

POWELL, James Madison, b. 1837, son of James and Sarah (Turner) Powell, the father a native of Greene Co., N.Y., and the mother of Armstrong Co., Pa. Came west in 1851 and located in Muscatine Co. Lived there five years, then came to Sugar Creek Twp., Poweshiek Co. Married 1860, Rachel Burrows, daughter of Roland and Caroline (Carpenter) Burrows of Sugar Creek Twp. The father came to Ia. from Indianapolis, Ind. POP. 2 p. 445

JAMES MADISON POWELL. POP. 445.

James Madison Powell, who has been identified with various activities in Searshoro and is now conducting a grocery store, was born in Clarion county, Pennsylvania, on the 11th of February, 1837.

His parents were James and Sarah (Turner) Powell, the father a native of Greene county, New York, and the mother of Armstrong county, Pennsylvania. Mr. Powell, who was a farmer, removed to Pennsylvania from New York in his early manhood, settling on a farm in Clarion county. He engaged in the cultivation of this until 1851, when he came west and located in Muscatine county, Iowa. Here he also engaged in agricultural pursuits, but at the end of five years he removed to Poweshiek county, purchasing a farm in Sugar Creek township which he operated until about 1864. He disposed of his holdings at that time and went to Illinois. There he remained for a time and then came back to Poweshiek county, spending the last fifteen years of his life in the home of his son, James Madison. Mrs. Powell passed away while the family was living in Clarion county, Pennsylvania. In politics Mr. Powell was a democrat and his church affiliation was the Baptist. Of the seven children born unto Mr. and Mrs. Powell all are deceased with the exception of the son James Madison, who is our subject. The others were as follows: William T., Eliza Jane, Susanna, Hiram M., Silas and Mary Ann.

The greater portion of the education of James Madison Powell, the youngest son and sixth member of the family in order of birth, was obtained in the common schools of his native state. After the family located in Iowa his former course was supplemented by two terms in the schools of Poweshiek county. After laying aside his text-books he remained with his father for another year, assisting in the cultivation of the homestead. At the expiration of that period he went to Fort Scott, Kansas, where he remained for two years, engaged in buying and selling horses to the Indians. Returning to Poweshiek county he followed agricultural pursuits until 1864, when he enlisted as a private in Company B, Fortieth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, where he served for three years, being mustered out at the close of hostilities at Fort Gibson. After receiving his discharge he again returned to Poweshiek county where he again engaged in general farming. At the end of three years he went to Lynnville, Jasper county, Iowa, and engaged in the livery business until 1872. In the latter year he again took up his residence in Poweshiek county and erected a hotel and livery barn in Searshoro, which he ran for several years. Disposing of this he purchased the grocery store which he continues to conduct.

Mr. Powell was married on the 10th of June, 1860, to Miss Rachel Burrows, a daughter of Roland and Caroline (Carpenter) Burrows, residents of Sugar Creek township, Poweshiek county, at that time. The father migrated to Iowa with his family from Indianapolis, Indiana, locating on an eighty acre tract in Sugar Creek township. He cultivated his farm while working at the carpenter trade, continuing to follow the two vocations during the greater part of his active career. Both he and his wife passed away on the homestead. In politics Mr. Burrows was a republican and served for a time as justice of the peace, while both he and his wife held membership in the Christian church. Mrs. Powell is a native of Indiana, as were also her parents, her birth having occurred in the town of Mooresville in October, 1840.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Powell have been born eight children: Anderson C., who is deceased; Anna L., the wife of Alfred Ewart, of Poweshiek county, Iowa; Nellie, who married John Stroud, of Des Moines, Iowa; James H., of Searshoro, Iowa; Roland, Carrie and Harry, all of whom are deceased; and Tunt Wyoma, who is a resident of Searshoro.

Mr. Powell votes with the republicans and has served both as marshal and constable, as well as having filled some of the minor township offices. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he maintains relations with his old comrades of the field by means of his membership in the G. A. R., being identified with the Oskaloosa post. In matters religious he and his wife are connected with the Society of Friends. He is one of the well known citizens of Sugar Creek township, who in all of his relations of life has ever as fearlessly championed the cause of right in times of peace as on the battle fields of the south.