

Ossian. Neva first married W. Draves, who died, and she is now Mrs. Chas. S. Dewey, the wife of a contractor of West Union, Iowa. She has one child by her first marriage, Wayne Harris, born September 11, 1907. Calla is the wife of George Wilchen, of Mason City, and has a daughter, Rosebud. Vernon, who completes the family, resides at home.

Mr. Banning is a member of the United Brethren church and politically affiliates with the republican party, giving his aid and cooperation always to progressive public movements. His life has been one of well directed activity and intelligent effort, resulting in the attainment of a gratifying measure of success, and wherever he is known he is highly esteemed and respected by reason of his genuine personal worth and excellent qualities of character.

JOSEPH WHALEN.

A highly improved tract of four hundred acres in Burr Oak township, known as the Silver Creek Stock Farm, is owned and conducted by Joseph Whalen. He is a native of County Waterford, Ireland, born February 15, 1844, a son of Morris and Johanna (Colbert) Whalen, who were likewise natives of County Waterford. In 1849 the father emigrated to America with his family, at that time consisting of a wife and three children. Their first location was in Dutchess county, New York, where they spent three years. They then journeyed to the middle west, spending four years in Chicago, while in 1856 a permanent home was established on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, located in Fremont township, Winneshiek county. The father purchased this land from the government and in due course of time broke the sod and prepared the land for cultivation, divided his acreage into fields of convenient size, erected substantial buildings and made it one of the well improved farms of this section of the state. Here the father engaged in farming throughout his remaining days. He passed away April 22, 1869, at the age of fifty-three years, while his wife lived to an advanced age, departing this life in 1895, when seventy-eight years of age. In their family were six children, as follows: Joseph, of this review; Thomas, who resides in Fremont township; Catharine, the deceased wife of Martin Ryan; Morris, who died in September, 1906, leaving a widow and thirteen children; Mary Ann, the widow of John Knox of Burr Oak; and Nell, who became the wife of Thomas Flynn, and passed away in Lake county, South Dakota.

Joseph Whalen was a little lad of five years when brought by his parents to the new world, and he was a lad of twelve when the removal was made to Winneshiek county. He was trained to work on the home farm and remained under the parental roof until he had reached the age of twenty-two years, but in the meantime he farmed on his own account. In 1866 he purchased a quarter section of land on the state line, which constitutes a part of his present holdings and he has since added to his acreage until he now owns four hundred acres on sections 7 and 18, Burr Oak township. This land with the exception of some that is devoted to pasturage, is all under cultivation and has been improved with substantial farm buildings for the shelter of grain and stock and is one of the valuable farm properties of his section of Winneshiek county. In addition to general