

runs as conductor on the Northern Pacific, while his wife, as assistant postmaster, attends to the postoffice.

In 1892 W. I. Spotts and Minnie J. Plummer were united in marriage. To this union two children have been born, William P., who is in the United States navy, and Margaret. They are members of the Christian Science church at Fargo. The Order of Railway Conductors is Mr. Spotts's only lodge affiliation.

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### HERBERT F. BURRILL.

Herbert F. Burrill, well-known contractor and builder, of Hawley, Clay county, was born in Framingham, Massachusetts, January 24, 1853. He is a son of Jacob and Rachael (Bennett) Burrill and a brother of H. R. Burrill, sketches of whom will be found in another part of this volume.

Herbert F. Burrill received his education in the public schools of Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire. As a boy he worked in a woodenware factory at Fitzwilliam, then worked in a flouring-mill for two years at Winchendon, Worcester county, Massachusetts. He later secured employment in Keene, New Hampshire, in a sash-and-door factory, where he remained about four years, at the end of which time he went to Dover, Maine, where he learned the trade of bricklayer. In 1878 he came to Minnesota, locating at Hawley, and proved up on a homestead in section 28, Keene township; living there about ten years, working at the mason's trade at intervals the meanwhile. In 1895 he moved to Hawley, where he has since resided and followed a contracting and building business ever since. He has worked on every brick building in Hawley, with but one exception. He helped build the first brick roundhouse for the Northern Pacific railroad at Fargo, North Dakota, in 1879. He also helped build the second brick dwelling house in Moorhead.

On March 19, 1884, Herbert F. Burrill was married to Jean McDonald, a daughter of John McDonald and wife. Her death occurred on September 22, 1915. She was the mother of five children, namely: Addie, born on January 15, 1885, who married Ray Williams, February 14, 1912, and lives in Alberta, Canada; John, July 4, 1887, who is a bricklayer by trade; Herbert Grover, June 15, 1892, who is in the newspaper business; Mary Augusta, October 13, 1895, and Wallace Douglas, March 10, 1903.

Politically, Mr. Burrill is a Democrat. He was chairman of the first board of supervisors of Keene township, and later was chairman of the

board of supervisors of Hawley township. He also served two terms as justice of the peace at Hawley, and was special census agent for the United States in 1915, covering ten counties. As a public servant he has discharged his duties in an able, faithful and highly acceptable manner.

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### BERNHART ASCHBACH.

Bernhart Aschbach, one of Norman county's best-known and most substantial pioneer farmers, now living retired at Ada, secretary and treasurer of the Ada Creamery Association and secretary of the Norman County Fair Association and for years actively identified with the development of those useful enterprises, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of Norman county since the days of his young manhood, having come out to this part of Minnesota early in the days of the settlement of this section.

Born on May 13, 1858, Bernhart Aschbach was reared in his native Germany and there received his schooling and learned the trade of shoemaker. When twenty-one years of age he married and two years later, in 1881, he and his wife came to this country and proceeded on out to Minnesota and settled in Norman county, which has been their home ever since. That was the year in which Norman county was organized as a civic unit and the country hereabout was very sparsely settled. Not long after his arrival in Ada Mr. Aschbach bought a tract of eighty acres in McDonaldsville township and there established his home, improving and developing the place and remaining there for eight years, at the end of which time he bought a half section of unimproved land in Winchester township. On this latter place Mr. Aschbach made his home from 1889 to 1913, in which latter year he retired from the active labors of the farm and moved to Ada, where he and his wife are now living and where they are very comfortably situated. Mr. Aschbach improved his farm of three hundred and twenty acres in excellent shape, putting up fine buildings, and has there one of the best farm plants in the county. In addition to his general farming Mr. Aschbach gave much attention to dairying and when the Ada Creamery Association was organized in 1903 was made secretary and treasurer of the same and has ever since occupied those positions, doing much to help promote the dairy interests of this section of the state. He also for years has given his earnest attention to the affairs of the Norman County Fair Association and is now the secretary of that