

Mr. Albers is a member of the Methodist church and is a republican in his political beliefs. He has served twice as school director of his district. His entire life has been spent in this part of Winneshiek county and he is widely known here, his business progressiveness and his personal worth having gained him the esteem and confidence of all who are associated with him.

W. A. PLUNKETT.

Among the substantial farmers of Winneshiek county is W. A. Plunkett, who owns valuable land on section 10, Hesper township, comprising two tracts, one of one hundred and fifteen acres and the other of seventy-eight acres. He is a native of Canada, having been born in Fullerton township, Perth county, Ontario, March 26, 1851. His parents were Joseph and Margaret (Carr) Plunkett, natives of County Antrim, Ireland. There they were married and in 1848 went to the province of Ontario, Canada, locating upon a farm in Perth county, where they spent the remainder of their lives, the father dying in 1861 at the age of seventy-five years, and the mother in 1903 at the remarkable age of ninety-three. During all of his active life the father followed farming, securing upon his arrival here one hundred acres of unimproved land which upon his death he left in the best of condition, all under cultivation and yielding large harvests. He was an elder of the Presbyterian church.

W. A. Plunkett resided on the home place until 1888, acquiring his education in the neighboring schools and early learning thorough agricultural methods. Upon coming to Winneshiek county he purchased the farm upon which he now resides, comprising one hundred and fifteen acres on section 10, Hesper township. He gives his undivided attention to the cultivation of his land, has made valuable improvements and installed such equipment as is considered indispensable by the modern agriculturists. In 1911 his means permitted him to purchase another valuable farm of seventy-eight acres, known as the old Russell Tabor farm, in the village of Hesper. He now operates both of these properties.

On the 27th of September, 1876, Mr. Plunkett married Miss Sarah A. Worth, who was born in Perth county, Ontario, Canada, February 15, 1859. Mr. and Mrs. Plunkett have five children: Maggie, the wife of J. P. Street, of Story City, who is superintendent of the city schools; Josie May, who married Alfred B. Street, a school teacher of Cleveland, Ohio; John, a traveling salesman for a typewriter company of Omaha, Nebraska; Blanche, who married Grover Ruwe, of Butler, Oklahoma; and Lloyd, at home.

In his political affiliations Mr. Plunkett is a republican and has always staunchly supported the candidates of his party. He is now serving as one of the township trustees and for the past ten years has held the position of justice of the peace to the general satisfaction of all. For nine years he served as a member of the school board of the independent district of Hesper, giving thereby evidence of his interest in the cause of education, and he served also as chairman of the board of health of his township and as chairman of the township board of trustees. For the past three years he has been president of the Hesper Telephone Company. He is a member of the Friends church. One of the substantial men