DOWNING, Wm. H., b. Wind ham Co., Conn. 1830, 3on of Abner and Drusilla (Nye) Downing. He m. Margaret Carrico 1869. Chil. Harriet, Minnie, Geo., Clara, now Mrs. John J. Berry, Laura. now Mrs. Joe McBreen, Alfred, Florence and Charles. He died in Jan. 1897. Ob. and JP1 p 579



FILLIAM II. DOWNING, a highly respected citizen, successful general agriculturist and stock-raiser of Grinnell Township, Poweshiek County, Iowa, has for almost a quarter of a century been a resident of his present homestead of one hundred and thirty acres, and, a practical farmer and excellent business man, has long been identified with the progressive advancement of his locality. Mr. Downing was born in Brooklyn, Windham County, Conn., in 1830, and was the sixth in a family of eight children born to Abner and Drusilla (Nye) Downing, both of whom were natives of Connecticut, and worthy descendants of good New England stock, although the Downings were originally from Wales and preserve many of the sterling traits and sturdy independence of their Welsh ancestry. Our subject grew up to manhood in his birthplace, but finally determining to try his fortune in the broader fields of the West, removed to Illinois in 1854, residing in Bureau and Henry Counties until 1869. In the meantime, Mr. Downing had been united in marriage with Miss Margaret Carrico, and with her made his home in Poweshiek County in the lastnamed year, 1869.

Our subject and his worthy wife reared eight children, five daughters and three sons. The eldest, Harriet, is now deceased; Minnie was the

second in order of birth; George was the first son; Clara is the wife of John J. Berry, of Jasper County, Iowa; Laura married Joe McBrien, of Omaha; Alfred is a resident of Chicago; Florence and Charles are at home. Although never desirous of publicity, and a quiet and reserved man. our subject is well known and honored for his sincere honesty and invincible integrity of purpose. Politically, he is a straight Republican, and a firm supporter of the party. A kind neighbor and sincere friend, his life has been unclouded by any word or act of dishonor, and to his children he will leave the remembrance of a career rich in usefulness and fraught with the earnest consideration which Mr. Downing as a true American citizen gives to each vital duty of the hour.

