

36, Marshall township, that he had bought four years previous. He has increased this farm to 240 acres and the improvements on it are very conveniently arranged and fine in every respect.

#### AN HORTICULTURIST.

W. P. Kintzley has here developed, in an admirable manner, the advantages he enjoyed at the Agricultural College and has one of the finest fruit farms in Pocahontas county. About 20 acres have been set apart for fruit and forest trees. He began with a small nursery that furnished a supply both for himself and a number of his neighbors. The encouraging success that has attended his efforts to raise fruit is in a great measure due to the fact he had previously gained a thorough and practical knowledge of the hardy, productive varieties that were suited to this climate, planted only these and then took an intelligent care of them. All the rows run north and south and to the visitor in autumn, the sight of so many trees of the same variety, loaded with rosy cheeked apples, and of others covered with red, white and blue plums, affords a pleasure that is second only to that of being able to say, these are mine.

That others may enjoy the benefit of his matured and successful experience in raising fruit in this county, we note some of the things he regards as essential and name some of the varieties he commends as hardy and profitable in this locality.

Three things are essential in a good variety, namely, that the tree be hardy, a good bearer and its fruit be valuable for use. The varieties of apples commended are the Duchess, Wealthy, Longfield, Silken Leaf and Romna. The last three are new Russian varieties and he expresses the belief that the Longfield will likely be the most profitable variety for this county. The trees are hardy

and prolific bearers; the fruit is good for cooking and keeping; its size is above medium, and its color, a yellow tinge with pink blush on the side next the sun. The Silken Leaf resembles the Duchess, but flatter, and is also good for cooking. The Florence and Whitney No. 20 are crabs that have not suffered from blight. The Concord, Worden and Moore's Early, the latter a shy bearer, take precedence among fifteen varieties of grapes that have been planted.

Native plums are best for this northern part of the state, the Wolfe, Wyant, De Soto and Rolling Stone yielding the best results, and the Chickasaws proving a disappointment. The Minor plum is large and excellent but, owing to its imperfect blossom, is not sure to bear unless planted alternately with other varieties.

Some of the essentials to successful fruit culture in this section are the maintenance of a good fence, planting only those varieties that have done well in it, the cultivation of the soil, but so as not to injure their roots, when the trees are young, and an occasional application of manure to it when the tree begins to bear. A low growth insures freedom from sun scald and lessens the exposure to the wind.

Mr. Kintzley has also a large number of varieties of ornamental trees that include many kinds of evergreens such as Fir, White Spruce, Scotch, Austrian and Mountain Dwarf Pines, the Laurel Willow, Wild Olive, etc.

His family consists of six children, Agnes, William, Mary, Eugene, Hattie and Hazel.

**Lofquist** Julius in 1886 located on 160 acres on sec. 20. He was the first to occupy and improve this land. He died at 48 in 1892 leaving a wife and five children,—Julius, Josephine, Augustus, Victor E, and Elmer.

**McLain** Alexander, owner and occupant of a finely improved farm of

280 acres on sec. 14, has been a resident of the township since 1886. In 1886, during his residence in Illinois, he married Eliza Ann, sister of A. J. Stover, and three years later located in Marshall township. He was the first to occupy and improve his present farm and he has it now in a fine state of cultivation and provided with good and substantial buildings.

His family consisted of eight children.

Eva married G. Wallie Bellinger, who owns and occupies a farm on sec. 6, Sherman township, which he was the first to improve.

Charles married Catherine Moore and located on a farm on section 16, Marshall township.

Frank, Maud and Nellie, teachers; Oliver, Earl and Joseph.

**Mitchell**, William L. (b. 1847) sheriff of Pocahontas county since 1900 and owner of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 22, Marshall township since 1885, is a native of Ohio. He spent a part of his youth in Indiana and then came to Marshall county, Iowa, where in 1878 he married Emma Williams. In 1885 he began to occupy and improve his farm in Marshall township and since that date has become prominently associated with the history of the township and county. He served several years as a township trustee and is now serving his second term as sheriff.

His first house was struck by lightning in 1892 and again in 1893 when it was burned. It was replaced by a fine residence. He was quite successful on the farm and has made a good record as a public officer. He moved to Pocahontas in 1900.

**Moore**, Nicholas (b. 1846) owner and occupant of 160 acres on Sec. 23, is a native of Mahaska county. In 1858 he moved with his parents to Wright county, three years later to Marshall county and in 1892 to his present farm which he has finely improved.

In 1867 he married Mary J. Bentley and seven of their nine children are living.

Fred W. (b. 1868) in 1892 married Minnie Marshall of Marshall county and occupies the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 25.

Arthur C. (b. 1871) married Nellie McLain, and Katie in 1894 married Charles McLain. Both live in Clark county, S. D.

William, Grace, Ernest and Edward are at home.

**Phillips**, Oliver Perry (b. 1815) the first assessor of Marshall township, is a native of Chenango Co. N. Y. In his youth he located in Will Co., Ill., where in 1840 he married Elizabeth Dutton (b. 1823), a native of Cayuga Co., N. Y. He has been a resident of Pocahontas county since 1882 when he located on Sec. 1, Marshall township. He participated in the organization of the township, serving as one of the clerks on that occasion. He served three years as its first assessor, and later three years as a justice. He is now living in Swan Lake township. His family consisted of nine children, three of whom are living. Orson D. is in southern Kansas. Ellen became the wife of W. F. Atkinson and lives at Laurens. Edith E. married N. Morrison, who kept a hotel at Pocahontas a number of years and now lives in Oklahoma. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips were pioneers in the early settlement of Illinois, and were married in a log cabin, when even log cabins were not very numerous on the frontier. Their 50th wedding anniversary was duly celebrated at the home of their daughter at the Morrison House, Pocahontas, November 19, 1890.

**Richey**, Alfred Hammond, (b. 1860) the first county supervisor from Marshall township, is a native of Marshall county, the son of John and Nancy Richey. In July 1886 he located in Marshall township. In 1890 he married Ada E., daughter of Wm. F.

Atkinson, whose farm he now occupies. He has proven himself a man worthy of public recognition. He served for four years as assessor of the township and, in January 1897 receiving an appointment to serve as a county supervisor in place of Louie Lange who resigned, he has since been twice elected to that office.

His family consists of two children, Mildred and Dorothea.

**Scott**, Lucian S. (b. 1854), who in 1882 located on Sec. 20, was a native of Iowa. In 1878 he married Sarah J. Wells and located in Jasper county. He remained there until the date of his settlement in Pocahontas county. He met with good success as a farmer, assisted in the organization of Marshall township and as one of its first justices served thirteen years, 1882 to 1894. His family consisted of three children, Edith, Arwell and Lucian. He is now a resident of Sioux Rapids.

**Scott**, Edgar C., owner and occupant of a farm of 160 acres on the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 20, since 1886, is a native of Jasper county. He has improved this farm with good buildings and made it an attractive home. In 1892 he moved to Laurens, but after spending two years in a meat market and one sinking wells, he returned to the farm. In 1888 he married Anna Wells and has a family of four children, Eunice, Frank, Glenn and Nellie.

**Thoma**, Anton (b. 1864) and his two brothers, Alvis A. and Christ, coming from Germany in 1884 bought the E $\frac{1}{2}$  Sec. 31 and divided it into three farms, one for each of them. These brothers were the first to occupy and improve these farms. They have erected handsome buildings and secured a beautiful growth of trees around them. Katie Thoma (b. 1831) their mother, came with them in 1884 and lives with Anton, who occupies the south farm. In 1890 he married Emma Bitner and has a family of four children.

**Thoma**, Alvis A (b. 1862) who occupies the middle farm, in 1889 married Rosa Nace and has a family of three children.

**Thoma**, Christ (b. 1866) who occupies the north farm, in 1890 married Alfreda Fix and has a family of three children.

**Thornton** Albert Mortimer (b. 1810; d. 1884), senior member of Thornton, Greene & Co., was a native of Vermont. In 1832 he married Mary Sheldon Greene (b. Amherst, Mass., 1816) and located in Chatauqua County, N. Y., and in 1868 in Webster County, Iowa. After living a year in Fort Dodge he located on Greenside farm near Otho and the next year returned to Fort Dodge. During the three years, 1873 to 1876, he lived on the company farm in Marshall Township, and then returned to Greenside Farm, where he spent the remainder of his days.

His golden wedding was celebrated at this place under very delightful circumstances, August 12, 1882. On this occasion it was found the family represented 45 persons, which included 8 children, 22 grand children, and 3 great grand children. From his excellent words of counsel on this occasion, we quote the following: "Remember that the individual is an integral part of the government and it is his duty as well as privilege to exercise the high function of the ballot in all matters wherein the weal or woe of the community is depending. Let the sons of America, Man's last hope of universal freedom, be true to their inheritance and hand down to posterity the inestimable blessings of life, liberty, and an untrammelled pursuit of happiness."

He did not vote for Butler, the first presidential candidate of the green-back party, but joining that party the next year and using both his voice and pen, he became one of its strongest advocates in this state. He received



a good education and, being a man of strong convictions, like John Brown, he disregarded popular sentiment and even personal safety in advocating them. He wrote many articles for the public press in support of his money theory and they were remarkable for their number, scope, and persuasiveness. July 4, 1879, he delivered the oration at the patriotic celebration in Otho. Two months later he addressed the greenback county convention at Fort Dodge, on the right of a government to tax its citizens for its own support. He effected the organization of the Otho Farmers' Alliance during the early part of that year and, at each quarterly meeting, addressed that body on some agricultural or political topic, such as the soil, the horse, labor, money, the credit system and the prohibitory amendment.

He died on the farm, at 74, in 1884, and his wife died at 74, in 1890 at the home of her daughter Maria L. Sanders at Marathon.

His family consisted of nine children, one of whom died in childhood.

1. Alonzo Lucius, see page 477.

2. Mary Rebecca, married Lucius Sanders, editor of the Boonesboro News, who died leaving three children, Carrie, May, and Lucia. She is now living at Grand Junction, Colo.

4. Emily, in New York married W. Frank Tinkcom, a blacksmith, and later located at Red Lodge, Montana, where he owns a large stock ranch and has served as a county commissioner.

Her family consists of three children, Minnie, Dallas, and Estella.

5. Irene married Capt. L. D. Button. In 1865 they located at Fort Dodge, where he became principal of the public schools and she, a teacher also. She died there in 1869 leaving two children, Louis T. and Gertrude. Louis taught school three years in Pocahontas county and married Edith Cornick, of Powhatan township. Lat-

er he married Mabel Swaim, of Humboldt, where he is now engaged as a solicitor of insurance. Gertrude married Charles E. Herrick, a real estate agent, lives at Marathon and has seven children, Irene, Robert, Naomi, Louis, Glendolyn and Catherine.

6. Flora married Silas W. Swift, a lumber dealer, who died in 1900 at Yankton, S. D., leaving a family of five children; Eleanor, a teacher, is a graduate of Yankton and Oberlin Colleges; Ruth, a graduate of the Hanneman Medical College, Chicago, practiced medicine two years and then married Dr. Everett Marvin, Sioux City; Irene married Granville Standish and lives in New York City; Eunice married Miles Standish and lives in Brooklyn; Gordon lives with his mother in Grand Junction, Colo.

7. Fannie married Frank Rees, formerly a resident of Marshall township, now of Grand Junction, where she died in 1897 leaving two children, Lucia and May.

8. Frank Greene Thornton (b. 1854) was auditor of Pocahontas county from 1893 to 1896. He is a native of Chatauqua county, N. Y., and at 14, in 1868 came with his parents to Fort Dodge, where he completed his education. In 1870 he became a resident of Marshall township and two years later married Naomi R. Herrick, an early Fonda teacher. During the grasshopper period, 1873 to 1874, he moved to Fort Dodge and was conductor on the Illinois Central R. R. In 1882 he established a store in the new town of Kalo, south of Fort Dodge and the next year established a hardware and grocery store at the new town of Laurens. Two years later he was appointed and served three years as postmaster at that place. In 1887 he moved to Rolfe and engaged in the hardware business, moving to Pocahontas when elected to the office of county auditor. After his term of service as county auditor



he resumed the mercantile business at Fonda until Sept. 1, 1900, when he moved to a fruit ranch near Grand Junction, Colo.

His first wife died in 1885 leaving two children, Albert H. and Fannie B. Albert, after graduating from the State University in 1897, located at West Bend, where in 1898 he married Catherine L. Seymour. In 1900 he located at Pocahontas. Fannie in 1894 married Frank L. Dinsmore, an attorney at Pocahontas, and of this union has one daughter, Lois. In 1900 she married James Calvin and lives at Miles City, Montana.

In 1886 F. G. Thornton married Mary L. Steward, of Marshalltown, and of this union has one child, Arthur M.

**Weittenhiller**, Philip S. (b. 1859), owner and occupant of a farm on Sec. 1, Marshall township, from 1893 to 1899, is a native of Platteville, Wis., where his parents were early pioneers. At 20, in 1879 he went to California, and in 1882 was among the first to go to the mining excitement at Silverbow Basin, Alaska, where he engaged in trading and mining until 1885, when he received the appointment of

deputy U. S. Marshall. In 1888 he resigned and accepted the position of inspector of customs at Juneau. In 1893 he located on his farm in Marshall township, which he improved and occupied until 1899, when he moved to Laurens, where he has since been engaged in the real estate business.

In 1888, during his residence at Juneau, he returned to Platteville, Wis., and married Nellie Jones. His family consists of two children, Clara May, born at Juneau in 1889, and Clyde Philip, born at Platteville, Wis., in 1893.

O. K. Jones, father of Mrs. Weittenhiller, in 1882, bought sec. 1, Marshall township, and four years later divided it among his three children. He gave to Mary Lottie, wife of David Merry, the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , 183 acres. They were married in 1883, began to occupy and improve this farm, in 1884 and have a family of five children, Bessie, Frank, Nellie, Jennie, and Ernest. To his son, D. F. Jones, of Odebolt, he gave the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , 180 acres; and to his daughter Nellie E., wife of P. S. Weittenhiller, the south half, 320 acres.



## XXIV.

### POWHATAN TOWNSHIP.

“The Indian must away;  
Not in this land another morn could he prolong his stay.”

My country, I love thee, thy prairies and hills;  
Thy broad, flowing streams and murmuring rills:  
Thy greatness be sung to the true poet's lyre,  
In strains that such freedom alone can inspire.

—L. BROWN.



POWHATAN' township (93-32), the second from the east in the north row of the county, was the fourth one organized in Pocahontas county. It was included in Des Moines township until September 3, 1866, when the territory included in it and the two townships west of it, was set off as "Nunda" township. It was called "Nunda" after a town by that name in western New York from which some of the settlers had emigrated. The majority of the settlers, however were neither pleased with the name nor the

method by which it was adopted, and as a result of a meeting held at the home of Henry Thomas, March 27, 1867, it was changed April 20th, following to, "Powhatan", in honor of the Indian chief who was father of Pocahontas, and lived in Virginia from 1550 to 1618.

His Indian name was "Wa hun-san", a cock, but the English erroneously called him "Powhatan", after the name of his residence. The latter consisted of twelve wigwams in which he maintained a body guard of fifty warriors and it was located near the site of Richmond. He raised himself from the rank of tribal chief to the

command of a confederacy that consisted of thirty three tribes, that numbered 10,000 persons who belonged to the Florida or Southern branch of the Algonkin family and occupied Maryland and Virginia. He had conquered most of the tribes over which he ruled and was about 60 years of age when the English first made his acquaintance. The beautiful form of his daughter, Pocahontas, as it has been perpetuated in sculpture by Capellans may be seen over one of the doors at the capitol at Washington. The plans of Powhatan for the deception and destruction of the colonists having been frustrated by Capt. John Smith and Newport, his comrade, he concluded to live at peace with them. A few years later when Newport brought him from England a crown, he was so delighted that he gave Newport his robe and old shoes.

In 1871 Swan Lake township was detached, and in June 1874, the name of the township was changed to Jackson, at the instance of Andrew Jackson, a prominent citizen of the township, who was then a member of the board of county supervisors.

Sept. 5, 1876, Washington township was detached, and on Jan. 8, 1878, the name of the township was again changed to "Powhatan," Andrew Jackson, who had been treasurer of the school fund for several years, having suddenly left the county two months previous for parts unknown with about \$1,000 of the public funds.

The surface of this township is a gently rolling prairie that originally had a great many marshes. As the years have passed these have been drained to their natural outlets, Beaver and Pilot creeks, and the soil is splendid for corn and other cereals.

The early settlers appreciated the value of trees around the home and on the farm; and beautiful groves soon appeared that now look like bodies

of native timber. In some of the older groves may be found some of the largest trees in the county.

He who plants a tree beautifies to that extent his home and benefits every member of his family. A country home is never beautiful without trees. They serve as a protection, increase its comforts, and the love and sympathy that unite the family find in them one of their happiest forms of expression. Whilst bleak, cheerless homes and fields are the natural concomitants of extreme poverty or sorrow, wooded hills and shady slopes are the nurseries in which love of home and country germinates and grows strong, for they are the natural inspirers of reverence for Him who made the groves his first temples. "The groves of Eden, though vanished long, live yet in prose and look green in song."

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The early settlers of this township were of Scotch and American birth and these nationalities continue to be the most numerous.

1864-65. The first homestead entry in this township was made by Barney Hancher, April 9, 1864, for the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 24. In September following his mother, Nancy A. Hancher, entered the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , and Henry Thomas, his father-in-law, the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of this same section; and in April 1866 Ira Strong, entered the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of it, thus making it one of the first sections entirely taken by homesteaders. Henry Thomas, wife and sons, Daniel and Joel, had located in Des Moines township in the fall of 1863. In September 1864 Daniel and Joel selected claims on Sec. 23 and Jeremiah Young, their brother-in-law, on Sec. 25.

Barney Hancher, who turned the first furrow in May 1864, also built that spring the first shanty, using native basswood sawed by W. H. Hait. In the fall of that year he moved this shanty to the timber near old Rolfe, where he and his family



spent the next winter. In the spring of 1865 he moved this shanty back to his homestead. Others that erected shanties that year were Jeremiah Young on the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 25, Henry Thomas on 24, Joel and Daniel Thomas on 23. The one built by Joel Thomas was a sod house and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Booth became its occupants.

1866. In 1866 a number of families located in the township, among whom were those of J. B. Jolliffe and Samuel Umbarger on Sec. 2, James Henderson on 8, J. W. Brown on 10, Mrs. Fannie N. Strong on 12, Wm. Orcutt, Henry Tilley, Oscar J. and Geo. W. Strong on 14, Robert, Edward and John Anderson and S. N. Strong on 15, C. L. Strong on 16, A. H. Hancher and James Drown on 24, George Henderson on 26, Robert Lowrey on 28, Thomas L. MacVey and John Fraser on 36, William Stone on 25; and Robert Lothian on Sec. 30, Des Moines township.

1869. In 1869 George Stevens and Marcus Lind located on 16.

1870-74. During the early 70's there arrived Alexander Geddes on 29, Geo. and W. E. Goodchild on 20, John and Geo. W. Barnes on 12, Daniel P. Frost on 16, S. E. Heathman on 9, Geo. W. and Norman L. Rowley on 12, S. N. Pettit, J. D. Hilton, C. F. Barlow, E. H. Heathman, Thomas Fulcomer, Andrew Jackson and M. J. Young.

1875-79. During the later 70's there arrived Alex McEwen, P. W. and Joel Smith, E. C. Fuller and Nels H. Shaver.

1880-86. Others that arrived during the early 80's were A. L. Whitney on 15, E. Northrop, Wm. Halsted, P. J. and Josiah Shaw, Ed. R. Trites, Frank Salasek, W. H. Baker, B. F. Bogue, F. C. DeWolf, A. W. Ireland, D. D. Cornick, Henry Sternberg, J. H. Bellinger, F. H. Pringle; and at Plover J. T. Calhoun, Louis Brodsky, W. A. Hubel, J. H. Blanchard, A. Eggs-  
puehler.

In 1866 Henry Thomas built the first log house on the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec 24 and planted around it the first grove. The cottonwoods he then planted are still growing and they are believed to be the largest in the county at this time. A cut of his log house which is still standing within the grove and in use, may be seen in the frontispiece, where it is erroneously credited to Ira Strong due to the fact it has been owned for some years by his grand daughter, Dora Strong. The log house built by Ira Strong in 1866 was replaced by a new one a few years ago by his son, Philander Strong.

The first frame house was built by Thomas L. MacVey on Sec. 36 in 1867, and the lumber for it was hauled from Boone.

A few sod houses were built in this township owing to the scarcity and high price of lumber. They were quickly constructed and ordinarily were used only one season.

The log houses rendered good service for many years and some of them were quite comfortable. Wood was principally used for fuel and it was obtained from the groves of native timber along the Des Moines river, frequently from the "cabbage lot" on section 37.

A. H. Hancher helped to haul the lumber for five of the first frame houses from Boone, a distance of 80 miles. The houses though plain were expensive, for the lumber cost \$70.00 per thousand feet and its transportation with ox teams was exceedingly laborious.

#### INTERESTING EVENTS.

The first social was held at the home of Mrs. Nancy A. Hancher on Christmas day 1866.

The first marriage was that of Henry Tilley and Belle, sister of A. H. Hancher, March 29, 1866.

The first children born were twins in the home of Daniel Thomas

in March 1866, one of them sleeps in the Powhatan cemetery and the other became the wife of Harley Unbarger.

The first death, save that of the man whose body was found on the prairie by John Anderson in the spring of 1866, was that of a child in the family of Samuel Booth. Its coffin was made in the pioneer school house and the place of its burial, near the school house on sec. 24, afterward became the Powhatan cemetery.

The first crop of wheat was one of five acres by Thomas L. Mac Vey in 1868.

The winter of 1866-67 was a very severe one. Although very little snow fell until the holidays, after that period blizzards were frequent and unwelcome visitors, often overtaking the settler at a distance from his home.

The first bridge was built in 1870 over Beaver creek and it had an interesting history. In the fall of the year, it was taken down and placed beyond reach of high water; and then after the spring freshets had subsided, it was replaced in its former position. The lack of bridges was the occasion of a vast amount of inconvenience and of many ludicrous episodes.

All of sec 25 was entered by four men on the same day, Sept 28, 1864. The men were Wm. Stone, Jeremiah Young, Samuel Booth and George Booth. Twenty-six of the early settlers of this township secured homesteads and nearly all of them included 160 acres. Homesteads were also secured in this township on the odd numbered sections, as 15, 23 and 25, on which the following persons secured homesteads: Robert and Edward Anderson and S. N. Strong on 15, Joel B. and Daniel Thomas on 23, and Wm. Stone, Jeremiah Young, Samuel Booth and George Booth on 25. These lands were claimed by the McGregor & Sioux City R. R. Co., but inasmuch

as this company did not fulfill its part of the contract within the appointed time they reverted to the government and then to the settlers who had complied with the homestead law.

The first public cemetery is located on the nw corner of the sw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 24, near the Strong schoolhouse. Henry Thomas, the first owner of this land, promised to donate it for a public cemetery and three persons were buried in it during his lifetime, namely, Ira Strong and Mrs. George Henderson, both in 1871, and a child of Samuel Booth previous to that date. He neglected to make the transfer and the donation was made by Alexander McEwen, who also had it plotted in 1876.

In June 1876 the Sunday schools at old Rolfe and the Strong schoolhouse held a picnic in the grove of A. H. Hancher; and after addresses by Rev. Wm. McCready, George Metcalf and J. J. Jolliffe they sat down around a table fifty feet long loaded with the substantial of life prepared for this notable occasion.

January 25, 1879, "Mayview" post office was established at the home of D. P. Frost on sec. 16 and he was appointed postmaster; but owing to the fact he lived about two miles from the mail route between Pocahontas and Sioux Rapids and no provision had been made for the extra distance on the part of the mail carrier, no mail was received or distributed at this, the first post office in the township.

The early settlers of this township, appreciating the future value of the history of its early settlement, held a special meeting in the schoolhouse at Plover, Feb. 19, 1887, at which John Fraser served as chairman and Sam'l Smith as secretary. At this meeting historical addresses were delivered by John Fraser, A. H. Hancher and others, and papers were read that had been prepared by P. J. Shaw and T.

L. MacVey. Full reports of these addresses and papers were afterwards printed in the Pocahontas Record and they have proven of great value to the author in the general part of this volume as well as in the history of this township.

The call for this meeting was issued Jan. 31, 1887 by P. J. Shaw, a leading citizen of the township, who therein stated very appropriately the importance and scope of the meeting. We quote from it as follows:

"The object of this meeting is to bring to light the early history of Powhatan township, that it may be embodied in the future history of the county. The questions to be discussed, are: (1) When, where and by whom were the first settlements made? (2) The state of the country, facilities for market, grasshoppers, muskrats and blizzards. (3) General discussion, historical incidents and reminiscences

"Let us preserve the past that we may profit by its teaching. Let us keep in remembrance the brave deeds of our fathers, the noble pioneers who settled on the treeless prairies in the early days when the blizzard howled, or they traveled with no shelter save the prairie schooner, and no guide save the compass or the stars of heaven. The world has no nobler heroes. They came from the stock that has lighted the watch fires of civilization and progress on this continent. Some of them have already passed the boundary line of human existence and are citizens of that country which no human being has ever explored, whose wonders no tongue can tell. While some of them live to recite the details of their early struggles, let us record and preserve them for future generations. This is better than to depend on the memory of their children, for the minor incidents are soon forgotten and the more thrilling ones become so changed, that were the actors to rise out of their silent graves and hear them related, they would not own that they were the principals."

This meeting was very devoutly opened by Mr. Fraser, who read the first chapter of Genesis and followed it with a prayer of gratitude to that

favoring providence that had guided their foot-steps and guarded so auspiciously their destinies.

#### DIFFICULTIES AND TRIALS.

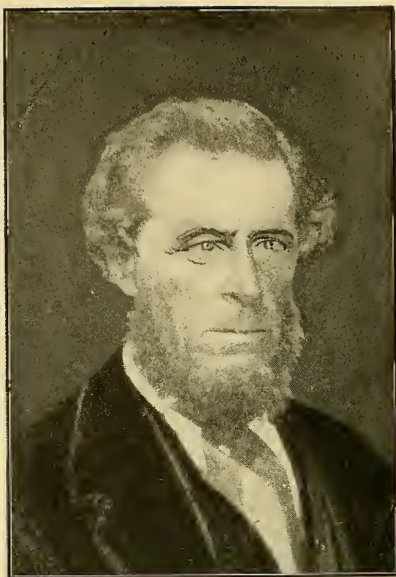
The early settlers of this township, owing to their great distance from all sources of supplies and the lack of bridges over the streams, experienced with great severity, many of the trials and privations incident to pioneer life. Their mail facilities were limited to one mail a week between Fort Dodge and Spirit Lake, and many of the trips to the postoffice at old Rolfe had to be made on foot. Fort Dodge was the nearest source of supplies for the table and home, while lumber had to be hauled from Boone or Iowa Falls, both 80 miles distant. They knew what it was to be beset with mosquitoes without any protection (p. 225); to be shut in for weeks at a time; to grind corn on their coffee mills for bread (p. 226), and the difficulty of finding one's home on the prairies in the absence of roads and trees for land marks. In the spring of 1866 John Anderson found on the homestead of his brother the bones of one who had thus perished there two years before, and J. B. Jolliffe the next winter came near sharing the same fate (p. 229).

They were also called upon to endure several visitations of the dreaded grasshoppers (p. 255) that swept through that section, darkening the face of the sun as well as that of the farmer, and stripping the fields of their growing crops, the early settler's only hope of subsistence. They experienced three visitations that included the depredations of six years, 1867 and 68, 1870 and 71, and in diminished numbers in 1875 and 76. They came from a distance the first year and hatched out in the vicinity the second year of each period. When they came on the wing everything was covered. They covered the roofs of the houses, clung to the outside





PRENTICE J. SHAW.



FRED. A. METCALF.



FRANK L. MACVEY.



WM. LEE MACVEY.

**POWHATAN TOWNSHIP.**



ROBERT ANDERSON.



MRS. JOHN FRASER.



GEO. HENDERSON.



MRS. BARNEY HANCHER.



ALEX. M'EWEN.



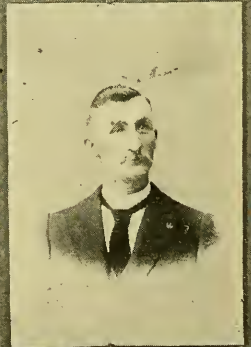
MRS. A. M. M'EWEN.



JOHN B. JOLIFFE.



MISS DORA STRONG.



GEO. N. LONGHEAD.

POWHATAN TOWNSHIP.



of the walls and if the door was left ajar they took possession and refused to vacate "under thirty days after written notice." Under these circumstances the early settlers had an opportunity of displaying their true grit. Although inferior in numbers and comparatively helpless before those who devoured their hope of subsistence they achieved success by their superior power of endurance.

This settlement prospered in the face of all these difficulties and trials. The hand of affliction sometimes visited them, but there were more occasions for the expression of joy than of sorrow. The rider of the pale horse seldom took more than one familiar face from the family circle while the angel of life very frequently brought two little strangers; so that on the whole they had more occasions for smiles than tears, more christenings than burials.

The muskrats and mink, that abounded in the numerous ponds and streams, served an important part in the commerce of that trying period. The early settler with his traps obtained his medium of exchange in the settlement. The hide of the muskrat was a legal tender for all debts and his hindquarters were often found to be quite tender when properly prepared for the table.

#### ORGANIZATION AND OFFICERS.

The first election was held in the little schoolhouse on sec. 24, Oct. 9, 1866, and 19 votes were cast. At this election Barney Hancher, Ira Strong and Oscar I. Strong served as judges and T. S. MacVey and Jeremiah Young as clerks. The officers elected were as follows: Ira Strong, Oscar I. Strong and Geo. W. Strong, trustees; Jerry Young, clerk, O. I. Strong and A. H. Hancher, justices; and Thos. L. MacVey, assessor.

The succession of officers has been as follows:

**TRUSTEES:** Ira Strong, 1867; O. I.

Strong, '67; G. W. Strong '67; Jeremiah Young, '68; D. Thomas, '68-71; Robert Lowrey, Henry Tilley, Geo. VanNatta, S. Booth, Henry Thomas, '69-71; James Vosburg, Henry Fulcomer, '70, 72-74; Edward Anderson, J. F. Clark, J. W. Brown, Barney Hancher, '73, 75-76; S. E. Heathman, '73, 75-76, 88-93; Geo. Stevens, '74, 77, 93-95; C. F. Barlow, '74-75, 78-79; M. Waite '77-78; J. D. Hilton, '76-77; Jas. Henderson, '78-86; A. H. Hancher, '79-81; G. W. Rowley, '80-82; P. W. Smith, '81-87, 1900-02; J. B. Jolliffe, '83-88; E. C. Fuller, '87-89; E. H. Heathman, '89-91, 97-1900; D. P. Roberts, '90-92; Louis Brodsky, '92-93; S. J. Loughead, '94-96; H. Fitzgerald, H. Truelson, '96-98; Rollo Postin, '99-01; F. C. DeWolf, 1901-02; Geo. Fuller.

**CLERKS:** Jeremiah Young, '67-68; G. W. Strong, John Fraser, '70-71; Ed. Anderson, N. D. Herrington, '73-74; Alex. McEwen, '75-83, 96-98, 1901-02; J. T. Calhoun, '84-85; P. J. Shaw, '86-93; W. S. McEwen, '94-95; Albert J. Shaw, '99-1900.

**ASSESSORS:** Thos. L. MacVey, A. H. Hancher, A. Jackson, S. Booth, J. B. Thomas, D. P. Frost, Geo. W. Rowley, '73-75, 78-79; S. E. Heathman, '76, 80-85; P. Waite, Edward Gibbons, '86-93, 96-98; J. O. Overholt, '94-95; F. L. MacVey, '99-1900; S. J. Loughead.

**JUSTICES:** O. I. Strong, A. H. Hancher, G. W. Strong, Geo. Henderson, J. F. Clark, A. H. Hancher, John Fraser, '71-73, 83; J. W. Brown, '71-77; S. Pettit, Alex. McEwen, James Henderson, P. R. Smith, G. W. Strong, '80-82; H. Heathman, F. M. Coffin, J. S. Smith, '83-85, 90-93; F. C. DeWolf, '84-89, 93-1900; P. G. Hess, P. W. Smith, '96 1901; Ed. R. Trites, A. J. Marshall, Alex. McEwen, P. R. Henderson, F. J. Brodsky, '1902.

#### SCHOOLS AND OFFICERS.

This township, including Washington and Swan Lake, was organized as the Nunda township school district



in the spring of 1867, and the first board of directors consisted of Henry Thomas, Ira Strong and O. I. Strong. Geo. W. Strong was secretary and Henry Thomas, treasurer.

The first school in the township was taught during the previous year by Sallie Thomas in a sod shanty located on sec. 23.

The first schoolhouse was built in 1866. It was a temporary structure 10x16 feet, seven feet high and set on runners so that it might be moved from place to place. It was often called a shanty because of its flat roof resembling that of a freight car. Its furniture consisted of a wide desk board fastened to each side and one end of it, and three heavy oak benches of corresponding length. It was built by J. C. VanNatta and Ira Strong of native lumber sawed on Hait's sawmill. It was located first on the farm of Ira Strong on sec. 24 near the site later chosen for the Powhatan cemetery, and Caroline Strong taught the first school in it. The first election was held in it that fall. It was moved into several of the other districts as its place was supplied by permanent buildings. Mrs. Thos. L. MacVey taught several terms in it while it stood on the knoll north of Pilot Creek on the nw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 36, previous to 1873, when it was moved again.

The earliest school records now available for reference are those for the year 1882. A plat found at the court house, however, shows that the first sub-division of the township for school purposes occurred Feb. 21, 1874. At this date Washington was still attached and the two townships were divided into three school districts of 24 sections each, so that No. 1 and No. 2 extended east and west over the entire width of both townships, the former including the two north rows of sections and the latter the next two rows and all the southwest part of Washington.

No schoolhouse had yet been erected in sub-district No. 1, but arrangements had been made for the erection of one that year on the ne $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 11; and no families were living in this district further west than the sw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 5. In sub-district No. 2 three school houses had been built, namely, on the ne $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 23 and on the ne $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 15 in Powhatan, and on the ne $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 31, Washington township. Sub-district No. 3 shows one schoolhouse at the center of sec. 28.

The succession of officers, so far as we have been able to obtain them, has been as follows:

**PRESIDENTS:** Henry Thomas, '67; O. I. Strong, '74; Henry Fulcomer, '75-76; A. H. Hancher, '82-83; John Fraser, S. E. Heathman, '85-89; Louie Brodsky, '90-92; Alex. McEwen, '93-02.

**SECRETARIES:** Geo. W. Strong, '67; C. R. Waterman, '74-75; O. I. Strong, '76-80; S. N. Strong, '81-83; C. F. Barlow, J. T. Calhoun, '85-87; P. J. Shaw, '88-1902.

**TREASURERS:** Henry Thomas, '67-69; Joel Thomas, '70-71; A. Jackson, '72-77; Geo. Henderson, '78-84; J. B. Jolliffe, '85-86; John Fraser, '92-98; A. J. Eggspuehler, '99-1902.

Among the early teachers in this township were Sallie Thomas, Caroline Strong, Mrs. T. L. MacVey, Oscar I. Strong, Mrs. Abigail (Ira) Strong, Edwin J. Strong, L. M. Strong, Hattie Barnes, Peter R. Henderson and W. N. Gillis.

