

previous year. He worked on his father's farm for several years, and later decided to engage in farming on his own account. In 1889 he purchased a tract of land and commenced to cultivate crops, and as he prospered in his labors he added to his holdings from time to time until he became the owner of one full section of land. He has set out eighty acres to the cultivation of potatoes and has had good average crops from that source. He is extensively engaged in general farming and stock raising and is recognized as one of the most substantial farmers in Elmwood township. He has carried out many costly improvements, his outbuildings and dwelling house being in the front rank in the district in which he resides. In addition to his farming interests Mr. Cook finds time to give attention to public affairs and has been township assessor for three years, and is a warm advocate of all movements calculated to serve the public welfare.

On February 11, 1891, Walter Cook, Jr., was united in marriage to Jane Lamb, a daughter of Charles Lamb and wife, and to their union the following children have been born: Cora, who married Merle Schenck, of Elmwood township, and they have two children, Vera and Milo; Elsie, Myrtle, Allen, Edith, Charlie, Jennie, Robert, Etta, Clifford and George. The family are earnest members of the Presbyterian church at Baker and are warmly interested in all its good works as well as in the general social activities of the community in which they live.

EDGAR B. MCCOLGIN.

Edgar B. McColgin, postmaster of the village of Downer, in Clay county, and the proprietor of a well-improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres adjoining that village, is a native of the old Keystone state, but has been a resident of the Red River country and of Clay county since he was twenty-four years of age. He was born on a farm in Armstrong county, Pennsylvania, April 14, 1872, son of Thomas and Mary (Marshall) McColgin, both natives of that same state and the former of whom is still living there, being now past ninety years of age. Thomas McColgin served as a soldier of the Union during the Civil War, a member of a Pennsylvania regiment. He and his wife were the parents of nine children, Oscar, William, Luella, Anna, Elizabeth, Grant, Totton, Edgar and one who died in infancy. Thomas McColgin and wife were members of the Presbyterian church and their children were reared in that faith.

Reared on the home farm in his native Pennsylvania, Edgar B. McColgin received his schooling in the schools of that neighborhood and for two terms taught school there. He continued to make his home there, helping in the cultivation of the home farm, until he was twenty-four years of age, when, in 1896, he came to Minnesota with a view to establishing himself as a farmer up here in the Red River country, and located in Clay county. Two years later he married and after his marriage established his home on a farm southeast of Hawley, where he remained until about 1905, when he moved to his present quarter-section farm in the vicinity of Downer, where he ever since has been actively engaged in general farming and stock raising and has done well. For years Mr. McColgin has given his close attention to local civic affairs, for some time served as a member of the board of township supervisors and is the present treasurer of Elkton township. On January 1, 1910, he was commissioned postmaster of Downer and has ever since occupied that position. In that same year he bought a store at Downer and has since continued to manage the same, at the same time giving his general direction to the management of his well-kept farm. Mr. McColgin is a member of the local lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at the neighboring village of Baker and takes a warm interest in the affairs of the same.

On December 7, 1898, Edgar B. McColgin was united in marriage to Anna Mix, daughter of Charles Mix and wife, of Clay county, and to this union four children have been born, Thomas, Totten, Elohama and William. The McColgins have a very pleasant home and give proper attention to the community's general social affairs.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

One of the enterprising and influential citizens of Hawley, Clay county, who has forged to the front by his own efforts, often in the face of obstacles that would have discouraged men of less courage and mettle, is Andrew Johnson, well-known general merchant. He was born in Norway, February 12, 1857, and there he grew to manhood and attended school. He remained in his native land until 1876, when he immigrated to the United States, locating in Trempealeau county, Wisconsin.

In 1879, with William E. Bennett and James Craig, Mr. Johnson came to Hawley, Clay county, and worked in this vicinity for two years at the carpenter's trade. In 1882 he and Pete Larson started in the lumber business