

COMPENDIUM  
.. OF ..  
HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY  
OF  
NORTHERN MINNESOTA

CONTAINING A  
HISTORY OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

Embracing an account of Early Explorations, Early Settlement, Indian  
Occupancy, Indian History and Traditions, Territorial and State  
Organization; a review of the Political History; and  
a concise History of the Growth and  
Development of the State.

ALSO A  
COMPENDIUM OF BIOGRAPHY OF NORTHERN MINNESOTA.

Containing Biographical Sketches of Hundreds of Prominent Old Settlers and Representative Citizens of  
NORTHERN MINNESOTA.

with a review of their life work; their identity with the growth and development of the Region;  
Reminiscences of Personal History and Pioneer Life and other Interesting and  
Valuable Matter which should be preserved in History.

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# BIOGRAPHICAL

## HON. HALVOR STEENERSON.

This gentleman is one of the best known and highly esteemed members of the legal profession of Minnesota, while his reputation as a jurist and able advocate extends throughout all the northwestern states. He is a man of strong physique and tall in stature, standing six feet three inches in height in his stocking feet, and has been by his friends and admirers called the "tall pine of the Red River Valley." Mr. Steenerson is the fourth of seven children and was born on a farm in the town of Pleason Springs, Dane county, Wisconsin, June 30, 1852. He is a son of Stener and Birgith (Roholt) Meaas, who emigrated from Thelemorken, Norway, in 1851, and settled in Dane county, Wisconsin. But, subsequently, in 1853 removed to Houston county in the then territory of Minnesota, where they were among the earliest pioneers. The subject of this sketch entered the common schools and afterward a graded and high school in his neighborhood, and after spending a few years teaching school he entered a law office in 1875 to prepare himself for his future career as a lawyer. In 1877 he went to Chicago, where he attended the Union College of Law and was admitted to practice in the supreme court of Illinois in June, 1878. In the following September Mr. Steenerson opened a law office on his own account at Lonesboro, Fillmore county, Minnesota, and at once acquired a good practice. In the spring of 1880 he removed to Crookston and was the same year elected county attorney, in which capacity he served until 1883, in the meantime having been elected state senator, in which latter capacity he served in the sessions of 1883 and 1885. While in the senate Mr. Steenerson took a leading part in forming the railroad and warehouse laws of the state.

It was at the session of 1885 that the Railroad and Warehouse Commission was first created and the act creating the commission has been the basis of all subsequent legislation. Mr. Steenerson has always been a strong advocate of state regulation and control of railway and other quasi public corporations, and on this account he was induced in 1895 to conduct proceedings on behalf of the farmers and grain shippers to compel the Great Northern Railway Company to reduce its freight rates on grain. The case was instituted in the name of Elias Steenerson, an extensive farmer of Polk county, who asked for a one-third reduction on grain from the Red river valley points to Duluth and Minneapolis. The case was most stubbornly contested before the Railroad and Warehouse Commission and twice carried to the supreme court, but the reduction ordered by the commission of about 15 per cent. was finally sustained and acquiesced in by the railroad company. This litigation, popularly known as the "Steenerson grain rate case," established the right of state control over railway charges in this state and was of great importance to the people of Minnesota.

Mr. Steenerson has established a very lucrative practice and is in continuous demand, yet he has found time to take considerable interest in public affairs and has held various other local offices, such as member of the board of education and city attorney, and has often represented the county in Republican state and district conventions and twice represented the state in Republican national conventions.

Mr. Steenerson was married in 1878 to Mary Christopherson, and has had four children, only two of whom are now living, Clara, a daughter, and Benjamin G., a son, now twenty and seventeen years old, respectively.

Mr. Steenerson has a fine home on Houston

avenue, and is also one of the extensive real estate holders of Crookston. A fine portrait adorns one of the pages of this volume, to which the reader is referred.

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PIERRE BOTTINEAU (DECEASED).

July 26, 1895, there passed away from this life, near the town of Red Lake Falls, Minnesota, a man who in a peculiarly personal way linked the earlier part of the past century with the present, Pierre Bottineau, the last of the famous scouts, trappers and voyagers, whose lives were so intimately related to the progress, as well as the conquest of the west.

Mr. Bottineau died at the age of seventy-eight years, having been born January 1, 1817, near Pembina, in the Red river region, now a part of North Dakota. His ancestors were of the Huguenots, and his grandfather came to America to enjoy his religious belief and made his home in Boston. Joseph Bottineau, father of Pierre, went into the wilderness of the great Northwest in the early part of the century, and he there married a woman of the Chippewa race, known by the Indian name of "The Clear Sky woman." From his hardy and nomadic father and from his Indian mother our subject inherited the characteristics which made him one of the most noted scouts and voyagers of the past century. He was a man of noble proportions and physique, being over six feet in height and weighing two hundred and ten pounds. He was straight as the pathways he marked through the wilderness, and had expressive black eyes, which were keen, but commonly held a kindly sense of humor and good fellowship, but in anger were cold, stern and penetrating. He commanded love, admiration and respect. His word was a bond never broken, and no task undertaken was ever left unfinished. The earlier years of his life he spent amid the influences of the forest and trail. In 1830 he was carrying messages for the Hudson Bay Fur Company on the overland route to the north of Lake Superior. He was interested in scouting and pathfinding work for the ill-fated Selkirk settlement of Manitoba. For years he was in the employ of General H. H. Sibley, as scout and messenger, when the latter was agent for the American Fur Company. In later years he was chief guide for the expedition into the Yellowstone Park region in the interest of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company. He became, about the middle of the century, somewhat more interested in civil life and was one of the founders of St. Anthony, in 1853. When the Indian outbreak of 1863 occurred in Minnesota he proved of great value to the government and state in aiding in the suppression

of the Sioux. He was as familiar with the leading Indian languages of the region as he was with the paths of the forest. The vast north-west lay like a map in his brain, and every trail he knew. The homestead which Mr. Bottineau took in St. Paul in 1840 is in the heart of the city, as it now stands. He located on Red Lake river in 1876 and there engaged in farming until his death.

It is doubtful if there is a human being who has passed through as many thrilling scenes and events of pioneer life in the past century as did Pierre Bottineau, the last of the voyagers.

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HON. SOLOMON G. COMSTOCK.

This gentleman is regarded by all familiar with the leading men of the Red river valley, as one of the most prominent citizens of that section of the state. He was born in Penobscot county, Maine, May 9, 1842, and remained on the home farm until he was of age. He was given an academic education, and was well prepared for the struggle of life, in which he has played so good a part. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1869, for some time being identified with the legal profession at Omaha, Nebraska, coming into the Red river valley in the fall of 1871 and locating at Moorhead, and devoting himself to the law for a number of years.

Mr. Comstock turned away from the law in 1884 to devote himself to the real estate business, and soon built up an extensive business in that line, his time being so exclusively demanded in this direction that he has given up the active work of his profession.

Mr. Comstock has been elected to various positions of trust and responsibility, and has served as county attorney, and in 1875 served his first term as a member of the state legislature. This was the beginning of a long and honorable career as a legislator, and it is in this capacity that Mr. Comstock is best known. He was a useful member of the fifty-first congress and is well known throughout the state, and every where spoken of as an honorable and enlightened citizen.

Mr. Comstock was married in 1874 to Miss Sarah Ball, and to this union have come three children: Ada L., Jessie M. and George M.

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C. D. WRIGHT.

C. D. Wright, banker and business man of Fergus Falls, has been one of the influential contributors to the prosperity, growth and development of Fergus Falls and Ottertail coun-

ty. Mr. Wright is president of the First National Bank of Fergus Falls, with which he has been connected since 1878.

Mr. Wright was born in Vermont, in the village of Orwell, in 1850. His father was Ethan M. Wright, a merchant and descended from English stock. The Wright family came from England about the year 1655, and many members took part in the war for independence.

C. D. Wright is the second in a family of three children and at the age of twelve years went away to attend school, thereafter spending but little time at his home. His primary education he received at three different schools in the New England states and finished with a course at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute at Troy, New York. When he was eighteen years he came west, and until 1878 followed civil engineering in St. Paul and Minneapolis. In the latter year he went to Fergus Falls and was elected vice-president of the First National Bank. This bank had been established in 1872, with Henry G. Page as president, and James Compton as cashier. This was the first bank established in the city and the only one for several years. It does an extensive business throughout Ottertail and adjoining counties. Mr. Wright served as vice-president a number of years and was then elected president, which position he has held continuously since.

In 1878 our subject was married to Miss Lucy S. Barney, a native of Malden, Massachusetts, and a descendant of one of the early families of New England. To Mr. and Mrs. Wright two children have been born, namely: George B., now seventeen years of age, and Mary G., fifteen years of age. Mr. Wright has taken an active part in public affairs of his county and served two terms as mayor of Fergus Falls, and has been a member of the city council during most of the period of his residence in the city. He is a Republican in political faith. He was among the early settlers of Fergus Falls and is intimately acquainted with all the business and financial interests of the county.

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#### HON. O. H. MYRAN.

Hon. O. H. Myran, state senator for the sixty-first district of Minnesota, resides in Ada, Norman county, Minnesota, and is one of the representative business men of that thriving town. He is a gentleman of intelligence and active public spirit and is probably one of the best known and most highly esteemed citizens of his community. He is engaged in the hardware and agricultural implement business in Ada, and has met with pronounced success in his business career.

Hon. Myran was born in Norway, in 1853, and received his early education in his native land. He came with the family to the United States in 1869 and completed his schooling in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where the family located. His business life was begun by clerking. He went to Lincoln county in 1877 and took land as a homestead there, where he remained until 1881. He then removed to Norman county, and located at Ada, where for some three years he was engaged in the hotel business. Since that time he has followed his present business as hardware merchant and dealer in agricultural implements. He makes a specialty of engines and threshers, and has an extensive trade in Norman and adjacent counties. He is also owner of a half interest in the hardware business at Twin Valley, Minnesota, and is a man of careful business methods and honest dealings. He has met with unbounded success and well merits his success.

Hon. Myran has always been a staunch adherent to the principles of the Republican party, and since 1882 has taken an active part in the public affairs of this part of Minnesota. He was nominated against his will for state senator for the sixty-first district of Minnesota, which includes the counties of Norman, Red Lake and Beltrami, in 1898. He entered the contest with some fourteen hundred majority against him in the district and was elected by a majority of one thousand and thirty-seven, thereby defeating Harry Ives, of Red Lake county. During the last session of the legislature he was chairman of the drainage committee and a member of the finance committee. He did very efficient work while in the general assembly, and introduced the senate bill which became a law, providing for the "appropriation of fifty thousand dollars for drainage purposes." He is actively interested in all enterprises which tend to the development of the financial interests of his community and is one of the most highly respected citizens of that section of Minnesota.

Hon. Myran was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Weitzel, in 1890. He has a pleasant home in Ada, and is one of the deservedly successful and popular men of his city.

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#### HON. FRED VON BAUMBACH.

Hon. Fred Von Baumbach, ex-secretary of state of Minnesota, a native of Hessen-Cassel, Germany, was born August 30, 1838. His parents were Lewis and Minnie (Schenck) Von Baumbach, and were natives of the same place. The father was a very prominent man in Germany, being a member of the German parliament in 1848, and in the revolution of 1848 was so



prominent that he was forced to abandon his home for the time being. He was one of the wealthy, prominent men of Germany. In 1849 he came to America, settling in Ohio, where he remained five years. Here he turned his attention to farming. In 1854 he came to Milwaukee, where he held the office of German consul until 1882. He died in Milwaukee in 1884; the mother died in 1870. This family numbers six children: Ernest, now a capitalist of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Moritz, a member of the Merchants' Exchange Bank, of the same city; William, also a capitalist; Charles, a wholesale druggist of Milwaukee; Fred, and Klotilde, now Mrs. Von Kaltenborn, of Milwaukee.

The subject of this sketch spent his younger days in school, while his parents resided in Ohio. When the family removed to Milwaukee he was employed for a time as a clerk in a retail house. He then was appointed deputy city treasurer, which office he held for three years. At the end of this period he took a trip to Texas. This was in 1860, and he returned in 1861. On the breaking out of the Rebellion he served in the Fifth Wisconsin Regiment, Company C, as a private. He rose to the rank of second lieutenant in 1862, and later in the same year received a commission as first lieutenant, which office he held until 1863, when he was commissioned captain of Company K, of the Thirty-fifth Wisconsin Regiment. He received a major's commission in September, 1865, and in March, 1866, was mustered out under that title. Mr. Von Baumbach saw much severe service during the Rebellion. He was in the following engagements: Battle of Yorktown, Williamsburg, seven days' battle at Richmond, second battle of Bull Run, Antietam, the battle of Fredericksburg, the siege of Mobile, and in many smaller battles and skirmishes. After being mustered out of service, he returned to Wisconsin and settled in Fond du Lac, where he engaged in the drug business. In 1867 he was burned out, and at this time he moved to Douglas county, Minnesota. He first settled near Brandon, where he took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres. Soon after he purchased one hundred and sixty acres more adjoining his homestead, all of which land he improved, living thereon until March, 1873, when he was elected county auditor. In 1879 he qualified as secretary of state of the state of Minnesota, which office he held for seven years. Then, on account of the sickness of the county auditor of Douglas county, after he returned to Douglas county, he took charge of that office. In the fall of 1888 he was elected county auditor of that county. Mr. Von Baumbach entered the state of matrimony in 1863, in which year he was married to Miss Sarah Decker of Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, daughter of Talman Decker.

#### ASAPH G. SEXTON.

Asaph G. Sexton, of whom a portrait is shown on another page of this volume, is the efficient judge of probate of Douglas county, Minnesota. He has served in this capacity for nearly twelve years, being elected for his sixth term in the fall of 1900. He has been a resident of Douglas county more than twenty years, and has made many friends during his official career by his pleasant manner and sterling qualities.

Judge Sexton was born on his father's farm in Lee township, Oneida county, New York, March 16, 1840. His parents, George M. and Emeline (Castle) Sexton, were both natives of New York state. Their ancestors on both sides were residents of Connecticut. The father died in 1860, at the age of fifty-nine years, and the mother died at the age of seventy-nine years. The father's farm consisted of 200 acres, upon which our subject lived until he was sixteen years of age, attending the public schools of his neighborhood. He attended strictly to his studies, being in delicate health and not able to render much help in the farm work, and he qualified himself for teaching and became a proficient instructor. He was afflicted with a disease of one of the bones of his leg, which later in life caused him the loss of that member. He followed his profession a number of years in New York state and two terms in Minnesota, to which state he removed in 1861, with his uncle, John J. Castle, who purchased a farm near Faribault, and with whom he lived two years. He secured employment on the Faribault Republican, and was thus engaged one year, and later spent one year as clerk in a general store in Fairbault. He then taught school a short period, and later returned to his boyhood home and followed clerking in a general store at Redfield, Oswego county. While there he served as constable and tax collector for three years, and also on the board of supervisors for a like period, and he engaged in business for himself as a general merchant in Redfield, meanwhile serving as postmaster, receiving his appointment from President Grant. He suffered a severe loss by the burning of his store and contents, which were but lightly insured, and he was compelled to begin his business career anew. With confidence in the west for retrieving his lost fortune, he went to Michigan in 1877 and located at Plainwell and canvassed for the enlarging of portraits, which occupation he followed until he came to Alexandria, Douglas county, in 1879. He then became agent for the Minnesota Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Minneapolis, and was actively engaged thus five years over northern Minnesota, but his energetic efforts tended to injure his health, and the limb from which he suffered in boyhood was greatly

weakened and he was compelled to undergo amputation of the member. For several years afterward he was engaged in the hotel business in Alexandria and conducted respectively the City Hotel, Central House and the Arlington. During this time he served as village recorder, and in 1860 was elected to the office of probate judge, which position he has filled to the present time to the satisfaction of all.

Judge Sexton was married January 29, 1865, at Cannon City, Minnesota, to Millie O. Alden, daughter of Enoch H. and Millie (Seymour) Alden. Her father is a direct descendant of John Alden, of historic fame, and Priscilla, his wife. Seven children have blessed the home of Judge and Mrs. Sexton, who are as follows: Jessie E., wife of James Robinson, chief of police of Alexandria; Winona M., her father's clerk; Ina B., wife of J. D. Wilson, hotel proprietor at Coopers-town Junction, New York; George M., residing with his parents; William A., residing at home; Alden E., a cigar manufacturer at Cooperstown Junction, New York; and Alra M., residing with her parents. Fraternally Judge Sexton is a member of the I. O. O. F., the Rebekah Lodge, and Douglas Encampment, and Mrs. Sexton is a member of the Rebekah Lodge. The family attend the Methodist church. Our subject politically is a Republican, and is a staunch advocate of party principles.

#### JUDGE PETER H. HOLM.

In a county as well settled as Marshall county, Minnesota, it would be difficult to name the most prominent citizen or public official, but a high station is willingly accorded the gentleman whose name heads this personal review. He has resided there for many years and has always been found standing on the side of right and justice and adhering to his friends and increasing his popularity. He is now serving as judge of probate and by his excellent judgment and sense of right administers to all justice and equity.

Our subject was born in Sweden, August 27, 1862, and was the oldest of a family of seven children. His parents, Hans and Kari (Person) Holm, are now residents of Minnesota. When our subject was twelve years of age he began a three-years' apprenticeship to the goldsmith and jeweler's trade. He came to America in 1883 and a home was soon afterward made in Nelson Park township, Marshall county, Minnesota. The same year he established a jeweler's shop in Warren, and in 1888 he was elected county treasurer of Marshall county and served in that capacity for four years. He established a restaurant in 1893 and in 1895 opened a jewel-

ry and repair store. He is thoroughly acquainted with this business, having learned the same well while an apprentice, and he prospered in his work and continued thus engaged until 1896, when he was elected to the office of judge of probate. He is now filling this position faithfully and well and his name is familiar to all among whom he labors and he is universally esteemed as a man and officer.

Judge Holm was married in 1888 to Miss Mary Retzen. One son has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Holm, who bears the name of Carl O. Judge Holm is a Republican politically, and is firm in his convictions and lends his influence for the principles of his party. He is a man of good education and is intelligent and keeps pace with the times. He has refined tastes and is in possession of a fine collection of curios. His home is pleasant and in good taste and all the appointments bespeak the refinement of its occupants.

#### J. K. CUMMINGS.

J. K. Cummings, one of the most prominent business men of Becker county, Minnesota, is a gentleman of excellent executive ability, and successfully conducts the intricate affairs of the First National Bank, located in Detroit. He has devoted his career to the management of extensive business interests and he has accumulated a fortune for himself and won an enviable reputation as a citizen. He was born in Niagara county, New York, in 1860.

The father of our subject, J. C. Cummings, was a farmer most of his life. The family were originally from Ireland. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Mary Keeler, came from an old northern New York state family.

J. K. Cummings was reared on the home farm and received a good education, attending a business college after completing the common schools. At the age of twenty years he left the parental roof and entered into the jobbing business in Illinois. He was thus engaged there at Chicago, and in St. Paul and Duluth, Minnesota, eighteen years. He went to Detroit, Becker county, Minnesota, in June, 1899, to assume the responsible position of president of the First National Bank. This institution was organized in 1885 with E. G. Holmes, president, and O. D. Brown, cashier, and these gentlemen were succeeded by H. H. Kenkel, president, and W. J. Bettingen, cashier, in 1894. This is now the only national bank of the county, and was the first bank established in the county. It was organized in 1880, under the name of the Bank of Detroit, and was under the same management as when re-organized into a national bank.

Mr. Cummings has successfully conducted



the affairs of the institution of which he is the head, and he is a satisfactory and popular official.

Mr. Cummings was married in St. Paul, Minnesota, to Miss Margaret Bettingen, who is of German descent. One son and one daughter have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cummings, who are named Rosalie and Martin. Mr. Cummings is a gentleman of progressive nature and he keeps abreast of national issues, and is a Republican in political sentiment.

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#### EBEN F. GILLISPIE.

Eben F. Gillispie, a young business man of Cambridge, Isanti county, has already won more than a local reputation for his character and ability, and is widely known as a pushing and energetic character, well worthy of confidence and respect.

Mr. Gillispie was born in Anoka, Minnesota, May 21, 1868, and was reared on a farm after the fashion that obtained in Minnesota at that early day. His parents were of Scotch descent, coming to this country from the North of Ireland, and exhibiting the best traits of their sturdy race and blood. George C. Gillispie, the father of Eben F., was a farmer, and came to this country shortly after his marriage, making the outward voyage from his native land in 1854, and settling in St. Paul. He made his advent in Anoka county when it was a wilderness, and is remembered among the very early settlers of that rich and populous county.

Eben F. Gillispie was the third member of a family of six children born to his parents, and was reared on the farm, obtaining his education in the log cabin school houses common to the time. There was no lack of farm work for him to do at a very early age. The ox-teams were to be driven, and his was a busy youth. When he reached the age of seventeen years young Gillispie left home to care for himself, first becoming a clerk in a store in Anoka, and then a railroad hand. For five years he followed lumbering, spending the winter season in the woods, and taking a full share in the hard work of a lumber camp.

In the spring of 1900 Mr. Gillispie, then a stout and nerry lad of twenty-two years, took the contract for carrying the mail from Anoka to Cambridge, and he carried the first daily mail between those two points. He also ran a stage line on his mail route, and made many friends among the traveling public, a fact that stood him in good hand when he opened up a hotel a little later. In 1893 he started a livery barn in Cambridge, being the first to be established there, but meeting a considerable patron-

age from the first, showing that the need of it had already been felt before its establishment. In the spring of 1901 he sold out this livery interest.

In the spring of 1889 Mr. Gillispie had built a large brick hotel, forty-four by ninety-four feet, three stories high. It was the best building in the town and contained accommodations for some seventy-five guests. It was known on the road as the best hotel between Minneapolis and Duluth, and was provided with all the modern improvements. It was totally destroyed by fire on the night of July 18, 1901, the flames bursting out at two o'clock in the morning. In the spring of 1901 Mr. Gillispie, in company with J. A. Stoneberg, bought the harness shop in Cambridge, of which they are the present proprietors, and in which they are doing a very successful business.