Among recent teachers have been Dora Strong, Lucy Beam, Jennie Geddes, Effie Mercer, Maud Heathman, Eva L. Hancher, E. L. Wallace, Marjory McEwen, Susan McEwen, E. D. Leonard, Ina Jolliffe, Irene Strong.

#### POLOVER.

Plover, the railroad and business center of Powhatan township, is an enterprising village of 250 inhabitants. It is located near the center of the township, on the high ground midway between Beaver and Pilot

creeks, and on the ne½ sec. 16, which was the farm of Andrew Jackson from 1869 to 1877. The track of the Ruthven branch of the Des Moines & Fort Dodge, now the C., R. I. & P. R. R. was laid through this locality in June 1882, and the town was named by the president of the railroad company in memory of one of the common varieties of native birds. The depot was built in the fall of 1882, but the station was not opened until May 1883, when James S. Smith became its occupant and the trains began to stop. In December 1883, the Northwestern Land Co. filed a plat of the town containing six blocks and four outlots, which had been prepared by Oscar I. Strong, surveyor. On Feb. 29, 1896, P. G. Hess filed the plat of the first addition consisting of six outlots on the northwest part of the town on the se½ sec. 9.

In the fall of 1883, J. D. Smith built the first residence, P. G. Hess a store, Blanchard & Son a blacksmith shop and J. T. Calhoun opened a coal and lumber yard. In 1885, McEwen & Garlock built the corner store, Louis Brodsky became its occupant, and residences were built by J. T. Calhoun, W. A. Hubel and M. B. Haskins. In 1886 residences were built by John Campbell, Nils Lilligood, W. M. Halstad, L. Elkins and L. Brodsky; and the hotel by Chas. L. Strong. In 1887 the new families were Henry Fitzgerald, A. K. Cleveland, Peter Toner, Samuel Smith, Ed. R. Trites, Warfield Campbell and Bert Blanchard. In 1888 there arrived among others John Blanchard, Alex. Campbell, and Lew Jennings; and in 1889, S. E. Heathman, S. D. Clifford, A. L. Whitney and Geo. H. Loughead.

The election was first held in Plover in the fall of 1884.

#### PLOVER IN 1902.

AGENTS C. R. I. & P. Ry.: A. G. Spillman, F. E. Patton, E. E. Rector, B. B. Brown, successor in 1901 of Henry

Fitzgerald '88-1901, and J. S. Smith '83-88.

BANK: Plover Savings Bank, established in 1891, brick building built in 1900, W. S. McEwen, cashier; Joseph McEwen, assistant cashier.

BARBER: W. S. Chinn.

BLACKSMITHS: Blanchard Bros., Albert and John, in 1890 successors of John Blanchard, Sr., '83-90.

CREAMERY: F. J. Brodsky successor to L. Brodsky.

CARPENTERS AND CONTRACTORS: Charles Northrop and A. R. Campbell.

CHURCHES: Methodist, built in 1886, Rev. E. E. Rorick, pastor; Presbyterian, built in 1888, Rev. Z. W. Steele, pastor; Free Methodist, built in 1898, Miss Winnie Miler, pastor.

DOCTOR: J. D. Wallace, M. D.

DRUGGIST: Geo. W. Day, in 1896 successor of C. H. Beam.

ELEVATORS: Councilman & Co, built in 1891, G. N. Loughead, manager till 1900; Des Moines Elevator Co., new building in 1901, L. Brodsky, manager to 1901, Alex. McEwen, present manager.

GENERAL MERCHANTS: Eggspuehler & Mueller, in 1887 successors of L. Brodsky; F. D. Hadden, since 1895; F. D. Northrop, T. E. Meredith.

HARDWARE: W. A. Neelan in 1902 successor of Neelan & Roberts (1901); F. W. Shellman (1900), Samuel W. Powell (1897), Cox & Powell, L. E. Thompson and P. G. Hess, the pioneer merchant, who started the first store in his home on the farm and moved it to Plover when the town was started.

HARNESS: Geo. Jeffries successor of H. P. Cobbs, F. C. Wanek, L. M. Parralee and P. G. Hess.

HOTEL: Bert McKear, since 1901 successor of C. H. Nebel, Wm. Harder, Mrs. Robinson, Alex. Geddes and Chas. L. Strong.

IMPLEMENTS: C. D. Hobbs, in 1900 successor of Geo. N. Loughead, Alex.

McEwen, C. A. Charlton and Jas. T. Calhoun '83-90.

**LIVERY:** J. T. Mishler, in 1902 successor of J. S. Pirie and Ed. R. Trites '90-93.

**LUMBER AND COAL:** H. L. Jenkins, in 1893 successor of Brodsky Lumber Co.; F. D. Calkins, since 1893; Brodsky Lumber Co., since 1899, H. Fitzgeald, manager.

**MEAT MARKET:** W. A. Mitchell, in 1901 successor of Chauncey Cox ('96), Samuel Miller ('94), S. E. Heathman, L. E. Jennings, A. K. Cleveland and John Campbell '85-92.

**POSTMASTER:** Geo. N. Loughead, since Feb. 1, 1899 successor of Henry Fitzgerald '93-99, Edward Gibbons '89-93, A. J. Eggspuehler '85-89, and P. G. Hess '83-85.

**NEWSPAPER:** The Plover Review, by G. H. Liddell, since November, 1900; successor of the Times Gazette, established by F. M. Linehan in January, 1896 and closed Sept. 22, 1898; and of the Plover Herald established by P. O. Coffin in the spring of 1895.

**REAL ESTATE:** J. S. Smith since 1889, and Geo. N. Loughead.

**RESTAURANT:** Bert McKean, in 1901 successor of C. E. Heathman 1900, Chinn & Watkins '98-99, Chauncey Cox 1897, A. A. Loats, Tony Fisher.

#### PLOVER HIGH SCHOOL.

The school in the Plover district was developed into a high school in 1893 and a good two story frame building costing \$4000 has been erected on a pretty elevation south of town. The first annual commencement was held in the Presbyterian church, June 16, 1899 when a class of six young ladies graduated, namely: Marjory McEwen, Sue McEwen, Bertha Blair, Estella Shaw, Estella Hancher and Edith Wallace. The next commencement was held in 1902 when Minnie Anderson, Guy Meredith, Elsie Connor, Luella Shaver, Mamie Loughead, Emma and Arthur Fuller, graduated. The succession of principals has been

Walter N. Gillis '92-94, E. L. Wallace '94-1901, E. D. Leonard.

#### CHURCHES.

**METHODIST:** During the 70's the Methodist ministers at Old Rolfe began to hold services in the Strong schoolhouse on sec. 24. In later years a class was organized at Plover consisting of Mr. and Mrs. William Alexander, Frank and Martha Beers, John, Betsey and Alice Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Strong and others. In September, 1885 the Plover and Havelock classes were transferred from Rolfe to form with other classes the Curlew charge. In September, 1890 Plover and Havelock were united to form one charge. A church building costing \$1500 was built in 1886 and the succession of pastors since 1888 has been as follows: F. L. Moore '88-91, L. F. Troutman '91-94, C. M. Phoenix '94-97, G. W. Shideler '97-99, A. R. Cuthbert, '99-1901, E. E. Rorick.

**PRESBYTERIAN:** The first services in the township were held in the Strong schoolhouse during the later 60's by Rev. David S. McComb, pastor of the Unity Presbyterian church, (p. 218), that worshipped in the court house at Old Rolfe.

The Presbyterian church at Plover was organized with 26 members on Oct. 11, 1888, after the labors of a few months on the part of Rev. George H. Duty, of Rolfe, by a committee of the Presbytery of Fort Dodge consisting of Rev. R. E. Flickinger, Rev. Geo. H. Duty, Rev. T. C. Bailey and Elder W. C. Kennedy, of Rolfe. The original members were James and Beatrice Henderson and their five children, Janet, James, Jay W., John and Charles Henderson, Robert and Mary Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Alex. McEwen, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Loughead, A. L. and Mary E. Whitney, Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Geddes, Catherine Parradæe, Elizabeth (Mrs. S. L.) Horsman, Robert Lothian, Alice L. (Mrs. Nelson) Shaver and son Glenn Shaver, Mr. and



Mrs. Marcus Lind and their two daughters Maggie and Marie, and Mrs. Peter R. Henderson. James Henderson, Robert Anderson and Robert Lothian were elected elders; and Alex. McEwen, A. L. Whitney, S. J. Loughead, N. H. Shaver and Squire E. Heathman, trustees. A church building 26x40, having a lecture room, vestibule and tower, and costing \$1800 was dedicated Dec. 8, 1889. A few years later a parsonage and other out-buildings were built at a cost of \$1000. The two lots on which these buildings were erected, were donated by Senator A. O. Garlock. This congregation has made a steady and substantial growth that for several years past has enabled it to support its own pastor. The succession of pastors has been as follows: Geo. H. Duty, A. A. Pratt, M. T. Rainier, W. N. Gillis a student, Wm. J. Fraser, J. W. Carlstrom and James Simpson, students, James Berry and Zadok W. Steele, who has served the church since 1900 and was installed June 10, 1902.

**FREE METHODIST:** The Free Methodists, July 10, 1898 dedicated a church building in Plover during the ministry of Rev. O. Peitsmyer, who was succeeded in the pastorate by Rev. I. C. Grabil and Rev. F. E. Eaton each of whom served one year. Miss Winnie Miler, the present pastor, began in 1900. This parish embraces a wide section of country.

#### THE PLOVER POULTRY YARD.

W. A. Hubel (p 471) from 1892 to 1898 was the proprietor of the Plover poultry yards and by his large and fine exhibits at the Fonda and Ruthven fairs came to be recognized as the principal breeder of thoroughbred poultry in Pocahontas county. His exhibits included four varieties, namely: Cornish Indian Games, Dark and Light Brahmas, Black Langshans, Buff and Partridge Cochins, Plymouth Rocks, Golden and Silver Laced Wyandottes, Leghorns,

Red Caps, Hamburgs and Houdans. As a result of his experience he found that the Leghorns were the best layers, the Light Brahmas the best for the market, and the Plymouth Rocks the farmer's favorite, or the best for all purposes. No investment on the farm ordinarily brings so much clear profit as one prudently made for the purpose of raising poultry. The following reasons have been suggested, to indicate that many farmers might profitably engage more extensively in raising poultry.

They enable him to convert a great deal of otherwise waste material into eggs and chickens for the market and produce revenue all the year, except two months during the moulting season.

They yield a quick return for the capital invested and can be raised in all parts of the country, while fruit and cereals can be successfully grown only in certain sections.

The hen is a sweet tempered, hard working, productive creature that has become identified with our home life, and also our domestic and national prosperity. She lays \$290,000,000 worth of eggs in this country every year, which is more than four apiece for each inhabitant. After a life of constant activity, laying eggs, cackling and hatching little chicks, she gives up her life for the table of the farmer or boarding house keeper.

The Iowa hen crows the loudest and longest, because it was officially declared by the census of 1900, that her family in this state numbered 18,907,673, which was 2,300,000 more than Illinois, her closest rival. The peerless Hawkeye state excels all others in cackling hens, quacking ducks and in the number of eggs produced.

"Who has not read the lays that the poets sing of the rustling corn and the flowers of spring? But of all the lays of tongue or pen, there is none like the lay of the Iowa hen. The corn

must rustle and the flowers must spring, if they hold their own with the barnyard ring. Long before Maud rakes the hay, the Iowa hen has begun her lay; and ere the milkmaid has stirred a peg, the hen is up and laid an egg. If Maud is needing a new spring gown, she does not hustle the hay to town, but goes to the store and obtains her suit, with a basket full of fresh hen fruit; If the milkmaid's beau makes a Sunday call, she does not feed him on milk at all, but works up eggs in a custard pie and stuffs him full of chicken fry. All hail, to the Iowa hen, the greatest blessing to all men. Corn may be king, but it is plainly seen, that the Iowa hen is the Iowa queen."

#### PUBLIC OFFICERS.

The following county officials have been chosen from Powhatan township:

**SUPERVISORS:** Henry Thomas 1867-68, Ira Strong '69-70, Andrew Jackson '72-74, Alex. McEwen '86-94.

**RECORDERS:** Thomas L. MacVey '69-74, Andrew Jackson '75-76, Oscar I. Strong '77.

**SURVEYORS:** Geo. W. Strong '70, O. I. Strong '71.

**SUPERINTENDENT:** Oscar I. Strong '74, '80-81.

**TREASURER:** C. A. Charlton '94-99.

#### LEADING CITIZENS.

**Anderson,** Robert R. (b. 1842), one of the sturdy and successful pioneers of Powhatan township, is a native of Somerville, N. J., a son of James and Helen (Russell) Anderson.

Oct. 26, 1865 he and his brother, Edward entered claims for the E $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 15, 160 acres each, making the journey up the Des Moines river from Fort Dodge to McNight's Point, afoot. In the spring of 1866 he built a shanty and in the fall of that year replaced it with a house built of willow logs, obtained from the grove along the Des Moines river. He endeavored to achieve success on the frontier by working single handed, but the experiment was not

very encouraging. In September 1884 he married Mary McFadzen, a native of Ontario, Canada, and very soon the tide of success turned in his favor. At first he did a large amount of breaking for his neighbors, but better times were experienced when he was able to devote his attention to dairying and raising stock. When the grass hoppers came, during the period from 1867 to 1876, they paid him their respects by discovering their keen relish for his growing crops. He has succeeded well on the farm and is now the owner of 330 acres. In 1901 he erected a fine dwelling house on the farm adjoining Plover, to which he moved the previous year. He is a man of strict integrity, devout and reverential in spirit and has been an elder in the Presbyterian church since 1871, under the rotary system.

His family consists of three children, Minnie, a Plover graduate in 1902; James who works the farm near Plover, and Arthur, an adopted son.

Edward Anderson who came with his brother Robert in 1865, and located on 15, married Elizabeth Gillis, of Ontario, and died in 1872, before he had secured the title to his homestead. His death was the result of a lingering sore, caused by the kick of a horse. He served as a trustee in 1871 and was township clerk at the time of his death. His wife completed the title to the homestead and, occupied it until 1886, when she became the wife of George Henderson who died in 1892. She died in 1899 leaving two children, James and Henry, by her first husband. James lives in California; Henry, a farmer, married Joan Steele, and after her death, Maggie Ballentine. He lives in Washington and has a family of five children.

Mrs. Edward Anderson was one of earth's noblest women and still lives amid the scenes of her earthly career in the sweet influence and the fragrant memories of a noble life. She

came to the frontier at a time when the extremes of cold and heat involved much of personal discomfort and the battle for bread was a long and hard one. The period of her life spent in Powhatan was one of constant and loving service for others, for whom she drank deeply from the cup of sorrow. When she perceived she could no longer serve, on account of indications of her own approaching end, she hastened to her old home in Canada, as Moses ascended the mount to die, gathered about her the drapery of her couch and peacefully passed to the better land,

“A land of pure delight,  
Where saints immortal reign.”

John Anderson, another brother of Robert, who in the spring of 1866 found the bones of one who had got lost on the prairie and perished in a blizzard two years before, near the corner of Robert's homestead, married first Isabella McGilvery and after her death Kate Gaffeny. He lives in Washington and has five children.

**Barnes**, John (b. 1815), one of the pioneers of Powhatan, was a native of Pennsylvania. At the age of 22 he located in southern Illinois where he found employment as a carpenter. He spent two years logging at New Orleans and still has a tool chest made there of cypress wood seventy years ago. In 1841 he married Betsey N. DeWolf, a native of Pennsylvania and located at Sterling, Illinois.

In the spring of 1870 he and his son, William, came to Powhatan and began to occupy the homestead taken by Wm. and Eliza (De Wolf) Stone (NE $\frac{1}{4}$  SEC 25) four years previous. Later that year his wife and eight other children, John, Mary, Anna, Harriet, Fannie, George, Samuel, and Alice arrived. In 1872 he moved to Des Moines township and two years later to SEC. 14, Powhatan. About this time he bought the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  SEC. 12 from Alex McEwen and, building a house,

moved upon it. He improved and occupied this farm until 1896, the year after the death of his wife, when he went to the home of his daughter, Mary E. Frost, then at Mt. Vernon. Since 1898 he has lived with Alice, his youngest daughter, and family on the old home farm. He was in the midst of adverse circumstances when he came to Pocahontas county, with a family of nine children, but after a few years the tide turned and noble persistent effort to provide for them was crowned with good success. He was a faithful member of the Methodist church and a zealous advocate of prohibition.

His family consisted of nine children.

Anna C., in 1874 married Rev. James S. Ziegler, a minister of the N. W. Iowa Conference. He is now a mail clerk on the C. & N. W. R'y., lives in Des Moines and has a family of four children, Lena, Lulu, Dora and Grace.

Mary E. in 1875 married Daniel P. Frost, a farmer, and located on the ne $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 16, Powhatan, where he died in 1882, leaving one son, Frederic. Mary then returned to the home of of her father where she remained until after the death of her mother, when she accompanied Frederic, pursuing his education, to Des Moines and Mt. Vernon, and in 1899 returned to Plover. Frederic, after graduating at Mt. Vernon in 1899, served one year as principal of the High School at Eddyville, and then located at Des Moines where he has since been engaged in the real estate business and reading law.

Harriet E., who taught the first school at Pocahontas, married Edward Snell, a farmer, and located in Crawford county, where she died in 1884, leaving two children, Bertha and Wayne.

William L. in 1891 married Clara B. Hampdon, and located on a farm on section 11, which he was the first



to occupy and improve. In 1902 he moved to Palisade, Colorado to engage in raising fruit. His family consisted of two children, Erroll and Leatha.

Fannie E., an early teacher, is now an agent for a Des Moines firm and lives at Tama City.

George W., in 1893 married Jem, daughter of Senator George Henderson, widow of George Bowen. He completed a course of theological study at Evanston, Ill., and is now a minister of the M. E. church. His family consists of two children, Ruth and Joyce.

Alice M., in 1893 married Joseph Dougherty, a baggage master on the C. & N. W. R'y. and located at Tama City. In 1898 they bought the old home farm and moved upon it. They have one child, Cora.

John M. rendered military service in the war on the Phillipine Islands, and then returned to Plover.

Samuel Howard, a Cuban soldier, died in 1902.

**Brodsky**, Louis (b. 1851) merchant, farmer and stock raiser at Plover, is a native of Dubuque county, Iowa, the son of Onifred and Mary Brodsky. His father was a native of Poland and, coming to this country located at Dubuque where he died when Louis was 15 months old. His mother afterwards became the wife of Vit Payer and in 1876 located at Pocahontas. Louis, that year engaging in store keeping, was the second merchant at Pocahontas. Nov. 20, 1876 he married Katy Sladek and the next spring located on a farm in Dover township. In 1884 he moved to Plover and, engaging in general merchandise, was the second merchant at that place. After a few years he relinquished his interest in the store that he might give his attention to other enterprises that had enlisted his interest, a farm, creamery, elevator and lumber yard.

He is now the owner of 320 acres of

land adjoining Plover known as the Ploverdale stock farm, that he has improved with a large dwelling house supplied with modern appliances for convenience and comfort, large horse and cattle barns, several hog houses, two silos that hold 200 tons of ensilage and a number of other necessary outbuildings. The silos were the first built in Pocahontas county. He has erected ample buildings for raising a large amount of stock and taking good care of it from year to year. He built also a large hay depot at the railroad station that he might handle that commodity, buying or selling it as circumstances might suggest.

He received a number of premiums on his exhibits of pure bred cattle at the Iowa State fairs of 1892 and 93; and in 1895 was accorded 21 first premiums at Ruthven, and swept everything at the Big Four fair at Fonda. His large and fine exhibits on these occasions attracted wide attention and his annual public sales have attracted buyers from neighboring states, including Kentucky, as well as from all parts of Iowa.

The following exhibit of some of his public sales shows what he has accomplished in the way of raising fine stock in this section and the substantial increase in the prices received during recent years.

## PUBLIC SALES.

Date.	Cattle.	Aver.	Total.	Amt. of Sale.
1894	45 head	\$53.60	\$2,400	\$3,520
1895	82 head	72.00	4,904	7,576
1898	40 head	167 00	5,680	6,680
1899	49 head	226 53	11,110	15,547
1901	47 head	206.00	9,705	9,705
1902	30 head	275.33	8,260	8,260

At the time of the sale, March 15, 1899, which was held in a large tent, a special brought a train load of people from Rolfe. Col. F. M. Woods, of Lincoln, Neb., served as auctioneer, two of the cattle brought \$410 each and two others \$500 and \$505, respectively. Sixteen Percheron horses were sold that day for \$4,315,

three of them bringing \$300 each and two others \$415 and \$455, respectively. A set of herd books and a share of stock sold for \$132, making the assets that day \$15,547.

At his first sale in 1894, 51 young hogs were sold for \$1,020, an average of \$20 each; and in 1895, 44 head were sold for \$1,675 an average of \$38 each.

At his last sale, Oct. 8, 1902, a cow, 7th Mysie of Pleasant View brought \$1090, and four others, \$525, \$560, \$570 and \$580, respectively. A special was run from Rolfe and the bids were received by Col. Woods, Al. P. Mason and Ralph Barklay. Meredith Bros. sold at the same time and place 26 head for \$2,970, an average of \$114 23; making the gross receipts of the sale \$11,230. At a combination sale at Rolfe on the previous day by Claus Johnson, N. A. Lind, Anton Williams, T. H. Fisher, M. P. Hancher, A. G. Hewlett and W. J. Price, 50 Shorthorns were sold for \$7,600 an average of \$152 a head.

He has shown a preference for the Percheron horses, Short-Horn cattle and Poland China hogs. Short-Horns of a very superior quality have been sold at his public sales, including Scotch Dorothis, Mysies, Marsh Violets, Lovelys, Scotch-topped Rose of Sharons, and other desirable families. His herd usually numbers about 100 head and three-fourths of them are thoroughbreds. He was the first in the northeast part of the county to embark in raising Short-Horns on a large scale, having commenced in 1889, and a large share of the credit of making Pocahontas county a well known center, where the best cattle in the land may be found, belongs to him; since most of the other breeders were encouraged by his example, profited by his counsel and obtained their first supplies of stock from him. He and other farmers in that vicinity have Short-Horns that are not surpassed any where in size, quality and pedigree.

He has endeavored to raise as fine stock as can be done with the best blood and feed, and to secure speedy maturity. He has realized the importance and value of thorough discipline in feeding and taking care of the stock, and never entrusts the care of the herd to a stranger nor exposes any of them for sale until they are in prime condition. Finding that public sales are somewhat expensive he has concluded to adopt the plan of both buying and selling, as far as possible, at private sale, in the hope, that he can make sales to his patrons with profit at a much lower rate.

He is a man of excellent business habits and is held in high esteem in the community. He is a good representative of that class of enterprising men, who build up a community and secure for it a good reputation abroad. He was president of the school board three years, 1890-92.

His family consists of five children, Josephine, Frank J., Louis, Frances and George. Frank and Louis attended the State Agricultural College at Ames, and the former is now proprietor of the Plover creamery. In 1900 his father re-opened this creamery, and it has been managed on the plan of each farmer having his own separator and bringing only the cream to the creamery; and about ninety separators are now in use in that vicinity.

#### ANGORA GOATS.

Mr. Brodsky is the owner of a farm of 500 acres, on the triangular strip of land in Lee county, that is at the confluence of the Des Moines and Mississippi rivers. On this land he made an intelligent experiment, worthy of special notice. This land, like others in that vicinity, was covered with a natural growth of weeds, vines and shrubbery, that prevented agricultural operations and its removal with axe and brush-hook would have required a great deal of time

and money. Instead of pursuing this, the common method of clearing these lands, he enclosed it and put 400 Angora goats upon it. The result was a surprise to the old settlers in that section, one of whom remarked, "your goats in one year have cleared more land and done it better, than we have done in forty." Some of the people drove miles to see their work, and the board of supervisors appointed a committee to investigate and report the results of this novel and profitable experiment. The goats manifested a relish for every kind of young tree growth, except hickory, and their clip yielded ninety cents each. It must always be remembered, that this admirable trait of the goat for clearing wild lands, tends to make him a dangerous visitor to the garden, grove and orchard.

**Day**, George W. (b. 1875), druggist, is a native of Greene county, Wis., the son of D. D. and R. A. Day, who now reside at Rolfe. In 1884 he came with his parents to Iowa, and in 1892 was a member of the first graduating class of the Rolfe high school.

In September, 1896 he married Jennie M. Lindsay, of Montreal, Can., and in December following located at Plover where he has since been engaged in the drug business. In 1898 he was the democratic nominee for county auditor and lacked only 17 votes of being elected. In 1902 he was re-nominated. His family consists of two children, Grace and Norma.

He has three brothers, W. D., who lives at Lawton, Okla., B. G. at Harwarden and J. F. at Pocahontas; and three sisters, Mrs. A. T. White who lives at Pocahontas, Mrs. G. E. Boynton, Sioux Rapids, and Mrs. L. A. Haines, Albert Lea, Minn.

**Eggspuehler**, Albert J. (b. 1858), merchant, is a native of Winneshiek county, Iowa. In 1885 he located in Plover and engaged in the mercantile

business, first as a partner with Louis Brodsky and 18 months later with Jacob Mueller, his present partner. This is now the oldest business firm in Plover and its long continuance suggests the liberal patronage accorded to it by the community it has been serving so long. Mr. Eggspuehler is the owner of a good farm near Plover and several valuable properties in the town; and has been treasurer of the school funds since 1899.

In 1891 he married Cedora, a daughter of Wenzel Hubel, a pioneer of Center township, and has a family of two children, Florin and Gladys. Mary A. Hubel, his wife's mother, died at his home at 79, Feb. 10, 1902.

**Fessenden**, Bradley M., owner and occupant of a farm on sec. 25 from 1872 to 1889, is a native of Montrose, Pa., the son of Isaac B. and Lydia Fessenden. The early part of his life was spent at Pittston, Pa. In 1865 he came to Carroll county, Ill., where in 1866 he married Betsey B. DeWolf. In 1867 he located in Cedar county, Iowa, and in 1872 in Powhatan township, where after a few years, he located on the nw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 25. He improved and occupied this farm until 1899, when he moved to Sherburne, Minn. He was a man of strict integrity, a member of the Methodist church and served one year as president of the county Sunday school association.

He raised a family of ten children, three of whom are married. Henry E. married Minnie Grove. Mary E., in 1890 married Samuel W. Lyman and lived on a farm near Plover until 1900, when they moved to McHenry, N. D. where she died at 31, in 1901, leaving five children. Clara E. married George L. Pirie. The others are Charles L., the oldest, Isaac B., Harvey D., George, Bessie and Lydia.

**Fraser**, John (b. 1827), owner and occupant of a homestead on sec. 36 since 1866, is a native of the city of



Glasgow, Scotland. At fifteen in 1842 he came to Beavertown, Ontario, Can., where in 1859 he married Mary Bow, also of Scotch descent. In 1866, with a family of two sons and two daughters, John, Jessie, William and Mary, he came to Pocahontas county and secured a homestead of 160 acres on the sw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 36, Powhatan township. He is one of the first residents of the township and in the frontispiece may be seen a cut of the log house, built in 1868, that was the family residence for many years. He increased the farm to 250 acres and in later years improved it with good buildings and groves. It is located 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of Rolfe and is connected with that town by telephone and a daily, free rural mail.

He has been secretary of the Pocahontas County Bible Society (p. 503) since its organization at Old Rolfe in 1867, and in October that year, carried from Fort Dodge the first lot of Bibles brought to this county. During the 35 years he has been secretary of this organization, there has been brought to this county through its instrumentality, Bibles and Testaments to the value of \$800, and in 1897 a canvass of the county was made to put a Bible in every home.

He is one of the men who took the lead in having the name of the township changed from "Nunda" and "Jackson" to "Powhatan," and served twelve years as treasurer of the school funds. The large number of votes that have frequently been cast for the candidates of the prohibition party in this township has been largely due to his leadership and influence. He is a total abstainer and has supported the prohibition party since 1881. He is a man of firm convictions, knows what he believes and finds encouragement in the following lines:  
 "For right is right, since God is God,  
 And right the day must win;  
 To doubt would be disloyalty,  
 To falter would be sin."

He is a man of sterling worth and has rendered efficient and constant service for many years as an official member of the M. E. church at Rolfe. He is a man of faith and piety and believes that, though He may seem to tarry a little, God will accomplish all he has promised in regard to the overthrow of iniquity and the ushering in of a reign of righteousness and peace.

His family consisted of five children, one of whom, Jessie, died at 23 in 1884.

John T., (b. Can. 1860) in 1883 married Ida M. Waite, occupies his own well improved farm on sec. 1, Center township, and has a family of seven children, Ethel, Mary, John, George, Frank, Lucile and Foster.

Jessie F. (b. Aug. 1861) in 1880 married John Taylor and in 1884 died at Odebolt, leaving two children, Mabel L., who in 1901 married Milton W. Mautsby, a barber, at Fonda; and Charles, who lives with his father at Rolfe.

William J. (b. Can. 1863) in 1888 married Laura, daughter of R. B. Fish and located at Rolfe where he continued to reside until 1900, when he went to LaConnor, and in 1902, to Mt. Vernon, Wasb. His family consists of seven children, Bert R., Minnie, Winnie, Vernon, Clare, Earl B. and Jessie.

Mary E. in 1885 married John A. Vandecar and located on a farm near Livermore. In 1889 he moved to Rolfe and engaged in business, but a few years later purchased and now occupies a farm of 180 acres in West Bend township, Palo Alto county. Their family consists of eight children, William, Frank, Gladys, Mary, Cora, Belle, Howard and Irene.

Charles E. (b. Aug. 1, 1868), the only member of the family born in this county, was born in the log house and was one of the first children born in Powhatan. After attending the high school in Rolfe he graduated from the Iowa Business College at

Des Moines in 1889. During the summer of 1891 he taught school in Clinton township. Nov. 16, 1891 he entered the employ of the State Savings Bank at Rolfe as a bookkeeper, and on Jan. 1, 1899 became its assistant cashier. He has lived at Rolfe since the date of his birth and now owns considerable property in that town. In the fall of 1899 he effected the organization of the Rolfe Telephone Co. with a capital of \$10,000, and served one year as its manager. It has now 260 phones in operation, many of which are upon farms, and their number is constantly increasing. He is also one of the organizers of the Rolfe Gas Co. and owns a block of its capital stock. He was clerk of Clinton township five years, 1896-1900, and in 1902 was elected a member of the Rolfe town council.

In 1895 he married Hattie L., youngest daughter of Dr. W. O. Beam of Humboldt, who, after her graduation at Toledo in 1890, moved to Rolfe and taught twelve terms in the public schools of this county, including several at Rolfe. She has four brothers and two sisters, and four of them are or have been residents of this county, namely, Dr. W. W. Beam and Mrs. J. H. Charlton at Rolfe, and C. H. Beam at Pocahontas; Dr. W. O. Beam and H. A. Beam at Moline, Ill.; Mrs. A. Owen at Toledo, Iowa, and Jennie G. who taught school several years at Plover, in 1900 married Thomas Heather and in 1902 located at Bard, S. D. Mr. and Mrs. Fraser have one son, Charles Halford.

**Geddes**, Alexander (b. 1840), a pioneer of Bellville and a long time resident of Powhatan, is a native of Scotland, the son of James and Jane Stark Geddes. In 1861, he married Catherine Lannie and worked in the mines until the spring of 1866, when he brought his family to Braidwood, Ill. Three years later he came in a prairie schooner to Fort Dodge and in 1870

with wife and three children, James, Jane and Alexander, settled on a homestead of 80 acres on sec. 8, Bellville township. He improved and occupied this farm until 1881, when he located on the ne $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 29, Powhatan township, which he was the first to occupy and improve. In 1887 he moved to Havelock and the next year to Plover, where he kept hotel; and his sons, James, Alexander and William engaged in making hay and working on the roads. In 1900 he moved to West Bend and the next year to Rolfe.

His family consisted of nine children: James, a native of Scotland, is a dealer in hay; Jane has been a teacher for many years; Alexander is at Mallard; Catherine married Harry A. Hilton; Maggie, in 1901, married E. H. Post and lives at Rolfe; the others are William, John, Robert and Martha.

**Goodchild**, George (b. 1818), the pioneer occupant of the sw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 20, is a native of England, where in 1846 he married Ursula Wilkinson. In 1849 he came to New York City, where he found employment as a shoe maker, and seven years later located on Long Island. In 1867 he came to Webster county, Iowa, and in 1869 located on a homestead of 160 acres in Powhatan township. He improved this farm with good buildings and occupied it until his death. His wife died in 1885. Both he and his wife were raised in the Episcopal church and became active workers in the M. E. church in Powhatan.

His family consisted of nine children, three of whom died young.

Henry in 1833 married Nettie Spencer, of Osceola county, located on the sw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 27, Washington township, improved and occupied it until 1901, when he moved one mile west of Havelock. He has done considerable work as a carpenter and mason, having learned both of these trades in his youth. His family consists of six children, Mary, Anna, Kate, Sarah, Edward and Jesse.

William A. in 1885 married Eunice, daughter of Elijah Chase, and lives on the old Chase farm, four miles north of Havelock. His family consists of six children, Ella, Elizabeth, Ursula Millie, William and Lester.

Ursula in 1884 married Joseph O. Overholt, who owns and occupies a farm of 320 acres in Emmet county and raises thoroughbred stock. Her family consists of five children, Ira and Inez, twins, Siegel, William and Florence.

Herbert in 1889 married Margaret Ludington, a farmer, lives in Palo Alto county and has three children, Mabel, Leon and Wayne.

**Hancher, Mrs. Nancy A. (1807-82),** mother of Barney and Abel Hicks Hancher, was one of the early pioneers of Powhatan township. Accompanying her sons and daughters to the frontier in the early sixties, she shared with them the pleasures, privations and hardships of the early days, when young men founded humble homes,

“Far out upon the prairie.”

Her husband, John Hancher, (1798-1853), was a native of Jefferson county, Virginia, and a soldier in the war of 1812. After their marriage in 1827, they located in Harrison county, Ohio, and remained until about 1850, when they moved to Kentucky and the next year to Brown county, Ind., where he died at 57 in 1853, leaving a family of four sons and five daughters. After a residence of six years at this place Mrs. Hancher and family moved to Bureau county, Illinois, where in 1862, Barney, her oldest son, married Ellen, daughter of Henry Thomas. In the fall of 1863 he and wife and Jerry Young, wife and six children came to Pocahontas county, and located for that winter, Hancher in Mills' cabin at McKnight's Point, and Young in Oscar Slosson's "shack" on sec. 24, Des Moines township. April 9, 1864 Barney filed a claim for the set

sec. 24, Powhatan township and beginning to occupy it May 10, 1864, built a cabin and did some breaking that same month.

In October following (1864) his mother, Nancy, his brothers, Abel Hicks and Thomas, and sister, Belle, arrived from Bureau county, Illinois. Sept 29th, in anticipation of their arrival, Barney filed a claim in the name of his mother, for the ne $\frac{1}{2}$  sec. 24, adjoining his own. No others had filed claims in this township before her, except Barney and those who filed on the previous day, Sept. 28, namely, Henry, Daniel and Joel Thomas, Jerry Young, William Stone, Samuel and George Booth, and she located on her claim before the last three.

