

is a son of Samuel and Phoebe (Merryman) Wise, natives of that state, the former of Dutch ancestry and the latter of German and English extraction. The parents came to Iowa in the spring of 1856, the father having purchased land from the government in the previous year, and they continued to make their home upon this farm for many years, Samuel Wise dying upon the property December 4, 1879, at the age of seventy-one. His wife, who was born in 1810, passed away March 21, 1886. They were the parents of eleven children: Keziah, who married Charles Reese, of Springport, Michigan; Elizabeth, who became the wife of Christian Kinch and who died in 1858; Wilson, of Artesian, South Dakota; Nancy, the widow of Daniel Price and a resident of Burr Oak, Iowa; Daniel, who makes his home in Carl Junction, Missouri; Elijah, of Pomona, California; Harrison, who passed away January 19, 1862; Phoebe, the widow of Nathan Drake, of Glenwood township, this county; Samuel, of this review; Allen, who was drowned in the Iowa river in 1867, when he was seventeen years of age; and Mary, the widow of Frank Stortz, of Norfolk, Nebraska. Of these children Daniel and Elijah are veterans of the Civil war, having enlisted from Decorah in Company D, Third Iowa Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Willet, and having served until the close of hostilities.

When Samuel Wise was eleven years of age he accompanied his parents from Illinois to Iowa and took up his residence with them upon the Wise homestead in Winneshiek county, whereon he grew to manhood. He has made his home upon this property ever since and now owns two hundred and ninety-three acres lying on sections 16 and 17. Upon this he has made many substantial improvements in buildings and equipment, his well directed efforts having been attended with a gratifying measure of success. In addition he is proprietor of one hundred and sixty acres in Dallas county, Texas, and this, together with his home property, brings him a substantial annual income.

On the 24th of December, 1868, Mr. Wise was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Barth, of Cincinnati, Ohio, born December 14, 1852. She came with her parents to Iowa in the fall of 1855. To their union were born fifteen children : Rosamond, who married Albert Ellingson, of Pleasant township; Phoebe, who became the wife of Charles Rima, of Decorah; Flora, who married B. E. Bucknell, of Decorah; Isaiah, who lives at home; Julia, the wife of E. F. Gueffroy, of Charles City, Iowa; Elizabeth, at home; Lucy, who married M. E. Anderson, of Washington, D. C.; Daniel E., at home; Allen, county recorder of Winneshiek county, with residence at Decorah; Mary, who is engaged in teaching; Lily, who is employed in the National Bank at Decorah; Keziah and Meda, engaged in teaching; Sylvester, who lives at home; and one child, who died in infancy. The mother died at the University Hospital, Iowa City, August 17, 1910.

Mr. Wise gave his political allegiance to the republican party until the nomination of Blaine for the presidency, when he affiliated with the democracy. He has held various public offices, serving as justice of the peace, constable, school director and road supervisor, and his public career has been useful and beneficial, reflecting credit upon his ability and public spirit. He is numbered among the early residents in Pleasant township and has witnessed practically the entire development of this part of the county, his work since reaching manhood forming an important factor in its advancement. Throughout the years