

George H. Hake

Prominently identified with the industrial and civic affairs of Hardin county is George H. Hake, one of the leading farmers and stock men of this locality, residing on a beautiful farmstead in Sherman township, which he has improved in a manner as to stamp him as one of the progressive, modern agriculturists of the twentieth century. He is a member of that coterie of thrifty citizens who have come into our midst from Tazewell county, Illinois, his birth having occurred there on February 15, 1860 , and he is the son of Herman and Marie (Zimmerman) Hake, the father a native of Prussia and the mother of Bavaria .

The elder Hake emigrated to America with his parents in 1848 and settled in Buffalo , New York , where his parents died. About 1854 Herman Hake came to Tazewell county, Illinois , and bought wild land, mostly timbered, which place he improved, established a good home and lived there sixty years, and there his widow, whome he married in that county, still lives, being now seventy-five years of age.

He was a member of the Evangelical Association, to which his widow also belongs. He held several township offices, and he cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. They were the parents of ten children, four of whom died young, namely: Emma married J. C. Schuster, of Chicago , where he is a minister in the Evangelical church; Madeline married Rev. August Braeichle, of Murdock, Nebraska, minister in the Evangelical church; Sarah, who is deceased, married Philip Eller, of Sherman township, and who is mentioned in length in another part of this work; George H., of this review; John is farming in Tazewell county, Illinois; Silas is farming on the old home place in Illinois.

The subject received only a limited education in the common schools of the old-fashioned type, a log building, equipped with slab seats. He lived at home until he was twenty-two years old and worked out until he was twenty-five years old.

He was married, March 6, 1884 , to Elizabeth Eller, of Groveland , Illinois , a daughter of John and Justina (Ramige) Eller, natives of Germany , who are mentioned at some length in the sketch of Philip Eller in this work.

Eight children, one of whom is deceased, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hake, namely: Herman died when thirteen years old; Marie, Benjamin, Jessie, Ruth, Martha and Esther (twins) and Homer.

After his marriage Mr. Hake lived in Tazewell county, Illinois , for two years, then went to

Sutton , Nebraska , and bought eighty acres of wild land which he improved and on which he lived for ten years, and there got a good start; then he sold out and moved to Belle Plain , Iowa , where he bought one hundred and twenty acres. This he likewise improved, but sold after living there two years, and came to Sherman township, Hardin county, first buying one hundred and sixty acres in section 1, and lived there two years, then sold out and in 1906 bought two hundred and twelve acres, know as the Finn farm. Here he has since maintained his home, and kept the place highly improved and well cultivated. He has made many excellent improvements here, including a commodious, modern, two-story, nine-roomed house and a substantial barn thirty-two by forty feet; he has set out a large number of fruit and shade trees and has a large orchard of a fine variety. He has one of the most attractive and desirable farms in the township. He has made stock raising an important part of his vocation and always keeps a splendid variety of stock, making a specialty of short-horn cattle, Duroc-Jersey Red hogs, and good horses and mules.

Mr. Hake is a Democrat in politics and he has been trustee and director in the local school board. He is a member of the United Evangelical church, and has been a class leader for several years, also a Sunday school teacher. He seems to carry the high principles of living he seeks to inculcate in the church into his daily life and thereby he has won the confidence and good will of all who know him.

From the 1911 book [Past and Present of Hardin County Iowa](#):