passed away and Mr. Lyons purchased his interest in the business. He then continued to operate independently as an implement dealer until 1911, when he sold the business to the firm of McHugh & Luson and has since given his attention to the management of his landed holdings. He owns three different farms, comprising five hundred and fifty acres of land, all in Howard county. His investments are judiciously made and in all of his business affairs he has displayed sound judgment and enterprise, leading to the attainment of substantial success.

On the 25th of September, 1876, Mr. Lyons was married to Miss Catherine Fitzgerald, of Winneshiek county, a daughter of Patrick Fitzgerald, one of the early

settlers of that county. Mr. and Mrs. Lyons have become the parents of eight children, six sons and two daughters, of whom two of the sons are deceased. The others are: Mary, the wife of O. J. McHugh, an implement dealer of Cresco; Angela, the wife of James Haney, of Miles City, Montana; J. Urban, who is employed by the International Harvester Company at Minot, North Dakota; Dennis A., Jr., who is with the International Harvester Company at Minot; Gerald E., an attorney connected with the firm of McCook & Lyons, of Cresco; and Leonard L., who is with the Cresco Union Savings Bank.

In his political views Mr. Lyons is a stalwart democrat and has long been a recognized leader in party ranks in the state. He served as mayor of Cresco for four years, being elected on a platform declaring for a waterworks system for the city, and the system was built under his administration. Various other needed reforms and improvements were instituted and the city benefited largely by his businesslike control of municipal affairs. In 1897 Mr. Lyons was nominated on the democratic ticket for the office of state senator and although he had for his opponent Dr. J. W. Danbury, who had served as mayor of Decorah for twenty years and was a very popular and capable man, he won the election by a majority of three hundred, overcoming a normal republican majority of twenty-four hundred. He was re-elected for four succeeding terms, a fact which stands in unmistakable proof of his capability and devotion to the welfare of community and commonwealth. He has never been an aspirant for political preferment and every honor which has come to him in this capacity has been unsolicited. It has been a case of choosing a man whom the public has recognized as capable of valuable service in office and who by his work has fully justified the confidence reposed in him.

Mr. Lyons and his family are members of the Catholic church and he belongs to the Knights of Columbus and to the Woodmen of the World. He was likewise a member of the Decorah Lodge of Elks at one time but has allowed his membership in that organization to lapse. Cresco has long numbered him among her foremost citizens and in sending him to the legislature gave to Iowa a statesman of broad views and high principles.

JOSEPH SAMEC.

The life story of Joseph Samec is one of earnest endeavor, crowned with success. He is truly a self-made man, for all that he possesses and enjoys has come to him as the reward of his own labors. He now follows farming on section 31, New Oregon township, Howard county, where he has a good property. He was born in Bohemia, May 8, 1867, and his parents were also natives of that land. They came to the United States when their son Joseph was a young man of twenty-one years and made their way across the country to Howard county. Joseph Samec at once sought employment at farm labor and worked in that way for a few years, during which time he carefully saved his earnings until he was able to purchase a forty acre farm. With characteristic energy he began to develop and improve the property, which he later sold, and then bought his present farm of one hundred and forty-two acres. He has been the owner of this property for twenty years and all of the improvements upon it were placed there by him. He is energetic, enterprising and progressive and has made good use of his time, his talents and his opportunities.

In 1891 Mr. Samec was married to Miss Rosie Panoch, a daughter of Joe and Katie Panoch, of Winneshiek county, and they have become the parents of ten children: Alois, Joseph, Victoria, Frank, Emma, Edward, James, Charles, Mary and Rose. Joseph was for seventeen months a member of Company D, Three Hundred and Fourteenth Infantry, and saw overseas service in the World war. Victoria is the wife of Joe Bark, of Winneshiek county, where he follows farming. The others of the family are at home.

Mr. Samec gives his political allegiance to the democratic party but has never sought nor desired office, preferring to concentrate his efforts and his energies upon his business affairs. The family are members of the Catholic church at Protivin, and Mr. Samec belongs to the Catholic Workmen. By reason of what he has accomplished and the wise use which he has made of his time and opportunities, he is held in the highest esteem. He has never been afraid of hard work, and his industry and perseverance have been the elements in his growing success. All who know him, and he has a wide acquaintance, bear testimony to the sterling worth that he has displayed in wresting fortune from the hands of fate.

ALBERT P. BIWER.

The student of history cannot carry his investigations far into the records of Howard county without learning of the close and long connection of the Biwer family with the development and upbuilding of this section of the state. Albert P. Biwer belongs to a family that from pioneer times has borne its part in the work of progress and upbuilding. He is a son of John and Margaret (Clear) Biwer and was born March 21, 1869, in Howard township. He is now engaged in farming in that township and his business affairs are being carefully and profitably conducted.

Mr. Biwer was educated in the district schools, but his opportunities for attendance were very limited. In fact he did not see the inside of a schoolhouse until he was ten years of age and after that he could attend at only brief intervals, for his father was struggling to get a start and the services of the son were needed upon the home farm, he being the oldest of the living children. However, he has read broadly and thinks deeply and in this way he has educated himself, being now recognized as a man of good practical business judgment. In 1892, when he had reached his twenty-third year, he began farming on his own account, buying at that time eighty acres of land. He was ambitious to acquire a good farm and carefully saved his earnings until his industry and economy had brought him sufficient capital to enable him to purchase other land and at one time he was the owner of two hundred and eighty acres. He has subsequently sold two hundred and twenty acres of this property, however, in recent years and now retains in the home farm but sixty acres.

On the 18th of October, 1911, Mr. Biwer was married to Miss Catherine Stone, of Chicago, Illinois, who was born in England. Mr. Biwer is a member of the Catholic church, while his wife is of the Episcopal faith. His political views are in accord with the principles of the republican party, but he has never been an office seeker. His time and energies have been devoted to farm work and in this he has been very successful, being recognized today as one of the substantial agriculturists of Howard county. In addition to tilling the fields he raises Duroc Jersey hogs and Rhode Island Red chickens and both branches of his business are proving sources of substantial profit.

JONATHAN E. WELLS.

At the time of his death Jonathan E. Wells was living in retirement in Cresco but for many years of an active life was identified with agricultural pursuits and his labors resulted in the development of an excellent farm property. He was born in Franklin county, Vermont, on the 20th of March, 1838, so that he had passed the eightieth milestone on life's journey. His parents were Jonathan and Prudence (Chase) Wells, both of whom were natives of New Hampshire, where the father followed the occupation of farming in order to provide for the support of his family. Some time after his death the mother married a brother of Jonathan Wells and they, too, resided upon a farm in New Hampshire, where later both passed away.

Jonathan E. Wells largely spent his boyhood days in Vermont where he continued to the age of eighteen years, and the public schools afforded him his educational privileges. He then determined to try his fortune in the new and growing west, of which he had heard such favorable reports, believing that he might have better business opportunities in that section of the country than he could secure in New England. He traveled westward by way of Dubuque and thence made the trip by driving across the country to Monona, Clayton county. In that vicinity he secured employment as a farm hand and while thus employed carefully saved his earnings until his industry and economy had brought him sufficient capital to enable him to purchase forty acres of land. This he tilled for a time but later disposed of the property and removed to Howard county, taking up his abode in Albion township. He then invested in a farm of eighty acres, to which he added from time to time until he had three hundred and twenty acres in all. Year by year he continued the work of cultivating and improving his farm land and annually gathered good crops as the result of the practical and progressive methods which he employed in carrying on the farm work. His place in its neat and thrifty appearance indicated his careful supervision and his intimate knowledge of modern farming methods. He continued to reside upon his farm until 1899, when he removed to Cresco and retired from active business life. He then enjoyed a well earned rest and the most envious could not grudge him his success, so honorably had it been won and so worthily used.

In 1862 Mr. Wells was united in marriage to Miss Mary Burgess, a native of Detroit, Michigan, and a daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Lincoln) Burgess. Her parents were both natives of England and in early life crossed the briny deep to the new world. They did not remain in the east but continued on their westward way to Detroit, Michigan, where the death of Mr. Burgess occurred some years later. His widow afterward came with her family to Iowa, settling at Cresco, where she continued to make her home until called to the home beyond. To Mr. and Mrs. Wells were born two children, Charles A. and William J.

Mr. Wells was a republican in his political faith and during the course of his active business life was called to serve in various public offices. At one time he was overseer of the county poor farm and continued in that position for seventeen years, making a most excellent record by the prompt and capable manner in which he discharged his duties. He was numbered among the pioneer settlers of Iowa and was familiar with the story of its growth and development from the earliest days. When he first came to the county Cresco had not yet been founded and the principal town was New Oregon, just north of the present county seat. Much of the land was still undeveloped and unimproved and the work of transforming this region into a rich agricultural district had only just begun. Mr. Wells bore his part in the task and for many years was prominently and successfully connected with the agricultural development of the county, winning a measure of success which was most gratifying and, moreover, was the merited reward of his labors. He passed away January 27, 1919, and his death was deeply regretted by a large circle of relatives and friends.

JOHN STEJSKAL.

John Stejskal, a progressive and energetic farmer living on section 22, Howard Center township, Howard county, was born in Bohemia, January 1, 1872, a son of James and Catherine (Bouska) Stejskal, both of whom remained in Bohemia, where the father passed away and where the mother is still living. The son was but a lad of thirteen years when he came to the United States. His father had previously died and the mother married again. The boy then determined to leave home and as his mother refused to give him money to make the trip, he wrote to an uncle in Howard county, Iowa, to send him money for his passage. The request was complied with and he was furnished the funds to pay his fare to Hamburg and a ticket from Hamburg to Cresco, Iowa. On reaching Hamburg with five dollars in cash he had to wait a couple of days for a ship and to meet his expenses

there he had to use the five dollars, so that he landed in New York city with but three pennies and his ticket to Cresco. He brought five or six sandwiches with him from the vessel on which he had sailed and those were eaten in New York. Then he made the journey to Cresco without food. On reaching the city of his destination he was told that his uncle lived six miles in the country and he set out on the journey on foot. It was a long, tedious trip on an empty stomach, for he had had no food for a couple of days, but he picked some wild strawberries by the wayside and finally reached his uncle's home. For two years thereafter he remained upon his uncle's farm and later continued to work as a farm hand, being thus employed until his twenty-seventh year.

Mr. Stejskal was then united in marriage to Miss Mary Markovetz, a native of Howard county, whose parents came from Bohemia and were among the early pioneers of Iowa. Following his marriage Mr. Stejskal, who had saved about twelve hundred dollars, purchased one hundred and sixty acres of his present farm. He then borrowed seven hundred dollars, with which he bought machinery, horses and other farm equipment and began the development and improvement of his place. He has since erected good buildings and made his farm one of the best improved properties of the county. His life has been one of industry and thrift, and his determination and energy have enabled him to overcome all obstacles and difficulties and work his way steadily upward to success.

To Mr. and Mrs. Stejskal have been born seven children, five of whom are yet living: Mary, at home; Frances, who is attending the State Teachers College at Cedar Falls, Iowa; and William, Edward and Louise, all yet at home.

In politics Mr. Stejskal is a democrat but not an office seeker. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church. He has long been regarded as one of the substantial and representative men of Howard county, and in addition to the success he has achieved in farming he is also known as one of the stockholders of the Farmers Creamery Association of Cresco. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the new world, for here he found the opportunities which he sought and in their utilization has made steady progress.

MICHAEL J. JEWERT.

Michael J. Jewert, devoting his time and energies to general farming in Howard county, his home being on section 36, Afton township, has always resided in the Mississippi valley and he possesses the spirit of diligence and enterprise which has been the dominant factor in the rapid upbuilding of this section of the country. He was born in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, July 20, 1873, a son of Martin and Anna (Woelfel) Jewert, both of whom were natives of what is now Milwaukee but was then the village of Walkers Point. The mother's parents came to this country in company with Philip Best, the well known brewer of Milwaukee. Following the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Jewert they began their domestic life in Elm Grove, Waukesha county, where the father followed the blacksmith's trade and conducted a shop for thirty-one years. He was long an active representative of industrial life in that community and enjoyed the high respect of all. His death, which occurred May 4, 1894, resulted from the kick of a mule which he was shoeing. His widow is still living and yet makes her home in Elm Grove, at about the age of sixty-seven years, and her mother lives with her at the advanced age of ninety-four years.

Michael J. Jewert is indebted to the public school system of Wisconsin for the early advantages which he enjoyed and later he spent a term in study at the Wauwatosa Normal School. As early as his fifteenth year he was apprenticed to the blacksmith's trade, serving under his father, and when his apprenticeship was completed he continued to work at the trade, which he followed for twelve years. His life has ever been one of industry and he has manifested thoroughness in

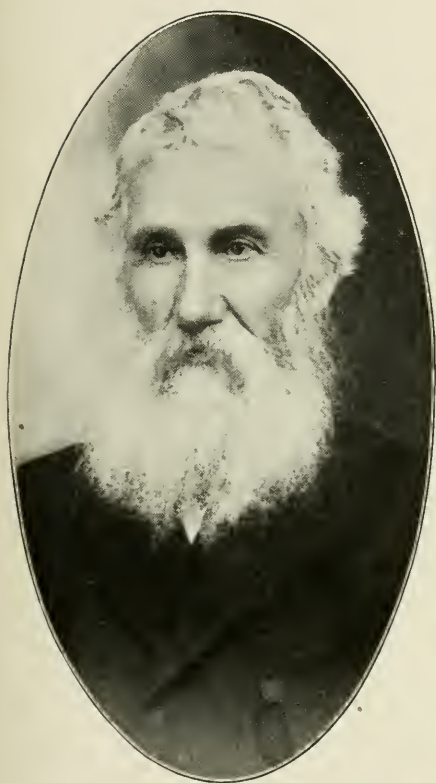
everything that he has undertaken. This has made him a successful farmer as well as a capable blacksmith.

While still a resident of Wisconsin, Mr. Jewert was married at Beloit Corners, in Milwaukee county, on the 26th of January 1894, to Miss Elizabeth Palmersheim and in 1899 they removed to Howard county, Iowa, taking up their abode in Afton township. They were then parents of two children, who had been born in Wisconsin. Mr. Jewert at the time of his arrival in this state had but sixty dollars in cash and during the first few years of his residence here he found it very difficult to gain a start. For four years he engaged in farming rented land on the shares and during that period very carefully saved his earnings, practicing strict economy as well as industry. During the succeeding eight years he rented land for cash and in 1911 he saw his way clear to make his first purchase of land and became owner of eighty acres on section 22 in Afton township. He lived upon that farm for three years, after which he sold the property and in the fall of 1913 bought forty acres of his present home place. Two years later he purchased an adjoining forty acres and in 1918 bought a third forty-acre tract, so that his present holdings comprise one hundred and twenty acres. He has one of the finest improved farms in Afton township and he has erected all of the buildings upon this place. He is one of the progressive and substantial residents of his part of the county and his success is directly attributable to his labors and perseverance. The buildings stand as a monument to his capability and the farm in its neat and thrifty appearance attests the practical and progressive methods of the owner.

Mr. and Mrs. Jewert have become the parents of eight children: Mollie; Anna; Martin; Evelyn and Leroy, twins; Mabel; Edna; and Cecelia. All are yet under the parental roof. The family are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Jewert is also a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters and of the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he maintains a non-partisan stand, preferring to vote according to the dictates of his judgment without regard to party ties. For twelve years he has served as a member of the school board. His interest and activity, however, are chiefly concentrated upon his business affairs and by reason of his close application he has become one of the representative farmers of Afton township. He is also a stockholder in the Howard County Cooperative Equity Association and a stockholder in the Elma Cooperative Creamery Company and through these agencies materially adds to his income. His life record may well serve as an example to others, proving what may be accomplished notwithstanding the handicap of limited means in early manhood.

GEORGE P. HOCKSPEIER.

The birthplace of George P. Hockspeier, now a prosperous farmer of Chickasaw county, living on section 5, Washington township, was a log cabin which was built by his parents when they first settled in this section of the state. The pioneer dwelling stood upon the farm which he still occupies and there he first opened his eyes to the light of day, December 10, 1873. His parents were John and Rosa (Bauer) Hockspeier, who came from Germany in early life with their respective parents. They became acquainted and were married in Chicago, their wedding day being July 9, 1858. In September of the same year they drove across the country from Chicago to northern Iowa and established their home in Washington township, Chickasaw county. The journey was made with oxen and wagon and when they reached their destination they settled a mile and a half southwest of Devon. The father afterward purchased one hundred and sixty acres of government land, for which he paid a dollar and a quarter per acre. It was entirely destitute of improvements and bore little resemblance to the highly cultivated farm upon which his son, George P. Hockspeier, now resides. The father served for eleven months in the Civil war as a member of Company I, Thirteenth Iowa Infantry, and at all times he was ready to do his part in matters of public-spirited citizenship. In his business he prospered as the years passed, becoming a well-



MR. AND MRS. JOHN HOCKSPEIER

to-do man. When he landed in New York he was in very limited financial circumstances and for a time he engaged in carrying brick, for which he received but twenty cents per day. Later he went to Chicago, where he became familiar with the painting and varnishing business, and subsequently he engaged in the furniture trade on his own account in Chicago at No. 116 Randolph street. The opportunities of the growing west, however, attracted him and with his wife he drove across the country with oxen and wagon, as previously indicated. He then took up agricultural pursuits but on the 9th day of July, 1877, was crippled in an accident while driving to New Hampton, Iowa. This impaired his physical ability for the remainder of his life, his spine being injured. He passed away on the old homestead November 20, 1907, and for several years was survived by his wife, who died on the old home farm August 22, 1913. Both had attained to a good old age, the father having been born in January, 1834, while the mother's birth occurred April 29, 1838, she being therefore seventy-five, years of age at the time of her demise, while Mr. Hockspeier was seventy-three.

George P. Hockspeier, reared on the old homestead, early became familiar with the best methods of carrying on the work of the farm and continued to assist in its development until he reached the age of twenty-nine years, when he bought one hundred acres from his father at fifty dollars per acre. This had previously been acquired by the father at the usual government price of a dollar and a quarter per acre. After his father's death the son received one hundred acres through the terms of his father's will. He has always been an enterprising agriculturist and his place has been brought to a high state of development and improvement. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Equity Association of Alta Vista and in the Farmers Lumber & Coal Company of that place.

On the 5th of February, 1908, Mr. Hockspeier was married to Miss Lydia Reinhart, a daughter of Samuel and Anna (Lehman) Reinhart, who came originally from Switzerland and established their home in northern Iowa in pioneer times. Their daughter was born in Howard county, Iowa, where her father passed away, but the mother still lives in that county. To Mr. and Mrs. Hockspeier have been born two children, Lloyd Winton and Eunice La Verne, aged respectively eight and four years.

Mr. Hockspeier and his wife are members of the Evangelical church of Alta Vista and he belongs also to the Odd Fellows Lodge, No. 658, of that place. In community affairs he has ever been keenly interested, and his aid and support have always been given on the side of progress and improvement. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and during the World war he served on the Liberty Loan committee, aiding in raising the funds necessary to finance his native country in the great world-wide struggle.

JOB DARROW.

Job Darrow is a retired farmer living in Cresco and a citizen of genuine worth. He was born in Grand Isle county, Vermont, on the 18th of December, 1845, and is therefore nearing the seventy-fourth milestone on life's journey. His parents were Walter D. and Emeline (Babcock) Darrow. His parents were natives of the Green Mountain state, where they were reared and married, after which the father devoted his attention to the occupation of farming. Subsequent to the death of his wife, which occurred in Vermont, he removed to the west in the spring of 1855, making his way to Clayton county, Iowa, traveling across the country until he took up his abode in Albion township. There he entered a claim from the government, hired some breaking done and the next fall built a log house upon his land. With characteristic energy he began the further development and improvement of the property and while living upon the old homestead in those early days met all of the hardships and privations incident to frontier life. At that time McGregor was the nearest market. Roads were in poor condition and one could drive for miles over the open prairie without coming to a fence or a house to impede progress. After giving many years to farm life in this locality Mr. Darrow retired from business and

took up his abode in Cresco, where he passed away in 1905 at the age of eighty-eight years. It was subsequent to his removal to the west that he married Eveline Carpenter, who survived her husband and died in Cresco. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and his political allegiance was given to the republican party.

Job Darrow whose name introduces this review was largely reared in Albion township, Howard county, and his environment during his boyhood days was that of frontier life. He began his education in one of the old-time log schoolhouses found upon the frontier. The methods of instruction were very primitive and the curriculum scarcely covered more than reading, writing and arithmetic, but his training in farm labor was not meager and he early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He then began operating the old home farm, which he improved until 1906, when he removed to Cresco and purchased a fine residence. He has since lived retired, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned and richly merits. His memory goes back to the time when Cresco had not been started and when pioneer conditions of all kinds existed in this section of the state. Farm work was done with oxen and the country was wild and unimproved. McGregor was the nearest market and trips to that place were made with ox teams. As the years passed, however, the energetic labors and determination of the pioneer settlers wrought a marked change in conditions here. Mr. Darrow became the owner of two hundred and fifty acres of the old homestead farm and in addition he also owns a tract of similar size in Minnesota, so that his farm properties return to him a gratifying annual income.

In 1891 Mr. Darrow was united in marriage to Mrs. Lucy Ashley, a daughter of Benjamin and Rosetta (Adams) Gilliman. Mrs. Darrow was born in the state of New York and in her girlhood days accompanied her parents on their removal to Wisconsin, while later the family home was established in Howard county, Iowa, while subsequently a removal was made to Cottonwood county, Minnesota, where Mr. Gilliman took up government land and carried on farming throughout his remaining days. Mr and Mrs. Darrow have no children of their own but have reared two adopted children, William D. and Gertrude. The members of the family are widely and favorably known in Cresco and this section of Howard county and the hospitality of the best homes is cordially extended them.

Mr. Darrow deserves much credit for what he has accomplished in life, as his success is attributable entirely to his persistency of purpose and well directed efforts. Those who know him, and he has a wide acquaintance, esteem him highly by reason of his genuine worth and he well deserves mention among the pioneer settlers of the county, for he has long resided in this part of the state and his memory forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present.

LEO P. BIWER.

Leo P. Biwer, actively interested in general agricultural pursuits in Howard county, his farm being situated on section 35, Howard township, was born thereon May 12, 1879, the property being then owned by his parents John and Margaret (Clear) Biwer, of whom extended mention is made in connection with the sketch of their son, J. F. Biwer, on another page of this volume.

Leo P. Biwer acquired a district school education and in 1900, when twenty-one years of age, began farming on his own account, taking over the active work of further cultivating and improving the place upon which he now resides. He farmed this tract of three hundred and twenty acres as a renter for four or five years and about 1904 purchased eighty acres adjoining the old homestead. His father subsequently deeded him sixty-four acres of land, which with his former holdings constitutes his present home farm of one hundred and forty-four acres. For several years after starting out in business independently he cooperated with his two brothers, Dominick and Michael, in the cultivation of four hundred acres, but at a later period he has carried on the further

development of his home place independently. In 1915 he leased the farm and for three years conducted a garage in Elma, but in 1918 he returned to the farm and is now carrying on the work of further improvement there. He is a stockholder in the Howard County Cooperative Equity Association and also a stockholder in the Elma Cooperative Creamery Company.

In 1905 Mr. Biwer was united in marriage to Miss Cornelia Best, of Cresco, Howard county, by whom he has three children: Lillian, Inez and Lester. The attractiveness of Howard county as a place of residence is evidenced in the fact that many of her native sons have remained within her borders, feeling sure that they can have opportunities here equal to those to be secured elsewhere. Among this number is Leo P. Biwer, who has always lived in Howard county and with the exception of the three years spent in Elma has always remained upon the home farm, which he now owns and successfully cultivates.

HANS C. MOEN.

Hans C. Moen, who is engaged in the plumbing and heating business as a contractor at Cresco, was born at Christiania, Norway, in 1859 and is a son of Christian and Anna (Frantzen) Moen. Both were natives of the land of the midnight sun, where they were reared and married. There they remained until 1870, when they determined to try their fortune in the new world and made their way to the United States. They crossed the country to Racine county, Wisconsin, establishing their home at North Cape, where the father engaged in farming for ten years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Howard county, Iowa, and took up his abode in New Oregon township, where he purchased farm land that included the old town site of New Oregon. There he remained until his death and his efforts and energies were devoted to general agricultural pursuits. He was one of the pioneer residents of the district and he contributed much to its development and improvement. Both he and his wife passed away in the year 1899. He had always given his political allegiance to the republican party after becoming a naturalized American citizen and he and his wife had always given earnest support to the Lutheran church, of which they were consistent and devoted members. They reared a family of eight children, namely, John, Anna H., Johannah, Frank C., Thomas, Hans C., Anton and Martin.

Hans C. Moen spent his boyhood to the age of ten years in his native country and then bade adieu to friends and native land in order to accompany his parents as they sailed for the new world. He arrived in Racine county in 1870 and after ten years came to Howard county on the 1st of April 1880, the journey being made first to Cresco and then to New Oregon. Later he returned to Cresco and was employed in the Swenson foundry for three years. He afterward operated a threshing outfit in the west through the fall but returned home in the winter. In 1887 he became an engineer in the flour mill of John M. McCoy and occupied that position for three years. He next purchased a half interest in the foundry and eventually the company extended the scope of their business by adding plumbing and heating. They have a well equipped establishment and the trade has now reached gratifying proportions. The business was conducted for eight years under the firm name of Swenson & Moen, at the end of which time Mr. Moen started in business on his own account and is now alone. He has important contracts for plumbing and heating and the thoroughness of his work has insured a continuance of the trade. He also deals in farm lands and has become the owner of some excellent property.

In 1888 Mr. Moen was united in marriage to Miss Mary Rudi, a daughter of Knute K. and Gertrude (Lee) Rudi. Mrs. Moen was born in Norway and came to the United States with her brother Julius in 1882, making her way to Cresco, where she took up her abode. She has become the mother of five children. Amelia G. the eldest, is a trained nurse now at the Great Lakes training station. Clarence H. became a sergeant in the Ninety-ninth Division stationed at Wheeler and Atlanta, Georgia, but is now at home. Gertrude is now the wife of Donald Lent. Arthur T. is a lieutenant in the

United States navy and a graduate of the Naval Academy at Annapolis, and Cora S. is at home.

Mr. Moen started out in the business world without capital and has steadily worked his way upward. His success is due to various causes—to his untiring industry, to his studious habits, to his determination and his straightforward dealing. He has always been a great reader and keeps in touch with the trend of the times in this way. He has studied closely the political questions and issues of the day and gives his support to the republican party. He has served as a member of the city council for several years. He started the sewer system of Cresco and has been active in promoting various other progressive measures of the town. For ten years he was a member of the board of education and the public schools have ever found in him a stalwart champion. He acted as president of the board for two years and was in charge of the building of the new high school at Cresco. Fraternally he is a Mason and his religious faith is that of the Lutheran church. He has given to his children good advantages and is justly proud of his family. His life activities, varied as they have been, have constituted a valuable contribution to the development and upbuilding of the county, where his name is honored and respected as that of a progressive business man and thoroughly reliable citizen.

J. C. JACOBY.

Among the resident farmers of Howard county is numbered J. C. Jacoby, who resides on section 31, Howard township. He has always been a resident of the Mississippi valley and in his life exemplifies the spirit of enterprise which has been a dominant factor in the upbuilding of this section of the country. He was born in Milwaukee county, Wisconsin, November 20, 1854, a son of Frank and Margaret Jacoby, who were natives of Germany, where they were reared and married. They came to the United States in 1851 and established their home in Milwaukee county where the father continued to reside throughout the remainder of his life, there passing away at the age of eighty-six years. The mother survives and is now eighty-five years of age.

J. C. Jacoby spent his youthful days at the place of his nativity and pursued his education in district and parochial schools of that locality. In the spring of 1879 he came to Iowa and made investment in one hundred and sixty acres of his present home farm. In subsequent years he has added to his holdings as his financial resources have increased and is now the owner of three hundred and forty acres of Howard county's most valuable and productive land. To his place he has added many modern improvements and accessories and his farm property is not only very valuable but presents a most attractive picture in the landscape. As the years have passed his labors have been crowned with substantial success as the result of his progressive methods of farming and he has also become a stockholder in the Elma Cooperative Creamery Company. He served for several years as a member of its board of directors and is now secretary of the company.

In 1882 Mr. Jacoby was married to Miss Margaret Palmersheim, of Waukesha county, Wisconsin, and they have become the parents of ten children, nine of whom survive: Catherine, the wife of Nicholas Jeager, who is serving as town clerk of Greenfield, Wisconsin; Margaret, the wife of Charles Sullivan, of Howard township; Joseph, a farmer residing at St. Cloud, Minnesota; Laura, the wife of John Schmid, a carpenter of Elma, Iowa; Elmer, who served in the Great Lakes training school of naval reserves and is now at home; and Raymond, Floyd, Merle and Geneva, who are also yet under the parental roof.

In his political views Mr. Jacoby is a democrat and for many years served as a member of the school board, doing everything in his power to advance the cause of education. He has long been regarded as a successful and progressive farmer and business man of Howard county and as an influential citizen. He and his family are identified with the Catholic church and their sterling worth has gained for them the warm regard of all who know them. Forty years have come and gone since Mr. Jacoby took

up his abode upon his present farm and through this period he has witnessed much of the growth and progress of this section of the state, his memory forming a connecting link between the primitive past with its hardships and privations and the progressive present with its opportunities and advantages.

GEORGE M. LEFERINK.

George M. Leferink is an enterprising and successful agriculturist of Howard county, residing on section 17, Vernon Springs township. He was born in Holland on the 9th of February, 1875, a son of Barney and Katie (Mush) Leferink, who at one time were residents of Iowa.

George F. Leferink spent the first nineteen years of his life in his native country and then determined to try his fortunes on this side of the Atlantic. Making his way direct to Iowa, he settled first at Festina in Winneshiek county and was there employed as a farm hand for six years. Subsequently he spent ten years in the cultivation of rented land, on the expiration of which period he purchased a tract of eighty acres north of Cresco. On disposing of the latter property he purchased his present place of about one hundred and sixty acres on section 17, Vernon Springs township, where he has since carried on farming with gratifying results, his well tilled fields annually yielding golden harvests as a reward for the care and labor which he bestows upon them.

In 1900 Mr. Leferink was united in marriage to Miss Mary Busch, by whom he has four children: Frank, Katie, John and Tilda. All are still under the parental roof and are attending the graded schools.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church. Mr. Leferink gives his political allegiance to the democratic party and fraternally is identified with the Knights of Columbus. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the new world, for here he found the opportunities which he sought and through their wise utilization has won a place among the substantial and esteemed citizens of the community in which he makes his home.

F. A. BROWN.

F. A. Brown is the senior partner in the well known firm of F. A. Brown & Son, hardware dealers of Riceville, and is also numbered with the pioneer settlers of Howard county who have aided in laying broad and deep the foundation upon which has been built the present progress and prosperity of this section of the state. He was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, on the 26th of February, 1856, a son of Emmett and Aurelia (Clark) Brown, both of whom were natives of Vermont and both members of old New England families. As children they removed to Dane county, Wisconsin, where they attained their majority and were married. The mother passed away in that state about the year 1874. In 1870 the father had removed westward, leaving his family in Wisconsin, and had located in Le Roy, Minnesota. Three years prior to his death, however, he made his home with his son, F. A. Brown, in Howard county, and here passed away in 1882.

In the district schools F. A. Brown acquired his education and in 1872, when sixteen years of age, came to Howard county, Iowa. During the following two years he worked as a farm hand and then went to Le Roy, Minnesota, where for four years he was employed in a printing office. Later he returned to Howard county and after two more years spent in farm labor bought land with the capital that he had managed to save from his earnings, acquiring eighty acres in Oakdale township. He then actively took up farming on his own account and occupied that place for eight years, after which he disposed of his farm and removed to Riceville, where he became engaged in the buying and shipping of live stock. After four years thus spent

he purchased the hardware business of Albert Bridges in 1890 and for the past twenty-nine years has been a dominant factor in the commercial circles of Riceville. In 1910 he admitted his son, M. A. Brown, to an equal partnership under the firm style of F. A. Brown & Son. He owns the brick block in which is conducted his hardware business and also the grocery business of C. E. Adams, as well as the moving picture theatre, which Mr. Brown operates.

In 1880 occurred the marriage of F. A. Brown and Miss Frances A Radford, a daughter of Stephen Radford, one of the pioneers of Howard county of 1855. Mrs. Brown was a teacher in the public schools for three years prior to her marriage. She became the mother of three children, but Minn A. is the only surviving child. Mrs. Brown is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Brown has membership with the Modern Woodmen of America and in his political views is a republican. He served for several years as a member of the town council and has given loyal and earnest support to every plan and project for the general good during the long years of his connection with Riceville. A spirit of advancement has dominated his career at all times and has proven an element in the substantial progress of his city.

M. A. BROWN.

M. A. Brown is a member of the firm of F. A. Brown & Son, hardware dealers of Riceville, and was born upon a farm in Howard county May 17, 1883, his parents being F. A. and Frances A. (Radford) Brown, mentioned above. He pursued his education in the graded and high schools of Riceville and when his schooldays were over entered his father's store as a clerk, thus receiving his initial commercial training. In 1910 he was admitted to an equal partnership in the business, with which he has thus since been associated, and the enterprise and enthusiasm of the younger man ably supplement the experience and sound judgment of the father, making this a very strong business combination.

In 1906 M. A. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Nettie Irvin, a daughter of James Irvin, now deceased. He, too, was one of the pioneer farmers of Howard county. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have become the parents of five children: Marian, Hazel, Arthur, Franklin and Bernice. Mrs. Brown attends the First Congregational church.

Mr. Brown is a republican in his political views and is now filling the office of justice of the peace. In addition to his hardware business he has been engaged in writing tornado insurance for the past ten years. He eagerly embraces every opportunity for business advancement and at the same time his interest in community affairs and the general welfare is manifest in hearty cooperation with all plans and movements which his judgment sanctions as factors for public good.

REV. RUDOLPH LAKOMY.

Rev. Rudolph Lakomy, pastor of the Holy Trinity Catholic church at Protivin, Howard county, was born in Bohemia on the 17th of April, 1862, a son of Anthony and Mary (Kubicek) Lakomy, who spent their entire lives in Bohemia, where the father followed the occupation of farming and also carried on business as a building contractor.

The son acquired his education in the schools of his native country, pursuing a Latin course in a gymnasium at Olomouc, Bohemia. He afterward served for a year in the army and then entered upon a theological course of study in Vienna, Austria, where he was a student for four years. In 1887 he was ordained to the priesthood at Vienna by Cardinal Gaugelbauer and following his ordination he served as priest at different points in Austria for a period of eight years. In 1895 he came to the United States, landing in New York city on the 13th of September of that year. From the eastern



REV. RUDOLPH LAKOMY

metropolis he made his way westward to Wisconsin and was appointed priest to the Green Bay diocese, with which he was connected for four years. In 1899 he was appointed to take charge of the Sacred Heart church at Oxford Junction, Johnson county, Iowa, and presided over that congregation for three years. While there he built a fine stone and brick edifice at Prairieburg, which was then in his mission. In 1902 he was transferred to Chelsea, Tama county, Iowa, where he remained for three years, building a modern brick church at that point. In 1906 he came to Protivin as pastor of Holy Trinity church and the following year built the present church edifice in Protivin, which is one of the finest church buildings in Howard county. Rev. Lakomy drew the plans also for the Bohemian Savings Bank and for Beseda Hall at Protivin and was the superintendent of construction of both buildings, which were erected at a remarkably low cost considering the style of architecture and the construction work. Father Lakomy is one of the prominent figures in the life of his section of Howard county. It is said of him that he has never refused financial assistance to any worthy man regardless of nationality, creed or religion. Money to him has but one purpose—that of doing good to his fellowmen. Father Lakomy is beloved by all with whom he has come in contact, not only by the people of his own denomination but also by Protestants as well, his upright life, his high purposes and his many good deeds commending him to the respect and friendship of all with whom he is brought in contact.

WILLIAM L. RICHARDS.

William L. Richards is a civil engineer and well known railroad man living in Cresco and he has contributed in large measure to the substantial development and improvement of Howard county. His birthplace was on the Allegheny river east of Pittsburgh and his natal year was 1848. He is the son of Joseph and Rebecca (McBride) Richards. The father was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and was there reared and married. He took up the occupation of farming as a life work and thus provided for his family. He removed from the east to Clayton county, Iowa, making the trip westward by way of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. In that early day the section to which he made his way was a frontier district and McGregor was the only market place in this part of the country. He took up his abode south of Austin on the Cedar river, in Minnesota, and purchased a claim of one hundred and sixty acres on which was a log cabin. In true pioneer style he began life in the west and undertook the arduous task of developing and improving a new farm. Year by year his labors were carried forward and he remained upon his original claim until 1862, when he removed to Vernon Springs, Iowa. The following year, aroused by a spirit of patriotism, he offered his services to the Union and joined the Sixth Iowa Cavalry. With the command he went to the front and was wounded while at White Stone Hill, North Dakota. He served under General Sibley until the close of the war and with a most creditable military record returned to his old home in Howard county. He then took up farming again and after a time traded the old farm for a tract of land in New Oregon township comprising eighty acres, but at a later period traded that for his former property. He remained a resident of Vernon Springs until his death, which occurred in 1891. His political allegiance was always given to the democratic party and his religious faith was that of the Baptist church, which guided him in all life's relations. He belonged to the Grand Army of the Republic and thus maintained pleasant associations with the "Boys in blue" with whom he had marched on southern battlefields in defense of the stars and stripes. His wife died at the age of eighty years.

William L. Richards spent his boyhood between 1862 and 1868 upon the old home farm in Howard county and his early education, acquired in the district schools, was supplemented by study in the Cedar Valley Seminary. He afterward taught school through three winter seasons in Howard county and later became connected with the Davenport & St. Paul Railroad on location and construction work, spending five years in that connection. From 1873 until 1895 he was chief

engineer with the Chicago & Tomah Railroad and built fifty miles of narrow gauge road in Wisconsin. He was afterward with the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad and acted as engineer between Fennimore, Wisconsin, and Milwaukee, continuing in that capacity for three years. He next went to South Dakota, where he carried on farming in Moody county for two years, and later he lived at Aberdeen, where he was connected with the Northwestern Railroad, acting as chief engineer for the line, which was later taken over by the "Soo." Prior to this time Mr. Richards located some of the lines for the Northern Pacific Railroad and thus at different periods as he has been closely and prominently associated with railroad construction and building in various parts of the middle west. In 1891 he returned to Cresco and became county surveyor. He continued to act in that position until 1913, when he was appointed county engineer, which office he held for thirty-seven years. In addition he also installed waterworks, did paving and established sewer systems in Iowa, Minnesota and Dakota. He is now serving as drainage engineer. He has done work of a most important character, contributing much to the development and progress of the sections in which he has lived. As he has prospered in his undertakings he has made judicious investments in property.

In 1880 Mr. Richards was united in marriage to Miss Helen Smith, a daughter of Ralph and Sarah (Lockwood) Smith. She was born in Crawford county, Wisconsin, where her father was a merchant and lumberman. Later he removed westward, establishing his home in Moody county, South Dakota, where he carried on farming, and both he and his wife passed away in that locality. To Mr. and Mrs. Richards have been born three children: Luverne, now the wife of J. A. Sandford, of Farmington, Minnesota; Tashleen, now the wife of J. A. Williams, of Cresco; and Ralph, who is living at San Antonio, Texas.

While Mr. Richards was filling the office of county surveyor he located lines from Dubuque to Plattville, extended an electric line for Arthur Fox, and also ran a line from Rockford, Illinois, to Madison, Wisconsin, and likewise located an electric line from Garnaville, Iowa, to Guttenberg, Iowa. He ranks with the ablest civil engineers of the state and is without a superior in all northern Iowa. In fact, he has attained a high degree of efficiency in his profession, continually broadening his knowledge and promoting his skill through wide study and experience. Mr. Richards votes with the republican party and is a stalwart champion of its principles. He has spent three terms as a member of the city council and at all times exercised his official prerogatives in support of plans and measures for the general good. He is a Mason and is loyal to the teachings of the craft. The steps in his orderly progression are easily discernible. He has attempted important things and has accomplished what he has attempted. There is no feature of civil engineering with which he is not familiar as applied to railroad construction, paving, sewer construction and other lines and he is thoroughly conversant with the great scientific principles as well as the practical phases that underlie his work.

WILLIAM DIEKMANN, SR.

William Diekmann, Sr., proprietor of a garage at Elma, was born in Germany, November 18, 1862, a son of Ludwig and Minnie (Arndt) Diekmann. The parents came to the United States in 1871, settling in Bremer county, Iowa, where the father purchased farm land which he continued to cultivate and improve until 1886, in which year he retired from business and removed with his wife to Klinger, Bremer county, Iowa.

William Diekmann, Sr., was educated in the common schools of Bremer county, having been but nine years of age when brought by his parents to the new world. In his youthful days he assisted his father upon the home farm until he reached the age of fifteen, when he started out in the business world on his own account by beginning work at the carpenter's trade. This he followed until 1886, when he purchased a farm in Bremer county and thereafter devoted his attention to general

agricultural pursuits for a year, when he sold his farm and established his home in Klinger, Iowa. There he entered the machine business, in which he engaged until 1882, when he disposed of his interests there and established his home in Elma, where he conducted a general store and machine shop until 1912. He then sold his interests, having established a garage in 1908. He has since conducted the garage and after selling his store has concentrated his entire attention upon the garage business.

Mr. Diekmann was married to Miss Christina Matthias, a daughter of William Matthias, a native of Germany, whence he came to the new world, settling in Bremer county, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Diekmann have been born eight children: Louis, William, Mary, Lydia, Edward, Herman, Walter and Clara. The son Edward served with the Three Hundred and Twenty-first Company, Battalion R, Company 3, of the Marines during the great European war.

The parents are members of the German Lutheran church at Elma and in politics Mr. Diekmann maintains an independent course. He has served as a member of the town council at Elma and his interest in public affairs is manifest by the aid and cooperation which he gives to plans and projects for the general good. Starting out in life on his own account when a youth of fifteen years, he has steadily worked his way upward in a business way and whatever success he has achieved or enjoyed is attributable entirely to his industry, perseverance and enterprise.

FRANK W. URBAN.

Frank W. Urban, actively engaged in general farming on section 6, Paris township, Howard county, was born in Wisconsin, March 31, 1879, a son of Wencel and Mary Urban. The family is of Bohemian descent and the paternal grandfather died in Bohemia. Later Wencel Urban came to the new world with his mother, who in the meantime had married again, her second husband being also of the party that crossed the Atlantic.

Frank W. Urban of this review is indebted to the district school system for the educational advantages which he enjoyed. He was reared as a farm boy and in January, 1905, was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Belek, a native of Howard county and a daughter of Frank Belek, who was one of the early settlers of the county but is now deceased.

Four years prior to his marriage Mr. Urban began farming on the eighty acre tract of land which he now owns and which he purchased from his father. He also cultivates an eighty acre tract belonging to his brother Joe and adjoining the home place. He is a progressive agriculturist, working diligently and persistently in the care of his farm, which he has converted into rich and productive fields which annually return to him a substantial income.

To Mr and Mrs. Urban has been born a daughter, Mary H. The family are members of the Catholic church, and Mr. Urban gives his political support to the democratic party. He has spent almost his entire life in Howard county and the community knows him as a representative citizen, loyal to the best interests of the community and active and successful in the conduct of business affairs.

JOHN NOHALE.

Among the determined and forceful men of Paris township who are maintaining its high standards in agriculture is numbered John Nohale, whose home is on section 22, where he owns and cultivates two hundred acres of good land. Like many of his fellow citizens of Howard county, he is of Bohemian birth. His natal day was September 13, 1869, and he spent the first sixteen years of his life in Bohemia, after which he came to the new world with his mother and sister, his father having previously died

in that country. It was with the hope of enjoying better business chances and opportunities that the family crossed the Atlantic and made their way westward to Iowa.

John Nohale had in the meantime acquired a fair education in the schools of his native land and after reaching Iowa he began work as a farm hand in Howard county, where he was employed until twenty-five years of age. He then felt that his experience and his capital justified his engaging in business on his own account and he subsequently cultivated rented land for a period of three years. He still continued to practice thrift and industry and at the end of that time was able to purchase his present place. He has since made all of the improvements upon his property and now has a good farm on which are substantial buildings and all modern equipments. He uses the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields and everything about his place is carefully managed, while in the production of crops he employs the most progressive methods.

Mr. Nohale's mother is still living and makes her home in Protivin with her daughter. On the 15th of September, 1893, John Nohale of this review was united in marriage to Miss Tony Papouch, a daughter of Frank and Katie Papouch, of Howard county. They have become the parents of three children: Frank, Mamie and Elizabeth. Two years ago the last named gave her hand in marriage to Adolph Kalishek, a resident farmer of Winneshiek county. The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and in politics Mr. Nohale largely maintains an independent course, voting according to the dictates of his judgment with little regard for party ties. He is truly a self-made man and deserves great credit for what he has accomplished, as he started out to provide for his own support when but sixteen years of age and has today reached a position among the men of affluence in Paris township.

PHILIP KRATZ.

Philip Kratz, deceased, was for many years identified with farming interests in Howard county and became the owner of an excellent property which was the result of his close application and indefatigable energy. He was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, in 1849, a son of Philip and Margaret (Gazell) Kratz. He was but four years of age when his parents bade adieu to friends and native land and sailed for the new world, settling in Wisconsin, where the father engaged in farming. He afterward removed to Lincoln township, Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, and throughout his remaining days his attention was given to the development and improvement of his farm, upon which both he and his wife passed away.

Philip Kratz spent his youth largely upon the old homestead farm in Iowa and the usual experiences of the farm-bred boy were his. He worked in the fields during the summer months and in the winter seasons attended school. In 1877, when twenty-eight years of age, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Cawelti, who was born near North Washington, in Chickasaw county, Iowa, a daughter of George and Mary (Weiler) Cawelti, who were natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, but came to the United States at an early day arriving in 1848. They remained for a short time in Wisconsin but afterward removed to Iowa, establishing their home at North Washington, Chickasaw county, where Mr. Cawelti purchased a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres, for which he paid a dollar and a half per acre. He added to this as his financial resources increased, extending the boundaries of his farm from time to time until he had four hundred acres of good land. He died at Alta Vista, Iowa, while his wife died upon the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Kratz.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Kratz took up their abode upon a farm of one hundred and sixty acres a mile from the old homestead. This Mr. Kratz purchased and for a number of years he continued its development and cultivation. He afterward sold that property and removed to New Oregon township, where he purchased two hundred and twenty acres of land. This he further developed as the years passed, adding to it many modern improvements which added greatly to the appearance

of the place and made it one of the attractive features of the landscape. He carefully and systematically tilled his fields and continued the cultivation of his land to the time of his death, which occurred in 1900, when he was fifty-one years of age.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kratz were born five children, Philip G., Samuel, Arthur, Alfred and Emma all of whom survive. In 1913 Mrs. Kratz left the home farm, on which she had continued to reside until her husband's death, and took up her abode in Cresco, where she occupies a nice home and where she has an extensive circle of warm friends.

Mr. Kratz was a republican in his political views and served as constable for a number of years. He was also school director a number of years and was ever a champion of the cause of education. His religious faith was that of the Evangelical church, to which Mrs. Kratz also belongs. He long ranked among the substantial farmers and respected citizens of his community and his sterling worth was recognized by all with whom he came in contact.

PETER J. McGRANE.

Peter J. McGrane, living on section 30, Afton township, is one of the native sons of Howard county, where he was born July 24, 1865, his parents being Thomas and Margaret McGrane, who were natives of Ireland. The father came to the United States when a youth of sixteen years and in 1856 he arrived in Iowa, where he made investment in farm land, becoming one of the earliest settlers of Howard county. The work of development and improvement had scarcely been begun and with the agricultural progress of the community the father became closely associated. He went through all the hardships connected with the cultivation of new land at an early day, but as the years passed he prospered in his undertakings and acquired an excellent farm property of two hundred and eighty acres, to which he added many modern improvements.

Peter J. McGrane, whose name introduces this review, was reared under the parental roof, acquired his education in the district schools and worked with his father throughout the period of his minority. On attaining adult age he started out in business life on his own account, renting farm land which he at once began to develop and improve. He worked in this way for about eight years and during that period carefully saved his earnings until the sum was sufficient to enable him to purchase property. He then made investment in his present farm, which is situated on section 30, Afton township. Through the intervening period he has placed all of the improvements upon the property and has made it one of the excellent farms of his district.

On the 30th of December, 1894, Peter J. McGrane was united in marriage to Miss Rose Murray, a daughter of Charles and Catherine Murray, of Mitchell county, where they are identified with farming interests. To Mr. and Mrs. McGrane have been born six children: Charles Melbourne, who wedded Nellie Riley, of Howard county, and is following farming; Thomas Everett; Joseph Earl; Mary Margaret; Catherine Rose; and Loretta Gertrude. With the exception of the first named all are upon the home farm with their parents. The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and they are connected with the St. Cecelia parish. In politics Mr. McGrane is a democrat but not an office seeker. He belongs to the Farmers' Equity Cooperative Association at Elma and he is one of the representative and progressive agriculturists of his district.

PETER MOUDRY.

Peter Moudry, who is engaged in farming on section 8, New Oregon township, Howard county, was born in Bohemia, February 18, 1863, and came to the United States in 1880 when a youth of seventeen years. He became a resident of Cleveland, Ohio, where he secured employment in a factory, and spent about a year and a half there. He then made his way westward to Howard county, Iowa, where he was em-

ployed as a farm hand for six years, during which period he carefully saved his earnings until his economy and diligence had brought him sufficient capital to enable him to begin farming on his own account. He purchased the land upon which he now resides and at once began its cultivation and improvement, having today an excellent property which is a monument to his thrift and industry. All of the improvements on the place have been made by him and it is a thoroughly modern farm in all of its equipment and in the business methods which he employs in its further conduct.

On the 28th of September, 1887, Mr. Moudry was married to Miss Annie Riha, a daughter of John Riha, who follows farming in Winneshiek county. To Mr. and Mrs. Moudry have been born four children: Joseph F., Frank J., Stella and Mary, all of whom are at home and were educated in the public schools of Howard county. The son Joseph was a member of the Twelfth Company of the Twentieth Engineers. Leaving home on the 24th of February, 1918, he went to Camp Dodge, Iowa, thence to Washington, D. C., and to New York and from the eastern metropolis sailed for France, arriving at Brest. Recently he has returned from overseas service having done his full part in bringing about the successful termination of the war.

The family are communicants of the Catholic church at Protivin, and in political belief Mr. Moudry is a democrat. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the new world, for he has here found the opportunities which he sought and in their utilization has made steady progress until he has now reached a creditable and enviable position among the successful farmers of New Oregon township.

J. S. CAGLEY.

J. S. Cagley, owning and operating a farm on section 20, Bradford township, Chickasaw county, was born near the old town of Chickasaw on the 8th day of July, 1865, a son of A. M. and Ann Cagley, who cast in their lot with the pioneer settlers of this section of the state. They arrived here in early life and became acquainted in Chickasaw county, where their marriage was later celebrated. The father then took up the occupation of farming, which he followed as a life work, and both he and his wife remained residents of the county until called to their final rest several years ago.

J. S. Cagley, is practically a self-educated man, having little opportunity to attend school during his boyhood. After pursuing a course in the Bradford Academy of Bradford, Iowa, he had the advantage of commercial training in the Breckenridge Institute at Decorah, Iowa. Taking up the profession of teaching, he was thus engaged for a year at Bassett and for two years at Ionia. He also taught for one year in a district school of Chickasaw township and later became principal of the schools at Floyd, Iowa, occupying that position for three years. He proved an able educator, having little difficulty in interesting and holding the attention of the pupils and impressing them strongly with the points which he wished them to grasp. He taught school for five years and then after his marriage purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Bradford township, on which he resided until 1912, when he removed to his present place of forty acres on section 20, Bradford township, renting the other farm of a quarter section.

On the 28th of August, 1889, Mr. Cagley was united in marriage to Miss Eva May Layton and they have become parents of two daughters: Clare, who is a graduate of the Nashua high school and of the Iowa State Teachers' College of Cedar Falls, and Clio, who died at the age of three years.

Throughout the period of his active life J. S. Cagley has been closely associated with public interests and projects which have had to do with the development and up-building of his section of the state. He was one of the organizers of the Nashua Farmers Creamery Association which built the creamery plant, thus promoting an enterprise that has been of substantial benefit and value to the surrounding district. He also assisted in building the Chickasaw County Home at New Hampton. He has filled practically all of the offices in Bradford township and for three terms, or nine years, served as a member of the county board of supervisors. He also served on the Liberty



MR. AND MRS. A. M. CAGLEY

Loan committee during the third, fourth and fifth campaigns in Bradford township and he gave generous and earnest support throughout the period of the war to all interests which he believed would benefit war activities and advance the interests of our soldiers in France. He is a charter member and loyal follower of the Odd Fellows lodge at Nashua and he and his family are consistent members of the Methodist church there. His business affairs have always been capably and profitably conducted and he has also found time for cooperation in all those forces which make for the uplift of the individual and the upbuilding of the community at large. Tireless energy, keen perception, honesty of purpose, a genius for devising the right thing at the right time, joined to everyday common sense, guided by resistless will power, are the chief characteristics of the man.

ROBERT R. CAGLEY.

The broad prairies of northern Iowa have afforded excellent opportunity to the agriculturist and enterprising men have claimed the district and converted it into one great garden spot. Actively identified with farming interests in Chickasaw county is Robert R. Cagley, whose home is on section 16, Chickasaw township, and who was born in the township in which he still lives, his natal day being January 9, 1873. His father, Abraham Cagley, was born in Indiana in 1835 and in 1854, when a youth of nineteen years, came to Chickasaw county with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Cagley, who had a family of fifteen children. John Cagley was a man of some means for that day and on his arrival in Chickasaw county he purchased several hundred acres of government land, paying a dollar and a quarter per acre for the property. He made his home in Bradford township and remained a valued and honored resident of the county to the time of his death, which occurred when he had reached the advanced age of eighty years. His son, Abraham Cagley, settled on a farm in Chickasaw township following his marriage to Miss Ann Wright, who was born in England in 1842 and came to America in her girlhood days with her parents. Her father died soon after the family landed in this country and the mother and children continued the journey to the west. After a brief residence in Floyd county they settled in Chickasaw county and it was here that Miss Wright gave her hand in marriage to Abraham Cagley. They took up their abode upon his farm near the town of Chickasaw and thereon Mrs. Cagley passed away in 1876, while four years later Mr. Cagley, after years of ill health, was called to his final rest. Their family numbered seven children.

At the time of his father's demise Robert R. Cagley was a lad of but seven years. From then until his fifteenth year he lived with relatives and attended school. During the summer vacations he worked in the fields. On attaining the age of fifteen years he started out in life independently and followed farm work through the summer seasons, while during the winter months he paid his board and did a year's high school work in four months' study. At eighteen years of age he began teaching and for five years devoted his attention to educational work, proving most capable in this direction. He had the faculty of interesting the children and clearly impressing them with the points of knowledge which they were endeavoring to master. He was ambitious to become the owner of a farm and, carefully saving his earnings, was able in 1896 to begin farming on his own account. He took up his abode upon what is now his home place of one hundred and sixty acres. For two years he cultivated this land as a renter and then purchased eighty acres, while subsequently he was able to add the other eighty acres to his holdings, so that he now owns a quarter section, which he has converted into rich and productive fields, annually gathering therefrom substantial harvests. He bears the reputation of being one of the progressive farmers of Chickasaw township and everything about his place indicates his careful supervision and practical methods. He is a stockholder in the Ionia Farmers' Creamery Association and is the president of the association, having served in that capacity for the past five or six years, during which he has carefully directed the interests of the business, which has been attended with notable success. This association produced over a half million pounds of butter in the

year 1918, the amount reaching five hundred and ninety-five thousand two hundred and twenty-five pounds.

On the 9th of June, 1896, Mr. Cagley was united in marriage to Miss Edna Sloat, of Chickasaw township, who passed away in 1905, leaving two children, Doris and Faith. In 1907 Mr. Cagley was again married, his second union being with Miss Elva Groell, of Jackson county, Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Cagley are members of the Baptist church and guide their lives according to its teachings. They are recognized as people of sterling worth and the hospitality of the best homes of this section of the state is freely accorded them. In politics Mr. Cagley is a republican and for several years he filled the offices of township trustee and township clerk. He is now chairman of the township republican central committee. For a quarter of a century he has served as a member of the school board and has ever taken the keenest and most helpful interest in the cause of education, recognizing the fact that the public school system is one of the nation's bulwarks. He has therefore put forth earnest effort for the advancement of the standards of education and in so doing indicates that he is a man of clear vision who readily recognizes the true values of life and its opportunities. He was active in war work, serving as chairman of township committee during Liberty Loan and United War Work campaigns.

ARTHUR W. WENTWORTH.

Arthur W. Wentworth established the first garage in Cresco and is still engaged in the business as senior partner of the firm of Wentworth & Burr. Their place of business is situated next to the opera house and is one of the finest garages of this part of the county. In the conduct of his business Mr. Wentworth is alert, progressive and sagacious and whatever he undertakes he carries forward to successful completion. He is one of Cresco's native sons, born in 1879, his parents being Alpha and Maria (Whitney) Wentworth. The father was a native of Richmond, in the province of Québec, Canada. His wife was also born in that locality, where they were reared and married, and in 1877 they crossed the border into the United States and made their way to Iowa, becoming residents of Cresco, where the father worked at the blacksmith's trade, which he had previously learned in Canada. He was also employed as foreman of labor on the Chicago & Milwaukee Railroad but afterward engaged in blacksmithing on his own account in Cresco, conducting his smithy to the time of his death, which occurred in 1913. His widow followed him to the grave in March, 1918. His political support was given to the democratic party and he held membership in the Mystic Toilers. His life was one of activity and his persistency of purpose led to the development of high skill in his trade. He therefore was accorded a liberal patronage and became one of the substantial citizens of his community.

Arthur W. Wentworth spent his boyhood days in Cresco, his youth being largely devoted to the acquirement of a public school education. On account of his health, believing that the outdoor life would prove beneficial, he hunted and trapped in various parts of the country. Later, however, he entered the employ of J. L. Henley, proprietor of a bicycle shop in Cresco, and with him remained for a number of years, his work in that connection developing his mechanical skill. Later he went to Chicago, where he worked in an automobile and bicycle shop for a year, after which he returned to Cresco and established a shop on his own account in this city, continuing the business from 1908 until 1913. At that date he entered into partnership with Fred Burr and built a fine garage. He has since enjoyed a splendid business in this connection and is agent for the Reo automobile, also for the Chevrolet car and for the Moline tractor. He has built up a good business in the sales department as well as in the garage, where he does all kinds of high grade repair work. He carries a well selected line of auto accessories and supplies and year by year his business has increased.

In March, 1916, Mr. Wentworth was united in marriage to Miss Lydia Weber, a daughter of William Weber. Her parents were natives of Germany and came to the

United States at an early day. Their daughter, Mrs. Wentworth, was born in Cresco and by her marriage has become the mother of one son, Floyd.

Mr. Wentworth is a republican in his political views, having always voted with the party since reaching adult age, but he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. He stands for all that is of benefit to the community, however, and manifests a public-spirited devotion to the general good. His has been an active and useful life, in which his business activity has brought to him well merited success. Those who know him, and he has many friends in Cresco, speak of him in terms of warm regard and number him with those who have expert mechanical ability.

J. J. CASHMAN.

J. J. Cashman, identified with the farming interests of Howard county, his home being on section 21, Afton township, has always lived upon this place, which is endeared to him through the associations of his boyhood as well as those of his later manhood. He was born upon this farm July 28, 1876, and there is no phase of its development with which he is not familiar. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Cashman, the mother a native of Dubuque, Iowa, while the father was born on the Atlantic ocean while his parents were coming from Ireland to the new world.

J. J. Cashman, whose name introduces this review, acquired a common school education in Afton township and also spent one year as a student in the Bayless Business College, thus preparing for the responsibilities of a business career. His early life was spent upon his father's farm, assisting in the work of the fields, but later he began farming on his own account and is now busily engaged in the further development and cultivation of three hundred and twenty acres of land, from which he annually gathers good crops as a result of his careful methods in the cultivation of the farm. Everything about the place is neat and thrifty in appearance and indicates his careful supervision and practical and progressive methods.

