

ment. He proved as able in agricultural life as he had in the educational field and by the careful management and improvement of his farm he acquired a very substantial competence. In fact he became one of the well-to-do men of Chickasaw county and what he acquired through his persistent, earnest and honorable labor enabled him in the closing years of his life to live retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil.

On the 14th of January, 1903, Mr. Murphy was united in marriage to Miss Agnes Norton, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Norton, of Howard county, and they became the parents of five children: Alice, Marie, Mercedes, Jerald and Elenor. In 1911 Mr. Murphy removed with his family to New Hampton and erected one of the beautiful residences of the city on Walnut avenue. A contemporary writer has said: "As a husband and father he was above reproach, and it was in the peace and contentment of this happy home circle that he found his greatest enjoyment. The home ties were dearer far to him than public applause and though a man whom the community would have enjoyed honoring, yet he shunned publicity, seeking happiness in that atmosphere of love and affection with which he surrounded his loved ones. As a successful business man he had few equals. To the management of his farm he applied those principles of sound business policy that not only won for him a comfortable competency but marked him as a man of practical affairs; a man whose judgment was respected and sought for by his fellows. In all matters, whether of business or of home, he was the soul of honor and it was this, as well as his kindly disposition, that made for him a place in public esteem held by few."

In his political views Mr. Murphy was always a democrat and his high standing is indicated in the fact that for thirty-two years he was called upon to serve as clerk of Dayton township, while for thirty-five years he was its treasurer. No higher testimonial of his efficiency and fidelity could be given than the fact that he was so long retained in these offices. He held membership in the Catholic church and to its teachings was most loyal. Of him it was said: "He was a Christian both in profession and practice." His religious ideals found expression in his daily life, making him a man honest and reliable in business, trustworthy in citizenship and true to all the high relations of home and friendship. He expressed in his life the spirit of the Emersonian philosophy: "The way to win a friend is to be one." Whenever assistance was needed by anyone he was among the first to respond to the call and the attainment of wealth never in any way affected his relations toward those less fortunate. Death came to him on the 6th of June, 1913, when he was but fifty-five years of age. While it seemed that he should have been spared for many years to come, his life made him ready to meet the Great Beyond. His was a nature that shed around him much of life's sunshine and to his fellow travelers on life's journey he was continually extending a helping hand. Although the work of the world goes on, no one can fill the place of Thomas J. Murphy in the hearts of his family, his friends and close associates.

JULIUS E. DOOLITTLE.

Julius E. Doolittle, engaged in general farming on section 32, Vernon Springs township, Howard county, was born on the old homestead place adjoining his present farm, his natal day being October 4, 1858. He is a son of Moses B. and Jane (Flannigan) Doolittle, the former a native of Mount Holly, Vermont, while the latter was born in Ireland and came to the United States in her girlhood days with her parents. They were married in Vermont and in 1856 removed westward to Iowa, settling in Howard county, where the father of Julius E. Doolittle preempted the old home farm, securing the land from the government, and with characteristic energy beginning its development and progress. He continued to reside upon that place to the time of his death, the property never changing ownership until after his demise. At the time of his death he was the possessor of two hundred and forty acres, constituting one