

of his locality, Mr. Plunkett enjoys the respect and esteem of all who know him, not only on account of his material achievements but also on account of the high qualities of his mind and character and his public-spirited citizenship.

CHARLES W. PILGRIM.

Winneshiek county numbers among her most valued and worthy citizens, Charles W. Pilgrim, whose fine farm of one hundred acres on section 14, Madison township, is visible evidence of his life of industry and thrift. He has been a resident of Iowa since 1870 and has consequently witnessed a great deal of the later growth and development of the state, the years bringing him success, prominence and a comfortable fortune. He was born in England, December 14, 1845, and is the son of John and Elizabeth (Croft) Pilgrim, the former a native of England and the latter of Wales. The father came to America and settled in French Grove, Peoria county, Illinois, in 1851 and he remained there two years, moving at the end of that time to Knox county in the same state. He rented a farm, but one year later his wife died of cholera and the father moved from that property to another in Knox county. He afterwards married again and went to Henry county, Illinois, where he purchased land in the vicinity of Galva, operating this for a number of years. Eventually, however, he retired from active life and moved into Galva where he resided until his death in July, 1882.

Charles W. Pilgrim was only six years of age when his parents came to America and he acquired his education in the district schools of Illinois. After his mother's death he made his home with his sister until he was eighteen years of age, after which he worked out by the month as a farm laborer for five years. At the end of that time he married and rented a farm near French Grove. This property he operated for two years and then moved to Buena Vista county, Iowa, making his first location in that state in 1870. After a short time he moved into Clay county and there took up a homestead claim of eighty acres which he improved and operated for seven years. A more than usually destructive grasshopper invasion, however, at length caused him to sell his farm and move into Winneshiek county where he had previously spent one season operating a threshing outfit and a clover huller for W. C. Cook of Hesper. When he returned after disposing of his property in Clay county, he settled in Hesper, bought property there and turned his attention to the teaming business. After nine years he hired out to William Beard & Sons as a cream hauler and thus began a connection with creamery interests of this vicinity which extended over a number of years. After two years and a half as hauler he was made cream inspector and overseer of all the routes controlled by his employers and during this period superintended the erection of a creamery at Galeville, Wisconsin, and Established the interests of William Beard & Sons in that city. Tiring of outside work. Mr. Pilgrim was transferred to Ridgeway, where he superintended the erection of the creamery there and after its completion took full charge of the plant, acting also as buttermaker. At the end of three years he formed an association with H. and L. W. Beard, and the partners bought land, Mr. Pilgrim