In October, 1902, Mr. Cashman was united in marriage to Miss Mamie Clark, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Clark, now residents of Elma. Mr. and Mrs. Cashman have become parents of two children, Raymond and Clarence, both at home.

Mr. Cashman and his family are communicants of St. Cecelia's Catholic church and he is also identified with the Catholic Order of Foresters and the Modern Woodmen of America, his membership being with the camp at Elma. His political allegiance is given to the democratic party but he never seeks nor desires office, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs, which are being carefully and systematically directed and are bringing to him well merited success. What he has accomplished is the direct result of his close application, industry and thrift. He has worked diligently as the years have gone by and is now classed with the substantial farmers of Afton township.

JOHN C. LIVINGSTON.

John C. Livingston, who devotes his attention to farming on section 4, Vernon Springs township, Howard county, is a native son of Wisconsin. He was born in Rock county of that state on the 27th of February, 1847, his parents being Oliver and Mary (David) Livingston, who were natives of West Virginia. They removed to Wisconsin in 1845, casting in their lot with the pioneer settlers of that state and sharing in all of the hardships and privations of frontier life. The father was a staunch republican in politics and held the office of county supervisor and also that of justice of the peace in Rock county. He was likewise a most active and devoted member of the Methodist church and by reason of his services in behalf of the moral and political progress of the county he was numbered among its leading citizens.

It was in Rock county that John C. Livingston was reared and educated. He was a

young man of twenty-five years when he came to Iowa, settling at Vernon Springs in the fall of 1872. Throughout the intervening period he has devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits and has cleared one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he converted into a fine farm that is his present home. His life has been one of activity and enterprise and his progressiveness has brought him prominently to the front as a leading agriculturist of his section of the state.

In 1869 Mr. Livingston was united in marriage to Miss Sarah M. Barnett, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and to them were born three children: Lillie J., who is the wife of Frank Peckham, of Cresco, Iowa; Inez S., the wife of Leslie D. Barker of Janesville, Wisconsin; and Arthur J. who married Cora Hollenbauh and resides upon the home farm, assisting his father in its further cultivation and development. The wife and mother passed away May 31, 1889, and in 1890 Mr. Livingston was again married, his second union being with Miss Kate C. Cooley, a daughter of Gilbert and Martha (Hammond) Cooley, who were pioneer residents of Clayton county, Iowa.

Mr. Livingston has always been a staunch advocate of republican principles and gives loyal support to the party. He has held the position of road supervisor and was also constable for three terms about forty years ago. He and his wife attend the Baptist church at Cresco and he and his son Arthur are members of the Masonic lodge at Cresco. He is a loyal exemplar of the craft, holding faithfully to its teachings, and the genuine worth of his character is recognized by all with whom he has come in contact. Those who know him, and he has many friends, speak of him in terms of the highest regard and Howard county numbers him among her representative citizens. He has here resided for forty-seven years and has therefore long been a witness of the growth and development of this section of the state.

WENZEL A. PECHOTA.

Farming interests in Chickasaw county find a worthy representative in Wenzel A. Pechota, who lives upon section 1, Utica township. It was upon the farm that he now owns that he was born November 22, 1883, a son of Frank and Mary Pechota, both of whom were natives of Bohemia, belonging to that class of substantial citizens that Bohemia has furnished to the new world. They came to the United States in young manhood and young womanhood and were probably married in Chicago, where they first located. The father was employed for a number of years in a lumberyard in that city and subsequently he removed to Iowa, taking up his abode in Winneshiek county, where he turned to the occupation of farming. He purchased a small place of twenty acres, which he afterward sold, and then returned to Chicago in order to make enough money to buy more land. Subsequently he again came to Iowa and invested in eighty acres in Chickasaw county, this tract constituting a part of the farm of his son Wenzel. During the first few years the father had a hard time to get along, but his diligence and perseverance overcame the difficulties and obstacles in his path and later he prospered in his undertakings and acquired five hundred and sixty acres of valuable farm property in Chickasaw county. He and his wife are still living and make their home in Pro-
tivin.

Their son, Wenzel A. Pechota, was educated in the district schools and in August, 1909, he wedded Miss Christina Shileny, a daughter of Frank Shileny, a native of Bohemia who became one of the early settlers of Winneshiek county and is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Pechota have a family of four children: Helen, Clara, Evalina and Richard.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and in his political views Mr. Pechota is a democrat but has never been an office seeker. At the time of his marriage his father deeded him his present farm, comprising one hundred acres, and upon this place he has resided since his birth. He is today one of the successful agriculturists and representative citizens of Utica township. No event of special importance has occurred to vary the routine of farm life for him, for he has always preferred to concentrate his efforts and attention upon the work of the fields. He early realized

the fact that industry must be the basis of all success and has given his undivided thought and effort to the cultivation of the fields, carrying on the work along most progressive lines. The reliability and integrity of his methods, as well as his success, have made the name of Pechota a respected one in connection with the agricultural development of this part of the state.

CHARLES PESEK.

Charles Pesek, actively engaged in general farming in Howard county, is the owner of a property of one hundred and sixty acres on section 32, New Oregon township. He was born in Austin county, Texas, January 6, 1862, and his parents were natives of Bohemia. The father was a blacksmith of that country but at length determined to try his fortune in the new world and, accompanied by his wife, crossed the Atlantic to the United States, establishing his home in Austin county, Texas, where he followed blacksmithing. When his son Charles was about five years of age the father returned with his family to Bohemia, where he purchased a farm and spent his remaining days.

Charles Pesek, however, came to the United States at the age of thirteen and made his way direct to Spillville, Iowa. For a year he attended school and then began earning his living by working as a farm hand. He next worked his way westward, employed on farms in various sections of the country, especially in western California and in the Dakotas. Eventually, however, he again came to Iowa, where he was employed on the railroad for about ten years. On the expiration of that period he took up masonry work, which he followed for about four years, after which he began farming. He bought eighty acres of land in Chickasaw county and remained there for six years, actively engaged in farming. After selling his property in that county he made investment in his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 32, New Oregon township, Howard county, becoming owner thereof in 1912. He has put some of the improvements upon the property and has most carefully and systematically carried on the farm work, so that he has made his place a valuable and productive one.

On the 13th of February, 1893, Mr. Pesek was married to Miss Mary Eral, a daughter of John and Mary Eral, farming people of Chickasaw county. To Mr. and Mrs. Pesek have been born nine children: Mary, Catherine, Anna, John, Alba, Charles, Theresa, Jacob and Barbara. The children have all married and are living in different sections of surrounding states.

Mr. Pesek attends the Catholic church of Protivin and is a member of the Catholic Workmen Lodge at Spillville. His political support is given to the democratic party. His has been a life of industry and thrift and whatever success he has achieved is due entirely to his own labors. Returning from Bohemia to his native land when a youth of thirteen years, he has since the following year been dependent entirely upon his own resources and his life record illustrates what can be accomplished by persistence, energy and determination.

F. C. BARTELS.

F. C. Bartels, engaged in farming on section 9, Howard township, Howard county, was born in Bremer county, Iowa, February 15, 1874, a son of Ernest F. and Sophia (Eichoff) Bartels, who are mentioned in connection with the sketch of August Bartels on another page of this volume. F. C. Bartels, after attending the district and parochial schools of Bremer county and being graduated from the latter with the class of 1877, worked upon the home farm with his father up to the time of his marriage in 1898. He then began farming on his own account on the place where he still resides, his father deeding him at that time eighty acres of this land. He has since added to the property, having after four years purchased

the adjoining eighty acres, so that his present holdings constitute an entire quarter section. His land is rich and productive and responds readily to the care and labor which he bestows upon it, so that each year Mr. Bartels harvests large crops. He is the only man who has ever lived upon this place, for the land was virgin prairie when he took possession thereof and much of it was covered with hazel brush. He cleared the place, erected all of the buildings thereon and has made it one of the attractive and well improved farms of Howard township. In the spring of 1919 he was offered and refused one hundred and eighty-seven dollars and a half per acre for this property. His labors have indeed made it valuable and productive and splendid results have rewarded his efforts as the years have passed.

In 1898 Mr. Bartels was united in marriage to Miss Louise Westendorf, of Alta Vista, Iowa, and to them have been born eight children, namely: Rose, the wife of Albert Brummond, a farmer of Afton township; and Esther, Ellen, Mabel, Helen, Victor, Herbert and Leonard.

The parents are members of the Lutheran church and for several years Mr. Bartels has served as one of the trustees of the church and is now one of its deacons. His political support is given to the republican party, for its platform contains, in his belief, the best elements of good government. He served for a number of years as a member of the school board and the cause of education has ever found in him a stalwart champion. He has always found time and opportunity to aid in measures of public progress and improvement, notwithstanding the fact that his business interests have constantly grown in volume and in importance. In addition to his careful and successful operation of his farm he is now a stockholder in the Howard County Cooperative Equity Association of Elma, is a stockholder in the Farmers Cooperative Creamery of Maple Leaf, a stockholder in the Alta Vista Savings Bank, and a stockholder in the Alta Vista Lumber Company. His interests are broad and varied, making him one of the foremost citizens and substantial business men of Howard county.

NICHOLAS SCHILLING, M. D.

Liberal educational training qualified Dr. Nicholas Schilling for the practice of medicine and he has kept in touch with the trend of modern professional thought and practice by post graduate study abroad and by wide reading and investigation at home. He was born in Sauk county, Wisconsin, April 4, 1868, a son of John and Elizabeth (Pickar) Schilling, both of whom were natives of Rhenish Prussia. The father, having served his time in the German army, emigrated to America when twenty-three years of age. The mother came to the new world with her parents when twelve years of age. In 1905 Dr. Schilling visited the old village of Bollendorfe, near Echternach, in Rhenish Prussia, just across the border from Luxemburg, and there met relatives of both his father and mother—people of simplicity, piety, industry, thrift and general intrinsic worth.

Dr. Schilling was only ten years of age at the time of his father's death, which left the mother with five little children and very little material support. The Doctor, being the oldest, learned many things in the cold and uncharitable school of reality that a more polished education would not have offered him. After attending the public schools of Honey Creek, Sauk county, Wisconsin, to the age of ten years he then accompanied his mother on her removal to North Washington, Iowa, where for two years he was a pupil in the parochial school. Between the ages of thirteen and twenty years he worked at farm labor during the summer and in the winter months attended school. For five years of that period he was practically a member of Mrs. Barbara Hef's family and acknowledges an everlasting obligation to this devoted, kind and ambitious woman, in whose household he received many good lessons and who later stimulated his ambition to gain an education. In 1888-89 he attended the Decorah Institute, conducted by Professor John Breckenridge, and later taught school in Deerfield, Iowa, and in Freeburg, Houston county, Minnesota. He next attended the Northern Indiana Normal



DR. NICHOLAS SCHILLING

School at Valparaiso, Indiana, and was graduated from the scientific department of that institution in August, 1893. During the following two years he was a student in the medical school of the Northwestern University of Chicago and in 1896 was graduated from the John A. Creighton Medical College at Omaha, Nebraska. During the succeeding year he was interne at the Lakeside Hospital of Chicago, and in February, 1897, he came to New Hampton, Iowa, and entered upon the practice of medicine under Dr. A. Babcock. In 1900 he established an office in the Glass block and has now for twenty-two years been an active member of the profession in this city. In February, 1905, he went to Vienna, Austria, for post graduate study, returning in December of the same year, and in July, 1910, he again went to Vienna for post graduate work, there remaining from September, 1910, until December, 1911, returning home on Christmas day. In the intervening period he has kept in close touch with the best medical literature of this and other countries and at all times has kept thoroughly informed concerning the latest scientific researches and discoveries. It was long his ambition to establish a hospital in his community and his wish finally reached realization in February, 1917, when St. Joseph's Hospital was opened in New Hampton to receive patients. He had much to do with the preliminary work in planning and establishing the institution, in which he has practiced with success. He is a member of the Tri-State, the Iowa State, the Austin-Flint, Cedar Valley and American Medical Associations and is a member of the American College of Surgeons.

On the 31st of December, 1894, in Chicago, Dr. Schilling was married to Miss Martha Pfeiffer, a daughter of Mrs. Mary Pfeiffer. She came to America in 1892 and for a number of years engaged in dressmaking. After several years' work along that line in Chicago she attained the position of forelady in Mandel Brothers' store of Chicago. The family comes from Thorn on the Vistula, in Germany. She had one sister who died several years ago in Chicago and she has a brother who is still in Germany and who throughout his life has been connected with the German army. Her younger brother, Ernest, is a lawyer of Chicago. To Dr. and Mrs. Schilling have been born six children: Arthur, twenty-three years of age; Florence, aged twenty-one; Cordelia, nineteen; Harold, sixteen; Bernard, twelve; and Marie, aged ten. Arthur enlisted in the navy in February, 1916, and is now serving on the battleship Mississippi. Florence and Cordelia are attending the University of Minnesota; Harold is a student in Dubuque College and Bernard and Marie are still at home.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and Dr. Schilling has for fourteen years been a member of the Knights of Columbus. His political allegiance has generally been given to the democratic party but he does not hold himself bound by party ties. Political honors and emoluments have had no attraction for him as his attention and efforts have ever centered in the line of his chosen profession. Laudable ambition prompted him to gain the education which constituted the basic elements of his life work. Step by step, entirely through his own efforts, he has worked his way upward and his professional position is a most creditable one.

STEWART WILSON.

Stewart Wilson is now living retired in Cresco, enjoying the fruits of a well spent life largely devoted to agricultural pursuits. For many years he was numbered among the representative farmers of northern Iowa and as the result of his untiring industry, intelligently directed, won the substantial success which numbers him with the men of affluence in his community. He was born on a farm in St. Lawrence county, New York, May 20, 1846, and is a son of George and Jane (Stewart) Wilson. His parents were both natives of Ireland and there the father took up the stone mason's trade and also followed farming in connection with that pursuit. He was married on the Emerald isle but at length he determined to try his fortune in America and in 1844 crossed the Atlantic to the new world accompanied by his wife. They made the voyage in a sailing vessel and were about six weeks in reaching New York harbor. There they disembarked and soon afterward

took up their abode in St. Lawrence county, New York, where Mr. Wilson at once purchased a farm of fifty acres. He then concentrated his efforts and attention upon general farming in St. Lawrence county until the fall of 1865, when he sold his property there and with his family removed to Dane county, Wisconsin. His purchase of land in that locality made him owner of a tract of one hundred acres, which he cultivated, continuing its operation until his death and during that period added many improvements to the property. He sold his farm in Wisconsin, however, just prior to his demise and had arranged to purchase a farm in Howard county, Iowa, but a few days before he was to start upon the trip he was taken ill and passed away. His wife had died upon the old home farm in Wisconsin in June, 1866, soon after their removal to that state, so that she was not long permitted to enjoy her new home there. They were people of sterling worth and of the highest respectability and had the goodwill and confidence of all who knew them. Mr. Wilson was a stalwart republican in politics, giving unfaltering support and loyalty to the party, for he believed most firmly in its principles as factors in good government. He was a Knight Templar Mason, having become a member of the order when in Ireland. He was then demitted from his home lodge and transferred his membership to a lodge in this country, and throughout his entire life he was a worthy exemplar of the teachings and purposes of the craft. His life was further actuated by his belief in the Presbyterian church, in which he long held membership. His was a well spent life. He never rented land but always lived upon his own property and his children have followed his example in this respect.

Stewart Wilson, whose name introduces this review, spent his boyhood days in the Empire state to the age of seventeen years, when he accompanied his parents on their removal westward. He was educated in the rural schools of St. Lawrence county, New York, and also attended a select school, which was the best institution of learning in that part of the state at the time. The schoolhouse in which he began his education was a little log building, but he thoroughly mastered the branches of learning therein taught and laid the foundation for later intellectual progress. Mr. Wilson was nineteen years of age when in 1865 he left home for the west, taking up his abode in Dane county, Wisconsin, where he purchased a farm of fifty acres which he tilled and improved until 1872. He then disposed of his property in that state and removed to Iowa, locating in Howard county. He took up his abode in New Oregon township, five miles south of the town of Cresco, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land. Later he added eighty acres more and continued the work of development with excellent results. He brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and annually gathered good crops, for he studied the condition of the soil and the requirement of the crops and was thus able to secure a maximum yield from his planting. His business interests were always wisely, carefully and systematically conducted and he continued the active work of the farm until 1902, when he went to Cresco, establishing his home there on the 3d of April, 1903. He now occupies a fine residence. It is very modern and complete in every particular, is supplied with the latest comforts and conveniences and is attractively furnished.

On the 25th of September, 1872, Mr. Wilson was united in marriage to Miss Mary Wilson, a daughter of John and Katharine (Kent) Wilson. She was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, upon the homestead farm of her father, who was a native of Ohio, while her mother was a native of the state of New York. They were married in the Empire state and later removed to the west, settling in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, where Mr. Wilson purchased a tract of land which he continued to develop and improve until the outbreak of the Civil war. His patriotic purpose was then dominant to every other force of his character and he enlisted for active service with the Union army, with which he remained for three years. He served throughout the duration of the war and in July, 1865, he was honorably discharged. He participated in many hotly contested engagements. Mr. Wilson never faltered in the performance of his duty but met each task assigned him bravely, whether called to the firing line or stationed on the lonely picket line. After the war he was somewhat broken in health but continued to follow farming in Wisconsin to the

time of his demise, which occurred November 3, 1876. His wife survived him for a number of years, passing away April 12, 1893.

To Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Wilson have been born two children. Nellie Alice is the wife of John B. Rostratter, of Minneapolis, who is a native of Howard county, his father having come to Iowa in pioneer times, casting in his lot among the early settlers of this county. Here the father passed away, but the mother is still living and now makes her home with her son in Minneapolis. Her brother, John Welch, was the first white child born in Howard county and the place of his birth is a little old stone house just south of Cresco, which is still standing. Both Mr. and Mrs. John B. Rostratter are well known in this county and they have an interesting little family of three children: Eunice K., Florence M., and Hazel. Frank George Wilson, the only son, married Miss Josie Haverley, of Howard county, and is now residing on his father's old home farm of two hundred and forty acres, which he is busily and successfully cultivating. To him and his wife have been born four children: Gilbert F.; John Stewart; Francis, who died in infancy; and Frances J., a little daughter.

Mr. Wilson is a republican in his political views and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He reads broadly and keeps in touch with the trend of modern thought and progress, and although he has now passed the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten, in spirit and interests he seems yet in his prime. He and his family are loyal members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a man of liberal disposition and has contributed in substantial measure to plans and movements for the upbuilding of community and county. He has lived to witness many changes in this section of the state since taking up his abode here and at all times has borne his part in the work of general development and improvement. He is enjoying excellent health and is a well preserved man. His rest from business cares is well deserved because of the intense activity which preceded it. His business interests were wisely and carefully managed and his efforts brought to him a measure of success which is most gratifying.

PETER N. MILLER.

In the history of Howard county mention should be made of Peter N. Miller, who from pioneer times has been identified with the development of the county and has lived to witness its wonderful growth and progress as the years have passed by. He has always taken his part in advancing the welfare and upbuilding of the community and he is now pleasantly situated on section 6, Afton township. He has reached the eighty-second milestone on life's journey, his birth having occurred in Hanover, Germany, April 13, 1837. He is a son of Mathias and Annie Miller, both of whom were natives of that country.

Peter N. Miller spent the first fourteen years of his life in Germany and then came to the United States, since which time he has been a loyal American citizen. He made his way first to Madison, Wisconsin, and was employed in a bakery at eight dollars per month. He worked in that line for a few years and carefully saved his earnings until he was able to make investment in land. His first purchase made him owner of a sixty-acre tract, which he at once began to develop and improve. His home was a little log cabin such as is found in pioneer districts. He continued to cultivate that farm for about twenty-two years and his labors wrought a marked transformation in its appearance. At the end of that period he sold the farm and came to Howard county, Iowa, purchasing forty acres of the present home place but he has since extended its boundaries until it now comprises eighty acres of rich and productive land. When he took possession of this property the land was still in its primitive condition and there devolved upon him the arduous task of breaking the sod and preparing the fields for cultivation. The house was a very small log cabin and all of the substantial and modern improvements that are found upon the place today are the work of Mr. Miller and indi-

cate the progressive spirit that has always actuated him in the conduct of his farming interests.

On the 15th of February, 1867, Mr. Miller was married to Miss Louisa Lubbert, a daughter of Christ and Anna Marie Lubbert, farming people of Howard county. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have become the parents of the following children: Albert, John, Eliza, August, Minna and Lina. Four of the children are still upon the home farm. Albert married Sophie Lubbert, of Howard county, and carries on general agricultural pursuits in this section of the state. Eliza is the wife of Charles Miller, a resident farmer of Howard county. Two of the sons are now working the home farm, relieving their father of the care and responsibility incident to its further development and cultivation.

The religious faith of the family is that of the German Lutheran church and Mr. Miller has ever been a loyal adherent of its teachings. His political support has been given to the democratic party since he became a naturalized American citizen. For sixty-eight years he has lived on this side of the Atlantic and is thoroughly imbued with the American spirit. He has worked diligently and persistently as the years have gone by and has contributed to the agricultural development of Howard county, in which he has made his home from pioneer times.

FRANK FOGLE.

Among the representative farmers of Saratoga township, Howard county, is Frank Fogle, who resides on section 31. He claims Bohemia as the land of his birth and he was there born September 13, 1852. His parents were Charlie and Annie (Kodetk) Fogle, who were lifelong residents of Bohemia. The father was born in 1814 and the mother in 1821 and they were married in 1838.

In his native land Frank Fogle was reared and educated and on reaching manhood he was there married to Miss Barbara Stejskal in 1873. They have become the parents of ten children, namely: Frank, who married Mary Zaruby; Anna, the wife of Frank Dvorak; Marie, who married David Dolechek; Andrew, who married Ella Jarvis; Rudolph, who married Myrtle Stephans; Bessie, the wife of Fred Yezek; Lottie, the wife of Roy Meiletz; Hattie, the wife of Joseph Omer; Jerry, at home; and George.

Mr. Fogle remained a resident of his native land until January 16, 1890, when he came alone to the United States with the hope of making for his family a home on this side of the Atlantic. Upon landing in this country he proceeded to Chicago and from there to Mount Ayr, Iowa, where he worked on a farm for a year. The following two years were spent on a farm near Yale, this state, and while there his family joined him. Subsequently he operated a rented farm of forty acres for one year and then rented one hundred and twenty acres, which he operated for two years. He later spent four years on a farm of three hundred and twenty acres near Rippey, in Greene county, Iowa, and for seven years engaged in operating a five hundred acre farm which he rented. It was in 1908 that he purchased his present farm on section 31, Saratoga township, Howard county, becoming at that time the owner of one hundred and thirty acres, to which he added an adjoining tract of thirty acres in 1913. He is an enterprising and progressive farmer and has met with well deserved success since locating here. His political support is given to the democratic party and for six years he has served as a school director. He is a member of the Equity Shippers of Elma and is held in the highest esteem by all who know him.

J. D. WHITINGER.

A good farm in Afton township, Howard county, situated on section 12, pays tribute to the care and labor bestowed upon it by J. D. Whiting, who displays progressive methods in the management and development of the land. He was born in Story county, Iowa, January 22, 1884, a son of Daniel and Armeta (Belcher)

Whitinger. The father was born in Marion county, Indiana, while the mother was a native of Story county, Iowa. The former came to this state in the '70s and soon after his arrival was married to Armeta Belcher. They began their domestic life in Story county and there reared their family.

J. D. Whitinger, spending his youthful days under the parental roof, attended the common schools and was trained in the work of the home farm, early becoming familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. When he arrived at years of maturity he planned to have a home of his own and to this end wedded Miss Clara Mae Shafer, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Newton Shafer, who are still residents of Story county, Iowa, where they have spent their entire lives. To Mr. and Mrs. Whitinger have been born three children, namely: Thelma Mae, Arthur D. and Jacob D., aged respectively eleven, nine and six years.

From Story county Mr. Whitinger came to Howard county and has since been identified with its agricultural interests. He is now the owner of a good farm on section 12, Afton township, and in the further development of his land has made it a valuable and productive farm. There are good buildings upon the place and everything indicates the careful supervision, and progressive methods of the owner, whose life has been one of intense and well directed activity, bringing to him the success which is now his.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitinger are consistent and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church, contributing generously to its support and doing everything in their power to upbuild the cause and extend its influence. Mr. Whitinger belongs to the Masonic lodge of Elma and he and his wife are identified with the Order of Eastern Star. In politics he is a republican and is much interested in the vital questions and political problems of the age but does not seek to fill political office. He prefers to devote his time and energies to his business affairs, and the careful direction of his labors has led to the attainment of a substantial measure of success.

W. F. GETSCH.

The name of W. F. Getsch is an honored one in the financial circles of Chickasaw county. He is the president of the Commercial State Savings Bank of Nashua and is regarded as a man of thorough reliability as well as enterprise. He was born in Bradford, Chickasaw county, Iowa, on the 9th of June, 1872, and is a son of Ferdinand C. and Lena E. (Hanna) Getsch. The father was born in Prussia, while the mother was a native of Brunswick, Germany. Ferdinand C. Getsch came to the United States about 1858, settling in McGregor, Iowa, where he took up blacksmithing. He formed a partnership with Joseph Clemens and also engaged in wagon building. He was quite successful in the conduct of his business interests there and five years later he returned to Germany for his wife, whom he brought to the new world. He remained in McGregor for three or four years longer and then came to Chickasaw county, settling in the old town of Bradford, where he opened a shop and continued in business until the building of the railroad into Nashua in 1877, at which time he removed to Nashua and opened another shop, which he continued to conduct until within ten years of his death. He passed away in October, 1904, while his widow, surviving him for a decade, was called to her final rest on the 14th of October, 1914. They were the parents of ten children, nine of whom are yet living.

W. F. Getsch was educated in the public schools of Nashua, passing through consecutive grades to his graduation from the high school with the class of 1890. He then went west to Park City, Utah, where he worked in the silver and lead mines for two and a half years. He afterwards returned to Nashua, Iowa, and became identified with the banking business, entering the First National Bank in order to learn bookkeeping. It was his intention to return to the west, having been offered a position in a bank in Utah, but after three months' stay with the First National Bank of Nashua he accepted a permanent position in that institution, of which A. G. Case was the president. On the 1st of January, 1894, he was made bookkeeper of the bank and in November of the same

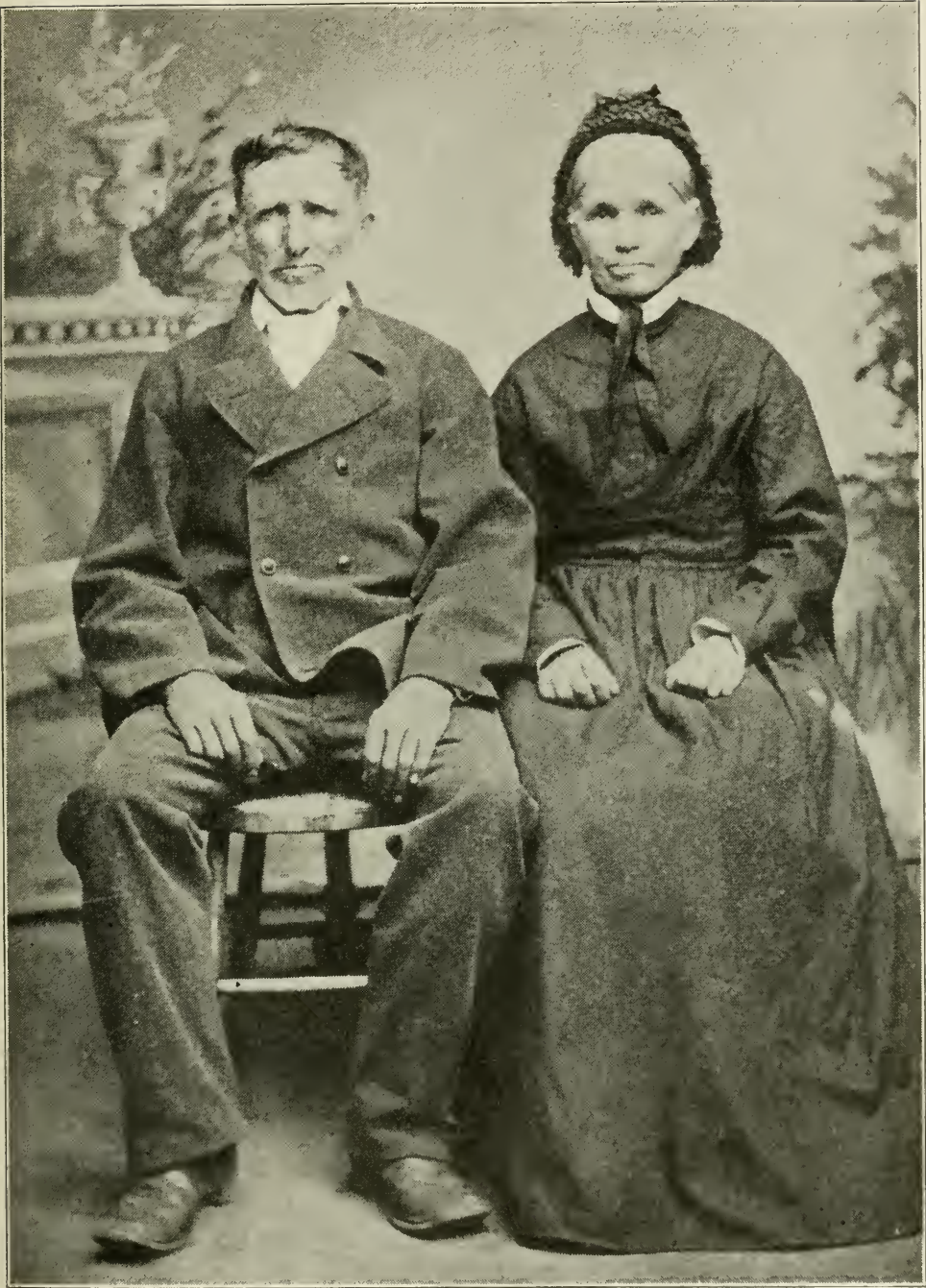
year the First National Bank liquidated and Mr. Case opened a private bank under the firm style of A. G. Case & Company, making Mr. Getsch his bookkeeper. On the 1st of June, 1895, the latter was made cashier of the bank and served in that capacity for fifteen years, after which he was elected vice president and remained in that office for two years, when he was chosen president. On the 1st of January, 1915, the institution was reorganized and incorporated as the Commercial State Savings Bank and Mr. Getsch continues as its president. The development of the bank has been attributable in no small measure to his efforts, his comprehensive knowledge of banking and his progressiveness. At the time Mr. Getsch became cashier of the bank the deposits amounted to one hundred thousand dollars. Something of the growth of the business of the institution is indicated in the fact that today the deposits approximate five hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

On the 6th of June, 1900, Mr. Getsch was united in marriage to Miss Helen Dexter, of Nashua, who at that time was a teacher in the public schools of Cedar Falls. They have become the parents of a son and a daughter, Gertrude M. and William C.

Politically Mr. Getsch is an earnest republican and has served as a member of the town council but cannot be said to be a politician in the sense of office seeking. In matters of citizenship, however, he has always stood on the side of progress and improvement. He was a member of the Liberty Loan committee during the Victory Loan drive and had been active in all the former loans. Fraternally he is connected with Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M.; Almond Chapter, No. 53, R. A. M., of Charles City; Joppa Commandery, No. 55, K. T., of Charles City; El Kahir Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of Cedar Rapids; and De Molay Consistory, A. & A. S. R., of Clinton, Iowa. Both he and his wife are members of Nashua Chapter, No. 248, O. E. S., and they are also members of the First Congregational church. He is deeply interested in Masonry and is a loyal follower of the teachings and purposes of the craft, exemplifying in his life its beneficent spirit. He is recognized as a man of high personal worth whose splendid traits of character have brought him to the front not only in business but also in the regard of his fellow townsmen. In July, 1918, when the Chickasaw County Bankers' Association was organized, Mr. Getsch was honored by being elected the first president of the association. This is indicative of his high standing in business circles and of the prominent position which he occupies among his fellow townsmen. His worth is widely recognized and his value to the community is acknowledged by all.

HENRY FAUST.

Henry Faust is the proprietor of the Forest View Stock Farm of three hundred and forty-five acres. This is situated on section 13, Stapleton township, Chickasaw county, and is one of the fine farm properties of northern Iowa. Mr. Faust is a native of Palatine, Illinois, born September 11, 1852. His father, Henry Faust, Sr., was a native of Prussia, Germany, while the mother, who bore the maiden name of Margaret Willman, was born in Alsace, France. Each came to the United States in early life and settled in Cook county, Illinois, where they became acquainted and were married. They took up their abode upon a farm which later became the townsite of Palatine when the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad was built through that district. Some of the first trains run over the road killed some of his cattle and Mr. Faust sold his farm and came west to Iowa. It was subsequent to this time that the town of Palatine was founded and had he remained the sale of town lots would have made him financially independent. He removed to Iowa with three prairie schooners drawn by oxen and brought with him forty head of cattle, arriving in Chickasaw county on the 4th of July, 1855. From the government he entered three hundred and twenty acres of raw land upon which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. This is now the home farm of his son and namesake, the land never having passed out of the possession of the family. The father's first habitation here was constructed of poles covered with wild hay. During the following winter, that of 1855-6, the cold was intense. In fact it is a memorable winter in the history of Iowa and the family suffered many hard-



MR. AND MRS. HENRY FAUST, SR.

ships and privations. In subsequent years the father prospered and attained notable success. He remained upon the old home farm until his death, which occurred in 1888, when he was in his seventy-seventh year. His wife survived until 1893 and was sixty-nine years of age at the time of her demise.

Henry Faust, whose names introduces this review, was educated in the district schools and at the age of nineteen left the parental roof. He then went to Deerfield, Illinois, where he worked for two years in a wagon shop. About that time his brother, who had been left upon the farm, died and Henry Faust found it necessary to return home and take charge of the place, which he has now operated for the past forty-six years. He has carried on stock farming, raising shorthorn cattle, and has made the Forest View Stock Farm one of the notable places in this section of the country. The farm is today owned by himself and his sister, Margaret, who are the only two living representatives of a family of seven children. Neither has married and they keep house together. For the past five years Mr. Faust has rented his land and is now practically living retired.

Both Mr. Faust and his sister are members of the Lutheran church. In politics he is a republican, always voting with that party, but has never been an aspirant for political preferment. Starting out in life with but limited school advantages, working at the breaking plow for several seasons and always with the laudable ambition to attain something better, he has steadily advanced along the lines of progressive farming and has become one of the substantial citizens of northern Iowa.

CLIFTON M. PARKER.

Clifton M. Parker is the president of the First National Bank of Lawler and has had charge of its financial policy for a number of years, the success of the institution being therefore attributable to his sound judgment and progressive business methods. He was born in Lawler, November 27, 1882, a son of William H. and Ettie (Mason) Parker. He was educated in the Lawler high school, from which he was graduated with the class of 1899, and in the Upper Iowa University at Fayette. He also attended the Capital City Commercial College at Des Moines and following the completion of his studies he returned to Lawler, where he entered his father's bank in the position of assistant cashier and bookkeeper. The bank was then a private institution operating under the name of William H. Parker & Company or the Bank of Lawler, as it was generally spoken of. This bank was established in 1875 by D. R. Kirby and was one of the three banks then existing in Chickasaw county. In 1887 it was purchased by William H. Parker and conducted by him until his death on the 18th of June, 1912. Two years later the bank was nationalized, becoming the First National Bank of Lawler, at which time it issued a statement concerning the history of the institution, speaking of William H. Parker, who "began business on February 14, 1887, at a time when depositors were few, money available for loaning was scarce and the interest rate was twelve per cent, usually paid in advance. Two years after the date that he began business his books show a total deposit of only four thousand seven hundred and forty-three dollars and sixty-six cents. The main profit for the bank was derived from the exchange account. An exchange charge was made on each check cashed by the bank as well as on the exchange that the bank sold. At this time the bank had a capital of five thousand dollars. The rate of interest paid on time deposits was five per cent, which is the rate that the bank has continued to pay. The panics of 1893 and 1907 were safely weathered and the business has enjoyed a healthy growth. Competition entered the field in 1896. At the death of William H. Parker, when his son, C. M. Parker, assumed control, the bank's capital and surplus was seventeen thousand dollars and its deposits were one hundred and eight thousand dollars. On the last day of its business, August 15, 1914, the capital, surplus and profits were twenty-five thousand dollars and the total deposits were one hundred and fifty-eight thousand dollars. Every obligation of the old bank has been assumed by the new one. It is the belief of the officers of the First National Bank of Lawler that times are good; that the United

States is, by far, the best country in the world; that Iowa is her best state; that there is no better place than the town of Lawler and the farming country tributary to it. It is our ambition that this bank shall be the best that good management under good laws can provide. We have every faith in the government of the United States and are glad to be under federal surveillance. Our policy will be the most liberal consistent with good banking. We will have nothing to conceal except the private affairs of our customers." The bank is in a very flourishing condition, its business steadily increasing, and its policy is such as carefully safeguards the interests of depositors and yet makes for continued growth. It has indeed been an institution of great worth to Lawler.

On the 4th of September, 1907, Mr. Parker was united in marriage to Miss Vina Clapham, of Fredericksburg, Iowa, by whom he has two children, William C. and Catherine.

In politics Mr. Parker is a republican and always keeps well informed concerning the political questions and problems of the day. He is a member of the town council and formerly served as clerk of the board. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and is serving as clerk of his camp. He is also a member and the secretary of the Homesteaders Lodge and a member of Standard Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Waucoma, Iowa, while in Arcana Chapter, R. A. M., of New Hampton, he has taken the Royal Arch degrees. He is likewise identified with Eudora Commandery, K. T., of New Hampton, and has crossed the sands of the desert with the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine in El Kahir Temple of Cedar Rapids. He and his wife are members of the Congregational church and they are keenly interested in all that has to do with the welfare and upbuilding of the district in which they live. During the period of the war Mr. Parker took a most active part in furthering the interests of the government and was a member of the Liberty Loan committee of Chickasaw county, having charge of the loan in Stapleton township during the third and fourth drives. He put the township over the top in both loans and he was again appointed to that position at the time the Victory Loan was launched. His work in this connection has been most efficient and his labors brought results that were thoroughly gratifying.

SUMNER P. MOORE.

Sumner P. Moore, one of the oldest of the pioneers of Chickasaw county and for many years justice of the peace at Fredericksburg, was born in Union county, Ohio, June 9, 1849, a son of Thomas C. and Emily (Paine) Moore, the former a native of Connecticut, while the latter was born in Union county, Ohio, where they were married. In 1854 they removed to Iowa, settling in Postville, where the father conducted one of the old-time log hotels, sheltering many of the early pioneers and upon his place he also had accommodations for the teams of the continental travelers, the hotel being located on the old military road. In 1866 he removed to Fredericksburg, Chickasaw county, and purchased a farm a mile north of the town. He spent many years upon that place but passed the last ten years of his life in Kansas, where his death occurred.

Sumner P. Moore of this review was educated in the district schools and on reaching young manhood took up work at the carpenter's trade. For twenty-five years he was prominently identified with the contracting and building business, erecting many of the substantial and fine buildings of Fredericksburg, which stand as monuments to his activity in this field of labor and show forth his skill and handiwork. He then turned his attention to the insurance and loan business, with which he has since been identified. In 1906 he bought a farm of one hundred and thirty-seven and a half acres, a part of which lies within the corporation limits of Fredericksburg. This tract of land he cultivated very successfully for nine years and then sold the place in 1915.

In 1883 Mr. Moore was married to Miss Jennie Parks, of Fredericksburg, a daughter of Benjamin B. Parks, who came to Chickasaw county in 1867. Mr. and Mrs. Moore have become the parents of seven children, of whom four are living: Walter H., a resident of New Hampton, Iowa; Ben H., living at Eagle Grove, Iowa; Clint H., who

is in the United States army, stationed at Kelly Field No. 1, in camp at San Antonio, Texas, serving with the rank of sergeant; and Wynona, at home.

Politically Judge Moore is a republican and during the fifty-three years of his residence in Fredericksburg he has never missed a general election and has always voted the republican ticket in the same precinct. For the past ten years he has served as notary and for many years he has filled the position of justice of the peace, his decisions being strictly fair and impartial. He has been a Mason for forty-five years and for twenty years has been secretary of Mount Horeb Lodge, No. 333, A. F. & A. M., which has ever found in him a worthy exemplar, one who is most loyal to the teachings of the craft, the brotherhood of mankind and the obligations thereby imposed. He is also a member of the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. Chickasaw county numbers him among her best known and most highly respected citizens. His friendship is of that kind which stands the test of adversity as well as prosperity, and his character includes the power of appreciating whatever is noble and uplifting in another.

GEORGE J. SCHOLZ.

George J. Scholz, cashier and member of the board of directors of the Alta Vista Savings Bank of Alta Vista, Iowa, was born in Guttenberg, this state, on the 26th of January, 1881, a son of Charles and Helena (Ulrich) Scholz, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father came to the new world in young manhood in company with his brother, W. H. Scholz, while the mother crossed the Atlantic as a girl with her parents. Both became residents of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where they were later married. For a year or two they resided in that city and then removed to Guttenberg, Iowa, where the father engaged in general merchandising and became prominently identified with the business life of that city, where he continued his mercantile activities for more than a quarter of a century. He was also active in community affairs, served as president of the school board and for a number of years was a member of the city council. He passed away at a comparatively early age, being called to his final rest when a man of fifty-three. His widow continued the business for a period of ten years.

George J. Scholz was educated in the common schools of Guttenberg, passing through consecutive grades to the high school, from which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1896. He displayed special aptitude in his studies, completing his course before his sixteenth year. When his textbooks were put aside he secured a clerkship in a store, in which he was employed for a year, and subsequently he taught school for two years, at the expiration of which period he came to Alta Vista and entered the banking business as assistant cashier of the Alta Vista Savings Bank. He held that title for several years but served in the capacity of cashier, being practically alone in the conduct of the bank's affairs. In 1906 he was formally chosen as cashier of the institution and has since given his attention to constructive effort, administrative direction and executive control. He is thoroughly familiar with every phase of the banking business and his efforts have been a basic element in the success of the institution. He is ever a courteous and obliging official and does everything in his power to accommodate the patrons of the bank, while at the same time carefully safeguarding the interests of depositors and stockholders.

In 1903 Mr. Scholz was united in marriage to Miss Mille Kohler, of Guttenberg, Iowa, who passed away in 1916, leaving three children, of whom two are living, Charles H. and Milton K. In August, 1917, Mr. Scholz was again married, his second union being with Miss Clara Erion, of Alta Vista.

In his political views Mr. Scholz is an earnest republican and for ten years has served as mayor of Alta Vista, giving to the city a very businesslike and progressive administration, characterized by needed reforms and improvements. He has also served as president of the school board and is interested in the intellectual progress of the community. Fraternally he is a Mason, belonging to Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 528, A. F. & A. M.; Adelpia Chapter, No. 113, R. A. M., and also to Alta Vista Lodge,

No. 658, I. O. O. F., and to Charles City Lodge, No. 418, B. P. O. E. He is ever loyal to the teachings and purposes of these organizations and in every relation of life is found true to the trusts reposed in him. He has won a creditable place among the substantial, progressive and representative business men of Chickasaw county, where his worth is widely acknowledged. Actuated by a laudable ambition, he has advanced step by step and each forward step in his career has brought him a broader outlook and wider opportunities. Moreover, opportunity has ever been to him a call to action and one to which he has made ready response. Men who know him—and he has a wide acquaintance—speak of him in terms of the highest regard and aside from what he has done for his city as a business man he has greatly furthered its interests and upheld its civic standards through the exercise of his official prerogatives as mayor.

F. A. SCHUETZ.

For thirteen years F. A. Schuetz has been the cashier of the State Savings Bank of Lawler and through his connection with the institution it has shown rapid and substantial growth, becoming one of the strong moneyed concerns of Chickasaw county. Mr. Schuetz is a native of New Hampton, Iowa, where he was born May 9, 1877, his parents being John and Mary (Demuth) Schuetz, who were natives of Luxemburg. In 1855 the father came to the United States, making the voyage in a sailing vessel. He took up his abode at Aurora, Illinois, where he was employed at railroad work for a period of eight years, and in 1863 he returned to Luxemburg, where he was married. He then brought his bride to the United States and established his home in Dubuque county, Iowa, where he purchased a farm which he cultivated for a period of five years. At the end of that time he sold the property and removed to New Hampton, where he engaged in merchandising. In 1880, after the three years' wheat crop failures of Iowa, he lost his business owing to the fact that he was carrying so many on his books who were unable to pay him. He thereafter lived a private life in New Hampton, where he passed away in 1909, at the age of seventy-seven years.

F. A. Schuetz was educated in the graded and high schools of New Hampton, being graduated on the completion of his high school course as a member of the class of 1896. He next entered the State Agricultural College at Ames, where he completed his studies in 1899. Following his graduation there he taught in the schools of Bassett for a year and subsequently became principal of the New Hampton high school, in which position he remained for two years. He next accepted the principalship of the high school at Grinnell, Iowa, where he continued for one year and was then made superintendent of the schools of Perham, Minnesota, in which capacity he continued to serve for three years. On the expiration of that period he was offered and accepted the cashiership of the State Savings Bank at Lawler and in this important position has since remained. When he entered the bank in 1906 its resources amounted to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, while on the 1st of April, 1919, its resources aggregated six hundred and nine thousand dollars. During the prosecution of the war with Germany the bank furnished the government through the subscriptions which it took and through its private subscriptions something over three hundred and eighty-four thousand dollars. The bank has shown a wonderful growth since Mr. Schuetz became its cashier and has been active in managing its financial policy.

On the 5th of June, 1907, Mr. Schuetz was united in marriage to Miss Grace C. Struett, of Perham, Minnesota, by whom he has four children: John S., Louis F., Catherine and Francis J.

Mr. and Mrs. Schuetz are members of the Catholic church and he is identified with the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Order of Foresters and the Modern Woodmen of America. His political endorsement is given to the democratic party and for many years he served as secretary of the school board and was recently elected to the county board of education. He has ever stood for progress and improvement in the public life of the community and during the period of the war was especially active in promotion of the Liberty Loan drives and was chairman for Utica township during the third

and fourth loans and also again for the Victory Loan. He was chairman of the Red Cross fund of Stapleton township and made numerous speeches in his district in support of the various drives and the war work. He is a man of progressive spirit, satiety having no part in his nature. He is always looking to opportunities not only for the development of his individual interests but for the benefit of his town and county as well and his labors in this direction have been far-reaching and effective.

MARCUS OSCAR SWENSON.

Marcus Oscar Swenson is a plumbing and heating contractor of Cresco, conducting a business of gratifying proportions. Moreover, he is a native son of the city in which he resides, his birth having here occurred November 17, 1879, his parents being Frederick and Josephine (Iverson) Swenson. His father was born near Racine, Wisconsin, and there pursued his education in the public schools, after which he worked on a farm for his mother for a time and later he secured employment in a blacksmith shop and machine shop. He afterward came to Iowa, establishing his home in Cresco, where he obtained a position in the jewelry store of his brother, Ole Swenson. A little later he returned to Wisconsin but after a short time again came to Cresco, where he established a machine shop. Later he took up the business of manufacturing mowers, which became widely known as the Swenson mowers and were the first made in this part of the country. He continued in the business for a number of years and in 1892 he began the installation of heating plants and also did plumbing work. During this time he likewise manufactured engines and boilers. He thus developed important industrial interests in Cresco and ranked with its prominent and representative business men. His activities constantly broadened in scope and his business continually increased in volume. He continued an active factor in the industrial life of Cresco to the time of his death, which occurred April 11, 1905, when he had reached the age of fifty-eight years. His political support was given to the republican party and his religious faith was that of the Lutheran church. In 1878 he married Miss Josephine Iverson, a daughter of Lars and Anna Iverson. She was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, while her parents were natives of Norway. At an early day they left the land of the midnight sun and came to the United States, establishing their home near Leland, Illinois, where Mr. Iverson engaged in farming for some time. Subsequently he removed to Newburg township, Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he took up government land, upon which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. He at once built a little log house and began to break the prairie and cultivate the fields. He brought his farm under a good state of cultivation but eventually left that place and removed to Hesper township, Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he again purchased land. This he cultivated for a number of years and at length removed to Mabel, Minnesota, where he spent his remaining days in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. He died at the age of eighty-five years, while his wife reached the age of eighty-six years. Their daughter, Mrs. Swenson, was the first child born in Fillmore county.

Marcus O. Swenson of this review pursued his education in the schools of Cresco and in the normal school. His business training was received under the direction of his father and through the International Correspondence School. He began working with his father at the heating and plumbing business in the old machine shop and foundry and developed his mechanical skill and ingenuity. He also worked for the Grubbing Machine Company, owned by Caward & Swenson, and was employed at the city water works as engineer. He also spent some time as miller in a flour and feed mill of Cresco owned by John McCoy and John Casper and later he worked for the firm of Swenson & Moen in the plumbing business. His next step in his business career was to enter into partnership with his father and this relation was maintained until the latter's death on the 11th of April, 1905, at which time the father was fifty-eight years of age. Following his demise Marcus

O. Swenson and his mother carried on the business until February 4, 1908, after which the son became sole proprietor and has since conducted his interests as a plumbing and heating contractor. In 1909 he removed his shop from the old foundry building to its present location and has since continued in the business, winning a liberal patronage as the years have passed on and he has demonstrated his skill and efficiency in his chosen line.

On the 4th of February, 1908, Mr. Swenson was united in marriage to Miss Violet E. Hammond, who was born near Cresco, a daughter of William and Margaret (Clarke) Hammond. Her parents were natives of Illinois but came to Howard county at an early day, casting in their lot with its pioneer settlers before the town of Cresco had been established. To Mr. and Mrs. Swenson have been born four children: Marjorie, Robert, Ruth and Paul.

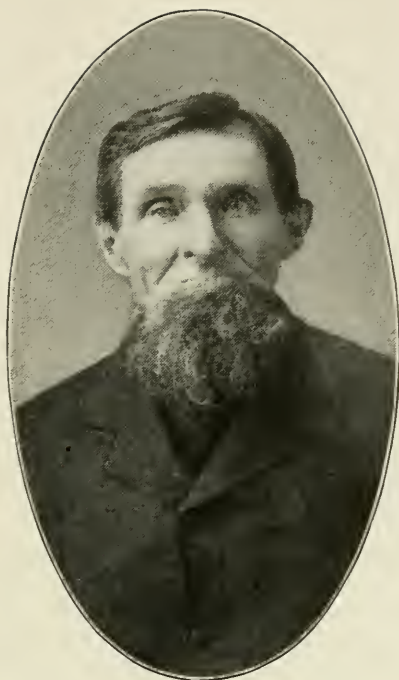
On July 8, 1918, Mr. Swenson went to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he worked a short time at his trade, after which he went to Nashville, Tennessee, and was employed as a pipe fitter by the Du Pont Engineering Company, constructing the Old Hickory powder plant at Jacksonville, Tennessee, sixteen miles northeast of Nashville and adjacent to The Hermitage, home of President Andrew Jackson. Mr. Swenson moved his family and mother to Lebanon, Tennessee, twenty-five miles southeast of the powder plant, September 28, 1918. His work ended there February 20, 1919. He then took heating and plumbing contracts for the Cedar City Machine Shop Company of Lebanon, Tennessee, securing considerable business until he accepted a position with the Lindle Plumbing & Heating Company of Akron, Ohio, August 20, 1919, his family and mother then returning to Cresco, Iowa, for a visit.

Mr. Swenson was a member of the fire company of Cresco for about ten years and acted as one of the foremen. In June, 1902, he joined as a charter member Company E, Forty-ninth Regiment, Iowa National Guard. During the summer of 1902 the Forty-ninth's Regiment number was changed to the Fifty-third, as the Forty-ninth was a Spanish War Regiment and the reorganized regiment was given a new number with the similar change in the other three state regiments. He served as second lieutenant in the Fifty-third Regiment from April 21, 1903, until May, 1909, when Company E was mustered out. He had worked his way up through the ranks to his position as a commissioned officer. Fraternally he is a connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Masons and is a loyal adherent of their teachings and purposes. In fact he is regarded as a man of genuine worth in Cresco.

AUGUST MILHAM.

August Milham, who successfully followed farming on section 29, Afton township, Howard county, was born in Germany in 1843 and came to the United States when a young man of twenty-four years. He made the trip alone after bidding adieu to friends and native country, thinking that he would have better opportunities on this side of the Atlantic, nor did he ever regret his determination to come to the United States. He made his way first to Illinois, where he remained for two years, during which time he was engaged in hauling milk. On the expiration of that period he removed to Howard county, Iowa, and purchased a farm in Afton township, which he conducted for two years. He then sold that property and later was employed as a farm hand in Afton township for a time.

In 1876 Mr. Milham was united in marriage to Miss Amelia Arndt, a daughter of Fred Arndt, and they began their domestic life upon a rented farm. Mr. Milham continued to rent land for twenty years after his marriage and then purchased the present home farm, upon which he resided to the time of his death, which occurred on the 8th of December, 1916. He was an active and energetic farmer, who carefully tilled the soil and brought his fields under a high state of cultivation, putting forth every effort to provide a comfortable living for his family.



AUGUST MILHAM



LEO MILHAM



ARTHUR MILHAM

To Mr. and Mrs. Milham were born thirteen children, namely: Mrs. Augusta Brown; Mrs. Carrie Patri; Mrs. Minnie Weipert; Amelia M., deceased; Mrs. Annie Klein; John; Benjamin and Joseph, twins, deceased; Frederick, also deceased; August; Leo, who was with the Eighty-first Machine Gun Battalion and went overseas during the world war, seeing much active service, but has since been honorably discharged and is now at home on the farm with his mother; Mrs. Noretta Bohardt; and Arthur, who was with the Headquarters Company, Eighty-eighth Infantry, stationed at Camp Dodge for about six months, and is now on the home farm.

Mrs. Milham still resides upon the home farm. Mr. Milham was a member of the German Lutheran church, of which his family are also adherents, and his political endorsement was given to the democratic party. He was a man who stood loyally in defense of whatever he believed to be right or for the benefit of the community at large and his sterling worth was recognized by all with whom he came in contact.

CHARLES MICHAEL GAMROW.

Charles Michael Gamrow has throughout his entire life been a resident of Howard county and makes his home on section 7, Afton township. He was born on the 27th of September, 1861, a son of Frederick and Annie Gamrow, both of whom were natives of Germany. They came to the United States with their respective parents at an early age and in young manhood the father worked for a time in Wisconsin but eventually removed to Iowa and purchased land in Howard county which he developed into an excellent farm property. It was largely wild and unimproved when it came into his possession, but his labors soon wrought a marked change in the appearance of the place, converting it into rich fields that annually produced substantial crops. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Gamrow were two sons: Charles M., of this review; and Frederick, a resident farmer of Howard county. The latter married Minnie Sprung, of this county, and he is well known among the agriculturists of the district.

Charles Michael Gamrow spent his boyhood days in the usual manner of the farm-bred boy of Howard county. He attended the district schools, enjoyed the pleasures of the playground and worked in the fields during vacation periods. He thus became thoroughly familiar with the best methods of cultivating the soil and caring for the crops and was well qualified to take up farming on his own account after he had reached adult age. He has carried on farming independently for thirty years and is meeting with success in all of his undertakings.

In his political views Mr. Gamrow is a republican but has never been an office seeker. However, he manifests a deep interest in all plans and projects looking to the development and upbuilding of his section of the state and is regarded as a substantial citizen. His religious faith is indicated by his attendance at the Lutheran church of Riceville. Having spent his entire life in Howard county, he is well known and those with whom he has been brought in contact speak of him as a thoroughly reliable business man.

NELSON I. MEAD.

Nelson I. Mead, who follows farming on section 10, Chickasaw township, in Chickasaw county, and whose activity in public affairs of the community is indicated by his service as a member of the present board of township trustees, was born September 18, 1855, in the township where he still lives and in which he has now made his home for sixty-four years. His parents were Isaac and Helen (Rice) Mead, both of whom were natives of the state of New York, where they were reared and married. Subsequently they made their way westward to Illinois and thence removed to Wisconsin, while in the spring of 1855 they came to Iowa, settling in Chickasaw township, Chickasaw

county, where the father purchased two hundred acres of land from a speculator at five dollars per acre. He at once began the development and improvement of the farm, which he brought under a high state of cultivation and upon which he made his home until the death of his wife, which occurred on the 19th of August, 1884. He then made his home with his son, Nelson I., until he was called from this life on the 3d of July, 1905.

Nelson I. Mead was educated in the district schools, attending when there was no work to be done on the farm. His youth was a period of earnest toil and after reaching manhood he and a brother operated the home farm for two years. In 1878 he was united in marriage to Miss Clara J. Hooker, of Ionia, a daughter of James M. Hooker, who came to Chickasaw county from Rockford, Illinois, in 1859, settling on a farm in Chickasaw township, a half mile east of Ionia. There he lived up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1903. He served for several years as justice of the peace and was a prominent figure in the councils of the republican party. In fact he was regarded as one of the leading and influential residents of his section of the state and contributed much to the development of his district from pioneer times down to the present century.

Nelson I. Mead after his marriage rented a farm in Chickasaw township and for four or five years cultivated leased land. He made his first purchase in the early '80s, becoming owner of one hundred forty acres near Ionia, on which he lived for five years. He then bought eighty acres two miles southeast of the town, on which he resided for fifteen or sixteen years. He next bought another farm property of one hundred and forty acres north of Ionia, on the Dayton township line, and occupied that place for eight years. In 1903 he bought his present home place, to which he removed and upon which he has since resided. His time and energies are devoted to the further development of this property, which is now well improved, its fields making ready response to his care and cultivation in golden harvests. He is also a stockholder in the Ionia Farmers' Creamery Association.

To Mr. and Mrs. Mead have been born four children, two of whom survive: Mabel, who is the wife of Winton B. Waite, of Chickasaw township; and Bert N., who is engaged in general agricultural pursuits, is a dealer in farm lands and also devotes considerable attention to the breeding of thoroughbred Aberdeen Angus cattle.

The family are members of the Congregational church and in his political views Mr. Mead is a republican. At different times he has served as a member of the board of township trustees and is always interested in everything that has to do with the welfare and upbuilding of the county in which his entire life has been passed. There are few phases of its development and progress with which he is not familiar and throughout the years of his residence here he has been regarded as a most enterprising, reliable and substantial citizen.

JENS PLAMBECK.

Almost every country on the face of the globe has contributed to the citizenship of Howard county, but a very substantial portion has come from Denmark and of this class Jens Plambeck is a representative. He makes his home on section 20, Howard township, and is accounted one of the alert and energetic farmers of his part of the state. He was born in Denmark, October 16, 1870, a son of John and Marguerite (Knudsen) Plambeck, who are also natives of Denmark, where they still reside. The father devoted his attention to farming as a life work but is now living retired.

Jens Plambeck, having acquired his education in the public schools of Denmark, came to the new world in 1892, when a young man of twenty-two years. He afterward attended the high school at Tyler, Minnesota, for one term and thus greatly improved his knowledge of the English language. He hoped to enjoy better business opportunities in the United States than he could secure in Denmark and he has never had occasion to regret his determination to try his fortune on this side of

the Atlantic. He first settled in Blackhawk county, Iowa, where he began work as a farm hand and for eleven years he was thus employed for wages. In 1903 he began farming on his own account as a renter and cultivated leased land for six years. In 1909 he purchased his present home place, comprising one hundred and twenty acres of good land in Howard township, Howard county, and in the spring of 1910 he took up his abode upon this place. He is now carefully cultivating the farm and its excellent appearance gives proof of his industry. He is also a stockholder in the Maple Leaf Creamery Company.

Mr. Plambeck is a Lutheran in religious faith. His political belief is that of the democratic party, which he has supported since becoming a naturalized American citizen. He has always been a broad reader and deep thinker and is said to possess the best library of any farmer in Howard county and is a subscriber to probably more periodicals than any other representative of the farming interests of this section of the state. His library contains the works of the world's greatest authors and with its contents he is largely familiar, deriving his greatest enjoyment from this association with men of master minds.

