

Jacob Barrick. In the spring of 1873 there arrived in Hamilton County, Nebraska, an ambitious pioneer who had made the overland journey from Illinois with a team and covered wagon of the true "prairie schooner" type an en route this outfit was increased by the addition of two cows, which **Jacob Barrick** there purchased to add to the equipment of his new home. It was thus that Hamilton County gained **Jacob Barrick** as a citizen and well he played his part in the development of the resources of the county as a pioneer farmer. He is still the owner of one of the excellent farms of the county and has witnessed and taken part in the transformation of the virgin prairies into one of the garden spots of Nebraska. In coming to the new home **Mr. Barrick** made the trip in five weeks, a ferry-boat having conveyed his outfit across the Missouri River at Plattsmouth. Upon his arrival he took up a tree claim in Hamilton Township, but later refiled on the land and perfected title to the same as a homestead. On this tract of unturned prairie land he constructed a sod house of one room, with board roof and floor, the lumber having been hauled from Harvard, Clay County, and the first barn on the place likewise was of the sod type. **Mr. Barrick** broke most of the one hundred and sixty acres and in addition to preparing the soil for cultivation he also planted many trees, including an orchard, the fruit trees having been largely died out in the passing years.

In the early days he did most of his freighting from Hastings, Grand Island and Harvard and five days were required to make the trip with grist to a mill at Milford. After having made good improvements on his original homestead, **Mr. Barrick** sold the property to advantage and is now the owner of a well improved farm of one hundred and forty acres, in Hamilton precinct. He suffered destruction of his crops by grasshoppers on three different occasions, met with almost equal loss during the droughts of 1893 and 1894 and had to resort to the various expedients that enabled other pioneers to overcome the difficulties and hardships which confronted them. He continued to give his personal supervision to the activities of his farm until 1910, when he removed to Aurora, the county seat, where he now owns and occupies an attractive residence on Thirteenth Street and where he is living virtually retired. He is independent in politics and casts his vote in support of men and measures meeting the approval of his judgment, irrespective of strict partisan lines. He is affiliated with the Royal Highlanders and his **wife**, whose death occurred on February 28, 1909, was an earnest member of the Presbyterian Church.

Jacob Barrick was born in Perry County, Pennsylvania, April 9, 1846, and is a son of **Jacob** and **Mary (Schwartz) Barrick**, who removed from the old Keystone state to Illinois when he was a lad of six years and who passed the remainder of their lives in the latter state, where the father became a farmer. The subject of this review attended school in a little log schoolhouse in Illinois, but his studies were pursued principally during the winter terms, when his services were not in requisition on the home farm. He remained at the parental home until he initiated his independent career as a farmer in Ogle County, Illinois, and there he remained until the spring of 1873, when he came to Nebraska. His wife, who maiden name was **Ella Steffa**, was born and reared in Illinois, and she is survived by three children: **David E.**, remains at the paternal home; **Robert E.**, is a prosperous farmer in Sherman County; and **Gertrude M.** is the wife of **Orville H Stouffer** of Aurora.