

building operations. Sending to Wisconsin for carpenters, he soon had erected a new hotel, a general store, a livery barn and a millinery store. The hotel was called the Young American Hotel and was conducted by our subject, who invested in land there and soon the place began to grow and make advancement. He also operated the general store, while his wife took charge of the millinery store at the same time. At that time the controversy began as to the location of the county seat between the people of Decorah, headed by "Mother Day," and the people of Freeport, headed by Mr. Dahly. A great fight ensued to obtain the coveted prize, but "Mother Day" won the victory for Decorah and naturally Freeport began to decline. Largely for that reason Mr. Dahly soon sold out and, coming to Decorah, erected a store next door to where the Winneshiek Hotel now stands. Therein he opened a millinery stock. In 1865, at the close of the war, Mr. Dahly built the store which he conducted for the rest of his life and which continues in a flourishing condition today under the able management of his widow. The new establishment was ceremoniously opened and christened by a large entertainment and dance, given in honor of the soldier boys returning from the war, and in November, 1865, the place opened its doors for business. General merchandise was largely handled, including cloaks, dress goods, shoes, millinery, dry goods and other articles, Mr. Dahly being ably assisted by his wife, who, however, did not long benefit by the successful turn their fortunes had taken, as she was stricken with paralysis while on a business trip to Chicago in 1867. She had gone to that city in order to purchase millinery goods and there died on Christmas day of that year. Mr. Dahly continued to conduct his store with ever increasing success until his death on March 18, 1895, becoming one of the foremost merchants of the town. For thirty years he was connected with this enterprise and made a name for himself which stood foremost for fair dealing and honesty. Paying close attention to business and being wide-awake and progressive, he made a success of which evidence remains today in the profitable establishment which is still carried on by the widow. For the last three years of his life he was an invalid and although he could do no active work in the store, kept well informed upon all matters of management and kept in touch with the business until his death. By his first wife Mr. Dahly had one son, Frank W., who is now engaged in the hardware business at Northwood, South Dakota. As prosperity came to Mr. Dahly he invested in land, buying a valuable farm near Decorah, from which he received a steady and handsome income. The widow still owns this place, which is managed and operated by their son, Charles, who now resides there.

In 1877 Mr. Dahly was again married, his second union being with Miss Caroline Shuttleworth, a daughter of Henry and Caroline (Nutt) Shuttleworth, both natives of England. They went from London to Toronto, Canada, where Mrs. Dahly was born, and later removed to Cleveland, Ohio, in which city Mr. Shuttleworth owned and conducted a jewelry store, going from there to Elyria, that state. In that city he also owned a store which he subsequently traded for land at Cresco, Iowa. However, he was not satisfied with the prospects his place offered and he subsequently sold out and preempted prairie land, going back to Ohio to bring his family to Iowa. Mrs. Shuttleworth suddenly died ten years later and her husband sold the farm and moved to Cresco, where he engaged in the livery business. He died at the home of his daughter, the wife