

wounded, the ball passing through the left lung and fracturing five ribs. His comrades drew a silk handkerchief through the wound and he survived. He received an honorable discharge at Memphis, Tenn. May 25, 1865.

On Nov. 25, 1865 he married Amelia Munch, widow of Christoff Seemans, who died soon after his return from the war. They first located at Guttenberg, Iowa, where he found employment as a butcher. After six months they moved to Cassville, Wis., three years later to Dyersville, Iowa, and in the spring of 1871 to the homestead on section 22, Belleville township, on which they still reside. It included 120 acres which was all on that section that was not listed as swamp land, and it had previously been entered by Fred B. Olson and Thomas Faherty. He is now the owner of 200 acres and the fine improvements erected thereon have called forth the admiration of many observers. He takes a commendable pride in the neatness and order of his farm and all its appurtenances. His house looks home-like, and his barns, sheds and stables are conveniently arranged for the care of a large number of cattle and horses. An unfailling supply of water is furnished by a deep well and windmill. The water, after passing through the milk tank, finds its way into the stock yards where the cattle and hogs, even in the pastures, may quench their thirst at any hour of the day. Long racks for hay encircle the yards so that all the cattle can be supplied with food on the arrival of the first storm. All the buildings are encircled with a dense grove, that breaks the fierceness of the winter's storm and provides a cool retreat from the summer's heat. The buildings are located on a plat of ground that is elevated considerably above the surrounding country so that they can be easily seen at a

distance of four or six miles. The Shorthorn is his favorite and he aims to keep enough of them to eat all the grain raised on the farm. He served as township clerk in 1874 and later as a justice of the peace.

The family of Mr. Wendell consisted of seven children, one of whom, Edward died at the age of 19 in April 1888. William in 1887 married Folenia Schon and resides at Fonda, where during the ten years previous to March 1, 1900, in partnership with his brother George, he was proprietor of a meat market. He has a family of five children, Harrison, Clarence, Gilroy, Pearl and Adelia. George, in 1896, married Lizzie Griffin, resides at Fonda and has one child, Albert married Anna Wendell and lives at Marietta, Ohio. Lillie married Charles Kennedy and he is proprietor of a barber shop at Gilmore City. Ida has achieved a high degree of merit as a teacher in the public schools of the county. Emma, in 1898, married Benjamin Kidd and they live on a farm in Lake township.

More of the early settlers of this and the adjoining township of Colfax came from Sweden than from any other country, although Denmark, Germany, Ireland and Bohemia were also represented. That the Swedes naturally become attached to the "old homestead" and flourish finely when transplanted, with their own approval, in this soil and climate is apparent to any one who makes a tour of these townships and sees their cultivated fields, improved farms, beautiful homes and well furnished churches. They did not disdain the humble and uncertain comforts of the sod house, when these were the best this section afforded, and when it became possible to enjoy more of the comforts of life they have adapted themselves to the new order of things by enlarging and beautifying their homes and

adding many additional acres to the old homestead.

#### COUNTY OFFICERS.

William Brownlee, of Bellville, was county treasurer during the two years, 1884-85. The township has been represented on the board of county supervisors by Wm. Brownlee, eight years, 1876-1883; and by Swan Nelson six years, 1885-1890.

#### PALMER.

In August, 1899, the Rock Island railway company having completed the survey of their line through this county, bought of Niels Hanson twenty-five acres on the northeast corner of section 10, for a town site, seven miles north and three west of Manson. This place was called Hanson, in honor of Mr. Hanson, who as a pioneer owner and occupant, had improved and cultivated it for so many years, but about the first of December following, owing to the similarity of that name to Manson, it was changed to Palmer. The site of the town was surveyed and platted by Fred A. Malcolm, of Rolfe. The postoffice was opened at the hotel with Miss Minnie Hanson as postmistress, on January 3, 1900. At that date a number of buildings had been erected and several firms were doing business. Dr. J. T. Kessing and wife, the latter a pharmacist, opened a drug store as the first place of business. The second was the lumber office of the Wheeler Lumber Co., under the local management of Martin A. Hanson. The first building erected was the bank and real estate building of Morris W. Fitz. A little later the hotel of Larson & Co. was completed, also the hardware store of Olsen Bros. & Co., and the blacksmith shop of Joseph Abrahamsen. At this time most of the grading in this county had been completed, but the laying of the track had not commenced.

#### THE BLANDEN STOCK FARM.

The largest farm in this county and

probably the largest in Northwest Iowa, is located in the southeast corner of Bellville township and known as the Blanden Farm. In 1876 Gen. Leander Blanden, of Fort Dodge, purchased section 25 from Henry Steckelburg, and other lands from others (unimproved) as follows: The SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 23, SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 24, the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  and N $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 26 and all of Sec. 35. Soon afterward he bought section 36 in Bellville, and section 31 adjoining it in Lizard township, making a farm of 3,460 acres of choice land located principally on five adjoining sections.

The buildings are conveniently located on the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 25 and consist of a large high barn 56x200 feet, built upon a wall 8 feet high, a horse barn 35x56 feet, cribs that hold 70,000 bushels of corn, 1200 feet of cattle-sheds arranged in the form of an enclosure, an elevated tank that holds 1,150 barrels of water and supplies the various feed yards with a good supply of pure water, a steam feed mill that grinds 1,000 bushels of ear corn a day, a 16,000 bu. elevator and several other buildings. The supply of water is from an artesian well sunk in 1880, to a depth of 1,285 feet, and its quantity is sufficient for a city of 10,000 inhabitants. The complete system of waterworks connected with it includes more than a mile of underground pipes. The feed yards and other arrangements for the care of stock are all on a very large scale. South of the barn are four large yards separated from each other by feed racks, 580 feet long constructed with heavy cedar posts and plank well framed together. This rack, which is ten feet wide, has a tight bottom two and one-half feet above the ground, that provides underneath it healthful quarters for 1500 hogs. On the south side it is open its entire length, but on the north it is sheltered with planking to the ground. Hay and grain are fed from this rack with ease and economy. The horse

barn is used only for stabling the work horses and mules that are in use on the farm. The basement of the large barn is divided by alleys with stalls on each side, so that in hauling from it the team is driven from side to side through double doors. When the barn was completed and for many years afterward these stalls were filled with 300 head of the finest thoroughbred and high grade Short-horn cattle in this country, their weight ranging from 100 to 2,700 pounds and their value from \$50 to \$1000 each. Over this basement the barn is floored with plank throughout and has room for storing 600 tons of hay. The arrangements for storing the hay are novel and labor-saving. The hoisting apparatus is so arranged that a load of hay may be laid in any part of the mow from a wagon standing at either end of the barn, and in hauling grain or hay into it, where the floor is not used for storage, no difficulty is experienced in turning the team and wagon even with the hayrack. When the barn is full the hay is dropped to the basement through long wooden tubes that extend nearly to the top of the barn. The work of hauling hay for the large number of cattle sheltered in this barn is no small chore, yet these are but a portion of the stock on the farm. In 1899 there were 800 head of fat cattle and 500 head of stock hogs (Poland-China) on the farm over winter. During the year 1880 as many as 60 thoroughbred bulls were sold to the farmers in that vicinity, a fact that tells of the excellent character of the stock and the public service rendered the farmers in this new section of country by the establishment in it of so fine a herd. One of the many fine animals on this farm was the 2d Duke of Moscow, bred in Kentucky, five years old in 1879 and weighed 2700 pounds. This animal won many premiums at state and county fairs and

had been taught to pose like a statue, for hours at a time when on exhibition, the only movement made being an occasional wink of the eye. In 1881 there was one cow on the farm that was 17 years old. In the American Herd Book she was listed as Dover Second, and she furnished \$17,000 worth of blooded stock for the market. During recent years the tendency has been to raise fat rather than fancy stock.

The first dwelling house erected, burned in the spring of 1881, and the present building, a two-story frame 30x40 feet, was built that year on the old site, a beautiful situation upon a commanding elevation. This is the home of the superintendent, and the southwest room on the first floor is used as his office. The first superintendent of this farm was H. G. Tyler, who in 1881, when the people's party was organized in this county, became its first candidate for the office of county treasurer and received 369 of the 826 votes cast for that office. In 1887 he was succeeded by Wm. A. Berry, the present superintendent, who is a step-son of Gen. Blanden.

As a home for the large force of teamsters, millers and other workmen on this large farm, another building has been provided, called the "barracks," that has a general sitting and reading room for them on the first floor and lodging rooms on the second. Newspapers and writing material are liberally provided and the occupants pass the long winter evenings here with pleasure and profit.

The rules of the place, though not harsh, are imperative and are observed with clock-like regularity. In the early days ten thousand acres of wild prairie grass were available for pasturage at a mere trifle, and the cost of making hay was only sixty cents a ton. The rule in regard to pasturage read as follows: "To each two hundred head of cattle put one pony and

a boy. When turned out in the spring the lot should be properly branded, boy, pony and all. It is well to salt the whole outfit three times each week."

The home on this farm, with its numerous buildings and busy scenes of activity, has the air of a small town, especially at those seasons of the year when grain and hay are harvested or stock is marketed. The stock on this farm annually consumes about 1,500 tons of hay and 75,000 bushels of grain. In addition to those on the farm many teams of the neighboring farmers are seen here weighing and unloading corn and oats, attracted thither by the liberal prices offered for the delivery of the grain. The artesian well which was sunk 200 feet through solid rock, cost \$5,000, and the other improvements on the farm \$15,000.

On completion of the C. R. I. & P. R. R. a private switch and stock yards was provided for the use of the farm.

Gen. Blanden volunteered under Lincoln's call in 1862, remained in active service until the war closed and was promoted in regular order until given command of his regiment, the 95th Illinois. In Dec. 1864 he was given command of the 2d Brigade, 3d Division of the Army of the Tennessee, and remained its commanding officer from that date through its long campaign after Hood, until its disbandment. He was mustered out with his regiment in Aug. 1865 when "the war was over" Brevet Brigadier General. After the war he engaged in banking at Fort Dodge, where he still resides. His farm is about three miles north of Manson and the enterprise manifested by him in raising fine and fat stock has been a general benefit to the farmers of this section, by inspiring an ambition to raise the best grades of cattle, hogs and horses, and

by furnishing on a large scale, a model of the conveniences needed for their successful management.

"Gen. Blanden is neither a tinker, a tailor

Nor a boy who wabbles at the plow;  
But a banker, a real granger,  
And a tiptop judge of a cow."

#### SIGNS OF PROGRESS.

Although the history of this township does not begin so early as some of the others, it covers the period of progress in harvesting machines. In 1869 the hay in this township was cut with a scythe, and in 1870 and 1871 the crops of wheat and small grain were cut with cradles, with the exception that in the latter year the crop of Wm. Brownlee was cut with a McCormick hand raking machine. In 1872 Peter Peterson of Calhoun county cut considerable hay for the farmers in the south part of the township with a mower and their small grain with a Buckeye dropper. In 1894 the perfected thresher with feeder, blower and weighing apparatus was introduced.

#### TORNADO OF APRIL 21, 1878.

On the evening of Easter Sabbath, April 21, 1878, a storm of unprecedented violence, coming up the Maple River valley to the vicinity of Storm Lake, where two persons were killed, and then changing its course southeast to a point in Calhoun county five miles south of Fonda, passed thence northeast across Williams township, the southeast corner of Colfax and sections 18, 8 and 4 of Bellville. Its destructive path was about eighty rods wide in the last named townships.

In Williams township the new house of John Duhin was completely destroyed and its six inmates, which included John Murphy, a neighbor, were seriously injured. The house of L. Willard and outbuildings of several others in the vicinity were also destroyed.

In Colfax township it destroyed all the buildings on the farm of Gad C.

Lowrey, on Sec. 26. The house was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Trenary and Charles F. Pearce, their farm hand. Mr. Trenary was injured about the head, his wife was carried about ten rods without injury, but Pearce was killed. He was the son of Henry Pearce and was in his 21st year. At the farm of George Wallace, on Sec. 13, all the buildings were destroyed. The house was lifted, overturned and reduced to fragments. When the storm struck it the last recollection of Mrs. Wallace was, that she was trying to keep the hot cook stove from injuring her daughter Eva. When she recovered consciousness she and her two daughters were lying in the public road and Eva's face was badly burned. Her own injuries crippled her for life.

In Bellville township, the house of Samuel H. Gill, on Sec. 18, was on the east or opposite side of the road from that of George Wallace. Mr. and Mrs. Gill and their two children were at home. After the heavy fall of rain and hail, Mr. Gill standing on the porch and looking southwest saw a whirl descend from a cloud and others from its edges join it until, like a long black tail to the cloud above, it extended to the ground beneath. In the distance at first it did not seem larger than a man's hand, but as it drew nearer it rapidly grew larger. He saw it pass over Lowrey's farm two miles distant, but as he had never heard of a tornado in this section he did not think of seeking any other shelter than that afforded by his home. As he entered it his wife saw the roof lifted from one of the out buildings, the next instant the windows on the east side of the house

were forced in by the awful pressure of the air, the roof was lifted and the west side of the kitchen addition falling on Mr. Gill rendered him prostrate but not unconscious. The building was then lifted and overturned in a northwesterly direction. Mrs. Gill, who had grasped a hand of each of her two little girls, aged four and five years respectively, maintained her hold of them, and while one of them was slightly she was so seriously injured that she died four days later. The whirlwind, when it struck these places, was carrying a great mass of mud and water that covered everything and gave to the injured victims, whose blood was oozing from their wounds, a very pitiable and heart-sickening aspect.

The buildings of A. O. Long, on Sec. 8, two miles distant, were destroyed and three horses were killed; fortunately none of the family were at home. A vacant house on the farm of John Lampe, on Sec. 4, was also destroyed. Pieces of siding from Gill's house were carried twelve miles northeast. This was the first storm of this kind experienced by the early settlers of Northwest Iowa.

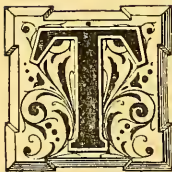
On October 15th, following, another heavy rain accompanied with a severe wind storm, visited this section. In Sac county several buildings were destroyed that had been rebuilt after the storm of April 21st. The Jackson schoolhouse in Williams township was completely demolished and its fragments strewn over the prairie. The cane-mill of J. F. Jackson was carried some distance and badly wrecked. After this event every ominous black cloud was watched with dread and distrust.

## XIII.

## CEDAR TOWNSHIP.

The rose may bloom for England,  
 The lily for France unfold;  
 Ireland may honor the shamrock,  
 Scotland, her thistle bold:  
 But the shield of this great Republic,  
 The glory of the West  
 Shall bear a stalk of the tasseled corn,  
 Of all our wealth the best.

—EDNA D. PROCTOR.



THE early settlement of Cedar township and Fonda was coincident with the construction of the first railroad in the county and has already been noted for the years 1868 to 1870.\*

On August 11, 1869, J. S. Howell and others residing in the southwest part of the county, presented a petition to the board of county supervisors, representing that there were 150 inhabitants in townships 90, ranges 33 and 34, (now Colfax and Cedar) and the S $\frac{1}{2}$  of townships 91, rauges 33 and 34, (now Grant and Dover) that they lived a long distance from any voting place and asking that a civil township embracing this territory be established. This petition was met by a remonstrance signed by John Dunkerly and

others, who affirmed that there were very few legal voters in the southwest part of the county and the organization of a new township was inadvisable. At the time set for the consideration of these petitions no one appeared and no action was taken.

On June 6, 1870, in response to a petition signed by John A. Hay and others for the organization of a new township comprising the territory in T. 90, R. 34, Cedar township, was established (including T. 90, R. 33, and 34) and arrangements were made for the first election to be held in Marvin (now called Fonda) on Oct. 11, 1870, by the appointment of H. R. Skinner, R. C. Stewart and B. F. Osburn, judges, and Capt. Joseph Mallison and A. W. Creed, clerks. At the time of the election the oath was administered to these election officers by A. H. Van

\*See pp. 248-252.

A vintage portrait album page featuring eight individuals in various frames (diamond, oval, rectangular) with their names printed below. The central text reads "FONDA & VICINITY".

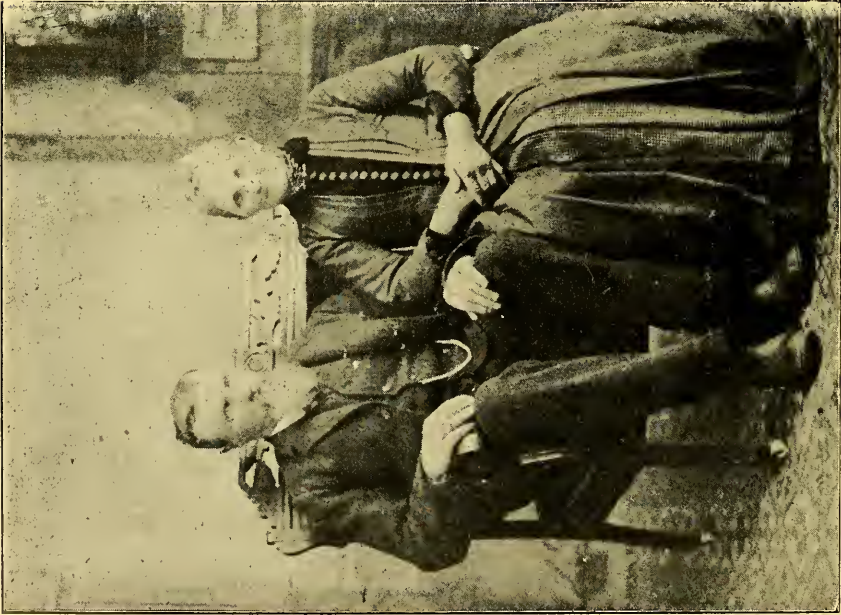
Top row (left to right):  
 - Oval frame: **MRS. D. M. WOODIN**  
 - Diamond frame: **GEO. HUGHES**  
 - Oval frame: **MRS. GEO. HUGHES**

Middle row (left to right):  
 - Rectangular frame: **B. K. HAWKINS**  
 - Oval frame: **MATTHEW BYRNE**  
 - Rectangular frame: **M. J. SILVERS**

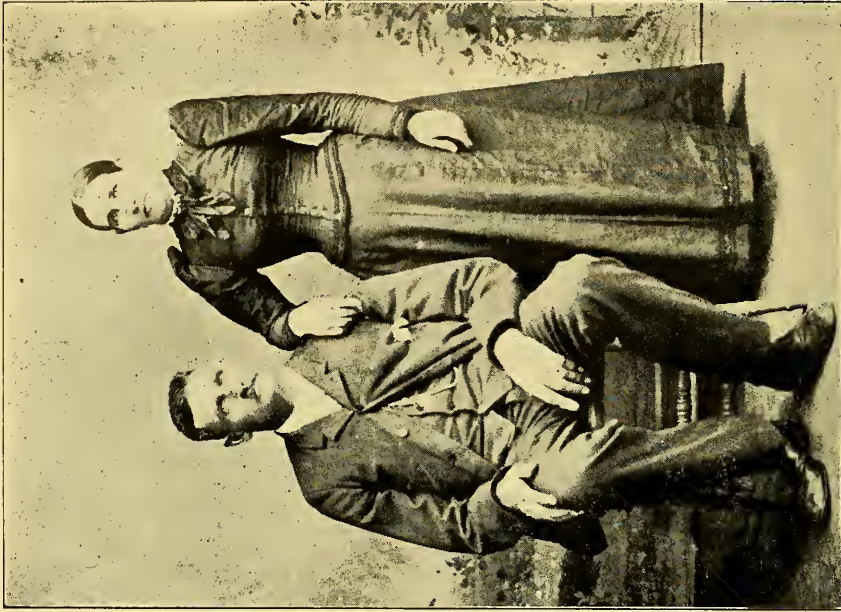
Bottom row (left to right):  
 - Oval frame: **ALEX. DUNN**  
 - Diamond frame: **F. M. CONROY**  
 - Oval frame: **JOHN CARTLIDGE**

Central text: **FONDA & VICINITY**

Fonda and Vicinity.



MR. AND MRS. DAVID SPIELMAN



MR. AND MRS. JOHN C. NICHOLS

*Fonda and Vicinity.*



Valkenberg, a justice of the peace of Lizard township. Elijah Chase, Harvey A. Hay and R. C. Stewart were elected township trustees, George Sanborn and George Spragg, justices of the peace, George Gearhart and E. Shreve, constables, Wm. Sanborn, P. F. Bennett and E. B. Clark, road supervisors, Sidney E. Wright, township clerk, and Capt. Jos. Mallison, assessor.

At this first election the sale of intoxicating liquors was voted upon with the result that of the 47 ballots cast, 25 were for prohibition and 22 against it.

The whole number of votes cast at this first election was 48, and by the following persons: S. N. Alford, Pelatiah F. Bennett, Charles Breslin, Elijah Chase, E. B. Clark, A. G. and A. W. Creed, T. J. Curtis, J. B. Chapin, E. Champion, Amos Dart, Charles E. Flint, Geo. W. Gearhart, Robert Griffin, Ephraim, Abram O. and Wm. Erastus Garlock, Harvey W., Joseph and John A. Hay, Geo. W. Hathaway, Wm. Lawler, John Lemp, Gad C. Lowrey, Wm. Marshall, Capt. Joseph Mallison, Edward Mellan, R. T. Mills, H. McGiven, B. F. Osburn, J. R. Perry, Henry Pallerells, Wm. Richards, Eden Shreves, Horace K. and Charles M. Skinner, J. F. Stevens, Geo. and Wm. Sanborn, David Spielman, R. C. Stewart, Knute Tisdale, L. D. Turner, Geo. H. and Sidney E. Wright, Geo. W. and John M. Wood. Others who were registered but did not vote were Wm. and John Abbott, John and Childs O. Brown, Wm. Carney, John Dunkerly, John Kruchten, Nicholas Keefer and Andrew Norem. The registration was made by Philip Russell, clerk of Lizard township. He missed Wm. Lynch, M. Byrne and C. G. Perkins, and they were absent at the time of the first election.

The first meeting of the trustees was held in Mill's hall, Marvin, Jan. 11, 1871. Messrs. Hay and Stewart were present and approved the bonds

of Capt. Mallison as assessor, and Wm. Sanborn as supervisor, Messrs. J. F. Stevens and Charles G. Perkins were appointed supervisors in the place of Messrs. Bennett and Clark, and the district of the latter included what is now Colfax township. Geo. Sanborn was appointed township clerk and R. C. Stewart a justice of the peace in place of Geo. Spragg.

The succession of civil officers has been as follows:

**TRUSTEES:** R. C. Stewart, 1871; H. W. Hay, 1871; Elijah Chase, 1871-73; B. McCartan, 1872; John E. N. Welsh, Wm. Richards, Wm. Marshall, Geo. E. Thompson, 1873; David Spielman, Wm. Bott, 1874, '84-85; O. C. Evans, J. H. Warwick, W. E. Garlock, Joseph C. Stevens, Chas. H. Whitney, 1875-78, '80-82, '96-98; J. O. Sullivan, 1876-79; Geo. M. Wood, M. Byrne, Louie Fuchs, 1878-82; John Lemp, 1879-80; Patrick Shea, 1881-83; '98-1900; Patrick Kearns, 1883-90; A. V. Sargent, 1883-97; Robert W. Russell, 1886-91; Wm. J. Busby, 1891-96; John H. Stream, 1892-95; S. T. Hersom, 1897-1900; S. S. Martin, 1899-1900.

**JUSTICES OF THE PEACE:** Geo. Sanborn, 1871-73; R. C. Stewart, Wm. Marshall, 1872-74, '78-79, '83-88; Geo. M. Dorton, 1873-79; Geo. Spragg, 1875-76; W. G. Buswell, A. B. P. Wood, 1880-86; Theo. Dunn, 1880-82; R. Wright, 1887-90, '97-98; J. W. Gray, 1887-88; A. G. Wood, 1889-92, Wm. A. Henderson, 1889-91; J. B. Sargent, 1891-94; James Mercer, Capt. Jos. Mallison, 1893-1900; S. S. Martin, 1893-94; Z. C. Bradshaw, 1895-96; Alex. Dunn, 1895-1900.

**CLERKS:** Geo. Sanborn, 1871; H. W. Hay, A. O. Garlock, Wm. Snell, Capt. Jos. Mallison, 1875, '86; Patrick Shea, R. J. Griffin, T. F. McCartan, James Mercer, 1879-82, '87-88; T. S. Brown, 1883-84; A. G. Wood, J. B. Sargent, 1889-92; J. R. Johnson, 1893-1900.

**ASSESSORS:** Capt. Jos. Mallison, 1871-72; J. R. Johnson, Wm. Snell J. P. Robinson, Patrick Shea, John A.

Hay, G. H. Gottfriedt, 1877-78, '83-86, '89-90, '95-1900; Fred Lieb, 1879; N. B. Post, 1880-81; Joseph Hawkins, 1882; J. B. Sargent, 1887-88; D. J. Bailey, 1891-'92; John Kennedy, 1893-94.

**PRESIDENTS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD:** Gad C. Lowrey, 1871; T. J. Curtis, B. McCartan, A. W. Dart, 1874, '79; M. Byrne, 1875, '86; James N. Mallison, M. J. Lynch, S. T. Hersom, Wm. Bott, Fred Lieb, Joseph Hawkins, John Lemp, J. B. Sargent, W. E. Garlock, Wm. Snell, G. H. Gottfriedt, John A. Thompson, 1889, '91-92; Geo. Lufkin, Joseph Hawkins, John Cartlidge, 1894-95; W. E. Post, 1896-98; W. I. Shetterly, 1899-1900.

**SECRETARY:** A. O. Garlock, 1871-72; B. F. Osburn, Geo. M. Dorton, 1874-75; M. Byrne, 1876-77; M. J. Lynch, S. T. Hersom, 1879, '83-85; Eugene Evans, 1880-82; T. F. McCartan, John Oakley, 1886-87; John J. McCartan, 1888-89; James Mercer, 1890-1900.

**TREASURERS OF SCHOOL FUNDS:** B. F. Osburn, 1871; Wm. Marshall, Eben M. Busby, B. McCartan, Geo. Sanborn, G. H. Gottfriedt, C. H. Whitney, 1877-78; Wm. Marshall, 1879-81; T. J. Curtis, 1882-86; M. Byrne, 1887-89; Louie Fuchs, 1890-1900.

#### FIRST SCHOOLS.

The first school in Cedar township was taught at Sunk Grove in the fall and winter of 1869 by Mary Skinner (daughter of Horace) in the log house of John Dunkerly on the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 6, and included the children of Elijah Chase, Horace and Charles Skinner, Geo. Spragg and Pelatiah Bennett, a neighboring trapper in Buena Vista county.

In the fall of 1870, when this part of the county still belonged to Lizard township, there were four schools established namely, at Fonda, Sunk Grove, and the homes of Wm. Lynch and A. O. Garlock. The one at Fonda began about the first of December and was taught by Edward Calligan (a son of the director for this dis-

trict) in a small building that stood on the ground now occupied by the McKee brick block. The pupils were Lizzie and Jennie Bott (Mrs. J. B. Bollard), John and Steve Slater, Alice Skinner, Rosa Hay, Mary Wood (Adams) and Ed. Ibsen. The school building for the fall of 1871 was located on the corner now occupied by the Roberts & Kenning brick block.

The school at Sunk Grove in 1870 was taught by Robert Griffin in the home of Mrs. Rachel Hartwell, his sister, who as a widow had taken a homestead on Sec. 6 known as the Burnett property and now owned by Henry Voss. Cyrus, Fannie, George, Harry and James Thompson, Alfretha Converse and Thomas Chase were among the pupils that year. The school at the home of Wm. Lynch (Sec. 2) was taught by Mary Ann Calligan and it was attended by the children of Wm. Lynch, John Keef, and Julius F. Stevens. The next year (1871) this school was transferred to the Woolworth home. The school at the home of A. O. Garlock, a few rods west of his father's, in 1870 was taught by Mrs. L. D. Turner and included the children in the families of Ephraim Garlock, David Spielman, James Little and Joseph Fells.

#### CEDAR SCHOOL BOARD.

The first meeting of the electors of the district township of Cedar was held in Marvin, March 4, 1871, B. F. Osburn served as chairman and Geo. Sanborn as secretary. Messrs. Gad C. Lowrey, Capt. Jos. Mallison and B. F. Osburn were elected as the first school directors of the township which then embraced Colfax as sub-district No. 2. On March 11th a second meeting of the electors was held in the store of John A. Hay. It was decided to erect only temporary schoolhouses that year, their number and location to be left to the board of directors; a tax of ten (10) mills was approved for the

building fund and one (1) mill for the library fund.

On March 20, 1871 the board of directors met at the home of Gad C. Lowrey (Sec. 26, Colfax) and organized by the election of Gad C. Lowrey as president and A. O. Garlock as secretary. The board then proceeded in a body to Lizard township for the purpose of securing a division of the assets and liabilities of the school funds of that township to which this one had previously belonged. Not meeting with success they met the Lizard board a second time on April 1st in the Miller schoolhouse, but found that board unwilling to make any division of the funds.

On April 8th arrangements were made for the purchase of the Lockey house for \$140, the renting of a room in Marvin and another in the home of G. C. Lowrey, and for the ensuing summer term the following teachers were employed: Ida D. Lowrey, Mary A. Osburn, Mrs. Mary E. Mallison, Mrs. R. J. Griffith and W. W. Rathbun. John A. Hay was appointed director in place of B. F. Osburn and the latter was appointed treasurer of the school fund. Two weeks later arrangements were made to purchase a building of Levi Garlock for Sec. 25 and the erection of two temporary buildings by John A. Hay for sections 3 and 8. For the winter of 1871-72 G. C. Lowrey was authorized to arrange for two schools in his district, Colfax, and engage the teachers for them. In Cedar the teachers employed were J. P. Robinson, Marvin, W. W. Rathbun (Sec 3), Mrs. Mary E. Mallison (Sec. 8), and Mrs. Mary J. Wilbur (Sec. 25).

On March 18, 1872 Colfax, having been set off from Cedar, was accorded \$106.00 of the school funds in the hands of the treasurer; Cedar was divided into eight sub-districts and arrangements were made with A. D. Moore for the erection of three school-

houses at a cost of \$525 each in districts No. 2, 5 and 7. For their better protection lightning rods were put on those on sections 3 and 8 at a cost of \$23.50 each and a few months later on those in districts No. 2 and 5 at a cost of \$52.00. It was decided to pay \$30.00 a month to all the teachers until New Years and \$35.00 a month, after that date, to all that were first-class.

The settlement of this section progressed rapidly in 1872 and the work of organizing the sub-districts of Cedar township was nearly completed that year. The records of that year are in the handwriting of A. O. Garlock, cover twenty-two pages and show that fifteen meetings were held by the board of directors. The new teachers employed in 1872 were Cecilia Keef, Mrs. R. P. Thompson, Mrs. Maggie Sanborn, Mrs. Ann R. Curtis, Geo. Hathaway, Geo. M. Dorton, (in house of T. J. Curtis), Eliza Hay, Frank Gregg, Miss N. Herrick, Mrs. A. W. Creed and Mrs. R. T. Hartwell in the home of G. A. Woolworth, now Mrs. J. B. Weaver on Sec. 12,

In the spring of 1873 arrangements were made with J. D. Gould for the erection of three school buildings in sub-districts No. 1, 3 and 8 for \$635.00 each, and with A. O. Garlock for one in Marvin (Fonda) for \$1,400. This proved a year of "hard times;" matters did not run smoothly. The president of the board was unwilling to sign the contracts after they had been approved and he was politely asked to resign. The secretary also resigned about the same time and as many as four other persons were successively appointed and served in that capacity for a short time during that year, namely; B. F. Osburn, Geo. Fairburn, Geo. M. Dorton and W. E. Garlock. Before the completion of his contract Gould transferred it to L. T. Swezy, of Newell,

A few years later there are a number of pages in the volume containing the early records of this township that are not signed by the secretary or any other member of the board, and the reader wonders what pioneer scribe may have left traces of his handiwork in the writing upon them until, fumbling them over several times, he finally discovers a name very modestly written on the margin at the top of one of them.

The annual report of the secretary for the year ending Sept. 19, 1871 shows 82 pupils enrolled in 5 schools and for 1872, 105 pupils in 8 schools. In 1876, five years from the date of organization, there were 125 pupils enrolled, Fonda having 31, the largest number, and there were eight good frame schoolhouses each supplied with a fine library and apparatus valued at \$75. The sites for the schoolhouses in this township were surveyed by Wm. Marshall and the persons who assisted him were M. J. Lynch (1) M. Byrne (2) Elijah Chase (3) Jacob Spielman (5) W. E. Garlock (6) and Charles Whitney (7 and 8). Fonda became an independent district in 1880. In 1882 the unsold school lands of Sec. 16 were appraised at eight and ten dollars an acre and those remaining May 1888 were appraised at six and eight dollars an acre.

Only a few sod houses were built in Cedar township, the arrival of the railway, bringing suitable building materials, removing their necessity. Those that are remembered were built by E. Chase, Robert J. Griffin, Pel Bennett, Geo. Spragg Jos. C. Stevens, Charles Skinner and John Wood.

On May 4, 1884, the trustees, consisting of Wm. Bott, Patrick Kearns and A. V. Sargent, were first organized as a board of health. On Feb. 17, 1894, an order was issued that all persons in the township over one year should be vaccinated and that all pupils not vaccinated before March 1st

that year, should be excluded from the public schools.

#### MARVIN—FONDA.

Marvin was the name first given to the station and express office, and Cedarville to the the postoffice in Cedar township. The use of these two names was the occasion of considerable confusion to the public and, in the railway service, the two names Marvin and Manson, were so nearly alike that the one was often taken for the other, so that goods intended for these two stations were often missent. In 1874 Messrs. A. O. Garlock and Geo. Fairburn concluded to take the P. O. directory and select a new name that was not common in the west. Both were pleased with "Fonda," which appeared but once in the directory, as the name of a town in western New York. In response to petitions sent the P. O. department, the railway and express companies, the new name, "Fonda," was adopted. The selection was a good one for its euphony and brevity, and it was eminently appropriate for this section of country in the early day, since it is derived from a Latin word that signifies a fountain; although a more recent derivation from the Spanish language makes it mean a hotel.

#### FONDA.

"My country 'tis of thee  
Sweet land of liberty,  
Of thee I sing."

Fonda is situated near the center of section 27, Cedar township, in the southwestern part of Pocahontas county. It has two main lines of railway, the Illinois Central and Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, that extend east and west, north and south. It is 115 miles northwest of Des Moines, 409 miles west of Chicago, 101 miles east of Sioux City, and all passenger trains stop at this place.

