

in Richland township and there carried on general agricultural pursuits with excellent success throughout the remainder of his life. His demise, which occurred on the 8th of February, 1912, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for he had gained an extensive circle of warm friends during the forty-six years of his residence in the county. His widow afterward became the wife of William Cole and now resides in Yorkville, Illinois.

S. H. Simmons acquired his education in the district schools and when twenty-four years of age was married. He continued on the home farm in Richland township and was actively engaged in its cultivation until 1913, annually gathering good harvests as a reward for the care and labor which he bestowed upon the fields. On abandoning agricultural pursuits he removed to Waterloo, where he was connected with the land business, but in 1914 he came to Nashua, here devoting his attention to the land business until September 1918. He then purchased a billiard and pool parlor in Nashua, of which he has since remained proprietor and which he has conducted in such a manner as to make it a popular and well patronized establishment.

On the 24th of January, 1896, Mr. Simmons was united in marriage to Miss Anna Caswell, of Richland township, Chickasaw county, by whom he has five children, as follows: Nellie, who is a teacher in the schools of Floyd county; Maurice, who is attending high school; and Madge, Nora and Marian, who are pupils in the graded schools.

In local political circles Mr. Simmons is a well known worker in democratic ranks and while living on the farm he served for several years as a member of the democratic county central committee. Fraternally he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to Nashua Lodge, No. 391, and he is likewise a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. His wife belongs to the Christian church. Practically his entire life has been spent in Chickasaw county and that his career has ever been an upright and honorable one is indicated by the fact that the acquaintances of his boyhood and youth are still numbered among his staunch friends.

### JOHN CHESTEK.

Nature seems to have intended that man should enjoy a period of rest in the evening of his days. In youth he is possessed of vigor and energy and hope. In mature life sound judgment is developed and enterprise is intelligently directed. Therefore if one uses his talents wisely and well he can reach a point where success is his in later years and he is able to put aside further business cares. Such has been the record of John Chestek, who now makes his home in Bassett but who for many years was connected with farming interests in Chickasaw county. He was born in Austria, October 31, 1837, and is a son of John and Anna Chestek, both of whom passed away in Austria.

John Chestek came to the United States in 1855, when a youth of eighteen years. He made his way to Chicago, where he engaged in cutting timber for a time, and later he removed to Racine, Wisconsin, but afterward returned to Chicago. He next became a resident of Lake county, Illinois, where he carried on farming for eleven years. Mr. Chestek came to Chickasaw county, Iowa, in the early days of the development of this section of the state and first established his home in Deerfield township. He was quite successful in carrying on his farming operations there and has accumulated two hundred and forty acres of valuable farm land, together with ten acres of timber land. As the years passed he brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and added many improvements to the home place, which since his retirement some years ago has been conducted by his son, Lee J. Year after year, however, Mr. Chestek carefully carried on the farm work and won thereby a substantial measure of success that has enabled him in later years to live retired in Bassett.

In 1865 Mr. Chestek was married to Miss Emelia B. Cummins, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Levi Cummins. The latter made her home with Mr. Chestek for some years prior to her death and subsequent to the death of her husband, which occurred in Wisconsin. In 1907 Mr. Chestek was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed