

ness and care and is seldom if ever at fault in the application of legal principles. He is strong in argument, logical in his deductions and careful in his analysis and, possessing the requisite qualities for success at the bar, has won a most creditable position among the lawyers of Howard county.

In 1895 Mr. Church was united in marriage to Miss Bernice B. Chapman, a daughter of A. C. and Tina (Squires) Chapman. Her father was a lumberman of Two Rivers, Minnesota, and it was there that Mrs. Church was born. By her marriage she has become the mother of six children: Donald H., who died in his sixteenth year; Gordon C. and Edwin H., both of whom are now members of the Thirty-eighth Aerial Squadron of the United States army and are in training at Rantoul, Illinois, having been stationed at Camp Chanute; Edwin H. has been made a sergeant (first class) and has charge of the supply department there. The other children of the family are Bruce, George H. and Robert C., all at home.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Congregational church and fraternally Mr. Church is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and his wife occupy an enviable position in social circles, enjoying the goodwill and kindly regard of all who know them, while his professional brethren speak of him in terms of confidence and of admiration. That his has been a well spent life is, moreover, indicated in the fact that many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time.

W. N. WESP.

The story of successful endeavor in the life record of W. N. Wesp should serve to inspire and encourage the man who thoughtfully regards the work of other individuals. It shows what can be achieved through personal effort when guided by sound judgment and characterized by resolute purpose. Year after year Mr. Wesp carried on farming and promoted business interests and prospered in all that he undertook. His activities, too, were of a character that contributed to the welfare and progress of the community at large and at length, having become possessed of a handsome competence, he put aside business cares and is now enjoying a well deserved rest. His home is at New Hampton.

W. N. Wesp was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, March 9, 1856, and is a son of Frederick J. and Mary (Davis) Wesp, the former a native of Germany, whence he went with his parents to Canada when a lad of but six years. The mother was of Welsh parentage but was born in North America. Throughout his active life Frederick J. Wesp followed the occupation of farming. He crossed the border into the United States about 1858 or 1859, becoming a resident of New York. Subsequently he removed to Wisconsin and in 1869 drove across the country to Iowa with team and covered wagon, establishing his home in Chickasaw county, where he purchased two hundred acres of land situated four and a half miles south and two miles east of New Hampton. On this farm he continued to reside until called to the home beyond, his widow surviving him about six years.

W. N. Wesp was educated in the common schools, but his opportunities of attending school were somewhat limited after he reached his thirteenth year. He was, however, a diligent reader and a close observer of men and events and in these ways he acquired a thorough practical education and became a well informed man of sound judgment and of keen discrimination. In 1878 he was united in marriage to Miss Helen Fuller and the same year began farming upon rented land. He had previously been working with a threshing outfit during the threshing season and after his marriage he continued in the same line of work in connection with the development of his farm.

In 1879 Mr. Wesp removed to Nebraska and for two years was engaged in farming on his own account as a renter in that state. During the first year, however, crops were a complete failure, but the second year he raised a crop and made good. He then entered the employ of a man at a salary of five hundred dollars per year and furnished a team of horses. He continued to work in that way for three years and during that