Mrs. Hancher and family spent the first winter in the vicinity of Old Rolfe and, locating on her claim in the spring of 1865, improved and occupied it until her death at 75, Oct. 2, 1882. Her home was, for many years, a favorite place of meeting among the settlers. The first social and first Sunday school picnic were held here. She was a true mother and cared for the moral and spiritual, as well as temporal welfare of her children. She was a member of the Christian church and had the faculty of making her home a delightful place of meeting.

**Hancher, Barney (b. Harrison Co., Ohio, 1831),** the first resident of Powhatan township, in 1862 married Margaret Ellen, daughter of Henry Thomas during their residence in Bureau county, Illinois. In 1864 he built the first cabin and turned the first furrow in Powhatan. During the winter of 1864-65 he moved his cabin to the timber in W. H. Hait's pasture southeast of Old Rolfe, but returned to his claim the next spring. He improved and occupied it until 1879 when he sold it to James Drown and moved to Ness county, Kansas. In 1881, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Thomas, he returned to this county and in 1883 located near Rolfe where he still lives. He served as one of the



judges at the first election in Powhatan and later three years as a trustee. He carried the mail between Fonda and Pocahontas two years.

His family consisted of five children one of whom died in childhood.

Susanna in 1885 married Albert G. Leland, a mason, and died in 1888.

John Henry, a mason, in 1887 married Allie Hoffman and located at Rolfe. In 1895 his wife, her mother, Mrs. Hoffman, and his three children, Erena, Pearl and Amy visited the Pacific coast and all of them were among the missing after the fire, that burned the hotel at Seattle that year. He is now engaged in farming at McHenry, N. D.

Alva G. married Sarah Van Horn and lives at Richards, Calhoun county, where he has charge of a lumber yard.

Frank W., a farmer, married Ida Archer and in 1902 located at McHenry, N. D.

**Hancher**, Abel Hicks (b. O., 1845), proprietor of the Spring Creek stock farm, sec. 24, Powhatan, is a native of Harrison county, Ohio, and in youth moved with his mother and her family to Bureau county, Illinois. In the fall of 1864 he came with his mother, brother Thomas and sister, Belle, to Pocahontas county, where in 1866 he built on sec. 24, one of the first cabins in Powhatan township. Oct. 6, 1868 he married Caroline, daughter of Beriah Cooper of Des Moines township. He occupied the old homestead of his mother many years, increased it to 355 acres and improved it with substantial and ample buildings for raising a large amount of stock. He made it a very beautiful home. Everything about it suggests order, thrift, convenience and comfort. He has devoted his attention to raising and feeding stock as well as farming, and, during the 37 years he occupied the farm, did not sell over \$300 worth of grain from it, but bought much from his neighbors. He served one

term as assessor and several as a trustee. In 1902, leaving the farm in care of his son, Adelbert, he moved to Rolfe.

His family consisted of seven children.

Adelbert E. lived several years with his uncle, Thomas Cooper, and bought a farm of 240 acres in Palo Alto county. In 1901 he took charge of his father's farm. He married Ollie Jinness and has one child, Luverne.

Melvin Park, a farmer and stock raiser, in 1896, married Priscilla Hanlon and located first in Clinton, and in 1901 in Des Moines township, where he owns a well improved farm of 160 acres adjoining Rolfe. His family consists of one child, Virgil.

Charles E., in 1897 married Jessie Shepherd, lives near Plover and has two children.

Thomas in 1900 married Eva Grove, lives in Powhatan and has one child, Leta M.

Stella in 1900 married Clarence D Hobbs, a stock dealer and manager of Counselman's elevator at Plover.

Eva L. a teacher, and Edith are at home.

**Hancher**, Thomas J. in October, 1864 with wife and two children, accompanied his mother from Bureau county, Illinois, to this county and located on the ne $\frac{1}{2}$  sec. 14, Powhatan. The next year he moved to Jasper county and in 1884 to Des Moines.

Belle in 1866 married Henry Tilley, (p. 530).

**Heathman**, Squire Ephraim (b. 1846), a resident of Powhatan since 1873, is a native of Hancock county, Ohio, the son of David C. and Catherine Heathman. In 1847 he moved with his parents to Wisconsin, where he grew to manhood. In the fall of 1862 he enlisted as a member of a heavy artillery company, but two months later was mustered out on account of being too small for that kind of service. In October, 1863, he

re-enlisted as a member of Co. I, 2d Wis. Cav. and remained in the service until Nov. 15, 1865, when he was mustered out at Austin, Texas. He was in the Western Department of the Army under Generals Osborne and Custer.

In 1868 he married Phoebe J., daughter of Joel Smith and located on a farm in Greene county, Wis. In 1872 accompanied by Joseph D. Hilton he came to Powhatan township and located on the nw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 9, and Hilton on 5. Squire improved and occupied his farm until 1892 when he moved to Plover.

He has taken a very prominent part in the management of the affairs in the township, having served 12 years as president of the school board, nine as assessor and eight as a trustee. He has also taken a laudable interest in the work of the churches. His wife, who was a native of Greene county, Wis., died at 49 in 1900.

His family consisted of 12 children, two of whom died young, Mark at 15 in 1887.

Willis D. married Ida Grove, lives at Plover and has three children, Lena, Squire and Myrtle.

Frank E. in 1895 graduated from the medical college at Keokuk and soon afterwards located at Havelock, where he is still engaged in the practice of medicine. He married Maggie Fitzgerald and has three children, Virgil, Lucile and Elmer.

Calvin in 1899 married Maud Stevens lives at Plover and has one child, Cleotis.

George in 1901 married Alice Pullan and lives at Plover.

Arthur in 1899, married Maggie Pirie, located on a farm near Plover and has two children, Clarence and Margaret.

Rosa in 1901 married Walter E. Chinn and lives at Plover.

Carrie, Maggie, Ida and Ina are at home.

**Heathman**, Hiram (b. 1821), an uncle of Squire Heathman, is a native of Ohio where he grew to manhood and married Priscilla Moody. In 1867 he located in Greene county, Wisconsin, and in 1872, coming with his nephew to Pocahontas county, located on the sw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 9, Powhatan, which he improved and occupied until his death at 64, in 1885. His wife died at 70 in 1895. The farm still belongs to the family which consisted of ten children.

Rosella, married Dwight Wood, a mason, and lived in Wisconsin until 1898, when they moved to Rolfe. Their family consisted of six children. Edward, Nettie, Addie, Bert, Ida and Almeda. Edward in Wisconsin married Amelia Wallace, who died in 1890, leaving one daughter, Edna. In 1898 he married Minnie Thompson and their family consists of three children. Nettie Wood in 1895 married John Albee, a farmer, lives in Powhatan, and has one son, Elmer. Addie in 1888 married Edward Gibbons, a stockbuyer, lives at Rolfe, and has four children, Roy, William, Nettie and Dewey. Bert, a mason, in 1896 married May Spear and lives at Rolfe. Ida in 1893 married William Porter, a farmer, and lives near Rolfe.

Vilinda married Charles Waterman, who in 1873 located on the ne $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 8, Powhatan, and now lives near Paullina. Her family consisted of three children, Emma, Eva and Mabel. Emma married Calvin Wells and lives in Dakota; and Eva married John Hodgden, a farmer, and lives in O'Brien county.

Hiram married Viola Hilton, lives near Ruthven and has three children, Marion, Myrtle and Elmer.

Clara (b. Greene Co., Wis., 1845) in Wisconsin married Jacob W. Brown, who in 1866 filed a claim for a homestead on the ne $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 10, Powhatan. He died in 1880 leaving three children, Aria, Susan and Alice. Thomas

Beatty, a section foreman, lives at Perry and has two children. Susan married John Baird, a carpenter, lives at Rolfe and has three children. Alice married Edward Wasson, a brick moulder, lives at St. Joe, Mo., and has three children. In 1882 Clara married Wm. H. Drown, a barber, and in 1889 died at Rolfe leaving, as a result of this union, one son, Clarence.

Elmus H. is the owner and occupant of a farm of 160 acres in Powhatan. He has served seven years as a township trustee. He married Lucy Beam and has a family of four children. Maud, a teacher, in 1900 married Wm. Postin; Claude, Earl and Floyd.

Samantha in 1868 married John Conley, a farmer, and located in Wisconsin. In 1875 they located in Colorado, where he died in 1901 leaving an estate valued at \$30,000. He left one daughter, Lilly, who in 1887 married Theron Northrop, a carpenter, and located at Plover. After her father's death in 1901 with a family of six children, Dart, Earl, Paul, Euphemia, William and Lyle, they moved to the late home of her father at Hermosa, Colorado.

Lydia married Jacob Strandberg, a shoe maker, and lived at Plover until they moved to Oklahoma. Her family consists of five children. Lizzie married Chas. Northrop, a carpenter, lives at Plover and has two children; Alvah, George, Cora and Paul.

George married Lillian Wells and located on a farm in Powhatan, which he improved, enlarged to 200 acres, and occupied until 1900 when he moved to a fruit farm in the state of Washington. His family consists of five children, George, Lewis, Gould, Verner and Esther.

Cora (b. 1860), in 1879 married Wm. Amos, a farmer, lives in Oklahoma and has a family of five children.

Martha (b. 1862), in 1882 married Thomas Meredith, a farmer, lives in

Powhatan and has two children, Guy and Cecil.

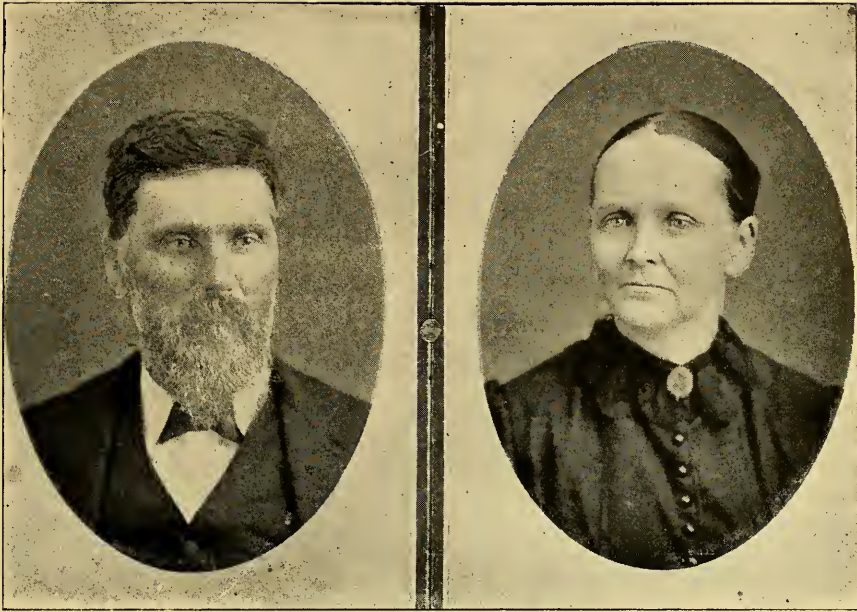
**Henderson**, James (b. 1836), owner of 460 acres, principally on sec. 8, is a native of Scotland, a son of George and Catherine Henderson. At 21 he came to Canada, where in 1863 he married Beatrice Penman and engaged in weaving cotton and woollen fabrics for the farmers.

In the spring of 1866 he located in Powhatan township making the trip with his family by rail to Boone and thence by prairie schooner. He had then three children, Catherine, Margaret and George, and was accompanied by his brother George Henderson, his wife and four children, Janet, Catherine, Margaret and George; and a young man, James Ploven.

May 22, 1866 he, George, his brother and James Ploven filed claims for their respective homesteads and also their applications to become American citizens. They received their naturalization papers in 1871 and their patents in 1876.

He lived during the first three years on sec. 26 and in the spring of 1870 located on his homestead on the nw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 8. He improved this farm with good buildings, fences, groves and orchard, remained on it when the times were hard and is now the owner of 462 acres in that vicinity. His success has not been a matter of chance, but has been due to his constant endeavor to give the land thorough cultivation, the crops careful protection and all the interests of the farm his first attention, so that he might be able to push the work rather than have it crowd him. He has become one of the substantial and influential men in the township. He has served thirteen years as a trustee of the township, and, taking a leading part in effecting the organization of the Plover Presbyterian church in 1888, he has served as an elder and clerk of the session in it since that date and





MR. AND MRS. PHILIP HAMBLE

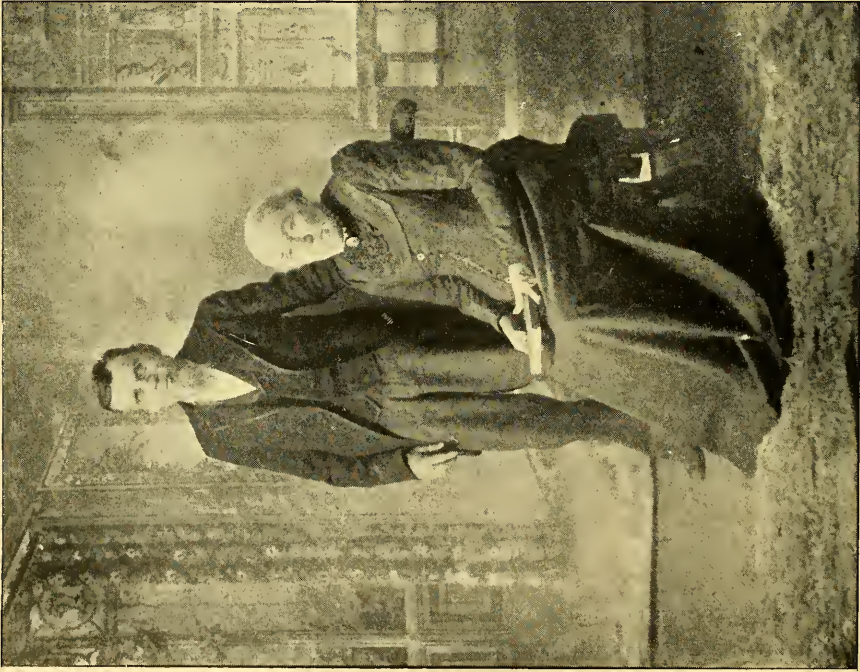


**PIONEER HOME OF THOMAS L. MAC VEY**

The first frame house in Powhatan township, built in the spring of 1867 on N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 36.

Powhatan Township. In front are Mrs. Frank L. Mac Vey and her two children,





MR. AND MRS. JAMES HENDERSON

Powhatan and Cent-r.



MR. AND MRS. WM. A. HUBEL.

and five years as superintendent of its Sunday school. His noble wife has been a faithful and efficient helper in all his plans to promote the welfare of his family and church.

He has raised a family of eight children, five sons and three daughters.

Elizabeth in 1886 married Samuel L. Horsman, owner and occupant of a well improved farm on sec. 7, and has a family of seven children, James, John, Myrtle, Glenn, William, Edith and Martha Belle.

Catherine in 1886 married Louis Parradee, owner and occupant of a good farm on sec. 11. They have a family of six children, Mary, John, Rose, Ruth, Susan and May.

George in 1893 married Blanche Miller, lives on his own farm in Palo Alto county and has three children, Eleanor, Agnes and Ellis.

William works the home farm.

John in 1898 married Ella, daughter of A. B. Harmon, lives in Palo Alto county and has two children, Pearl and Roy.

James in 1901 married Eva May Harmon and lives on his own farm near Plover.

Janet in 1902 married Harry McFadzen, a farmer, and lives near Plover.

Charles in 1898 married Myrtle Bar- rick, lives on sec. 5 and has one child, Hazel.

**Henderson**, George (b. 1834; d. 1892), an elder brother of James, was a native of Fifeshire, Scotland, where he grew to manhood and in 1858 married Cecilia Somers. Later that year he came to Canada and accepted employment as a weaver during the next eight years. In May 1866, he came to Powhatan township and secured a homestead of 160 acres on the ne $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 26. He improved and enlarged this farm to 240 acres and occupied it until his death in 1892. He

served seven years as treasurer of the school funds.

His wife died in 1871 leaving a family of six children. In 1886 he married Elizabeth Gillis, widow of Edward Anderson, and she died in 1899 at the old home in Canada. She left two children by her first husband and six step children.

Jennie Henderson married S. E. Hamilton, a carpenter and is located at Los Gatos, Cal.

Catherine and George still occupy the old homestead.

Maggie married J. A. Wonderlich, a painter, and lived at Havelock. In 1901 she died leaving a family of six children, David, Kate, Jennie, Nina, Bessie.

James lives in Palo Alto county.

William has been in the U. S. navy during the last five years, and served under Admiral Dewey at Manilla.

**Hilton**, Joseph D., resident of Powhatan since 1873, is a native of Maine. In his youth he moved to Wisconsin, where he enlisted and rendered a period of military service, during the civil war. At its close he returned to Wisconsin and married Alice Per- rington. In 1873 with wife and two children, Harry and Bert, he located on the sw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 5, Powhatan township. He improved this farm with good buildings, increased it to 240 acres and occupied it until 1900, when he moved to Burlington, Wash. A few years ago his first wife died leaving a family of five children. Harry A. married Catherine Geddes, lives on a farm near Plover; Nettie married Henry Shrouf and also lives on a farm near Plover; Bert, Ernest and Leslie.

Mr. Hilton, after the death of his first wife, married Cora Northrop, and their family consists of three children Maud, Alma and Lois.

**Jolliffe**, John Blake (b. 1845), owner and occupant of a homestead on the ne $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 2, since April 25, 1866, is a native of England, a son of James and Mary Ann Blake Jolliffe, who



came to this country when John B. was about ten, and located in the province of Ontario, Canada. He was brought up on a farm, and when he became of age, came to Pocahontas county and secured a homestead in Powhatan township. During the first season he lived a short time under a wagon box and did some breaking. During this and the next few years he realized what it was to be on the frontier. He was seven miles west of the Des Moines river and, with the exception of Robert and Edward Anderson, two miles south on 15, he was the furthest west of any of the settlers in that vicinity; and those at the Little Sioux river were thirty miles distant. At first he worked for Judge Slosson, Henry Jarvis and Perry Nowlen, and occasionally went back and slept on his claim to hold it. During the second summer he put in a small crop, cared for and harvested it, having a boarding place in a little cabin two miles distant. Potatoes that cost \$2.00 per bushel at the nearest market constituted the principal article of diet, and the only money available was the pelt of the muskrat.

Oct. 14, 1867 he married Jane, daughter of Rev. Frederic Metcalf, of Des Moines township, and built first a sod shanty and later a log house. The latter was covered with a board roof that always leaked when it rained and both were very humble and unsatisfactory abodes. During the years that have passed since that date he has added acre to acre, so that he is now the owner of 782 acres of valuable farm land and the old homestead has been improved with fine buildings, fences and groves. From a very humble beginning he has attained a very high degree of success on the farm. He has rendered many years of faithful service in the various township offices and has been a leader in song in religious and various other

assemblies. He is a member of the Methodist church.

His family consisted of twelve children, of whom Emma, the sixth died at 18 in 1897, soon after the removal of a great tumor that weighed 100 pounds. Two others died before her, Cerinda at 15 in 1890 and Ida in childhood.

Rose Ella in 1890 married George Kinsey, a farmer, and has five children, Mary, Eva, Charles, Nellie and Edna.

Mary in 1896 married Henry Tansey and located on a farm in Wright county. They now live near Plover and have one son, Lee.

Albert in 1894 married Annie Gratzon, a farmer, lives near Mallard and has four children, Roy, Bessie, Sadie and Mabel.

Sarah in 1892 married Daniel Miller and located near Des Moines, where she died in 1898, leaving three children, Etta, Ray and Glenn. In 1900 Sarah married Henry L. Roush, a farmer, located near Plover and has one daughter, Hazel.

Ina, a teacher, Hattie, Clara, William and George are at home.

**Jolliffe**, James J., a younger brother of J. B., in 1869 located in the Old Rolfe settlement and previous to the advent of the railroads was intimately connected with many of the leading events of that place. Perceiving at an early day, that the habit of drinking was on the increase among the young men, he united with J. J. Bruce and others in organizing a Good Templar's lodge at that place. In connection with its work and various other social gatherings in the north part of the county, he delivered a number of temperance addresses, by which he is still remembered. Believing that the saloon is the greatest enemy of the nation, church and home, he has stood ready to antagonize it with voice and pen. His faith in God, in the growing influence of

the church and the intelligence of the American people, leads him to believe that the saloon, the only institution that now openly defies justice, violates with impunity police regulations, desecrates the Sabbath and continually dishonors God, will soon be forever abolished.

In 1878 he married the only (Ella) Sharpe girl in Humboldt county, an event he has never had occasion to regret and located near Bradgate.

His family consists of seven children. Frank, Ethel, Charley, Warren, Harvey, Clark and Mary.

**Lind**, Marcus (b. 1820), owner and occupant of a farm on the nw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 16 from 1867 until his decease in 1897 was a native of Denmark. He went to Australia and there met and married his wife who was a native of Scotland. After their marriage they returned to Denmark and Scotland, then came to America and located in Powhatan township in the fall of 1869. She was a member of the Presbyterian church and died at 80 in 1900, leaving two daughters, Mary and Margaret McDonald, who still occupy the old home.

**Loughead**, George N. (b. 1866), postmaster, is a native of Greene county, Wis., where he grew to manhood. In 1887 he came to Pocahontas county with his brother S. J. Loughead and bought 160 acres on secs. 3 and 4, Powhatan township, which he improved and occupied until 1892, when he moved to Plover and became manager of the Counselman elevator. Feb. 1, 1899 he became postmaster at Plover and is still serving the people in that capacity.

In 1888 he married Jessie Kingdom, of Greene county, Wis., and she died in 1891, leaving one child, Isabel. In 1893 he married Ida Charlton.

**Lyman**, Samuel Bert (b. 1840; d. 1894), was a native of Southampton Mass. He enlisted as a soldier at the outbreak of the civil war and spent

four years in the army. He then entered the detective service of the government.

In 1865 in Cataaugus county, N. Y., he married Samantha Harris and soon afterward located on a farm in Ford county, Ill. He served as sheriff of Ford county eight years. In 1883 he located on a farm of 183 acres in Powhatan, occupied it during the next seven years, moved to Rolfe and three years later to Madison Lake, Minn., where he died in 1894. His first wife died in 1873 in Illinois, and in 1874 he married Maggie Matthews. His family by his first wife consisted of three children, Lewis E. owns and occupies a farm near Mallard. Samuel W. in 1890 married Mary E. Fessenden and located on a farm in Powhatan. In 1900 he moved to McHenry, N. D., where his wife died leaving a family of five children, Samuel, John, Grace, Clara and George. John H. is in Washington.

**MacVey**, Thomas Lord (b. Aug. 15, 1835), county recorder 1869-1874, is a native of Tariffville, Hartford county, Conn. He was the fourth child of Thomas and Elizabeth Lord MacVey. His father, of Scotch-Irish descent, came from the province of Quebec to Portland, Maine, where he married Elizabeth Lord, of English descent, and soon afterward located in Connecticut. Thomas spent his boyhood on the farm and in the woolen mills of his native town, where many children at that time helped to bear the family burden. At the age of 12 he was bereft of his mother and, the home being broken up, he was cast upon his own resources. Finding employment for several years among the neighboring farmers he managed to provide for himself, aid two younger brothers and acquire a thorough knowledge of carpentering.

In 1852 he became an agent for a prominent jewelry firm in Hartford, Conn., and spent the next three years

in western Pennsylvania and New York. Attracted by the oil excitement, he became an engineer in the oil region and continued until the panic of 1857 put an end to all business enterprises in that section. Accompanied by two friends, Solomon and Albert Fletcher, he traveled to Rogersville, Tenn., where, finding employment on a large river bridge, he soon became a foreman and engineer and so continued, until the storm of secession was precipitated by the assault on Fort Sumpter.

Previous to this date he had enjoyed no educational advantages, except a few months at the village school in his boyhood. He however formed the habit of reading some good book in his leisure hours, and, by persevering effort during these years of constant labor with varying fortunes, had acquired a vast amount of general information and formed the habits of a good student, so that in his later years he proved himself to be a man possessing considerable intellectual ability and even literary attainments.

He was an ultra republican and cast his first vote for Fremont. In Tennessee he became personally acquainted with Andrew Johnson and Thomas A. R. Nelson, the crippled statesman, who did so much at first to hold Tennessee in the Union, but afterwards went over to the confederacy. He was one of those who with pistol in hand, helped to make it possible for these men to make some of their last speeches against the ordinance of secession.

When the news of the fall of Fort Sumpter reached Rogersville, the men at work with him on the Slammon mill quit work to enter the confederate army, and he and the Fletcher brothers began the construction of a flatboat to make their escape to the north. When it was completed and a month's provisions were obtained they and their families began a long and perilous voyage down the Holston to

the Tennessee river, thence across the corner of Georgia, across the entire state of Alabama, the corner of Mississippi, through Tennessee and Kentucky to the Ohio. The country through which they had to pass was infested with home guards and detachments of the rapidly forming confederate army. They were stopped by the provosts at Fort Henry, then under construction, and at several other places, but were allowed to pass as persons enroute to Arkansas. They arrived at Paducah on the Ohio after a journey of six weeks and just a few days before the battle of Bull Run. Here Mr. MacVey sold the boat for \$75 and they separated, the Fletchers returning to Pennsylvania and MacVey to Connecticut, his native state, expecting to enter the service with some of his old companions. Finding they had already enlisted he returned to Crawford county, Pa., and became a member of Company K., 150th Pa. Volunteers, which formed a part of the famous Bucktail Brigade. His regiment saw some of the hardest fighting during the war, but his company was detailed as President Lincoln's guard and so continued throughout the war. He rose to the rank of first lieutenant and has several highly prized mementoes of the "late unpleasantness," among which are his commissions as first and second lieutenants, a picture entitled "Home on a Furlough," presented by Mrs. Lincoln after the assassination, and a cup decorated with the U. S. Coat of Arms, from the martyred president's tea service. Two of his brothers were soldiers in the civil war and his father served two enlistments.

In the winter of 1863 he married Rebecca W. Noble of Carlisle, Pa., but remained in the army until June 17, 1865, when he located in Chicago and engaged in stairbuilding. Here his first child was born and named, Frank Lincoln, at the request of Tad



Lincoln, who, with his widowed mother, then lived in Chicago and occasionally visited the MacVey home.

In March 1866 Mr. MacVey visited the prairies of northwestern Iowa, and filed a claim for the ne $\frac{1}{2}$  sec. 36, Powhatan township. That fall he and his family, making the journey from Ackley by stage coach and other hired conveyances, located for the winter in a part of the log house on an adjoining claim (sw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 25.) of Samuel Booth. He was then a skilled mechanic but had a very limited outfit, the latter consisting of a wife, a sick baby, a bureau, four chairs, a cookstove, a canary bird and \$105.00. He immediately found employment with John Rogers and later with W. H. Hait, who was then building the first two story house in the county.

In March 1867, with a sled and two yoke of oxen, he went to Boone, 80 miles distant, for lumber to build a house. He paid out all the money he had, \$100 00, for lumber, which then ranged from \$30.00 to \$90.00 a thousand feet, put it on the sled and started for home over the trackless prairie with streams unbridged save when covered with ice. The snow began to disappear quite rapidly under the influence of a spring thaw, and eleven days later he arrived home on foot, having experienced a "breakdown," a "stuck fast," and having left piles of lumber at several different places along the route as the snow disappeared and the oxen and sled at Murray's on the east bank of the Des Moines river near Rutland. The steers were brought home a few days later and the lumber was gathered up after the spring freshets had subsided. Hewed oak sills and frame lumber were obtained from the native timber along the Des Moines river at old Rolfe, and the first frame house, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x20 feet and 12 feet high, in Powhatan township, was erected. It was

the first building in the township to receive a coat of paint and in 1902 it was still protected on the east side by the shingles that were hauled from Boone thirty-five years previous.

During that spring he sowed by hand his first crop of wheat, five acres that had been broken the previous year. This work was done with a yoke of half-broken, unruly steers obtained from Samuel Booth, and their frequent attempts to run away were thwarted by riding the harrow, which was a wooden toothed affair belonging to Jerry Young. At the end of the day's work the field was subdued and so were the steers. During that summer he and W. D. McEwen ran a breaking plow together, each furnishing a yoke of oxen and doing his own breaking.

He participated in the organization of the township, served as its first assessor and received four dollars for that service. This assessment was made in one day, but it caused an attack of snow blindness that kept him in a dark room several weeks. It was largely due to his influence and effort that the name of the township was changed from "Nunda" to "Powhatan" and later from "Jackson" to "Powhatan" again. He served as one of the first school directors and as county recorder six years, 1869-74.

He made several of the first coffins used in the township, one being for the child of Samuel Booth about the fall of 1869. He carried the tools and part of the materials for it from Old Rolfe and made it in the Strong school house by the light of a lantern on a cold winter night. The first one was for Mother Lowrey in the spring of 1867.

From July 1871 to February 1, 1872, he was associated with James J. Bruce in the publication of the Pochontas Journal (p. 286.), and his later contributions to the press of the county have done much to preserve

the early history of Powhatan township.

He was an enthusiastic Granger, master of Sumner subordinate lodge in Powhatan and twice a delegate to the state grange at Des Moines. He was for a number of years captain of the "Pocahontas Rifles" (1869-1874), a military company organized at Rolfe and forming a part of the Iowa National Guard, and served as first commander of the G. A. R. post (Mill's) organized about 1884.

In 1886, the farm having been increased to 320 acres and leased, he moved to Knoxville, Tenn., and the next year to China, Louisiana, where he has secured considerable land.

Here he has made his influence felt to such an extent, by encouraging the black and enthusing the white voters, that the precinct, formerly democratic, has become republican. In 1892 he was appointed U. S. commissioner for the western district of Louisiana and still holds this position. He has several times been senior vice-commander of the G. A. R. department of Louisiana and Mississippi and was a delegate to the national encampments at Pittsburg and Louisville in 1894 and 95.

In the spring of 1893 he was bereft of his wife, Rebecca W. Noble, who was one of the early teachers in Powhatan, teaching several terms in the pioneer school house while it was located on the sw $\frac{1}{2}$  sec. 25., and her last term in her own house on section 36 during the winter of 1873-74, the school house having been moved to another part of the township in 1873. Among her pupils were Thomas Rogers, Charles E. Fraser, Mrs. W. D. McEwen, Mrs. Geo. Stevens, Mrs. Caroline Vaughn and Mrs. J. J. Jolliffe. She taught several terms at Old Rolfe, was one of the most competent teachers in the county, assisted Supt. Hathaway to conduct his institutes and was deputized by him occasionally to conduct

teacher's examinations. She was a ready writer and a frequent contributor to the columns of the Fonda News, Fonda Gazette and Northwestern Hawkeye.

She was a native of Cumberland Co., Pa., (b. 1835) the seventh child of Frank and Mary Brown Noble. Her father was of Scotch-Irish ancestry and her mother was a niece of Commodore Joshua Barney, of revolutionary fame, and a sister of Rev. George Brown, one of the founders of the Methodist Protestant church. She grew to womanhood at Carlisle, where she graduated from the high school and also from the ladies' seminary. She began to teach at sixteen, was principal of the Plainfield, Pa., high school, and was teaching near Harper's Ferry at the time of the raid of John Brown, whom she met at the home of Dr. Leonard. In 1862 she went to Washington to care for a brother, who had been wounded in the second battle of Bull Run. Here she met Thomas L. MacVey, who the next year became her husband.

In Louisiana she engaged in teaching among the French creoles, who appreciated her labors very highly. She loved to teach and was engaged in this, her favorite employment, when she was overtaken by her final illness, which came in the form of a stroke of apoplexy while at a public gathering.

Possessing an indomitable will and unflinching courage, she knew not the meaning of the word "fail," and success was usually assured to whatever enterprises she lent her aid. She was a leader, who could arouse enthusiasm in the most indifferent and incite them to action. She was a true and helpful friend to the poor, and a lifelong member of the Episcopal church.

In 1896 Thomas L. MacVey married Fannie Josephine Work, a native of Pennsylvania, and a teacher of many years' experience, first in Crawford

county, Pa., then in Illinois, twenty years in Nevada and one, 1895, in a mission school among the Indians on Douglas Island, Alaska. He is now living in very comfortable circumstances in Jennings, Louisiana.

The success he has achieved has been largely due to his untiring industry, thoughtfulness and economy. He has been conscientious and fearless in advocating and defending the rights of the people, and has made a good record as a citizen, soldier and public officer. He acquired considerable ease and elegance as a writer, enjoyed the discussion of public questions and won the esteem of the people in the several communities in which he has lived. His family consisted of two sons, Frank and Lee.

Frank L., (b. Ill., 1865,) on November 24, 1893, married Elizabeth E., eldest daughter of Gilbert N. Brown, a veteran of the civil war, who moved from Butler county, Iowa, to Louisiana in 1884. After the marriage of his father in 1896 he returned to the old homestead in Powhatan township, which he now owns together with 160 acres in Louisiana. During the last seven of the nine years he resided in Louisiana he was a member of the republican central committee of Calcasieu parish, and a delegate to the state convention in 1892. He was postmaster at China, during President Harrison's administration and apportioner of taxes in 1896. In 1899 he became assessor of Powhatan, and in 1900 was a delegate to the Baptist state convention at Des Moines. His family consists of four children: Bernice Rebecca, Noble LeSuer, Ruth Brown and Gilbert Niles.

William Lee MacVey, (b. Oct. 10, 1867), in Powhatan went south with his father's family in 1886; first to Knoxville, then to China, Louisiana, where he resided until 1898, when he returned to Powhatan. He now owns and farms 160 acres of the old MacVey

farm. His orchard is one of the largest and finest in the county.

**McEwen** Alexander, (b. 1845), one of the pioneers of Pocahontas county and a leading citizen of Powhatan, is a native of Scotland, a son of Rev. John McEwen. His father was a minister in the established church of Scotland and served 45 years as pastor of the church at Dyke Forres, Murrayshire. In his youth he spent one year in Canada, crossing the ocean with his sister Margaret, mother of William D. McEwen, whose husband though of the same name, was no relative of hers. During that year all the family were in America—his father, mother, four brothers, Peter, James, Donald and William, and sisters, Grace and Janet. His father died in 1886, leaving a family of seven children—Alexander, Donald, Robert, Marjory, John, Mary and Henry. Donald, a surveyor in the British army, died in 1886, having spent thirteen years in India and passed through Soudan with the army under Gen. Chinese Gordon. Robert went to India, where he engaged in the indigo trade and died at Edinburgh in 1893. Marjory married John Smith, a merchant at Hong Kong, China. John became an assistant to his father before his death and is now his successor as pastor at Dyke Forres. Mary married Rev. George Bisset of the established church, and lives in Edinburgh. Henry is superintendent of the electric light plant in Glasgow. He received a medal for some astronomical drawings from the London Astronomical society at the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893, and was made a member of the Royal Astronomical society of London.

Alexander, the oldest member of the family, having acquired a good education in Scotland came to Canada, and in December, 1869, became a resident of Des Moines township, this county, where he found a home with



Henry Jarvis and taught school during the next seven months in the Jarvis school house, located near the county line, south of McNight's Point. He then prepared a set of abstract books for W. D. McEwen at Old Rolfe, and took charge of the store of McEwen & Bruce, when it was established in the fall of 1870, while they performed the duties of county auditor and treasurer. He remained in the store until the spring of 1875, when, having bought 204 acres on section 16, Swan Lake township, he gave his attention to their improvement and built thereon a house and barn. That fall he sold this farm to Alfred Strouse and bought the homestead of Henry Thomas, on the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 24, Powhatan.

