

of seventy-eight years. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson were the parents of eight children : Albert, who resides on part of his father's farm; John, a preacher of the Lutheran church, now in Edgerton, Wisconsin; Ingeman, who for six years has served as county auditor of Winneshiek county, but expects soon to remove from Decorah to Fargo, North Dakota; Frederick Julius, who died at the age of seven months; Marie, the wife of George Ode, of Decorah; William, who operates the farm for his father and occupies a part of the residence; Hannah, who died August 5, 1912, at the age of thirty-three years; and Elizabeth, the wife of Rev. Peter Kjorlang, a Lutheran minister at Warren, Minnesota.

In politics Mr. Anderson has been a life-long republican since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. He has held all of the township offices—was justice of the peace for twelve years, assessor for twelve years, and has twice been United States census enumerator. His public duties have ever been most faithfully discharged and his record as a citizen is a most commendable one. That he is popular with his old army comrades is shown by the fact that he was elected president of the Thirty-eighth Iowa Infantry Reunion, held at Decorah in October, 1912, but owing to the fact that he lost his eyesight he has been unable to serve. He belongs to Colonel Hughes Post, No. 160, G. A. R., of Decorah, and is a demitted Mason. He and his family have held membership in the Lutheran church since 1853. He has been very active in church work, has held official positions in connection therewith, and at all times his life has been an upright, honorable one, in harmony with his professions. In this way he has gained the good-will and confidence of all. He is one of Winneshiek county's pioneer citizens, having been a witness of the greater part of the growth and progress of the county since he took up his abode here in 1853.

WILLIS & NESS.

The leading furniture and undertaking firm of Decorah is that of Willis & Ness, who have a modernly equipped, up-to-date store on East Water street, in its appointments and stock rivaling any metropolitan establishment. The firm is composed of two young, progressive business men of modern policies, who have attracted to them a large and profitable trade.

Peter J. Ness, member of the firm of Willis & Ness, was born in Highland township, Winneshiek county, November 9, 1877, a son of John O. and Jarend (Holverson) Ness, natives of Norway. The father was a farmer in his native country, coming in 1870 to the United States, making settlement at Highlandville, Winneshiek county, where he purchased land and engaged in farming. As the years passed his labors brought results and in December, 1912, he retired to Decorah, where he and his wife now live in well earned retirement.

Peter J. Ness attended school in Highland township and assisted his father in the farm work until nineteen years of age, when he came to Decorah to accept the position of clerk with his brother, O. J. Ness, who conducted a grocery store here. In this relation he remained for seven years, being then enabled to establish a bakery shop which was located one door west of his