

term of indenture in three years, and in the summer of 1879 he came to the United States, hoping to find better business opportunities than he believed he could secure in Germany. He did not tarry on the Atlantic coast but made his way at once into the interior of the country, settling first in Calumet county, Wisconsin, where he began work as a farm hand. He remained there for about four years, working one winter in the pineries, while in the summer seasons he continued his labors in the fields.

In 1883 Mr. Lange came to Iowa and for about two years worked at the miller's trade in Allamakee county. In the spring of 1885 he removed to Howard county and for over two years was employed in the Forreston Roller Mills in Forest City township. On the expiration of that period he went to Minnesota and was employed in three different mills in that state during the succeeding two years. In the spring of 1889 he returned to Germany on a visit and spent the summer with his parents, but he had formed a deep attachment for the land of his adoption and in the fall of the year returned to America, making permanent location in Howard county. Here he worked in the Forreston Roller Mills by the month for about five years and in the fall of 1894 leased the mill, which he continued to operate on his own account for five years. In 1893 he for the first time became a landowner, making investment in a portion of his present farm, which was then a tract of wild timber land. He cleared away the trees and brush and began the development of the property, continuing its improvement, and in 1899, after leaving the mill, he settled upon the farm, the boundaries of which he has since extended until it now comprises one hundred and seventy-seven acres. This constitutes an excellent farm property which has been won through his earnest and persistent effort in business and his straightforward dealing.

In November, 1890, Mr. Lange was married to Miss Maria Wilhelms, a native of Germany, who came to the United States with her parents, Henry P. and Maria (Prueser) Wilhelms, when but three years of age. Both her father and mother are still living, the former having reached the advanced age of eighty-eight years, while the latter is eighty years of age. They are still well preserved and very active and live in Granger, Minnesota, where they are one of the most highly esteemed as well as one of the most venerable couples of the community. To Mr. and Mrs. Lange have been born four children, of whom three are living. Paulus H., who won a scholarship at the State University of Illinois, served in the great European war. He was stationed at Camp Pike, Arkansas. Karl H. now follows farming in Wisconsin and Reuben H., the youngest son, is at home.

Mr. Lange votes with the republican party, which he has supported since becoming an American citizen. He served for three terms as a member of the board of township trustees and he is regarded as one of the foremost residents of Forest City township. Both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church and their many excellent traits of character have gained for them the warm regard and respect of many.

#### LOUIS WILLIAM URBAN.

An excellent farm property on section 12, Howard township, in Howard county, pays tribute to the care and labor bestowed upon it by the owner, Louis William Urban, who has for a long period been identified with the agricultural development of northern Iowa. He was born in South Dakota, June 21, 1884, a son of Wencel and Mary Urban, who are natives of Bohemia but came to the United States in childhood days with their parents, both families settling in Wisconsin, where the father and mother became acquainted and were married. They lived for some time in Wisconsin following their marriage and thence removed to South Dakota, while in 1890 they came to Howard county, Iowa, where Mr. Urban purchased the present home farm of his son, Louis William, comprising one hundred and forty-seven acres of land situated on section 12, Howard township. He afterward bought another farm of one hundred and sixty acres cornering upon his home place and on this property he resided until 1907, when he turned the farms over to his two sons and removed to Lourdes, where he has since lived retired, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned and richly merits.