October 6, 1875, he married Delilah, daughter of Philip Hamble, one of the pioneers of Washington township, and during the ensuing winter taught his last term of school in that township. In the spring of 1876 he located on his farm in Powhatan and occupied it until the spring of 1882, when he bought and moved upon 400 acres on section 26. He improved and occupied this farm until 1892, when he moved to his present farm on section 15, near Plover. He devoted considerable attention to raising fine horses and, at the time of his sale in 1891, had 30 head of high-grade Normans and English Shires.

He is a man of excellent judgment, has always commanded the confidence and esteem of all who know him, and has rendered considerable public service. He was chosen clerk of Powhatan as soon as he became a resident of the township and has served twelve years in that capacity, ten as president of the school board and nine as a member of the board of county supervisors. He has been a trustee of the Plover Presbyterian church since its organization. He has manifested considerable interest in the educa-

tion of his children and had the pleasure of seeing two of them, Marjory and Susan, members of the first graduating class from the Plover high school in 1899.

His family consisted of eight children. John P. and Mary A. are at home. Marjory, a teacher, in 1902 married E. L. Wallace, formerly principal of the Plover schools and now manager of a lumber yard at Schaller. Susan, a teacher, on the same day. April 16, 1901, married Fred C. Chinn, a grain buyer at Viola. Philip Hamble, Henry, Elizabeth and Robert Burns are at home.

**Mueller**, Jacob (b. 1854.) merchant, is a native of Switzerland, came to America and located in the eastern part of Iowa, where he engaged in the mercantile business. In 1888 he located at Plover, and since that date has been a general merchant, member of the firm of Eggspuehler & Mueller. In 1880 he married Bertha Myers, who died in 1881, leaving one child, Louis. In 1884 he married Minnie Herold and their family consists of eight children, Matilda, Elizabeth, Charles, Regina, Jacob, Joseph, Lenora and Homer.

**Northrop**, Darius (b. 1829, d. 1889.) was a native of Vermont. At Buffalo, N. Y., he married Euphemia Dart and soon afterwards moved to Fond du Lac, Wis. In 1881, with wife and four children, he located on the nw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 17, Powhatan township. He improved and occupied this farm until his death in 1889. His wife died in 1884. His family consisted of four children.

Charles, a carpenter, married Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob and Lydia (Heathman) Strandberg, lives at Plover and has two children, Pearl and Alva.

Theron D., a carpenter, married Lilly, only daughter of John and Samantha (Heathman) Conley and located in Plover. In 1901, with a family of six children, he moved to Hermosa, Colo.

Clara, married Edward Mellick, one of the pioneer merchants at Rolfe, where he died in 1884 leaving one daughter, Lulu. Clara afterward married Albert Blanchard, a blacksmith, located at Plover and their family consists of six children, Roy, Charles, Ada, Simeon, Carl and Ray.

• Cora married Joseph D. Hilton. (See Hilton.)

**Pirie**, James S., (b. 1855.) for many years the popular livery man at Plover, is a native of Canada, where he spent his youth. In 1881, in Benton county, Iowa, he married Jane R. Mitchell. In 1888 he located at Plover and, engaging in the livery business, continued until 1902. He has one daughter, Maggie Belle, who in 1899 married Arthur Heathman and lives on a farm near Plover.

William E. and George L. Pirie, his brothers, are also residents of this county. William came with James in 1888, married Edna Barlow and is now living in Washington township. George in 1892 married Clara Fessenden and lives on his own farm in Powhatan.

**Shaw**, Prentice Josiah (b. 1849) secretary of the Pocahontas County Mutual Fire and Lightning Insurance Co., is a native of Niagara county, N. Y. In 1856 he moved with his parents to Greene county, Wis., where he received a good common school education, spent two years in select schools and then engaged in teaching. At 22 in 1872 he came to O'Brien county, Iowa, where he entered a homestead and remained five years, teaching and working on the farm. During the winter of 1875 he taught the village school at Dayton, Wis., and in November that same year married Jennie A. Marshall, who the next spring accompanied him to the homestead. In the fall of 1876, after receiving several visits of the grasshoppers, he returned to Greene county, Wis., and remained there until the spring of 1882,

when he returned to Iowa and located on the Clinton farm, north of Havelock, which he and his brother-in-law, J. C. Potter were the first to occupy. In 1885 he located on his present farm on the ne $\frac{1}{2}$  sec. 14, Powhatan township, which he has improved and increased to 200 acres.

He has lived to see a wonderful development in this section of the country in the last quarter of a century. In 1872, when he made his first trip to northwest Iowa, crossing several counties, there were but few houses and many of them were built of sod. He traveled in a covered wagon, purchased baker's bread at the villages which were a long distance apart, and supplemented the stock of provisions by shooting game. The mirage in the morning frequently beckoned to cities, groves and beautiful lakes that appeared near the horizon, but which always vanished as the traveler advanced towards them. The Lone Tree, that stands eight miles west of Spencer, could sometimes be seen in the early morning at a distance of three days journey, but as the sun rose it disappeared, and then the next morning reappeared, apparently as far distant as on the previous morning. Lone Tree was for many a year a land mark for surveyors and travelers. It may still be seen from passing trains in Lone Tree township, Clay county, and looks very much as it did twenty-five years ago.

He is proud to be a citizen of Iowa, a state that ranks among the first in intellectual progress, and boasts, "a school house on every hilltop and no saloon in the valley;" and indulges the hope she may continue to lead in the sisterhood of states, in the roll call of commonwealths.

He served eight years as clerk of the township and has been secretary of the school board during the last 15 years. He was the republican nominee for county auditor in 1889, and is an

active worker in the Methodist church.

He is an intelligent unassuming farmer who has met with good success on the farm and has made the farmer's interests a life long study. He is one of the original founders of the Pocahontas County Mutual Fire and Lightning Association, (p. 502.) has been a director of it since its organization in 1890 and has been its efficient secretary and treasurer since October 19, 1897. Through this association he has helped to solve the problem of insurance for the farmers of this county. He has manifested great interest in the success of this organization and notes with a good deal of pleasure its rapid growth since he became its secretary, the amount of assessable risks having increased from \$511,293, January 1, 1898 to \$1,830,000, September 1, 1902.

His family consists of five children:

Albert Josiah, in 1901, graduated from the law department of Drake University and is now located at Corwith, Iowa, where he is engaged in the practice of law and the real estate business.

George Schee, a farmer, graduated from the business department of Drake University and in 1902 married Alma Rutledge of Des Moines.

Stella E., a Plover graduate in 1899, spent the next year in the seminary at Evansville, Wis.

Prentice F. and Lucy A. are at home.

**Smith**, Joel (1811-1890.) was a native of Massachusetts, and at five came with his parents to Ohio, where he grew to manhood and in 1832 married Julia Dayton. Some years later he moved to Greene county, Wis. Here his wife died leaving six children, Harris D., Welton, Harriet, Sophia, William and Merritt, all of whom married and located in Wisconsin, except William, who with wife and three children in 1879 located in Powhatan township.

In 1849 Joel Smith married Mary Marinda Pratt, widow of Joseph Kelley, who died in Wisconsin leaving one daughter, Mary Emily, who became the wife of Alva L. Whitney. (See Whitney). In 1879 Joel and wife came with their son, Calvin, to Powhatan and located on a farm of 80 acres, which he occupied until his death in 1890. Their family consisted of three children of whom Eunice the youngest died at 16.

Phoëbe in 1868 married Squire E. Heathman, (see Heathman.)

Calvin, a farmer, married Susan Spangler and lives now in Minnesota, and has a family of five children, William, Frank, Calvin, Ray and Roy.

Since the death of Joel, Mrs. Smith has lived with her daughter, Mrs. A. L. Whitney at Plover.

William Smith, the older son is still a resident of Powhatan and has raised a family of eight children. Charles, a farmer married Etta Randall and lives in Powhatan. Olive married Oliver Goodlatson, a farmer, and lives in Palo Alto county. Joel, Cora, Edith, Fred, Etta and Blanch are at home.

**Smith**, James S., Plover, is a native of Illinois, the son of Andrew Smith. In 1869 he came with his parents to Pocahontas county where he grew to manhood on the farm and received his education in the public schools. In 1880 he engaged in the mercantile business at Pocahontas. In 1881 he was appointed station agent at Fort Dodge and in 1883 at Plover. He was the first agent at Plover and served in that capacity until 1889. He has since been engaged in the real estate and insurance business. He built the first house in Plover and owns a fine farm of 160 acres in that vicinity. He married Mary E. Hubel (p. 471) and has a family of three children, William, James and Albert.

**Stone**, William (b. 1797; d. 1877.), who September 28, 1864 filed a claim



for the ne<sup>1</sup> sec. 25, Powhatan township, and died on it at 80 in 1877, was a brother of Mrs. John Barnes. He was a native of Bradford county, Pa., where he became a millwright and in 1828 married Eliza Ann, (b. Feb. 27, 1810) daughter of G. M. (1781-1865) and Anna (Spaulding, 1786-1872) DeWolf, for whose father he had first built a mill. After he married he built a factory for making window sash by machinery, but after a few years resumed his trade and located at Schoolcraft, and three years later at Sterling, Ill. Here he worked at his trade and his wife taught several terms of school. At Elkhorn Grove, nearby, he secured a nice home and occupied it twenty years, but always suffered from lung trouble. In 1864 he came to Webster and in 1866 to Pocahontas county, where he had previously secured a homestead which he improved and occupied until his decease at 80 in 1877.

In 1890 Mrs. Stone married Ingham Stone, a native of Pennsylvania, and a nephew of her first husband; and that which was most remarkable about this wedding was the fact that both of the contracting parties were over eighty years of age. He died at 88 on Jan. 5, 1898. Mrs. Stone still lives on the old homestead which has been owned and occupied for some years by her nephew, Frank C. DeWolf, who is one of the township trustees (1901-02) and has a family of nine children.

Mrs. Eliza Ann DeWolf Stone is now in her 93rd year and is believed to be the oldest person in Pocahontas county. In February, March and April 1900, when over 90 years of age she wrote three letters, that appeared in the Rolfe Tribune, giving sketches of family history, and making an appeal to the young not to use tobacco or strong drink. Later she penned another long letter to the author of this book. Few persons of her years

have either the ability or inclination to write. She found a good and sufficient motive in the effort to trace the family history. Her father was the fourth child of a hatter in Brooklyn, Conn., where he received his education, and later taught vocal music and public school. Her grand father emigrated from France at an early date. Her mother was the oldest daughter of Willard Spaulding, who, on coming to this country, located first in New Hampshire, but soon afterward settled at Cavendish, Windsor county, Vt. He was a pioneer in that region, a man of energy and at the time of his death at 70 was the owner of two well improved farms, a grist mill, saw mill and a blacksmith shop. His family consisted of eleven children, ten of whom survived him. Her parents were married in 1808, lived in Vermont, had a family of thirteen children, two of whom with herself located in Iowa, namely Dr. DeWolf at Vail and C. H. DeWolf at Denison. Her father was an elder in the Presbyterian church and, after their removal to Pennsylvania, occasionally read a sermon, when the minister was absent.

**Strong, Ira** (b. 1811; d. 1871) one of the leading pioneers of Powhatan and a brother of Wm. B. Strong, was a native of Allegany county, N. Y., where in 1834 he married Abigail Cass (b. N. Y. 1816). In 1866 he came to Pocahontas county and secured a homestead of 160 acres on the nw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 24, Powhatan township. Four of his sons, Oscar, Philander, Edwin and Charles also secured homesteads the same year. He died at 60 in 1871 and his wife at 70 in 1887.

His wife was a teacher in her youth and after the death of her husband resumed her favorite employment, taught several terms in the Strong schoolhouse and thus earned the money that was used to erect a loving monument to his memory. Nearly

every member of the Strong families in their turn taught one or more terms of school in this district.

Ira Strong was an intelligent, upright man, and was the head of a family, that exerted a strong influence in Powhatan township and also in the county. They rendered many years of official service in the township and five of the eleven officials furnished the county by the citizens of this township, were from this family, namely, Ira, supervisor, 1869-70; Oscar, recorder, '76-77; Geo. W., (son of Wm. B.), in 1870 and Oscar I. in '71, surveyors; Oscar I., superintendent in '74, and '80-81.

The only other family that can present a similar list in this county is that of Albert M. Thornton, an early resident of Marshall township. It was represented by Alonzo L. in 1883 to '85 and Mary E. in '86, recorders; Lucius C. surveyor '84-85; and Frank G. auditor '93-96.

His family consisted of eight children:

Augusta married Milan Sharpe and located in Humboldt county.

Orlando William married Eliza Drown and located in Palo Alto county. In 1877 he located on sec. 25, Powhatan township and occupied it until his death in 1885. He left a family of two children, Etta and Dora. Etta married Chas. Sroufe and lives on her father's farm. Dora, a teacher during the last ten years, lives with her sister, Etta.

Caroline married Samuel N., son of Wm. B. Strong, during their residence in New York. In the fall of 1865 he came to Pocahontas county, secured a homestead on sec. 15, Powhatan and began to occupy it the next spring. His father also came and lived with him. His wife died in 1886 leaving a family of five children, Alice, William, Emma, a teacher, Adelbert and Mary. Alice in 1893 married Wilfred Palmer and died the

next year. Adelbert in 1902 married Grace Dawes and lives on a farm near Plover.

Oscar (b. N. Y. 1844; d. 1885), county surveyor and superintendent, in 1866 came with his father and secured as a homestead, 160 acres on sec. 23. He taught school in winter and worked on the farm in summer. In 1872 he married Elizabeth L. daughter of Rev. John E. Rowen and a few years later located at Pocahontas. He served as county surveyor in 1871 and superintendent from Jan. 1, 1874 to June 1, 1875, when he resigned. In the fall of 1879 he was re-elected and served the next two years. He was county recorder 1876-77. He received a good education in the high school of Allegany county, N. Y., where he graduated in 1865. He manifested a genuine interest in the cause of education and filled the office of superintendent with great credit to himself. He read law and was admitted to the bar in 1874. In the spring of 1876 he went to California, but not liking that golden state, he returned and soon afterward went to Washington, D. C., where he opened a law and claim office. Not meeting with the success he expected he returned to this county. He possessed considerable energy and was highly esteemed for his manly character. He died in 1885 at Pocahontas leaving two children, Irene, a teacher, and Rollin W. The latter was for a number of years foreman of the Belmont Herald and is now a reporter for the Pioneer Press of St. Paul. Elizabeth later married Editor Huntington of the Belmont Herald and now lives in Kansas.

The following incident serves to illustrate Oscar's cleverness. In 1869 when William Brownlee and another new settler passed from the land office at Fort Dodge to their claims in Bellville township, he happened to be teaching or otherwise engaged in

Lizard township. They needed someone to locate their claims and called on him. He went with them to the nearest corner stake with which he was familiar. There he tied a handkerchief to the rim of one of the rear wheels of the lumber wagon on which they were riding and, showing them the direction, counted its revolutions. By this easy and novel method of measuring the distance, all the corners of their homesteads were easily and quickly found.

Edwin J., a teacher, secured a homestead on sec. 23. He has spent a considerable time in travel and has discovered some genius for invention.

Lucius Milton, a teacher and farmer, died in 1896.

Philander (b. N. Y. 1836) is still the owner and occupant of his father's homestead, on the nw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 24. During recent years he has turned his attention to raising sheep and occasionally markets two carloads at a time. He has adopted the plan of cropping his land for two years, then seeding and pasturing it the next two. There is usually not a weed left on any tract occupied by the sheep two years, and when it has been ploughed and planted the growing crop has the advantage of a good start. Better crops have been harvested since this method of rotation and treatment has been adopted. His first wife, Eva Rowley, died in 1883 leaving a family of three children, Frank, Charles and George. In 1885 he married Clara Bavard and their family consists of four children, Fred-eric, Florence M., Clarence and Mabel.

Charles Lemming (b. N. Y. 1851) married Phoebe J. Hayes and located on sec. 25. He kept hotel in Plover five years 1886-91, and then, with a family of two children, Eugene and Lemming, located on a homestead at Cushing, Oklahoma.

**Strong**, William B. (b. 1813; d. 1866), a younger brother of Ira, was a

native of New York the son of Elisha and Eunice Strong. In 1835 he married Jane Davy in Allegany county, N. Y. and two years later she died there leaving one son, William Wallace. In 1840 Mr. Strong married Fannie (b. 1816), sister of Perry Nowlen, an early settler of Des Moines township. In 1865 they came to Pocahontas county, Iowa, and in 1866 began the improvement of a homestead of 160 acres on the se $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 12, Powhatan township. He built a log house 16x28 feet, one and one-half stories high, and for it the flooring, shingles and finish lumber were hauled from Boone. He was then over 50 years of age and no longer enjoyed good health. By reason of this fact the homestead was entered in the name of Fannie N. Strong, his wife, and she superintended all the affairs of the family and farm. He died at 53 in 1866 and was buried at old Rolfe.

He left a family of four children, one by his first wife and three by the second, and all of them came with him to Pocahontas county.

William W., during his residence in New York, married Lovern Bradford. They remained in Pocahontas county but a short time and died later leaving one child who lives in the South.

Samuel N. (b. N. Y. 1843), in the spring of 1864 during their residence in Allegany county, N. Y., married Caroline, daughter of Ira Strong. The next year he came with his parents to Pocahontas county and entered a homestead on the sw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 15, Powhatan township. After improving and occupying it a few years, he became the owner and occupant of his mother's homestead on sec. 12, which he soon enlarged to 200 acres. He has been a resident of the township thirty six years and has served several years as secretary of the school board.

Caroline, his wife, died at 46 in 1886 leaving a family of five children. Alice in 1893 married William Palmer



and located in Powhatan township, but died at 26 in 1894, leaving one child, Wilbur. Emma, a teacher, in 1887 graduated from the normal department of Highland Park college. William (b. 1873) is at home. Adalbert (b. 1875) in 1902 married Grace Dawes and lives on a farm near Plover. Mary lives at Rolfe.

In 1896 Samuel N. Strong married Eliza Van Natta, relict of Andrew Like.

George W. (b. N. Y. 1845) came to this county in 1865 and in 1866 married Sallie, daughter of Henry Thomas. After a residence of ten or more years in Powhatan, he moved to Kansas and later to Oregon, where he died leaving a family of four daughters, who now live in the state of Washington. He secured and occupied the ne½ sec. 14, as a homestead and was county surveyor during the year 1870.

Elizabeth in 1867 married George Van Natta, and located in Powhatan township where she died at 27 in 1872, leaving two children, Jas. W., a resident of Portland, Ore., and Cynthia, who married ——— Keith and lives in Colo. Mr. Van Natta soon after the death of his wife moved to Oregon.

Mrs. Catherine N. Strong in 1894, accompanied by Mary Strong, her niece, moved from the farm to Rolfe. She is 86 years of age and has been a member of the M. E. church 55 years.

**Shaver**, Nelson H. (b. 1844), farmer, keeper of meat market, Plover, is a native of Lowville, N. Y. In 1858 he moved with his parents to Taycheedah, Wis., where Feb. 13, 1864 he enlisted as a member of Co. I, 5th Wis. and continued in the service until July 19, 1865, when he was honorably discharged at Jeffersonville, Ind., having served in the 6th Corps of the Army of the Potomac under Gen. Grant, and participated in 13 battles including those at the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor,

Winchester, Cedar Creek and Petersburg. He was at Burksville at the time of Lee's surrender.

His father and five of his seven brothers were soldiers in the civil war. Alfred who belonged to the 5th N. Y. died at Washington, D. C., Charles and Frank who belonged to the 5th and 18th Wis. died soon after their return, George who belonged to the 12th Wis. was captured at Lookout Mountain and confined one year in Libby prison. His father belonged to the 18th Wis., died soon after his return.

Nelson, after the war, returned to the home in Wisconsin, where in 1867 he married Alice L. Fenton. In 1879 he came and located on the se½ sec. 2, Powhatan township and engaged in farming and blacksmithing. The next year he located on sec. 17, where he improved a farm of 80 acres and occupied it until 1893, when he moved to Plover where he has been successively a miller, butcher and shoemaker.

His family consisted of four children of whom Charles died at 13 in 1887.

Glenn married Leora Thompson and lives near Rolfe. Jennie in 1896 married John Roberts and lives near Plover. Don is at home.

**Thomas**, Henry, one of the early pioneers of Powhatan, was a native of Virginia and about the time of his marriage located in Greene county, O., where all of his children except Joel were born and raised. In 1850 he located in Logan county and later the same year in Bureau county, Ill., and about 1860 near Rochester, Minn.

Nov. 25, 1863, accompanied by his family which consisted of sons, Daniel and Joel, and daughter, Sallie, he came to Pocahontas county and located at old Rolfe. Here he met again Barney Hancher and Jerry Young, sons-in-law, who had come from Bureau county, Ill., with their families.

Sept. 26, 1864, through Barney Hancher, he had filed a claim for a homestead of 160 acres on the sw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 24, Powhatan, Daniel and Joel similar claims on 23 and Jerry Young on 25. Others that located claims on 25 the same day were Wm. Stone, Samuel and George Booth. Previous to this date Barney Hancher was the only one that had filed a claim in this township.

In the spring of 1865 Henry, Daniel and Joel Thomas and Jerry Young began to occupy their homesteads and built temporary cabins. In 1866 Henry Thomas built the first log house in the township. This building was still in use in 1900 and a cut of it may be seen in the frontispiece, there erroneously credited to Ira Strong. Mr. Thomas and family owned it until 1875, when he sold it to Alex. McEwen. In 1882 it was bought by Thomas Merchant and soon afterward successively by Joseph Egan and Nils Nelson, whose father-in-law, Henry Luff occupied it from 1883 until his death in 1894. It is now owned by Dora, a granddaughter of Ira Strong.

In 1871 Mr. and Mrs. Henry Thomas and Jerry Young and family moved to Ness county, Kansas, but in 1881 accompanied by Barney Hancher, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Thomas returned to Powhatan township where he died before the end of that year and his wife, Susanna, in 1883, both at the home of their son, Daniel. He participated in the organization of the township and being elected at that time served two years as a member of the board of county supervisors. When the school board was organized in 1867 he was chosen its first president and treasurer.

His family consisted of six children.

Lydia, in 1857 in Bureau county, Ill., married Jeremiah Young, who, in the fall of 1863, came to this county with a family of six

children and located first at old Rolfe and in 1864 on the nw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 25, Powhatan. He improved and occupied this farm until 1869, when he moved to Nebraska and a few years later to Ness county, Kansas. In 1879 making the journey with teams, he moved to Washington and now resides at Springdale. His family consisted of eight children. Alva and Eva, twins, Frank, Nellie, Jacob and Annetta, twins, (both of whom are dead), Henry and Basil, twins born in Hait's cabin.

Margaret Ellen, in Bureau county Ill., married Barney Hancher, see Hancher. She is now the only representative of the Thomas family in this county.

Daniel married Philena Foote and after a residence of twenty-five years in Powhatan in 1889 moved to Washington. His family consisted of thirteen children, five of whom are living.

Joel in 1878 located in Kossuth county, later successively in Winneshie county, Oklahoma, Washington and Colorado, where he now resides.

Joshua in 1864 came to Powhatan and became owner of the ne $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 25, (Wm. Stone homestead) but did not occupy it. After three years residence near Fort Dodge he moved to Missouri where he died in 1881 leaving a small family.

Sallie, who taught the first school in Powhatan, in 1865 married George, son of Wm. B. Strong, and located in Washington, where he died.

**Trites**, Edward Ryland (b. 1855.) owner and occupant of a farm on sec. 19 from 1882 to 1901, is a native of DeWitt, Iowa, the son of Job and Harriet Turner Trites. In 1881 he married Francis Flora Holcomb and the next year located on the farm in Powhatan township, which he was the first to occupy and improve. He improved it with good buildings and embarked in raising pure bred cattle,

including Shorthorns of the Motte and Rosawood families, Berkshire hogs, Norman horses and Mammoth bronze turkeys. In 1901 he moved to Cantril, Van Buren county. He has been a loyal republican, believes in prohibition, has taken an active part in local politics and filled several of the township offices including that of justice. His family consists of three children, Burness R., Job L. and Vivian Della.

**Whitney**, Alva Lewis (b.1826), Plover, is a native of Erie county, Pa. At 17 he moved with his parents, who were of Scotch descent, to Walworth county, Wis., and three years later to Dane county, where in 1849 he married Lucy Colby and engaged in farming. In 1861 he enlisted as a member of Co. E, 8th Wis. infantry and often carried the famous eagle known as "Old Abe." At the end of three years of constant service he was mustered out, but two months later he re-enlisted as a member of Co. K, 42d Wis. infantry and remained in the army until June 22, 1865, when he was mustered out at Madison, Wis. He belonged to the western department of the army, served under Gen. A. J. Smith and participated in thirty-two battles and skirmishes, including those at Corinth, Shiloh or Pittsburg Landing, and Island No. 10.

At the close of the war he returned to the farm and in 1881 located on sec. 15, Powhatan township. He improved and occupied this farm until 1892 when he moved to Plover where he owns several valuable properties. He has been unwilling to be a candidate for even a township office but has been a trustee of the Presbyterian church of Plover since its organization in 1888. He is a patriotic, conscientious and upright citizen, who stands ready to lend a helping hand to every movement that has for its object the moral advancement of the community.

His wife died in 1864 leaving one son, Emmet J. (b. 1864), who in 1889 married Dora Kruse. He located first in Palo Alto county, but is now in Powhatan and has a family of six children, Ada, Bert, Oscar, Eunice, Carrie and John.

In 1866 Mr. Whitney married Mary E. Kelley, of Greene county Wis., and her mother, Mrs. Mary M. Smith, has made her home with them since the death of her second husband Joel Smith.

#### **Old Abe, the War Eagle.**

The famous bird, "Old Abe", was captured in 1861 on the Flambeau river by a Chippewa indian, who sold it to a farmer, at Eagle Point, for a bushel of corn. This farmer sold it to Mr. Willis, of Eva Claire, who presented it to the 8th regiment then forming. The bird was "sworn in" at the camp at Madison by putting around its neck, red, white and blue ribbon, and the name "Old Abe" was given it in honor of President Lincoln. He always manifested great excitement during a battle by screaming and fluttering around the flag. The enemy tried to shoot him many times and he was wounded at Corinth and Vicksburg, but recovered. He headed with his regiment the victorious army that entered Vicksburg, July 4, 1863. Sept. 26, 1864, when part of his regiment was mustered out, he was taken back to Wisconsin and formally presented to the Governor of the state having been present, it is said, at thirty-six battles and skirmishes, commencing at Fredericktown, Mo., Oct. 21, 1861. After the war he was an attraction at many gatherings, such as fairs, soldiers reunions and patriotic assemblies, until 1881, when he died and his stuffed body was placed in the museum at Madison.

There is a tradition to the effect that when LaFayette visited the the tomb of Washington, a large eagle followed the course of the



steamboat that carried him to Mount Vernon, and remained hovering in the air, over the tomb, until the famous visitor left it.

"In the blue of the sky, o'er the blue of the river,

Like a banner of love sailed the eagle's white wing;

Where the hero, in peace, laid his honors forever,

At the grave of the chief, who was more than a king.

All a country's proud story soared light on the pinions

Of the sentinel bird, in that consummate hour,

And hailed, at the door of the Mystic Dominions,

A future unmeasured in splendor and power.

And well if the eagle's white wing, spreading wider,

Heralds peace, truth and freedom in covenant bloom,

Till the Union's last children shall rally beside her,

Sincere as the pilgrim to Washington's tomb,"

—THERON BROWN.

### Gandertown.

During the 70's this township experienced several changes in its name, that have been mentioned. One name, quite common among their neighbors for a few years in the early days, was "Gandertown." The romance connected with the origin of this name has been variously given. According to one account, one of the early settlers of this township owned the first gander in that section of the country, and this one was such a fine as well as rare specimen, that it became the subject of general remark and served to designate the locality. According to another account the early settler set a hen with 13 goose eggs. When they were hatched he was surprised to find that everyone of them was a gander, and this singular flock of so many ganders attracted considerable public attention.

### Powhatan.

The name "Pow'-ha-tan'" signifies "Falls in a Stream," and was first applied to a small peninsula on the

north side of the James river, where Wahunsan(p. 692) had established one of his abodes. Powhatan was a remarkable man, a sort of a savage Napoleon, who had achieved his imperial dignity and power by the force of his character and the superiority of his talents. The history of the tribes included in the Powhatan confederacy ended with the treaty at Albany in 1684, but most of their names have been preserved in the names of streams and rivers in Maryland and Virginia.

At the time this name was suggested old Rolfe was the county seat. The county bore the name of a princess, the county seat the name of a prince, and it seemed appropriate to the citizens of this township that it should bear the name of a chief or king, inasmuch as they were then returning annually the largest republican vote. Its citizens cast a solid republican vote from the time of its organization in 1866 until the fall of 1877, when six of 29 votes polled, were cast for Elias Jesup, the prohibition candidate for governor. The first democratic votes were polled in 1878 when 10 out of 34 were cast for the democratic nominees.

This township has polled the largest number of prohibition votes of any in the county, and the period of their greatest number was during the years of 1892, 93, 94 and 95, when they numbered 33, 37, 25 and 25 respectively. It has always returned, however, a large republican majority.

### POSTIN-DAY CONTEST, 1902.

At the general election held Nov. 4, 1902, R. E Postin and Geo. W. Day, candidates for the office of county auditor and both from Powhatan township, received according to the official count 1445 and 1449 votes respectively, Geo. W. Day having a majority of 4 votes.

Mr. Postin contested the right of Mr. Day to the office on the following

pleas, namely: (1.) That the judges of Cedar, Center, Clinton and Lincoln townships failed to certify to the returns from those townships and therefore made no returns to the auditor; (2.) that ten ballots in Powhatan, crossed in the Prohibition squares and in the one in front of Postin's name in the republican ticket, were not counted for him, there being no county candidates on the prohibition ticket; (3.) that a number of ballots in Clinton, Des Moines, Lake No. 1. and Lizard that were marked in the republican squares were counted for Day. (4.) Other irregularities were charged in regard to the returns from Grant, Lake No. 2 and Washington townships.

The hearing of this case occurred at Pocahontas, Dec. 22, and 23, 1902. The contest board consisted of Charles Elsen, chairman of the board of supervisors; L. W. Chandler of Fonda, and T. F. Lynch Esq., of Pocahontas. Mr. Postin was represented by Wm. Hazlett and Hon. F. C. Gilchrist, attorneys, and Mr. Day by Judge Kenyon of Fort Dodge.

After some discussion it was agreed that the contest board should recount the ballots that had been cast for the county auditor in the townships named. The result appears in the following exhibit, which shows the changes that were made in the various townships, and it gave Mr. Day a majority of 8 votes.

	Official Vote		Votes Changed		Recount	
	Postin	Day	Added	Rejected	Postin	Day
Bellville....	91	83		3	88	83
Cedar.....	165	172		1	164	172
Center.....	93	212			93	212
Colfax.....	70	35			70	35
Clinton....	165	178	1		165	179
Des Moines	51	58		1	51	57
Dover.....	56	98		2	55	97
Grant.....	67	60	3		68	62

Lake No. 1.	60	50		5	58	47	
Lake No. 2.	31	12	2		32	13	
Lincoln....	52	86		1	52	85	
Lizard.....	46	100			46	100	
Marshall...	69	36		1	68	36	
Powhatan...	87	97	5		91	98	
Sherman...	67	57		3	65	56	
Swan Lake.	188	63		1	187	63	
Washington	87	52		1	86	52	
Total....	1445	1449	11	19	1439	1447	
Day's majority..						4	8

This was the fourth and, in view of the questions raised and interests involved it was the most important election contest ever held in Pocahontas county.

OTHER ELECTION CONTESTS.

The first instance of a contest over an election occurred at old Rolfe, February 2, 1864, between the candidates for the office of county treasurer and recorder, then filed by the same incumbent. The candidates for the position, Michael Collins and W. H. Hait, received on the home vote, October 13, 1863, 16 and 14 votes, and from the soldiers in the army, 2 and 3 votes, making, 18 and 17 votes, respectively. The court consisted of Fred A. Metcalf, county judge; John A. James, associate judge, and Philip Russell, clerk of the district court. Mr. Hait, the contestant, plead his own cause and John F. Duncombe appeared for Collins. A motion to dismiss the case prevailed.

The second contest occurred also at old Rolfe, November 25, 1868, when Philip Russell contested with J. J. Bruce for the office of county supervisor from Lizard township. The latter at the previous general election had been accorded a majority of the votes, but his opponent deemed his bond insufficient. The court consisted of J. N. Harris, county judge, W. S. Fegles and Patrick Forey, and their decision was in favor of J. J. Bruce, the previous incumbent.

The third contest was held at Pocahontas, November 23, 1877, and was between Joseph Breitenbach and

Thomas L. Dean for the office of sheriff of this county. At the previous general election they were accorded 266 and 269 votes, respectively. The court consisted of Wm. Brownlee, chairman of the board of county supervisors; W. H. Hait and J. E. Pattee. Capt. J. O. Yeoman and Hudson & Gould, attorneys, appeared for the principals. The court, by a majority of one, decided in favor of Dean, the previous incumbent.

It will be perceived, that in this county the official count, though close has never been reversed. The contestant, whatever he may have gained, has always had a "hard road to travel."

A tie vote occurred October 8, 1867, when Oscar Slosson and George Spragg each received 50 votes for sheriff. The matter was amicably decided October 26th following, by drawing cuts, and Slosson received the office.





## XXV.

### SHERMAN TOWNSHIP.

You ask what land I love the best,  
The fairest state of all the West,  
Iowa, 'tis Iowa.  
From yonder Mississippi's stream,  
To where Missouri's waters gleam,  
O! fair it is as poets' dream,  
Iowa, O! Iowa.

See yonder fields of tasselled corn,  
Where plenty fills her golden horn,  
See how her wondrous prairies shine,  
To yonder sunsets' purpling line;  
O! happy land, O! land of mine,  
Iowa, O! Iowa.

—S. H. M. BYERS.

#### GENERAL FEATURES.



HERMAN township (92-33) belonged to Des Moines township until Sept. 5, 1876, when it was attached to Washington. April 5, 1880 it was established in its present form and named in honor of Gen. Wm. T. Sherman, the hero of the "March to the Sea." "Hurrah! Hurrah! We bring the jubilee!  
Hurrah! Hurrah! The flag that makes you free!  
So we sang the chorus from Atlanta to the sea,  
When we were marching through Georgia."

It is located near the center of the

county and its surface throughout is a beautiful prairie. Pocahontas, the county seat, extends over part of sec. 36, and Ware was located on sec. 17, near the center of the township, in 1900, when the C. R. I. & P. Ry. was built. The citizens of this township have now excellent railway facilities and occupy a section of country as attractive and beautiful, as that of which Hamlin Garland wrote: "I love the prairies; they are mine, From zenith to horizon line; Clipping a world of sky and sod, Like the bended arm and wrist of God. I love their grasses; the skies Are larger, and my restless eyes Fasten on more of earth and air, Than sea shores furnish anywhere."

## EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The early settlement of Sherman township was coincident with that of Washington that joins it on the north. In May 1870 the representatives of several families in Dubuque county, namely, James C. Strong, Jason N. Russell, a brother-in-law, and Jonathan L. Clark, wife and three children, came to this county, making the journey on wagons, and secured farms, Strong and Clark in the south row of sections in Washington and Russell in the north row of Sherman. Each began to occupy and improve his own farm but during that season all lived together in the house built by Clark on sec. 3, Washington township.