Mr. Gillispie was married in 1894 to Carrie Rathjens. She was born at Valparaiso, Indiana, and comes of German blood, her parents having both been born in Germany. Her father was a farmer. In the Gillispie family are three children: Maggie, who is six years old; George, who is three years, and Helen, who is six months.

Mr. Gillispie is a Republican, and was elected county sheriff in 1900. He takes an active interest in county politics, and his influence is a powerful factor in the results of the election. He is highly thought of throughout the county, and what he wishes has great weight.

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#### ALEX. B. JOHNSON.

Alex B. Johnson, a much respected citizen of Mora, Kanabec county, Minnesota, was born in Ronnebeg, in the southern part of Sweden, in 1804, and is the third child in a family of six, reared and educated in the schools of their native city. His parents came to America in 1892, to make their home in Kanabec county.

When he was only sixteen years of age A. B. Johnson began life on his own account, taking work as a sailor on board a Swedish vessel bound for a three-months' cruise around Germany, Ireland and England. His second engagement was on an American boat, and for the following five years he was almost constantly employed either on American or English boats, sailing into all parts of the world, and visiting Australia, the East Indies, Africa, the West Indies and North and South America. When he was twenty-one he returned to Sweden, where he made a prolonged visit to the home of his childhood, and to his parents, who were still in their native land. About 1886 Mr. Johnson and his brother John A. came to America as sailors. They landed in Quebec, and coming to Minne-

sota, settled in Kanabec county, where they worked in the lumber woods several years. A. B. Johnson worked into contracting and handled many logging jobs in northern Minnesota, enterprises which proved quite profitable. He has been over almost every part of the northern section of the state, and has taken trips into California, Washington and Idaho. He owned land and dealt in real estate on an extensive scale, making his various investments contribute a handsome profit.

Mr. Johnson was nominated by the Republicans in 1896 as a candidate for the position of sheriff of Kanabec county, and was successfully elected by a good majority. In 1898 and in 1900 he was successively re-elected, and is now serving his third term, a fact which speaks volumes as to his character and reliability as an official.

Mr. Johnson was married in 1898 to Lina Norum, who was born in Sweden. She came to the United States in 1882, and spent a short time in Pennsylvania, after which she journeyed to Minnesota.

Mr. Johnson is the proprietor of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres near Mora. He has about eighty acres under cultivation, and has a very complete set of farm buildings, making his place one of the most desirable in the county. His residence is in Mora.

Mr. Johnson is one of the leading men of the county, and takes an important part in the politics of the county and state. He belongs to the Knights of the Maccabees, and is personally very popular in a wide circle of acquaintances.

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#### JOHN L. BARNARD.

John L. Barnard, a well known citizen of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, has resided there for some years and is given a prominent place as a man of enterprising spirit and good citizenship. He is a probate judge of Grand Rapids, and also justice of the peace.

Mr. Barnard was born at Oldtown, Maine, October 2, 1835. His father, Timothy Barnard, was born in New Hampshire, and was a lumberman, and the grandfather of our subject, Tristran Barnard, served in the Revolutionary war. The mother of our subject, Olive M. (Lougee) Barnard, was born in Ware, New Hampshire, and was of old Yankee stock. Her father served in the Revolutionary war.

John L. Barnard was the sixth in a family of eight children. He was raised in the village of Oldtown, where the family located about 1830. He was educated in the common schools and went into the lumber woods at the age of fourteen years and followed that business until he left Maine in 1855. He then went to Saginaw,

Michigan, and engaged in the lumber business there with his brother, Newell Barnard. The partnership continued until the death of his brother in 1883. They engaged in logging and owned a sawmill and were also interested in the salt business and did an extensive business. After the death of his brother Mr. Barnard moved to Sioux City, Iowa, where he visited two years, his son, C. E. Barnard, being in business there, and our subject's wife was in ill health. In 1892 they removed to Grand Rapids, Minnesota, and Mr. Barnard entered the employ of the Itasca Lumber Company and was with that company six years, in charge of the gangs and looking after their interests largely. In 1899 he was elected justice of the peace in Grand Rapids and re-elected in the spring of 1900 and is now serving his second term in that office. He was elected probate judge in the fall of 1900, which office he is now filling faithfully and to the satisfaction of the community in which he makes his home.

Mr. Barnard was married in 1864 to Miss Amy E. Grover. Mrs. Barnard was born in Detroit, Michigan. Her father, James H. Grover, was a county officer for many years there, and conducted several business enterprises and was among the prominent business men of Detroit. Mrs. Barnard is of old American stock and her people came from New York. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Barnard, namely: C. E., who is engaged in the boot and shoe business at Sioux City, Iowa; and Grace, who resides at home and is attending school. Mr. Barnard has led an active business career and has prospered through his industry and business ability. He is an interested worker for the advancement of his community, and is prominent in local affairs. Politically he is a Republican and attends numerous conventions of his party.

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#### J. C. COWAN.

Among the public officials of Kittson county, Minnesota, none are more efficient in their work or more highly esteemed as worthy citizens than J. C. Cowan, county superintendent of schools. Mr. Cowan is one of the oldest instructors of that locality, and thoroughly understands the needs of the county in educational lines and works to elevate the school system. He now has charge of fifty school districts, in which are about two thousand pupils, and the approved modern methods are in use through the district over which he has charge. He is a man of excellent training, having spent his career in educational work, and is well fitted for the responsible position which he now occupies.

Mr. Cowan was born in Ontario, Canada, in

1860, and was a son of Captain Matthew and Mary (Gibbs) Cowan. The mother died at St. Vincent, Minnesota, in 1901, and the father now makes his home in that place. Our subject was the eldest of ten children. He was educated in Canada and went to Kittson county, Minnesota, in 1879. For fifteen years he was engaged in teaching in this county, and spent eight years in the schools of Kennedy. He now makes his home in Hallock, having been appointed in April, 1901, to the office of superintendent of schools of Kittson county, to complete the unexpired term of E. A. Nelson, who was appointed to the position of state librarian. His duties as superintendent claim most of his attention, but he is interested in farming and is the owner of a valuable tract containing one hundred and sixty acres, near St. Vincent. He is a man of good business capacity and has accumulated his property by his faithful perseverance.

Mr. Cowan is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and politically is identified with the Republican party. He is devoted to the work of which he has charge and the people have chosen wisely and well in placing him at the head of the educational system of Kittson county.

#### JOHN EDWARD LUNDGREN.

John Edward Lundgren, the present able and efficient sheriff of Douglas county, Minnesota, is one of Alexandria's valued and respected citizens. Strict integrity in the discharge of his official duties, and his industry, energy and excellent abilities have raised him to a high station in the estimation of the community in which he labors and resides.

Mr. Lundgren was born in the province of Delcarlia, Sweden, October 4, 1863. His parents were John and Anna B. Lundgren. The father is manager and superintendent of extensive agricultural works of that place, and has held his position of trust for the past forty years. Both of our subject's parents reside in the place of his birth.

John E. Lundgren obtained a common-school education in the public schools of his native land, and after leaving school worked in the laboratory and office of the works with which his father was connected. At the age of eighteen years he left home to seek his own fortune, and having relatives in Minnesota, he went to that state. After a visit to his uncle, M. Lundgren, furniture dealer of Alexandria, he found employment as laborer on the Great Northern Railroad. His parents offered strong inducements for his return to his native land, but he had become thoroughly acquainted with the language and cus-

oms of his adopted land and had no desire to change his residence. He worked in a mill a short time and then became clerk in the dry-goods establishment of Kortsch & Hardy, where he remained two years. He then worked in the store of H. B. Wolf, at Morris, one year and at various places for a short time, and then owing to failing health he sought outdoor employment. He bought a broncho and saddle and sold nursery stock through southern Minnesota two years. This occupation restored him to good health and he entered into partnership with F. A. Reimaer, at Alexandria, and sold organs and sewing machines two years. In 1889 he was appointed deputy sheriff and jailer of Douglas county, and held that position nearly eight years, becoming thoroughly qualified for the position which he now fills. In 1896 he was the nominee of the Republican party for county sheriff, but was defeated by thirteen votes. He then traveled as representative of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, of Milwaukee, which he continued for two years. In 1898 he again received the nomination for sheriff of Douglas county and secured the election by a majority of 149 votes. In 1900 he was unanimously nominated by acclamation and elected with a majority of six hundred and seventy-five votes.

Mr. Lundgren, in the discharge of the duties of his office, has tempered justice with mercy and consequently is esteemed as an officer and citizen. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and its auxiliary, the Rebekah Lodge, and also of the Knights of the Maccabees, and is a charter member of the Alexandria Fire Department, having joined the ranks of this organization in 1883. Politically Mr. Lundgren has always been identified with the Republican party and has been a firm supporter of the principles of that organization.

#### HON. ERIC M. ENGELBERT.

Hon. Eric M. Engelbert, the present mayor of Kennedy and a prominent dealer in real estate and loans, resides in Kennedy and is one of the foremost men of Kittson county. He is a gentleman of good education and wide knowledge of men and the world, and possesses an excellent character and energetic spirit. He has an elegant home in the town of Kennedy, and every appointment of his residence is of the modern type and evidences the good taste and refinement of its occupants. A portrait of Mr. Engelbert will be found on another page of this volume.

Mr. Engelbert was born in Sweden, April 22, 1859, and was the only child born to John J. and Mary (Larson) Engelbert. The father still survives. The family crossed the water in 1862 and made their home in Scott county for about three

years, after which they located in Sibley county, where the father entered claim to land. There our subject was reared to farm work, and became a graduate of the St. Peter high schools. He entered early into business life, and for some time was engaged in the machine business in Winthrop. He went to Kennedy, Kittson county, in the fall of 1891, and entered the employ of Prins & Koch Land Company, and remained with them until recently. During this time he also invested in Kittson county lands for himself, and he has established a business for himself in real estate and loans and is meeting with good success in the same. His lands include some of the choicest of the locality, and his city property is well located and the residence is modern in style and finish and includes all improvements.

Mr. Engelbert was married in 1884 to Miss Cecelia Swenson. Mrs. Engelbert died in 1896. Five children were born to this union, who are as follows: Anna; John; Marv; Charles A., deceased; and Charles L. Mr. Engelbert was married to Miss Frieda H. Carlson in 1896, and two children have been born to bless their home, who bear the names of Elmer and Agnes. Mr. Engelbert is a gentleman of active public spirit and he has been influential wherever he has made his home. While a resident of Sibley county he served as a state representative, and fully met the demands of those whom he represented and worked for the advancement of his township, county and state. He is a staunch Democrat politically, and has done very efficient work for his party as a member of the county central committee, and as a delegate to county and state conventions of his party. He is well known in secret society circles, and is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America. He is one of the exemplary and deservedly esteemed citizens of Kennedy.

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#### JAMES H. SHARP.

James H. Sharp, the efficient county judge of Clay county, Minnesota, is a pioneer settler of Moorhead, where he has resided since 1871.

Mr. Sharp was born in Lawrence county, Pennsylvania, in 1843, the son of John and Jane (Christy) Sharp. He was reared in Pennsylvania, working on the farm until 1869. He then came west to St. Paul, where he clerked in a mercantile establishment. In the spring of 1871 he went to Oak Lake, Minnesota, at that time on the western limits of civilization. He passed the summer there, and in October of the same year proceeded west to the Red river, following the survey of the Northern Pacific Railroad. He arrived at what is now the city of Moorhead. There he clerked in a supply store, the second

established in Moorhead. In April of the following year he opened a clothing store in a tarpapered shack, twenty-four by thirty feet. The following June he added a stock of dry goods, the first stock of the kind to be handled in the whole of the Red river valley. He conducted this business, greatly increasing its volume until 1891, when, through unavoidable reverses, he lost his entire property. He was married in 1878 to Miss Josephine Elmer. Of this marriage there are two children, Edgar E. and Julia. Mrs. Sharp died in 1884. Mr. Sharp was married in 1890 to Miss Philadelphia Shuit. Mr. and Mrs. Sharp are the parents of five children, as follows: Philadelphia M., James H., Morgan E., Dorothy and Robert W.

Judge Sharp has been a staunch Republican all his life and has at all times given his energies to the advancement of the public good. He has been especially active in educational work. He was elected in 1873 as a member of the school board, and has had much influence in reforming and improving the common school methods. He served as justice of the city of Moorhead for five years and in 1900 was elected county judge of Clay county. He is a man of unusual abilities and unquestioned integrity. He is a staunch advocate of temperance, and a member of the Presbyterian church. He is numbered among the prominent pioneers of the Red river valley, and remembers vividly the experiences of those early days when Moorhead's citizens had to travel ten miles north to reach a stage route which connected with civilization, and must go to Georgetown, sixteen miles distant, for their mail. He witnessed the arrival of the first locomotive on the Northern Pacific at the banks of the Red river, the date being January, 1872. On the sixth day of the following June he witnessed the crossing of the Red river by the first locomotive, and felt that the future of Moorhead had at last been assured. The Judge has in his possession a chronicle of events of Clay county, which will be of interest to the future historian of northern Minnesota.

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#### JAMES H. WANDEL.

James H. Wandel, the efficient and popular register of deeds of Pine county, Minnesota, has established his reputation for ability and thoroughness in methods of handling the public business, and has gained a host of friends and admirers throughout the county. His residence is at Pine City, where he has a pleasant and valuable homestead.

Mr. Wandel is a native of Holstein, Germany, and was born November 24, 1862. His father was a laborer and lived and died in his

native land. Our subject is the seventh in a family of eight children, was reared on the farm, and received his education in the common schools and was confirmed at the age of fourteen years. He soon after started out to make his own way in the world and worked at farm work for some time. He came to America in the spring of 1879, unaccompanied by any member of his family. He went at once to Pine City and took up farm work. In 1881 he went to Hinckley, and worked there three and a half years in a meat market, and then worked as clerk four years in the general store of Hurley Brothers. He returned to Pine City in 1888, and for three and a half years clerked for A. Remington. Then, in partnership with William Tierney, he opened a general store, but for various reasons this venture was not as successful as he could have wished, and he retired from the concern in 1894. He built his present residence in Pine City the same year.

In the fall of 1894 Mr. Wandel was elected register of deeds of Pine county, on the Republican ticket, and has since been re-elected three times in succession and is now serving his fourth term in that office. He has always been active in public affairs, and has served three terms as village recorder. He has been favored by his party on many occasions, and has been chosen as a delegate to numerous county conventions, as well as to state conventions, and since about the year 1890 has been a recognized factor in the politics of his county and state.

Mr. Wandel was married in 1889 to Miss Schneurth. Mrs. Wandel was born in La Crosse, Wisconsin, and her father, William Schneurth, was a miller by trade, and came from Germany to America in the '50s. Mr. and Mrs. Wandel have four children: George, James, Hattie and Sylvia, all born at Pine City. Mr. Wandel is regarded as one of the pioneers of Pine county, and is thoroughly conversant with all matters relative to the public service in the county, and with the history of northern Minnesota.

#### HANS ENGBERG.

Hans Engberg, who was born on a farm in the parish of Hassala, in the village of Beckarang, in the province of Helsingland, Sweden, in 1853, by his thrift, industry and judicious investments has made himself one of the leading financiers and business men of Cambridge and Isanti county, being regarded as one of the leading men of his nationality in the state.

The home in which Hans Engberg was reared in Sweden was as that which a business man might establish for himself and family, where high moral character, deep religious feeling and

a high mentality had sway. His father, Per Jouson, was for a time a merchant and afterwards a farmer, also taking a lively interest in Christianity, and being among the first dissenters from the state church, whose determined action during the last generation caused so much discussion.

Hans Engberg is the youngest member of a family of five children, reared and educated in the old Swedish home. When he was sixteen he left his native country, and came to North America, landing at Quebec, and arriving in Minnesota in 1869, settling first at Chisago Lake, where he remained six months, and then attended public school at Osceola, Wisconsin, and in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he had all the English schooling that he felt able to secure in this country. He made his own way through school, and gradually became competent in business. In 1874 he took a position in a general store in Isanti, as clerk, which he held, however, but a brief time, as the same year he went into business for himself in Cambridge, in company with M. Smith, the two conducting a general store. Cambridge at that time was but a small town, and consisted of two general stores, a saloon, two small hotels, a grist-mill and about half a dozen poor dwelling houses. The town, however, had a future and the business that came to the partners, though small, was profitable. He and his brother bought out the old store at Isanti in 1875, and engaged in mercantile and lumbering operations.

Mr. Engberg was elected county auditor in 1875, and was retained in this position, being re-elected four times. In 1892, in company with H. A. Gouldberg, D. O. Anderson, Charles Keith and Swan S. Peterson, he organized the Isanti County Bank, which was opened for business October 2, 1892, and was the first in the county to begin business. Mr. Engberg is cashier, Mr. Peterson is president and Mr. Anderson, vice-president. Mr. Engberg is in general charge of the bank, which does a general and prosperous banking business. Mr. Engberg deals quite extensively in real estate.

Mr. Engberg was married in 1884, to Miss Nancy Ann Peterson, who died in 1897, leaving five children: Aurelia Elvira, Edith Marcella, Adae Wallace, Rhoda and Nancy—all born in Isanti county. Mr. Engberg was again married in the latter part of 1898, to Miss Emma J. Hogdahl, who was born in Sweden, by whom he has one child.

Mr. Engberg is an independent voter, with leanings towards the Republican party, though for a few years past he has supported the local Prohibition candidates. Mr. Engberg is one of the earliest settlers in this part of the state, and brought a few hundred dollars with him, which

was partly used for educational purposes, and he has built up his present comfortable competence from nothing but his own hard work and good common sense.

### BENJAMIN F. BROWN.

Benjamin F. Brown, United States commissioner for the district of Minnesota, at Bagley, Beltrami county, is one of the influential early settlers of that region. The history of Beltrami county is in great measure centered around the name of Benjamin F. Brown, who has identified himself with every commendable public enterprise of his community and labored for the advancement and development of that part of Minnesota.

Mr. Brown was born in Wisconsin April 29, 1858. His father, Russell G. Brown, was born in the state of New York and was one of the first volunteers in the Civil war. The mother of our subject, Mary A. (Freeland) Brown, was a native of Wisconsin.

Benjamin F. Brown was raised on a farm near Menomonie, in Dunn county, Wisconsin, and received his early education in the common country schools there, his mother dying of brain fever while he was only thirteen years old, leaving him and his sister Alice, five years younger, to fight their own battles. At the age of sixteen years he went to Minneapolis and worked in a commission house and also at carpenter work for two years, after which he returned to Wisconsin and was engaged in the lumber woods seven years. He then became a resident of Minneapolis a second time, remaining there until 1888. He followed farming in Clay county a short time, and then removed to Maple Lake, Minnesota. He resided there until March 4, 1889, when he went to Fosston, Minnesota, and worked in a sawmill until fall of that year, and then took land as a homestead in section 18, in township 147, range 38, Beltrami county, which township he was the organizer of, it being called "Popple." His homestead consisted of one hundred and sixty acres and was heavy timber land. Mr. Brown passed pioneer days there and experienced many hardships and discouragements. He labored industriously, cutting cord-wood and logs, and cleared his farm for cultivation and became the possessor of a highly cultivated and improved tract. He served as postmaster of Popple from 1896 to 1898, and in May of the latter year removed to Bagley, Minnesota, where the grading of the Fosston extension of the Great Northern Railway was in operation to the Great Lakes.

He was appointed United States commissioner in 1899 and is ably filling that office. He

was the owner of two residence lots and two business lots and store buildings in Bagley until May 9, 1901, when fire swept him out of house and home.

Courage not failing him, he is now the possessor of four residence lots with a comfortable cottage and three hundred and twenty acres of land, and has rebuilt a fine office on his business lots. Mr. Brown was married, in 1884, to Caroline Johnson. Mrs. Brown was born in Norway January 8, 1855, where her parents died in 1863, when she came to Fillmore county, Minnesota, with her brother.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown have one adopted son, Raymond W. Brown.

Mr. Brown has always taken an active interest in local affairs of public character, and was the second notary public of Beltrami county, being appointed by Governor Knute Nelson. He was one of the organizers of Beltrami county, and in 1899 and 1900 served as coroner. He organized the first school district in the county in 1890, and was the first assessor of the whole of the county from 1891 to 1893, traveling over the country on foot and horseback, sleeping at night wherever darkness overtook him by a campfire, with his assessor's book for a pillow and the sky for a mantle.

Since taking up his residence in Bagley he has taken a prominent place in village and school affairs, organized a new school district there, and was the first justice of the peace, which position he still holds.

Politically he is a Republican. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and Independent Order of Odd Fellows, recently organizing a lodge of the latter kind in Bagley.

### N. H. INGERSOLL.

N. H. Ingersoll, publisher and business man of Brainerd, Minnesota, occupies a prominent place as a citizen of Crow Wing county. He is a part owner of the Brainerd Despatch, and publishes the same in partnership with F. W. Weiland.

Mr. Ingersoll was born in Plover, Portage county, Wisconsin, October 25, 1860. His father, H. G. Ingersoll, was one of the early settlers of Wisconsin, locating there in 1850. He was a newspaper man. The family have been in America for many generations.

Of a family of three children, N. H. Ingersoll was the second in order of birth. He was raised in the village and attended the common schools. He settled in Ada, Minnesota, in 1882, and published the Ada Alert. In March, 1883, he disposed of his business interests in Ada and removed to Brainerd, Crow Wing county, and



in partnership with F. W. Weiland purchased the Brainerd Despatch. This paper was established in 1881 by A. E. Pennell, and the first issue was published December 21, 1881. Since its purchase by Mr. Ingersoll and Mr. Weiland it has increased in circulation steadily and now enjoys a large subscription list. It has been the official paper of the county for the past seventeen years and is one of the leading papers of that region. It is valued as an exchange paper and has a large exchange list. In 1900 the proprietors added a large Babcock press and gasoline engine, and they do a large business in job printing. The work is executed promptly and neatly and speaks well for the management. The paper is Republican in political sentiment, and has advocated the principles of that party since its establishment.

