

county. They remained in business there for four or five years, after which Mr. Koerth disposed of his interests and turned his attention to banking. He became associated with Shaffer Brothers in the organization of the Exchange Bank of Ionia, their interests being carried on under the firm name of Shaffer Brothers & Koerth. Subsequently the business was incorporated under the name of the First State Savings Bank of Ionia, with Mr. Koerth as cashier of the institution. He remained in that position for thirteen years and is still vice president of the bank. During his association with this bank Mr. Koerth, together with Shaffer Brothers, organized the State Savings Bank of Bassett, Iowa, of which he is the president. In 1915 he bought into the State Bank of Fredericksburg and entered the institution as cashier and director of its financial policy. He has closely studied all phases of the banking business and is recognized as a prominent representative of financial interests in his part of the state. He has been a very active business man and has earned well merited success.

In 1895 Mr. Koerth was married to Miss Anna Davis, of Sumner, Iowa, and they have become the parents of three children: Ethel H., who is attending the State Agricultural College at Ames; Marjorie, who is a student in the Fredericksburg high school; and Stanley, who is still in the graded schools.

In his political views Mr. Koerth is a republican, having stanch faith in the principles of the party as factors in good government. He belongs to Mount Horeb Lodge, No. 333, A. F. & A. M., and also to Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 661, I. O. O. F., and the Modern Woodmen camp. What he has accomplished represents the fit utilization of the opportunities which have come to him. Time and his talents have been made to serve his purposes, and his labors have been an effective element in the attainment of desired results. He is a strong, forceful, and resourceful man—strong in his ability to plan and perform, strong in his honor and his good name.

L. J. SIMPSON.

The Silverdale Farm, situated on section 34, Dayton township, Chickasaw county, is the property of L. J. Simpson, whose progressive methods have found expression in the further development and improvement of this place. He was born in Sac county, Iowa, October 15, 1876, and is a son of John and Ruth (Schull) Simpson, who were natives of New York and Pennsylvania respectively. They were married, however, in Clinton, Iowa, where they had taken up their abode in young manhood and young womanhood. They remained residents of Clinton county for a few years and then removed to Sac county, where they have since resided. Although long connected with farming interests, the father has now retired from business life and he and his wife make their home in Early. He is an honored veteran of the Civil war, having served for three years as a member of Company A, Twenty-sixth Iowa Infantry, during the period of hostilities between the north and the south. He took part in a number of hotly contested battles and may well be proud of the record which he made as one of the defenders of the Union. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and has long been accounted one of the progressive and well known residents of Sac county.

L. J. Simpson, after acquiring a district school education, worked upon the home farm through the period of his youth. In 1900 he was united in marriage to Miss Jessie Drury, of Sac county, Iowa, and then began farming on his own account. For seven years he cultivated rented land and in 1907 he invested his savings in one hundred and twenty acres in Sac county, on which he lived for five years. He then traded that property toward the purchase price of his present home farm of two hundred and forty acres, on which he has resided since the early spring of 1913. His labors have wrought a marked transformation in the appearance of the place, converting it into a valuable property.

To Mr. and Mrs. Simpson have been born four children, of whom three are living, namely: Crystal L., who was graduated from the New Hampton high school with the class of 1919; and Leland D. and Millard L., who are pupils in the grammar school.