In 1871 Jason N. Russell built the first cabin in Sherman township on the ne $\frac{1}{2}$  sec. 4, where during the previous year he had done the first breaking. He was then joined by his brother, Harvey S. Russell, who lived with him one and a half years. In 1872 Morah F. Russell, -another brother arrived with his wife and he erected that year on the sw $\frac{1}{2}$  sec. 4, the first dwelling house. In 1873 the new residents were Maggie Hamble, the bride of Jason Russell, and Mr. and Mrs. John Sic, Bohemians, who built a sod shanty in the southeast part of the township.

This was the period when the grasshoppers drove many settlers from their claims and new ones were deterred from going to the frontier. Those that had to locate in the north part of this township realized during this period the disappointments and the loneliness of living far out on the prairie. In making the trips to Fonda, the nearest station and eighteen miles distant, the house of A. T. Omtvedt was the first and usually the only one passed.

In 1875 Aaron Smith (b. N. Y. 1816.) located on 3, and Jeremiah Barnes (b. Pa; 1814) on 8.

In 1878 Joseph and Anthony Hudek located on 25 and John Kopriva on 36. They were followed by James W. Carson and C. F. Alchon in 1879.

In 1880 A. J. Stover, W. B. Starkey and R. C. Jones arrived, and they were followed by G. W. and J. W. Mills, J. W. O'Brien and B. T. Griffith the next year.

In 1882 there came Thomas Barningham and John H. Adams, and they were followed the next year by Joseph Bloudeh, Boy C. Boyeson and C. L. Flint.

Those that followed soon afterwards were Hans Tychsen, Frank Stacy, Rev. C. W. Clifton, Prof. James C., Clel and Fred Gilchrist, J. H. Eno, A. M. Coville, Thomas M. Olson, A. J. Wonderlich, Martin L. and Jacob S. Stover, C. M. Doty, R. R. McCaslin and others.

## ORGANIZATION AND OFFICERS.

The first election was held Nov. 2, 1880, when Morah F. Russell, Aaron Smith and Thomas P. Clark were elected trustees; Aaron Smith, clerk; J. W. Carson, a justice; and J. W. O'Brien, assessor.

The succession of officers has been as follows:

TRUSTEES: M. F. Russell, 1881-89, '93-94; Aaron Smith, Thos. P. Clark, '81-82; Anthony Hudek, '82-84; Jeremiah W. Barnes, J. W. Carson, '85, 92, 98-1900; A. J. Stover, '86-98; Joseph Hudek, '86-88; Jason N. Russell, '89-91; Clel. Gilchrist, '90-92, 98; M. L. Stover, C. C. Bovee, '93-95; R. R. McCaslin, '95-97; W. B. Starkey, '96-99; M. F. Russell, 1900-02.

CLERKS: Aaron Smith, 1881; J. W. Carson, '82-84, 93-94; John H. Adams, '85-90; Anthony Hudek, '91-92; Frank Stacy, '95-96, B. T. Griffith, '97-1902.

JUSTICES: J. W. Carson '81-82; J. W. O'Brien '83-88; A. Hudek, '86-89, '98-1900; A. J. Wonderlich, Boy C. Boyeson, C. F. Boekenoogen, C. M. Doty, Rev. C. W. Clifton, A. Em-

bree, James Speer, C. L. Flint, 90-91.

ASSESSORS: J. W. O'Brien, '81-82; John H. Adams, '83-84; A. Hudek, '85-88; C. L. Flint, '89-91; John Sic, M. L. Stover, Henry Bourret.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND OFFICERS.

The first school house was built in 1877 on the nw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 4, near the home of Philip Hamble, who lived across the line in Washington township, to which Sherman was then attached. The first teachers in it were Sarah Reamer (Hamerson), Samuel Smith, Hattie Drown and Mrs. Matilda Smith, the latter during the summer and winter of 1881 and summer of 1882.

The first record of the school board is of date March 21, 1881, when the first school board consisting of C. F. Alchon, J. W. Carson and Aaron Smith met and organized by the election of C. F. Alchon, president; Jason N. Russell, secretary; and Morah F. Russell, treasurer.

The second school house was built in the Hudek neighborhood, district No. 7, by T. L. Dean in 1882, and the first teachers in it were James W. Carson and Cora Jones.

In 1883 the third school house was built and the new teachers employed that year were Emma Pfeiffer, Lulu C. Blake (Hamble) and Elizabeth O'Brien.

During this and the next two years John W. O'Brien hauled three and one-half tons of coal to each of the school houses for \$6 a ton.

In 1893 the last district, No. 3, was organized and supplied with a school house, and the pioneer building in the Hamble district was replaced by a new one located at the Center of the district, No. 2. The township then had nine districts and a good school house in each of them.

All the school houses in Sherman township are provided with good storm caves, flags and flag-poles; and nearly all of them have

pretty groves, consisting of larches, maples, box elders and evergreens, planted around them. In 1897 an addition of twenty feet was added to the center school house making it the largest rural school house in the county.

The succession of school officers has been as follows:

PRESIDENTS: C. F. Alchon, 1881; R. C. Jones, '82-85, 89; J. W. Carson, J. N. Russell, '87-88; J. M. Mills, J. H. Enc, A. M. Coville, M. L. Stover, '93-94; J. Marchbanks, W. B. Starkey, T. M. Olson, C. C. Bovee, J. M. Shull, '99-1900; Peter Kemmer, '01-02.

SECRETARIES: J. N. Russell, '81-83; B. T. Griffith, '84-86, 91-93; J. W. Carson, '87-88; Clel Gilchrist, '89-90; Thomas M. Olson, R. R. McCaslin, '95-97; Anthony Hudek, '98-1902.

TREASURERS: Morah F. Russell, '81-86; J. W. O'Brien, '87-90; Morah F. Russell, '95-1902.

TEACHERS: Among the early teachers in this township were Sarah Reamer, Samuel Smith, Hattie Drown, Mrs. Matilda Smith, J. W. Carson, Cora Jones, Emma Pfeiffer, who was the first in district No. 3; Lulu C. Blake, Elizabeth and Stella O'Brien, Clara Gilson, Jennie Bishop, Lona Hawley, Louisa Bennett, Ida Crouse, Mary A. Dooley, Mrs. Mary L. Eigler, Fretta Winegarden, Susie Clark, who in 1887 was the first in No. 4; Lillie Rose, Martha and Mary Kelly, Mary Clifton, Carrie Blake, Mary Bolton, Peter Donahoe, who in 1889 was the first male teacher employed; Addie Newton, Myra Russell, Louis T. and Mrs. Edith C. Button, Frank C. Rogers, Louisa and Edith Ludwig.

During each of the years, 1881 to 1884, the total enrollment of the children in the township was 7, 12, 17 and 20, respectively; and the number of them that attended school was 5, 11, 12 and 13, respectively.



## INTERESTING EVENTS.

The first child born in Sherman, then a part of Des Moines township was Edith, daughter of Jason N. Russell, whose birth occurred March 31, 1875. At the time of her marriage in 1899 she had attained the reputation of being the best teacher in the township.

The first religious services were held in the pioneer or Hamble school house, on the nw $\frac{1}{4}$  of sec. 4, about 1877; and J. W. Carson, who came in 1879, organized here the first Sunday school.

The harvester was first used in Sherman township in 1883, when Clel Gilchrist and J. Flagler cut the crops of Morah and Jason N. Russell and others.

The first postoffice was established in the store of W. S. Cox at Ware in 1900. During the early seventies mail was obtained once a week from Pocahontas.

The largest orchard was planted on the farm of Jason N. Russell on section 4.

The finest corner markers in this county are found in this township, on sec. 32, and were placed there by F. M. Robinson in 1888. These markers are of dressed rock, six inches square at the top and show the number of the adjoining sections. They were dressed for but not used in building the station at Missouri Valley, where Robinson the owner of a farm on sec. 32 and who had the numbers cut on them, was serving as ticket agent.

It was with stone posts, similar to these, but quarried, dressed and marked in England with the letters P. and M. on their opposite sides, that Charles Mason and James Dixon in 1766-67 surveyed and marked the previously troublesome boundary line, between Pennsylvania and Maryland, now commonly called the Mason and Dixon line. They placed a stone thus marked at the end of each mile, and

at the end of every fifth mile a larger one, having on its other sides the arms of the Penn family in the days of Richard Penn and those of Lord Baltimore.

May 14, 1893, a tornado that passed over Sherman, Grant and Lincoln townships destroyed the house of G. W. Madden on the sw $\frac{1}{4}$  18, the barn and sheds of Frank Stacy on nw $\frac{1}{4}$  32 and a vacant house of Moody & Davy on the same section. It occurred about 10 o'clock p. m. and the darkness for a short time was relieved by the appearance of electrical sparks attended with a snapping sound similar to the effect produced when the back of a cat is sometimes stroked in the dark. There was not very much rain but a vivid electrical display and the wind whirled the material of the buildings in every direction.

## WARE.

Ware, located on the nw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 17 and the se $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 8, along the line of the Gowrie & Northwestern branch of the C. R. I. & P. Ry. is a thriving village of 150 inhabitants. This is the newest town in the county and was named in honor of Francis L. Ware, of Chicago, who, owning 1480 acres in that vicinity, donated to the railroad company the usual right-of-way across the ne $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 17, and additional ground for depot and sidetracks at that place. The establishment of this town and Palmer was the result of a railroad passing through Pocahontas, the last county seat in Iowa, to be thus connected with the outside world. It is six and a half miles northwest of Pocahontas and about the same distance from Laurens. It is centrally located in a section of country that is comparatively new but as rich and productive as Ancient Egypt.

Mr. Ware, owing to his absence on the Pacific coast during 1900, did not plat his land at the depot until after his return the latter part of October. In the meantime Aug. Hamfeldt, of

Ottawa, Ill., owner of several hundred acres in this vicinity, through his agent, Paul Silberger, proceeded to plat and build up the town on the set sec. 8, just north of the depot. He built several store buildings and dwellings in the fall of 1900 and they were occupied as soon as they were completed.

The first buildings completed were the depot and the store of W. S. Cox, of Havelock, both of which were opened about Sept. 1, 1900. About Oct. 7, following, Leonard Sease was appointed postmaster and opened the Ware postoffice in this store. Wheeler's elevator was then completed and there were in progress of erection several other store buildings, a two story hotel, Counselman's elevator, the Jenkins-Hesla lumber sheds, and a number of cozy and comfortable homes. No other town in the county was growing so rapidly as Ware at this period, and the scene of so many new buildings springing up in a cornfield was a very interesting sight to passengers on the passing trains.

Feb. 18, 1901, before six months had passed after the completion of the first building, Hon. R. C. Barrett, state superintendent, visited the town and addressed the citizens of the community on the propriety of erecting a large central school building and consolidating the adjacent rural school districts.

The first public school was commenced in April, 1901, in the Hamfeldt block by Olive Jones, of Laurens.

The first religious services were held about this time in the opera house by Rev. C. W. Coons, of Havelock, and a Sunday school was organized. The Methodist Episcopal church was built that fall.

#### SAVINGS BANK.

The Ware Savings Bank was opened March 1, 1901, by the Allen Bros., of Laurens. On July 17, following,

it was incorporated by a board of directors consisting of Homer A. Miller, B. L. Allen, C. N. Carlson, M. T. Nilsson, C. S. Allen, and J. H. Allen, as the Ware Savings Bank of Ware, with a capital stock of \$10,000 and under the following persons as officers: B. L. Allen, president; M. T. Nilsson, vice-president; C. N. Carlson, secretary. This bank enjoys the confidence of the community and, like the postoffice, supplies a long felt public want.

#### CREAMERY.

The creamery of J. L. Blunt & Co. was erected at a cost of \$3,000 and opened June 18, 1902. The building is 20x50 with an addition 20x20, and it is equipped with all the latest improved machinery for making the best quality of butter. The patrons are supplied with separators at their homes and the proprietors of the creamery have given a guarantee to pay them, for their butter, within five cents of the highest quotations of the New York market. This creamery was built at a time when many in all parts of the state, managed in the old way by separating the cream in the creamery, have closed or contemplate doing so. The men who have taken the lead in this enterprise have shown much of pluck and energy, and are winning their patronage on the principle of merit. This is the basis of permanent success, the kind they hope to achieve. J. L. Blunt, the general manager, is successfully operating two other creameries in this section of the state. C. A. Vittum, secretary of the company, is a graduate of the dairy school at the Iowa State Agricultural College and stands at the head of his profession. Six thousand pounds of butter were made during the first month. J. H. Springer, the senior member of the firm, is the inventor of the Springer cream separator and has improved other separators. His family arrived at Ware in 1902,

from Norristown, Pa. They now live at Manson.

WARE IN 1902.

AGENT: C. R. I. & P. R'y; M. T. Rouse since Sept. 1, 1900.

BANK: Ware Savings, C. N. Carlson, cashier.

BARBER: L. Van Buskirk.

BLACKSMITH AND WAGONMAKER: John Dahl, successor of N. M. Hally.

CHURCH: M. E. built in 1901, dedicated Feb. 9, 1902 at a cost of \$2600.

CREAMERY: Springer and Blunt, 1902.

DRUGGIST: E. B. Pohle, Dr. Heathman.

ELEVATORS: Wheeler Grain and Coal Co., Daniel Davis, mgr.; Charles Counselman & Co., C. W. Miller, mgr.

GROCERIES, flour and feed: C. Dexter successor of R. E. Nibel, M. A. Smith.

HARDWARE: Johnson & Sen.

HOTEL: Ware Hotel, H. W. Herrington, successor of Henry Bourett and A. W. Hilton.

IMPLEMENTS. W. L. & E. C. Boyd; Kuhn & Schmidt; Hamilton & Dunahue.

LIVERY AND DRAY: Charles McCurg, successor of A. D. Barrick.

LUMBER AND COAL: Jenkins-Hesla Lumber Co., J. C. Herrington, successor of J. B. Harris, manager.

MERCHANTS: C. Dexter, M. A. Smith.

PAINTER: George Sanders.

POSTMASTER: Crolis Dexter, June 24, 1902 successor to Leonard Sease.

REAL ESTATE: Bash & Bourett, successors to J. W. Carson.

TEACHER: May Russell, successor of Olive Jones.

TELEPHONE: The Northern, E. B. Pohle, agent.

PUBLIC OFFICERS.

Sherman township has been represented by the following county officers:

SUPERVISOR: J. W. O'Brien, 1884-86.

SUPERINTENDENTS: Fred C. Gilchrist, '90-'91; Clel Gilchrist '92 - Nov.

7, '97; Norma L. Gilchrist, Nov. 7 to Dec. 31, '97.

LEADING CITIZENS.

**Barnes**, Jeremiah (b. 1812) was a native of Pennsylvania. About 1845 he married Margaret Jane Hogg. He rendered military service as a soldier during the civil war. In 1875, accompanied by his wife and four of his six children, Albert, Milton, Sarah Jane and Elizabeth, he located on the east  $\frac{1}{2}$  of sec. 8, Sherman township, which he was the first to occupy and improve. He served as one of the early trustees of the township. He died at 75 in the year 1887. In 1894 the family moved to Eldyville, Oregon.

**Boyesen** Boy E. (b. 1861), owner and occupant of a farm on sec 14, since 1883, is a native of Germany and a stepson of Hans Tychsen, with whom, coming to America in 1875, he located in Clinton county, Iowa, and in 1883 in Sherman township this county. He was the pioneer occupant of the first 160 acres of this farm. He has improved it with ample buildings for taking care of a large amount of stock and has been quite successful, having increased the farm to 440 acres. He is one of the leading stock men in the township.

In 1885 he married Betty Fallmer, and she died in 1895 leaving three children, Harry, Andrew and William. In 1896 he married Mary Marholz and their family consists of one child, Louie.

Hans Tychsen (b. 1845) his stepfather is now a resident of Washington township.

**Clifton**, Charles Wesley, Rev. (b. 1841) owner and occupant of 183 acres on sec. 3, is a native of Gilead, Miami county, Ind., the son of Nathan and Mary Smith Clifton. In 1843 he moved with his parents to Marshall county, Ind., where he grew to manhood and received his education, which



consisted of a course in the public schools and two years in the college at Valparaiso. In May 1865, after teaching four terms he enlisted as a member of Co H, 138 Ind. Vol. Inf., and served nine months. In 1866 he married Adaline Cole (b. 1847) and the next year located on a rented farm near Lake City, Iowa.

In 1869 he acquiesced in a request to enter the ministry of the M. E. church on account of the lack of missionaries, left the farm and was assigned the Peterson circuit in Clay county, which he served two years. In 1870 he became a member of the Des Moines and two years later of the North West Iowa conference when it was formed in 1872. During the twenty-five years of his ministry he served the following fields: Peterson, two years; Smithland, Sac City, Newell and Fonda, Goldfield, Irvington, Primghar, each one year; Old Rolfe, Rutland, Luverne, Hull, Ruthven, and Lake Park, each two years; Ashton, Akron and Inwood, each one year.

He became identified first with this county in the fall of 1873, when, stationed at Newell he supplied Fonda and occasionally preached at Sunk Grove. He came to this field just after the grasshoppers had cleaned out everything on the few and widely separated farms, and received only \$350 of the \$400 pledged. Unable to supply himself with overshoes and an overcoat until near Christmas, he protected himself with quilts while driving over the country.

He became a resident of the county first in 1878, when he was assigned to the old Rolfe circuit, which included Rolfe and Coopertown in Des Moines township, the appointments at the Strong and Heathman schoolhouses in Powhatan and at the Hamble and J. C. Strong schoolhouses in Washington townships. There was not a church building on this mission field

and the salary was fixed at \$400. He preached five years before he enjoyed the privilege of serving a field that had in it a church building. Although his salary was small and he seldom received all of it, he always made it a rule to live within his means and pay as he went. He was frequently offered homesteads during the period of his ministry but he always declined them because he wished to be a man of one work. He greatly enjoyed his work as a missionary and endeavored to do it well, because he was laying foundations. He united with the church at thirteen and has made a life long record of faithful and efficient service in the Master's vineyard.

In 1895 he located on his farm near Havelock, which he purchased in 1881 at \$4.50 and \$5.00 an acre, the funds for this investment having been realized from the sale of his stock when he quit farming in 1869. He has improved this farm with neat and cozy buildings and after the lapse of twenty years it is worth ten times what he originally paid for it. He has been a republican since he was in the army in 1864, and in 1887 lacked only 61 votes of being elected auditor of this county.

Adaline Cole, his estimable wife, was raised on a farm near Walkerton, Indiana, and in 1867, the year after their marriage, came with him to Iowa in a lumber wagon. She has cheerfully shared his itinerant experiences on the frontier, living often in log cabins before the day of comfortable parsonages. From her scanty store she has ministered to the wants of many weary heralds of the cross of all denominations. She left others, whom she believed could do it better, to meet the demands of society. She has endeavored to make the home happy and comfortable, and her children "arise and call her blessed, her husband also and he praiseth her." She

loves the farm, and is much attached to it and now devotes considerable time to cultivating flowers and raising pure bred poultry.

His family consists of five children.

Mary, in 1889, married C. M. Ather-ton, a farmer, lives near Sheldon and has a family of five children.

Lulu Ines, a deaconess, located first at Falls River, Mass., and is now at Omaha, Neb.

Alvah Nathan, is the owner of a farm of 240 acres in Monona county.

Charles Cole, a butter maker, is at Luana.

John Eltsie, is at home.

**Gilchrist, James C.**, Prof (b. May 20, 1831; d. Aug. 12, 1897), founder of the Iowa State Normal School at Cedar Falls, and owner of a farm in Sherman and Washington townships, since 1884, was a native of Allegheny, Pa., the son of James Cleland Gilchrist, who was of scotch descent. In his boyhood and youth he acquired the discipline of hard work incident to farm life and at nineteen, to satisfy his thirst for knowledge, he became a student at Mahoning Institute, Poland, Ohio, where he remained, teaching at intervals during the next three years. In 1854 he entered Antioch college, Yellow Springs, O., of which Horace Mann, the celebrated educator was president. After his graduation he served successively as superintendent of the schools at Republic and Marlboro, O., and New Brighton, Pa.

He then became principal of the Seminary at California, Washington Co., Pa. At the end of five years of prosperous labors he projected the plan and successfully converted this institution into a State Normal School. He continued at the head of it during the next six years. He served as Superintendent of Washington county during three years of this period, and, under his leadership, there was developed a general revival

in the educational work of that county.

In 1871 he accepted an invitation to aid in the organization and establishment of a State Normal school at Fairmount, in the new state of West Virginia.

In 1872, in accordance with an oft expressed wish, he came to Iowa and became superintendent of the public schools in Mason City. He introduced the schools into the elegant building, then completed, and systematized the educational work in that rapidly growing city.

In June 1876 he was elected president of the Iowa State Normal School at Cedar Falls, for the establishment of which he had previously taken the lead in having the General Assembly of Iowa that year make its first appropriation. This institution was organized under his personal direction, and, during the ten years that he continued at the head of it, it developed so rapidly as to become one of the most important educational institutions in the state and rank among the best Normal Schools in the country.

In 1885 he and several of his associate instructors, retired from this institution, and he established the Upper Iowa Normal at Algona, where he remained until 1890. During that year the Northwest Conference of the M. E. church, proposing to found a university at Sioux City, elected him and he began to fill the chair of Didactics. When the financial panic came, two or three years later, and caused the temporary suspension of this enterprise, he retired to his farm, in this county, which had been in charge of Cleland, his oldest son, since the time of its purchase in 1884. He died at 67, August 12, 1897.

He was a member of the M. E. church, received ordination as a minister and preached to scores of congregations, but preferred educational work to a local pastorate. He was a

life member of the National Educational Association and was president of the Normal School section of it at the meeting in Chatauqua, N. Y., in 1890. His services were in great demand at teachers' institutes, and he served as an instructor or lecturer at more than a hundred of them, including at least one in every county in Iowa. He wrote a number of articles for educational periodicals, and in 1888 a work entitled, "Iowa, Its Geography, History and Resources," that was published by G. G. Merrill, St. Paul. He left the manuscript for another volume, entitled, "Education. Its Principles and Practice." This was intended to be a text book for the use of Normal schools, institutes and private students.

He was an ambitious and indefatigable worker. He did not stand around with his hands in his pockets, as if appalled at the magnitude of an undertaking, but with a faith that removed mountains pushed on to the successful achievement of the object of his ambition. He might over estimate his resources or ability to put a mountain behind him, but having launched an enterprise he turned neither to the right or left hand, and looking to God for results, pressed on with a super human energy, until he over came the most serious obstacles. During the early days of the Iowa State Normal he made large contributions out of his own pocket to supply equipment that could not otherwise be provided. After he became the head of educational institutions, not a year passed that he was not a benefactor of one or more young people, who, under adverse circumstances, were endeavoring to obtain an education. There were times when half his income was used in this way. He was ceaseless in his labors for the institutions he represented, and found a cordial cooperation in his estimable wife who, surviving him,

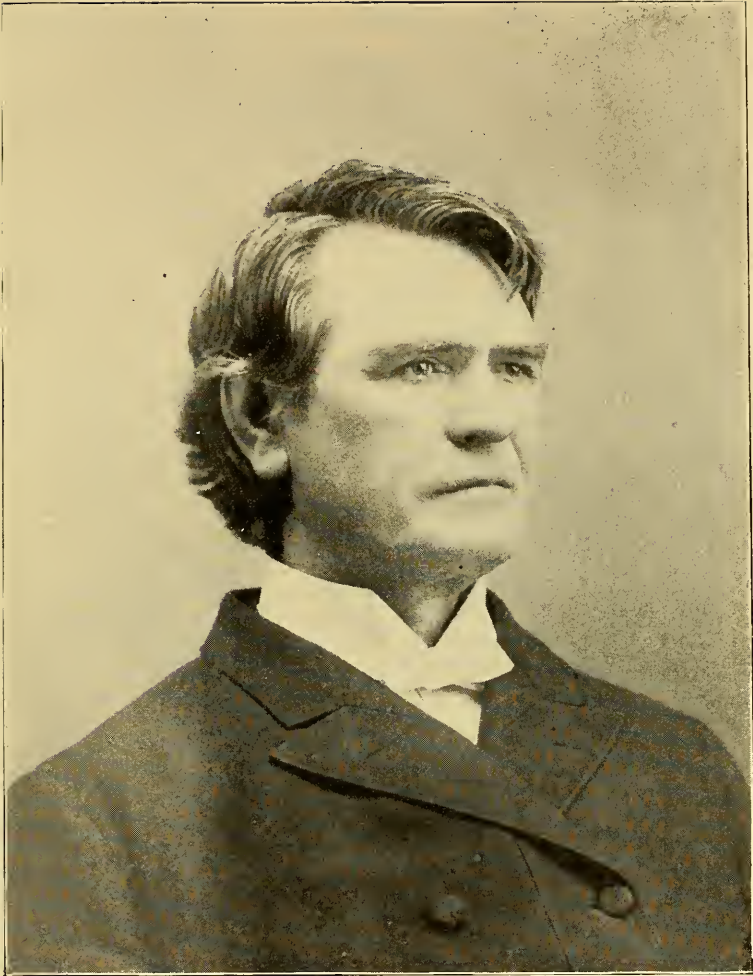
had opportunity of perceiving the meed of praise and honor that a grateful people stood ready to bestow upon him, "whose meritorious services to the state entitled his memory to perpetual recognition "

Dec. 23, 1897, a special service was held in his honor at the Iowa State Normal School, Cedar Falls, at which his successor, President Homer Seerley, presided and memorial tributes were rendered by Hon. E. H. Thayer, of Clinton, Prof. D. S. Wright, of the Normal School and Hon. Henry Sabin, of Des Moines.

The story of his struggles to secure an education is eloquent with inspiration and encouragement to every youth similarly situated. He never lacked encouragement at home, but that was all he could there expect. Having to depend on his own resources while pursuing his studies in the academy, he did not hesitate to work in the harvest fields during vacation, or to serve as janitor and teach occasional classes in the academy, in order that he might supplement the meager savings received from teaching country schools. In pursuing his collegiate studies at Antioch, he alternately taught a village school and resumed his place in that institution, where he seemed to have reached the summit of his educational ambition, when he sat at the feet of Horace Mann, America's greatest teacher."

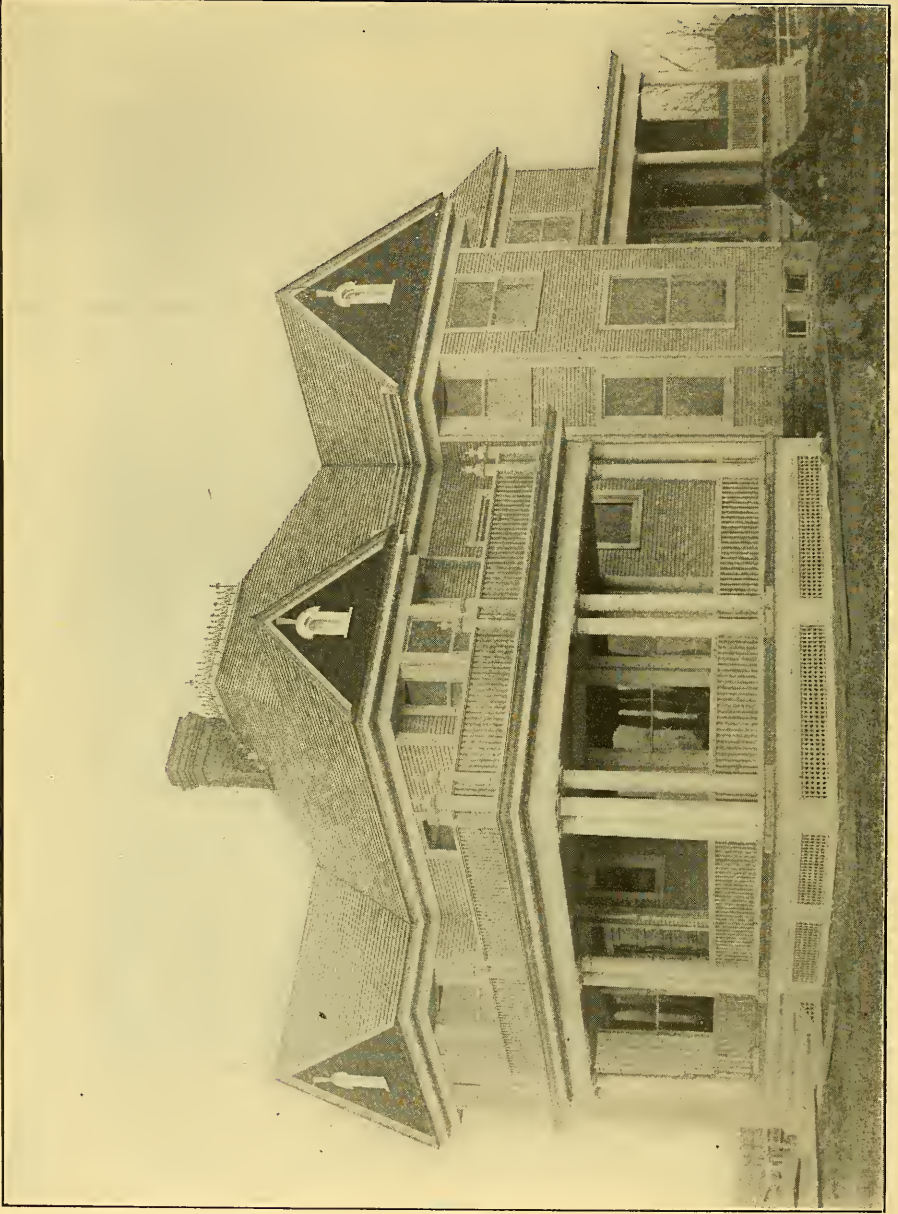
He was principal, at the inception of seven important educational institutions, three of which were State Normal Schools. It was his mission in life to lay foundations rather than to rear superstructures. This feature of his life's work requiring frequent changes of location, brought him in contact with multitudes of teachers and pupils, that he could not have reached in any single institution. He inspired, with the force of his own unique personality, a vast army of





PROF. JAMES C. GILCHRIST, 1831-1897.

FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE IOWA STATE NORMAL SCHOOL, 1876-1885.



RESIDENCE OF CHARLES S. ALLEN, LAURENS.

pupils that numbered tens of thousands.

He possessed strong convictions as to the value of professional training for teachers, and was an eloquent champion of the State Normal School. Heartily endorsing the American system of public schools, he insisted the Normal School was a necessary adjunct to it. He regarded teaching as a learned profession and exalted learning, including didactics, as a prerequisite to filling the teacher's desk. The true teacher must be profoundly versed in his subject and know the most approved methods of instruction. He who would train the minds of children and youth must know something of the character and qualities of mind; he who would shape the destiny of others should have some adequate conception of what that means to the individual.

He entertained exalted ideas of the mission of the teacher, on account of the potent influence the teacher wields over the minds of youth. Believing the teachers in our free schools wielded a power so great, that they might justly be made responsible for the principles that should underlie this government in the 20th century, he embraced every opportunity of impressing upon parents the fact, that the teachers had more to do in moulding and forming the mind, character, disposition and ambition of the child than they themselves. "He often spoke of the dignity of the teacher's work, emphasizing the fact that, his influence was never-ending. It is seen in the results of education—grand men and women—and in the rewards that lie beyond. In his public addresses he emphasized the need of good citizenship, salvation from sin and a godly life; and declared failure in these things a calamity."

He was preeminently a thinker, delighted in abstruse investigation and often expressed the conviction that

the boys and girls in our public schools are not properly taught how to think. They are left to solve the problems in the text book by the author's rules and no hint is given them that original thought is either a possible or desirable accomplishment. It is a great thing, an inestimable privilege to teach another, but it is a grander thing to inspire him to be, to do, to think.

"Think for thyself; one good idea,  
known to be thine own,  
Is better than a thousand gleaned  
from fields by others sown."

As an educational thinker he was conservative, rather than radical. Convinced that some things were essential and constant, he abominated fads that would displace them. When the Quincy methods became the fad he did not hesitate to proclaim publicly as well as privately, that there was nothing good in the "new education" that was really new. That the maxim "Learn to do by doing" had been the guide of every true teacher and of every successful learner from the days of Comenius (1592-1671), the Slavic educational reformer. He believed in toiling hard for knowledge and that the educational discipline that results from thorough study is one of the best things acquired by the student.

In 1858 he married Hannah Cramer, a teacher in the schools of Warren, O. She is now a resident of Laurens. Six of their family of ten children are living.

Cleland (b. 1860) became a resident of Pocahontas county in 1882 and engaged in teaching and farming. He managed the affairs on the farm, while his father and other members of his family pursued their educational work or studies elsewhere. He served as secretary of the school board of Sherman township and five years and ten months (1892-97) as superintendent in this county, when he resigned



on account of ill health. After spending one year in Colorado, during which he regained his health, he returned to this county and located at Pocahontas, where he has since been engaged as a carpenter and contractor.

Maud, a teacher, has given special attention to the Natural sciences, having prosecuted her studies in these branches in the schools of America and Europe. She has held the chair of Natural science in the Iowa State Normal School at Cedar Falls, has been professor of Botany in Wellesley, College, Mass., of which institution she is a graduate, and Lady Principal of the Illinois Female College. She is now Dean of the woman's department of the State Agricultural College at Lansing, Michigan.

Charles Willard, (b. 1866), a salesman, is a resident of Havelock. In 1890 he married Florence Hinkley, a daughter of a Pocahontas county pioneer, and has a family of six children: James, Charles, Pierre, Claude, Richard, and a baby girl.

Fred C. Hon., (b. June 2, 1868), is a native of Washington county, Pa. but has grown to manhood in Pocahontas county. He is a graduate of the Iowa State Normal and of the law department of the State University. After teaching in the rural schools and serving as principal at Laurens one year and at Rolfe two years, he was, on reaching his majority in 1889, elected superintendent of schools in this county. He served in this capacity two years, 1890-91, and was the youngest official of the kind in the state. In 1892 he handed this office over to Cleland Gilchrist, his oldest brother, and turned his attention to the study of law. Upon receiving his degree in 1893, he commenced the practice of his profession at Laurens, where he still resides.

In 1899 he presided at the judicial convention held in Algona and, at the representative convention held at

Rolfe, July 11, 1901, though not an active candidate, he received the vote of all the delegates on the first ballot and thus became the republican nominee for the legislature. This unexpected nomination, which was intended to harmonize the factions that had arisen that season in this senatorial district, was a very high compliment. His election that fall was a natural sequence to the unanimity expressed at the time of his nomination.

He is an attorney of ability and promise. As an advocate of republican principles and policies, he has won the gratitude of his friends and respect of his opponents. On Feb. 13, 1902, when the pioneer lawmakers were the guests of the House, he made one of the principal addresses. During his service in the legislature of 1902 he was several times called to the chair by Speaker Eaton and made an impression so favorable upon the members of that body, that he was frequently referred to as a good candidate for the speakership in the next Assembly.

In 1896 he married Ella Hurley and has three children: Francis, Fred Cleland and Mavis,

Grace G., a graduate of the Iowa State Normal and a teacher, in 1899 married Joseph H. Allen, a banker, and lives at Pocahontas.

Norma L., a teacher, while teaching at Pocahontas, Nov. 8, 1897, was appointed superintendent of the schools in this county, in place of her brother Cleland, who resigned, and filled that office during the next two months. She has since spent much time in pursuing special studies in Oberlin and Wellesley Colleges. Her home is with her mother at Laurens.

