

Whiting. The father was born in Marion county, Indiana, while the mother was a native of Story county, Iowa. The former came to this state in the 170s and soon after his arrival was married to Armeta Belcher. They began their domestic life in Story county and there reared their family.

J. D. Whiting, spending his youthful days under the parental roof, attended the common schools and was trained in the work of the home farm, early becoming familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. When he arrived at years of maturity he planned to have a home of his own and to this end wedded Miss Clara Mae Shafer, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Newton Shafer, who are still residents of Story county, Iowa, where they have spent their entire lives. To Mr. and Mrs. Whiting have been born three children, namely: Thelma Mae, Arthur D. and Jacob D., aged respectively eleven, nine and six years.

From Story county Mr. Whiting came to Howard county and has since been identified with its agricultural interests. He is now the owner of a good farm on section 12, Afton township, and in the further development of his land has made it a valuable and productive farm. There are good buildings upon the place and everything indicates the careful supervision, and progressive methods of the owner, whose life has been one of intense and well directed activity, bringing to him the success which is now his.

Mr. and Mrs. Whiting are consistent and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church, contributing generously to its support and doing everything in their power to upbuild the cause and extend its influence. Mr. Whiting belongs to the Masonic lodge of Elma and he and his wife are identified with the Order of Eastern Star. In politics he is a republican and is much interested in the vital questions and political problems of the age but does not seek to fill political office. He prefers to devote his time and energies to his business affairs, and the careful direction of his labors has led to the attainment of a substantial measure of success.

#### W. F. GETSCH.

The name of W. F. Getsch is an honored one in the financial circles of Chickasaw county. He is the president of the Commercial State Savings Bank of Nashua and is regarded as a man of thorough reliability as well as enterprise. He was born in Bradford, Chickasaw county, Iowa, on the 9th of June, 1872, and is a son of Ferdinand C. and Lena E. (Hanna) Getsch. The father was born in Prussia, while the mother was a native of Brunswick, Germany. Ferdinand C. Getsch came to the United States about 1858, settling in McGregor, Iowa, where he took up blacksmithing. He formed a partnership with Joseph Clemens and also engaged in wagon building. He was quite successful in the conduct of his business interests there and five years later he returned to Germany for his wife, whom he brought to the new world. He remained in McGregor for three or four years longer and then came to Chickasaw county, settling in the old town of Bradford, where he opened a shop and continued in business until the building of the railroad into Nashua in 1877, at which time he removed to Nashua and opened another shop, which he continued to conduct until within ten years of his death. He passed away in October, 1904, while his widow, surviving him for a decade, was called to her final rest on the 14th of October, 1914. They were the parents of ten children, nine of whom are yet living.

W. F. Getsch was educated in the public schools of Nashua, passing through consecutive grades to his graduation from the high school with the class of 1890. He then went west to Park City, Utah, where he worked in the silver and lead mines for two and a half years. He afterwards returned to Nashua, Iowa, and became identified with the banking business, entering the First National Bank in order to learn bookkeeping. It was his intention to return to the west, having been offered a position in a bank in Utah, but after three months' stay with the First National Bank of Nashua he accepted a permanent position in that institution, of which A. G. Case was the president. On the 1st of January, 1894, he was made bookkeeper of the bank and in November of the same