

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.