

ers and a team of horses, making the trip with a train of emigrants. He also crossed the plains to California by wagon and horse team in 1850 but returned in February of the following year. He was long identified with the early development and improvement of this section of the state and was numbered among those pioneer settlers who aided in laying broad and deep the foundation upon which has been built the present progress and prosperity of the county. He died in 1896 and is still survived by his widow, who is now in her eighty-seventh year and makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Simpson.

In politics Mr. Simpson has always been an earnest republican but has never consented to become a candidate for office. He belongs to the Modern Brotherhood of America, and he and his wife are loyal members of the Methodist Episcopal church, guiding their lives according to its teachings.

#### FRED J. MAURER.

Fred J. Maurer, who follows farming on section 13, Chester township, Howard county, was born in Switzerland, November 28, 1859. He came to this country with his parents when a lad of eight years, the family home being established in Alliance, Ohio. There he resided for a period of four years, during which time his father was engaged in mason work in that city. Later the family home was established in Winneshiek county, Iowa, but subsequently his parents returned to Alliance, Ohio. It was in 1871 that Fred J. Maurer became a resident of Winneshiek county. For a period of three years, with his brother Rudolph and sister Sophia, he rented a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in that county and subsequently removed to Howard county, settling north of Cresco.

In 1884 Fred J. Maurer was united in marriage to Miss Emma Burr, of Winneshiek county, Iowa, and immediately thereafter they removed to Vernon Springs township, Howard county, where Mr. Maurer and his brother rented a farm which they cultivated for four years. He next took up his abode in Kendallville, Iowa, where he resided for three years upon rented land and then in Chester township, settling on his present farm. For fifteen years he continued to cultivate leased land and afterward purchased the farm upon which he now resides, comprising one hundred and sixty acres situated on section 13.

To Mr. and Mrs. Maurer were born six children, of whom one has passed away, while five are yet living, namely: Alfred J., at home; Edwin F., who is married and resides at Ottumwa, Iowa; Claude S., who is married; and Herbert E. and Edna Remona, both at home. The deceased child was Elmer, who died at the age of six months.

Mr. Maurer is a republican in politics and is a substantial citizen, loyal to the best interests of the community and giving hearty support and cooperation to any well defined plan or measure for the general good. He has in his business career made wise use of his time and opportunities and the success which has come to him is the direct reward of his diligence and determination.

#### LOREN PADDEN.

Loren Padden, deceased, was a well known and substantial citizen of Fredericksburg and Chickasaw county. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1846, a son of Robert and Luvina (Todd) Padden. In 1857, when eleven years of age, he came to Iowa with his mother and at the age of eighteen offered his services to his country in defense of the Union cause, enlisting as a member of Company F, Ninth Regiment of Iowa Volunteer Infantry. This was one of the hard fighting regiments of the war and was with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea. Mr. Padden remained in active service until the close of hostilities and was honorably discharged in July, 1865, when he returned to his home with a most creditable military record.

Subsequently he laid the foundation of his later modest fortune through his speculations in what was then cheap Iowa farm land. In 1880 he engaged in the implement busi-