

Iowa. The father has now retired from active business and he and his wife make their home in Cresco. Mrs. Lusson was born in Howard county and by her marriage has become the mother of four children: Irvin, Bernadetta, Leo J. and Jerome. The family are well known in Cresco, where they have an extensive circle of warm friends.

Mr. Lusson votes with the democratic party, which has received his earnest support since he attained his majority. He has always been a believer in the principles of the party yet he has never sought or desired office. He stands, however, for all those interests which he feels will prove of benefit and value to the community and his cooperation can always be counted upon to support any measure of public worth.

HENRY SCHWAKE.

Henry Schwake, a Howard county farmer living on section 12, Afton township, was born in Maxfield township, Bremer county, Iowa, April 10, 1872, a son of Conrad and Marie (Hassey) Schwake, both of whom were natives of Germany. They came to the United States in 1866. The father is still living but the mother passed away in Howard township, Howard county, in 1917. After crossing the Atlantic they took up their abode in Chicago. Each crossed the ocean alone and for two years they resided in the new world before they were married. After a residence of two years in Chicago they removed to Bremer county, Iowa, where the father rented a farm which he conducted for six years. He then removed with his family to a place about twenty miles eastward, near Buckcreek, there purchasing a tract of land which he continued to cultivate and improve for fourteen years. On the expiration of that period he sold his property and came to Howard county, where he bought three eighty acre tracts of land four and a half miles northeast of Elma. With characteristic energy he bent his efforts to the further development and improvement of that place and resided thereon until 1909, when he retired from active business life and took up his abode in Busti.

Henry Schwake was reared under the parental roof and has been a lifelong resident of Iowa. His youthful days were passed in the usual manner of the farmbred boy who attends the district schools and works in the fields when not busy with his textbooks. After his schooldays were over he concentrated his efforts and energies upon farm work, thus aiding his father up to the time of his marriage, which was celebrated in 1901. Subsequently he bought his present home property on section 12, Afton township, and has since occupied this place. Its attractive appearance is the direct outcome of his labors and perseverance. He has worked diligently and persistently in the development of the fields and annually gathers golden harvests.

On the 28th of March, 1901, Mr. Schwake was married, to Miss Fredericka Bayer, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Bayer, who were natives of Germany and have now passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Schwake have become parents of a daughter, Marie, who is now in school. They are members of the Lutheran church at Elma and in political belief Mr. Schwake is a democrat. He served for seven or eight years as school director but otherwise has not held or desired public office. He was a supporter of the Liberty Loans and the Red Cross and he has ever been keenly interested in all projects for the upbuilding and progress of his county, commonwealth and country.

JOHN A. CRAY.

John A. Cray, one of the earliest of Howard county's pioneer settlers, arriving here with his parents in 1857, was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, on the 27th of August, 1856, a son of Joseph and Matilda (Coombs) Cray, both of whom were natives of Somersetshire, England, where they were reared, educated and married. Immediately after their marriage they came to the new world, emigrating