

Etta M., born April 17, 1871, the widow of E. E. Kennedy, of Perry, Iowa, now making her home with her parents; and Edward R., born December 15, 1873, also engaged in the insurance business in Decorah. To the second marriage of Mr. Abbey was born one daughter, Nellie B., on December 9, 1894, a junior in the Decorah high school. Mrs. Abbey also had a child by her former marriage, Lancelot Brock, who was born in Decorah in 1883 and now makes his home in Wallace, Idaho.

Carrying onward the traditions which decided him to offer his services to his country at the time of the Civil war, Mr. Abbey has always voted the republican ticket and staunchly supports its platform and candidates. He has never sought the limelight of public office but has contented himself with fulfilling his obligations as an American citizen in a private way, giving an example of high-mindedness and public-spiritedness by a life record free from the glamour attaching to political position. He keeps alive the spirit of '61 as a member of the Grand Army post of Decorah and is also prominently connected with the Masons, being a member of the blue lodge and Royal Arch Chapter of Decorah, and both he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star Lodge, No. 73. Both are also members of the Congregational church, in the work of which they take a helpful interest. As prosperity has come to Mr. Abbey he has invested in county realty, being the owner of a farm on sections 16 and 17, Decorah township, from which he derives a gratifying income. Viewed from every angle, the life record of Mr. Abbey is one which would be a credit to any man, as his attainments are worthy of notice, his loyalty to his country worthy of exemplification, his characteristics worthy of praise, and he rightfully occupies a position in the community which begets him the respect, good-will and confidence of high and low, young and old.

GUSTAV J. SELNES.

Gustav J. Seines, who was born on the farm which he now operates, on February 22, 1879, is one of the younger agriculturists of Winneshiek county, owning one hundred and six acres on section 8, Highland township. He is a son of John and Carrie (Solberg) Thorson, natives of Norway. The father came to the state of Iowa in 1861, and the mother was brought here by her parents when she was two years of age. They were married in this county and spent the rest of their lives on the farm which is now the home of their son Gustav J. The father became the owner of two highly cultivated properties of two hundred and one hundred and sixty acres respectively. Long years of arduous labor brought him prosperity and his high qualities of mind and character earned him the respect-and esteem of the neighborhood. Both parents were members of the Lutheran church at Hesper. The father died at the age of sixty-seven, his death occurring on November 8, 1904, and the mother died in 1881, long preceding her husband. In their family were the following children: Theodore, of Highland township; Peter Thorson, of Bowman county, North Dakota; Gilbert, who passed away at the age of eleven years; John and Julius, of Highland township; Gustav J., our subject; and Clara, who died in infancy.