

Agricultural pursuits have characterized the efforts of James S. McKee throughout his entire active career, and in the cultivation of a good farm in Malcom township he is meeting with creditable success.

He is one of Iowa's native sons, his birth having occurred in Muscatine county on the 15th of December, 1866. His parents, William J. and Sarah (Corrough) McKee, were both natives of County Down, Ireland, where they were reared and married. They came to Iowa in 1854, residing in Scott county about two or three years, after which they removed to Muscatine county. Later they came to Poweshiek county and established the family home on the farm which is now the property of our subject. Mrs. McKee passed away in Malcom township in 1891, at the age of fifty-six years, being survived for almost twenty years by her husband. His life record covered more than the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten, extending from the 10th of May, 1832, until his death, at Grinnell, on the 5th of January, 1910. Their family consisted of seven children, namely: Margaret, the wife of Thomas McKee, of Grinnell; Mary, also of Grinnell; John, of Pomona, California; Agnes, of Grinnell; Sarah, the wife of G. H. Pyle, of Malcom township; Elizabeth, who married Gordon Duffus, of Canada; and James S., of this review.

Spending the period of his boyhood in the county of his nativity, James S. McKee came to Poweshiek county with his parents in 1880, and he has since continued to reside on the old home farm in Malcom township. He now gives his attention to the operation of this tract, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres located on section 34, and also cultivates another farm of one hundred and sixty acres for his sister. He is the owner of another farm of forty acres located on section 3, Grinnell township, about a mile northeast of the college. The home farm is well improved and equipped with a good house and substantial barns and outbuildings, which were erected by the father of Mr. McKee. He has also made some changes about the place which have served to enhance

its value. He is successfully engaged in general farming and stock-raising, and is also a stockholder in the Malcom garage at Malcom.

In 1899 Mr. McKee was united in marriage to Miss Marie Antoinette Royce, who was born in Pleasant township on the 2d of January, 1869, a daughter of Horace B. and Mary A. (Okey) Royce. The parents were natives of Vermont and England respectively, the father being born in 1832 and the mother in 1843. They were married in Bureau county, Illinois, and in 1866 came to Poweshiek county, Iowa, where both passed away, the former in 1896 and the latter in 1903. In their family were seven children, as follows: Sydney L., of Malcom; Marie Antoinette, who became the wife of Mr. McKee; Ada F., who wedded A. M. Gross, of Creston, Iowa; Horace J., of Malcom township; Edna O., the wife of George Cooper, of Long Beach, California; May B., who married the Rev. Victor West, of Adele, Iowa; and Carrie, who passed away in 1880 at the age of five years. Mr. and Mrs. McKee became the parents of three sons, Kenneth D., James Paul and Donald Royce.

The religious faith of Mr. McKee is that of the Presbyterian church, while fraternally he holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Politically he gives his support to the republican party, but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him, preferring to give his entire time and attention to the conduct of his personal affairs which, carefully managed, are proving a source of gratifying annual returns.

McKEE, James. b. Muscatine county 1866, s. of Wm. J. and Sarah (Corrough) McKee, both natives of County Down, Ireland and where they were reared and married. Came to Iowa in 1854. Mrs. McKee d. in Malcom township in 1901, aged 50, being survived by her husband. In 1899 Mr. McKee m. Marie A. Royce, dau. of Horace B. and Mary A. (Okey) Royce, the parents natives of Vermont and England respectively, the father b. in 1832 and the mother in 1843. POP 2, p. 351