

to-do man. When he landed in New York he was in very limited financial circumstances and for a time he engaged in carrying brick, for which he received but twenty cents per day. Later he went to Chicago, where he became familiar with the painting and varnishing business, and subsequently he engaged in the furniture trade on his own account in Chicago at No. 116 Randolph street. The opportunities of the growing west, however, attracted him and with his wife he drove across the country with oxen and wagon, as previously indicated. He then took up agricultural pursuits but on the 9th day of July, 1877, was crippled in an accident while driving to New Hampton, Iowa. This impaired his physical ability for the remainder of his life, his spine being injured. He passed away on the old homestead November 20, 1907, and for several years was survived by his wife, who died on the old home farm August 22, 1913. Both had attained to a good old age, the father having been born in January, 1834, while the mother's birth occurred April 29, 1838, she being therefore seventy-five years of age at the time of her demise, while Mr. Hockspeier was seventy-three.

George P. Hockspeier, reared on the old homestead, early became familiar with the best methods of carrying on the work of the farm and continued to assist in its development until he reached the age of twenty-nine years, when he bought one hundred acres from his father at fifty dollars per acre. This had previously been acquired by the father at the usual government price of a dollar and a quarter per acre. After his father's death the son received one hundred acres through the terms of his father's will. He has always been an enterprising agriculturist and his place has been brought to a high state of development and improvement. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Equity Association of Alta Vista and in the Farmers Lumber & Coal Company of that place.

On the 5th of February, 1908, Mr. Hockspeier was married to Miss Lydia Reinhart, a daughter of Samuel and Anna (Lehman) Reinhart, who came originally from Switzerland and established their home in northern Iowa in pioneer times. Their daughter was born in Howard county, Iowa, where her father passed away, but the mother still lives in that county. To Mr. and Mrs. Hockspeier have been born two children, Lloyd Winton and Eunice La Verne, aged respectively eight and four years.

Mr. Hockspeier and his wife are members of the Evangelical church of Alta Vista and he belongs also to the Odd Fellows Lodge, No 658. of that place. In community affairs he has ever been keenly interested, and his aid and support have always been given on the side of progress and improvement. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and during the World war he served on the Liberty Loan committee, aiding in raising the funds necessary to finance his native country in the great world-wide struggle.

### JOB DARROW.

Job Darrow is a retired farmer living in Cresco and a citizen of genuine worth. He was born in Grand Isle county, Vermont, on the 18th of December, 1845, and is therefore nearing the seventy-fourth milestone on life's journey. His parents were Walter D. and Emeline (Babcock) Darrow. His parents were natives of the Green Mountain state, where they were reared and married, after which the father devoted his attention to the occupation of farming. Subsequent to the death of his wife, which occurred in Vermont, he removed to the west in the spring of 1855, making his way to Clayton county, Iowa, traveling across the country until he took up his abode in Albion township. There he entered a claim from the government, hired some breaking done and the next fall built a log house upon his land. With characteristic energy he began the further development and improvement of the property and while living upon the old homestead in those early days met all of the hardships and privations incident to frontier life. At that time McGregor was the nearest market. Roads were in poor condition and one could drive for miles over the open prairie without coming to a fence or a house to impede progress. After giving many years to farm life in this locality Mr. Darrow retired from business and