

and Chester White hogs. He is likewise a stockholder in the Howard County Co-operative Equity Association of Elma and in the Maple Leaf Creamery Company.

In his political views Mr. Bartels is a republican but has never been an office seeker. He and his wife are consistent members of the German Lutheran church and they are held in high esteem throughout their section of the county, enjoying the hospitality of the best homes of Howard township. Mr. Bartels has practically spent his entire life in Howard county and his progressive spirit has placed him in an enviable position among the well-to-do farmers.

CHARLES B. ASHLEY.

Charles B. Ashley, an honored veteran of the Civil war and a retired agriculturist now residing in Cresco, still owns the farm on section 35, Albion township, Howard county, which was his home for sixty years. His birth occurred in Livingston county, New York, on the 18th of July, 1841, his parents being Carlos C. and Helen (Messinger) Ashley, who were born, reared and married in Oneida county, New York. Subsequently they removed to Orleans county, that state, and thence made their way to Livingston county, New York, where they resided until 1851, when they joined the procession of pioneers to the western country. After spending two years in Dodge county, Wisconsin, the father brought his family to Howard county, Iowa, in 1859 and purchased the farm in Albion township which is now owned by his son, Charles B. Ashley, buying the property from a man named McCarty, who had preempted the land in 1855. On this place the parents of our subject continued to reside until called to their final rest.

Charles B. Ashley, who was a young man of eighteen years when the family home was established in Howard county, assisted his father in the development and improvement of the home place and acquired possession thereof shortly prior to the latter's demise. In August, 1861, he responded to the country's call for troops to aid in the preservation of the Union, joining Company I of the Ninth Iowa Infantry, with which he served throughout the entire period of hostilities between the north and the south. He was captured in South Carolina, while on detached service as acting ordinance sergeant of the First Division of the Fifteenth Army Corps under Sherman, but succeeded in making his escape a few hours later. Returning to Howard county with a most creditable military record, he resumed the operation of the home farm on section 35, Albion township, and remained thereon continuously until the spring of 1919, when he put aside the active work of the fields and removed to Cresco. During his active connection with agricultural interests he developed one of the excellently improved and most valuable farms of the county, replacing its crude pioneer structures with modern and up-to-date buildings. Success attended his well directed efforts as the years passed by and he is now enjoying the fruits of his former toil in richly merited rest.

In 1872 Mr. Ashley was united in marriage to Miss Emmo Gene Barber, a daughter of William and Eliza Barber. Following the father's death, which occurred in St. Lawrence county, New York, Mrs. Barber came to Iowa with her family of four sons and two daughters, locating in Howard county in 1870. Here the daughter Emmo gave her hand in marriage to Charles B. Ashley, by whom she has five children, as follows: Helen B., the wife of George Richards, of Manitoba, Canada; Sylvia B., at home; Willie R., who operates his father's farm; Erwin M., residing in Manitoba, Canada; and May L., the wife of Rev. Guy Rutherford, of Quasqueton, Iowa.

Politically Mr. Ashley is a staunch republican, giving loyal support to the party which was the defense of the Union during the dark days of the Civil war. He served for a number of years as a member of the board of township trustees, also as justice of the peace and as a member of the school board, at all times discharging his public duties with marked capability and promptness. In 1880 and 1890 he took the United States census of Howard county. He still retains pleasant relations with his old army comrades as a member of Memorial Post, No. 216, G. A. R. His wife and children