

he has already proven himself an able official and one eminently fitted for his duties.

On the 18th of January, 1911, at Mason City, Iowa, Mr. Shea was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Fitzsimmons. Fraternally he is identified with the Catholic Order of Foresters and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, being now esteemed loyal knight of Lodge No. 443, of the latter organization. He is a democrat in politics and a Catholic in religious faith. His salient characteristics are such as are worthy of emulation and have gained for him the respect and good-will of a large circle of warm friends.

OGDEN CASTERTON.

The name of Ogden Casterton is in various ways closely connected with the history and the development of Winneshiek county, where for forty years he successfully pursued agricultural occupations in Highland township, and he has also become connected in an influential way with banking, social and real-estate interests of this county. Living in well earned retirement in Decorah, at the age of eighty-three years, he is highly esteemed and honored as one of the pioneers by whose labors the present prosperous conditions have been brought about. Born in England, April 22, 1830, Ogden Casterton is a son of Zachariah and Jane Casterton, both natives of that country. There the father followed agricultural pursuits during all his life and passed away, as also did the mother.

Ogden Casterton received his education in his native country, where he grew to young manhood, but in 1852 came to America, and locating in Illinois rented a farm in that state, which he operated for four years. In 1856 he removed to Winneshiek county, moving on eighty acres of land which he had previously bought and setting about to clear and improve his property. As results attended his labors he increased his holdings from time to time until he at last owned a magnificent farm of thirteen hundred acres, all of which land was located in Highland township. As the years passed he brought this vast tract to a high state of productivity and instituted such improvements and equipment as he considered necessary for profitable cultivation. Prosperity attended his labors and in 1896 he was enabled to retire from the arduous work of the farm and removing to Decorah there purchased a fine home, but later built according to his own plans a mansion in which he now resides and which is considered one of the finest residences in the city. He has since become closely connected with various business interests of the city, in which he has become an important figure. He at present serves as vice president of the Citizens Savings Bank, beside holding bank stock of various kinds outside of Winneshiek county. He is also a substantial stockholder in the Winneshiek Hotel Company and the Swenson Valve Company. Moreover, he has heavily invested in city real estate, owning several valuable business blocks in Decorah.

In 1852 Mr. Casterton was united in marriage to Miss Mary Kew, a daughter of William and Jane Kew, natives of England. The father occupied himself as a laborer in his native country, but on coming to America engaged in the