**Hall, L. D.** (b. 1817; d. 1898) was a native of Pittstown, N. Y. In 1841, at Whitingham, Vt., he married Lucinda Morse. In 1852 he moved to Ohio and, in 1854, to West Liberty, Iowa. After successive residences at

Iowa City and Tama county, in 1883 he located in Sherman township, this county. In 1898 he died at 80 at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Betsey A, Phelps, near Havelock. His family consisted of two sons and one daughter. One son died at nine and George M. lives at Reinbeck.

**Hamfeldt**, August (b. 1858), an enterprising man, who will always be remembered in connection with the early history of Ware, is a native of Germany, where he received a good college education. In 1881 he came to America, empty handed, and found profitable employment with a wholesale house in New York City. He met with good success in his business enterprises and, in making an investment some years ago, purchased the land on which, in 1900, he had surveyed and platted the town of Ware. In building up this town he found an opportunity for that push and enterprise that has characterized his business life. He became a resident of the town in the fall of 1900, at which time several buildings had been built by his agent, Paul Silberger. He erected four of the first dwelling houses, one two story double and three one story business blocks in the town, and tendered their use to others at a low rental. He speaks several languages fluently and is a man of energy, pluck and good business methods. He has accumulated considerable wealth by prudent and profitable investments, and has greatly enjoyed the work of building up the town of Ware.

**Hudek**, Joseph (b. 1844), a resident of section 25, is a native of Bohemia, and one of the most prosperous farmers in the township. In 1867 he came to America and located in Jones county, Wis., where his parents and other members of their family also located. Anthony, his father, died there in 1883 and his mother at 80 in 1895. In 1878 Joseph married Hellena Wilhelm and, accompanied by his wife and

Anthony, a younger brother, came to Pocahontas county, Iowa, and located on the sw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec 25 Sherman township. He has improved this farm with fine buildings and groves and increased it to 680 acres. He is a good farmer and has made a splendid use of his opportunities to raise and feed stock. He regards this a very fine country and has endeavored to do his part in the matter of its material, moral and educational development. He is one of the founders of the Catholic church and parochial school at Pocahontas and has continued to give these institutions his liberal support.

His wife died at 37 in 1888 leaving a family of four children, Josephine, Frank, Joseph and John. Josephine in 1899 married Frank Stoullil, a farmer, and lives near Pocahontas.

In 1889 he married Anna, daughter of Theresa Wassel, and their family consists of five children, Edward, Alfred, Rudolph, William, and Albert.

**Hudek**, Anthony (b. Boh. 1851) brother of Joseph, is also a resident of section 25 and the owner of a finely improved farm of 760 acres. He came to Jones county, Wis., with his parents in 1868 and to this county with his brother in 1878. Both located on the same farm and worked together during the first two years. In 1879 Anthony married Mary, daughter of Michael and Annie Bartosh, who were among the first settlers in Center township. He has been very successful as a farmer and his buildings are among the largest and best in Sherman township. His present dwelling house was built in 1888 and barn in 1893. He believes in converting the grain he raises, which usually grades low, into fat hogs and cattle, that command the highest market price. His annual output of stock is a beautiful sight as well as a source of financial profit. He has filled with credit all the important township offices, having served two years as a

trustee and clerk, four as assessor, five as secretary of the school board and seven as a justice.

His family consists of seven children, James, Annie, Joseph, Mary, Elizabeth, Ellanora and Louis.

**Russell**, Morah Frink (b. 1840), one of the first residents of Sherman township, is a native of Michigan. In his youth he came to Dubuque county, Iowa, where in 1869 he married Jemima, daughter of Benjamin Mather, and located on a farm. In March 1872 he came to Pocahontas county and located on eighty acres on the sw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec 4 Sherman township. He has improved this farm with fine buildings and groves, increased it to 240 acres and still occupies it. His first house built in 1872 was the first one in the township. As the years have passed the pioneer buildings have been replaced by larger and more modern structures that would be a credit to any community. The barn 40x80 and 18 foot posts, was built in 1892. He believed in planting trees and his buildings are protected by a large and valuable grove. He planted fruit trees also and now enjoys their annual yield. He assisted in the organization of the township in 1880 and has been a very popular officer ever since, having served as treasurer of the school funds, nineteen of the twenty-two years since that date and fifteen as a trustee. In 1874 he cut his first crop of wheat with a cradle and his wife bound it after him.

His family consists of eight children.

Myra L. in 1891 married Anson Parker. They live on their own farm in Harris county, Texas, and have four children, Daisy, Ora, Nelson, and Elden.

Mary E., in 1890 married William S. Taylor and lives in Wisconsin. Three of their four children are living, James R., Gertrude J., and Fac.

Alice E. in 1892 married David Ashmore. They live in Minnesota and have five children, Ferne, Bessie J., Mary Alice, Walter W. and Edna L.

May, a teacher, in 1899 married Rola Schriver.

Jessie R., Emory, William H., and Lulu E. are at home.

**Russell**, Jason N. (b. 1844) the first resident of Sherman township, is a native of Michigan. In 1870 he came to Pocahontas county with J. C. Strong, his brother in-law, and bought the n $\frac{1}{2}$  ne $\frac{1}{4}$  sec 4, 106 acres. He was the first to break the virgin prairie of the township and did it that summer while he lived with Jonathan L. Clark and family (sec 30 Washington), who had come with him and Strong from Dubuque county. In 1871 he built the first cabin, 12x16 feet and became the first resident of the township. His brother, Harvey S. Russell, came and lived with him in the cabin a year and a half, having previously bought 106 acres on the same section, and then returned to Dubuque.

Dec. 18, 1872 he married Maggie, daughter of Philip Hamble in Dubuque county and, on his return the next spring, he was accompanied by Philip Hamble and family, who located on sec 33 Washington township. He served three years as the first secretary of the school board, two as its president and three as a trustee.

He increased the original farm to 320 acres, improved it with good buildings, groves and orchard and occupied it until 1902, when he accompanied Philip Hamble to Long Beach, near Los Angeles, Cal.

His family consisted of six children.

Edith E., a teacher, in 1899 married L. D. Smith, a hardwareman, and located, first in Havelock and in 1902 in California.

Mary A., a teacher, in 1900 married Ora Crummer. (See Crummer)



Irene, Lewis F., John H., and Hugh Hamble are at home.

**Russell**, Harvey S., brother of Morah and Jason, in 1869, through James C. Strong, effected the purchase of a farm of 103 acres on sec. 4, and living with Jason, began its improvement in 1871. After one year he returned to Dubuque county. In 1877 he returned to his farm on sec. 4 and has continued to manage it, living with his brother, Jason.

Morah and Jason Russell, as pioneers on the frontier, enjoyed the rare distinction of officially participating in the organization of two townships in this county, namely, Washington in 1876 and Sherman in 1880. At the organization of Washington township Jason Russell was elected and served as one of its first trustees four years, 1877-80, and was assessor in 1879. Morah Russell served as the first assessor of Washington two years, '77-78, clerk two years, '79-80, and first president of the school board two years, '77-78. Harvey S. Russell was a trustee of Washington in 1880.

This early record in Washington followed by the later and longer one in Sherman township indicates that these men have been leading and influential citizens as well as pioneers. They have manifested an integrity that was above suspicion, possessed a courage that enabled them to face the trials and dangers incident to a home on the frontier and discovered an industry that has been crowned with successful achievement. These qualities have been the special heritage of many of the pioneers of this section, and they have enabled them to lay broad and deep the foundation of the best civilization and government in the world.

**Stacy**, Frank (b. 1860), one of the leading farmers of Sherman township, is a native of Potter Co., Pa. His father died during his infancy and at

two years he came with his mother to Bureau Co., Ill., and at fourteen to Grundy County, Iowa. In 1881 he married Mary Adams and, locating on a farm, remained there until 1888, when he became the pioneer occupant of the nw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 32, Sherman township. He has improved this farm with good buildings and increased it to 320 acres. He has had to triumph over many disappointments and embarrassments in order to achieve success. His barn and 100 feet of sheds were destroyed by a tornado in 1893 and the first and second plantings of trees were killed by droughts and other causes. He is manifesting that perseverance and pluck that insures success. He served as clerk of the township two years, 1895-96.

**Stover**, Andrew Jackson, (b. 1847.) the pioneer owner and occupant of a farm on sec. 9, is a native of Illinois, the son of Emmanuel and Mary Ann Stover. In 1869 he came with his parents to Marshall county, Iowa, where in 1870 he married Jane Dickerson, who died in 1877, leaving five children, Charles E., Calvin U., Andrew S., Artie B. and Oscar W. Soon after her decease he moved to Grundy county, where in 1879 he married Jane Hilton. In 1880 he located on his present farm, which he has improved with fine buildings that are always kept in the best looking condition. He has devoted considerable attention to raising pure bred stock,—Poland China hogs and Polled Angus cattle,—and has achieved a well merited success on the farm. He participated in the organization of the township and served as a trustee eighteen years.

His family consisted of eight children:

Charles E., a farmer in 1896 married Olive Ashmore and occupies a farm in Sherman township.

Calvin U., a farmer in 1897 married Christie Berry.

Artie B., in 1897 married Clarence Hopkins.

Oscar W., in 1900 married Venia Berry.

Andrew S., in 1902 married Nellie B. Stover.

James H., Mary E. and Agnes are at home.

In 1883 his sister, Eliza Ann (Alexander) McLain and family located in Marshall township and in 1890 his brothers, Martin L. and Jacob S, located in Sherman township.

**Stover**, Martin Luther, (b. 1848.) is a native of Ogle county, Ill., where in 1872 he married Emma C. Evans and located on a farm. In 1890 he located in Sherman township where he has lived on several rented farms and is now the occupant of the s½ sec. 17, owned by F. L. Ware. He was elected assessor of Sherman township before he had completed a year's residence in it, and served eight years in that capacity. He has been a trustee three years and served as president of the school board. He has been a member of the republican county

committee during the last four years and takes as much interest in the affairs of Ware as though he were one of its business men. He is one of the prominent men of that vicinity.

His family has consisted of five children:

Lewis A. (b. 1873 ) in 1894 married Ida Hurley and has three children.

Harry died at 20 in 1896.

Nellie B. in 1902 married Andrew S. Stover.

Clara May in 1900 married Frank Speer.

Roy E. (b. 1888.) is at home.

**Stover**, Jacob S., brother of A. J., is a native of Illinois. In 1889 in Marshall county, he married Ida Crouse and the next year located on the se¼ sec. 15, Sherman township, which he was the first to occupy and improve. He has been very successful as a farmer and is now the owner of 240 acres. The buildings erected are among the best ones in the township.

His family consists of two children, Hazel and Gladys.



## XXVI.

### SWAN LAKE TOWNSHIP.

Once upon the prairie, as the sun was sinking,  
One might have seen the cabin of a pioneer;  
Its clapboard roof, lagging to the rear,  
Its walls rejecting their inartistic chinking.  
Among the groves that by the streamlets nestle,  
No more is heard the noise of freighter's camp;  
But in its stead the strange gigantic tramp  
Of railway trains upon the rumbling trestle,  
Good-bye, old cabin,—  
Faithfully have you performed your trust,  
And sheltered manly worth and moral vigor.

—Eugene F. Ware.

Believe me, the talent of success is nothing more than doing what you can, and doing well whatever you do—without a thought of fame.—Hyperion.

#### GENERAL FEATURES.



SWAN LAKE township (93 34) formed a part of Des Moines township until Sept. 7, 1866, and then of Powhatan until Sept. 4, 1871, when, in response to the petition of Geo. W. Proctor and others it was established in its present form as Swan Lake township.

To build, to plant, whatever you intend,

To rear the column, or the arch to bend,

To swell the terrace, or to sink the gout,

In all let nature never be forgot.—Pope.

This township has two of the largest lakes in the county near the center of it, a mile and a half northwest of Laurens. The larger one on sections 16 and 17 is called, "Swan Lake," by reason of its fancied resemblance to the body of a swan, and the smaller one, just east of it on section 15, "Muskrat Lake." A skirting of timber on the east and south banks of Swan Lake made its shores an attractive resting place and favorite camping ground, to those who journeyed east and west.

These lakes are very near each other and are connected by a narrow channel. Their outlet through the north branch of Cedar creek, which flows southward a few rods east of Laurens,



is at the southeastern extremity of Muskrat Lake.

During the drought period of 1894 and 1895 these lakes became dry, and the board of supervisors having notified the public that they belonged to the county, M. Peters offered the Board \$4,000 for these and the other unoccupied and unsold lake beds of the county. This bid was held under advisement until Sept. 2, 1895, and then the disposal of these lands was deferred until April, 1896. They were then filled with water and have not been dry since.

The parties, who about this period purchased the south one of the Twin Lakes in Calhoun county and in 1899 filed a swamp-land quit-claim deed from Callinan & Savery, were later successfully enjoined from draining it, and the swamp-land claims of Callinan & Savery, that clouded the titles of many farms in that and adjoining counties, were held to be invalid.

The decision in the case of Owl Lake, near Humboldt, was different. In this case Geo. R. Pearsons of Fort Dodge in 1885 received from Humboldt county, in consideration for his services in securing and constructing the original Fort Dodge & Fort Ridgely railroad, now the M. & St. L., received a deed for Owl Lake and the adjacent swamp lands in that county. He then expended a large amount of money in the improvement of these lands, including the construction of the largest ditch in the state, at that time, through Owl lake. A number of squatters then located on the bed of the lake, that had thus become dry, and disputed in the courts the title to the land. The Attorney General of the state then instituted proceedings for the same purpose and the final verdict of the U. S. Supreme Court, approving the title of Geo. R. Pearsons, was rendered in 1902.

In the fall of 1897 M. E. DeWolf

and others, securing the approval and a small appropriation from the board of supervisors, built a dam at the outlet of Swan Lake so as to maintain the water in it at the former natural level. Pickerel Lake, three miles northwest of Swan Lake in Buena Vista county, though not so large is deeper than the latter and both are now well stocked with pickerel, buffalo and other kinds of fish.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT.

John B. Strouse, who secured the ne $\frac{1}{2}$  sec. 16, on the east bank of Swan Lake, and began to occupy it June 1, 1869, was the first settler in Swan Lake township. He was accompanied at this time by his brother-in-law, Isaac W. Peed, who selected as a homestead the se $\frac{1}{2}$  sec. 14, but did not begin to occupy and improve it until the next year.

John B. Strouse returning to Warren county, with I. W. Peed, arrived with his family, and goods at Swan Lake, July 7, 1869. He built first a log cabin, 11x12 feet and five feet high at the eaves. The roof was covered with clapboards and dirt. It had no window, the floor was on the ground and the door was closed with a blanket.

At the time of his first visit to this place it was in the center of a large stretch of uninhabited country, the nearest house being eleven miles northwest and the nearest on the east on the Fort Dodge route being that of Samuel Booth, twelve miles distant in Powhatan. As this place was midway between the settlements along the Des Moines and Little Sioux rivers, it became necessary for him to entertain a great many travelers and he soon built a one story frame house in which he kept hotel.

Gilbert G. Wheeler on 30, Geo. W. Proctor and John D. Proctor, his father, on 20, were the next to arrive. These families located near each

other three miles southwest of Swan Lake.

In September 1869 David H. Hayes and family located north of the lake, on sec. 9. He improved and occupied this farm until sometime during the early 80's, when he and his wife died, leaving a family of five children, some of whom are still residents of the township.

In 1870 Isaac W. Peed located on his homestead east of the lake. He improved and occupied it four years and then moved to Boone county.

In 1871 James W. Taylor (16) and Oscar A. Pease(30) located south of the lake. Taylor the next year went to Nebraska and was succeeded by Benjamin Brown, who two years later sold out to Alexander McEwen. Thomas W. Merchant and Park C. Harder also arrived.

In 1874 W. R. Mather located on 26, and the next year Mr. and Mrs. John Strouse, parents of John B., and their son, Alpheus H. Strouse and family arrived and located south of Swan lake. Charles L. Strong, Wm. H. Drown, Joseph Morton and others were residents at this time.

In 1879 there came Henry H. Brower (b. N. Y. 1841.) on 7, Philip E. Baker (b. Ind. 1850.) on 15 and A. L. Wood (b. N. Y. 1845.) on 29. In 1880 John Pettit located on 19 and C. L. Strong returned to Powhatan.

In 1882, with the railroad and founding of Laurens, there came J. L. Hopkins (b. Conn. 1841.) on 19, T. Davidson (b. Iowa, 1855 ) on 23, Adam Roehlk (b. Ger. 1840.) on 24 and W. T. Rush on 36. Also Geo. W. Leverich, S. F. Sturdivan, Shoemaker Bros., Hiram Herrold, J. H. Queal & Co., S. R. Overton, Agt., Dr. J. M. Carroll, Nelson Parker, T. J. Nelson and G. H. Gammon at Laurens.

In 1883 and '84 there arrived Fred Dubbert and August Roewe on 36, and Frank DeKlotz on 35; and at Laurens,

E. A. Caswell, jeweler; W. R. Dwiggins, hotel keeper; Frank G. Thornton and Dr. J. H. Farson.

In 1885 there was a large immigration and among those that came then were Philip Kemp, Hans D. Stater, N. J. Nilsson, J. R. Greene, Samuel Tibbits, Jacob and Geo. W. Wright, to the rural districts; and Hakes Bros., merchants; L. E. Lange, editor; H. O. Austin, harness maker, and M. H. Murray to Laurens.

In 1886 there came Charles S. and Benjamin L. Allen, Geo T. Johnson, M. Messinger, J. M. Edmundson Jr., John Cook, W. J. Martin, S. H. Spickler and others.

#### STOCK FARMS.

The settlement of Swan Lake township is far more recent than that of many other parts of this county. Many of the farmers in it, however, have founded beautiful homes, are raising and fattening stock with profit and have manifested a considerable pride in giving a special and an attractive name to their farms. The plat book of 1901 shows more "stock farms" in Swan Lake township than in any other township in the county. They are as follows: Box Elder, by C. C. Krug on 34; Early Dawn, by John Shuler on 16; Evergreen, by Geo. Aschenbrenner on 35; Green Valley, by Gust Hackerson on 4; Highland, by Hans Stuter on 15; Maple Grove, by August Roewe, Jr. on 36; Orchard, by Geo. Reinhart on 9; Pocahontas, by W. D. Cottrell on 5; Swan Lake by C. F. Carlson on 3, and Willow Grove, by Adam Roehlk on 23.

#### SWAN LAKE, GABLOCK AND LAURENS POSTOFFICES.

Previous to 1877 the residents of the west part of Swan Lake township had to go to Sioux Rapids for their mail. Nov. 1, 1877 Swan Lake postoffice was established at the home of Charles L. Strong, on sec. 16, on the route from Pocahontas to Sioux Rapids, and he was appointed postmaster. Thirty

days later the name was changed to "Garlock" in honor of A. O. Garlock, then serving as county auditor. In June 1879 C. L. Strong resigned and the office was discontinued.

April 1, 1882, the Laurens postoffice was established in the store of Geo. W. Leverich and he was appointed postmaster. The succession of postmasters at Laurens has been as follows:

Geo. W. Leverich, April 1, 1882-84; Frank G. Thornton, April 1, '84-85; Montague Hakes, August 1, '85-89; Charles E. Herrick, May 1, '89-90; Geo. T. Johnson, January 1, '91-93; Louie E. Lange, January 1, 93-97; Wm. F. Atkinson, the present incumbent, since October 1, 1897.

In 1893 Laurens became a presidential office and it now ranks as one of the third class.

In December 1900 the C. R. I. & P. Ry. began to carry mail, one train each way a day.

Feb. 1, 1902 rural free delivery route No. 1, was established with Jared Hughes as mail carrier at a salary of \$500 a year. This route extends from Laurens southward to the south line of Marshall township. The route is 24 miles long, covers an area of 40 square miles and serves 105 families containing 525 persons.

**RAILWAY AGENTS:** The succession of the railway agents has been as follows.

C. & N. W. Ry.—S. R. Overton, 1882-85; C. H. Thomas, '85-87; W. A. McNee, '87-89; Frank W. Johnson, '89-91; Frank J. Lincoln, '91-93; C. A. Fairman, '93-95; L. G. Smith, since 1895.

C. R. I. & P. Ry.—J. H. McKinney, since 1900.

#### SUCCESSION OF OFFICERS.

The first election was held at the house of John Proctor, Oct. 10, 1871. The first officers then elected were Gilbert G. Wheeler, John D. Proctor and David Hays, trustees; O. A.

Pease, a justice; Geo. W. Proctor, clerk.

The earliest records are of date, Feb. 10, 1872, when the trustees held their first meeting. Gideon G. Wheeler served as chairman, and Geo. W. Proctor as secretary. David Hays was appointed a justice to fill a vacancy and Isaac W. Peed was appointed assessor.

The succession of officers has been as follows:

**TRUSTEES:** Gilbert G. Wheeler, 1872-76; John D. Proctor, '72-73, '76-77; David Hays, '72; P. C. Harder; O. A. Pease '73-75, '79; Geo. W. Brown, '73-74; Joseph Morton, '74-76; Aaron Proctor, '76-77; A. H. Strouse, '77; John B. Strouse, '78; L. M. Strong, '79; M. Newell; R. S. Frost, '80-82; John Pettit, '80-83; H. H. Brower, '83-86; H. E. Spurrier, '83-84; F. G. Thornton; J. T. Worrall '85-87; W. F. Atkinson, '86, '95-97; John Cook, '87-88; Frank DeKlotz, '87-88; N. J. Nilsson, '88, '90-91, '99-01; Eri D. Anderson; August Roewe, '89-93; R. C. Hall, '89-91; Andrew Ostrom, '92-94; R. N. McComb, '92-98; Wm. Vance, '94-99; J. Billman, '93-1900; J. W. Cartwright, 1900-02; H. A. Moore, '01-02; W. J. Freeman.

**CLERKS:** Geo. W. Proctor '72, '74-76; Thos. W. Merchant, '73; O. A. Pease, A. H. Strouse, H. H. Brower, R. S. Frost, '83-86; L. E. Lange, '87-92; W. A. McNee, '93-94, '97-98; Andrew Ostrom, J. A. Henery, J. R. Miller, 1900-03.

**JUSTICES:** O. A. Pease, '72, '74-75; James W. Taylor, G. G. Wheeler, '73; Joseph Morton, '74-76; Geo. W. Proctor, L. M. Strong, H. H. Brower, T. J. Nelson, '83, '88-90; Jared Hughes, '83-93, 1901-02; C. H. Hutchins, S. H. Spickler, M. P. Messinger, J. L. Hopkins, John Bardue, Jesse Clifton, '95-1900; Fred Brown, F. L. Stout, B. L. Saum, 1901-02.

**ASSESSORS:** Isaac W. Peed, '72; James Taylor, Aaron Proctor, '74-76;



A. H. Strouse, '77-78; W. H. Drown, A. L. Wood, H. H. Brower, '81-82; H. Herrold, J. L. Hopkins, '86-93; Fred Dubbert, '94-95; C. L. Kester, F. E. Manatt, '96-1901; Roy Buckwalter.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

In 1872 two school houses were built, one on the ne<sup>4</sup> sec. 16, near the home of John B. Strouse, and the other on section 20, near the home of Geo. W. Proctor. The first teachers in the Strouse district, commencing in the fall of 1872, were Sarah Wells, Mrs. James Taylor, Charles L. Strong, Alva A. (son of J. C.) Strong and Orlando Strong. The first teachers in the other district were Addie, daughter of John Proctor and L. M. Strong.

The third school house was built on section 9, and in 1878 there were three schools. The teachers that fall were John Broadwell, Fred Herrick and Hattie Barnes.

The early school records of this township, including those of the secretary and treasurer, were burned at the time the home of John D. Proctor, the treasurer, was consumed by fire, Sept. 11, 1878. The information relating to this early period has been obtained from the survivors of the early settlers of that period.

The earliest school records now available are of date April 30, 1879, when the board consisted of Geo. W. Proctor, L. M. Strong and M. Newell, and Charles E. Herrick, served as secretary pro tem.

In this first record appears a statement from the county treasurer, W. D. McEwen, showing that their treasurer had received from him during the years, 1874 to 1878, inclusive, for building school houses, \$2,213.79, for teachers fund, \$2,321.97, for contingent expenses, \$1,315.28, and for library \$119.22; total \$5,970.26. It was decided that certain outstanding orders should not be paid.

On May 7th, following, the offices

of secretary and treasurer were declared vacant and a member of the board resigned. These vacancies were supplied by appointing Joseph Morton to serve as a member of the board, L. M. Strong, president; William H. Drown, secretary, and Charles L. Strong, treasurer. This complete change in the school officers, was a reform movement that had for its object a more economical management of the finances of the township.

The succession of the school officers, as far as could be obtained, has been as follows:

PRESIDENTS OF THE BOARD: Oscar A. Pease, 1872; James W. Taylor, Geo. W. Proctor, Aaron Proctor, '75-76; L. M. Strong, Jared Hughes, '82-83; Nelson Parker, R. S. Frost, '85-87, '90; Peter Stemmin, John Cook, James Ellis, Fred Dubbert, '93-96; N. J. Nilsson, J. Bilman, C. L. Kester, W. D. Cottrell, H. A. Moore, W. C. Larson, 1902.

SECRETARIES: Geo. W. Proctor, '72; O. A. Pease, Geo. W. Proctor, '74-78; William H. Drown, H. H. Brower, J. L. Hopkins, '85-92; W. F. Atkinson, '93-96; Fred Dubbert, '97-1902.

TREASURERS: John D. Proctor, '72-78; C. L. Strong, A. H. Strouse, H. H. Brower, Geo. Leverich, T. Nelson, Dr. J. M. Carroll, '85-92, Andrew Ostrum, Frank DeKlotz, '94-98; J. L. Pattee, August Roewe, 1901-02.

Early teachers in Swan Lake township were Sarah Wells, Mrs. James Taylor, Charles L., Orlando and Alva A. Strong, Addie Proctor, L. M. Strong, Louie E. Lange.

Among recent teachers have been Ruth Seright, T. J. Lynch, Mamie Vance and Rolland Nelson.

PUBLIC OFFICERS.

Swan Lake has been represented by the following public officers.

CORONER: Dr. J. M. Carroll, 1885, '90.

Attorney: Byron J. Allen, '89-90.

SUPERVISORS: L. D. Beardsley,

'87-90; J. L. Hopkins' '91-92; Louie E. Lange, '96.

REPRESENTATIVES: M. E. DeWolf, '98-99; Fred C. Gilchrist, 1902-03.

#### INTERESTING EVENTS.

The first birth in the township was that of Frank, son of John B. Strouse, Dec. 31, 1870.

The first wedding occurred Aug. 29, 1880, when O. A. Pease, justice, performed the ceremony for Fred Pease and Clara Wood.

John D. Proctor, who located on sec. 18 in 1869, was the oldest inhabitant of the township and also of the county while he remained in it, 1869-1880. He was born in Virginia in 1801.

Robert S. Frost, a resident of this township, was the last mail carrier from Pocahontas to Sioux Rapids, 1880-82.

Homesteads were secured in it by Isaac W. Peed on 14, John B. Strouse on 16, Geo. W. Proctor on 20, Gilbert G. Wheeler and O. A. Pease on 30. A timber claim of 40 acres on 28 was entered by Emma Hirschfield in 1883.

The household goods and stock of W. F. Atkinson were the first freight goods unloaded at the Laurens station. This was in March 1882, when two buildings had already been erected. The lumber for them had been hauled on wagons from far distant towns.

During the severe blizzard of Jan. 12-13, 1888, Richard Olney of Marathan froze to death along the railroad two miles west of Laurens. Samuel Tibbets, finding his team refused to face the storm, overturned the sleigh and, remaining under its shelter with a daughter and child fourteen hours, they were badly frozen.

#### TRAPPING AND HUNTING.

Muskrats, mink, skunks, badgers, foxes, otters, lynx, and occasionally panthers, deer and elk were found there. Trapping claims were often bought from the land agents representing the absent owners, and the trapper often had to protect his ex-

clusive right to them (p. 274.) by driving off intruders with gun in hand. When intruders were caught they were usually given about two hours to gather their traps and depart.

So important was this industry to the early settlers that some of them employed men to trap for them. John B. Strouse thus employed Jacob Wisecarver of Ohio to assist him during the winter of 69 and 70, and later Samuel Harvey of Wisconsin and Wm. Cahill.

A fox chase was sometimes the most interesting event that happened from one year's end to the other. The fleet-footed fox could outrun the common dogs of the neighborhood, and reynard was seldom captured except when hunters came from a distance, bringing a pack of hounds with them. During the later 70's a company of hunters from Waterloo visited this place once a year and they came fully equipped for hunting water fowl, fishing in the lake and chasing the fox. A cordial welcome was always extended this party for no other sport in the early days was quite so exhilarating, or so tended to vary the monotony of that period, as a good fox chase, with hounds and horses on the open prairie.

#### TOWN OF LAURENS.

Laurens, one of the largest and most important towns in the county, is located in the northwest part of the county, on the nw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 27, and the sw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 22, Swan Lake township. It was platted Nov. 10-11, 1881, by P. Folsom, surveyor, for the Western Town Lot Co., of which Albert Keep was president and J. B. Redfield secretary. The original plat contained blocks 1 to 12, south of the depot, and it still embraces the business part of the town.

Oct. 10, 1883, A. O. Garlock, owner, had Oscar L. Strong plat the s $\frac{1}{2}$  sw $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 22, north of the depot, as North Laurens. The high school building is located in this part of the town.



MR. AND MRS. GEO. T. JOHNSON, ROY, MILO AND CORAL; LAURENS.



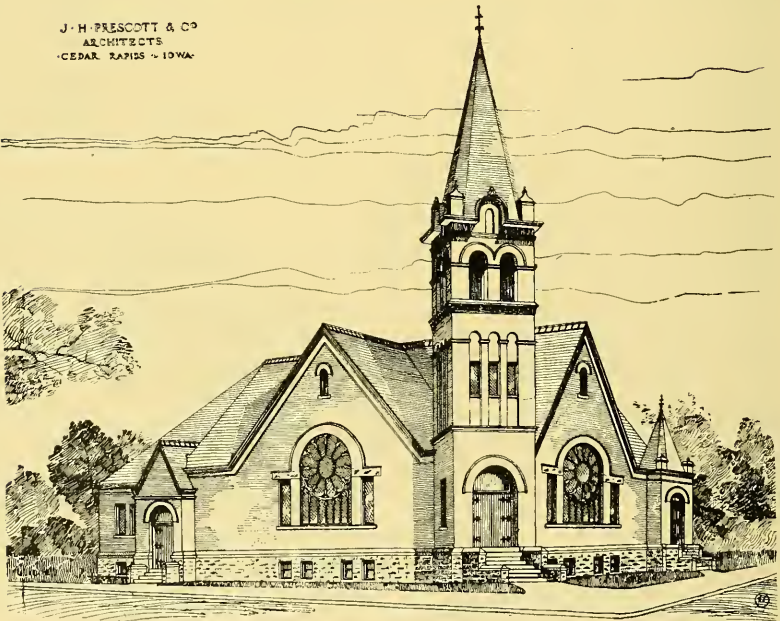
DR. JOSEPH M. CARROLL, WIFE AND DAUGHTERS, ALMA AND FLORA; LAURENS





DR. J. W. HIGGINS, LAURENS.

J. H. PRESCOTT & CO  
ARCHITECTS  
CEDAR RAPIDS - IOWA



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, LAURENS. DEDICATED MARCH 6, 1904.

Oct. 25, 1892, the Allen Land & Loan Co. platted the  $w\frac{1}{2}$  ne $\frac{1}{2}$  sec. 27, H. W. Bissell, surveyor. Other additions have also been made.

June 17, 1901, the corporate territory of the town was enlarged by the addition of 120 acres on the east side of it so that it now extends three quarters of a mile north and east from the half mile stake between sections 27 and 28.

This town was named in honor of Henry and John Laurens, father and son. They were French Huguenots, became residents of Charleston, S. C., and distinguished themselves by their patriotism and loyalty to the Colonial cause during the Revolution. Henry (1724-92) was a member from South Carolina of the first provincial congress in 1775 and was president of the Continental congress in 1777 and 1778. John (1756-82) was an aide to Washington in all his battles during the Revolution, and was killed in a skirmish at its close.

The site of the town is upon a high, rolling prairie, one mile south of Swan Lake, and five miles south of Rush Lake. The C. R. I. & P. Ry. depot is just twelve miles from the one on the same line at Pocahontas and the track is 100 feet higher than at the latter place. No town in this vicinity has any better natural advantages. The country around it is as rich and fertile as any the sun shines upon, and the class of people who have located here possess those sterling qualities of character that give a high moral tone to the community. The enterprise and thrift of the young business men of this town have come to be felt in other localities, and the public recognition secured by several of them in recent years has been a real surprise in other parts of the county.

"Here in the wilds of Iowa," where, a few short years ago, the untutored savage aimlessly roamed or chased the wild buffalo, and the foot of the white

man had never trod, is today a flourishing city of 1,000 people, who have established prosperous industries and built splendid business blocks, elegant residences, handsome churches, ample schools and modern hotels. The town has long since passed the doubtful stage, and is now occupying a well earned position, as one of the leading towns of the county, numerically, materially, morally and politically. The development of the city is a monument to the faith, ambition, energy and perseverance of the men who changed the haunts of the wily savage to a busy metropolis.

Dame Nature has been kind to Laurens by providing for the city a variety of natural resources, that may be transmuted into valuable products, and a number of attractions that appeal to the aesthetic instincts of those who behold them. "A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid." This is eminently true of Laurens. The natural scenery is beautiful and its attractive power has been enhanced by the skill of the architect, the hand of the builder and the influence of those moral and educational facilities, that are the precursors of culture and refinement.

"The advancement of Laurens has not been spasmodic, but steady, healthy and continuous, each year leaving the community more firmly established than the preceding one. There has been no bubble of a boom to occasion regret, but a steady advance toward commercial greatness and leadership.

The population is principally American, and the people are cultured, refined and united. A home here now combines the quiet enjoyment of the country with the conveniences and delights of a large city."\*

It has two railways, the Chicago & Northwestern, and Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, that afford excellent shipping facilities in every direction.

\*Iowa Publishing Co., 1893.

It has a large school building, four churches, four elevators, two banks, a creamery, a grist mill, an opera house, good hotels, and a full quota of business houses. It has also good representatives of the legal, medical and clerical professions.

The headquarters of several extensive and important business interests are located at Laurens. The following companies, doing business in other localities also, have their principal offices at this place, namely, DeWolf & Wells successors of Wilson & DeWolf, who have seven elevators along the Milwaukee and Northwestern railroads; Hinn Bros., who have creameries at Laurens, Marathon, Mud Lake, Havelock and Pocahontas; M. and J. R. Hakes, poultry dealers, who buy stock at every town from Humboldt to Hawarden on the Northwestern railroad; and the Wheeler Grain and Coal Co., composed of L. W., W. S. and M. M. Wheeler, who coming from Kankakee, Ill., in 1909, have become proprietors of elevators at Laurens, Leverett, Ware and Pocahontas, and have their headquarters at Laurens. The spirit of leadership seems to be in the very air that these people breathe.

The survey of the Toledo, now the Chicago & N. W. Ry. was made in April, 1881, the track was laid through Swan Lake township in March 1882 and by the end of May there were running four trains a day, but it made the spectator laugh to see the mail and express, which consisted of an engine, the tender and one small coach, that went bobbing along after it over the rough and muddy track, like a bustle trying to follow a Grecian bend, the mud spurting from under the ties as the ponderous engine passed over them.

#### FIRST SETTLERS AT LAURENS.

Geo. W. Leverich and wife, who arrived Dec. 15, 1881, were the first to locate at the new town of Laurens.