It has always been an attractive trading center, not merely for a great

part of this county, but to many of the people living in the adjoining counties of Calhoun, Sac and Buena Vista. It has enjoyed hitherto the best railroad facilities of any town in this vicinity and these, in connection with the enterprise of her citizens and natural resources of this section, have tended to promote a constant growth and substantial development of business interests. Fonda very soon became and has hitherto maintained the position of being the principal city of Pocahontas county in numbers and wealth, educational and religious privileges.

The section of land (27) on which Fonda is situated belongs to the odd numbers that were included in the railway grant. The first deed of it was entitled, "A Grant of Land made by the United States to the State of Iowa in alternate sections, approved by Congress May 15, 1856, to aid in the construction of certain railroads in the State of Iowa." The second one, "The State of Iowa, a Grant to the Dubuque & Pacific Railroad, approved by an act of the General Assembly, July 14, 1856, to aid in building said railroad." The third transfer, filed September 10, 1870, is the deed of the Dubuque & Sioux City R. Co. to John I. Blair, of Blairstown, N. J., the contractor and builder of the railroad. On the same day there was filed another deed entitled, "A Deed of Dedication, by John I. Blair and Anna, his wife, to the Public." This last included all the streets and alleys of the first plat of the town, which he called "Marvin," in honor of Marvin Hewitt, superintendent of the Illinois Central railroad. It included twelve blocks that extended from the railroad northward to Fourth street, south of the Presbyterian church.

The first addition to Marvin consisted of a triangular plot of ground north of the railroad and west of Vine street, Oct. 7, 1872, by the Sioux City

and Iowa Falls Town Lot & Land Co., who had then become the owners of the unsold portions of the town site and surrounding section.

The 5th addition included blocks 25 to 30, located in the east part of the town, and was made May 5, 1888, by the Fonda Town Lot and Improvement Co., who succeeded the former land company in the ownership of their lands on section 27. Their last addition, made May 25, 1893, and called the 9th addition, includes blocks 35 to 37 on out lots 2 and 3, north of Sixth street.

The Busby addition was platted and a copy thereof filed for record October 5, 1886, by Wm. J. and Louisa A. Busby. Two of the streets were called Robbie and Offie, after the names of his two oldest sons. On July 26, 1888, the plat of a second addition was filed and the two additional streets were named Georgie and Willeben, after the names of two other sons.

The plat of the Robinson addition, comprising out-lots 1 to 5 north of the Illinois Central railway and west of Cedar creek was filed by J. P. Robinson Aug. 14, 1890.

The arrangement of Fonda is that of a square lying principally north of the railroad and east of Cedar creek; and the compact form of the city has tended greatly to economize the work of its improvement. In 1887, its main streets were covered with gravel from Cherokee and the first provision was made for lighting them at night with kerosene street lamps.

The Fonda Town Lot and Improvement Co. was organized March 29, 1888, and the incorporators were Hon. A. O. Garlock, Geo. Fairburn, J. N. McKee, A. S. Wood, Dr. M. F. Patterson and W. H. Given. Since its organization Geo. Fairburn has been the president and A. S. Wood the secretary and treasurer. Their original purchase included nearly 500 acres around Fonda, and although some of

the stock has changed hands the company is still in existence. The special aim and object of this company has been to promote the growth and development of Fonda by all the means that money, activity and thought may indicate. At the time of the establishment of the Big Four fair a concession was made equal to half the value of the land enclosed, and a similar concession was made for the brick and tile works. It still stands ready to donate lands for sites for factories and kindred objects.

#### FIRST TOWN ELECTION.

On December 26, 1878, the people of Fonda by a vote of 26 to 19 decided to become an incorporated town. On January 7, 1879, Theodore Dunn, Geo. L. Brower, Capt. Joseph Mallison and O. A. Langworthy, commissioners, issued a notice to the qualified electors of the corporation of Fonda to meet at Guyett's hall on Friday, January 14, 1879, for the purpose of holding their first election. On this date Capt. Joseph Mallison was elected mayor; Ed. B. Tabor, recorder; Geo. Fairburn, Geo. L. Brower, Theo. Dunn, W. J. Busby and Peter G. Ibson, councilmen—all to hold office until the ensuing spring election. Their first meeting was held Feb'y 1, 1879, pursuant to the call of the mayor; all the members were present and after passing several ordinances relating to the boundaries of the incorporation, the salaries of the mayor, recorder and marshal, they appointed Geo. L. Brower, treasurer, E. C. Brown, street commissioner, and C. G. Guyett, marshal. Three days later they met again and passed ordinances relating to taxing dogs, restraining stock and granting licenses in certain cases.

On Monday, March 3, 1879, a new set of officers was elected as follows: John W. Gray, mayor; Ed. B. Tabor, recorder; and for councilmen A. C. Knight (1), P. G. Ibson (1), Geo. Fairburn (2), Geo. M. Dorton (2), Geo. L.

Brower (3), and F. Millard (3). The casting of lots to determine who should have the one, two and three year terms, resulted as indicated by the numbers opposite each name.

At their first meeting held March 6, 1879, they appointed Geo. L. Brower, treasurer; E. C. Brown, street commissioner, and Mark A. Haven, marshal. On March 18, 1879, the first saloon license was granted to H. Maxwell, who presented a petition signed by 23 electors. After the lapse of a month this license was surrendered and a similar one was issued to Henry C. Stevens.

#### SUCCESSION OF OFFICERS.

The succession of officers has been as follows:

**MAYORS:** Capt. Jos. Mallison and J. W. Gray both in 1879; Theo. Dunn, Geo. Sanborn, Geo. Fairburn, '82-83; Capt. Jos. Mallison, John C. Stevens, Robt. W. Russell, Geo. Fairburn, '87-88; Mark A. Haven '89-92; A. G. Wood, '93-94; Capt. Jos. Mallison '95-96; F. W. Swearingen, Edward R. Ellis, '98-99; S. E. Leece, 1900.

**RECORDER:** Ed. B. Tabor, 1879-80; J. W. Gray, '81-83; Abram Burson, '84-85; A. S. Wood, '86-92; R. F. Beswick, (appointed Sept, '92); Wm. H. Healy, '93; M. G. Coleman, '94-1900.

**COUNCILMEN:** Geo. Fairburn, '79-80; Geo. Brower, '79-82; Theo. Dunn, '79; W. J. Busby, '79; P. G. Ibson, '79; A. C. Knight, '79; Geo. M. Dorton, '79-80; F. Millard, '79-80; G. W. Bothwell, '80-82; J. N. McClellan, '81-83, '87; Geo. H. Ellis, '81; O. A. Langworthy, '81-83; Wm. Snell, '81; G. Pfeiffer, '82-86; J. N. McKee, '82-96; Fred Swingle, '83-85; Geo. Fairburn, '84; Ed. O'Donnell, '84-86; N. B. Post, '84-85, '87-90; T. F. Kelleher, M. D., '85; M. A. Haven, '86-88; W. J. Redfield, Fred Haffele, Geo. Sanborn, '87; D. W. Edgar, M. D., '87-97; J. D. Carpenter, '88-89; Abram Burson, '89-97; J. B. Bollard, '90-95; J. P. Robinson, '90-92; G. R. Reniff, '91-96; R. F. Beswick, '93-1900; L. S. Straight,

'96-1900; John Forbes, '97-99; Thos. L. Kennedy, '97-1900; G. H. Fitch, '98-1900; Geo. G. Craft, '98-1900; Fred J. Kenning, 1900-.

#### THE CEMETERY.

On July 12, 1875, Wm. Marshall was appointed to survey a plat of six acres for a township cemetery, on lands belonging to the Sioux City & Iowa Falls Town Lot and Land Co. Some difficulty was experienced in gaining possession of this land, and, during the next two years it was appraised by three different sets of appraisers, all of whom appraised it at \$10.00 an acre.

In 1879, \$20.00 were offered an attorney in Fort Dodge to obtain a deed for it. The first deed for the sale of a lot in it was issued March 18, 1889, to G. W. Bothwell, M. D., and twenty-five others were issued that year. The price of the lots now ranges from five to twelve dollars. The first person buried in this cemetery was Ebenezer M. Busby, who was killed August 23, 1873, by the accidental discharge of his own gun while hunting with friends from Dubuque.

The next persons buried here were Georgie Fairburn, who died of membranous croup in his second year, June 26, 1874, and Jane Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Marshall, who died of diphtheria July 2, 1874.

A few years ago, through the leadership of the Fonda Relief Corps, the cemetery was very much improved in appearance, and upon four lots set apart for that purpose, the base has been constructed for a soldiers' monument.

The cemetery belongs to the township, and is managed by the trustees who, to secure its improvement and care, for a number of years past, have annually levied a small tax upon the taxable property of the township outside of the incorporation. During recent years individuals and societies in the city have generously co-operated

in the work of its improvement, and negotiations are now pending that may result in a recognition of the city in its management. The township clerk is the agent of the trustees in all matters relating to its use and he employs a custodian who gives it his personal care and attention. These persons at present are J. R. Johnson and Henry Bakker.

#### FONDA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT.

The petition for the independent school district of Fonda was presented to the directors of Cedar township and approved on March 9, 1880. Two days later at a special meeting of the Cedar township Board this action was reconsidered and reversed because the petition for the independent district included with sections 27, 28, 33 and 34, its present territory, also all of sections 15, 16, 21 and 22 for the purpose of taxation. The difficulties that immediately arose were not settled until November 18, 1880, when the school board of the independent district which consisted of Wm. Bott, Geo. Fairburn and A. B. P. Wood, Esq., ceded back to the township all of the territory included in the four last named sections. Previous to this date Wm. Bott had served as president of the school board of the independent district. By this righteous re-transfer Wm. Bott, because he lived in the territory relinquished to the township, forfeited his place as a member of the town board and the honor of serving longer as its first president. These vacancies were filled by the election of C. D. Lucas, a member of the board, and Geo. Fairburn, its president. The present school grounds were purchased in 1882 and the first four rooms of the present brick school building (38x62 feet) were built in 1884. Since that date two additional rooms have been added on the north side of this building and a kindergarten has been erected a short distance from it.

During this last year an additional room has been rented on Main street and arrangements are now in progress for the erection of a portion of a fine building this year (1900) that will eventually replace the present one.

#### FONDA SCHOOL OFFICERS.

**PRESIDENTS OF THE BOARD:** Wm. Bott, 1880; Geo. Fairburn, Geo. Sanborn '81, '89; J. N. McClellan, '82-83; J. N. McKee, '84-88; J. P. Robinson, '90-91; D. W. Edgar, M. D., J. B. Bollard, '93-94; Geo. Sanborn, '95-1900. Others who have served as members of this board are A. B. P. Wood, '80-87; C. D. Lucas, W. J. Busby, '81-84; J. D. Carpenter, '85-91; Fred Haffele, '89-91; W. F. Bridges, '90-92; A. W. Sargent, '92-93; A. Burson, '93-95, 1900; E. S. Hornaday, '93-94; Geo. H. Fitch, Charles A. Alexander, '94-00; Ed. R. Ellis, J. H. Coleman, '94-00; W. J. Redfield, '95-00; P. C. Toy, '96-98.

The board consisted of three members until 1889, when it was increased to six, but in 1898 under the new law, it was reduced to five. The board for the year 1900 consists of Geo. Sanborn, C. A. Alexander, J. H. Coleman, W. J. Redfield and Abram Burson.

**SECRETARIES:** A. B. P. Wood, '80-87; A. G. Wood, '88-90; J. D. Carpenter, '91; J. P. Robinson, '92-93; M. G. Coleman, '94-95; John Kennedy, '96-00.

**TREASURERS:** Geo. Fairburn, '80, Geo. L. Brower, '81-82; J. W. Gray, '82-86; A. S. Wood, '87-95; Geo. Hughes, John Forbes, '97-99; John Kennedy, 1900.

#### FONDA TEACHERS.

**PRINCIPALS:** Lois A. Wood, '80, '82; Louisa B. Pfeiffer, '81; J. M. Sprouls, H. E. Howe, Minnie F. Bryan, Anna E. Brown, '85-87; De Etta Ferron, '88-89; A. W. Sargent, Daniel Swindler, Alva Pressnell, Walker DeWitt, '93-94; Frank B. Kessling, Arthur W. Davis, '95-96; W. P. Johnson, R. B. Crone, '98; D. E. Barnes, '99-00.

The assistant teachers have been Belle Tucker, (Covey) '80-83; Louisa B.

Pfeiffer, Jennie Lucas, Minnie Reyner, Cena Benton, Lou DeGraffe, Emma Pfeiffer, Mrs. Spitzbarth, Maude Fuller, '88-89, '91-95; Nellie R. Swingle, '88-91; Viola Booton, '89-91; Mabel Lucas, Jennie E. Crawford, (Robinson) Maude Carpenter, Franc DeGraffe, '93-94, '96-00; Mattie McCullom, A. Y. Copley, Effie Hawkins, Maude Sargent, Maude Ellis, Lillian Filmer, Mabel Creglow, Nellie Mercer, Edith M. Aldrich, Mary Young, '95-00; Sarah McDonald, '96-98; Olive Gruver, '96-97, '99-00; Stena Hansen, '96-00; Nellie Golder, Adda B. Detwiler, '97-00; Maude E. Beale, '97-00; Lulu Griffith, Margaret Berry, '99-00; Charlotte Davis.

Since 1896 several persons have been employed as supernumerary teachers, or assistants to the principal, namely, Lena Mercer, Mertie Eaton, Lulu Sanborn and D. B. Churchill; and in 1898, Miss Nellie Liscomb as instructor in vocal music.

#### PIONEER TEACHERS OF FONDA.

During the period that preceded the organization of the independent district the school year consisted of a summer term of three and a winter term of four months. The teachers that taught the school in the Fonda district during this period so far as can now be recalled, were as follows: Edward M. Calligan the winter term commencing about Dec. 1, 1870; Wm. W. Rathbun, J. P. Robinson, winter term '71-72; Naomi Herick (first wife of F. G. Thornton), Mrs. Rachel Hartwell, Agnes J. Fairburn (Mrs. M. Bell), winter term until February 1, 1874 and it was completed by Fred W. Swingle; George Sanborn, winter term 1874-75,—18 pupils enrolled; Mrs. Nellie R. Swingle, summer and winter terms of 1875, '76-77; Cyrus A. Bryant, summer of 1878 and had 22 pupils enrolled; Lois A. Wood (Hubbell) and Affa Wood; winter term 1878-79, there being two schools part of the time; Mrs. Nellie R. Swingle,



principal and Mrs. Mary E. Mallison, assistant, summer and winter terms 1879-80.

Prof. Charles Ellison, a graduate of the Missouri State Normal and his wife, Mrs. Susan Ellison, a graduate of the Normal School at Oswego, N. Y., located at Fonda in May 1877. The latter taught a term in the R. P. Thompson district and from Sept. 3 to Nov. 2 they conducted a normal training school at Fonda that was attended by 43 students.

From Nov. 5 to 14, 1877 inclusive, a teachers' institute was held that closed with a fine public exhibition on the evening of Nov. 14, 1877.

#### FONDA GRADUATES.

The graduates of the Fonda public schools are as follows:

CLASS OF 1894: Gus T. Swenson, L. R. Wright, Ada Hawkins, (Bond) Rena Carlton, (Harris) Lena Mercer and Minnie Haffele—6.

CLASS OF 1896: John C. Bridges, Roy Carpenter, Aaron Evans—3.

CLASS OF 1897: Jennie M. Eaton, Edith Busby, Myrtle Hawkins, Nellie Sargent, Flo Carpenter, Olive Martin, May Mercer, J. Weston Martin, Frank Whitney, Thomas Farrell, Will Horner and Charles Griffith—12.

CLASS OF 1898: Ernestine Langworthy, (Swearingen) Mamie Russell, Albert Burson and Roy Stafford—4.

CLASS OF 1899: Alta Brown, Grace D. Bradshaw, Cora Eaton, Delphia Gottfriedt, Alfhild Frykberg, Cora Mercer, Mae Fitch, Mabel Miller, Ethel Gilson, Dollie Neal, Vida Griffith, Abbie Davis, Janie Fitzgerald, Anna Murphy and Chester Moffitt—15. Total, 40.

#### THE FONDA HIGH SCHOOL.

The attendance of pupils in the public schools of Fonda has gradually increased, so that the enrollment for April, 1900, was 374. The course of study has been revised and enlarged from time to time so that those completing it now are admitted to mem-

bership in the freshman class in the various colleges of the state. In the last revision, published in 1899, more prominence than before was given to the elective system, which allows each pupil to choose the studies he desires to take, only a limited number of the common branches being compulsory. Under this system the development of the pupil is along those lines of study for which he has a special preference or capacity, and the privilege of graduation is not denied anyone because he fails to make a specified grade in any particular study.

The method of grading during the last four years, commonly called the High School Course of Study, is that of assigning to each branch or subject a certain number of credits, on the basis of two credits for the work of each term. When a pupil receives a hundred credits he is given an intelligible and honest diploma of graduation that contains a list of the particular subjects completed and their respective value.

In 1896 the school was the recipient of a collection of one hundred mineral specimens from the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D. C., and in November, 1899, a donation of fifty dollars was received from Geo. W. Schee, of Primghar, to be invested in new books for the library, which now contains 300 volumes.

In the four annual declamatory contests held in this county since March 21, 1897, the representatives of the Fonda High School have won the largest share of the medals, always securing at least one and on two occasions both of them. The successful contestants from Fonda have been, Jennie Eaton and J. Weston Martin at Fonda, in 1897; Abbie Davis at Rolfe, in 1898; Cora Mercer at Havelock, in 1899; Florence Conroy and Mae V. Wright at Pocahontas, in 1900.

#### LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL.

The early pioneers of Fonda recog-

nized the fact that a stable foundation was essential to the permanency of any institution, and if, at any time after some great achievement, there arose any doubt in regard to their ability to hold it, they did not hesitate to make it doubly sure by taking it before the General Assembly of Iowa and asking that honorable body to put upon it the stamp of its legislative approval.

The first instance of this sort occurred March 26, 1880, when an act of the General Assembly of Iowa was approved, that approved the action of the Cedar township school board of date March 9, 1880, establishing the Independent district of Fonda with eight full sections of land. This action of the school board had been reconsidered and reversed by it two days after it had been taken. By this legislative enactment the Independent district of Fonda was also declared "to have all the rights, powers and privileges of independent districts and all its acts are declared valid and in force."

On March 14, 1884, an act of the 20th General Assembly was approved, entitled "An act to legalize the incorporation of the town of Fonda." This act was as follows:

WHEREAS, in incorporating the town of Fonda, in the county of Pocahontas and state of Iowa, under and by virtue of Chapter Ten of Title Four of the code, a certified copy of all papers and record entries relating to the matter was not properly filed as required by said chapter, and

WHEREAS, The law in regard to the incorporation of towns was in all other respects fully complied with and officers were elected, ordinances passed and official acts done as though said incorporation was legal, now therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

SEC 1. That the incorporation of said town of Fonda be and the same is hereby legalized as fully and completely as if all the requirements of the law relating to the incorporation

of towns had been strictly complied with.

SEC. 2. That all elections held by said incorporated town, and all ordinances passed by the council of said incorporated town and all the official acts done by the several officers of said town are hereby legalized and declared to be as valid and binding as though the law had been strictly complied with in the incorporation of said town.

Approved March 14, 1884.

#### RAILWAY AGENTS.

ILLINOIS CENTRAL: When the Iowa Falls & Sioux City railroad track was laid it remained under the control of the construction company from July 4, to Oct. 1, 1870, and during this preliminary period the passenger and freight traffic, that was handled at Fonda by the daily construction trains, was managed by Capt. E. W. Stetsman, their agent at Newell, who served both stations by coming to Fonda on one train and returning to Newell on the next.

Since the establishment of the regular train service by the Illinois Central R. R. Co., the succession of the agents has been as follows: George Fairburn. Oct. 1, 1870 to Nov. 1, 1877, 7 years; John W. Gray, '77 to July 1, '79; R. M. Harrison, '79 to June 15, '82; A. S. Wood, '82 to Sept. 15, '84; Thomas J. Murphy, '84 to May 25, '86; E. T. Dyer, '86--Nov. 10, '86; C. J. Canterbury, '86--Feb. 25, '89; F. B. Deitrick, '89--May 1, '93; C. B. Woodward, '93--Jan. 10, '94; F. B. Deitrick, '94--May 15, '94; S. A. Metcalf, '94--Sept. 17, '97; R. M. Harrison, '97--00.

C. M. & ST. PAUL: This railroad was surveyed and constructed by the Des Moines & Northwestern Ry. Co., leased by the Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific Co. as soon as completed, in 1887 resumed its original name, in 1891 it was called the Des Moines, Northern & Western and on Jan. 1, 1899, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul. The succession of the agents has been as follows: Renselaer Wright, Nov.

28, 1882-May 1, '84; O. D. Orton, one month; H. E. Jones, '84-Feb. 20, '86; J. F. Linthurst, '86-March 1, '88; Geo. W. Powers, '88-May 1, '90; E. S. Hornaday, '90-March 20, '91; P. E. Stewart, '91-Oct. 1, '92; E. S. Hornaday, '92-Jan. 29, '95; C. H. Crooks, '95-July 25-'98; R. F. Weeks, '98-00.

## FONDA POSTMASTERS.

W. S. Wright, Cedarville, Oct. 15, '70, to May 1, 1871.

John Hay, Cedarville; May 1, '71-73.

E. O. Wilder, Fonda, May '73-75.

J. W. Gray, Fonda, May, '75, to Apr. 1, 1883.

Ed. O'Donnell, Fonda, April 1 '83, to Oct. 15, '89.

Geo. Sanborn, Fonda, Oct. 15, '89, to Sept. 1, '96.

Wm. H. Healy, Sept. 1, '96, to Feb. 7, '98.

Joseph Mallison, Fonda, Feb. 7, 98—.

## METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The first Protestant minister located at Fonda was Rev. Henry Brown, who came early in the spring of 1871, and the only room he could find for himself and wife was in the depot, then in charge of Mr. Fairburn. This was his first appointment and he had to live on a very meager salary. He endeavored to supplement his salary by doing various kinds of work, such as mixing mortar, handling lumber, etc., and his wife co-operated by taking boarders. In 1885, this pioneer missionary of Fonda was the honored pastor of the M. E. charge at Odebolt and was growing in popularity in the church.

In the fall of 1871, religious services were conducted at Fonda by Rev. L. C. Woodward, who, locating at Newell the previous fall, erected a one-story building that served as a parsonage and postoffice for the town. As a pastor he served on alternate Sabbaths Fonda and Newell, the latter also as postmaster. In 1872, he was succeeded by Adam Holmes, who is remembered as a house to house

missionary, that usually traveled on foot. In 1873 he established religious services in the schoolhouse at Sunk Grove. He resigned this field that he might accept the principalship of the seminary at Epworth.

In 1873 he was succeeded by Rev. Charles W. Clifton, who is said to have been the first minister to serve Newell and Fonda an entire year. The grasshoppers had visited this section the previous year destroying everything within their reach, and he received only \$350 of the \$400 promised him on his entire circuit. He came to this field almost destitute of clothing and, having no overcoat, protected himself while driving across the country during the cold weather, with bed-quilts until the arrival of a box of clothing about the holidays from friends in the eastern part of the state. He found encouragement in the fact he was laying foundations for the church of the future and he was animated with the desire to lay them well even if they cost him considerable personal sacrifice. He established religious services at the Way (Prairie Creek) schoolhouse, and is now a resident of Sherman township.

He was succeeded by Rev. J. S. R. Field, Rev. Mr. Ely and Rev. O. S. Bryan. All of these ministers lived at Newell and served Fonda on alternate Sabbaths.

Rev. A. J. Whitfield, who was appointed by Bishop Stephen M. Merrill at the conference held at Fort Dodge, September, 1875, was their successor at Newell and Fonda<sup>a</sup> and he was re-appointed to this field by Bishop Randolph S. Foster, at LeMars in October, 1876. The local records begin with his ministry and by reason of its greater length and the records left behind him, the impression made by him was deeper and more lasting than that of any of his predecessors, so that some have even accorded to this worthy man the credit of "founding

the Methodist Episcopal church in these parts."\*

The earliest local records are for the year 1876 and show that the following persons were then the officers of the church: A. J. Whitfield, preacher in charge; J. B. White, local preacher; Charles Ellison, Theo. Dodge, A. F. Hubbell, Thos. Reamer, C. M. Saylor, W. P. Bush and Orlando O. Brown, stewards; Theo. Dodge, A. F. Hubbell, C. M. Saylor, C. D. Lucas, Charles H. Whitney, Geo. Fairburn and Harvey W. Hay, trustees; A. F. Hubbell and C. M. Saylor, leaders; O. O. Brown and Prof. C. Ellison, Sunday school superintendents.

The charge at Fonda in 1877 consisted of four classes as follows:

No. 1. Mr. and Mrs. Winfield Aldrich, A. W. Dart, Mr. and Mrs. Theo. Dodge, Harriet Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ellison, Leba Gorham, Mr. and Mrs. James Little and their daughter Mary, Mary Mallison, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Swingle, George, Evaline and Cyrus Thompson. Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Whitney, Sarah and George Wilson, J. B., Nancy and Florence White and Mary Whitfield.

No. 2. Alexander F. Hubbell, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Omtvedt and Mr. and Mrs. David Terry.

No. 3. Mr. and Mrs. Herkimer L. Norton, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Saylor and Geo. W. Smith.

No. 4. Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Bush, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Baker, O. O. Brown, Mary Bennett, Orville and Louisa Barrett, Caleb Flint, Etta Johnson and Anna J. Thayer.

The church was incorporated Nov. 21, 1877, by J. B. White, Theodore Dodge, Charles Ellison, H. W. Hay, Geo. Fairburn, Fred Swingle and C. H. Whitney, trustees; and R. L. Kenyon, C. B. Thompson and A. W. Dart. The present church building, located on the corner of Main and Third streets, was completed and dedicated

Nov. 14, 1880, by Presiding Elder J. C. R. Layton, assisted by P. E. Grippin, of Cedar Falls, and the new pastor in charge, Rev. J. S. Zeigler. The building cost \$1800, of which \$230 was raised by the Ladies' Aid Society. On the day following the dedication the district conference met in this building and continued in session three days. Until the erection of this building the services were held in the schoolhouse. The first parsonage was built in 1878 and it rendered service until 1896, when it was replaced by the erection of the present cozy and comfortable building.

The M. E. church in Fonda was the first church building erected in Pocahontas county, the Lizard Catholic church built in 1871, being just across the line in Webster county. It has been supplied by a succession of capable and efficient pastors, under whose faithful ministry the congregation has made a steady and substantial growth and exerted a wide influence for good.

The successors of Mr. Whitfield in the pastorate have been: Rev. R. L. Kenyon, commencing Oct. 1, 1877, and also residing at Newell; H. G. McBride, Oct. 1, 1878, second resident pastor; O. H. P. Faus, J. S. Ziegler, (child died Nov. 14, 1880), O. H. P. Faus, C. B. Winter, two years, 1882-83; J. G. Henderson, '84; J. H. Snow, G. H. Hastings, John Hamerson, two years, '88-89; W. H. Flint, A. A. Marcy, Z. C. Bradshaw, two years, '92-93; S. H. Middlekauff, S. G. Jones, two years, '95-96; J. J. Gardner, three years, Oct. 1, '97—Oct. 1, 1900.

At a baptismal service held June 9, 1876, at Cedar creek, Amos W. Dart, David and Emma Terry, Felix and Mary Parrish and Sarah Reamer were baptized by immersion, Rev. C. B. Winter officiating; and on Sept. 3 1876, Elder T. M. Williams baptized Mr. and Mrs. Christ M. Saylor, Thomas and Ritta Reamer, George W.

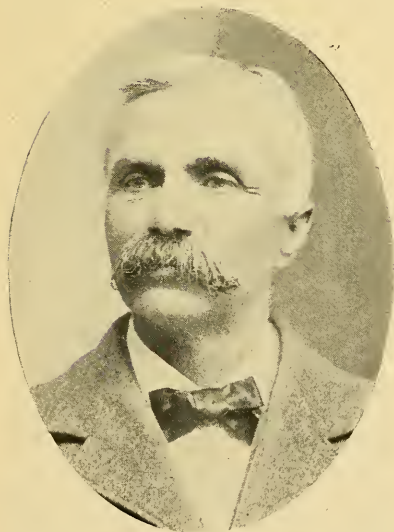
\*Aid Society Cook Book page 9.



REV. THOS. M. LENIHAN,  
CATHOLIC.



REV. J. F. BRENNAN,  
CATHOLIC.



JOSEPH FUCHS.



MRS. JOSEPH FUCHS.

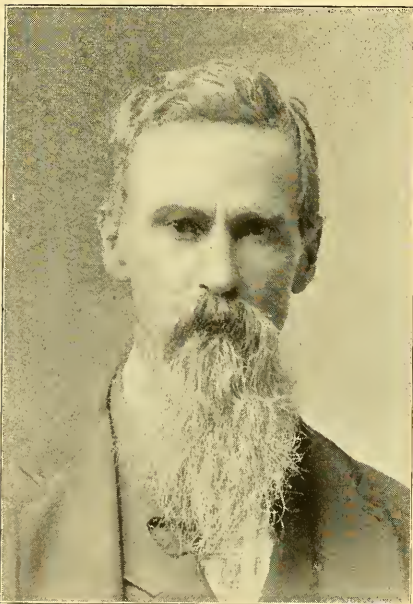
FONDA AND VICINITY.



REV. D. F. McCAFFREY,  
CATHOLIC.



DR. T. J. DOWER.



WILLIAM FITZGERALD.



MICHAEL W. LINNAN.

FONDA AND VICINITY.

Smith, Herkimer L. Norton, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Jackson.

In 1879 a Ladies' Aid Society was organized under the leadership of Mrs. Joseph Mallison and Mrs. Geo. L. Brower, and they were chosen president and vice-president, respectively, for that year. The next year this order was reversed and Mrs. Brower served two years as president. Her successors in that office have been Mrs. Nellie R. Swingle, Mrs. G. W. Bothwell, Mrs. C. D. Lucas, Mrs. R. C. Potter and Mrs. Sarah A. Clarke. Mrs. Clarke has served in this capacity since 1892, and she is now assisted in the administration of its affairs by Mrs. Rebecca Burson, secretary, and Mrs. Anna Edgar, treasurer. From the time of its organization this society has been very helpful in the work of the church.

In January 1881, Rev. J. S. Zeigler resorted to an expedient that attracted public attention and aptly illustrated the resourcefulness of the circuit rider in the early days. When the deep snows came he neither had a sleigh nor money to buy one. Going to the lumber yard he obtained a board 1½ inches in thickness, and in a few hours cut and adjusted it to his buggy in such a way, with his own hands, as to take the place of wheels; and in this unpretentious vehicle met his appointments in the rural districts during the remainder of the sleighing season.

The circuit rider felt that he had an important work and must meet his engagements regardless of the biting winds and deep snows. When things went wrong he endeavored to right them cheerfully, and if from any cause his traveling outfit was rendered useless he immediately improvised another. No one ever saw these faithful, self-sacrificing servants of the church disconcerted. They were patient, persevering and always ready to assist a neighbor in every possible

way. Only a meager salary was promised them, they seldom received the full amount of it, and a considerable portion of what they did receive came in the form of donations of corn, potatoes, turkeys and other truck from the farm and garden. They were held in much higher esteem, however, as good judges of a horse, than many of the preachers of the present day. This was due to the fact they were dependent upon the horse for their locomotive power.

Preachers were not very numerous in those early days and that some of the frontier churches used a good deal of ingenuity to secure the best man for their particular field, appears in the following form of request for one, credited to a good old colored brother in the church at Alexandria Valley, Ga.: "Send us a bishop for a preacher. If you can't send us a bishop, then send a sliding elder; if you can't send us a sliding elder send us a stationary preacher; if you can't send him send us a circus rider; if you can't spare him send us a locus preacher; if you can't spare us a locus preacher, then send us an exhauster." That settled it, and he got a preacher.

#### FONDA AND DOVER CATHOLIC CHURCHES.

In the early settlement of this section a large number of Catholic families located a few miles north and others a few miles south of Fonda. In March, 1870, services were established for them by Rev. T. M. Lenahan, of Fort Dodge, first at the home of Wm. Lynch and, after its erection, at the McCartan schoolhouse, four miles north of Fonda. He continued in charge of this station until the fall of 1882, a period of twelve years. Under his nurturing care the congregation became too large for the schoolhouse, and his work closed with the dedication of the Dover church in October, 1882, when Rev. P. J. Carroll became his successor.

When they began to discuss the propriety of building a church, the Catholic families living south of Fonda very earnestly insisted that it should be located in Fonda, but they were outnumbered by those who lived in Dover township who preferred a location more convenient to their homes. During the next year after the erection of the Dover church the families living south of Fonda found that with the co-operation of the people in the town they were able to build another

house of worship and, commencing it in the fall of 1883, completed the church in Fonda early in 1884 at a cost of \$2,000. Regular services were established in it by Rev. P. J. Carroll, who then located in Fonda and served the two churches on alternate Sabbaths until Oct. 1, 1887, when he was succeeded in the pastorate by Rev. D. F. McCaffrey, who remained in charge of them until Oct. 1, 1895. The parish was then divided, Rev. J. F. Brennan became pastor of St. Mary's church in Fonda, Rev. Stephen Butler pastor of St. Columba's church in Dover, and both of these men are still rendering a very acceptable service to their respective congregations. The parsonage in Dover was built in 1896 and in Fonda in 1885.

In 1896 the church in Fonda was enlarged by an addition of forty feet to the west end of it and the construction of a gallery in the east end, and these enlargements have doubled its seating capacity. It is now (32x80 ft.) one of the largest churches in the county. In 1898 the parsonage was also enlarged and greatly improved in its appearance. A brick pavement was laid in front and the grounds adjoining were graded and planted with evergreens. These buildings have a fine location fronting eastward on Main street, and their handsome appearance is very creditable to the pastor and people to whom they belong.

The pioneers who united to form the Catholic organization that built these two churches were principally those belonging to the families of Barnard McCartan, Wm. Lynch, Patrick Kearns, Louie and Joseph Fuchs, M. Byrne, Patrick, John, William, and Daniel Fitzgerald, Jeremiah Sullivan, Louisa Lieb, Theodore and Edward Lilly, Patrick Shea, John Garvey, Bernard and John Reilly, Frank Farrell, John Dooley, M. W. Linnan, Matthew and Timothy Carey, Ter-

rence and John Mullen, Terrence Murphy and T. H. McLaughlin.

#### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Presbyterian church of Fonda was organized in McKee's Hall Sabbath morning, June 20, 1886. In response to the request of a number of the citizens of Fonda and vicinity for the organization of a Presbyterian church, a committee of the Presbytery of Fort Dodge, consisting of Rev. T. S. Bailey, synodical missionary, and Rev. S. C. Head, of Pomeroy, met a congregation in the same place on the previous day and it was decided to effect an organization on the following day. The meeting on Sabbath was conducted by Rev. T. S. Bailey, and the following persons presenting themselves were duly organized as the First Presbyterian church of Fonda, namely: Mr. and Mrs. G. Pfeiffer and their daughter Emma, James Darling, Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Darling, Alexander F., Miss F. M. and Mrs. F. M. Hubbell, Mr. and Mrs. Simon P. Boyd, Mrs. Esther O. Smeaton, Mrs. James Mercer, Mrs. Ursula Stevens and Wm. Bolt. To these on the following Sabbath were added Mrs. Adele Curkeet and Miss Rebecca Pfeiffer.

The rotary system of the eldership was adopted and Messrs. James Darling, S. P. Boyd and Godfrey Pfeiffer were elected for one, two and three years respectively. Alex. F. Hubbell, and Charles S. Darling were chosen deacons for a term of three years, and a board of five trustees was elected, consisting of Geo. Fairburn, president; A. B. P. Wood, treasurer, and J. D. Carpenter, each for one year, in connection with the two deacons.

Rev. R. E. Flickinger, of Walnut on August 8 and 22, 1886, served this congregation in McKee's Hall, and locating at Fonda Oct. 1, 1886, entered upon the pastorate that has continued without interruption until the present time.



On March 18, 1888, the term of the ruling elders was increased from three to five years and four additional ones were elected. Those who have served as elders are James Darling, until his decease Nov. 19, 1887; Godfrey Pfeiffer, Dec. 7, 1894; Joseph Hawkins, 1888 to 1898, Alanson Post, 1838 to 1899; John B. Mackey, 1893 to 1895; C. S. Darling, 1893 to date; Hon. James Mercer and Samuel S. Martin, both from Oct. 2, 1897 to date.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, FONDA.

until his removal to Parkston, S. D., Sept. 15, 1889; S. P. Boyd, until his removal to Pomeroy in 1895; Edward L. Beard, 1888 to 1890; Alex. F. Hubbell, 1888 until his decease at Cedar Falls, Only three persons have held the office of deacon, namely, Charles S. Darling, from the time of organization until the present time; Alex. F. Hubbell and Hon. James Mercer, the

last since August 10, 1897.

The succession of trustees has been A. B. P. Wood, treasurer, until the time of his decease Nov. 8, 1887; Geo. Fairburn, president, and J. D. Carpenter both until 1889; James Mercer, treasurer, 1887 to date; Wm. Bott, president, since 1890; Alanson Post, 1891 to 1897; S. S. Martin and Wm. F. Bridges, both from 1895 to date; R. F. Beswick and Harvey Eaton, 1899 to date.

The Sunday school was organized July 4, 1886, with thirty members and the officers for the first nine months were James Darling, superintendent; Godfrey Pfeiffer, assistant superintendent; Lois A. Wood, secretary; A. F. Hubbell, treasurer, and Rebecca Pfeiffer, librarian. Miss Emma Pfeiffer served as chorister and Mrs. A. Curkeet as organist, furnishing the organ. On Dec. 26, 1886, when the constitution and by-laws were adopted the term of office of all the officers of the Sunday school was increased from three months to one year and the last Sabbath of March was designated as the date for the annual election. A. F. Hubbell served as superintendent April 1, 1887 to 1894; Joseph Hawkins, 1894 to 1897, and Charles S. Darling since 1897.

The Ladies' Aid Society was organized June 30, 1886, by the election of Mrs. Esther O. Smeaton, president; Mrs. G. Pfeiffer, vice-president; Lois A. Wood, secretary, and Mrs. Geo. Fairburn, treasurer. Mrs. Smeaton served two years as president, and her successors have been Mrs. G. Pfeiffer, Mrs. Frank P. McKee, Mrs. James Potter, Mrs. A. S. Wood, Mrs. A. R. Wolgamot, Mrs. Ed. Ellis, Mrs. John C. Stevens, Mrs. E. A. Fuller, '95-98, and Mrs. H. A. Chapman. This society contributed \$200 toward the erection of the church edifice, \$100 for its improvement in 1894, \$100 toward the erection of the parsonage and altogether, during the fourteen years of

its existence, about \$1650 to supplement the regular work of the church.

The Endeavor Society was organized January 2, 1894, when Miss Maude Sargent was chosen president; John Kennedy, vice-president; Maude Ellis, secretary, and Lovern Post, treasurer. During the two preceding years, though not formally organized, yet through leaders appointed each week by the pastor, the young people had regularly conducted a half-hour service each Sabbath evening. The officers are elected for a term of six months and those who have been chosen to serve as successors of its first president have been Louis A. Rothe, '95-96; Miss Alice Davis, '97; Louis A. Rothe, '98; R. B. Crone and Wm. H. Bridges in '99 and Miss Minnie Haffele in 1900. The first meeting of the Juniors was held Dec. 19, 1897, and they were organized on the following Sabbath, Miss Minnie Haffele serving as organist and as assistant for a few months and afterwards as superintendent, Mrs. Walter Forbes having resigned.

Mrs. A. Curkeet, Maude Ellis, Lourinda Haffele (Roberts) and Minnie Haffele (since 1891) as organists for the Church, and Lovern Post for the Sunday School have rendered a service so admirable and valuable as to be long and gratefully remembered.

The services were held in the public school building until Oct. 9, 1887, when a house of worship was completed and dedicated at a cost of \$3,600. It consists of a main part 32x52 feet with pulpit extension at the rear and a tower 64 feet in height, in front. The style of architecture is Gothic and all the windows are filled with cathedral or art glass. In 1894 it was repainted and tastefully decorated. It is a gem of beauty and very convenient for use. It was the first Presbyterian church built in Pocahontas county, although a Presbyterian organization had been effected in the



REPRESENTATIVES OF PIONEER FAMILIES, FONDA AND VICINITY.



CHILDREN'S CHORUS, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, FONDA, JUNE 20, 1898.  
REV. R. E. FLICKINGER, PASTOR, MISS MINNIE HAFEFLE, ORGANIST.



MAY, CORA, EFFIE, CILENA AND NELLIE MERCER, TEACHERS, FONDA.

northeast part of the county as early as 1859, and the services regularly maintained from that date. The hot air furnace inserted in this building in August, 1887, is believed to have been the first one put in any church or private home in this county.

In 1893 a large and handsome manse was built on the lots adjoining the church, at a cost of \$2,200. These two buildings are located on an elevated plot of ground, on the west side of Main and north of Fourth streets, that is midway between the Methodist and Catholic churches, and, having a row of shade trees around them, they are certainly "beautiful for situation"

The organ was presented by Mrs. Geo. Fairburn, Christmas, 1887, and the communion set by Mrs. F. M. Hubbell in 1890. To the latter Miss F. M. Hubbell, her daughter, added two cups and plates in 1898. On July 4, 1896, a legacy of \$200 was received from the estate of Alex. F. Hubbell, that removed the last arrearages on the manse, and in 1899 a legacy of \$50 was received during the life of the testator. This was from Joseph Chapman, an aged and highly respected member of the church, who had made provision for its payment, in a will dated Jan. 26, 1897.

The Presbytery of Fort Dodge met in this church Sept. 10-12, 1895, and the Ladies' Home and Foreign Missionary Societies of the presbytery held their annual meeting at the same time, occupying the Methodist church. A local home and foreign missionary society among the ladies of this church was organized at this time by the election of Mrs. H. A. Chapman, president; Mrs. R. E. Flickinger, secretary and treasurer. During the last two years (1898-99) this Ladies' society has made an annual contribution of \$30 to the home and foreign missionary funds of the church.

In the spring of 1887 Mrs. Flickinger secured the attendance of a number of little children to form an infant class in the Sunday School, and she has continued in charge of this department of the Sunday School until the present time, a period of thirteen years. On the day of dedication the communion table was presented by this class.

The memory recalls many blessed associations in connection with the efforts to achieve what has been accomplished by this people. For a number of years the singing of the congregation was led by an efficient choir of more than a dozen good voices. The fine concerts annually held at the time of the pastor's anniversary, Easter, Children's Day and on the first Sabbath of the new year, became a special and very attractive feature of the services during this prosperous period. The work of preparation for them was highly educational and enabled the pastor to become intimately acquainted with the youngest of the children. The unusual crowds that have oftentimes vainly sought admission to the church on these occasions, have repeatedly illustrated the fact that the work of home talent properly trained, is more highly appreciated than that which comes from abroad. On these occasions the choir, young people and children have been arranged, each in a separate and also all in full choruses, that filled the sanctuary with their joyous outbursts of sacred song. A view of the children's chorus, as they appeared at one of their rehearsals in 1898, numbering thirty-five voices, may be seen on another page.

#### CHRISTIAN CHURCH, FONDA.

The organization of the Christian church, Fonda, was the result of the evangelistic labors of Rev. H. M. Elliott who effected it in McKee's hall Nov. 5, 1893 with eighteen mem-

bers as follows: Charles Alexander and his mother, Mrs. Abigail Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. Squire F. Hornor, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bakker, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Tigner, Mrs. Jennie Langworthy, Mrs. J. D. Carpenter, Mrs. Lou Hornaday, Mrs. Elizabeth Fastle, Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Hair, Anna P., Cora S., William and Ellis Hornor. Messrs. S. F. Hornor, Henry Bakker and A. C. Tigner were elected elders; Charles A. Alexander and Henry Bakker, deacons; Mrs. Lou Hornaday deaconess; Cora S. Hornor, clerk; S. F. Hornor, E. S. Hornaday and C. A. Alexander, trustees.

The succession of pastors has been as follows: Rev. H. M. Elliott from date of organization until August 1894; Rev. F. E. Butterfield from Nov. '94 to March '95; Rev. A. J. Marshall '95; Rev. G. L. Brokaw, in 1896; Rev. L. E. Huntley, 1897-98 and Rev. W. S. Lemmon, the present pastor, since February 1899.

In the spring of '95 a tabernacle, as a place for worship, was built on the east side of Franklin street and after the lapse of a year it was moved to its present location at the corner of Second and King streets. During the two preceding years the meetings were held successively in a room of THE TIMES building, the public school and kindergarten buildings.

On Jan. 5, 1894 a Christian Endeavor Society was organized by the election of Mrs. F. E. Bailey, president; E. S. Hornaday, vice-president; Mrs. C. A. Harding, recording and Anna Hornor, corresponding secretary and treasurer. Others that have served as president of the society have been Anna Hornor, Mrs. L. E. Huntley 1896-97, Mrs. Jennie Langworthy, William Hornor and Harry E. Hornor.

The Sunday School was organized in January 1894 and the succession of superintendents has been Rev. H. M. Elliott, Charles A. Alexander, E. S. Hornaday, Mrs. Hattie Brown, F.

W. Swearingen, Esq., Henry Bakker, Mrs. Lena Rolfe and Mrs. O. W. Dresser.

On Jan. 19, 1894 a Ladies' Auxiliary Society was organized by the election of Mrs. Jennie Langworthy president, Mrs. E. S. Hornaday vice-president, Mrs. A. S. Wood secretary and Mrs. G. Dorton treasurer. Mrs. Langworthy served four successive years as president and her successors have been Mrs. A. S. Wood and Mrs. M. O. Byland. The earnings of this society have been about \$750.

The succession of organists has been Anna Hornor, Ernestine Langworthy (Swearingen) and Anna Beardsley.

#### MEN'S CHRISTIAN UNION.

During the month of May 1897 the pastors of the three protestant churches in Fonda, Rev. S. G. Jones, L. E. Huntley and R. E. Flickinger and their respective congregations united in their mid-week and Sabbath evening services. On the 5th of June a large tent was erected on the public school grounds and evangelistic services were held every evening for a period of four weeks. During the first week the local pastors were providentially assisted by Evangelists P. G. Stevens and L. F. Burnett, who represented the colportage work of the Moody Bible Institute, Chicago. During the next three weeks the meetings were in charge of Evangelist W. A. Sunday and his assistant F. F. Oliver, who, on the Sabbath afternoons of June 20th and 27th, held special meetings for men only in the tent.

As a result of these meetings about one hundred persons were added to the membership of the churches and on Sabbath, July 4th, the next day after the departure of the evangelists, another men's meeting was held in the tent for the purpose of organizing an association similar to the Y. M. C. A. After devotional exercises conducted by Rev. S. G. Jones, J. B. Bollard was requested to

preside, C. A. Alexander to serve as secretary and thirty-seven persons signified their willingness to assist in the support of a men's organization. Odd Fellows' Hall was chosen as the place for subsequent meetings and three weeks later a more permanent organization was effected by the election of Wm. J. Redfield, president for six months and the appointment of A. W. Davis, L. A. Rothe and Wm. H. Bridges a committee who, on the following Sabbath submitted a constitution that was adopted. The object of this association was to promote the physical, social, intellectual and spiritual nature of men. During the summer of 1898 E. O. Ellis became secretary, the meetings were transferred to the Tabernacle and on Dec. 25th a new constitution was adopted and signed by twenty-one members. The Men's Christian Union was the name adopted at this time. The Sabbath afternoon meetings were maintained until Oct. 9, 1899 when, owing to the removal of a number of the leaders and a general lack of interest, they were discontinued.

#### BAPTIST SERVICES.

Rev. Charles Perkins, a Baptist minister, in 1870 came to the home of his son, Charles G. Perkins, soon after his settlement on section 32, Colfax, then a part of Cedar township, and that fall in a temporary schoolhouse on section 3, held the first public services in Rutler township. His first wife, Amazina Cushman, a lady of Puritan descent, died Dec. 22, 1872, and was buried at Pomeroy. Two years later he married Mrs Elizabeth Blekwell and they lived in Fonda 1874 to 1876. During all these years he endeavored to maintain appointments in the schoolhouses in the vicinity of Fonda, and during the summer of 1878, while living again at the home of his son, held services on alternate Sabbath afternoons in the Fonda schoolhouse. The next year he re-

turned to Paris, Maine, where he died July 6, 1892, in his 78th year.

#### THE FONDA BIBLE SOCIETY.

When the Pocahontas County Bible Society held its 19th annual meeting at Rolfe, Feb. 5, 1889, Rev. R. E. Flickinger, who was present, and Rev. John Hamerson, pastor of the M. E. church, Fonda, were appointed a committee to organize an auxiliary society at Fonda. A union service having this object in view, was held in the Presbyterian church, Fonda, on Sabbath evening, Feb. 24, 1889, and the following persons, by the payment of the annual membership fee of one dollar each, were enrolled as prospective members, namely: Alex. F. Hubbell, Joseph Hawkins, C. H. Whitney, C. D. Lucas, Rev. John Hamerson, Rev. R. E. Flickinger, Amos Dart, Mrs. James Mercer, Mrs. Geo. Fairburn, Mrs. J. W. Southworth, Mrs. (Conductor) Henze, Mrs. John Stream, Ella Post, Augusta Ave, Geo. Sanborn, C. J. and W. H. Hutchinson, E. B. Deitrick and Wm. Watson. During the next few days the names of Mrs. Frank P. McKee, R. C. Potter, G. R. Reniff, A. R. Wolgamot, J. N. McLee, Geo. A. Powers, J. B. Bollard, Chas. H. Post and Joseph Chapman were added to this list, making 28 members and a fund of \$30.68 for the purchase of books.

On March 4, 1889, the organization was completed by the adoption of a constitution and the election of officers as follows: Alex. F. Hubbell, president; Rev. John Hamerson, vice-president; Rev. R. E. Flickinger, secretary; and Charles H. Post, treasurer; the other members of the executive committee chosen at the close of the union service being C. D. Lucas, Amos Dart and Joseph Hawkins. On the recommendation of Rev. John Hood, state superintendent, the society became an auxiliary to the American Bible Society, and the latter added a grant of \$30 worth of Bibles when a

draft of that amount was sent with the first order for books. When the books were received they were placed for sale at the stores of Bollard & Brown and A. R. Wolgamot; and Joseph Hawkins and Amos Dart were appointed local agents to visit families and direct the distribution of Bibles and Testaments when needed.

This organization has been a source of great convenience and value to this community, by placing the various publications of the American Bible Society within easy reach of all; and all the religious organizations of the community have been the recipients of one or more donations of Bibles. The last annual report shows that the value of the books thus given to societies and individuals since its organization eleven years ago, amount to \$73.64 and that the balance of the grant of \$30.00 from the parent society in 1889 was returned to it in March 1900. The value of the bibles sold and distributed through this local agency amounts to \$281.20. The value of those on hand is \$48.00 and it has a credit of \$29.58 for books, in the book account of the parent society. The books are kept for sale at the Palace Pharmacy of H. A. Daubenger, where bibles may be purchased in the English, German, Swedish and Danish languages.

In 1892 the constitution was amended so as to provide that the pastors of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches in Fonda shall be ex-officio members of executive committee and in 1895 this courtesy was extended to the Christian church. A. F. Hubbell served as president 1889-94, Hon. James Mercer '94-96, F. W. Swearingen Esq., 1897, Z. C. Bradshaw Esq., '98-99 and Samuel S. Martin 1900. Rev. R. E. Flickinger has served as secretary since the date of its organization and most of the time as treasurer also. Charles A. Alexander has been treasurer since 1898.

#### FONDA POST G. A. R.

The organization of a Post of the G. A. R. at Fonda is credited to the leadership of Capt. Jos. Mallison and Comrade F. Rubendall. At the suggestion of the latter the former visited the Post at Manson and became a member of it. He then circulated a petition for a Post at Fonda and, sending it to Des Moines, headquarters for this state, a charter was granted and a Post, No. 383, was established March 6, 1885, with twenty-one members. Of these original members four have died—B. F. Osburn, John W. Bailey, A. F. Hubbell and Wm. Gilson; four have been discharged by card, viz: A. J. Hamilton, W. P. Bush, A. F. Burdick and A. C. Blakelee; seven of them are members at present: S. H. Trude, J. H. Haven, Geo. Sanborn, Jos. Mallison, Wm. Fitzgerald, C. H. Whitney and D. M. Woodin; the others were Geo. W. Covey, E. M. Tollefsrude, Philander Pike, G. W. Bothwell, M. Carpenter and Sylvanus Hersom.

The first officers of the Post were; Capt. Jos. Mallison, commander; A. F. Hubbell, S. F.; Geo. W. Covey, T. V.; G. W. Bothwell, M. D., surgeon; E. M. Tollefsrude, Q. M.; M. Carpenter, O. D.; W. P. Bush, O. G.; J. H. Haven, chaplain; Geo. Sanborn, Adj't; Wm. Fitzgerald, Serg't Maj.; D. M. Woodin, Q. M. Sergt.

The Post was mustered by Captain Rothrock, of Manson, and the whole number enrolled has been 68. Other members who have died in addition to those already named are Martin V. B. Welsh, John Callahan, Thomas Higgins and John C. Nichols. The Post now consists of twenty-two members and meets on the second Tuesday and last Saturday of each month. The succession of commanders has been as follows: Capt. Jos. Mallison, '85; W. P. Bush, Geo. Sanborn, '87-88; J. R. Johnson, Wm. A. Henderson, Frank



Rubendall, J. W. Bailey, Capt. Jos. Mallison, '93-95; Alex. Dunn, '96-97; Charles G. Perkins, '98-1900.

The succession of adjutants has been: Geo. Sanborn, '85; Capt. Jos. Mallison, '86-87, '89-92; J. W. Bailey, '88; Alex. Dunn, '93-94; Hon. James Mercer, '95; Capt. Jos. Mallison, '97-1900. The other officers for 1900 are C. E. Hunter, Sr. V.; J. H. Haven, Jr. V.; Alex. Dunn, Q. M.; J. R. Johnson, O. D.; David Steiner, O. G.; P. R. Chamberlain, Serg't; C. H. Whitney, chaplain.

#### THE WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS.

The Woman's Relief Corps of Fonda was organized in December, 1891, with eighteen charter members as follows: Mesdames Lucy Johnson, Louresta E. Sanborn, Dora Craft, Elizabeth Bailey, Harriet Evans, Lou Hornaday, May Spielman, Annie Bush, Mary Haven, Mary Bailey, Mary Rubendall, Folena Wendell, Alma Vore, Louisa Whitney, S. H. Mallison, Laura Shaw, Miss Hattie Henderson and Miss Ina Newland.

The object of this organization is to assist the G. A. R. Post in the care of sick Union veterans, their widows and orphans and to perpetuate the memory of the unknown dead. In December 1896, this corps appropriated \$20 of their funds for the erection of a monument to the unknown dead. Later three lots were purchased in the Fonda cemetery, a substantial rock foundation was built and the ground neatly terraced around it. Many citizens have kindly donated labor and materials for this object and the expectation is indulged that a suitable monument will be erected in the near future.

The succession of those who have served as presidents of the Corps is as follows: Mrs. Lou Hornaday, '92; Mrs. Julia Wilkinson, three months; Mrs. Geo. Sanborn, April 1, '93-Dec. 31, '94;

Mrs. Jos. Mallison, '95-96; Mrs. Geo. Sanborn, Mrs. Mary Haven, (died May 2, 1900) Mrs. Lucy J. Johnson, '99-1900.

#### SONS OF VETERANS.

On May 2, 1888, a camp of the Sons of Veterans was mustered at Fonda by C. H. Knox, of Manson, and it was called Fairburn Camp, No. 147. The first officers were Wm. H. Henderson, Capt.; W. B. McClellan, 1st Lieut.; R. H. Robinson, 2d Lieut.; F. Bailey, Sergt.; Wallace Haven, Q. M. On the 30th of May following, Geo. Fairburn presented this camp with a large and beautiful flag, having their name and number inscribed upon it, and said "Boys, be as good citizens as your fathers were soldiers, and you will be as they were, an honor to your country." This organization was maintained for a number of years. At present they meet only on Memorial and Decoration days.

#### I. O. G. T. OF FONDA.

On Saturday evening Dec. 18, 1880, the first lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was organized at Fonda by C. C. Coyle, District Deputy, with thirty-one charter members as follows: Capt. Jos. Mallison, W. C.; Mrs. Nellie R. Swingle, W. V.; A. M. Shellito, R. S.; Geo. Metcalf, F. S.; Miss Belle Tucker (Covey), Treas.; Rev. J. S. Zeigler, Chaplain; Wm. Hull, Marshall; Jennie Lucas, (Saylor) A. M.; Lois A. Wood, (Hubbell) R. H. S.; Mrs. R. F. Hull, L. H. S.; Affa Wood, Asst. Sec.; Minnie Tucker, (Weaver) I. G.; Lawrence Johnson, O. G.; C. W. Trusdale, Lodge Deputy; A. J. and Belinda Norem, Mrs. Theo. and Frank Dodge, S. S. and Gilbert Tucker, C. D. McCulloch, Thos. Kennedy, Roderick Guyett, R. F., Ellen (Brown) and Emma Hull (Wood), Abram G. Wood, Rebecca Busby, Olive Whitney and L. Trusdale.

This organization was started under very favorable auspices and the hope

was indulged that it would live, flourish and become one of the substantial lodges of the state, for there seemed to be as many more persons ready to join it as soon as their names could be acted upon. By the fire of Oct. 15, 1883, their hall, charter and records were burned and the lodge lapsed.

On March 10th and 11th, 1886, two meetings were held in the Methodist church and a new lodge, number 150, was organized with forty-one members as follows: Godfrey Pfeiffer, (C. T.), and daughter Emma (I. G.), Mrs. E. (V. T) and Nellie (A. S.) Hyatt, Harvey W. (chaplain) and Wm. Hay, Mrs. Fred Haffele (Sec.), Mrs. A. B. P. and Louis A (F. S.), Wood (Hubbell), Charles H. (Treas.), and Ella Post, C. D. and Mabel (D. M.) Lucas (Bush), James J. Trude (O. G.), Anna Brown (R. H. S.), Mr. (P. W. C. T.), and Mrs. Prince B. and Arthur Gifford, Mrs. L. A. (Geo.) Sanborn, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Swingle, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. H. Ellis, Dr. G. W. and Gertie Bothwell, Charles H., William and Mamie Whitney, A. W. Dart, S. W. Norton, W. A. Karr, Mabel McKee (Robinson), Kate Roberts (Plumb), Wm. H. and Susie Hutchinson, Mrs. Wm., Willie and Charles Hocking. One week later others were received who were also enrolled as charter members as follows: Francis Faus (W. M.), Frank Opperman, William Hocking, Jennie Lucas (Saylor), Becca Pfeiffer (Osburn), Nellie Hull (Newell), Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Boyd and Guy S. Robinson.

This organization has had its seasons of drought and refreshing, but has been maintained until the present time. It is worthy of notice that of these charter members Mrs. L. A. Sanborn is the only one identified with it at present. She has continued to attend the meetings and look after the interests of this organization with a punctuality and interest that has

never lagged. To her prudent counsel and unflinching enthusiasm in its work more than to any other may be attributed its stability and much of its excellent moral influence. She has filled nearly all the offices of the local lodge many times and during those periods when the attendance and membership were small she has been ready to take additional responsibilities in order to insure its maintenance. When the Juvenile Temple was organized Nov. 20, 1890, she became sponsor for its maintenance and success also. Every year her home has been the recognized headquarters for all necessary supplies for these two organizations, and the most popular place for their lawn socials, or social gatherings during the winter evenings.

The succession of Chief Templars has been Godfrey Pfeiffer and Harvey W. Hay in 1886; R. W. Russell and Mrs. B. F. Osburn in '87; N. M. Perry and L. R. Wright in '88; Frank Eaton, Rev. John Hamerson Oct.-Dec. '89; Oscar Eaton, J. B. Sargent Oct. '90-July '93; Irwin Davidson, Wm. H. Bridges, Oct.-Dec. '94; Robert Busby, L. R. Wright, Gus T. Swenson and Alice Davis, in '95; J. C. Slinker, in '96; Weston Martin, '97-98; Agnes McGeary, Josephine Maulsby and Bertha Neal in '99, and Harry Hornor, in 1900.

Those who have been elected to the office of secretary are Mrs. Fred Haffele, Mrs. R. Wright, in '86; Becca Pfeiffer, Mabel Lucas, Maggie Olkjer, in '87; Mrs. N. M. Perry and Matie L. Turner, in '88; Mrs. Matie Pruden and Heppie Tucker, in '89; Maude Carpenter, Ella Bollard and Maude Kay, in '90; Clara Cartlidge and Cora Shutt, in '91; Maggie Eaton, '92; Lulu Sanborn and Ed. C. Rathbun, in '93; Wm. Hunt and Gus T. Swenson, in '94; Edith Busby and Mamie Russell, in '95; Wm. Hornor, Nellie Sargent and Mae Fitch, in '96; Lulu Sanborn, in '97; Nellie Sargent and Bert Brown,

in '98; Mabel Miller, Eber Hornor and Albert Burson, in '99, and Agnes McGeary, in 1900.

The Lodge Deputy at present is Gus T. Swenson, and through the interest developed by him a lodge of 37 members was organized at Varina, March 10, 1900.

The Juvenile Temple was organized by Mrs. Lloyd, of Des Moines, Nov. 20, 1890, with about twenty members, and Mrs. L. A. Sanborn was chosen superintendent. With the exception of the year 1895, when Mrs. Maggie Eaton was superintendent, Mrs. Sanborn served in this capacity from the date of organization until the end of 1899—a period of eight years. Mrs. Mabel Bush is her successor. It meets in the I. O. G. T. hall every Friday afternoon at four o'clock.

FRATERNITY OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

Symbol Lodge No. 432, A. F. & A. M., was established at Fonda by a dispensation granted by the Grand Lodge of Iowa, Nov. 10, 1882, and the first meeting under the dispensation was held Nov. 22, 1882. A charter was granted June 6, 1883, when there were twelve members from whom the first officers were chosen as follows: D. W. Edgar, W. M.; Wm. Marshall, S. W.; B. F. Osburn, J. W.; J. N. McKee, Treas.; Geo. Fairburn, Sec.; M. A. Haven, S. D.; J. N. McClellan, J. D.; C. G. Perkins, S. S. and Theron A. Snell, Tyler. The other charter members were Rev. Charles Perkins and J. N. McClellan. The first one made a Mason was J. H. Coleman, Jan. 17, 1883, and the first one raised was W. L. Haven, April 4, 1883. There have been 62 members initiated, 44 admitted on demit, 61 raised and the present membership is 57. Seven have died, viz: Rev. Charles Perkins, B. F. Osburn, O. A. Langworthy, Wm. Marshall, A. F. Hubbell, John Cartlidge and Henry Zeigler. The succession of Worshipful Masters is as fol-

lows: D. W. Edgar, M. D., '82-84; J. N. McClellan, '85-86; M. A. Haven, D. W. Edgar, J. N. McClellan, M. A. Haven, J. N. McClellan, D. M. Woodin, '92-93; J. N. McClellan, A. G. Wood, M. G. Coleman, '96-98; A. S. Wood, '99-1900.

The officers for the year 1900 are as follows: A. S. Wood, W. M.; C. R. Whitney, S. W.; W. S. Adams, J. W.; R. F. Beswick, Treas.; J. H. Coleman, Sec.; J. B. Sargent; S. D.; Thomas Jackson, J. D.; A. L. Roberts, S. S.; J. J. McDermott, Tyler. The committee on finance is M. G. Coleman, Jos. Mallison and John Forbes. The lodge meets Wednesday evening on or before the full moon of each month.

ORDER OF EASTERN STAR.

The Golden Cord chapter No. 187, of the Eastern Star was instituted at Fonda Jan. 7, 1896, with seventeen members, by Mrs. Jennie A. Rule, Grand Matron for the state of Iowa. The first officers chosen were Mrs. Susie H. Mallison, W. M.; M. G. Coleman, W. P.; Mrs. Heppie L. Toy, A. M.; Dr. C. H. Whitney, Sec.; Mrs. Anna Hughes, Treas.; Mrs. Jennie Robinson, Con.; Mrs. Camilla Metcalf, Asst. Con. The persons chosen to represent the five points of the star were Maude Hughes, Ada; Maude Marshall, Ruth; Mrs. Victoria Coleman, Martha; Mrs. Rose Beswick, Esther; Mrs. Ann Cartlidge, Electa. Sixty-three persons have been enrolled as members and the present membership is forty-five. The succession of Worthy Matrons has been: Mrs. Mallison, '96-97; Mrs. Anna Edgar, '98; Mrs. Victoria Coleman, '99; Mrs. Jennie Robinson, 1900; and of secretaries, Dr. C. R. Whitney, '96; Mrs. Emma Coleman, '97-99; Mrs. Anna Edgar, 1900.

This organization is very closely related to the Masonic fraternity and its object is to co-operate with it in its beneficent efforts for the welfare

of the wives, daughters, mothers, widows and sisters of Master Masons.

#### ODD FELLOWS.

The Fonda Lodge I. O. O. F. No. 203, was instituted Dec. 14, 1885, and the first officers were: R. W. Russell, N. G.; J. W. Spitzbarth, V. G.; W. J. Redfield, Sec.; W. J. Busby, F. S.; G. R. Reniff, Treas. This organization has now about sixty members and is in an excellent financial condition. It meets every Monday evening and their hall is over the hardware store in the McKee brick block. The officers are elected for a term of six months and the succession of Noble Grands has been: R. W. Russell, J. W. Spitzbarth, W. J. Redfield, W. J. Busby, G. R. Reniff, J. D. Carpenter, J. B. Bollard, C. A. Reed, R. D. Bollard, J. B. Sargent, F. W. Kloxin, J. H. Stream, H. W. Heston, Frank P. McKee, John Kennedy, Wm. Wendell, Geo. Sanborn, Jos. Mallison, R. Wright, P. C. Toy, Wm. Wilde, Geo. S. Wendell, C. E. Mayo, J. F. Blair, El. Ibson, John Thompson, John Kennedy, Wm. Keneen and Rev. Z. C. Bradshaw. The secretaries have been: W. J. Redfield, W. J. Busby, R. Wright and Wm. Wilde, the last since 1895.

#### IOWA LEGION OF HONOR.

The Fonda Lodge of the Iowa Legion of Honor was organized February 24, 1880, with twelve members, and the officers were Geo. Fairburn, Pres.; James F. Mallison, V. P.; Ed B. Tabor, Sec.; C. G. Guyett, F. S.; Theo. Dunn, Treas.; Joseph Mallison, C. D. Lucas, W. H. Clemens, G. H. Thompson and P. G. Ibson. The trustees chosen were: G. W. Bothwell, C. D. Lucas and Joseph Mallison. This is the oldest fraternal insurance organization in Fonda, and it meets ordinarily only once a year. The present membership is twenty and the officers are Capt. Jos. Mallison, President; Geo. Sanborn, Secretary, G. R. Reniff, Financial Secretary and Treasurer.

#### KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

The Cedar Lodge of the Knights of Pythias (No 311) was organized at Fonda, December 8, 1891, with fourteen members, by district deputy J. P. Lawton, of Newell, assisted by the Newell and Manson Lodges. The first officers according to their rank were; F. B. Deitrick, J. W. Redfield, E. A. Fuller, F. P. McKee, G. H. Fitch, J. H. Stream, J. D. Carpenter, Joseph Mallison, Geo. Selzer and J. Clancy. The Lodge meets in their hall every Thursday evening and the present officers are F. W. Fitch, J. M. Thorpe, G. C. Weber, R. Wright, L. S. Straight, S. W. Maulsby, W. J. Redfield, C. C. Stevens, F. B. Dunn and W. J. Busby.

#### MODERN WOODMEN.

The Fonda Camp No. 3242, of the Modern Woodmen of America was instituted September, 30, 1895, with twenty-three members. The first officers were Peter Kurvink, V. C.; W. J. Redfield, W. A.; G. A. Straight, Treas.; and C. A. Alexander, Clerk. The camp meets on the second and fourth Friday of each month, and it has now an enrollment of eighty-eight members. The officers are elected annually. The succession of venerable consuls has been, Peter Kurvink, '95; W. J. Redfield, L. S. Straight, J. D. Carpenter, H. C. Beardsley and J. D. Wurtsbaugh Esq. The secretaries have been C. A. Alexander, '95, R. Wright, '96-99, A. W. Sargent and C. A. Alexander, in 1900; and the treasurers, G. H. Straight, A. W. Phillips and Geo. H. Fitch.

#### KNIGHTS OF THE MACCABEES.

The Fonda Tent, No 81, of the Knights of the Maccabees was instituted March 4, 1898, with twenty members. The first officers were Roy Carpenter, Commander; A. Sauter, Lieut. Com.; E. J. Chingren, Sergt.; L. R. Wright, R. K. and F. K.; Paul Swenson, Chap.; W. M. Elliott, M. A. Charles Hardy, M. G.; Frank Barker,

Sec.; Geo. Elliott, Sent.; Wm. Henrichs, P.; and Dr. Charles Whitney, Med. Examiner. The tent has now about sixty members and meets on the first and third Thursday of each month. L. R. Wright continues to perform the duties of secretary and the succession of commanders has been, Roy Carpenter, '98, John W. Rock, '99, and P. D. Wilds, 1900.