GEORGE ERWIN ELLISON.

George Erwin Ellison, owner and publisher of the Reporter and Weekly Nashua Post, making his home in Nashua, was born in Vinton, Iowa, February 15, 1870. His parents were George Leonard and Hepsie (Burnham) Ellison, who were natives of the state of New York and came to Iowa about 1865, the father devoting his time and attention to the occupation of farming.

George E. Ellison began his education in the rural schools and afterward attended the Tilford Academy at Vinton. He has always devoted his life to the printing business and his first position was in the office of the Weekly Wymorean at Wymore, Nebraska, where he engaged in setting type for six months. Returning to Iowa, he secured the position of devil in the office of the Eagle at Vinton and learned his trade under the direction of B. Murphy. He served an apprenticeship of three years, remaining with the Eagle until March, 1899, when he purchased the interest of Miss Minna F. Murray in the Reporter and became associated with J. M. Keller in publishing that paper. This relationship continued until the death of Mr. Keller in February, 1915. Soon afterward Mr. Ellison purchased the interest of Mrs. Keller in the paper and published the Reporter alone until December, 1918, when he purchased the Nashua Post and consolidated the two plants under the name of the Reporter and Weekly Nashua Post.

At Vinton, on the 13th day of June, 1894, Mr. Ellison was united in marriage to Miss Luella York, of Vinton, Iowa, and they have one son, George Merwin. In Masonic circles Mr. Ellison is well known, having attained high rank in the order. He was master of Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M., from 1906 until 1908 and has been secretary since 1909, still filling that position. He is also a chapter Mason and belongs to De Molay Consistory No. 1, S. P. R. S., and to El Kahir Temple of the Mystic Shrine. He is likewise a member of the Knights of Pythias and was chancellor commander of his lodge in 1913 and 1914. His religious faith is that of the Baptist church and in political belief he is a republican. He has been very active in community affairs and his labors have been a strong element in the upbuilding of the city in which he makes his home. He was elected a member of the city council in 1905 and through reelection was continued in that office for three years. In 1908 he was chosen city clerk and is still filling that position, of which he has been the capable and efficient incumbent for a period of eleven years. He was likewise a member of the school board for nine years and served as its president for three years, while since the organization of the board of trustees of the public library in 1912 he has been one of its members and for six years served as president of the board. There is no phase of public activity in Nashua in which he is not keenly interested, and his aid and support both as a private citizen and

as a newspaper publisher are given to every plan and project which he believes will prove of practical value in the upbuilding of the city, the development of its resources and the upholding of its civic standards.

F. E. THORNE.

F. E. Thorne, who is a partner in the firm of Sloan, Thorne & Smith, general merchants of Fredericksburg, is also active along other lines that lead to the development and upbuilding of the city, being the president of the First State Bank. His activities have ever been of a character that have contributed to public progress and improvement as well as to individual success, and, moreover, in his support of any plan or measure for the general good he has displayed sound judgment, recognizing that which is of true value and worth.

Mr. Thorne was born in Winnebago county, Illinois, on the 21st of May, 1861, and is a son of Justus P. and Elizabeth (Golly) Thorne, who were natives of the state of New York, where they were reared and married. About 1855 they removed to the middle west, settling in Winnebago county, Illinois, upon a farm which the father developed and improved and at the same time he carried on carpentering there until the fall of 1877. At that date he became a resident of Chickasaw county, Iowa, and took up his abode upon a rented farm of four hundred and eighty acres in Stapleton township three miles north of Fredericksburg. The father continued to engage in carpentering and the four sons developed the farm of four hundred and eighty acres through a period of seven years and the family succeeded in saving twelve hundred dollars during this time. Mr. Thorne then purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Fredericksburg township, two miles north of the city of Fredericksburg, upon which he resided to the time of his death in 1907. Mr. Thorne was a most ardent republican and while never an aspirant for office put forth every possible effort to secure the success of his party at the polls. On election day he would drive into town with his horse and buggy and round up the republican voters, conveying them to the polls. The story is told of him that on his return one evening of an election day his wife jokingly asked him if he had voted, and bringing his fist down on the table with a crash, he said: "By George! I forgot to vote myself," and jumping into the buggy, he barely made the polls in time to deposit his ballot.

F. E. Thorne, whose name introduces this review, was educated in the schools of Peatonica, Illinois, and through a period of seven years after the removal of the family to Iowa he remained upon the farm with his father and assisted him in gaining his start in Chickasaw county. The year after the father purchased the farm F. E. Thorne, feeling that his labors were no longer needed upon the home place, started out in the business world independently and spent one year in the employ of Leonard Nourse. He then returned to Illinois and for ten years was again a resident of the old home county. During the last five and a half years of that period he was employed as a clerk in a dry goods store and thus laid the foundation for his later business success.

In 1895 Mr. Thorne returned to Fredericksburg and in partnership with F. S. Sloan established a store under the firm style of Sloan & Thorne. Eight years later he purchased his partner's interest in the business, which he conducted independently through the succeeding ten years. In 1913 he sold the store and for a time was engaged in the automobile trade. In 1917 he bought the interest of Mrs. Nellie M. Whitcomb in his former business and thus became a partner in the firm of Sloan, Thorne & Smith. In 1913, after selling his mercantile interests, he bought into the First State Bank and the following year was elected president of the institution, in which capacity he has since served. He has thoroughly acquainted himself with banking methods and has assisted in making the institution of which he is the president one of the strong moneyed concerns of this class of the state. In every-

thing that he has undertaken he has displayed a spirit of marked enterprise and progress, and his labors have been attended with excellent results.

On the 30th of December, 1896, Mr. Thorne was married to Miss Lucy E. Sanborn, of Pecatonica, Illinois, and they have become the parents of three children: Beth, who is attending the State Agricultural College at Ames, Iowa; Grata, a high school pupil; and Frank Eugene, Jr., who is a lad of ten years.

In politics Mr. Thorne is a republican and has served as president of the school board for two terms but otherwise has filled no public offices and has no political aspirations. He is a member of Mount Horeb Lodge, No. 333, A. F. & A. M., and in the Odd Fellows lodge, in which he holds membership, he has filled the position of secretary for several years. His wife is connected with the Order of the Eastern Star. No one questions his right to classification with the representative men of the county. He has long occupied an enviable position in business circles, and his dominant qualities have wrought for success and at the same time have commanded for him the confidence, good will and respect of all with whom he has been associated.

B. A. HOLSCHLAG.

Farming interests of Chickasaw county find a worthy representative in B. A. Holschlag, who is busily engaged in the cultivation of a good tract of land on section 30, New Hampton township. Upon the old family homestead in that township he was born August 16, 1880, and has always lived upon the same land. He is a son of Henry W. and Adelhied (Brus) Holschlag, who were natives of Germany but came to the United States in early childhood with their respective parents. They became acquainted and were married in Davenport, Iowa, to which place the Brus family had removed after living for a time in Missouri, but the Holschlag family established their home in Davenport immediately after coming to the new world. Subsequent to his marriage Henry W. Holschlag engaged in the occupation of farming in Scott county, near Davenport, until 1876, when he removed with his family to Chickasaw county, settling in New Hampton township on the place which is now the home of his son, B. A. He at that time purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land and upon the farm he continued to reside until his life's labors were ended, winning a place among the prominent and representative agriculturists of this section of the state. He was very successful in the conduct of his business affairs and prior to his death had acquired about four hundred acres of valuable land. He made all of the improvements upon his property, erected all of the buildings and took great interest in making his place one of the model farms of northern Iowa. He also contributed to the growth and progress of the community at large, manifesting at all times a public-spirited citizenship. He was born September 25, 1843, and had attained the age of fifty-six years when he passed away November 10, 1899. His wife, who was born September 10, 1839, died on the old homestead January 17, 1913, when in the seventy-fourth year of her age.

The youthful experiences of B. A. Holschlag were those of the farm-bred boy. He was reared under the parental roof and no event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for him. He attended the district schools and gained experience which later proved of great value to him when he took up farming independently. He was married November 22, 1905, to Miss Justina Speltz, a daughter of Matthias and Katherine (Hentges) Speltz, both of whom were born in Dubuque county, Iowa, and now make their home in New Hampton. Mr. and Mrs. Holschlag have become parents of two sons, Cyril Matthias and Justine John.

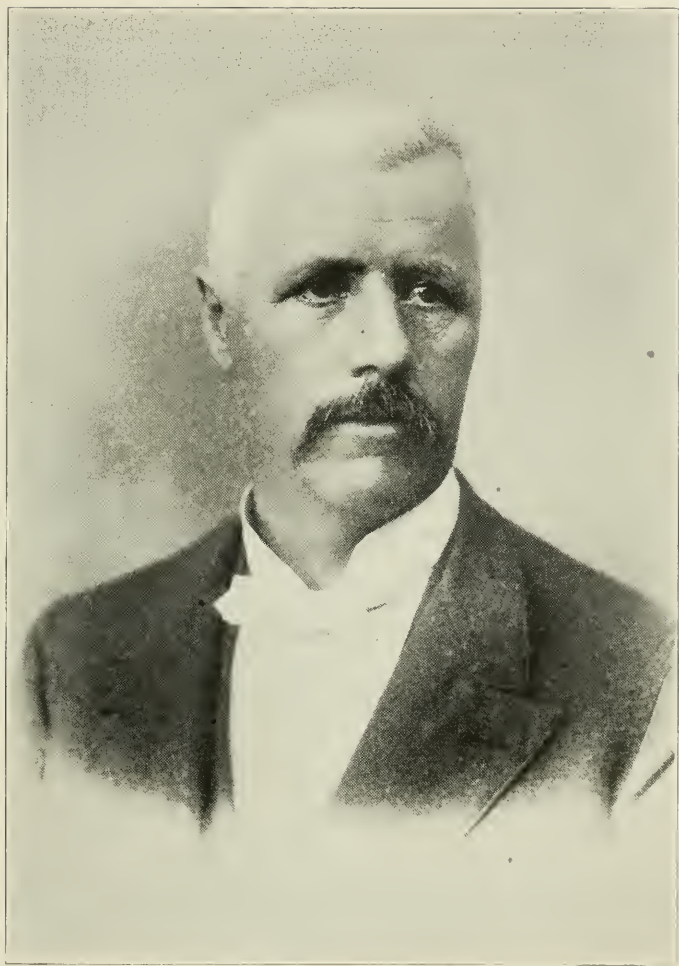
Mr. Holschlag has always lived upon the old homestead and has come into possession of one hundred and twenty acres of this tract, in addition to which he rents and farms one hundred and sixty acres, so that he is now busily engaged in the further development and cultivation of two hundred and eighty acres of good land. He buys, sells and ships stock, having made this an important branch of his busi-

ness for a long period. He has won a reputation as a leading stock raiser of his section of the state and he keeps a registered Durham bull and also a Chester White registered boar. His farm is pleasantly and conveniently located a half mile east and three miles south of New Hampton and he has placed two thousand rods of tiling on his land, thus draining it and keeping his fields in excellent condition. He has water works upon the place and every modern convenience to facilitate the work of further developing and improving his land or promoting his stock raising interests.

Mr. Holschlag and his family are members of St. Mary's Catholic church of New Hampton and he belongs to Knights of Columbus Council No. 1697. He is also a member of the Chickasaw County Equity Cooperative Association. In politics he maintains an independent course nor has he ever been ambitious to hold office, for he has always desired to give his attention to his business interests and his progressiveness in this regard has made him one of the prominent farmers and stock raisers of Chickasaw county.

ORVINE J. McHUGH.

Orvine J. McHugh is well known in business circles at Cresco as an implement dealer and garage owner. He is the senior partner in the firm of McHugh & Lusson, who in addition to conducting an implement house have the agency for the Ford cars and in connection therewith maintain a well equipped garage. Mr. McHugh is numbered among Iowa's native sons, his birth having occurred at Lawler, Chickasaw county, on the 18th of January, 1877. His father, John McHugh, was born at Lindsay, Ontario, Canada, on the 23d of December, 1842, his birthplace being the farm upon which his mother had been reared and also where his father spent his boyhood days. John McHugh experienced the usual hardships and privations of farm life on the frontier and became very proficient in all lines of farm work. He was equally at home in handling the plow, in swinging an axe, in cradling the grain or in caring for the stock. In fact pioneer conditions demanded the development of all one's latent powers and Mr. McHugh proved equal to any emergency. In July, 1863, he married Miss Margaret Falvey and in the following November left the farm to accept the position of governor of the county jail, to which position he was appointed through the influence of his father, who was warden of the county. He continued to serve in that capacity until 1866, when he resigned to come west. In June, 1867, he rented his Canadian farm property and started for Dubuque, Iowa, where he remained for a few months, but not finding a position there to his liking, he continued his way to McGregor, Iowa, and shortly afterward entered the employ of W. and J. Fleming, well known in connection with the lumber trade. He remained with them for one year as foreman of their extensive yard and at the end of that time the firm sent him to Lawler, Iowa, as manager of its interests at that place. With characteristic energy he took up his new duties and proved equal to the occasion. Not only did he win for himself a place as a very substantial and representative business man of that locality but also became a recognized leader in local affairs and during the five years following 1870 he was called to serve in various township offices. He acted as township trustee, as school director, as recorder and was also mayor of the town of Lawler, to which he gave a businesslike and progressive administration. He had always been a stalwart champion of republican principles and in the fall of 1875 his party nominated him for the office of state representative and he was elected to that position by a majority of four hundred. In the same fall he established the Bank of Lawler in company with D. R. Kirby and in November, 1877, he opened the Howard County Bank at Cresco. He figured prominently in financial circles as one whose word was above question and whose methods were always enterprising and progressive. Forceful and resourceful, he extended his efforts into various fields and became proprietor of the Kendallville Roller Mills, which he operated in addition to his banking, commercial and official interests. He also entered the stock raising business, keeping a herd of fine shorthorn cattle, and he was an enthusiastic stock man. He did



JOHN McHUGH

with thoroughness and energy everything that he undertook and never stopped short of the successful accomplishment of his purpose. In religion he was a strict Catholic and was an active worker in the church. The Republican party found in him a most stalwart advocate and his natural powers of oratory enabled him to sway his hearers, while the force of his logic carried conviction home to the minds of those who listened to him. For eight years he filled the office of National Bank Examiner for the state of Iowa.

Orvine J. McHugh, whose name introduces this record, spent his youthful days in Cresco, to which city he had removed with his parents in 1878. He there attended the parochial schools and afterward had the benefit of further instruction in Notre Dame University at Notre Dame, Indiana. Later he went to Chicago, Illinois, where he was employed as head bookkeeper by the Northern Trust Company and remained in that position for four years. In 1899 he returned to Cresco and entered into business relations with his father-in-law, D. A. Lyons, in the conduct of an implement establishment. That association was maintained for eleven years and in 1910 Mr. McHugh was joined by Theodore Lusson in the implement business, which they are still conducting under the firm style of McHugh & Lusson. They have the largest implement business in Cresco and their sales are annually increasing. The firm are also engaged in the garage business, having the Ford agency, and they do most excellent work in automobile repairing. Theirs is one of the most complete and thoroughly up-to-date garages in this part of the state and the business which they have built up in that connection adds materially to their income. That Mr. McHugh is a very prominent factor in business circles in Iowa is indicated in the fact that he has been honored with the presidency of the Implement Dealers' Association of Iowa and in that connection has put forth many valuable ideas whereby the trade has greatly benefited.

In 1899 Mr. McHugh was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Lyons, a daughter of D. A. and Catharine (Fitzgerald) Lyons and a native of Decorah, Winneshiek county, Iowa. Her father was for some time a well known implement dealer and leading business man of Cresco and enjoyed the respect and good will of all who knew him. To Mr. and Mrs. McHugh have been born two children: Katherine, whose birth occurred in 1904; and Margaret, who was born in 1906. Mr. McHugh and his family are communicants of the Catholic church and he holds membership with the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters. He has been president of the Opera House Company of Cresco and is now president of the Cresco Commercial Club. He stands staunchly in support of all those practical movements which have to do with the upbuilding and development of his city along material lines and supports all those interests which are a matter of civic virtue and of civic pride.

MATHIAS RIES.

Mathias Ries, busily engaged in general farming on section 29, Washington township, Chickasaw county, has always lived in the township which is still his home. Here his birth occurred September 12, 1870, his parents being Michael and Margaret (Elenz) Ries, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father came to the United States in 1852, when nineteen years of age and later brought his parents to this country. The lady whom he afterward made his wife also came to America with her parents and they became acquainted in Dubuque county, Iowa, where they were married. Subsequently they removed to Chickasaw county, settling in Washington township, where Michael Ries continued to engage in farming for many years. He won substantial success in his undertakings, accumulating considerable wealth. Year by year he carefully tilled the soil and cared for his crops, the sale of his products adding materially to his financial resources until 1894, when he retired from active farm life and removed to New Hampton, where both he and his wife resided until called by death.

Mathias Ries was reared on the old homestead farm and his youthful days were passed in the usual manner of the farm-bred boy who divides his time between the duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the fields.

When his schooldays were over he assisted more and more largely in the development of the home farm and has always made this his life work. He labors diligently and persistently in the further development of his holdings and is also a stockholder in the Farmers Equity Company of New Hampton.

In early manhood Mathias Ries was united in marriage to Miss Susanna Maiers, a daughter of Peter and Angela Maiers, the wedding being celebrated on the 11th of October, 1892. Her parents came from Germany to the new world and cast in their lot with the pioneer settlers of Washington township, Chickasaw county, where for a considerable period her father followed farming. He passed away in North Washington a number of years ago, but the mother is still living and yet makes her home at that place. Mr. and Mrs. Ries have become the parents of seven children: Aloysius, Louis Peter, Margaret, Walter, Michael, Reynold and Angela. The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and they are communicants of the church in North Washington.

Mr. Ries gives his political endorsement to the democratic party and served as township trustee of Washington township for two terms. He has also been school director for several years. He never hesitates to lend aid and support to public-spirited measures, seeking ever the welfare and upbuilding of the district in which he makes his home and of the state at large. He has always lived in Washington township, where he has a very wide acquaintance.

G. A. DREWELOW.

G. A. Drewelow, one of the highly respected and progressive farmers of Chickasaw county, resides on section 28, New Hampton township, where he owns a valuable tract of land of three hundred and twenty acres. He has developed here one of the fine farms of the county and his enterprise is at once manifest in the splendid appearance of his place. Commodious and substantial modern buildings are surrounded by highly cultivated fields and there is no equipment or accessory of the model farm of the twentieth century that is not found upon his land.

Mr. Drewelow is a native son of Chickasaw county, his birth having occurred in Stapleton township, June 2, 1863, his parents being Gustav and Augusta (Drevlow) Drewelow, both of whom were natives of Germany. They came to the United States in early life with their parents, the father being at that time a youth of eighteen, while the mother was a young lady of twenty-three. The paternal grandfather, William Drewelow, was a man of considerable means for those times and brought with him to this country three thousand dollars in gold. He settled in Chickasaw county and purchased for each of his four sons and two daughters a farm of eighty acres. His son, Gustav Drewelow, was given the farm upon which G. A. Drewelow of this review now resides, but he increased his holdings until he became the owner of three hundred and twenty acres. For a long period he engaged in the development and improvement of his fields, but following the death of his wife in 1901 he made his home with his children until he, too, was called to his final rest in 1910. In politics he was a democrat and was keenly interested in public affairs but never an office seeker. He made generous contributions to charity and many a poor neighbor had cause to bless him for timely assistance. He was ever ready to extend a helping hand to those who needed aid and his life at all times measured up to the highest standards of manhood and citizenship.

G. A. Drewelow, whose name introduces this record, attended the district schools near his father's home, but his educational opportunities in that direction were quite limited. Through broad experience and wide reading in later years, however, he has become a well informed man, recognized as one of notably sound judgment and keen discrimination. In the spring of 1888 he began farming on his own account, having purchased eighty acres of the old homestead property on which the buildings were located. In the following November he was married and continued to live upon the homestead but tore down the original buildings, which he replaced with modern and substantial structures, making this one of the well improved and valuable farm prop-

erties of New Hampton township. He has also made additional purchases, thus extending the boundaries of his farm from time to time until it today comprises three hundred and twenty acres, including some of the most valuable land in Chickasaw county, Mr. Drewelow refusing two hundred and fifty dollars per acre for his home place during the summer of 1919.

On the 13th of November, 1888, Mr. Drewelow was united in marriage to Miss Anna Schlatter, a daughter of Gottfried and Selma (Pfenninger) Schlatter, both of whom were natives of Switzerland. The father, after attaining man's estate, crossed the Atlantic to the new world and the mother made the voyage to the United States in her girlhood with her parents, who settled in Winneshiek county, Iowa. There they were married and afterward took up their abode in Fayette county, Iowa, where the father spent his remaining days, his death occurring in 1899. His widow still survives. To Mr. and Mrs. Drewelow have been born three sons: Wellington A., who is assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Wesley, Iowa; Irvin R., one of the well known stock buyers of northern Iowa, still living at home; and Waldon G., also at home. The sons, Wellington and Waldon, served in the European war, the former being stationed at Camp Gordon, Georgia, and the latter at Camp Dodge, Iowa.

In his political views Mr. Drewelow is a democrat. By the consensus of public opinion he occupies a position as one of the leading and representative citizens of New Hampton township. Here he has lived for fifty-six years, witnessing the growth and development of this section of the state and at all times bearing his part in the work of public improvement. In the conduct of his business affairs he has displayed ready adaptability and sound judgment and, placing his capital in the safest of all investments--real estate, he is today the owner of one of the fine farm properties of Chickasaw county.

OTTO L. GESELL.

Otto L. Gesell, living on section 25, Afton township, Howard county, is a native son of Iowa, his birth having occurred in Winneshiek county, November 23, 1883. His parents are John and Mary (Falck) Gesell, residents of Elma. The father was born in Indiana, while the mother was a native of Chickasaw county, Iowa. When a lad of ten years John Gesell came to this state and took up his abode at Ridgeway, where he was reared to manhood. After reaching adult age he was married at Fort Atkinson, Iowa, in 1881.

Otto L. Gesell pursued his education in the district schools near his father's home and in the high school at Elma, which he attended for two years before entering Ames College, in which he was a student for a year. He then returned home to assist his father in the further development and improvement of the farm and gave his attention to agricultural pursuits on the old homestead until he was twenty-three years of age. At that time he was married to Miss Ida Bartels, a daughter of Ernest and Sophia (Eikoff) Bartels, both of whom have passed away. Her father was a native of Illinois, while her mother was born in Germany. It was at Mapleleaf, Iowa, on the 25th of August, 1904, that Mr. and Mrs. Gesell were married and they have become the parents of six children: Harold J. E., Raymond P. F., Elsie S. M., Arnold H. C., Lester P. H. and Erma L. S., all of whom are under the parental roof.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Gesell took over the cultivation and management of the home farm, upon which he has since lived, and he has long been classed with the enterprising and progressive agriculturists of the community. He has charge of two hundred and forty acres of land, which he has brought under a high state of cultivation, and he is meeting with very substantial success in the development of his farm. He is likewise the president of the Afton Equity Local.

Mr. Gesell and his family are members of the Lutheran church at Elma, and his political belief is that of the republican party. He served as school director for a year but has never been ambitious to hold public office, preferring to concentrate his efforts upon his business affairs, which have been wisely directed and are bringing to him a

substantial competence. Reared to the occupation of farming, he has made it his life work and his capability and energy are manifest in the very desirable results which have rewarded his labors.

THEODORE A. KRIEGER.

Iowa has taken leadership along certain lines of agricultural development and this is due to the enterprising efforts of such men as Theodore A. Krieger, who has been most active in promoting the farming interests of Chickasaw county. He makes his home on section 24, Dayton township, and is a native of Scott county, Iowa, where his birth occurred August 27, 1860. He is a brother of J. W. Krieger, who is mentioned at length on another page of this work.

In the public schools of his native county Theodore A. Krieger acquired his early education and also spent two years as a student in a parochial school at Davenport. He worked with his father on the home farm through his boyhood and youth and was fifteen years of age when in 1875 he came to Chickasaw county with his parents, the family home being established upon the farm which he now owns and occupies. He has since resided upon this place and at the death of his father came into possession of the farm, which at that time comprised one hundred and sixty acres of land. He has since added to the place by the purchase of eighty acres and now has a valuable farm property of two hundred and forty acres. He is very practical in the cultivation of his fields and the farm indicates his careful supervision and progressive methods in its well tilled fields and splendid improvements.

On the 24th of May, 1889, Mr. Krieger was married to Miss Minnie Schnurr, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Schnurr, who removed from Scott county, Iowa, to Chickasaw county and are now living in New Hampton. Mr. and Mrs. Krieger have become the parents of ten living children: Mrs. Katherine Arnhalt, Charles, Clara, Mrs. Rose Sheehy, Lena, Loretta, George, Vincent, Lawrence and Irvin. The son Theodore was killed in a cyclone which passed over the farm in 1918.

Mr. Krieger and his family are members of St. Mary's Catholic church of New Hampton, and he is identified with the Farmers Equity Association of that place. His political support is given the democratic party and for six years he served as township trustee.

Throughout practically his entire life he has been identified with the farming interests of Chickasaw county and for forty-five years has lived upon his present home place, carefully cultivating the farm according to the most progressive methods.

MAXEY A. KEPPLE.

Maxey A. Kepple is the efficient cashier of the Commercial State Savings Bank of Nashua, in which city he was born August 23, 1882, a son of John W. and Alma (Bishop) Kepple, the former a native of Pennsylvania, while the latter was born in Chickasaw county, Iowa, upon a farm about a mile north of Chickasaw, where her parents had located in early pioneer times. The paternal grandparents of Mr. Kepple came to Chickasaw county about 1856, at which time John W. Kepple was only about a year old. Here he was reared and married and for many years he engaged in merchandising in Nashua, long ranking with its leading and representative business men. He afterward removed to Ionia, where he conducted a store for a number of years. Following the death of his wife he made his home with his son, Maxey A. Kepple of this review, until his demise, which occurred on the 3d of October, 1914, when he was fifty-nine years of age. He was one of the highly respected residents of the community in which he resided and enjoyed to the fullest extent the warm regard and confidence of those with whom he was associated. In politics he was a republican and fraternally was connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Maxey A. Kepple was educated in the public schools of Nashua and Ionia and also in the Capital City Commercial College at Des Moines. Following the completion of his studies there he entered the bank of A. G. Case & Company at Nashua and thus received his initial training in financial affairs. He was later made assistant cashier and on the 1st of June, 1909, he left that institution and went to Sanborn, Iowa, to accept the cashiership of the Sanborn State Bank, in which capacity he served for two and a half years. On the 1st of August, 1911, he returned to Nashua and was made cashier of the private banking institution of A. G. Case & Company. In 1915 this bank was reorganized and incorporated as the Commercial State Savings Bank, Mr. Kepple continuing as cashier of the newly incorporated institution.

On the 10th of October, 1905, Mr. Kepple was married to Miss Harriet M. Crapser, of Nashua, and to them have been born two children, Maxine A. and John H. Fraternally Mr. Kepple is connected with Bradford Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; with Nashua Lodge, I. O. O. F.; Nashua Lodge, No. 110, K. P.; and also with the Modern Woodmen of America. His political belief is that of the republican party, and in religious faith he and his wife are Congregationalists. Mrs. Kepple is also identified with the Order of the Eastern Star. Their lives are characterized by high and honorable purposes and principles, and their sterling worth is recognized by all who know them. Mr. Kepple has made steady advancement in his business career by reason of his persistency of purpose and fidelity, and his position is now an enviable one in the banking circles of his native county.

JAMES CURRAN.

James Curran, president of the State Savings Bank of Lawler, is an enterprising, alert and progressive business man whose labors have been an effective force in promoting progress and improvement in the district in which he lives. Iowa numbers him among her native sons, his birth having occurred in Jackson county, August 12, 1856, his parents being Patrick and Catherine (Savage) Curran, both of whom were natives of Ireland. The father was born in 1805 and in 1828 crossed the Atlantic to Newfoundland, where he was connected with the fishing industries for four years. He then came to the United States and was employed for a time on the construction of the first railroad built in this country—the line from Boston to Washington. Through the succeeding seven years he was engaged in railroad construction and on other public works throughout various parts of the country. In 1839 he returned to Ireland and was there married in 1840, after which he continued to make his home in his native land until 1847, when he again came to the new world. After some years spent in the New England states he made his way westward to Illinois and in 1854 became a resident of Iowa, settling on a farm in Jackson county, whereon he continued to reside until 1875. He then removed to Lawler to make his home with his son James, with whom he resided until his demise, which occurred June 9, 1885, when he had reached the advanced age of eighty years.

James Curran was reared on the old homestead farm in Jackson county and pursued his education in the rural schools. On attaining his majority he started out in the business world independently. He became a resident of Lawler in December, 1877, and here turned his attention to merchandising, with which business he was prominently identified for eighteen and a half years. In January, 1897, he established a private bank conducted under the name of the Merchants Exchange Bank, and he was at the head of this institution for nine years, during which period its business gradually increased. In 1906 he organized the State Savings Bank of Lawler, of which he has since been the president, and the success and growth of the institution are the direct outcome of his capability and effort. He is thoroughly acquainted with the various phases of the banking business and has made the institution one of thorough reliability. He extends credit wherever possible to his patrons and is ever ready to aid any project that will not endanger the safety of the bank.

In 1896 Mr. Curran was united in marriage to Miss Jennie O'Brien, of Independence, Iowa, by whom he has two sons. William Francis, who is now attending Dubuque College, of Dubuque, Iowa, received military training for the great World war at Fort Sheridan. James Omer is a high school student.

In politics Mr. Curran is a democrat but not an office seeker. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church and he also has membership with the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters. He has always lived in Iowa and the spirit of western enterprise and progress has found exemplification in his career.

W. J. BOWEN & SON.

W. J. Bowen & Son are the well known proprietors of the Nashua Woolen Mills and in this connection are perfecting and developing an enterprise of substantial proportions, regarded as one of the leading productive industries of the town. The senior partner, W. J. Bowen, was born in South Wales, May 27, 1853, and is a son of Thomas and Ann (Jones) Bowen. The father was a woolen manufacturer of Wales and his ancestors for many generations were engaged in the same line of business, W. J. Bowen being of the fourteenth generation of the Bowen family connected with this line of business activity. He came to the United States in August, 1873, and joined his uncle, D. W. Jones, who was operating woolen mills in Manchester, Iowa. There he worked in his uncle's mills for twenty-seven years and during that period became familiar with every phase of the business.

In 1900 Mr. Bowen came to Nashua and purchased the Nashua Woolen Mills, which had been established by the Union Woolen Mills Company in 1884. The mill was built and equipped with modern machinery but was operated for only about a year. It then lay idle until the time that Mr. Bowen purchased the plant. In the intervening nineteen years he has not only placed the business upon a substantial basis but has continuously developed and enlarged the scope of his activities. There is no phase of the trade with which he is not thoroughly familiar. He has grown up in the woolen manufacturing business and knows every detail thereof and under his management the plant at Nashua has been developed into one of the important industrial institutions of Chickasaw county. Here the firm manufactures blankets, flannels, mackinaws, cashmere, shawls, wool batts and yarns, turning out nothing but all wool products. Moreover, the house has established a reputation for making the best goods in this line in the country and the products are known and sold from coast to coast. For the past three years the concern has been working on a big government contract, supplying army blankets and other articles in the line of woolen goods.

W. J. Bowen was married in Wales, January 21, 1876, having returned to his native land for his bride, who in her maidenhood was Miss Mary Ann Thomas. They became the parents of seven children, of whom six survive, namely: Richard, a resident of Portland, Oregon, where he is a traction inspector; Albert, who is engaged in the undertaking business; David, who is proprietor of an electric plant southeast of Rock Island which furnishes power for several coal mines and power and light for seven towns; Thomas, the junior partner in the firm of W. J. Bowen & Son; Violet, the wife of Dr. G. H. Olsen, a practicing dentist of Fargo, North Dakota; and Neta, the wife of W. L. Tupper, a banker of Hurdsfield, North Dakota.

Thomas Bowen, the junior member of the firm of W. J. Bowen & Son, was born in Manchester, Iowa, June 29, 1885, and there attended the public schools, while later he continued his education in the State Agricultural College at Ames for three years. Because of illness he was obliged to discontinue his studies. From his thirteenth year he worked more or less in the woolen mills and in his boyhood days therefore became thoroughly familiar with the business. He is of the fifteenth generation of the Bowen family to be identified with the woolen manufacturing industry. In 1908 he was taken into partnership by his father in the ownership and conduct of the Nashua plant under the firm style of W. J. Bowen & Son, and to the father's long experience and capability



W. J. BOWEN



THOMAS BOWEN

he added the energy, enterprise and ambition of young manhood, thus making a very strong firm.

Thomas Bowen was married to Miss Lillian Runge of Nashua, and they have become the parents of a son, Nevin Gordon. Both W. J. and Thomas Bowen are republicans in their political views and both are members of the Modern Woodmen of America. The father and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, while Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowen hold membership in the Congregational church. Both couples are well known and highly esteemed socially, while no one questions the right of the father and son to rank with the representative business men of northern Iowa. They are men of progressive spirit, ruled by more than ordinary intelligence and good judgment. They display a deep earnestness, impelled and fostered by indomitable perseverance, and native justice expresses itself with them in correct principle and practice.

L. R. FISHER.

L. R. Fisher, a farmer residing on section 28, Chickasaw township, Chickasaw county, was born near Cresco, in Howard county, Iowa, February 18, 1875, his parents being Henry and Mary (Hawk) Fisher, who are natives of New York and of Pennsylvania respectively. In her girlhood days the mother came to Iowa with her parents, who settled in Cresco. The father served throughout the Civil war and after his discharge made his way to the middle west, he, too, becoming a resident of Iowa. At Marble Rock, this state, he wedded Mary Hawk and soon afterward they took up their abode upon a farm near Cresco. In subsequent years Mr. Fisher made several removals but continued to engage in farming until his retirement from active business, having in the meantime acquired a comfortable competence that now enables him to rest from further labor. At the present writing he is making his home in Bradford, Chickasaw county.

L. R. Fisher was educated in the district schools and was reared to the occupation of farming, which he has made his life work. The year following his marriage he began farming on his own account and for six years carried on agricultural pursuits as a renter. In 1903 he purchased his present home farm, comprising eighty acres, on which he has since lived. He is diligently engaged in the development of the fields and his enterprise and progressiveness have made him one of the successful farmers of the neighborhood.

In 1896 Mr. Fisher was united in marriage to Miss Gertrude Hall, a daughter of John and Mary (Jones) Hall, of Chickasaw county. They have become the parents of seven children, namely: Lloyd, Roy, Vernie, Bernice, Victor, Marjorie and Gertrude Wave.

In his political views Mr. Fisher is a republican but has never been an aspirant for office, as he has preferred to concentrate his thought, efforts and attention upon his business affairs. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and he possesses social qualities that have made for him many friends among his wide acquaintance in Chickasaw county.

H. H. TIMMERMANS.

H. H. Timmermans, a general merchant and one of the progressive citizens of Alta Vista, was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, August 30, 1874, a son of Godfred and Hubertena Timmermans, who were natives of Holland, where they were reared and married. In June, 1865, they crossed the Atlantic to the new world and first became residents of Grant county, Wisconsin, where the father purchased a farm, residing thereon to the time of his death, which occurred on the 19th of May, 1891. His wife survived him for about a decade and spent her last years in Alta Vista, where she passed away in February, 1916.

H. H. Timmermans was educated in the public schools and in the Bayless Business College at Dubuque, Iowa. Following the completion of his studies he was employed in various ways in Grant county, Wisconsin, until October, 1894, when he came to Alta Vista and in company with his brother, John H. Timmermans, established a general merchandise business under the firm style of Timmermans Brothers. This association was continued for twelve years and in connection with general merchandizing the firm conducted a successful business as grain merchants. In 1908 the brother died, after which H. H. Timmermans conducted the business alone for four years. He then admitted his brother-in-law, William Enloe, to a partnership and for five years their interests were carried on under the firm name of Timmermans & Company. At the end of that period H. H. Timmermans purchased his partner's interest and has since conducted the business independently. He has a large and well appointed store, carrying a carefully selected line of goods, and the business is one of gratifying proportions.

In June, 1899, Mr. Timmermans was united in marriage to Miss Anna Norton, of New Hampton, Iowa, and to them have been born seven children, six of whom are yet living: Thelma L., who is a graduate of St. William's Parochial school of Alta Vista; Maurine M. E.; Colletta M.; Reta G.; Camilla M.; and John H. All of the children are being educated in St. William's parochial school.

In politics Mr. Timmermans is a democrat and for six years he served as a member of the town council of Alta Vista, exercising his official prerogatives in support of many plans and measures for the general good. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and he is a third degree member of the Knights of Columbus. From early times he has been a resident of Alta Vista and throughout the entire period has been classed with its representative business men. Recognizing and utilizing the opportunities here offered, he has worked his way steadily upward until he has gained a place among the men of affluence in Chickasaw county.

J. F. FELLOWS.

J. F. Fellows, who is residing on section 27, Jamestown township, is one of the well-to-do and progressive farmers of Howard county. He was born in Merrimac county, New Hampshire, December 15, 1855, a son of Franklin and Martha Jane (McCurdy) Fellows. They, too, were natives of the Old Granite state and were representatives of families that had long lived in New England. The mother died in Canton, Massachusetts, in 1906, while the father passed away in Jamestown township, Howard county, Iowa, in 1904.

Although a native son of New England, J. F. Fellows has resided in Howard county from the age of thirteen years, at which time his parents removed with their family to the west and established their home at Riceville. Here he was reared and his education, begun in the public schools of New Hampshire, was continued in the public schools of Riceville. When nineteen years of age he purchased a farm on section 27, Jamestown township, upon which he now resides, and it has been his home for forty years. He has added modern improvements as time has passed and his labors have converted it into a rich and productive tract from which he annually gathers good harvests.

Mr. Fellows was married in Riceville to Miss Ida Reynolds, a daughter of Alexander and Lyda Reynolds, the latter still a resident of Riceville, but the father has passed away. To Mr. and Mrs. Fellows have been born seven children, namely: David McCurdy, Lloyd Harris, James Califf, Howard Glendon, Ruth Ida, Robert Gordon and John Franklin.

Mr. and Mrs. Fellows are members of the Baptist church of Riceville and do everything in their power to promote its growth and extend its influence. Their lives have been characterized by high and honorable principles and Mr. Fellows is a devoted member of Riceville Lodge, No. 211, A. F. & A. M., and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His political endorsement is given to the re-

publican party. He studies closely the questions and issues of the day and has ever believed the republican party to be the one that has stood staunchly for progress and improvement in affairs relative to the national welfare. He is imbued with the spirit of western enterprise, and throughout his entire life his aid and influence have been given on the side of progress and improvement in connection with matters of public concern as well as in the conduct of his private business affairs, whereby he has won substantial success.

REV. BERNARD AUGUST ERDLAND.

Rev. Bernard August Erdland is the pastor of St. Michael's church of the Roman Catholic faith at Nashua. He was born in Oelde, Westphalia, Germany, on the 11th of October, 1874, his parents being Gerhard and Maria (Boeckenfoerde) Erdland. In the acquirement of an education Rev. Erdland attended school in his native town, also at Antwerp, Belgium, and at Chezal, Benoit, France, pursuing his studies in these various places from 1883 until 1897. He next attended the Mission Academy and the University of Muenster, Germany, from 1897 until 1900 and was ordained to the priesthood in the latter year. In the year 1901 he became superior of the mission in the Marshall islands, and in 1905 became administrator apostolic of the vicariate of the Marshall islands, where he continued until 1910. During the ten years which he passed there he studied the native language and folk-lore of the people on the islands and also the language of Nauru or Pleasant island. He became a traveling missionary of the Missionary Society of the Sacred Heart and his experiences among the various peoples whom he met were indeed varied and interesting.

Rev. Erdland's writings cover a broad scope and include "Woerterbuch und Grammatik der Marshall-Sprache," 1906 and "Leben und Religion eines Sudseevolkes," 1914, two scientific works that have received favorable criticism from many of the noted scientists of the world. In subsequent years he has largely directed his studies to linguistic research work and is at present master of eight different languages.

Rev. Erdland was appointed pastor of St. Michael's church at Nashua in 1914 and here he presides over his parish and continues his study of languages. He is one of the learned and scholarly men of his church, genial in manner and most entertaining by reason of his wide travel, for he has visited nearly all of the countries of the world. His mind is stored with many reminiscences of his journeys, for he has ever been a keen and intelligent observer and possesses a most retentive memory.

JOHN ZIPSE.

John Zipse is the proprietor of the Forest Hill Stock & Dairy Farm, one of the fine farm properties of northern Iowa. It comprises three hundred acres of valuable land and upon this place he has made his home since 1902, continually promoting its development and improvement. The farm is situated on section 19, Stapleton township, Chickasaw county, and is the visible evidence of the life of well directed energy and thrift which Mr. Zipse has lived. Born in Stephenson county, Illinois, on the 12th of December, 1858, he is a son of Jacob and Katherine (Northacre) Zipse, who were natives of Germany, where they were reared and married. Coming to the United States, they established their home in Stephenson county, Illinois, where the father engaged in farming until his death on the 27th of January, 1874. His widow survived him for a decade, passing away on the old home place in Illinois, April 27, 1884.

At the usual age John Zipse entered the district school near his father's home and mastered the common branches of learning. When his textbooks were put aside he worked in the fields and continued to assist his father until the latter's death and

then took charge of the farm, which he conducted for the benefit of his mother, the property being sold soon after his mother's death.

John Zipse was married on the 18th of December, 1884, to Miss Jane Hershman, a daughter of Joseph and Anna Hershman, natives of Germany. Mrs. Zipse, however, is a native of Stephenson county, Illinois, and it was there that she met and married Mr. Zipse. After his marriage Mr. Zipse began farming his father-in-law's land of eighty acres in Stephenson county, Illinois, and subsequently he bought that tract and thirty acres additional, which he continued to cultivate for fifteen years. He then disposed of his property and moved west, locating upon his present farm in 1902. Today he is the owner of three hundred acres of fine land. The tract is arable, responding readily to the care and labor which he bestows upon it, his activity being crowned with splendid results. The place is appropriately termed the Forest Hill Stock & Dairy Farm, for thereon Mr. Zipse is engaged in raising stock and in conducting a successful dairy business. He has put practically all of the improvements upon his land and there is no accessory or convenience of the model farm properly that is not to be found upon his place. At one time he milked as high as thirty-five cows and the sale of his dairy products adds materially to his income. In addition to his dairying he has engaged in stock raising and is the owner of a registered Poland China boar and a shorthorn Durham bull. Thus breeding to fine stock, he is continually improving the grade of hogs and cattle which he raises, and his live stock interests constitute an important feature of his business.

Mr. and Mrs. Zipse became the parents of twelve children, of whom eleven are living, Joseph having died in infancy. The others are: John Franklin, Mrs. Laura M. Benz, Mrs. Martha Trewin, Mrs. Edith E. Judge, Charles C., Mrs. Katherine R. Whitman, Esther V., William R., Clarence O., Lula I. and George C. The last named served with the One Hundred and Fortieth Infantry of the Thirty-fifth Division of the United States Army in France, being overseas for a year and participating in all of the engagements in which that division took part. He was in some of the most hotly contested sectors of the war, bearing his part in winning the victory that finally crowned the American arms, giving the army an important place in promoting the democracy of the world.

Mr. Zipse is identified with the Farmers Equity Association. His political allegiance is given to the democratic party, and fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America at Fredericksburg, while he and his family are identified with the Methodist Episcopal church of that place. His life has ever been characterized by high and honorable principles, his acts prompted by upright motives, and his career indicates that success and an honored name may be won simultaneously.

OTTO KOERTH.

Otto Koerth, occupying the position of cashier of the First State Bank of Fredericksburg, was born in Dayton township, Bremer county, Iowa, on the 2d of July, 1870, a son of Samuel and Caroline (Frisch) Koerth, who were natives of Germany, where they were reared and married. The father came to the United States in 1868 and his wife followed him a year or two later. They settled in Bremer county, Iowa, where Mr. Koerth engaged in blacksmithing, conducting a shop in that county for many years. He is now living retired, making his home in Sumner.

Otto Koerth was educated in the public schools of Sumner and when seventeen years of age he became a wage earner, securing a position in a general store at that place. He worked as utility boy and as clerk and was associated with a mercantile business there for five years. On the expiration of that period he established business on his own account, forming a partnership with Charles Golding. They opened a general store in Fredericksburg under the firm name of Golding & Koerth and carried on the business in that way for five years. Mr. Koerth then sold his interest in the firm and entered into partnership with F. H. Davis, organizing the firm of Koerth & Davis for the conduct of a general merchandise establishment at Ionia, Chickasaw

county. They remained in business there for four or five years, after which Mr. Koerth disposed of his interests and turned his attention to banking. He became associated with Shaffer Brothers in the organization of the Exchange Bank of Ionia, their interests being carried on under the firm name of Shaffer Brothers & Koerth. Subsequently the business was incorporated under the name of the First State Savings Bank of Ionia, with Mr. Koerth as cashier of the institution. He remained in that position for thirteen years and is still vice president of the bank. During his association with this bank Mr. Koerth, together with Shaffer Brothers, organized the State Savings Bank of Bassett, Iowa, of which he is the president. In 1915 he bought into the State Bank of Fredericksburg and entered the institution as cashier and director of its financial policy. He has closely studied all phases of the banking business and is recognized as a prominent representative of financial interests in his part of the state. He has been a very active business man and has earned well merited success.

In 1895 Mr. Koerth was married to Miss Anna Davis, of Sumner, Iowa, and they have become the parents of three children: Ethel H., who is attending the State Agricultural College at Ames; Marjorie, who is a student in the Fredericksburg high school; and Stanley, who is still in the graded schools.

In his political views Mr. Koerth is a republican, having stanch faith in the principles of the party as factors in good government. He belongs to Mount Horeb Lodge, No. 333, A. F. & A. M., and also to Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 661, I. O. O. F., and the Modern Woodmen camp. What he has accomplished represents the fit utilization of the opportunities which have come to him. Time and his talents have been made to serve his purposes, and his labors have been an effective element in the attainment of desired results. He is a strong, forceful, and resourceful man—strong in his ability to plan and perform, strong in his honor and his good name.

L. J. SIMPSON.

The Silverdale Farm, situated on section 34, Dayton township, Chickasaw county, is the property of L. J. Simpson, whose progressive methods have found expression in the further development and improvement of this place. He was born in Sac county, Iowa, October 15, 1876, and is a son of John and Ruth (Schull) Simpson, who were natives of New York and Pennsylvania respectively. They were married, however, in Clinton, Iowa, where they had taken up their abode in young manhood and young womanhood. They remained residents of Clinton county for a few years and then removed to Sac county, where they have since resided. Although long connected with farming interests, the father has now retired from business life and he and his wife make their home in Early. He is an honored veteran of the Civil war, having served for three years as a member of Company A, Twenty-sixth Iowa Infantry, during the period of hostilities between the north and the south. He took part in a number of hotly contested battles and may well be proud of the record which he made as one of the defenders of the Union. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and has long been accounted one of the progressive and well known residents of Sac county.

L. J. Simpson, after acquiring a district school education, worked upon the home farm through the period of his youth. In 1900 he was united in marriage to Miss Jessie Drury, of Sac county, Iowa, and then began farming on his own account. For seven years he cultivated rented land and in 1907 he invested his savings in one hundred and twenty acres in Sac county, on which he lived for five years. He then traded that property toward the purchase price of his present home farm of two hundred and forty acres, on which he has resided since the early spring of 1913. His labors have wrought a marked transformation in the appearance of the place, converting it into a valuable property.

To Mr. and Mrs. Simpson have been born four children, of whom three are living, namely: Crystal L., who was graduated from the New Hampton high school with the class of 1919; and Leland D. and Millard L., who are pupils in the grammar school.

In his political views Mr. Simpson is a republican but has never been an office seeker. Fraternally he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His life is that of an enterprising and progressive farmer whose labors are being crowned with well merited success, and the upright life that he has lived has won for him the confidence and regard of all who know him.

A. J. BLAZEK.

Bohemia has furnished to northern Iowa a substantial portion of its citizenship and the representatives of that land, adapting themselves readily to new and changed conditions, have become leading farmers and active business men of this section of the state. To this class belongs A. J. Blazek, who is living on section 19, Utica township, Chickasaw county. He was born in Bohemia, June 13, 1871, a son of John and Mary (Bouska) Blazek, who, leaving their native country, came to the United States in 1890, a year and a half after the arrival of their son, A. J. Blazek.

The latter spent the first seventeen years of his life in his native land and then, attracted by the opportunities of the new world, bade adieu to friends and native country in order to try his fortune in America. He traveled westward across the United States to Cresco, Iowa, and for a time worked on the farm of his uncle, Anton Bouska, in that district. After the father and mother reached the United States a year and a half later they also lived with Anton Bouska, Mr. Blazek aiding in the cultivation of the farm. At a subsequent period he and his son, A. J. Blazek, rented a tract of land of two hundred and twenty acres in New Oregon township, Howard county, near Protivin, and thereon resided for three years. Subsequent to that period the father made investment in one hundred and forty acres of land, constituting the farm upon which his son, A. J. Blazek, now resides. Throughout his remaining days the father devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits and his life's labors were ended in death in 1911. In the meantime he had converted the old home farm into a valuable and productive property, having brought his fields to a high state of cultivation. For a number of years he survived his wife, who passed away in 1900.

From the time of his arrival in Iowa until the present A. J. Blazek has been identified with farming interests. He established a home of his own through his marriage on the 18th of May, 1897, to Miss Mary Bouska, after which he bought his father's land and still occupies the old homestead, although he has since greatly extended its boundaries by the purchase of other property until his holdings now embrace four hundred and forty acres of valuable land. It was upon this property that he and his wife took up their abode following their marriage. Mrs. Blazek is a daughter of John and Anna Bouska, who came to America from Bohemia, and the latter passed away in Protivin, Iowa, February 9, 1919, but the father still survives and makes his home in Protivin. Mr. and Mrs. Blazek have become the parents of ten children who are yet living, namely: Mary, who was born March 5, 1898; John, born August 24, 1899; Vennie, September 20, 1901; Aurelia, December 23, 1903; Anton, October 13, 1905; Agnes, February 21, 1908; Edward, February 27, 1910; Adolph, May 2, 1912; Louis, November 16, 1915; and Clarence, February 10, 1919, all of whom are yet at home.

This large family are communicants of the Catholic church of Little Turkey. Mr. Blazek is a democrat in politics and is now serving for the second year as road commissioner of Utica township. He has also been a school director in his district for a period of nine years and has been active in advancing the educational interests of the community. These things, however, are side lines in his life work, for he gives the major part of his time and attention to his farming and other business interests. He has become a stockholder in the Protivin Telephone Company and he is a director of the Farmers Equity Association of Lawler. He likewise owns stock in the Farmers Cooperative Creamery Company of Lawler and in the Farmers Elevator Company of Lawler. His connection with these corporations indicates



MR. AND MRS. A. J. BLAZEK

his progressive spirit and sound business judgment, which has enabled him to carefully select the interests yielding the best financial returns. In the development of his farm he has shown himself to be a most progressive agriculturist and in addition to improving the fields he is successfully breeding full blooded Poland China hogs. He certainly deserves much credit for what he has accomplished, as he started out in the business world empty-handed, coming to America alone when a youth of seventeen years. From that point forward he has made steady progress, working diligently and persistently to overcome all obstacles and difficulties in his path, and, advancing step by step, he has at length reached the goal of success.

GEORGE E. HIMES.

George E. Himes is active in control of the financial interests and situation in Chickasaw county inasmuch as he is the cashier of the First National Bank of Lawler. He was born in Adams county, Iowa, September 27, 1876, and is a son of Jacob M. and Elizabeth P. (Prine) Himes, the former a native of Pennsylvania, while the latter was born in Mahaska county, Iowa, where they were married. The father had come to this state with his parents as a boy of twelve or thirteen years, the Himes family being among the pioneer settlers of Mahaska county. In 1862, or when eighteen years of age, Jacob M. Himes enlisted for service in the Civil war, becoming a member of Company E of the Thirty-third Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He was with his regiment for three years and six months, participating in a number of hotly contested engagements which led up to the final victory that crowned the Union arms. After receiving an honorable discharge he returned to Mahaska county and there engaged in farming until 1873, when he removed to Adams county, where he again devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits for a period of twenty years. In 1893 he retired from active business life and took up his abode in the town of Cromwell, where he resided until 1902, when he removed to Des Moines, where he has since lived. While he is not active in business at the present time, he is a stockholder in the University State Bank of Des Moines. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, loyal to the teachings and purposes of the craft, and he and his wife are consistent members of the Congregational church.

George E. Himes, after attending the district schools near his father's farm, continued his education in the town schools of Cromwell and in the Iowa Business College at Des Moines. Starting out in the business world, he was connected with clerical work for a number of years and for a time was cashier and assistant secretary of the Mutual Life & Trust Company of Des Moines. He afterward became associated with the Brotherhood of American Yeomen in an official capacity, acting as chief auditor, in which position he served for ten years. On severing his association with that fraternity on the 1st of July, 1914, he became connected with the Bank of Lawler, a private institution owned by William H. Parker & Company. This business was later reorganized, receiving its charter as the First National Bank on the 15th of August, 1914, at which time Mr. Himes was made cashier and has since occupied that position. His long connection with the banking business has made him thoroughly familiar with every phase of the work and he is putting forth earnest effort to further upbuild the bank and make it a factor in the business development of this section of the state.

On the 3d of October, 1909, Mr. Himes was united in marriage to Miss Fannie E. Parker, a daughter of William H. Parker, who has passed away. They now have one child, May. Mrs. Himes is a graduate of the Upper Iowa University at Fayette, receiving her degree with the class of 1898. Subsequently she engaged in clerical and educational work for ten years prior to her marriage. She is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, her great-great-grandfather, John Parker, having served in the war for independence. Mrs. Himes is a lady of liberal culture, natural refinement and many accomplishments and occupies an enviable position in the club circles of the city. She belongs to the Congregational church and is interested in many good works. Mr. Himes has membership with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of The

Maccabees and the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. His political endorsement is given to the republican party, but he has never been an aspirant for office. His business affairs make ample claim upon his time and energies and he prefers to devote his leisure to his home and friends.

S. L. DEAL.

S. L. Deal, a florist, who is the proprietor of the New Hampton Greenhouses, was born February 16, 1886, in the city which is still his home, his parents being Cyrus and Pearl (Johnston) Deal, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Chickasaw county. Her birth occurred in Jacksonville, her father, William Johnston, having been one of the pioneer settlers of this section of the state and for many years one of the leading business men of New Hampton, where he conducted a furniture store. Cyrus Deal came to Chickasaw county from Wisconsin in the early '70s and settled on a farm near Jacksonville. Subsequently he removed to New Hampton, where he engaged in the ice business, with which he was identified to the time of his death, which occurred on the 16th of September, 1907. For a number of years he had survived his wife, who died in 1898. They were among the substantial and representative residents of this section of the state and enjoyed the goodwill and high regard of all who knew them.

S. L. Deal of this review was educated in the public schools of New Hampton and after his textbooks were put aside worked for his father in connection with the ice business until his twentieth year. At that time he was married and soon afterward purchased his father's business and for seven years he conducted the ice trade of the city, enjoying a liberal patronage. He disposed of the business in 1913 on account of ill health and on the 1st of June, 1916, he purchased the greenhouses of Kutish & Moetsch and devoted his attention to the growing of plants and hothouse flowers. In the intervening period he has made good in this business and his patronage is constantly increasing. He is today rated among the leading business men of New Hampton, alert and enterprising, studying closely every phase of his business and giving to the public the best possible service in this connection. He also owns two residence properties in New Hampton and is contemplating the erection in the near future of a handsome home near his present residence.

Mr. Deal was united in marriage to Miss Fannie Houser, of Monroe, Wisconsin. She is a member of the German Lutheran church and in social circles they occupy an enviable position. Fraternally Mr. Deal is connected with Launcelot Lodge, No. 183, K. P.; with Phoenix Lodge, No. 556, I. O. O. F.; the Modern Brotherhood of America; and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is also connected with the New Hampton fire department and in matters of public concern is deeply interested, giving his active aid and cooperation to all well defined plans and measures for the general good. There have been no unusual or spectacular phases in his life record. He has always remained a resident of New Hampton, acquiring his education in the public schools, choosing this as the theater of his business career and by persistent and untiring effort steadily working his way upward. His course has at all times been above criticism, and that his has been a well spent life is indicated in the fact that many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood days to the present time.

PETER B. FICHTEL.

Modern business enterprise finds a worthy representative in Peter B. Fichtel, the manager of the Farmers Lumber Company of Alta Vista. He started upon life's journey in Germany, July 16, 1859, a son of Peter and Sophia (Schwab) Fichtel, both of whom remained residents of Germany throughout their entire lives.

In his native country Peter B. Fichtel was reared and educated, but the opportuni-

ties of the new world attracted him and in 1882, when twenty-three years of age, he severed home ties and sailed for the United States. He did not tarry upon the Atlantic coast but made his way into the interior of the country and settled at West Union, Iowa. Here he was married in 1889 to Miss Elizabeth Fritz, a daughter of George and Elizabeth Fritz, who were also natives of Germany but became residents of Iowa in early life. The father passed away in Alta Vista, and the mother's death occurred in Fayette county, this state. In the '90s Mr. Fichtel was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died in Alta Vista, leaving one son, Clifford Archie. Mr. Fichtel afterward married again, his second union being with Miss Mary Pohel, a daughter of Henry Pohel, who also came from Germany and established his home in Iowa. To the second marriage of Mr. Fichtel has been born a son Harry Henry.

The business career of Mr. Fichtel has been one of steady progress. After coming to Iowa he remained at West Union for three or four years and then removed to Alta Vista, where he engaged in the lumber business, at first entering the employ of Henry Kiene while later he worked for the Standard Lumber Company of Dubuque in the Alta Vista yards. He next became connected with the Central Lumber Company of Dubuque as its representative at Alta Vista and in 1909 the business was taken over by the Farmers Cooperative Lumber Company of Alta Vista, of which Mr. Fichtel is now the manager. He is thoroughly acquainted with every phase of the business, and his enterprise and industry have been salient factors in the success attained by the company. He is also one of the stockholders in the Farmers Cooperative Lumber Company and in all business affairs manifests sound judgment and unfaltering diligence.

Mr. Fichtel and his family are members of the German Lutheran church at Alta Vista and their aid and influence are given to every plan and project for the public good. He is a republican in politics and has served on the school board of Alta Vista for a number of years. When matters of public concern are at stake his aid and influence are always given on the side of general progress and improvement and he has gained recognition as one of the substantial citizens and leading business men of his adopted town.

JOHN S. OWENS.

John S. Owens, a farmer living on section 23, Dresden township, Chickasaw county, was born near Springfield, Illinois, June 18, 1852, a son of George and Minerva Jane (Staley) Owens. The father was a native of Tennessee, while the mother was born in Sangamon county, Illinois, where she formed the acquaintance of Mr. Owens, who sought her hand in marriage, the wedding being celebrated in 1847. Mr. Owens afterward worked as a farm hand for a year and then removed with his wife to Macoupin county, Illinois, settling near Scottville, where he purchased eighty acres of land for a dollar and a quarter per acre, the place being at that time a tract of raw prairie. About 1855 he bought two hundred acres additional of prairie land and eighty acres of timber land situated two and a half miles north of his first purchase. Some of the timber land was bought for twelve and a half cents per acre. Mr. Owens remained upon the farm which he there developed until his son John was seventeen years of age, at which time he bought one hundred and eighty acres adjoining his two hundred acre tract on the south and settled upon that place. He retained all of his land, putting all of the buildings and improvements upon his farm, and ere his death, which occurred in Macoupin county, Illinois, March 5, 1876, he had accumulated six hundred and twenty-six acres of valuable land. He farmed the entire place with the assistance of his children and some hired help. He had freed the entire place from indebtedness and was regarded as one of the most prominent, influential and successful farmers of his part of the state. His life record is indeed worthy of consideration and of emulation. Whatever he undertook he carried forward to successful completion, recognizing the fact that when one avenue of opportunity seemed closed he could carve out other

paths whereby he might reach the desired goal. In all of his business life he followed constructive methods, his path never being strewn with other men's failures.