He secured the erection of the first building, opened the first store—a hardware and grocery—and became the first post master about April 1, 1882. He lived in the rooms over the store and used them as a hotel more than a year. This building was afterwards owned and occupied by the Johnson Bros. who kept a general store.

S. F. Sturdivan erected the second business house, and opened a general store in the spring of 1882. The Shoemaker Bros. built the third one and opened a hardware store. The first dwelling house was built by Hiram Herrold and was located on Fourth street. The Methodists secured the erection of the first church building.

On Sept. 1, 1882, at the end of the first season it was found the population had increased to fifty persons and the business interests were represented by one general store, a furniture, a hardware, and an implement store, two lumber and two coal yards, a meat market, blacksmith shop, drug store and hotel. In 1890 the population had increased to 318, in 1900 to 853 and in 1902 to 1000.

In 1895 a good system of water-works was erected at a cost of \$1,800 by the Challenge Wind Mill Co., of Batavia, Ill. It consists of a 22 foot tank set on a steel tower 80 feet high, and a pump that is propelled by a gasoline engine.

#### GREAT FIRE OF 1898.

Although several of the homes of the pioneers of Swan Lake township had been consumed by fire, including those of John B. Strouse in 1872 and again in 1877, and of John D. Proctor in 1878, it was, for more than fifteen years, the pride of the people of Laurens that the town "had never had a fire." The town was, however, not destined to be free from the ravages of the fire fiend.

The first fire occurred on the night of March 20, 1897, when the large barn



of Geo. H. Bunton, containing 350 tons of hay belonging to T. F. Shufflebotham, was entirely consumed. The water-works were brought into use as soon as enough help arrived to pull the hose cart through the mud, but a constant stream was not opened upon it until nine o'clock the next morning, the water being reserved to protect the town in the event of wind. The loss was estimated at \$2,000 of which \$1000 on the hay was covered by an insurance.

On March 8, 1893 the town was visited by the most disastrous fire in the history of Pocahontas county. The west side of Main street, in the business portion of the town, was swept almost clean the length of a block. The loss sustained included ten buildings and their contents, valued at \$50,000.

This fire was discovered about 4 o'clock in the morning, in the rear of the hardware store of Moore & Stacy. The fire company assembled with remarkable promptness and in a short time three streams of water were playing on the burning building, but these means were powerless to check the progress of the rapidly devouring element. The flames soon spread to the hardware and furniture store of Shoemaker & Anderson, the general store of M. and J. R. Hakes, and then to all the other frame buildings in that block, including the ice house of M. M. Noah.

A brief summary of the losses sustained showed as follows: M. and J. R. Hake's building and stock of general merchandise \$30,000 insurance \$5,000; Shoemaker & Anderson, a double building and stock \$7,000, insurance, \$1,500; Johnson Bros. (G. T. and S. D.) general merchants, building and stock \$3,700, insurance \$700; F. O. Younggren, merchant, stock \$1,500, insurance \$500, in building owned by Mat Jensen \$1,000; M. C. Adams, building and restaurant supplies \$2,-

000 insurance \$800; E. H. Southworth two buildings and harness stock \$2,200 insurance \$800; Moore & Stacy building and stock \$2,500; First National Bank building and fixtures \$2,000, F. C. Gilchrist \$100 therein; Erickson sisters, milliners, \$200, in building owned by E. C. Stott, \$500; M. M. Noah, ice house \$800; Dr. P. Gallaher office fixtures \$100; B. L. Saum and J. H. Willey office fixtures \$50.

This fire was believed to be the work of an incendiary. The work of the fire company was entirely satisfactory and there was a full supply of water. The first one to rebuild was M. M. Noah, who immediately built another house over the ice that remained. Others that suffered the loss of buildings very soon cleared away the charred memorials of their sad loss and erected more substantial ones of brick in their places.

On the west side of Main street there is now a solid block of one story brick buildings, finished with pressed brick and large plate glass windows. They are substantial in appearance and are provided with new and convenient fixtures. A beautiful cement sidewalk extends the entire length of the block in front and some of the buildings have a cemented cellar, brick vaults and an elevator.

The disastrous character and speedy recovery of Laurens from the baptism of fire, remind one of the experience of Chicago in recovering so quickly from the great loss sustained by the ever memorable fire of 1871. It is pleasant to note the noble rivalry between these two ambitious cities. Of Chicago it may be said that one hundred years ago it could not be found on the map, sixty years ago it was merely the chief town of a county, 25 years ago it was the chief city of a state, but it is now the intellectual, industrial and financial capital of an empire—the great Middle West—

which is now tributary to her. The commercial leadership already attained by the citizens of Laurens is a harbinger of the greater supremacy that shall follow in the years that are to come.

#### GOWRIE & NORTHWESTERN R. R. 1900.

In 1900 the citizens of Laurens, by voluntary contributions, paid the Gowrie & North-western R. R. Co., \$3,715, the cost of the right of way and depot grounds at that place.

This line was opened to traffic Nov, 18, 1900 and two days later, that fact was duly celebrated at Pocahontas and Sibley. It began to carry mail Dec. 17, 1900, and Jan. 15, 1901, it was sold to the C., R. I. & P. Ry., for \$1,579,315.58. A mortgage for this amount was given an Eastern loan company, and the recording of the deed and mortgage at Pocahontas cost \$2,220. J. H. McKinney has been the local agent since August 1900, and Joseph Murray was the first operator of the interlocking switch.

The depot on this road at Laurens is just 12 miles from the one at Pocahontas. The track is 100 feet higher at Laurens and 200 feet higher, along the west bank of Pickerel Lake, than at Pocahontas.

#### PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION.

July 4, 1885, was the first great day in the early history of the town. On that occasion the citizens celebrated the birthday of American freedom with all the pomp and splendor appropriate for such an occasion. The day was clear, powder burned, fire crackers banged, sky rockets shot high in the air and the stars and stripes waved more gloriously than ever before.

At the public meeting held at the bowery erected for the occasion Dr. J. H. Farson presided; Rev. F. H. Hungerford offered prayer; Miss Chapman read Whittier's poem, Liberty and Independence and also the Declaration of Independence, and Cleland

Gilchrist delivered the oration. At the afternoon meeting toasts were responded to as follows: Rev. F. H. Hungerford, Our Country; Louie Lange, American Liberty; and S. R. Overton, American Progress.

#### SUCCESSION OF OFFICERS.

The town of Laurens was incorporated June 12, 1890, and at the first election the following officers were chosen: Mayor, B. E. Allen; recorder, W. A. McNee; treasurer, S. D. Johnson; councilmen, Montague Hakes, J. P. Shoemaker, R. C. Hall, Geo. F. Johnson, Geo. H. Bunton and D. J. Allen.

The succession of officers has been as follows:

MAYORS: B. E. Allen 1890-91, Louie E. Lange '92-95, Milton M. Noah '96-99, J. A. Harvey 1900-01, M. M. Noah.

RECORDER: William A. McNee 1890-1902.

TREASURERS: S. D. Johnson, Daniel Davis, F. L. Stone '92-93, F. E. Brown '94-95, J. R. Hakes, H. W. Ludwig '97-99, E. G. Cool 1900-02.

COUNCILMEN: M. Hakes 1890-94, J. P. Shoemaker '90-94, R. C. Hall, G. T. Johnson '90-98; G. H. Bunton, D. J. Allen, B. L. Allen '91-96, Charles F. Kreul '91-98, W. E. Caswell '91-1902, Eri D. Anderson '95-1902, C. J. Bovee '95-1902, J. R. Tool '97-99, J. R. Hakes '99-1902, W. E. Crowder '99-1901, C. S. Jones 1900-02, Anton E. Wells 1902.

#### THE CHURCHES.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL — The first religious services in Laurens were held in the waiting room of the depot after it was completed in the spring of 1882 and they were conducted by Rev. A. W. Richards of old Rolfe. Jeremiah Brower, a local preacher who lived in the vicinity of Pickerel Lake, in Buena Vista county, held occasional services that season in the neighboring school houses and also in the depot. A Methodist appointment was soon established and it formed for several years a part of the Marathon charge. During this period it was served by

the following pastors. Revs. F. H. Hungerford, Rhinehart Hild, Levi Jarvis, and Robert Burnip, '88-91.

Dec. 5, 1891 it was organized as a separate charge during the pastorate of Rev. E. J. Bristow, Rev. Jesse Cole serving as presiding elder.

The families that united to form this organization in 1891 were those of Charles S. Allen, Jacob P. Shoemaker, Jeremiah Brewer, Fred L. Buckwalter, W. V. Moore, Daniel Davis, Joseph Brower, Dr. Joseph M. Carroll, Joseph Southworth.

The first officers were as follows: Local preacher, F. L. Buckwalter; stewards, Dr. J. M. Carroll, J. P. Shoemaker, Mrs. W. V. Moore; trustees, Charles S. Allen, D. Dav's, Joseph Brower.

The succession of pastors has been as follows: Edmund J. Bristow to May 5, 1893; Geo. F. Whitfield to Oct. 1, 1894; S. C. Olds, one year; R. A. Quinn four years, '95-99; Geo. P. Hathaway, one year; A. W. Luce, two years; H. C. Chambers, the present pastor, who began his labors Oct. 1, 1902.

A church building, 28x44 feet, was built in 1888 at a cost of \$1500; and a parsonage in 1900, at a cost of \$1200. Since its organization this church has numbered among its officials many of the most cultured and influential people of the community; and the congregation is now contemplating the erection of a new and larger building.

The present officers are as follows: Stewards,—Mrs. B. E. Allen, Mrs. T. B. Mather, Mrs. T. D. Landon; trustees,—C. S. Allen, P. G. Weittenhiller, J. M. Turner, Dr. J. M. Carroll, B. L. Saum, John King, J. W. Mick, J. P. Shoemaker; class leaders,—J. H. McKinney, S. G. Peterson; S. S. Superintendents,—J. H. McKinney, W. H. Roewe; president of Epworth League, Elizabeth Atkinson.

CHURCH OF CHRIST.—As a result of a protracted meeting, held by Rev. Bruce Brown, the Church of Christ

was organized Feb. 1, 1892, with sixty members. The officers then elected were: G. H. Bunton and Daniel Davis, elders; G. T. Johnson and T. B. Steel, deacons; G. T. Johnson, treasurer; and Fred Starr, clerk.

Nov. 6, 1892, a fine church building, 50x80 feet, was dedicated at a cost of \$3500, in the north part of the town. It has now a membership of 150.

The succession of pastors has been as follows: C. H. Mattox, April 20, 1892—July 1, '93; D. A. Hunter, July 15, '93—July 15, '95; T. F. Olenmeller, Oct. 1, '95—Oct. 1, '96; C. R. Neel, Oct. 1, '96—Apr. 1, '98; W. B. Cash, Apr. 1, '98—Oct. 1, '99; A. E. Major, Oct. 1, '99—Aug. 1901; Edward Wright, Sept. 1901—June 1902; J. C. Hanna, the present pastor since Sept. 21, 1902.

The elders in 1902 were, R. C. Hall, Frank Stacy, and O. M. Murphey; deacons,—J. E. Clanton, Roland Nelson, Fred Sawtell, H. M. Spencer, B. C. Coel and John Cromwell.

GERMAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN: The Evangelical Lutheran Emmanuel congregation of Laurens was organized July 4, 1897, by Rev. Mr. Mutschmann, of Boscobel, Wis. Several families having moved from his parish to Laurens, he visited them, effected their organization and entrusted them to the care of neighboring pastors. The succession of pastors has been as follows: Rev. Mr. Matthias, C. Ida, Mr. Dralle, J. Pless, the present pastor since November 1899.

The families that united to form the original organization were those of August Ehlers, Charles F. and Henry A. Kreul, William and George Hinn, George Kreul, A. Roehlk, John Krohn, C. J. Drecssen, and Jacob Kern. The first officers were John Drecssen, H. A. Kreul and Adam Roehlk. The officers in 1902 were William Hinn, Geo. Hinn and H. A. Kreul. The membership in 1902 included fifteen families, representing seventy-three souls.



Rev. J. Pless also serves the St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran church at Pocahontas. This congregation was organized in Lincoln township in 1893 by Rev. O. Stachling, of Lizard township, who, in 1896, was succeeded by Rev. Wm. Weltner. In 1900, when the railroad came, the place of meeting was changed to Pocahontas and that fall this congregation became a part of the pastorate of J. Piess, of Laurens. The next year a church, 32x48 feet and costing \$2,400, was built and dedicated Sept. 14, 1901. This congregation includes twenty-six families, 140 souls. The officers in 1902 were J. DeWall, J. H. DeWall, F. Weltner, Wm. Boog, H. DeWall, G. Bottin, and G. Aden.

**SWEDISH LUTHERAN:** The Swedish Lutherans are quite numerous in the vicinity of Laurens, and, during the early 90's, they secured the erection of a church building, costing about \$1,800, at Laurens. They have a resident pastor, Rev. R. Beckstrom, who has served them a long time in the pastorate. Their house of worship is used also by the German Lutherans.

**CATHOLIC:** Catholic services have been maintained at Laurens several years by Rev. P. H. McCauley and Rev. Joseph Murtagh, successive pastors, of the Rolfe Catholic church. In 1901 a neat church building was built at Laurens at a cost of \$1,800.

#### THE HIGH SCHOOL.

The Independent school district of Laurens was established Feb. 14, 1891, including the south half of sections 21 and 22, the north half of sections 33 and 34 and all of sections 27 and 28; and this act of the township school board received public approval Feb. 25 following, by a vote of 29 to 3.

The first election in this district was held March 9, 1891, in the office of Beardsley & Allen. W. E. Caswell served as chairman of the town meeting and Jesse Clifton as secretary. Daniel Davis, W. E. Caswell and Al-

fred Darnell were elected a board of directors; and a tax of \$300 was levied to complete the two upper rooms of the school building.

March 16th 1891, the board organized by the election of Daniel Davis, president; W. E. Caswell, secretary; and W. A. McNee, treasurer. A teachers' fund of \$1200 was levied and the school term increased to nine months.

The first school in Laurens was taught by L. M. Starr during the winter of 1882-83. It was held in the second story of Shoemakers' hardware store and was attended by six pupils, two each from the families of Dr. Carroll, Joseph Cranton and Hiram Herrold. Jared Hughes was elected the director that year.

The first building had only one room and was built in 1883. In 1889 a four room frame building was built at a cost of \$3000. Only the two lower rooms were completed and during the next two years it continued to be used as a township building. In 1891, when the independent district was established, the building was completed and two additional teachers employed. In 1896 the fifth teacher was added. In 1900 the building was enlarged and improved at a cost of \$7000. In 1902 seven teachers were employed and 300 scholars were enrolled.

The school building, a large frame structure, is located on the summit north of the C. & N. W. depot where it towers in bold relief at the north end of Third street. It is a credit to the town and its rooms are open to pupils from the township. The course of study is equal to any in the public schools of Northwest Iowa and parents find here the facilities for giving their children a good education.

In October 1900, in response to a proposition made by Hon. Geo. W. Schce, of Primghar, to donate \$100 for a library the school children raised \$50, the citizens \$150 and a library costing \$300 was put in the high school.

Mr. Schee has helped many poor boys to obtain a good education by putting them in a position to help themselves. It is his desire by means of libraries of this sort to aid as many children as possible of Northwest Iowa.

Louie E. Lange taught the school four years, 1886-89, in the one room building. In the new building he was succeeded by Prof. Gates and Myra Steward in 1889 and 1890, who had as assistants respectively, Viola Eaton and Anna L. Shoemaker.

The succession of principals since the establishment of the independent district has been as follows: Gilger E. McKinnon, 1891; Jesse Gates, G. A. Emery, W. P. Fobes, Lillian L. Crissley, C. C. Hodges, '96-97; E. L. Groat, '98-1902; W. H. Reeve.

The assistants have been Myra Steward, Ida M. Moore, Ida M. Barrett, Anna L. Shoemaker, Grace M. Roewe, Minnie E. Curtis, Kate L. Seright, '93-96; Julia A. Riddle, Cora Montgomery, Mrs. G. E. McKinnon, Jessie B. Lawson, '95-97; J. J. Lynch, Carrie E. Carrick, Lillian Wheeler, Bessie B. Arnold, Cora A. Hall, '97-1902; Clara E. Boothroyd, '98-1900; Bessie B. Osnald, Marie Vance, Anna Fouche, '99-1900; Jessie Campbell, '99-1900; Mrs. Kate Melson, Flora V. Noble, '99-02; Dence Braley, Tessa Douglass, Alice McDougall, Altha Curry.

The high school was organized in 1897 and the following classes have graduated from it.

1893, Flora Carroll, Roy Hunter, May Galleher, Daniel W. Bovee.

1899, Maud Allen, Ethel Saum, Lena Hughes, Orin Nelson.

In 1901 the course of study was extended to twelve years.

1902, Albert H. Kreul, Bernice Oleson, Vira V. Davis, Elizabeth Allen, Oliver E. Atkinson.

In 1901 the ladies of the Mother's Club secured the loan of 100 volumes from the State Library—50 for adults

and 50 for young people. This library was placed in the store of Stacy & Weaver and it was open to all applicants free of charge from 3 to 5 o'clock every Saturday afternoon beginning April 20th, for a short time.

**NOBLE OPERA HOUSE.**—One of the recent improvements worthy of special mention is the opera house built in 1902 by V. A. Noble. He was the owner of the Commercial House, built by Robert Foust in 1883, and, removing it to another part of the town to be used as a dwelling house, he erected in its place a double brick block, the lower story of which is used for store rooms and the upper one for an opera house. This hall is 60x80 feet and has a platform 30x40 feet, that is furnished with elaborate and artistic scenic effects. The auditorium will seat 537 persons and its acoustic properties are excellent. The formal opening Oct. 16, 1902 was the occasion of an important society event. The house was crowded with the best people of the community and many visitors from neighboring towns, to witness the performance of the play entitled, "The Wrong Mr. Wright." Many of the ladies wore beautiful gowns prepared for the occasion, and the receipts were nearly \$1000. It is a commodious and beautiful auditorium and the citizens gave Mr. Noble a bonus of \$1500 to encourage him to build it.

#### G. A. R., LAURENS.

The G. A. R. Post of Laurens was organized on the evening of Jan. 29, 1884, by Comrade A. L. Burnell, of Pattersonville, assisted by C. L. Davison, L. V. C. of the department of Iowa, as follows: Commander, B. E. Allen; L. V. C., Philip Herrold; J. V. C., Jared Hughes; Adj't., Stephen Sturdivan; Searg., Geo. W. Proctor; Chap., J. Brown; Q. M., Robert C. Jones; O. D., Nelson Parker; S. M., Daniel Pew; Q. M. S., Peter Urban; Comrades, Albert L. Wood, Edward

Burke, J. B. Gifford, Robert Frost, John Pettit, C. W. Bahm.

#### LAURENS SCHOOL OFFICERS.

The succession of the Laurens school officers has been as follows:

**PRESIDENTS OF THE BOARD:** Daniel Davis, 1891-92; M. M. Noah, '93-96; C. J. Boyce, '97; C. F. Kreul, '98-99; W. F. Crowder, 1900; M. M. Noah, '01-02.

**SECRETARIES:** W. E. Caswell, '91-92; H. O. Austin, Jesse Clifton, '93-1901; E. E. Narey, E. G. Coel.

**TREASURERS:** W. A. McNeely, '91-92; B. L. Allen, '93-1902.

Others that served as members of the board were W. E. Caswell, Alfred Darnell, W. V. Moore, F. O. Nichols, J. N. Furness, Geo. T. Johnson, '93-99; J. J. Lynch, R. C. Hall, '95-1902; J. E. Peterson, O. M. Murphy, Hon. M. E. DeWolf.

#### LEADING BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.

##### FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

This bank was established as a private institution in 1889 and in September 1892 was incorporated as a National bank. Its officers from the first have been F. H. Helsell, president; J. P. Farmer, vice-president; W. A. McNeely, cashier. L. D. Beardsley and G. E. McKinnon, assistant cashiers a few years ago, have been succeeded by C. E. Narey. The capital stock is \$50,000.

This bank is located on the corner south of the depot and is provided with a fire proof vault, burglar proof safes and the Diebold automatic time device.

The officers of this bank are proprietors of several others in the vicinity of Laurens, and have a high standing in commercial circles. They are careful, conservative men, and are endeavoring to extend to their patrons all the advantages of a safe banking institution.

##### DEWOLF & WELLS.

M. E. DeWolf and Anson E. Wells, in the fall of 1902, became the suc-

cessors of (A. J.) Wilson & DeWolf as proprietors of a line of elevators at Laurens, Havelock, Marathon, Varina, Albert City and Webb, and a bank business at Curlew, with the principal office at Laurens. The firm of Wilson & DeWolf was formed in 1895, when they bought elevators at Laurens and Havelock. In 1899 they built elevators at Albert City, Varina, Webb and Marathon. In 1901 they became the owners of the elevator of Geo. H. Bunton, Laurens, and in the spring of 1902, in place of the two elevators then owned, they built a large one at Laurens, that has a capacity of 60,000 bushels, modern hopper bins, conveniences for elevating corn in the ear and a shelter that can shell 500 bushels of corn in an hour.

On Oct. 1, 1902, Anson E. Wells of Laurens, who had previously disposed of his elevator interests at Laurens and Havelock to the Wells-Hood Grain Co., of Central City, Neb., purchased the elevator interests of Hon. A. J. Wilson and thus became a member of the firm of DeWolf & Wells. The banking business at Curlew, that was included in the deal, was soon disposed of and the new firm, with its headquarters at Laurens, is devoting its sole attention to the work of its line of elevators located at the six other towns above named. This firm does a vast amount of business and is the disbursing of a large amount of money. They ship annually more than 1,000 cars of grain that average 1,000 bushels to the car.

##### WELLS BROS.

Wells Bros, Anson E. and A. A., grain buyers at Havelock, in 1897 purchased an elevator at Laurens and located there. They had been engaged in the grain business since 1888 and had become familiar with all its details. They secured the management of elevators at Laurens, Havelock and Curlew, a bank at





DANIEL J. ALLEN, LAURENS.

1832-1897.



M. E. De WOLF,  
REPRESENTATIVE, 1898-99.



FRED. C. GILCHRIST,  
REPRESENTATIVE, 1902-03.



CHARLES S. ALLEN.  
BANKER.



MONTAGUE HAKES,  
REPRESENTATIVE, 1904-05.

LAURENS.

Curlew, and had the principal office at Laurens since 1897.

June 1, 1902, this firm of Wells Bros. sold their elevators at Laurens, Havelock and Curlew to the Wells-Hood Grain Co., of Central City, Neb.

Oct. 1, following, Anson E. Wells bought the elevator interests of Hon. A. J. Wilson and thus became a member of the new firm of DeWolf & Wells, who are the proprietors of a half dozen elevators in the vicinity of Laurens and have their principal office at that place. A. A. Wells has become a resident of Marathon. The firm of Wells Bros. for several years was a very prominent one in this county and its proprietors were always ready to do their share toward the upbuilding of the towns in which their elevators were located.

#### WHEELER GRAIN & COAL CO.

The Wheeler Grain & Coal Co., with headquarters at Laurens, is one of the new enterprises established in this county, as a result of the construction of the new railway—the C. R. I. & P.—in 1900. This company was incorporated Aug. 15, 1900 with a paid up capital stock of \$20,000. They own and operate elevators at Pocahontas, Ware, Laurens and Leverett, Iowa, that are unsurpassed in their facilities for handling grain. They have low driveways, patent controllable dumps, Fairbank's Standard scales and the machinery is propelled in each by gasoline engines. L. W. Wheeler, the president and general manager of the company came from Kankakee, Ill., where for several years he was assistant cashier of the City National bank. The other stockholders and directors are H. H. Wheeler, vice-president, and W. S. Wheeler, secretary.

#### ALLEN BROS., BANKERS AND LOAN AGENTS.

The history of Laurens would not be complete, if it did not include an account of the rise and progress of

the business interests established by D. J. Allen & Sons, now Allen Bros., bankers and dealers in real estate and live stock. The rapid growth and expansion of their business enterprises is almost without a parallel in the history of Pocahontas county.

These men, now occupying a leading place in the business interests of Laurens, Ware and Pocahontas, were first represented in this county in the year 1886. In February 1886, two brothers, Charles S. and Benjamin L., sons of D. J. Allen of Marshall county, having previously obtained possession of several thousand acres of unimproved land in this vicinity, came to Laurens with a capital of \$35,000 and, purchasing the two private banks of Geo. W. Leverich and M. B. Caswell, united them and established in their place the Exchange Bank of Laurens. They also at the same time and place established a Land & Loan Agency. D. J. Allen & Sons were the sole proprietors of both of these institutions, and they were personally conducted by Charles S. and Benjamin L. Allen. Later they established a loan agency at Pocahontas. In 1887 they were joined by their brother, Byron J. Allen, an attorney, who located at Pocahontas and took charge of the office at that place.

In 1890 D. J. Allen, their father, became a resident of Laurens, and in 1891 another bank was established at Pocahontas under the management of Byron J. Allen, president.

July 1, 1892 the business interests of D. J. Allen & Sons were re-organized and their scope greatly enlarged. The capital of the Exchange Bank at Laurens was increased to \$50,000, and it was incorporated as the State Bank of Laurens under the following directors, D. J. Allen, Frank Deklotz, Eri D. Anderson, G. H. Bunton, Louie E. Lange, S. F. Sturdivan and C. S. Allen. The officers then chosen were C. S. Allen, president, Frank



Deklotz, vice-president and B. L. N. Carlson, cashier, with a capital of \$10,000.

The Land & Loan Agency was reorganized as the Allen Land & Loan Company, and its capital stock was increased to \$136,400. The new officers were D. J. Allen, president, C. S. Allen, secretary and treasurer, and B. L. Allen, assistant secretary. That same year a double two story brick building, costing \$11,000, was built for the bank at Laurens. This building is provided with a fire proof vault, burglar proof chests and all possible safe-guards.

January 24, 1893, the other bank was reorganized as the State Bank of Pocahontas and its capital increased to \$25,000. The officers then chosen were C. S. Allen, president, Terrence Doyle, vice-president and T. F. McCartan, cashier.

In 1893 they had the Iowa Publishing Co., of Dubuque, prepare and print for free distribution, a large edition of a seventy page pamphlet, that gave an excellent account of the agricultural resources, manufacturing industries and business interests of Pocahontas county. They endeavored to attract to this locality new settlers and outside capital, by making known through this excellent advertising publication the opportunities for safe and profitable investment, in the rich and productive lands of Pocahontas county.

December 31, 1896 the charter of the State Bank at Pocahontas was surrendered and the business there sold to Heald, Stegge & McCartan; but January 1, 1900 the bank of "Allen Bros." was re-established there with a capital of \$10,000 under the management of J. H. Allen, president, C. S. Allen, vice-president, F. W. Lindeman, cashier, and B. L. Allen, assistant cashier. They also established the same year (1900) the Savings Bank at Ware under the management of B. L. Allen, president, M. T. Nilsson, vice-president, and C.

With the progress of years some changes have taken place in the personnel of the State Bank at Laurens. D. J. Allen died in 1897, Charles L. Allen continues to be president and M. T. Nilsson is cashier. It is now one of the most popular and successful banking institutions of northwest Iowa and enjoys fully the confidence of the people. Its constant aim is to serve its patrons faithfully and afford them every facility and convenience consistent with safe and conservative banking.

During the years that have passed, the Allen Bros. have permanently invested many thousands of dollars, in the erection of some of the finest buildings in Laurens and Pocahontas. Utilizing their lands for raising and feeding stock, they have become leaders in that business, carrying each year several thousand sheep, hogs and cattle. Under their skillful management their capital has rapidly increased. If however they have reaped bountifully during the recent years of unrivaled prosperity, it is because they had previously sown with a liberal hand. The times have been prosperous and they were in a position to ride upon the crest of the wave. Their names have become inseparably connected with the growth and prosperity of this county, especially of the cities of Laurens, Pocahontas and Ware.

The banking institutions of a community indicate the character or development of its commercial interests better than any other, because, they constitute the medium of exchange, that supplies the life currents to business enterprises. They are as serviceable and indispensable to commercial life as the veins and arteries, through which the blood circulates, are to the animal organism.

The people of Laurens are to be congratulated on the solid and substantial character of their banking institutions and the constant increase in the amount of their deposits.

HAKES BROS., MONTAGUE AND JAMES R., POULTRY DEALERS.

Hakes Bros., merchants and poultry dealers, who used to make the sale of general merchandise their principal business, have made it easy for the farmers of Pocahontas county to realize a handsome profit raising poultry. They have studied the eastern markets and learned what is wanted. They have also learned how to dress, pack and ship poultry so as to receive for it the highest price.

Perceiving that capons brought the highest price paid for chickens, they were not deterred by the difficulties incident to raising them and, believing that Pocahontas county could produce the best, in the summer of 1894 they secured a man familiar with the art of caponizing roosters and sent him through the country to do this work for all their customers free of charge, the only condition being that they be allowed to handle their surplus poultry paying for it the highest market price.

This experiment proved so satisfactory that a large majority of the poultry raisers in the vicinity of Laurens adopted this method of raising poultry and the Hakes Bros. in 1897 and 1900 extended their trade to Rolfe, Marathon and many other localities on the two lines of railway centering at Laurens.

The price paid for capons varies according to the weight of the fowl, the heaviest ones bringing the highest price per pound. The following illustrations, showing the experience of several of their customers living in the vicinity of Rolfe, have been noted by the Reveille and much of this article has been taken from the columns of that excellent paper.

Harry K. Squires, who raises a good grade of Plymouth Rocks, sold the first year 23 capons that averaged 8½ pounds and four of them brought \$1.00 each. In 1901 Squires delivered 36 capons. Two averaged 13 pounds and brought \$1.30 each; 18 averaged 10 pounds and brought \$1.00 each; and 16 averaged 8 pounds. Benjamin Ritters delivered 14 capons and received \$14.00. W. S. Butler delivered 50 capons and received an average of 80 cents. James Cunningham, who raised 200, Frank DeWolf, Robert Roy and Claus Johnson received similar prices for their fowls. These results can be duplicated by any careful farmer who raises the larger breeds of fowls, such as Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, Brahmas or Langshans. Caponizing has the effect of extending the period of growth and increasing the size. Capons therefore require a little more time for full development than roosters.

The number of capons handled by this firm is steadily increasing. From five to seven thousand are annually caponized at Laurens. About 5,000 are annually caponized in the vicinity of Rolfe and at a number of the other towns where they purchase poultry.

The annual income of the farmers in the north part of this county from poultry and their product is much larger than many suppose and caponizing tends to greatly increase it without any extra expense to the producer. During the first season caponizing was a difficult undertaking. The idea was new to the farmers and they looked upon the stranger with suspicion. Some feared his contract would later appear as a promissory note, and others told him, "they would wiggle along the old way and let their roosters do the same."

It is altogether different now. They have become acquainted with M. & J. R. Hakes and learned the value of

their work. They know what it means to receive 50 cents to \$1.25 each for their roosters instead of the old price, 25 to 50 cents a head.

In 1900 Hakes Bros. erected at Laurens a two story building, 40x96 feet, for dressing and packing poultry. This is a substantial building that rests on a brick foundation, and adjoining it are large and commodious sheds and yards for live poultry.

During the year ending June 30, 1900 they paid to the farmers in the vicinity of Laurens \$17,000 for poultry and to patrons at Havelock, Rolfe and other towns \$40,000 more, making an aggregate of \$57,000 for that year. On one day in December 1902 they paid \$5,000 for the live poultry delivered to them by wagon and rail at Laurens that day, and nearly \$100,000 for the entire amount of it handled by them that year. There is perhaps not another town in the state that gives the farmers so much clear cash for poultry as this one firm pays its patrons at Laurens. During the packing period each year their establishment is a very busy place. Twenty-five men are employed in it. Thousands of chickens, turkeys, ducks and geese may be seen in the yards and sheds around it; also a procession of loaded wagons moving towards it, and on the side track car loads of live or dressed fowls arriving or ready for departure. In the spring of 1902 they had at one time twenty car loads, 225 tons, of dressed poultry in cold storage at Laurens and New York City.

All the dressed fowls are assorted and graded as they are packed. A careful record is kept so that at any time they can tell the quantity, grade and cost of the stock on hand.

Many patrons of the poultry dealer do not appreciate the loss to which he is exposed through a little negligence on their part. The most frequent and serious losses usually occur in con-

nection with the shipment of live birds, through the neglect of some of their patrons to deliver their poultry on the appointed day. This seems a small matter, but it usually determines whether the dealer shall have a profit or sustain a loss on that shipment. The dealer has secured a car for a certain date and contracted for the delivery of enough fowls to fill it that day, but a few farmers are either busy or negligent, and the car has to be shipped with a partial instead of a full load. The expense of buying and hauling and also of freight, is as great as if the full amount had been received, and the commission is about as great, so that in frequent instances the shortage in delivery changes the expectation of profit to a realization of loss.

It has been truthfully said, that he who makes two blades of grass grow where only one grew before, is a benefactor to his race. When men of enterprise build up a business, that brings clear profit to so many of the people of a community as the poultry business under the management of the Hakes Bros., they merit recognition and public patronage. Such men are public benefactors. None have been more grateful for the public patronage accorded to them than these men who have made Laurens the attractive center of the largest poultry trade in Northwest Iowa.

HINN BROS., W. & J. G.

Hinn Bros., millers and butter manufacturers, Laurens, are men whose cleverness and ambition have enabled them to attain an enviable leadership in the lines of business they represent.

In 1894 they erected a mill that does all kinds of mill work and has a capacity of fifty barrels of flour per day. It is fully equipped with the latest improved machinery and its wheels are propelled by an engine of thirty-five horse power. Their first and



second grades of flour are called "Fancy Patent" and "Snow Flake," and their respective merits have long since awakened a demand for their sale in other and even distant localities. In 1900 they established a feed mill at Pocahontas and, through it, have maintained a general exchange business in flour at that place.

In 1897 they purchased of T. J. Beats & Co., the Laurens co-operative creamery and moved it near the mill. Under the management of T. J. Beats it commanded a large patronage and was one of the important industries at Laurens. Important improvements were made at the time of its purchase in 1897, and in 1902 its work was completely re-arranged by furnishing each of their patrons with a hand separator that they might do the separating at home. This plan lessens the cost of gathering the cream, enables the creamery to pay a better price for the butter and leaves the farmer his own skim milk fresh for feeding purposes. This creamery has the machinery and the proprietors have both the desire and the means to make it the strongest and best one in the county.

In May 1902, wishing to extend their business into some new territory they purchased the creamery at Pocahontas and supplying its patrons with hand separators changed and greatly improved the method of its operation. They have creameries operated in the same manner at Havelock and Marathon.

They are thus the successful managers of creameries at Laurens, Havelock, Pocahontas and Marathon, and have the principal office at Laurens. The patrons of their creameries and mill have become their best advertisers and it has been their good fortune to witness a steady growth and enlargement of the butter and milling industries under their careful management.

#### PROCESS BUTTER.

In 1901 they obtained the machinery for renovating, or making anew, old butter. By means of it they are able to take the worst butter, found in the back-rooms of stores, and make it pure, clean and sweet. The new product is called, "Process Butter," and it is claimed to be cleaner and purer than either dairy or creamery butter, because every element of foreign substance and even odor has been removed from it.