#### MODERN BROTHERHOOD OF AMERICA.

The Fonda Lodge No. 408, of the Modern Brotherhood of America, was organized January 23, 1899, With fifteen members and the first officers were T. A. Thompson, Pres.; W. S. Brown, V. P.; Grant Bayne, Sec.: and Treas.; W. E. Wykoff, Con.; M. Maulsby, Chap.; Elmer Adams and Claude Simpson. The enrollment at present is fifty-seven, which includes both men and women, T. A. Thompson is president and Matie L. Bailey is secretary and treasurer.

#### CATHOLIC ORDER OF FORESTERS.

St. Mary's Court, No 1071 of the Catholic Order of Foresters was instituted at Fonda, February 21, 1900, with thirty-two members. The officers chosen at this time were, J. R. Mullen, C. R.; J. F. Howe, V. C. R.; Arthur McCartan, P. C. R.; H. A. Daubenberger, R. Sec.; C. F. Linnan, F. S.; John McCafferty, John O'Brien, and Wm. Bradford, Trustees; Carl O'Donnell, I. S.; J. W. Clancy, O. S.; Dr. T. J. Dower, M. E.; John Tolan, Treas.; and Rev. J. F. Brennan, Chap. The object of this organization is to promote friendship, unity and christian charity among its members.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT AND WATER WORKS

The Hose Company No. 1, of Fonda, was organized June 27, 1895 with twenty-three members as follows: G. R. Reniff (Chief), A. G. Wood (Asst. Chief), C. M. Carroll (Capt.), F. J. Kenning (Treas.), H. C. Dorton, A. J. Sauter, Wm. Dunn, George Wendell, Guy S. Robinson, George Kinney,

Grant and Ellwood Newland, Frank R. Judd, B. K. Hawkins, C. S. Nichols, Ed. O'Donnell, L. S. Straight, Al. Ehline, James Thompson, John Howe, Fred Spielman, Verne Harris, and B. Fox. Others that have become members since the organization are P. L. Shanley, George Sanborn, Jr., Wm. Roberts, Peter Murphey, Earl Ellis, George Fastle and F. H. Bond. The annual election of officers is held on the second Tuesday in May. Mr. Reniff continued to serve as chief until May 1900 when he was succeeded by Ed. O'Donnell, who became assistant chief in the spring of 1896 and captain also in May 1898, when these two offices were united. At present A. J. Sauter is captain, P. L. Shanley, secretary and Mr. Kenning is still serving as treasurer.

The first call to service was on Sept. 6, 1895 when the building of R. E. Rosa was on fire, the second was Kennedy's elevator Dec. 26, '95, and the third the fire in the Presbyterian church Jan. 6, 1896. The whole number of calls to which they have responded has been twenty-seven, of which the principal ones were the burning of the tile sheds of Straight Brothers' and Raymond's house in 1898, the corn cribs near the Kennedy elevator in 1899 and the Kelley restaurant at the corner of Main and Second streets in January and March 1900. The first engineer was Peter Kurvink and he was succeeded by G. C. Weber in April 1896.

The town well was sunk and the water tank erected in 1895. An additional well that serves the purpose of a reservoir or a supply tank was completed in March 1900. The city has now a very complete and satisfactory system of water works. The water is excellent and its supply is so abundant that it meets all the wants of the city and also of the two railways that intersect each other at this place.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF POCAHONTAS COUNTY.

The establishment of the Big Four District Fair Association, at Fonda, was the outgrowth of a number of propositions and efforts to establish similar organizations in other parts of the county during the preceding decade.

As early as April, 1879, a proposition was made through the columns of the *TIMES* to organize an Agricultural society by the people of Pocahontas, Sac, Calhoun, and Buena Vista counties.

During January and February 1883 several articles appeared in the columns of the *TIMES* advocating the organization of a County Agricultural Society, and on March 17, 1883, a public meeting, attended by twenty-five persons, was held in the school house at Rolfe, for that purpose. Articles of incorporation were read and approved. James J. Bruce, who served as chairman of the meeting, tendered a donation of forty acres of land near Rolfe to the society, and then they adjourned to meet at Pocahontas Center on April 11th following.

On March 31, 1883, a similar meeting of the citizens in the vicinity was held at Pocahontas and the articles of incorporation adopted at this meeting were published in the next issue of the *TIMES* over the signatures of Oscar I. Strong, A. L. Thornton, O. A. Pease, J. H. Heaton, Noah Morrison, M. F. Patterson, M. D., W. J. Cullen, W. G. Bradley, Samuel Lyons, W. C. Ralston, Louis Brodsky, C. M. Hunt, W. H. Hodges, J. W. Wallace, E. M. Hastings and J. F. Harlan.

On April 10th, 1883, those representing this organization met again at the Bissell House, pursuant to previous adjournment, George Sanborn, serving as chairman and J. F. Harlan as secretary. At this meeting a letter from Warrick Price was read in which he offered to donate to this Society,

known as the Agricultural Society of Pocahontas county, ten acres of land at Pocahontas and to sell ten acres more for the same purpose at a very reasonable rate. An executive committee, consisting of one man from each township in the county, was appointed to solicit stock as follows: John Fraser, Powhatan; J. Hughes, Swan Lake; Peter Wendell, Bellville; D. C. Williams, Washington; W. J. O'Brien, Sherman; C. M. Saylor, Lincoln; J. P. Welch, Center; P. H. Bendixon, Clinton; A. F. Hubbell, Dover; A. L. Thornton and Rufus Green, Laurens; H. C. Tollefsrude, Grant; Carl Steinbrink, Lizard; A. G. Maxwell, Colfax; Robert Struthers, Des Moines; Horace Chipman, Lake, and Wm. Marshall, Cedar.

At the next meeting of this society, held in the Court House May 19, 1883, officers for the first year were elected as follows: C. M. Saylor, President; John Fraser, Vice President; George Sanborn, Secretary and J. F. Harlan, Treasurer. A board of directors, consisting of one member from each township, was elected, and a committee of four members was appointed to prepare a constitution and series of by-laws for adoption at the next meeting.

On November 10, 1883, this society held an annual meeting at Pocahontas, and elected officers for the ensuing year, which were the same as before, except that A. G. Maxwell became secretary in place of George Sanborn. The meeting adjourned until January 12, 1884 and then this society also went into "innocuous desuetude."

BIG FOUR DISTRICT FAIR.

In May 1888 the public agitation of a Fair Association was renewed by the businessmen of Fonda, and they issued a call for a meeting in McKee's Hall, on Saturday May 12, 1888, for the purpose of effecting an organization that should embrace Pocahontas

and the three other counties that are contiguous to Fonda.

In response to this call no meeting was held until Saturday afternoon, March 15, 1890. On this date there was a large attendance of representative farmers and stock raisers from Pocahontas and the three adjoining counties, and the meeting was organized by the selection of Wm. J. Busby, chairman, and A. G. Wood Esq., secretary. A committee was appointed to prepare articles of incorporation and by-laws, another to solicit stock at ten dollars a share and a third one to report the best site available for an agricultural fair.

On March 31, 1890 the first meeting of the stockholders was held in McKee's Hall, N. B. Post serving as chairman. The Big Four District Fair Association was organized by the adoption of articles of incorporation, and on April 8th, officers were elected for one year, as follows: J. N. McLellan, President; Hon. James Mercer, Vice President; A. G. Wood, Secretary, and A. S. Wood, Treasurer. Ten directors were chosen as follows; J. J. Allee (Newell), Foster Blackington (Pomeroy), Col. Phil Schaller (Sac City), Abram Burson, Wm. Bott, J. B. Bollard, J. N. McKee, E. Kay, M. W. Linnan and Charles A. Zeigler.

On April 17th, 37 acres of land, located west of Main street and south of the railroad, were purchased for \$1850 and on May 30th, stock to the amount of \$1,500 having been subscribed, arrangements were made for holding the first agricultural fair, in Pocahontas county, September 23 to 26, 1890.

The work of improvement advanced rapidly so that at the time of the first exhibition the grounds were enclosed with a good fence, floral hall and an amphitheater seating one thousand persons had been erected, a half mile track had been completed in the most approved style for the display of fast horses, and comfortable accommoda-

tions had been provided for a large number of all kinds of stock raised on the farm. The cost of these improvements was \$4,071.

At the first exhibition there were more than a hundred entries of horses and swine, and nearly as many of cattle. This liberal patronage was a source of gratification and encouragement to all who were interested in the enterprise and a similar exhibition has been held every year since that date. As indicated by its name and the representatives on its board of directors, this Big Four District Fair, has received the liberal patronage of the greater portion of the four counties that have Fonda as their geographical center and most convenient trading point. The track has proved to be one of the finest and most attractive in the state, so that a large number of the best trotting horses in it have participated in the races, at every exhibition. The grounds and buildings are very convenient of access both from the town and railway stations, and many that have had the opportunity of inspecting those in other localities have pronounced these as fine as any in northwest Iowa.

The following items relating to the finances of this association have been gleaned from the annual statements that have appeared in the local papers.

	1890	1895	1897	1899
Gate Rec'ts	\$1228	\$1295	\$1669	\$1988
Privegs. etc.	952	995	829	1605
State approps.		200	200	200
Total Rec'ts.	2280	2390	2698	3793
Shares sold	3490			548
Premiums	1614	1794*	2103	2177
Attractions		75	265	206
Improv'mts.	3170		212	870
Expenses	518		341	504
Debt and Int.	453		296	781

\*Includes expenses

This exhibit shows that the association has added considerable improvements and made substantial financial

progress during the last five years. The amount due on the grounds has been reduced to \$1,100. Of the premiums the amount paid for speed during the last three years, 1897, '98 and '99, has been \$1,445, \$1,317 and \$1,565 respectively. The gate receipts on Thursday September 1, 1898, were over \$1,300 and it was estimated that nearly 7000 persons were present that day, which was the largest attendance until that date. The special attractions that day were an oratorical contest in which George M. Añlee, of Newell won a two years' scholarship in the college at Streator, Ill., base ball games, bicycle races and a balloon ascension that owing to some unforeseen cause did not prove a success.

A special program of interest to the public has always been provided for the first day of the fair, and the second one has from the first been designated as "old soldier's day," because on that day free admission is accorded to every one of them. This is a recognition they have greatly appreciated and when they have formed and marched to the grounds in a body their numbers have surprised those who have witnessed the procession. In 1890 a campfire was held in the evening, and Col. Phil Schaller, of Sac County was master of ceremonies.

During the last few years there has been a growing tendency to attract the attention of the public to the county fairs in this section, by affording the people the opportunity to witness abnormal feats, such as a man leaping from an ascending balloon or a horse diving from an elevated platform into a tank filled with water, etc. This suggests a demand for sensation or something to awaken astonishment rather than that education which should be the aim and object of an agricultural fair. The fact that our most successful farmers almost with-

out exception, the agricultural press of this state and all good people in every community now boldly express their disapproval of spending money for these sensational and foolhardy performances, and protest against all midway attractions at our county fairs, because of their immoral tendencies, is one of the better signs of the times, and indicates that a reactionary movement has already commenced that has for its object, the promotion of the educational idea that tends to enrich and the suppression of the sensational and immoral that always impoverishes.

The succession of officers of the Big Four District Fair Association has been as follows:

PRESIDENTS: J. N. McLellan, 1890, M. F. Patterson M. D. '91-92, Emmet Kay '93-97, Thomas L. Kennedy '98-1900.

VICE PRESIDENTS: Hon. James Mercer 1890, N. B. Post '91, Elias Shutt '92, Capt. Jos. Mallison '93, Wm. Bott '94-96, Dr. D. W. Edgar '97, A. S. Wood '98-1900.

SECRETARIES: A. G. Wood Esq 1890 and '93, Capt. Jos. Mallison '91-92 and '94-96, R. Wright '97-00; F. Thornton.

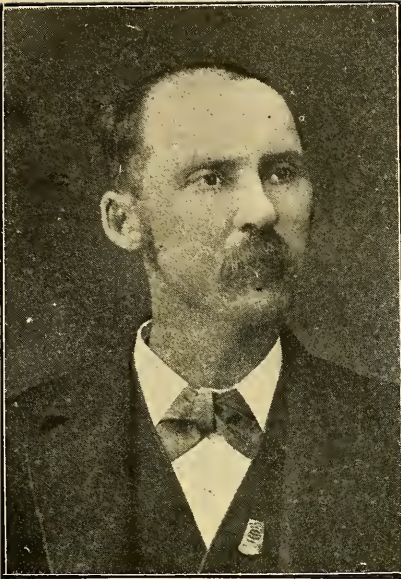
TREASURERS: A. S. Wood 1890-92, Geo. E. Hughes '93-94, P. C. Toy '95-96, G. R. Reniff '97-98, Geo. E. Hughes '99-1900.

The present board of directors (1900) consists of Harvey Eaton, D. W. Edgar M. D., Charles S. Darling, Hon. James Mercer, G. R. Reniff, E. Kay, J. P. Mullen, Charles G. Perkins, Jos. Fuchs and Wm. Bott.

#### FONDA BRICK AND TILE WORKS.

The most important manufacturing establishment at Fonda, is the Brick and Tile Factory, of the Straight Bros., located west of the city water works. Early in the summer of 1894, Lee S. Straight and his father, both of El Paso, Ill., visited this section of the state in search of a suitable loca-





JOHN D. CARPENTER, MERCHANT.

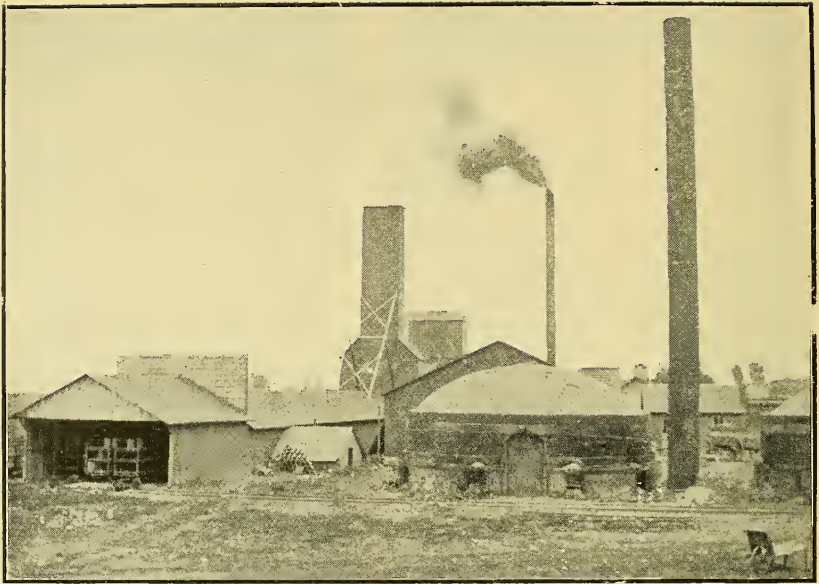


FRANK WHITE, COUNTY SUPERVISOR.

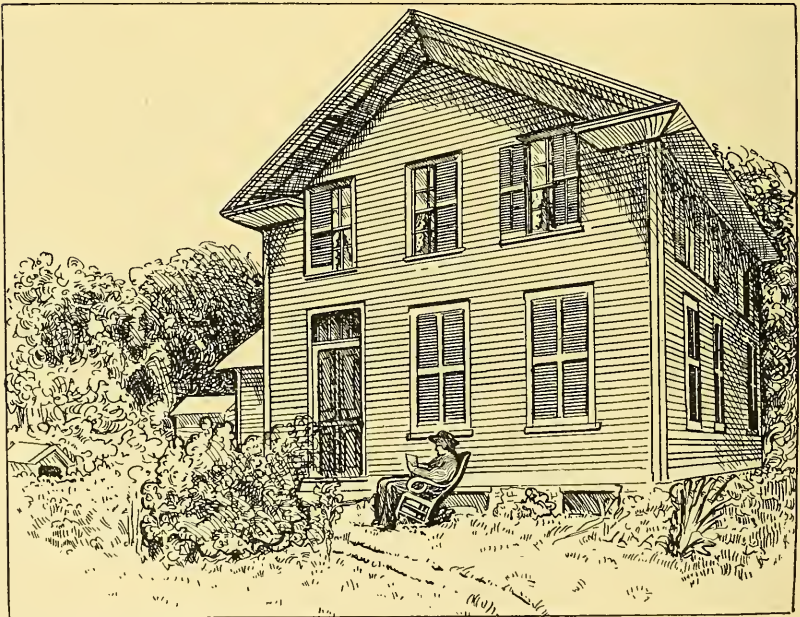


MR. AND MRS. DAVID C. LUCAS, MABEL (BUSH), EBEN,  
JENNIE (SAYLOR), AND HOWARD.

FONDA AND VICINITY.



FONDA BRICK AND TILE WORKS, STRAIGHT BROS., PROPERS. 1895.



RESIDENCE OF WM. H. HAIT, OLD ROLFE, IN 1900.

This building, erected by Mr. Hait in 1867, is believed to be the first frame dwelling built in Pocahontas County. He sawed the frame lumber and sheathing at Old Rolfe, and hauled the siding, flooring and shingles from Fort Dodge. The carpenters were Thomas L. MacVey and W. D. McEwen. Mr. Hait, who appears in the rocker in front of it, still (1904) occupies it.

tion for such a plant. They examined the clay at Fonda, and in several other localities. Two months later Lee S. Straight and Guy H. Straight, his brother, the two men who compose the present firm, returned to Fonda, and receiving from the town council the promise of a certain concession relating to the payment of taxes during the first ten years and another from the Town Lot and Land Company, consisting of a grant of five acres of land valued at \$500, on the purchase of as many more by them, they decided to locate at this place and signed an agreement to erect a brick and tile factory that should cost not less than \$8,000 and manufacture 50,000 brick or tile the first year and afterwards one million annually.

About November 1, 1894, these two men, accompanied with their families, located in Fonda and began the work of constructing the buildings. The first kiln, containing 15,000 tile was burned April 1, 1895. The buildings erected together with their machinery, all of which is of the latest and most improved style, cost \$16,000, or double the amount that was at first contemplated.

The buildings consist of an engine room 28x30 feet, a clay house 40x60 feet, an inclined track from it to the clay pit, a press room, 28x30 feet, three dry houses, one 18x170 feet, one two stories 36x120 feet and a third one three stories 36x150 feet. three kilns and an office.

The engine is of 100 horse power, the boiler 125 horse power and they are firmly set in solid masonry. An inexhaustible supply of water is furnished by a well 220 feet deep.

All the work, as far as possible is done by machinery and the amount of manual labor required is small when compared with the old style of manufacture, nevertheless profitable employment is now given to as many as twenty-five workmen. The raw ma-

terial in the form of crude clay entering at one end of the factory and passing through the processes of drying, grinding, screening, mixing, pressing, and cutting comes forth at the other end of it a perfect brick or tile. It is an interesting operation to all who witness it because, from the time the clay in the pit is lodged upon the car on the inclined track, all the various processes are accomplished with uniform effect by machinery that is admirably adapted for that special purpose.

The car on the inclined track when loaded ascends to the top of the clay-house in response to the movement of a small lever and there, striking a trip, the bottom of the car opens and the clay falls upon a carrier that conveys it to the grinding machines.

These are so constructed as to throw out all large gravel and the ground clay, after passing through two screens with very fine meshes, is carried to the mixers. For these processes the clay must be so dry it will not stick to the machinery. In the mixer the clay is moistened with water according to the judgment of the man in charge of this operation. The wet mixed clay drops into the press on the ground floor and there it is forced into smooth, shiny strips for brick, or long, hollow tubes for tile.

The smooth glossy surface is produced by a jet of steam as it emerges from the mouth of the huge press. The long strips or tubes then pass over the cutting table where they are automatically cut into exact lengths for brick or tile.

Four men are required to receive the product as it comes from the cutting table and place it on the little trucks that convey it to the dry houses. In one of the dry houses there are five tracks supplied with eighty trucks that hold each 640 brick or altogether enough of brick or tile for one kiln. When a dry house has

been filled the building is closed and the exhaust steam from the engine being turned in through 17,000 feet of gas pipe laid underneath the floor, the temperature within is raised to 130 or 140 degrees, and in forty-eight hours the brick or tile are ready for the kiln. They are conveyed thither by the little trucks and these when empty return on a side track to the cutting machine for another load. When a kiln has been filled its doors are sealed, the fire is applied and in three to four days the finished product is brought forth and placed, either on the railroad cars that await their load on a special side track, or in tiers within the yards to supply the local trade.

A spur from the main track of the C. M. & St. P. R. R. extends into the yards, and on it the cars of coal for the engine are run to the coal shed and those for shipment are loaded with the products of the factory. The brick and tile manufactured are of the best quality and they are shipped in every direction within a radius of seventy-five miles. The effort to supply the demand hitherto has kept the works running at their full capacity.

All the buildings of this plant were erected and all of its machinery was selected and put in position by the Straight Bros., themselves. These facts show that they are expert machinists and builders as well as manufacturers. During the five years the factory has been in operation they have manufactured fifty to seventy-five kilns of brick (45,000 each) or tile (10,000 to 20,000 each.) annually and given employment to twenty-five workmen. On October 20, 1898 one of the dry houses was destroyed by fire but it was immediately rebuilt. The proprietors have given this enterprise their undivided attention and have spared no pains or expense necessary to make their goods of the best quality. The confidence they have won

and the success they have achieved have been well merited.

#### THE FONDA CREAMERY COMPANY.

If we consider the number of men employed, the people interested and the amount of money put in circulation, the manufacturing interest at Fonda, next in importance to the Brick and Tile works, is the one represented by the Fonda Creamery Co., of which R. F. Beswick has been the principal proprietor and manager since the fall of 1889, when the company was organized. The task this company undertook at that date was to make a success of an industry of great importance to this community but which had proven very unprofitable to its predecessors. The accomplishment of this difficult task for more than ten years, has revealed a business sagacity and courage that have been able to meet and successfully cope with difficulties previously insurmountable.

The Fonda Creamery was built in 1881 by Sampson and French, of Storm Lake, who leased it when completed to Geo. L. Brower, a general merchant at Fonda. As this was the first creamery built in this section, as many as ten teams were employed to collect the milk for it and they were distributed as follows: Two in the country around Pocahontas, three around Pomeroy, and five in the vicinity of Fonda. During the first year of its operation Mr. Brower sustained a loss of \$6,600, and it was attributed to the fact there was a continuous decline in the price of butter throughout that entire year. During the previous year there had been a constant advance in its price and this long continued upward tendency had the effect of stimulating not only the erection of many new creameries in different parts of the country, but the manufacture in the cities of cheap imitations of butter called butterine and oleomargarine. The ex-

tensive sale of these bogus articles, before they were properly restrained by law, had the effect of demoralizing the market for the genuine product.

During the next three years this creamery was operated with serious loss by Michael Crahan, who in 1882 became the successor to all the business interests of Geo. L. Brower at Fonda. During this period the fact was realized that the method of testing the cream was very defective, worked constant injustice to the proprietors of creameries and in many instances involved them in heavy losses.

The creamery after remaining closed for two years was reopened in the spring of 1887 by Edward L. Beard who continued to operate it until Nov. 1, 1889 when it was again abandoned as an unprofitable enterprise.

The Fonda Creamery Company took possession of the Fonda creamery in the fall of 1889, on a lease for five years. Under this lease the old machinery was replaced by that which was new and improved, and a centrifugal separator was introduced to separate the cream from the milk. Soon after it was opened in the spring of 1890 another creamery was established and put in successful operation in Williams township, Calhoun county. About that same time a butter factory and storage plant for butter, eggs and dressed poultry was established in connection with the office which is in Fonda. In the fall of that year the Fonda Creamery, together with ten acres of land on which the buildings are located, was purchased and in 1891 another separator was inserted. In 1897 the business of this firm was further extended by the establishment of a creamery at Sulphur Springs, and in 1898 by the purchase of the creamery in Douglas township, Sac county. These various industries have afforded constant employment

to sixteen men during the summer and twenty-five during the winter.

It is a well established fact that the creameries conducted on the Cooley cream gathering system once proved the most successful of any in the country and paid the largest net profit to the dairymen. The introduction of the separator however was an improvement that increased their profit from 25 to 40 per cent.

In 1891 Iowa's dairy products were \$33,746,100, which is \$500,000 more than all the gold produced in the United States that year. In 1892 the railroad earnings in the state of Iowa were \$37,405,171, and the dairy products of the state that year rivaled that amount. In 1896 the dairy product of Iowa was \$42,000,000, which was twice the amount of the silver product of the entire country that year.

The fact that this is a great dairy country is becoming clearer every decade. All agree that the soil is unrivaled either in richness or the variety of the grains and grasses it will produce, but all have not realized its great value and importance as a dairy district. The following facts connected with the development of the business of the Fonda Creamery Company serve to illustrate this truth and also the great value of the creamery industry to this community.

On balancing their books for their first eight months, May 1 to Dec. 31, 1890, they found they had paid the patrons of the Fonda Creamery \$9,011 for milk. During the year 1895, the first one after the period of long continued drought the amounts paid to some of their patrons by this company for milk was as follows:

Henry Rix	\$460
Mrs. B. McCartan	290
Henry Meyer	354
H. Helmbrecht	272
D. Focke	332
W. S. Young	260

Christ Meyer	312	tion had already won the enviable
A. Samuelson	258	reputation of having achieved success
S. Barron	265	in all his previous business under-
Henry Becker	252	takings. As year after year has pass-
Pat Duffie	250	ed the people of this community have
John Holyer	246	had ample opportunity of witnessing

John Lemp during the six months preceding January 31, 1896, delivered at the creamery from fifteen cows 49, 159 pounds of milk and received \$260. Deducting the cost of hauling it four miles, \$48, his net receipts were \$212 or an average of more than \$14 for each cow for the six months.

Many others received amounts very nearly as large. The money realized from the dairy interest is not only put into immediate circulation at home but is distributed over the whole year and thus affords the patrons of the creamery a constant income, one that is not dependent on special crops or the grain market.

During the year 1898 the shipments of this firm from Fonda were forty car loads, an average of one car load a week for most of the time. When it is known that the value of a single car load is often \$1,500 the aggregate of the business done in a single year is perceived. During that winter the amount paid for live turkeys alone delivered at their office in one week was \$3,000. The business done in eggs has also at times been immense, larger than that of any firm in the neighboring counties. The prices paid for eggs and live poultry have attracted shipments to this place from many points within a radius of fifty miles and two places in South Dakota.

When R. F. Beswick came as a stranger from Manchester to Fonda, in 1889, by persons occupying positions of great honor in this state, he was commended to the confidence of the people of this community as a man whose word was as good as his bond, honest and honorable in all his dealings, and one who by close applica-

THE NORTHERN TELEPHONE COMPANY.

In January 1899, a few public spirited men in Fonda formed an association for precuniary profit and the promotion of the public welfare, and they have already accomplished a work that has made Fonda the center of another important business interest that embraces Pocahontas and the neighboring counties. This association consists of Geo. Sanborn, A. L. Roberts, A. S. Wood, R. F. Beswick, M. G. Coleman, Lee S. Straight, John Forbes, Thos. L. Kennedy and Geo. H. Fitch, all of Fonda, Iowa, who became a corporate body April 3, 1899, as the Northern Telephone Company.

The objects of this corporation are to obtain telephone exchange franchises, to build, purchase, acquire and operate telephone exchanges and lines in Iowa.

About July 1, 1886, the Iowa and

Minnesota Telephone Company established the first telephone connection between Newell, Fonda, Pomeroy, Manson, Rockwell City and Pocahontas with a central office at Pomeroy; on November 20, 1897, the Jefferson Telephone Company established an office at the Anderson Drug Company's store, Fonda and located three local instruments; and in 1899 the Central Telephone Company extended a line from Fonda to Rusk and Pocahontas. It remained, however for the Northern Telephone Company to popularize the use of the telephone as a great public convenience in the offices and homes of the people in Fonda and in several of the towns in this section.

The invention of the telephone is of recent date and its great value to the commercial world is suggested by the rapidity with which it has come into popular use. In 1861 Philip Reis, of Germany, found that variations in an electric current, caused by a vibrating membrane, could be reproduced, and in this way transmitted musical sounds and even words, but his apparatus was very imperfect. At the Centennial in 1876 A. Graham Bell first presented at a public exposition, a practical telephone in which the vibrations were received and communicated by means of an iron diaphragm in the field of a magnet. Later Thomas A. Edison produced a vibratory current by means of an induction coil and a block of carbon; and Blake, a platinum transmitter. In 1892 a long distance telephone was erected between Chicago and the principal cities of the east.

At the regular annual municipal election, held in Fonda, March 27, 1899, a telephone exchange franchise was granted this company for a period of twenty-five years. Under this franchise the telephone company was accorded the right to erect, maintain and operate upon such streets, alleys and public highways of Fonda, as may be necessary to furnish commu-

nication to the public, the poles, wires and fixtures necessary to supply to the citizens thereof communication by telephone or other electric signals. And in consideration of this franchise the telephone company grants to the town of Fonda, the free use of its poles for the purpose of fire alarm connections and the free use of two phones in such places as the Town Council may designate.

This company was organized by the election of Geo. Sanborn, President; A. S. Wood, Vice President; M. G. Coleman, Secretary; and R. F. Beswick, Treasurer. Before the close of the year 1899 the force of workmen employed by this company had located ninety-five instruments in Fonda and extended their lines to Varina, Laurens, Lilly, Rusk, Newell, Sulphur Springs, Storm Lake, Alta and Nemaha.

At Storm Lake the automatic exchange and instruments connected with it, that were not entirely satisfactory, have been replaced by a more serviceable switch board and 125 local instruments. Other towns that have since been reached are Rolfe, Gilmore City, Havelock, Plover, Palmer, Pocahontas and Rockwell City.

It is the aim and purpose of this company to reach every point of interest in each township of this county, connect them with each other and with the towns in the neighboring counties, either by means of their own lines or those of other independent companies.

The instruments used by this company are the best manufactured and give universal satisfaction. On all the toll lines a metallic circuit is used and no expense is spared in the effort to secure the best of materials and service in every department of their work.

At their annual meeting, held on the first Monday in May, 1900, the directors chosen for the ensuing year

were: A. S. Roberts, John Forbes, L. S. Straight, Geo. Sanborn and A. S. Wood, who organized by the election of A. L. Roberts, president; L. S. Straight, vice president; M. G. Coleman, secretary, and R. F. Beswick, treasurer. Lee S. Straight was appointed manager and superintendent of construction and the original capital stock of \$10,000, divided into shares of \$50 each, was increased to \$20,000.

#### THE NORTHWESTERN HAWKEYE.

A copy of the Northwestern Hawkeye was recently handed us by Thos. Slater, of Cedar township. This seems to be the only copy of that paper that has been preserved and it is therefore an interesting relic. It is dated Fonda, Iowa, Thursday, May 27, 1875, and is No. 11 of the third volume, which indicates that this paper was established about March 20, 1873. It was published by J. D. White & Son and it was the official paper of this county for the year 1875. It was designed to be a local republican paper devoted to the interests of Pocahontas county and the benefit of its inhabitants.

The particular item of interest that led to the preservation of this copy is the account it contains of the marriage of Thomas Slater and Mrs. Mary McFadden on May 26, 1875, when the senior editor of the paper, who was a local preacher of the M. E. church, at his own home in Fonda, "started these two young people on the journey of life together with the express wish that peace and prosperity may be their portion."

Of the other items of interest in this old paper we note the following: A Sunday School was organized at the Osburn schoolhouse, two miles east of Fonda, May 23, 1875, by the election of O. F. Wilson, Supt.; Mrs. David Spielman, Asst. Supt.; George Garlock, Sec.; Mrs. B. F. Osburn, Lib.; B. F. Osburn, Treas. and Mrs. E. Garlock, chorister.

The grasshoppers in Kansas, reinforced by a horde of buffalo gnats that attacked the cattle, were making sad havoc of every green thing in Kansas. They had penetrated to the heart of Kansas City and though millions of them had been destroyed by means of trenches they were moving northward like a vast army.

The advertisements indicate that the following persons were doing business at Fonda at this time: Remtsma & Swingle, lumber and coal; Wm. Snell, cheese factory; E. Mullen, proprietor of Fonda Hotel; E. J. Griffin and T. J. Curtis are contractors and builders; Joseph Mallison has a collecting agency and sells farm machinery; Wm. Marshall and C. E. Brown are real estate agents; Hughes & Son (S. & G. E.) and John W. Gray are general merchants and Dr. C. F. Wilson is a veterinary surgeon.

At this date the town lots in this county were assessed as follows: In Lombard, a new town platted on the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 32 Laurens (now Marshall) township, \$1 each; in (old) Rolfe and Pocahontas \$2.50 to \$10; and in Fonda (still listed as Marvin), \$30 to \$75.

#### HISTORIC INCIDENTS.

Fonda is charmingly located in a section of country that is rich in good farming lands which are cultivated by a class of thrifty farmers who are rapidly accumulating money and making improvements in the way of comfortable homes. It is the oldest and largest town in the county and has now a population of 1200 enterprising inhabitants. Among its special advantages are its fine churches, schools, excellent facilities for trade, good water, healthful climate and highly productive soil all around it.

In 1876 Cedar township for the first time took the lead in the county by casting the largest republican vote which was 70 for Hayes and 34 for Tilden.

In 1880, ten years after the town



was founded, the population of Fonda was 168. In 1885 it was 433, in 1890, 625 and in 1895, 942.

The first wedding in Fonda was the marriage of Marion D. Skinner and Clara Hawkins July 25, 1873 at the hotel kept by her father where the Toy bank now stands and Rev. R. J. Griffin was the officiating clergyman.

The first sidewalk in Fonda was laid in May 1876 and it extended from the depot to Ibson's blacksmith shop on the northwest corner of Main and Second streets.

In 1888 Main street was established and opened south of the I. C. R. R. and in 1892 it was extended from the Catholic church to the north line of the section.

On Oct. 15, 1883 a fire destroyed some of the best business blocks on the east side of Main street including the Ellis hotel, Times building, Guyett store buildings, then owned by J. N. McKee & Co., and others representing a loss of \$33,000, but in a short time the former wooden structures were replaced by splendid brick buildings that have been an ornament to the town and a credit to her enterprising citizens.

On Aug. 25, 1891 another fire destroyed the drug store of J. B. Bollard, the clothing store of Malloy & Redden, the new brick building of F. M. Conroy and a number of smaller ones on the west side of Main street that involved a loss of \$17,000. These also have been replaced with larger and more substantial buildings.

