

States and there was employed for several years at farm work. About 1870 he removed westward to Iowa and for some time worked on the construction of the Union Pacific Railroad through Nebraska. He afterward came to Howard county and about 1884 was married. He then settled on a part of the present home farm, having acquired eighty acres of land through holding a mortgage on the property. Later he added to his original tract until his farm comprised one hundred and eighty acres, upon which he resided to the time of his death, which occurred February 26, 1907. His widow survives and yet occupies the old home place.

John E. Davis of this review was educated in the district schools while spending his youthful days under the parental roof. In the winter seasons he mastered the branches of learning which constituted the public school curriculum and in the summer months he aided more or less in the work of the home farm until his father's death, which occurred when the son was eighteen years of age. Upon his young shoulders then devolved the care of the farm, which he has since cultivated and which is now owned by himself and his sister, Jessie M. Davis.

In his political views Mr. Davis is an earnest republican, believing firmly in the principles of the party, and he has served as a delegate to its county conventions, while at the last election he was chosen to the office of township assessor. On account of being alone upon the farm, however, he could not serve as it would require too much of his time. He is well known as an exemplary member of Howard Lodge, No. 214, A. F. & A. M., and also of the Modern Woodmen of America and is equally faithful as a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is regarded as one of the progressive young men and successful farmers of Howard county and enjoys the respect of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

JOHN J. PECHOTA.

John J. Pechota, engaged in farming on section 12, Utica township, Chickasaw county, is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Chicago, December 28, 1881, his parents being Frank and Mary Pechota, who are mentioned in connection with the sketch of their son, Wenzel A. Pechota, on another page of this work. With the removal of the family to Iowa, John J. Pechota became a pupil in the district schools of Chickasaw county and through the period of his youth aided in the cultivation of his father's farm. Following his marriage he located upon the place where he now resides—a tract of one hundred acres which his father deeded to him. The sons had assisted materially in the development of the old homestead and in the acquirement of their father's property, and he recognized their assistance in substantial gifts of land at the time the sons were married.

On the 1st of May, 1906, John J. Pechota wedded Miss Catherine M. Panos, a daughter of Albert Panos, who is spoken of at length in connection with the sketch of his son, James L. Panos, in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Pechota have two interesting children, Eugene and Dora.

The religious belief of the parents is that of the Catholic church and in the exercise of his right of franchise Mr. Pechota supports the democratic party. He is above all, however, a successful farmer who, working diligently and persistently along the line which he has always followed, has gained a place among the representative agriculturists of Chickasaw county.

W. B. TORNEY.

An excellent farm property of one hundred and fifty-one acres situated on section 7, Saratoga township, Howard county, pays tribute to the care and labor bestowed upon the place by the owner, W. E. Torney, who is classed with the representative agriculturists of that community. He was born August 8, 1856, in Canada, a son of Thomas and