Whilst the finishing process is a secret and gives to the product its name, "Process Butter," the principal operations are as follows:

A barrel of old butter is dumped into a vat, brought to a boiling heat with hot water and steam, and then it is constantly stirred. The foul stuff, that gathers on the surface, and the sediment at the bottom are repeatedly removed until nothing remains but the pure butter fat. This fat or oil is then placed in a large conical shaped rectifying vat, where it is again brought to a boiling heat with hot water in an outer vat. During the next five hours pure air, forced into and sprayed over the bottom of the inner vat, comes bubbling up through the boiling oil and takes from it every element of odor.

This chemically pure, odorless butter fat is then colored and allowed to cool and harden. It is then churned with fresh milk to give it a butter taste, worked, salted and packed, the same as creamery butter, but it is marked, "Process Butter." On account of its purity, it is rated equal to creamery butter and brings a higher price in the city market than the dairy product.

The Icwa Dairy report for 1902 states that there are now twelve such factories in this state and nine of them during that year renovated 4,530,388 pounds of bad butter, of which, 991,333 pounds were sold in

Iowa, principally in Des Moines, and the rest was shipped to New York City.

In 1902 there was an average of 25 cows to the square mile in Iowa, and 40 in Bremer, the banner county. The creamery product was 77,885,696 pounds and its average price was 24 1-6 cents, the highest in ten years. In 1900 the value of the entire dairy product in this state was \$27,516,870, and in the entire country \$475,000,000, which is six times the value of the entire gold product in this country during the same year.

In no branch of industry has the use of improved facilities made greater changes than in the manufacture of butter. The first creameries were established in this section, in 1880 at Fort Dodge and in 1882 at Fonda, on the plan of keeping the milk cold under water in Cooley cans. About 1885 the separator was introduced in the creameries and a new impulse was given to the manufacture of butter. In 1897 C. M. Saylor and his son, Calvin B. Saylor, began to use hand separators on their farms in Lincoln township. These were probably the first farm separators used in Pocahontas county. In three years from that time a complete change became necessary in the management of the creameries to maintain them. The number of them in operation in Iowa in 1902 was considerably less than in 1900. Those that have survived have had to adopt the plan of furnishing all their patrons with a hand cream separator. The latest phase or transition is in the direction of centralization, which means the establishment of large butter manufacturing in the larger cities and the shipment of the cream by rail from the localities thus directly connected.

The creamery industry has developed with great rapidity during the last three years, and it has added greatly to the farmer's wealth by in-

creasing his annual product of butter and bringing him higher prices for it. During the early 80's, thirty-six hours were needed to develop the cream, the farmer's wife spent a good share of her time skimming milk and washing cans, and the farmer might have been seen in the woodshed laboriously working a dasher up and down in an old churn. The times have changed. Now the farmer spends a few minutes running the new milk through a hand cream separator, feeds it to his calves and sells his cream to the proprietor of the creamery. The introduction of new machinery and new methods has greatly increased the product of the dairy, raised the standard of its quality and thereby increased the farmers annual income.

The farmers, especially the dairy-men of the Mississippi Valley, have been styled, "Western Gold Bugs," because they have become not only self supporting, but the creditors of the east, and therefore not so liable to suffer from financial panics as formerly. It has been estimated that the dairy interests of the United States now represent an invested capital of one billion, and that the value of the annual dairy product is about one million dollars. This great development in recent years has been due to the general introduction of improved machinery and the adoption of new methods on the farm.

KREUL BROS, CHRISTIAN F. & HENRY A.  
The smith, a mighty man is he,

With large and sinewy hands,  
And the muscles of his brawny arms,  
Are strong as iron bands;  
He looks the whole world in the face,  
For he owes not any man.

—Longfellow.

One of the oldest and most widely known of the business firms at Laurens is that of the Kreul Bros, C. Fred and Henry A., who are general blacksmiths and manufacturers of wagons, buggies and plows, but make

a specialty of wagon and plow work. Their shop, 32x103 feet and two stories in height, is the largest one in this county. It is supplied with a large amount of new and improved machinery, consisting of forges, lathes, planers, borers, band and circular saws, etc., all of which are propelled by a gasoline engine of twenty-five horse power. It is well provided for doing all sorts of iron and wood work. It is a regular manufacturing establishment and gives employment to four to six men. As a good mill draws patrons and traders a long distance, so has this industry of the Kreul Bros. tended to make Laurens great.

In 1898 they made a traveling cart for some Swedish missionaries in China. Its axle was adjustable so as to suit roads of different widths. It was much heavier and stronger than the ordinary cart and had a regular buggy top. It was ordered through the missionaries from Fairfield township, Buena Vista county, because such vehicles, when made by the natives, are very rude and clumsy affairs.

In 1902 they built a large ditching machine for the G. W. Strickland Ditching & Grading Co., for use in the Red River Valley, Minnesota. This machine excavates a ditch 8 feet wide and 3½ feet deep, and four capstans are used in propelling it.

The successive steps in the enlargement of this industry are illustrative of the growth of the town and surrounding country. It was started in a little blacksmith shop, built by C. F. Kreul in 1884, only two years after the town had been founded. Henry A., his brother, came two years later and began to work for him. In 1888 they formed a partnership under the name, "Kreul Bros." In 1890 they erected the spacious two story building now occupied and in 1893 began the manufacture of plows. The upper

story of their building was used several years as an opera house.

This firm represents one of the most important of the pioneer industries of the town. The proprietors are industrious and skillful mechanics, they employ only courteous and trusty workmen and warrant all their work.

#### REED'S INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE.

The Independent Telephone exchange at Laurens was established by Charles G. Reed, druggist, in the fall of 1899, with a patronage of 30 phones. The number of phones the next year was increased to 60 and in 1902 to 135. It connects with all the Independent lines in the vicinity and renders a very efficient and satisfactory service. As a public convenience it is a favorite with the people. Mr. Reed is aggressive in his methods and is endeavoring to give his fellow citizens the very best telephone service at the lowest possible rate. Harriett Bellman of Cherokee was the first operator and in 1901 she was succeeded by Pearl Rickabaugh.

#### RURAL TELEPHONES.

In January 1902, the farmers northwest of Laurens organized the Northwestern Telephone Company by the election of W. D. Cottrell, president, Harry A. Moore, secretary, and W. F. Atkinson, treasurer. The aim of this organization is to extend the advantages of the Laurens Telephone Exchange into the rural districts. In the spring of 1902 they erected three rural lines from Laurens, each 8 to 10 miles in length, running, No. 1, northwest, No. 2, due north, and No. 3, northeast.

In December 1902 another rural telephone company was organized by the farmers south and east of Laurens, of whom F. K. Hawley, president, George Aschenbrenner, Jr., secretary, H. M. Doty, treasurer, N. Moore and H. De Young were chosen a board of directors, and constructed a line from Laurens four miles southward thence east to Ware.



The rapid extension of telephone lines in the rural districts of Iowa during the years 1900 to 1902 was marvelous. No other public utility of equal value and convenience is furnished the public at so trifling expense as the telephone, and hence the number of lines has multiplied rapidly. In 1900 there was an increase of 138 companies and in 1901 an increase of 238 companies or a growth of 170 per cent. On Jan. 1, 1902 there were 651 companies having 22,409 miles that were assessed at \$1,000,000. The growth in 1902 was even greater than in 1901.

While the telephone is designed to annihilate distance, its greatest use is in direct ratio to its nearness, chiefly because people are concerned most in their immediate surroundings. Whilst the long distance telephone has its limitations owing to the difficulty of duplexing the circuit, the use of the short distance telephone is yet in its infancy.

The Rolfe Telephone Co., (p. 505), which started July 1, 1900 with 85 phones, on Oct. 1, 1902 had constructed a number of rural lines over Clinton, Des Moines and Powhatan townships and had a patronage of 383 phones.

The Northern Telephone Co., (p. 393), Sept. 1, 1899 opened an exchange at Fonda with 57 phones and built that season toll lines to Newell, Sulphur Springs, Nemaha, Juniata, Storm Lake, Alta, Varina, Lilly, Albert City and Laurens. The next year it extended its lines to Aurelia, Cherokee, Pocahontas, Plover, Havenlock, Rolfe, Gilmore City and Palmer; and bought a line to Knoke, Jolley and Rockwell City that was later exchanged for one in Pocahontas county. The toll lines of this company have been since extended to Sioux Rapids, Humboldt and Fort Dodge; and it is now building a copper circuit from Fort Dodge to Cherokee. It has exchanges at Fonda, Newell, Storm

Lake, Aurelia, Sioux Rapids and Gilmore City and many rural lines that altogether have a patronage of 1000 phones. The capital stock has been increased from \$10,000 to \$100,000, and it is again under the general management of George Sanborn.

#### THE POCAHONTAS COUNTY SUN.

The Pocahontas County Sun, as a democratic local paper, was established by Louie E Lange, June 15, 1885. During the first six months the only room that could be obtained for the printing outfit at Laurens was the barn of Geo. W. Leverich. The outfit consisted of a Washington hand press and a few cases of type. The population was less than 200, and the older papers of the county could not refrain from poking a little fun at the new paper printed in a little barn; but its plucky founder worked hard, lived economically, dodged creditors and taught school until it became self-supporting.

The outlook during the first two or three years was not very encouraging, but then an era of better times commenced, many new settlers began to occupy the wild prairies, the town grew, the people saw the paper was bound to live and in one summer—1887—400 new names were added to the subscription list. It lived to print sad obituary notices of some who predicted its early failure. When it was established there were no sidewalks north of the track and the little school house on the hill was the only place for meetings. Only seven of the firms doing business in 1902 existed then, namely: Beardsley & Allen, M. Hakes, T. B. Steel, Geo. T. Johnson, C. F. Kreul, J. P. Shoemaker and Dr. J. M. Carroll.

Mr. Lange continued in charge of it until Aug. 1, 1900, a period of more than 15 years. It had become one of the leading newspapers in the county, and occupied a fine office on Main street, that was furnished with a

splendid printing outfit including a Sidney folder that folds, cuts, pastes and trims 30 papers in a minute.

Geo M. Long, of Peterson, the successor of Mr. Lange, changed it from a democratic to a republican paper and in February 1902 sold it to R. C. Garver, of Cedar Rapids, the present proprietor.

A new and very artistic heading was adopted for the first page Dec. 21, 1900, and continued the two years it was published by Mr. Long. It was a beautiful piece of pen work on the part of Roy Bouton, an employe of the office, and its presentation was a pretty compliment to the editor whose name it bore. It consisted of the great seal of the state, as a central sun sending rays of light in every direction, surmounted by an American eagle with wings out-spread, and on the right and left hands the title, "Pocahontas County Sun," intertwined with a streamer on which was inscribed the Iowa state motto, "Our liberties we prize and our rights we will maintain."

R. C. Garver, its present editor, served some time as a special reporter for the Associated Press, and thus acquired a wide and valuable acquaintance with the public men and affairs in this state. He is a very capable man, a polished writer and is endeavoring to make the Sun a valuable exponent of the sentiment and progress of the northwest part of the county.

#### THE STANDARD.

The Laurens Standard, the only other paper hitherto published at Laurens, was issued weekly from Oct. 1, 1896 to Dec. 1st following by F. M. Lenehan. It was a six column quarto and its outfit was removed from the county when it was discontinued.

#### LAURENS IN 1902.

AGENTS: C. & N. W. Ry, —L. G. Smith; C. R. I. & P. Ry.,—J. H. McKinney; Switch tower,—James H.

Rickabaugh, in 1901 successor of Joseph Murray.

MAYOR: M. M. Noah.

POSTMASTER: Wm E. Atkinson.

ATTORNEYS: Hon. Fred C. Gilchrist; F. W. Paige, since 1892.

AUCTIONEER: J. R. Tool.

BANKS: State, C. S. Allen, president; M. T. Nilsson, cashier; First National, F. H. Helsel, president; Wm. G. McNee, cashier.

BAKER: F. C. Manatt at Gem cafe.

BARBERS: A. E. Sawtell and Homer Bros., Charles and Geo. F.

BLACKSMITHS: Kreul Bros., (C. F. and H. A.); C. E. Winsor, in 1900 successor of Winsor and (Geo. R.) Kreul.

BOOKKEEPER: C. E. Narev.

BROOM MAKER: John Workman (blind), since 1899.

CARPENTERS: F. Oscar Youngren, C. F. Coleman, R. C. Hall, L. N. and Herbert Ellis, L. L. Cook.

CHOP HOUSE: John Sniggs.

CLERKS: Daniel Davis, John Miller, John Cromwell, John Jensen, Charles Swanson, Harry Ludwig, Herbert Babcock, Albert Kreul, Lettie Allen, Ralph E. Hughes.

CLOTHIERS: Thompson & Bellman, succeeded by V. A. Noble in 1902, who closed out the stock.

CHURCHES: Methodist, (built 1888), —Rev. H. C. Chambers, pastor; Christian, (1893),—Rev. J. C. Hanna, Pastor; Swedish Lutheran, (1893),—Rev. R. Beckstrom, pastor; German Lutheran,—Rev. J. Pless, Pastor; Catholic, (1900),—Rev. Joseph Murtagh, of Rolfe, Pastor.

CREAMERY: Hinn Bros. (W. and J. G.).

DENTIST: Dr. F. N. Beam.

DOCTORS: J. M. Carroll, J. H. Hovenden, P. Gallaher, J. W. Higgins, and M. Moore, who in 1902 removed to Walnut, Iowa.

DRAYMEN: Mather Bros., (J. T. and E. K.), Daniel McAfee, Joseph Clanton, and E. H. Atwood.

DRESSMAKER: Marie Lundwick.

DRUGGISTS: Dr. J. M. Carroll, since

770 PIONEER HISTORY OF POCAHONTAS COUNTY, IOWA.

1882; C. G. Reed, in 1897 successor of Paul Jones & Sterrett; J. W. Higgins.

**DRAINAGE ENGINEER:** J. E. Peterson.

**ELEVATORS:** DeWolf & Wells, in 1902 successors of Wilson & DeWolf (1895), Laurens Grain Co., Cowan & Bardue, (1889-92), Cowan and Davis, ('87-89), D. J. Allen & Sons, F. G. Thornton and Eri D. Anderson; successors also of (H. L. Bruett) Geo. H. Bunton ('93-1901), Allen Grain Co. ('89-93); Northern Grain Co., in 1893 successor of Johnson & Brown, and Lyman Johnson ('91-92); Wheeler Grain & Coal Co., since 1900.

**FURNITURE DEALER:** T. D. Landon, in 1901 successor of Eri D. Anderson.

**GENERAL MERCHANTS:** Hakes Bros., (M. and J. R.), in 1885 successors of S. S. Sturdivan (1882); O. M. Murphey in 1895 successor of August Youngren (1890); M. T. Nilsson and Joseph Peterson, in 1901 successors of Geo. T. and S. D. Johnson, (1886); M. M. Noah in 1903. Variety store, —C. W. Erret.

**HARDWARE:** Shoemaker J. P., in 1901 successor of Shoemaker & Anderson, established by J. P. Shoemaker in 1882; Stacy & Weaver, in 1900 successors of Moore & Stacy, Moore & Johnson, John Wells, and Frank G. Thornton (1884-87).

**HARNES MAKERS:** Edwin H. Southworth, Geo. W. Wright.

**HOTELS:** Adams Hotel, M. C. and C. W. Adams, in 1903 succeeded by S. D. Johnson. The Commercial House, in 1902 was replaced by the Noble Opera House by V. A. Noble successor, as proprietor of the Commercial House, of Solomon Cundy, Nelson Parker, Sherman Anderson, Geo. W. Bellinger, William Dwigans, and Robert Foust 1833-84.

**IMPLEMENT DEALERS:** Jacob Billman, in 1900 successor of W. E. Crowder; V. A. Noble, in 1901 successor of H. L. Bruett.

**INSURANCE:** Samuel Harper, N. H. White.

**JEWELERS:** H. M. Spencer, in 1896 successor of P. J. Cilley; E. J. Nutting, 1902.

**LIVERYMEN:** Mather Bros., James T. and E. Kenneth; W. H. Higgins and (Frank) Kendall; W. E. Crowder.

**LUMBER & COAL:** C. J. Bovee, since 1882; L. D. Beardsley and B. L. Allen; Jesse Smith.

**MAGNETIC HEALER:** C. W. Adams.

**MEAT MARKETS:** Milton M. Noah till 1902; Noer E. Bigglestone, successor of J. M. Turner, Gus Ehlers and John Schroeder 1886-97.

**MILLERS:** W. and J. G. Hinn since 1894.

**MILLINERS:** Mamie Johnson, Elvina Stuhr, Erickson Sisters, Beda and Anna.

**MUSIC TEACHERS:** Mrs. C. J. Bovee and Mrs. E. C. Winsor.

**MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS:** Levi Dean.

**NURSE:** Myra Crandall.

**PAINTERS:** Fred Post, M. H. Murray, Jesse Clifton, Fred Sawtell and Frank Martin.

**NEWSPAPER:** The Pocahontas County Sun, est. 1885, R. C. Garver, editor.

**OPTICIAN:** Harriet F. Spencer.

**POULTRY DEALERS:** M. and J. R. Hakes.

**REAL ESTATE:** B. L. Saum, H. L. Bruett, J. J. Lynch, Samuel Harper and N. H. White, Allen Land & Loan Co., P. S. Weittenhiller, Beardsley & Clanton.

**PHOTOGRAPHERS:** C. F. Garrison of Rolfe, and C. O. Brown.

**RESTAURANT KEEPER:** M. C. and C. W. Adams, succeeded by S. D. Johnson in 1902.

**SEAMSTRESSES:** Mrs. Edward Gunkel, Edith Ludwig.

**SEWING MACHINES:** Levi Dean.

**SHOE DEALERS:** V. A. Noble, Geo. Larson, Hakes Bros., O. M. Murphey, Nilsson & Peterson.



**STOCK DEALERS:** Robinson & Jones, and Noah & Wiss.

**TEACHERS:** W. H. Reeve, principal, Kate Fowler, Tessa M. Douglass, Alice McDougal, Viola Bleakly, Flora Noble, Margaret McCarty and Bertha Warren.

**TELEPHONE:** Laurens Independent, established 1899 by Charles G. Reed, proprietor, Pearl Rickabaugh, operator.

**VETERINARY SURGEONS:** C. A. Clinton, M. D. C. and P. E. Fagan, D. V. S.

**VOCAL INSTRUCTOR:** J. P. Scott.

**WELL DRILLERS:** Lofquist & Mattelin, Thomas Burke.

**SCHOOL BOARD:** M. M. Noah, president, Christ F. Kreul, Hon. M. E. DeWolf, O. M. Murphey, R. C. Hall; E. G. Coll, secretary, B. L. Allen, treasurer.

#### LEADING CITIZENS.

**Allen**, Benjamin E (b. 1842), lumber dealer, Laurens, is a native of Clinton county, N. Y. In his youth he came to Kane county, Ill., where in 1861 he enlisted as a member of Co H, 36th Ill. Inf. and rendered four years of military service during the civil war. July 22, 1864 he was captured at Atlanta, Ga., and with other comrades was confined two months in Andersonville prison. He was then successively transferred to the prisons at Florence and Charleston, S. C., Wilmington and Goldsborough, N. C. He was paroled at Goldsborough, March 3, 1865.

In 1872 at Huntley Grove, McHenry county, Ill., he married Fannie E. Knappen (b. N. Y. 1850) and engaged in farming. In 1875 he located on a farm in Sac county, Iowa. In the spring of 1883 he came to the new town of Laurens and, forming a partnership with L. D. Beardsley, has since been engaged in the sale of lumber and coal.

Twenty years have passed since the firm of Beardsley & Allen began to do

business at Laurens. They represent one of the oldest firms in the town. During these years they have witnessed many changes not only in the development of the town and country but also in the management of the business interests of the town. The long and prosperous career of this firm is very creditable both to them and the community they have been endeavoring to serve. They have been equitable and progressive in their methods and the name of the firm has become widely and favorably known. Mr. Allen was accorded the honor of serving two years, 1890-91, as the first mayor of Laurens.

His family consisted of four children. The two oldest died in 1879 and the youngest in 1891. Maud E., a teacher, graduated from the high school in 1899.

**Allen**, Daniel Johnson (b. 1832, d. 1897), banker, Laurens, was a native of Columbiana county, Ohio. In 1853, locating near Marietta, he became one of the early settlers of Marshall county, Iowa. In 1855 he married Elizabeth Holmes who, two years before had also come from Columbiana county, O., and, locating on a farm three miles west of Marshalltown, continued to occupy it, raising and feeding stock, until 1886. Previous to that date the farm, known as the Strathmore stock farm, had been increased to 1,000 acres and he had improved it with large and beautiful farm buildings. It was then sold to Ex Gov. Packard of Louisiana.

In 1890 he located at Laurens, where his two sons, Charles S. and Benjamin L., had preceded him four years and, through his co-operation, had established the Exchange Bank of Laurens (p. 761.) and the Land & Loan Agency of D. J. Allen & Sons.

During the brief period of his residence at Laurens he exerted a potent and beneficent influence in the development of its business interests, and

also in its moral and religious life. During his later years he spent the winter seasons at San Diego, Cal. In the fall of 1897, while enroute to that place, he became sick and died Oct. 13th, before he reached his destination, at the age of 65 years. His wife died at Laurens at 59 in 1891, and both are buried in Riverside cemetery at Marshalltown.

He was a kind and affectionate father, and manifested a desire to keep his family together as much as possible. He was a lifelong republican and a zealous defender of the rights of the negro in the south. He was a staunch advocate of the cause of prohibition and gave liberally toward the suppression of the saloon. He belonged to the Hicksite Friends by birthright and when possible attended their services. The generosity of his nature was manifested by his words of sympathy to those who were in trouble and by numerous gifts of charity to the needy. He was unassuming in manner but aggressive in spirit, and manifested a genuine interest in the public welfare of Laurens. He left a legacy of \$1,000 to assist in establishing an Orphan's Home in the city of Laurens.

His family consisted of eight children. All of them were born in Marshall county, Iowa, and two of them died in childhood.

Charles Sumner (b. 1856), banker, Laurens, is a native of Marshall county, where he grew to manhood and, after acquiring an academic and business course of study at the Iowa State University, devoted his attention to farming and stockraising.

February 1, 1886, four years after the founding of the town, he and his brother, Benjamin L. Allen, located at Laurens. Aided by their father, Daniel J. Allen, they purchased and united the separate banking interests of George W. Leverich and M. B. Caswell in the Exchange Bank of Lau-

rens, and established the real estate agency of D. J. Allen & Sons. Charles S. has been president of the bank ever since and in 1892 effected its incorporation as the State Bank of Laurens. The same year through the cooperation of his father and brother, Benjamin, he effected the reorganization of the real estate agency as the Allen Land & Loan Company (p. 761.) and greatly increased its capital stock. To these important business interests he has been devoting his time and talents, and has had the privilege of seeing them greatly prosper under his skillful management. In 1891 he performed a leading part in the establishment of the Allen bank at Pocahontas, that the next year was incorporated as the State Bank of Pocahontas but was discontinued December 31, 1896. He is the owner of a large amount of real estate in the vicinity of Laurens and in 1898 built one of the finest residences in that town. He has been a trustee and liberal supporter of the M. E. church of Laurens since its organization in 1891 and a loyal republican.

In 1881 he married Martha E. Steward of Marshall county and has a family of six children, Burritt S., Elizabeth, a Laurens graduate in 1902, William J., Charles F., Martha Lucile and Eleanor May.

Benjamin Lot, (b. 1858.) banker and dealer in real estate, Laurens, is a native of Marshall county where he grew to manhood and received his education.

February 1, 1886, he located at Laurens, where he co-operated with his father and brother, Charles, in the establishment of the Exchange, now the State bank and a real estate agency. He has been a cashier of the bank at Laurens since it was founded and has been personally identified with all of the business interests established by D. J. Allen & Sons at Laurens,

Pocahontas and Ware. He is president of the Savings Bank of Ware and its organization in February 1901 was largely due to his influence and leadership. In 1891 he succeeded his father as a member of the Laurens town council and served six years, 1891-96. He is a republican and is always ready to do his part in promoting the public welfare of his home town, Laurens.

In 1887 he married Lulu, daughter of Senator Mills, of Marshall county and before the end of the next year she died of diphtheria. In 1892 he married Addie Coulson, of Hinkley, Ill. His family consists of three children, Lenore, Thorena and Wilmont.

Byron J., (b. 1863, d. 1892.) after graduating from the law department of the Iowa State University in 1887, came to Pocahontas county that year and located at Pocahontas, where he began the practice of law and became local manager of the real estate and banking business of D. J. Allen & Sons. In 1888 he became the republican nominee for the office of County Attorney and, as the second incumbent in that office, served this county two years, 1889-90.

In 1890 he married Anna Jackson and died at 29 in 1892, after an illness of three days from appendicitis at Fort Dodge, leaving one child, Elizabeth G.

Mary (b. 1861) in 1882 married Byron E. Whalen, a banker and dealer in merchandise and live stock. They live at Galva and have a family of four children, Edna, Bessie, Ralph and Grace.

Sarah, (b. 1867.) a skillful accountant, after rendering seven years of faithful service as head bookkeeper and assistant cashier in the Laurens Exchange Bank, in 1895 married Rev. George F. Whitfield, a member of the Northwest Iowa M. E. Conference and is now located at Ruthven.

Their family consists of one daughter, Rachel Elizabeth.

**Joseph** Holmes (b. 1870), a regent of the Iowa State University, and banker at Pocahontas, is a native of Marshall county. He received his early education in the public schools of Marshalltown and graduated from the high school there in 1889. He then came to Pocahontas County and began to fill a position in the land office of his father and brothers at Pocahontas at \$50.00 a month. Two years later he entered the Iowa State University, completed the college course and graduated from its law department in 1895.

At the University he enjoyed the honor of being chosen one of the debaters of the Irving society in the intercollegiate contest, editor-in-chief of the Hawkeye, the College Annual, and represented that institution in the all-around Western Football team.

His first earnings of \$500 in 1890 were invested as a payment on a half section of land in Emmet County; and this investment, supplemented by the earnings received during vacations, enabled him to defray the expenses of his university courses and left him a surplus of several thousand dollars.

Purchasing then a lot of stock in the Allen Land & Loan Co. he was elected president of it and gave the management of its affairs his closest attention until June 21, 1898, when in response to the call of the president for volunteers in the Spanish American war he and nine other young men of Pocahontas county, going to Cedar Rapids, became members of the Tip-ton company (F) of the 49th Iowa, and rendered ten months of service at Jacksonville, Fla., Savannah, Ga., and Havana, Cuba. Previous to his enlistment he had received from the governor of Iowa, L. M. Shaw, permission to raise a company in this county. He did this but as no call was made



for additional companies he enlisted and served as a private soldier.

In 1900 he located at Pocahontas.

On Jan. 1, 1901, with the co-operation of his brothers, Charles S. and Benjamin L., he re-established the Allen Bros.' bank at Pocahontas, and built for it one of the finest bank buildings in this state. The next year they built a large brick hotel at that place. He has also built a fine residence. Through these and other recent improvements he has contributed greatly to the upbuilding of Pocahontas, our county seat.

In 1900 he was the delegate from this 10th congressional district in the national convention at Philadelphia that renominated President McKinley, and in January 1902 he was appointed a regent of the Iowa State University by the General Assembly of Iowa.

He is a young man, well equipped physically, intellectually, and morally for the best performance of the duties of life, public or private. He possesses that sagacity that is needed to insure success in business and the courage to perform his duty conscientiously in any station.

In 1899 he married Grace, daughter of Prof. James C. Gilchrist. After completing her education at Wellesley College, Mass., she engaged in teaching and became a favorite in musical circles. His family consists of one child, Byron Gilchrist.

**Atkinson**, William F. (b. 1840), county recorder and postmaster, Laurens, is a native of Palatine, Cook Co., Ill., the son of Thomas and Elizabeth Furness Atkinson. He lived with his parents, working on the farm in summer and attending public school until he became of age.

Feb. 28, 1862 he became a member of Co. G., 18th, Ill. Inf., and continued to render military service until March 15, 1865, when he was honorably discharged at Annapolis, Md. He par-

ticipated in the battle of Chicamauga, Sept. 19-20, 1863, and was there taken prisoner by the confederates. He was confined in Pemberton Castle and also in Libby prison, which were on opposite sides of the same street in Richmond, until Dec. 1, 1863, and then, with most of the prisoners there, he was sent to Danville, Va. Here he was assigned the charge of the small-pox hospital and, during the following winter, cared for more than 600 patients. In March in company with others from the hospital he was paroled and sent to Annapolis, Md. During his imprisonment in Pemberton Castle he was tied up by the thumbs half an hour for refusing to give the names of other prisoners who tunneled a hole through under the wall of Pemberton Castle. He belonged to the Army of the Cumberland and served under General Rosecrans.

In the fall of 1865, having formed a partnership with Thomas Atkinson, his father, they came to Norway, Benton county, Iowa, and engaged in the mercantile business. He was immediately appointed post master at that place with a salary of \$36 a year. In 1877, owing to ill health he sold his interest in the store and engaged in farming.

In 1882 he came to Pocahontas county, and located on the s½sec. 11, Marshall township, which he was the first to occupy and improve. His household goods and stock were the first freight goods unloaded at the Laurens station. There were only two buildings at the station, which was merely a freight car, in what is now the thriving and prosperous city of Laurens. Prairie wolves then sneaked through the tall grass at twilight in search of stray pigs and pullets, and, sitting on the hill tops, made the night hideous with long drawn wails, that never fade from the memory of the early settler.

On the farm he kept a dairy of

twenty cows and achieved good success as a stock-raiser. He let the calves do their own milking until they were old enough to be separated from the cow, and thus secured as good cattle at two years of age as many of those raised on skim-milk are at three.

He served four years as county recorder, 1887-90, and has been serving as postmaster at Laurens since Oct. 1, 1897.

During the period of his service as recorder he discovered that there were several small pieces of unpatented lands in this county and secured one of them containing 40 acres on the se $\frac{1}{2}$  sec. 4, Marshall township, under the timber culture act. In 1891 he located on sec. 16, Swan Lake township and is now a resident of Laurens.

He was a gallant soldier and has been faithful and efficient as a public officer.

In 1867 while keeping store at Norway, he married Ellen, (b. Joliet, Ill., 1848) daughter of O. P. and Elizabeth Phillips, and she has faithfully shared with him since the trials and triumphs of life. Their family consists of five children. Paul W. (b. 1869.), a farmer in 1902 married Minnie Thornton and is now a resident of Clavis county, New Mexico. Ada E. in 1890 married Alfred H. Richey (see Richey) and now resides at Laurens. Charles D. (b. 1877) after graduating from the law school at Dixon, Ill., in 1900 located at Pocahontas and began the practice of law. In 1902 he was chosen chairman of the Republican County Central Committee and in November that year went to Washington, D. C. to fill a position in the office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives. Previous to his departure he married Vina, daughter of Mrs. Mary E. (John W.) Wallace of Pocahontas. Elizabeth E. (b. 1880) is now assistant postmaster at Laurens. Oliver Perry (b. 1883.) is a native of

Pocahontas county, a graduate of the Laurens high school in 1902 and is now pursuing a business course in the Capital City Commercial College, Des Moines.

**Bovee**, Cassius Jacob (b. 1846), lumber dealer, Laurens, is a native of Caledonia Co., Vt., the son of Moses and Helen Warden Bovee. He was raised on a farm and received his education in the public school. In 1865 he moved with his parents to Green Mountain, Marshall county, Iowa, and there found employment in a hardware store. In 1878 he married Anna, daughter of Daniel Williams, a prominent farmer of that section, and located on a farm. Two years later he moved to Marshalltown and served two years as clerk in a hardware store. In the spring of 1882 he located on a farm in Marshall township, this county, improved and occupied it the next ten years.

In 1892 he became a resident of Laurens, where, associated with M. Hakes, he became an extensive dealer in lumber, coal, brick and tile. He had extensive facilities for carrying a large stock of building materials, and, as a purchaser, acquired the happy faculty of anticipating the coming needs of the local market. He is a well built man physically and morally and has a laudable ambition to confer a lasting benefit on the community by furnishing the people the largest possible amount of the best building materials. In 1900 he built a new residence in Laurens and his son, Daniel, became a member of the firm in place of M. Hakes, who then withdrew. Jan. 1, 1903, they sold the business to the Lane-Moore Lumber Co.

During his residence in Marshall township he served as president of the school board one year and six years as a trustee. At Laurens he has been president of the school board one year and a member of the council during the last eight years.

He has one son, Daniel W., a Laurens graduate in 1898, and a teacher.

**Carroll**, Joseph M., Dr. (b. 1848) Laurens, is a native of Laporte, Ind. He moved with his parents to Illinois in his boyhood and to a farm near Iowa City in 1855. After several years devoted to study at Iowa City he began the practice of medicine, locating in 1873 in Fonda and the next year in Pomeroy. In 1874 he married Eva J. Brock of Calhoun county and in 1879 graduated from the Medical Department of the Iowa State University. In 1882, after a residence of nine years at Pomeroy, he located at Laurens, a new town founded that year. He established a drug store and office, the first in the town, and has enlarged them from time to time with the growth of the place. The building now occupied is a two story brick erected in 1893. He carries a large stock of goods and has acquired a very lucrative practice. He cared for all the sufferers in the track of the tornado in Colfax township in April, 1878, and was medical examiner during Cleveland's last administration. He served several years as county coroner, as treasurer of Swan Lake township and as the health physician for Laurens and the two adjoining townships. He owns a fine residence, located at the corner of the road south of Laurens.

His family consisted of two children both of whom are married.

Alma in 1897 married Edmund Plumb, a farmer, and lives in Colorado.

Flora B. in 1896 married Floyd Tool, a barber, lives at Laurens and has one child, Helen.

**Caswell**, Elbert A., one of the pioneer lumber dealers at Laurens, located there in the spring of 1882 and found employment as a contractor and builder. In the spring of 1883, he formed a partnership with L. D. Beardsley and bought out J. H. Queal

& Co., who had established the first, and to that date, the only lumber yard at Laurens. A few months later he sold his interests at Laurens to B. E. Allen, and, moving to Rolfe, opened a new lumber yard at that place. At the end of a year he returned to Laurens and resumed work as a contractor and builder. In 1887 he moved to Pocahontas and became the successor of J. F. Harlan in the abstract and loan business. In 1890 he relinquished his interests at Pocahontas to L. C. Thornton, and moved to Grand Junction where he has since been engaged in the clothing business.

In 1883 he married Anna, daughter of John O'Neil, of Lizard township, and has two children, Flossie and Glenn.

**Caswell**, William E. (b. 1856) brother of Elbert, carpenter and salesman, Laurens, is a native of Susquehanna Co., Pa., where he grew to manhood. In 1879 he came to Sac county, Iowa, and in May, 1882, to the new town of Laurens where he found employment as a carpenter. He has continued to reside at Laurens since that date, except two years, 1888 and 1889, which he spent in Colorado. He has been a salesman in the lumber yard of Beardsley & Allen during the last eleven years. He has been a member of the Laurens school board two terms and of the city council the last twelve years.

In 1884 he married Annie, daughter of T. J. Nelson, and has three children, Alma E., Carleton A., and Fannie C.

**Caswell**, Miles B., brother of Elbert, in 1884 came from Pennsylvania to Laurens and established the bank of Laurens. Two years later he sold the bank to D. J. Allen & Sons, went to Colorado and died there in 1889.

**Clifton**, Jesse S. (b. 1852) painter and justice, Laurens, is a native of Whiteside Co., Ill., where he grew to manhood. In 1878 he married Ida