

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. Hoillister, 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