

most intricate and important law problems with skill and ability, and although but a year in the profession, his practice is extensive and of an important character. "In all this world the thing supremely worth having is the opportunity, coupled with the capacity, to do well and worthily a piece of work, the doing of which shall be of vital significance to mankind." This maxim seems to have moved Mr. Hook when as educator he tried to the best of his ability to instruct youth and it accompanies him on his legal career and no doubt will guide him to a position where he will accomplish significant work.

In 1898 Mr. Hook was married to Miss Minnie M. Reed, a daughter of Daniel A. and Mary L. Reed, of Decorah. The parents were pioneer settlers in this part of the state and here the father died January 24, 1911. The mother is living in Decorah, and is the oldest resident of Winneshiek county.

Mr. Hook supports the republican party, keeping well informed upon the issues affecting the public. Fraternally he is a member of Winneshiek Lodge, No. 58, I. O. O. F., of Decorah, and also of the Knights of Pythias lodge. He was one of the organizers and is still a stockholder and a director of the State Bank of Decorah. For ten years he was a prominent member of the Iowa State Teachers Association and in that connection did much to stimulate the interest of its members in their vocation.

WILLIAM DRESSELHAUS.

William Dresselhaus needs no introduction to the readers of a history of Winneshiek county, for he is a representative of one of the oldest families in this section of the state and his name has been well known and honored here since pioneer times. He himself is well worthy of the honor and esteem in which it is held, for his record has only added to its luster, he standing today among the most representative and able agriculturists and most progressive and public-spirited citizens of his native township. He owns a fine farm of two hundred and thirteen acres on section 35 and in its cultivation has met with that success which always rewards earnest and persistent labor.

William Dresselhaus was born in Pleasant township, Winneshiek county, August 26, 1865, and is a son of Bernhard and Diedrike (Albers) Dresselhaus, natives of Germany. The father was born at Schale, province of Westphalia, on the 6th of January, 1837, and spent his early childhood in his native country. When he was sixteen years of age he came to America and lived for a number of years in the vicinity of Chicago, Illinois. In the year 1859 he moved to Pleasant township and turned his attention to farming, developing from a raw tract of land which he acquired in pioneer times a fine homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, which he continued to improve and operate until his death. He owned also another tract of eighty acres. In 1873 he joined the German Methodist Episcopal church, of which he was a faithful member until his death. He was one of the first members of the congregation in Canoe township and took an active part in its organization, serving for many years as a faithful trustee. He gave stanch allegiance to the republican party, taking an active part in public affairs and becoming a loyal and public-spirited citizen. He died at the home of