Mr. Ingersoll was married, in 1881, to Miss Hattie Hall. Mrs. Ingersoll is of American birth and parentage. She is a lady of good education, and followed teaching prior to her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Ingersoll are the parents of one child, a son. Mr. Ingersoll was engrossing clerk in the house of representatives in the Minnesota legislature three terms, and is active in all public affairs of his community. He was appointed postmaster of Brainerd January 6, 1900, and is now serving in that capacity, and is an efficient and popular officer. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and Ancient Order of United Workmen.

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#### HON. HENRY F. BARKER.

Hon. Henry F. Barker was born in the town of Naples, Cumberland county, Maine, in 1850, and now lives in Cambridge, Isanti county, Minnesota, where he is widely known and respected both for his sterling manhood and manifest ability. Maine has sent a host of sturdy and upright men to settle in Minnesota, and Mr. Barker is a worthy representative of the very best. He comes of Yankee stock, and his father, John Barker, was a life-long farmer, and his grandfather, Asa Barker, served in the war of the Revolution, being present on the battle-field of Saratoga. The maternal great-grandfather of Henry F. Barker was Isaac Larrabee, who was also a soldier for the American colonists, having served with distinction on many a hard-fought Revolutionary field of strife. He was at Bunker Hill, in the very beginning of the war, and bore his part throughout that momentous struggle.

Henry F. Barker is the third member of his father's family of children, and was reared and educated in Maine, where he attended the local

schools and Bridgeton and Westbrook Academies. There was much hard farm work to be done, and the youth of Mr. Barker was a busy and industrious one. Selecting the law for his vocation, he read and studied at Albany, New York, where in 1874 and in 1875 he took a law course, and where he was admitted to the New York bar in 1875. After securing his admission to the profession he came back to his native state to enter upon the practice of his profession. In company with A. F. Burnham, he opened an office at Ellsworth, where he remained until the month of December, 1876, when he broke up and came west to Minnesota, whither so many of his state's people had already gone and had done so well. For a time after his arrival in the state he taught school at Princeton, and also engaged in the practice of his profession with his brother, Judge A. P. Barker, who had first come to the state in 1868. Judge A. P. Barker died in 1883, and our subject and his brother, Dr. G. A. Barker, of Menominee, Wisconsin, are the only surviving members of the family.

Mr. Barker located at Cambridge in the summer of 1878, the county being sparsely settled at that time. In July, 1878, he opened an office in the new and struggling village of Cambridge, and has been continuously engaged in the practice of his profession in this county for the last twenty-three years. In that time he has built up a large and extensive business, not only in the law, but quite as largely in real estate. He has handled Isanti county wild lands, farms and town lots, and is still doing much work in that line.

Mr. Barker was married in 1879 to Miss Margaret C. Byers. She was born at Princeton, where her father, Samuel Byers, is a general merchant and an extensive farmer. In his early days he was a teacher and a carpenter. To this union has come a family of children, as follows: Minerva, who is in the junior year at Carlton College; Ethel and Ruth, who are in the Academy at Carlton College; Blaine and Henry, at home.

Mr. Barker is a Republican, and was elected as county attorney in 1878, a position which he held for fourteen years, being elected seven times. In 1882 he was sent to the state legislature, and again in 1886. In 1898 he was elected as a member of the senate of the state. He is the first senator from Isanti county. For twenty-one years he served as treasurer of the school board of Cambridge, and at different times has been a member of the village board, in which he has acted several times as president of the board.

Mr. Barker is president of the Cambridge Milling Company, and also of the Cambridge Starch Company. He is president of the Cambridge Commercial Club, and was one of the strongest supporters of the Cambridge Milling Company and the starch plant, watching the slow growth

of these two important enterprises with an anxious eye. In 1893 there was organized the Cambridge, Minneapolis & Duluth Railway Company, to promote the building of a railroad between these two important points that should touch at Cambridge. Surveys were made in its behalf. A second railway company was also projected, running from Minneapolis into Isanti county, of which W. D. Washburn was president and Mr. Barker a director. Mr. Barker was indefatigable in his efforts to secure railway connection for Cambridge with the outward world, and success finally crowned his efforts.

Mr. Barker is a Republican, and has attended every national convention of his party since 1876. In 1900 he was a delegate to the Philadelphia convention. His portrait will be found on another page of this volume.

#### HON. LLEWELLYN S. CRAVATH.

As a representative member of the farming community of Hamden township the gentleman above named is widely known. He is universally respected as a man of integrity and excellent characteristics, and his home in section 34 is one of the pleasant and comfortable estates of Becker county.

Mr. Cravath was born in Courtland county, New York, March 11, 1838. His father, Orrin Cravath, was of French descent and was a farmer by occupation. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Betsey Northway, and she was of American birth, her people having been citizens of this country for some generations back. Of a family of six children, our subject was the fourth in order of birth. He was raised on a farm in his native state, and when he was twelve years of age removed with his parents to Oberlin, Ohio, where the father located in order to accord his children liberal educational advantages. The family later moved to Winona county, Minnesota, in 1856, and the father took government land and developed a good property. There our subject was reared to manhood and his education was completed in the public schools at Oberlin, Ohio. After he attained his majority Mr. Cravath began farming for himself in Winona county, Minnesota, and continued three years in Saratoga township. In 1864, owing to ill health, he gave up active pursuits and spent one year traveling through the west, his family remaining at the old home in Minnesota. In the spring of 1865 Mr. Cravath moved his family to Missouri, where he purchased a well developed farm, one which had been operated by slave labor for about five years. He began raising wheat and also entered into the dairy business there, but after three years of

fruitless efforts to make a success there he returned to Winona county, Minnesota, where he resided about two years. He came to Becker county in 1870, going overland from Sauk Center. He was employed as clerk and bookkeeper for a railroad contractor, and upon his arrival in Becker county he made arrangements to begin farming, moving his family to the farm which he had selected and on which he had built a log stable. In this building they resided for the first fifteen months until more comfortable quarters could be established. He began farming operations with horses, but soon began with ox teams, and continued to break land with them the first four years. The first season he broke eighty acres of land and the crop thereon was destroyed. About 1872 our subject was appointed local land agent for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company and also townsite agent for the town of Audubon, and he held the latter position until 1874, and also continued his farming. He then returned to Winona county and purchased grain for an elevator company at St. Charles, the change of residence being made in order to give his children good educational advantages. He returned to his farm in Becker county in 1879 and entered the employ of the Northern Pacific Elevator Company as traveling inspector through Minnesota and Dakota, and continued with this company fourteen years. During this time he conducted his farm with hired help and the assistance of his sons, and succeeded in developing one of the finest estates of the county. Since 1893 he has devoted his attention entirely to agriculture, and he is now the owner of four hundred acres of valuable land, all of which is under high cultivation. The buildings of his farm present a most imposing scene on the landscape, being commodious, substantial and well located, and he has a comfortable residence, the outlook from which is onto a fine lake to the south and one to the west. He has met with unbounded success in general farming and stock-raising, and operates a dairy also. For the past three years his land has been operated on shares and from the income from his farm Mr. Cravath lives practically retired from active pursuits.

Our subject was married, September 24, 1860, to Miss Margaret Johnson. Mrs. Cravath was born in the town of Warren, Ohio, in 1842. Her father, James H. C. Johnson, was of English and Scotch descent, and her mother, whose maiden name was Betsey Parsons, was of English and Welsh descent. Mrs. Cravath is a lady of excellent education and rare accomplishments, and she is a writer of considerable note. Her series of letters written in 1896, entitled "Back in the '70s," portray many interesting incidents and experiences of pioneer life in the Northwest. To



Mr. and Mrs. Cravath eight children have been born, who are as follows: Fred J.; Milo A.; Orrin D.; Alice E.; Llewellyn B.; Margaret C.; Mary, deceased; and Grace. Mr. Cravath is one of the public-spirited citizens of his locality, and he has been honored with various responsible offices. In the fall of 1871 he was elected a representative to the state legislature of Minnesota, and served in that capacity one term. In political faith he is a Republican and is active in the work of that party, serving as delegate to numerous county conventions. He and his family are among the earliest pioneers of Becker county, and are highly esteemed and respected in the community in which they have spent so many years.

#### GEORGE H. NEWBERT.

George H. Newbert, who is known throughout Kanabec county as the bright and up-to-date young banker at Mora, is a native of Minnesota, having been born in Bethel, Anoka county, on a farm, in 1872, and is a son of Henry Newbert, who was born in England, and came to the United States in 1860. The father was postmaster at Bethel, Minnesota, many years, where he was engaged in a general store. In 1882 he removed to Princeton, where he engaged in the hotel business.

George H. Newbert is the second member in a family of four children, and was reared and educated at Princeton, where he attended public school. The greater part of the time between his sixteenth and eighteenth years he spent in a drug store at Princeton, when he secured a position in the Mille Lacs County Bank, a Princeton institution, organized in 1892, and in which he held the position of assistant cashier until its consolidation with the Citizen's State Bank in 1894. In July of that year Mr. Newbert came to Mora, and effected the organization of the Kanabec County Bank, which was opened for business July 9, 1894, with Charles Keith, of Princeton, as president, R. F. McClellan, of Princeton, as vice-president, and himself as cashier. This was the first, as it is the only bank in the county, and from the first has done a very good business, handling real estate, making loans, and dealing in fire insurance, and is regarded as one of the most substantial banking enterprises in Minnesota. The bank building was put up in 1897, and is a handsome two-story structure, 33x42 feet. The upper floor is occupied as a Masonic hall, and the bank requires all of the first floor.

Mr. Newbert was married, in 1894, to Miss J. Mildred Rines, daughter of C. H. Rines, a noted dealer in potatoes and other farm products

at Princeton. To this union was born one daughter, Mary, in 1895, at Princeton.

Mr. Newbert is a staunch Republican, and has filled all the village offices at Mora, having also been court commissioner and treasurer of the school board. He is a Mason, a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Modern Woodmen of America, and of the Knights of Pythias. He was a delegate to the national Republican convention of 1900 at Philadelphia, and from his first arrival in the county has taken an active interest in its development, having been court commissioner for several years.

#### WILLIAM CARDINER.

William Cardiner, well and favorably known in Princeton, Minnesota, was born in Wisconsin on a farm in 1856, whither his parents had come from Scotland in 1853, and there his father, James Cardiner, a veteran farmer and machinist, is still living. William Cardiner was the third member of a family of six children, and was reared on the paternal estate, receiving his education in the local schools of the community in which he lived. When seventeen years of age he left home to learn the blacksmith trade in Columbia county. When he had thoroughly mastered his trade he spent several years in traveling through Canada and elsewhere as a journeyman, and in 1879 came to Princeton, Mille Lacs county, to set up in company with a friend in his business under the firm name of Coley & Cardiner. In 1885 this association was terminated, and Mr. Cardiner was in business for himself, carrying a general blacksmith and manufacturing enterprise, having an engine, and running a very complete establishment.

In 1895 Mr. Cardiner was appointed postmaster, and continued in that position for six years. In 1881 he was married to Miss Emma J. Hatch, a native of Maine, and her parents are now living in Minnesota. To this union have come two boys, Max and Guy.

Mr. Cardiner has taken an active part in local affairs, and has been chairman of the town board, and for several years has been a member of the village council. He has the respect and confidence of the community to a marked degree, and is undoubtedly one of the leading citizens of the county, which he has done so much to develop.

#### EDWARD J. FARRELL.

Among the rapidly rising young men of Itasca county, Minnesota, the present county auditor, Edward J. Farrell, takes a foremost rank. He has resided in Grand Rapids comparatively few years, but has gained the con-

fidence and esteem of his associates, and is a man of wide influence.

Mr. Farrell was born in Waterford, Ireland, July 26, 1867. His father, Patrick Farrell, was a farmer by occupation throughout his life. He brought his family to America in 1868. The mother of our subject was also a native of Ireland. She died at Long Meadow, Connecticut, about 1869. Her death caused the separation of the family, and our subject was raised later by a stepmother. He attended the public schools of Connecticut and remained on his father's farm until 1890, assisting with the operation of the same. He then went to West Superior, Wisconsin, where he remained until 1895, and clerked in a leading hotel in the town from 1890 to December, 1894. In January, 1895, he went to Grand Rapids, Minnesota, where he was manager of the Gladstone Hotel until October, 1898. In the fall of that year he was elected county auditor. His popularity and the faithful discharge of his duties is best attested by the fact that in 1900 he received the nomination for the same office on the Democratic ticket, and was endorsed by the Republican party and re-elected without opposition. He is the "right man in the right place," and his friends are only limited by his acquaintance.

Mr. Farrell was married, in 1892, to Miss Anna Conlan. Mrs. Farrell was born at Troy, New York, and was of Irish descent. Her father, James Conlan, was a mechanic by trade. Mr. and Mrs. Farrell are the parents of three children, named as follows: Marie, born at West Superior; Edward J. and Robert Stanley, both born at Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Mr. Farrell is very prominent in secret society circles, and is a member of the following fraternal societies: Knights of Pythias, Order of Elks, Knights of the Maccabees, Ancient Order of United Workmen, and Modern Woodmen of America. He is a stanch Democrat and since his residence in Itasca county has taken much interest in state and county affairs.

#### GEORGE W. KNOX.

George W. Knox, one of the prominent merchants of Aitkin, has been associated with the commercial interests of that town for many years and enjoys success and the esteem of his fellows to a marked degree.

Mr. Knox was born on a farm in Adams county, Wisconsin, November 20, 1852. His father, George Knox, was born in the state of New York, and was of Scotch blood. The family settled in America during the early colonial times and our subject is descended from the celebrated John Knox, of Scotland. The mother

of our subject, who bore the maiden name of Julia A. Jackson, was of an early American family, some of the members of which served in the Revolutionary war, and her father, Daniel Johnson, served in the war of 1812.

Of a family of seven children, George Knox was the sixth in order of birth. He was reared on a farm to the age of seventeen years and received his early education in the country schools of his neighborhood. He then removed to Wisconsin with his parents and there attended the high school at Kilbourn, from which institution he graduated at the age of twenty years. He then engaged as clerk in a drug store and soon became a registered pharmacist. He followed the drug business until 1874, with the exception of a few months when he worked as clerk at Kilbourn City, Wisconsin. He and his brother drove overland to Oregon, taking five months in which to complete the journey. This was at the time of the Indian outbreak in the Black Hills, and several times during the trip they had exciting experiences on account of the red men. From Omaha they went with a large emigrant train and passed over the rest of their trip without any startling experiences. Our subject was engaged as bookkeeper at Boise City, Idaho, for a short time, and in 1876 he returned to Aitkin, Minnesota, which was then but a small town of but a half-dozen buildings and was surrounded by timber. Mr. Knox became bookkeeper for his brother in the firm of Potter & Knox, the brother, C. C. Knox, having been located there for some time. He worked with him until 1877, and then engaged in business for himself in partnership with J. W. Wakefield, the firm being known as Knox & Wakefield. This partnership continued a short time, and then a brother of our subject, D. J., joined with our subject in the purchase of Mr. Wakefield's interest, and the business was conducted under the firm name of Knox Brothers. They carried a complete stock of general merchandise and the first year did an extensive business, amounting to two hundred and fifteen thousand dollars. They started with a small capital and bought the goods on time. A branch store was established at Brainerd in 1879, and was there conducted under the firm name of Knox Brothers & Hartley. Our subject assumed the management of the store and business at Brainerd. This business was sold in 1881. Mr. Knox returned to Aitkin from Brainerd in 1881. Mr. Richardson became a partner in the business in 1879, and the business was conducted at Aitkin by Knox Brothers & Richardson. Mr. Richardson later sold his interest to Mr. Dorman, of Minneapolis. Owing to ill health, our subject went to Florida in 1881, and while there the business was disposed of to W. Potter & Company. Mr. Knox remained in

Florida a year and a half, and in 1883 returned to Aitkin and again established a mercantile business there. In 1885 C. P. DeLaittre became interested with him. They continued a prosperous business together until 1894. During this partnership F. M. Shook became interested in the business, and Mr. Knox finally purchased the interests of his partners and since January, 1894, the business has been owned and conducted by him. He has a store, 28x100 feet, with a lean-to, 122x25 feet, and conducts one of the largest mercantile establishments of the town. He has always done considerable jobbing, and has prospered in his business ventures. He is also interested in farm lands and is interested in the lumber business to some extent. He has a jobbing house at St. Paul and handles teas, coffees and extracts.

Mr. Knox was married, in 1880, to Miss Ella H. Smith, a native of Ohio. Mrs. Knox's father was a hardware merchant of St. Cloud, Minnesota, and he was of German descent. Mrs. Knox was engaged in teaching in the high school at Brainerd at the time of her marriage. One child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Knox, Walter, who is now attending school at Minneapolis. Mr. Knox has always taken an active part in local affairs. He served as deputy county auditor from 1876 to 1878, and was then elected and served one term as county auditor. He also held the office of postmaster at Aitkin about four years. He was county superintendent of schools for a time and is interested in all educational movements. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, with which order he has been connected since 1880, and is also a member of the Knights of Pythias. Politically he is a staunch Republican and an active worker for party principles.

#### FRED L. DENNIE.

Fred L. Dennie, a young and progressive business man of Sandstone, Pine county, Minnesota, was born on a farm in Fulton county, New York, in 1866, and is a son of Benjamin Dennie, who was a manufacturer of gloves all his active life at Gloversville. Barrant Dennie, the great-grandfather of Fred L., came from Holland and settled in New York in 1774. Sarah Wait, the mother of Fred L., was of Scotch blood, and her ancestors came to this country in 1774.

Fred L. Dennie, the fifth and youngest child in his parents' family, was reared and educated in Gloversville, where he had a good education in both the public school and seminary. When he was eighteen years old he started for himself, and made his way to North Dakota, where he engaged in mercantile business in Mayville

in 1884. He was in Mayville three years, and then went on to Washington, where he was a clerk in the senate four years. While in Washington he studied law, and was admitted to the bar in North Dakota in 1892. The same year he was taken into the legal department of the Great Northern Railroad at Minneapolis, where he was employed two years. In the fall of 1894 he came to Sandstone, having acquired an interest in the town site, and opened a law office. In the month of March, 1896, he established the Quarryman's Bank at Sandstone, the first bank in the village as well as in the county, and now is in successful operation.

Mr. Dennie was married, in 1895, to Miss A. Grossett, a native of Canada, and a descendant of French Huguenot and English ancestors. To this marriage were born two children, Benjamin Franklin and Louise.

Mr. Dennie is a Republican and was the first president of the village board of Sandstone. For the last five years he has been treasurer of the village.

#### PETER RAMSTAD (DECEASED).

For many years prior to the death of Mr. Ramstad he was a leading citizen and agriculturist of Norman county. He went there in the early days of its settlement and became the owner of a fine estate in McDonaldville township, the home being in section 34. The property is now managed by Mrs. Ramstad, widow of our subject, who makes her home on the original farm, and has met with good success in the operation of the same, the farm being marked as one of the finest in the township. A portrait of Mr. Ramstad is shown upon another page in this volume.

Peter Ramstad was born in Lom, in the northern part of Norway, in 1851, and was a son of Lars and Carrie (Wange) Ramstad, both of whom were natives of Norway and came to America when our subject was a boy. They settled in Vernon county, Wisconsin, and there our subject grew to manhood. He went to Norman county in 1880, and in 1883 he engaged in the mercantile business at Ada, under the firm name of G. S. Barnes & Company, and he resided there until 1887. During his stay there he was county register of deeds four years, and was postmaster of Ada several years. He disposed of his mercantile interests about 1886 or '87 and purchased a farm, removing to the same, where he continued his residence until his death. He accumulated five hundred and twenty acres of land, all of which was improved and an excellent set of buildings was erected. His wife has sold all of the tract but two hundred and forty acres, which she still manages. On this are the farm buildings

and two flowing wells furnish an abundance of water for stock and domestic uses.

Mr. Ramstad was married in Wisconsin in 1884 to Christena Scriver. Mrs. Ramstad was born in Christiania, Norway, and was a daughter of Christian Scriver, a native of Norway and a tanner by trade. He resides in his native land and owns a large tannery there. Mrs. Ramstad's grandparents, Hans and Carrie Rentz, were of German descent, the great-grandfather of Mrs. Ramstad being of German birth and a native of a small province east of Denmark. On the paternal side the ancestors were also of German descent. Mrs. Ramstad was reared by an uncle, Bernt Anderson, and an aunt, Ann Anderson, and she grew to womanhood in LaCrosse, Wisconsin, and also spent much of her girlhood in Chicago. Seven children, all of whom are now at home, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ramstad, and are as follows: Ibsen, born April 11, 1885; Carrie, born April 27, 1887; Nicholay, born March 8, 1889; Orrin, born January 19, 1891; Ella, born November 29, 1892; Sigurd, born November 18, 1894; and Petra, born December 13, 1896. Mr. Ramstad suffered ill health for some time, and went to Norway in hopes of getting relief, but he was suddenly stricken with his last illness and after only about five days he passed away, June 4, 1896, at the home of his wife's people. Mr. Ramstad was a man of excellent character, and enjoyed the confidence of the people of this community and is mourned by all. He was an active worker for the principles of Republicanism, and was prominently identified with the early development of Norman county, both in public and farm life.

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#### LAFAYETTE LAMBERSON.

In the commercial and public affairs of Marshall county, Minnesota, probably no man is better known than the gentleman whose life history is here presented. Mr. Lamberson is engaged in the banking and real estate business in Warren, and is one of the early settlers of that locality. He is a man of unusual energy and possesses marked ability as a business man. He has gained an enviable reputation as a citizen of active public spirit and business man of honest dealings and enjoys the confidence of all with whom he has to do.

