

took up his abode in Cresco, where he passed away in 1905 at the age of eighty-eight years. It was subsequent to his removal to the west that he married Eveline Carpenter, who survived her husband and died in Cresco. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and his political allegiance was given to the republican party.

Job Darrow whose name introduces this review was largely reared in Albion township, Howard county, and his environment during his boyhood days was that of frontier life. He began his education in one of the old-time log schoolhouses found upon the frontier. The methods of instruction were very primitive and the curriculum scarcely covered more than reading, writing and arithmetic, but his training in farm labor was not meager and he early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He then began operating the old home farm, which he improved until 1906, when he removed to Cresco and purchased a fine residence. He has since lived retired, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned and richly merits. His memory goes back to the time when Cresco had not been started and when pioneer conditions of all kinds existed in this section of the state. Farm work was done with oxen and the country was wild and unimproved. McGregor was the nearest market and trips to that place were made with ox teams. As the years passed, however, the energetic labors and determination of the pioneer settlers wrought a marked change in conditions here. Mr. Darrow became the owner of two hundred and fifty acres of the old homestead farm and in addition he also owns a tract of similar size in Minnesota, so that his farm properties return to him a gratifying annual income.

In 1891 Mr. Darrow was united in marriage to Mrs. Lucy Ashley, a daughter of Benjamin and Rosetta (Adams) Gilliman. Mrs. Darrow was born in the state of New York and in her girlhood days accompanied her parents on their removal to Wisconsin, while later the family home was established in Howard county, Iowa, while subsequently a removal was made to Cottonwood county, Minnesota, where Mr. Gilliman took up government land and carried on farming throughout his remaining days. Mr and Mrs. Darrow have no children of their own but have reared two adopted children, William D. and Gertrude. The members of the family are widely and favorably known in Cresco and this section of Howard county and the hospitality of the best homes is cordially extended them.

Mr. Darrow deserves much credit for what he has accomplished in life, as his success is attributable entirely to his persistency of purpose and well directed efforts. Those who know him, and he has a wide acquaintance, esteem him highly by reason of his genuine worth and he well deserves mention among the pioneer settlers of the county, for he has long resided in this part of the state and his memory forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present.

LEO P. BIWER.

Leo P. Biwer, actively interested in general agricultural pursuits in Howard county, his farm being situated on section 35, Howard township, was born thereon May 12, 1879, the property being then owned by his parents John and Margaret (Clear) Biwer, of whom extended mention is made in connection with the sketch of their son, J. F. Biwer, on another page of this volume.

Leo P. Biwer acquired a district school education and in 1900, when twenty-one years of age, began farming on his own account, taking over the active work of further cultivating and improving the place upon which he now resides. He farmed this tract of three hundred and twenty acres as a renter for four or five years and about 1904 purchased eighty acres adjoining the old homestead. His father subsequently deeded him sixty-four acres of land, which with his former holdings constitutes his present home farm of one hundred and forty-four acres. For several years after starting out in business independently he cooperated with his two brothers, Dominick and Michael, in the cultivation of four hundred acres, but at a later period he has carried on the further