

April 22, 1876, and is a son of Gavin and Margaret (Brownlee) Lang, both natives of the same community. Our subject's grandfather, John Lang, was a member of an old Scotch family, and was one who commanded the esteem of everybody. Our subject is one of two sons and received a common-school education. His mother died when he was only eight years of age, and his father departed this life four years later, since which time he has been obliged to make his own way in the world. In 1845 his brother John crossed the briny deep, settling in Pennsylvania. In the spring of 1849 Gavin Lang also determined to try his fortune in the United States and joined his brother. He landed in Pennsylvania with only \$10, and commenced working at the carpenter's trade in Venango County. In the spring of 1850, with his brother, he came to Iowa, settling in Scott County, where he purchased a farm and devoted himself to its improvement and development for twenty years. In 1870 he became a resident of this county, living near Brooklyn.

In March, 1856, Miss Jane Thompson, a native of Liverpool, England, became the wife of our subject. She is the daughter of Hugh M. and Jane (Robertson) Thompson. The father came to the United States in 1815, bearing on eighty acres of land which he entered in Scott County, and there engaged in farming, success crowning his efforts. For three years he was Superintendent of the American Agricultural College farm. He died in Scott County in 1887, aged seventy-six years, and his wife, who is yet living, has now attained the good old age of seventy-eight years. Mrs. Lang is one of nine children who grew to maturity, the others being Mark L., John R., Elizabeth, Agnes (Mrs. Herman Fiecke), Isaac A., Hughena B., Hugh M. and James R. Two of the brothers served in the army, and Mark L. was wounded at the battle of Ft. Donelson. Being sent home on a furlough, he raised a company, of which he was made captain, serving until the close of the war. Mrs. Lang's father was a member of the Legislature, and both he and his wife were devoted members of the Presbyterian Church. To Mr. and Mrs. Lang seven children were born. Genie is the wife of Thomas A. Graham;

Margaret became the wife of L. J. Pinkston; Hugh is the next in order of birth; Mary is now Mrs. N. M. Wilson; John A. Jr. and Elizabeth complete the family. John A. Sr. died when two years of age. Mr. Lang is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church, and is active in all good works. He is well worthy of the honor and respect in which he is held, for he has made the best of what opportunities he had, and has steadily pushed to the front in spite of all discouragements. He is possessed of just those qualities essential to success, and is an example of the self-made man, to whom parents may point their children as well worthy of emulation. The first land purchased by Mr. Lang in Scott County, Iowa, he obtained for \$8 an acre, and since coming to this county he has often paid from \$20 to \$30 an acre.

GAVIN LANG, a prominent and respected farmer of Deer Creek Township, Poweshiek County, has been extensively engaged in agriculture since 1870. In December, 1892, he removed to the village of Brooklyn, and has there erected a residence which he intends to make his home during his remaining years. He accumulated five hundred and twenty acres, including with only one hundred and sixty. He has increased it greatly in value and has given a portion of his property to his sons, though still retaining three hundred and sixty acres. His efforts have been blessed with an abundant success, as he started out with little capital besides willing hands and a strong determination to succeed.

Mr. Lang was born in Lanarkshire, Scotland.

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