Lafayette Lamberson is a native of Wisconsin and was born at Grafton, November 6, 1854. He obtained his common-school education at Durand, Illinois, and Waverly, Iowa, and in 1872 took a commercial course in Chicago. He began his business career as clerk and continued to serve in this capacity eight years. In 1879 he engaged in the mercantile business for himself at West

Union, Iowa, where he remained until 1883. He then went to Minnesota and established a bank at Perham, where he continued about one year. He established the Bank of Warren with a capital of thirty thousand dollars in 1884, and has been actively engaged with this institution since its organization. This bank is one of the most conservative financial institutions in this part of Minnesota, and the policy of the promoters has always been "to live and let live." In 1892 Mr. Lamberson established a bank at Hawley, Minnesota. During his many years of active business life in Marshall county he has accumulated large tracts of land, and is now the owner of some five thousand acres. For the past two years he has engaged in the real estate business, handling lands for others and placing his own tracts upon the market. He is familiar with that section of the country and his judgment can be relied upon and advice heeded. He is a man of untiring perseverance and his business is carefully conducted, and the many details of the intricate banking business personally looked after by him.

Mr. Lamberson is recognized as one of the leading public men of his community. He is ever awake to the interests of Warren and Marshall county, and is a firm supporter of any enterprise which tends to the upbuilding and development of his home town. He was the first mayor of the city of Warren, to which office he was elected in 1891. He has also served as a member of the town council, and for many years served on the school board and favors a good educational system and the promotion of educational advantages. He is well known in Masonic circles, and is a member of the blue lodge of Warren, and the chapter and commandery at Crookston, Minnesota. In political faith he is a staunch Republican and is an earnest defender of the principles of his party and a zealous worker for the success of Republicanism. He keeps pace with the times and lends his influence for the welfare of his fellowmen.

Mr. Lamberson was married, in October, 1879, to Miss Fannie Elder, a native of Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Lamberson are the parents of two children, namely: Flora S. and Gill E.

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#### JOHN S. COWEN.

John S. Cowen, whose family name was originally Cowing, is a real estate and insurance man of Alexandria, and conducts one of the most extensive businesses in this line in Douglas county.

Mr. Cowen was born in Cedar Falls, Iowa, February 20, 1861, and was a son of John L. and Jennie (King) Cowing. The father was born in Scotland, and was brought to America by his

parents when a child. He learned the stone mason's trade, which he followed at Cedar Falls for many years, and is now retired from active labor. He constructed most of the culverts and bridge foundations on the line of the B. C. R. & N. R. R. and laid the foundation and stone work for many of the prominent buildings of Cedar Falls. He settled on a farm in Pine county, Minnesota, where he still resides. Our subject's mother died in 1867. Five children, three sons and two daughters, were born to this worthy couple, namely: Rosetta, now Mrs. S. A. Moore, residing on a farm in Nebraska; Jennie, now Mrs. C. E. Smiley, engaged in farming in Oklahoma; John Stephen, named for his maternal grandfather, John Stephen King; George A., engaged in the restaurant and confectionery business in Chicago; and Philo, who died in infancy.

Mr. Cowen had few opportunities for gaining an education, his mother having died when he was but six years of age, and he lived at home but little afterward, and spent some of his time with relatives. At the age of thirteen years he found employment on a farm and continued this work until reaching manhood. He then secured an engagement with E. Barnet & Sons, of Topeka, Kansas, and traveled through Iowa and other western states buying and selling imported horses of the best blooded stock. He came to Alexandria, Douglas county, in 1888, and continued in the same line of business on his own account in Douglas and other counties in Minnesota, and he continued thus three years with varying success, and in the meantime bought a good brick residence property and secured a comfortable home in the village of Alexandria. Owing to the depressed condition of the horse market in 1891, he sold out his stock with considerable financial loss, and then purchased a carpenter's outfit and began to learn the trade, soon securing employment in this line. He was engaged for some months during the construction of the court house then building. He later traveled through Minnesota, representing the Standard Silverware Company of Boston, Massachusetts. January 1, 1898, he established a real estate, loan and insurance business in Alexandria, which he now conducts with good success. He has an extensive list of lands for sale, consisting of well improved farms, others partly improved and others upon which no improvement has been made, any of which he sells upon reasonable terms. He is thoroughly familiar with the characteristics of the soil and desirability of location, and is thoroughly reliable for accuracy of description, which he furnishes by mail when so desired. He represents the Continental Fire Insurance Company of New York,

and in this line does a good and increasing business.

Mr. Cowen was married, in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, April 17, 1888, to Olivia Muller. Mrs. Cowen is a native of Norway and came to America with friends in 1886. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cowen, namely: Clement C., Arva L., Ritta, Ina and Dorest Anna. Mr. Cowen is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in political sentiment he is a Democrat. He has gained many friends since taking up his labors in Alexandria, and is a gentleman who has acquired his home and property single-handed and well merits his success and good name.

#### JAMES V. CAMPBELL.

This name will be readily recognized as that of one of the leading business men and citizens of Ada, Norman county. Mr. Campbell is a pioneer of that region, and has various financial interests in Ada and vicinity. He is the present efficient postmaster of that thriving town, and is a man of excellent character and is popular with the people among whom he makes his home.

Our subject was born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, May 6, 1829. His father, James Campbell, was of Scotch descent and was born in America. He was a farmer and merchant and died when our subject was but eight years of age. Mr. Campbell attended the village school, and in 1849 left his home place and went to Portage county, Wisconsin, where he settled on a farm and soon afterward engaged in the wagon-making business at Plover. He later engaged in the mercantile business in Wood county, Wisconsin, and in 1859 went to southern Illinois. In the fall of 1861 he enlisted in the Tenth Illinois Cavalry and was sent west of the Mississippi river, first to St. Louis, Missouri, and later to Helena, Arkansas. He was in many engagements and skirmishes, and in the fall of 1862, after an active and loyal service, he was mustered out at Helena, Arkansas. He returned to Wisconsin and there followed farming and other business enterprises until he went to Minnesota, in 1878. Norman county was then sparsely settled and but four shanties comprised the town site of the present thriving town of Ada. In 1886 Mr. Campbell entered into partnership with Mat. Olson, and they established a farm machinery business and erected the first building devoted to this line in the town. They continued in the business eight or ten years, when our subject sold his interests to Mr. Olson, Mr. Campbell being appointed postmaster of Ada under Harrison. He served four years as such, and about

1892 established a general store, carrying a line of groceries, etc., and which business he transferred to his brother, W. W. Campbell, in June, 1901. He was appointed postmaster again in 1897, and is now discharging the duties of that office. He has been interested in farm lands at different times, conducting farming to considerable extent. He was one of the pioneers of Minnesota and also Wisconsin, and has witnessed the growth of Norman county and aided materially in its advancement.

Our subject was married, in 1852, to Miss Lydia Harroun, a native of New York state. Seven children, one son and six daughters, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, all of whom were born in Wisconsin. Mr. Campbell took an active part in the organization of Norman county, and assisted in pushing the bill through the legislature for the organization of the same. He is a staunch Republican politically, and voted for the first Republican candidate for president, John C. Fremont. He takes an active part in local affairs of his party, and is a man of good ideas and enjoys the esteem of his fellows.

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#### HENRY E. ROHLF.

Among the younger business men of Carlton county, Minnesota, Henry E. Rohlf has gained a foremost place. He is energetic, progressive and capable. He is associated with the Commercial Banking Company of Carlton as assistant cashier, and has many of the intricate affairs of this institution under his charge. He is an efficient officer and enjoys the confidence of all who know him. He has extensive business interests and is one of the wide-awake and influential citizens of his locality.

Mr. Rohlf was born in Holstein, Germany, February 25, 1874. His father, H. C. Rohlf, was a German mechanic most of his life. He served in the Franco-German war. He emigrated to America, in 1880, with his family and settled at Rush City, Minnesota, where he remained about a year, and then removed to Moose Lake, where he engaged in the mercantile and lumber business. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Wilhelmina Wieck.

Henry Rohlf is the eldest living child of a family of seven children. He came to America with his parents in 1880 and resided with them at Rush City, Minnesota, and later at Moose Lake, and received his early education in the latter place. He later attended the Northern Indiana State Normal, and completed a commercial course in 1899. He then assumed charge of the Commercial Banking Company's affairs at Carlton. This institution was established in 1892 as the Carlton County Bank, with Asa

Paine president, and was opened for business in August of that year. It was conducted under that name until May 1, 1898, and was then sold to the Commercial Banking Company, with the following officers: Charles F. Leland, president; Thomas H. Martin, cashier; and Henry E. Rohlf, assistant cashier. They do a general banking business and handle insurance and collections, and the bank has been in successful operation since its institution. It is considered one of the substantial banks of northern Minnesota and business from Duluth, Superior and surrounding counties is sent to it. It is the second bank in age in Carlton county. Since Mr. Rohlf attained the age of seventeen years he has engaged actively in business enterprises, and formerly was engaged in the mercantile and lumber business with his father. He is one of the well-to-do citizens of Carlton.

Mr. Rohlf is prominent in public affairs, and politically is a Democrat. He has attended county, state and congressional conventions as a delegate. He held the office of postmaster at Moose Lake during President Cleveland's second administration, and he has always taken an active part in local affairs wherever he has made his home. He served as justice of the peace and in other offices in Moose Lake, and in 1896 was the Democratic nominee for register of deeds of Carlton county. He has been a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen since 1894, and has been chosen delegate several times to the grand lodge of the order.

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#### PROF. THOMAS CASEY.

Prof. Thomas Casey, superintendent of schools of Polk county, is one of the best known instructors of the northwest, and one of the most experienced and best qualified educators.

Prof. Casey was born in Rochester, New York, October 27, 1855. He was the oldest of nine children born to Joseph and Matilda (Webb) Casey, both of whom were of Irish extraction. The father was a farmer and when our subject was about eight years of age the family located in Sanilac county, Michigan. After completing the high schools of Michigan Prof. Casey entered the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso, and completed a scientific course there, graduating in 1882 with the degree of B. S. Beginning at the age of nineteen years, he taught school during his college vacations, and immediately after graduating he assumed the principalship of his home schools. In 1882 he resigned this position to join the Winnipeg boom, and for a year after his arrival at Winnipeg he worked as bookkeeper for McDonald & Hawley. In the fall of 1883 he went to Crookston and



taught the South Crookston schools a short time, and then accepted the principalship of the Fisher schools, where he remained three years. He taught in the grammar department of the Crookston high school one year, and was superintendent of the city schools of East Grand Forks one year, when he was induced to return to Fisher, where he continued for one year and was then appointed superintendent of schools of Polk county, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of E. F. Elliot. Polk county was then the largest organized county in Minnesota, and he served as county superintendent a year and a half. He joined the next campaign as the Republican nominee for the office of county superintendent and received the nomination by acclamation, but the party ticket was defeated by the Populist landslide, although Prof. Casey run sixteen hundred and three votes ahead of his ticket. He then became city superintendent of Red Lake Falls city schools, where he continued for five consecutive years, and during this period was engaged by the state to instruct teachers in the summer schools for four years, and thus became one of the most popular and successful instructors of northern Minnesota. He was again induced, in 1897, to take charge of the Fisher state-graded schools, where he remained until the fall of 1900, when he resigned to enter the campaign as candidate on the Republican ticket for county superintendent of schools of Polk county. He was elected against a formidable opponent by a majority of more than five hundred, and was the first Republican to qualify in Polk county for the past ten years as a county official. He holds a state professional certificate, and is a thoroughly competent and zealous educator.

Prof. Casey was married, in 1888, to Miss Lilly Freemire. Four sons have blessed this union, namely: Thomas, Cecil, Walter and John. Prof. Casey is a member of the Masonic order and the Knights of Pythias.

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#### JOHN M. BAYER.

John M. Bayer is the capable sheriff of Clay county, Minnesota, and his administration of the duties of his responsible position has been such as to win the favor of the public as well as the approbation of the courts to a marked degree. He was born in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, April 23, 1856, and was the sixth member of a family of eight children born to Martin and Mary (Kroll) Bayer, natives respectively of Canada and New York, both being of Pennsylvania Dutch extraction.

Martin Bayer was a carpenter by trade, and taught that trade to his son, John M., who re-

mained with him until he reached the age of twenty-four. The younger Bayer spent the ensuing two years in Kansas, and in the spring of 1882 came to Clay county, Minnesota, to take charge of the Elmwood Farm near Sabin, for thirteen years being the general manager of that important enterprise. In 1897 Mr. Bayer engaged in farming on his own account on two sections of land in Alliance township.

Mr. Bayer was born a Republican, and has always held to that political faith. In 1900 he was elected sheriff of the county on the Republican ticket by a very good majority, being the first Republican elected to that office in Clay county for twelve years, and is now fulfilling the duties of that office in a manner most satisfactory to all concerned. In 1890 he was elected a member of the Red River Valley Drainage Commission, and in both 1895 and 1897 was sergeant-at-arms of the Minnesota general assembly. He is a prominent figure in the political circles of the northwestern part of the state, and commands much influence both on account of his ability as well as his striking manly qualities.

Mr. Bayer is a Master Mason, and belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Brotherhood of America and the Red Men. He was married in 1880 to Miss Kate Webber, who died in 1895. In 1897 he was again married, to Miss Mabel I. Benedict, and to this union one child has been born, Francis B. John M. Bayer's portrait, upon another page of this work, will be duly appreciated by his many friends.

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#### HON. RANDOLPH M. PROBSTFIELD.

Hon. Randolph M. Probstfield, who resides in Oakport township, Clay county, Minnesota, is a pioneer among pioneers, and is a man in whose retentive memory lie well preserved the scenes and incidents of the early days in the Red river country. He is one of the most interesting characters of the history of the valley, where his manly qualities and fine spirit have long since won for him a multitude of friends.

Mr. Probstfield was born in Germany, November 9, 1832, and is a son of Jacob and Theresa (Richter) Probstfeld, the name having been changed by the subject of this article after his arrival in this country. He had his education in the private schools of his country, and in 1852 sought a home in the new world, becoming very soon after his arrival on the American shore a resident of St. Paul, Minnesota. Mr. Probstfield and two companions, Gerhard Lulsdorff and George Emmerling, started for the Red river country by team February 26, 1859, striking the river April 1, opposite the mouth of the Sheyenne river, at a point called Lafayette City, a mush-

room growth of the time and mostly on paper. It was a small settlement, but at the time had assumed importance as the point where the first steamboat was built and launched on the Red river, and here Mr. Probstfield and his companions fished and hunted as well as traded with the Indians. The following year the trading post of Georgetown was established five miles north, and Mr. Probstfield squatted on land close at hand on account of better mail facilities. This was in the summer of 1860, and the following winter he was called to Europe on account of business, and on his return he brought with him three brothers and a cousin. They built a log house on his farm and his wife joined him in September, 1861, but their farming enterprises were broken up by the Indian outbreak of 1862. The settlers concentrated at Georgetown; a freighting train had arrived at Georgetown, consisting of about one hundred and ten wagons and thirty-six men, and the ensuing days were marked by extreme care and anxiety, the people daily expecting attack from the Indians then surrounding Fort Abercrombie. After considerable consultation the party concluded to reach Hudson's Bay Company territory, N. W. Kitson heading the party, in all forty-four men and some families. Mr. Probstfield joined the party and started north for a safer place, but later returned to Georgetown. Provisions ran low, and it was especially difficult to supply the demand for salt, old rusty salt pork barrels being resorted to in many cases. At the request of General Sibley he remained at Georgetown until 1863, when he was ordered on pain of arrest to go to Fort Abercrombie about the middle of March, 1863. From there he joined a large wagon train under military escort about June 22, 1863, and took his family to St. Cloud.

Undaunted by the perils and hardships through which he had passed, in the spring of 1864 Mr. Probstfield returned to the Red river without an escort and established a general store at Georgetown, where he presently became postmaster, and until the fall of 1868 was agent for the Hudson's Bay Company. In April, 1869, he settled on the farm where he is found to-day, a magnificent estate of four hundred and sixty acres lying alongside the river, and presenting every advantage of the garden of the north.

Mr. Probstfield is a thoughtful and intelligent student of politics and is at heart a Socialist. From 1891 to 1893 he served as state senator, where he was especially active in securing the passage of the Drainage bill, and the establishment of the normal at Moorhead.

Mr. Probstfield was married, in 1861, to Miss Catherine Goodman, of St. Josephs county, Indiana, who died November 18, 1899, having become the mother of a family of children, as fol-

lows: Mary A.; Randolph, deceased; Alexander P.; Justus; Edmund H.; Nellie J.; Susan T.; Dorothy C., deceased; Emilia M.; Carl, deceased; Walter G.; Arthur C.; and Josephine.

#### DR. W. T. DUNCAN, M. D., C. M.

Dr. W. T. Duncan, M. D., C. M., leading physician and surgeon of Fergus Falls, has an extensive practice and holds an enviable place in the ranks of his profession in the northwest.

Dr. Duncan was born in Quebec, Canada, on the farm, January 6, 1856. His father, John Duncan, was a Scotch farmer, born in Glasgow, Scotland, and came to America in his early days and settled in Canada. He became prominent in public affairs in Quebec, having been chosen to various offices there. Our subject's mother, whose maiden name was Caroline Holden, was reared by foster parents, and of her ancestry but little is known.

Dr. Duncan was the fourth in a family of five children and was reared on the farm. His boyhood days were spent in the schools of the neighborhood and in farm labors, and later in his father's cheese factory. He became inured to the hardest toil, while at the same time he endeavored as best he could to develop his mental powers. At the age of twenty-one years he attended a preparatory school in Montreal, paying for his schooling with his own money. In 1878 he entered the Magill Medical School and graduated from that institution in 1882 with the degrees of M. D. and C. M. After his graduation he was elected house physician at Montreal General Hospital, where he entered upon his first practice. After one year in that capacity he came to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and began the practice of his profession in partnership with Dr. T. N. McLean. This partnership continued until 1896, and since that time our subject has been in practice alone. He makes a specialty of children's diseases and has built up an extensive and valuable practice. He has met with remarkable success, and the fame of his art and skill as a physician and surgeon is rapidly spreading through all the neighboring towns in northwest Minnesota.

Dr. Duncan was married, in 1886, to Miss Eva G. Herrick. Mrs. Duncan was born in Canada and in their childhood days she and Mr. Duncan were schoolmates. She is a musician of rare abilities and is prominent in musical circles of Fergus Falls, and is director of the choir of one of the leading churches of the city. To Dr. and Mrs. Duncan two children have been born, namely: Kenneth J. and Janet C. Dr. Duncan is a man of public spirit and is actively interested in all matters pertaining to the wel-



fare of his city and county. He served as a member of the city council, as city physician and was elected county coroner in 1892 and re-elected in 1900, being the only Democrat elected in the county. He carried every ward in Fergus Falls, although that city is a Republican stronghold. He is popular among the middle and laboring class of people and enjoys their confidence to a marked degree. His efforts have not been given wholly to the accumulation of wealth, but the demands of his fellowmen have been administered to without respect to their financial condition or their standing in society. He has had many tempting offers to return to his practice in Montreal, but during his residence in Fergus Falls many strong ties have been formed which he does not care to sever. Among those factors which have aided in the rapid development and growth of the city, he has been one of the most active. He has been president of the pension board for the past ten years, and for the same length of time has acted as local surgeon for the Northern Pacific Railroad. He is also leading newspaper correspondent for several of the local papers and is one of the noted field sportsmen of this part of Minnesota, and vice-president of the Fergus Falls Gun Club.

#### AARON R. BUTLER.

Aaron R. Butler, founder and present proprietor of the Bagley Independent, published at Bagley, Minnesota, is one of the early settlers of that locality and has become widely known and is universally respected and esteemed. He is a business man of marked ability, and has made a success of newspaper work in Beltrami county and conducts one of the best papers of the county.

Mr. Butler was born in Chippewa county, Wisconsin, March 4, 1877. His father, Aaron R. Butler, was born in Maine, and the mother of our subject, Adriana (Edwards) Butler, was also born in Maine.

Mr. Butler passed his boyhood on a farm in his native county and received his early education in the common schools, graduating from the high school at Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, at the age of sixteen years. He soon afterward located at Detroit, Minnesota, and worked in the office of the Detroit Free Press. He remained there three and a half years, and then took up his residence in Fisher, Minnesota. He was engaged in the printing office there and remained two years, after which he removed to Climax, Minnesota. There he conducted the Climax Chronicle two years, and then disposed of the same and removed to Bemidji. He was employed on the Bemidji Pioneer for a short time

and then removed to his present location in Bagley, Minnesota, in 1899. He established the Bagley Independent, and has since conducted the publication of the same. He now has a circulation of five hundred, and issues the paper weekly. He has a good plant, valued at seven hundred dollars, and has made a success of newspaper work in Minnesota. He is a man of broad mind, good education, and keeps pace with the times and has made for himself and his paper a good name in the locality. The Bagley Independent, although not of many years growth, takes a prominent place among the newsy papers and bright exchanges of the northwest, and it is safe to say that it has but begun its successful course and prosperity is assured Mr. Butler.

Our subject was married, in September, 1898, to Maude Brewster. Mrs. Butler was born in Fisher, Minnesota, October 3, 1879. Mr. Butler is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Bagley, and he is a Republican in political sentiment and takes a leading part in local affairs.

#### THEODORE BLOMGREN.

Theodore Blomgren, a young and enterprising farmer of Isanti county, Minnesota, whose handsome and well kept place is near Cambridge, was born on a farm in this county, and is a son of the Andrew Blomgren who was a farmer and a preacher all his life. The father came to Isanti county in 1868, and was the pioneer Baptist preacher in the county. He took a homestead farm and helped to organize the first Baptist church in this community, as well as the others that followed. At first he lived in a log house, 8x12 feet, and for ten years did all his work with oxen, including the hauling of supplies from Anoka, thirty-two miles away.

Andrew Blomgren was born in Sweden, where he was reared and educated as a farmer, and followed farming in his earlier manhood, but as he was of a deep religious nature he began to preach in 1872, and continued to preach and farm for the next ten years. Since 1882 he has been exclusively engaged in the work of the ministry.

Theodore Blomgren is the oldest member in a family of four children, who were reared and educated on the farm. He took a business course at the Northwestern College of Duluth, and began for himself when only sixteen years old. For ten years he was a clerk for Goulberg & Anderson, developing so much clerical ability and manly character that the Republicans took him up and elected him county auditor in 1900, and he is now serving his first term in that capacity.

