

MARTIN JAKSHA has achieved in Wasco county a success in which an man might take great pride. Many things happened to defeat him and would have overcome a less resolute and determined man. The obstacles in his pathway only developed in him a corresponding determination to overcome them and make himself master of the situation. A public spirited, generous man, industrious and upright, he has won his way through from a position in which he possessed no property until he is now one of the well-to-do citizens of Wasco county.

Mr. Jaksha was born in Austria, on October 17, 1848, the son of John and Anna (Golovich) Jaksha, natives of the same country, where also they remained until their death. In 1878, we find our subject in Chicago. After a few days in that metropolis he came on to Joliet, Illinois, and worked out for six months. His next move was to Iowa, and, after working on a farm for some time there, he landed in Portland, in 1879. He worked for one month in the city and then six months in Washington county, and in the spring of 1880 came to Wasco county with scarcely enough money to file on a homestead. His place is situated near the free bridge road ten miles out from The Dalles. He at once started to work to improve the homestead and make of it a choice farm. Although his progress was very slow still he has succeeded admirably and now has an estate of over five hundred acres, four hundred acres of which are choice tillable soil. This year sees two hundred and seventy acres of this estate bearing excellent crops of wheat, and the improvements on the farm show Mr. Jaksha's taste and sagacity. In addition to all this, he purchased a fine farm which cost him two thousand five hundred dollars and presented it to his step-daughter.

On January 31, 1884, at The Dalles, Mr. Jaksha married Mrs. Albina Pashek, who was born in Bohemia. She has five brothers and two sisters, Carl, Frank, Wentzel, John, Anton, Mrs. Anna Divokey, and Mrs. Mary Schuster. Mr. Jaksha has two brothers, John and Peter, and two sisters, Mrs. Anna Pasich and Apolona. To Mr. and Mrs. Jaksha two children have been born, Andrew, a student at Mount Angel, and Joseph, at home. By her first marriage in Bohemia, Mrs. Jaksha has one daughter, Anna, the wife of George Jacobson. She is the daughter to whom Mr. Jaksha presented the farm. In addition to this, he purchased the right of a homestead adjoining that farm and she and Mr. Jacobson reside there at this time.

Mr. Jaksha has been prominent in political matters and has held various offices. He and his wife are both members of the Roman Catholic church. In addition to the property mentioned, he owns two lots in The Dalles. Mr. Jaksha was not favored with a good opportunity to secure art education, but owing to his inquiring mind and a determination to master all obstacles, he can read and write and speak the English language fluently, and in addition thereto, can read and write four other languages. This indicates the manner of man Mr. Jaksha is, and he is to be greatly commended upon his achievements.