

Protivin. In politics Mr. Pecinovsky is a democrat but while he keeps informed on the questions and issues of the day he does not seek nor desire office, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs, which are wisely and carefully directed and have brought to him a substantial measure of success. He has always lived in Howard county and has therefore through a period of fifty-three years been a witness of its development and upbuilding, while at all times his aid and influence are given on the side of progress and improvement.

#### MRS. ANN JEANNETTE SLAWSON.

Mrs. Ann Jeannette Slawson is a well known resident of Howard county, where she owns an excellent farm property. She is the widow of Eben Slawson and is a native of the state of New York, her birth having there occurred on the 9th of March, 1847. Her parents were Thomas and Abby Ann (Potter) Jinney, both of whom were natives of New England and representatives of old American families. Mrs. Slawson came to the west in 1871 to visit an uncle, James Potter, who resided in Iowa. Six months later she was united in marriage to John Slawson, the ceremony being performed on the 29th of June, 1871. Mr. Slawson died November 14, 1872, at the age of twenty-three years and ten months, and in January, 1873, Mrs. Slawson was married to Eben Slawson, the brother of her first husband. They traveled life's journey together for a long period but on the 19th of March, 1906, Mr. Slawson passed away at the age of fifty-one years, seven months and twenty days. He was one of the successful farmers of Albion township, having carefully and persistently carried on his business affairs until he had acquired a most substantial competence. He left an estate of six hundred acres of rich, fertile and valuable land, of which Mrs. Slawson now owns two hundred and forty acres, constituting one of the excellent farms of Albion township. Mrs. Slawson has one daughter, Ida May, the widow of T. H. Stevens, of Cresco.

Mrs. Slawson belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and also has membership with the Royal Neighbors. She is widely known in Howard county and enjoys the friendship of all. She has passed the seventy-second milestone on life's journey and for forty-eight years has made her home in Iowa, so that she has long been a most witness of the development and progress of this section of the state.

#### JOHN J. BROWN.

John J. Brown, a decorating contractor carrying on business at Cresco, was born in Freeport, Illinois, in 1848, his natal day being the 10th of December. His parents were James H. and Malinda Brown, who in the year 1851 removed from Illinois to Iowa, establishing their home in Winneshiek county, at which time their son John J. was a little lad of but three summers. The father preempted land, acquiring one hundred and sixty acres, and built thereon a log house. Later he removed to Cresco when the town was started.

John J. Brown was a pupil in the public schools of Iowa through the period of his boyhood and youth and after attending the district schools near his father's farm continued his education in Cresco. He later learned the painter's trade under the direction of William Barber and has continued to follow it since that time, now doing painting and decorating, for which he takes large contracts that he most carefully executes. He is today recognized as the leading contractor in his line in Cresco and likewise does a large amount of contract work in neighboring cities and towns. His work is always highly satisfactory not only by reason of his skill but also owing to the straightforward and reliable business methods which he follows.

In 1875 Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Covey, a native of Franklin county, New York, and a daughter of John R. and Miranda (Williams) Covey. The parents were natives of Albany, Vermont, where they were married in 1853. The