It was amid an admirable home environment that Mr. Owens of this review was reared. He enjoyed the educational opportunities afforded by the common schools and was thoroughly trained in farm work by his father, his youthful experiences well qualifying him for duties and responsibilities that have come to him in later life. On the 26th of October, 1876, when twenty-five years of age, he was married to Miss Ida A. Fletcher, a daughter of William and Elizabeth Fletcher. Her father passed away in Macoupin county, Illinois, on the farm where he was born and which is still in possession of the family. Mrs. Fletcher is still living and now makes her home in Palmyra, Illinois. Although she has attained the age of eighty-one years she is remarkably well preserved and is able to care for all of the work of her own household.

To the time of his marriage Mr. Owens had assisted his father upon the home place, and he then rented a farm, which he cultivated for a few years, taking over the development of one hundred and sixty acres of land. He afterward purchased eighty acres of land near his father-in-law's place in Macoupin county and conducted that farm for thirteen years, at the end of which time he sold the property and purchased one hundred and sixty acres adjoining his former farm on the north. This he developed and improved for a decade, when he again sold out and at that time removed to Daviess county, Missouri. For eight years he cultivated rented land in that state and then came to Iowa, since which time he has made his home in Chickasaw county. He has lived upon various farms and at present is cultivating one hundred and twenty-one acres on section 23, Dresden township, which he owns. He makes a business of breeding registered Poland China hogs and also registered shorthorn cattle, having on hand stock for sale all of the time. His farm is pleasantly situated a mile south and a mile west of Frederickburg and he is conducting a profitable business.

Mr. and Mrs. Owens have become the parents of four children: Mrs. Della Scott; G. W., Mrs. Osie T. Faulkner and Mrs. Elizabeth Troy. In politics Mr. Owens is a democrat but he has never been an office seeker. He belongs to the Farmers Equity Association and fraternally is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen Camp at Lawler. He is loyal to the teachings and purposes of these organizations and has many friends in the membership of the lodges.

NORMAN L. FRITCHER.

Norman L. Fritcher, a wide-awake an energetic farmer of Chickasaw township, Chickasaw county, residing on section 20, was born two miles south of Ionia, in the township where he still resides, on the 25th of November, 1871. His parents were L. E. and Helen (Smith) Fritcher, the former a native of the state of New York, while the latter was born in Wisconsin. They became acquainted in Iowa, however, and were married in Chickasaw township, subsequent to which time the father devoted his attention and energies to general agricultural pursuits in that township, where he lived for a number of years. He afterward worked in the creamery at Ionia for a period of eighteen years and then, severing his business connections in Chickasaw county, took up his abode in Hubbard county, Minnesota, where he now resides. His first wife passed away and he afterward married again, his second wife living, however, for but a year. Later he married a third time and with this wife now makes his home in Hubbard county, Minnesota. He is yet remembered by many friends in Chickasaw county, who ever esteemed him as a progressive business man and reliable citizen.

Norman L. Fritcher obtained a district school education of a somewhat limited character, for he left home when but twelve years of age, at the time of his mother's death, and went to live with his maternal grandparents. He continued with them

for fourteen years and upon attaining his majority he began farming on his own account on a tract of rented land. He cultivated that place but made his home with his grandparents until he reached the age of twenty-six years, when he completed his arrangements for having a home of his own by his marriage.

It was on the 9th of December, 1897, that Norman L. Fritcher wedded Edith F. Read, a daughter of Smith and Sarah Read. Her mother is still living at Nashua, Iowa, but the father passed away in Chickasaw township in 1919. They were natives of England, where they remained until after their marriage and then sought the opportunities of the new world. They established their home in Bremer county, Iowa, and it was there that Mrs. Fritcher was born. By her marriage she has become the mother of a son, Dale Le Roy, who is twenty years of age and assists his father upon the home farm.

Three years after his marriage Mr. Fritcher bought his present farm, although at that time he acquired but twenty acres of the place. He has since extended its boundaries until he now has eighty acres and has converted this into a rich and productive tract, from which he annually gathers good harvests. He is a man of notable thrift and industry and in addition to the cultivation of his fields he does carpentering and mason work. He is likewise a member of the Farmers' Equity Company of Nashua.

In community affairs Mr. Fritcher is much interested and his aid is a valuable asset in the promotion of public progress along various lines. He is now serving as one of the trustees of Chickasaw township and for many years he has been one of the school directors, doing everything in his power to promote educational advancement in his community. He and his family are leading members of the Baptist church of Chickasaw and their genuine personal worth has made them most highly esteemed citizens of the district in which they make their home.

JOHN H. ERNWINE.

John H. Ernwine, deceased, was born, reared and always lived upon the farm on section 20, Bradford township, Chickasaw county, on which his death occurred. His natal day was September 7, 1857, his parents being Michael and Anna (Lyman) Ernwine, who came to this county about 1850. The father had served as a soldier of the Mexican war and after his discharge at the close of hostilities with Mexico he reenlisted in the regular army and served for five years on the frontier. In recognition of his military aid he received a land warrant from the government and applied this on the purchase of one hundred and sixty acres of land on the old military road in Bradford township. This is the present site of the Ernwine home. On this land Mr. Ernwine built a log cabin and made a home for himself and family. Pioneer conditions everywhere existed and residence in this section of the state was then fraught with various hardships and privations. He marketed his grain and stock in McGregor, selling dressed hogs for two dollars and a half per hundred after hauling them eighty miles to market by ox team. Prices were very low and times hard but he persevered and in the course of years his labors brought him substantial returns. He lived and died in the old pioneer cabin and was one of the well known early settlers of his section of the state.

Following the death of his father John H. Ernwine succeeded to the ownership of the home place and continued to live thereon until he was called to his final rest. At one time he owned three hundred and eighteen acres of rich and valuable land, of which two hundred and twenty-eight acres still remain in possession of the family. The farm is probably the oldest one in the township which has never passed out of the possession of one family.

In 1896 Mr. Ernwine was married to Miss Mina Cagley, a daughter of George W. Cagley and a granddaughter of Levi Cagley, one of the most prominent of the pioneer settlers of Chickasaw county, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this work. To Mr. and Mrs. Ernwine were born three children: Amy L.,

Forrest M. and Charles H., all at home with their mother. Mrs. Ernwine and her daughter are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are highly esteemed wherever known. They enjoy the hospitality of the best homes in the neighborhood and their friends are many.

In politics Mr. Ernwine was a republican but never an office seeker, yet he ever took a helpful interest in public affairs and especially in educational matters. For many years he was a member of the school board and exerted his official prerogatives in support of advanced standards in the schools at all times. He belonged to the Knights of Pythias lodge and also to the Modern Woodmen camp and he was accounted one of the foremost citizens of Bradford township, where he passed away February 25, 1914, being laid to rest in Greenwood cemetery. All who knew him attested the sterling worth of his character, his loyalty to principles, his fidelity in citizenship and his devotion to the welfare of his home and family.

HON. PRESLEY L. KEPPLE.

Hon. Presley L. Kepple is a member of the Iowa state legislature and not only is leaving the impress of his individuality and ability upon the records of the general assembly but is also contributing to the material development of Chickasaw county as one of the leading business men of Ionia. He was born in this county on the 11th of July, 1857, a son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Byers) Kepple, who were natives of the Keystone state, where they were reared and married. They resided in Pennsylvania until after the birth of two sons and in the fall of 1855 or 1856 came to Iowa, establishing their home in Washington township, Chickasaw county, where the father took up a claim of government land. Not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made on the property and with characteristic energy he began its development by building the little log cabin in which Presley L. Kepple was born. The family experienced many of the hardships and privations which are conditions of frontier settlement. About 1865 the father removed to Chickasaw township, where he became owner of two hundred acres of land, and later he lived for a number of years in the old town of Chickasaw, where he engaged in merchandising. He removed from there to Nashua and the last fifteen years of his life were passed in Ionia, during which time he was retired from active business, enjoying a rest which he had truly earned. He passed away in 1893, at the age of eighty-three years, and his wife died in 1894, at the age of seventy-eight years.

Presley L. Kepple has been a lifelong resident of Chickasaw county, acquainted with its development and progress through a period of sixty-two years. He was educated in the district schools and on attaining his majority began farming on his own account, devoting seven years to general agricultural pursuits. He then left the farm and in company with his brothers, John W. and Fred Kepple, engaged in merchandising at Ionia. After a considerable period the firm sold the business and for two years or more Presley L. Kepple was engaged in the real estate business. He afterward returned to mercantile pursuits, conducting a store independently, and was prominently associated with the commercial interests of the town until about 1912, when he was succeeded by his son, G. D. Kepple, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work. Not only did Mr. Kepple make for himself a place of prominence in commercial circles but also was actively identified with public interests. For twelve years he filled the position of postmaster of Ionia and occupied the office of justice of the peace, that of constable, member of the town council and member of the board of education for a number of years. His fellow townsmen at all times have recognized his capability and his loyalty and fidelity to public duty and thus have again and again called upon him for official service. He has ever been an earnest republican in politics and upon his party ticket was elected to represent his district in the Iowa state legislature in 1914. Commendation of his first term's service came to him in re-election and he has now been a member of the general assembly in the thirty-sixth, thirty-seventh



HON. PRESLEY L. KEPPLE

and thirty-eighth sessions. He has the notable distinction of having been the only republican ever elected from Chickasaw county to the state legislature for three successive terms in the history of this county. His course has been marked by absolute fidelity to duty and devotion to the interests of his constituents.

On the 12th of December, 1883, Mr. Kepple was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Rumbaugh, of Charles City, Iowa, by whom he had six children, five of whom survive; Madge L., who is the wife of Dr. W. L. Hanson, of Greene, Iowa; Carl D., a ranchman residing in Montana; Trula F., who is a stenographer employed in the state dairy and food department at Des Moines; Glenn D., who has succeeded his father in the conduct of the mercantile establishment at Ionia; and Gladys W., who is a public school teacher and lives at home. Excellent educational privileges have been accorded by Mr. and Mrs. Kepple to their family, for they have ever recognized the value of thorough intellectual training.

Mr. Kepple is a member of Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M., of Nashua, and is a worthy follower of the teachings of the craft. His life has ever been guided by high and honorable principles and over his official record there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil. He has done important work as a member of the state legislature and was chairman of the state dairy and food committee in the thirty-eighth general assembly. In his political career he has ever placed the general welfare before partisanship and the upbuilding of the state before personal aggrandizement. The record of no man in public office in Chickasaw county has been more faultless in honor, fearless in conduct or stainless in reputation than that of Hon. Presley L. Kepple.

LOUIS A. LARSON.

Louis A. Larson is widely known as a leading merchant of Lawler, where he has been continuously and successfully engaged in business for almost a third of a century, while the period of his residence in the town covers thirty-seven years. He was born in Norway on the 13th of April, 1848, his parents being Baker and Josephine (Peterson) Larson, who emigrated to the United States in 1853 or 1854. They established their home in Crawford county, Wisconsin, where the father entered a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres and later purchased an adjoining tract of eighty acres. The cultivation and improvement of that property claimed his attention throughout the remainder of his active business career and both he and his wife continued to reside thereon until called to their final rest. The place is still in possession of the family, being now owned by one of the sons of Baker Larson.

Louis A. Larson, who was but five or six years of age when brought by his parents to the new world, was reared to manhood on the home farm in Crawford county, Wisconsin, and acquired his education in the district schools. On attaining his majority he went to Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, and entered the employ of the general mercantile firm of L. Case & Company, with which he remained for thirteen years, gaining knowledge and experience that proved the basis of his later business success. After severing his connection with the house in 1882 he came to Lawler, Iowa, as manager of the elevator of Bassett, Hunting & Company, spending five years in the service of that concern as a grain buyer. In 1887, feeling that his capital and experience justified the step, he embarked in the mercantile business at Lawler on his own account and through the intervening period of thirty-two years has continuously conducted his establishment with a steadily growing and gratifying patronage. He carries an extensive and well selected line of general merchandise, enjoys a justly merited reputation for thorough reliability and fair dealing and has long been numbered among the foremost business men of the town.

In 1874 Mr. Larson was united in marriage to Miss Bridget A. O'Malley, of Allamakee county, Iowa, by whom he has seven children, as follows: Nora E., who is now the wife of T. H. Goheen, a practicing attorney of Calmar, Iowa; Jose-

phine, who gave her hand in marriage to Frank Connolly, a well known lawyer of New Hampton, Iowa; Gertrude, the wife of A. M. Russell, of New Hampton, Iowa; Ada, who is the wife of D. V. Murphy, a jeweler of Lawler, Iowa; Charles E., who is engaged in clerking in his father's store; Louis E., who holds the position of office man for the Buick Motor Company at Flint, Michigan; and Zetha, who is also employed as a clerk in her father's store.

In his political views Mr. Larson is a democrat and on that ticket was elected to the office of mayor of Lawler, in which capacity he served for six years, giving to the city a most progressive and businesslike administration characterized by various needed reforms and improvements. He likewise served for several years as secretary of the school board of Lawler and the cause of education has ever found in him a staunch champion. For a brief period he also acted as secretary of the Lawler Creamery Association. In religious faith he and his family are Catholics. Though he has now passed the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten, he is still an active and forceful figure in business circles and his life has ever been such as to merit the warm esteem which is uniformly accorded him.

J. W. PECINOVSKY.

J. W. Pecinovsky is one of the most enterprising citizens of New Oregon township, Howard county, his home being on section 35, where he owns a good farm of forty acres. He does not confine his attention, however, to his farming operations, for he is interested in several other enterprises, and in his business affairs is meeting with most excellent success. He is one of Howard county's native sons, his birth occurring July 29, 1870. His parents were Anton and Annie Pecinovsky, who came to the United States from Bohemia with their respective parents and later became acquainted and were married in Winneshiek county, Iowa. Subsequently they removed to Howard county and were numbered among the pioneers of this region. The father died in Montana in 1918 but the mother is still living and now makes her home in that state.

Reared upon his father's farm in New Oregon township, J. W. Pecinovsky was educated in the district schools of the neighborhood and assisted his father in the work of the farm until twenty-eight years of age. He then rented the place for two years and in 1901 was united in marriage to Miss Mary Pecinovsky, a daughter of F. J. and Katie (Hrabe) Pecinovsky. To our subject and his wife have been born six children, namely: George, Ida, Anna, Mae, Clara and Ernest, all at home.

In 1909 Mr. Pecinovsky purchased his present farm, consisting of forty acres on section 35, New Oregon township, and has since successfully engaged in its operation. He is the owner of a threshing machine and a corn shredder, which he operates during the busy season, and he also owns a cement mixer, doing all kinds of mason work. He is a mechanic of more than ordinary ability and often does both carpentering and blacksmithing. He is industrious, enterprising and progressive and is meeting with well merited success in all that he undertakes. By his ballot he supports the men and measures of the republican party and for seven years served as school director in New Oregon township.

G. E. SCOLES.

G. E. Scoles, filling the position of postmaster at Nashua, is a representative of one of the old and prominent pioneer families of Chickasaw county and has therefore long been a witness of the development and upbuilding of this section of the state. He was born in Elkhart county, Indiana, July 15, 1864, and is a son of John W. and Sarah J. (Hyler) Scoles, the former a native of the Buckeye state, while the latter was also born in Elkhart, Indiana. They were married in the latter state, to which place the

father had removed with his parents when a boy of about thirteen years. Following his marriage he engaged in farming in Elkhart county until the close of the Civil war and in the fall of 1865 he came west to Iowa, settling in Chickasaw county, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits throughout the remainder of his active business life, being classed with the representative farmers of this section of the state and contributing in substantial measure to the development and progress of Chickasaw county along agricultural lines. He died in Nashua in 1904 and for about fourteen years was survived by his widow, who passed away in 1918.

G. E. Scoles pursued a district school education and in vacation periods worked upon his father's farm, while after his textbooks were put aside he concentrated his entire attention upon the further development and improvement of the fields until his marriage. It was in 1888 that he wedded Miss Martha McLarner, a daughter of Johnson McLarner, one of the earliest of the pioneer settlers of Chickasaw county. Following his marriage Mr. Scoles took his bride to Greene, Butler county, Iowa, where he established a barber shop, which he conducted for ten years. He then returned to Chickasaw county and opened a shop in Nashua, where he soon gained a very liberal patronage, conducting a large and gratifying business for twelve years. In 1914 he was appointed postmaster of Nashua and has since filled this office, making a most creditable record, so that at the end of his first term he received reappointment for a second term. He has always been a democrat in politics and has served as a member of the town council at Nashua.

To Mr. and Mrs. Scoles have been born two daughters: G. Merle, now the wife of Charles L. Pierce, of Waverly, Iowa; and Lulu M., the wife of C. L. Castor, a resident farmer of Chickasaw county.

Fraternally Mr. Scoles is connected with Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M., and his wife is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. He is also a member of Nashua Lodge, No. 391, I. O. O. F., and he is well known in this section of the state, not only among his brethren of these fraternities but to the community at large. Much of his life has here been passed and he has been an interested witness of the growth and development of his adopted county.

HENRY KONST.

Henry Konst is one of the earliest of the pioneers of Chickasaw county and is now living retired in Alta Vista. He was born in Germany, August 4, 1842, and has therefore passed the seventy-seventh milestone on life's journey. He is a son of Anthony W. and Theresa (Hannamann) Konst, who came to the United States in 1852 and took up their abode in Walworth county, Wisconsin, upon a rented farm. Later they purchased a farm in the same county, where the mother's death occurred in April, 1869, while seven years later the father passed away in the same county.

Henry Konst was educated in the district schools of Germany and of Wisconsin after coming to the new world. In 1869 he removed to Chickasaw county and purchased a small farm, comprising forty acres of wild prairie land on the southeast quarter of section 25, Washington township. Later he added to this place, extending the boundaries of his farm until it comprised one hundred and twenty acres. He continued to make his home upon the farm for twenty years and during that period successfully carried on general agricultural pursuits. About 1889 he removed to Alta Vista and for some years conducted a saloon but it was said of him that he was too much of a man to succeed in the saloon business. If he felt that a customer had had enough to drink he refused to sell him more and if the family needed the man's wages he refused to take his money. In later years Mr. Konst has lived retired, enjoying the fruits of his former toil.

On the 22d of February, 1868, Mr. Konst was married to Miss Anna Kramer, of Racine, Wisconsin, and to them were born three children: Anthony W., living in Capa, South Dakota; Margaret, the wife of A. Holden, a resident of Salt Lake City, Utah; and Ella, who is the wife of C. M. Erion, of Tacoma, Washington. The wife and mother

passed away in 1885 and on the 1st of February, 1892, Mr. Konst was married to Mrs. Anna W. Rechner, of Howard county, Iowa, who by her former marriage had two children: George Rechner, now living at home with Mr. and Mrs. Konst; and Lilly, the widow of Richard Tietjen, of Alta Vista.

Mr. Konst is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters. His religious faith is that of the Catholic church, while his wife holds membership with the Lutheran church. In politics he is a democrat but cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln. It is characteristic of him that he does not hesitate to support any cause or project which he believes to be for the best interests of the community, and the substantial traits of character which he has displayed have made him one of Alta Vista's esteemed citizens.

O. B. TAYLOR.

O. B. Taylor is filling the position of mayor at Lawler and is well known in grain circles as grain buyer and manager of the Lawler elevator for Gilchrist & Company. He was born in Lawler on the 15th of October, 1881, a son of Oliver A. and Ellen (Noon) Taylor, the former a native of Wisconsin, while the latter was born in Illinois. The father came to Lawler when a young man of twenty-two years and was here married, his wife having been brought to Lawler during her infancy, her parents locating upon a farm near this place. An extended mention of this worthy couple is found elsewhere in this volume.

O. B. Taylor was educated in the schools of Lawler and Ionia and during his youthful days worked in the grain elevator with his father, who is manager of the Gilchrist & Company interests at Ionia. In 1903 the son was placed in charge of the elevator of Way, Johnson & Lee at Ionia and the following year this firm was succeeded by Loomis, Johnson & Lee, with whom Mr. Taylor remained for a year. In 1906 he came to Lawler as manager for Gilchrist & Company, taking charge of the elevator at this point, and through the intervening period of thirteen years he has controlled the grain trade at Lawler in the interests of the corporation which he represents.

On the 26th of June, 1906, Mr. Taylor was united in marriage to Miss Rose Rink, of Ionia, by whom he has five children: Basil C., George W., Helen C., Mary J. and Arthur R. In his political connection Mr. Taylor is a democrat and is now serving for the third term as mayor of Lawler, his reelections coming to him in recognition of the capability and progressiveness which he has displayed in the discharge of his duties. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Catholic Order of Foresters, also to the Knights of Columbus, the Homesteaders and the Royal Neighbors. Both he and his wife are members of the Catholic church. They are highly esteemed as valued residents of this section of the state and they enjoy the warmest regard of all with whom they have been associated. Mr. Taylor has made not only an excellent record in business but also as a public official—one who subordinates self-aggrandizement to the general good and partisanship to the public welfare.

J. A. YARGER.

J. A. Yarger, mayor of Nashua and a member of the Chickasaw county bar, was born in Green county, Wisconsin, January 11, 1868, a son of Joseph and Mary (Harding) Yarger, both natives of Pennsylvania, in which state they were reared and married. Soon after the close of the Civil war they removed to Wisconsin, establishing their home in Green county. The father was a wheelwright by trade and for many years he conducted a wagon shop in that county. In 1876, however, he removed with his family to Iowa and purchased a farm in Webster county, but on the trip contracted a severe cold which caused his death shortly after his return to his family in Wisconsin. Following his demise the mother removed with her family of six children to the

Iowa farm which her husband had purchased and thereon they resided for ten years. On the expiration of that period they became residents of Clarksville and not long afterward removed to New Hampton. Mrs. Yarger passed away in 1906 in Eldora, Iowa, where she was then making her home with a son.

J. A. Yarger of this review was educated in the common schools of Webster county and the public schools of Clarksville and when about eighteen years of age he began reading law in the office of D. W. Dow, of Hampton, Iowa. In January, 1889, he was admitted to the bar, taking his examination a few days before attaining his twenty-first year. For two years after his admission he remained with his preceptor, Mr. Dow, and in 1891 he came to Nashua, where he entered into partnership with the New Hampton law firm of Springer & Clary, conducting their Nashua office as a branch of the New Hampton office. The firm of Springer, Clary & Yarger continued its existence until the senior partner was elected to the bench, after which the firm became Clary & Yarger and so remained until Mr. Clary's death in 1915, since which time Mr. Yarger has practiced alone. He enjoys a large and distinctively representative clientage and is regarded as an able member of the bar, clear in his reasoning, logical in his deductions and seldom if ever at fault in the application of a legal principle.

On the 17th of September, 1894, Mr. Yarger was married to Miss Mary Davidson, of New Hampton, and they became the parents of two children: Edwin H., now an officer of the United States navy; and Austin M., a student in the Nashua high school. The wife and mother passed away January 22, 1903, her death being the occasion of deep regret to many friends as well as her immediate family.

Mr. Yarger belongs to Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M., and to Charles City Lodge, B. P. O. E. His political endorsement is given to the republican party but he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. However, he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his ability and his devotion to the public welfare, persuaded him to accept the mayoralty of Nashua and he is said to be one of the best city executives that Nashua has ever had. He studies closely the conditions here found and not only seeks to meet present needs but to prepare for the future as well. His administration is strictly businesslike and progressive, and Nashua has reason to be congratulated upon having at the head of her interests a man of such genuine public spirit and farsightedness. The practice of law, however, he regards as his real life work and his steady advancement in a profession where progress results only through merit and ability indicates the power that he has developed in his chosen life work.

J. R. WHITCOMB.

J. R. Whitcomb, a farmer of Fredericksburg township, Chickasaw county, living on section 17, was born in Cook county, Illinois, December 1, 1855, his parents being Justus and Lovisa (Putnam) Whitcomb, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume in connection with the sketch of their son, C. L. Whitcomb.

After attending the public schools of his native county and reaching man's estate J. R. Whitcomb was united in marriage on the 11th of March, 1880, to Miss Belle Webster, of Cook county, and immediately afterward the young couple took up their abode upon a rented farm in Kane county, Illinois. There they lived for three years and in 1883 removed to Chickasaw county, Iowa, where Mr. Whitcomb purchased two hundred and forty acres of land in Fredericksburg township in partnership with his brother, C. L. Whitcomb. Three years later the brothers divided their holdings and J. R. Whitcomb acquired one hundred acres on section 16, Fredericksburg township. He then began farming independently and as his financial resources increased he purchased eighty acres on section 8, directly across the road from his present home. He afterward sold twenty acres of his one hundred acre tract to his brother, C. L., and still later Mr. Whitcomb of this review and his son, Floyd W., bought the eighty-acre tract on section 17 whereon the family home now stands. As the years have passed Mr. Whitcomb has carefully carried on general agricultural pursuits and has brought his

fields under a high state of cultivation, so that large crops are annually gathered therefrom. He also established himself in the live stock business in the early years of his residence here and developed the Homeside Stock Farm. For the past ten years his two hundred and forty acre tract of land has been conducted under the name of the Homeside Stock Farm by the firm of J. R. Whitcomb & Son, the latter being now an equal partner in the stock business and also the owner of eighty acres of their land holdings. They breed thoroughbred Durham cattle and are very extensively engaged in the dairy business, milking sixteen cows. Their place is splendidly equipped for carrying on dairying, as they have large barns and every facility to take care of the milk in the most sanitary manner.

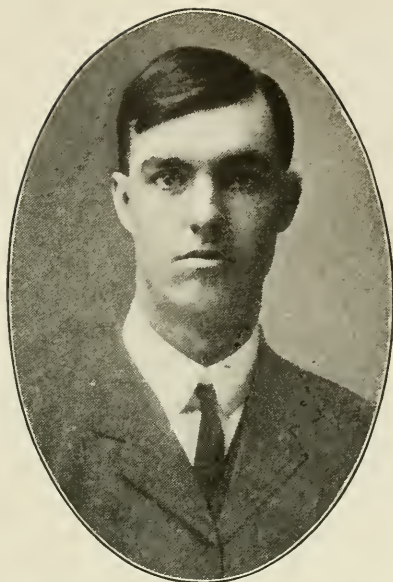
To Mr. and Mrs. Whitcomb have been born a son and a daughter: Floyd W., the partner of his father in business; and Blanche, the wife of W. G. Case, a resident farmer of Fredericksburg township.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Whitcomb the right of franchise he has voted with the republican party and is a staunch advocate of its principles. He is now serving on the present board of township trustees for the third term—a fact that indicates his loyalty to the best interests of the community. He has long been a stockholder of the Fredericksburg Creamery Association and for some years he served as a member of its board of directors, thus aiding in shaping its policy and in guiding its development. Fraternally Mr. Whitcomb is connected with Mount Horeb Lodge, No. 333, A. F. & A. M., and he and his wife are members of Mount Horeb Chapter, No. 163, O. E. S., of which Mrs. Whitcomb is a past matron, while for several years she served as secretary of the chapter. They attend the Methodist Episcopal church, guiding their lives by its teachings, and they are held in the highest esteem as people of genuine worth. Their geniality, their social qualities and their thorough reliability have gained for them the respect and confidence of all and they are numbered among the leading and representative residents of northern Iowa.

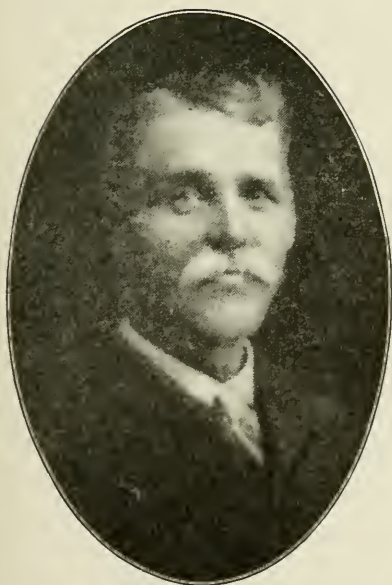
C. A. LOWRY.

C. A. Lowry, proprietor of the Fredericksburg Stock Farm and living within the corporation limits of the town of Fredericksburg, was born near Geneva, Nebraska, on the 30th day of May, 1881, a son of David W. and Lillie E. (Thorne) Lowry, the former a native of Illinois, while the latter was born in the state of New York. They were married in Chickasaw county, Iowa, to which district the mother removed in young womanhood in company with her parents, while David W. Lowry arrived in this section of the state in young manhood. Prior to coming to Iowa Mrs. Lowry had taught for nineteen terms as a primary teacher in the schools of Illinois. Following their marriage Mr. Lowry took his bride to Nebraska, settling near Fairmont, where he was engaged in general agricultural pursuits for some years. In the fall of 1883 he returned to Chickasaw county and at that time purchased one hundred and thirty-seven acres of land situated a mile north of Fredericksburg. Later he bought another quarter section adjoining his first purchase and the fractional quarter section he sold a short time prior to his death. He had three hundred and twenty acres which still remain a part of the estate. He carefully and systematically developed his property and made a specialty of raising shorthorn cattle, becoming one of the prominent cattlemen of the county, his labors being attended with marked success. He passed away November 30, 1913, and is survived by his widow, who makes her home in Fredericksburg.

In the acquirement of his education C. A. Lowry attended the schools of Fredericksburg and was graduated from the high school with the class of 1900. He remained at home assisting his father up to the time of his marriage, which occurred on the 5th of November, 1902, when Miss Grace Kidder, of Dresden township, Chickasaw county, became his wife. She passed away September 1, 1917, leaving a daughter, Helen Janet. On the 12th of September, 1918, Mr. Lowry was married to Miss Nellie Wesp, a daughter of Philip Wesp, one of the well known retired farmers of Fredericksburg.



C. A. LOWRY



MR. AND MRS. DAVID W. LOWRY

Following his first marriage Mr. Lowry rented a portion of his father's farm, which he continued to cultivate until 1914, when he bought his present home place of one hundred and thirty-seven acres, twenty-three acres of this tract being now within the corporate limits of the town. Upon this portion of the farm stands his home. He established the Fredericksburg Stock Farm and is giving his attention to the raising of Holstein cattle, Poland China hogs and pure blooded barred Plymouth Rock and White Wyandotte chickens. The various branches of his business are bringing to him deserved and substantial success and he is regarded as one of the most progressive and enterprising of the residents of Fredericksburg. His political allegiance is given to the republican party.

J. W. KRIEGER.

J. W. Krieger, of New Hampton, enjoys the reputation of being a forceful, resourceful and extremely progressive business man and is displaying splendid business qualifications as the secretary of the New Hampton Farmers Creamery Association. He was born July 30, 1855, in Davenport, Iowa, a son of Gerhard and Mary Anna (Brus) Krieger. The mother came to the United States in young womanhood from Prussia, Germany, in company with her parents, the voyage being made in 1847. Mr. Krieger crossed the Atlantic alone in the same year, being at that time twenty-four years of age. While they came over about the same time, the voyage was made on different vessels. Mr. Krieger was born November 7, 1823, while his wife was born about 1825. They were acquainted in Prussia and the friendship was renewed after they reached the new world and found its consummation in marriage in St. Louis, Missouri, in May, 1848. Mr. Krieger afterward purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land near Warrenton, Missouri, and for six years engaged in cultivating that property. When he started farming he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land and he paid seven dollars for his first cow and nine dollars for his first horse—a notable contrast to the prices that are now asked for live stock. When he sold his original one hundred and sixty acres the farm netted him nine hundred dollars. He then removed to Davenport, Iowa, where he engaged in carpentering until his son, J. W. Krieger, was ten years of age, when the father resumed agricultural pursuits, purchasing forty acres of land three miles from Davenport. There he engaged in truck gardening for eight or ten years, peddling his garden produce from house to house in Davenport. He afterward bought eighty acres adjoining his forty-acre tract and still later acquired eighteen acres additional, so that his place became a good farm of one hundred and thirty-eight acres. He remained thereon until 1875, when he sold that property and came to Chickasaw county, taking up his abode in Dayton township, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land that is now known as the old homestead. It is now owned and occupied by his son, Theodore Krieger. The father conducted this farm until the marriage of Theodore in 1887, when he retired to New Hampton and there resided until his death, which occurred in 1903, when he had reached the very venerable age of eighty years. Ere he had put aside the cares of active business life Mr. Krieger had accumulated four hundred and eighty acres of land in Dayton and New Hampton townships and had thereby won a place among the prosperous farmers of his adopted county. His wife reached the notable old age of ninety years and passed away in 1911. Both were people of genuine personal worth. Mr. Krieger was widely known as a kind and devoted husband and father and a highly respected citizen, his value in the community being attested by all with whom he came in contact.

J. W. Krieger spent the period of his minority under the parental roof and when he had attained the age of twenty-one years began working as a farm hand for others. After a year, however, he rented eighty acres and cultivated this tract for two years prior to his marriage. He completed his arrangements for having a home of his own by his marriage on the 28th of April, 1880, to Miss Mary T. Pap-

penheim, a daughter of John and Theresa Pappenheim, both of whom passed away in Chickasaw county.

Following his marriage Mr. Krieger and his bride took up their abode upon one of his father's farms, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of land in New Hampton township, and this he continued to develop and improve as a renter until his father retired and gave the farm to his son. To this tract the latter later added eighty acres and eventually became the owner of a valuable and productive farm of three hundred and twenty acres. Year after year he carefully tilled the soil and developed his crops, which brought to him a splendid financial return. In 1909, however, he retired from farming and has disposed of all of his property except the home in which he lives and which is situated on the north side of New Hampton. For the past fourteen years he has occupied the position of secretary of the New Hampton Farmers' Creamery Association and has contributed in marked measure to the success of that business. He is also at present the vice president of the Chickasaw County Mutual Fire Insurance Company of New Hampton, having occupied that position for a period of twelve years. Whatever he undertakes he carries forward to successful completion. He is a man of sound judgment and unfaltering enterprise and his progressiveness has been a most potent force in the success of the two corporations with which he is now identified.

As the years have passed Mr. and Mrs. Krieger have become the parents of four children: Gerhard, Adeline, Joseph W. and Richard W. The son Joseph has for the past nine years been the assistant cashier of the First National Bank of New Hampton save for the period of his service in the great World war. He was with the famous Thirty-third or Prairie Division as a member of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Machine Gun Battalion and participated in many of the engagements overseas in which that battalion took part. He was again and again under shell fire and machine gun fire and it seemed that only a kindly fate intervened to keep him from death. Mr. Krieger and his family are members of St. Mary's Catholic church of New Hampton. He belongs to Knights of Columbus Council No. 1697 of New Hampton and also to the Catholic Order of Foresters at New Hampton. His political allegiance is given to the democratic party and he has long been recognized as one of the leaders in local political circles. He filled the office of township trustee of New Hampton township and served as a member of the board of county supervisors for six years—from 1891 until 1897. He was appointed assessor of Dayton township to fill out an unexpired term of a year and at the end of that time he was elected and by reelection was continued in the office for four consecutive terms of two years each, covering the period from 1899 to 1908. For three terms of two years each, from 1913 until 1919, he was a member of the city council of New Hampton and still higher political honors were also accorded him, for through two years he served as a member of the state legislature and was a member of various important committees during the sessions of the twenty-seventh assembly. Over his official career there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil. He has been loyal to the trust reposed in him and has placed the public welfare before partisanship and has made self-aggrandizement subservient to the general good.

LEE J. CHESTEK.

Lee J. Chestek, a well known farmer of Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, living on section 30, was born November 6, 1879, in the township which is still his home. His father, John Chestek, is a native of Austria and came to the United States when a young man of eighteen years. He resided for a number of years in Illinois and then came to Iowa, settling in Deerfield township, Chickasaw county. His first purchase of land was the farm that is now owned by his son Lee. He married Amelia Cummings, a native of Waukegan, Illinois, and she passed away in July, 1907, since which time Mr. Chestek has made his home with a daughter in Bassett.

Lee J. Chestek supplemented his district school education by a course of study in the Nora Springs Commercial College at Nora Springs, Iowa. In his boyhood and youth he assisted in the work of the farm and his training well qualified him for later duties and responsibilities. After his marriage he rented land in Floyd county, near Charles City, and there carried on farming for a year. He then returned to the old homestead, his father removing to Bassett, and took charge of the farm which he has since operated. In June, 1919, he purchased the place, which comprises one hundred and forty-two acres of rich and productive land. He is carefully cultivating his fields and his progressive methods are manifest in the excellent appearance of the place.

On the 25th of July, 1907, Mr. Chestek was united in marriage to Miss Florence Tibbitts, a daughter of Nelson Tibbitts, of Floyd county, Iowa. They now have four children, namely: Thelma A., Leland N., Robert W. and Bernald E. In his political views of Mr. Chestek is a republican and he is numbered among the progressive citizens, and representative farmers of Deerfield township. He has never sought or desired office, but his support can always be counted upon to further any plan or measure for the general good.

ROGER FOGARTY.

Roger Fogarty is busily engaged in the further development and improvement of his farm, which is situated on section 14, Howard township, in Howard county. He is a native son of this county, his birth having occurred within its borders March 22, 1874, his parents being John and Mary (Richards) Fogarty, both of whom were natives of Ireland. Coming to America, they established their home in this state and the father passed away in Afton township, Howard county, on the 14th of May, 1918. To him and his wife were born the following children, the brothers and sisters of Roger Fogarty being Mrs. Mary Beaumeister, Mrs. Kate Conley, Mrs. Hannah Conley, John, Mike and Patrick. Another son, Edward G., was killed in the World war in France in 1918 and his brothers, Patrick and Roger, were made trustees of the estate for ten years, at the end of which time the property will come to them.

In the district schools near his father's home Roger Fogarty pursued his education and in the summer months he worked in the fields, early acquainting himself with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He has always carried on farming and in 1900 purchased eighty acres of his present farm property, while upon the death of his father he came into possession of an eighty acre tract adjoining, so that he is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of good land, which he has brought under a high state of cultivation and to which he has added various modern improvements. He uses good machinery to facilitate the work of the fields and everything about the place indicates his careful supervision:

Mr. Fogarty is a member of the Catholic church at Elma. His political endorsement is given to the democratic party but he has never sought nor desired office, preferring to concentrate his energies and attention upon his business interests, and his diligence and determination have been the basis of his success.

JOHN MIKES.

John Mikes, of the firm of Mikes Brothers, proprietors of the Fredericksburg Meat Market, was born in Lisov, Bohemia, Austria, on the 15th of May, 1867, a son of Matthias and Antonia (Hanzel) Mikes, both of whom passed away in Bohemia. The son was educated in the public schools of that country and upon reaching manhood entered upon an apprenticeship to the butcher's trade. Later he served three years in the Austrian army and in 1890 came to the United States, settling first at Bristow, Iowa, where he had a brother engaged in the butchering

business. He entered the employ of his brother, with whom he remained for two years, and then went to Elma, where he conducted a shop for his brother for a period of two years. In 1894 he came to Fredericksburg and in company with his brother Adolph opened a meat market, the business being conducted under the firm name of Mikes Brothers. In 1901 Charles Mikes purchased the interest of his brother Adolph in the business, which has since been continued under the old firm style. John Mikes has been identified with the business interests of Fredericksburg for a period of a quarter of a century and the firm of Mikes Brothers is said to be one of the most successful of the town. They carry a large line of fine meats and their honorable business methods, their thorough reliability, their enterprise and their straightforward dealing have gained for them a very liberal and gratifying patronage.

In 1901 Mr. Mikes was united in marriage to Miss Rosa H. Ruska, of Elma, Howard county, and they have become the parents of eight children, namely: Frank J., John P., Rosa A., Victor E., Edwin M., Isabelle A., James R. and Anna V.

In his political views Mr. Mikes maintains an independent course, voting for men and measures rather than party. He served for four years as a member of the town council and is interested in all that has to do with public progress and improvement. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. He deserves much credit for what he has accomplished in a business way and may truly be called a self-made man, for he started out in life empty-handed. In fact he had no capital when he came to the new world and from that point in his career he has steadily worked his way upward, utilizing the opportunities and advantages which have come to him. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to establish a home on this side of the Atlantic, for through the intervening years he has advanced steadily step by step and is now one of the prosperous citizens of Fredericksburg.

CHARLES HENRY LEONARD.

Charles Henry Leonard, who has made the Lawler Dispatch, of which he is editor and publisher, one of the dynamic forces in the development and upbuilding of his section of Chickasaw county, was born March 2, 1872, in the town which he still makes his home. His parents were Phillip Henry and Maggie Isabelle Leonard. The father was born in Minnesota in 1847 and was active in the development of the west along various lines. He superintended the men who built the railroad in 1869 and eventually he took up the business of grain dealing in the new town of Lawler. Previously he had served as a Union soldier in the Civil war. He married Maggie Isabelle O'Hanlon in the year in which he established his home at Lawler and for thirty-five years he continued a resident of this city. His wife passed away at Lawler, August 15, 1901, and Mr. Leonard now resides at Minneapolis.

Charles Henry Leonard was educated in the public schools of Lawler and in the Mount Carmel parochial school of Lawler, from which he was graduated with the class of June, 1897. He followed farming until he reached the age of twenty-three years and then became manager of a restaurant, which he conducted for three years. He afterward secured a clerkship in Landon's drug store, occupying that position for nine years, and for three years he managed a store for Mr. Landon at Jerico, Iowa. On the 1st of July, 1912, he purchased the Lawler Dispatch and has since been its owner and publisher, making it one of the most alive newspapers of the county. It is his purpose to keep in closest touch with the news of the day and to make the journal of keen interest to the public. The business has been attended with success. The paper, which was a five-column sheet when he took hold of it, has been enlarged to six columns, a linotype machine has been installed and the Dispatch has become the official paper of the county.

On the 31st of October, 1900, at Afton, Iowa, Mr. Leonard was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Daly, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Daly, of Thayer,

Iowa. They have become the parents of four children, as follows: Mary Aneta, who died on the 26th of December, 1901; Angeline Daly; Charleen Margarite; and Anna Rose.

The religious faith of Mr. Leonard is that of the Catholic church and fraternally he is connected with the Catholic Order of Foresters and with the Modern Woodmen of America. He belongs also to the Lawler Commercial Club and is one of its most progressive representatives. In politics he has always supported democratic principles but has never been an aspirant for office, feeling that his business affairs have claimed his entire attention. Alert and energetic, he is well qualified for the line of business in which he has engaged and he has made of the Lawler Dispatch a paper which would be a credit to a city of much greater size.

O. J. FREDERICI.

More than fifty years have been added to the cycle of the centuries since O. J. Frederici started upon life's journey as a native son of Chickasaw county. He was born January 1, 1868, in the old town of Bradford, and he now makes his home on section 34, Chickasaw township, where he is busily and successfully engaged in farming. He is a son of Valentine and Theresa (Böller) Frederici, who were natives of Germany, whence they came to the United States. The father had reached young manhood ere he emigrated to the new world, and the mother came to this country in her girlhood with her parents, who settled in Guttenberg, Clayton county, Iowa. It was in that county that Mr. and Mrs. Valentine Frederici were married, and in 1867 they established their home in Chickasaw county, taking up their abode at Bradford. The father was a brewer by trade and in this county he purchased a brewery at Bradford, continuing its operation until it was destroyed by fire some time in the '70s. He then removed to Bassett and afterward to Nashua and in 1894 took up his abode in the home of his son, O. J. Frederici, with whom he continued to reside until his death about 1902.

O. J. Frederici was educated in the rural school and in the Bradford schools and in 1894 he began farming on his own account. He had been trained to this occupation from boyhood and for fifteen years he cultivated rented land but was ambitious to own property and carefully saved his earnings until he was able to purchase his present farm of one hundred and ten acres in 1909. Since that time he has resided upon the place, and his enterprise and diligence have wrought a marked transformation in its appearance and productiveness.

In 1897 Mr. Frederici was married to Miss Ethel Trask, a daughter of John Trask, of Deerfield township, who was one of the earliest of the pioneers of Chickasaw county arriving here in 1854. He is mentioned at length elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Frederici have two children, Leon O. and Cecil C., both at home.

In his political views Mr. Frederici is a democrat and fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. He has long occupied a position among the successful farmers and progressive citizens of Chickasaw township and has throughout his entire life been an interested witness of the growth and development of this section of the state at all times bearing his part in the work of public progress and improvement.

W. F. JACOBS, D. V. M.

Dr. W. F. Jacobs, one of the successful veterinarians of Chickasaw county, filling the office of assistant state veterinarian, was born in Allison, Butler county, Iowa, November 18, 1882, a son of William and Johanna (Toll) Jacobs, both natives of Germany. The father came to this country in young manhood and settled in Butler Center, Butler county, Iowa. The mother crossed the Atlantic when a child of seven or eight years in company with her parents, who after landing at New York city made their way direct to Iowa, establishing their home in Butler county. On the journey

west they went through Chicago and from that point to Belvidere, Illinois, by train, which was then the terminus of the railroad. There they outfitted for the trip across the country and the journey was made with eleven yoke of oxen. In the party with which they were traveling there were nine families. The trip by wagon covered six weeks and they reached Butler county in 1852, forming one of the first colonies to settle within the borders of that county. William Jacobs, father of Dr. W. F. Jacobs, had been a soldier in the German army before coming to the new world and fought in the Franco-Prussian war. He was a baker by trade but on coming to America took up his abode upon a farm in Butler county and continued to engage in general agricultural pursuits throughout the remainder of his active life. He is still living and makes his home in Clarksville but the mother passed away in 1917 at the age of seventy-three years.

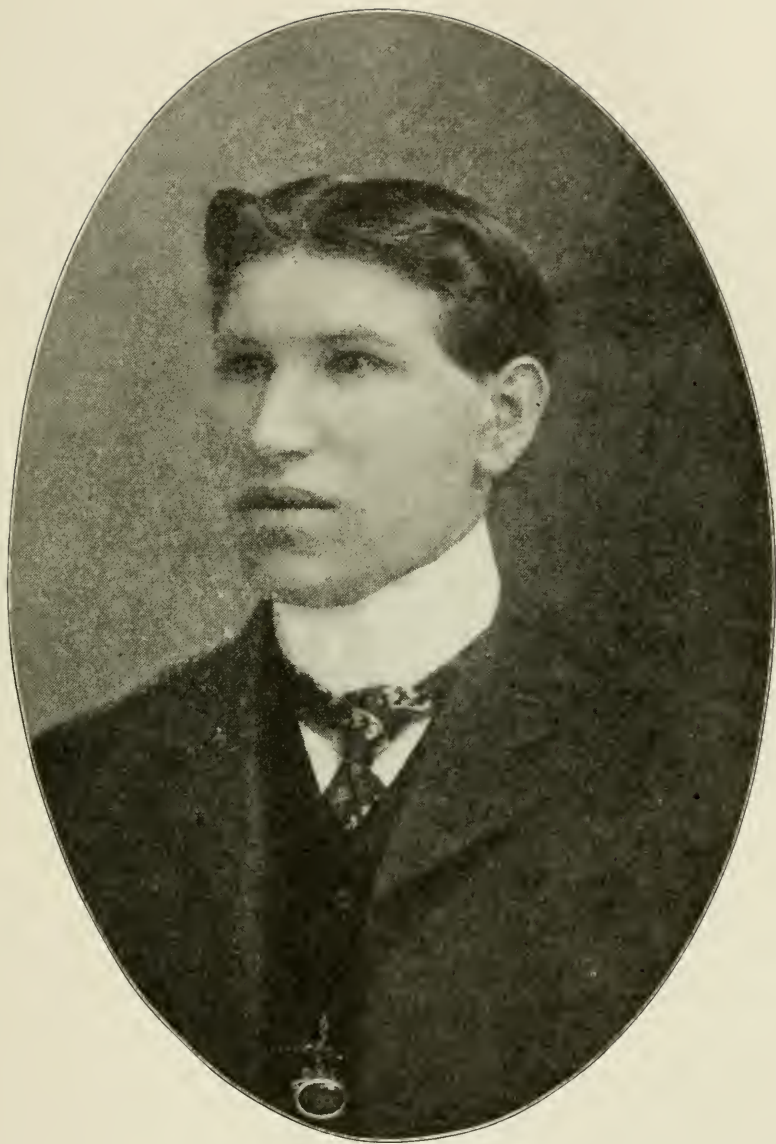
Dr. Jacobs attended the Clarksville high school, from which he was graduated with the class of 1905. He afterward became a student in the Jones National School of Auctioneering in Chicago and completed his course there by graduation in 1912. He next entered the McKillip Veterinary College of Chicago and received from that institution his D. V. M. degree as a member of the class of 1917. When his course was completed he came at once to Nashua, where during the intervening period of two years he has built up a remunerative practice. Four months after opening his office here he was appointed assistant state veterinarian, in which official capacity he has since served.

In 1908 Dr. Jacobs was married to Miss Helen O. Miller, of Butler county, and they have made many friends during the period of their residence in Nashua. Dr. Jacobs belongs to Bradford Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Nashua, and both he and his wife are members of the Order of the Eastern Star. He is also connected with Nashua Lodge, I. O. O. F.; Nashua Lodge, No. 110, K. P.; and the Modern Woodmen camp. He belongs to the Evangelical Lutheran church, while his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He has been a lifelong resident of Iowa and in all that he does or undertakes is actuated by the spirit of western enterprise and progress.

CHRIS RUSSLER.

Chris Russler, who is the capable butter maker with the Fredericksburg Butter Company at Fredericksburg, Chickasaw county, was born in Germany, September 16, 1875, his parents being Simon and Margaret (Koehler) Russler, who spent their entire lives in their native land. There Chris Russler was reared to his seventeenth year and the public schools afforded him his educational opportunities. In 1892 he determined to enjoy better conditions by emigrating to the United States, and having a sister in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, made that city his destination. After spending thirty days with his sister, however, he continued his westward travel until he reached Hawkeye, Fayette county, Iowa, where he had a brother living. For five years he resided at Hawkeye and engaged in farm work. In 1897 he entered upon an apprenticeship to the butter maker's trade and for seventeen years was associated with that business at Hawkeye. In the winter of 1901-2 he attended the State Agricultural College at Ames and further qualified for the difficult task of the scientific making of good butter. He subsequently occupied the position of butter maker with the Hawkeye Creamery for ten years and in 1914 came to Fredericksburg to take charge of the plant at this place. In the past six years he has been one of the dominant factors in placing the products of the Fredericksburg Butter Company among the highest rated butter products of the country. During the summer of 1918, from the 1st of May to the 15th of November, this company made one hundred and seventy-eight thousand pounds of butter for the United States navy and since the 15th of July, 1919, the navy has taken the entire product of the Fredericksburg plant.

On the 11th of February, 1904, Mr. Russler was married to Miss Anna M. Reichel, of Hawkeye, Iowa, and they have become the parents of three children: Luella F., Hazel M. and Howard E. Mr. and Mrs. Russler are members of the German Lutheran church and they are well known in Fredericksburg, where they have many friends.



CHRIS RUSSLER

In politics Mr. Russler is a republican. He has had neither the time nor the inclination to seek office, however, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business interests and duties. He has well won the reputation of being one of the best butter makers in the state of Iowa and has gained for the product which he makes the highest award of public approval. Butter from the Fredericksburg factory has won prizes at the Iowa State Fair at Des Moines, at the Dairy Cattle Congress at Waterloo and in fact has taken awards wherever exhibited.

REV. J. J. ZEYEN.

Rev. J. J. Zeyen, pastor of St. Bernard's church of Alta Vista, was born in Treves, France, January 1, 1883, his parents being Joseph J. and Barbara (Weyer) Zeyen, who came to the United States in 1885 and established their home in Spokane, Washington, where the mother and some of the children now reside. The father, however, passed away December 31, 1917.

J. J. Zeyen obtained his elementary schooling in Spokane, Washington, and later attended the St. Lawrence College at St. Lawrence, Wisconsin, where he remained for seven years, completing the full classical course during that period. He afterward went to Europe and attended the Imperial University at Innsbruck, in the Tyrol of Austria. There he spent three years in the pursuit of a theological course and later he pursued a post graduate course at the French Seminary and in the Gregorian University in Rome. He was graduated from the latter institution in 1907 and was ordained to the priesthood at Innsbruck by the Rt. Rev. Altenweisel, of Brixen Tyrol, in 1906.

In the following year Father Zeyen was given his first charge as assistant priest at Gilbertville, Iowa, where he remained for five years. In 1912 he was sent to Dubuque, Iowa, as assistant pastor to Rt. Rev. Mgr. George W. Heer of St. Mary's church. He remained there until May, 1915, when he was appointed pastor of the Sacred Heart church at Meyer, Iowa, over which he presided for a year. In May, 1916, he came to Alta Vista as pastor of St. Bernard's charge, over which he now presides. This parish is in a prosperous condition and the school has an attendance of one hundred and twenty-five pupils. Father Zeyen is greatly beloved by the people of his parish and is doing excellent work for the Catholic cause in this section of the state.

J. W. McKONE, M. D.

Dr. J. W. McKone, physician and surgeon of Lawler, whose practice is of substantial proportions and of important character, was born January 26, 1872, in the town which is still his home. He is a son of James and Elizabeth (McCartin) McKone, the former a native of Ireland, while the latter was born in Dubuque, Iowa. The father came to the United States with relatives when a boy of nine years and became a resident of the state of New York, where he was reared to manhood. He afterward made his way to Iowa, where he took up blacksmithing. He worked at his trade in the Union army during the Civil war and it was subsequent to this period that he established his home in Chickasaw county. Here he was married and for some years thereafter he conducted a blacksmith shop in Jacksonville. Following the building of the railroad into Lawler he removed to the new town and opened a smithy, which he carried on for several years but retired from active business some time prior to his death, which occurred in 1912. His widow survives and still makes her home in Lawler.

Dr. McKone, whose name introduces this review, was educated in the schools of Lawler and in the State University of Iowa at Iowa City. After pursuing a two years' preparatory course he entered the medical department of the State University and there won his professional degree upon graduation with the class of 1896. Following the completion of his course he came direct to Lawler and opened an office. Here he has continuously practiced for twenty-three years and his professional career has been marked

by steady progress that has followed broad reading and continuous study that has kept him in touch with the latest scientific researches and discoveries of the medical fraternity. During the summer of 1895, while attending the State University of Iowa, he took up three months' special work at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Chicago and in 1900 and once more in 1909 he pursued post-graduate work in the Chicago Post Graduate School. He has ever been actuated by the laudable ambition of making his service of greatest possible benefit to his patients, who have the utmost confidence in him, recognizing the superiority of his methods and his devotion to his professional duties. He is a member of the Chickasaw County Medical Society, the Austin Flint Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

In June, 1901, Dr. McKone was united in marriage to Miss Maria Burk, of Chickasaw county, by whom he has a son, John Robert, who is now attending school.

In his political views Dr. McKone is a democrat and is interested in party successes because of his firm belief in the party principles. He served as mayor of Lawler and also as county coroner for one term. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church and he belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters, also to the Modern Woodmen of America and its ladies' auxiliary, the Royal Neighbors. He has a very wide acquaintance in this section of the state and is held in the highest esteem because of his personal worth as well as his professional powers.

RUSSELL H. PIERCE.

Russell H. Pierce is a partner in the firm of J. W. Pierce & Sons, dealers in country produce, hides and furs at Nashua and maintaining also branch houses at Plainfield and Waverly. The members of this firm are recognized as alert and progressive business men and have built up a trade of large and gratifying proportions.

Russell H. Pierce was born in Richland township, Chickasaw county, on the 30th of August, 1890, a son of John W. and Nettie (Cory) Pierce, the former a native of England, while the latter was born in Wisconsin. The father came to the United States when a child of but six years in company with his parents, who settled in Ohio. There his mother passed away and about 1869 or 1870 the father with his seven children removed to Iowa. After a brief residence in Bremer county he brought his family to Chickasaw county, taking up his abode upon a farm in Richland township, where he purchased eighty acres of land. Upon this farm his son and namesake, John W. Pierce, was reared to manhood, meeting the usual experiences of the farm-bred boy who spends his youth in a frontier district. About 1884 John W. Pierce was united in marriage to Miss Nettie Cory and they began their domestic life upon a farm, his attention being devoted to the further development and improvement of his fields until 1891, when he turned his attention to merchandising in Republic, Chickasaw county. For twenty years he conducted his store, meeting with substantial success in the development of his trade. In 1911 he removed to Nashua and for one year was engaged in the restaurant business in company with his two sons, Charles L. and Russell H. In 1912 they bought out the produce business of C. A. Moody, of Nashua, and from that time have steadily prospered in the conduct of their affairs. In 1915 they established a branch house in Plainfield and further extended the scope of their activities by opening a branch house at Waverly in 1919. The business has now grown to large and gratifying proportions, the father and Charles L. Pierce looking after the business in Waverly, while Russell H. Pierce manages the parent house in Nashua. The extent and growth of their trade is indicated by the fact that the amount of their business is now written in six figures and theirs is regarded as one of the most important commercial enterprises of Nashua.

Russell H. Pierce spent his youthful days under the parental roof, devoting his attention largely to the acquirement of a public school education and to such tasks as were assigned him by parental authority. Becoming an active assistant of his

father, his business training was thorough and he became well qualified for the onerous duties that devolve upon him in his present connection as manager of the Nashua branch of the produce, hides and fur business of J. W. Pierce & Sons.

In 1913 Russell H. Pierce was united in marriage to Miss Iowa L. Badger, of Chickasaw county, a daughter of F. J. Badger, a retired farmer who is now residing in Nashua. Mr. and Mrs. Pierce have become parents of a son, Russell B.

Politically Mr. Pierce is an earnest republican and is serving as the present clerk of his township. Fraternally he is connected with Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M., and also with Nashua Lodge, No. 391, I. O. O. F., Nashua Lodge, No. 110, K. P., and the Modern Woodmen of America. Both he and his wife attend the Congregational church and guide their lives by its teachings. They are people of prominence in social circles, and the hospitality of their own home is greatly enjoyed by their many friends. Mr. Pierce is regarded as one of the most progressive business men of his city, a dynamic force in its commercial circles and one who can always be counted upon to further public progress or advance in any way the welfare and development of the district in which he has so long resided.

LEONARD NOURSE.

Among Chickasaw county's pioneer settlers Leonard Nourse, of Fredericksburg, is numbered. He is, moreover, one of the venerable residents of this section of the state, as he has passed the eighty-seventh milestone on life's journey. He was born in Vermont, January 2, 1832, a son of Timothy and Lucretia (Flint) Nourse, the former a native of Barre, Massachusetts, while the latter was born in Connecticut. The father was twice married, the mother of Leonard Nourse being his second wife. He spent the greater part of his mature life in Vermont but some time prior to his death removed to Athol, Worcester county, Massachusetts.

Leonard Nourse was educated in the common schools of the Green Mountain state and in 1855 left the parental roof to try his fortune in the middle west. He made his way to Dane county, Wisconsin, and there on the 1st of January, 1857, was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Smith. Later in the same year they came to Iowa, reaching Fredericksburg on the 3d of May. Mr. Nourse had previously learned the carpenter's trade and worked along that line in Wisconsin, while for four years after taking up his abode in Fredericksburg he was also employed at carpentering. In 1871 he purchased a farm of eighty acres three miles northeast of the town and started upon his career as an agriculturist. However, he worked intermittently at his trade when his services were not needed upon the farm, but he made agricultural pursuits his main business interest. To his first purchase of eighty acres he added from time to time as his financial resources permitted until his present farm holdings comprise two hundred and eighty acres. He continued to reside upon the old homestead until December 6, 1918, when he came to Fredericksburg, where he is now living, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former toil.

To Mr. and Mrs. Nourse was born a son, Duane B., who has cooperated with his father in farming, their business interests being now closely associated. Duane B. Nourse married Miss Anna Churchill, of Fredericksburg, a daughter of Elias A. and Lucy (Watkins) Churchill, the former a native of Vermont, while the latter was born in Illinois. They were married, however, in Waverly, Iowa, on the 12th of December, 1857, having come to this state in young manhood and womanhood. They took up their abode in Bremer county and in 1868 removed to Chickasaw county, where for the following twenty years Mr. Churchill resided upon a farm in the vicinity of Fredericksburg. In 1888 he took up his abode in the town and there his wife passed away in July, 1913, while his demise occurred in January, 1917, when he was in the eighty-eighth year of his age. He was a veteran of the Civil war and was one of the well known men of Chickasaw county.