Mr. Blomgren was married, in the fall of

1900, to Miss Adlaide Hallin, born in Cambridge, in 1874, and a daughter of Olle A. Hallin, a druggist in Cambridge. Mr. Blomgren is a Republican, and has been a trustee of the village for two years. He is highly respected by all who know him, and his upright and honorable career has still much promise in it.

His was a boyhood of romance and adventure, and Mr. Blomgren early learned self reliance. Around the home of his boyhood stretched the thick forest, full of game, and the streams that coursed the valleys were abounding in fish. The first grain his father harvested was two acres of wheat, which yielded thirty bushels, and was threshed with a thresher made by his father and a neighbor. The father began raising stock in about 1874, and now owns a well cultivated farm of one hundred and ten acres, with over fifty acres under the plow. For six years the elder Blomgren was town treasurer, and for some years has taken much interest in county politics. At the present time he is pastor of the Baptist church in Dalbo.

#### THEODORE F. RODWELL, M. D.

Theodore F. Rodwell, M. D., one of the oldest resident physicians of Cass county, Minnesota, has a large practice and is widely known as a physician and citizen of true worth. He is physician of the Indians under the United States government appointment, and is a gentleman of skill and knowledge of his calling.

Dr. Rodwell was born in Ontario, Canada, December 14, 1858, and was a son of Alfred and Mary Jane (Fulkerson) Rodwell, the former a native of England and the latter a native of New Jersey. Dr. Rodwell was reared on a farm in Ontario until he was fourteen years of age. He completed the high school course and then entered the University of Toronto at the age of seventeen years. He taught for some years and became professor of the Copetown public school, which position he filled three years. He then entered the University of Michigan, studying four years, and graduated with the degree of M. D. He established his office for the practice of his profession in Saginaw, Michigan, and he continued his work there ten years. In 1896 he took up his residence in Walker, Minnesota, and practiced medicine there until 1900, when he located in Cass Lake. He opened his office in that village and was appointed physician for the Indians by the United States government. He has an extensive practice and has become one of the well known and successful physicians of the northwest. He is the oldest physician of the county and occupies a high place among his fraternity. He is the owner of con-

siderable real estate in Michigan and also in Minnesota.

Dr. Rodwell was married, in 1882, to Anna McDonald. Mrs. Rodwell was born in Canada, in the city of Burlington, August 10, 1858. Dr. and Mrs. Rodwell are the parents of one child, Mac, who was born in Canada September 22, 1883. Dr. Rodwell has always taken a commendable interest in the public affairs of his community, and he has been called upon to serve in various local offices. He was mayor of Carrollton, Michigan, and also postmaster of that city, and he has ever been awake to the interests of his fellows. He is a Republican in political sentiment. He is prominent in secret society circles and holds membership in several organizations, namely: Masonic, the order of Elks, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Independent Order of Foresters, Knights of the Maccabees, Modern Woodmen of America and Order of Red Men.

#### GEORGE A. EATON.

George A. Eaton, one of the young and pushing business men of Princeton, Minnesota, was born in Maitland, Nova Scotia, in 1859, and comes of English and Scotch descent. In the old days of the American Revolution the Eatons were Loyalists, three brothers being with the Colonists and three with the English.

R. B. Eaton, the father of George A., was a merchant in Canada all his life, where he married Abigail Smith, daughter of a family long established on Canadian soil. They were the parents of a family of nine children, of which the subject of this article was the third member.

George A. Eaton was reared and educated in his Canadian home, where he remained until he was twenty-two years old, and for some years was employed by his father in the store. Late in the fall of 1879 Mr. Eaton came west, and found employment as a clerk in a store in Montevideo, where he spent two years. A third year was passed in Manitoba, where he worked for the Canadian Pacific Railway, and six months in a visit to his old Nova Scotia home, after which Mr. Eaton returned to Montevideo, Minnesota, where he formed a partnership with William Dunbrock and bought out a grocery store. Mr. Eaton was in business for ten years in Montevideo, and with his partner built up the largest business of the kind in that section of the state. In 1892 Mr. Eaton retired from the store in favor of Mr. Dunbrock, and coming to Princeton, in company with H. H. Whitman, organized the Citizen's State Bank. It was the second bank established in the town, and for its president, H. H. Whitman, and Mr. Eaton as cashier. In the fall of 1893 S. S. Peterson was made presi-

dent of the bank, which has now become one of the very considerable institutions of the Northwest. It did a business of \$50,000 in 1893, and in 1900 this had increased to over \$200,000. Those now associated in the Citizens' Bank also own the most of the stock of the Mille Lacs County Bank at Milaca, the leading bank of that county.

Mr. Eaton was married in 1885, to Miss Agnes Crow, a native of Nova Scotia, and a daughter of parents born in the North of Ireland. She is an artist, and was occupied by that work before her marriage. She was a graduate of the Normal at Truro, Nova Scotia, and gave instruction in art. To this marriage has come one daughter, Avis, who was born at Montevideo.

Mr. Eaton is a Democrat, and has served two terms as mayor of Montevideo, and was in the city council three years. For three years he has been treasurer of Princeton, and was president of the Aitkin County Bank for two years. For some years he served as a director of the Montevideo Windom Institute. Wherever he has been he has never hesitated to take an active part in the affairs of the town and county, and is reckoned today as one of the leading men of Mille Lacs county.

#### FRANK H. ALLEN, M. D.

Todd county, Minnesota, has no more worthy representative among her professional men than Dr. Frank H. Allen. He is a young man of excellent education and intellect and is rapidly taking his deserved station among the medical fraternity of Minnesota. He is popular and influential as a citizen and physician and enjoys a large patronage in Staples and surrounding country.

Dr. Allen was born in Wisconsin, January 29, 1871, and was a son of Houston B. and Nettie (Shoe) Allen, the former a native of Iowa and the latter of Wisconsin. He attended the common schools of Richland Center, Wisconsin, until he was seventeen years of age, when he went to Beloit College, and later took a three years' course in the University of Wisconsin. He then began the study of medicine and graduated from Rush Medical College in 1894. He at once established his office in Staples, Minnesota, and has rapidly gained a lucrative and increasing patronage. His office is located over the City Drug Store in the Mooreland Block at First avenue and Fourth street, and he has a large office practice as well as outside practice. He is the Association Substitute Physician for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, and is chairman of the board of health at Staples. Dr. Allen owns a valuable residence and lot in Staples, and also has

a fine driving team, and being a lover of hunting dogs has two blooded setters.

Dr. Allen was married in 1900 to Jennie Wilson. Mrs. Allen is a native of Minnesota, and was born May 22, 1881. Her parents, George and Mary Wilson, reside at Staples, and Mr. Wilson is an engineer for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company. Dr. and Mrs. Allen are members of the Episcopal church at Staples. Dr. Allen is very prominent in secret society circles and holds membership in the following orders, the local lodges of the same being located in Staples: Masonic fraternity, Elks, Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen of America, Ancient Order of United Workmen, Degree of Honor, Eastern Star, Shicks of Damascus. Politically Dr. Allen is a Republican.

#### FRANK P. McQUILLIN.

Frank P. McQuillin, of the McQuillin Land Company, of Aitkin, Minnesota, is a gentleman of thorough knowledge of the topography of the region in which he has made his home since his youth. He has made a success of the real-estate business, and handles extensive tracts for the railroad company and capitalists. He is one of the earliest settlers of Aitkin county, and became inured to the western hardships and frontier life, and can recount many exciting and interesting incidents of his early life there. He is widely known and is deservedly one of the influential and esteemed citizens of Aitkin county, and his portrait on another page of this volume will be highly appreciated by his friends.

Mr. McQuillin was born on a farm in Ohio in 1852. His father, Jacob McQuillin, was of Pennsylvania Dutch descent and was a farmer by occupation. The great-grandparents of our subject came from Holland, and the great-grandfather was of Holland and Scotch descent. The mother of our subject, Maria (Eddleman) McQuillin, was born in New Jersey, and was of Pennsylvania Dutch descent. Her father fought in the war of 1812.

Frank P. McQuillin was the sixth in a family of eight children, seven of whom are now living. He was raised on a farm, and went to Minnesota in 1854 and settled in Fillmore county. His early education was obtained in a country school held in a log school-house, and he was put to work on the home farm when a young boy and always assisted with the work of the place. The land upon which the family located was not surveyed until 1856. At the age of eighteen years Mr. McQuillin went to Aitkin, Minnesota, and entered the employ of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company and had charge of the land examiner's department. He remained with this company

twelve years, and during this time he did much traveling over the country and camped out, spending many winters in the woods in camp. In 1884 he worked for the Wisconsin, Minnesota & Pacific Railroad, examining the state lands which were given to this company, over 265,000 acres. He was with this company nine years, a good share of the time until 1897. He was appointed county treasurer of Aitkin county in 1890 and served two years, and was then elected in 1894 to the office, serving two years. He has dealt in land more or less for many years, and in 1896 established a land office in Aitkin and has since devoted himself exclusively to the business. He handles all railroad lands and does a general real-estate business and sells a great share of the land handled in that locality. In June, 1900, Charles H. Warner became associated with Mr. McQuillin in the business, and they now conduct the same under the name of the McQuillin Land Company.

Mr. McQuillin was married in 1880 to Miss Catherine S. George. Mrs. McQuillin was born in Rockford, Wright county, Minnesota, and is of American descent. She is a lady of rare attainments, a graduate of the Boston high school, and prior to her marriage taught in Minnesota. Her father, Gilford D. George, was born in New England and was a carriage and sleigh manufacturer. Mr. and Mrs. McQuillin have been the parents of seven children, namely: Guy C., deceased; Grace K.; Arthur; Frank, deceased; Alice; Margaret, and Beulah, all of whom were born in Minnesota. Mr. McQuillin assisted in the organization of Aitkin town and was one of the early village officers, and has ever taken a prominent part in local government. He is a staunch Republican politically.

#### A. J. HALSTED.

Probably no citizen of northern Minnesota is better known than A. J. Halsted, proprietor of The Brainerd Tribune, published at Brainerd, Minnesota. He has always identified himself with the public affairs of the community in which he made his home, and has become widely known for his active public spirit and thorough appreciation of the wants of his community, and is universally esteemed and honored regardless of political affiliations. He is a gentleman of broad mind, and is possessed of a character of the highest integrity and an energetic spirit and succeeds in business as well as social affairs.

Mr. Halsted was born in the eastern part of Ohio August 23, 1850. His father was killed in the United States army in eastern Virginia during the Civil war. Our subject was then but thirteen years of age and was one of a large family

of children, and consequently was thrown upon his own resources, and he has since made his own livelihood. His father was a native of New York and was a school teacher by profession, and our subject was reared to appreciate a good education. He attended the common schools and at the age of fourteen established a book store and news stand at Bridgeport, Ohio. He continued in business there two years and in 1868 went to northeastern Pennsylvania, where he first engaged in newspaper work, and in the fall of 1870 went to Wheeling, West Virginia. He was city editor of the Wheeling Intelligencer until August, 1879. This was the leading paper of the state. He then founded the Saturday evening Journal, a weekly paper devoted to society news, sporting news, etc., and was conducted successfully. A half interest was purchased in the plant by G. W. Atkinson and others in the spring of 1883, and the paper was made an afternoon daily. Mr. Atkinson was a congressman, and subsequently governor of West Virginia, and is very prominent in public affairs of the state. In the fall of 1883 Mr. Halsted disposed of the entire plant to Mr. Atkinson. He then removed to Minnesota, and in the spring of 1884 purchased the North Western Tribune and changed its name to The Brainerd Tribune. This paper was established in 1872 by M. D. Russell, and is one of the oldest papers of northern Minnesota. For a time it was run as a daily. It has always been a Republican paper and is the leading paper of the county, and has the largest circulation of any paper in northern Minnesota, and Mr. Halsted has every reason to feel gratified with the result of his labors in that locality.

Mr. Halsted's family are residing in Brainerd and his mother is now making her home with him. In all public matters our subject has proven himself a man of active concern in the welfare of his community wherever he has made his home. In Wheeling he was alderman in the upper branch of the city council for five years, and in 1892 was elected mayor of the city of Brainerd. After serving two years his popularity and good work are best attested by the fact that he received a second election to that office in 1900. In that year he was the Republican nominee, and the Populists and Democrats endorsed the nomination and he was elected without opposition. In 1890 he was nominee of the Republican party for the legislature and run about nine hundred ahead of his ticket, but owing to the fusion of the Democrats with the Peoples party his election was defeated by twelve to fifteen votes. He was chairman of the Republican county committee for a number of years and president of the Republican League Club for several years, and also president of the Campaign Club. In

1900 he was president of the County League Club and at the state convention in St. Paul he was elected vice-president of the league, and a member of the executive committee from the sixth district. Mr. Halsted is prominent in secret society circles. He is a member of all the Masonic orders, including the Knights Templar, and was the first exalted ruler of the Elks lodge in Brainerd, and also holds membership in the Ancient Order of United Workmen, I. O. R. N., Modern Samaritans and Knights of the Macca-bees. He was a member of the vestry of St. Paul Episcopal church for many years.

#### DR. CHARLES W. CUTLER.

Dr. Charles W. Cutler, physician and druggist of Park Rapids, is one of the well known medical men of Hubbard county, Minnesota. He has spent his life in the relief of the ills of mankind, and is a man of wide experience and energetic nature. He is the senior member of the Cutler & Blood Drug Company, and is a worthy citizen and successful business man.

Dr. Cutler was born in Iowa, January 14, 1858, and was a son of James B. and Margaret (Beard) Cutler, the former a native of Michigan and the latter of Ohio. He was raised in Iowa until he was twenty years of age and attended the common schools. He graduated from the Cedar Valley Seminary in 1877 and in 1883 graduated from the Rush Medical College in Chicago. He then took up the practice of his profession in Osage, Iowa, and continued there one year, then spent a year in Sioux City, Iowa, and in 1882 located in Park Rapids, Minnesota. He followed the practice of medicine here two years and then took a year's course in Bellevue Hospital Medical College in New York.

After completing his studies in New York, Dr. Cutler returned to Park Rapids and established the Cutler & Vanderpoel Drug Company, which he conducted until 1887, when he disposed of his interests there and removed to Fergus Falls, Minnesota. He built up a good practice in his profession there and met with good success and continued his residence there four years. He became a resident of Park Rapids again in 1891 and followed his profession two years thereafter, when he established the Cutler and Blood Drug Company, in which business he has since continued. The stock is complete and is valued at three thousand dollars, and everything in the drug line is to be found there. Dr. Cutler gives the business his personal attention and supervision, and he has steadily increased his patronage and now receives his full share of the trade of the locality.

Dr. Cutler was married in 1890 to Carrie

Flint. Mrs. Cutler was born in Wisconsin, June 10, 1866, and died in Minnesota, February 2, 1891. Dr. Cutler married Pearl Manlove, August 6, 1898. Mrs. Cutler is a native of Minnesota, and was born January 28, 1878. To this union two children have been born, namely: Blair W., who was born in Minnesota, January 22, 1900, and Vida Anne, born April 4, 1901.

Dr. Cutler is actively interested in the welfare of his community and has served in various local offices of trust. He was one of the first county commissioners of Hubbard county and has been health officer. He is prominent in secret society circles and is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen of America, and Modern Brotherhood of America. He is a Republican in political sentiment and stands staunchly for the principles of his party. He is a gentleman of the strictest integrity and is progressive and enterprising and his success and good name are well merited.

#### THEODORE BROCKHOFF.

Theodore Brockhoff, a prosperous merchant and extensive land owner of Wadena county, is an old settler of that region and has gained a host of friends during his life there. He is engaged in the hardware business in Wadena and Fergus Falls, and does an extensive business in this line.

Mr. Brockhoff was born on a farm in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, August 29, 1855, and was a son of Henry Brockhoff. His father was a native of Germany and came to America in the spring of 1853 with his wife. This was the only move he made throughout his career and he followed farming successfully throughout his life. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Gertrude Baumgardner, was a native of the same place as our subject's father. Of a family of thirteen children born to this worthy couple our subject was the second in order of birth. He was raised on the farm in Wisconsin and aided in transforming a pioneer farm into a well cultivated farm. He attended the country school four miles from his home a few weeks, and altogether had but a limited schooling, but by study and observation has since acquired a good education. When he was nine years of age he and his mother had the care of the farm, owing to the father being drafted into the army. He did not serve, being rejected, and returned to his home, but during his absence our subject passed through many experiences. Driving oxen to harrow he was too small to take their yokes off at nooning and had to go to a neighbor's to assist him. When about the house he was a great help to his mother with the housework

and the care of his younger brothers and sisters. At the age of sixteen years he went to Manitowoc and there spent three years learning the blacksmith's trade. During two years of this time he had but fifty cents spending money. After completing his apprenticeship he went to Milwaukee and there worked at his trade two years and then established a shop near his home at Clark's Mills. He conducted the business there one year; and then through the crookedness of a wagon-maker he lost his tools and an investment of \$100. Being short of capital he traveled westward to Albert Lea, Minnesota, and secured work on a gravel train. On reaching Jordan he wished to quit his position, where he had endured many hardships, and finally was compelled to walk forty miles to Minneapolis to secure his wages, starting at night and securing a few hours rest in a box car at Chaska on his way. He then returned to Jordan and worked five months on a farm. He then followed his trade a year and a half in St. Paul and vicinity, and, in the spring of 1880, went to Wadena and established a blacksmith shop there. This was the second shop of the kind in the town and he and his partner manufactured the first wagon in the county. In one year and nine months he bought his partner out and conducted the business alone. The country was new and business prospered for Mr. Brockhoff and during the winter months he worked long hours doing a general blacksmithing and repairing business. He had the largest shop in the county and did an extensive business, employing four men, the business keeping himself and all the employes busy. He continued in the blacksmith business until 1891, when he disposed of the same for a farm and the same year started in the hardware business, purchasing the stock of George H. Green in Wadena. This store was established by Mr. Green and John Weeks about 1887 and Mr. Brockhoff continued business at the old place until 1894, when he and William King built the present brick store building. In 1894 Harry Holzer became a partner with Mr. Brockhoff and they conducted the business together four years, when they sold the stock and retired temporarily from the business in Wadena. Mr. Brockhoff owned a stock which he had purchased in Staples and this he removed to Deer Creek, Ottertail county, where he had erected a building for the purpose and he conducted business there until January, 1900. In the meantime he and A. H. Holzer purchased the stock which Mr. Brockhoff had sold about eight months previous. They now have a store 99x25 feet, including a tinshop, and they carry a complete line of hardware, etc. Mr. Brockhoff owned some Minneapolis property, which he turned toward a hardware business in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. This business was

established in 1895 with a \$1,500 stock and this has been increased to a \$5,000 stock and occupies a 50-foot-front store building. The store is owned by Mr. Brockhoff and A. H. Spiekerman. Mr. Brockhoff has engaged in buying and selling real estate in Wadena county since his residence there and has owned at different times no less than twenty-two different farms in Wadena and Ottertail counties. He is now the owner of a fine tract of 320 acres, which is partly improved, and upon which he engages successfully in agriculture. He also has property in Duluth. During the summer of 1900 he erected a modern and comfortable residence, and now enjoys a pleasant home and successful business.

Mr. Brockhoff was married in the fall of 1882 to Miss Susanna Peffer. Mrs. Brockhoff was born in Stearns county, Minnesota, and was a daughter of Lawrence Peffer. Her father was a native of Germany, and came to America about 1850, and settled in Wisconsin. He later moved to Minnesota, where Mrs. Brockhoff was reared and educated. Mr. and Mrs. Brockhoff are the parents of one daughter, Mary, who was born in 1885. She is an accomplished musician and is attending school in Wadena, and is one of the promising young ladies of that community. Mr. Brockhoff is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters and St. Joseph's Society, and is also a member of the Catholic church. He has taken an active part in church work and was one of the promoters of the establishment of a church at Wadena and the erection of a house of worship. He was trustee of the church eight years. This denomination now owns the largest church in this part of the county. Mr. Brockhoff was a member of the first city council of Wadena.

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#### ARTHUR J. LEWIS, M. D.

Arthur J. Lewis, M. D., a young and capable physician of Mora, Kanabec county, was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, in 1869, and is a son of a Welsh Congregational minister, who was born in Wales, and came with his family to the United States in 1868.

Dr. Lewis was the first in a family of five children, who were reared and educated in Akron, Ohio. When he was twenty years of age he began the study of medicine in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, the medical department of Hamlin University, at Minneapolis. He received his degree in 1895, and during his college course spent one year at the hospital connected with the Soldiers' Home at Minnehaha. The young doctor located at Rose Creek, Mower county, Minnesota, where he was in practice two years, and in 1897 removed to Mora, where he



opened an office the same year, building up an extensive practice through Kanabec, Pine and Mille Laacs counties.

Dr. Lewis was married in 1868 to a Miss Loague, a native of Indiana, and a descendant of an old American family. Mrs. Lewis is a lady of many gifts, for several years having been a school teacher in Kanabec county previous to her marriage. Dr. and Mrs. Lewis have one child, Ha.

Dr. Lewis is a Republican, and has served as county coroner and village health officer. He is local surgeon for the Great Northern Railway, and has a very handsome and inviting residence in Mora. His first appearance in Mora was in 1894, and he at once formed a liking for that place, and presently made it his home. He is today the oldest resident physician in the county.

#### EDWARD E. BJORGE.

The present solid prosperity enjoyed in Becker county, Minnesota, may be attributed largely to her pioneers. In the early days of her settlement, when a wilderness was the only welcome tendered a stranger who settled there, little to encourage and much to discourage came to his lot, but those sturdy men who went to their new home with a determination to succeed and worked persistently and honestly are now the prosperous and honored citizens of their locality. Our subject aided in bringing that wilderness to a high state of cultivation and civilization, his father being one of the first to locate in Lake Park township, and to Edward E. Bjorge great credit is due for his labors and good influence. He is a prosperous business man of the town of Lake Park, and is deservedly placed in a high rank among the worthy citizens of that thriving town.

