

was erected. He stands at all times on the side of advancement and improvement and is one of the public-spirited residents of Fredericksburg, where his work has been of substantial worth to the community.

HERMAN RUESINK.

Herman Ruesink, actively identified with farming on section 22, Forest City township, Howard county, has come to Iowa from the state of Wisconsin, his birth having occurred in Sheboygan county, May 10, 1864. His parents, Aaron J. and Jane G. (Hopeman) Ruesink, were natives of Holland and came to the United States in childhood with their respective parents. They settled in Wisconsin, where they were reared and married, and in 1877 left that state to become residents of Howard county, Iowa. They took up their abode upon a farm in Chester county which Mr. Ruesink had purchased three years previous to his removal to this state, and upon that farm he resided until his death, which occurred in 1890. His wife survived him for more than two decades, passing away in 1911.

Herman Ruesink was a lad of thirteen years when the family came to Iowa, and his education, begun in the schools of Wisconsin, was continued in the public schools of Howard county. His early training was that of the farm-bred boy, who soon becomes familiar with the work of the fields and the best methods of caring for the crops. In March, 1889, he married Miss Georgia Anna Chick, of Bangor, Maine, and in the spring of that year engaged in farming on his own account, purchasing at that time a tract of land of one hundred acres adjoining the city limits of Lime Springs on the east. He continued to develop that property until 1902, when he sold the farm and bought fifteen acres west of Lime Springs, upon which place he remained until the death of his wife in 1908. He then sold the property and in 1910 made investment in his present farm, which comprises one hundred and sixty acres of rich and productive land on section 22, Forest City township. From the time of the early spring planting until the crops are harvested in the late autumn he is busy with the work of the fields, and the results of his persistent and intelligently directed labors are found in very substantial crops.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ruesink were born four children: Abbie E., the wife of John Metz, who is engaged in the automobile business at Stacyville, Iowa; and John A., Ada L. and Frances R., all at home.

Politically Mr. Ruesink is a republican, believing firmly in the principles of the party as factors in good government, and he is now serving on the board of trustees of Forest City township. He belongs to Howard Lodge, No. 214, A. F. & A. M., and is a loyal adherent of the craft. During the period of the recent war with Germany he was very active in support of the Red Cross and the Young Men's Christian Association, serving on the committees in all of the drives for these two organizations. He is a loyal, public-spirited citizen, and his fidelity to American interests and welfare is again and again manifest.

JOSEPH SOCK.

Joseph Sock, who carries on farming on section 24, Howard township, Howard county, is of Bohemian birth. He was born December 31, 1866, of the marriage of Joseph and Barbara (Bokola) Sock, both of whom remained residents of Bohemia until called to their final rest. When twenty years of age, or in 1886, Joseph Sock left his native land; attracted by the broader business opportunities that he could secure on this side of the Atlantic. He did not tarry on the eastern coast but made his way at once across the country to Howard county, Iowa, and here he began work as a farm hand, for he had no capital at the time of his arrival. In fact his funds were so exhausted that it was necessary for him to find immediate employment, but when it was recognized that he was an industrious and energetic man he had no difficulty in obtaining work. He carefully saved his money and after four years was able to purchase his present