On June 15, 1897, a curfew ordinance was adopted for the purpose of keeping the children under seventeen years of age from the streets, alleys and public grounds of the city after certain hours of the night. This ordinance has been enforced since its adoption and with excellent results.

On March 6, 1900, twenty-six women cast their ballots at the school election held in Fonda. This was the

first time they voted in Fonda and, casting 18 ballots for the proposition to bond the town for the erection of a new schoolhouse and ten against it, their vote gave a majority of four for the bond proposition that otherwise by reason of a slight misunderstanding, would have been lost by four votes.

The first Sunday school in the Thompson school district was organized in 1876, by Harvey W. Hay and Charles E. Whitney. In 1885 and '86, it was reorganized and John Carlidge and Wm. H. Henderson were elected successively superintendents. In 1897 it was reorganized by the election of William M. Cathcart superintendent and he has maintained it until the present time.

#### TORNADO OF 1882.

On Saturday June 17, 1882, the citizens of Fonda, had a magnificent view of one of those whirlwinds, or funnel shaped clouds called a tornado or cyclone. It formed near the western line of Cedar Township, at the close of a sultry day, and moving eastward completely destroyed the vacant house and other buildings on the homestead of J. P. Robinson on  $\frac{1}{4}$  sw  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 20. The houses and furniture of Harry and Adelbert Bailey and of Renselaer Wright on the same section were also destroyed. At the home of Joseph Kennedy, on section 21, the house was carried from its foundation and the barn destroyed. It passed thence northeastward to the home of Louis Fuchs, on section 12, where its appetite was satisfied by the almost total destruction of his house, barn, stable and granary, and the snapping of the trees in the grove, some of which were one foot thick, as if they were pipestems.

The only one injured was Adelbert Bailey, who was struck on the foot by a piece of flying timber. At the home of R. Wright the building occupied had been provided with only a tempo-

rary floor, and on this the family was left unhurt when the building was carried away.

The destructive part of this, the second tornado to visit this county, was about five miles in length, all within Cedar township. As the whirling, seething cloud passed over the open prairie north of Fonda and less than a mile from it, all who dared venture out beheld a sight so sublime and awe inspiring as never to be forgotten. Virgil had in mind such a scene when he wrote:

Aeolus hurled his spear against the mountainous surface,  
And the wild howling winds rush forth pell mell at the orifice,-  
The east wind, the north wind and stormy northwest together  
Scour over the earth and inaugurate dreadful bad weather.

That same evening heavy storms prevailed in several portions of this and other states, the most destructive one passing through Grinnell, where a large number of buildings were destroyed and many lives lost.

#### SUNK GROVE.

Sunk Grove, an island of eighty acres, principally on the ne  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 7 and covered with a fine grove of timber that previous to the arrival of the I. C. railway was the only supply of fuel and building material in this section, was the first place of interest and attracted near it the first settlers in Cedar township, in 1868.

At this early date there were many trees growing around its outer edge that during most of the year stood in water to the depth of one or more feet. The appearance of large oak trees standing in the water, gave the impression that the ground where they stood had sunk after they began to grow, and for this reason it was called "Sunk Grove."

In the spring of the year the island is surrounded by a lake, that on the south and east sides of it is from 30 to 50 rods wide, and on the north and

west is from 100 to 200 rods in width. This depression is lowest at the north west corner of the island where it is widest. At this place it was never known to become dry until the latter part of 1894. During recent years the entire depression around the island, embracing nearly three hundred acres of land, has been covered with an unusually luxuriant growth of native grasses, beautiful to the eye but of no real value to the owners, either for hay or pasture, by reason of the marshy condition of the ground. The outlet for this lake or marsh is eastward to the Cedar, and when it is drained several hundreds of acres of the richest and most productive land in the county will be redeemed.

This grove was the only one of natural timber in the west half of this county. The water around it protected the timber from the prairie fires and it had a fine growth of oak, hackberry, basswood, cottonwood, and other trees of which the last large ones were removed in 1870. The island is now owned and occupied by J. M. Borders, whose cozy cottage, surrounded by young timber, is located on its highest point.

#### FONDA IN 1900.

The leading business interests at Fonda and those now representing them may be briefly summarized as follows:

ATTORNEYS: Z. C. Bradshaw since '94; F. Hamilton Bond, since '95; J. D. Wurtzbaugh, since '98; Edward Fairburn since '99, Wm. H. Healy since '85.

BANKS: The Pocahontas County Bank was established by Geo. Fairburn, its present proprietor, in 1870; the first brick building was erected in '81 and in '85 it was enlarged. It is the oldest bank in the county. A. S. Wood is cashier, C. A. Alexander and Edward H. Fairburn, assistants. The Farmers' Loan & Trust Co. was established in 1886 by James F.

Toy, of Storm Lake. L. A. Rothe is cashier, Chas. Harrold assistant.

**BARBERS:** Geo. G. Craft since 1887; also an auctioneer and proprietor of a dog and pony show since 1891. Maulsby Bros., (I. W. and M. S.) since 1894. Mitchell & Elliott successors of W. A. Elliott.

**BOOK-KEEPERS:** Walter S. Adams, since 1895, Charles A. Alexander, since 1891; Melvin Royer and Ray E. Wilde.

**BLACKSMITHS:** Garrett R. Reniff, since September 1, 1885 when his shop was built. He was a partner with J. W. Spitzbarth 1886-88, and purchased an additional shop in 1896 of Arthur Hamilton and placed it in care of A. W. Jones, one of his workmen since 1895. Edward Ibson, since 1896 and as a partner with his brother, Peter G. Ibson, since 1873. Ackley Bros. successors to Fagan Bros. in 1900.

**BRICK AND TILE WORKS:** Straight Bros. (Lee S. and Guy H.)

**BUTTER MANUFACTURER:** Fonda Creamery Company, R. F. Beswick, proprietor since 1889.

**CARPET WEAVER:** Alphonso O. Brown since 1887.

**CITY ENGINEER:** G. C. Weber.

**CIGAR MANUFACTURER:** Frank L. Covey, since 1877.

**CONTRACTORS AND BUILDERS:** A. J. Sauter, James Thompson, Charles Nichols, J. E. Brown, H. W. Bailey Calvin Brackney.

**CLERKS;** Geo. Bush, since 1887; J. B. Sargent, since 1892; Eli P. Griffith, since 1895; Vernon Harris, since 1893; Lucius Langworthy, Jos. M. Thorpe and George Fastle.

**CLOTHING:** Woodhouse & Blizzard since '95, in Eaton block (built in '98) since '99, H. A. Blizzard, manager.

**CHOPHOUSES;** F. O. and S. H. Van-Hoosier, since 1898; and J. W. Sargent.

**DRESS MAKERS:** Mrs. Mark Haven, Lily and Rose Steiner, Mrs. Marion Young, Sara Morton, Hannah Olkjer, Ina Gilson, Dollie and Mamie Wykoff.

**DRAYMEN:** Wm. B. Neal, since 18-

85, Fred Spielman, since '94, Mrs. M. Doyle, since '91, Jackson Howe, manager; Claude Simpson and Marion Young.

**DRUGGISTS:** C. C. Patty since 1894; Anderson (Elijah) Drug Co., since 18-96; and H. A. Daubenberger, successor of J. B. Bollard, in the Bott brick block in 1899.

**FURNITURE DEALERS:** R. Wright & Co. successors of Geo. Fairburn, in his brick block in '87. (2) Albert R. Maulsby since '99.

**GENERAL MERCHANTS:** J. P. Robinson since 1886, now in TIMES building. J. D. Carpenter since '93 in McKee block built in '84; and in hardware '83-89 as a member of the firm of Carpenter & Russell, Roy, his son, a partner in 1900. John Forbes since '94, successor of Borman & Sargent in Hughes building. The Thornton (Frank G.) Mercantile Co. in '98 successors to Crahan & Linnan. J. W. Rock since '98, and in his own brick block in '99. Tolen Bros., John and James.

**GRAIN DEALERS:** Kennedy Bros. (Thomas, John and Alexander) since '97 and as Redfield & Kennedy, since '93. Elevator first built by N. B. Post in 1890. They also deal in live stock, buggies and implements. (2) Warren Grain Co. D. V. Righdenour, manager since 1895. (3) Frank J. Turner, successor to Rolfe Bros. since 1897, elevator built in 1894 by N. B. Post.

**HARDWARE AND HARNESS DEALERS:** A. L. Roberts & F. L. Kenning, successors of Fred Haffele in 1893, erected present brick block in 1899, Wm. D. Carroll harness maker. Fitch Bros. (Geo. H. and Fred W.) successors of J. H. Potter & Son in McKee block in 1893.

**HOTELS:** Curley (Ewing) House, built in 1885, by Mrs. R. F. Hull, C. A. Ladd & J. E. Odiet, managers since 1898; Washington house, built by G. W. Sargent in 1892, Robert B. Robins, manager, since 1899. Fonda ho-

tel, Thomas Murphy proprietor since 1893. Central house, Mrs. Engelbert Keeler, proprietor and manager since 1893.

**IMPLEMENTS:** Mullen, Mayo & Co. successors in 1899 of Turner (Frank) & Charles Mayo; and Kennedy Bros.

**INSURANCE:** M. G. Coleman, since 1892, also '77-78; city recorder and secretary of Northern Telephone Co., Capt. Joseph Mallison since 1875. Wm H. Healy Esq., Ed. R. Ellis, L. A. Rothe and Z. C. Bradshaw.

**JANITOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS:** John Dooley since 1889.

**LUMBER DEALERS:** J. & W. C. Shull, successors of Geo. Fairburn in 1887, J. J. McCartan, manager. (2) Woodford & Wheeler successors of N. B. Post in 1890, since which date Wm. Wilde has been the manager. (3) Lee & Jameson who in '95 became the successors of Henry Dorton, the present manager.

**LIVERYMEN.** A. J. Hamilton, in '94 successor of A. E. Sargent who erected buildings in 1893; Frank Mullen, since 1898; and John Mackey in 1900, successor to Geo. P. Selzer at the Kay barn.

**MARBLE AND GRANITE WORKS:** L. A. Raymond, since 1898.

**MASONS AND PLASTERERS.** Jacob Spielman, E. O. Ellis, Wm. E. Wykoff and Frank Ceperly.

**MEAT MARKETS:** W. J. Redfield at the "Palace," since 1898; Henry Travis, successor of Wendell Bros. in 1900.

**MILKMAN:** Seth F. Tucker since 1888.

**MILLINERS:** Mrs. Charles Sayres since 1891; Mrs. D. J. Barkalow, since 1899; Miss Katie Kearns, Mrs. E. Kay.

**MUSIC TEACHERS:** Minnie Haffele, Mrs. C. R. Whitney, Anna Zerwas and Olive Myers.

**NEWSPAPERS:** The Fonda Times, called Pocahontas Times, until June 14, 1894, Geo. Sanborn editor and proprietor since 1879, brick building

erected in 1884. The Fonda Review, W. S. Clark editor, since May 1, 1900.

**PAINTERS.** Wallace Haven, H. E. Sargent, A. W. Sargent, Albert and Everett L. Gilson, P. R. Chamberlin and Howard Lockie.

**PASTORS OF THE CHURCHES:** Methodist (built 1880) Rev. J. J. Gardner since 1897, Catholic (1884) Rev. J. F. Brennan since 1895; Presbyterian (1887) Rev. R. E. Flickinger since 1886; Christian (1900) Rev. W. S. Lemmon.

**PHOTOGRAPHER:** M. J. Silvers, successor of B. K. Hawkins, in 1898.

**POST MASTER:** Capt. Joseph Mallison.

**PHYSICIANS:** D. W. Edgar, since '81; C. R. Whitney, since '94; T. J. Dower, and D. J. Barkalow since '99; and M. G. Simpson, veterinary since '97.

**RAILWAY AGENTS:** R. M. Harrison I. C.; E. E. Nance, and R. Wright, C. M. & S. P.

**REAL ESTATE.** Mallison & Ellis (Joseph and Ed R.) since 1894; Kay & Hughes (Emmet and Geo. E.) since 1898; Jordan & Linnan (John E. and C. F.) since 1899; and Bradshaw & Chingren (Rev. Z. C. and E. J.) in 1900.

**RESTAURANTS;** J. R. Johnson since 1897; E. J. Maulsby; and Joseph Hudson.

**STREET SPRINKLER;** Ed O'Donnell.  
**SHOEMAKERS.** Hart Roberts, since 1883 making fine shoes a specialty; Wm. W. Rathbun since 1886.

**TAILORS:** Swen J. Swenson since '92 and Al Ehline since '89, both employing from two to four tailors.

**TELEPHONE OPERATOR.** Louise Spelling.

**TRAVELING SALESMEN:** Geo. Riley and F. M. Conroy.

**WAGON MAKER:** Abram F. DeGraff since 1891.

**WELL DRILLERS:** W. H. Osterman, since 1894; Elmer and William Evans.

#### PERSONAL SKETCHES.

Of the residents of Cedar township there seems a special propriety that

the sketches of the following persons be included in this chapter.

Beard Edward L., who had charge of the Fonda creamery 1887 to '89, is a native of Indiana (b. 1848), came to Winnesheik county, Iowa, in 1853, and married there Mary S. Adams, in 1878. During their residence in Fonda, he rendered efficient service as an elder of the Presbyterian church. After his return to Decorah, he continued in the creamery business with the Beard Bros., until 1896, when he became proprietor of the creamery at Coster, Butler Co., and in 1898 also of the Colfax and Star creameries in Grundy Co. His estimable wife after three years of poor health died in 1891 leaving three children, Gertrude, Bessie and William Edward.

Beswick Robert Frederick, manager and principal proprietor of the interests represented by the Fonda Creamery Co., was born in the city of York, England, September 11, 1854. After pursuing an elementary course of study in the public schools of Leeds, he spent two years, in an academy, and one year as a teacher, in one of the government schools.

In 1876, at the age of twenty two, he came to America, bought a farm at Newell, Iowa, and engaged in farming. Two years later he learned the creamery business, and finally located at Manchester, where, on September 11, 1887, he married Rosetta J. daughter of W. B. Ellis, a successful and prosperous farmer of that place. He has been a resident of Fonda and proprietor of the creamery since Nov. 1, 1889.

In the management of his business interests he is thoroughly systematic and methodical. He reposes implicit confidence in his workmen and gives them to understand that he expects them to do all their work in the best manner whether he is present or absent. He studiously endeavors to avoid the use of borrowed capital and

prefers to do a safe rather than a large business. All his business transactions are kept on a cash basis. By careful observance of these principles he was enabled to continue with a small margin of profit during the hard years preceding 1896, and to enlarge his business considerably in 1897. He has been an active and an influential member of the city council since 1893. Unselfish, conservative and farseeing, he is regarded as "one of the best workers for the town that ever occupied a chair on the council." His wife died July 25, 1897, leaving two children, Robbie and Bessie.

Bott William, a resident of Fonda and vicinity since 1870, was born in Stratton, Rutland county, England, December 18, 1827, and he was the son of Robert and Charlotte (Bains) Bott. His father was the overseer of the estate of Sir Gilbert Ethcort. In 1850 he came to America and spent the first two years on a farm at Syracuse, New York. He then engaged as foreman in laying railroad track and resided successively at Danville, (Canada), Cincinnati, Terra Haute, and Shelbyville (Ill.). At this place, April 17, 1859, he married Susan, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Sapp, and soon afterwards moved to Lichfield. In 1869, he located at Iowa Falls, and superintended the laying of the I. C. railroad from Iowa Falls to Storm Lake. As the railroad advanced his family moved to Webster City, Fort Dodge and Fonda, arriving at Fonda, in August 1870. He found a home for his family at first in the unfinished depot, and when he was compelled to leave it about the middle of October, some of his workmen built him a house in one day. He continued in the employ of the railroad company until 1879 and among others laid the track on the road from Judd to Lehigh and on the Webster City and Crooked creek railway. As late as July 1886 this veteran track-layer was

called to Webster City, to superintend the laying of ten miles of new track for a mining company.

His farm of 240 acres on section 21, Cedar township was purchased in 1870 for \$5 an acre. In 1874 he moved upon it and began the work of its improvement. During a residence of twenty years on the farm he improved it with fine buildings, fences and groves. In 1894 he returned to Fonda, where his wife died, May 13, 1895, in her 74th year. Their family consisted of five children three of whom died young. Jennie, wife of Joseph B. Bollard, and Lizzie reside in Fonda, the latter with her father.

Wm. Bott is one of the few men, still living, who have had the opportunity of witnessing the growth of Fonda and of taking an active part in promoting the best interests of the town and community. When he came to this place in the spring of 1870, the town site was a wild prairie without roads, houses or trees. Only two small temporary buildings had been erected, one a blacksmith shop, by Peter Ibson and the other a grocery by Jacob Silbar. Intoxicating liquors were kept in the latter, and Mr. Bott having about seventy-five men in his employ, notified Silbar not to sell any of them to his men. Silbar, affirming his right to sell to who ever paid him for the drinks, was advised to be careful or the men would carry his outfit away. That evening a number of the men gathered about his building, lifted it and were in the act of carrying it to Cedar creek, when Mr. Bott interfered and prevailed upon them to desist from their purpose.

Wm. Bott was a member of the board of county supervisors, six years, 1880-82 and 1886-88, and served as its chairman in 1881 and '87. He has been president of the board of trustees of the Presbyterian church, of Fonda, since 1890. Although of a happy and contented state of mind he has never

been a loiterer, but always an industrious and hard worker. His long experience as a foreman is suggestive of his superior tact and ability in managing others. He has been a successful farmer. On the farm he was careful neither to go in debt nor sell a bushel of grain. He raised hogs and cattle successfully by providing for them suitable buildings and giving them his constant, personal attention. He endeavored to keep the fences and buildings in the very best shape and enjoyed what some are pleased to call "good luck." In addition to his farm and home he also owns a valuable brick block in the business portion of Fonda.

Bothwell George W., M. D. now a resident of Fairbanks, was a resident of Fonda, from November 1, 1877, until 1888. He practiced medicine and, during the latter part of this period, had an interest in a drug store. His mother Mariah A. (Muir) and son George H. began to reside with him in Fonda in 1878, and on October 22nd that year, he married Ida Dodge, of Fonda. This ceremony was performed by Rev. H. G. McBride, and it seems to have been the first one in Fonda, by a resident pastor of the M. E. church. His son, a very exemplary young man, after preparing himself for college in the Guthrie county high school at Panora, received a serious stroke on his head while at work during the summer vacation, that caused a slight derangement of his mind, and he was killed by a freight train one mile east of Fonda, September 10, 1887, in his 19th year. Both of his parents were natives of Scotland, and in 1843 came to Toronto Canada, where his father (John) died a few years later. In 1860 his mother and family moved to Fondulac, Wis., and three of her sons enlisted in the civil war. She was one of God's noble women and passed to her

reward at Fairbanks, August 27, 1893, in her 81st year.

Bradshaw Zenas Condit Rev., a resident of Fonda, since Oct. 1, 1892, was born near Grandville, Indiana, September, 26, 1840. In March 1846 he came with his parents to a farm in Cedar county, Iowa, making the journey in a two horse wagon. In the fall of 1859 his father was elected sheriff, and in January 1860 moved to Tipton. At the age of nineteen, Zenas that year entered the Tipton Union School, and after two years Cornell College, where he remained until the close of the fall term of 1865. March 27, 1866, he married Angeline Spitler, and continued in the work of teaching most of the time until November 1870, when he moved to Webster City and began the study of law. In 1872 he began the practice of law at Belmond, Wright county. In the fall of 1879 he was elected auditor of that county and moved to Clarion, where their first and only child, Grace De-ette, was born March 9, 1881. He continued to reside there until Oct. 1 1886. He became a member of the M. E. church in February 1858, was ordained a deacon at Spirit Lake, September 28, 1884, and an elder at Algona, September 29, 1886. He was pastor of the M. E. church in Luverne and Goldfield, each one year; in Lake Mills, Sioux Rapids, Ashton and Fonda, each two years. Since the close of his pastorate at Fonda, October 1, 1894, he has been engaged in the practice of law. His aim in life has been to be a faithful citizen and a devoted christian.

Brower George L. was a resident of Fonda from January 1, 1873, until the spring of 1883, when he moved to Rockwell City, where he established the Security bank. At the time he located in Fonda, he opened a general store and, one month later, purchased the entire stock of general mer-

chandise owned by W. H. Clemens. January 1, 1881, he opened a branch store and restaurant at Pocahontas, in charge of W. Hodges, and leased the Fonda creamery when it was completed that spring. All of these business interests at Fonda and Pocahontas were relinquished in the spring of 1883. He took an active part in all the arrangements connected with the incorporation of Fonda. He was appointed one of the commissioners to hold the first municipal election, was the first to hold the office of town treasurer, was a member of the first town council and continued to serve in that capacity five years, 1879 to 1882.

He married Ella J. daughter of James and Jean Busby, and their family consisted of five children two of whom died in childhood, and Harry, in his tenth year, December 15, 1895. For several years he and his family have resided in Des Moines and Chicago, in order to secure the best educational advantages for their two daughters, Aileen and Imogene, and in July 1899 they went to Paris, that Aileen, who possesses a voice of unusual sweetness and power, and who has already become a very accomplished singer, might pursue advanced studies in music for a couple of years.

As a man he is gentle and good natured, never in a hurry but always planning some new venture and carrying to a successful issue large business interests. At Rockwell City there has been accorded to him the honorable title, "Brower the Builder," because, "he has built more houses and large business blocks in that city than any other man." He has also been the inventor of a set of building blocks that are greatly coveted by the children all over the land. He is a man well equipped for business, has the faculty of developing large results from small beginnings, knows how to make a profitable use of every thing that comes into his possession and

seems to be uniformly successful in all his enterprises.

Busby(Plunkett)Jean Mrs. who died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Peter Kiene, in Dubuque, May. 1, 1898, was a pioneer resident of Fonda, and a beautiful monument in this cemetery marks her last earthly resting place. She was a native of Scotland, and after her marriage to James Busby, came to America and located first in St. Lawrence county, N. Y., and afterwards in Chicago, where he died, July 6, 1855, at the age of 55 years. That fall, with a family of seven children, she moved to Dubuque, remained there until the spring of 1872, when, accompanied by four children, she moved to Fonda. Her two sons, William J. and Ebenezer, had preceded her and they had erected, as a home for herself and family, the house now owned and occupied by Geo. H. Ellis, on the northeast corner of block ten. Ebenezer, on his arrival in the fall of 1870, engaged in the mercantile business in which he was joined by his brother William J. in the spring of 1871, and this partnership continued until the accidental death of the former August 23, 1873. After the settlement of her children in homes of their own, Jean resided most of the time with her daughter Mrs. Geo. L. Brower. Her family consisted of Elizabeth J. married to George Butterfield, Plumas Co. Cal.; Matilda, married to C. D. Lucas, Cherokee, Robert A. married to Elizabeth Borland who survives him at Dubuque; Mary A. married to Prof. C. Bayless, Dubuque; William J. married to Louisa A. Price, Fonda; Carrie A. married to Peter Kiene, Dubuque; Ebenezer M. who was the first one interred in the Fonda cemetery; Ella J. married to George L. Brower, Rockwell City; and Rebecca who resides with her sister, Mary A. at Dubuque. The true nobility of motherhood has seldom been better illustra-

ted than in the patient, beautiful life of Jean Busby. It can be truly said of her, that her children arise up and call her blessed.

Busby William J. came to Fonda, in the spring of 1871 and first engaged in the mercantile business in partnership with his brother Ebenezer. He entered, as a homestead, the n $\frac{1}{2}$  ne $\frac{1}{2}$  section 8, Williams township, but sold his interest in it to C. D. Lucas. After the death of his brother in 1873, he bought a farm of 280 acres on the east half of section 34, Cedar township, on which he has continued to reside since 1875. He was the first to occupy this farm and has made all the improvements upon it.

He usually keeps a flock of sheep and in the fall of 1899, received three head from the herd at Ontario, Can., that was accorded the highest award at the World's Fair in 1893. They are of the Lincolnshire breed and one of them, weighing 276 pounds, yielded a clip of twenty pounds in 1900. It is believed that these are the finest sheep in Pocahontas county.

In 1876 and 1894-98 he kept a meat market in Fonda. On Nov. 1, 1877, in partnership with Edward Price, as the firm of Price & Busby, he opened a general store at Pomeroy, known as the "Cheap Corner." These business enterprises were carried on in connection with the work on the farm. By his uniform courtesy and honesty he won the favor of the public and secured the patronage of the best people. He has taken a considerable interest in the progress and development of Fonda. At the first municipal election in 1879 he was chosen a member of the first town council. He was a member of the township school board from 1881 to 1884, and a trustee 1881-96. His brother, Ebenezer, was treasurer of the township school fund in 1873, until the time of his death.

May 20, 1874, he married Louisa A., daughter of Edward and Elizabeth



Price. Their family has consisted of ten children, namely: Robert A., who graduated at the Bayless Business College, Dubuque, in 1897, and has since been in the employ of the I. C. R. R. Co. at Fort Dodge; Theophilus Price, who is in the employ of the same company on the Omaha division; Edith May, who graduated from the Fonda High School in 1897 and has since been engaged in teaching; George E., Elizabeth Jean, a Fonda High School graduate in 1900; Carrie Mann, Willeben E., who died in childhood; Lourena L., Harrison W., and Charlotte.

Chase Elijah, his wife Elizabeth and five children, Marquis, Alfretta, Converse, Frederick and Thomas, the last about two and the first about seventeen years of age, located on Sec. 6, Cedar township Aug. 9, 1868. They came from Buchanan county with an outfit that consisted of four loaded wagons drawn by fourteen yoke of oxen, and ten head of cattle. They were accompanied from the same place by Geo. Spragg, a brother of Mrs. Chase, whose outfit consisted of two wagons drawn by four yoke of oxen, and four head of cattle. These were the first settlers in Cedar township and they located on the same section. Their experience in making the trip from Independence to Sunk Grove was one that was not uncommon in those days, especially in wet seasons. At this date the railroad extended only to Iowa Falls and the trails west of Fort Dodge extended only to the settlements along Lizard creek. The sloughs were full of water and so soft that frequently the mud would be seen shoving in front of the wagon. All of the oxen, eighteen yoke, were sometimes required to draw a single wagon across a bad slough and, in such cases, a half day would be consumed in crossing it. During the first two years of their residence at Sunk Grove all their sup-

plies were obtained from Carroll, Jefferson and Fort Dodge. In the spring of 1869 Marquis Chase made a trip to Fort Dodge for a load of supplies, and while there was overtaken by a heavy rain. The wagon was drawn by four yoke of oxen, and on his return, in the effort to cross the head of Purgatory slough a short distance northeast of the place where Pomeroy is now located, the front yoke of oxen mired in the mud and the others, moving on them, the entire eight head of cattle were lost by drowning. The youthful driver, then only eighteen years of age, was compelled to stay over night with the load and the next day walked home, a distance of eighteen miles, to obtain a larger number of oxen and assistance to extricate the wagon with its load.

Elijah and his family in 1878 moved to Buena Vista county, but returned in 1881. He died in 1895 and his wife, Jan. 15, 1898, the latter at the home of her son William, near Wadena, Minnesota. His family consisted of ten children, namely: Marquis, in Dover township; Alfretta, wife of Joseph Logan; Converse, Frederick, Thomas, Eunice, wife of Thompson Gilman; Frank, Joseph, Adrian and William.

Geo. Spragg married Miss Osburn, a niece of J. W. Wallace, and, after a residence of twelve years in the county, moved to Nebraska.

Bridges William Franklin, a resident of Fonda since 1888, was born near Brighton, Canada, August 14, 1847. He is a son of Rev. John (d. 1883) and Sarah (Hazlewood, d. 1879) Bridges both of whom were natives of Buckinghamshire, near London England, where they married and lived until 1826, when, with a family of four children, they came to Canada, making the trip across the ocean in forty-four days. His father spent forty years in the ministry of the Baptist church and, while visiting his

son on the farm, held services at the Prairie Creek school house, and at other places in the vicinity in Sac and Calhoun counties. In 1852 the family moved to Bristol, Dane county, Wis., a settlement on the frontier that afforded very few facilities for an education. Here William F. grew to manhood and, on March 7, 1871, married Elvira M. Wood, of York, Wis. In 1872, by purchasing the right of another, who had held it four years, for \$1000, and making a new entry he secured a homestead of eighty acres on the nw  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 6 Williams township, four miles south west of Fonda, and located on it. A little later he made additional purchases on the same section that increased his farm to 240 acres. The improvements put on this farm were for many years the finest in all that section. The large bank barn built in 1885 at a cost of \$1500, was lifted from its foundation and badly wrecked by the great hail storm of May 27, 1899. From 1891 to '93 he owned the Central House and, from 1893 to '95, was engaged in the implement business at Fonda. About this date he purchased another farm of 110 acres in Dallas county. He also owns one vacant lot and two good residences in Fonda.

Commencing with a capital of \$300, which he possessed at the time he located on the homestead, his accumulations indicate he has been a successful farmer and that farming is profitable. During all the years that he lived on the farm he kept all the hogs and cattle the farm would support and did not haul over 200 bushels of grain to town. When the grasshoppers robbed him of his crops during the seventies, he did not become discouraged but practiced a closer economy and sought other means of income. In Williams township he was a school director four years and treasurer of the school fund, seven. He was a member of the Fonda school board three

years, 1890-92, and has been a trustee of the Presbyterian church since 1895.

His family consists of two sons; William Henry, a graduate of the Iowa State Normal, at Cedar Falls, in 1899, and principal of the public schools at Bagley; and John Clinton, who graduated at the State Normal in 1900.

Brown Elisha C., resident of Fonda and vicinity from 1875 to 1888, on September 27, 1864 entered the s $\frac{1}{2}$  se $\frac{1}{2}$  section 34, Des Moines township, as a homestead, and occupied it until his removal to Fonda. He served one term as county recorder, 1867-68, having been elected without opposition. He was a mormon, or latter day saint, and frequently held religious services in the community where he resided. In 1878, assisted by a man called Lambert he held a series of special services at (old) Rolfe, Pocahontas and Fonda. During his last year at Fonda, he was janitor of the public school.

Brown Orlando (b. June 8, 1821) is one of the earliest settlers in this section, having located on a homestead of eighty acres on the n  $\frac{1}{2}$  se  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 8, Williams township, in 1869. He came from the farm to Fonda in 1888. He is a native of Washington Co., N. Y., and his parents were Nathan and Laura (Babcock) Brown. In 1840 he located at Prairieville, now Waukesha, Wis., where on August 24, 1845, he married Rcana Bacon (b. June 15 1829) and they continued to reside there until 1853, when they moved to Fondulac; fifteen years later, or in 1868, they moved to Alden, Iowa, and the next year to the homestead on the frontier. On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of their wedding, August 24, 1895, he and his faithful wife were pleasantly surprised by the appropriateness and completeness of the arrangements made at the home of their daughter, Mrs. G. R. Reniff, for the celebration of that



John C.                      William H.  
WM. F. BRIDGES AND FAMILY



MR. AND MRS. EDWARD ELLIS AND THEIR DAUGHTER MAUDE  
Fonda and Vicinity.



MR. AND MRS. GARRITT R. RENIFF AND THEIR PARENTS  
Fonda and Vicinity.

event, and they received the congratulations of many of their former neighbors and friends. During all the years of their pioneer life they have been highly respected for their useful and beautiful lives.

Their family has consisted of seven children: Lyman W. in 1871 married Charlotte Carman and now resides at Camp Douglass, Wis. Nathan Lorenzo, in December 1871, married Emma Norton, who with four children, survives him in South Dakota. The third died in childhood. James Edwin, July 30, 1879, married Hattie Young, of Wis. and in 1883 they located in Fonda, where he has since been engaged as a carpenter; their family consists of three children, Alta who graduated from the Fonda high school in 1899, Orley and Valma. Alphonso O. a carpet weaver in Fonda, in 1896 married Mrs. Matie Hinman and they have one child, George Garrett, she two by her former husband. Addison E., a teacher, Grant City, on September 27, 1888, married Emma Everhart and they have two children, Allie E. and Ethel May. Ella, the youngest, December 22, 1891, became the wife of Garrett R. Reniff, Fonda.

Byrne Matthew (b. 1847), resident of Fonda, is a native of Roscommon Co., Ireland, and in May 1867 came to Baltimore, Md., where, in Dec. 1868 he married Mary Lynch, of Dubuque. They continued to reside there until Feb. 15, 1870, when he entered and began to occupy as a homestead the  $w\frac{1}{2}$   $nw\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 4, Cedar township. He received the patent for the land May 15, 1876 and, improving it with good buildings and groves, has purchased, from time to time, additional tracts so that he is now the owner of 600 acres in that vicinity. He is recognized as one of the leading and most successful raisers of fat cattle in Cedar township. He has been a trustee of the township, and served as treasurer of the school fund three years,

1887-89. He continued to reside on the farm until 1894, when he moved to Fonda in order to secure better facilities for the education of his family, but has continued to give his personal attention to the care of the stock on that portion of the farm that is now devoted to the feeding of cattle.

The success achieved on the farm by Matthew Byrne is very suggestive and encouraging. He came to the homestead empty handed, never received a dollar from the old country, experienced all the hardships of pioneer life during the 70's but, possessing a genius for hard work, like the instinct of the quiet beaver, he has given a splendid practical answer to the question, "Does the farm pay?" His policy has been to raise and feed all the stock, especially cattle, for which he had pasturage in the summer and protection in winter, and to invest the profits in more land. This is exhibited in the record of his purchases which were as follows: the homestead of 80 acres in 1870; 80 acres more in '78; 40 acres in '80; 80 acres in '88; 80 acres in '89; 80 acres in '90; 160 acres in '91; and the home in Fonda in 1894. His sales of stock in 1899 amounted to \$16,000 and he has now 170 head of fine cattle fattening in his large pasture of 240 acres, 160 of which is hog-tight. The old adage "patience and perseverance will perform great wonders," has its fulfillment in these facts.

His first wife died July 28, 1889, leaving a family of ten children. James, in 1899, married Mary Carey and resides in Omaha; Katie graduated at the Iowa Business College, Des Moines in 1898 and has since lived in that city; William died in 1898 at the age of 23 years; the others are Thomas, Alice, Mary, Elizabeth, a teacher, Parnell, Maggie and Matthias. On May 3, 1894 he married Mary, daughter of William and Margaret Lynch, no

relative of his first wife, and their family consists of two children, Emmet and Leroy, the latter born Jan. 1, 1900.