Our subject was born in Norway, October 6, 1859, and was a son of Erick O. and Mary (Everson) Bjorge, both of whom were natives of Norway. He came with his parents to America at the age of three years, and the family located in Vernon county, Wisconsin, where they remained nine years. The father entered claim to land in Becker county, Minnesota, and drove overland with oxen to his new home, taking four months to make the journey. They settled in Lake Park township, and built a log house and a log barn and there lived till more pretentious and comfortable quarters could be supplied. During those early days they suffered many hardships and it was indeed slow work to accomplish the purpose which had prompted them to take up their abode there, but our subject assisted the father with the development of the farm and attended the common schools and later he entered

Augustbery Seminary at Minneapolis and completed a four years course in that institution. He then accepted a position as clerk in a general store in Minneapolis, where he was engaged five years, and then returned to Lake Park, Minnesota, and there followed the same occupation five years. He then established himself in the grocery business in Lake Park, at which he has since continued with good results and is now the proprietor of a good and increasing business.

Our subject was married in 1888 to Rachel Hanson, a native of Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Bjorge are the parents of three children, who are named in order of birth as follows: Hilmar B., Edith M. and Dewey. Mr. Bjorge and family are members of the Senol Norwegian Lutheran church at Lake Park. Our subject has a large acquaintance, and is held in the highest esteem by all. He is influential in public affairs and has served four years as assessor of the town of Lake Park. During 1873 he served as deputy postmaster under Mr. Plumber, and he has ever taken a hearty interest in local affairs. Politically he is a Democrat, and stands firmly for the principles which he advocates. He enjoys a pleasant home and well merited success as a citizen and business man.

#### CAPTAIN JOHN C. BENNEWITZ.

Captain John C. Bennewitz, one of the highly respected citizens of Marshall county, is now living in retirement in the village of Argyle. Captain Bennewitz is known to his intimate friends as the "Iron Chancellor," owing to a remarkable resemblance, not only in features, but in his grasp of public affairs and depth of penetration and executive ability, to the famous German statesman. A portrait of him appears on another page.

Captain Bennewitz was born in Andisleben, Erfurt, Prussia, June 3, 1826. He was the fourth in a family of five sons born to William H. and Elizabeth (Krieger) Bennewitz. At the age of thirteen years our subject was compelled to quit school, and thus his education was left deficient. He has, however, been a thorough and observing student all his life, and is respected as a man of wide and general information of a practical and valuable nature. In 1847 Captain Bennewitz was conscripted into the Prussian army, and served four years, during which time occurred the civil war in Baden, Germany. In 1852 he came to the United States, locating in Waukesha county, Wisconsin. He began farming in that county in 1857 and conducted farm operations with success until 1872, when, having been elected to the state legislature of Wisconsin, he sold his farm. His election, however, was contested.

In 1875 he removed to Red Wing, Minnesota, and purchased grain at that point for five years. He first visited Argyle in 1879, and the following year engaged in the machine business in that village and also opened a lumber business. He soon after sold his interest in the machine business, but conducted the lumber yard until 1890, when he sold out and retired from active business pursuits.

Captain Bennewitz was married in 1853 to Mrs. Mary Menzel, *nee* Huegelman. Two children were born of this marriage, viz., Theodore and Henry. Captain Bennewitz is a member of the I. O. O. F., and of the German Lutheran church. He is an old-time Democrat, having voted that ticket for the past forty-eight years. During the past four years he has been chairman of the Democratic county central committee. He has made several trips to the old country since coming to America, the first being in 1873 and the second in 1893, and his last trip was made in 1895. Captain Bennewitz is the owner of valuable town property, and is a man of substantial worth. For his valiant services in the Prussian army he holds a medal of honor presented to him by the Grand Duke of Baden, also a medal of honor from the King of Prussia. Mrs. Bennewitz died in Argyle, Minnesota, in 1887, and was buried at Red Wing, Minnesota.

#### DR. BENJAMIN W. KELLY.

Although this gentleman has been a resident of Aitkin comparatively few years, he has become widely known as a medical practitioner of remarkable skill and has built up an extensive practice. He is thoroughly equipped by excellent training for his profession and is a gentleman of intelligence and true worth as a physician and fellow citizen. He has a pleasant home and is one of the influential men of his community.

Dr. Kelly was born in Michigan in 1874, and was reared there in Towas City. His father was of Scotch-Irish descent. The great-grandfather came to America with the British army in the war of 1812. The grandmother Kelly, whose maiden name was Ebert, was from Knickerbocker stock. The mother of our subject was of old Colonial stock. The family came to America in 1632 and settled at Ipswich, Massachusetts. They were in the Revolutionary war, the war of 1812, and the paternal ancestors of our subject also served in the latter war. He also had ancestors in the Mexican war and an uncle in the Civil war, the latter dying in the prison at Richmond.

Dr. Kelly attended the common schools of Towas and later entered the High School at East Saginaw, Michigan, and completed a course in this institution. He then attended the medical

department of the State University at Ann Arbor and graduated from the institution in 1897. He established himself for the practice of his profession at West Farmington, Ohio, and continued there one year. He located in Aitkin, Minnesota, in 1898, and at once opened his office there and has since built up a lucrative and extensive practice. He selected his location carefully and settled there with a determination to succeed and make his way to the front rank of the fraternity of which he is a member, and it is safe to assert that he has rapidly gained a footing and to assure him of speedy success. Dr. Kelly does not interest himself to any great degree in the political affairs of his community, and does not seek public preferment, but he is interested in the welfare of Aitkin and is identified with the Republican party. He is a member of the village board of health.

Dr. Kelly was married in the spring of 1898 to Miss Mary Haine, of West Farmington, Ohio. Our subject is prominent in secret society affairs, and holds membership in the Masonic fraternity, Modern Woodmen of America and Good Samaritans.

#### OLIVER H. GATES.

Oliver H. Gates, superintendent of the Vermilion Lake Training School, is a man of broad mind and excellent discipline, and has met with success in educational work. His residence is at Tower, St. Louis county.

Mr. Gates was born on a farm in Adams county, Pennsylvania, in 1860. His father, Jacob F. Gates, was of Pennsylvania Dutch descent, and was a farmer by occupation. Our subject's mother Elizabeth (Sowers) Gates, was of Pennsylvania Dutch descent, and her ancestors took part in the early wars of this country. Our subject was the eldest in a family of three children, and passed his boyhood in Hampton, Pennsylvania, where he attended the public schools, and the East Berlin Normal School, and later entered a private institution at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, from which he graduated in 1886. His parents are now residents of that place.

Mr. Gates followed teaching six years, in two different counties in Pennsylvania, and was principal at Arendtsville, Pennsylvania, for two years. He went to the Turtle Mountains in North Dakota in 1892, and was teacher in the Indian schools there about one year, when he was transferred to Fort Stevenson, North Dakota. He was made principal and disciplinarian, and after six months was appointed superintendent of the Fort Stevenson Industrial School. The institution was removed to Fort Berthold in 1894, and Mr. Gates was superintendent there until 1899. He was then appointed to his present position of the Ver-



million Lake Training School. This is an Indian School, and was established in 1898. The first work on the construction of the buildings was begun at that time, and a plant of eight buildings, including dormitories for both male and female pupils, school buildings for recitation, superintendent's residence, laundry, warehouse, pump-house, ice house, and barn, have been completed. The school was begun in October, 1899, with an attendance of twelve pupils and has increased to 160. The employees include three teachers, physician, two matrons, cook, seamstress, laundress, engineer, industrial teacher and gardener.

Mr. Gates was married in the fall of 1894, to Miss Fannie Staley. Mrs. Gates was born in Illinois, and was a teacher in Fort Stevenson Indian School. She also taught at Fort Berthold, and in the public schools of North Dakota. Her father, John Staley, was a ranchman in North Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Gates are the parents of two children: John, born in 1897, and Paul in 1898. Mr. Gates is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Masonic fraternity, and has passed the degree of Knight Templar. He is non-partisan in politics.

#### WILLIAM C. TYNDALL.

William C. Tyndall, county sheriff of Itasca county, Minnesota, is one of the foremost citizens of that locality. He was an early settler there and has a wide circle of acquaintances by whom he is highly esteemed.

Mr. Tyndall was born on a farm in Ontario, Canada, August 7, 1861. His father, Thomas Tyndall, was born in Ireland and was a farmer by occupation. He came to America later in life. He was prominent in army circles and served in the British army in Ireland, being an officer. He came to Canada with his wife and two children. He was a circuit judge in Canada and prominent in public affairs of Ontario. He was twice married and the mother of our subject, Harriet (Watchorn) Tyndall, was the second wife. She was a native of Canada and was of Irish descent.

William C. Tyndall was the fifth in a family of thirteen children, and he had two half-brothers. He was raised on a farm and attended the country schools. The father died when he was seven years of age, and by the death of his mother, when he was aged nine years, he was left an orphan. He then started for himself, hiring out at mill work and farming at different places near Parmiston, Ontario. He grew to manhood there and aided in the support of his younger brothers and sisters. He went to Lyons Head, Ontario, at the age of nineteen years and

run an engine for Robert Watt in a saw mill and gristmill and was thus engaged one year. In 1881 he went to Minnesota, and later to Old Superior, Wisconsin, and there worked for railroad contractor McDonald, building the Northern Pacific Railroad west to Carlton and also to Cloquet. Mr. Tyndall worked for the Payne Lumber Company at Carlton one summer and in 1882 went to Cloquet and took charge of the Ellis Trimmer for the lumber company at that place, where he remained eight years. While in Carlton and Cloquet he was appointed deputy sheriff under sheriffs Flynn and Monroe and served two terms. He was engaged in business in Cloquet six years, opening one of the first saloons on the island there. He lost his building and stock by fire in 1884, but soon afterward rebuilt his store. He went to Grand Rapids in 1889, a year prior to the building of the Great Northern Railroad through that town. He established a wholesale liquor business and was the first man to establish a wholesale business in that part of the country. His first stock of goods was taken by team from LaPrairie. He continued in the wholesale business until 1898, when he was elected sheriff of Itasca county on the Republican ticket and was re-elected in 1901. He has built up a good business for himself, and he has acquired considerable property in Itasca county. He owns a large farm two miles from Grand Rapids, of which sixty-five acres is cleared for cultivation, and he has a smaller farm on the shore of Pokegama Lake, which is all cleared and devoted to grain raising. Outside of the state farm the one owned by Mr. Tyndall is the best developed farm in Itasca county.

Mr. Tyndall was married, November 3, 1885, to Miss Ellinor Salter. Mrs. Tyndall was born in Port Algon, Ontario, and was of Scotch and English descent. Her father, James Salter, was a farmer by occupation, and was a native of England. Her mother, Catherine Salter, was born in Scotland. Mr. and Mrs. Tyndall are the parents of three children, namely: Alice E., Hazel E. and William W. The daughters were born at Cloquet, Minnesota, and the son at Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Mr. Tyndall is a staunch Republican politically, and was the first sheriff of Itasca county elected by the Republican party. He has also served two terms as village treasurer and enjoys the confidence of all with whom he has to do.

#### JOHN R. WALTERS.

John R. Walters, postmaster of Stephen, Minnesota, is an efficient and faithful officer, and is popular with the people of Marshall county. He has resided there for many years and has a wide acquaintance, all of whom accord him a place of

prominence as a citizen. He is a native of Vermont, and was born in Rutland county, June 9, 1860.

Mr. Walters was the third in a family of four children born to Rowland and Ursula (Jones) Walters. His parents were both natives of Wales and are now deceased. Our subject was born on a farm and reared there, but when a youth followed his father's occupation, that of a quarryman. He was employed in the slate and marble quarries until 1880, when he began the study of telegraphy at Janesville, Wisconsin. He was engaged in this business until 1885, and passed the last two years at Stephen, Minnesota. He then engaged in the machine business in partnership with Mr. MacMahan, under the firm name of MacMahan & Walters, and continued thus engaged until 1890. Under Harrison's administration he became postmaster at Stephen, and then was engaged four years in the general merchandise business in partnership with Mr. MacMahan. During the ensuing presidential administration he was again appointed postmaster at Stephen, which office he now holds. He is a man of intelligence and possessed of thorough business principles, and has succeeded with every enterprise in which he has embarked.

Mr. Walters was married, in 1885, to Miss Bertha MacMahan. One daughter has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Walters, who bears the name of Theresa. Mr. Walters is prominent in secret society circles and is an active member of the Knights of the Maccabees. In political faith he is a Republican and is an earnest worker for party principles. He is a recognized leader and is serving as secretary of the Republican club, and served as treasurer of the Republican county central committee in 1900.

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#### J. D. BUDD, M. D.

The medical fraternity of Lake county, Minnesota, has no more able representative than Dr. J. D. Budd, who was an early settler of that locality, and has extended his acquaintance through his skillful labors in his profession, and his integrity of word and deed. Dr. Budd is a practicing physician of Two Harbors, where he has also founded a hospital, and his extensive work there necessitates the assistance of several nurses and the help of two assistants, Drs. W. Goldsworthy and E. L. Cheney.

Dr. J. D. Budd was born in the village of Lancaster, Wisconsin, in 1848. His father, Daniel H. Budd, was a carriage maker by trade. The Budd family fled from France to England to escape religious persecution, and there one of the family was married to a subsequent occupant of the English throne. In 1632 John and Joseph

Budd, sons of royalty, came to America, and settled in New England, and our subject is a descendant of Joseph Budd. This family took part in all the wars in the early establishment of the government.

Of a family of five children, Dr. Budd was the second in order of birth. He was reared in his native town, where he has relatives still residing. After completing the public school course, and graduating from the high school, at the age of sixteen years he entered the United States army as a member of the Fiftieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served fifteen months in 1864 and 1865. Upon his return from the service he entered Lawrence University at Appleton, Wisconsin, and graduated therefrom in 1872 with the degree of M. S. He then attended medical colleges at St. Paul and Chicago, and in 1887 received the degree of M. D. He had spent ten years previous to this in Michigan as an assistant physician. He went to Two Harbors, Minnesota, in 1889, as chief surgeon for the Duluth & Iron Range Railway, and has held that position for the past twelve years. He built the Budd Hospital in 1895, and opened the building for patients in February, 1896. This is a commodious structure, and accommodates fifty patients. It is modern in every respect, and is well equipped with all appliances for the treatment of various ills. A matron and several trained nurses assist the doctors. Dr. Budd completed his handsome residence in Two Harbors in the summer of 1901. He has devoted his entire attention to his professional work, and his success as a result is well deserved.

Dr. Budd was married, in 1881, to Miss Margaret Carence, a native of Canada. Dr. and Mrs. Budd are the parents of one child, Leila Marguerite, who was born in Two Harbors, Minn. Dr. Budd has served as health officer twelve years, coroner ten years, and county physician twelve years, and stands at the head of his profession in Lake county. He is very prominently connected with various social organizations, and is post-surgeon of Culver Post, G. A. R., at Duluth. He is a thirty-second-degree Mason, and belongs to all auxiliary lodges. He takes an active part in the social affairs of his community. Politically he is a Republican and firm in his convictions.

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#### JORIS C. NORBY.

Enterprise, honesty, and conscientious discharge of public duties has placed this gentleman at the highest station among the citizens and business men of Ada, Norman county. He has amassed considerable property in that locality, and has accomplished the same by his own intelligent efforts, supplemented by the strictest integrity of word and deed, and now enjoys the

result of a well-spent career. Our subject is a native of Norway, but since taking up his residence in this land has had the interests of his adopted country at heart, and has been called upon to serve his fellow men in various offices of trust, in all of which he has proven his ability and faithfulness, and now enjoys the confidence of those among whom he has chosen his home.

Our subject was born in Tronhjen, Norway, on a farm, October 22, 1857. His father, Joris Norby, was a merchant and farmer, and came to America with the family in 1871, settling in Fillmore county, Minnesota. Our subject was the tenth child and youngest son in a family of twelve children, and he was given a liberal education, attending the schools of his native land about seven years, and later attending the schools of America in Minnesota, and at Decorah, Iowa. He remained at home until he attained his majority, and in 1878 went to Norman county, Minnesota, where he followed teaching and also worked at his trade, that of a carpenter, until 1883. He also entered claim to government land. He was elected clerk of the district court in 1882, and re-elected in 1886, but owing to ill-health resigned his office in January, 1889. He took an extensive trip to Europe and later returned to Minnesota, where he followed farming two years. In January, 1892, he purchased the Norman County Herald, published at Ada, and continued its publication until August, 1900. The paper was established by O. H. Phillips as a Democratic paper in 1888, and the following year was purchased by a stock company and run as a Prohibition paper two years. Mr. Norby transformed it into a Populist paper and it is the organ of the Populist party in Norman county. In 1895 Mr. Norby became interested in the lumber business in partnership with C. C. Allen, and he now holds an interest in the business. He has also built a flouring mill at Halstead, Minnesota, and retains a half interest there. He is interested largely in farm lands and now owns five hundred and twenty acres of valuable land, and operates the same with good results. He is also secretary of the Norman County Telegraph Company, which company extends lines throughout Norman county.

Our subject was married, in 1889, to Miss Valborg Schriver, who was born near Christiana, Norway, and came to America in 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Norby are the parents of three sons, all of whom were born in Ada, Minnesota. Mr. Norby was elected county auditor in the fall of 1892, and his popularity and faithful discharge of his duties is best attested by the fact that he was re-elected in 1894, and served two terms. He was appointed a member of the state normal board, January 1, 1892, by Governor Lind and is now serving in that capacity. He is president of the

village council, and has been a nominee for the state legislature from Norman county. He is a staunch Populist and takes an active part in political matters, serving as president of the Farmers' Alliance, and on the central committees of his party.

#### ANDREW T. LUND.

Andrew T. Lund, who may be truly styled the founder of Vining, Minnesota, a thriving village in Ottertail county, formerly known as Lund, is a gentleman of more than the usual importance in the affairs of his community, where he has brought about the development of the resources of the county to a marked degree. He is among the more prosperous men of northern Minnesota, and his extensive investments are unusually well managed and fortunate. A portrait of Mr. Lund will be found on another page of this work.

Mr. Lund was born in Norway August 19, 1848, a son of Torger B. and Boletta (Andrews) Lund, both natives of Norway. Young Andrew early became a sailor, and in 1866 worked his way to America on a sailing ship, and landed at Quebec, after being eight weeks on the ocean. He borrowed money to take him to Prescott, Wisconsin, from which point he worked his way into upper Wisconsin, where he remained over ten years. He was engaged in farm work and in the lumber woods, making his headquarters at Hudson, Wisconsin, until 1879. That year he took a homestead claim in Ottertail county, Minnesota, and starting the town of Lund, which became Vining on the establishment of the post-office. Mr. Lund was the first postmaster, and held that position many years. He has been town clerk and justice of the peace for ten years in succession, and now holds the office of chairman of supervisors in his township. For twenty years he has been director of the school district. He bought the first grain brought to market in that locality, and opened the first lumber yard in Vining, in which line he is still engaged. In 1888 he established a general store under the firm name of Nyhuse & Lund, putting in a stock valued at \$15,000. Mr. Lund has a fine farm of 2,000 acres, on which is a good house and other farm buildings, including a cattle barn 32x100 feet, with a big hay loft. He has supplied the best farm machinery, and has a windmill, with other modern and up-to-date notions. A fine grove on the banks of East Battle lake makes it a very desirable summer resort, and Mr. Lund has converted it into a most attractive picnic ground, with boats and other conveniences, one mile from Vining station. On his farm are fifty cattle and fourteen driving and farm horses.

Mr. Lund was married in 1871 to Annie K.

Amundson, who was born in Norway April 10, 1851. To this union have come nine children: Thea; Melvin, who graduated from the Minnesota Agricultural College in 1899; Charles and Oscar, who both graduated from the Concordia College at Moorhead; Harry is a student at the same institution; Andrew; Emil; Gudrun; and Boletta. Thea, the oldest daughter, spent four years at St. Mary's, at Faribault, twice winning the year prize, the Kerfoot gold medals, for superior attainments in scholarship. Mr. Lund and his family belong to the Lutheran church, and he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Independent Order of Good Templars.

Mr. Lund revisited his native land for the first time since his departure for the land of his adoption in 1900. He was gone four months, and in addition to his Norwegian journey made a tour of England and Scotland.

Mr. Lund is a Republican, and takes a leading part in political matters. In 1896 he was a candidate before the convention for nomination to congress. The situation became strained, and his withdrawal at the opportune moment secured the nomination of F. M. Eddy, who proved a very satisfactory candidate, and in due time was triumphantly elected, bringing about a general restoration of party harmony.

#### EDWARD N. DAVIS.

This gentleman is known as one of the two most extensive individual land owners of Kittson county. His possessions include two thousand and six hundred and forty acres of valuable land adjacent to the village of Donaldson. This is under a high state of cultivation and furnishes a handsome annual income. Mr. Davis and his brother are the oldest settlers of Davis township, and in their honor the township is named. They are well known as pioneers of Kittson county.

Edward N. Davis was born in Franklin county, Vermont, September 9, 1844, and was the sixth in a family of nine children born to Willard and Cynthia (Stephens) Davis. His parents are now deceased. Our subject was reared to farm work, and in May, 1862, he enlisted in the Union cause and became a member of Company A, Ninth Vermont Volunteer Infantry. The first important engagement in which he participated was Harper's Ferry, and there he was made a prisoner, but was soon afterward paroled. Then followed Newport Barracks, Hatch's Run, Siege of Suffolk, and Petersburg. He was discharged from the service after three years of active and loyal service, and then engaged in farming in the state of Wisconsin. He and his brother, Curtis W. Davis, visited Kittson county, Minnesota, in

the fall of 1878, and both entered claim to land there. They began farming on a small scale, but our subject later invested all his means in Kittson county land, and now possesses the banner farm of the county. He has placed valuable and substantial improvements on his home farm, and has provided all the comforts and many of the luxuries for his family and enjoys marked prosperity. Although reared to farm life in his native state, he had never conducted an estate of such immense proportions as that he now possesses, and his excellent executive ability and strict honesty are the only stepping stones which he has employed to reach the success he now enjoys. The eastern farmer knows little of the operations of the vast farms of the west, and to make a success of this pursuit in the wild country of Minnesota, taking it as our subject first began work there, means more than is realized by his eastern brothers, but Mr. Davis is a man of indomitable will and energetic spirit and he has remained to aid in the development of his township, county and state.

