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[Home](#) | [Search](#) | [County](#) | [State](#) | [Other](#) | [Updates](#) | [About this Project](#)

[Marshall County](#) >> [1912 Index](#)

Past and Present of Marshall County, Iowa by Judge William Battin. 2 vols. Indianapolis, Ind.: B. F. Bowen, 1912.

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Charles W. Flora submitted by [Dick Barton](#)

Among the progressive and public spirited citizens of Eden township, Marshall county, is Charles W. Flora, a man who is in every way deserving of the high esteem in which he is held by his neighbors and friends because he has led an industrious and honest life. His birth occurred on the farm where he now resides, August 17, 1870. He is the son of Jacob W. Flora, who was born in Pennsylvania, November 15, 1820, and he is now residing in Kansas. He married Catherine Mills, who was born in Pennsylvania November 2, 1824, and whose death occurred in Marshall county, Iowa, November 11, 1888. These parents were married on June 10, 1841, and they became the parents of the following children: Mrs. Nancy Lacy and Mrs. Susan Wade were twins, born February 27, 1842, and they both reside at Santa Ana, California; Mrs. Katherine Preston, born August 23, 1844, is residing in Jasper county, Iowa; D. M. was born January 28, 1847, is residing in Holden, Missouri; John B., born in September, 1849, lives with Charles W. Flora of this review; T. J., born May 24, 1852, is living near Des Moines; Margaret E., born December 24, 1854, died August 29, 1856; Mary, born May 30, 1857, is living with her brother Grant, at Sibley, Iowa; L. S., born November 25, 1859, lives near Rhodes; Mrs. Elizabeth Gowdy, born December 15, 1862, lives south of Van Cleve; Grant born August 5, 1865, lives at Sibley, Iowa; Mrs. Dora May Clowser, born February 8, 1868, lives in Santa Ana, California; Charles W. of this review, was the youngest of the family.

The subject was married on June 29, 1904, to Rose Halter, who was born October 4, 1875, the daughter of Louis Halter, who was born in France, April 23, 1842. He married Louisa Dorr who was born in Germany, November 9, 1849. They emigrated to America when young and were married in Jasper county, Iowa, April 28, 1871, and in 1876 moved to Marshall county, which has since been their home, now living retired, having laid by a competency; they have a very pleasant home in Melbourne, Iowa. They are the parents of eleven children, namely: Mrs. Elizabeth Ginter, born March 4, 1872, lives in Eden township; George, born March 28, 1873, lives near Egan, South Dakota; Leopold, born February 28, 1875, lives on the old homestead; Edward, born May 18, 1877, lives in Eden township; Joseph, born February 18, 1879, lives near Melbourne; Henry, born March 2, 1881, lives in Eden township; Mrs. Bertha Lanning, born July 9, 1883, is living south of Melbourne; William, now deceased, was born January 18, 1885; Albert was born August 2, 1889, lives in South Dakota; Lester, born January 26, 1894, is living with Edward on the farm in Eden township.

Three sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Flora, namely: Edwin Glenn, born July 19, 1907; Alfred Lloyd, born May 20, 1909, and Wilbur John, born May 10, 1911.

Politically, Mr. Flora is a Republican, and he has long been active and influential in local affairs, having held the office of township trustee and been a member of the school board. Mrs. Flora and children are members of the Catholic church at Rhodes. Mr. Flora is a member of Eden Lodge no. 466, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, at Rhodes.

Mr. Flora is the owner of some of the choicest farming land in Marshall county and is regarded as one of the

county's foremost agriculturists and one of her substantial and leading citizens. His land is all well improved, well kept and is very productive under his skillful management. Besides his model home place, "Oak Grove," consisting of two hundred and seventeen acres, he is the owner of six hundred and forty acres in Canada, which is valuable and desirable land. He has a beautiful home and good substantial outbuildings. He is an excellent judge of live stock and has some fine specimens on his place. There are no more genial, kind, hospitable and honest people in the county, and both he and his wife are members of old and honored families who have done much to make Marshall county one of the best in the state. Their pleasant home is often the gathering place for their many friends, who always find here an old-time hospitality and good cheer.

L. S. Flora submitted by [Dick Barton](#)

L. S. Flora was born in Bureau county, Illinois, November 25, 1859. He came with his parents to Jasper county, Iowa, about the year 1866, and they eventually located in Eden township, where the family has since made their home, with the exception of seven years when they lived in Logan township, Marshall county. The subject's father, Jacob W. Flora, was born in Pennsylvania, November 15, 1820, and is now residing in Kansas. The mother, Catherine (Mills) Flora, was also born in Pennsylvania, on November 2, 1824, and died in Marshall county, Iowa, November 11, 1888, aged sixty-four years and eight days. These parents were married June 10, 1841, and the following children were born to them: Nancy Lacy and Susan Wade, twin daughters, were born February 27, 1842, both residing at Santa Ana, California; Katherine Preston, born August 23, 1834, residing in Jasper county, Iowa; D. M. Flora, born January 28, 1847, residing in Holden, Missouri; John B., born in September, 1849, residing at the home of C. W. Flora in Eden township; T. J., born May 24, 1852, residing near Des Moines; Margaret E., born December 24, 1854, died August 29, 1856; Mary, born May 30, 1857, residing with her brother at Sibley, Iowa; L. S., the subject of this sketch; Elizabeth Gowdy, born December 15, 1862, residing south of Van Cleve; Grant, born August 5, 1865, residing at Sibley, Iowa; Dora May Clowser, born February 8, 1868, residing at Santa Ana, California; C. W., born August 17, 1870, residing in Eden township.

L. S. Flora was married to Alice Waltemeyer on January 26, 1887. She was born in Ogle county, Illinois, December 11, 1867, and came to Marshall county with her parents when six months old. Mrs. Flora's grandfather was a tavern keeper in Baltimore, Maryland, and it was at this place that her father, Jacob Waltemeyer, was born, October 24, 1839; he died November 5, 1907. Her mother, whose maiden name was Lucinda Phillips, was born in Ogle county, Illinois, June 8, 1849, and at present is residing in Marshalltown. Mr. and Mrs. Waltemeyer came to Iowa in 1868, and settled in Logan township, Marshall county. They were the parents of eleven children, as follows: Mrs. Flora is the eldest; Mary S. Robertson, born October 8, 1869, residing in Brighton, Iowa; Laura Clarke, born June 8, 1871, residing at Marshalltown; Joseph, in Logan township; Charles, born December 3, 1874, of Logan township; George F., born September 8, 1877, resides in Logan township; Jacob Daniel, born February 2, 1879, residing in Logan township; Maude Cook, born January 21, 1882, residing in Marshalltown; Earl, born May 8, 1885, residing in Marshall county; Edna Bennett, born January 26, 1888, residing at Marshalltown; Raymond, born February 7, 1891, residing in Marshalltown.

L. S. Flora has long enjoyed a reputation as one of Marshall county's most progressive and successful farmers. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of Marshall county's best land, and "Fairview," with its large barns and sheds, taken with the well kept home, best bespeaks the energy and thrift that has characterized the owner. Years of honorable toil have secured every comfort and convenience man would wish - a well furnished home, with steam heat, a self-playing piano, and an automobile, are all theirs to enjoy. Besides "Fairview," Mr. and Mrs. Flora own shares in the Bank of State Center.

Mrs. Flora is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Rhodes. In politics, Mr. Flora is a Republican, but not an offensive partisan. He has been road supervisor and a member of the board of education at Rhodes. Mrs. Flora takes much pride in her chickens. For the past eighteen years she was raised the Light Brahma, but this year has begun to raise full blooded Black Langshans.