

of Minneapolis. The wife and mother passed away in 1912, her death being deeply regretted not only by her immediate family but by many friends as well.

Mr. Jones gives his political allegiance to the republican party and is well versed in the questions and issues of the day. He is one of the well known residents of Chester and of Howard county, having lived in this section of the country from pioneer times. He has therefore witnessed the entire growth and development of the region and has ever borne his part in the work of general improvement and progress.

J. A. BEAUMASTER.

J. A. Beaumaster, a well known farmer residing on section 1, Howard township, in Howard county, has been a resident of northern Iowa since a youth of thirteen years, at which time the family home was established in Chickasaw county. He was born in Racine county, Wisconsin, on the 8th of January, 1863, and is a son of William and Theresa (Wiemer) Beaumaster, who were natives of Germany. They came to America, however, in young manhood and womanhood and were married in Racine county, Wisconsin, where the father had taken up his abode at an early period in the development of that region. There he engaged in farming until 1876, when he removed with his family to Iowa, settling in Washington township, Chickasaw county, where he purchased eighty acres of land. This he afterward traded for town property in Alta Vista and a quarter section in Howard township, Howard county. He was a veteran of the Civil war and his service so undermined his health that he was unable to do the active work of the farm. He suffered from rheumatism and heart trouble for many years and the trouble with his heart ultimately occasioned his death in 1913, when he had reached the age of eighty-seven years. His wife passed away in 1910, at the age of seventy-one.

J. A. Beaumaster began his education in the district schools of Wisconsin and continued his studies in the district schools of Iowa after the removal of the family to this state. His early experiences were those of the farm-bred boy and in 1885, when twenty-two years of age, he began farming on his own account. For nine years he continued the cultivation of rented land and in 1894 he purchased from his savings his present home farm of one hundred and sixty acres, for which he paid thirteen dollars per acre. He had but fifty dollars capital at the time, but he purchased from S. A. Converse, who loaned him three hundred dollars in order to enable him to get a start. He bent every energy toward clearing his place of all indebtedness and the task was soon accomplished as the result of his indefatigable industry, perseverance and economy. That his labors have wrought a marked transformation in the appearance and value of the place is indicated in the fact that he would not today sell his farm for two hundred dollars per acre. He has carefully cultivated his fields and for some years has specialized in the breeding of registered polled Angus cattle and fine Poland China hogs. His stock raising interests have been a very substantial element in his success. Aside from his home place he rents other land and for some years has been farming three hundred and sixty-five acres, annually gathering large crops because of the careful and systematic manner in which he tills his fields. He has ever been keenly interested in those things which have to do with the agricultural development of his district and has quickly adopted all improved methods which he believes will be of sterling worth in promoting farm progress. He served for twelve years as a member of the board of directors of the Elma Cooperative Creamery Company but is not at present a stockholder in that concern.

On the 18th of October, 1892, Mr. Beaumaster was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Fitzgerald, a daughter of Thomas Fitzgerald, who was one of the earliest pioneer settlers of Howard county but is now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Beaumaster have been born five children, four of whom survive, as follows: Mame, at