

efforts and attention upon its further development and improvement, continuing to farm there for three years. He next went to Elma, where he bought an ice business, but only remained in that line for a short time, after which he purchased a farm in New Oregon township, Howard county, comprising two hundred and forty acres of rich land. This he owned and cultivated for three years, when he sold the property and became a resident of Cresco in 1904. After a brief period, however, he purchased a hotel in Edmunds county, South Dakota, and conducted it for three years, after which he returned to Cresco, where he established his present real estate and exchange business. He is thoroughly familiar with the property that is upon the market and is most accurate in placing valuations upon real estate. He has built up a good clientage in this connection and has conducted many important property transfers. In addition to his other interests he is known in banking circles as a director of the First National Bank and of the Citizens Savings Bank and he is recognized as a man of sound judgment and clear discernment.

On the 26th of October, 1898, Mr. Owens was united in marriage to Miss Annie Connery, a daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Forester) Connery. She was born in Howard county, but her grandparents were natives of Ireland and came to the United States in early life, the family home eventually being established in Howard county, where they became identified with farming interests. Mr. and Mrs. Owens have become the parents of the following children: Virginia, Paul, Helen, John, William, Rose, Viola, Charlotte, George, Ruth, Mildred and Arthur, all of whom survive with the exception of John, the fourth in order of birth, who died in 1911 at the age of seven years.

The family is well known in Cresco and the hospitality of the best homes of the city is freely accorded them. Mr. Owens, in the conduct of his business affairs, has displayed sterling qualities of perseverance, energy and straightforward dealing and his success is due entirely to his own efforts.

#### ELLING ELLINGSON.

Elling Ellingson, who follows farming in Howard county, making his home on section 11, Paris township, was born in Chickasaw county, Iowa, October 15, 1882. He is of Norwegian descent his parents, Andrew and Mary Ellingson, having been natives of the land of the midnight sun. The father came to the United States with his parents when a youth of fifteen years the family home being established in Wisconsin, where later he worked as a farm hand for some time. Subsequently the family removed to Chickasaw county, Iowa, and for a few years Andrew Ellingson engaged in the cultivation of rented land, living upon different farms in that county. He carefully saved his earnings, however, until his economy and industry had brought him a sufficient sum to enable him to purchase land and he made investment in a tract in Howard county, which he cleared and developed and upon which he made all of the improvements, his labors resulting in converting it into a valuable property.

Elling Ellingson worked upon the home farm with his father until he reached the age of twenty-seven years and then bought one hundred and twenty-seven acres in Howard county. He afterward traded this land to his father for his present farm of one hundred and sixty-three acres and he has since added some improvements thereto. He is now carefully and profitably cultivating his land, living on the farm with his brother and sister, Carl and Bessie Ellingson.

The family has long been widely and prominently known in this section of the state. The father was a school director for a number of years and the family have ever stood for progress and improvement in community affairs. In pioneer times the father lived in a log cabin and had to haul his produce all the way to McGregor. Since those early days a wonderful transformation has occurred as the work of development, has been carried forward by the Ellingsons and other progressive people of the neighborhood.