

Mr. Noble takes a commendable and active interest, and has always affiliated with the Republican party.

JASPER N. HARGIS, Superintendent of the Warren county poor farm, has occupied this responsible position for six years, and in this time has proved himself to be the right man in the right place. Mr. Hargis was born in the State of Missouri, July 18, 1845, one of the twelve children of Thomas and Naomi (Barnes) Hargis, and is one of the four of this number that are now living. His father, Thomas Hargis, was a native of Kentucky, born in the year 1791, and in that State made his home until 1829, when he moved to Illinois. He was a soldier in the war of 1812 and a participant in the battle of New Orleans. After living in Illinois one year he moved to Shelby county, Indiana, at which place he made his home until 1836, when he again changed his location, this time removing to Missouri. In Missouri he spent the residue of his life, his death occurring there in 1846, at the age of fifty-five years. The whole of his active life was spent in agricultural pursuits. His wife, whose maiden name was Naomi Barnes, was born in Kentucky in 1798, daughter of Richard and Tabitha Jane (Preston) Barnes, prominent people of that State, where they resided for many years. Richard Barnes was a Baptist minister and was for sixty years engaged in the work of the Master, the most of his service being given to his native State. In many respects he was a remarkable man, and few, if any, of the pioneer ministers of Kentucky wielded a more powerful influence for good than did Richard Barnes. In early life he rendered valiant service as a Revolutionary soldier. He died at the age of eighty-five. His daughter, Mrs. Hargis, died in 1857.

John Hargis, the grandfather of Jasper N., was a Virginian by birth. When a young man he went to Kentucky with the noted Daniel Boone, and for many years shared with him

the dangers and privations of life on the frontier. He was in many an Indian fight and had many thrilling adventures and narrow escapes. His wife, whose maiden name was Jane Pyrent, was also a native of Virginia. Tracing the history of the Hargis family still further back, we find that they originated in Wales, and at an early day had representatives in the colony of Virginia, the family for many years figuring prominently in the Old Dominion.

From this brief glance at his ancestry we turn now to a review of the life of our immediate subject, Jasper N. Hargis. The first four years of his life were spent in his native State, after which, in 1849, he came with the rest of the family to Iowa and settled in Warren county, they being among the earliest of its pioneers. Here his youthful days were spent and here he was quietly working on the farm at the time the great Civil war broke out. July 1, 1861, he enlisted as a member of Company E, Fourth Iowa Infantry, one of the first Iowa regiments to go to the front, it being under command of Colonel G. M. Dodge. They went down the Mississippi to St. Louis, Missouri, and the first regular engagement in which they participated was that of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, in which the regiment suffered a heavy loss. Later they became a part of the Fifteenth Army Corps and took part in the first Vicksburg campaign. At Chickasaw Bayou Mr. Hargis's company and regiment lost one-half their number in killed and wounded within the brief space of thirty minutes! He was at Jackson, Mississippi, at Port Gibson and at the siege of Vicksburg. After the capture of Vicksburg the Fifteenth Army Corps started out after Johnston and followed his army to Meridian, Mississippi, from which point they retraced their way to Vicksburg, where they were given a thirty-days furlough. At this time Mr. Hargis returned home and when his furlough had expired he rejoined his command at Memphis, and went with it to Corinth and Decatur. In the spring of 1864 he re-enlisted at Woodville, Alabama, and immediately after came home