

parents, Lars and Carrie Larson, both natives of Norway, emigrated to America in an early day, locating in Winneshiek county, where the father engaged in farming throughout his entire business career.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Bergan has been blessed with seven children: Ole, now nineteen years of age; Lillian, who passed away March 2, 1908; Carl, who is a youth of fourteen; Ina, who has departed this life; Ina, the second of the name, who is ten years old; and Francis and Lloyd, aged respectively seven and five years.

Mr. Bergan gives his political support to the republican party and for seven years has filled the office of township trustee. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Creamery Company of Ridgeway and takes a deep interest in this branch of farm work. His religious faith is that of the Lutheran church. He is an honest and industrious man, who has spent his entire life on a farm, the greater part of which has been passed in Winneshiek county, so that he is not only familiar with its history but is interested in its welfare and development, and has himself done not a little to further the agricultural interests of this section of Iowa.

CHARLES HAAS.

As evidence of the life work of Charles Haas stands one of the largest, best appointed, best equipped meat markets of Winneshiek county, located on East Water street, Decorah. By attending strictly to business Mr. Haas has built up an enterprise which ranks second to none in the county and which brings him a gratifying annual income. Cleanliness and fair dealing are the watchwords of his establishment and are never lost sight of. He was born in Dubuque, this state, on December 5, 1857, a son of Jacob and Margaret (Rice) Haas, the former a native of Baden, Germany, and a blacksmith by trade and the latter born in Prussia. The parents were married in Maryland, where the father had located upon coming to the United States, in the city of Baltimore, when he was nineteen years of age. They subsequently moved westward to Iowa and in 1859 came to Decorah, where he followed the blacksmith's trade on a farm near the town. Upon the outbreak of the Civil war he answered his country's call for men and served in the Sixth Iowa Cavalry, being detailed on the western campaigns against the Indians. He had learned his trade in Maryland and before coming to Decorah in 1859 had spent a short time in Dubuque. On his farm near Decorah Mr. Haas lived until his death, respected and esteemed by all who knew him. He died in 1901, his wife passing to her reward eight years later, in 1909.

Charles Haas, in the acquirement of his education, attended district school, making the best opportunity of such advantages as were offered in those primitive times. He remained on the farm until nineteen years of age and then came to Decorah, where he engaged in the butcher business, from that time having so continued to the present day and having been located in the same store on East Water street ever since. He is associated in the business with his brother H. W. Haas. Mr. Haas has built up an extensive and profitable business by giving his sole attention to its affairs, a business which is up-to-date