Carpenter John Daniel, senior member of the firm of Carpenter & Son, Fonda, was born May 10, 1852, at Goshen, Ind. Here he received his education and grew to manhood. In 1864 he located at Panora, Iowa, where he found employment as a tinner. October 15, 1873, he married Minnie, a daughter of William and Maria Townsend, of that place, and they continued to reside there until 1883, when the firm of which he was a member, Dockstader & Carpenter, brought their stock of hardware to Fonda and began to occupy a room in the new brick block erected by J. N. McKee & Co. After the lapse of a year, Robert W. Russell, of Jones County, purchased the interest of his partner and the new firm of Carpenter & Russell continued until 1889. During the next two years he was manager of the lumber yard of Woodford & Wheeler Co.

In 1893, after a residence of six months in Bancroft, he resumed business in Fonda as a grocer, and while he dealt in groceries exclusively he was favored with the largest patronage of any one in that line of business. With the increase of trade dry-goods were added in 1897, and in 1900 the business was still further enlarged under the name of Carpenter & Son, by the additional use of an adjoining store room. His beautiful residence on Second street was built in 1895. By careful attention to all the details of his business and his manifest integrity of purpose he has gained the respect and confidence of all who have ever dealt with him. He is a representative of our best citizenship and lends a helping hand to everything that is calculated to promote the welfare of Fonda and vicinity.

He was a member of the city coun-

cil during the two years 1888-89, a member of the city school board seven years, 1885-91 and secretary of it during 1891.

His family consists of three children: Maude, June 6, 1894 became the wife of William Finnicum, who, since 1884 has been a conductor on the railroad from Fonda to Des Moines; they now reside at Des Moines and have two children, Ross and Ruth. Roy, a Fonda graduate in 1896, on Jan. 4, 1900 married Mae Flint, of Fairfield, Neb., and at the same date became a partner in the general store of his father. Florence, the youngest, graduated at Fonda, with the class of 1897.

Cartlidge John, president of the Cedar township school board during 1894-95, was a native of England and at the age of twenty came to Vinton, Iowa, where on February 14, 1873, he married Anna Eliza Goodwin. He engaged in farming in that vicinity for a few years and in the spring of 1884, came to Cedar township, where he died September 9, 1897, in his 46th year, and his wife, October 31, 1899, in her 63rd year. They left one daughter, Clara, who, July 26, 1896, married William McIntyre; and an adopted daughter Mary, who resides in Fonda with her aunt Sarah Morton, who made her home with this family during their residence in this county. He was a good farmer, a highly respected citizen and, while living on the farms of non-resident owners, enjoyed their confidence to such an extent as to be appointed their local agent.

Conroy Frank Marion, (b. Oct. 30, 1861), resident of Fonda, is a native of Tyrone, Ireland, and came to America in 1867, with his parents, Thomas and Bridget, who located first in Wisconsin but six months later on a farm in Black Hawk county, Iowa. In the fall of 1871 they located on a farm near Pomeroy and a few years later on another one near Jolley where Thomas died October 14, 1890. On Septem-

ber 5, 1882, Frank M. married Jennie M. Cahill of Fort Dodge, and they resided near Jolley, until March 1891, when they moved to Fonda, erected a two story brick block on the west side of Main Street and established a fine meat market and restaurant.

When this building was destroyed by the fire of '91, they moved to their farm on section 30 Dover township, but after two years returned to Fonda, kept a general store for two years and during this period built the fine residence on Franklin street that he has since occupied. He is the owner of several farms in this and Calhoun counties, and is now engaged as a traveling salesman for the manufacturers of the Champion mowers and harvesters. His family consists of two daughters, Florence M., who received a medal in the county declamatory contest at Pocahontas in 1900; and Cecil, who is now nine years of age.

Covey Frank Holley, cigar maker and retailer, Fonda, was born in Duches county, N. Y., Nov. 22, 1851. He grew to manhood at Hudson, where he learned the cigar manufacturing business, and, afterwards for several years, found employment in the principal cities of the east, as a cigar maker. In 1877 he came to Fonda and continued to manufacture cigars until 1898 when his retail trade, commenced in 1894, began to occupy his whole time and attention. April 22, 1884 he married Mary Belle Tucker and they have one son living, Harry, now in his 11th year.

At an early age he began to participate in various amateur plays on the stage and soon after his location in Fonda, he had thirteen of the "old timers" join with him in rendering, "Among the Breakers." It was the principal event of that season and by reason of the admirable manner in which he represented a negro character called "Scud" he has been generally known by that name ever since.

His elder brother, George Covey, a carpenter and his wife came to Fonda in 1876 and remained until 1887 when they returned to New York.

Dart Amos Wilson, in February 1871, became one of the pioneer homesteaders of Cedar township, (e½ ne¼ section 8) and was a resident of Fonda from 1876 to 1896, when he married Amy Smith and moved to Rolfe. He assisted in the organization of Cedar township, was the first of its citizens to perform the duties of constable and held that office for twenty years. In 1884 he was appointed deputy collector of this county, and held that office for eleven years. He was a native of Vermont and at the age of fifteen, in 1830, went to Cresscott, Canada, and four years later to Rochester, N. Y. Here he learned the painters' art in a chair factory. In 1850 he went to California, eleven years later to Boise City, returned to Vermont in 1869 and two years later came to Pocahontas county. His first wife Caroline Hays died in 1849, leaving two daughters, both of whom married and had children, but are now dead. In 1871 he married Mercy, widow of James Logan and she, as an invalid, died in 1895. He died September 29, 1899 in his 85th year. During his early life he became addicted to intemperate habits and they greatly annoyed him in his later years. During his residence on the homestead he became an active member of the M. E. church and a few years later was appointed the local agent of the Pocahontas county Bible society. His exhortations in religious meetings were earnest and often deeply impressive. One who heard him conduct a service in the Warner school house in May 1881 was induced to express his remarks in poetic form and the opening lines are as follows:

"I am the door; come knock and I will  
open,  
None ever sought for entrance here

in vain;  
Come boldly forward, this shall be thy  
token,  
The Lamb was slain.

I am the vine; come and I will engraft  
thee,  
A faithful off-shoot from the pa-  
rent tree;  
I'll nourish, cherish and at last re-  
ceive thee  
To bloom eternally."  
—Shabbona, in THE TIMES, June 9,  
1881.

Davis Arthur W. came to this county in the fall of 1895 and served two years as principal of the public schools in Fonda. His excellent work in the school room and in the teachers' institutes brought him into such favorable notice over the county that in the fall of 1897, he was elected to fill the office of County Superintendent. At this election he received 121 votes more than any other candidate on the winning ticket in this county, and a majority of 373 over his opponent. His administration of the educational interests of this county was vigorous, impartial and exceptionally fine. Although he is still pursuing his education, he has already developed considerable ease and grace as an orator and, on several important public occasions, addressed large assemblages of the people in different parts of this county. He possesses the genius of tireless energy, the genius that achieves, and has a bright future before him.

He was born in Fayette county, in the early seventies, received his preparatory education in the high school at Fayette, and, as a Bachelor of Science, graduated at the college in that place in 1893. During his college course he worked on the farm and taught school to meet his expenses. At the time of his graduation he was elected principal of the public schools at Montour, and a little later accepted a similar position at Rock Rapids, where he continued until he located at Fonda in 1895. He is now pursuing

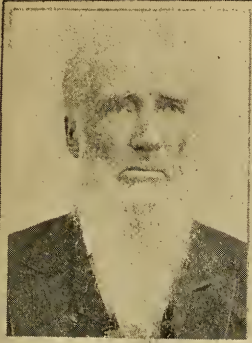
a two years' course of legal studies in the Iowa State University at Iowa City.

Dunn Alexander, a justice of the peace in Cedar township since 1895, was born in Manahan county, Ireland, in May 1832, and in 1857 married there Margaret Mills. In March 1860, with wife and two children, he came to this country and located on a farm near Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1864 he enlisted as a member of Co. D. 153rd Ohio Volunteers and participated in several skirmishes with the confederates along the railroads in Virginia and at Chambersburg, Pa. In 1872 he located in Cass Co., Iowa, in 1882 on section 20 Williams township, and in 1893 on his present farm in Cedar township, which he was the first to occupy and improve. Few men have been more highly honored by their reelection to the office of Justice of the Peace than Squire Dunn. He filled this office three terms, or six years, in Cass county, two terms in Calhoun county, and is now serving his third term in Cedar township.

His first wife died near Cincinnati, November 20, 1870, leaving three children: Mary Elizabeth, proprietor of a hotel at Elkhorn, Colorado; Alexander, who is engaged in the Cripple Creek gold region; and John, who in 1897 graduated in the law department of the Colorado State University at Denver. In 1871 he married Mrs. Josephine Crozier, of Claremont, Ohio, and the children of this union still living are, Mary, wife of Charles Wood, Frank, Thomas, Arthur, Charles and Clarence.

Dorton George Madison (b. July 4, 1836—d. September 2, 1880) in the spring of 1871, accompanied by wife and seven children, located on a homestead of eighty acres n $\frac{1}{2}$  ne $\frac{1}{2}$  section 32, known later as the Smeaton farm, in Cedar township. He planted the beautiful maple grove, that now surrounds the buildings, and remained





JOHN B. MACKEY



MRS J. B. MACKEY.



JOSEPH HAWKINS.



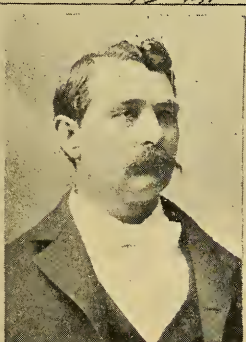
ED. L. BEARD.



—MR & MRS GODFREY PFEIFFER—



SAMUEL S. MARTIN.



JAMES A. CARROLL.



GEO. M. DORTON.



JOHN DETWILLER.

FONDA AND VICINITY.



Harvey Eaton



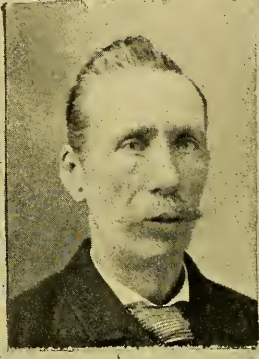
James B. Weaver



D.M. Woodin



Peter G. Ibson



J.R. Johnson



Amos Dart



Henry Schoentahl



Wm Lynch



Mrs. Wm Lynch

there until December 1878, when he moved to Fonda and conducted a flour and feed store in connection with a collection agency, until the time of his decease. He taught school in his youth and two terms in the Hersom district. He was elected Justice of the Peace in the fall of 1872, and held that office three successive terms. He was one of the census enumerators in 1880 and a member of the town council in 1879-80.

After the death of his father in Indiana, he came with his mother to Ottumwa, Iowa, and on April 19, 1859, married Mary Kerlin, of Chillicothe. After two years they moved to Adams county, and three years later, to Marshall county, where they remained until the time of settlement on the homestead. His family consisted of seven children all of whom, and their mother, are still living except Alice F. who Sept. 12, 1889, married John W. Willis, a hardwareman, of Chadron, Neb., and died Nov. '93; Perry, in 1892, married Dora Hughes, resides in the State of Washington, and has one child, Guy; Anna, in 1888, married Clarence Harding, a general agent for the D. M. Osborne Implement Co., resides at Dubuque, and has three children, Chauncey, Fern and Marie. Donna, in 1885, married Charles Roberts, a blacksmith, lives at Jolley, and has four children, Frank, Haydee, Charles and George; Henry, manager of the Lee & Jenkins lumber yard, at Fonda, married Catherine Fitzgerald and has one child, Veronica; Theresa, in 1887 married Charles Nichols, a carpenter Fonda, and has three children, Gladis, Glenwood and Clark; John, the youngest, is an employee of the Northern Telephone Co.

**Eaton** Harvey (b. Dec. 6, 1846), owner and occupant of the se $\frac{1}{2}$  Sec. 28, Cedar township, came to Pocahontas county with wife and one child June 1, 1871, and secured a homestead on the ne $\frac{1}{2}$  Sec. 36, Dover township.

The first improvements consisted of a board shanty, 12x14 feet, a stable and some breaking; and these were located according to some breaking previously done by one who was a practical surveyor. Wishing to know exactly where his homestead was, he then had it surveyed by the county surveyor and was surprised to find that his buildings were along the center of the highway and that a considerable portion of his breaking was on three adjoining farms, two of which were in Grant township.

He has been very successful as a farmer, and is now the owner of 640 acres of land (160 acres in Nebraska) and a two story brick block in Fonda. He believes he worked harder and endured more hardships to secure the homestead than any of the subsequent purchases. In 1873, when the grasshoppers robbed him of everything on the homestead, he took his family in a prairie schooner to Sac City, erected a cabin for their comfort, worked on the railroad till spring and then traded the cabin for a cow.

Both of his farms are finely improved and the buildings are kept neatly painted. The house on the homestead was built in 1887 and he continued to live there until 1893 when he bought and moved to the farm of A. B. P. Wood, near Fonda, for the better education of his large and industrious family.

In 1898, he built a two story brick building on the West side of Main street, Fonda, known as the Eaton block and later bought another store on the same street. Few men have met with better success on the farm and it has been achieved by attending strictly to it.

He has been the owner of some of the finest specimens of cattle, hogs and horses ever brought to this vicinity and has paid fancy prices for some of them. He has shown a pref-

erence for the Shorthorn and Gallo-way cattle, and for the English draught horses.

He is a native of Cataaugus Co., N. Y., where his father, Hamilton Eaton, died in 1847, the next year after his birth, leaving four sons and one daughter, namely: Henry, resident of Ripon, Wis.; Mary and Albert, both dead; William and Harvey, residents of Fonda. In 1848 his mother, Ruth, became the wife of Warner Gorton who died in Green Lake county, Wis., in 1886 leaving two children, Nancy married to William Sweet, and Amos H. Gorton whose wife and two children were killed in the cyclone of '93, also a resident of Fonda. After the death of her second husband she made her home with Harvey and died in 1893 in her 78th year. Harvey came to Buchanan county, Iowa, in 1867, the next year married Mary B. Thompson, of Independence, and three years later came to Pocahontas county. His family consists of eleven children: Almira, a teacher, and Adelia together had charge of a grocery store in Sioux City two years and in Fonda one year; Jennie, married to John W. McCulloch, Pomeroy; Amos, Cora, a graduate from the Fonda schools in '99 and a teacher; Jessie, Martin, Wallace, Pearl, Gertie S. and Harry.

**Eaton** William H. (b. Jan. 19, 1841, N. Y.) in 1859 married Hannah Barrett in Green Lake county, Wis., and engaged in farming there until 1880 when, with a family of eight children he came to Dover township, and eight years later to Fonda. His family consists of eight children: Francis H. Fonda, married Alma Cullen who died in 1888 leaving one son, Roy; and in 1893 he married Maggie Olkjer, who has one child, Lee. William Oscar married Anna Olkjer, lives at Sloux Rapids and has two children, Cecil and Ray. Lucy died in her 23rd year, Ruth Viola married Stephen

W. Norton and died in 1896 leaving two children, Ray and Viola. Mary Jeanette married George Dickson, Superintendent of the Boone Co. coal mines at Incline, and has five children, Pearl, Irene, Alpheus, Leveta and Royal. Minnie Myrtle married in 1896 Charles Cheney, a farmer near Newell, and has one child, Ethel. Jennie M. a Fonda graduate in 1897, and Ezra Albert are at home.

**Edgar** David William, M. D. (b. August 24, 1845), resident of Fonda since April 2, 1881, is the oldest resident physician in Pocahontas county. He is a native of Wisconsin and the son of William and Charlotte (Tibbals) Edgar, with whom he remained on the farm until he was 23 years of age. In September 1868, he came to Waverly, Iowa, where he taught school and studied medicine two and one half years under Dr. J. G. Smith. In the fall of 1871, he entered Rush Medical College, Chicago, and graduated March 17, 1874, having spent a portion of the intervening time on the farm and in teaching select school. He located first at Monroe, Wisconsin, but after six months went to Dayton, where he remained until November 1, 1889, when he came to Gowrie, Iowa, and five months later to Fonda.

He came to this community very highly commended, and during his long residence in it, he has been held in high esteem as a physician, has enjoyed a very lucrative practice and proved himself a public spirited citizen. He was an efficient member of the town council eleven years, '87-'97, a member of the school board a number of years and president of it in 1892. He is now the owner of an improved farm of 100 acres in Calhoun County, and several valuable properties in Fonda.

September 1, 1890 he married Anna Lourinda Dixon, then teaching school in this vicinity; and their family con-

sists of two children, David Dixon, and Mary Charlotte.

**Ellis** Gilbert H. (b. Sept. 21, 1821), resident of Fonda since 1879, is a native of Canton, Oxford county, Maine. In 1843 he married Phoebe W. Griffith, (b. March 20, 1819) and lived there until 1851, when he moved to Boone Co., Ill., where he remained until 1879. The period of his active life was spent on the farm and he owned a good one, near Fonda, until 1890. He has been a total abstainer, an earnest advocate of prohibition and was a member of the Fonda town council, in 1881. His estimable wife died December 16, 1888.

He raised a family of four sons and one daughter, three of whom were born in Maine and the others in Illinois. 1. Elisha Osro (b. Feb. 4, 1845), a mason and plasterer, on July 3, 1867, married Elvira Leach, of Manchester, Ill., came to Fonda, in 1879, and raised a family consisting of Frederick, a printer, resident of Los Angeles, Cal., where October 11, 1896, he married Kittie Griffen; Lulu, June 19, 1896, married Fred J. Kenning a hardware-man, Fonda, and they have two children Grace and Mabel; Earl, Jesse, Glenn, Florence and Mazie. 2. Edward R. (b. June 14, 1848) resident of Fonda since 1875 and Mayor two years 1898-99, on Nov. 15, 1871, married Sophia Riford (b. Aug. 8, 1848) at Waukesha, Wis., and she died Jan. 15, 1898, leaving one daughter, Maude, a teacher. 3. Frank R. a farmer, in 1879 married Alice Comstock, resides in California and has three children. 4. George R. a farmer, in 1891, married Mary Murray and has three children, Gilbert, Rozella, and Frank. 5. Augusta Leon Nov. 11, 1882, married William Chiquet, a printer of Fort Dodge, where she died January 8, 1900, leaving three children, Luzerne, Flossie and Gilbert.

**Evans** Orange C. (b. 1826) with wife and six children came to Cedar township in 1872 and, in view of the fact he

had been a soldier in the civil war, secured a homestead of 160 acres on the northeast section 8. He was a native of New York, where in 1849, he married Harriet Graham, who is still a resident of Fonda. In 1862 he enlisted for three years as a member of Co. K. 85th, New York Infantry, to render service as a musician. He belonged to the army of the Potomac under McLellan, lost his health in the swamps along the Chicamauga, and after the lapse of fifteen months, was honorably discharged for disability. In February 1865 he moved to Floyd county, Iowa, and seven years later to the homestead in Pocahontas county, where he died September 30, 1874. He was serving as one of the trustees of Cedar township at the time of his death. His family consisted of six children: 1. Frank in 1874 married Jennie Ferguson, resides in Webster county, and has a family of eight children, Olgie, Mina, Richard, Arthur, Frank, Jennie, Ralph and Guy; 2. Eugene in 1876 married Nora Sayeres, who died in 1894 from the effect of being enveloped in the flames of the gas that filled the room, while she was cleaning grease spots on the carpet with gasoline near a hot stove; she left four children, Aaron, a Fonda graduate in 1896, Emmet a graduate in 1900, Ray and Jay. 3. Alice in 1877, married Fillmore Miller, a book-keeper, lived at Webster City, and died in 1889 leaving two children Harriet and Benjamin. 4. Elmer, a well driller, lives with his mother. 5. Mary in 1883, married Harry Bailey a carpenter at Fonda, and has three children, Augusta, Charles and William. 6. William, a well driller, in 1893 married Mary McGrevy and has one child, Max.

**Fairburn** George. The early settlement of north-west Iowa, meant not only the development of a country of inexhaustible resources, but also the development of men who were

ready to enter this new field of effort, take advantage of its manifold opportunities and grow up with the country. One of those who have achieved a high degree of success, as financiers, is George Fairburn, whose settlement at Fonda was co-incident with the establishment of regular train service by the Illinois Central R. R. Co., in October 1870.

He began his career April 19, 1850, near Kelso, Scotland, and is the son of Archibald and Janet (Aitchison) Fairburn. In 1860, at the age of ten, he came with his parents to America, and located at Dubuque, Iowa, where he remained during the next ten years. Here he worked on the farm in summer and attended the Academy at Cascade in winter, for several years; and then became an assistant in the office of his uncle, D. A. McKinlay, secretary and treasurer of the Dubuque and Sioux City R. R. Co. His uncle was remarkable for his methodical manner and business sagacity; and under him he received an excellent business training.

During this early period of his life he endeavored to make a profitable investment of a part of each month's earnings, and made himself so useful to his employers that his meager wages were increased annually. During the last two years his spare moments were occupied in reading law, Senator Wm. B. Allison, whose office was in the same building and opposite that of his uncle, having accorded to him the courtesy of the use of his library for that purpose.

At this early date, and by reason of the facts just stated, he gave promise of his subsequent, successful business career. It was not the amount he earned, but what he saved and judiciously invested that became the basis of his present wealth; and the results of his youthful efforts at self improvement make him a good illustration of one who did not "sow wild oats this

year," because he believed a crop of that sort would prove a disastrous, rather than a profitable investment.

While in the general railroad office at Dubuque, he was afforded the opportunity either to remain there or to take charge of one of the new stations established between Fort Dodge and Sioux City, except LeMars. After making a tour of inspection over the entire line and signifying a preference for Marvin, now called Fonda, he was appointed the station agent for this place and at the age of twenty, Oct. 15, 1870, located at Marvin making his home in the depot. The town had been platted only a few days previous and a few little shanties, promiscuously located on the prairie near the depot, were the visible indications of the future city. On November 1, 1877, after a serious illness of three months and seven years of continuous service as station agent, he resigned that position in order that he might give his undivided attention to his own rapidly developing business interests, having proved himself one of the most competent and trustworthy agents the I. C. R. R. ever employed.

He began his business career at Fonda, by ordering, soon after his arrival, a car load of soft coal, ten tons, and storing it for sale in the west end of the depot. That load of coal supplied the local demand during all that winter and, as it was sold, it was weighed on the little scales in the depot. This was the beginning of the coal business at Fonda. He also sold that season a number of twisters for twisting hay so it could be used for fuel.

The first act of public charity by the citizens of Fonda and vicinity was made in response to his personal appeal. It consisted of a lot of flour and clothing sent to Chicago the next day after he received the message, announcing the great fire there in October 1871, accompanied with an

appeal for supplies. During one of the snow blockades of 1880 the supply of flour in Fonda became exhausted. On this occasion he got a horse, rode to the home of James Mercer and obtained a part of a sack of flour to supply the pressing needs of his own family.

In the spring of 1871 he ordered several car loads of lumber and established the coal and lumber yard northwest of the depot. The furniture business was started about the same time by storing the goods in the east end of the depot, which was then used as a private room for the family of the agent. The furniture business was continued there as long as he remained in charge of the station. In 1871 he began to invest in town lots and was appointed the local agent for their sale by the Town Lot Co. He also erected a small house, 14x24 and 14 feet high. This, the third house built in Marvin, was increased by a large front addition in 1881, and was the residence of the Fairburn family until 1889. Soon after his arrival he began to act as an agent for the sale of lands and the negotiation of loans, and to do the banking business for this community. The original bank building built in 1877, is the one story frame structure in which the Fonda creamery Co., has had its office since its organization. In 1881 a brick bank was built on the corner of First and Main streets, that in 1885 was made a double two story brick block and it has since been known as the Pocahontas County Bank, the oldest one in the county and having now a paid up capital of \$100,000. In 1887 he was instrumental in organizing the Fonda Town Lot Co., that effected the purchase of nearly 400 acres of land around the townsite, and he has since served as president of that organization. Each of these new lines of business was undertaken as the demand for them arose in connection

with the development of this new settlement. He is at present the owner of nearly 3,000 acres of land in Pocahontas and adjoining counties.

In 1889 he purchased a fine residence in Des Moines and moved to that city for the better education of his family, having disposed of his interests in the furniture, coal and lumber business the previous year. Accompanied by some of his intimate friends, or the members of his own family, he has made a number of tours to California, Mexico, the great lakes and other interesting localities in this country, and in 1899 visited his native heath in Scotland.

In the spring of 1900, he began the erection of a new residence for himself and family, on the north-east corner of block 35 and fronting on King and sixth streets, Fonda. This is a four story frame building 65x55 feet, with a porch 12 feet wide extending half way around it and built several feet above the floor with masonry having a facing of pressed brick and Bedford stone. It will be provided with a complete gas plant, an electric light outfit and be heated by a combined hot water and hot air plant. When completed in 1901 at a cost of \$20,000, it will be the finest residence in Pocahontas county.

As a citizen he has never taken very much interest in politics nor been a candidate for political honors, yet no one in Fonda and vicinity, has exerted a public influence so potent over the entire period of the history of Fonda as he has done. He was a member of the first town council and was elected to that office four times, '79-80 and '84; served as Mayor of Fonda, four years, '82-83 and '87-88. He was a member of the first Fonda school board in 1880, president of it in '81, and was the first treasurer of the school funds, in 1880.

He received his early education in Scotland where among other things,

he learned the Shorter Catechism and many chapters in the Bible. As a result he never forgets that "Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy him forever." He has been a liberal contributor to all the churches in Fonda and was president of the board of trustees of the Presbyterian church from the time of its organization in 1886 until 1890, the year after his removal to Des Moines. During his residence in Des Moines he became one of the most liberal supporters and a trustee of the Central Presbyterian church there, and continued to support the churches in Fonda.

"Be sure you are right, then go ahead," is a maxim he never knowingly violates. His decision of character is in some measure the result of self training, but more largely an inheritance from his Scottish ancestry. His father, for twenty years, was an elder in the Presbyterian church before he left the old country and was a man of reverent and very positive convictions. His success in business may be attributed to his sagacity, assiduity and strict integrity. His word has always been as good as his bond, and his "yes" or "no" indicates that the matter under discussion has been decided. He has attended strictly to his own business and managed it with all possible energy that he might make it a success. He has never taken that interest in politics, that might naturally be expected of one in his station, but when called upon to render local public service he has done so with marked efficiency. By reason of his personal knowledge of the law and its impartial enforcement he proved himself one of the best mayors that Fonda has ever had.

On December 5, 1871 he married Susan Olive, daughter of Judge Wm. Wilson and Olive (Dean b. 1817, d. '45) Hamilton (b. 1810 d. 1865) of Dubuque. Their family consists of three child-

ren, the first-born, George, having died at Marvin in childhood. Edward H. and Frank A., after graduating from the high schools of Des Moines, spent one year in the Iowa College of Law, Des Moines, and then took a full course in the law department of the University at Ann Arbor, Mich. In October 1899, after a very creditable examination at Des Moines, they were both admitted to the bar. Edward has found a place in the Pocahontas County Bank, where he intends to utilize his legal knowledge in the transaction of business rather than as a practitioner, and Frank has connected himself with the law firm of Carr and Parker, Des Moines. Nellie, the youngest, is at home and pursuing her studies.

His father (b. 1823), on May 14, 1896, died at Cascade, Iowa, where his farm was located; and his mother (b. 1825) died at Marion, January 10, 1898.

**Garlock** Ephraim (b. Dec. 25, 1820), who died on his homestead, near Fonda, September 19, 1895, was the head of a family whose history has become one of the most prominent in Pocahontas county. He was a native of Montgomery county, N. Y., where on October 10, 1841, he married Harriet, daughter of Folonan and Jane Doty, and lived there until 1857, when he and his family moved to DeKalb Co., Ill. In March 1869, accompanied by Abram O. his oldest son who was destined to hold high official position in this county, he came to Cedar township, where both entered adjoining homesteads on the set section 24, and erected two houses near each other for their respective families. Two months later William E. and family and George arrived in wagons, bringing their own and their father's cattle with them, the former securing a homestead the  $n \frac{1}{2}$  ne  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the same section. The other members of the family arrived about the same time by rail to Webster City.





**A. O. GARLOCK, DES MOINES.**

COUNTY AUDITOR, 1874-81.  
STATE SENATOR, 1888-89.



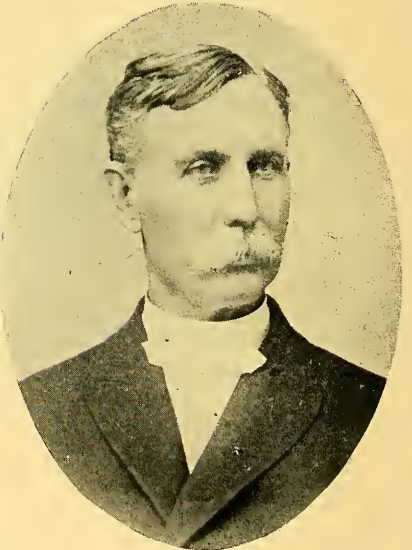
MRS. A. O. GARLOCK.



MRS. WM. D. McEWEN.



REV. GEO. H. DUTY.  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ROLFE, 1887-90.



REV. GEO. H. AINSLIE.  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ROLFE, 1883-87.

Ephraim Garlock was a carpenter as well as a farmer and assisted many of his neighbors in the erection of their pioneer houses. His own home is commonly regarded as the oldest landmark in Cedar township and it certainly is in all that part of it that is east of Sunk Grove, in which he also turned the first furrow. In the early days many a weary traveler was made welcome at his home and none seeking food and shelter were ever turned away until they were first fed and rested.

Those of his family that survived him are Abram O. and William E. Des Moines; Joseph W. at Independence; Levi, Walnut Grove, Minn.; George at Marathon; Ida, a teacher, and Anna who still live with their mother on the old homestead. Abram, William and Joseph were soldiers during the civil war, the first two having enlisted as members of Co. K. 42d Ill. infantry, A. O. being a 2d Lieut. and W. E. sergeant at the time of their discharge. Levi, Feb. 27, 1872, secured the homestead of Noah Woolsey  $e\frac{1}{2}$   $se\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 12, 80 acres, and later married Ella Porter his grand-daughter. He lived a few years at Gilmore City, is now engaged in the real estate business and has a family of eight children. George married Josephine Warwick and has a family of three children. It has been a source of pride that no member of this family was ever addicted to the use of tobacco or strong drink in any form.

**Garlock** William Erastus (b. 1844) married Martha, daughter of Rev. R. Persons, of DeKalb Co., Ill. In the spring of 1886 he left his homestead and lived for a few years at Gilmore City, and now owns a fruit farm at Des Moines. In Cedar township he was a trustee in 1875 and president of the school board in 1885. He has one son, Ephraim G., who is still at home.

**Garlock** Abram Oscar. That this is a country where the honest, ir-

dustrious and ambitious youth may secure recognition and rise to positions of honor, has its practical illustration in the record of the subject of this sketch, who did not hesitate to locate on the frontier of the "wild and woolly west," and work out his own destiny with those who might be associated with him in the effort to convert a vast, wild prairie into green pastures, fruitful fields and beautiful homes.

Abram O. Garlock was born December, 4, 1842 at Coopertown, N. Y., and in 1857 moved with his parents to DeKalb Co., Ill. He received his education in the public school, learned carpentry by working with his father and acquired a practical knowledge of book-keeping and commercial law by clerking in a store. On December 4, 1864, he married Amanda M. daughter of Charles S. and Mary Ann (Woodward) Hunt, of DeKalb Co., Ill., and engaged in farming there until March 23, 1869, when he located on his own homestead,  $w\frac{1}{2}$   $se\frac{1}{4}$  section 24, Cedar township.

His knowledge of carpentry was of great advantage to him on the frontier, for when he was not engaged on the homestead, he found profitable employment as a contractor and builder. He became the pioneer school-house builder by the erection of more buildings of that kind than any other man in this settlement in the early days. He built the first one in Fonda, in Marshall and Butler townships, the first two in Dover, the first three in Williams and the first four in Colfax townships, and three others in the south east part of Calhoun county, all before the close of the year 1873.

He took an active part in the organization of Cedar township, served as the first secretary of the school board two years, 1871-72, as township clerk in 1873, and as postmaster at Pocahontas one year in 1877-78.

In the fall of 1873 he was elected

auditor of Pocahontas county and performed the duties of that public office in a manner so efficient and acceptable to the people, that he was continued in it eight years, 1874-1881, having been twice re-elected without any opposition. During the first three years of this period he lived at old Rolfe and moved to Pocahontas at the time of the change of the county seat.

The duties of the auditor's office were not so onerous as at present and, utilizing his spare moments by reading law, he was examined at Pocahontas and admitted to the practice of law by Edward R. Duffie, Judge of the District Court, September 21, 1880. He also engaged in the sale of real estate, especially, the lands of non-resident owners, purchasing in 1874 a set of abstracts from J. J. Bruce. In 1883, in partnership with W. D. McEwen, he erected a stone building on the west side of Main street, Pocahontas, for an office and bank. The Pocahontas Savings Bank, founded at this time and place, was the second one established in this county. In 1886 they established the Exchange Bank of Rolfe, known since 1892 as the State Savings Bank, and in the fall of 1891, the Bank of Plover, at Plover.

In 1888-89, as state senator he enjoyed the honor of representing this, the 50th district in the 22d General Assembly of Iowa.

In 1889 he moved to Rolfe and two years later to Des Moines, where he still resides, except in mid-summer when he usually occupies his cottage at Point Pocahontas, at the southwest corner of Lake Okoboji.

He has retained his interest in the banks at Rolfe, Plover and Pocahontas, and when the education of his children has been completed it is expected that he will return to Pocahontas county, the arena for twenty two years of his most successful achievements.

His family consists of Mary E. fa-

miliarly called Birdie, and for two years, '90-91, an assistant in the Exchange Bank, who, in November 1892, married S. H. Kerr, and resides at Rolfe; Agnes O.; Cora B., who graduated from Des Moines College in '99 and on Dec. 4, '99, the 57th birthday and 35th wedding anniversary of her father, married Guy Barker, and resides at Macksburg; Mabel, Abie and Elwood.

He has always advocated the principles of the republican party, and as a public officer, proved himself worthy the confidence of his constituents. His good judgment and business tact were recognized in his constant development of the permanent school fund of the county which, at the end of his last term as auditor, amounted to \$30,000. He has been strictly temperate and economical in his habits, and while giving liberal local support to the preaching of the gospel, has made large contributions towards the erection of all the earlier church buildings in this county.

When it is remembered that he went forth from the parental roof at fourteen to learn early how "to paddle his own canoe," rendered loyal and patriotic service as a soldier, in the hour of the nation's peril, and experienced the hardships of pioneer life as a homesteader on the frontier, it is perceived that he began at the lowest round of the ladder that leads to success. He has been a hard worker and, possessing a clear head and strong hands, whatever he undertook was done, and whatever he touched prospered. His ideas have been practical and his methods well suited for the accomplishment of his plans. His affable manner and strict integrity have caused him to be held in high esteem by all who know him, he keeps well posted in regard to the business and politics of the country and the success that has crowned his efforts has made him one of the leading and most influential men of northwest Iowa.

