

twenty years has been court commissioner for Clay county, which official position he now occupies. Mr. Witherow is an active and ardent Republican and has done much campaigning for his party, particularly in North Dakota, under engagement to the Republican national committee. He also is widely known as a lecturer and his lectures on travel, literature and kindred subjects are in much demand among farmers' clubs and school organizations.

On November 26, 1904, James M. Witherow was united in marriage to Emma Jane Bond, daughter of James Bond and wife, the former of whom is a farmer living near Hunter, North Dakota, and to this union four children have been born, Grace, Margaret (deceased), James and Frank. The Witherows are members of the Episcopal church and take an earnest interest in church work. Mr. Witherow was reared in the Presbyterian church, his people for generations having been Presbyterians, and one of his uncles was for some time moderator of the General Assembly of that church in Ireland. Fraternally, Mr. Witherow is affiliated with the Masons and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that order.

BRUNO KIPPELS.

Bruno Kippels, proprietor of the Moorhead laundry, owner of the public abattoir in Moorhead, formerly and for years a well-known building contractor in that city and in other ways identified with the community of which he has been a part since pioneer days, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of this country since he was twenty-four years of age. He was born in 1856, son of William and Katherina (Isaacheimer) Kippels, also natives of Germany, the former of whom was a farmer and a manufacturer, who spent all their lives in their native land and who were the parents of eight children.

In his native Germany, Bruno Kippels learned the trade of a miller and that of a baker and remained there until the summer of 1880, when he came to this country, landing at the port of Baltimore, August 1. A few weeks later he came on out to Minnesota and located at Moorhead, presently homesteading a quarter of a section of land in Spring Prairie township, Clay county, and the next spring entered upon the task of developing and improving the same, giving that place his close attention for nine years, at the end of which time he disposed of his farming interests and at Moorhead engaged in carpentering. Three years later he began work as a building contractor

on his own account and for ten or fifteen years was engaged at Moorhead as a contractor. In the meantime Mr. Kippels had engaged in the retail meat business at Moorhead, in partnership with Hubert Zervas, and that partnership continued for about eighteen years, or until it was dissolved in 1911. It was about 1906 that Mr. Kippels built the public abattoir in Moorhead and he still owns the same. In October, 1914, he bought the Moorhead laundry and has since owned and operated the same with much success, the excellent character of the work turned out at his laundry having recommended the place widely throughout this section. Mr. Kippels has put on the market three quite successful inventions, a children's merry-go-round, a clothes hanger and a plaiter, and has done quite well in the several enterprises with which he is connected.

On October 4, 1904, Bruno Kippels was united in marriage to Martha Kopish, and to this union four children have been born, Joseph, John, Bruno and Mary. The Kippels are members of the Catholic church and take a proper interest in parish affairs.

JAMES E. HENRY.

Elsewhere in this volume there is set out at considerable length something of the genealogy and history of the Henry family, which settled in Clay county in the seventies and became among the most useful and influential factors in the early settlement and organization of Elkton township, and it therefore will not be necessary to repeat those details in connection with the subject of this sketch.

James E. Henry was born in Kane county, Illinois, April 11, 1852, son of Abraham and Rachel (Jones) Henry, who later moved with their family to Jackson county, Iowa, and thence, in 1878, up into this section of Minnesota and settled in Clay county, as set out in another part of this volume. In the meantime, in 1875, James E. Henry had gone from Jackson county, Iowa, to Cass county, in that same state, and in 1880 he left there and came up here to join the other members of the family in Clay county and upon his arrival here homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Elkton township and there established his home, he having married the year previously. To that quarter section he added, by purchase, an adjoining "eighty" just across the road on the east, and now has a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres. Mr. Henry has an interest in the farmers' creamery and in the farmers' ele-