

quired four hundred and eighty acres. He and his wife are still living, he having reached the notable old age of ninety-two years, while Mrs. Pecinovsky is eighty-five years of age. For several years they have made their home with their son Joseph.

In the district schools of Howard county Joseph F. Pecinovsky of this review pursued his education and also spent two short terms in the city schools of Cresco. His early training was that of the farmbred boy who soon becomes familiar with the work of the fields through actual experience. In 1880, having reached man's estate, Joseph F. Pecinovsky was united in marriage to Miss Teresa Moudry, a native of Bohemia, who came to this country two years before her marriage. Mr. Pecinovsky after assuming the duties of head of a household opened a country store, but three years of failure of wheat crops at that period led him to the belief that there was no money to be made in merchandising and he therefore turned his attention to farming. His father retired from active business at that time and the son took charge of the old homestead property. As the years passed and he prospered in his undertakings he made investment in farm lands until his landed possessions aggregated five hundred and thirty acres. This he held in his own name for a considerable period but in later years has divided his property among his children save for one hundred and sixty acres which he still retains as the home place. In 1910 he was one of the dominant factors in the organization of the Bohemian State Bank of Protivin and was made the first president of the institution. He has served as president of the bank continuously since with the exception of one year, when he withdrew to give his attention more fully to the duties of the office of county supervisor. The success of the bank is attributable in no small measure to his efforts and cooperation and the sound business policy which he has instituted in connection with the conduct of the bank. He is likewise a stockholder in the Protivin Telephone Company, a stockholder in the First National Bank of Cresco and for years was a member of the board of directors of the Protivin Creamery Association. He is likewise treasurer of the Bohemian Mutual Protective Association of Spillville, Iowa.

To Mr. and Mrs. Pecinovsky have been born six children, of whom one died in infancy, while five are yet living, namely: Rosa M., the wife of John C. Svetska, a resident farmer of Howard county; Mariana, the wife of Frank Wagner, a farmer of Winnesheik county; Joseph P., who carries on farming in New Oregon township, Howard county; Charles L., a resident farmer of New Oregon township; and Theresa V., at home.

Mr. Pecinovsky and his family are consistent members of the Catholic church and he is a member of the Western Bohemian Catholic Union. In politics he has always been a republican and in 1910 was elected to the board of county supervisors, in which important office he served for six years in a most capable manner, his course being highly satisfactory to the people most concerned. He is ever loyal to the best interests of the community and stands for progress and improvement in public affairs at all times.

CASPER HELLER.

The occupation of farming claimed the efforts and energies of Casper Heller, whose home was situated on section 6, Afton township, where he was engaged in the cultivation of a good tract of land. He was born July 22, 1840, in Germany, and was a son of Ambrose Heller. He spent the first twelve years of his life in the place of his birth and then came to the United States in 1852 with his parents, who after landing on the eastern coast at once made their way across the country to Watertown, Wisconsin. The father there rented a tract of land and remained in that district for several years, devoting his attention to farming there. Eventually, however, he and his wife took up their abode in the city of Watertown, where they continued to reside until called to their final home.

Casper Heller was reared under the parental roof upon the old homestead near Watertown, Wisconsin, and after he had attained his majority he wedded Johanna