

CLINTON W. FOWLER. *SR. POP 544*

An excellent homestead of three hundred and twenty acres pays tribute to the agricultural ability of Clinton W. Fowler, who was born near Princeton, Bureau county, Illinois, on the 1st of February, 1852, a son of Williams and Sophia (Moseley) Fowler. The father, who was of English extraction and a native of Massachusetts, was a steamboat captain on the lower Mississippi for many years, but later in life engaged in farming. Before going on the river Mr. Fowler went to Chicago, which at that time was only a village, and a friend who had great confidence in the development of the western metropolis urged him to invest in city property. Mr. Fowler, however, scorned the suggestion and said, referring to some of the land in the very heart of the business district: "I wouldn't have it for a gift." In 1866 he and his wife came to Iowa, locating upon a farm in Madison township, Poweshiek county, and there he continued to reside until his death in the early '80s; his wife had passed away some years previously.

Clinton W. Fowler was a lad of fourteen years of age when his parents located in Poweshiek county. His education was obtained in the district schools, which he attended whenever he could be spared from the work of the farm. At the age of eighteen years he, with his two brothers Fred W. and Rowland, the latter of whom died two years later, took entire charge of the homestead, which contained four hundred acres. They continued its cultivation for three years when Clinton and Fred Fowler, who were the sole remaining heirs, divided the land, the former continuing to cultivate his portion, in addition to his present homestead, for five years thereafter. In 1878 he removed to his farm in Madison township, where he has ever since resided. He now owns three hundred and twenty acres of land on section 34 and 35 in Madison township, and thirty-seven acres of timber three miles northeast of his homestead. His farm is one of the best improved and most valuable properties in Madison township, and there he engages in general farming and feeds cattle and hogs for the Chicago market.

On the 31st of May, 1894, Mr. Fowler was united in marriage to Miss Mary Armstrong, a daughter of William and Jane (Hall) Armstrong, natives of Fermanagh county, Ireland. They emigrated to the United States in 1844

located in the vicinity of Rock Island, Illinois, where Mrs. Fowler was born. When she was five years of age her parents removed to Poweshiek county, Iowa, upon a farm seven miles south of Brooklyn in Scott township, where they continued to reside until they passed away, the father on the 21st of May, 1898, and the mother on the 25th of the same month seven years later. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler have been born the following children: William, now sixteen years of age; Harry D., aged fourteen years; Clinton W., now nine years of age; and Frederick Eugene, who has passed his ninth anniversary. All but the eldest, who is assisting his father, are attending district school. Mr. Fowler, who for the past eight years has been township assessor, gives his political support to the democratic party. He was also at one time elected assessor but never qualified for the office.