

HANCE BOGGS CUMMING, a representative farmer of Mukwonago township, was born in the town of Eagle, June 29, 1848, a son of John C. and Eunice (Graham) Cumming. The ancestry of the family is Scotch, although the grandfather of Hance B. was born in North Carolina, and his father on board a vessel in the Atlantic Ocean in 1802, while the parents were making a journey from Ireland to the United States. The father was reared and educated in New York city and at the age of twenty, made an overland journey to Canada—walking all the way—and there purchased a timber claim of 120 acres, which he cleared and improved. In 1846 he moved to Wisconsin, purchasing 128 acres from a Mr. Trow in the town of Eagle, which was his home until his death, Dec. 14, 1886. He was a Republican in his politics until his later years, when he supported the Prohibition party. The mother also died on the homestead, in February, 1857. The family were Scotch Presbyterians. Ten children were born to John C. Cumming, six of whom are now living. Following is the order of birth:

Sarah, deceased; Matilda (Mrs. Lean), is a resident of Genesee village. These two were children of his first wife. Thomas is deceased; John is a resident of Palmyra, Wis.; Margaret (Mrs. John Keuper) lives in the city of Waukesha; Ann E. (Mrs. G. Aplin) resides in Ottawa township; Hance B. is the subject of this sketch; Eliza J. (Mrs. B. Miller) is a resident of Milwaukee; Eunice and Mary are both deceased. Hance B. was brought up on the homestead in the town of Eagle and after finishing in the district school spent one term in the private academy of I. N. Stewart in Waukesha, and seven terms in Milton college. His school work was not all consecutive, as he taught in the winter seasons and attended only in the summer. In Milton college he took the business course, being graduated in 1872, and still continued teaching in the winters until 1893. He taught in Mukwonago village and neighboring districts, taking charge of a cheese factory in the summers, and his home was at Eagle on his father's farm until his marriage in 1880. In 1882 he moved to the farm of 140 acres where he now lives and after renting it for ten years, purchased it. It is devoted to general farming and dairying, having a herd of 10 high-grade cows, the milk being taken to the Jericho creamery. He is also a breeder of Poland China hogs. Mr. Cumming supports the Republican party, was the assessor of the town in 1904, and also served as the census-taker for Eagle in 1880. His fraternal relations are with the Masonic order. On Nov. 11, 1880, he married Miss Mary E. Swan, daughter of William, and sister of George E. Swan, elsewhere mentioned in this volume. Mrs. Cumming was reared on her father's farm in the town of Mukwonago, remaining with her parents until her marriage. Two children have been born to them. Jessie Ellis, born Sept. 13, 1882, is a teacher. For two years she taught in the town of Waukesha, also finished her fourth year in district No. 8, town of Mukwonago, and is now teaching in the schools of Big Bend. She is a graduate of Carroll college, Waukesha, a member of the class of 1903. Eva Mary, born April 13, 1889, is a graduate of the Waukesha high school, class of 1907, and is now teaching in District No. 2, town of Mukwonago. The family attends the Methodist Episcopal church of North Prairie.