

WRIGHT WORKS.

It will always be a mark of distinction to have served the Union during the great Civil War. The old soldier will receive attention no matter where he goes, if he will but make himself known, and when he passes away, friends will pay him a fitting eulogy for the sacrifices he made over a half century ago on the sanguinary fields of battle in the Southland or in the no less dreaded prison, fever camp or hospital. One of these honored veterans in Clay county is Wright Works, who is now living in retirement at Hawley after an active life as a farmer.

Mr. Works was born in February, 1844, in St. Lawrence county, New York. He is a son of Joseph T. W. and Susan (Thornton) Works. Her father settled in New York state in the year 1807. Her death occurred in 1849 at the age of thirty-six years. Joseph T. W. Works was born in Cuyahoga county, New York, in October, 1803. He devoted his life to school teaching for the most part, and farmed some. He finally left his native state and located in Hardin county, Ohio, where his death occurred in 1866 at the age of sixty-two years. His family consisted of four children.

namely: Wright, subject of this sketch; Lucian, deceased; Wanen, who came to Clay county among the early pioneers in 1873, took up a homestead in section 20, Cromwell township, which he later sold and bought a farm in Hawley township, operating the same until 1907, when he sold out and moved to the state of Washington, where he now resides, and Lena, the youngest child, who died when nineteen years old.

Mr. Works is descended from an early founder of this great nation, one of his ancestors being one of three Works brothers who came over from Ireland, about twenty years after the landing of the Pilgrims, and settled in Massachusetts. Moreover, Mr. Works is of Revolutionary stock. His grandfather, Asa Works, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and received a broken arm in the battle of Monmouth. According to tradition, his mother's Grandfather Rounds and his father's Grandfather Mark were also soldiers in the Revolution.

Wright Works grew to manhood in St. Lawrence county, New York, and there attended the common schools. He and all his brothers were soldiers in the Union army during the war between the states, and he and his brother Lucian served in Company B, Sixtieth New York Volunteer Infantry, the latter being only sixteen years old when he enlisted. He was with Sherman on his march through Georgia to the sea. Warren, who was in Battery H, Fourth New York Heavy Artillery, was also only sixteen when he enlisted in the spring of 1863. They all three came out of the service with wounds, but those of Lucian and Warren were not serious. Wright, who was eighteen when he enlisted, took part in the great battle of Gettysburg, where he was injured by a musket ball destroying his right eye, passing through the nose and injuring the left side of his head. He spent the latter part of his term of enlistment in the hospital.

Wright Works returned home after he was honorably discharged from the army and engaged in farming in his native state until 1891, when he came to Clay county, Minnesota, and lived with his brother Warren. He first bought eighty acres in Keene township, where he farmed until he moved to section 19, Hawley township, where he continued farming, buying a good place there, which he sold in the fall of 1916 and moved to the village of Hawley, where he has been living retired. He owns a pleasant home there.

Mr. Works was married at Moorhead, Minnesota, in May, 1907, to Maude Whaley, who was born in April, 1863, in London, England, from which country she came to America when ten years old. The union of Mr.

and Mrs. Works has resulted in the birth of a son, Wright Works, Jr., who is ten years old at this writing.

Mr. Works takes a good American citizen's interest in his political party. He is a member of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic, of which he was commander for one year. He has served four terms as justice of the peace, discharging his duties in an able, faithful and acceptable manner. His decisions were always characterized by an accurate knowledge of the law and by fairness to all parties concerned.
