

the fact that industry must be the basis of all success and has given his undivided thought and effort to the cultivation of the fields, carrying on the work along most progressive lines. The reliability and integrity of his methods, as well as his success, have made the name of Pechota a respected one in connection with the agricultural development of this part of the state.

CHARLES PESEK.

Charles Pesek, actively engaged in general farming in Howard county, is the owner of a property of one hundred and sixty acres on section 32, New Oregon township. He was born in Austin county, Texas, January 6, 1862, and his parents were natives of Bohemia. The father was a blacksmith of that country but at length determined to try his fortune in the new world and, accompanied by his wife, crossed the Atlantic to the United States, establishing his home in Austin county, Texas, where he followed blacksmithing. When his son Charles was about five years of age the father returned with his family to Bohemia, where he purchased a farm and spent his remaining days.

Charles Pesek, however, came to the United States at the age of thirteen and made his way direct to Spillville, Iowa. For a year he attended school and then began earning his living by working as a farm hand. He next worked his way westward, employed on farms in various sections of the country, especially in western California and in the Dakotas. Eventually, however, he again came to Iowa, where he was employed on the railroad for about ten years. On the expiration of that period he took up masonry work, which he followed for about four years, after which he began farming. He bought eighty acres of land in Chickasaw county and remained there for six years, actively engaged in farming. After selling his property in that county he made investment in his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 32, New Oregon township, Howard county, becoming owner thereof in 1912. He has put some of the improvements upon the property and has most carefully and systematically carried on the farm work, so that he has made his place a valuable and productive one.

On the 13th of February, 1893, Mr. Pesek was married to Miss Mary Eral, a daughter of John and Mary Eral, farming people of Chickasaw county. To Mr. and Mrs. Pesek have been born nine children: Mary, Catherine, Anna, John, Alba, Charles, Theresa, Jacob and Barbara. The children have all married and are living in different sections of surrounding states.

Mr. Pesek attends the Catholic church of Protivin and is a member of the Catholic Workmen Lodge at Spillville. His political support is given to the democratic party. His has been a life of industry and thrift and whatever success he has achieved is due entirely to his own labors. Returning from Bohemia to his native land when a youth of thirteen years, he has since the following year been dependent entirely upon his own resources and his life record illustrates what can be accomplished by persistence, energy and determination.

F. C. BARTELS.

F. C. Bartels, engaged in farming on section 9, Howard township, Howard county, was born in Bremer county, Iowa, February 15, 1874, a son of Ernest F. and Sophia (Eichoff) Bartels, who are mentioned in connection with the sketch of August Bartels on another page of this volume. F. C. Bartels, after attending the district and parochial schools of Bremer county and being graduated from the latter with the class of 1877, worked upon the home farm with his father up to the time of his marriage in 1898. He then began farming on his own account on the place where he still resides, his father deeding him at that time eighty acres of this land. He has since added to the property, having after four years purchased