

Samuel D. French

Samuel D. French, born in Herkimer County, N.Y., May 30, 1842, is a son of Luther L. French, a native of Connecticut. He received his education in the common schools and at Whitestown Seminary, in Whitesboro, Oneida County, N.Y. He enlisted in the late war in Company F, One Hundred and Twenty-first New York Volunteer Infantry. Was transferred by the War Department to the United States Signal Corp, attached to the Potomac Army, and was employed in both the Telegraph and Flag departments of the corps. Was discharged in June, 1865. He came to Iowa in 1867, and in April, 1869, was married to Elvina Kinney, a daughter of Hon. Joseph Kinney, a native of Vermont, and one of the early settlers of the Territory of Wisconsin, and a Representative in the Legislature of that State two terms. Immediately after marriage Mr. French settled on his farm in Riverton, which he now occupies. On his farm is a rich bed of peat, covering several acres, and averaging six feet in depth. When dry it can be used for fuel without the use of wood. He also has a never-failing spring of pure water near his house, and in 1878, by utilizing the water there from; began the manufacture of creamery butter, and established what is known as Crystal Spring Creamery, which has since been in operation.