

**ANSON, HENRY**, far.; born in Canandaigua, Ontario Co., N. Y.; when 5 years of age, moved to Ohio; he started April 7, 1851, with his team, for Iowa; leaving his family in Illinois, he came here and and built a shanty; then went after his family, and arrived here in July, 1851, and pre-empted a quarter of a section of land, on which the town now stands, from Main street south; with his team, he drove through the tall prairie grass to make a track for a road where Main street is located, and he cut grass and made hay here; he was the first settler in this town, and is the oldest settler living here; he engaged in locating land for settlers, and doing a land agency business; in 1852, he built the first steam mill in the county, and sawed all the lumber for buildings and fences, and he built the first cabin here with windows in. He was elected Justice of the Peace in 1852, and served four years, and did a large conveyancing and surveying business; was appointed County Surveyor. Owns a farm adjoining the city limits. Married Miss Jennette Rice, from the State of New York in July 1846, she died in January, 1859; they have three children living—Sturges R., Adrian C.; lost one son—Melville F.; his son, Adrian C., was the first child born in Marshalltown.