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SAMUEL A. ALLEN, an influential farmer of Union Township, Poweshick County, is one of the oldest living settlers and pioneers of this region. He has resided over forty years in this State, and since 1864 has been a resident of Union Township. He purchased at that time one hundred and six acres of good land in section 20, where he has since made his home. He has greatly improved and developed the land, and upon it has substantial and commodious buildings, and he now owns five hundred and eighty-six acres.

Samuel Allen was the sixth in order of birth in a family of thirteen children born to Isam and Martha (Montgomery) Allen, the former born in North Carolina in May, 1796, and the latter in Virginia in January, 1798. Our subject's birth occurred in Morgan County, Ky., in 1827, and when a child his parents removed to Parke County, Ind., where he grew to manhood. In the War of 1812 his father enlisted in the American cause, serving for six months. His father in turn, whose name was Isaac, was an agriculturist, as the family had been for many generations past. His ancestors emigrated from England, and he as well as our subject's maternal grandfather, John Montgomery, served in the Revolutionary War. The family of thirteen children, of whom our subject is one, all grew to mature years, and two of his brothers, Isam and William, enlisted in the Fortieth Iowa Infantry in 1862, and one of them served until the close of the war.

In Indiana, November 18, 1847, a wedding ceremony united the fortunes of Samuel A. Allen and Sarah J., a daughter of Zachariah and Mary (Taylor) Barnes, who had removed to Indiana at an early day from Kentucky. On beginning their

worked at the miller's trade, carrying on this business until 1845, when he removed to Johnson County, Iowa, and located in Genoa Bluff, where he engaged with his brother Jacob in a general store, remaining for about three years. Then he located at Puketown, Fremont Township, Johnson County, where he conducted a general store for the next three years, selling out to engage in farming at Lone Tree, where he remained for two years. Following this our subject removed to Iowa City, in order to educate his children. In 1865 the family removal was made to this place.

The family of Mr. Watson consisted of nine children, five daughters and four sons, their names being: Elizabeth, Sarah, George, Jennie, Artie, Porter (deceased), John W., Frank and Adella. Mr. Watson has a farm of one hundred and ninety-five acres of land, which has been under cultivation ever since he resided here. In his political belief, he is a Republican, and has filled the offices of Justice of the Peace, Trustee and Director of the schools very acceptably for a long time. With his family he claims membership with the Christian Church, and in the neighborhood his name is one universally esteemed.