

time of his demise, which occurred November 3, 1876. His wife survived him for a number of years, passing away April 12, 1893.

To Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Wilson have been born two children. Nellie Alice is the wife of John B. Rostratter, of Minneapolis, who is a native of Howard county, his father having come to Iowa in pioneer times, casting in his lot among the early settlers of this county. Here the father passed away, but the mother is still living and now makes her home with her son in Minneapolis. Her brother, John Welch, was the first white child born in Howard county and the place of his birth is a little old stone house just south of Cresco, which is still standing. Both Mr. and Mrs. John B. Rostratter are well known in this county and they have an interesting little family of three children: Eunice K., Florence M., and Hazel. Frank George Wilson, the only son, married Miss Josie Haverley, of Howard county, and is now residing on his father's old home farm of two hundred and forty acres, which he is busily and successfully cultivating. To him and his wife have been born four children: Gilbert F., John Stewart; Francis, who died in infancy; and Frances J., a little daughter.

Mr. Wilson is a republican in his political views and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He reads broadly and keeps in touch with the trend of modern thought and progress, and although he has now passed the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten, in spirit and interests he seems yet in his prime. He and his family are loyal members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a man of liberal disposition and has contributed in substantial measure to plans and movements for the upbuilding of community and county. He has lived to witness many changes in this section of the state since taking up his abode here and at all times has borne his part in the work of general development and improvement. He is enjoying excellent health and is a well preserved man. His rest from business cares is well deserved because of the intense activity which preceded it. His business interests were wisely and carefully managed and his efforts brought to him a measure of success which is most gratifying.

#### PETER N. MILLER.

In the history of Howard county mention should be made of Peter N. Miller, who from pioneer times has been identified with the development of the county and has lived to witness its wonderful growth and progress as the years have passed by. He has always taken his part in advancing the welfare and upbuilding of the community and he is now pleasantly situated on section 6, Afton township. He has reached the eighty-second milestone on life's journey, his birth having occurred in Hanover, Germany, April 13, 1837. He is a son of Mathias and Annie Miller, both of whom were natives of that country.

Peter N. Miller spent the first fourteen years of his life in Germany and then came to the United States, since which time he has been a loyal American citizen. He made his way first to Madison, Wisconsin, and was employed in a bakery at eight dollars per month. He worked in that line for a few years and carefully saved his earnings until he was able to make investment in land. His first purchase made him owner of a sixty-acre tract, which he at once began to develop and improve. His home was a little log cabin such as is found in pioneer districts. He continued to cultivate that farm for about twenty-two years and his labors wrought a marked transformation in its appearance. At the end of that period he sold the farm and came to Howard county, Iowa, purchasing forty acres of the present home place but he has since extended its boundaries until it now comprises eighty acres of rich and productive land. When he took possession of this property the land was still in its primitive condition and there devolved upon him the arduous task of breaking the sod and preparing the fields for cultivation. The house was a very small log cabin and all of the substantial and modern improvements that are found upon the place today are the work of Mr. Miller and indi-