

there he had to use the five dollars, so that he landed in New York city with but three pennies and his ticket to Cresco. He brought five or six sandwiches with him from the vessel on which he had sailed and those were eaten in New York. Then he made the journey to Cresco without food. On reaching the city of his destination he was told that his uncle lived six miles in the country and he set out on the journey on foot. It was a long, tedious trip on an empty stomach, for he had had no food for a couple of days, but he picked some wild strawberries by the wayside and finally reached his uncle's home. For two years thereafter he remained upon his uncle's farm and later continued to work as a farm hand, being thus employed until his twenty-seventh year.

Mr. Stejskal was then united in marriage to Miss Mary Markovetz, a native of Howard county, whose parents came from Bohemia and were among the early pioneers of Iowa. Following his marriage Mr. Stejskal, who had saved about twelve hundred dollars, purchased one hundred and sixty acres of his present farm. He then borrowed seven hundred dollars, with which he bought machinery, horses and other farm equipment and began the development and improvement of his place. He has since erected good buildings and made his farm one of the best improved properties of the county. His life has been one of industry and thrift, and his determination and energy have enabled him to overcome all obstacles and difficulties and work his way steadily upward to success.

To Mr. and Mrs. Stejskal have been born seven children, five of whom are yet living: Mary, at home; Frances, who is attending the State Teachers College at Cedar Falls, Iowa; and William, Edward and Louise, all yet at home.

In politics Mr. Stejskal is a democrat but not an office seeker. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church He has long been regarded as one of the substantial and representative men of Howard county, and in addition to the success he has achieved in farming he is also known as one of the stockholders of the Farmers Creamery Association of Cresco. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the new world, for here he found the opportunities which he sought and in their utilization has made steady progress.

MICHAEL J. JEWERT.

Michael J. Jewert, devoting his time and energies to general farming in Howard county, his home being on section 36, Afton township, has always resided in the Mississippi valley and he possesses the spirit of diligence and enterprise which has been the dominant factor in the rapid upbuilding of this section of the country. He was born in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, July 20, 1873, a son of Martin and Anna (Woelfel) Jewert, both of whom were natives of what is now Milwaukee but was then the village of Walkers Point. The mother's parents came to this country in company with Philip Best, the well known brewer of Milwaukee. Following the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Jewert they began their domestic life in Elm Grove, Waukesha county, where the father followed the blacksmith's trade and conducted a shop for thirty-one years. He was long an active representative of industrial life in that community and enjoyed the high respect of all. His death, which occurred May 4, 1894, resulted from the kick of a mule which he was shoeing. His widow is still living and yet makes her home in Elm Grove, at about the age of sixty-seven years, and her mother lives with her at the advanced age of ninety-four years.

Michael J. Jewert is indebted to the public school system of Wisconsin for the early advantages which he enjoyed and later he spent a term in study at the Wauwatosa Normal School. As early as his fifteenth year he was apprenticed to the blacksmith's trade, serving under his father, and when his apprenticeship was completed he continued to work at the trade, which he followed for twelve years. His life has ever been one of industry and he has manifested thoroughness in