

Edward E. Simpson pursued his education in the district schools and in the schools of Bradford and remained upon the home farm until after attaining his majority. In 1909 he married Miss Grace Bird, a daughter of John Bird, one of the earliest of the pioneers of Bradford township, who is still living and now makes his home in Nashua. For the past ten years Mr. Simpson has been engaged in farming independently and in the spring of 1913 located on his father-in-law's farm of three hundred and twenty-acres, which he has since cultivated, annually gathering good crops as the result of the diligence and energy with which he tills and cultivates the fields.

In his political views Mr. Simpson is a republican and while not an office seeker, has served as secretary of the Bradford school board. He is a loyal follower of Masonic teachings and belongs to Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M., one of the oldest Masonic organizations in the state. He is likewise connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, and both he and his wife are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

GEORGE C. HOYER.

George C. Hoyer is now living retired in Nashua but for many years was an active factor in business circles. His life is indicative of the opportunities that are offered to men of enterprise and progressive spirit. His entire life has been passed in this state, his birth having occurred in West Union, Fayette county, November 8, 1866. His parents were Jacob A. and Margaret (Lippencott) Hoyer and the father arrived in West Union, Fayette county, in 1854 in company with his parents. The grandparents in the maternal line had previously come to Iowa, there being but one log cabin in West Union at the time of their arrival. It was in that little western hamlet that Mr. and Mrs. Hoyer were married on the 11th of April, 1858. The former engaged in farming during his active life and accumulated a substantial fortune. He retired from farming in 1888 and removed to West Union, where his death occurred in 1912, when he was in his seventy-fifth year. For a decade he had survived his wife, who died in 1902, in her sixty-fifth year. He was of the Presbyterian faith, while his wife was a member of the United Brethren church, and both were people of the highest personal worth, enjoying the warm and unqualified regard of those who knew them.

George C. Hoyer after attending the public schools of West Union and the Ainsworth Academy at that place continued his education in the Upper Iowa University at Fayette, which he attended for four years, pursuing a scientific and also a commercial course. Following the completion of his studies he engaged in farming for five years and during that period also conducted a live stock business. In 1894 he came to Nashua and established a meat market, also continuing his operations in stock buying. In 1897 he purchased the Nashua electric light plant and in the year following began buying the stock of the Cedar Valley Power Company as it could be purchased until he was the owner of seventy per cent thereof. In 1914 this plant was sold to an eastern syndicate and the present Cedar Valley Electric Company's plant was built, which is said to be one of the most modern and up-to-date electric light plants in the state. Mr. Hoyer was the father and promoter of this project. It was he who developed the electric business to a point where it could be put upon a paying basis and was able to attract eastern capital, resulting in the building of the present plant. Since disposing of his interests in the business Mr. Hoyer has lived retired in a handsome home at Nashua, enjoying the fruits of an active and well spent life.

On the 24th of December, 1888, Mr. Hoyer was united in marriage to Miss Maizie Dye, of West Union, and to them was born a daughter, Daphne, who is the wife of John F. Nafus, assistant cashier, director and stockholder in the First State Bank, of Nashua.

Mr. Hoyer belongs to Bradford Lodge, No. 129, A. F. & A. M., of Nashua; also to Alma Chapter, No. 53, R. A. M., of Charles City; to Joppa Commandery, No. 5, K. T., of Charles City; De Molay Consistory, No. 1, A. & A. S. R.; and El