

interests of Alta Vista tie was called to public office, being elected in 1918 to the position of county sheriff, in which capacity he is making a most creditable and commendable record.

On the 12th of November, 1895, Mr. Tietjen was united in marriage to Miss Mina Glade, of Grand Island, Nebraska. They have a daughter, Hazel, who was educated in the New Hampton high school and has also pursued a business course. Mr. Tietjen gives his political allegiance to the republican party and fraternally is identified with the following organizations: Decorah Lodge, No. 443, B. P. O. E.; Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 528, A. F. A. M.; Adelpia Chapter, No. 113, A. & A. S. R.; and Alta Vista Lodge, I. O. O. F. Mrs. Tietjen and her daughter belong to the Order of the Eastern Star, while the religious faith of the family is that of the Lutheran church. They are highly esteemed in the community in which they reside and where Mr. Tietjen has long been recognized as a representative, progressive and enterprising citizen.

JOSEPH W. WELLS.

Joseph W. Wells, who is carrying on general agricultural pursuits on section 34, Albion township, Howard county, is accounted one of the enterprising and progressive citizens of this section of the state and is now serving as a member of the board of county supervisors. He was born on the 17th of September, 1866, a son of Jonathan E. and Mary E. (Burgess) Wells, the former a native of Vermont, while the latter was born in England. The mother came to the United States in childhood with her parents and was married in Luana, Iowa, Mr. Wells having removed to this state from Vermont at the age of eighteen years. He therefore cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers who took up their abode in Clayton county in 1856. He was born in Fletcher, Vermont, March 20, 1838, and was in the eighty-first year of his age when on the 29th of January, 1919, he was called to his final rest. It was on the 25th of September, 1861, in Luana, Iowa, that he was married and in 1866 he removed with his little family to Howard county, settling on a farm six miles north of Cresco, whereon he resided until 1898, giving his attention to the further development and improvement of the property. In that year he retired from active business and removed to Cresco, where he spent the last twenty years of his life. He was a loyal member of the Masonic fraternity for more than forty years and was regarded as one of the sterling men of Howard county.

Joseph W. Wells received his education in the district schools and after his schooldays were over remained at home, assisting his father in the further development and improvement of the home farm until a year after his marriage. It was on the 12th of July, 1893, that he wedded Miss Lucinda Easler, of Fremont township, Winneshiek county, a daughter of David Easler, one of the pioneer settlers of the county, who came to the United States from Alsace-Lorraine in 1838 and took up his abode in Portage county, Ohio. In 1853 he arrived in Winneshiek county and therefore is numbered among the pioneer settlers of this section of the state. In 1860 he wedded the mother of Mrs. Wells and in that year took up his abode upon a farm, where he resided to the time of his death, which occurred on the 6th of May, 1908, when he had reached the age of seventy-six years.

In 1894 Mr. Wells located on a farm in Albion township which was deeded to him by his father. In 1912 he sold that property and in 1913 removed to his present farm, which also came into his possession through his father. This is a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, which was improved when it came into his possession. He has given his attention to its further development and progress and has made it one of the best improved farms in the township, equipped with most attractive modern buildings, while in the cultivation of the fields he utilizes the latest machinery and follows the most progressive methods. To Mr. and Mrs. Wells has been born a son, Leslie Edson, who is at home with his parents.

In his political views Mr. Wells has always been a republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He served for six years as a member of the board