**Fuchs** (Fox) Louis, Joseph and Frank, accompanied by their parents, John and Helen (Wickel), in the spring of 1871 came, to Cedar township. Louis entered the  $w\frac{1}{2}$   $se\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 12, 80 acres, as a homestead on April 22, '71 and received the patent for it December 29, '79. Joseph, finding that he was not needed by his brother on the homestead nor by the other settlers of this new community, soon afterward sought and found employment in the copper mines of Michigan south of Lake Superior. He remained there about six years and, sending his earnings to his brother Louis, the latter secured for him a homestead of 80 acres on the  $s\frac{1}{2}$   $nw\frac{1}{4}$  section 12. The entry for this homestead was made by his father March 10, '74, and he received the patent for it September 10, '80; it having been first entered in 1870 by Henry Pallersels and in 1872 by Geo. F. Symmonds. After his return in 1876 he and his brother lived and worked together until 1880 when he married and began to occupy his own homestead.

Their parents were natives of Germany where they raised a large family. In 1870, after the marriage of their eldest daughter, Johanna, who remained there and of Anna, whose husband, John Hoffman, died there leaving one son, Paul, now in Dubuque, they came to America and located in the timber districts of northern Wisconsin, and the next spring on the prairies of Pocahontas county. They died, John in January 1881, Helen in June 1878, and were buried in the Dover Catholic cemetery.

Louis Fuchs possessed \$400 when he came to Fonda, and after expending \$270 for his homestead had \$130 left for its improvement, and the temporary support of his father and family. The homestead of Joseph in 1874 cost \$400. These brothers had an ambition to raise fat cattle and made preparation to engage in this employ-

ment as soon as it was possible. It required a few years to get a start but during the period of their partnership they were recognized as the pioneer cattle feeders of Cedar township. Their shipments of cattle in the early days surpassed others in the vicinity not only in their aggregate value but in the superiority of their condition which commanded the highest market price. For a quarter of a century these men have maintained the enviable reputation of being the largest and most successful feeders in the township. As the years have passed they have become the owners of large farms, and have proportionately enlarged their barns, sheds and feed lots. Each has now a capacity for feeding 250 head of fat cattle and, during recent years, they have made their annual shipment about the month of September. Each of them keeps about 400 head of cattle and the sales of each in 1899 amounted to \$18,000.

Louis Fuchs acquired his farm as follows: In 1871, the homestead, 80 acres; in 1880, 80 acres; in '83, 80 acres; in '85, 160 acres; in '86, 80 acres; in '88 160 acres; total 640 acres; all of it upland. In 1899 he raised 7,000 bushels of corn and bought 20,000 bushels more. His present house was built in 1892. He was born July 23, 1839, and on December 21, 1873, married Mary Magdalene Lieb, of Cedar township.

His family consists of Anna Ida, a Franciscan sister, Dubuque; Martha Elizabeth, (Mary Josephine died in her 17th year, in 1894), Helen Antonia, (Matilda died young), John Leo, Cecilia, Agnes Angeline and Agatha Alice, twins, Vincent Leo, Florence Josephine and Florian Joseph, twins, and Leona. He was a trustee of Cedar township five years, 1878-82, and has been treasurer of the school funds since 1890.

Joseph Fuchs acquired his farm as follows: In 1874, the homestead, 80

acres; in 1885, 160 acres; in '87, 160 acres; in '92, 560 acres; total 960 acres. His present house was built in 1893. He was born in 1841 and in 1880 married Stephana Rainier, of Dubuque. His family consists of three children, Matilda, Francis and Mary; Anna the first born having died in childhood. In the spring of 1900 he moved temporarily to Des Moines to secure better facilities for the education of his children. He is a man that appreciates the enjoyment of good health, the peace and gladness of the home and has the happy faculty of anticipating the needs of every part of the work on the farm.

Frank Fuchs, his oldest brother and owner of 206 acres of land in Cedar township, and Martha, a younger sister who also came to Cedar township in 1871, make their home with Joseph.

**Gilson** John William (b. June 3, 1833), who died in Fonda, May 14, 1896, was the son of George and Bessie (Hurst) Gilson, and a native of Manchester, England. He came with his parents to this country, grew to manhood in Winnebago county, Ill., where, on Dec. 9, 1858, he married Elvira Sayre and engaged in farming. Aug. 9, 1862 he enlisted as a member of Co. D., 74th Ill. infantry and was honorably discharged at Nashville, June 10, 1865. He belonged to the army of the Cumberland, marched with Sherman to the sea and participated in fifteen battles, Murfreesboro, Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, Chicamauga, Nashville, etc., and in seventeen skirmishes. On June 8, 1872 he entered as a soldier's claim, the n $\frac{1}{2}$  ne $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 20, 80 acres, in Dover township, improved and occupied it until 1892 when he moved to Fonda. In Dover township he was a trustee in 1875, assessor in 1876 and justice of the peace ten years, 1881-90.

His family consisted of Clara, married to Oscar Samsel, a resident of Fonda and has three children, Ed-

ward, Everett and Ruth; Eliza, a milliner, married to Charles Sayre, Fonda, and has one daughter, Zola; George, a carpenter, married Jessie Ross and lives at Laurens; Albert, a painter, Fonda, married Clara Evenson and has one child, William Glenwood; Everett, a painter. Ina, a dressmaker and Ethel, a Fonda graduate in 1899, are at home.

**Gottfried** Gustav H. (b. Aug. 24, 1843) resident of Fonda since March 1899, has been a resident of Cedar township since June 1871, when he secured as a homestead, the n $\frac{1}{2}$  ne $\frac{1}{4}$  section 36, 80 acres. He is a native of Prussia, and coming to America with his parents in July 1847, lived at Jefferson, Wis., until the time of his settlement in Cedar township. He improved his homestead and occupied it until his removal to Fonda. He has been the most popular assessor of Cedar township, having performed the duties of that office fourteen years, 1877-78, '83-86, '89-90 and '95-1900. He has been a member of the school board several years, was treasurer of it in 1876 and president of it in 1888.

On April 8, 1877, he married Dora Spielman and his family consists of three children, Ernest, Delphia Ava, a Fonda graduate in 1899 and a teacher, and Frederick.

**Guyett** C. G. a general merchant at Fonda from March 1878 to 1881, was a native of Vermont. He was a soldier in the civil war and was married in 1864 while at home on a furlough. After the close of the war he lived at Montpelier until he came to Fonda. He bought two lots on the east side of Main street, Fonda, erected thereon a two story, double, frame building with basement, arranged it for store rooms and other purposes including a town hall, and engaged in general merchandize. He continued in business until the spring of 1881 when he sold all his interests to J. N. McKee, and on April 25th following,

his wife, Maggie, died of consumption in her 39th year, leaving two children.

**Haffele** Fred (b. 1851) hardwareman, Fonda, is a native of Germany and at two years of age came with his parents to Monticello, Wis., where December 17, 1873, he married Clara Breckenwagon. In 1881 he located at Newell, Iowa, and in 1884 at Fonda, where he engaged in the hardware business until 1893, when he became an assistant to the firm of Roberts & Kenning, his successors. He was a member of the town council in 1886 and of the school board three years 1889-91. His family consists of three daughters; Lourinda, who November 15 1894 married A. L. Roberts, hardwareman, Fonda, and has three children Hazel, Homer and Lowell; Minnie, a Fonda graduate in 1894 and a music teacher, and Edith.

**Hathaway** George W., County Superintendent in 1872-73, was a native of Ohio, and on March 23, 1869, the day when the first four homesteads in Cedar township were entered on section 24, entered the e  $\frac{1}{2}$  nw  $\frac{1}{4}$  of that section, known later as the farm of Miss Lydia Stephens, now of Wm. McIntyre. He was accompanied by A. W. Creed, who that same day entered the s  $\frac{1}{2}$  sw  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the same section known later as a part of the farm of William Taylor, now of John Holyer. On Jan. 22, '70, Austin G. a brother, of A. W. Creed entered a homestead on section 12, and on December 7, '70, Mrs. Caroline Creed, widow of their brother, entered the n  $\frac{1}{2}$  sw  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 24. Some time afterwards she became the wife of Geo. W. Hathaway and secured the title to her homestead by purchase. He secured his title in 1875. Soon afterwards he moved to Webster City, but in the early 80's bought a farm of 200 acres on section 29, Washington township, and for a few years engaged in raising fruit and

cattle. He is now a resident of Arkansas.

**Hartwell** Rachel Mrs., one of the pioneer teachers of Fonda and vicinity, entered as a homestead the n  $\frac{1}{2}$  se  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 6, Cedar township, Nov. 20, 1869, and received the patent for it August 1, 1877. She was a widow, a sister of Robert J. Griffin who taught a term of school in her home in 1870-71. In 1878 she sold her homestead to W. H. Burnett and left the county.

**Hawkins** Joseph (b. March 22, 1847), owner and occupant of sw  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 35, 240 acres, from 1878 to 1898 was, a native of Somerset county, England. In his third year he came with his parents to New York State and in 1853 to Cascade, Iowa, where his parents spent the remainder of their days. May 5, 1873, he married Eliza, a sister, of James Mercer, and in the spring of 1878, with wife and two children, located on the farm in Cedar township. At the time of his removal to Nebraska the improvements made upon this farm consisted of a good house, a new barn, a large cave built of rock, a fruit bearing orchard of three acres and a beautiful grove of five acres.

His faithful wife who shared with him the pleasures and privations of pioneer life, died October 20, 1893, in her 49th year, leaving a family of four daughters. Effie a graduate of the Normal Department of Highland Park College, October 12, '98, married Frank B. Burns and lives in Woodbury county; Ada, wife of F. Hamilton Bond Esq., lives at Fonda; Myrtle a Fonda graduate in 1897, and a teacher; and Marie. Roy, now in his 15th year was adopted in the spring of 1892.

In Cedar township he was assessor in 1880-81, and president of the school board in '82 and '93. He was ready to render public service as a citizen when called upon to do so, but he was always engaged in a loyal endeavor to develop or promote the moral

and spiritual interests of the community. He was not only a regular attendant of the services at the church and Sunday school, but also at the mid-week service whenever it was possible. He was an humble and thorough student of the Bible and was never happier than when communicating its sacred truths to others. He was chosen superintendent of the union Sunday school in Fonda, the next year after his arrival. During subsequent years he was either a superintendent, a teacher, or both. When the Presbyterian Sunday school was organized June 20, 1886 he became a teacher in it, and on January 1, 1894 superintendent also and, serving in this two fold capacity until the time of his removal, was absent only three Sabbaths in a period of twelve years. On March 18, 1888, he was elected an elder of the church and rendered efficient service in that capacity until his removal, a period of ten years. When his uniform punctuality, faithfulness and efficiency, extending over a period of twenty years, are recalled, it is readily perceived that the service he rendered in this respect is without a rival in this community.

**Healy** William H. (b. 1850), the oldest resident attorney of Fonda, is a native of Ireland. His father was a public school teacher, and died when he was twelve years of age. In 1875 he came to America, and located first in Clinton county, Iowa, where he read law. In 1884 he located in Sac City, and was admitted to the bar. In the spring of 1885 he came to Fonda, and has since been engaged in the practice of law, the sale of real estate and as an agent for some of the best insurance companies and loan agencies. He was post master from Sep, 1, '96 to February 7, '98. By reason of his general good nature, or uniformly sunny disposition, his familiar friends often call him "Colonel" Healy.

On August 12, '96 he married Sarah Connelly, of Ogden, and she died Dec. 8, 1898 in her 26th year, leaving two children, Eleanor and Joseph.

**Hersom** Samuel Thomas (b. Feb. 11, 1849) owner and occupant of the s  $\frac{1}{2}$  se  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 30, Cedar township since October 26, 1871, is the son of Samuel and Margaret Hersom, and a native of Mercer county, Ill. April 4, 1868, he married Lucinda Littrell, and after three years located on the homestead for which he made the entry the next day after his arrival. Coming to this section empty handed none felt the hard times during the 70's more than he, or put forth a more plucky endeavor to hold the homestead through them. In later years he has made purchases of adjoining tracts of land and is now the happy owner of a good farm of 360 acres, on which he has erected good improvements. His buildings, grove and orchard happened to be in the destructive path of the tornado of 1893 and were completely destroyed. His family were greatly frightened but, with the exception of a few scratches, escaped uninjured. In December 1898, his wife successfully sustained the removal of a tumor that weighed 56 pounds. He was a trustee of the township in 1878, and '97-1900; president of the school board in 1878, and secretary of it in 1879 and '83-85.

His family consists of eight children. Harry S. married Rose Pomeroy, lives near the old home and has a family of three children, Lee, Hazel and Richard; William E. married Laura Larson, and has two children, Glenn and Roy; Effie married Marion Hersom, lives in Ringgold county, and has three children; Lily M., Daisy a teacher, George, Josephine and Lewis are at home.

**Hersom** Sylvainus (b. July 10, 1842), an elder brother of Samuel T., is a native of Maine, and coming to Pocahontas county, May, 20, 1871, on Oct.

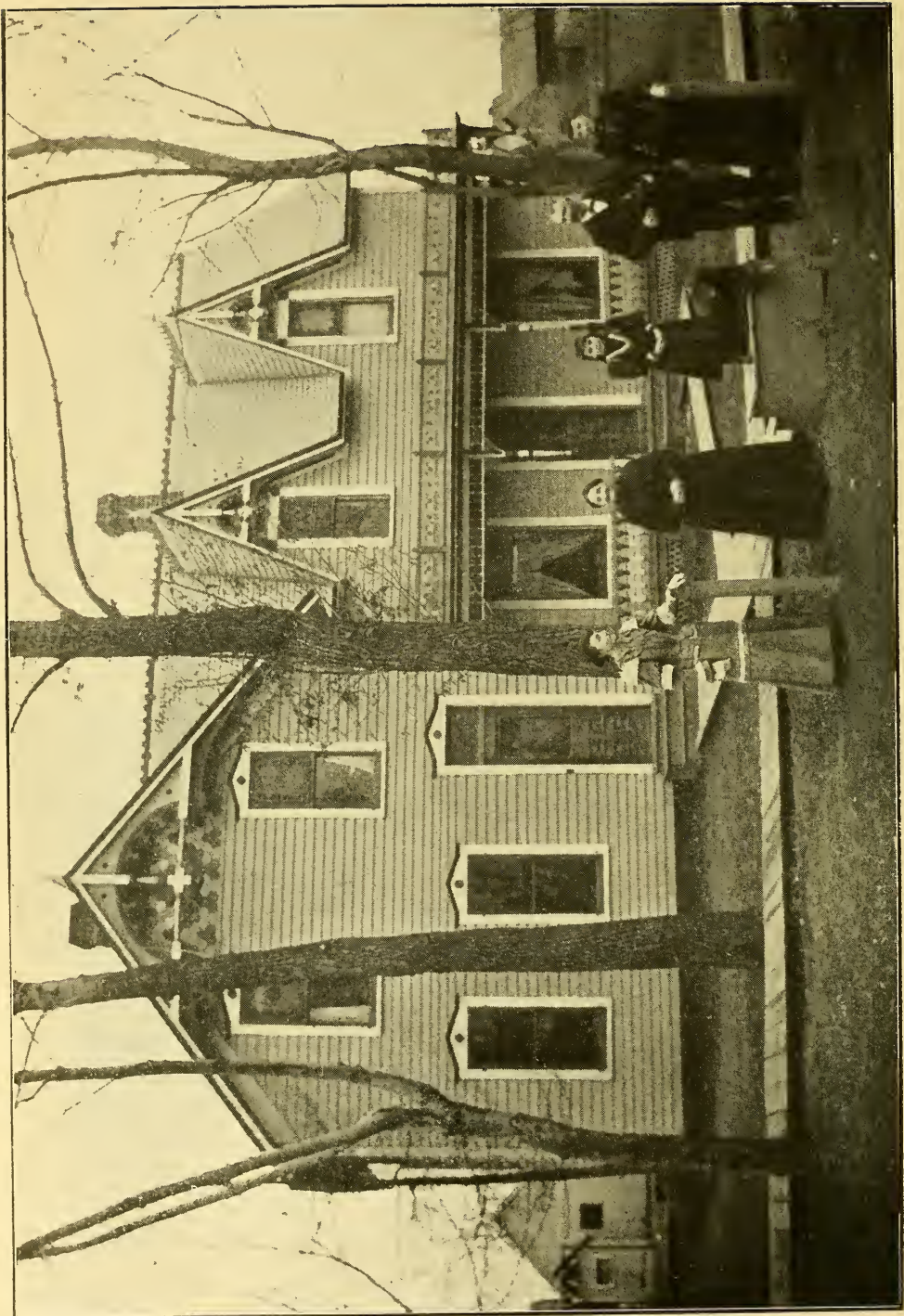




MR. AND MRS. SAMUEL T. HERSOM, FONDA.



MR. AND MRS. JOHN P. MULLEN, FONDA.



Geo. E. Mrs. Hughes.

Madge.

Photoe.

Maud.

RESIDENCE OF GEO. E. HUGHES, FONDA.

23rd following entered as a homestead the w  $\frac{1}{2}$  sw  $\frac{1}{2}$  section 32, Cedar township, which he continued to hold and most of the time occupied until 1892 when he moved to Williams township, and in 1899 to Armstrong, Nebraska. He grew to manhood in Mercer Co., Ill., where in 1863, he enlisted as a member of Co. K. 107th, Ill. Infantry. He belonged to the 20th, Army Corps under Hooker, marched with Sherman from Nashville to the Sea, and then to Richmond. He was honorably discharged at Louisville, after two years and eleven months of service.

In 1865 he married Elizabeth Jackson and after her death, or in 1877, Etta Henthorne who has been an invalid nearly twenty years. They have one child, Frank, who is at home, and she had one, Charles, three years older, by her first husband.

**Hughes** George Edward (b. June 26, 1854,) for many years a prosperous merchant of Fonda, is a native of Boone Co. Ill., and the son of Samuel and Phoebe (Johnson) Hughes, with whom at six years of age, he came to Jones County, Iowa. He received a limited education in the public school but a thorough training in the practical affairs of life from his father, who was both a successful farmer and merchant. His early instinct for business is illustrated by the following incidents that occurred in his boyhood. He was disposed to be industrious and careful of his earnings. When the latter amounted to one dollar he was ready for business. After a few small exchanges he gained possession of a shot gun that was soon afterwards exchanged for a buggy. He traded the buggy for two calves. These were kept until they were three years old when they were traded for a horse. A little later instead of the horse he had a lot of other animals and farm implements. These were sold and the money thus realized formed the nucleus of the comfortable fortune he has since accumulated.

His father, who died September 7, 1894, came to Fonda, in 1871, and established a general store. He came in the fall of 1874, and after his marriage September 2, 1874, to Anna Gdmer, of Fonda, a lady of German descent, he became a partner with his father in the mercantile business of which later he was the sole proprietor. His wife discovered such an unusual business ability that she was very soon able to assume the entire management of the store; and he never refers to her without a gleam of pride in his eye, for he attributes a large measure of his success to her counsel and executive ability. In 1888 he began to invest in land; in January 1893, he sold his stock of goods and store, and erected a comfortable residence. In 1894 he resumed the mercantile business taking J. P. Steinfort in 1895 into a partnership that lasted three years. Since that time he has been engaged in the real estate and loan business.

For many years he has been widely known as one of the best marksmen in Iowa. On June 1, 1893, at Clear Lake, he won the State trophy, consisting of a beautifully engraved, gold lined, silver cup, for which he had been a contestant for several years. It was won and held by him on this occasion jointly with Mr. Budd, of Des Moines on a tie, both having made a straight score. He engaged in shooting as he did in business, to win; and at different times he has won the various trophies and individual medals in this state.

He has one daughter, Madge, now in her twelfth year. Two children, Bertha and Maude, are dead; the former dying in infancy, the latter, a beautiful and accomplished young lady, in her 20th year, May 3, 1896.

His mother still lives with him.

**Ibson** Peter G. (b. Nov. 3, 1849), the first resident of Fonda, was a native

of Norway and a blacksmith. In 1869 at Webster City he found employment as a smith for the bridge builders of the Dubuque & Sioux City railroad, and moved his shop to suit the movements of the gang. In February 1870, when they commenced the construction of the bridge across the Cedar, he located his shop south of the grade on the present site of the city water-works. This was the first building on section 27, in the center of which Fonda is located. Inasmuch as the railroad was completed about the time this bridge was done and the patronage of the settlers gave him constant employment, he decided to remain at this place, and in the fall of 1871 built a larger shop south of second street near the Ellis residence. Two years later this building was moved to the northeast corner of Main and Second streets, where for many years he enjoyed the reputation of being the best workman in this section. At this time his two brothers, Edward and Charles, arrived and joined him in the same shop. Edward is still engaged in the business having a shop of his own in the Busby addition to Fonda and Charles is an engineer in the yards of the Milwaukee railroad. In 1890 Peter moved his shop one block further west and continued to work at his trade until 1896. He was a superior workman and kept his shop supplied with the best available machinery.

On November 25, 1875, he married Frances L. Buswell, who died August 7, 1891, in her 33d year, leaving two children, Clara and Andrew, both in their teens.

**Kearns** Patrick (b. Ireland, March 17, 1818) in March 1873 became the owner and occupant of the ne ¼ section 2, Cedar township, and of eighty acres more on the adjoining section (35) in Dover township, all of which he improved and occupied until 1899, when he moved to Fonda. His wife and

family of nine children, came one month after his arrival, and they lived that summer in the school house first built in the McCartan district, which he bought for that purpose. In the fall of that year he built a house, 16x28 two stories that was enlarged to its present size in 1893.

He came to America alone in Sept. 1847, and locating at West Point, N. Y., found employment on the railroad. November 19, 1848, he married Catherine Lynch, a native also of Ireland, and the next year, moved to St. Louis, stopping a few months at Cincinnati and Rockford on the way. Three years later he moved to Dubuque and the next year to Jackson Co., Iowa, where he bought a farm of 100 acres and occupied it twenty years, or until the time of his settlement in this county.

He acquired such facility in the use of tools and such knowledge of building that he and his two sons were able to build his house in the fall of 1873. He has been very successful in raising vegetables and during the last fourteen years of his residence on the farm raised them for the local market.

He has never used tobacco, and has been a total abstainer since 1839. He has never seen the face of a mortgage and has never given his note to any man in Pocahontas county, except on one occasion. He has been a trustee of the township eight years, 1883-90.

His family consists of nine children, as follows: 1. Michael J. (b. Feb. 2, 1851), owner and occupant of a farm of 240 acres on section 35, Dover township, on November 19, '76, married Maggie McCartan and has a family consisting of John, Katie, Marie, Mary, Michael, James and Joseph twins, Maggie, Theresa, William and Alice. 2. Mary, on Nov. 19, '76, married John Kelly, lives on a farm near Pocahontas, and has a family consisting of James, Patrick, Katie, Mary, Eliza, John, Josie, Florence and Roy.

3. John (b. 1855.), owner and occupant of a farm of eighty acres in Dover township, in 1882 married Mary Murray and has four children, Patrick, Jennie, Henry and Ray. 4. Julia, in 1877, married Michael Lynch.\* 5. Margaret, in 1878, married William Kelly (a brother of John), the owner and occupant of a farm of 160 acres on section 35, Dover township, until 1900, now a resident of South Dakota, and has a family of six children, John, Francis, Thomas, Edward, Stephen and Albert. 6. Katie, a dress maker, Bridget and Elizabeth, teachers, are at home.

For some years past it has been his custom to have all his children and grandchildren, numbering 49, assemble at his home on the evening of all saints' day or hallow e'en; and he has the happy faculty of making these family re-unions occasions of great joy and gladness to the little folks.

**Kelleher** John (b. 1817, Ireland), the pioneer occupant of the w $\frac{1}{2}$  Sec. 7, Cedar township, after his marriage in 1854 lived one year at Lawrence, Mass., and twelve in Boston. He then located on a farm near Iowa City, and in 1884 in Cedar township, where he died in 1888. He put fine improvements on this farm, kept everything in the best of order and his wife, Josie and James continue to occupy it.

His family consisted of eight children, all of whom are still living. Thomas F., M. D. Des Moines, (see below); Kate, who in 1892 married D. S. McCarville and lives in Oklahoma; John, who in 1891 married Mary McCarville and lives at Marysville, Mo.; Elizabeth, who in 1890 married M. W. Linnan, of Dover; Nellie, who in 1893 married S. A. Dunn and lives in Webster City; Denis M., who graduated from the law department of the Iowa State University in 1893 and has since been engaged in the practice of law at Pomeroy; Josie and James, who are at home.

**Kelleher** Thomas F., M. D., oldest son of John Kelleher, was born in the city of Lawrence, Mass., in 1855. That year his parents moved to Boston and remained twelve years. In 1867 they moved upon a farm near Iowa City. Here Thomas received his education, walking to Iowa city each day during the fall and winter, and working on the farm during the summer. At the age of sixteen he taught his first term of school at Iowa City and when nineteen took charge of the grammar department in the schools of Sidney, Iowa. He began the study of medicine in 1875, in the office of Elmer F. Clapp, professor of anatomy in the Iowa State University and received his diploma in 1878. After practicing medicine four years at Bevington, Iowa, and one year in Des Moines, he located in Fonda. Here he became one of the leaders in the organization of the democratic party in Pocahontas county and in 1885, being nominated as the democratic candidate for the legislature in this district then composed of Pocahontas and Calhoun counties, received 785 votes against 445 in this county, lacking only 88 votes of being elected representative. His popularity was due to his independence in thought, tact for organization and enthusiasm as a leader. He was frank and honest in politics the same as in business.

In 1886 he married Annie Cunningham, of Patterson, Iowa, and returned to Des Moines where he has since been engaged in the practice of medicine. In 1895 he graduated from the New York Post-graduate School and Hospital. He has a family of three boys and two girls.

**Kennedy** Joseph (b. 1838), resident of Fonda and vicinity since 1874, is a native of Tyrone, Ireland, where he married and raised a family of seven children. In 1874 he came to this country and located in Fonda, his

\* See Lynch.

brother William, in 1869, having settled on a homestead in Williams township. In 1876 his wife and family arrived and, after a residence of two years in Fonda, they moved to the Fairburn farm west of town. In 1880 he bought 240 acres on section 21, Cedar township, and began to improve it. He also sought other employment as his sons became able to look after the farm, and for five years, with a one horse power, did the pumping of the water for the I. C. R. R. at the Fonda tank. In 1890 he bought the nw $\frac{1}{4}$  of the same section that increased his farm to 400 acres. In 1893 he bought the residence, elevator and office of N. B. Post and moved to Fonda.

Two business firms were then organized, namely; J. Kennedy & Co., consisting of himself and sons, dealers in grain, stock and implements; and Redfield, Kennedy & Co., consisting of W. J. Redfield and J. Kennedy & Co., dealers in stock and implements only. In 1897 W. J. Redfield withdrew from this firm and established the Palace Meat Market, the finest in this or any neighboring town; and in 1898 Joseph Kennedy withdrew from the first named firm and left as its successor, Kennedy Bros., consisting of Thomas, John and Alexander; of whom, Thomas looks after the interests of the farm, John the business of the office and Alexander all matters relating to the care of the stock.

In 1895, to increase their facilities for handling stock, they leased a tract of eighty acres south of the I. C. R. R. track. They feed principally cattle and usually have from 150 to 200 head in process of preparation for the city market. In 1897, owing to the ravages of cholera among the native hogs, they imported a car load of razor backs from Arkansas, and the experiment proved a profitable one.

The firm of Kennedy Bros. have

had long acquaintance with the people of this community, have learned how to work intelligently for the accomplishment of results and are in business to stay. "No compromise with competitors and honest dealings with all customers," are their business principles. The large share of the trade that has come to them has been well merited and highly appreciated.

On Oct. 8, 1877 Joseph's wife died in her 48th year leaving a family of eight children. Thomas (b. 1862), a telegraph operator 1882-93, a member of the firm of J. Kennedy & Co., in 1897 became a member of the city council and in 1898 president of the Big Four District Fair Association; Bessie, Nov. 2, 1884 married William J., son of Rev. Henry S. Redfield, then a dealer in stock and now proprietor of the Palace Meat Market, and has a family of three children, five having died in childhood; John (b. 1866), a teacher, secretary of the city school board and business manager of the firm of Kennedy Bros.; Sarah, Dec. 25, 1890, married F. M. Hall, resides at El Dorado, Kansas, and has four children; Alexander, in 1899 married Myrtle Hardman and has one child; Mary Jane, Rachel, who died March 21, 1892 in her 17th year, and Ina, a native of Pocahontas county.

**Lemp** John (b. March 3, 1835), who entered his homestead on w $\frac{1}{2}$  sw $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 18, Cedar township, Nov. 4, 1869, is a native of Germany, came to America in 1854, and, after spending one year in Pennsylvania and another one in Ohio, located in Kent Co., Michigan, where he found employment on a saw mill. Nov. 24, 1861 he married Idda A. Bowers and in 1866 moved to Sac county, Iowa. During his first year on the homestead he broke about forty acres of raw prairie and built a house, hauling the lumber for it and the coal for fuel from Fort Dodge. The next year he broke more prairie

and planted a maple grove of ten acres that with subsequent additions

continues to be one of the largest and most beautiful, as well as oldest, in the township. By his industry, economy and good management he has met with good success on the farm. During the periods of hard times, the grasshopper visitations, drought and prairie fires he suffered with his neighbors, but his well tilled farm, with its dairy and increasing herds, enabled him to survive them. He planted fruit trees in the early days and has enjoyed the pleasure of gathering some fine crops of small fruits, plums, apples, and in 1898 of peaches that measured seven inches. These were the first peaches gathered in the township, and were raised on a tree that grew from the pit of California fruit. By his subsequent purchases the homestead of 80 acres has been increased to a finely improved farm of 260 acres, and in 1889 there was erected upon it one of the finest farm houses in the township.

His family has consisted of five daughters, namely: Cora Belle, who married Arthur Moulton, of Cedar township; Eliza Blanch, who married Adelbert Bailey and lives in Lyon Co., Minn; Mary Etta, who married Ulyses S. Reed and lives at Varina; Anna Grace, who married George Witcraft and lives in Dover township; and Millie, who married Lars Larson and occupies the home farm.

**Langworthy** Oscar A. (b. March 18, 1838), who died at Fonda Oct. 4, 1883, was a native of Dubuque. In February 1878 he came to Fonda and engaged in the hardware and implement business until the time of his death. He was appointed one of the commissioners to effect the incorporation of Fonda in 1879, and, at the time of his decease, was serving his third year as a member of the city council. He was a man highly respected for his excellent traits of

character and his loss was deeply felt.

April 9, 1878 he married Jennie G., daughter of Wm. Clark and Abigail (Fitz-Henry, a resident of Fonda since 1890) Alexander (b. 1817, d. Fonda, 1892), who survives him with two children, Ernestine, who in 1899 married Frank W. Swearingen, Esq., a resident of Fonda 1895-99, mayor in 1897, and now resides in Mitchellville; and Lucius, an assistant in the postoffice since Aug. 2, 1898.

The name of this family appears among the first in the pioneer history of Iowa and his father was one of the first to make a permanent settlement at Dubuque, the first one in the state.\* His father, Lucius, and uncle James L. Langworthy, swimming their horses by the side of their canoe, crossed the Mississippi in June 1830 and stood on that river's western shore nearly three years before a permanent settlement had been made in any part of Iowa. In 1831, their brother Edward arrived, attracted by the rich lead mines on the west side of the river. After the founding of the city of Dubuque these three brothers established a banking house where their financial skill found ample scope. Edward, who took the lead in matters of public interest, soon became an influential member of the city council, represented that district in the legislature and was a member of the first constitutional convention that met in Iowa City in 1844. These brothers were natives of St. Lawrence Co., N. Y. Lucius H. served in some of the early Indian wars, built the first frame house in Dubuque and was the first sheriff of Dubuque county.

**Lynch** Willam (b. 1821), a pioneer of Cedar township, is a native of Ireland. In 1847 he came alone to New York state and after a few months located at Montreal, where in 1852 he

\*See page 57.

married Margaret Lawler. In 1855, he moved to Grant county, Wis., and after two years to Brownsville, the oldest town on the Mississippi in Minnesota south of St. Paul, where he superintended the quarrying of rock for its first warehouse. During the next two years he had charge of a ferry-boat that plied between Dubuque and Dunleith, now East Dubuque. He then engaged in farming in Dubuque and Jackson counties until April 1869, when, with his wife and four children, he located on the homestead— $s\frac{1}{2}$  nw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 2—Cedar township. By subsequent purchases, his farm was increased to 240 acres. One of the first schools in the township was taught in his pioneer home by Mary A. Calligan in the fall and winter of 1870. His wife died in 1890. He sold the homestead soon afterward and has since resided with his oldest son on the adjoining section in Dover township. He was a member of the Cedar township school board in 1873-74.

His family consisted of four children: 1. Michael J., owner and occupant of sw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 35 Dover township. In 1877 he was president of the Cedar schoolboard. In 1882 he was chosen as the second secretary of the school board of Dover township and has held that office until the present time, a period of nearly nineteen years. He was a trustee from 1880 to '85 and has been township clerk since 1895. Oct. 25, 1878, he married Julia Kearns, a daughter of Patrick, and she died July 7, 1898, leaving a family of eleven children, Margaret, William, Winnifred, Julia, Catherine, Anna, Michael, John, Ellen, Patrick and Edward. 2. James, occupant of the se $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 34, Dover township, married Bridget White and has two children, Margaret and John. 3. Mary, married Matthew Byrne and resides at Fonda.\* 4. William is a resident of Colorado.

\*See Byrne, page 405.

**Mackey** John B. (b. 1823), a former resident of Fonda, was a native of Washington county, Pa., and locating at Coalrun, Washington county, Ohio, married there Matilda Hall (b. 1826) in May 1851. Some years afterward he moved to Boone county, Ill., in 1880 to Pomeroy, Iowa, and in 1884 to Fort Dodge. He owned and occupied the Smeaton home in Fonda from Feb., 1892, until the fall of 1894, when he bought and moved to a ranch of 320 acres near Porterville, Tulare county, Cal. He was a highly respected citizen, and at Pomeroy, Fort Dodge and Fonda rendered efficient service as an elder of the Presbyterian church.