Mr. Davis was married, in 1867, to Miss Annie Hams. *Eight* children have been born to this union, who are named as follows: Nellie, now Mrs. J. C. Glover; Emery N.; Emma Anetta, now Mrs. A. Stottsbury; Luna, now Mrs. L. Parker; Leslie; and Norman, residing at home. Mr. Davis was married to Mrs. Emma B. Mott, *nee* Beyer, in 1890, and two children have been born to bless their home, who are named Stanley C. and Brayton. Mr. Davis has ever taken an active interest in local affairs of public nature, and he assisted in the organization of his township and served as a member of the first township board. He is also prominent in county affairs and has served as a member of the board of county commissioners. He is a Republican, politically, and wields an influence for morality and good government, and in turn received the support and confidence of those among whom he has passed over twenty years of his life.

#### CHARLES S. MITCHELL.

Charles S. Mitchell, editor and proprietor of the Alexandria Post News, the leading Republican paper of Douglas county, was born at Allegheny City, Pennsylvania, November 13, 1856, and was brought to Minnesota by his parents when he was an infant.

The parents of our subject were Henry C. and Elizabeth (Cannon) Mitchell. The mother was a sister of Jane Gray Swisshelm, the noted writer on anti-slavery questions, and who greatly assisted in the workings of the underground railway. The father of our subject settled at St. Cloud, Minnesota, in 1857, and established

*Lynd Crile  
now 2121  
Lamara Circle*

a mercantile business there which he carried on most successfully until his death, which occurred in 1895. Charles S. Mitchell gained his early education in the schools of St. Cloud, and then studied literature and law at Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he was graduated in 1880. He was admitted to the bar in 1881, but never practiced law as a profession. His brother, William B. Mitchell, was editor and proprietor of the St. Cloud Journal Press, and with him our subject was associated as assistant editor until 1894. He then came to Alexandria and purchased from the owners the Alexandria Post and the Douglas County News, which he consolidated under the title of the Alexandria Post News.

The Alexandria Post was founded in 1867 by William E. Hicks, who sold it to Joseph Gilpin in 1870. He in turn sold it to A. B. Donaldson August 1, 1875. A. M. Hutchinson became a partner in the business December 26, 1879, and the plant was sold to W. R. L. Jenks and Fred Vivian about 1885. Mr. Jenks became sole owner about three years later, and in 1894 sold the paper to the subject of this review.

The Douglas County News was established August 1, 1878, by Joseph Gilpin, who disposed of the same April 1, 1894, to Mr. Mitchell, who incorporated the two papers as one as above stated.

Mr. Mitchell was married August 7, 1884, to Elora Thompson, of Butler, Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell are the parents of one child, a daughter, named Elizabeth. Mr. Mitchell was president of the Minnesota State Editorial Association in 1900, and is a member of the state central committee. He is prominent in secret society circles and holds membership in the following orders: Knights of Pythias, Elks, Ancient Order of United Workmen, Modern Woodmen of America, the Maccabees, Imperial Knights, and the Royal Arcanum. Mr. Mitchell was appointed, by President McKinley, postmaster at Alexandria, Minnesota, in April, 1900.

#### C. C. KNAPPEN.

C. C. Knappen, the proprietor and able editor of the People's Press, is one of the most energetic and progressive of Minnesota's newspaper men. He has a wide acquaintance and is universally esteemed and respected. He has devoted his life to newspaper work, and has been associated at different times with the metropolitan papers of the northwest. He is a gentleman of wide knowledge of men and the world, and his editorials evidence deep thought and a wide-awake interest in current topics. His office and plant is at Crookston, and he enjoys success in his work there.

Mr. Knappen was born in Poynette, Wisconsin, and received his early education in public schools. After taking up newspaper work he was engaged on the St. Paul Globe and the Minneapolis Tribune until 1879, since which date he has been identified with the Red River valley, being located at different points. The paper of which he is at present editor and proprietor, the People's Press, is one of the best papers of the locality and the job office of the plant is fitted with all modern appliances and equipment for neat and prompt service, and Mr. Knappen gives his special attention to this branch of the work.

The Red River valley has long felt the need of a local magazine, and for some time Mr. Knappen has had in contemplation the founding of a publication of this character; and the result has been the recent issue of the Gateway Magazine, which appeared with the new century. The publication is devoted to historical, industrial, and personal sketches, and contains about thirty pages of excellent reading matter. It is one of the most handsome publications of its kind ever issued, and is arranged in perfect literary style, and is artistically illustrated. The enterprise is a worthy one and the support of all who are interested in the development and advancement of the Red river valley may be safely anticipated by its editor and publisher.

Mr. Knappen is a gentleman of untiring energy, is capable, and possessed of integrity of word and deed, and his success is well merited.

#### DOUGLAS GREELEY.

Among the public officials of Pine county none holds the confidence of the people to greater degree than Douglas Greeley, who is serving in the capacity of county auditor. His faithful discharge of his official duties and his upright character and public spirit have placed him among the most highly esteemed men of that region. He has been a resident of the county for many years and has an extensive acquaintance. His home is in Pine City, and he is devoted to the interests and welfare of his adopted town and county.

Mr. Greeley was born in Stillwater, Minnesota, in 1860. His father, Elam Greeley, was a lumberman and followed that business all his life. He was born in New Hampshire and was of old Yankee stock. He was one of the pioneers of Stillwater, and built one of the first houses there in 1843. He was the first postmaster and served the first two terms in the Minnesota territorial legislature. He was most actively interested in public affairs and was an influential citizen. The paternal grandfather of our subject, John Gree-

ley, was a colonel in the war of 1812. Our subject's mother, Hannah (Hinman) Greeley, was born in New York, and her ancestors were natives of New England. She was married to Elam Greeley and went to Stillwater, Minnesota, in 1850. Of a family of five children Douglas Greeley was the fourth in order of birth. He was educated in the Stillwater city schools and at the age of eighteen years began working for his father in capacity of clerk. At the death of his father he began lumbering in Wisconsin and spent fifteen years in this occupation. He worked in all the departments of the lumbering business and was through most of northern Wisconsin and northern Minnesota on the St. Croix river and its tributaries. He went to Pine county, Minnesota, in 1888, and settled at Hinckley, and for the first six years was employed with the well known lumberman, William O'Brien. Mr. Greeley then engaged in the hotel business and conducted the Morrison House for three years, when he was burned out in the great forest fire which destroyed Hinckley. In the fall of 1894 he was elected county auditor. His popularity and the faithful discharge of his duties are best evidenced by the fact that he was subsequently elected to the same office three times, and is now serving his fourth term as county auditor.

Mr. Greeley is a man of good mind and keeps abreast of the times in all public matters and lends his influence for good government, local and national. He is identified with the Democratic party politically and stands staunchly for his convictions.

Mr. Greeley is married and has two children.

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#### DR. ANDREW E. JOHNSON.

Dr. Andrew E. Johnson, one of the pioneer physicians and business men of Carlton county, Minnesota, is a gentleman of wide experience in his profession and has met with excellent success in his practice. He is engaged also in the drug business in Cloquet, from which place he practices medicine, and he is one of the prominent citizens of his locality.

Dr. Johnson was born in the northern part of Norway, in 1861. His father, Erick Johnson, was a farmer by occupation. The family came to America in 1864 and settled in Wisconsin, and a year later removed to McCloud county, Minnesota.

Dr. Johnson was the oldest of a family of eleven children. He was raised on a farm and attended the country school in a log school-house, and assisted on the farm. His father took land from the government and became a pioneer there and our subject worked to help

develop the place. At the age of eighteen years he left home and worked during the summers and attended winter school during the rest of the year. He graduated from Stephens Seminary in 1886, making his way through school the last two years by working in a drug store. He was thus employed until 1889, and became a registered pharmacist about 1887. He then entered the State University of Minnesota, and graduated from the medical department in 1891 with the degree of M. D. He then went direct to Cloquet, Minnesota, and opened his office there for the practice of his profession. He became associated with Dr. H. B. Allen the same year in the drug business. This was the first drug store in the town. In 1894 Dr. Johnson bought the interest of his partner and he has since been sole proprietor. He has a good trade and carries a complete stock of drugs. He has built up an extensive practice in medicine and has met with remarkable success in his profession. He is interested largely in real estate and is the owner of some twelve or thirteen houses in the village, and owns Shaput's Addition, all of which property he has acquired in Minnesota by his direct attention to his business and good management of affairs.

Dr. Johnson was married in 1895 to Miss Edith M. Cochrane. Mrs. Johnson was born in Pennsylvania, and her ancestry was originally English. She is a lady of rare accomplishments and was engaged in teaching in the schools of Cloquet prior to her marriage to Dr. Johnson. One daughter has been born to bless the home of Dr. and Mrs. Johnson, who bears the name of Margaret L. Dr. Johnson is devoted to his practice and has little time for outside work, but lends his influence for the welfare of his community. In political sentiment he is a Republican, but does not seek public preferment. He is intelligent and progressive and his success and good name are well merited.

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#### ALBERT NORELIUS.

Albert Norelius, a young and energetic business man of Cambridge, Isanti county, Minnesota, is a native of the county in which he is now living, and was born on a farm in Isanti township, in 1865.

Peter Norelius, the father of Albert, was born in Sweden, where he was bred to a farming life, and came to Minnesota about 1854. He filed on government land in Chisago county, but did not prove upon it. After having been settled there about two years he then secured a claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Isanti county. He then went to Goodhue county, where he remained two years, making the removal to that county by



ox teams. On his farm he put up a log shanty 16 by 20 feet, with a birch bark roof. For years Anoka was the nearest railroad point, and from it all their supplies were hauled by oxen.

Albert Norelius was born and reared on the frontier, and his family did not have horses until he was about thirteen years old. There was much hard work to be done, but the frontier afforded rare pleasures for a sound and healthy lad. His education was obtained in a log cabin school-house. His father was postmaster at Isanti post-office from 1865 to 1888, and was also justice for a number of years, receiving much help from his son Albert in opening and developing his farm property.

Albert Norelius remained at home until 1886, when he started out for himself, going into the lumber woods, and following lumbering for two or three winters. He made several trips into Dakota, and from 1890 until 1896, was engaged in farming in Isanti township, making his home with his parents during that time. In 1896 he was elected register of deeds for Isanti county, on the Republican ticket, now holding this position for the third term, being elected the second and third times without opposition. In 1896 he was one of three candidates for the office. Mr. Norelius still owns his farm, which consists of ninety acres about a mile and a half north of Isanti, and which has about thirty acres under the plow. Mr. Norelius takes a very active interest in the workings of his party organization, and has attended various county and congressional conventions as a delegate.

The mother of Mr. Norelius died in 1896, and his father is still living on the old homestead in Isanti county. Four of his sons live in Isanti county, and one in Wisconsin.

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#### SAMUEL GIBEAU.

Samuel Gibeau, register of deeds of Red Lake county, Minnesota, is one of the prominent young men of his locality, and justly so. He is a gentleman of good character, industrious and energetic, and is possessed of broad mind and good education, and labors for the interests of his community with faithfulness and public spirit. He has a pleasant home in Red Lake Falls, and is one of the substantial citizens.

Mr. Gibeau was born in Illinois April 3, 1868, and was the oldest of a family of eight children born to Israel and Elmira (Lerige) Gibeau. Four of the children now reside in Red Lake county, Minnesota. The parents were natives of Canada and were of French descent. The father died April 3, 1896, and the mother survives and makes her home in Red Lake county.

A few years of Mr. Gibeau's childhood were

passed in Chicago, where the father worked as chief engineer on the lake steamers. In 1875 they removed to St. Boniface, Manitoba, and there the father opened a repair shop, and there our subject passed his early boyhood and attended St. Boniface College until he was eleven years of age, when the family removed to St. Jean Baptiste, remaining there until 1882, when they removed to Polk county. The father opened a country repair shop at Gentilly, and our subject assisted in the shop work, having no schooling after his eleventh year except what he obtained from night study. In 1890 he left home and went to Duluth, Minnesota, where he worked one summer as a machinist and engineer, and in the fall of 1890 returned to Lambert, located in what is now Red Lake county. As his first business venture he opened up a general store, and was also appointed postmaster. There he headed a progressive business movement, making quite a business center of the little inland hamlet. During his residence in Lambert he served as township clerk and was always the chosen delegate to county conventions of the People's party. While a resident of Polk county he served on the county central committee. Although from a business standpoint he opposed the organization of Red Lake county and favored the organization of Columbia, he was elected chairman of the first board of county commissioners, and in 1898 was elected register of deeds. He was re-elected in 1900, and received an increased plurality against three other candidates. He is one of the strongest political workers of the county, and has a large acquaintance and many friends regardless of party affiliations. He has invested in residence property in Red Lake Falls, and is one of the influential citizens of that thriving town, being also a director of the Merchants' State Bank of Red Lake Falls.

Mr. Gibeau was married in 1893 to Miss Aletine LaBlanc. One son has been born to bless this union, who bears the name of George. Mr. Gibeau is a deep student and has pursued scientific studies. He is a member of the Catholic church, and the Modern Woodmen of America. A portrait of Mr. Gibeau appears on another page of this volume.

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#### HENRY A. DICKERSON.

Henry A. Dickerson, one of the first settlers of Shivelin, Minnesota, is the popular druggist of that town and is identified with the early history of that locality. He is the owner of valuable real estate and enjoys a large patronage in the drug business.

Mr. Dickerson was born in Mower county, Minnesota, April 11, 1865. His father, Joseph

Dickerson, was born in the state of New York, and the mother of our subject, Mary (Stalkdale) Dickerson, was a native of Michigan. Henry A. Dickerson lived on the farm in Mower county until he was fourteen years of age, and in 1879 removed with his parents to Ottertail county, Minnesota. The father took a homestead there and our subject, at the age of twenty-one, bought land and followed farming the same until he was twenty-eight years of age. He attended the common schools of Ottertail county, and received a good education. He was appointed postmaster at Underwood, Ottertail county, and served in that capacity two and a half years. He disposed of his farm in 1898 and was one of the first to erect a building on the town site of Shivlin, in Beltrami county. He carried the first mail from Copley to Shivlin afoot. Through his efforts the township of Shivlin was organized, and Mr. Dickerson was chosen its first clerk. He worked for the Blakslee Lumber Company eighteen months, and in March, 1900, erected a building and stocked it with drugs. The building, fixtures and stock are valued at \$3,000, and Mr. Dickerson has built up a good trade in his line. He is the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land, a mile and a half from Shivlin, in township 147, range 36, and this is valuable timber and meadow land. He enjoys prosperity as a result of industrious efforts and good management, and is one of the substantial citizens of Beltrami county.

Mr. Dickerson was married, May 23, 1894, to Anna C. Gallant. Mrs. Dickerson was born in Sweden, April 8, 1876. Mr. Dickerson is a gentleman of excellent character, and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and Knights of the Maccabees. He is a Republican in political sentiment, but does not seek public office, and lends his influence for good government, local and national. He is always awake to the interests of his community and is a firm supporter of every good public enterprise.

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#### GEORGE O. WELCH, M. D.

George O. Welch, M. D., superintendent of the State Hospital for the Insane, at Fergus Falls, is one of the foremost medical men and insanity specialists of the northwest.

Dr. Welch was born in Boston, Massachusetts, August 9, 1860. His father, Charles Welch, was a boot and shoe merchant in Boston, and our subject's grandfather, also born in Massachusetts, and the great-grandfather, took an active part in the war for independence. The Welch family is of Irish descent. The mother of Dr. Welch, whose maiden name was Angeline Hawes, was born in Massachusetts, and was a member of one

of the oldest New England families descended from English stock.

Dr. Welch received his primary education in the schools of Boston, completed the grammar and high school courses and graduated from Chauncey Hall at Boston at the age of seventeen years. He was then in the employ of the Old Colony Railroad in the treasurer's office for five years. He resigned from that position to enter the Boston University, from which institution he graduated in 1887. He was then employed as assistant physician in the hospital at Westboro, Massachusetts, and held this position five years. In 1892 he went to Europe, visiting Berlin and Vienna, making a special study of insanity and nervous diseases, spending about one year in this research. In November, 1892, he received the appointment to the superintendency of the Fergus Falls State Hospital for the Insane, which position he is now holding.

Dr. Welch was married, in 1882, to Miss Phebe M. Lyon. Mrs. Welch is a native of Newport, Rhode Island, and her ancestors have been residents of Newport since the foundation of that city, the originals of the Lyon family in America having come from England with Roger Williams. Before her marriage Mrs. Welch was engaged in teaching in Massachusetts. One child has been born of this marriage. Dr. Welch is independent in politics, but has always shown commendable interest in affairs of a public nature. He is a member of the various medical fraternities and societies and is well known in Minnesota and North Dakota. The Fergus Falls State Hospital for the Insane was established in 1887 and received its first patients in 1890. Two years later Dr. Welch took charge of the institution, and its great success is attributable largely to his able management and capability. At the time he took charge of the hospital it consisted of only two buildings with 250 patients. Under his supervision the value of such an institution has been demonstrated, and it is now the largest and best regulated hospital in the northwest. Within its walls thirteen hundred patients are cared for, four assistant doctors are employed, with scores of attendants, mechanics, and laborers. It constitutes a city of itself. The great popularity of Dr. Welch has come from his great fidelity and strict adherence to duty.

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#### HON. T. K. TORGERSON.

Hon. T. K. Torgerson, a prominent farmer of Cuba township, Becker county, resides on section twenty-two, where he has a comfortable home and valuable farm. Mr. Torgerson was born in Norway, September 8, 1850.

The parents of our subject were Knute and

Borghild (Helgison) Torgerson, both natives of Norway. When our subject was ten years old he came to America, taking up his residence in Nicollet county, Minnesota. There he attended the public schools and worked on the farm. In 1876 he came to Becker county, driving from St. Peter with an ox team. The trip occupied six weeks. He took up a homestead claim and built a log house and barn. He has met with success in his farming operations and is now the owner of 160 acres of valuable land, 100 of which is under annual cultivation, and the remainder devoted to meadow and pasture. He has built him a good home, and has surrounded it with many comforts and conveniences. His farm is well supplied with water, completely stocked with horses and cattle, and fitted with farm machinery of every kind. Mr. Torgerson has taken an active interest in public matters. He is a Republican in political sentiment and enjoys the confidence of his party. He was chosen in 1883 to the state legislature, representing the counties of Clay, Becker and Wilkins. During Cleveland's administration he served as deputy collector of internal revenue for four years. He has served as chairman of the board of supervisors and as assessor of Cuba township, and also as justice of the peace. He has taken an active interest in educational matters, serving as district clerk for some years and as a director for the past twenty years.

In 1871 Mr. Torgerson was married to Nellie Knutson. Mrs. Torgerson is a native of Norway, and was born October 1, 1855. Three children have been born of this marriage, as follows: Carolina, Eliza and Thomas B. The family worship with the Lutheran church at Lake Park.

As a pioneer of Minnesota Mr. Torgerson experienced the hardships and dangers of the northwest frontier. In 1862 the Indians started on the war-path, and on August 23 our subject was seriously wounded and left for dead. However, some friends found him and took him to St. Peter. The Indians attacked the wagons, and our subject on two occasions barely escaped scalping. The father of our subject helped to resist the Indians at the massacre of New Ulm, and was the means of saving many lives.

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#### WILLIAM J. CONARD.

William J. Conard, one of the self-made successful business men of Hubbard county, is proprietor of the Hubbard County Enterprise, published at Park Rapids. He is one of the well known newspaper men of that region and has increased the business of the paper and its job printing office in a wonderful degree.

Mr. Conard was born in Ohio, December 17, 1852, and was a son of Dennis and Susan A. (Randolph) Conard, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. He passed his boyhood in his native state and at the age of fifteen years changed his residence to Iowa. He was given liberal educational advantages and completed his education with a course at the Chicago Seminary. He became engaged in home missionary work of the Congregational society in Minnesota, beginning in 1887, and was engaged along that line until 1898, when on account of ill health he engaged in the newspaper business. He began his career as a newspaper man with the Hubbard County Enterprise, which paper was established in 1882. It now has a circulation of 1,000 subscribers, and is read throughout Hubbard and adjacent counties. Mr. Conard is publisher and H. R. Cobb is associated with him as editor. Mr. Conard has an excellent plant for job work of all kinds and received his full share of this line of work in the locality. He has met with success in newspaper work and publishes an extremely good paper.

William J. Conard was married in 1889 to May R. Ricker. Mrs. Conard was born in Iowa, May 1, 1869. To Mr. and Mrs. Conard two children have been born, namely: William R. and Ralph V. Mr. Conard is an active member of the Congregational church, and is interested in Sunday school work. He is a gentleman of exemplary character, industrious, and possessed of broad mind, and well merits his financial success and good name as a citizen. Politically he is identified with the Republican party, and is a staunch advocate of the principles of this organization.

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#### EDON A. AMUNDSON.

Edon A. Amundson, one of the younger business men of Felton, Clay county, who has made for himself a very creditable position in the community in which he lives, was born in Worth county, Iowa, in 1875, and is a son of Anton L. Amundson, a farmer, who came to the United States from Norway, his native land, in 1865. The father was on the police force in Christiania previous to his coming to this country. His wife was born in Norway, and her father lived and died in "the land of the midnight sun." His name was Nels Nelson Honsedalen, and he held a position corresponding to that of a sheriff in America. At the time of his death he had become a very prominent official.

Edon A. Amundson was the only son in a family of three children born to his parents, and was educated in the public schools of Worth county. He was a student also at the Albert Lea

Lutheran Academy, and was graduated from the Volder College, at Decorah, Iowa, in 1892, where he had taken a business and normal course. After leaving school he was a bookkeeper in the bank at Kensett, Iowa, for about six months, and was assistant cashier of the State Bank at Buffalo Center, Iowa, for some three years. There he was also assistant deputy postmaster for a year and a half under E. E. Secore, the president of the Clay County Bank. In 1897 he made a journey to Circle City, Alaska, and prospected for gold some eleven months with excellent results. While there he acquired an interest in two gold mines, which he still retains.

