

History of Sac County, Iowa, 1914

David S. Huston. Many citizens of Sac County, Iowa, have come from the good old Keystone State of Pennsylvania and wherever they are found in this county they are among the most prosperous citizens. It is a fact that it is the most venturesome and the most ambitious people who have the courage to make their homes in a new country, and this accounts in great measure for the splendid prosperity which has come to Sac County in its history. The fact that its citizens are men of courage and determination, who came here to better their condition, has given this county a citizenship which has made for prosperity in every particular.

David S. Huston, a prosperous farmer of Boyer Valley Township, in Sac County, Iowa, was born March 25, 1864, in Perry County, Pennsylvania. His parents, **John W.** and **Mary Jane Huston**, were natives of Pennsylvania, who came to Sac County in 1882. They purchased eighty acres of land north of Early in this township, and later bought two hundred and forty acres in Cook Township and later bought eighty acres which **David** afterwards purchased. In their old age **Mr.** and **Mrs. John W. Huston** moved to Early, where they both died in 1909, his death occurring on September 5th and hers on March 30th. **Mr.** and **Mrs. John W. Huston** were the parents of six sons, all of whom are living: **David S.**, with whose history we are concerned; **Edward T.**, a resident of Cook Township, this county; **Abner B.**, of Early; **Frank**, a farmer of Boyer Valley Township; **Charles**, of Spencer, Iowa, and **George**, of Cook Township, this county.



David S. Huston was eighteen years of age when his parents came from Pennsylvania to Sac County. He received his education in the schools of his native state and as soon as he came to this county he began to work on his father's farm. When he was twenty-one years of age he began farming for himself, and eight years later bought eighty acres from his father in Cook Township. As soon as he was married, in 1888, he located on his mother's farm of eighty

acres in Cook Township, where he lived for eleven years. In 1899 he began buying his present farm of two hundred and forty-two acres, paying fifty-five dollars an acre for one hundred and forty-two and one-half acres in 1899 and one hundred and sixteen dollars for one hundred acres in 1909. This land is now worth two hundred dollars an acre, because of the many improvements which he has put upon the land, as well as the natural increase which has come to all of the land in this section of Iowa. In 1910 he erected a new barn, forty by seventy feet, in

order to care for his stock in a better manner. He prepares a large amount of stock for the markets each year, and averages two car loads of cattle and one car load of hogs annually. **Mr. Huston** has lately made substantial additions to his fine home near Early, having added verandas, cement walks, and raised the elevation of the residence and completely wired his home and barns for electric lights. With the installation of a furnace for heating purposes, he has now completely modernized his home. Electric power is now utilized in doing the work about the home. His many improvements have cost to exceed one thousand six hundred dollars. **Mr. Huston** was married on September 6, 1888, to **Mary L. Ruffcorn**, of Delaware Township, in this county, and to this union there have been born four children: **Mrs. Olive Simpson**, whose husband is a farmer in Boyer Valley Township: **Vaughn H.**, who was born March 30, 1899: **David** and **Leland**, born January 18, 1906, and **Harriet Avis**, born February 18, 1909. The last three children named are still under the parental roof. **Mrs. Olive Simpson** is the mother of one child, **Dale Orlando**, born May 16, 1914. Politically, **Mr. Huston** is an independent, although his leanings are toward the Democratic Party, and, like millions of other voters in 1912, he voted for Woodrow Wilson, believing that the principles advocated by Mr. Wilson were such as to insure the greatest prosperity to our country. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and takes an active part in all the work of this fraternal organization. **Mr. Huston** is a kind and obliging gentleman, who is an independent thinker on all topics. He has always had the interest of his community at heart and has never failed to identify himself with any enterprise or measure which he felt would redound to the best interests of his locality.

On September 4, 1913, the **Wachs** family reunion was held at **Mr. Huston's** home and descendants and members of the **Wachs** family to the number of fifty-three were present. On the same evening friends to the number of two hundred and forty gathered at the home to assist **Mr.** and **Mrs. Huston** in celebrating their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary. The next **Wachs** family reunion will be held in Oklahoma.

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