Leonard and Duane Nourse are both members of Mount Horeb Lodge, No. 333, A. F. & A. M. Leonard Nourse became one of the twelve charter members of the lodge

and is the only one of this number now living. His son is also connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. Both father and son are staunch republicans in their political views and the former served for a number of years as township treasurer and also was treasurer of the school board, while for two terms he filled the position of member of the board of county supervisors. While now a man of eighty-seven years he retains his faculties to a remarkable degree and is a very active man and an interesting conversationalist. His son served for several years as secretary of the school board, also as township assessor for four years and is now serving for the third term as township clerk. There are few if any families better known and more highly respected in Chickasaw county than the Nourse family, which from pioneer times has been closely associated with the work of development and progress here. The memory of Leonard Nourse forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present. The labors which he began in the early days have been taken up and carried forward by his son, and both are classed with the representative business men and valued citizens of this section of the state.

S. B. ZOLLER, M. D.

Dr. S. B. Zoller, one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Chickasaw county practicing at Fredericksburg, was born in Waucoma, Iowa, June 29, 1884, a son of James L. and Mary J. (Wheater) Zoller, who were natives of the state of New York, where they were reared and married. About 1879 or 1880 they came to Iowa and took up their abode upon a farm in Fayette county, where Mr. Zoller continued for some years. Subsequently he removed to Waucoma, where he engaged in the grain and lumber business, and later he turned his attention to the hardware and furniture trade, with which he was identified for fourteen years. On expiration of that period he removed to Fredericksburg and managed the Farmers Elevator for a period of four or five years. He next became a resident of Hawkeye, Iowa, where he has since been engaged in the grain business on his own account. His life has been one of diligence and enterprise, and his close application and thorough reliability in business have been the basis of his growing success.

Dr. Zoller completed a course in the Waucoma high school as a member of the graduating class of 1899. He afterward received private instruction in Latin and in 1901, at the early age of seventeen years, he took up the study of medicine, entering Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1905, being the youngest member of the class. The college, however, could not accord him his license until he reached his twenty-first year as it is against the law for a young man to be licensed to practice medicine until he has attained his majority. On the twenty-first anniversary of his birth, however, he opened an office in Fredericksburg, where he has since been in active and continuous practice. There are probably few if any physicians in Chickasaw county who have built up a larger or more important country practice than Dr. Zoller. He is constantly overburdened by the demands put upon him in a professional way. In 1912 he took a post graduate medical course in the Post Graduate Medical School and Hospital of Chicago and throughout his professional career he has remained a close student of the science of medicine, keeping in touch with the latest researches and discoveries that have to do with medical practice here.

On the 2d of May, 1906, Dr. Zoller was married to Miss Louise E. Morf, a daughter of John Morf, now deceased. They have become parents of two children, Carlotta E. and Hadwen L. In his political views Dr. Zoller is a republican and fraternally he is connected with Mount Horeb Lodge, No. 333, A. F. & A. M., and with Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 661, I. O. O. F. He is also identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Woodmen of the World, Brotherhood of American Yeomen and the Rebekahs. Along strictly professional lines Dr. Zoller's connection is with the Chickasaw County Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Society, the Austin-Flint Medical Society and the Northeastern Medical Society and through the proceedings of these organizations he

acquaints himself with much that is most modern in professional thought and practice. He adheres to high professional standards and combines a broad humanitarian spirit with comprehensive scientific knowledge and training, so that his work is proving indeed a potent factor in the restoration of health in Fredericksburg and throughout the surrounding district. Mrs. Zoller is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and of the Rebekah Lodge and she and the Doctor are consistent and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

HON. CHRISTIAN SALTZMAN.

With many phases of activity in Chickasaw county Hon. Christian Saltzman has been closely connected. He has represented his district in the state legislature, is the vice president of the State Savings Bank of Lawler and follows farming on section 17, Stapleton township. He was born in Alsace-Lorraine, April 25, 1855, a son of George and Selma Saltzman, who were also natives of that district, in which they spent their entire lives. The son was educated in the public schools of his native country and in 1871, when sixteen years of age, came to the United States, making his way first to Naperville, Illinois, where he was employed as a farm hand. He afterward spent ten years in that state and in 1880 he bought one hundred and sixty acres of his present home farm and the following year removed to Chickasaw county, where for thirty-eight years he has continuously resided. He now owns four hundred and ninety-six acres of valuable land, constituting one of the best improved farms of the county.

In 1877 Mr. Saltzman was united in marriage to Miss Magdalena Becker, of Dupage county, Illinois, and they have become the parents of eight children, of whom five survive, namely: Sadie, Alma, Leo, Leander and Ronald, all of whom are residing at home with the exception of Leo, who owns and operates a farm in Stapleton township.

In politics Mr. Saltzman is a democrat and a recognized leader in party ranks. His opinions have carried weight in the party councils for many years. He has served as township trustee for several years and also filled the office of county supervisor for six years and in 1912 was elected to the Iowa state legislature, in which he represented his district during the thirty-seventh general assembly. In public office he has ever been loyal to the duties and responsibilities that have devolved upon him and has untiringly sought to promote the general good. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church and are most highly esteemed throughout the community in which they live.

While Mr. Saltzman has figured prominently in public affairs, he has been pre-eminently a business man. He has thoroughly acquainted himself with the science of farming and is one of the most progressive agriculturists of his section of the state. He brought with him to Iowa a herd of shorthorn cattle and in the years that have since come and gone has specialized in the breeding of shorthorns. He is also a stockholder in the State Bank of New Hampton and a stockholder and the vice president of the State Savings Bank of Lawler. Whatever he undertakes he carries forward to successful completion. Obstacles and difficulties in his path seem to serve but as an impetus for renewed effort on his part, and his energy and determination have made him a leading figure in business circles, while his recognized ability has brought him to the front in connection with the public interests of county and state.

ALBERT ZIPSE.

One of the attractive farm properties of Chickasaw county is that owned by Albert Zipse. It is a tract of two hundred acres situated on section 30, Utica township, and the improvements which he has placed upon it are many, adding to the beauty and value of the farm, while his labors are continually enhancing its productiveness. Mr. Zipse is a native of Cedarville, Illinois. He was born March 16, 1866, of the marriage of Christian Zipse and Caroline Smith, the former a native of Germany, while the latter

was born in Switzerland. Both came to the United States in 1844 and took up their abode in Buffalo, New York, where they were married, and for seven years thereafter they continued to reside in Buffalo, where Mr. Zipse worked at the trade of shoemaking, which he had previously learned in his native country. With their removal to the Mississippi valley they took up their abode in Cedarville, Illinois, and while they were there residing their son Albert was born. The father continued to work at the trade of shoemaking for twelve years and subsequently he established his home three miles northwest of Cedarville, where he turned his attention to farming, and that occupation claimed his time and energies throughout his remaining days. His first purchase of land made him owner of seventy acres, and as his financial resources increased he added to his holdings until at the time of his death he was the owner of one hundred and twenty acres. His wife also passed away on the old home farm near Cedarville, Illinois.

Albert Zipse had no especial advantages at the outset of his career. In fact his youth was quietly passed, and he pursued his education in the common schools of Red Oak or assisted his father in the work of the home farm. He continued with his parents until he reached the age of twenty-three years and on the 10th of January, 1889, he was united in marriage to Miss Maggie Heiselman. Immediately afterward the young couple started for Iowa and established their home three miles south of Lawler, where Mr. Zipse engaged in the cultivation of a rented farm for six years. They practiced close economy and industry in order to gain a start and bravely faced the difficulties and hardships incident to settlement in a new locality. Eventually their labors brought to them a sufficient sum to enable them to purchase property and they made investment in one hundred and twenty acres. This constituted the nucleus of their present farm, the boundaries of which have since been extended until it now embraces two hundred acres of the rich and fertile land of Chickasaw county. The improvements which have been placed thereon and the care and labor manifest in the development of the fields have made it one of the excellent farm properties of northern Iowa.

Mrs. Zipse was a daughter of Michael and Frederika Heiselman and the mother is now living with Mr. and Mrs. Zipse, the father having passed away about thirty-five years ago. The other members of the household are their five living children: Lloyd W., Edward B., Arthur V., Myron M. and Martha M. The family belong to the Congregational church of Lawler and in the social circles of that part of the county they occupy an enviable position.

Mr. Zipse is identified with the Farmers Equity Association of Lawler and in matters of citizenship is always found on the side of progress and improvement. For three years he has served as school director in Utica township, and his aid can always be counted upon to support any project that looks to the material, intellectual, social and moral development of his community.

JOHN D. FRAZEE.

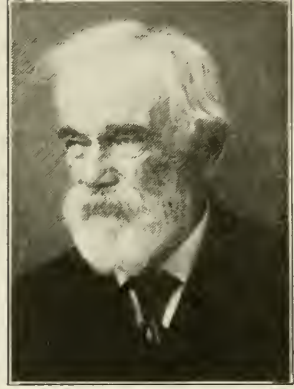
The farm upon which he now resides on section 5, Chickasaw township, Chickasaw county, was the birthplace of John D. Frazee and he has spent his entire life thereon. His natal day was April 23, 1873, and his parents were John and Cyrena (Beckwith) Frazee, the former born near Frankfort, Clinton county, Indiana, February 5, 1841, while the latter was born in the state of New York. They came to northern Iowa as children with their parents, the Beckwith family settling in River-ton township, Floyd county, while the paternal grandfather, James L. Frazee, purchased the farm that is now owned by John D. Frazee of this review, residing thereon to the time of his death. He entered one hundred and sixty acres of land as a claim from the government and this land has never passed out of the ownership of the family. John Frazee and Cyrena Beckwith were married in New Hampton, April 28, 1868, and afterward settled upon the home farm, which the former continued to cultivate until his father's death, when he became owner of the property. In 1900 he retired from active business and removed to Bassett, where he resided for nine



JAMES L. FRAZEE



MRS. JOHN FRAZEE



JOHN FRAZEE



JOHN D. FRAZEE



MRS. JOHN D. FRAZEE



JOHN LLOYD FRAZEE

years. Called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, he afterward returned to the old homestead in order to reside with his son, John D., with whom he remained to the time of his demise November 7, 1917, when he was seventy-six years of age. He was a man of prominence in Chickasaw county and his worth was widely recognized by all with whom he came in contact. He filled various township offices, was a member of the board of county supervisors and was honored by his district by election to the Iowa state legislature, serving in the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth general assemblies. He was a broad-minded, public-spirited citizen, a man of sterling character, and over his official record there fell no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil. His wife, a most estimable lady, passed away November 9, 1909, at the age of sixty-four years.

Following his father's death John D. Frazee purchased the home farm, which then comprised two hundred and forty acres of land. Previous to this time he had bought from his father eighty acres, so that his present holdings comprise three hundred and twenty acres. He is one of the successful and progressive agriculturists of the community, his enterprise and diligence being the source of his continued prosperity.

In 1900 Mr. Frazee was united in marriage to Miss Emma Gillsbeck, of Chickasaw township, her parents being George and Elizebet Gillsbeck, the former a native of Germany, while the latter was born in France. They were married in Galena, Illinois, and subsequently came to Chickasaw county, Iowa, settling on a farm in Chickasaw township, where they still make their home. Mr. and Mrs. Frazee have one son, John Lloyd, who is a high school student at Charles City, Iowa.

Politically Mr. Frazee is a democrat and fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. He has always lived upon the farm which is now his home and which is endeared to him through the associations of his boyhood and youth as well as those of manhood days. His business affairs have been most wisely and carefully conducted and his enterprise has brought him steadily to the front as one of the leading farmers of Chickasaw township.

JERRY J. BURESH.

Jerry J. Buresh, living on section 36, Jamestown township, Howard county, was born in Linn county, Iowa, October 28, 1872, and is a son of George and Katherine (Moses) Buresh. The parents were both of Austrian birth and came to the United States with their respective parents in childhood. The two families settled in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and it was there that Mr. and Mrs. George Buresh were married in the year 1861. When their son, Jerry J. Buresh, was a little lad of but three years they removed to Howard county, settling in Saratoga township upon a farm situated on section 36. The father purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land and at once began the active work of developing and improving that property.

Jerry J. Buresh was reared in the usual manner of the farmbred boy. He worked in the fields during the summer months and in the winter seasons attended the public schools. He continued to give his father the benefit of his services until he was twenty-five years of age, when he started out in business life independently, taking up the work of farming upon rented land. He first had forty acres in land in Afton township, and this tract he successfully cultivated for a time. Afterward he secured eighty acres in Jamestown township, where he has since made his home, purchasing his farm from his brother Walter in 1906. Through the intervening period he has concentrated his efforts and attention upon the cultivation and improvement of his property and has made his an excellent farm. He facilitates the work of the fields by utilizing the most highly improved farm machinery and in all of his methods he is thoroughly progressive and enterprising.

On the 17th of May, 1898, Mr. Buresh was united in marriage to Miss Mary Simon, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anton Simon, who came from Austria to the new world and are now living near Cedar Rapids, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Buresh have

been born eight children, namely: Blanche, George, Otto, Orige, Benjamin Franklin, Charles, Mary and Wesley, aged respectively eighteen, sixteen, fourteen, ten, seven, six and three years. Of these Otto and Orige are twins, and all of the children are yet under the parental roof.

Mr. Buresh and his family hold membership in the Presbyterian church of Saratoga and are people of genuine worth, enjoying the warm regard and good will of many friends. In politics Mr. Buresh has always maintained an independent course, voting for the candidates whom he regards as best qualified for office and thus directly seeking the welfare and upbuilding of community, commonwealth and country. He was a director of the Jamestown district school for three years. He has ever been actuated by a patriotic spirit and during the recent war was ever ready to respond to the call for aid in the Liberty Loan drives and in support of the Red Cross. He stands for everything that is of benefit to the public, whether in times of peace or in times of war, and his worth as a man and citizen is widely acknowledged.

H. W. HOLSCHLAG.

The Holschlag family has long been identified with the farming and stock raising interests of Chickasaw county and has thus contributed in substantial manner to the material development and upbuilding of this part of the state. H. W. Holschlag now follows farming on section 20, New Hampton township, and was a boy of but eleven years when his parents came to Chickasaw county. He was born in Scott county, Iowa, March 29, 1866, and is a brother of B. A. Holschlag, in connection with whose sketch on another page of this work appears mention of his parents. He was reared in the usual manner of the farm-bred boy, attending the district schools, and on reaching manhood he became the active assistant of his father in the work of the home farm. He was thus engaged until 1894, when he took charge of the farm and cultivated it as a renter for six years or until 1900. He then purchased his present home place of one hundred and sixty acres, at which time the farm was in a poor condition. The buildings upon it were little more than shacks. All these have been torn down by Mr. Holschlag and replaced by substantial and commodious modern farm buildings, so that he has today one of the splendidly improved properties of Chickasaw county. He is also a stockholder in the New Hampton Farmers' Creamery Association and a member of the Chickasaw County Equity Cooperative Association. His life has been one of thrift and diligence and his success is the merited reward of persistent and earnest labor.

On the 29th of April, 1896, Mr. Holschlag was united in marriage to Miss Clara Burgart, a daughter of Frank Burgart, who was one of the early pioneer settlers of Chickasaw county and is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Holschlag have become the parents of four children, as follows: Olivia E., who is the wife of Charles Shiek, of Waterloo, Iowa; Wilfrid W., who married Vania Kearns, of Chickasaw county, and operates the home farm; and Lucena M. and Clair H., who are at home. The family are members of St. Mary's Catholic church of New Hampton and socially they are well known in their section, the hospitality of the best homes of New Hampton township being freely accorded them.

RAY I. LANDON.

One of the leading business establishments of Lawler is the drug and grocery store of Ray I. Landon, who was here born on the 9th of April, 1886, a son of Judd E. and Flora (Rigby) Landon. The father is a native of Wisconsin and the mother of Iowa and in this state they were married. In the latter part of the '70s they removed to Lawler, Mr. Landon establishing the present drug and grocery business,

which he developed to one of the foremost commercial enterprises of Chickasaw county. In 1911 he went to Montana, where he homesteaded and bought land in one of the pioneer sections of the state, his home being in Musselshell county, in the northern central section of Montana. There had been few settlements made at that time and with the development of the district Mr. Landon has made extensive investments in property and is now the owner of sixteen hundred acres, on which he is engaged in general farming and is also successfully conducting a general country store.

Ray I. Landon was educated in the public schools of Lawler and at the Nora Springs Seminary prior to entering the State University of Iowa at Iowa City, from which he was graduated on the completion of a pharmaceutical course as a member of the class of 1908. When he had completed his studies he returned to Lawler and entered his father's store. In 1912 he was placed in charge of the business, over which he has since presided, and he has been very active in developing the interests of the house, the trade having grown to extensive proportions.

In 1910 Mr. Landon was united in marriage to Miss Madonna Keegan, of Lawler, Iowa, by whom he has two sons, Lowell B. and Robert V. Both Mr. and Mrs. Landon are members of the Catholic church and he is identified with the Knights of Columbus. In politics he maintains an independent course. While he is giving his attention largely to his mercantile interests, he has also become the owner of a homestead in Musselshell county, Montana, of one hundred and sixty acres, which he entered in 1910, proving up on the property in 1911. He spent sixteen months in that state in 1910 and 1911 and as the years have passed his holdings there have grown in value with the settlement of the district. However, he confines his attention largely to the management of his commercial interests in Lawler and he is one of the alert and enterprising citizens of the town, wide-awake to the possibilities opened in the natural ramifications of trade, while his sound judgment enables him to avoid all the commercial pitfalls into which unrestricted progressiveness is so frequently led.

THEODORE SCHOENFIELD.

A lifelong resident of Chickasaw county, Theodore Schoenfield was born in Chickasaw township, March 3, 1877. He now makes his home on section 26 of the same township and is busily and successfully engaged in farming. His parents, Louis and Minnie Schoenfield, were natives of Germany, where they were reared and married. Two of their children were born ere they emigrated to the new world, crossing the Atlantic in the early '60s. For a few years they were residents of Wisconsin and then came to Iowa, establishing their home in Chickasaw county, where the father purchased a farm in Chickasaw township. He afterward bought several other tracts of land and in later life occupied the farm which is now owned by his son Theodore. He died upon this place in July, 1914, and thus passed away one of the well known pioneer settlers of the county, who had contributed in substantial measure to its agricultural progress. He had long survived his wife, who died in 1878, during the infancy of their son Theodore.

In the district schools Theodore Schoenfield received his education. He was the youngest of the children in his father's family and as his elder brothers grew up and left home the work of further developing and improving the farm devolved upon him. He looked after his father and assisted in the operation of the homestead and in this way helped to pay for the farm which he now owns, his father afterward turning over the property to him and giving him a deed for it.

In 1899 Mr. Schoenfield was married to Miss Anna Erion, a daughter of Michael Erion, of Chickasaw township, who cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers of this district. Mr. and Mrs. Schoenfield have become the parents of ten children, of whom nine are yet living, namely: Frankel, Victor, Irene, Dora, Eva, Gladys, Clarence, Helen and Leo, all of whom are yet at home.

Mr. Schoenfield is a member of the Evangelical church, and in political belief is a republican. He has never sought nor desired political office or prominence of any kind aside from business. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Cooperative Creamery of Ionia and also in the Farmers Equity Association of Ionia and concentrates his efforts and attention almost solely upon his agricultural activities, whereby he has gained a place among the men of affluence in Chickasaw township.

H. D. FALLOWS, M. D.

Dr. H. D. Fallows, a specialist in the treatment of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, has been actively engaged in practice along this line at New Hampton for the past eight years and has won a place among the foremost representatives of this branch of the profession in Iowa. He was born in Waucoma, Fayette county, this state, on the 31st of May, 1883, his parents being Fred and Maggie (Barbour) Fallows, also natives of that county. The paternal grandfather was born in England, while the grandmother emigrated to the United States from Germany, and the grandparents in both the paternal and maternal lines established their home among the early pioneers of Fayette county, Iowa. The grandfather of Dr. Fallows on the paternal side is still living at the venerable age of ninety years, making his home at Waucoma, where also resides the maternal grandmother, who has now reached the age of seventy-seven years. Fred Fallows, the father of our subject, has for the past fourteen years been a resident of Winona, Minnesota, where he is successfully engaged in the harness business.

Following his graduation from the Waucoma high school in 1901, H. D. Fallows entered the State University of Iowa at Iowa City, where he pursued a medical course and won the degree of M. D. in 1905. He then opened an office at Fredericksburg, Chickasaw county, Iowa, and was there engaged in general practice until 1910, after which he spent a year in Europe, devoting seven months to the study of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat in Vienna, Austria, and later attending different clinics throughout the continent. On returning to the United States in 1911 he located for practice at New Hampton, Iowa, and has since given his attention to his chosen field of professional activity with such success that he has gained a place in the foremost ranks of eye, ear, nose and throat specialists in the state.

On the 21st of September, 1907, Dr. Fallows was united in marriage to Miss Blanche Tompkins, of Fredericksburg, Iowa, by whom he has two children, Evelyn and Ronald. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and in Masonry he has attained high rank, belonging to Fredericksburg Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; Adelpia Chapter, No. 113, R. A. M.; New Hampton Council, No. 29, R. & S. M.; Eudora Commandery, No. 53, K. T.; and El Kahir Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. of Cedar Rapids. He is likewise identified with the Knights of Pythias as a member of Lancelot Lodge, No. 183, of New Hampton. Dr. Fallows has already achieved a measure of success in his profession that many an older practitioner might well envy and his many friends feel that a bright future lies before him.

L. A. GRANGER.

Since 1909 L. A. Granger has owned and occupied a farm on section 27, Chickasaw township, Chickasaw county, and he is further known as a representative business man of his community by reason of the fact that he is successfully engaged in selling automobiles and auto trucks, making Nashua the headquarters for this branch of his business. He was born in Bremer county, Iowa, April 2, 1872, and is a son of E. A. and Olive (Marsh) Granger, who are mentioned in connection with the sketch of W. A. Granger on another page of this work.

In the public schools of Nashua, L. A. Granger mastered the branches of learn-

ing that usually constitute the common school curriculum and in his youthful days aided his father in the conduct of business interests. He was married on the 16th of March, 1892, to Miss Carrie Dana, a daughter of Osman and Mary Ann (Sutherland) Dana, who were born in the east but became acquainted and were married in Illinois. They afterward removed to Bremer county, Iowa, and still later became residents of Chickasaw county, casting in their lot with its pioneer settlers, and here they spent their remaining days.

It was after his marriage that L. A. Granger rented his father's old home place in Bremer county, continuing its cultivation for five years, at the end of which time he purchased a part of the farm and lived thereon for another period of eight years. He then sold his property in Bremer county and came to his present place on section 27, Chickasaw township, Chickasaw county, in 1909. Through the intervening period he has carried on general agricultural pursuits here and his place presents a most attractive appearance, indicative of the care and labor which he bestows upon it. He is also engaged in the sale of automobiles and auto trucks, handling the Commerce truck, and his business along this line is conducted with Nashua as his headquarters.

Mr. and Mrs. Granger have become parents of seven living children: Mrs. W. B. Hammond; Mrs. C. H. Isley; Hazel, who is a teacher in the Nashua high school; Florence and E. A., who are high school students; and Williard A. and Harold, who are pupils in the graded schools. The daughters Helen and Hazel are also graduates of the Iowa State Teachers College at Cedar Falls. It is one of the strong purposes of Mr. and Mrs. Granger to give their children excellent educational opportunities and thus qualify them for life's practical duties and responsibilities.

Mr. Granger is a member of Ionia Lodge, No. 206, M. B. A. He and his family attend the Congregational church at Ionia and are well known in the town and through the surrounding country. The hospitality of their home is greatly enjoyed by many friends and they are highly esteemed wherever known.

FRED REINHART.

Fred Reinhart, a successful farmer and public-spirited citizen living on section 32, Washington township, Chickasaw county, was born in Paris township, Howard county, September 4, 1875. He is a son of Samuel and Anna (Lehmann) Reinhart, both of whom were natives of Switzerland. The father left the land of the Alps to become a resident of America in young manhood. The mother crossed the Atlantic when a girl in her teens in company with her parents, who settled at Elgin, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Reinhart were married at West Union, this state, in May, 1853, and afterward took up their abode near Lawler, in Howard county, where they resided for a quarter of a century. They then became residents of Cresco, where the following eighteen years of their lives were spent and on the expiration of that period they established their home in Alta Vista, living with their son Samuel, who resided on a farm one mile from the town, on the Howard county line. The father passed away March 2, 1914, at the age of eighty-five years, ten months and twenty-six days, and the mother is still living, now making her home with her daughter, Mrs. Fred Heimerdinger, in Paris township, Howard county. Mr. Reinhart was a man of sterling character, a citizen of loyal and progressive spirit and was one of the pioneer builders of northern Iowa.

Fred Reinhart, after attending the district schools and working for a time on his father's farm, began earning his living as a farm hand and for nine years worked for wages. In 1903 he began farming for himself and in connection with his brother William carried on agricultural pursuits for two years. After his marriage he rented land adjoining Schley, Iowa, and later came to Chickasaw county, buying eighty acres of land on section 18, Washington township. This he cultivated for four years and then traded the property for his present farm of eighty-five acres, which he has since owned and occupied.

In 1905 Mr. Reinhart was united in marriage to Miss Loise Lippka, of Le Mars, Stanton township, Plymouth county, Iowa. They now have two daughters, Leona C. and Oletha H. In his political views Mr. Reinhart is an earnest republican, having supported the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He and his wife are consistent members of the Evangelical church and in Washington township they have an extensive circle of friends, the hospitality of the best homes being freely accorded them. A life of diligence has gained for Mr. Reinhart a place among the successful farmers and leading citizens of his township and at all times he has manifested a public-spirited devotion to the general good.

REV. F. J. GUNN.

Rev. F. J. Gunn, pastor of the Immaculate Conception parish of the Roman Catholic church at Elma, was born in Strokestown, in the county of Roscommon, Ireland, on the 26th of December, 1851. His early education was acquired in private schools and subsequently he attended All Hallows College of Dublin, from which famous institution he was graduated on the 24th of June, 1877. He there pursued courses in philosophy and theology and he afterward spent six months in travel in Europe and America. On the 11th of January, 1878, he was given his first charge, being assigned to the Immaculate Conception parish at Charles City, Iowa, where he remained for five years. He was then transferred to Elma in the fall of 1882 and throughout the intervening period, covering thirty-seven years, has been the priest in this parish. All of the present church buildings have been erected under his direction, including the church edifice, the convent and the parsonage. These three buildings today could not be erected for one hundred thousand dollars and there is not a dollar's indebtedness upon them. In his years of church work in Elma, Father Gunn has made himself popular with people of all classes and creeds and is greatly beloved by those of his own flock. He also acts as counselor in temporal as well as spiritual affairs and has been the guide and friend of his people in the fullest sense of the term.

EDWARD W. STALEY.

Edward W. Staley is well known as one of the prominent and representative citizens of Nashua, where he is successfully engaged in the real estate and insurance business. His birth occurred in Tallula, Illinois, on the 6th of January, 1880, his parents being John W. and Emma (Dickinson) Staley, the former born near Millersburg, Kentucky, while the latter is a native of Petersburg, Illinois. They were married in Virginia, Illinois, on the 12th of February, 1879, and for several years John W. Staley was proprietor of the Occidental Nurseries at Tallula, that state. In 1886 he took up his abode on a farm and three years later removed to Chandlerville, Illinois, where he conducted a nursery throughout the remainder of his life, passing away on the 12th of November, 1912. His widow still survives and now makes her home in Nashua, Iowa.

Following his graduation from the high school of Chandlerville, Illinois, as a member of the class of 1897, Edward W. Staley continued his studies in Berea College of Berea, Kentucky. In 1900 he went to Kansas City and through the succeeding four years represented a wholesale millinery house as traveling salesman. Becoming identified with the rubber business, he was for two years associated with the old Trenton Rubber Company, while in 1908 he went to St. Louis, Missouri, as city salesman for the Diamond Rubber Company. A year or more later he succeeded to the management of the latter concern and continued in that important capacity until 1914, when he associated himself with the Republic Rubber Company, which he represented in the state of Iowa, making his home in Nashua. In 1918



REV. F. J. GUNN

he severed his connection with the Republic Rubber Company and embarked in the real estate and insurance business in Nashua, where he has since conducted his interests along that line with gratifying success. He is thoroughly acquainted with realty values and has negotiated many important property transfers, while the insurance branch of his business has also become extensive and profitable.

On the 11th of January, 1911, Mr. Staley was united in marriage to Miss Ethel Granger, a daughter of W. A. Granger, a lumber dealer and prominent business man of Nashua. Mr. and Mrs. Staley now have two children, Harlan G. and Edward R.

Mr. Staley gives his political allegiance to the republican party and fraternally is identified with the Masons, belonging to Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M.; De Molay Consistory, No. 1, A. & A. S. R., of Clinton, Iowa; and El Kahir Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of Cedar Rapids. In religious faith both he and his wife are Congregationalists. They are widely recognized as people of genuine personal worth and have gained many friends during the period of their residence in Nashua, where the hospitality of the best homes is freely extended them.

SMITH B. BELLAMY.

Smith B. Bellamy is the proprietor of the S. B. Bellamy Lumber Company and has won a substantial position in the ranks of the foremost business men of Nashua. He was born April 6, 1871, in the city which is still his home, his parents being George T. and Sarah A. (Smith) Bellamy. The father was born in the state of New York, where he resided to his fifteenth or sixteenth year, when he removed to New York city, where he was employed for a time as a clerk. Subsequently he drifted westward and took up his abode in Cedar Falls, Iowa, where he became identified with the grain and live stock business, entering into association with A. A. Turner under the firm style of Turner & Bellamy. His firm prospered in their undertakings and later controlled a line of elevators from Hayfield, Minnesota, to Dubuque, Iowa, thus becoming owners of a business of extensive proportions. While in Cedar Falls the father was married and later he and Mr. Turner removed to Waverly, Iowa, where they established a grain and live stock business. The year prior to the building of the railroad into Nashua they moved the seat of their operations to this point and in addition to handling grain and live stock they established a lumberyard and also dealt in agricultural implements and coal. The parent house of the concern from this period (about 1860) remained in Nashua but their operations extended over an extensive section of northern Iowa and southern Minnesota, the firm of Turner & Bellamy becoming known as extensive operators along these various lines. Mr. Bellamy passed away February 21, 1903, but the mother of our subject is still living and resides in the old Bellamy home in Nashua.

Smith B. Bellamy, whose name introduces this review, was educated in the public schools of Nashua and in the Minnesota State University. From his boyhood days he worked in his father's office and grew up in the business. Following his father's demise in 1903, he conducted the business for his mother for a year and in 1904 he purchased the lumber, coal and implement business at Nashua that had been previously conducted by the firms of Turner & Bellamy, Bellamy & Smith and the Bellamy Lumber Company. This firm disposed of their line of elevators and all of the business outside of Nashua. When Mr. Bellamy bought into the business in 1904 he was associated with F. E. Gates, of Marble Rock, and A. W. Dawson, of Mason City, as partners. The business was incorporated under the name of the Bellamy-Gates-Dawson Company and the firm existed in this form for six years, at the end of which time Mr. Bellamy took over the interests of his partners, becoming sole owner. He has large lumber and coal yards, and his trade has reached very gratifying proportions as the result of his capable business management, his straightforward dealing and his enterprising methods.

On the 15th of September, 1891, Mr. Bellamy was married to Miss May Putney, of Nashua, and they have become the parents of three children, of whom two survive,

Ruth and Doris. The former was educated in the State Teachers College at Cedar Falls, Iowa, and at the Waterloo Business College and has recently returned from Camp Wheeler, Georgia, where she was in the Training School for Nurses. The younger daughter is still a high school pupil.

In his political views Mr. Bellamy is a democrat but not an office seeker. He belongs to Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M., and has attained the thirty-second degree in the Scottish Rite in De Molay Consistory No. 1, S. P. R. S., at Clinton, Iowa. He is likewise connected with El Kahir Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., at Cedar Rapids. His wife is a member of the Episcopal church. Nashua claims this worthy couple as leading and representative citizens and Mr. Bellamy's position in business circles is among the foremost. He is keenly alive to the possibilities of every new avenue opened in the natural ramifications of trade and has passed over the pitfalls into which unrestricted progressiveness is so frequently led, thus being enabled to focus his energies in directions where fruition is certain.

G. J. SCHMIDT.

G. J. Schmidt carries on general farming on section 23, Afton township, Howard county, where he has one hundred and thirteen acres of land. He was born in Germany, January 18, 1873, and is a son of John G. and Paulina (Riska) Schmidt. He came to this country when a youth of sixteen years and after landing on the eastern coast made his way at once to Iowa, establishing his home in Alta Vista, Chickasaw county. Two years later his parents also crossed the Atlantic and became residents of Alta Vista. In the interval G. J. Schmidt began work as a farm hand and thus provided for his own support for a period of five years. Later he took up his abode with his parents and assisted his father in farming for five years. On the 17th of July, 1900, he purchased the place upon which he now resides, becoming owner of one hundred and thirteen acres of good land on section 23, Afton township. His labors have since converted it into a rich and productive place and all the evidences of modern progressive farming are there seen. The father of Mr. Schmidt passed away in 1899, but the mother is still living, making her home with a son in Alta Vista. She has reached the age of seventy-six years.

It was on the 30th of August, 1899, that Mr. Schmidt was united in marriage to Miss Abbie Bower, a daughter of Jake and Lenora (Fortune) Bower, the former a native of Scotland, while the latter was born in the state of New York. Mrs. Schmidt was born in Alta Vista, Iowa, and by her marriage has become the mother of five children: Lenora, who has completed her public school course and is living at home; Hazel, who has finished school and is at home; Max, who is attending the public schools; John, three years of age; and Olga, who is but a year old.

Mr. Schmidt and his family attend the Lutheran church. As soon as he had attained his majority he took out his citizenship papers and has ever been a loyal adherent of American interests. During the period of the World war he was a liberal supporter of all the Liberty Loan drives and made generous contribution to the Red Cross. He has served on the school board for four terms and is a stalwart champion of the cause of public education. In fact his aid and cooperation can be counted upon to further any plan or project for the public good and his interest in the general welfare has been manifest in many tangible ways.

WILLIAM G. HERRICK.

William G. Herrick, residing upon his farm which lies within the corporate limits of Fredericksburg, was born in the state of New York, July 23, 1856, a son of James H. and Elizabeth L. (Eldrett) Herrick. The father was a native of Schenectady county, New York, and the mother was born in England, coming to this country with her parents during her girlhood. The family settled in Montgomery county,

New York, where Mrs. Herrick attained to womanhood and was married. In 1865 Mr. and Mrs. James H. Herrick removed westward to Iowa, settling in Fredericksburg township, Chickasaw county, where the father purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, to which he added from time to time, and in subsequent years he bought and sold several farms. His home farm, however, through a considerable period comprised two hundred and forty acres, on which he carried on general agricultural pursuits and stock raising, annually producing good crops and selling considerable stock. He died in 1909, having for many years survived his wife, who passed away in 1385.

William G. Herrick was educated in the district and town schools of Fredericksburg and in the spring of 1878 he began farming on his own account on land which his father had contracted to buy for him, William G. Herrick to make the deferred payments. The first crop which he raised was wheat but this was the first of the three years of the failure of the wheat crop in Iowa, and unable to produce the crop, Mr. Herrick was compelled to lose his farm. He then returned home and worked with his father until the spring of 1889, when he removed to a small place of his own in Dresden township. He first made investment in eighty acres and later added forty acres to that tract. For twenty-five years he continued to reside upon that farm, which he still owns. In 1914 he bought twenty-three acres in the corporate limits of Fredericksburg and built thereon a modern residence supplied with electric lights, hot and cold water, bath and all modern conveniences. He took up his abode there and is most comfortably situated in life, his success in the cultivation of his farm enabling him to enjoy all of the necessities and many of the comforts of life.

In 1888 Mr. Herrick was united in marriage to Miss Luemma Dayton, a daughter of Henry Dayton, who came to Chickasaw county from Wisconsin about 1868, settling in Stapleton township. To Mr. and Mrs. Herrick have been born two children: Mabel E., who is a student in her senior year in the Pestalozzi-Froebel Training School of Chicago, was a primary teacher in the Fredericksburg schools for six years and was a junior supervisor for the Mutual Chautauqua Company during the summer of 1918, while in the summer of 1919 she traveled with the Ellison & White Chautauqua Company as junior supervisor. John D. is operating his father's old home farm.

In politics Mr. Herrick has always been an earnest republican, thoroughly versed on the questions and issues of the day but never an office seeker. He is connected with Mount Horeb Lodge, No. 333, A. F. & A. M., and with the Modern Woodmen of America. His life has been characterized by high and honorable principles, making him a citizen of worth in his community, and through the careful and systematic conduct of his business affairs he has not only advanced his individual fortunes but has also contributed to public prosperity and to the agricultural development of this section of the state.

JERRY C. MARR.

Jerry C. Marr, a dealer in produce at Alta Vista, was born in Howard county, Iowa, September 12, 1877. His father, William Marr, was a native of Hamburg, Germany, but was brought to this country by his parents when but three years of age, the family home being first established in Buffalo, New York. Later a removal was made to Mineral Point, Wisconsin, where the grandparents spent their later years. It was in that state that William Marr was reared to manhood and after attaining adult age he wedded Rosella Yeager, who was probably born in Wisconsin. A year after their marriage, or in the spring of 1864, they came to Iowa, traveling westward with an ox team and wagon. They took up their abode in Afton township Howard county, where Mr. Marr purchased eighty acres of government land. He had but little money and could make only a small cash payment. He built thereon a log cabin to provide shelter for his wife and baby and a log barn for his cattle. He

then proceeded in earnest to make a home for his family, but in the early days they had to endure all of the hardships and privations which are incident to the settlement of the frontier. His marketing in those days was done at McGregor, making the journey of more than eighty miles each way by ox team. It required an entire week to complete the trip with favorable weather. Various difficulties were endured by the family in those pioneer times, but as the years passed on conditions changed and in his farming operations Mr. Marr prospered. As he was able to save something he added to his land and in time became one of the very prosperous residents of Howard county, owning twelve hundred acres of Iowa's rich and productive soil. He died March 5, 1899, and for a decade was survived by his wife, who passed away in March, 1909.

The youthful days of Jerry C. Marr were unmarked by any event of special importance. He attended the district schools and in his youth worked with his father upon the farm. Following his father's death in 1899 he took charge of the home place and continued its cultivation for seven years. In 1906 he removed to Alta Vista and for two years represented a company in the purchase of flax. In 1908 he engaged in the produce business on his own account and has since been prominently identified with that work, winning substantial success as the years have gone on.

In 1903, while still residing upon the farm, Mr. Marr was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Doyle, a daughter of Matt Doyle, who was one of the earliest of the pioneer settlers of Deerfield township, Chickasaw county. Mr. and Mrs. Marr have become the parents of two sons, Glenn F. and Elvoy M.

Voting with the democratic party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, Mr. Marr is regarded as one of its stalwart supporters but has never been an aspirant for public office. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and his position in commercial circles is that of one of Alta Vista's most prominent and representative business men.

D. P. O'CONNOR.

D. P. O'Connor, the efficient postmaster of Lawler, was appointed to that position on the 1st of September, 1913, and has since made a most creditable and commendable record in that connection. His birth occurred in Independence, Buchanan county, Iowa, on the 19th of January, 1874, his parents being Timothy and Ellen (Curran) O'Connor, both of whom were natives of Ireland. The father came to the United States as a youth of seventeen years, while the mother was brought to this country by her parents when but two years of age. Their marriage took place at Garry Owen, Jackson county, Iowa, and they settled on a farm in Dubuque county which Timothy O'Connor owned. In the early '70s they removed to the vicinity of Independence, Iowa, where the father continued farming until about 1905, when he put aside the active work of the fields and took up his abode in the town of Independence. His wife had passed away on the farm in 1890. In November, 1915, Mr. O'Connor came to Lawler with the intention of establishing his home here, but his demise occurred about two weeks later and before he had unpacked his goods.

D. P. O'Connor pursued his education in the schools of his native town and on attaining his majority went to Chicago, where he was employed at the stock yards for a year. At the end of that time he returned to Independence, where for sixteen months he worked in the Iowa Hospital for the Insane. In 1899 he came to Lawler and here secured employment in the store of O'Connor Brothers, conducted by his two brothers, Timothy and James O'Connor, in whose service he remained for about two years. Subsequently he spent six years as assistant cashier in the Merchants' Exchange Bank, now the State Savings Bank of Lawler, and later had charge of the station of the Standard Oil Company in Decorah, Iowa, for one year. He next devoted a year to the buying of horses and then became traveling salesman and station manager at Calmar, Iowa, for the Hawkeye Oil Company, who he rep-

resented for about three years, spending about half of the time on the road. He was afterward placed in charge of the Farmers' Elevator at Lawler, ably serving in that position for three years. On the 1st of September, 1913, he was appointed postmaster at Lawler, in which capacity he has since continuously served, making a most excellent record by capable and faithful discharge of his duties.

In 1902 Mr. O'Connor was united in marriage to Miss Anna Burke, of Lawler, Iowa, by whom he has three children, Charles F., Helen and Timothy, who are still under the parental roof. Mr. O'Connor gives his political allegiance to the democratic party, while the religious belief of himself and family is that of the Catholic church. Fraternally he is identified with the Catholic Order of Foresters. His career has been upright and honorable in every respect and he has become widely recognized as one of Lawler's leading and representative citizens.

WILLIAM LUNDT.

William Lundt, one of the foremost business men of Nashua, where he has successfully conducted his interests for nearly a quarter of a century, is a dealer in furniture, rugs and musical instruments and also carries on an undertaking establishment. His birth occurred in Clayton county, Iowa, on the 7th of December, 1872, his parents being Henry and Margaret (Brockmann) Lundt, the former a native of Germany, while the latter was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1853, when a youth of fourteen years, the father emigrated to the United States with his parents, who settled in Clayton county, Iowa. There he wedded Miss Margaret Brockmann, who had been taken by her parents to that county in 1860. Following his marriage Mr. Lundt carried on general agricultural pursuits in Clayton county for about three years and then in 1874 removed to Butler county, purchasing a farm four miles from Clarksville. To the cultivation and further improvement of that property he devoted his attention throughout his remaining days, his death occurring in 1903. His widow subsequently sold the farm and has since resided in Clarksville.

William Lundt attended the district schools in the acquirement of an education and was married at the age of twenty-two years, after which he cultivated the farm of his father-in-law for two years. In October, 1896, he came to Nashua, Chickasaw county, and in association with Henry Luhning embarked in the furniture and undertaking business under the firm style of Lundt & Luhning. Six years later he purchased his partner's interest and has since conducted the business alone. During the period of his association with Mr. Luhning the latter carried on the undertaking branch of the business, and in order to acquaint himself therewith, Mr. Lundt attended the Barnes School of Embalming at Dubuque, the Eckles School at Milwaukee and the Hohenschuh-Carpenter College of Embalming in Des Moines, receiving his diploma from the last named institution. He was given his license on the 29th of January, 1903, after passing the required examination before the state board. Throughout the intervening years he has conducted his interests independently as a furniture dealer and undertaker and has built up a most extensive and gratifying patronage, enjoying an enviable reputation as a reliable, progressive and leading merchant.

On the 18th of April, 1895, Mr. Lundt was joined in wedlock to Miss Laura Leiteritz, a native of Butler county, by whom he has three children: Theckla L., who is the wife of H. S. Bell, superintendent of the public schools of Nashua; and Loren W. and Laura A., twins, who are attending high school.

Mr. Lundt gives his political allegiance to the democratic party and is a valued member of the city council, with which body he has been connected for about sixteen years. For the past five years he has also served as a member of the school board, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion. Fraternally he is identified with the following organizations: Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M., of Nashua, Iowa; Almond Chapter, No. 53, R. A. M., of Charles City, Iowa; Nashua Lodge, No. 391, I. O. O. F.; Nashua Lodge, No. 110, K. P.; the Modern Woodmen of

America; the Modern Brotherhood of America; and the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. His wife belongs to the Nashua chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star and both Mr. and Mrs. Lundt are consistent and devoted members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Lundt has long been recognized as one of Nashua's most enterprising and public-spirited citizens and one whose efforts have contributed in no small measure to the business development of the city as well as to its intellectual, moral and political progress.

NICK NOSBISCH.

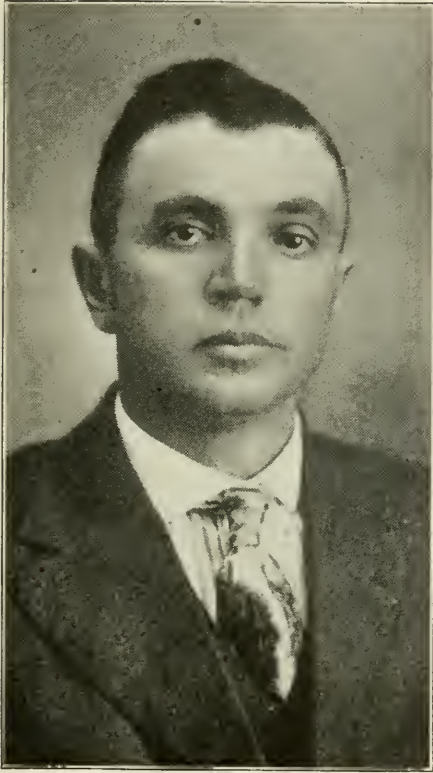
The enterprising little city of Alta Vista profits by the labors of Nick Nosbisch, who is a member of the firm of Hentges & Nosbisch, dealers in farm implements. He is numbered among Chickasaw county's native sons, his birth having occurred in Washington township, September 9, 1881, his parents being Michael and Katherine (Spoden) Nosbisch. The father was born in Germany and the mother was a native of Dubuque county, Iowa. Coming to the new world with his parents when quite young, the father became a resident of Iowa, the family home being maintained near Waterloo for a time. Mrs. Nosbisch passed away in North Washington, Iowa, October 10, 1903.

In the public and parochial schools of Washington township Nick Nosbisch acquired his early education and afterward spent a year in college at New Hampton, Iowa. He remained with his parents to the time of his marriage, which was celebrated November 19, 1903, Miss Susie Hentges becoming his wife. She is a daughter of Nick and Anna (Maiers) Hentges, both of whom are residents of New Hampton. Following his marriage Mr. Nosbisch carried on farming for two years in Deerfield township, renting a place during that period, and later he worked for E. C. Brenner, of Alta Vista for four years. He then engaged in business with Peter Hentges under the style of Hentges & Nosbisch as dealers in farm implements and they have since conducted their trade with good results, their patronage steadily increasing. Mr. Nosbisch is also a stockholder in the Farmers Cooperative Lumber Company at Alta Vista and the Farmers Telephone Company of that place.

To Mr. and Mrs. Nosbisch have been born six children: Bertha, Mabel, Alfred, Hazel, Marie and Ralph, all yet at home. The parents are communicants of St. Bernard's Catholic church at Alta Vista, and in politics Mr. Nosbisch is a democrat. He has served as a member of the town council for four years and has done effective work in promoting public welfare through the exercise of his official prerogatives. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Columbus at New Hampton. He is interested in all that has to do with public welfare and improvement, and his cooperation can be counted upon in support of any measure for the general good. At the same time he is a most progressive business man, largely giving his time and efforts to the conduct of his trade, and the firm of Hentges & Nosbisch now handles a general line of farm implements, buggies, wagons, cream separators, gas engines, tractors, threshing machines and windmills, displaying the output of the best manufacturing concerns of the country. Their business methods are such as will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny, and integrity as well as enterprise constitute the foundation upon which their success has been built.

PETER P. HENTGES.

Peter P. Hentges is engaged in the implement business at Alta Vista as senior partner in the firm of Hentges & Nosbisch, and at all times his record measures up to the highest commercial standards and ethics. Thoroughly reliable in his dealings, he has ever recognized the fact that satisfied patrons are the best advertisement and he has put forth every effort to please his customers and win a trade that will make the business a source of gratifying income.



NICK NOSBISCH



PETER P. HENTGES

Mr. Hentges was born at North Washington, Iowa, February 12, 1886, a son of Nicholas and Anna (Maiers) Hentges. His father was born in Dubuque county, Iowa, September 26, 1857, his parents being Peter and Mary (Schmidt) Hentges. He obtained a district school education in Concord township, Dubuque county, and afterward devoted his efforts and energies to the work of assisting his father upon the home farm until his marriage on the 31st of January, 1882, to Miss Anna Maiers. She was born in Liberty township, September 15, 1862, a daughter of John and Susan (Griner) Maiers.

Following his marriage Mr. Hentges remained upon the old homestead with his parents for a year and then came to Chickasaw county, Iowa, establishing his home in North Washington. Here he and his brother Peter conducted a general store for nine years, at the end of which time their place of business was destroyed by fire. Having thus lost his store, Mr. Hentges turned his attention to farming, having one hundred and twenty acres of land, which was his share of the old family estate. He settled upon this place in September, 1891, and continued its operation until October, 1911, when he retired from active business. In the meantime he had been very successful and had become the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of excellent land in Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, and eighty acres in Richland township. He and his wife now make their home in New Hampton, where they are most pleasantly situated. They have reared a family of three sons and three daughters: Mrs. Susan Nosbisch, Mrs. Mary Hilsman, Frank, Mrs. Barbara Delsing, Arthur and Nicholas.

The youthful days of Peter P. Hentges were quietly passed upon the home farm and he continued to assist his father until he reached the age of twenty-four years, when he was married and started out in business independently. He wedded Susan Lentz, a daughter of Nick and Susan Lentz, both of whom were natives of Germany. Mrs. Lentz still lives on the old home farm, which is situated two and a half miles west of North Washington, but Mr. Lentz passed away upon that place about sixteen years ago. The wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Hentges was celebrated September 26, 1911, on the anniversary of his father's birth. In the meantime Mr. Hentges after attending the parochial schools of North Washington had pursued his education in the Interstate School of Commerce at New Hampton for a period of six months, taking a commercial course there. He likewise attended the district schools of Deerfield township and thus his training well qualified him for the important duties which have since devolved upon him. He started in business with his present partner, Nick Nosbisch, a year prior to his marriage and through the intervening period the firm of Hentges & Nosbisch has been identified with the agricultural implement trade at Alta Vista. They carry a large and carefully selected stock, including all kinds of farm machinery and tractors, and their patronage is now extensive. Mr. Hentges is also a stockholder in the Farmers Telephone Company of Alta Vista.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hentges have been born four children: Clifford, Clement, Elroy and Robert. The parents are members of St. Bernard's Catholic church at Alta Vista, and he is a member of Council No. 1697, K. C., of New Hampton. He votes with the democratic party and when matters of public moment seek his aid and support it is generously and quickly given. He is justly numbered among the representative merchants and business men of his section of the county, and the course that he has always pursued well entitles him to the liberal support accorded him.

WILLIAM DRAPE.

William Drape, the period of whose residence in Chickasaw county now covers more than three decades, has made his home in Fredericksburg since 1915 but has long been actively and successfully identified with agricultural interests and still owns two hundred and ninety-two acres of valuable land in the county. He has also devoted considerable attention to contracting and building operations and has moreover been an effective public servant, now acting as a member of the board of county supervisors for the second term. His birth occurred in Germany on the 12th of February, 1865, his parents being Henry and Marie (Shutte) Drape, who

emigrated to the United States in 1868 and made their way to Bremer county, Iowa. There the father purchased a farm of one hundred and ten acres and carried on general agricultural pursuits until about 1895, when he put aside the active work of the fields and took up his abode in Tripoli, where he spent the remainder of his life in well earned retirement. His demise occurred in 1915, when he had reached the age of eighty-four years.

William Drape, who was but three years of age when brought by his parents to the new world, obtained his education in the district schools of Bremer county and when a youth of nineteen turned his attention to carpentering. In the spring of 1888 he purchased a small farm in Chickasaw county and began its cultivation but at the same time continued his operations as a contractor and builder, supervising the labors of a crew of workmen in this connection. He has resided in Fredericksburg since 1915 but still owns two hundred and ninety-two acres of rich and productive land in Chickasaw county and has long been numbered among its most progressive, substantial and enterprising citizens. In November, 1914, he was elected a member of the board of county supervisors, making so creditable a record that he was reelected in 1918 and is now serving for the second term in that capacity.

On the 3d of May, 1888, Mr. Drape was united in marriage to Miss Alvina Karnatz, of Dresden township, Chickasaw county, a daughter of John and Wilhelmina (Wahlfield) Karnatz, who came to the United States from Germany in 1874 and established their home in Chickasaw county, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Drape have become parents of four children, namely: Alma A. and Marie L., both at home; Minnie D., the wife of William Harms, who cultivates one of her father's farms; and Herbert, who is yet under the parental roof.

In politics Mr. Drape is a staunch democrat and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to public office. He served as township clerk for six years and was a member of the election board when first a candidate for the board of county supervisors, to which position he was chosen in spite of the fact that he made no canvass. Both he and his wife are consistent members of the Evangelical church and have an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the community in which they make their home.

FRANCIS A. GLASS.

Francis A. Glass, engaged in the flour and feed business at Cresco, was born in Carrolltown, in Cambria county, Pennsylvania, on the 30th of August, 1849, and is a son of William A. and Mary A. (Miller) Glass. The father was a native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, while the mother's birth occurred in Munster, Cambria county. Her mother was also a native of Pennsylvania but her father was born in the province of Alsace, France, and was a soldier in Bonaparte's army. Solomon Glass, the great-grandfather of Francis A. Glass, was also a native of France, and on emigrating to the United States settled in Center county, Pennsylvania. William A. Glass pursued his education in the public schools of Pennsylvania and followed the occupation of farming as a life work, in connection with which he also operated a sawmill on the banks of the Susquehanna river. His attention was directed to those two lines of activity until 1864, when he removed westward with Iowa as his destination and took up his abode in New Oregon township, Howard county. He then purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres and with characteristic energy began its further cultivation and improvement. He continued to operate that tract of land until about 1890. His wife passed away at the age of eighty-two years and Mr. Glass then retired from active life and took up his abode in Cresco, where his death occurred in 1892, when he was eighty-two years of age.

Francis A. Glass spent his early boyhood upon the home farm in Pennsylvania and was a youth of fifteen at the time of the removal of the family to Howard county, Iowa. From that time to the present he has been identified with the interests of the middle west. He continued his education in the country schools of Howard county and in the

Cresco high school and then took up the profession of teaching, which he successfully followed for three terms, imparting readily and clearly to others the knowledge that he had acquired. He afterward spent one year in Nevada county, California, but on the expiration of that period returned to Howard county and entered the employ of Platt & O'Malley of Cresco, Iowa, who were proprietors of a general store. In that establishment he continued for seven years, after which he devoted a year to general agricultural pursuits, and he later became deputy county treasurer of Howard county, in which capacity he served for a year and a half. He was next called to the office of city recorder of Cresco and was also elected to the position of alderman, in both of which offices he discharged his duties with marked capability, promptness and fairness. He subsequently turned his attention to the grocery trade, entering into partnership with C. F. Webster, with whom he remained for two years. At the end of that time he bought out the interest of his partner and he remained in the grocery business for twenty years, conducting a well appointed store and enjoying a large and continually increasing patronage. His business methods would bear the closest investigation and scrutiny and his integrity as well as his enterprise constituted one of the strong features in the growth of his trade. While engaged in the grocery business he was also appointed postmaster of Cresco and occupied that position for four and a half years. At length he disposed of his stock of groceries and became the manager of the Copeland lumber yard, with which he was thus connected for four years. He afterward engaged in the flour and feed business and is now directing his efforts and attention along that line.

In 1886 Mr. Glass was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Fitzgerald, a daughter of Patrick and Mary Fitzgerald of Winneshiek county, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Glass became the parents of three children: Francis R., Mary B. and Loyola A.

Mr. Glass votes with the democratic party, which he has supported since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He is always interested in matters of citizenship and those activities which have to do with the public welfare but has never sought political preferment himself. His has been preeminently that of a business career. He has concentrated his efforts and attention upon commercial pursuits and, making good use of his time and opportunities, he has steadily advanced along lines leading to success. He now has one of the substantial business enterprises of Cresco and his liberal patronage is well deserved.

W. A. GRANGER.

W. A. Granger is a member of Granger & Putney, dealers in lumber, coal and agricultural implements and also conducting a successful business as grain buyers at Nashua. A life of activity is bringing to him gratifying results in the attainment of that success which is the legitimate goal of honorable business endeavor.

Mr. Granger was born in Bremer county, Iowa, September 12, 1858, a son of Ebenezer A. and Olive (Marsh) Granger, the former a native of the province of Ontario, Canada, while the latter was born in the state of New York. They were married in De Kalb county, Illinois, where they had gone as children with their parents. Prior to their marriage, in the fall of 1855, Mr. Granger came to Iowa and located upon a farm in Bremer county. He then returned to De Kalb county for his wife and in the spring of 1856 brought his bride to the pioneer home in Iowa which he had established. In subsequent years he increased his holdings to three hundred and twenty acres and resided upon his farm until 1888 or 1889, when he rented the place and removed to Nashua. Here he became president of the Nashua Water Power Company and was a dominant factor in the management of the corporation, continuing in that capacity until his death, which occurred in October, 1907, when he was in his seventy-fourth year. His widow survived him until June, 1917, passing away at the age of seventy-six years.

W. A. Granger, after attending the district schools, remained upon the home farm and assisted his father in its development and management to the time of his marriage. That important event in his life occurred November 28, 1879, Miss Mary

M. Nafus becoming his wife. The young couple took up their abode upon a farm which was purchased by his father at the time of the marriage of the son. The latter continued to cultivate the land for two years and assisted his father in paying for the farm, in recognition of which he was subsequently deeded eighty acres. In the spring of 1883 Mr. Granger of this review removed to Nashua and accepted a position in the lumberyard of H. B. Laird. On the 1st of September of the same year he purchased a half interest in the business and the firm style of Laird & Granger was adopted. Under this name the partnership was maintained for twenty-one years, at the end of which time Mr. Laird sold his interest to A. H. Nafus and the firm became Granger & Nafus. The business was thus carried on until 1912, when C. L. Putney became the successor of Mr. Nafus and the present partnership of Granger & Putney was formed. Their business has reached large proportions. They carry all kinds of lumber and builders' supplies, also coal and agricultural implements, and in addition to their trade along these various lines are doing a profitable business as grain buyers.

Mr. and Mrs. Granger became the parents of two daughters: Ethel, now the wife of E. W. Staley, who is engaged in the real estate and insurance business in Nashua; and Mildred, who is principal of the schools of Adair, Iowa. The wife and mother passed away June 9, 1912, and on the 3d day of May, 1917, Mr. Granger was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Mary Dodd, who in her maidenhood was Miss Mary West, a daughter of Frank West, one of the well known early settlers of Chickasaw county now living retired in Nashua. By her former marriage Mrs. Granger had two children: Edith, the wife of Beam Patterson, a druggist of Westside, Iowa; and Norris E., who is the proprietor of a sheep ranch at Haines, Oregon. Mrs. Granger is a member of the Congregational church.

Politically Mr. Granger is a republican, having stanchly supported the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, and in local political circles he has long been a recognized leader. He served for two terms as mayor of Nashua and did effective work on the side of law and order, completely putting out of existence the "blind pigs" that were operating in the town. He served for several years as a member of the town council and ever exercised his official prerogatives in support of the public good. He belongs to Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M., and has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite in De Molay Consistory, No. 1, A. & A. S. R., at Clinton, Iowa. He has likewise crossed the sands of the desert with the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine as a member of El Kahir Temple of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and his wife and two daughters are members of Nashua Chapter, No. 248, O. E. S. Mr. Granger likewise belongs to Nashua Lodge, No. 110, K. P., and at all times he is a loyal follower of those different fraternities with which he is affiliated. He is a man of social and genial nature, whose circle of friends constantly broadens as the circle of his acquaintance widens. Those who have business relations with him speak of his capability and trustworthiness; those who know aught of his official career attest his loyalty in citizenship, and those who meet him in social relations prize his friendship.

O'CONNOR BROTHERS.

