

Decorah high school, and prior to this attended Luther College for three years. After his graduation he went to Chicago and attended the Chicago Art Institute for one year and also spent one term in the Chicago Academy of Fine Arts. After this he returned to Decorah for a short time but then removed to Spokane, Washington, where for one year he was engaged in commercial art work. Returning home, he became a partner in his father's business, the firm name becoming J. C. Hexom & Son. He furnishes the youngest element in the firm. A young man of decided ability and pleasing address, he is popular with his patrons and the later success of the firm must to a large extent be ascribed to the able assistance he gives his father. Prior to going to Spokane Mr. Hexom also taught drawing for one year in the preparatory classes of his old school, the Luther College. He is now interested in commercial art in addition to his regular business.

On September 28, 1910, Mr. Hexom was united in marriage to Miss Clarissa D. Holm, a daughter of O. W. and Julia (Hoffos) Holm, natives of Norway, who came to Decorah at an early day in the history of this city. Mr. Holm is now in the employ of the Lutheran Publishing Company.

Public-spirited and progressive, Mr. Hexom has become an adherent of the progressive party, in the realization of the ideals of which he sees the fulfillment of a government for, by, and of the people. Religiously he is a Lutheran, being connected with the First Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran church, in the work of which and its allied societies he takes a warm interest. An indication of his recreation is given in the fact that he is a member of the Decorah Rod & Gun Club and the Decorah Gymnasium Club, believing in physical exercise in order to keep body and mind in condition for strenuous business duties. The family residence is at No. 606 East Main street, Decorah, and there Mr. and Mrs. Hexom are often the center of the younger social set of the city, in which they are popular.

LEWIS B. WHITNEY.

A foremost representative of commercial and financial interests of Decorah and Winneshiek county is Lewis B. Whitney, who in 1897 helped to establish the National Bank of Decatur, of which institution he has served as president ever since. Born in Jefferson county, New York, on March 29, 1855, he is a son of Brayton and Martha M. (Rockwood) Whitney, natives of New York. The father was for many years a sailor on the Great Lakes, his run being from Oswego to Chicago, at a time when that city was yet Fort Dearborn. He subsequently moved to Wisconsin and there successfully operated a farm until 1861, when he enlisted for service in the Civil war with Company B, Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Volunteers, being afterward transferred to the Sixteenth Ohio Battery, with which he served until the close of the war. At the cessation of hostilities he returned to Wisconsin and there again followed agricultural pursuits until 1867, when he removed to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he farmed until his death, which occurred in August, 1892. His wife survived him until December, 1896.