

Thomas Jefferson McCorkle is a pioneer rancher whose home is a forty-acre tract of land three miles southwest of Meridian. He purchased this place as a relinquishment and the entire forty acres was raw sagebrush when he came into possession in 1909. That his life has since been a most busy and useful one is indicated in the fact that today his property is a beautiful and valuable forty-acre ranch with good improvements, all of which are monuments in his enterprise and diligence. He acquired the entire property for two hundred dollars and today it is worth much more than that per acre. It was three years after his removal to Idaho that Mr. McCorkle came into possession of his present ranch. He had removed to Idaho in 1906 from Nodaway county, Missouri, and had gone to that state from West Virginia. He was born in West Virginia, March 20, 1866. His father, James McCorkle, was a native of Ohio and a farmer by occupation. During the Civil war he served as a Confederate soldier. He married Sarah Ails, who was born in Kentucky, and for a number of years they resided in West Virginia.

It was there that Thomas Jefferson McCorkle was reared to the age of sixteen years, when he left his parents' home in his native state and made his way westward to Missouri, settling in Nodaway county, where his sister lived. He spent several years there and during that period was married on the 30th of January 1887, to Miss Annie Elizabeth Ulmer, whose birth occurred in Scott county Indiana on February 11, 1869, her father being Jacob Ulmer and her brother Thomas E. Ulmer, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. Her father was one of the pioneer residents of Nodaway county, Missouri. A year or two after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. McCorkle removed to Northern Texas, where they resided for seventeen years and then made their way northward to Alberta, Canada. They did not like the climate there, however, and remained for only three months, after which they returned to Missouri. A short time passed in that state and in 1906 they came to the Boise valley of Idaho, where they have since resided, and here as the years have passed they have prospered in their undertakings and are today they are the owners of a splendidly developed and well irrigated ranch of forty acres which provides an excellent income so that the family is now enjoying all of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life. To Mr. and Mrs. McCorkle have been born five children who are yet living, four sons and a daughter, the youngest being seventeen years of age. Lafe McCorkle, who was born in Missouri on the 26th of March, 1888, married Carrie Yost, by whom he has two sons, Stanley and Howard, their home being now at Ririe, Idaho. The second of the family is Lula Bell, who was born November 18, 1890 and was married April 1911 to James Willis, their home being on Ten Mile creek in Ada county. They have one son, Marion Edgar Wills. The third of the family is Samuel Benjamin who was born June 21, 1897, and the younger of the sons are Ernest Jesse, born January 26, 1901 and Andy Jefferson, born February 20, 1903. The three youngest sons are all big, strong, healthy boys who are at home and are of much assistance to their father in the further development and improvement of the ranch.

Mrs. McCorkle belongs to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Mr. McCorkle is connected with the Non Partisan League, believing that an

independent course should be followed in regard to the selection of men for office and that capability should be the determining factor and not party connections. He has never held nor desired office, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs, which have been wisely and carefully directed, so that he is now one of the prosperous pioneer ranchers in the vicinity of Meridian.