James and Joseph O'Connor are the partners in the firm of O'Connor Brothers, proprietors of one of the most important mercantile enterprises of Chickasaw county. They are conducting business at Lawler and their progressive methods have resulted in the upbuilding of a trade of very large and gratifying proportions. Their worth to the community as representatives of mercantile interests is widely acknowledged.

James O'Connor was born in Independence, Iowa, April 23, 1871, and the birth of Joseph O'Connor occurred in that place, August 21, 1883. They are sons of Timothy O'Connor and in their youthful days had but limited educational opportunities. James O'Connor went to Chicago in 1893 and was employed in various ways during the three years of his residence in that city. In 1896 he came to

Lawler, where he engaged in merchandising, establishing business in a small way on the site that the present extensive establishment of O'Connor Brothers now occupies. His brother Timothy was a partner in the business until 1913, when he sold his interest to another brother, Joe O'Connor, and the trade has since been carried on by James and Joe O'Connor under the style of O'Connor Brothers. In 1916 they purchased three buildings, giving them command of the principal business corner of the town, and on this site they erected one of the most commodious and finest business blocks in Chickasaw county with a frontage of sixty-six feet on Main street and a depth seventy feet on the two east lots and a depth of sixty feet on the west lot. They occupy two floors of the building with their business, carrying a large and carefully selected line of general merchandise, and their sales have reached a very substantial figure.

On the 20th of May, 1902, James O'Connor was married to Miss Agnes McEnaney, of Waucoma, and to whom have been born five children: Leo, Madonia, Clarice, James J. and Catherine.

The brothers are both democrats in their political views and both are members of the Catholic church. James O'Connor is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters. He takes a deep and helpful interest in promoting the work of the church and in advancing many activities of public benefit. In addition to his mercantile interests he owns a farm near Cresco, Iowa, in partnership with his brother Timothy. The name of O'Connor has long been regarded as a synonym for enterprise and progressiveness in commercial affairs, and Lawler may well be proud of the establishment conducted by the firm of O'Connor Brothers.

EMIL J. POLASHEK.

One of the well known commercial establishments of Alta Vista is the meat market owned by Polashek & Kaderabek, of which firm Emil J. Polashek is the senior partner. He has always lived in Iowa, his birth having occurred in Tama county, March 26, 1887, his parents being William and Rose (Bittner) Polashek, who came originally from Austria. They arrived in the United States in 1880 and established their home in Tama county, Iowa, where the father followed farming for a quarter of a century. In 1905 he sold his farm property there and removed to Chelsea, Tama county, where he bought a butcher shop, which he conducted for five years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Protivin, and, disposing of his meat market at Chelsea, bought another shop at Protivin, which he conducted until 1916, when once more he sold out and on this occasion retired from active business life. He still makes his home in Protivin, where for a long period he occupied an enviable position in business circles.

Emil J. Polashek was a pupil in the district schools of Tama county and afterward attended the St. Prokopius College at Lisle, Illinois, for ten months, pursuing a commercial course there and thus qualifying for life's practical and responsible duties. When twenty years of age he began working at the butcher's trade, being first employed at Garwin, Iowa, where he continued for a year with the firm of Brechtbill, Morrison & Company. At the end of that time he bought out the business in connection with W. H. Tode and became active in the organization of the firm of Morrison, Conant & Company. A year later Mr. Polashek sold his interest in the business to W. H. Tode and removed to Howard county in company with his parents, his father having also disposed of his business interests in Tama county. The family home was established in Protivin and Emil J. Polashek became the active assistant of his father in the conduct of the meat market which the latter acquired at that place. He continued as his father's assistant until 1910, when he purchased a shop at Waucoma, Iowa, which he conducted for fifteen months. At the end of that time he sold his business there and removed to Monona, Iowa, where he again became the owner of a butcher shop, which he carried on for two years. Once more he sold out and on this occasion removed to Cresco, Iowa, where he

entered the employ of V. N. Zender, with whom he remained for six months. His next change in business made him the partner of Mr. Kaderabek in the ownership of a market at Alta Vista. They acquired the business in 1914 and have since conducted their interests under the present firm name of Polashek & Kaderabek. They have a well appointed meat market with a good refrigerator and facilities for handling the meat and by reason of their progressive methods and straightforward dealings they have been accorded a very liberal patronage. As the years have passed Mr. Polashek has prospered and besides his interests in the business at Alta Vista he is a stockholder in the Jacob E. Decker Packing Company of Mason City, Iowa.

On the 14th of February, 1911, Mr. Polashek was married to Miss Anna Novak, a daughter of T. M. and Fronia (Kus) Novak. The father was born on this side of the Atlantic but the mother is a native of Bohemia. Both are still living, their home being in Protivin. Mr. and Mrs. Polashek have become the parents of two children: Evelyn Margaret, six years of age; and Dorothy Irene, a little maiden of three summers.

Mr. and Mrs. Polashek are members of St. Bernard's Catholic church of Alta Vista, and his political faith is indicated in the allegiance which he gives to the democratic party. Throughout the greater part of his life he has been identified with the meat trade and his ability in this direction, combined with his indefatigable energy and thrift, have been salient features in the attainment of his present day success.

FRANK D. ELWOOD.

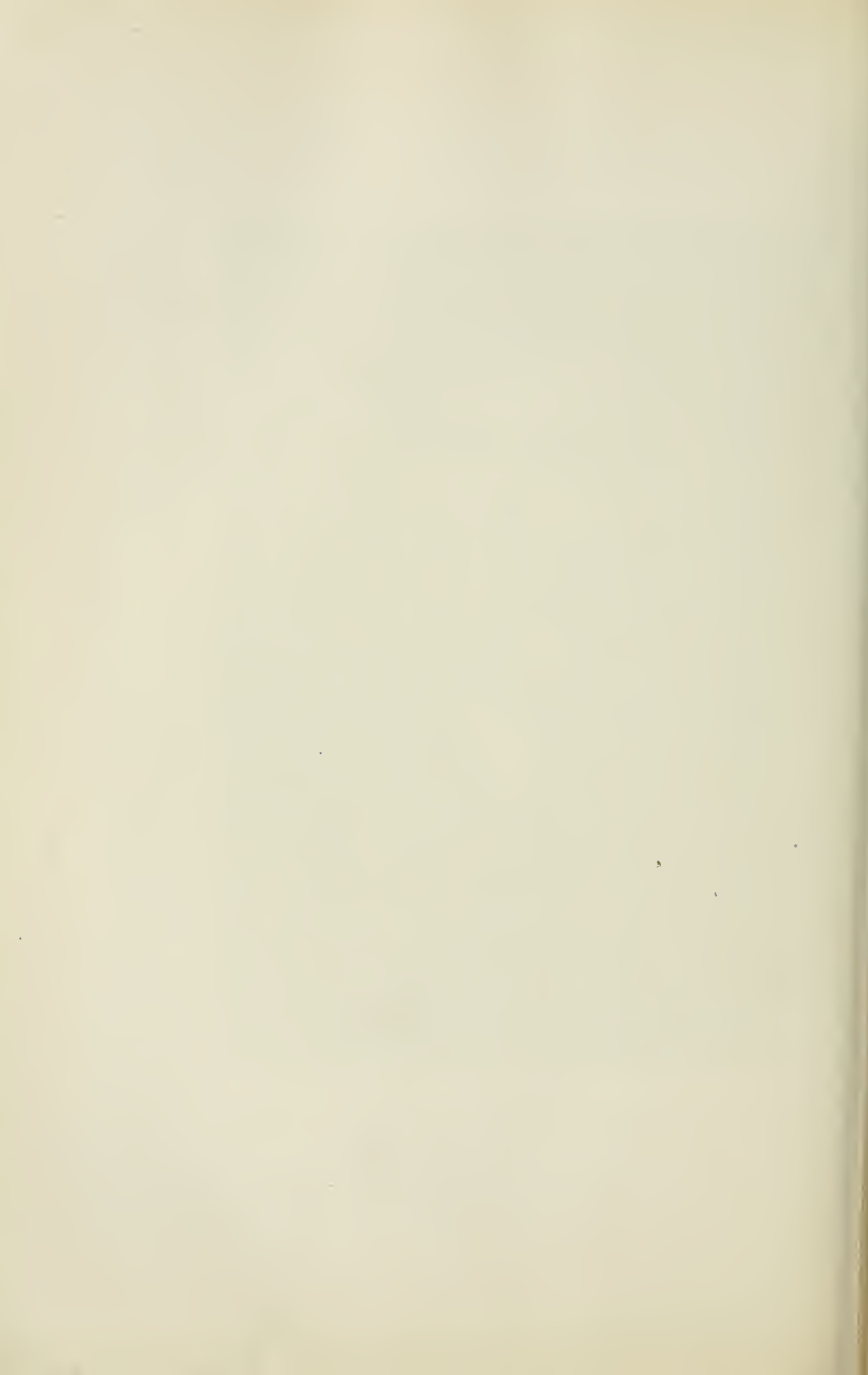
Frank D. Elwood is senior partner in the Elwood Land Company, in which connection an extensive business is conducted. Mr. Elwood was born August 4, 1860; in Jackson county, Iowa, a son of Knisey and Percey (Dawse) Elwood. The father was born at Sheridan, Mercer county, Ohio, June 23, 1826, and passed away at Wyoming, Iowa, in 1902, at the age of seventy-six years. He had there been extensively engaged in farming and stock buying and became one of the prominent live stock dealers of the state. The mother was born at Birdhill, Ohio, November 14, 1835.

Frank D. Elwood pursued his education in the public schools of Wyoming, Iowa, to the age of sixteen years, when he began buying and trading in live stock. In 1881 he left Iowa and traveled west through Colorado and Wyoming, working at various places and having the usual experiences of the cowboy on the western plains at that period. He was employed in connection with a number of the famous western outfits of those days, being for a time in the employ of Bass & Bacon and also with the Black outfit. In 1882 he returned on horseback, riding through the wild horse district, from Laramie, Wyoming, to West Union, Iowa, the trip requiring from the 9th of December, 1882, until the 26th of July, 1883. After a few months spent at West Union, Mr. Elwood removed to Elma, Iowa, where he began trading and selling stock, and in 1888 he turned his attention to operations in land and is today associated with his sons in the latter connection. They are numbered among the largest operators in northwestern Iowa and conduct business under the firm style of the Elwood Land Company. They handled eleven thousand acres of land in Howard county in 1919.

On the 30th of August, 1884, Mr. Elwood was married to Miss Katherine Harris, a daughter of Martin and Katherine (Dunn) Harris. Mrs. Elwood was born in Toronto, Canada, and in 1867 her parents came to the United States with their family, remaining in Green Bay, Wisconsin, for six months and then removing to Vernon Springs township, Howard county, Iowa. In 1876 they settled in Saratoga township, Howard county, upon the farm where they resided until called to their final rest, the father in 1902 and the mother in 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Elwood became the parents of four children: Reed, born October 1, 1885, and Lee, born December 28, 1888, both represented elsewhere in this work; Dale, who was born December 21, 1896, and is now a member of the Elwood Land Company of Elma; and Frank, who died in infancy.



FRANK D. ELWOOD



In his political views Mr. Elwood is a republican but not an office seeker, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs, which have been carefully, wisely and profitably conducted.

ERNEST SCHULTZ.

Ernest Schultz, who carries on general farming on section 30, Washington township, Chickasaw county, was born August 17, 1880, on a place two miles south of his present home. His parents, Herman and Johanna (Glienke) Schultz, were natives of Germany, where they were reared and married. In 1874 they came to the United States and first established their home in Chicago, where the father worked as a mason for about four years. He then removed to Chickasaw county and took up his abode on what is now known as the old Schultz homestead—the place upon which Ernest Schultz was born. The father's first purchase of land made him the owner of forty acres and he thereon engaged in general farming to the time of his death. Both he and his wife spent their remaining days in Washington township, the latter dying in 1910 and the former in 1913.

The youthful training and experiences of Ernest Schultz were those of the farm-bred boy, for when quite young he began to assist his father in the tasks of plowing, planting and harvesting as the farm work was carried forward from one season to another. He determined to continue in the same line of work on reaching adult age and originally purchased fifty acres of land from his father. He has increased his holdings until his farm now comprises one hundred and twenty acres and the place is now carefully and profitably cultivated and developed. The fields give promise of substantial harvests and the methods followed in the cultivation of the crops are of the most progressive character. In addition to his farming interests Mr. Schultz is a stockholder in the Farmers Lumber Company of Alta Vista, also in the Farmers Creamery of that place and in the creamery company he is one of the directors.

On the 21st of February, 1906, Mr. Schultz was joined in wedlock to Miss Ida Glienke, a daughter of Henry and Alvina (Schmidt) Glienke, who are now residents of Alta Vista. Mr. and Mrs. Schultz have become parents of two daughters and a son: Luella, born September 9, 1907; Ada, born July 28, 1909; and Harry, March 13, 1916.

The parents belong to the German Lutheran church of Alta Vista, and at the polls Mr. Schultz gives his political allegiance to the republican party. Diligence and thrift have constituted the foundation upon which he has built his present prosperity. His life has been quietly passed, his attention being always given to his farming interests, and thus concentrating his efforts along a single line, he has won the merited reward of labor. At the same time he is actuated by a progressive spirit that has led him to study business conditions and opportunities and made him a coöperant factor in the lumber company and in the creamery of Alta Vista.

S. H. SIMMONS.

S. H. Simmons, a retired farmer residing in Nashua, where he now conducts a pool and billiard parlor, is numbered among the worthy native sons of Chickasaw county, his birth having occurred in Richland township on the 19th of January, 1872. His parents were Julius J. and Mary (Cooper) Simmons, the former a native of Pennsylvania, while the latter was born in the state of New York. They were married in Kane county, Illinois, where the father had taken up his abode as an orphan of eleven years and to which place the mother had accompanied her parents in girlhood. Following his marriage Julius J. Simmons devoted his attention to farming in Kane county, Illinois, for a few years and in 1866 came west to Chickasaw county, Iowa. He purchased a farm

in Richland township and there carried on general agricultural pursuits with excellent success throughout the remainder of his life. His demise, which occurred on the 8th of February, 1912, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for he had gained an extensive circle of warm friends during the forty-six years of his residence in the county. His widow afterward became the wife of William Cole and now resides in Yorkville, Illinois.

S. H. Simmons acquired his education in the district schools and when twenty-four years of age was married. He continued on the home farm in Richland township and was actively engaged in its cultivation until 1913, annually gathering good harvests as a reward for the care and labor which he bestowed upon the fields. On abandoning agricultural pursuits he removed to Waterloo, where he was connected with the land business, but in 1914 he came to Nashua, here devoting his attention to the land business until September 1918. He then purchased a billiard and pool parlor in Nashua, of which he has since remained proprietor and which he has conducted in such a manner as to make it a popular and well patronized establishment.

On the 24th of January, 1896, Mr. Simmons was united in marriage to Miss Anna Caswell, of Richland township, Chickasaw county, by whom he has five children, as follows: Nellie, who is a teacher in the schools of Floyd county; Maurice, who is attending high school; and Madge, Nora and Marian, who are pupils in the graded schools.

In local political circles Mr. Simmons is a well known worker in democratic ranks and while living on the farm he served for several years as a member of the democratic county central committee. Fraternally he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to Nashua Lodge, No. 391, and he is likewise a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. His wife belongs to the Christian church. Practically his entire life has been spent in Chickasaw county and that his career has ever been an upright and honorable one is indicated by the fact that the acquaintances of his boyhood and youth are still numbered among his staunch friends.

JOHN CHESTEK.

Nature seems to have intended that man should enjoy a period of rest in the evening of his days. In youth he is possessed of vigor and energy and hope. In mature life sound judgment is developed and enterprise is intelligently directed. Therefore if one uses his talents wisely and well he can reach a point where success is his in later years and he is able to put aside further business cares. Such has been the record of John Chestek, who now makes his home in Bassett but who for many years was connected with farming interests in Chickasaw county. He was born in Austria, October 31, 1837, and is a son of John and Anna Chestek, both of whom passed away in Austria.

John Chestek came to the United States in 1855, when a youth of eighteen years. He made his way to Chicago, where he engaged in cutting timber for a time, and later he removed to Racine, Wisconsin, but afterward returned to Chicago. He next became a resident of Lake county, Illinois, where he carried on farming for eleven years. Mr. Chestek came to Chickasaw county, Iowa, in the early days of the development of this section of the state and first established his home in Deerfield township. He was quite successful in carrying on his farming operations there and has accumulated two hundred and forty acres of valuable farm land, together with ten acres of timber land. As the years passed he brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and added many improvements to the home place, which since his retirement some years ago has been conducted by his son, Lee J. Year after year, however, Mr. Chestek carefully carried on the farm work and won thereby a substantial measure of success that has enabled him in later years to live retired in Bassett.

In 1865 Mr. Chestek was married to Miss Emelia B. Cummins, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Levi Cummins. The latter made her home with Mr. Chestek for some years prior to her death and subsequent to the death of her husband, which occurred in Wisconsin. In 1907 Mr. Chestek was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed

away in a Chicago hospital on the 17th of July of that year, having been taken to the metropolis for medical treatment. To Mr. and Mrs. Chestek were born seven children, three sons and four daughters, who are yet living, namely: Mrs. Ellen Stuart; Mrs. Lillian Boutelle; Mrs. Mae Clark; Mrs. Louise Ebert; Edward and Lee J. both of whom are married; and H. B.

Mr. Chestek has led a most useful, honorable and upright life and has long been a consistent member of the Christian church of Charles City, Iowa. In politics he is a staunch republican and served as road supervisor of Deerfield township and also as one of the school directors of that township. He has ever endeavored to do unto others as he would have them do unto him and has been loyal to every duty and responsibility of life. He has thus come to an honored old age, and while he has now passed the eighty-second milestone on life's journey, he still retains a keen interest in affairs of the day and keeps in close touch with questions of the time.

GUY M. PADDEN.

Guy M. Padden, a representative and resourceful young business man of Fredericksburg, is now filling the position of cashier of the First National Bank of that place. He was born in Superior, Nebraska, November 14, 1879, and is a son of Frederick and Valeria A. (Babcock) Padden, the former a native of Ohio, while the latter was born in Binghamton, New York. They were married in New Hampton, Iowa, having come to Chickasaw county in their childhood with their respective parents. Following their marriage they made several removals and the father passed away in Independence, Kansas, in May, 1916. The mother, however, is still living and makes her home at Independence.

Guy M. Padden was educated in the schools of Superior, Nebraska, graduating from the high school with the class of 1897. Soon after the completion of his course he went to Chicago and for four years was employed in the wholesale house of Marshall Field & Company. In 1903 he came to Fredericksburg and entered the banking business, securing a position in the private bank of Shaffer Brothers & Padden. He made good in this connection and was advanced to the position of cashier. Later the bank was converted into the First State Bank and Mr. Padden continued as cashier of the institution until 1911, when he became connected with the First National Bank, then called the State Savings Bank, as cashier. The bank upon being nationalized assumed the name of the First National in 1914. Mr. Padden remains as cashier and is a most popular official, extending the courtesies of the bank in every possible way to its patrons and maintaining at all times a safe, conservative policy that thoroughly protects the interests of depositors.

In 1910 Mr. Padden was united in marriage to Miss Katharine Young, of New Hampton. Fraternally he is connected with Mount Horeb Lodge, No. 333, A. F. & A. M., and Adelpia Chapter, No. 113, R. A. M., of New Hampton. He is also a member of Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 661, I. O. O. F., and of the Knights of Pythias Lodge at New Hampton. He is always loyal to the teachings and purposes of these organizations and his life by reason thereof measures up to high standards. He is regarded as one of the representative residents of Fredericksburg and by a wide acquaintance is spoken of in terms of warm regard.

CHARLES L. PUTNEY.

Charles L. Putney is a prominent representative of the business interests of Nashua as junior member in the firm of Granger & Putney, grain buyers and dealers in lumber, coal and agricultural implements, which connection he has maintained continuously since 1912. His birth occurred in Appleton, Wisconsin, on the 29th of June, 1866, his parents being Samuel W. and Aurelia (Stone) Putney, both of

whom were natives of the state of New York. In childhood, however, they removed with their respective parents to Wisconsin and in that state were reared and married, after which the father engaged in farming near Appleton. In 1874 he came with his family to Chickasaw county, Iowa, locating in Richland township, where he remained for three or four years. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode in Nashua and there continued to reside throughout the remainder of his life, passing away about 1914, while the death of his wife occurred about a year later. They had resided in the county for a period covering four decades and had become most widely and favorably known, so that their passing was the occasion of deep regret.

Charles L. Putney acquired his education in the public schools of Nashua, passing through consecutive grades to his graduation from the high school with the class of 1885. Later he attended a business college at Fayette, Iowa, and following the completion of his studies accepted a position with the Appleton Manufacturing Company of Appleton, Wisconsin, manufacturers of agricultural implements, being in charge of the office for about eight years. In the spring of 1898 he returned to Nashua and was made manager of a creamery conducted by the Sharpless Separator Company, acting in that capacity for four years, while for seven years he served as manager with the Gurler Creamery Company. Subsequently he spent three years in the offices of the Bellamy-Gates-Dawson Lumber Company and in 1912 purchased the interests of A. H. Nafus in the lumber business of Granger & Nafus, forming the present firm of Granger & Putney. They conduct an extensive and profitable business as grain buyers and dealers in lumber, coal and agricultural implements, and the enterprise and excellent executive ability of Mr. Putney have contributed largely to the continued growth and success of the concern.

On the 25th of July, 1891, Mr. Putney was united in marriage to Miss Helen R. Enos, of Appleton, Wisconsin, by whom he had five children, four of whom still survive, namely: Leona, who is principal of the Junior high school at Rolfe, Iowa; Truman, a stockholder in the firm of Granger & Putney of Nashua; Edith, who is a teacher in the schools of Newell, Iowa; and Catherine, at home.

Since attaining his majority Mr. Putney has exercised his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party, being a firm believer in its principles. He has been an important factor in business circles and his prosperity is well deserved, as in him are embraced the characteristics of an unbending integrity, unabating energy and industry that never flags. He is progressive and public-spirited, giving his cooperation to every movement which tends to promote the general welfare of community and state.

JOSEPH J. PROCHASKA.

Joseph J. Prochaska, proprietor of the Plain View Stock Farm of one hundred and sixty acres, situated on section 22, Utica township, Chickasaw county, is well known as a successful dealer in registered Poland China hogs, registered black polled Angus cattle and pure bred Percheron horses, together with pure blooded Plymouth Rock chickens. His live stock interests constitute a most important feature in his business and he is known as one of the prominent and progressive stock raisers of his section of the state.

He was born in Utica township, July 8, 1874, and is a son of Frank and Mary (Ptacnik) Prochaska, both of whom were natives of Bohemia. They came to the United States after reaching adult age and took up their abode in Chickasaw county, where they were married. They settled upon a farm in Utica township and as the years passed Mr. Prochaska prospered in the conduct of his business affairs and became the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of valuable land, of which he still owns one hundred and sixty acres. For many years he carefully, systematically and profitably conducted his farm, and when he had acquired a



JOSEPH J. PROCHASKA AND FAMILY

handsome competence he retired from active business life and is now living in Protivin, enjoying all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

Joseph J. Prochaska was educated in the district schools and his training made him thoroughly familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and cultivating the crops during his boyhood days. Arrived at years of maturity, he was married on the 18th of November, 1907, to Miss Mamie Fisher, of Winneshiek county, a daughter of John Fisher, who was one of the early settlers of that county. To Mr. and Mrs. Prochaska have been born four children, namely: Clarence J., Alice M., Joseph R. and May A.

In the spring following his marriage Mr. Prochaska began farming on his own account and settled upon his present home place, which he rented from his father for three years. In 1911, however, having carefully saved his earnings, he purchased the farm and has since been the owner of this valuable property, which is known as the Plain View Stock Farm. In 1910 he began the breeding of thoroughbred Poland China hogs and in 1918 began the breeding of thoroughbred polled Angus cattle. In 1919 he took up the breeding of pure blooded Percheron horses and he is well known as one of the leading stock breeders and raisers of this section of the state. His reputation as a breeder of hogs is particularly wide, for he ships his products as far as New York and New Jersey. He shipped thirty head of hogs in the month of June, 1919, to Nebraska and Minnesota. He likewise raises fine poultry and his business affairs are being most wisely and successfully conducted.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Prochaska has voted with the democratic party and is a firm believer in its principles but has never sought nor desired office. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and he belongs also to the Catholic Workmen. His attention, however, centers in his business, which has been wisely managed, his efforts being put forth along lines leading to continued success, and today he is one of the widely known and prosperous stock breeders of his native state.

M. W. MURRAY.

M. W. Murray is numbered among those men whose activities make them a dynamic force in business circles. Lawler numbers him among her foremost citizens and he is well known in that section of the county as a dealer in live stock. He was born in Chickasaw county, August 19, 1883, a son of Andrew and Margaret (Rourke) Murray, both of whom were natives of Wisconsin. They came to Chickasaw county with their respective parents in childhood and were here married. They began their domestic life upon a farm a mile north and a half mile east of Lawler, the father becoming the owner of three hundred and twenty acres. He bought and sold various farm properties during the course of an active business life and was long and prominently identified with the agricultural development of this section of the state. He passed away in 1906 at the age of fifty-eight years and is still survived by his widow, who resides with her son, Roy Murray, in Utica township, Chickasaw county.

M. W. Murray, after attending the common schools and assisting in the further development and improvement of the home farm until twenty years of age, then began farming on his own account. It is said that he made a hand in the fields at the age of nine years and handled three horses at the plow and on the drag. His life has ever been one of marked industry, intelligently directed, and the results which he has achieved have been most gratifying. Following his marriage in 1907 he continued to engage in farming until 1911, when he removed to Lawler and concentrated his efforts and attention upon the live stock business. However, he still owns one hundred and twenty acres of the old homestead and from this property derives a substantial annual income. He is an excellent judge of live stock and his purchases and sales are therefore judiciously and profitably made.

In November, 1907, Mr. Murray was married to Miss Genevieve Burns, a daughter

of O. F. Burns, one of the prominent farmers of Stapleton township, and they became the parents of four children: Mabel, Russell, William and Helen.

Mr. Murray is a democrat in his political views and has served as a member of the town council. He has also filled the position of president of the Commercial Club for two years and this, added to his six years' service on the town council, has made his work in behalf of public progress and improvement one of great importance to the community. His family are members of the Catholic church, and he is identified with the Knights of Columbus, the Homesteaders and the Modern Woodmen of America.

J. C. HEWITT.

J. C. Hewitt is a member of the board of county supervisors in Chickasaw county and is well known in its business circles as a live stock dealer. He was born in this county, August 30, 1863, a son of John H. and Calista (Taylor) Hewitt, who were natives of the state of New York. In childhood they accompanied their respective parents to Whiteside county, Illinois, where they reached adult age and were married in 1855. In the same year they removed westward to Chickasaw county and they were the first couple to begin housekeeping in New Hampton. In 1858 they settled on a farm in Washington township, four miles north of New Hampton, where Mr. Hewitt acquired three hundred and twenty acres of land. As one of the pioneer settlers he contributed in marked measure to the early development and improvement of the district and was a most prominent and influential factor in the public life of the community. He held practically all of the offices in Washington township and was one of the foremost citizens of his part of the county, honored and respected for his sterling worth and his devotion to the public welfare. His death occurred in New Hampton in March, 1916, when he had reached his eighty-second year, and the mother still makes her home in New Hampton, being now in her eighty-fourth year.

J. C. Hewitt was educated in the district schools and in the public schools of New Hampton and at the age of twenty-one years worked in a general store of that place, occupying the position for a year. On the expiration of that period he returned to the home farm and assisted his father up to the time of his marriage, which was celebrated in 1888, Miss Amanda Davidson becoming his wife. Mrs. Hewitt is a daughter of John Davidson, a native of Union county, Pennsylvania, who removed with his parents to Ohio in 1835, when a boy of ten years. In 1845 he became a resident of Laporte county, Indiana, where he worked at the trade of carpentering and joining. The year 1856 witnessed his arrival in Iowa, at which time he took up his abode on Crane creek, in Jacksonville township, Chickasaw county, where he invested in forty acres of land. Two years later he bought land on section 10 of the same township and eventually by additional purchase acquired four hundred acres. He resided thereon to within five years of his death and during the last period of his life was a resident of New Hampton. Through his untiring efforts and indefatigable labors he had become the owner of one of the best improved farms of Chickasaw county.

After his marriage Mr. Hewitt served for one year in a clerkship in a New Hampton mercantile establishment and in 1889 he began farming on his own account, cultivating rented land for a period of five years, during which time he carefully saved his earnings, and in 1894 was enabled to purchase a farm of one hundred and eighty acres in Jacksonville township. He bought the same place which he had cultivated as a renter and which was the farm on which Mrs. Hewitt was born. He continued to reside thereon until 1909, when he removed to New Hampton and engaged in the live stock business. In 1914 his son Lucian B. was admitted to a partnership under the firm style of J. C. Hewitt & Son. Mr. Hewitt still owns his farm, which is now being operated as a stock farm by a tenant, who conducts it on shares. Mr. Hewitt is devoting his time and energies largely to his live stock dealing and has developed a business of extensive proportions.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hewitt have been born five children, four of whom are yet living. Lucian B., a graduate of the New Hampton high school, is the junior partner of the

firm of J. C. Hewitt & Son, live stock buyers. Lowell C. is a graduate of the Ames Agricultural College, in which he took the ceramic course, and is now superintendent of that branch of work in the largest clay working factory in the United States, at St. Louis, Missouri. Myrtle B. is attending the Ames Agricultural College, and Marshall D. is a pupil in high school.

In politics Mr. Hewitt is a democrat and was the only representative of his party elected at the county's last election, on which occasion he was chosen for a second term as one of the county's supervisors, winning with a vote of three to one over his opponent. This fact certainly indicates his personal popularity, the confidence reposed in him and the capability which he displayed during his first term's service in that position. He also filled the office of city councilman for a period of four years and while living upon the farm served for several years as president of the school board and for four years was a member of the board of township trustees. He belongs to Arcana Lodge, No. 274, A. F. & A. M., and he and his wife are members of the Order of Eastern Star. They likewise hold membership in the Baptist church and its teachings guide them in all the relations of life. In the work of the church they are deeply interested and contribute generously to its support. Mr. Hewitt is ever found as the champion of plans and measures for the public good, and his labors have been an effective force for the material, intellectual, social, political and moral progress of the community.

SAM BARKER.

Sam Barker is now living retired in Fredericksburg but for many years was actively identified with farming in Chickasaw county. He was born in Yorkshire, England, October 13, 1849, and has therefore reached the seventieth milestone on life's journey. His parents were George and Isabella (Swale) Barker, who came to the United States in the spring of 1854 and for a few years were residents of Cook county, Illinois. In 1857 they removed to Chickasaw county, Iowa, reaching this place in June. The father purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land from the government on the Bremer county line in Chickasaw county, paying a dollar and a quarter per acre, and built thereon a frame dwelling. He continued to develop and further improve his farm until the time of his death, which occurred July 26, 1891. At one time he owned eight hundred acres of land, for as his financial resources increased he kept adding to his holdings, realizing that real estate is the safest of all investments. His wife passed away about ten years prior to the death of her husband and thus were called from the scene of earthly activities two of the most worthy pioneer people of this section of the state.

Sam Barker was educated in the district schools and in 1872, when twenty-two years of age, began farming on his own account on a tract of eighty acres which had been deeded to him by his father. Ambitious to win success, he subsequently purchased another eighty acres from his father and from time to time invested in still other land until he became the owner of about seven hundred acres. He has disposed of a portion of this property but still owns three hundred and fifteen acres of valuable farm land, from which he derives a substantial annual income. Year after year he carried on the work of the fields and annually gathered good crops as a result of his care and labor. He worked diligently, employing the most progressive methods in farming, and his labors brought substantial returns. In 1915 he removed to Fredericksburg and the following year built one of the beautiful homes of the city, which he now occupies.

In 1872 Mr. Barker was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Knight, of Dresden township, and they became the parents of seven children, six of whom are yet living, namely: Lena, the wife of Leland Hubbard, a farmer of Fredericksburg township; Harry G. and Henry, twins, the former of whom is engaged in the operation of a farm in Dresden township, while the latter is manager of a store in Sumner, Iowa; Roy, a farmer of Dresden township; Maud, the wife of Roy Schoonover, a farmer of Fredericksburg township; and Neil R., who is operating the home farm. The wife and mother passed away on the 22d of June, 1914, and on the 14th of October, 1915, Mr. Barker was mar-

ried to Mrs. Theodore Kendall, of Chickasaw county, a daughter of Erastus Cain, who came to this county in 1856, settling in Fredericksburg. By her former marriage Mrs. Barker has three children: C. A. Kendall, who is engaged in the drug and jewelry business in Earlville, Iowa; R. W. Kendall, a druggist and jeweler of Janesville, Iowa; and Lawrence Kendall, who is also a druggist and in the medical department of the United States army at Camp Custer, Battle Creek, Michigan.

In religious faith Mrs. Barker is connected with the Methodist Episcopal church. In political belief Mr. Barker is a democrat and both are widely and favorably known in this section of the state. He is a representative of one of the old pioneer families and has witnessed the growth and progress of northern Iowa from early times. Sixty-five years have been added to the cycle of the centuries since he took up his abode in Chickasaw county, then a little lad of but seven years. He has witnessed all of the changes which have occurred, placing the once wild frontier district in the ranks of the progressive counties of the middle west. In his business career he has made substantial advancement through industry, perseverance and determination and is now numbered among the men of affluence of Fredericksburg.

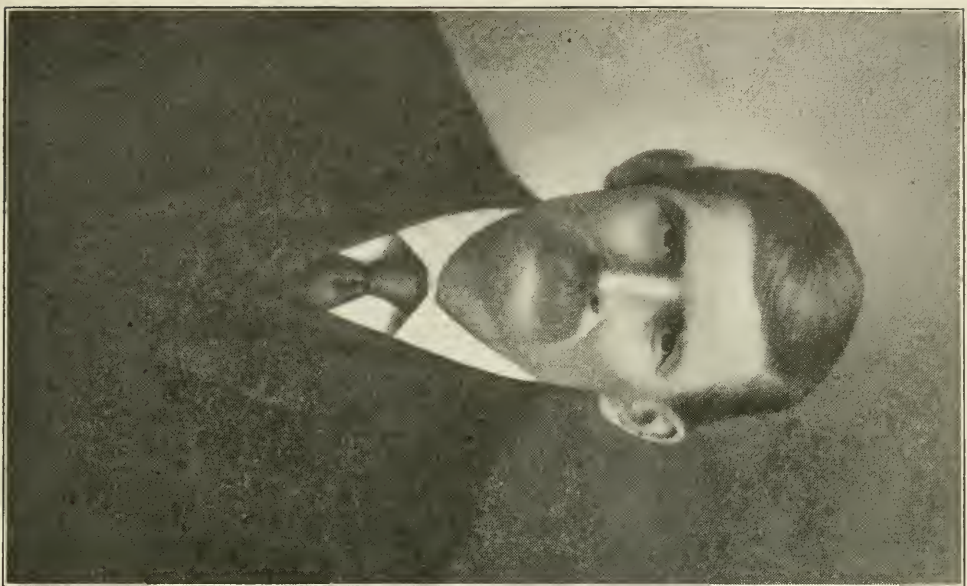
WILHELM MANNING.

Wilhelm Manning, a resident farmer of Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, his home being on section 19, is actively engaged in the further cultivation and improvement of a valuable farm property of four hundred and forty acres. This is the visible evidence of his life of well directed energy and thrift, for whatever he has acquired has come to him as the direct result of his own labor.

He was born in Germany, October 29, 1852, a son of John and Dorothy (Nieman) Manning, who came to the United States in 1862, when their son Wilhelm was a lad of but ten years. Proceeding across the country to the Mississippi valley, they first settled in Cook county, Illinois, where the father worked on the railroad for a year. He afterward rented farm land in that county for a time and his last days were spent in Chicago. Following the great Chicago fire of October, 1871, the mother with her children removed to Iowa, the family home being established in Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, on the section which is now the home of Wilhelm Manning. On this property they built a log house near the site of the present modern farm residence. From 1872 until 1876 Wilhelm Manning was allowed the crops from one hundred and twenty acres in return for fencing the tract and breaking the sod. Later he purchased this one hundred and twenty acre farm from R. M. Cleveland and gradually kept adding to his holdings from time to time until his landed possessions aggregate four hundred and forty acres. He enjoys the reputation of being one of the most enterprising and successful farmers of this section of the state and his progressiveness is evidenced in the fine appearance of his place. The basis of his advancement was a common school education, obtained in Dupage county, Illinois, and to the powers which he thus developed he has added the habits of industry, thrift and perseverance. His fields are splendidly cultivated at the present time, producing large and abundant harvests, and in addition thereto he breeds Durham cattle and Poland China hogs, keeping only registered stock.

On the 27th day of May, 1883, Mr. Manning was married to Miss Emma Hilma, a daughter of Henry and Dora Hilma, who came from Germany to the United States. Mrs. Manning passed away upon the home farm in 1905. In their family were seven children: Mrs. Emil Klingbeil; Ernest, who is married; and William, Eliza, Esther, Henry and Doris, all yet at home. The son William, responding to the call of the colors, served with the Eighty-eighth Division of Iowa in the Three Hundred and Thirty-seventh Machine Gun Battalion in the great World war and was on active duty in France.

Mr. Manning and his family are members of the German Lutheran church of Bassett and in political belief he is a republican, having continuously supported



MR. AND MRS. WILHELM MANNING

the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. Much of his life has been passed in Iowa and the enterprising spirit which has been the dominant factor in the rapid upbuilding of the west has always been manifest in his business career.

HERMAN L. PIEHN.

Herman L. Piehn, proprietor of the H. L. Piehn Telephone Company of Alta Vista, was born in Chickasaw county, August 10, 1871, a son of August and Bertha (Schoenfeldt) Piehn, who are natives of Germany. The father came to the United States in his boyhood days with his parents, while the mother had attained young womanhood when she crossed the Atlantic. They were married in Chickasaw county and located on a farm in Washington township, whereon they resided until about 1909, when Mr. Piehn sold the farm to two of his sons and removed to San Jose, California, where he has since lived.

Herman L. Piehn mastered the branches of learning taught in the district schools and through vacation periods and after his school days were over worked in the fields on the old homestead until 1894, when he left the farm and established his home in Alta Vista. He turned his attention to photography and in addition to conducting a gallery he afterward opened a jewelry and watch repairing establishment, building up a good business along those lines. In 1905 he organized the H. L. Piehn Telephone Company, starting in a small way. He has built up a telephone system with almost three hundred patrons and is making every effort to give to these an excellent service. In 1913 he withdrew from the photographic business but still continues in the jewelry trade. He is likewise a stockholder in the Alta Vista Farmers' Lumber & Coal Company and his position is that of one of the foremost business men of his town.

On the 30th of September, 1897, Mr. Piehn was united in marriage to Miss Emma Walters, a daughter of William Walters, of Howard county. They now have three children: Melinda, Orville and Waldon. The parents are members of the Evangelical church, while in political faith Mr. Piehn is a republican. He is a public-spirited citizen and his devotion to the general welfare is attested in many practical ways, but he has never been an aspirant for office. Business activities have claimed his time and attention and he has developed various interests which have featured in connection with the material progress of his section of the county.

EDWARD E. SIMPSON.

This is an age of intense activity and the man who would win must make wise use of time and opportunity. A modern philosopher has said: "Success does not depend upon a map but upon a time-table." That Edward E. Simpson has won a place among the representative farmers of Chickasaw county is due to his life of well directed energy and toil. He lives on section 4, Bradford township and was born in this township, March 21, 1880, a son of William and Urania (Parks) Simpson, who were natives of Canada and Illinois respectively. They were married, however, in Bradford township, Chickasaw county, Iowa, having come to this state with their respective parents, who were among the pioneer families who settled in Bradford and Richland townships, the home of the Simpson family being established in Bradford township, while the Parks family took up their abode in Richland township. The maternal grandfather was a soldier of the Civil war and died while in the service. William Simpson, the father, is still living, and for the past three years has made his home in Nashua, having retired from business cares. For more than forty years he had been actively engaged in farming in Bradford township and is one of the well known and highly esteemed residents of that section of the county. His wife passed away in 1898 at the age of forty-five years.

Edward E. Simpson pursued his education in the district schools and in the schools of Bradford and remained upon the home farm until after attaining his majority. In 1909 he married Miss Grace Bird, a daughter of John Bird, one of the earliest of the pioneers of Bradford township, who is still living and now makes his home in Nashua. For the past ten years Mr. Simpson has been engaged in farming independently and in the spring of 1913 located on his father-in-law's farm of three hundred and twenty-acres, which he has since cultivated, annually gathering good crops as the result of the diligence and energy with which he tills and cultivates the fields.

In his political views Mr. Simpson is a republican and while not an office seeker, has served as secretary of the Bradford school board. He is a loyal follower of Masonic teachings and belongs to Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M., one of the oldest Masonic organizations in the state. He is likewise connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, and both he and his wife are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

GEORGE C. HOYER.

George C. Hoyer is now living retired in Nashua but for many years was an active factor in business circles. His life is indicative of the opportunities that are offered to men of enterprise and progressive spirit. His entire life has been passed in this state, his birth having occurred in West Union, Fayette county, November 8, 1866. His parents were Jacob A. and Margaret (Lippencott) Hoyer and the father arrived in West Union, Fayette county, in 1854 in company with his parents. The grandparents in the maternal line had previously come to Iowa, there being but one log cabin in West Union at the time of their arrival. It was in that little western hamlet that Mr. and Mrs. Hoyer were married on the 11th of April, 1858. The former engaged in farming during his active life and accumulated a substantial fortune. He retired from farming in 1888 and removed to West Union, where his death occurred in 1912, when he was in his seventy-fifth year. For a decade he had survived his wife, who died in 1902, in her sixty-fifth year. He was of the Presbyterian faith, while his wife was a member of the United Brethren church, and both were people of the highest personal worth, enjoying the warm and unqualified regard of those who knew them.

George C. Hoyer after attending the public schools of West Union and the Ainsworth Academy at that place continued his education in the Upper Iowa University at Fayette, which he attended for four years, pursuing a scientific and also a commercial course. Following the completion of his studies he engaged in farming for five years and during that period also conducted a live stock business. In 1894 he came to Nashua and established a meat market, also continuing his operations in stock buying. In 1897 he purchased the Nashua electric light plant and in the year following began buying the stock of the Cedar Valley Power Company as it could be purchased until he was the owner of seventy per cent thereof. In 1914 this plant was sold to an eastern syndicate and the present Cedar Valley Electric Company's plant was built, which is said to be one of the most modern and up-to-date electric light plants in the state. Mr. Hoyer was the father and promoter of this project. It was he who developed the electric business to a point where it could be put upon a paying basis and was able to attract eastern capital, resulting in the building of the present plant. Since disposing of his interests in the business Mr. Hoyer has lived retired in a handsome home at Nashua, enjoying the fruits of an active and well spent life.

On the 24th of December, 1888, Mr. Hoyer was united in marriage to Miss Maizie Dye, of West Union, and to them was born a daughter, Daphne, who is the wife of John F. Nafus, assistant cashier, director and stockholder in the First State Bank, of Nashua.

Mr. Hoyer belongs to Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M., of Nashua; also to Alma Chapter, No. 53, R. A. M., of Charles City; to Joppa Commandery, No. 5, K. T., of Charles City; De Molay Consistory, No. 1, A. & A. S. R.; and El

Kahir Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of Cedar Rapids. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hoyer are identified with Nashua Chapter, O. E. S., and Mrs. Hoyer belongs to the Baptist church. Mr. Hoyer gives his political allegiance to the democratic party, but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him, as he has always preferred to do his public duty as a private citizen and not as an office holder. He has ever stood on the side of progress and improvement in community affairs, and his labors have been a forceful element in the work of general development here.

JOHN HUENEKE.

John Hueneke, proprietor of the billiard and pool hall and refreshment parlors at Alta Vista, was born in Dubuque county, Iowa, September 16, 1873, a son of Otto and Anna (Feldermann) Hueneke. The father, a native of Germany, came to the United States in his boyhood with his parents, but the mother was born in Jackson county, Iowa. After his marriage Otto Hueneke settled on the old home farm owned by his father and spent his remaining days upon that place. He became the owner of the property and continued to further develop and improve it until his death in 1906. His wife had passed away many years before, her death occurring about 1877.

John Hueneke was a pupil in the district schools and after his textbooks were put aside he continued to work upon the home farm with his father to the time of his marriage. He then purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Washington township, Chickasaw county, four miles east of Alta Vista, and thereon resided until 1910, when he took up his abode in the town, having sold his land the previous year. For two years after settling in Alta Vista he engaged in grain buying for the Gilchrist Elevator Company and subsequently devoted his attention to dealing in horses. In 1915 he purchased the billiard and pool hall and refreshment parlors which he has since conducted and in the intervening period of four years has built up a business of substantial proportions.

On the 23th of October, 1902, Mr. Hueneke was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Joachim, a daughter of Carl Joachim, who came to Chickasaw county from Illinois in 1886. To Mr. and Mrs. Hueneke have been born seven children, four of whom survive, namely: Florence A. A., Elva M., Arnold O. C. and Vera L. A.

Politically Mr. Hueneke is a republican and he and his family are members of the Lutheran church, while fraternally he is connected with Alta Vista Lodge, No. 658, I. O. O. F. He has become a stockholder in the Farmers' Lumber & Coal Company and through well directed efforts has won a position among the wide-awake and alert business men of his town.

HON. WILLIAM HUGH SCOTT.

Hon. William Hugh Scott, of Nashua, a member of the state senate of Iowa and a well known attorney at law in Chickasaw county, was born in Fayette county, Iowa, October 4, 1883, his parents being Alexander and Margaret (Scott) Scott, who are natives of Scotland. They came to this country in early life, the father crossing the Atlantic with his parents in his boyhood, while the mother arrived in young womanhood. They were married in Fayette county, Iowa, in 1882 and there Mr. Scott devoted his attention to the occupation of farming until 1909, when he retired from active business and took up his abode in West Union, where he and his wife now make their home.

William Hugh Scott, reared under the parental roof, obtained his early education in the schools of West Union, passing through consecutive grades to his graduation from the high school with the class of 1901. He afterward matriculated in the Upper Iowa University, from which he received his Ph. B. degree in 1908. Thus with broad literary learning to serve as a foundation upon which to build the superstructure of his

professional knowledge, he entered the law department of Drake University at Des Moines and there was graduated with honors in the class of 1915. In June of the same year he was admitted to the bar and on the 1st of July opened an office in Nashua, where he has since remained in active practice. Advancement at the bar is proverbially slow but no dreary novitiate awaited Mr. Scott. He soon won recognition of his powers by reason of his ability in presenting causes before the courts and his clientage has steadily grown in volume and importance. Moreover, his ability in other directions has been recognized by his fellow citizens, who on the 5th of November, 1918, elected him to the Iowa state senate, in which he is now serving. He most thoughtfully and earnestly considers the vital questions which come up for settlement and his progressive course has won warm commendation from his constituents. In April, 1916, he was elected mayor of Nashua and was reelected to this position in April, 1918, resigning January 15, 1919, to enter the state senate. His administration of municipal affairs was of a most practical and progressive character, bringing about various needed reforms and improvements in the city life.

On the 5th of June, 1909, Mr. Scott was married to Miss Ada Evelyn Heckel, of Clayton county, Iowa, and they have become the parents of a son, Everett Greig. Mr. Scott is identified with Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M., of Nashua, and is a loyal follower of the teachings of the craft. Both he and his wife are consistent members of the Congregational church and their position in social circles is an enviable one. In all that he has undertaken Mr. Scott has made steady advancement, and the high position to which he has attained in professional circles and the high honors accorded him in political circles indicate that his future career will be well worth watching.

THEODORE C. HOLSCHLAG.

Theodore C. Holschlag, who follows farming on section 30, New Hampton township, Chickasaw county, was born in Scott county, Iowa, February 5, 1875, and is a brother of B. A. Holschlag, in connection with whose sketch is made mention of the parents on another page of this work. During his youthful days Theodore C. Holschlag assisted his father in the work of the home farm and at the age of six years became a pupil in the district schools of New Hampton township, there acquiring the education that qualified him for life's practical and responsible duties. The occupation to which he was reared he has made his life work and following his marriage he began building on his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres.

It was on the 10th of October, 1905, that Mr. Holschlag wedded Miss Rose De Muth, a daughter of J. P. and Barbara (Gross) De Muth, who are residents of New Hampton, where the father has been a prominent figure in business circles since 1869. The young couple began their domestic life upon the farm which is still their place of abode and in January, 1906, they removed into their new home, one of the fine farm residences of the county. Here they enjoy the comforts and many of the luxuries of life as the result of their industry and capable management. Mr. Holschlag devotes his time and energies to the further development and improvement of his farm of one hundred and twenty acres and in addition he rents pasture land. His activities have been carefully directed and energy and determination have been the salient factors in winning his present-day success.

Prior to her marriage Mrs. Holschlag engaged in teaching school for twenty-seven consecutive terms in District No. 4 in New Hampton township. No higher testimonial of efficiency and capability could be given than the fact that she was so long retained as teacher of one school. By her marriage she has become the mother of two children: Harold Clemens John, born January 2, 1907; and Carl Bernard, October 15, 1912. The parents are communicants of St. Mary's Catholic church of New Hampton. In politics Mr. Holschlag maintains an independent course, voting for men and measures rather than party. He is now serving as treasurer of the school board in District No. 4, New Hampton township, in which his wife was so long a teacher. Their interest in community affairs is deep and

sincere and is manifest in many tangible ways. Their friends speak of them in terms of high regard and attest their sterling worth as shown in every relation of life.

WARD B. SMITH.

While Ward B. Smith has retired from farming he is still actively engaged in business as a dealer in live stock and is devoting considerable time and effort to the discharge of the duties of his office as a member of the board of county supervisors of Chickasaw county. He was born in Bradford, March 20, 1858, and is a son of Leander and Eliza A. (Hickok) Smith, natives of Connecticut, where they were reared and married. The year 1856 witnessed their arrival in Iowa, at which time they took up their abode in Bradford, where Mr. Smith purchased one hundred acres adjoining the city. Thereon he resided to the time of his death, which occurred in 1906, when he was eighty years of age. His wife passed away in 1910 at the advanced age of eighty-six years.

Ward B. Smith was educated in the Bradford Academy and afterward devoted his time to the profession of teaching through two terms. He then took up the occupation of farming, purchasing three hundred acres of land in the southeastern section of Bradford township, on which he resided for twenty years, bringing his fields to a high state of cultivation and adding many modern improvements to the property. He still owns that farm and from it derives a very gratifying annual income. About 1904, however, he removed to Nashua and has since been engaged in buying live stock in the city. He has long been accounted one of the foremost business men of his section of the county, alert and enterprising, carrying forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. In addition to his other interests Mr. Smith is a stockholder in the Commercial State Savings Bank and is justly accounted one of Nashua's successful business men.

In 1882 Mr. Smith was married to Miss Rose McCreary, a daughter of Leonard McCreary, whose residence in Chickasaw county dated from early pioneer times. He came here from Pennsylvania in 1855 and took up his abode in Bradford township. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have become the parents of a daughter, Hazel M., now the wife of Ernest G. Meier, who is engaged in the grocery business in Nashua.

In his political views Mr. Smith is a republican and in 1915 was elected a member of the board of county supervisors, to which position he was reelected in 1918, so that he is now serving for the second term. In this connection he labors untiringly and effectively for the welfare and benefit of the county. He and his wife are members of the Congregational church and there is no plan or project for the benefit and upbuilding of the county along material, intellectual, social and moral lines which does not receive their endorsement and if possible their active support.

S. B. WESP.

S. B. Wesp, filling the position of postmaster at Fredericksburg and making a most creditable record by efficient and faithful service, was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, February 10, 1852, a son of Frederick and Mary (Davis) Wesp, of whom extended mention will be found on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of their son, W. N. Wesp.

S. B. Wesp, after attending the district schools of Ontario, Canada, and of Wisconsin, to which state his parents had removed in his early youth, came to Chickasaw county when sixteen years of age. During that summer he helped to build the first fence around the fair grounds at New Hampton. On reaching young manhood he determined to see something of the country before settling down and traveled throughout the middle and Pacific coast states. He spent two years in California, where he was

variously employed, and then returned to Iowa. He next engaged in buying cream for the firm of Hood & Bailey of Williamstown for three years and while thus employed he was married in the summer of 1881 to Miss Jennie McGee, of Williamstown. In the spring of 1882 he removed to Wisconsin, where, in connection with Mr. Hood, he operated a creamery at Reedsburg for a Mr. Harris. Mr. Wesp remained in that locality for a year and a half, after which he again came to Chickasaw county and began farming on rented land. Two years later, as a result of his industry and economy, he was enabled to purchase a farm of forty acres, on which he lived for four years. He then sold that property and in 1892 bought a home in Fredericksburg, taking up his abode in the town. Some time later he established a butcher shop, which he conducted for two years, and later he spent several years in buying and selling live stock. Subsequently he removed to Fairbank, Iowa, where he managed an implement business for the firm of Wesp & Shaffer of New Hampton, conducting a branch house for them. He remained for eighteen months in that connection, after which he returned to Fredericksburg, where he was engaged in various lines of business for two years. On the 16th of October, 1914, he was appointed postmaster of Fredericksburg, in which capacity he has since served, and has made an excellent record in office by his prompt and faithful discharge of duty.

To Mr. and Mrs. Wesp have been born six children, four of whom are living: Frances, who is the wife of A. H. Milne, of Fredericksburg, and is acting as assistant postmaster; Florence, the wife of Charles H. Boller, of Greene, Iowa; Charles F., who was attending the Chicago Technical College, pursuing a course in architecture, and would have graduated in June, 1919, but entered the service of his country and was on duty in the registry department of the United States postoffice at Greves, France; and Ruth, who is attending the Upper Iowa University at Fayette.

Mr. Wesp is a member of Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 661, I. O. O. F., and he and his wife and two daughters, Ruth and Frances, are identified with the Rebekah Lodge. His political endorsement is given to the democratic party and he is a loyal supporter of its principles. He is regarded as one of Fredericksburg's leading and progressive citizens and is widely and favorably known in this section of the state.

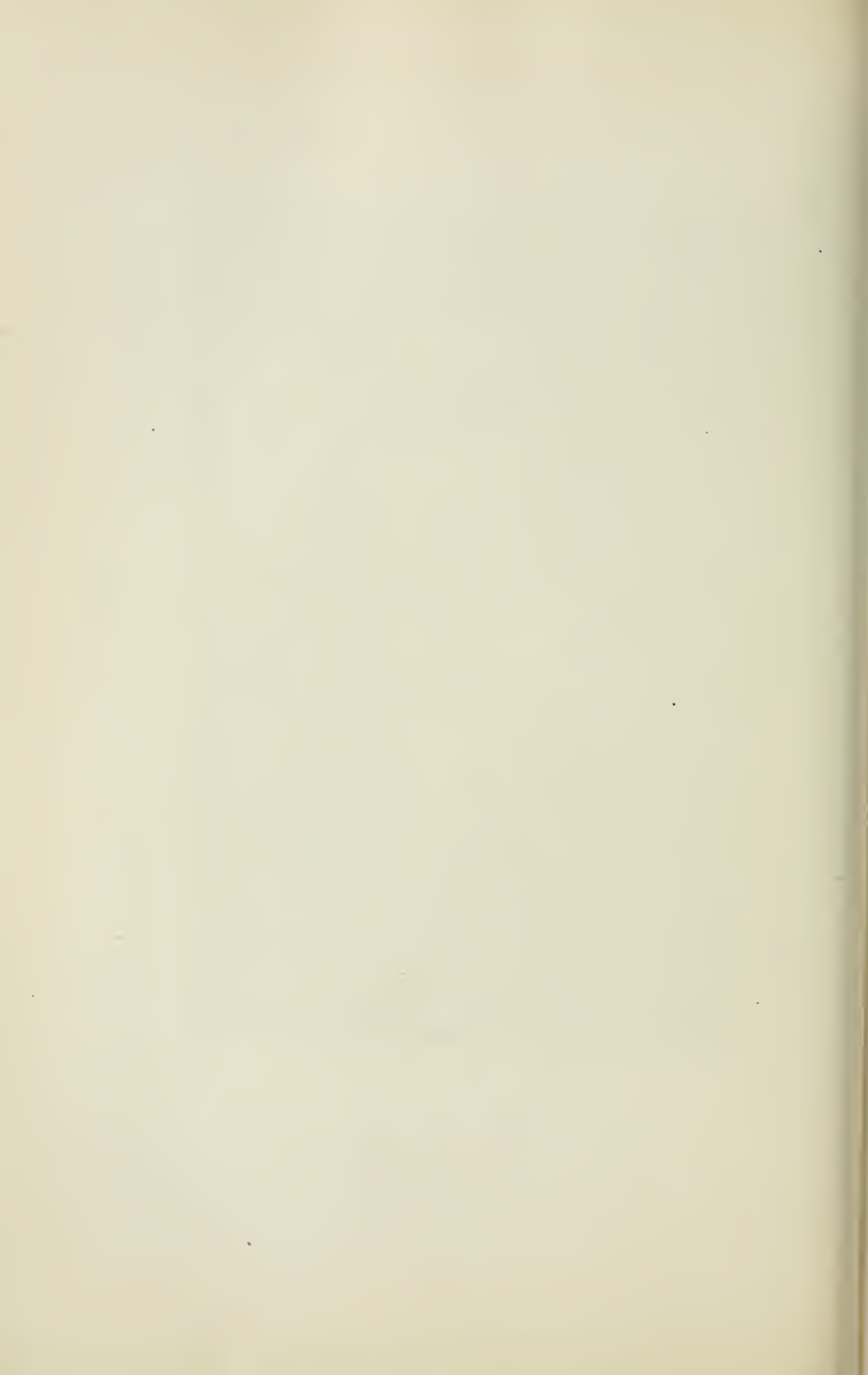
WILLIAM BANDLE, Jr.

William Bandle, Jr., a representative of the farming interests of Howard county, where he is busily engaged in the cultivation of a good tract of land on section 17, Howard township, was born September 27, 1868, on the same section where he now resides, his parents being William and Mary (Fallgetter) Bandle, the former a native of Germany, while the latter was born near Watertown, Wisconsin. They were married, however, in Howard county, Iowa, where the mother had taken up her abode in her girlhood days when her parents removed to this state, while the father arrived in young manhood. He had come to the United States from Germany when a youth of eighteen years and as it was his intention to become a loyal American citizen, he at once allied his interests with those of his adopted land and soon after his arrival joined the Union army as a member of the Thirteenth Regiment of Wisconsin Infantry. He thus served through the Civil war and after the close of hostilities he removed to Howard county and later purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres from General Jones of Dubuque. In subsequent years he has purchased other land from time to time and is now the owner of five hundred and sixty acres of valuable farm property in Howard county. In 1901 he left the farm and for a number of years resided in Pocahontas county, but during the past eight or ten years has made his home in Cresco, Iowa, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former toil.

William Bandle, Jr., obtained a district school education and while his opportunities were limited in that direction he has been a broad reader and is today classed among the well informed men of his section of the state. When the father left the home farm in 1901, William Bandle took charge of the property and has since given his



WILLIAM BANDLE, JR.



attention to the further cultivation and development of two hundred and forty acres of his father's holdings. He keeps a family employed, the man acting as assistant in the work of the fields and the woman as housekeeper. Mr. Bandle is not only winning substantial prosperity as an agriculturist but is also a stockholder in the Farmers Lumber & Coal Company of Alta Vista and in the Farmers Cooperative Creamery Company of Alta Vista.

In his political views Mr. Bandle is a democrat where national questions and issues are involved but at local elections casts an independent ballot. He is a member of the present board of township trustees, and his cooperation is always to be counted upon in matters relative to the public welfare. He is a member of Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 528, A. F. & A. M.; also of Adelpia Chapter, R. A. M.; and Alta Vista Lodge, No. 658, I. O. O. F., while his religious faith is that of the Lutheran church. He is ever loyal to any cause which he espouses and exemplifies in his life the teachings of the fraternities with which he is connected and with the church in which he holds membership. Having always lived in this section of the state, he has a wide acquaintance and all who know him speak of him in terms of warm regard, for his life record has ever been as an open book and his business integrity is above question.

