

Grove township, where he now owns a fine farm of two hundred acres, on which he has made all the improvements. His family consists of eight children, named as follow: Emma, the first (deceased); Lewis, Jennie, Emma (second), wife of Mr. Gol; Adolph, who lives on the home farm and assists his father in operating the place, and Annie, Minnie and Tilda. A separate sketch of the Westberg family will be found on another page of this work.

To Mr. and Mrs. Gol one child has been born, a son, Helmer Roy Gol. Mr. Gol is a Republican and has always been interested in the affairs of his home community. He was a member of the village council at Manitoba Junction, Clay county, where he lived a while many years ago. He and his family belong to the Norwegian Lutheran church.

AUGUST STIENING.

The name of August Stiening, banker of Felton, is too well known to the people of Clay county to need any formal introduction by the biographer. He was born in Germany, July 17, 1868, and is a son of Carl and Anna Maria (Knollmann) Stiening, both natives of Germany, where they grew up and married. The father was a wagon-maker by trade and he became a well-known manufacturer of wagons in Guernheim, Germany, but later in life he devoted his attention to the lumber and merchandise business. His family consisted of five children, namely: Heinrich, who lives in Germany, a painter and decorator by trade; Carl, who died at Waterloo, Illinois; Wilhelm, who makes his home at Waterloo, Illinois; Herman, who resided in Waterloo, Illinois, and is now deceased, and August, who is the youngest of the family.

August Stiening grew to manhood in Germany, and where he attended the public schools and worked with his father when a young man. When he was about twenty years old his father was appointed postmaster at Guernheim, in 1888, but it was the understanding of the government that the son, August, was to run the office, which he did for a period of eight years, performing his duties in an able, faithful and acceptable manner. He had five carriers and two sub-stations under his direction. His health failing, he was advised, in 1896, to take an ocean trip in the hopes of restoring it. On September 3 of that year he sailed from his native land

for the New World. He came on West to Waterloo, Illinois, to visit his brothers and was so favorably impressed with the United States that he decided to remain here, so he sent back to Germany for his wife and two children. The first year he worked with his brother, Wilhelm, at Waterloo, painting and paper-hanging. In the fall of 1896 he purchased a farm of two hundred acres about six miles south of Waterloo, erected a large brick house thereon and made other important improvements; living there three years. There were good buildings on the place when he bought it, but his renter occupied them. In the summer of 1900 he was overcome by the heat while working in a cornfield. Believing that the climate of the Northwest would be better for him, he made an extensive trip, finally selecting the vicinity of Anamoose, North Dakota, and homesteaded one hundred and twenty acres six miles northwest of that town. He soon had a good farm improved there and, prospering through close application and good management, he now owns a half section. In 1904 he started buying grain for the Osborn McMillan Elevator Company at Martin, North Dakota, working for that firm about a year. He then worked for the A. D. Zien Company, wholesale liquor dealers of Duluth, Minnesota, as a traveling salesman, but in a short time he accepted a similar position with the Jung Brewing Company, of Milwaukee, being stationed at the company's branch house at East Grand Forks, this state, at good wages and all expenses paid, and was manager of the house there for eighteen months. In August, 1910, he came to Clay county, as cashier of the First State Bank of Felton, and has held this position ever since, giving his usual satisfaction, being able, loyal and courteous to the patrons of the bank. He has also been treasurer of the Felton Rural Telephone Company. He and Otto Dahl built the first brick building in Felton—a bank building and store house.

On September 5, 1893, Mr. Steining was married to Johanna Meyer, and four children have been born to them, namely: Maria Elizabeth, Carl H., Marie and Jenny. Mr. Steining is independent in his political views. He has been active and influential in the affairs of Felton since coming here, was for some time president of the village, has done much for the upbuilding of the town and community, served for five years on the local school board and has also served as justice of the peace. He put in the first cement sidewalks in Felton and otherwise improved the place in a general way. He has been a leader among the people of this locality, is a man of progressive ideas and has discharged his duties as a public servant in a capable and faithful manner.