

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: Betha, 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