

the next few years he was in the employ of Captain Ikard in Greer and Roger Mills counties, Okla., and thus became familiar with the character of this beautiful country.

In April, 1889, Mr. Addington made the run into this territory, and, though he found a great deal of choice land already occupied by men who had disobeyed the law, and twelve of whom were later sent to the penitentiary, he selected an excellent tract, his present homestead, and at once began to make improvements here. At first a tent was his only shelter, but this, in turn, was supplanted by a sod-house, this by a small frame building, and finally a large and attractive residence was built. The first year he lost thirty-one head of cattle, but since then he has prospered, as he richly deserves. He has been particularly successful in raising Poland-China hogs and other live stock. He has a well-selected line of small fruits, and nearly all of his family necessities are supplied by the farm.

In 1883 Mr. Addington married Myrtle Maxey, who was born in Illinois. Her parents, T. J. and Mattie (Stamper) Maxey, natives of Illinois and Tennessee, respectively, are now residents of Garfield county, Okla. Mr. Maxey served in the Civil war as lieutenant of Company B, One Hundred and Tenth Illinois Infantry, and prior to the expiration of his term of enlistment he was honorably discharged, owing to poor health.

Politically Mr. Addington is an important local factor in the Republican party. He was one of the first commissioners elected in Canadian county. For several years he has been an active member of the county central committee, and served on the executive committee of the same for eight years. He was chosen as a delegate to the Republican territorial convention, which convened at Enid, Okla., in June, 1900, to select delegates to the national convention at Philadelphia. During June, 1900, Governor Barnes appointed him county commissioner to fill the unexpired term caused by the death of A. B. Chastain. His personal popularity in his own district may be judged by the fact that, though this is a Democratic district by a large majority, he came within one vote of election to the territorial legislature.

**J. H. BASH**, ex-mayor of Hennessey, has been longer engaged in merchandising here than any of our business men, and has contributed his full share towards the upbuilding of the place. Recognizing his executive ability and zeal in the promotion of Hennessey's interests, his fellow-citizens chose him repeatedly to represent them in the city council, and were not disappointed at the outcome. During the six

terms of his service in that honorable body, and the term when he acted in the capacity of mayor, he accomplished much that will permanently benefit this community, and it was a source of regret to a multitude of his friends that he stepped aside from public life in the spring of 1899 and has since devoted his attention exclusively to his own large and flourishing business.

The paternal grandfather of Mr. Bash was a native of Germany, and spelled his surname Bach. For convenience his American descendants adopted the style of orthography indicated above. John Bach, the grandfather, was a scholarly gentleman, and an ardent patriot. At an early day he came to the United States and fought for its rights in the war of 1812. He was a pioneer of Butler county, Pa., and of Indiana, and in his early manhood followed the trade of a blacksmith. In 1843 he located in the wilds of the Hoosier state, and, clearing a farm, continued to cultivate it until he was well along in years. At the time of his death he had reached his eighty-fifth year, and his son Michael, father of our subject, is now seventy-seven years of age. He, too, has been patriotic, and enlisted in the service of his country in the Mexican war, but was not called into action. When he arrived at his majority he entered a tract of land in the forests of Grant county, Ind., and for fifty-seven years has resided in that immediate locality. He is highly respected and is a pillar in the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically he has given his allegiance to the Democratic party since the time of J. K. Polk. His wife, Phoebe, daughter of Frederick Wiles, was born in the Keystone state, and with the family removed to Indiana about the same time as did the Bash family. Of the ten children born to Michael and Phoebe Bash five sons and two daughters survive, and of these two only, J. H. and Otto R., are residents of Oklahoma.

The birth of J. H. Bash occurred August 12, 1862, in Grant county, Ind. He received a fair education in the common schools of that locality, and for a period pursued his studies in the Somerset (Ind.) school. He early became familiar with agriculture, and in the spring of 1886 left home to make his way in the west. After prospecting in Kansas, he settled upon a farm near Dighton, Lane county, and remained there until July, 1889, when he came to Kingfisher county and located a farm situated ten miles east of Hennessey. In May, 1891, he came to the city and embarked in the grocery business at his present location. At first a store, 16x20 feet in dimensions, answered the purpose, but as his trade increased in volume he found it necessary to add a space 16x32 feet, and eighteen months later he moved this structure to the rear