

Iowa, where the father's death afterward occurred May 12, 1912. The mother makes her home at Elmore, Minnesota.

Rasmus R. Oswald was a youth of seventeen years when the voyage was made to the new world. He acquired his education in the common schools of Norway and after reaching Iowa started out to provide for his own support. In March, 1902, he was united in marriage to Miss Anna Ness, a native of Fillmore county, Minnesota, and in the spring of the same year he began farming for himself. He rented the farm of Otto Olson, which he continued to cultivate for five years, and in 1907 rented the Grant Jones farm, upon which he has resided for the past twelve years. He is classed among the most progressive farmers of Howard county, his labors being intelligently directed, while his energy is proving most resultant in the development and cultivation of the crops.

To Mr. and Mrs. Oswald have been born three children, two of whom are yet living, Bernice and Violet, and they have an adopted son, Wilbert, who is the eldest of the three children of the household. Both Mr. and Mrs. Oswald are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their sterling worth has gained for them the high regard of those who know them. In his political belief Mr. Oswald is a republican and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day out does not seek nor desire office, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs, which have, brought him to a position among the men of affluence in his community.

#### JAMES H. SEERY.

James H. Seery, who follows farming on section 7, Jacksonville township, has been a lifelong resident of Chickasaw county and is a representative of one of its old and honored pioneer families. He was born August 10, 1864, his parents being Thomas and Mary (Donohoe) Seery, who were natives of Ireland. The father arrived in the new world when a youth of twelve years and the mother was brought to America when a maiden of sixteen summers. They were married in Lowell, Massachusetts, and three children were born to them during the period of their residence in the east. In 1863 they came to Iowa, establishing their home in Chickasaw county, where Mr. Seery purchased a farm of forty acres in Jacksonville township. As the years passed he prospered in his undertakings and from time to time made other investments in land until his holdings comprised three hundred and forty acres, making his property a very valuable one. It is said by his many friends that he was one of the finest men who ever settled in Chickasaw county. He was most charitable, freely aiding those who needed assistance, and in manner was ever kindly and genial. His many substantial and admirable traits of character won for him the love and friendship of all. He passed away January 10, 1910, at the advanced age of eighty-four years, and on the 11th of April, 1911, the mother was called to her final rest, being then about eighty years of age.

James H. Seery is indebted to the district school system of Chickasaw county for the educational opportunities which he enjoyed. After reaching manhood he worked with his father upon the home farm until about 1894, when he began farming independently on his present place, which comprises one hundred and eighty acres of land that was deeded to him by his father at that time.

In 1896 Mr. Seery was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Ralph, a daughter of John Ralph, one of the early pioneer settlers of Chickasaw county who is now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Seery have been born five children, three of whom survive, namely: Francis Ralph, James Virgil and Mary Viola.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Seery brought his bride to the home farm and through the intervening period has remained thereon, devoting his energies and attention to the development and improvement of the place and by reason of his industry and diligence winning an enviable position among the substantial men of Jacksonville township. He is also a stockholder in the Jerico Creamery Association.

Mr. Seery and his family are members of St. Joseph's Catholic church and are gen-