

and sixty acres in Jacksonville township. He rented this place for a period of four years and later he purchased a livery barn at Alta Vista, where he conducted business for a year. He then disposed of the livery stable and resumed the occupation of farming. For a year he cultivated rented land and in the fall of 1895 he removed to his present home place of one hundred and twenty acres, which he purchased at that time.

On the 9th of October, 1888, Mr. Seery was united in marriage to Miss Julia Dowd, a daughter of John Dowd, who was one of the early settlers of Jacksonville township, Chickasaw county. Mr. and Mrs. Seery have become parents of twelve children, nine of whom survive, as follows: Nellie, who is the wife of Nicholas Aegeiter, of Sumner, Iowa; Mamie, a resident of Davenport, Iowa; John J., at home; Earl T., who is engaged in teaching school; and Regina C., Ulysses M., Waldo W., Francis H. and Kenneth J., all of whom are yet under the parental roof.

The family are adherents of the Catholic church and two of the sons, John J. and Earl T., are members of the Knights of Columbus. In politics Mr. Seery is a democrat and for six or eight years served as a member of the school board but has never sought political office. His place in agricultural circles and his devotion to the general welfare, however, rank him with the valued and substantial residents of his community.

GUS O'DONNELL.

Gus O'Donnell, manager of the yards of the C. W. Chapman Lumber Company at Elma, was born at New Diggings, Wisconsin, on the 7th of April, 1876, and was the fourth child in a family of thirteen children, eight of whom are still living. His parents were John and Mary (Rooney) O'Donnell, the former a native of County Monaghan, Ireland, while the latter was born in County Cavan. They came to the United States on sailing vessels in their childhood days, the father crossing the Atlantic by way of the Gulf of Mexico with his parents on a voyage that covered eleven weeks, while the mother was thirteen weeks upon the water. She, too, made the trip to the new world in company with her parents. Both families settled in St. Louis, Missouri, where the father and mother of. Gus O'Donnell reached adult age and were married. Soon thereafter they removed to Wisconsin, settling at New Diggings, where the father engaged in farming. In 1863 he responded to the call of his adopted country for military aid and joined a Wisconsin regiment, with which he served until the close of the Civil war, participating in several hotly contested engagements and at length winning an honorable discharge. He then returned to his family and resumed his farm work in Wisconsin, residing there to the time of his death which occurred in 1900. His wife died in November, 1912.

Gus O'Donnell acquired a common school education and when eighteen years of age left home to begin his career, going to Dubuque, Iowa, where he secured employment in the Cooper wagon factory. He remained at that place for about a year and a half and then went to Jackson, Minnesota, where he was employed by the firm of James Lowe & Company, live stock shippers, with whom he was associated for two years. During this time he was married to Miss Mary Miller, of Jackson, Minnesota, and from Jackson he removed to Rockwell, Iowa, where he became assistant manager for the L. Lamb Lumber Company. While thus engaged he acquired a comprehensive knowledge of the lumber trade and remained with the company for more than two years, after which he returned to Jackson, Minnesota, and became manager of the Lumberyards of R. S. Robertson & Company, occupying that position for three years. Later, at Cartersville, Iowa, he was manager for the grain and lumber business of the Nye-Snyder-Fowler Company, with which he continued for three years. In 1905 he came to Elma as manager of the Elma yards of the C. W. Chapman Lumber Company, in which important position he has since served.

Mr. and Mrs. O'Donnell are members of the Catholic church and he has member-