W. B. SIMPSON.

W. B. Simpson, a retired farmer living in Nashua, was born in Huntington, Canada, April 24, 1854, his parents being William and Elizabeth (Laird) Simpson, who were natives of New York city and of Canada respectively. They were married in the latter country, the father having gone to Canada in young manhood. There he engaged in farming until 1856, when he brought his family across the border into the United States and established his home in Chickasaw county, Iowa, living in the old town of Bradford. He is a carpenter by trade and while he owned and cultivated a farm he also devoted much of his time to carpentering. Some years after his arrival he made investment in one hundred and sixty acres of land in Bradford township, on which he resided for a number of years. He then retired from active business and removed to Nashua, where his death occurred when he was sixty-three years of age, having survived his wife for only one week, and she was fifty-seven years of age at the time of her demise.

W. B. Simpson was educated in the public schools of Bradford and at intervals for two or three years attended the Bradford Academy. When about twenty-two years of age he began farming on his own account and for some time cultivated rented land but during that period carefully saved his earnings and at length was able to purchase a farm in Bradford township. Afterward he sold his original property and bought one hundred and forty acres three miles northeast of Nashua, on which he resided for twenty years. He later spent eight years in Greenwood, where he owned a small farm, and he there conducted a dairy business. In 1918 he removed to Nashua, where he is now enjoying a well earned rest. For a long period he was active in business circles and worked diligently and untiringly to gain a comfortable competence, which he at length obtained.

In 1875 Mr. Simpson was married to Miss Urania Parks, of Richland township, Chickasaw county, whose parents were among the pioneer settlers of this section of the state. Two children were born of this marriage: Edward E., who is mentioned elsewhere in this work; and Gertrude, who is the wife of R. E. Neal, of Powersville, Floyd county. The wife and mother passed away on the 5th of June, 1898, and on the 10th of October, 1900, Mr. Simpson was married to Miss Susan Blimm, a native of Chickasaw county and a daughter of William and Nancy (Pettit) Blimm, who in 1854 established their home in this county when the work of development and improvement had scarcely been begun. The father was a wagon maker by trade and conducted a shop in the old town of Bradford for many years. He came to Chickasaw county from Rockton, Illinois, traveling across the country with one of the old-time prairie schoon-

ers and a team of horses, making the trip with a train of emigrants. He also crossed the plains to California by wagon and horse team in 1850 but returned in February of the following year. He was long identified with the early development and improvement of this section of the state and was numbered among those pioneer settlers who aided in laying broad and deep the foundation upon which has been built the present progress and prosperity of the county. He died in 1896 and is still survived by his widow, who is now in her eighty-seventh year and makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Simpson.

In politics Mr. Simpson has always been an earnest republican but has never consented to become a candidate for office. He belongs to the Modern Brotherhood of America, and he and his wife are loyal members of the Methodist Episcopal church, guiding their lives according to its teachings.

FRED J. MAURER.

Fred J. Maurer, who follows farming on section 13, Chester township, Howard county, was born in Switzerland, November 28, 1859. He came to this country with his parents when a lad of eight years, the family home being established in Alliance, Ohio. There he resided for a period of four years, during which time his father was engaged in mason work in that city. Later the family home was established in Winneshiek county, Iowa, but subsequently his parents returned to Alliance, Ohio. It was in 1871 that Fred J. Maurer became a resident of Winneshiek county. For a period of three years, with his brother Rudolph and sister Sophia, he rented a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in that county and subsequently removed to Howard county, settling north of Cresco.

In 1884 Fred J. Maurer was united in marriage to Miss Emma Burr, of Winneshiek county, Iowa, and immediately thereafter they removed to Vernon Springs township, Howard county, where Mr. Maurer and his brother rented a farm which they cultivated for four years. He next took up his abode in Kendallville, Iowa, where he resided for three years upon rented land and then in Chester township, settling on his present farm. For fifteen years he continued to cultivate leased land and afterward purchased the farm upon which he now resides, comprising one hundred and sixty acres situated on section 13.

To Mr. and Mrs. Maurer were born six children, of whom one has passed away, while five are yet living, namely: Alfred J., at home; Edwin F., who is married and resides at Ottumwa, Iowa; Claude S., who is married; and Herbert E. and Edna Remona, both at home. The deceased child was Elmer, who died at the age of six months.

Mr. Maurer is a republican in politics and is a substantial citizen, loyal to the best interests of the community and giving hearty support and cooperation to any well defined plan or measure for the general good. He has in his business career made wise use of his time and opportunities and the success which has come to him is the direct reward of his diligence and determination.

LOREN PADDEN.

Loren Padden, deceased, was a well known and substantial citizen of Fredericksburg and Chickasaw county. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1846, a son of Robert and Luvinia (Todd) Padden. In 1857, when eleven years of age, he came to Iowa with his mother and at the age of eighteen offered his services to his country in defense of the Union cause, enlisting as a member of Company F, Ninth Regiment of Iowa Volunteer Infantry. This was one of the hard fighting regiments of the war and was with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea. Mr. Padden remained in active service until the close of hostilities and was honorably discharged in July, 1865, when he returned to his home with a most creditable military record.

Subsequently he laid the foundation of his later modest fortune through his speculations in what was then cheap Iowa farm land. In 1880 he engaged in the implement busi-

ness, also handling pumps and windmills and in the latter line probably did a larger business than any other dealer in northeastern Iowa. As he prospered in business he built a number of residences and business blocks on Main street and the two largest brick business buildings in Fredericksburg stand as monuments to his enterprise and progressive spirit. In 1900, in company with Shaffer Brothers of New Hampton, he purchased the banking business of Charles A. Moody, which they then conducted as a private bank until 1905, when it was incorporated as the First State Bank of Fredericksburg and Mr. Padden became its first president. He was preeminently a business man, alert and energetic, ready for any emergency and at all times displaying keen discernment in recognizing opportunities that others passed heedlessly by. He may well be termed one of Fredericksburg's foremost citizens. He was a true friend and good neighbor, who ever held friendship inviolable. He counted character as far more valuable than wealth or fame and he would never sacrifice the interests of public concern or his friends in the slightest degree. He was most loyal in citizenship and the many splendid traits of character which he displayed caused him to be esteemed and loved by all who knew him.

On the 1st of August, 1874, Mr. Padden was married to Miss Clara Tisdale, a daughter of Gilbert J. Tisdale, who came to Chickasaw county about 1857. He served throughout the Civil war, enlisting as a member of Company B, Seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry, on the 21st of July, 1861. He was wounded at the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, and after recovering from his injuries he rejoined the regiment, with which he remained until honorably discharged in 1864. The following year he was chosen to represent his district in the state legislature and proved an able member of the general assembly of Iowa. His widow is now living, in her eighty-fourth year, and is a well preserved woman, retaining her mental faculties as well as many women twenty years her junior. She makes her home with her daughter Mrs. Padden. The latter became the mother of seven children: Cora, who died August 8, 1880; John, a prominent farmer of Fredericksburg township, Chickasaw county; Nellie, the widow of James Eckenrod and a resident of Springfield, Missouri; Harry, an automobile dealer of Waterloo, Iowa; Lillie, the wife of James McCook, of Pendleton, Oregon; Edith, the wife of Howard Fuller, of Mason City, Iowa, who is state bank examiner and whose father filled the office of attorney general under President Roosevelt; and Marjorie, at home.

At the time of his death Mr. Padden owned extensive and valuable property in Fredericksburg and had excellent farm holdings. He was not a fraternity man; his home served as his lodge and his club. His tastes were simple and he preferred above all else to spend his time with his family, to whom he was a most loving and devoted husband and father. He felt that the greatest blessing in life was the companionship of a true wife and a family of happy children, who always had a warm welcome for the master of the house. Mr. Padden passed away November 8, 1910, his death being the occasion of deep regret not only to the members of his immediate household but to all who knew him and recognized in him the possessor of many sterling traits of character.

ROBERT HERD FAIRBAIRN.

Robert Herd Fairbairn was born in Napanee, Ontario, Canada, October 9, 1842, and with his parents removed to St. Mary, in Perth county, Ontario, where he resided until 1848, when they crossed the border into the United States, establishing their home in Winnebago county, Wisconsin. They afterward removed to Waushara county in the same state, and there, in 1867, Mr. Fairbairn's health became so impaired that his physicians ordered him to try the west coast, and he went to California, where he remained for more than two years. He then returned to the east and for a brief period resided in Stratford, Canada. In 1872 he came to Chickasaw county, Iowa, where he has since resided with the exception of a year spent in Minneapolis, Minnesota. For several years he engaged in the practice of law at Nashua, Iowa, but became imbued with an unquenchable desire to enter upon newspaper work, having previously been correspondent for

newspapers both in the east and the west. In 1884 he purchased the New Hampton Courier, which he has owned and published for almost a third of a century. He has made of the Courier a clean paper and has been quite influential in promoting various reforms. Along this line he has done notable work in securing school books at a lower price, and, moreover, Mr. Fairbairn was the first to openly advocate through the columns of his paper the consolidation of rural schools in order to give the boys and girls of the rural districts just as good opportunities as those of the villages, towns and cities.

As a public speaker he is quite well known, having been employed by the state central committee to canvass Iowa in the interests of the republican party. He has an extensive acquaintance with the public men in the state, particularly men of ripe years who do not feature as prominently in politics as at a former period, but who have left the mark of their impress for good upon the public history of the state.

While never accumulating wealth, for he has never made that the end and aim of his existence, he has been generous in extending a helping hand to others and has been instrumental in sending more young men and women to college or to commercial schools perhaps than any man in the county where he resides. Not a college man himself, he has felt the handicap of a limited education all his life and has eked out with hard work that which would have been comparatively easy had he been more thoroughly equipped for the activities in which he has engaged.

Such is the man and such has been his work. Notwithstanding the handicap mentioned, he is yet found a virile writer, with a clear mind and good memory, his state ments noted for their accuracy and for the broad charity that silences captious criticism. Perhaps the best criterion of his life is found in the fact that the friends of his youth are still his friends. To any work that he undertakes he gives most careful attention, and his knowledge of men, his memory of events, his industry and his desire to procure results constitute a desirable equipment for such a work as he has undertaken in the preparation of his history of Chickasaw and Howard counties.

TIMOTHY DONOVAN, Sr.

Timothy Donovan, Sr., deceased, was born in Ross, Carberry, County Cork, Ireland, April 20, 1822, and died upon the old Donovan homestead in Jacksonville township, Chickasaw county, on the 17th of March, 1890. He came to the United States in 1837, when a youth of fifteen years, and first made his way to Boston, Massachusetts, where he became identified with railroad work, in which connection he rose to the position of roadmaster.

On the 1st of July, 1854, he was united in marriage in the Immaculate Conception church at Lawrence, Massachusetts, to Miss Abbie Harrington, who was born at Castle-town, County Cork, Ireland, on the 20th of April, 1835. While she was still a small girl her parents died and at the age of fourteen years she came to the United States to make her home with a sister, who resided at New Market, New Hampshire. For a time after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Donovan lived in New Hampshire but on account of failing health he brought his family to Iowa, where he arrived in 1858, settling first on Crane creek, in Chickasaw county. Two years later he removed to what became the old family homestead in Jacksonville township and there he resided until his death.

Mr. Donovan was born to poverty in a land where, while men are not exiled to Siberia, many of them are at least deprived of the opportunity for education and culture and left to do as best they can the tasks incident to drawing their support from the earth. While Mr. Donovan had little chance of educational advancement, he seems to have overcome his lack of this advantage to a large degree. Nature endowed him with keen and quick perceptions and he was a close observer and a student of all that came within his grasp. He realized, however, the value of educational training and gave to each of his children the opportunity to obtain a good knowledge of the branches of learning necessary as a basis for business advancement. He qualified them for the duties of citizenship and instructed them concerning their obligations and responsibilities. He taught them to fear debt and despise shiftlessness, and he ever looked upon dishonesty with abhor-

rence. He endured uncomplainingly the privations and hardships of early pioneer life and practiced frugality and industry. He was a man of clean life, honorable in all of his dealings with his fellowmen and by reason of his carefully directed labors he won a place among the substantial farmers of Chickasaw county. The old homestead is today one of the well improved farm properties of Jacksonville township. It may well be said that the world is better from the fact that Mr. Donovan lived. He was a Christian gentleman of Catholic faith, who throughout his life held to high principles and sought to advance toward the highest ideals. His wife departed this life June 3, 1913, and when they were called to their final rest Chickasaw county lost two of its most worthy and esteemed pioneer residents.

P. E. McGINN.

P. E. McGinn, a well known figure in the business circles of New Hampton, is conducting an insurance and real estate office and has gained a good clientage along both lines. He is numbered among the native sons of Chickasaw county, for his birth occurred in Utica township, April 18, 1869, his parents being James and Bridget (Hardmon) McGinn, who were natives of Ireland. They came to the United States in young manhood and womanhood and were married on Staten Island, New York, in 1854. There they resided for two years and on the expiration of that period removed westward to Illinois. They settled first in Ogle county, where they resided for a decade. The father was a poor boy when he came to the United States and for years he worked as a day laborer or by the month as a farm hand. But he was ambitious to engage in business on his own account and made the most of his opportunities toward that end. Eventually he began farming for himself in Ogle county upon rented land and in 1865 he removed from Illinois to Chickasaw county, Iowa, where two years before he had purchased one hundred and forty acres of land in Utica township, buying this from the man for whom he had worked in Ogle county, Illinois. His farm was situated on sections 30 and 31, Utica township, and upon this place he took up his abode, making it his home to the time of his death or for a period of thirty-five years. He passed away September 17, 1900, at the venerable age of eighty-four years, leaving to his family not only a comfortable competence but also the priceless heritage of a good name. His wife survived him for about seventeen years, her death occurring June 26, 1917, when she had reached the age of eighty-nine. During her later years she made her home with her two sons, P. E. and Frank McGinn. The record of the father is one which should well serve as a source of encouragement and inspiration not only to his sons but to all who read his life history. Starting out in the business world a poor boy without capital and without the aid of influential friends, he steadily worked his way upward and ultimately became the owner of six hundred acres of the most fertile land of Chickasaw county and was numbered among its men of affluence.

P. E. McGinn has been a lifelong resident of Chickasaw county. He was educated in the district schools near his father's farm, in the public schools of New Hampton and in the Breckenridge Institute at Decorah, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1891. When his school days were over he took up educational work and for ten years devoted his time to the profession of teaching. He also engaged during that period in farming and more and more largely concentrated his efforts and attention upon agricultural pursuits and stock raising. He began specializing in the breeding of thoroughbred Percheron horses, black polled Angus cattle and Chester white hogs and his live stock interests have constituted an important branch of his business, bringing to him gratifying success. At the time of his marriage he was deeded one hundred and twenty acres of land by his father, this tract constituting a part of the old homestead upon which he was born. Subsequently he bought one hundred and forty acres more, on which was located the old family residence and farm buildings, and he continued to reside upon the farm until December, 1914, when he removed to New Hampton, where he has since made his home. He still owns the farm of two hundred and sixty acres, however, and it is now being further developed and cultivated by tenants under his direction. Since taking

up his abode in the city Mr. McGinn has given his attention to the real estate and insurance business and has gained a very large clientage. He was one of the organizers of the Saude Cooperative Creamery Company and a member of the committee that drafted its by-laws. For ten years after its organization he served as president and placed the business upon a substantial basis.

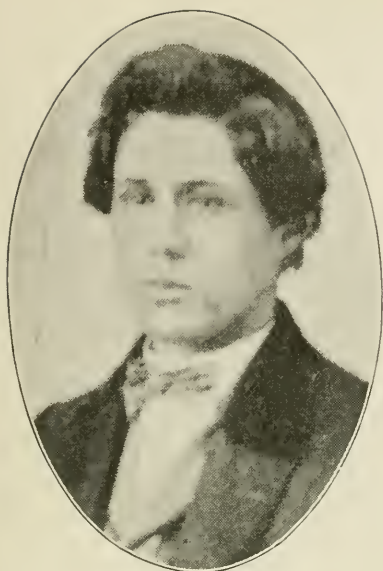
Mr. McGinn has always been an earnest democrat in his political views and for many years was chairman of the Utica township democratic central committee, thus being very active in formulating the policy and directing the interests of the party in Chickasaw county. He has served as a member of the board of township trustees and was acting in that capacity when the board introduced the first tractor into the county for the purpose of road grading. He likewise served on the school board for a number of years and for eleven years was secretary of the school board. In the November election of 1914 he was chosen for the office of county auditor of Chickasaw county and it was in the fall of that year that he took up his abode in New Hampton in order to more easily discharge his duties. He filled the position for four years and upon his retirement from office entered upon the real estate and insurance business.

On the 19th of September, 1899, Mr. McGinn was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Commerford, a daughter of Terrence and Mary Commerford, who are numbered among the earliest of the pioneer settlers of Utica township, there being but two families in the township at the time of their arrival. Mr. and Mrs. McGinn are the parents of five children: Irene, James, Olivette, Ambrose and Virgil. All are yet at home and are being accorded excellent educational advantages. The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and Mr. McGinn is identified with the Knights of Columbus. His position in Chickasaw county is that of a representative citizen, honored for his sterling worth, for what he has accomplished in a business way and for what he has done in behalf of public progress.

JOHN TRASK.

More than a century ago George Washington said that "agriculture is the most useful as well as the most honorable occupation of man." This statement is as true today as when uttered, it being a well known fact that farming is the basis of all business development and material progress. To the work of tilling the soil John Trask has confined his attention from early life and he is classed with the pioneer settlers of northern Iowa, although he was born in Franklin county, Massachusetts, near the town of Deerfield, August 19, 1845. He is a son of S. B. and Rebecca H. (Eaton) Trask, the former a native of Franklin county, Massachusetts, while the latter was born in New Hampshire. They became acquainted in Franklin county, Massachusetts, where they were married, and in 1854 they made arrangements to try their fortune in the growing west. Iowa was made their destination and in the old town of Chickasaw they lived for a year. During this period Mr. Trask was building the first frame house in Deerfield township—across the road from the present site of the home of John Trask. With the early development of the community the family became closely associated and with the passing years representatives of the name have ever borne their part in the work of general improvement and upbuilding.

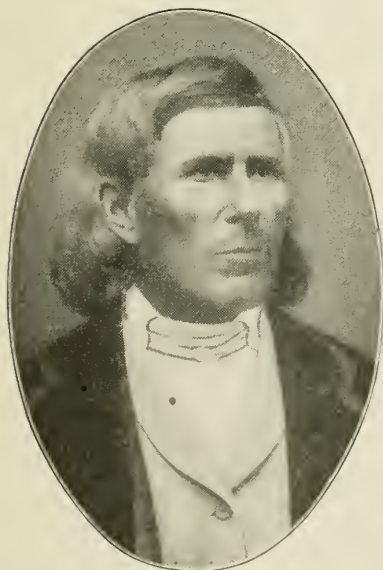
John Trask was but eight years of age at the time the family home was established in Iowa and his education, begun in the common schools of Massachusetts, was continued in the graded schools of Waterloo, this state. He remained with his parents until they were called to the home beyond, both the father and mother dying at the home which John Trask now owns, the former departing this life at the advanced age of eighty-nine years, while the latter reached her eighty-seventh birthday. On the pages of pioneer history their names are emblazoned. The father was one of those who secured land from the government, obtaining one hundred and twenty acres as a preemption claim, for which he paid a dollar and a quarter



JOHN TRASK



MRS. JOHN TRASK



S. B. TRASK



MRS. S. B. TRASK

per acre. This tract is situated in Deerfield township and when he died he still had one hundred acres of the original farm, having sold but twenty acres.

Under the parental roof John Trask was reared and his boyhood experiences were those of the farm lad reared upon the frontier. Having arrived at adult age, he married Lucy A. Jenkins, a daughter of John and Lydia Jenkins, both of whom have departed this life. Her father died in New York city, while her mother's death occurred in Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, to which she had removed at an early day. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Trask was celebrated on the 23d of October, 1868, and they became the parents of six children: William Henry, who is now married; Mrs. Ethel Fredreci; Mrs. Hattie Nyham; Mrs. Eva Michaels; and Emily and Charles E., both deceased.

At the time of his mother's death John Trask came into possession of the one hundred acre farm which his father had entered as a claim from the government. He still owns and occupies this place, which is situated on section 30, Deerfield township, and its productiveness is the result of his careful cultivation and supervision. He has worked diligently to enhance the value of his land and has added to his farm many modern improvements. In politics he is a democrat and has held practically all of the offices in Deerfield township, while for three years he served as a member of the board of supervisors of Chickasaw county, proving a most capable and efficient officer in that connection. He has ever been loyal to public interests and the trust reposed in him and has earnestly promoted every project which he has regarded as of public worth. He has now passed the seventy-fourth milestone on life's journey but is still an active factor in farming circles and is a well known citizen in this district, with which he has so long been associated.

E. W. LOOMIS.

E. W. Loomis is successfully engaged in business at New Hampton as a member of the firm of Loomis Brothers, cream buyers and dealers in poultry, eggs, hides, fur and wool, which has had a prosperous existence of sixteen years. His birth occurred in Charles City, Floyd county, Iowa, on the 23d of February, 1879, his parents being J. M. and Laura (Brown) Loomis, who were born, reared and married in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. In 1857 the father came west to Iowa, locating at Spirit Lake in Dickinson county, where he followed general agricultural pursuits for about six years. At the end of that time he removed to Charles City and after a short period devoted to farming he took up carpentering and building, which pursuits claimed his attention for many years and in which he won substantial success. In 1915 he removed to Wells, Minnesota, where his demise occurred two years later. His widow is still living and makes her home in Charles City.

E. W. Loomis acquired his education in the schools of his native city and in early manhood was variously employed for about four years. On the 5th of April, 1898, he enlisted for service in the Spanish American war as a member of Company D, Fortyninth Regiment of Iowa Volunteer Infantry, with which he was on active duty in the Cuba campaign. After being honorably discharged on the 5th of May, 1899, he returned home and was in the employ of the firm of Waller & Waller, produce dealers of Charles City, until 1902. He then embarked in the produce business on his own account at Charles City but the following year came to New Hampton and founded the firm of Loomis Brothers in association with his brother William. Later they established branch houses at Lyle and Kenyon, Minnesota, and at Bridgewater, North Dakota. They are cream buyers and dealers in poultry, eggs, hides, fur and wool and during the past sixteen years have built up an enterprise of extensive and profitable proportions. In 1918 their business amounted to more than a half million dollars. The continued growth and success of the concern is attributable in no small measure to the sound judgment and unfaltering enterprise of E. W. Loomis, who has won a well merited reputation as one of New Hampton's foremost business men and substantial citizens.

On the 6th of April, 1906, Mr. Loomis was united in marriage to Mrs. Harriett Spen-

cer, who bore the maiden name of Harriet Mills and who is a daughter of Robert H. Mills, a well known retired farmer and representative resident of New Hampton. By her first husband Mrs. Loomis had two children, Allison and Ulia Spencer.

Mr. Loomis is independent in his political views and has never been an aspirant for public office, preferring to concentrate his time and energies upon his business affairs, in the careful management of which he has gained a gratifying measure of prosperity. Fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias, belonging to Lancelot Lodge, No. 183. Those who know him, and he has a wide acquaintance, entertain for him warm regard, for his life has measured up to high standards in every relation.

FRANK PROCHASKA.

Frank Prochaska, now living retired in Protivin, spent his early days on the other side of the Atlantic, for he was born in Bohemia on the 4th of December, 1842, and was reared and educated in that country, attending the parochial schools there. He is a son of John and Anna Prochaska. His parents spent their entire life in Bohemia.

It was in 1867 that Frank Prochaska crossed the Atlantic and became a resident of Postville, Iowa, near which place he worked on a farm for three years. After his marriage in 1871 he continued in the employ of others for several years but at length was able to purchase three forty-acre tracts of land in Utica township, Chickasaw county, and later another tract of eighty acres. He labored untiringly to make this productive and in his farming operations he met with excellent success, so that he was at length able to retire from active labor and is now spending his last years in ease and retirement at Protivin, where he located in 1914.

In 1871 Mr. Prochaska was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ptacnik, and to them have been born seven children who are still living: Frank, Annie, Stella, Mary, Joseph, Charlie and Minnie.

The family are consistent members of the Catholic church of Protivin and are held in the highest esteem by all who know them. Since becoming a naturalized citizen Mr. Prochaska has affiliated with the democratic party and for a number of years he held the office of road supervisor in Utica township. The success that he has achieved in life is well merited, for he came to this country empty-handed and all that he possesses has been acquired through his own untiring efforts.

WILLIAM GLIENKE.

The broad praries of Iowa have furnished splendid opportunities to the agriculturist. The soil is naturally rich and productive and nature has been kind in the matter of rainfalls and in other conditions which lead to successful agricultural activity. William Glienke is now classed with the representative farmers of Washington township, Chickasaw county, making his home on section 6. He was born in Germany, April 5, 1850, a son of Ernest and Kathleen (Ingnow) Glienke, who came to the United States in 1872. After residing for a year in Chicago they took up their abode upon a farm in Cook county, Illinois, near that city, and there the father passed away in 1879.

William Glienke was reared and educated in his native country, being twenty-two years of age at the time of the emigration of the family to the new world. In 1878 he married Albertina Schultz and in 1880 with his wife and one child, together with two brothers and his mother, he removed to Chickasaw county. Here he purchased thirty-three acres of his present home farm and his two brothers also made investments in farm lands, the mother making her home with her son Henry. As the years have passed William Glienke has prospered in his undertakings and, adding to his original farm, is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of Chickasaw county's most fertile land.

In 1881 Mr. Glienke was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away

in Chickasaw county, leaving two children: Anna, now the wife of Michael Erion, of Howard county, Iowa; and Emma, who is the wife of William Vick, a farmer of Washington township. In 1884 Mr. Glienke was again married, his second union being with Miss Alvina Pesch. They have five living children: Minnie, the wife of Fred Semm, of Alta Vista; and Louis, Alfred, Herman and Arthur, all at home.

Mr. Glienke has become a stockholder in the Farmers Creamery Association of Alta Vista and in the Farmers Cooperative Lumber & Coal Company and the Farmers Cooperative Telephone Company. All three corporations are business concerns of Alta Vista. In becoming connected therewith Mr. Glienke has recognized the trend of modern business toward cooperation and has utilized his opportunities for aiding in the promotion of important interests. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and the sterling worth of his character is attested by those who have had business or social relations with him.

JAMES H. LUSK.

James H. Lusk, actively engaged in farming on section 22, Chester township, Howard county, is the owner of eighty acres of fertile and productive land from which he annually gathers good harvests. He was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, August 10, 1861, his parents being Elizabeth and Peter Lusk, both of whom were natives of Scotland, whence they came to the new world in 1853, settling at Marshall, Wisconsin. The father, responding to the call of his adopted country for aid to crush out rebellion in the south, joined the army at the time of the Civil war and went to the front. He was captured and sent to Andersonville prison, where he died from the rigors and hardships of prison life. His widow afterward married again, becoming the wife of George Wilson.

In the fall of 1879, when a youth of eighteen years, James H. Lusk came to Howard county, making his way to Cresco. Ambitious to start out in the business world for himself, he rented a farm in Vernon Springs township and continued the cultivation of that place for thirteen years or until 1892, this being indicative of the fact that he made a success of his initial venture into business life. He afterward removed to Chester township, where he has since lived, spending the entire intervening period of twenty-seven years upon the same farm. He purchased the property at the time he located thereon and as the years have passed he has converted it into rich and productive fields from which he annually gathers good crops.

In 1884, at Cresco, Iowa, Mr. Lusk was united in marriage to Miss Sophia Maurer and to them have been born two children: Bertha M., now the wife of Raleigh Jones, a resident of Lime Springs, Iowa; and Leona, who is now living in California. Mr. Lusk is a republican in his political views and fraternally is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America.

FRANK K. MOUDRY.

Frank K. Moudry, a retired farmer living at Protivin, was born in Bohemia, December 3, 1863. His parents were John and Annie Moudry, also natives of Bohemia, where they spent their entire lives. Frank K. Moudry came to the United States when twenty years of age, making his way direct to Howard county, Iowa, and was employed at Protivin for about five or six years. During that period he carefully saved his earnings, with which he purchased his present farm of two hundred acres, which today is under a high state of cultivation and is equipped with many modern improvements, placed thereon by Mr. Moudry.

On the 5th of February, 1889, Frank K. Moudry was united in marriage to Miss Annie Prochaska, of Chickasaw county, a daughter of Frank and Mary Prochaska, farming people of that county. Mr. and Mrs. Moudry have become the parents of three children: Joseph C., who died upon the home farm in January, 1918, when twenty-seven years of

age; Frank, who married Elizabeth Lukesh, of Howard county, and is farming with his father; and Mary T., who married James Svoboda and is also farming in Howard county.

Mr. Moudry sold his farm to his son Frank and now makes his home in Protivin. He attends the Catholic church and he gives his political allegiance to the democratic party. He has served as school director in New Oregon township for a year and has always been interested in the welfare and progress of the community in which he makes his home and in which for many years he was numbered among the successful and enterprising agriculturists. His former toil and activity have constituted the basis upon which he has built the prosperity that now enables him to live retired.

R. W. OESTRICH.

R. W. Oestrich, who carries on general farming on section 9, Jamestown township, Howard county, was born in Wisconsin on the 4th of July, 1872, a son of Henry and Albertina Oestrich. Their parents were natives of Germany but came to the United States many years ago, taking up their abode in Wisconsin, where they lived until their removal to Iowa. Coming to this state, they established their home in Howard county, and the father purchased the farm on which his son, R. W. Oestrich, now resides. Henry Oestrich devoted his time and attention to the cultivation and improvement of his place throughout his remaining days and the mother also passed away on the old homestead.

R. W. Oestrich acquired a common school education in Iowa and in the period of his youth his time was divided between the duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the fields. When his schooldays were over he concentrated his time and attention upon the task of assisting his father in the work of the home farm and ultimately he came into possession of the property. He now has eighty acres of land which he carefully cultivates, and to his place he has added many modern improvements. He uses the latest improved farm machinery to facilitate the work of the fields and annually gathers golden harvests as a reward for the care and labor which he bestows upon the place.

After reaching man's estate Mr. Oestrich was married to Miss Grace Bywater, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Bywater, who were natives of England. Mr. and Mrs. Oestrich have two children, Bessie and Pearl, both at home.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Congregational church and they are loyal to its teachings, their lives being guided by high purposes and principles. Mr. Oestrich is identified with the Farmers Equity Association of Riceville. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and for six terms he served as school director in Jamestown township, the cause of education ever finding in him a stalwart champion.

FRED P. JOACHIM.

One of the finest farm properties of Chickasaw county is that owned by Fred Joachim, situated on section 31, Washington township. Its splendid buildings, its beautiful trees, its highly cultivated fields and many improvements are all indicative of the progressive spirit which characterizes him in the conduct of all of his interests.

Mr. Joachim comes to Iowa from Illinois. He was born in that state, March 3, 1864, a son of Charles and Mary (Schultz) Joachim, who were natives of Germany. Coming to the United States, they settled at Proviso, Illinois, and there became acquainted and were married. Subsequently Mr. Joachim carried on farming for a time in that section of the country but in the year 1884 removed with his family to Iowa, establishing his home in Washington township, Chickasaw county, a short distance north of Alta Vista. His place was on the county line and was known as Mike Falgetter's farm. Mr. Joachim purchased two hundred and forty acres of farm land and twenty acres of timber land and continued to own, develop and occupy that place until his retirement from active

business, at which time he took up his abode in Alta Vista in 1900. He had been very successful in his farming operations and his labors had also materially aided in the growth and development of Washington township. He was not long permitted to enjoy his well earned rest, however, for death called him soon after his removal to Alta Vista. His wife passed away in La Grange, Illinois, and her remains were brought back to Alta Vista for interment.

Fred P. Joachim pursued his education in the public schools of La Grange, Illinois, and remained with his parents upon the home farm until his marriage. He has since lived upon his present home place of two hundred and forty acres, which was purchased from his father. This is today one of the attractive farm properties of northern Iowa and is most pleasing and desirable by reason of its many modern improvements. Mr. Joachim has put all of the buildings upon it that stand today and has planted the fine trees, which constitute a most pleasing adornment in the landscape. He is now building a very large barn of hollow tiled brick unsurpassed throughout the state. In all that he undertakes he is actuated by a most progressive spirit and his labors have produced splendid results. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Lumber Company of Alta Vista, also a stockholder in the Farmers Telephone Company of that place and in the Farmers Creamery Company. His agricultural and stock raising interests, however, claim the greater part of his attention and he is now breeding full blooded Hereford cattle. His farm is pleasantly situated a mile and a half south of Alta Vista and upon it he has placed four hundred rods of tiling, planned by A. F. Kemman and laid by Peter Johann and Adam Alt. The tiling and other measures have made his fields most productive and he does everything to enhance the value of his place and make it one of the model farm properties of Chickasaw county.

On the 23d of December, 1897, Mr. Joachim was married to Miss Gusta Wallwage, a daughter of Fred and Rose Wallwage, natives of Germany. Her father died in Washington township, Chickasaw county, about twenty years ago but the mother still occupies the old homestead there. To Mr. and Mrs. Joachim have been born three children who are yet living: Mrs. Malinda Johann, Evelyn and Herbert.

Mr. Joachim and his family are members of the Lutheran church of Alta Vista, and his political faith is that of the republican party. He is widely and favorably known owing to the progressiveness and reliability that he has displayed in his business affairs and his interest in and support of all measures of citizenship that are calculated to up-build and develop the community at large.

CLARA A. BLOMQUIST.

Clara A. Blomquist is conducting the leading photographic studio in Howard county and does an extensive and profitable business. She came to Cresco in 1909 and has here since remained. She was born in Iggesund, Sweden, where she lived until the age of fourteen years, when, in company with her sister, Johannah Catherine she crossed the Atlantic to the new world. They made their way to St. Paul, Minnesota, and Miss Blomquist while a resident of that city took up the study of photography, to which she has since devoted her energies. She has at different periods continued her study in Chicago and in New York and has been connected with some of the leading photographic establishments of the country, including the Sarony studio of New York, the W. L. Koehne studio of Chicago, the studio of J. A. Brush in Minneapolis and of George Craft in St. Paul. She has thus gained broad and intimate knowledge of every phase of the profession, keeps in touch with the latest scientific methods, and her artistic sense teaches her the value of light and shade and all the elements which add the artistic touch to the work. Today she has the largest and best equipped photographic studio of Howard county and her business is steadily growing. She has the faculty of obtaining a natural and life-like expression in her work and in the nine years in which she has conducted her studio in Cresco her patronage has steadily increased. Many most beautiful and artistic pictures adorn the walls of her studio and indicate the superior skill which she has developed. Moreover, she has excellent business qualities, as is shown by the success

which has attended her labors. Starting out to provide for her own support in early womanhood, she has advanced step by step, ever actuated by a laudable ambition, and her position in professional circles in Howard county is one of well deserved prominence.

O. J. LYMAN.

O. J. Lyman, a retired farmer residing in Fredericksburg, was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, July 16, 1859, a son of William and Abigail C. (Chandler) Lyman, the former a native of Cattaraugus county, New York, while the latter was born in Vermont, in which state they were married. They afterward removed to Illinois and in 1875 came to Iowa, making their way to the home of a daughter in Fredericksburg, where the mother passed away in the same year. The father afterward removed to Kansas but returned to Iowa to make his home among his children. His death occurred, however, in Wisconsin about 1904.

O. J. Lyman was educated in the district schools and in the Baptist Seminary at Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. He went west with his father to Kansas in 1878 and there began farming on his own account, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land in Clay county. About 1883 he returned to Iowa and bought a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Fredericksburg township, a tract on which he resided until 1904. He then left the farm and removed to the town, where he began speculating in land in North and South Dakota.

In 1890 Mr. Lyman was married to Miss Flora C. Ferris, a daughter of John M. Ferris, one of the earliest settlers of Chickasaw county and now deceased. Mr. Lyman votes with the republican party but political honors and emoluments have had little attraction for him. He has preferred the exciting game of business and opportunity is ever to him a call to action. He prospered as a farmer and as a land speculator and is now in very comfortable financial circumstances as the result of his keen discernment and close application.

FRANK KLIMESH.

Frank Klimesh is a farmer of Utica township, residing on section 3, and belongs to one of the old pioneer families of Chickasaw county. He was born on the old family homestead, February 9, 1884, and is a son of Frank J. Klimesh, whose place in the business circles of Protivin is among the foremost. An extended sketch of the father appears on another page of this work.

The son, after obtaining a district school education, concentrated his efforts and attention upon the task of assisting his father until he had reached a position where he felt that he could engage in business on his own account. He has always continued to follow farming and makes his home on section 3, Utica township, where he is busily engaged in the development of the fields, annually gathering rich crops as the reward of his labors. He has extended his efforts also into various other lines and is now a stockholder in the Protivin Cooperative Creamery Company, the Protivin Telephone Company and in the Beseda Hall Corporation of Protivin. He is likewise connected with the Farmers Cooperative Elevator Company of Lawler and in all that he does displays a laudable ambition and a progressive spirit that cannot fail to reach desired results.

In February, 1908, Mr. Klimesh was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Bouska, a daughter of John Bouska, of Protivin, to whom reference is made elsewhere in this volume. It was the year after his marriage that Mr. Klimesh located upon his present home farm, which was owned by his father, and a year later he purchased the property, comprising one hundred and forty-two acres of rich and productive land. Upon



MR. AND MRS. FRANK KLIMESH

this place he and his wife are now rearing an interesting little family of four children: Frank M., Edward, Mary and Angeline.

Mr. Klimesh and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church at Pro-tivin, and his political endorsement is given to the democratic party. He has served as a member of the school board and is deeply and helpfully interested in many matters of public concern. That he is a most wide-awake and alert business man is indicated in his various connections with important corporations. He readily recognizes and utilizes opportunity and quickly differentiates between the essential and the nonessential in all business affairs.

JOHN MCCOOK.

While numbered among the particularly successful lawyers of Cresco, Howard county, John McCook ranks as well among the most public-spirited of its citizens, willing to give of his time, his thought, his money and his energies to advancing the nation's interests. He comes of Irish and Scotch ancestry. His father was born in County Antrim, Ireland, while the mother was a native of Edinburg, Scotland. With her parents, however, she removed to Antrim, Ireland, in her girlhood days and was there married, after which Mr. and Mrs. McCook crossed the Atlantic to the United States, establishing their home first in Philadelphia, while subsequently they removed to Altoona, Pennsylvania. The father was a landscape gardener in Ireland but in later years gave his attention to agricultural pursuits. After living in the Keystone state for some time he brought his family to Iowa, settling at Riceville, Howard county, where he purchased a farm, upon which he erected a residence and at once began the further development and improvement of the property. The town now stands on a part of the old homestead. After devoting many years to the cultivation of his land Mr. McCook took up his abode in Riceville and was president of the Riceville State Bank, which was the first bank established there. He continued as the head of the institution until his death and his sons, Nelson, R. D. and J. B., were associated with him in the banking business. He became one of the most substantial and prominent residents of Howard county. He was a man of marked business ability and enterprise and as his financial resources increased he kept adding to his holdings until he had very extensive landed possessions in addition to his banking interests. He gave his political allegiance to the democratic party and for a number of years filled the office of supervisor, discharging his duties with marked promptness and capability. His religious faith was that of the Congregational church and its teachings guided him in all of the relations of life. He died at the age of eighty-three years, while his wife reached the age of seventy-eight years, and they were long numbered among the most esteemed and honored couples of Howard county.

As previously stated, John McCook accompanied his parents to Iowa and after completing his public school education he became a student in the Decorah Institute at Decorah, Iowa. His literary training served as an excellent foundation upon which to build the superstructure of professional knowledge. He determined upon the practice of law as a life work and to that end became a student in the office and under the direction of H. C. McCarty, of Cresco, with whom he continued his reading until April, 1882, when he was admitted to the bar. He afterward entered into partnership with his former preceptor, an association that was maintained until 1887. He then continued in the practice of law alone until 1916, when he admitted J. E. Lyons of Cresco to a partnership. The latter is now a first lieutenant in the One Hundred and Thirteenth Trench Mortar Battery and is stationed for training at Camp Dodge, Iowa. Mr. McCook has been in the practice of law in Cresco since 1885 and the consensus of public opinion names him as a leading attorney of Howard county. He has been connected with some very important cases and his opinions are largely accepted as authority upon legal questions. Thoroughly conversant with the principles of jurisprudence, he has been most accurate in applying these principles to the points in litigation, is clear in reasoning and logical in his deductions and the force of his argument drives home the truth which he presents.

On the 4th of January, 1888, Mr. McCook was united in marriage to Miss Clara E.

Webster, a daughter of Calvin F. and Serena (Irvine) Webster. Mrs. McCook was born in Laporte, Indiana, while her parents are natives of Ohio. Her father spent his boyhood days in Indiana, where he acquired his education, and subsequently he removed to Howard county, Iowa, where he took up the occupation of farming. He was also clerk of the court of Cresco for a number of years and later he removed to Minneapolis, where he died in 1918 at the notable old age of ninety years, and his wife had reached an equal age at her death. This is surely a marvelous history, for seldom does any couple attain such an advanced age. Mr. Webster is a republican in his political views and fraternally is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, while both he and his wife have long been devoted and faithful members of the Congregational church. They were early settlers of Howard county and are yet most kindly remembered by many who knew them during the period of their residence in this state.

To Mr. and Mrs. McCook have been born three children: Allie May, now the wife of C. G. Meredith, of Rochester, Minnesota; Clara Elizabeth, at home; and Florence, who completes the family.

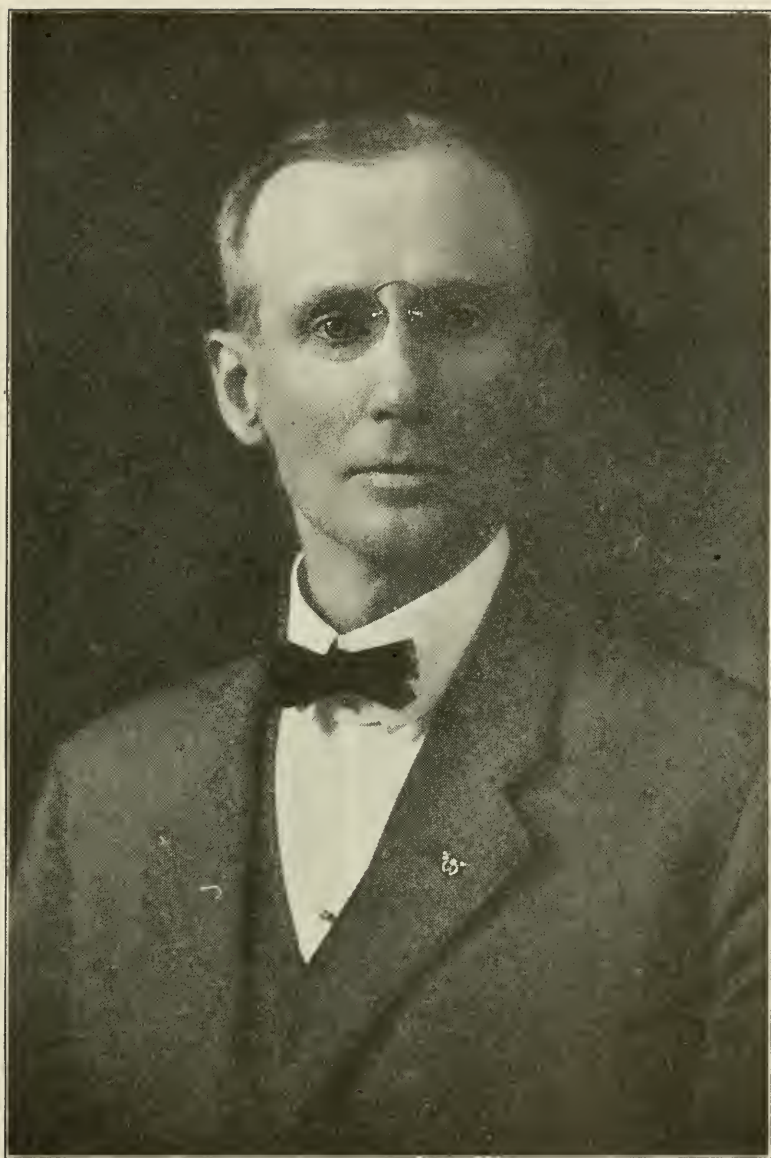
Mr. McCook gives his political allegiance to the democratic party, of which he has long been a stalwart champion, and his prominence in political circles is indicated in the fact that he was chosen a delegate to the national convention of his party in Denver. He is now giving of his time and effort to the interests of his country as a member of the Council of Defense. Fraternally he is a Mason and his religious faith is that of the Congregational church. His life has been well spent and he has always lived up to high and honorable standards of manhood and citizenship. There have been no spectacular phases in his career but the worth of his work is acknowledged by all, for his aid and influence have ever been on the side not only of the material advancement of the county but of its intellectual, social, political and moral progress.

L. H. GOODALE, M. D.

A prominent and successful representative of the medical profession in Chickasaw county is Dr. L. H. Goodale, who has now been in continuous practice at Nashua for nearly a third of a century. He was born in Pierpont, New York, on the 8th of April, 1863, his parents being Stephen and Mary E. (Hubbard) Goodale, likewise natives of the Empire state. Their marriage was celebrated at Martinsburg, New York, and they continued to reside in that state until 1866, when they came west to Iowa, settling at Farley in Dubuque county. There Mr. Goodale purchased the hotel and livery stable, both of which he conducted with success and profit for a period of thirty-five years. He passed away at Farley in 1907, when seventy-seven years of age, but his widow still survives and yet makes her home in Farley at the age of eighty-nine years.

L. H. Goodale, who was but three years of age when his parents established their home in Iowa, pursued his education in this state and was graduated from the high school of Farley with the class of 1878. In 1883 he began preparation for his chosen profession under the preceptorship of Dr. Wittmer, of Farley, who directed his reading for a year, and in 1884 he entered the Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago, which conferred upon him the degree of M. D. upon his graduation with the class of 1887. He personally provided the funds necessary for his medical course and the strength of character which he thus displayed has ever been one of his dominant qualities. On the 22d of August, 1887, he began practice in Nashua, where he has remained continuously throughout the intervening period, covering almost a third of a century. He is widely recognized as a physician and surgeon of pronounced skill and ability and his practice has steadily grown as the years have passed. He has membership with the Chickasaw County Medical Society, the Austin Flint Cedar Valley Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. In financial circles he has also become known as a member of the board of directors of the Commercial State Savings Bank of Nashua.

On the 19th of September, 1888, Dr. Goodale was united in marriage to Miss Jennie M. Spear, of Nashua, by whom he had two children, one of whom has passed away.



DR. L. H. GOODALE

The surviving daughter is Florence S., who was graduated from Grinnell College with the class of 1914 and was later a high school teacher. She was married October 18, 1919, to Charles E. Rundorff, of Flint, Michigan, and now resides there.

Dr. Goodale gives his political allegiance to the republican party and has served as health officer for eight or ten years, making a most commendable record in that connection. In Masonic circles he has become well known as a member of Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M.; Almond Chapter, No. 53, R. A. M., of Charles City; Joppa Commandery, No. 55, K. T.; El Kahir Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of Cedar Rapids; and De Molay Consistory, No. 1, A. & A. S. R., of Clinton, Iowa. Both he and his wife are identified with the Order of the Eastern Star. Dr. Goodale likewise belongs to Nashua Lodge, No. 391, I. O. O. F.; Nashua Lodge, No. 110, K. P.; and the Modern Woodmen of America. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church, with which his wife is also identified. They are well known and highly esteemed in the community in which they make their home and the Doctor has long enjoyed an enviable reputation as one of the leading and progressive representatives of the medical fraternity in Chickasaw county.

OREN MORRISON LANDON, M. D.

Dr. Oren Morrison Landon, a physician and surgeon of New Hampton, has engaged in practice continuously since 1882 and throughout all the intervening years has kept in close touch with the onward march of the profession. He was born at Busti, Chautauqua county, New York, in 1854, a son of Harvey and Mary Jane Landon. Spending his youthful days under the parental roof, he pursued his early education in the country schools and afterward entered the University of Iowa, in which he pursued his professional course, winning the M. D. degree in 1882. He became a resident of this state in 1867. His early life was devoted to farm work, but thinking to find other pursuits more congenial to him than the tilling of the soil, he turned his attention to the drug business and this ultimately led to his preparation for the practice of medicine and surgery, in which he has attained a substantial measure of success.

In 1879, at Lime Springs, Iowa, Dr. Landon was married to Miss Hattie E. Rigby. His second marriage, celebrated at Lawler, Iowa, in 1893, was to Miss Ada M. Ditmars, daughter of H. J. Ditmars, for many years a prominent business man of Lawler and for the last eighteen years a representative of the business interests of West Liberty, Iowa. Dr. Landon has a daughter and a son: Pearl May, now the wife of Major James A. Marmon; and Roy S., who married Mildred Martin and is a teacher in the manual training department of the public schools of Galesburg, Illinois.

With Dr. Landon the social demands of nature largely find expression in his membership in the Masonic fraternity. He has been an active worker and exemplary member of the order for a number of years, has attained the Knight Templar degree and was eminent commander of Eudora Commandery for three years. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, but he has had neither time nor inclination to seek office. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church and by an upright life that recognizes his duties and obligations to his fellowmen and to the community at large.

GUSTAV ADOLF HERMAN LANGE.

Gustav Adolf Herman Lange, living on section 11, Forest City township, Howard county, where he devotes his attention to general agricultural pursuits, was born in Germany on the 28th of December, 1860, his parents being Gottlieb and Anna (Menzel) Lange, who spent their entire lives in their native country. The son was reared to young manhood in Germany and was educated in the common schools of that country. At the age of fourteen years he apprenticed himself to the miller's trade, completing his

term of indenture in three years, and in the summer of 1879 he came to the United States, hoping to find better business opportunities than he believed he could secure in Germany. He did not tarry on the Atlantic coast but made his way at once into the interior of the country, settling first in Calumet county, Wisconsin, where he began work as a farm hand. He remained there for about four years, working one winter in the pineries, while in the summer seasons he continued his labors in the fields.

In 1883 Mr. Lange came to Iowa and for about two years worked at the miller's trade in Allamakee county. In the spring of 1885 he removed to Howard county and for over two years was employed in the Forreston Roller Mills in Forest City township. On the expiration of that period he went to Minnesota and was employed in three different mills in that state during the succeeding two years. In the spring of 1889 he returned to Germany on a visit and spent the summer with his parents, but he had formed a deep attachment for the land of his adoption and in the fall of the year returned to America, making permanent location in Howard county. Here he worked in the Forreston Roller Mills by the month for about five years and in the fall of 1894 leased the mill, which he continued to operate on his own account for five years. In 1893 he for the first time became a landowner, making investment in a portion of his present farm, which was then a tract of wild timber land. He cleared away the trees and brush and began the development of the property, continuing its improvement, and in 1899, after leaving the mill, he settled upon the farm, the boundaries of which he has since extended until it now comprises one hundred and seventy-seven acres. This constitutes an excellent farm property which has been won through his earnest and persistent effort in business and his straightforward dealing.

In November, 1890, Mr. Lange was married to Miss Maria Wilhelms, a native of Germany, who came to the United States with her parents, Henry P. and Maria (Prueser) Wilhelms, when but three years of age. Both her father and mother are still living, the former having reached the advanced age of eighty-eight years, while the latter is eighty years of age. They are still well preserved and very active and live in Granger, Minnesota, where they are one of the most highly esteemed as well as one of the most venerable couples of the community. To Mr. and Mrs. Lange have been born four children, of whom three are living. Paulus H., who won a scholarship at the State University of Illinois, served in the great European war. He was stationed at Camp Pike, Arkansas. Karl H. now follows farming in Wisconsin and Reuben H., the youngest son, is at home.

Mr. Lange votes with the republican party, which he has supported since becoming an American citizen. He served for three terms as a member of the board of township trustees and he is regarded as one of the foremost residents of Forest City township. Both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church and their many excellent traits of character have gained for them the warm regard and respect of many.

LOUIS WILLIAM URBAN.

An excellent farm property on section 12, Howard township, in Howard county, pays tribute to the care and labor bestowed upon it by the owner, Louis William Urban, who has for a long period been identified with the agricultural development of northern Iowa. He was born in South Dakota, June 21, 1884, a son of Wencel and Mary Urban, who are natives of Bohemia but came to the United States in childhood days with their parents, both families settling in Wisconsin, where the father and mother became acquainted and were married. They lived for some time in Wisconsin following their marriage and thence removed to South Dakota, while in 1890 they came to Howard county, Iowa, where Mr. Urban purchased the present home farm of his son, Louis William, comprising one hundred and forty-seven acres of land situated on section 12, Howard township. He afterward bought another farm of one hundred and sixty acres cornering upon his home place and on this property he resided until 1907, when he turned the farms over to his two sons and removed to Lourdes, where he has since lived retired, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned and richly merits.

Louis William Urban, after pursuing a district school education, devoted his attention to farm work and thus gained practical experience which has been of great value to him in carrying on his farming interests in later life. In 1907 he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Falada, a native of Howard county and a daughter of James F. Falada, one of the early settlers of this part of the state, who is still living and now makes his home in Howard township. After the marriage of Louis W. Urban his father removed to the city and the son took charge of the home farm, which he continued to cultivate as a renter for five years, while in 1911 he purchased the property that he now owns and is further developing and improving.

To Mr. and Mrs. Urban have been born eight children, as follows: Wencil, Francis, Clara, Helen, Aloysius, Cledith, Anna and Mary. The parents and family are members of the Catholic church and in political faith Mr. Urban is a democrat. He has never sought or desired office, however, for he has always preferred to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business interests and his diligence and industry have been the basic principles upon which he has built his success.

FRED KRUGER.

Fred Kruger, who is engaged in farming on section 32, Afton township, is one of the native sons of Howard county, his birth having occurred within its borders on the 23d of December, 1886. His parents are Edward J. and Amelia Kruger, both of whom were born in Wisconsin but came to Iowa at an early age. When a young man of about twenty-five years the father began farming on his own account and made for himself a creditable place among the substantial agriculturists of this part of the state.

It was upon the old homestead place that Fred Kruger was born and reared, his youthful experiences being those that usually fall to the lot of the farm-bred boy. He attended the district schools and worked with his father until about the age of twenty-two years, when he started out in life independently as a farmer. For three or four years he cultivated rented land and then purchased the place upon which he now resides, comprising a good tract of land in Afton township. He has since erected a new residence upon the farm and has remodeled all of the buildings, which are kept in an excellent state of repair. A most progressive spirit guides him in his work and the results which he achieves are gratifying.

On the 15th of September, 1908, Mr. Kruger was married to Miss Annie Rieken, a daughter of Henry and Barda Rieken, of Mitchell county, Iowa. They have become parents of three children, Elmer, Bessie and Irving, all living upon the home farm.

Mr. Kruger is a director of the Howard County Equity Cooperative Association. In politics he is a republican and his religious faith is that of the Lutheran church. His life has been actuated by high and honorable principles and in every relation of life he has measured up to the advanced standards of manhood and citizenship.

ROY L. CAGLEY.

Roy L. Cagley, the foremost grocer and one of the leading business men of Nashua, has there conducted a store continuously throughout the past eleven years and has met with a most gratifying and well merited measure of success. He is numbered among the worthy native sons of the town, his birth having occurred in Nashua on the 16th of July, 1879. His parents, John and Charlotte (Carey) Cagley, were natives of Indiana and Michigan respectively but were married in Chickasaw county, this state. Michael Cagley, the paternal grandfather, was one of the earliest of the county's pioneers and the maternal grandfather also took up his abode among the early settlers of Chickasaw county. Following his marriage John Cagley located on a farm in Bradford township, near Nashua, where his active life was spent in farming, his well directed labors as an agriculturist being rewarded with substantial success. He passed away in Nashua

about 1913, having for but two years survived his wife. They had become widely known during the long period of their residence in Chickasaw county and in their passing the community mourned the loss of two of its esteemed and honored pioneer settlers.

Roy L. Cagley received his education in the public schools of Nashua and when twenty years of age apprenticed himself to the miller's trade, which he learned in the mill at Greenwood. He worked as a miller for ten years and then met with an accident which resulted in the loss of his right hand. In 1908 he embarked in the grocery business in Nashua, with which he has since been continuously identified and in the careful conduct of which he has gained well deserved prosperity. He carries a large and carefully selected line of staple and fancy groceries and is accorded an extensive patronage by reason of his reliable business dealings, courteous treatment of customers and reasonable prices.

On the 19th of April, 1899, Mr. Cagley was united in marriage to Miss Orpha Zwanziger, of Nashua. He gives his political allegiance to the republican party and has served for four years as a member of the town council of Nashua, making a most commendable record in that connection. Fraternally he is identified with Nashua Lodge, No. 110, K. P.; Nashua Lodge, No. 391, I. O. O. F.; the Modern Woodmen of America and the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. Both he and his wife are Baptists in religious faith, but as there is no church of that denomination in Nashua, they attend the Congregational church. Mr. Cagley is a thoroughly progressive and public-spirited citizen, always to be found in the vanguard of any movement tending to advance community welfare. His career has ever been actuated by high and worthy motives and he enjoys the regard and esteem of all who know him.

FRANK FREEMIRE, M. D.

For twenty-five years Dr. Frank Freemire was a practicing physician of Chester. He was of that type of the physician that Ian Maclaren has immortalized in "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," a man who never refused to respond to a call for medical service day or night, going in fair or in stormy weather, no matter how poor the patient nor how long the distance. He responded immediately to the call of suffering humanity even when he knew there was no hope of remuneration for his service. His life was actuated by broad humanitarian principles that caused him constantly to reach out a helping hand.

Dr. Freemire was born January 24, 1849, in Tioga, New York, a son of Nicholas and Emeline (Oakley) Freemire, who were also natives of the Empire state and who on removing west settled in Fillmore county, Minnesota, in the early '50s. There they resided until called to their final rest.

Dr. Freemire was but a child when his parents came to the Mississippi valley and in Minnesota he was reared to manhood, acquiring his education in the public schools. After completing a high school course he took up the study of medicine, entering the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Keokuk, Iowa. He specialized in the study of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat and also obstetrics and diseases of women. He won his professional degree on the 27th of February, 1882, and first located for practice in Roscoe, South Dakota, where he remained for two years, but the water in that district did not agree with him and he removed to Chester, Iowa, where he resided to the time of his death, remaining an active practitioner of this place for many years. He was a most sincere and honorable man and in the case of dangerous illness he would remain at times for hours at the bedside of a patient to observe the effects of his medicine and that he might be ready to meet any change that might arise. He became one of the best known and ablest physicians of northern Iowa and his professional service was in constant demand.

In 1873 Dr. Freemire was married to Miss Ellen Moore, of Fountain, Minnesota, and they became the parents of a son, Frank Nicholas, D. D. S., who is a graduate of the dental department of the Northwestern University of Chicago and is now practicing in Chester. Dr. Freemire was a Royal Arch Mason, holding membership in the lodge and

chapter at Chatfield, Minnesota, and he also belonged to the Odd Fellows lodge at Chester. Death called him on the 8th of June, 1904, and in his passing Chester lost one of her most esteemed citizens. A modern philosopher has said: "Not the good that comes to man, but the good that comes to the world through man, is the measure of his success." Judged by this standard, the life of Dr. Freemire was a most successful one.

F. E. SILVER.

F. E. Silver, cashier of the Elma State Savings Bank and displaying a laudable ambition and unfaltering enterprise in his business career, was born in Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, July 29, 1889, a son of Maurice and Elizabeth (Greenwood) Silver, the former a native of Wisconsin, while the latter was born in Floyd county, Iowa. A history of the father appears elsewhere in this volume.

The son was educated in the district schools and in the State Normal School at Cedar Falls, Iowa, and following the completion of his school course he entered banking circles and for three and a half years was identified with the First State Bank as assistant cashier. In October, 1913, he founded and organized the Elma State Savings Bank and has since presided over its financial policy, occupying the position of cashier, while his father is president of the institution, and George W. Keefe its vice president. His previous experience well qualified him for the responsibilities which he assumed in this connection and his powers as a business man have fully measured up to the requirements made upon him.

