

HISTORY
OF
HARDIN COUNTY,
IOWA.

TOGETHER WITH SKETCHES OF ITS TOWNS, VILLAGES AND TOWNSHIPS, EDUCATIONAL,
CIVIL, MILITARY AND POLITICAL HISTORY; PORTRAITS OF PROM-
INENT PERSONS, AND BIOGRAPHIES OF
REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS.

HISTORY OF IOWA,
EMBRACING ACCOUNTS OF THE PRE-HISTORIC RACES, AND A BRIEF REVIEW
OF ITS CIVIL, POLITICAL AND MILITARY HISTORY.

ILLUSTRATED.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.
UNION PUBLISHING COMPANY.
1893.



OK

Iowa Falls, rented some land and followed farming. In 1866 he purchased 220 acres, located on sections 11 and 12. For this he paid \$25 per acre, which was considered an enormous price, as the property was but little improved. Mr. Martin, however, saw that it possessed many advantages, among which were timber, water and location. He at once improved the same by erecting good buildings, etc., and in 1870 sold the property to Isaac Painter for \$7,500; but in 1874 he bought back the same for \$8,000, and he thinks he got a good bargain. In 1878 he sold off 20 acres, on which is located the celebrated "Pool of Silome," but Mr. Martin is a stockholder in the same. In 1877 he retired from active life, and now resides at Iowa Falls. On April 17, 1842, Miss Samantha Bind became his wife. She was born in Washington, Vt., September 4, 1822. They have had twelve children, eight of whom are now living—Lucy M., Sarah F., Arthur P., Clarence C., Hubert J., P. W., Henry O. and Chas. M.

Spencer W. Brown resides on section 26. He settled where he now lives in December, 1864. He bought his original farm, which contained 80 acres, of Thomas B. Knapp, of Cedar Falls. Mr. Brown was born in Onondaga county, N. Y., in 1830, but was brought up in Otsego county, in that State. He went to Illinois in 1855, and to Lafayette county, Wis., in 1857. He enlisted, August 13, 1862, in the 96th Illinois Infantry, and served till the following February, when he was discharged for disability, the result of an accident from which he has never recovered. He came to Hardin county in May, 1864. His wife was Miss Helen F. L. Wright, born

in Greene county, N. Y. Her father died when she was a child. She went to Lafayette county, Wis., on a visit, in 1858, where she met Mr. Brown. They have eight children, four boys and four girls. Mr. Brown has increased his farm to 260 acres.

David J. Alvord came to Hardin county in 1864, and was at once accepted by the people of Hardin township as a prominent and influential citizen. His honesty and good natured disposition has made him many warm friends. He is a Republican in politics, and has been a public officer most of the time since coming to the county. Mr. Alvord is a native of Western New York, where he was born September 3, 1812. His father, Obed Alvord, was a native of Connecticut, and his mother, Susanna (Johnson) Alvord, of Rhode Island. In about 1824 the family migrated to Lake county, Ohio, where the subject of this sketch learned his trade—that of wagon maker—and followed the same for several years; he acted as a traveling salesman for a firm in Cleveland, until 1864, since which time he has resided at Georgetown, and made farming his principal business. He was married in 1843 to Miss Mary Ann Turner, and they now have four children—Jane, now Mrs. Chas. J. Comar; Daniel, yard-master at Collinwood, Ohio; Wealthy, now Mrs. Abram Gray; and Hattie, now Mrs. George Fitts.

Isiah Biggs is one of the prominent farmers of Hardin county. He resides within the limits of the corporation of Iowa Falls. He was born in Ohio in 1827; removed to Warren county with his parents, and to Hamilton county, Iowa, in 1855, where he bought land and improved