

and substantial and in addition to a most attractive residence there are commodious barns and outbuildings that furnish ample shelter to grain and stock. The place is divided into fields of convenient size by well kept fences and the work of cultivation is conducted according to the most progressive methods, Mr. Hooper studies closely everything that has to do with scientific farming and his labors have produced excellent results.

On the 7th of October, 1895, Thomas J. Hooper was married to Miss Emma A. Oakland, a daughter of Henry T. and Isabella Oakland. Mrs. Hooper was born in Boone county, Iowa, but when she was only a year old her parents removed with their family to Minnesota, where they remained upon a farm for ten years. They then went to Athol, South Dakota, where they resided for six years, the father being engaged during that time in farming and in the implement business. They next took up their abode at Great Falls, Montana, and there the father of Mrs. Hooper turned his attention to real estate dealing. He was a native of Norway, born in the land of the midnight sun in 1848, and was a young man of nineteen years when he came to the United States. He sought broader business opportunities than could be secured in his native country and through the utilization of the advantages that came to him in a business way he steadily progressed and had no reason to regret his determination to come to the United States. He died at Great Falls, Montana, August 15, 1894.

Mr. and Mrs. Hooper are the parents of five children: Harry Verne, Harold Maurice, Charles Donald, Stanley Dean and William Howard. All are yet under the parental roof and are being educated in the public schools of Howard county. The son Harold has finished his work in the grades and is taking a general course in the high school at Greenland, Michigan. Mr. Hooper has ever been a strong believer in education and desires that his children shall have good opportunities in this direction. His own liberal training has constituted the foundation of his success, for after attending the graded schools he pursued his studies in a boarding school at Lansing, Michigan, and still later took a course in the agricultural school of that state. He likewise attended a commercial school in Toronto and thus he has been well trained in all methods of scientific farming and is able to direct his labors in the fields with sound judgment.

He and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church of Cresco and Mr. Hooper is a member of Cresco Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and is likewise connected with Beauseant Commandery, K. T., at Decorah, Iowa. Since 1894 he has been a member of the Woodmen of the World and he is always loyal to the teachings of these organizations. His political endorsement has been given to the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, but he prefers that his public duty shall be done as a private citizen and not as an office holder. The extensive farming interests under his control make heavy demands upon his time and energies, but he has his work thoroughly systematized. He forms his plans most carefully and is determined in their execution, and when one avenue of accomplishment seems closed he carves out other paths whereby he can reach the desired goal. In his vocabulary there is no such word as fail and his determination and perseverance constitute important elements in the attainment of the very substantial success that is now his.

JOHN SIMON KACHER.

The home farm of John Simon Kacher is situated on section 13, Utica township, Chickasaw county, and comprises two hundred and eighty acres of rich and valuable land. Since coming into possession of this property he has concentrated his efforts and attention upon its further development and improvement and has made it one of the valuable farms of his part of the state.

Iowa claims him as a native son, his birth having occurred in Winneshiek county, December 24, 1873, his parents being Frank and Kate (Payer) Kacher, both of whom were natives of Bohemia. They came to the United States with their respective parents and it was in Winneshiek county that they became acquainted and were married. The