On the 16th of June, 1916, Mr. Silver was married to Miss Lina Adams, of Rochester, Minnesota, a daughter of Dr. A. S. Adams, one of the prominent physicians of that place. Mr. and Mrs. Silver have become the parents of two children, Mary Elizabeth Gail and Joseph Harrison.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Silver are members of the Catholic church and he is identified with the Knights of Columbus and with the Modern Woodmen of America. His political endorsement is given to the democratic party but he has no time nor inclination to seek public office, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs.

MAURICE SILVER.

Maurice Silver is now largely living retired from business although for many years he was actively identified with agricultural interests in Howard county and at the present time is president of the State Savings Bank at Elma. The active control of the bank, however, is left to his son, who is cashier of the institution.

Mr. Silver was born in Green county, Wisconsin, October 22, 1856, a son of Patrick and Anna (Dunn) Silver, who were natives of Ireland and in young manhood and womanhood came to the United States. They settled in the state of New York, were there married, and one child was born to them ere their removal to Green county, Wisconsin, where they took up their abode upon a farm. They continued residents of that county throughout their remaining days and were among the enterprising representatives of agricultural interests in that district. The father died when his son Maurice was but two and a half years of age and as the mother was then in humble financial circumstances Maurice Silver had to devote most of his time and attention in his boyhood to the farm work. This necessarily limited his educational privileges although he attended the common schools for about two months during the winter season. His youth, however, was largely a period of earnest and unremitting toil and on attaining his majority in 1877 he had thorough training to equip him for life's practical and responsible duties. In 1877 he came west to Iowa, settling in Chickasaw county, where he purchased a fractional eighty acres and engaged in farming. He prospered as the years went on and subsequently added to his landed possessions as his financial resources increased until his holdings comprised two hundred and sixteen acres of land.

which he still owns. In 1910 he removed to Elma, Howard county, where he has since resided. In 1913 he and his son organized the Elma State Savings Bank, of which he became the president in 1917, and remains as the head of the institution.

In 1884 Mr. Silver was married to Miss Elizabeth Greenwood, of Floyd county, Iowa, and they have become the parents of five children: Anna, now the wife of Thomas Kelly, of Elma; Frank E., who is cashier of the Elma State Savings Bank; Blanche, the wife of B. R. Keefe, a farmer of Minnesota; and Clara and Alice, at home.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and Mr. Silver is identified with the Knights of Columbus. His political allegiance is given the democratic party but while he is conversant with the questions and issues of the day he does not seek nor desire public office but has concentrated his efforts and attention upon his business affairs and therein met success, so that he is now numbered among the substantial residents of Howard county.

MATHEW VIRGIL MILLER.

Mathew Virgil Miller, one of the leading farmers of Chickasaw county and a prominent breeder and raiser of shorthorn cattle, makes his home in Utica township. In fact he was born September 1, 1886, on the farm which he now owns, his parents being Dominick and Mary Elizabeth (Lansing) Miller. The father was born in Prussia, Germany, but came to America as a youth of fifteen years and made his way direct to a farm owned by his uncle in Utica township, Chickasaw county. Here he worked as a farm hand for a number of years and in 1870 purchased eighty acres from his uncle, Mathias Kant. He then began farming on his own account, clearing away the forest growth and breaking the virgin soil. He used oxen in the early development of his place and met the usual hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. As the years passed, however, he prospered and at his death was the owner of three hundred and twenty-five acres, now constituting the home farm of Mathew V. Miller. In February, 1872, Dominick Miller wedded Mary Elizabeth Lansing, who was born at Burlington, Wisconsin, October 31, 1852. They became parents of nine children: John, born December 18, 1872; Mary, whose birth occurred in December, 1874; Margaret, whose natal day was May 28, 1876; Agnes, born September 6, 1879; Nella, who was born August 5, 1882; Hubert, whose birth occurred October 5, 1884, and who has passed away; Mathew Virgil, of this review; Anna, born November 3, 1890; and Oriole, who was born on the 4th of January, 1895.

Mathew V. Miller attended the parochial schools at Lawler, Iowa, and the Globe Business College at St. Paul, Minnesota, and when twenty-three years of age he began farming on his own account, purchasing two hundred acres of the old home property on section 33, Utica township. This he has since developed and improved until he has one of the best equipped farms in northern Iowa. In 1913 the old barn was struck by lightning and was replaced by a new and commodious one with cement floor and many sanitary features. Mr. Miller has specialized in the raising of shorthorn cattle and all of his cattle are bred on the farm from a famous imported sire known as Imported Villager. In 1916 Mr. Miller also undertook the work of breeding pure bred Poland China hogs and since that time has developed Pilot, the champion sire of the United States. Mr. Miller has recently refused twenty thousand dollars for this animal. He has upon his place sires which he considers the equal of the champion. His entire herd is of the same breed and strain and his production was so great that he has erected a selling pavilion on the ranch and there conducts his sales. His entire farm is fenced and cross-fenced and he has a fine artesian well, with water piped to all buildings. In the summer of 1919 sixteen carloads of tiling were laid upon the farm, or four thousand rods, making this the best tiled farm in northwestern Iowa. Everything about the place is indicative of his progressive spirit and methods. His hog pens are sanitary, having cement floors, and the buildings are all excellently appointed.

On the 7th of June, 1915, Mr. Miller was married to Miss Mary D. McGinn, a daughter of John and Katherine (Spain) McGinn. Her father was born in Clinton



Matthew C. Miller



Mary D. Miller



DONALD JOSEPH MILLER



MADANE KATHERINE MILLER

county, Iowa, where he spent his entire active life in farming, and he has for the last ten years been president of the People's Savings Bank of Delmar, Iowa. He also owns a section of land in Bloomfield township, Clinton county, whereon he spends most of his time. He is a son of William and Eliza (Fitzgerald) McGinn, who came to the United States from Toronto, Canada, and, settling in Clinton county, Iowa, preempted one hundred and sixty acres of government land, the first grant being signed by President Madison. Both Mr. and Mrs. William McGinn passed away in Clinton county, the latter dying upon the home farm in 1897, at the age of sixty-three years, while Mr. McGinn retired from active life and spent his last days in Delmar, there dying in 1907, at the age of seventy-four. Mrs. Miller attended Our Lady of Angels' Seminary at Lyons, Iowa, and completed her education in St. Joseph's College at Dubuque. She was afterward graduated at the Mercy Hospital at Clinton after pursuing a course in nursing. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have two children: Madane Katherine, born July 5, 1916; and Donald Joseph, born July 29, 1917.

The religious faith of the parents is that of the Catholic church, their membership being at Lawler. In politics Mr. Miller maintains an independent course, voting for men and measures rather than party. In his business affairs he has displayed a most progressive spirit and in the conduct of his farming and stock raising interests employs scientific methods which show his thorough understanding of questions relative to the development of his herds and the production of his crops. He is of the third generation to reside upon the Miller farm in Utica township and that the work of farm improvement has been carried on along most practical and progressive lines is manifest in the present productivity of the place. They have never allowed the soil to become exhausted but have practiced the rotation of crops and the judicious use of fertilizers, so that the fields have always been kept in excellent condition. Moreover, Mr. Miller enjoys a well deserved reputation as the owner of some of the finest shorthorn Villagers and Poland China hogs that the country has produced.

JOE R. MARR.

Among the well known farmers of Howard county is numbered Joe R. Marr, who is living on section 18, Afton township. He is one of the native sons of this county, his birth having here occurred September 6, 1879, his parents being William and Rosella (Yager) Marr. The father was born in Germany, while the mother was a native of Austria. The former came to the United States with his parents when but four years of age and the mother crossed the Atlantic with her parents when a maiden of fifteen summers. They became residents of Wisconsin and in that state reached adult age and were married. They afterward removed to Iowa, taking up their abode in Afton township, Howard county, about the year 1869. The father preempted land from the government, a tract that was in its primitive condition. He also bought land in Afton township upon his arrival and to the time of his death was identified with the farming interests of this section of the state. He converted a wild tract into productive fields and to his place added many modern improvements, being classed with the representative and progressive farmers of the district. He died in Afton township in 1899 and was survived by his widow for eight years, her death occurring in 1907.

By the terms of his father's will Joe R. Marr came into possession of the farm of two hundred acres upon which he now resides on sections 17 and 18, Afton township. He had been reared upon the old homestead farm and pursued his education in the common schools near his father's home. He had been accorded thorough training in farm work and remained in his father's employ until the death of the latter, which occurred when the son Joe was twenty years of age. He then took over the management and further development of the land which he inherited and has made for himself a most creditable and enviable position as a prominent and representative farmer of Afton township.

In his political views Mr. Marr has always been a stanch democrat, voting for the men and measures of the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise.

During the World war he was an active worker in behalf of the Red Cross and also in support of the Liberty Loan drives. He early recognized the fact that industry wins in business and saw that honorable success is only to be attained by persistency of purpose and unfaltering diligence; that it slips away from the sluggard and tauntingly plays before the dreamer but yields its fruits to the man who works persistently and earnestly. This Mr. Marr has done and he is now numbered among the men of affluence in Afton township.

JAMES ADAMEE.

James Adamee, living on section 14, New Oregon township, Howard county, was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, on the 28th of October, 1868. His parents were natives of Bohemia and on coming to the United States made their way across the country and took up their abode in Howard county. In early life the father turned his attention to the occupation of farming and continued to engage in that pursuit to the time of his death, which occurred in 1901.

His son James, who had been reared to farm life, then took over the work of the farm and has since been engaged in the further cultivation and improvement of the old home property, assisted by his son. All of the present excellent improvements upon the place were put there by James Adamee, who now has a thoroughly modern farm, supplied with all the equipment common in the twentieth century. His has been an active and useful life. He was educated in the public schools of Howard county and as the years have passed he has made good use of his time, his talents and his opportunities.

Mr. Adamee is the father of two children: Albert, twenty-two years of age; and Mary, eleven years of age, both upon the home farm. He and his family are members of the Holy Trinity church of Protivin. His entire life has been passed in this section of the state, and the spirit of enterprise which has actuated him in his business affairs has been the basic element of his growing success.

THOMAS H. KELLY.

Among Howard county's well known farmers is Thomas H. Kelly, who resides on section 5, Afton township. He was born upon this farm July 27, 1865, and has here spent his entire life. His parents were Thomas and Bridget Kelly, natives of Ireland, who on coming to Howard county cast in their lot with the pioneer settlers of Afton township. They contributed to the early development of the district and remained residents of the county until called to their final rest. The father passed away in Afton township in 1877, and the mother died upon the old homestead in 1892.

In his youthful days Thomas H. Kelly of this review attended the public schools near his father's home and when not occupied with the duties of the schoolroom largely gave his attention to work in the fields. When his textbooks were put aside he continued to assist in the further development and improvement of the old homestead. Having arrived at years of maturity, he was united in marriage to Miss Lizzie Martin, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Martin, who were natives of Ireland. On coming to the new world they made Iowa their destination and were identified with farming interests in Afton township from pioneer days. They shared in all of the hardships and privations incident to the settlement of the frontier and bore their part in the work of general improvement. Both passed away in Afton township. To Mr. and Mrs. Kelly have been born three children, Gladys, Bernard and Timothy, all yet at home.

The religious faith of Mr. and Mrs. Kelly is that of the Catholic church and they have membership in the St. Cecelia church in Afton township. Mr. Kelly is also connected with the Catholic Order of Foresters. He has filled several local offices, serving as township clerk for a number of years and also as township trustee of Afton town-



Dominick Miller



Mary E. Miller

ship. His worth as a man and citizen is widely acknowledged by those who know aught of his career. His course in business has been characterized by a diligence and determination that have enabled him to overcome all difficulties and obstacles in his path and work his way steadily upward. He has many admirable and substantial traits of character that have not only brought him success in business but have also gained for him the high regard of those with whom he has come in contact.

JOSEPH MALEK.

Bohemia has furnished a very large quota to the substantial citizenship of Howard county. Among those born in that land and now living in Paris township is Joseph Malek, who makes his home in Schley, while owning a good tract of land on section 13. He was born in Bohemia, October 17, 1841, and there spent the first twelve years of his life, coming to the United States in 1853 in company with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Malek. The father, settling in Cleveland, Ohio, worked in a stone quarry there for a brief period, after which he left that city and removed to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he purchased land and began farming. Year after year he carefully tilled the soil and continued the work of improving his farm property, on which he resided to the time of his death in 1870, after which the farm was divided among his sons, while John was to take care of the mother. He afterward turned over the home farm to his brother Michael, who later sold the property.

His wife, Mrs. Sophronia Malek, was born in Bohemia, where her parents were farming people. Mr. Malek has served as school director for seven years and in politics has always been a democrat since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He belongs to the Catholic church of Protivin and is widely and favorably known throughout Howard county. At the present he is living retired, making his home in Schley. Throughout a long period he was an active factor in the agricultural development of the community and succeeded in bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation. He ever carried his work diligently forward and he never had occasion to regret the determination of the family to come to the new world, for he here found business opportunities which he sought and in their utilization made for himself a place among the men of affluence in his community.

OLE E. HOVEY.

Ole E. Hovey, who follows farming on section 11, Forest City township, Howard county, was born in Norway on the 22d of March, 1862, his parents being Andrew and Ture (Olson) Iverson. The father died in his native country, after which the mother came to the United States with her son Ole and at a subsequent period became the wife of Gilbert Olson, with whom she is now living in Minnesota.

Ole E. Hovey, spending his youthful days in the land of his nativity, attended the public schools there and after his father's death, which occurred when the son was eighteen years of age, he worked for two years at the shoemaker's trade. The favorable reports which he heard concerning business opportunities and conditions in the United States led him to the determination to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic and in 1884 he bade adieu to friends and relatives and sailed for America. Traveling across the country to Decorah, Iowa, he hired out as a farm hand and for six years worked for wages, but was ambitious to engage in business on his own account and carefully saved his earnings during that period until his economy and labor had brought him a sufficient sum to enable him in 1890 to purchase a farm of one hundred and fifty acres. Since that time he has resided upon his present place, covering twenty-nine years, and the fruits of his toil are seen in the highly cultivated fields and splendid improvements. His has been a life of diligence, fraught with gratifying results.

In June, 1890, Mr. Hovey was united in marriage to Miss Gena Hovey, a native of Fillmore county, Minnesota, whose father was a native of Norway, while her mother was born in Minnesota but of Norwegian parentage. To Mr. and Mrs. Hovey were born ten children, namely: Lena, the wife of Toleff Bergen, a resident of Howard county; Carrie, who married Harry Owens, of Lime Springs, Howard county; Ole, who follows farming in Howard county; Bertha, who acts as housekeeper for her brother, Ole; Emma, the wife of Clinton Lewis, a resident of Fillmore county, Minnesota; and Gerrie, Clarence, Edward, Oliver and Goldie, all yet at home.

The wife and mother passed away in 1912, in the faith of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which Mr. Hovey is also a member. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and while he is not an office seeker he is interested in everything pertaining to the welfare, development and progress of the district in which he has so long resided. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the new world, for here he found the business opportunities which he sought. Centuries ago a Greek philosopher said: "Earn thy reward; the gods give naught to sloth." Mr. Hovey early realized that industry is the basis of advancement and week after week, month after month and year after year he has diligently toiled and has most creditably won his present enviable position among the capable and prosperous farmers of Forest City township.

HENRY J. BIWER.

Henry J. Biwer, engaged in general farming in Howard township, Howard county, was born upon the old Biwer home farm in the same township, September 29, 1887, a son of John and Margaret (Clear) Biwer, mentioned in connection with the sketch of J. F. Biwer on another page of this work.

Henry J. Biwer spent his youthful days in the usual manner of the farmbred boy. He began his education in the district schools and in vacation periods as he advanced in years he was busily employed in the work of the farm. In 1910 he began farming on his own account on a tract of land of eighty acres in Howard township which he then owned. In 1915 he sold that property and bought a farm of one hundred and twenty-seven and a half acres, which he cultivated for two years. He sold that farm in 1917 and has since been renting land.

On the 4th of February, 1913, Mr. Biwer was united in marriage to Miss Cecelia Ragan, who resided near Riceville, Mitchell county, Iowa. Both are members of the Catholic church, and in politics Mr. Biwer is a republican. He manifests a commendable interest in community affairs and supports all well defined plans for the upbuilding and progress of the district in which he has always lived.

EDWARD H. MULLER.

Edward H. Müller has devoted much of his time to farming but is now living retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. He was born in Prussia in the year 1848 and came to the United States in 1861, the family home being established at Manistee, Michigan. Edward H. Müller was at that time a youth of thirteen years. He early began to provide for his own support, working in the sawmills of Manistee, where he was busily employed until 1873. He came to this country with his parents, his father also working in the sawmills of Manistee for a number of years.

When twenty-five years of age Edward H. Müller, whose names introduces this review, left Michigan and made his way westward to Albion township, Howard county, Iowa, accompanying his parents on the westward trip. Here he and his father purchased eighty acres of land and became identified with the farming interests of the community. In the year 1874 Edward H. Müller married Elvina Greenwald and they began their domestic life upon the farm. In 1876 he sold his eighty acre tract to his

father and with his family removed to Bristol, Minnesota, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land. He had to grub out the stumps from the greater part of this tract, but with characteristic energy he continued the arduous work of developing the place, which he converted into rich and productive fields.

In 1899 Mr. Müller sold his one hundred and sixty acres at Bristol, Minnesota, and removed to Albion township, Howard county, Iowa, where he made investment in four hundred acres of land. He continued to farm that property until 1904, when he again sold his farm and retired from active business. He then removed to Florenceville, Albion township, where he purchased a pleasant home and about an acre and a half of land and through the intervening period he has occupied that place. He is most pleasantly located, his former toil and industry bringing to him a competence that now supplies him with not only all of necessities and comforts but many of the luxuries of life. To Mr. and Mrs. Müller have been born six children: Mary, who is now the wife of Mitchel Bruner; Albert, who married Anne Rung; Herman, who wedded Amanda Walters; Gustave, who married Alvina Biel; Martha M., who lives with her sister Clara, the latter being the wife of Charles Biel.

The Müller family has long been represented in this section of the state. The father of Mr. Müller passed away in 1891, the mother surviving for a considerable period, her death occurring in 1904. In community affairs Mr. Müller has always been deeply interested and he has served as school trustee of his district in Albion township for two years. In politics he is a republican and is keenly interested in affairs of general moment. He is regarded as one of the substantial citizens of the county and during the recent war activities was a most earnest supporter of the Red Cross.

JOSEPH A. PECINOVSKY.

Joseph A. Pecinovsky, living on section 12, New Oregon township, Howard county, was born April 17, 1866, in the county which is still his home. His father, Frank Pecinovsky, was a native of Bohemia, born in 1833, and the mother's birth likewise occurred in that land. They came to the United States on the 23d of December, 1854, and after a short time settled in Howard county, Iowa, where the father purchased the homestead farm. This he developed and improved, continuing the cultivation of the place until 1889, when it was taken over by Joseph A. Pecinovsky, and the father retired from active business life to spend his remaining days in the enjoyment of a rest which he had truly earned and richly merited. He died December 21, 1905, while his wife survived for several years, passing away March 16, 1911.

The educational opportunities which Joseph A. Pecinovsky enjoyed were those afforded by the public schools of Howard county. He was reared to farm work and thus had had broad and valuable practical experience when he assumed the management of the old home farm of one hundred and ninety-seven acres. Since that time he has added various improvements and at the present time has one of the fine farms of the county, neat and attractive in its appearance and giving every evidence of the practical and progressive methods of the owner.

On the 11th of November, 1889, Mr. Pecinovsky was married to Miss Katherine Holub, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Holub, of Linn county, Iowa, who were formerly farming people there. Mr. and Mrs. Pecinovsky have become parents of four sons and a daughter who are yet living, these being: Mary, Aloise, Joseph, John and William. The eldest daughter is the wife of John Klimesh, of Chickasaw county, Iowa, where her husband follows farming. Aloise enlisted in the United States army September 18, 1917, as a member of Company E, Three Hundred and Fifty-first Infantry, and was in overseas service for fourteen months. The other children are yet under the parental roof. There was also another daughter, Rosalia, who at the age of thirteen entered St. Joseph's convent at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, but died five years later. At the time of her death she was known as Sister M. Mathilda and was a member of the Order of St. Francis.

The family adheres to the Catholic faith, having membership in the church at

Protivin. In politics Mr. Pecinovsky is a democrat but while he keeps informed on the questions and issues of the day he does not seek nor desire office, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs, which are wisely and carefully directed and have brought to him a substantial measure of success. He has always lived in Howard county and has therefore through a period of fifty-three years been a witness of its development and upbuilding, while at all times his aid and influence are given on the side of progress and improvement.

MRS. ANN JEANNETTE SLAWSON.

Mrs. Ann Jeannette Slawson is a well known resident of Howard county, where she owns an excellent farm property. She is the widow of Eben Slawson and is a native of the state of New York, her birth having there occurred on the 9th of March, 1847. Her parents were Thomas and Abby Ann (Potter) Jinney, both of whom were natives of New England and representatives of old American families. Mrs. Slawson came to the west in 1871 to visit an uncle, James Potter, who resided in Iowa. Six months later she was united in marriage to John Slawson, the ceremony being performed on the 29th of June, 1871. Mr. Slawson died November 14, 1872, at the age of twenty-three years and ten months, and in January, 1873, Mrs. Slawson was married to Eben Slawson, the brother of her first husband. They traveled life's journey together for a long period but on the 19th of March, 1906, Mr. Slawson passed away at the age of fifty-one years, seven months and twenty days. He was one of the successful farmers of Albion township, having carefully and persistently carried on his business affairs until he had acquired a most substantial competence. He left an estate of six hundred acres of rich, fertile and valuable land, of which Mrs. Slawson now owns two hundred and forty acres, constituting one of the excellent farms of Albion township. Mrs. Slawson has one daughter, Ida May, the widow of T. H. Stevens, of Cresco.

Mrs. Slawson belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and also has membership with the Royal Neighbors. She is widely known in Howard county and enjoys the friendship of all. She has passed the seventy-second milestone on life's journey and for forty-eight years has made her home in Iowa, so that she has long been a witness of the development and progress of this section of the state.

JOHN J. BROWN.

John J. Brown, a decorating contractor carrying on business at Cresco, was born in Freeport, Illinois, in 1848, his natal day being the 10th of December. His parents were James H. and Malinda Brown, who in the year 1851 removed from Illinois to Iowa, establishing their home in Winneshiek county, at which time their son John J., was a little lad of but three summers. The father preempted land, acquiring one hundred and sixty acres, and built thereon a log house. Later he removed to Cresco when the town was started.

John J. Brown was a pupil in the public schools of Iowa through the period of his boyhood and youth and after attending the district schools near his father's farm continued his education in Cresco. He later learned the painter's trade under the direction of William Barber and has continued to follow it since that time, now doing painting and decorating, for which he takes large contracts that he most carefully executes. He is today recognized as the leading contractor in his line in Cresco and likewise does a large amount of contract work in neighboring cities and towns. His work is always highly satisfactory not only by reason of his skill but also owing to the straightforward and reliable business methods which he follows.

In 1875 Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Covey, a native of Franklin county, New York, and a daughter of John R. and Miranda (Williams) Covey. The parents were natives of Albany, Vermont, where they were married in 1853. The

father was a traveling salesman and also a hotel man in Vermont for two years but afterward continued his salesmanship in the state of New York. In 1862 he enlisted in response to the country's call for troops, joining the Union army as a member of the Eighteenth New York Cavalry, with which he served for three years, engaged in camp and field work. He was at one time president of the army hospital at Fort Schuyler and at the close of the war he was honorably discharged. When the country no longer needed his aid he returned to the Empire state and afterward removed to the west, with McGregor, Iowa, as his destination. He traveled by way of the Great Lakes to Milwaukee, then across the country to McGregor, where he established a hotel, which he conducted for some time. He afterward cultivated a farm at National, Iowa, and still later removed to Winneshiek county, Iowa, establishing his home in Orleans township, where he secured a farm upon which he lived for three years. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode in Cresco, where he is now living retired. He has served as marshal and constable for a number of years and has been prominently identified with public interests, discharging every public duty with marked loyalty to the trusts reposed in him. His political allegiance has always been given to the republican party, while his religious faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and proudly wears the little bronze button that indicates him to have been one of the defenders of the Union during the dark days of the Civil war.

To Mr. and Mrs. Brown has been born a son, James Monroe. The parents are consistent members of the Congregational church and guide their lives according to its teachings. Mr. Brown is an exemplary representative of the Masonic fraternity, loyally adhering to the teachings of the craft, and his political allegiance is given to the republican party, which he has supported since attaining adult age. He is widely and favorably known in Cresco, where much of his life has been passed. He has lived in Howard county from pioneer times, his memory forming a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present. He can relate many interesting events concerning the early history of the county as well as its later development, for Iowa has numbered him among its citizens for sixty-seven years.

ALBERT MILLER.

Albert Miller, who is living on section 7, Afton township, Howard county, was born in Wisconsin, January 24, 1872. He came to Howard county when a small boy with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Miller. His father is still living and resides upon the old home farm in Afton township, having for many years been a representative agriculturist of this section of the state.

Albert Miller was reared under the parental roof and his youthful days were spent in the usual manner of the farm boy who divides his time between the duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the fields. His educational opportunities were only those afforded by the common schools and in later life he has learned many valuable lessons in the school of experience. His training in farm work was not meager, for he early began to assist his father in the work of the fields and had had valuable experience along this line when he started in farming on his own account. He purchased his present farm in 1895 and through the intervening period of almost a quarter of a century has resided thereon, bending his efforts to its further development and improvement. He has brought his fields to a high state of cultivation, and the place is now very productive annually yielding splendid crops.

In 1906 Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Sophia Lubbert, a daughter of Louis Lubbert, one of the old settlers of Afton township. Both of her parents have passed away. To Mr. and Mrs. Miller has been born a daughter, Tena, who is now twelve years of age.

The parents are members of the German Lutheran church of Riceville and guide their lives according to its teachings, their many sterling traits of character gaining for them the warm regard and good will of all who know them. In politics Mr. Miller is

a republican and keeps well informed concerning the vital questions and issues of the day but never seeks office as a reward for party fealty. His entire time and attention have been concentrated upon his farming interests and his work in this connection is bringing him substantial results.

P. E. STUART, M. D.

Dr. P. E. Stuart, one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Chickasaw county, has continuously practiced his profession in Nashua for the past nineteen years. His birth occurred at Kellogg, Jasper county, Iowa, on the 26th of July, 1877, his parents being Jasper N. and Isabelle (Muir) Stuart, who were born, reared and married in Ripley county, Indiana. Immediately following the close of the Civil war they came to Iowa, taking up their abode on a farm in Jasper county, where the father successfully carried on general agricultural pursuits throughout the remainder of his active business career. They now reside in Kellogg, where Mr. Stuart has lived retired for several years, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former toil.

P. E. Stuart acquired his early education in the district schools and later attended the Newton Normal School at Newton, Iowa. In 1896 he took up the study of medicine in the medical department of the State University of Iowa at Iowa City, which institution conferred upon him the degree of M. D. on the 28th of March, 1900, and throughout the intervening period of nineteen years he has remained in active and successful practice at Nashua. He is now well known as one of the able representatives of the profession in northern Iowa, his practice having steadily grown as he has demonstrated his ability to cope with the intricate problems which constantly confront the physician in his efforts to restore health and prolong life. In 1910 he pursued post-graduate work in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and he keeps in close touch with the advanced thought of the profession through his membership in the Chickasaw County Medical Society, the Austin Flint Cedar Valley Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

On the 20th of June, 1900, Dr. Stuart was united in marriage to Miss Grace G. Barber, of Kellogg, Iowa, by whom he has two children, Margaret Jean and Robert James.

In his political views Dr. Stuart is independent, supporting men and measures rather than party. He takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare and upbuilding of the community in which he resides and is widely recognized as one of its most progressive and public-spirited citizens. He is now president of the Big Four Fair Association and also president of the Nashua school board, the cause of education ever finding in him a stalwart champion. In Masonry he has also become prominent, belonging to Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M., of which he was past master before reaching the age of twenty-five years; Almond Chapter, No. 53, R. A. M.; Joppa Commandery, No. 55, K. T., of Charles City; De Molay Consistory, No. 1, A. & A. S. R., of Clinton, Iowa; and El Kahir Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. Both the Doctor and his wife are identified with the Order of the Eastern Star. The former is likewise a member of Nashua Lodge, No. 391, I. O. O. F.; Nashua Lodge, No. 110, K. P.; the Modern Woodmen of America and the Mystic Workers. Dr. and Mrs. Stuart are devoted and consistent members of the Congregational church and have gained an extensive circle of warm friends during the period of their residence in Nashua.

JOSEPH A. HRUSKA.

Joseph A. Hruska, living on section 30, New Oregon township, Howard county, is engaged in the cultivation of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, of which he is the owner of eighty acres. He was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, December 7, 1894, and is therefore yet a young man. The qualities which he has already displayed argue well for further success in the future. His father became identified with farming in-

terests in Howard county in early life. He was married when quite young to Mary Huka, of Howard county, and purchasing land, he became closely associated with the farming interests of the county. He actively tilled his fields until about four years ago, when his son took over the farm, since which time the father has lived retired. In community affairs he takes quite a deep interest, serving as school director for a considerable period and otherwise supporting plans and projects for the general good.

Joseph A. Hruska was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He attended the public schools and after his textbooks were put aside concentrated his entire thought and attention upon farming. About 1915 he took over the old home place, purchasing eighty acres from his father, and at the present time he is renting an additional tract of eighty acres. He has placed many substantial improvements upon his land and now has an excellent farm property.

On the 19th of September, 1915, Mr. Hruska was united in marriage to Miss Mary Stika, a daughter of Frank and Helen Stika, of Howard county, and they have become the parents of a daughter, Helen. Mr. and Mrs. Hruska attend the Catholic church at Protivin and he gives his political allegiance to the democratic party. He does not seek nor desire office, however, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs, which are wisely and carefully managed and are bringing to him a substantial measure of success.

F. W. BROWN.

F. W. Brown is a dealer in farm lands at New Hampton, in which business he has continued successfully for a number of years. He had previously filled the position of sheriff for two terms and in all public relations has proven his fidelity to the general welfare and his interest in the progress and upbuilding of the community.

Mr. Brown is a native of the state of New York. He was born January 25, 1863, of the marriage of August and Julia Brown, who were natives of Germany. The father came to United States prior to his fifteenth year, following the death of his parents. He located in Erie county, New York, where he attained his majority. The mother came to the United States in her girlhood with her parents, who established their home in Erie county, New York, and it was there that Mr. and Mrs. Brown were married. For some years they continued to make their home in Erie county but afterward removed to Green Lake, Wisconsin, where they resided for ten years. In 1876 they came to Chickasaw county, Iowa, and Mr. Brown purchased a farm in Dayton township, upon which he still resides. He is now in the eighty-sixth year of his age.

F. W. Brown is indebted to the district schools for the educational opportunities which he enjoyed, but at an early age he began providing for his own support and this terminated his school life. He worked for a time as a farm hand and subsequently secured a position as clerk in a drug and grocery store in Ionia, in which the postoffice was also maintained. He thus received his initial commercial training. In 1886 he ventured in business on his own account, establishing a general merchandise store at Ionia, but after two years he disposed of that business and for a brief period resided in Nashua, Iowa. He next came to New Hampton, where he arrived in the latter part of the summer of 1888. He was appointed to a position in the railway mail service but after four months spent on the road he decided that the work held no future for him and he gave up the position. He then returned to New Hampton and accepted a clerkship in the postoffice. In the summer of 1889 he became active in politics and was elected sheriff of Chickasaw county, to which position he was reelected two years later. Upon the expiration of his second term as sheriff he established a real estate and loan business in New Hampton and has since been active along that line. For ten years he was identified with the First National Bank of West Minneapolis, with the Darrow Trust & Savings Bank of New Hampton and the State Bank of Waucoma as a stockholder, but disposed of all of his bank holdings in 1916 and has since given his entire at-

tention to his land business. He has now a large clientage as a dealer in farm lands and his business has reached very gratifying proportions.

In his political views Mr. Brown has been a lifelong democrat and became the candidate of his party for mayor of New Hampton in the spring of 1919. He belongs to Arcana Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and is a loyal follower of the teachings of the craft. Public opinion classes him with New Hampton's foremost residents and representative business men, who by the wise utilization of time and opportunity has advanced steadily step by step until he now occupies an enviable position on the plane of affluence.

E. D. McWILLIAMS.

E. D. McWilliams, cashier of the Chester Savings Bank of Chester, Howard county, was born in Postville, Allamakee county, Iowa, on the 15th of January, 1879, a son of Brown and Sarah E. (Neeling) McWilliams, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. However, in early life they removed westward and were married in National, Clayton county, Iowa, to which state the mother had come with her parents. Soon after their marriage they established their home in Allamakee county and the father here engaged in farming, bringing his land under a high state of cultivation. He passed away March 11, 1896, and was long survived by his wife, whose death occurred on the 11th of September, 1918.

E. D. McWilliams was reared upon the homestead farm, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the farm-bred boy. He acquired his education in the schools of Postville, passing through consecutive grades to the graduation from the high school as a member of the class of 1896. Following the completion of his studies he remained at home, his parents having in the meantime removed into Postville, until 1904, when he became a resident of Chester and entered the German Savings Bank as assistant cashier. His capability and fidelity led to his promotion to the office of cashier and in 1907 and in 1918 the name of the institution was changed to the Chester Savings Bank. For the past twelve years Mr. McWilliams has had charge of the financial policy of the bank and under his direction the business of the bank has largely grown, the deposits having increased from twenty-five thousand dollars in 1907 to almost one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars in 1919.

On the 5th of June, 1918, Mr. McWilliams was married to Miss Mary A. Young, of Cresco, Iowa, and they are numbered among the highly esteemed residents of Chester. In politics he is a democrat. In Masonic circles he is prominent, belonging to Brotherly Love Lodge, No. 204, A. F. & A. M., of Postville; Bruce Chapter, R. A. M., of Cresco; Iowa Consistory, No. 2, A. & A. S. R.; and Kilwinning Lodge of Perfection, No. 2, of Cedar Rapids. He is also identified with Utopia Chapter, No. 379, O. E. S. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. The steps in the orderly progression of Mr. McWilliams are easily discernible. Persistent purpose has brought him to the front in a business way and at all times he is willing to lend his aid and cooperation to any plan or measure for the general good. Those who know him, and he has a wide acquaintance, esteem him highly, his genuine worth being recognized by all.

HOMER DE FOREST JEWETT.

Homer De Forest Jewett, a photographer of Bradford and Nashua, was born in Potsdam, St. Lawrence county, New York, June 12, 1858. The family comes of Holland Dutch ancestry, the paternal grandparents of H. D. Jewett being representatives of that stock. In the maternal line, however, he is of English lineage, for the Stickney family, of which he is a representative, trace their ancestry back through several generations to the town or parish of Stickney, near London, England. His parents, John and Lucy (Stickney) Jewett, were natives of Franklin county, Vermont, and on leaving

the Green Mountain state removed to Potsdam, New York, in the year 1847. There they settled upon a farm in the south part of the town, living in a log house, the father taking up the arduous task of clearing a part of the land of the timber and stumps before the crops could be planted. Thus he aided in the pioneer development of that region.

His son, Homer D. Jewett, attended the district schools between the ages of six and sixteen years. Through the period of his boyhood and youth he worked on farms after leaving school, being thus employed until twenty-four years of age, when, thinking to find other pursuits more congenial, he entered a studio and learned the art of portrait painting, which profession he followed until coming to the middle west in 1904. Since that time he has been a resident of Minnesota and Iowa and has been engaged in photographic work. Before removing west of the Mississippi he was employed in some of the leading studios of Potsdam and Syracuse, New York, and of Chicago Illinois, and it has been his privilege to paint portraits of some very notable personages, including governors of states, principals of large schools and people in other prominent walks of life.

At Potsdam, New York, on the 30th of August, 1887, Mr. Jewett was married to Miss Lottie E. Stickney, a daughter of J. Dennison and Beulah M. Stickney. Mrs. Jewett was born in Madrid, St. Lawrence county, New York, in March 1860. Her father was born in Jay, Essex county, New York, while her mother was a native of Madrid. They were farming people.

In religious faith Mr. and Mrs. Jewett are connected with the Methodist Episcopal church. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and fraternally he was connected with the Independent Order of Good Templars, while from 1885 until 1888 inclusive, or for two terms, he served as financial secretary of his lodge. In all matters of citizenship he stands for those things which he deems of greatest worth to the community and his aid and influence are ever on the side of those projects which are for the uplift of the individual and the upbuilding of the state. He is a staunch advocate of the cause of temperance and in many ways has manifested his interest in forces for righteousness and public benefit. During the period of the world war he was a most loyal and earnest supporter of the government in its efforts to advance the cause of democracy among the people of the world and contributed to the extent of his ability to the support of the Liberty Loan drives and all war measures.

D. H. TIDGWELL.

D. H. Tidgwell is well known as a representative citizen of Elma. He was for many years engaged in the lumber trade but is now living retired in the enjoyment of well earned rest. He was born in Racine county, Wisconsin, September 30, 1859, a son of John and Margaret (McDonald) Tidgwell, the former a native of Bradford, England, while the latter was born in the north of Ireland. They came to the United States with their respective parents, the former as a youth of seventeen years and the latter as a little maiden of ten summers. Both of the families located in what was known as the English settlement in Racine county, Wisconsin, and there the parents of D. H. Tidgwell were later married. The father purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land and engaged in farming, residing upon his farm property to the time of his death.

D. H. Tidgwell was educated in the district schools and left home when twenty-two years of age to seek his fortune independently. In April, 1882, he came to Iowa, settling in Chickasaw county, where he rented a farm a mile east of the present site of the courthouse. There he kept bachelor's hall and devoted his attention to his farm work for five years. In the fall of 1886 he bought lumber in New Hampton and hauled it to the present site of Elma, where he built a hardware store. This was prior to the time when the railroad was built and his was one of the first buildings erected in the town. He conducted a hardware trade for six years and success attended the new venture.

About this time, in the fall of 1892, Mr. Tidgwell was united in marriage to Miss

Ida M. Trickle, of New Hampton, and retiring from the hardware trade, he turned his attention to the breeding and raising of race horses. About 1894 he established a lumber business in Elma but continued to follow the races until 1898. He was very successful in the lumber business and conducted his yard at Elma until about 1900, when he sold to the C. W. Chapman Lumber Company. A little more than a year later he engaged in the grocery business but after two years disposed of his stock of groceries and purchased the Church & Hoyt hardware store, which he conducted successfully for four years. He then sold the business and has since been engaged in buying and trading in farm lands. He is now the owner of seven hundred and sixty-five acres of valuable farm lands in Howard county. In all of his business affairs he has displayed sound judgment and keen enterprise and his carefully directed interests have brought to him a substantial measure of prosperity.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tidgwell have been born three children, of whom two are living: Lyla M., who is assistant principal of the Elma public schools; and Thelma I., who is attending high school in Elma. Mr. Tidgwell gives his political allegiance to the republican party and keeps well informed and the questions and issues of the day but does not seek nor desire office. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and he made most liberal contribution toward the erection of its house of worship. He stands loyally for every plan or movement which he believes will prove of benefit to the city, and his worth in this connection and as a business man has long been acknowledged. He has a wide acquaintance and all who know him speak well of him in terms of kind regard.

C. W. SCHNURR.

C. W. Schnurr is a dealer in agricultural implements at New Hampton and also agent for the Ford car, thus being actively identified with the business interests of the city. He was born in Buffalo, Scott county, Iowa, July 27, 1867, and is a son of Daniel and Catherine (Bald) Schnurr, the former a native of Germany, while the latter was also born in Buffalo, Scott county, Iowa. The father came to the United States when a youth of sixteen years in company with four brothers, and all located in Scott county, this state, where Daniel Schnurr was afterward married to Catherine Bald. They settled upon a farm there, which remained their home for a number of years, and in the fall of 1872 they removed to Chickasaw county, purchasing a farm in Richland township, which Mr. Schnurr continued to further develop and improve until about 1901, when he retired from active business life and established his home in New Hampton, where he now resides at the venerable age of eighty-seven years. On the mother's side of the house there are five generations of the family living, including the grandmother of C. W. Schnurr and his own grandchildren.

C. W. Schnurr was educated in the common schools and on attaining his majority turned his attention to carpentering. He subsequently engaged in contracting and building on his own account, erecting barns and other farm buildings. Later he removed to New Hampton, where he entered the employ of Bigelow Brothers, lumber merchants, remaining with that firm and its successors, Bigelow & Donovan, for a period of eight years. In 1901 he was elected to the office of county sheriff, in which capacity he served for five years, and when he had retired from the position he went upon the road as a traveling salesman for the International Harvester Company, which he thus represented for three years. On the expiration of that period he purchased an interest in the New Hampton Implement Company and the business is now owned by Mr. Schnurr and J. Blankenheim. They have built up a gratifying trade as dealers in agricultural implements, handling farm machinery of the latest and most improved manufacture, and they are also agents in New Hampton for the Ford car. They have also built up a large business in this particular and as the result of his industry, close application and enterprise Mr. Schnurr is now enjoying a liberal annual income.

Mr. Schnurr married Miss Teresa Peters, of Chickasaw county, and to them have been born eight children, seven of whom are yet living: Arthur, who is assistant

postmaster at New Hampton, Clemens, who served in the European war, being on active duty in France; Clarence, a twin brother of Clemens, who joined the army but was not sent overseas; Marie, who is attending St. Mary Academy at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin; and Frank, Aloysiūs and Evelyn, who are yet under the parental roof.

In politics Mr. Schnurr is a republican and for some years he served as a member of the city council, cooperating heartily in plans and projects for the welfare and up-building of the community. He is now a member of the New Hampton fire department. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Knights of Columbus, and both he and his wife are members of St. Mary's Catholic church. New Hampton accounts him one of her leading and representative business men and his career is illustrative of what can be accomplished through individual effort, for he has worked his way upward entirely unaided.

WILLIAM CONNOLLY, M. D.

Dr. William Connolly, a member of the medical profession, who in his practice specializes in the treatment of the eye, in which connection he has gained high efficiency, was born in County Waterford, Ireland, on the 4th of March, 1861, a son of Patrick and Catharine (Hannigan) Connolly. He was brought by his parents to the United States when but three years of age, the family settling at McGregor, Iowa, which was then the only market in the northern part of the state. Mr. Connolly, the father, there established a grocery store and conducted business successfully until 1873, when he removed to Cresco, where he was again identified with commercial interests. He remained there until his death, carrying on business in the store now occupied by the firm of Mott & Company. He passed away in Cresco at the age of sixty-seven years and is still survived by his wife, who now resides in Spokane, Washington, and has reached the age of eighty-seven years. He gave his political allegiance to the republican party and served as city treasurer of Cresco for a number of years, proving a most faithful custodian of the public funds. His religious faith was that of the Roman Catholic church.

Dr. Connolly spent his boyhood days in McGregor, where he resided to the age of eleven years. He then accompanied his parents on their removal to Cresco, where he continued to attend the public schools, having begun his education in McGregor. At a later period he became a pupil in Notre Dame University at Notre Dame, Indiana, and his professional training was received in Rush Medical College of Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1883, when a young man of twenty-one years, having pursued the full course in that institution. He then came to Cresco, where he opened an office and entered upon the practice of his profession, in which he continued until 1887. He then sold his practice to Dr. George Kessel and became engaged in the drug business in connection with a Mr. Lowry, with whom he was thus associated until 1912. when he withdrew from activity as a druggist to devote his entire time and attention to the eye. He is well known as an optician and oculist and is doing excellent work in that connection. During his medical practice he bought a farm of one hundred and thirty-two acres in Cresco at a hundred dollars per acre, it being the first farm sold in Howard county for that price. It is today a very valuable tract of land, on which his son, W. F. Connolly, is now engaged in raising full blooded Holstein cattle. Dr. Connolly is also a director in the Cresco Union Savings Bank and is thus identified with various lines of business which contribute not only to his individual success but also to the progress and prosperity of the general public.

In 1884 Dr. Connolly was united in marriage to Miss Catharine Mullen, a daughter of Martin and Mary (O'Malley) Mullen. She was born at Bear Creek, Wisconsin, while her parents were natives of Ireland, whence they came to the United States in the early '50s, crossing the Atlantic in one of the old sailing vessels common at that period. They established their home in the state of New York, where Mr. Mullen followed the occupation of farming, but later he removed to the middle west, locating in Cresco. He retired from active business, spending his remaining days in the enjoyment

of well earned rest. His widow still survives. Dr. and Mrs. Connolly became the parents of three children: William F., who is giving his attention to the breeding and raising of Holstein cattle upon his father's farm; Ruth, who has become a Sister of Charity and is now teaching at Emmetsburg, Iowa; and Irene, who died at the age of five months. The wife and mother passed away in 1907 at the age of forty-seven years, and her death was deeply regretted by many friends as well as her immediate family.

Dr. Connolly is the only member of his father's family still living in Howard county and he is the eldest of a household that once numbered eight children, the others being: Ella, now the wife of William Fitzgerald, a resident of Spokane, Washington; Anastasia, Mary, Augustine and Joseph, all of whom are residents of Spokane; Robert, who died at the age of two years; and James F., living in Seattle, Washington.

Dr. Connolly votes with the republican party, of which he has been a stalwart adherent since age gave him the right of franchise. He is a member of the city council and has served in that office for six years, discharging his duties with marked promptness and capability. He was one of the builders of St. Joseph's Hospital in Cresco and has always been interested in plans and measures for public progress and improvement in the city and county of his adoption. His fellow townsmen esteem him as a man of sterling worth.

JOHN McDANNELL, M. D.

Wide and comprehensive study and broad experience have placed Dr. John McDannell in the ranks of the leading physicians and surgeons of Iowa. He is practicing at Nashua, Chickasaw county, where he has made his home since 1908. He was born in Rock Island, Illinois, on the 9th of March, 1871, and is a son of Decatur S. and Etola Mary (Hughes) McDannell, the former a native of Ohio, while the latter was born in Pennsylvania. They were married in the Buckeye state, where the mother had removed with her parents in her girlhood days. The father was an artist and among his many works of art was a painting of the battle of Gettysburg, which was shown in a panorama on Wabash avenue in Chicago for many years, a notable work that drew to it thousands of spectators annually. He resided in Rock Island in early manhood and for many years was a resident of Chicago. His labors included many canvases made in the Rocky Mountains in Colorado, several of these being notable pictures of the Garden of the Gods. His last days were spent at Moline, Illinois, where he passed away about 1890.

Dr. McDannell was educated in the public schools of Illinois and in the State University of Wisconsin. He lived in Wisconsin with Dr. W. P. Hartford, then of Beeton, and it was through his influence that he took up the study of medicine, remaining for three years under the preceptorship of Dr. Hartford. In 1888 he entered the Kentucky School of Medicine at Louisville and was there graduated as a member of the class of 1891. He located for practice at Glenhaven, Wisconsin, where he remained in active professional work for eight years and then came to Iowa. For a similar period he lived at Arlington and in 1908 removed to Nashua, where through the intervening eleven years he has enjoyed a large and remunerative practice. He has taken post graduate work in the Chicago Post Graduate School, where he studied in 1900, and in 1907 and 1908 he devoted six months to post graduate work in the New York Polyclinic. He is constantly broadening his knowledge by reading and study, and experience is also adding to his efficiency day by day. He is a member of the Chickasaw County Medical Society, the Austin Flint Cedar Valley Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association and through the proceedings of these bodies keeps in close touch with the trend of modern professional thought and practice. He is at all times most careful in the diagnosis of his cases and is seldom if ever at fault in foretelling the outcome of disease.

On the 18th of September, 1892, Dr. McDannell was married to Miss Lottie E. Ishmael, of Cassville, Wisconsin, and to them has been born a daughter, Lucille, who is now a student in Grinnell College at Grinnell, Iowa.

Dr. McDannell is a valued member of Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M., of Nashua, also of Nashua Lodge, I. O. O. F., and Nashua Lodge, K. P., the Modern Woodmen of America and the Royal Neighbors, while his wife is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, the ladies' auxiliary of Masonry. Both are held in the highest esteem in the community, and Dr. McDannell occupies a most enviable position in professional circles.

THOMAS R. PERRY.

Thomas R. Perry, county highway engineer, residing in Cresco, was born in San Francisco, California, on the 9th day of April, 1890, and is a son of Herbert and Belle (Young) Perry. The father was born in New York, while the mother's birth occurred near Elma, Howard county, Iowa. Herbert Perry was only a year old when brought by his parents to Iowa, the family settling at Howard Center, in Howard county, where the grandfather took up government land. This was a wild and largely uninhabited district to which he made his way and gave little indication of the changes which were to rapidly develop it. He obtained a claim from the government, upon which he built a sod house and therein lived in true pioneer style. He concentrated his efforts and attention upon the cultivation of his land and in time brought his fields into a most productive state. In the later years of his life he established his home in Cresco, where he lived retired and there both he and his wife passed away. His son, Herbert Perry, continued upon the old homestead farm through the period of his boyhood and youth and was married in Howard county. He afterward removed to San Francisco, California, where he owned and managed a vineyard, but after continuing for a time on the Pacific coast he returned to Howard county and once more occupied the old homestead farm, upon which he and his wife are now living, the former at the age of sixty-three years, while the latter is sixty-two years of age. Throughout the years of his manhood Herbert Perry has been a stalwart advocate of republican principles and in fraternal relations he is a Mason, loyal to the teachings of the craft.

Thomas R. Perry spent his boyhood days in Howard county and mastered the branches of learning taught in the public schools of the home neighborhood and at Lime Springs. In 1909 he entered the Iowa State College at Ames and there pursued a thorough course in civil engineering, being graduated with the class of 1915. He afterward followed his profession in Toledo, Iowa, where he had charge of sewer construction. He also did similar work at State Center, Union, Nevada and Cairo, Iowa. In 1917 he removed to Cresco, where he is now located and he is filling the position of county highway engineer. He is doing excellent work in that office, closely studying the needs and opportunities of the county along that line and his labors have had real practical value to the community.

Mr. Perry votes with the republican party, of which he has been a staunch champion since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. His religious faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church and he is interested in all that pertains to its welfare and upbuilding.

H. J. KRONINGER.

H. J. Kroninger is a retired farmer residing in Fredericksburg. He comes to Iowa from the Keystone state, his birth having occurred in Pennsylvania, September 12, 1844. He is a son of Joseph K. and Elizabeth (Slonecker) Kroninger, the former a native of Delaware, while the latter was born in Pennsylvania, in which state they were married, the paternal grandparents having removed to Berks county, Pennsylvania, in 1821. About 1847 Joseph K. Kroninger went with his family to Ohio, establishing his home among the pioneer settlers of Delaware county, where he resided until 1854. In that year he came to Iowa, first locating in Clayton county near Elkader,

where he put in a crop. There he left his family but the following spring came to Chickasaw county and took up his abode upon a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in New Hampton township. He entered this land from the government as a homestead claim and it was entirely destitute of improvements, not a furrow having been turned upon the tract. There were only seven families in this vicinity at that early day and they formed a Pioneers Association, agreeing to stand by each other in sickness and adversity as well as in prosperity. Mr. Kroninger built a log cabin upon his farm, and having thus prepared a home for his family, he removed his wife and children to Chickasaw county in 1856. He recalls the fact that his first crop of one hundred and fifty bushels of buckwheat and his corn crop were destroyed by a prairie fire, leaving only a few bushels of buckwheat in the center of the pile that were fit for use. Deer were numerous, however, in those early days and venison was easily secured. This, with the buckwheat, constituted the food of the family through the winter. The buckwheat was ground in an old coffee mill, one of the children grinding the amount necessary for breakfast, another for dinner, and a third for supper, each thus taking his turn. That season—the winter of 1856-57—was the winter of the big snow. The children of the family, H. J. Kroninger among the number, went through the winter without shoes, wrapping old sacks around their feet in lieu of other foot-gear. In later years, however, Joseph K. Kroninger prospered in his undertakings and to his home farm added a tract of forty acres. He was thus able to provide a good living for his family through the sale of his crops. He was one of the organizers of the first school district of the county—school district No. 1, comprising the four townships of Dresden, New Hampton, Stapleton and Fredericksburg, a log schoolhouse being built on the corner of the four townships. Mr. Kroninger served as a member of the first school board and was deeply interested in the work of progress and improvement in the county along all lines. In subsequent years he served as township trustee and in 1863 was elected a member of the board of county supervisors. His worth as a citizen was widely acknowledged and his labors proved a resultant force in bringing about progress along many lines. The community mourned the loss of one of its valued pioneer settlers when in 1894 he passed away. His widow survived him until March, 1898.

H. J. Kroninger acquired only such schooling as it was possible to obtain in early pioneer times. In those days the only qualifications required of a teacher were that he could give instruction in the three R's—"readin', writin' and 'rithmetic." When he reached the age of fourteen his schooldays were over. His father was a blacksmith by trade and devoted much of his time to the work of the shop, so that H. J. Kroninger took up the burden of operating the farm. He remained at home, giving his services to his father until he attained his twenty-first year, when he began farming on his own account as a renter. He was married in 1867 and in that year bought his first land, becoming the owner of forty acres in Dresden township, on which was a log house. To this place he removed with his wife and while farming his own land he also cultivated other land, which he rented in the neighborhood. In subsequent years he added to his original purchase until his present farm comprises one hundred and eighty acres, constituting a valuable place, to which he has added many modern improvements. He has divided his farm into fields of convenient size by well kept fences, has secured the best farm machinery and has done everything possible to enhance the value and productiveness of the place. In the spring of 1903, however, he left the farm and removed to Fredericksburg, where he has since made his home. He was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Fredericksburg and was later made a member of its board of directors, while in 1912 he was elected vice president of the bank, in which official capacity he has since served.

On the 25th of March, 1867, Mr. Kroninger was united in marriage to Miss Rozena Zoller, of Winneshiek county, Iowa, a daughter of Frederick Zoller, who came to this country from Germany in 1854 and established his home in Winneshiek county, where he resided to the time of his death.

In his political views Mr. Kroninger is a republican, always giving staunch support to the party. He has served for several years as a member of the city council, having been the incumbent in that position when the electric light plant was installed, and he was also a member of the school board when the new school building of Fredericksburg

was erected. He stands at all times on the side of advancement and improvement and is one of the public-spirited residents of Fredericksburg, where his work has been of substantial worth to the community.

HERMAN RUESINK.

Herman Ruesink, actively identified with farming on section 22, Forest City township, Howard county, has come to Iowa from the state of Wisconsin, his birth having occurred in Sheboygan county, May 10, 1864. His parents, Aaron J. and Jane G. (Hopeman) Ruesink, were natives of Holland and came to the United States in childhood with their respective parents. They settled in Wisconsin, where they were reared and married, and in 1877 left that state to become residents of Howard county, Iowa. They took up their abode upon a farm in Chester county which Mr. Ruesink had purchased three years previous to his removal to this state, and upon that farm he resided until his death, which occurred in 1890. His wife survived him for more than two decades, passing away in 1911.

Herman Ruesink was a lad of thirteen years when the family came to Iowa, and his education, begun in the schools of Wisconsin, was continued in the public schools of Howard county. His early training was that of the farm-bred boy, who soon becomes familiar with the work of the fields and the best methods of caring for the crops. In March, 1889, he married Miss Georgia Anna Chick, of Bangor, Maine, and in the spring of that year engaged in farming on his own account, purchasing at that time a tract of land of one hundred acres adjoining the city limits of Lime Springs on the east. He continued to develop that property until 1902, when he sold the farm and bought fifteen acres west of Lime Springs, upon which place he remained until the death of his wife in 1908. He then sold the property and in 1910 made investment in his present farm, which comprises one hundred and sixty acres of rich and productive land on section 22, Forest City township. From the time of the early spring planting until the crops are harvested in the late autumn he is busy with the work of the fields, and the results of his persistent and intelligently directed labors are found in very substantial crops.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ruesink were born four children: Abbie E., the wife of John Metz, who is engaged in the automobile business at Stacyville, Iowa; and John A., Ada L. and Frances R., all at home.

Politically Mr. Ruesink is a republican, believing firmly in the principles of the party as factors in good government, and he is now serving on the board of trustees of Forest City township. He belongs to Howard Lodge, No. 214, A. F. & A. M., and is a loyal adherent of the craft. During the period of the recent war with Germany he was very active in support of the Red Cross and the Young Men's Christian Association, serving on the committees in all of the drives for these two organizations. He is a loyal, public-spirited citizen, and his fidelity to American interests and welfare is again and again manifest.

JOSEPH SOCK.

Joseph Sock, who carries on farming on section 24, Howard township, Howard county, is of Bohemian birth. He was born December 31, 1866, of the marriage of Joseph and Barbara (Bokola) Sock, both of whom remained residents of Bohemia until called to their final rest. When twenty years of age, or in 1886, Joseph Sock left his native land, attracted by the broader business opportunities that he could secure on this side of the Atlantic. He did not tarry on the eastern coast but made his way at once across the country to Howard county, Iowa, and here he began work as a farm hand, for he had no capital at the time of his arrival. In fact his funds were so exhausted that it was necessary for him to find immediate employment, but when it was recognized that he was an industrious and energetic man he had no difficulty in obtaining work. He carefully saved his money and after four years was able to purchase his present

nome place, which comprises one hundred and fifty-eight acres of land that is rich and productive, responding readily to the care and labor that he bestows upon it. He works diligently and persistently in the further development of his place and is now meeting with substantial success. He is also a stockholder in the Maple Leaf Creamery Company.

In 1888 Mr. Sock was united in marriage to Miss Wincina Soback, who was born in Bohemia and came to the United States with her parents in girlhood days. They now have seven children, as follows: William, who follows farming in Paris township, Howard county; John, Joseph, Frank and James, all at home; Anna, the wife of Charles Marek of Cedar Rapids; and Mary, the wife of Louis Ounderk, of Wilder, Montana.

In his political views Mr. Sock is a democrat and in religious faith he and his family are Catholics. He came to the United States a poor boy and has made steady advancement in the business world. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic, for he here found opportunities which are always open to the industrious and ambitious. His industry has been the basic element of his success and has brought him prominently to the front as a representative farmer of Howard county.

FRANK A. PECHOTA.

The student of history cannot carry his investigations far into the records of Chickasaw county without learning the fact that the Pechota family has long been actively identified with the agricultural development of northern Iowa. In pioneer times the family home was established in this section of the state and it was upon the old homestead farm that Frank A. Pechota was born on the 26th of October, 1880, in Utica township, his parents being Frank and Mary Pechota, more extended mention of whom is made in connection with the sketch of their son, W. A. Pechota, on another page of this work.

Frank A. Pechota now resides on section 1, Utica township, and throughout his entire life since reaching adult age he has been identified with farming interests. In his youth he was a pupil in the district school near his father's home, dividing his time between the duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the fields. His early training well qualified him to engage in farming on his own account and following his marriage he settled at his present place of residence—a farm of one hundred and thirty-five acres, of which his father deeded to him one hundred acres. Five years later the son purchased a thirty-five acre tract adjoining and he is now busily employed in the further development of this property, to which he has added many modern improvements. His place is well equipped with good buildings, is divided into fields of convenient size by well kept fences and the latest improved machinery facilitates his labor.

In September, 1905, Mr. Pechota was united in marriage to Miss Anna Landa, a daughter of Frank Landa, who became one of the pioneer residents of Winneshiek county and is still living upon the farm which he secured at an early day. To Mr. and Mrs. Pechota have been born six children, five of whom survive, namely: William F., Celia, Philomene, Blanche and Marguerite.

In the exercise of his right of franchise Mr. Pechota supports the men and measures of the democratic party, in the principles of which he is a firm believer. He served for two terms as a member of the board of township trustees but otherwise has not been active in office. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and their interest in everything that pertains to the welfare and progress of the community is manifest by active and helpful cooperation in many plans for the public good. Mr. Pechota is a stockholder in the Protivin Cooperative Creamery Company and there is no phase of progressive agriculture with which he is not familiar. He closely studies the best methods of tilling the soil and producing his crops and that his efforts are ever guided by sound judgment is indicated in the substantial results which reward his labors.

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