

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-