His family consisted of seven children of whom three died young. Charles H., a railroad engineer, married Laura Griswold, has a family of two children and lives at Belvidere, Ill. David S. in 1876 married Ella Chamberlain in Tulare, county, Cal., and died there April 26, 1898, leaving a family of four children, John, Florence, Matilda and Relief. In 1882 accompanied by two others he went to the northern part of Alaska to develop a gold and silver mine in which he had obtained an interest. At the time set for their return, his two companions, taking the ore obtained, started homeward from the nearest port, while he traveled down the coast to the next one. At this port he received the sad intelligence that the vessel carrying his two companions, together with its cargo and all on board had been lost in a violent storm. He was thus compelled to remain and for two years was the only white man among the Esquimaux in that arctic region. Relief B., married Grant Fox, located first at Lake City, in 1895 moved to Tulare county, Cal. and now lives at Cherokee. Hattie H., married Frank P. McKee, of Fonda, lived there a number of years and then moved to Cherokee.



**Mallison** Joseph Captain (b. March 14, 1842), resident of Fonda and vicinity since May, 1870, is a native of Dale, Wyoming county, N. Y. His parents were William A. and Jane (Dingman) Mallison and he was brought up on a farm. In 1861 at the age of 19 he enlisted as a member of Co. E, 105th N. Y. Inf., which, in the spring of 1863, was consolidated with the 94th, and he continued in the service until he was mustered out at Albany, July 18, 1865. When he arrived at Washington, he was assigned to the command of Gen. McDowell and remained in the Army of the Potomac. In 1862 he participated in the battles at Cedar Mountain, sometimes called Slaughter Mountain because of the great number that fell on both sides; Rappahannock Station, Thoroughfare Gap, Chantilly, the second engagement at Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, and Fredricksburg; in 1863 at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, where he was in the Second Division, led by Gen. Reynolds, who fell on the first day.

On June 3, 1864, at the battle of Cold Harbor, seven miles from Richmond, he was wounded and taken prisoner. After a short confinement in Libby prison, he was held at Macon, Ga., two months; Savannah, six weeks; Charleston, S. C., three weeks, and then at Columbia until the arrival of Sherman's army, when he was moved successively to Charlotte, Raleigh and Wilmington, N. C., where he and 1200 other prisoners were released on parole, March 1, 1865.

He was made a First Lieutenant in December, 1863 and from the time he received his commission was placed in command of the company and performed duty as a captain until he was taken prisoner. He was exchanged six months after he was paroled and then found a Captain's commission awaiting him.

At the close of the war he returned to the home of his parents, who, during that period, had removed to Fondulac county, Wis. Thursday, Oct. 7, 1866, he married Susie H. Lingenfelter, and after two years on a farm at Brandon, moved to Hardin county, Iowa, and thence in 1870 to his homestead, the w $\frac{1}{2}$  sec. 20, Cedar township, known later as the Blakeslee farm. In 1873, having improved and secured the patent for the homestead he moved to Fonda, where he engaged in the sale of implements eleven years, and in the real estate and insurance business since that time.

At the battle of Gettysburg, he saved the flag of his own regiment from capture and for this act of heroism was allowed to bring it home with him as a trophy of the conflict. This flag, which graced every patriotic occasion at Fonda, so that it had come to be regarded as the property of the town, was destroyed in McKee's Hall by the fire of 1883.

He participated in the organization of Cedar township, June 6, 1870, and served two years as its first assessor when it included Colfax; two years as township clerk, 1875 and '86; and as justice of the peace since 1893. He took an active part in the incorporation of Fonda, was elected its first mayor in '79, and was re-elected in '84 '95 and '96. He was sheriff of Pocahontas county, four years, 1880-83, and has been postmaster at Fonda since February 7, 1898.

He inherited a robust form, a fine voice and has enjoyed good health; and these things, together with his affable disposition and dignified manner have made him a fine looking soldier and an acceptable commanding officer. He has proven himself to be a capable and efficient public official, and it is doubtful if any other one has rendered so much service to the people of Fonda and vicinity, as a

director of funerals and other assemblies or more acceptably than he.

His estimable wife has been associated as a leader among the ladies, in the promotion of the social and religious interests of the community, taking an active part in the organization of the first Ladies' Aid Societies of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches, the first Chatauqua circle, Relief Corps, Eastern Star, etc. In company with her husband she has visited northern and southern California and Utah; and attended the national encampments at Washington in 1893 and at Buffalo, near his old home, in '97.

**Marshall** William (b. 1837), one of the first residents and business men of Fonda, was a native of Yorkshire, England, where he learned carpentry and cabinet making. After he became of age, he went to London where he married Jane Webster and two months later came to the state of New York. After a short residence there and also in Illinois and Missouri, he bought a half section of land in Bremer county, improved and occupied it for several years. He then lived one year in Waverly and engaged in railroad building, taking a contract on the I. C. R. R., west of Fort Dodge. In May 1870, he located at Fonda, erected the first dwelling house in the town for which he hauled lumber from Pomeroy. He established the first lumber yard at this place and afterwards the first store for the sale of hardware and implements. He also bought the ne $\frac{1}{2}$  sec. 33, and planted a grove that is not only the largest, but contains more varieties of valuable timber, including evergreens, than any other in this section. After the erection of good buildings on it, he made his home on this farm and died there Oct. 22, 1887. He served as justice of the peace for Cedar township ten years, 1872-74, '78-79, '83-87; and as surveyor for Poca-

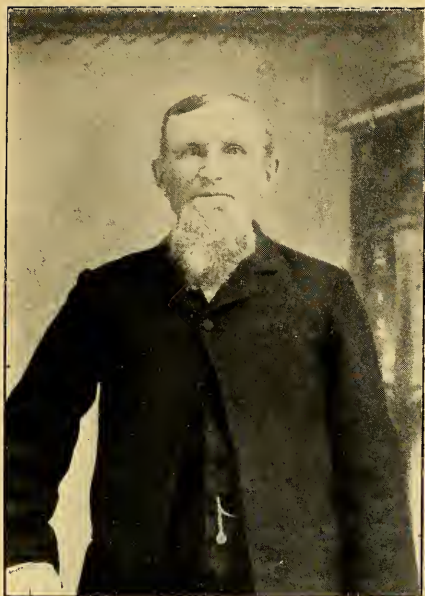
hontas county, eleven years, '73-83. He conducted a land agency at Fonda for many years and was well acquainted with not only the people but every nook and corner of the county. He was a man of unimpeachable integrity, modest, but persistent in his efforts, loyal to his friends and conscientious in the administration of justice.

In 1884 the board of county supervisors, at the instance of the people, conferred a special honor upon him by changing the name of Laurens township to "Marshall," in recognition of his long and efficient service as county surveyor.

His family consisted of three children, two of whom are dead. Maude and her mother live in Fonda, where they own a fine residence and other city property. They also own 400 acres of land in this vicinity including the old home.

**Martin** Samuel S. (b. Nov. 24, 1855), owner and occupant of a recently improved farm on section 23, is one of the leading and most successful farmers in Cedar township. He is a native of Perry county, Ohio, and the son of Thomas B. and Susan (Storrier) Martin. At the age of seventeen, in 1870, he accompanied his parents to Greene county, Iowa, and whilst he has always lived on the farm, yet for a period of five years, he was engaged in boring wells, inserting pumps and erecting windmills. He acquired possession of a farm of 200 acres in Junction township, which he still owns. In 1891 he bought and moved to a farm on section 29, Cedar township; two years later on section 13; and in 1900 on section 23, where he has just built a good barn and one of the finest farm houses in the township. He is now the owner of two finely improved farms in Cedar township, that with the one in Greene county aggregate 680 acres.

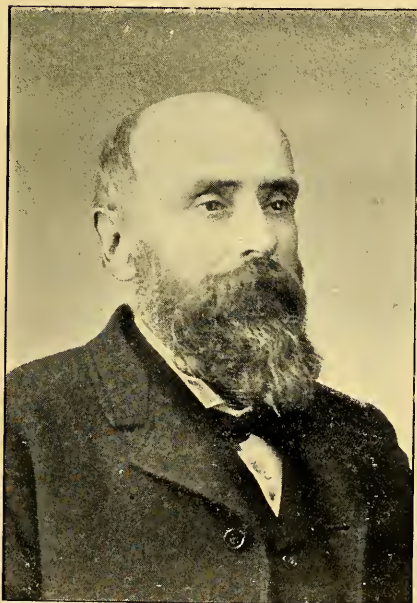
He is a progressive and successful



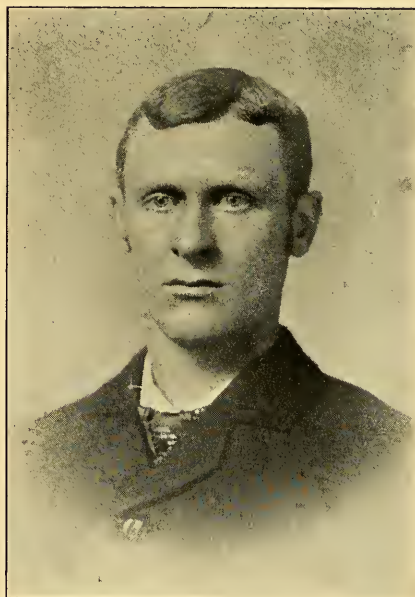
WILLIAM BOTT  
Co. Supervisor 1880-82, 86-88.



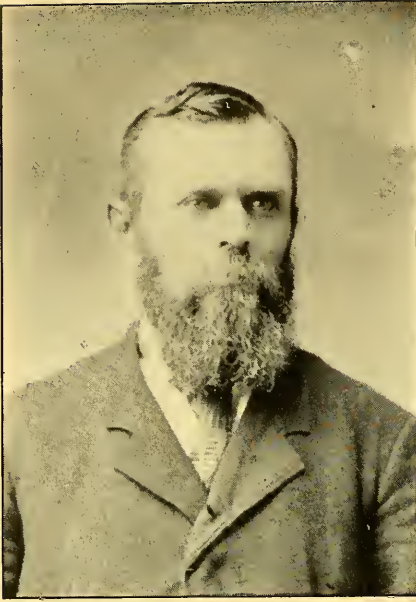
R. F. BESWICK  
Fonda Creamery Co.



JOHN LEMP  
Farmer.



ED. B. TABOR  
Editor.



JAMES MERCER  
County Supervisor 1883 85  
Representative 1890-97



MRS. JAMES MERCER



FRED SWINGLE



MRS. NELLIE R. SWINGLE

Fonda and Vicinity.

farmer. Having realized the convenience and value of good-improvements, he gives them his first attention. He has learned also how to keep "the cattle upon the hills" and to have "the valleys (prairies) covered over with corn." His intelligence and excellent character as a citizen brought him into favorable prominence during his residence in Junction township, and in Cedar he has served two years as a justice of the peace, '93-94, and is now serving his second year as trustee. He has also rendered efficient service to the Presbyterian church, as a trustee since 1895 and as an elder since 1897.

On Nov. 7, 1875, he married Anna White, of Vernon county, Wis., and his family consists of five children: John Weston (b. July 25, '78), graduated at Fonda in '97, spent one year at Fayette college and is now pursuing his studies at the Iowa State University. Olive M. graduated at Fonda in '97 and is now a teacher. Dora E., Samuel G. and Otto Roy.

**Mercer** James (b. 1847), representative from this district in 1890-91, is a native of Galt, Ontario, Canada; and is a son of Andrew and Euphemia Mercer, both of whom came from Scotland. At the age of five years he moved with his parents to Cataraugus county, N. Y., soon afterwards to La Fayette, Ind., and in 1855 to Cascade, Dubuque county, Iowa. Here he grew to manhood and remained twenty years. After attending the public school he spent two years in the academy. On Oct. 24, 1864, at the age of sixteen he became a member of Co. M. 6th Iowa Cavalry and spent one year fighting the Indians on the frontier (see page 46) in Minnesota and the Dakotas, which did not then have a settlement beyond Yankton. After his return from the army he found employment in the furniture business and three years later commenced farming. In the spring of 1875 he

bought and began to improve the northwest sec. 35 Cedar township. The large and comfortable house, now occupied by his family, was built with his own hands in 1885, he having acquired a practical knowledge both of carpentry and masonry. His buildings are surrounded by several groves of different kinds of timber, of which the maples were planted in 1877 and the evergreens in 1893. By subsequent purchases his farm has been increased to 400 acres and he is recognized as one of the most thrifty and substantial men in the community.

He has rendered an efficient public service, to all of which he has been called without having acquired the arts of the politician. He served as township clerk four years, 1879-82; one term as justice of the peace and has been secretary of the school board since 1890. He was a member of the board of county supervisors three years, '83-85. In '89, at Peterson, he received the Republican nomination and at the general election held that fall was elected without opposition a member of the house of representatives of the 23d General Assembly of Iowa from the 77th district, composed of Clay and Pocahontas counties. In 1895 while he was busy "earning his bread by the sweat of his brow" he was nominated a second time for the legislature and lacked only a few votes of election. He has been a trustee and treasurer of the Presbyterian church since the dedication of the building in 1887, and an elder and deacon since 1897.

The highest practical objects of human attainment, such as the enjoyment of a happy home, the education of his children, the ennobling privileges of the church, together with the profitable cultivation and improvement of his farm, have been the praiseworthy ambitions of his life. He has always been a total abstainer and a practical prohibition-

ist. His steadfastness of purpose and successful achievements have won for him a public confidence, recognition and honor that only a few usually enjoy. In his youth he acquired the habits of industry and economy, and adopted the principles of integrity and honor, that fit every one for noble achievements. He is a splendid representative of the sturdy yeomanry that have developed her resources and made Iowa great.

On Nov. 14, 1872, while living at Cascade he married Anna, daughter of William and Anna (Brown) Stewart, of Ontario, Can., who has proven a wise counsellor and a faithful helper to him in all his endeavors. His family consists of seven children: Effie M., a graduate of the Normal school at Shenandoah and a teacher for two years at Sac City, two at Plover and three at Pocahontas, in 1900 married Thomas W. Tarr, of Cedar township. Nellie A., who enjoyed three terms at Buena Vista College and three terms at the Iowa State Normal at Cedar Falls, has been teaching since 1896. Cilena G., a Fonda graduate in '94, graduated from the State Normal in '97, then engaged in teaching and in June 1900, completed the fourth year course at the State Normal. May B., a Fonda graduate in '97, graduated at the State Normal in 1899 and is engaged in teaching. Cora L., a Fonda graduate in '99 and winner of the medal in the County Declamatory Contest at Havelock that year, is also a teacher. Rollo C. and Ralph J. are at home.

**McCartan** Bernard (b. Oct. 31, 1826), who died in Cedar township Oct. 2, 1887 in his 61st year, was a native of Down county, Ireland, the son of Bernard and Ann (Brush) McCartan. In 1845 with his parents he came to America and found employment in the lead mines at Dubuque, where he married Mary, daughter of Roger and Margæret (Baldwin) Mc

Namara. He then located on a farm in that vicinity, in 1869 moved to Webster county and in 1871 to the sw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 3, Cedar township. He was the first to occupy this farm and improved it finely. The first house built in 1881, 14x18 feet, in 1876 became an attachment to a large and comfortable one. A fine grove of forest and fruit trees was planted, and by subsequent purchases the original farm was increased, previous to his death in 1887, to 540 acres and since that date to 930 acres, all of which are occupied by the younger members of his family.

He was president of the second board of trustees of Cedar township in 1872, president of the school board in 1873 and treasurer of the school funds in 1874. He was a member of the board of county supervisors three years, 1874-76, when the county seat was at Old Rolfe.

He was a good farmer, a man of noble principles and exerted a strong influence in establishing and sustaining Catholic worship in the vicinity of Fonda. In the pioneer days he was recognized as a wise and prudent leader in politics and religion. In matters of charity, he was always ready to respond to the call of the needy, who never left his door without assistance. His wife, a woman of more than average intelligence and loved by all who knew her, died June 11, 1898.

He was the father of thirteen children, ten of whom survived him: 1—Thomas F., county auditor seven years, 1886-92, (see below); 2—Susan E., on May 19, 1895, married Ed. O'Donnell, Fonda; 3—Mary E., Oct. 5, 1897, married John Lilly, owner and occupant of a farm of 80 acres on sec. 21, Dover township; 4—John J., born July 7, 1873, in April 1892 married Katie L. Haggerty and lived four years in Dover township, then engaged in the abstract business for the

Bank of Pocahontas in '97-98, and since as manager of the Shull Bros. lumber yard, Fonda; he has three children, Austin R., Mary F. and Regina; he was secretary of the Cedar township school board two years, '88-89 and assessor in Dover township 1894-95; 5—Arthur A., born Oct. 3, 1865, is manager of the home farm; 6—Bernard E., born Nov. 25, 1867, has taught school four years and is now at Davenport; 7—Joseph H. at home; 8—Maggie T. on August 28, 1899, married Anton J. Sauter, a carpenter, and resides at Fonda; 9—Katie and Roger, also at home.

**McCartan** Thomas F. (b. Oct. 19, 1854) is a native of Dubuque county and came with his parents to Cedar township in 1871. He was clerk of Cedar township in 1873 and secretary of the school board in 1883. He served as Auditor of Pocahontas county seven years, 1886-92, the law of 1890 changing the election of county officers to alternate years having added one year to his third term. He has been a resident of Pocahontas since 1886; and as a stockholder and cashier of the Bank of Pocahontas has been engaged in the banking and real estate business since 1893.

On May 17, 1886, he married Ella, a daughter of Roger and Margaret Collins, formerly of Lizard township, and has a family of six children, Clement B., Tessie, Theo. F., Myrtle, Monica and Arthur Thomas.

**McKee** Jonathan Neff (b. Feb. 9, 1837), manager and principal proprietor of the general merchandise firm of J. N. McKee & Co. Fonda, 1881-96, is a native of Blair county, Pa., and the son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Neff) McKee. In the fall of 1860 he found employment at Belvidere, Ill., as a clerk in the store of A. T. Ames, who, two years later, sent him to Cherry Valley to sell out a stock of goods at that place. In 1864 at this place he entered into a partnership

with E. A. Blackington that lasted five years, and then with Rufus C. Potter under the firm name of J. N. McKee & Co. In the spring of 1881 he brought their stock of goods to Fonda, Iowa, where he bought and began to occupy the two store rooms in the Guyett block. At the time of the fire, Oct. 15, 1883, he sustained a loss of \$25,000, on which the insurance was \$6,000; but he cleared away the ashes of the wooden building and in its place, in 1884, erected a double two story brick block that has been the pride of the town ever since. He continued in business here until the fall of 1896 when he moved to Washta and in 1900 to Britt, Iowa. In partnership with his son Frank P. McKee a clothing store was maintained several years at Fonda and, in connection with it, a tailoring establishment, McKee & Ehline, that employed a half dozen workmen. During the period of his residence at Fonda he carried the largest stock of general merchandise in this vicinity.

He was not a politician but was one of the most public spirited citizens that Fonda has ever had. He was chosen a member of the town council the next spring after his arrival and continued a member of it until the time of his removal, a period of fifteen years, 1882-96. He was president of the Fonda school board five years, 1884-88.

On Dec. 20, 1864, he married Louise, daughter of Rufus C. and Hannah Potter. His family consists of four children, one having died young. Frank P. now a traveling salesman, married Hettie, daughter of John B. Mackey, lives at Sioux City and has one child; Mabel E. married Guy S. Robinson, Fonda, county treasurer, and has one child, Lorna E.; Earl Potter, a traveling salesman; and Louisa.

**Nichols** John Clark (b. May 23, 1843), who died on his farm on sec. 7,

Cedar township, Jan. 23, 1899, was a native of Scott county, Iowa, the son of William and Laura Nichols, both of whom died in his early days. On August 22, 1862, in response to his country's call he went to Davenport and enlisted as a member of Co. K., 20th Iowa Inf. and continued in the service until July 1865. His regiment became a part of the army on the frontier under Gen. Schofield and passed through Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida, traveling 6,350 miles by steamboat, 2,400 miles by steamship, 1,300 miles by rail and 2,100 on foot, making an aggregate of 12,150 miles or half the circumference of the earth. He participated in the engagements at Prairie Grove, the siege of Vicksburg, the capture of Fort Morgan and Blakely near Mobile, April 9, 1865, the same day that Lee surrendered. He was a man of courage and did not hesitate to face danger when duty called. On the return of his regiment a lady of Davenport very appropriately wrote:

“Ring out a welcome; lo, they come!  
Our heroes from the war;  
They bear their banners seamed and rent,  
They wear the victors' scar.”

Oct. 5, 1871, he married Laura Seekins and located on a farm at Red Oak, where he remained until 1886 when he came to Cedar township. He experienced considerable inconvenience from defective hearing after he returned from the army, but was a good farmer, kept his improvements in fine condition and was highly respected as a citizen and neighbor. At the time of his death he was the owner of 200 acres of land.

His family consisted of one daughter who, May 1, 1892, married Jas. M. Borders and lives on the island at Sunk Grove.

**Lucas** David Crystle (b. Jan. 17, 1842) resident of Fonda and vicinity

from 1873 to 1892, was a native of Carroll, Indiana. In 1856 he moved with his parents to Waverly, Iowa, where Dec. 28, 1863, he married Matilda Etta Busby (b. May 21, 1839, N. Y.) of Dubuque and engaged in farming. In 1870 he moved to Plainfield, Butler county and engaged in the mercantile business. In 1873 he located on a homestead in Williams township, Calhoun county, Iowa, and in 1881 moved to Fonda, where he engaged first in the livery business, then for three years owned a half interest in the Fonda Grist Mill, which seriously embarrassed all who invested in it. He then decided to engage in the hotel business and, serving as proprietor of the Central House, Fonda, one year, in 1892 moved to Meriden and two years later to Cherokee where he has since had charge of the Cherokee House. As a hotel keeper he has become quite popular with the traveling public and has met with good success.

Both he and his excellent wife, early in life, became active members and efficient workers in the Methodist church, and in Fonda, he filled for a number of successive years the responsible positions of treasurer, steward and superintendent of the Sunday school. He has always been a staunch friend of the temperance cause and a leader in movements for the suppression of the saloon.

His family consists of five children, Carrie, the second, having died in infancy, Jennie V., an early teacher in the Fonda schools, on March 17, 1887 married Calvin B. Saylor and lives in Lincoln township; Mabel C., a teacher in the Fonda and Rolfe schools, on June 30, 1891 married George H. Bush and lives at Fonda; Eben Parker married Claudia Myers and they both belong to the theatrical profession; Howard Harlan, a graduate of the Cherokee high school in 1899 is now filling a lucrative position in that city.



**Olson** John (b. 1825), owner and occupant of the se¼ sec. 33, Cedar township from the spring of 1870 to '85, was a native of Denmark. He married there Mary Jensen and in 1867 with her and a family of three children, Henry, Lawrence and Sophia, all of whom were called Johnson after the first name of their father according to the custom of their native land, came to Michigan and three years later to Pocahontas county, Iowa. He planted a beautiful grove of maples, walnuts and other trees and erected the house and other buildings occupied by Mr. and Mrs. John Detwiller and completely destroyed by the cyclone of 1893.

On Oct. 6, 1883 his mother, Margareta Olson, died at his home and was buried on a slight elevation near the south west corner of this farm. At the time of her death she lacked only two months of being 94 years old, and, so far as known, was the oldest inhabitant of Pocahontas county. She was a native of Denmark, lived at Zealand until 1870, then at Aalborg until 1877 and then at the age of 87 years emigrated to the home of a son in Cedar township. She possessed a remarkable constitution and always enjoyed the best of health. Her eyesight was not diminished by advancing years, she never wore spectacles and was able to read fine print even in her old age.

In 1885, John Olson and family moved to San Pasqual, in southern California, where they still reside. His son, Henry Johnson, taught school in the vicinity of Fonda, in 1878 married Florence White, daughter of a minister, in 1884 moved to California and has a family of six children, Frank, Harry, Arthur, Nellie, Roy and Jessie, twins. His son Lawrence Johnson married Viola Darling in California and has two children, Inez and Glenn. His daughter, Sophia Johnson M. D.,

taught school in the vicinity of Fonda, pursued a course of study at Battle Creek, Michigan, graduated from the California Medical College in 1895 and since that date has been practicing medicine in San Diego. Her portrait appears in this volume.

**Osburn** Benjamin Franklin (b. March 25, 1837), a pioneer of Cedar township 1870 to 1885, was a native of Tioga county, N. Y., where he grew to manhood and in 1859 married Delilah B. Reed. August 10, 1862 he enlisted in the 137th N. Y. Inf. as an orderly sergeant, was made first lieutenant May 25, 1865 and was honorably discharged at Elmira, New York, June 9, 1865. In 1867 he and his family moved to Waterloo, Iowa, and in the spring of 1870 purchased the sw¼ sec. 25, Cedar township which he improved and occupied until the time of his death which occurred at Adel, Sept. 11, 1885. While returning from the State Fair at Des Moines, he endeavored to pass along a railing used for that purpose on the outside of the baggage car, and when the train entered the bridge at Adel its timbers striking his head inflicted fatal injuries and caused him to fall from the car in an insensible condition.

He was a fine looking soldier and one of the bravest of the brave. He participated in twenty seven battles including Lookout Mountain, Gettysburg and other decisive ones, and was promoted for his skill and courage.

His family consisted of two children: May, who married Fred Opperman, a mail agent, and died in 1885; Bert, a book keeper and clerk, married Becca Pfeiffer and located at Sioux City where his mother resides with him.

**Potter** Rufus C. (b. July 15, 1812), a silent partner in the firm of J. N. McKee & Co., Fonda 1881-89, was a native of Chili, N. Y. and was the son of Daniel and Abigail (Hemingway) Potter. His father was a veteran of the war of 1812 and his mother a member of the society of Friends, so

that from childhood he was trained in the principles of patriotism and piety. Sept. 22, 1836 he married Hannah C. Turner (b. Nov. 19, 1816 N. Y.) also of patriotic blood, whose grandfather, Captain Joseph Tombs, of Maine, served under Washington in the Revolutionary War. In 1837 he located at Hadley, Mich., in 1863 in Cherry Valley, Ill., and in July 1881 at Fonda, where he died Dec. 22, 1889. His large and beautiful residence, completed at Fonda in July 1888, was then adjudged to be the best finished and most convenient in this county. It is now known as the DeGraffe home. His wife, who had rendered fifty years of faithful service in the M. E. church and was respected as a "mother in Israel", departed this life at Fonda, Nov. 12, 1893. His life was a highly exemplary one. He was naturally of a quiet disposition and manifested such an holy zeal for the house of God that he became a living epistle of the meek and lowly Jesus. As long as his strength permitted, his place at the Sunday and mid-week services was never vacant and he loved to mingle his own with the voices of others in prayer, praise and testimony.

His family consisted of one son and three daughters all of whom located at Fonda and vicinity for at least a short period.

1.—Sarah Abigail, August 13, 1863 at Cherry Valley, married Abram F. DeGraffe, a carpenter and wagon maker, has been a resident of Fonda since 1888 and her family consists of three daughters: Louise a teacher; Anna in 1893 married Charles A. Alexander, assistant cashier of the Pocahontas County Bank, Fonda, since 1891 and has one child, Donald; Mary Franc, also a teacher. Louise and Franc have taught several successive years in the Fonda schools and are regarded as two of the best teachers in this locality.

2.—James Henry Potter in 1861

married Harriet Gleason, then enlisted as a member of the 74th Ill. Inf. and served three years in the army. He then engaged in farming near Cherry Valley, later moved to Rockford and in March 1889 to Fonda, Iowa, where he became the successor of Carpenter & Russell in the hardware business. After two years he moved to Storm Lake where he is still engaged in the hardware business under the firm name of J. H. Potter & Son. His family consisted of two children: William R. married Nina K. Kellogg who died in March 1895 leaving two children, and in 1896 he married Ida Sisson; Fannie is at home.

3.—Mary Louise married John N. McKee (See McKee).

4.—Josephine Julia married Ambrose A. Horton and for a few years lived on his father's farm near Cherry Valley. In Sept., 1875, they located on the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 4, Williams township, Calhoun Co., Iowa, and three years later in Pomeroy where he engaged first in the lumber business and afterwards in banking. In 1892 they moved to Storm Lake where she died Oct. 30, 1893, leaving a family of five children: Ava Grace Horton in 1894 married Burton Willis, manager of the Willis Lumber Co., and lives at Webster City; Ada, a milliner, Elmer, Frank and Josephine are at home. In 1895 Mr. Horton married Julia Brownlee of Wis., and two more children, Buelah and Harold, have been added to his family. In 1899 he moved to Spencer where he is now engaged in the real estate business.

**Patterson** Michael Frampton (b. Jan. 19, 1857), resident physician at Pocahontas and Fonda from 1882 to 1895, is a native of Haratio, Darke county, Ohio, the son of Samuel and Martha (Frampton) Patterson. He grew to manhood in Erie county, Ohio, graduated from the high school in Berlin Heights and on March 2,

1881 from the medical branch of the Western Reserve University at Cleveland. On April 5, 1882, after one year's practice of medicine in Cleveland, he located at Pocahontas, Iowa, and was the first resident physician of that town. That summer he erected a building, now used by the Bank of Pocahontas, on the lot now owned by Dr. Barthol and established a drug store and office in it. In September 1884 he moved to Fonda and, in connection with the practice of his profession, became a partner with Thomas F. Kelleher M. D. in the drug business. The interest of the latter in the spring of 1885 was bought by J. N. McClellan and one year later by J. B. Bollard; and in 1888 Dr. Patterson sold his interest in it to Henry Brown. In December 1888, he went to New York City and spent three months in the post graduate medical school making the diseases of the eye and ear the subject of special study. Subsequently he spent several similar periods in Chicago, during the winter of 1894-5 remaining seven months, the forenoon of each day being occupied at the Rush Medical Institute and the afternoon at the State Eye and Ear Infirmary. In June 1895 he moved to Des Moines, established an office on the corner of Walnut and Sixth streets and has since devoted his attention, as a specialist, to the treatment of diseases of the eye and ear.

December 6, 1883 he married Cora E., daughter of A. B. P. and Cordelia Wood, of Fonda, and they became owners of a farm of 240 acres on section 27, Sherman township that in 1890 was exchanged for one of 200 acres principally on sec. 25, Cedar township. After four years this one was sold and another one was bought on section 23 which was improved with good buildings and sold to Sylvester Barron in 1899.

Dr. Patterson possesses an unusual

amount of energy, keeps himself abreast of the times in all matters relating to his profession, and both wins and holds the confidence of his patrons by showing himself worthy of it. He keeps a clear head and is animated with the noble desire to prove an honor to his profession. He has successfully performed a large number of important surgical operations, and that he stands high as a physician and specialist is evidenced by the fact, that a large proportion of his patients consists of those who have been referred to him by other influential physicians.

His family consists of two children, Alpheus M. and Cordelia.

**Price** Edward and his wife Elizabeth, natives of England, married there in 1839, came to America in 1842 with one son, Theophilus, and located in New York State. August 1, 1873, he entered as a homestead the  $w\frac{1}{2}$   $se\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 36, Cedar township and became a resident of Pocahontas county. After a few years he engaged in the mercantile business at Pomeroy and died there in 1885. His wife died at Rockwell City in 1888. His family consisted of eight children, all of whom except the eldest son were born in New York. Theophilus enlisted in the civil war and was killed in battle. Edward J. in 1869 located on a homestead in Calhoun county, Iowa, married Harriet R. Rockwell, of Rockwell City, and now lives in California. Charlotte E. married H. E. Walker and lives in Minneapolis. Louisa A. located at Fonda in 1870. entered a homestead in Williams township in 1872 and became the wife of Wm. J. Busby, of Fonda, in 1874. Ellen M. lives with her sister in Minneapolis. Robert J. died at Rockwell City in 1895, and John D. died in 1860. Francis P. married W. M. Frantz, agent of the I. C. R. R., and lives at Fort Dodge.

**Reniff** Garrett Russell (b. Nov. 4.

1856) proprietor of a blacksmith shop, Fonda, since 1885, and two since 1896, is a native of Kalamazoo, Michigan. He is the son of Elbanan Winchester (b. 1813, Rochester, N. Y.) and Catherine Butler Reniff. His father in 1833 married..... Bennett, who was the mother of four children, two of whom, Marion and Daniel grew to manhood and live in Michigan. She died in 1848.

In 1851 he married Catherine Butler (b. Apr. 13, 1824, Ireland) and the next year moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan. In 1868 he moved to Windham, Johnson county, Iowa, the next year to Des Moines and in 1885 to his own farm on the  $\text{se}\frac{1}{4}$  sec 23, Marshall township, this county, where he died, October 31, 1896, in his 87th year, and his wife, June 19, 1898. Both were interred in the cemetery at Fonda. He was a man of genial and refined nature, whom to know was to esteem and respect; and she was animated with an unselfish desire to make others happy. Their wedded life covered a period of nearly fifty years and their family consisted of three children, two of whom, Frank and Garrett R. are still living.

Frank Reniff (b. Feb. 1, 1854) in Michigan, married Anna Crow, of Warren county, Iowa, lives in Marshall township and has a family of two children, Etta and Charles.

Garrett R. Reniff, learned his trade at Kalamazoo, Michigan, came to Fonda, September 1, 1885, built a shop and for three years was in partnership with John W. Spitzbarth. In 1891 he built a pretty residence and married Ella Viola, daughter of Orlando and Roana Brown. In 1896 he purchased an additional shop at Fonda and the increase of patronage enables him to give employment usually to four workmen. He has made shoeing horses a specialty and for many years has enjoyed the reputation of doing the most and finest work in this line in

this locality. His shop is also headquarters for the repair of bicycles. He is industrious and energetic in promoting his business interests and takes a personal interest in all local public matters. He was a member of the Fonda council six years, 1891-96, and has been chief of the fire-department since its organization six years ago. He has served four years as treasurer and is now a director of the Big Four District Fair Association. The portraits of Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Reniff and their parents may be seen on another page.

**Robinson** Joseph Peter (b. Oct. 3, 1844) resident of Fonda and vicinity since April 1871, is a native of Skowhegan, Somerset county, Maine, where he was raised on a farm, attended public school and also Bloomfield Academy. In 1866 he went to Boston where, after completing the commercial course in Comers' Commercial College, he found employment as an instructor of mathematics in that institution for one year and then as a bookkeeper for a wholesale house. In 1868 he moved to Calamus, Clinton county, Iowa, and three years later to a homestead on the  $\text{n}\frac{1}{2}$   $\text{sw}\frac{1}{4}$  section 20, Cedar township, Pocahontas county, which he improved and occupied until the fall of 1876 when he secured the patent for it, went to the eastern part of this state and the following summer to Texas. In the spring of 1878 he returned to this county, located in Fonda and has been a prominent citizen of this town since that date. It was his custom in the early days to teach school in winter and sometimes in summer, and for this employment he was well equipped. He taught in Fonda in 1871 and subsequently in other places in this vicinity. As a fitting recognition of his ability and efficiency as a teacher, in 1880 he was elected Superintendent of Pocahontas county and performed the duties of that office four years, 1881-85, in a highly creditable manner. He has been engaged as a general merchant since that date and is now the pion-