

time he purchased and paid for an eighty-acre farm in Iowa and moreover had enough money with which to build a residence and a small barn and buy a team of horses, a set of harness and a wagon. Not long afterward he made investment in a threshing outfit and in addition to cultivating his own eighty-acre tract he also engaged in farming a rented tract of one hundred and sixty acres. He likewise operated his threshing machine every fall and in this way he gradually won success. Year after year he harvested good crops and added to his income, bringing his farm under a high state of cultivation and development. In 1899 he gave up farming and removed to New Hampton with the intention of retiring from business, but indolence and idleness are utterly foreign to his nature and after thirty days he was persuaded to work for Grover & Company in the implement business. Two years later he became a member of the firm of Shaffer Brothers & Company, successors to Grover & Company, and in the succeeding years, through the numerous changes in the personnel of the firm, Mr. Wesp continued with the business and contributed in substantial measure to its growth and success. In 1914 this business was incorporated under the name of the New Hampton Motor & Implement Company, but the business was carried on under the firm names of the Wesp Motor Company and the New Hampton Implement Company. Subsequently there was a division of the business and Mr. Wesp and Shaffer Brothers acquired the motor branch of the business, with which Mr. Wesp was identified until March 21, 1918, when the business was sold to his son, A. H. Wesp, and F. P. Wentz. This is still being conducted by these partners under the firm style of the Wesp Motor Company. Since that date W. N. Wesp has lived retired, enjoying a well earned rest. It is doubtful if there is a man in New Hampton who has lived a more active life and his energy and enterprise have proven the foundation upon which he has built his well merited success. To Mr. and Mrs. Wesp have been born three children: Arthur H., now of the Wesp Motor Company; Lottie B., the wife of F. H. Ackley, who cultivates her father's farm; and Marilla, the wife of F. S. Howard, a railroad man of New Hampton. The parents are consistent and loyal members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Wesp also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. His political endorsement is given to the republican party and for four years he served as township assessor but has always preferred to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business interests. It has been by reason of this thoroughness and close application that he has made the advancement that has brought him from a humble position in the business world to a place of prominence and affluence. The methods that he has ever followed will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny and all who have had business transactions with him speak of his thorough reliability as well as his progressiveness. A thoughtful consideration of his career should serve to inspire and encourage others, showing what can be accomplished when there is a will to dare and to do. He early realized that the price of success is earnest and self-denying effort and he was willing to pay the price in order to reach the creditable position which he now occupies as one of the substantial and representative citizens of Chickasaw county.

EDWARD T. JONES.

One of the successful and substantial citizens of Howard county is Edward T. Jones, a retired farmer making his home at Lime Springs. He is a native of Wales, his birth having there occurred on the 17th of March, 1844, his parents being Thomas and Catherine (Jones) Jones, who spent their entire lives in their native country. Both lived to an advanced age, the father being eighty-four years of age at the time of his death, while the mother was ninety-seven years of age.

Edward T. Jones was reared in Wales and acquired his education in that country, but his opportunities in that direction were limited, as he had no chance to continue his studies after he had reached his eleventh year. His father conducted a large farm there and Mr. Jones preferred working on the farm to attending school. At length he determined to try his fortune in the new world and in 1867 crossed the Atlantic, landing in New York city in June of that year. He did not tarry on the eastern coast, how-