

CENTRAL IOWA

Farms and Herds.

BY MRS. NETTIE SANFORD.

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S. S. BEAMAN,

Mail agent between Marshalltown and Grundy Center, settled on Wolf Creek at the edge of Grundy County in 1860. Bringing the lumber for a shanty from Waterloo, he wintered in a humble way; the next year saw rough times, but after awhile he grew prosperous, and the original 160 acre farm expanded by the help of his active sons, Harrison and Horace, till the Beaman's own altogether 1165 acres, situated partly on Wolf Creek and the rest three miles north on the Grundy prairies.

The product of this immense tract of land is wheat—4500 bushels—oats, 1000, and 125 acres of corn, which proved only a tolerable crop. Have fattened and sold 125 head of hogs, and remaining on the farm 125 shoats in fine growing condition.

There are fifty head of cattle, native stock, and twenty-five head of horses and colts; the aggregated wealth invested in these animals amounts to considerable upon counting up the different items. The orchard is a very fine one—the fruit being perfect, and only six years old, the prospect for fruitage is good for a long time to come. These trees were taken from Ordway's nursery at Waterloo, and have proved to be all that they were recommended by the agent.

S. S. Beaman has a large white house situated upon a bluff above Wolf Creek—a little stream leading into the main channel goes dashing by over a pebbly bed. Native elms and oaks cradle the homestead; bees hum in the orchard and door-yard, while over all is an atmosphere of beauty and comfort not seen on every farm in Iowa. The barn is ample, with sheds for the sheep, swine, etc.

The homes of Horace and Harrison Beaman are equally commodious and pleasant, creditable to the gentlemen in every particular. Horace Beaman went into the Union army at the early age of 18, and made a noble record there. The Beaman family are noted for enterprise and intelligence—are of good New England stock originally.