

ceded him on every hand was but justly bestowed upon him. He was as considerate of the community's welfare as of his own interests, and there was never undertaken any worthy enterprise along public lines of which he was not an ardent supporter.

ANTHONY BERNATZ.

Anthony Bernatz, who has lived in honorable retirement at Decorah during the past decade, was for a number of years prominently identified with milling interests here but has turned over his business to his sons, who operate two flour mills under the firm style of A. Bernatz & Sons. His birth occurred in Bavaria, Germany, in August, 1843, *his* parents being Michael and Martha Bernatz, the former born in the kingdom of Bavaria, on the river Rhine, on the 4th of October, 1815. Michael Bernatz learned the baker's trade in that country and in 1846 crossed the Atlantic to the United States, locating in Rochester, New York, where he worked at his trade until 1849. In that year he went to Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, and there conducted a bakery until 1854, when his wife died. He then moved across the Mississippi river to McGregor, Iowa, where he built the fifth house in the town and opened a bakery which he conducted until 1857. In that year he erected the White Springs brewery but did not find the business congenial and disposed of his interests in 1859. He then started for Texas but, being threatened by yellow fever, then raging in Galveston, turned back after journeying as far as New Orleans. In 1860 he purchased the Smithfield flouring mills at Smithfield, Iowa, and in 1865 bought the Eagle flouring mills in Winneshiek county, east of Decorah, operating them for three years. On the expiration of that period they sold out and purchased the Riceford flour mill at Riceford, Houston county, Minnesota, which Michael Bernatz operated in association with his two sons, George and Anthony. In 1868 Michael Bernatz also built a mill at Newburg, Minnesota, and two years later went to Chaska, that state, erecting a water power mill near Minneapolis. He operated his three mills until 1874 and in that year returned to Iowa because of impaired health, purchasing the Evergreen flour mill at Fort Atkinson, Winneshiek county, in partnership with his two sons. At the end of about fifteen years he retired and sold out to his sons, who continued the operation of the mill for about four years longer or until it was destroyed by fire. His demise occurred at Fort Atkinson, in 1886, and thus the community lost one of its most substantial and respected citizens.

Anthony Bernatz was three years of age when brought by his parents to the United States and a little lad of six when the family home was established in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, where he acquired his education. After leaving school he began working for his father, with whom he remained in partnership until the latter sold out to him and his brother George. When their mill at Fort Atkinson had burned the two brothers purchased the Ames flour mill at that place and operated the same for two years. At the end of that time they sold out and came to Decorah, Iowa, here purchasing the Ice Cave and Hivly flour and feed mills, which they operated together for about two years or until