

but eventually put aside the active work of the fields and came to Decorah, living retired at the home of N. H. Adams until called to his final rest on the 21st of October, 1892. The mother passed away on the 18th of June, 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Adams have three children, namely: Burton H., who is associated with his brother, Walter C, in the conduct of the Adams Seed Company; and Grace D., who is the wife of S. R. Ringeon and resides at Ridgeway, Iowa. The family residence is at No. 400 Broadway.

Mr. Adams has joined the progressive wing of the republican party and is an enthusiastic "bull mooser." He served as a member of the city council for eleven years and was also elected county treasurer but resigned the latter position on account of the heavy demands of his business. Fraternally he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Masons, while his religious faith is that of the Congregational church. The period of his residence in Decorah covers almost a half century and he has won and maintained an enviable reputation in both business and social circles.

#### JOSEPH WEITGENANT.

One of the most prosperous and progressive farmers of Winneshiek county is Joseph Weitgenant, who owns and operates one hundred and eighty acres near Ossian. He was born in Benton, Elkhart county, Indiana, January 29, 1845, and is a son of George V. and Christiana Barbara (Gossel) Weitgenant, the former a native of Baden and the latter of Wurtemberg, Germany. The parents came to America in 1835 and after a short period spent in Columbus, Ohio, went to Indiana and from that state came to Winneshiek county in June, 1856. The father engaged in general farming and followed that occupation in this locality until his death, which occurred in August, 1862. His wife survived him many years, passing away on the 20th of September, 1892. To them were born nine children, the eldest of whom, a daughter, died in infancy. The second in the order of birth is the subject of this review. George has passed away. David makes his home in Ossian. Anna became the wife of Eber De Cow, of Ossian. The sixth was a daughter, who has passed away. Ellen became the wife of F. E. Briggs, of Rockford, Iowa. John died on the 2d of June, 1884. Melvina married Berkley Doan, of Ossian.

Joseph Weitgenant was eleven years of age when his parents came to Winneshiek county and he has made his home in this part of Iowa since that time. Being the eldest son, he was obliged after his father's death to take charge of the homestead at the age of seventeen years and he remained upon it until he was twenty-two years of age, after which he operated a threshing machine for twenty-five years. At twenty-three he turned his attention to farming on rented land and on the 24th of May, 1872, purchased sixty acres, which he improved and developed until 1902. He still gives his entire attention to agricultural pursuits and owns today one hundred and eighty acres near Ossian, which he has developed along practical and modern lines, making it one of the finest farming properties in this part of the county. He owns in addition valuable town property in Ossian, in