

he met on the farm during his parents absence in Europe. He was a promising young man, devoting his entire time to his father's business, and much credit is due him for the excellent condition of the property. His death was a great blow to his parents and sisters and deep regret and sympathy were expressed on all sides, for he was popular and had many loyal friends.

In Pleasant township, in 1884, Mr. Harter was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Hilleman, who was born here January 7, 1857, a daughter of William and Wilhelmina (Knoke) Hilleman, natives of Hanover, Germany, the former born October 24, 1831, and the latter January 9, 1829. Both went to Canada with their parents in their childhood and in the Dominion married in 1852. They afterward came to Pleasant township, Winneshiek county, Iowa, and here the father engaged in farming until his retirement, when he moved to Decorah, where his death occurred in March, 1904. His wife survived him only a few years, dying in April, 1909. The father was one of the first settlers in Pleasant township and hauled grain to Lansing at a time when the journey of thirty miles consumed two or three days. He and his wife had eight children: Caroline, the widow of August Schrubbe, of Decorah; Henry, who died at the age of twenty-one; Elizabeth, the wife of the subject of this review; William, a farmer in Winneshiek county; Mary, who resides in Decorah; Minnie, who married Albert Schippel, of Mankato, Minnesota; Julia, the widow of John Barth, of Decorah; and August, who has passed away.

Mr. and Mrs. Harter have four children: Wilhelmina Maria, the wife of Alvin Kratz, of Grand Rapids, North Dakota; George W., a graduate of the Valder Business College and until his death on July 29, 1913, associated with his father in the operation of the fruit farm; Louise; and Julia. Mr. and Mrs. Harter have made two extended tours of Europe. He is a regular attendant of the Methodist Episcopal church and is a progressive democrat in his political beliefs. He supports his convictions by intelligent and unaggressive argument and has written a number of articles on political subjects which have attracted widespread attention and approval. He has made distinct and substantial contributions to the development of a great industry in this section of Iowa, where he has resided for more than thirty years, and his upright and honorable life, which has been filled with definite and important accomplishments, has gained him widespread honor and esteem wherever he is known.

ANDREW T. BRANHAGEN.

Not only is Andrew T. Branhagen one of the most substantial agriculturists of Springfield township, Winneshiek county, but he has the distinction of being the only old soldier of his locality, having rendered valuable service in the Civil war, and in times of peace has demonstrated his public spirit by efficiently filling important positions. Born in Norway, October 28, 1844, ^{n's} parents were Tosten and Annie (Sevelrud) Branhagen, natives of that country. They came to America in 1861 and making their way inland located in Winneshiek county, where the father purchased one hundred acres of land on section 11, Springfield township. He gave his whole attention to clearing and improving this