

Iowa, becoming a resident of Chickasaw county, and during his first summer here he worked out by the month as a farm hand.

It was on the 2d of October, 1889, that Mr. Miller was married to Miss Anna Peitz, a daughter of Peter Peitz, a native of Germany and a representative of one of the early pioneer families of Chickasaw county. During the spring prior to his marriage Mr. Miller had purchased ninety acres of his present home farm in partnership with his brother Anthony. Following his marriage he located upon this place and has since made it his home. He has prospered as the years have gone by and as the result of his diligence and industry has been enabled to add to his holdings until he is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres of the most fertile land of Chickasaw county. He is ranked among Deerfield township's successful farmers and substantial citizens. In addition to developing his land and producing the crops best adapted to soil and climatic conditions here he has for twenty-three years also been engaged in the buying of live stock and is one of the best known stock buyers of Chickasaw county.

To Mr. and Mrs. Miller have been born seven children, five of whom are yet living: Clara, the wife of George Peitz, a resident farmer of Washington township, Chickasaw county; and Elizabeth, Sarah, Alfred and Raymond, all at home. The family are well known in this locality and are members of the Catholic church.

In politics Mr. Miller is an ardent democrat but has never been an office seeker. He has always preferred to give his time and close attention to business affairs, and as the result of his unceasing labor, guided by sound judgment, he has gained a very substantial measure of success.

#### CHARLES D. NICHOLS.

Prominent among the enterprising, progressive and far-sighted business men of Cresco is Charles D. Nichols, owner and manager of the Nichols Clothing store and also active in connection with live stock interests of Howard county. He was born in Albion township of this county on the 26th of August, 1861, his parents being William C. and Lydia R. (Hazard) Nichols. The father was born in Londonderry, New Hampshire, while the mother was a native of Yorkshire Corners, New York. William C. Nichols acquired his education in the public schools of his native town and in Lowell, Massachusetts, and for a period also studied in Boston. With his father's family he removed to Cattaraugus county, New York, where the grandfather engaged in farming. At a later period the family home was established in Ogle county, Illinois, and a part of that trip was made by wagon. The spirit of pioneer enterprise actuated the family and prompted their various westward removals. In 1854 Mr. Nichols again turned his face toward the setting sun and with ox teams traveled westward to Albion township, Howard county, Iowa, securing a preemption claim of one hundred and sixty acres near Granger. For this he paid the usual government price and came into possession of a tract of wild prairie land on which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. He at once built a log house there to shelter his family and in the course of years this primitive frontier home was replaced by a frame dwelling. Year after year he carefully tilled his fields and improved his farm, continuing to reside thereon until his death, which occurred in 1873, while his wife passed away in 1883. They were both consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and were ever loyal to its teachings. Mr. Nichols was a republican in his political views and held a number of township offices, the duties of which he discharged with promptness and fidelity, his course being one which reflected credit upon himself and was highly satisfactory as well to his constituents.

After removing to Ogle county, Illinois, with his parents William C. Nichols began traveling for the Grand Detour Plow Company, selling plows off the wagon for this firm until 1856, when he, too, made his way to Albion township, Howard county, Iowa, and purchased a quarter section of government land south of his