



**A**LBERT DAVIDSON is one of the extensive land owners and stock-raisers of Poweshick County, owning a farm of four hundred and eighty acres in Bear Creek Township, on section 17. This is thoroughly well-improved, and all under good cultivation. He has cultivated this farm since 1881, at which time he took up his abode upon it, though at that time he was only the owner of two hundred acres. For over twenty years he and his wife have been active workers in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and have also taken an interested part in every good movement tending to benefit and promote the welfare of this community. His birth occurred June 17, 1854, near Clinton, Pa. Removing to Iowa in 1855, he received a common-school education, and on reaching his majority started out to make his own fortune. For six months he worked for his father, after which he rented a farm of him for the following five years. He was successful, and in return for his care and labor was blessed with abundant crops. He therefore purchased a farm in 1881, and has steadily added to the original tract.

Our subject's grandfather, John Davidson, was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, April 15, 1792, and when he had reached the age of sixteen he crossed the Atlantic, settling in New York in 1808 and later removed to Beaver County, Pa.,

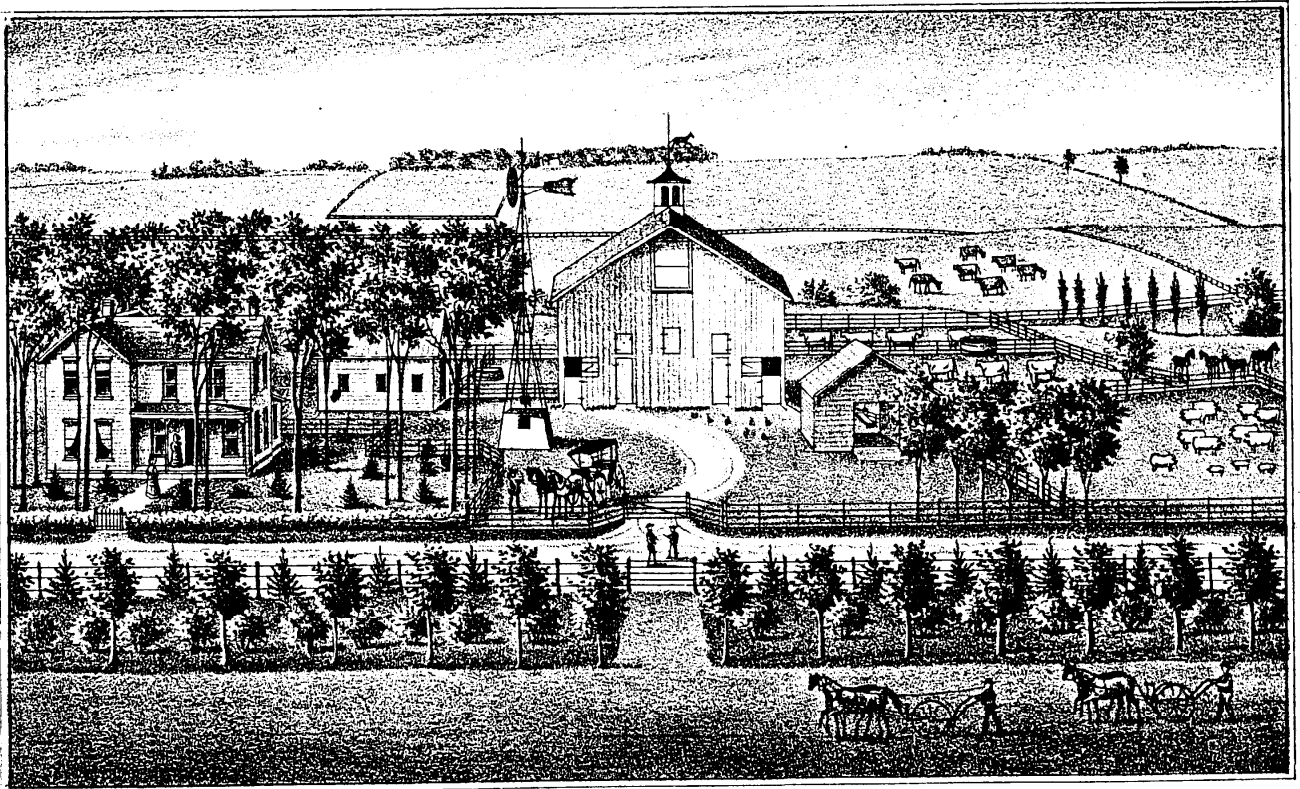
where he engaged in farming. While in the former State he was engaged in building and working on the Erie Canal. In 1854 he came West to Iowa, purchasing two hundred acres of land near Brooklyn, this county, and removed his family here in June of the following year. At the time of his death, April 11, 1880, he had accumulated a valuable estate of about six hundred acres, which were well improved. He was one of the organizers of the Brooklyn Methodist Episcopal Church, and was an active Republican. He was first married to Mary M. Thompson in 1818, and by this first union had fourteen children, but had none by the second.

John, Jr., our subject's father, was born in Beaver County, Pa., August 15, 1832, and after receiving a fair education engaged in teaching school. With his father and three brothers he drove through the country to Iowa, and on account of the almost trackless wilderness, was not able to progress more than thirty miles a day. On their arrival he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of wild prairie on section 15, which he improved. As the years passed he became quite a landed proprietor, and at the time of his demise owned over one thousand acres. He taught the first school in the city of Brooklyn, and served in the official positions of County Assessor for two terms and Justice of the Peace. In political belief, he was first a Democrat and later in life became affiliated with the Republican party. He was an extensive raiser and shipper of live stock, and was one of the leading men in the community where he made his home. Moreover, he was one of the original and prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was fraternally a Mason.

John Davidson was twice married, his first wife being Rachael Davidson, who was born in Pennsylvania, and whose father, Andrew, was an agriculturist in the Keystone State. Mrs. Davidson was one of five children, and was called from this life when only thirty-two years of age, dying in 1861. Our subject's father afterward was united in marriage with Lavinia Higgins, a native of Pennsylvania. Four children graced this union, Herbert W. being the only surviving member of

the family. The mother is yet surviving, being a resident of Brooklyn, Iowa.

On the 18th of December, 1878, Miss Kate Dunlap was united in marriage with Albert Davidson, at the home of her parents, William and Elizabeth (Zink) Dunlap. Mrs. Davidson was born in Bedford County, Pa., and by her marriage has two sons, William A. and Ernest L.



RESIDENCE OF ALBERT DAVIDSON, SEC. 17. BEAR CREEK TP. POWESHIEK CO. IA.