

farming. Although he has now reached the age of sixty-eight years he is still active in the work of the farm and takes a just pride in keeping everything about the place in good repair.

Mr. Rice was married on the 9th of February, 1876, to Miss Henrietta Pierce, a native of McHenry county, Illinois, born December 28, 1849, a daughter of John H. and Vesta (Hitchcock) Pierce, both natives of Schoharie county, New York, where they were reared and married. They subsequently came to the middle west, first locating in McHenry county, Illinois, later, in 1854, settling in Burr Oak township, Winneshiek county, where Mr. Pierce continued his work as a farmer. The mother died April 13, 1895, at the age of seventy years, while the father, surviving for ten years, passed away in May, 1905, at the ripe old age of eighty-three years. In their family were seven children: Charles, a resident of Canton, Minnesota; Stephen, who has departed this life; Mrs. Rice; Marietta, the wife of Daniel Smith, of Canton, Minnesota; John, who is deceased; Alonzo, a resident of Burr Oak township; and Mrs. Harriet Kimber, who is also deceased.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rice was born but one daughter, Stella, now the wife of Claude Headington, of Burr Oak township. They have also reared a niece, Maude Pierce, who is still with them. Following in the political footsteps of his father, Mr. Rice has given his support to the republican party since he attained his majority. He has made his home on his present farm for the past fifty-five years, so that the place has grown dear to him through his long connection therewith. He has ever taken a deep interest in the welfare of the county where he numbers his friends by the score, and he is everywhere accorded that respect and veneration which should be extended to one who has traveled thus far on the journey of life.

PETER JOHNSON.

Peter Johnson is at the head of the firm of Peter Johnson & Sons of Decorah, which conducts one of the largest establishments of the kind in this part of the country, doing a heating and plumbing as well as general machine business and also operating a garage. His birth occurred in Hadeland, Norway, in March, 1848, his father being John Peterson, likewise a native of that place. The latter, being confronted and beset by hardships, determined to seek a home in the new world of promise and accordingly emigrated to the United States with his wife and two sons, Peter and Andrew. The family located near Koshkonong, Wisconsin, in 1852, where they remained for several years, Mr. Peterson being employed as a farm hand. In 1858 they went to Black Earth, Wisconsin, making the removal with a team of oxen. Mr. Peterson there entered land and began clearing and improving the property, to the cultivation of which he devoted his attention throughout the remainder of his life.

Peter Johnson, who was four years of age when brought by his parents to the United States, learned the blacksmith's trade in Wisconsin as soon as his age and strength permitted. He served as foreman of the Mandt Manufacturing Company for several years and subsequently came to Decorah, Winneshiek county, Iowa,