

but her mother, three sisters and two brothers came to the United States. Mr. and Mrs. Hans P. Ruen have ten children: Louise, who died in 1910; Clara, the wife of John Ehrl of Waukon; Peter; Gustava; Mina; George and Victor, both of Glenwood township; Julia, the wife of Peter Wegeslund, of Decorah; Rudolph, of Glenwood township; and Theodore, who operates the home farm.

Peter H. Ruen, the third of this family, has resided in Glenwood township from his birth to the present time, was reared to the occupation of farming and has made it his life work. He began farming on his own account when twenty-three years of age, purchasing eighty acres, to which he has since added a similar tract until he now has one hundred and sixty acres, constituting the northwest quarter of section 25. He has a good residence and substantial outbuildings, together with well kept fences and the latest improved farm machinery. He took up his abode here in the spring of 1898 and has since engaged in general farming and stock-raising, both features of his business proving profitable.

In 1896 Mr. Ruen was united in marriage to Miss Mary Hagen, who was born in Allamakee county, Iowa, in August, 1863, a daughter of Hans and Sigrid Hagen, who were natives of Norway and spent their last days in Allamakee county, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Ruen have one child, Stella Irene. The parents hold membership in the Lutheran church, are actively interested in its work and contribute generously to its support. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, with which he has been identified since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. His life has been quietly passed, yet his sterling worth is recognized by all, for he has been found reliable and progressive in business and has never sought to take advantage of another in trade transactions.

EDWARD M. BARNES.

Edward M. Barnes, who devotes his attention to general agricultural pursuits with excellent results, is the owner of a well improved farm of one hundred and sixty-three acres on section 27, Fremont township. He is numbered among the worthy native sons of Winneshiek county, Iowa, his birth having occurred in that township on the nth of May, 1856. His parents are Richard and Mary (Middlebrook) Barnes, both natives of Connecticut. The father came to this county in 1854 and took up the homestead of one hundred and sixty acres which is now in possession of our subject. After clearing the property he began its improvement and carried on agricultural pursuits thereon until 1880, when he removed to Kendallville and embarked in business as a general merchant. In 1911 he abandoned mercantile pursuits and has since lived retired in Kendallville, being now eighty-seven years of age. The period of his residence in this county covers almost six decades and he has long enjoyed an enviable reputation as one of its prosperous, representative and esteemed citizens.

Edward M. Barnes was reared and educated here, attending the district schools and later continuing his studies in Breckenridge Institute of Decorah and also at Cresco in Howard county. In 1880, when his father turned from agricultural to mercantile pursuits, he rented the home farm and thus continued