

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-