

Mr. Garmen is a member of Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 508, A. F. & A. M., also of Adelpia Chapter, R. A. M., and his wife is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. They are most loyal to the teachings of these organizations and in the social circles of the city they occupy an enviable position, while warm regard is entertained for them by all who know them.

THOMAS H. JONES.

Thomas H. Jones, manager of the Alliance Mercantile Association of Cresco, and a leading figure in the business circles of Howard county, was born in Cambria, Wisconsin, on the 17th of August, 1869. His father, Richard Jones, was a native of the north of Wales and was but eight years of age when he left that little rock-ribbed country and came to America with his parents, who settled near Utica, New York, where he was reared to the occupation of farming, to which he turned his attention on reaching young manhood. The family followed farming in the Empire state for a number of years and afterward removed to Wisconsin, settling near Portage, where the grandfather of Thomas H. Jones took up government land. The district in which he settled was wild and undeveloped but with characteristic energy he began the cultivation of his farm and his labors soon wrought a marked change in the appearance of the place. He built a log cabin upon his land and the family met many hardships and privations while attempting to reclaim the wild district for the purposes of civilization. Both he and his wife died upon that farm. As his age and strength increased Richard Jones assisted more and more largely in the work of the farm and spent some time thereon after attaining his majority, but later removed to Albion township, Howard county, Iowa, which was also a frontier district, and he cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers of this part of the state. That the work of improvement had been carried forward to only a very slight degree is indicated in the fact that much of the land was still in possession of the government. He bought a farm which had a log cabin upon it, beginning life in this locality in true pioneer style, but he afterward made substantial improvements upon the place. For several years he devoted his attention to the cultivation of the farm and later removed to Forest City township, where he also purchased land and carried on agricultural pursuits, bringing his farm under a high state of cultivation. His attention was given to its further development throughout his remaining days. He passed away in 1900 at the age of eighty-four, while his wife survived until 1902. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and both were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, guiding their lives according to its teachings.

Thomas H. Jones spent his boyhood days upon the home farm in Howard county and pursued his education in the public schools of Cresco and in the high school of Minneapolis. Through the periods of vacation, or during his boyhood, he assisted in the farm work and after his text-books were put aside he continued to aid in the further development of the home place until after his father's death, when he left the farm and removed to Cresco to become a clerk with the Alliance Mercantile Association. He filled a clerical position until 1906, when he was advanced to the position of manager, and has since acted in that capacity. He is thoroughly familiar with every phase of the business and has made a most excellent record. Purchases are most carefully made and the sales bring to the establishment a substantial financial return, for his business methods are always straightforward and honorable, and thus a liberal patronage has been secured. In addition to his connection with the Alliance Mercantile Association, Mr. Jones has farming interests which are most carefully and wisely directed. The store of which he is now manager is one out of thousands to make good in this line, showing him to be a man of excellent business ability and keen discernment.

In 1904 Mr. Jones was united in marriage to Miss Grace Webster, a daughter of William and Mary Ann Webster. Mrs. Jones was born in Winneshiek county,