Mr. Amundson came to Felton, Clay county, in 1898, and established the Clay County Bank, with himself as vice-president. E. E. Secore is president and W. E. Stephens, cashier. The E. A. Amundson Land Company was also organized by him, and it has done a large business as one of the pioneer land companies of Clay county. A large settlement has been effected by it, and it has for sale lands in every part of this section of the state.

Mr. Amundson also started the Felton Courier, of which Amundson & Stevens are the publishers. The paper was established in 1898, and has already made a large place for itself in the local world. Mr. Amundson has a branch of his bank at Borup, Minnesota, of which he is president, and E. L. Bergy, formerly of Brodhead, Wisconsin, the cashier. The Clay County Bank, noted above, is connected with a syndicate of five national and state banks in Iowa, and is by far the largest interest of the kind in Clay county.

E. A. Amundson and Miss Nora C. Errickson were married in 1899. She was born in Moorhead, where her father, John Errickson, was the proprietor and builder of the Columbia Hotel of that city. This property now belongs to Mrs. Amundson. Her father was also the owner of the Fargo Opera House at one time, and was one of the leading business men of that city in his day. Mrs. Amundson taught school in Clay county before her marriage, and was also a music teacher. Mr. Amundson is a Republican, and is regarded as one of the leading men of his party.

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#### DR. NEILL M. WATSON, M. D.

Among the professional men of Red Lake Falls, Minnesota, none enjoy greater distinction in the medical fraternity than Dr. Neill M. Watson. He is the present mayor of the city, and is one of the early settlers there and devoted to the best interests of his adopted home. He enjoys a lucrative practice in medicine and surgery and has proven himself one of the skillful and intelligent physicians of that region.

Dr. Watson was born in Glengarry, Ontario, August 20, 1865, and was the fifth of a family of nine children. His parents were Rev. Peter and Marjory (Monroe) Watson, both natives of Scotland and now residing in Canada.

Dr. Watson completed his early education in the high schools and then entered the medical department of McGill University, and was a member of the graduating class of 1891, receiving the degrees of M. D. and C. M. His professional life was begun in Red Lake Falls, Minnesota, in July, 1892, and he at once became one of the popular and successful practitioners of the city. His practice has steadily increased and he now enjoys an extensive and remunerative patronage.

Dr. Watson is a young man of activity, and is possessed of good mind, observation and theoretical and practical knowledge and merits his success. He is a man of true public spirit and in all local affairs tending to the building up of his community his hearty support can be relied upon. He is a staunch Republican politically and is the present chairman of the county central committee. He was elected mayor of the city of Red Lake Falls in 1900, and is now serving in that capacity and is discharging his duties faithfully and is constantly gaining in popularity. He was a member of the county division committee, which secured the organization of the county and the establishment of the county seat at Red Lake Falls, and in this work was one of the most active of the numerous workers. He is well known in the fraternal world, and is a member of the following orders: Masonic fraternity, Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen of America, Knights of the Maccabees, Order of Red Men and Royal Neighbors.

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#### FREDERICK W. SMITH.

Frederick W. Smith, the pioneer attorney of Cass Lake, Cass county, Minnesota, is a gentleman of exceptional ability as a lawyer, intelligent and well educated, and a worthy citizen. He is widely known and universally esteemed and respected and has built for himself a large practice in Minnesota.

Mr. Smith is a native of Chisago county, Minnesota, and was born July 26, 1860. His father, Ansel Smith, was born in Vermont. He was one of the influential men of Minnesota, and has served his state in various official capacities, including register in United States land office at Duluth, and as a state legislator for four terms, and lieutenant governor of the state one term. The mother of our subject, Adaline (Kidder) Smith, was born in Vermont also. The family left Chisago county when our sub-

ject was nine years of age, and he resided from that age in Duluth, Minnesota. He attended the High School in that city and later the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis, and at the age of twenty-one years graduated from the law department of the Michigan University at Ann Arbor in 1893. In April of that year he began the practice of his profession in partnership with his brother, H. A. Smith, and after a short time the brother resigned from the firm, and the partnership of Phelps & Smith was formed. Later, the firm was dissolved and succeeded by the firm of Smith & Lewis, and afterwards by the firm of Smith, McMahon & Mitchell. In 1899 Mr. Smith came to Cass Lake, Minnesota, and at once established his office there for the practice of his profession and he has, in a short time, built up a good practice and has become well known as a gentleman of thoroughness and systematic business methods and ever on the alert for the welfare of his clients. He was appointed postmaster of Cass Lake in 1899 and is an efficient and popular officer. He has met with success in his business ventures and owns valuable properties. In 1899 H. A. and F. W. Smith erected a row of stone front, brick flats in Duluth on First avenue, at a cost of \$100,000.00. The building is 300 feet long and is one of the finest apartment buildings in the city of Duluth.

Frederick W. Smith was married in 1889 to Fay O. Hunter. Mrs. Smith was born in Iowa, May 20, 1868. Three children have been born to bless their home, who bear the following names: Ansel, Selwyn, and Madaline. Mr. Smith stands in the front rank in the legal fraternity of Cass county and is a deservedly influential and popular citizen. He is a Republican in politics, and takes an active part in the affairs of his party. In the month of June, 1899, Mr. Hitchcock, secretary of the interior, issued his famous order of eviction against the residents of Cass Lake; Mr. Smith was sent to Washington by the people of Cass Lake, and in connection with Congressman Morris and Senator Nelson argued the rights of the settlers before the secretary and President McKinley with successful results and the order was revoked.

#### ORVILLE N. GROW.

Among those who have contributed to the prosperity of Wadena county, Minnesota, and whose patient industry and well-directed energy have brought individual competence may be mentioned Orville N. Grow, whose valuable estate lies in section 13 of Wadena township.

Mr. Grow is a native of the state of Iowa,

and the date of his birth is November 19, 1860. His father, Aldace Grow, was a native of Vermont, and his mother, whose maiden name was Candace Norton, was born in Ohio. Our subject received the advantages of a good common-school education in Iowa, and began work on the farm at the age of sixteen years. He then, in his seventeenth year, went to Minnesota, locating in Wadena county with his parents, and taught school the following year in Wadena county. They came to Wadena county in 1878, and selected a homestead claim in section 12 of Wadena township. The trip from Iowa was made by team. He erected a log house and barn and set to work vigorously to develop his lands. The fruits of his labors are evidenced by one of the finest farms in Minnesota, consisting of three hundred and sixty acres of well-selected lands, two hundred and forty acres of which is devoted to crops, the remainder furnishing excellent pasture and timber land. He has erected a fine residence, with good barn and outbuildings, and has supplied his farm with the best machinery of modern agriculture. His farm is well watered, and a grove of trees provides shelter from the severity of winter. He has plenty of stock, and is prepared for any adversity that may now visit him and his family.

Mr. Grow was married in 1882 to Rhoda Clark, who was born in Wisconsin August 4, 1863. Of this marriage there are three living children: John A., Stephen L. and Ralph. Mrs. Grow died July 17, 1894. Mr. Grow was married in 1897 to Susan Gores. Mrs. Grow is a native of Minnesota, born February 26, 1872. Of this marriage one child has been born, Sarah. By her marriage to C. H. Gores Mrs. Grow has three children, who make their home with Mr. Grow. Their names are John J., Verona and Frank C. Gores. The mother and these three children are members of the Roman Catholic church. Mr. Grow is a Republican in political faith, and has filled the office of road overseer of his township for a number of years. He is a member in good standing of the I. O. O. F. lodge of Verndale, Wadena county. A portrait of Mr. Grow appears upon another page of this volume.

#### EVART DAGOBERG.

Evart Dagoberg, one of the most influential citizens of Marshall county, and of which he is now county treasurer, has followed agricultural pursuits in Oak Park township for over eighteen years and is proprietor of a finely developed farm. His temporary residence is in Warren. He is a gentleman of intelligence and active public spirit, and enjoys the esteem and respect of his associates.

Mr. Dagoberg was born in Sweden December 3, 1850, and was the third in order of birth in a family of eight children born to Lars and Elna (Iverson) Anderson, both of whom are now deceased. Our subject and two brothers who reside in the same township in Marshall county are the only members of the family in America.

Mr. Dagoberg was educated in his native land, graduating from the foremost government agricultural institute in Sweden, and he there took up bookkeeping and worked as an accountant about ten years, receiving a thorough business training. He came to America in 1882, and in June of that year located in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he remained for two months, and then he came to Marshall county. The inducements offered in the Red river valley claimed his attention and he came to the new region in search of a fortune, intending to devote his attention to wheat-raising. He followed agricultural pursuits until 1896 and developed a farm of two hundred and forty acres, and from this land derived a handsome income. He has erected good buildings and otherwise improved the place and made a valuable estate of the same, and now enjoys the reward of his years of labor there. In 1899 he was appointed deputy auditor and for two years he served in that capacity. In November, 1900, he was elected treasurer of Marshall county by a majority of five hundred and fifty, and is one of the leading officials of the county.

Mr. Dagoberg was married, in 1875, to Miss Elna Munson. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dagoberg, who are named Cornelia and Esther. Mr. Dagoberg is an ardent Republican and has done very efficient work for his party in Marshall county. He is one of the well known men of southern Marshall county and has a large following, his friends only being limited by his acquaintance. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church.

#### HON. F. M. SHOOK.

Hon. F. M. Shook, one of the most prominent business men of Aitkin county, Minnesota, is an ex-soldier of the Civil war, and a citizen of true worth. He is engaged in the lumbering business and also deals in real estate and has an extensive business. His home is in the city of Aitkin, and he has the welfare of his home town at heart and is confident of its growth and works earnestly toward its advancement and development.

Mr. Shook was born at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, November 1, 1847. His father, Llewellyn Shook, was born in Pennsylvania, of German de-

scend, and was a farmer by occupation. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Margaret Saxon, and her people came from Saxony, Germany. Our subject was the second child and only son in the family, and he was reared in Franklin county, Indiana, where the family moved when he was but an infant. This was a wild country and he was reared on a farm, and attended the district school from six to ten years of age. He later received instructions from a tutor at home and then attended Oyler's Institute at Harrison, Ohio. In October, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Fifty-second Indiana Volunteers. He was in the battle of Fort Donelson seven days after leaving camp in Indiana, and served in the same company until June 3, 1864. They participated at Shiloh, the siege of Corinth, Fort Pillow, Vicksburg and the march to Meridan. He then re-enlisted as a veteran, February 27, 1863, in the same company and was transferred June 3, 1863, to the Fourth United States Colored Artillery at Fort Hall, Kentucky, where he served until the close of the war, and was discharged from the service October 14, 1865. While a member of the colored regiment he participated in several fights and skirmishes, one eighteen miles from Fort Donelson, Tennessee, where the forces were surrounded for six hours, and were finally relieved. He was mustered out with the rank of lieutenant. After the close of the war he resided in the south until the spring of 1866, and then went to St. Cloud, Minnesota. He was there employed as clerk in a general mercantile business three years, and then followed farming near that city four years. From 1875 to 1878 he worked as clerk for the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad Company in the superintendent's office, and then was three years a bookkeeper for Little Berresford, a wholesale firm of St. Paul, Minnesota. In 1880 he went to Fort Totten, North Dakota, and engaged in the mercantile business there, but sold out in 1884 and followed farming four years. During the winter of 1888 he located in Aitkin, Minnesota, and engaged in the general mercantile business as a member of the firm of Knox & De Laittre, and also included lumbering and logging. In 1895 Mr. Shook sold his interest in the above named firm, and then engaged in business for himself, and his present extensive business is the outcome of his good management and ability.

Mr. Shook was married, October 21, 1878, to Miss Annie C. Kelley. Mrs. Shook was born in America and is of Irish and English ancestry. She was raised in the same neighborhood as our subject and they have been lifelong companions. Three children have blessed their home, namely: Frank M., Jr., now attending college at Ann Arbor, Michigan, studying for a physi-



cian; Annie K. and Margerette E. Mr. Shook is always active in public affairs and while a resident of North Dakota he was elected on the Republican ticket to the state legislature and served two terms. He served as county treasurer in North Dakota. He is now filling his third term as mayor of Aitkin.

#### MATTHEW WILLIAMS.

In compiling a list of the pioneers of Wadena county, Minnesota, who have aided materially in making of that region a thriving agricultural district, a prominent place must be accorded the gentleman whose name heads this personal history. For over twenty years Mr. Williams has been identified with the history and development of Thomastown township, and his labors to this end are well known to all who reside in that community. He now has a pleasant home in section nineteen, where he enjoys the contentment which comes from the knowledge of duties well and faithfully done.

Mr. Williams was born in England, October 4, 1851. His father, John E. Williams, was born in England, July 5, 1823, and the mother of our subject, Martha (Chamley) Williams, was a native of the same isle, and was born October 1, 1821. At the age of fifteen years Mr. Williams came to America, and at once made his way to Wisconsin, where he resided eleven years, assisting his father with the management of the home farm, and also engaged in farming on his own account. He received his education in the schools of England and David's Academy in Chester, England, and he also attended the schools of Wisconsin after taking up his residence in America. In 1879 he disposed of his interests in Wisconsin and purchased a farm of 120 acres in section 19 of Thomastown township, and made his home there in a small frame house. He had a straw barn, and used oxen for his farm work for the first ten years. He is now the owner of 240 acres of land, of which he has placed 130 acres under high cultivation and the balance is devoted to pasture and timber. His residence is comfortable and neat in every detail, and the other buildings of the farm are in keeping with the same. He has a good supply of machinery for conducting the place, and the land is admirably adapted to diversified farming. He keeps a number of horses for farm use and driving, and has all conveniences in the way of vehicles for family driving. The land of the farm is well watered by a creek which runs through the pasture and a fine grove on the place completes a valuable farm and a home of comfort.

Mr. Williams was married in 1877 to Fannie

Vosberg. Mrs. Williams was born in Wisconsin, February 3, 1859. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Williams, namely: Raymond J., Helen, Alice, Vida B., Arthur G., Everett O., Gerald, and Millie. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are widely known and universally esteemed. Mr. Williams served as county commissioner of Wadena county for four years, and he has ever taken an active part in local public affairs. He served as township clerk and justice of the peace, and is especially interested in educational matters, having served as school treasurer and director of the board for eighteen years. In August, 1901, he was appointed state grain inspector, with headquarters at Minneapolis. He is a member of the Modern Brotherhood of America, and politically is identified with the principles of the Republican party.

#### CHARLES W. KIMBERLY.

Charles W. Kimberly, an experienced superintendent of mines for P. L. Kimberly, is stationed at Eveleth, St. Louis county, Minnesota. He has met with wonderful success in mining operations and has followed the business for some years.

Mr. Kimberly was born on a farm in Ohio in 1857. His father, Amos E. Kimberly, was of English extraction, and was a farmer by occupation. The family came from England about 1700. The mother of our subject was of German descent, and bore the maiden name of Rachel Flick. Our subject was the eldest in the family of five children, was reared on the farm and attended the district schools, and later completed his studies in college. After attaining his majority he began farming in Red river valley, Minnesota, and took land near Crookston. He passed through pioneer experiences there and farmed in Polk county eight years. He removed to Crookston and engaged in the farm machinery business three years, when he went to Iron Mountain in Michigan, and there had his first experience in the mining business, entering the employ of the Hamilton Ore Company. This company was controlled by P. L. Kimberly, our subject's uncle, and Charles W. Kimberly has represented the interests of his uncle since that time. He was paymaster at Iron Mountain two years, and in 1892 went to Virginia, where he was superintendent of the Ohio Iron Company's mines, and had charge of exploring for P. L. Kimberly in that region. He went to Biwabic in the fall of 1893, and was there in the mining business until 1895, when he returned to Iron Mountain, Michigan, and opened the Keel Ridge mine, an open pit mine. He was super-

intendent there two years, and in the spring of 1899 returned to Hibbing, Minnesota, and did exploring in the vicinity of Hibbing and Virginia. He opened the Spruce mine, the last mine opened in Eveleth, in the fall of 1899, and served as superintendent there something over one year. Two shafts have been sunk one hundred and sixty feet on the Spruce property. Since November, 1900, seventy thousand tons of ore have been shipped from these shafts, and in 1899 forty thousands tons were shipped from the Vega mine, also controlled by P. L. Kimberly. Our subject has superintended the work, and during his management no lives have been lost in the mines, and he is recognized as one of the successful mining men on the Mesabi.

Mr. Kimberly was married, in 1882, to Miss Guyelma Campbell. Mrs. Kimberly is a native of Ohio, and was born in the same county as was her husband. She is of Scotch descent and the family has been in America many generations. Mr. and Mrs. Kimberly are the parents of five children, as follows: Irene, born in 1883; Lenore, born in 1885; Edna, born in 1887; Peter L., Jr., born in 1896; and Wallace, Jr., born in 1898.

#### HON. CARROLL J. MCCOLLOM.

In reviewing the history of Kittson county, Minnesota, the citizens who have contributed to her welfare must be given special mention, and a prominent place among this number is accorded the gentleman above named. Mr. McCollom is a pioneer settler and is perhaps one of the best known and most highly esteemed men of that region. He is a prosperous merchant and land-owner and has gained his success by the exercise of business tact, supplemented by the strictest integrity of word and deed. He has a modern residence in the city of Hallock and enjoys a contented and peaceful life.

Mr. McCollom was born near Hamilton, Ontario, October 3, 1850, and was the seventh in order of birth in a family of eight children, seven sons and one daughter, born to John S. and Eliza (Harrison) McCollom. The father was of Scotch parentage and the mother was a native of England. Our subject was reared to the age of eighteen years amid rural surroundings and then entered the Toronto Normal School, where he continued his studies two years. He then entered into partnership with his brother in the drug business at Port Burwell, and in the summer of 1880 he went to Hallock, Kittson county, Minnesota, and established a general merchandise business and is the oldest merchant of the city at the present. His business has doubled and redoubled as the country has settled, and his first stock of five hundred

dollars has been replaced by a stock valued at twenty thousand dollars. Mr. McCollom carries a complete stock and meets the needs of the people of that locality and enjoys an ever-increasing patronage. He is also interested in farm land to some extent. His residence in the city is a model in design and every appointment of his home bespeaks the refinement and culture of its occupants.

C. J. McCollom was married, in 1875, to Miss Fannie A. Suffel. One child was born to Mr. and Mrs. McCollom, a son named George, who is now deceased. Mr. McCollom is a gentleman of most active public spirit, but until recently would not permit his name to be used as a nominee for public office. He was elected state representative in 1898, and was an efficient and faithful officer. His popularity is best evidenced by the fact that he recently was renominated by unanimous acclamation. While a member of the legislature he introduced Bill 273, an act establishing a board of appeals for the inspection of grain; Bill No. 195, an act requiring railroads to build platforms to facilitate the loading of grain, livestock, etc., and he also introduced a bill regulating hail insurance, but this bill failed to pass the senate. Mr. McCollom served on the railroad committee, grain and warehouse committee and forestry committee. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and politically is identified with the Republican party and is an earnest worker for party principles.

#### WILLIAM HENSHAW.

William Henshaw, deceased, was formerly superintendent of the jail and court house at Grand Rapids, Minnesota. He was one of the pioneers of that locality, and witnessed the wonderful transformation of the country and aided materially in the same.

Mr. Henshaw was born in Hartford, Connecticut, June 20, 1851. His father, William Henshaw, was superintendent of cargoes sailing out of New York. The mother of our subject, Mary (Carr) Henshaw, was born in Vermont, and was of old Yankee stock. Our subject was the third of a family of five children. He was raised in the city and educated in the public schools of New York and Brooklyn. The family settled in New York city when he was five years of age, and he lived at home until he was eighteen years of age, when he found employment and was engaged in the United States custom house for four years. He stayed in New York city until he was twenty-six years of age, and in 1877 went to Lockport, New York, where he worked for Mr. Doty, a contractor. He was with him two years as engineer, and most of

the time since then he has followed this line almost exclusively. He went to Aitkin, Minnesota, in 1884, and was engineer on the steamer on the Mississippi river run between Aitkin and Grand Rapids. Grand Rapids was headquarters and Mr. Henshaw was there fully as much as at Aitkin. He worked on the river until 1890, when he located at LaPrairie and there worked for the Wellstone Mercantile Company of Duluth, and was with that company three years. In 1893 he took land as a homestead in Itasca county, in township 56, range 24, and lived there on two years. He had two log cabins, and the first one built was burned. He took most of his supplies to the place on his back and lived there a bachelor's life. He was appointed superintendent of the jail and court house at Grand Rapids in 1895, and has held the office for the past six years. The building has a steam heating plant and two steam boilers. When Mr. Henshaw went to that locality Indian teepees covered the land where the Pohegama Hotel now stands, and there were but a few log buildings on the banks of the river. In the fall of the year the steamboat made two trips a week between Aitkin and Grand Rapids, and a large share of the goods shipped into the town previous to 1890 was shipped by the boat upon which Mr. Henshaw was engineer. He watched the growth of Grand Rapids from its earliest days, and was widely and favorably known in that locality, where he has spent so many years.

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#### ANDREW LARSON.

Andrew Larson, a well-known resident of Mora, Kanabec county, Minnesota, was born in Orsa, a town in the northern part of Sweden, in 1853. His parents came to America twelve years later and made their home in Isanti county, Minnesota. He was the second member of a family of six children, and had his schooling in Isanti county, attending a public school held in a log house. He worked hard at home and when he was seventeen years of age struck out for himself, working at first in the woods and on the log drives, at various times acting as cook for the camp. For eight years he was employed in the lumbering business the most of the time in Kanabec county. In the fall of 1884 he did contract work, and was engaged quite extensively in logging operations. The same year he was elected treasurer of Kanabec county, and such was the satisfaction with which his services were received that he was re-elected five times, holding the office continuously until 1896. He is a Republican and commands the confidence of the community to a marked degree.

Mr. Larson was married, in the fall of 1887,

to Miss Sophia Rist, a native of Sweden. She came to this country with her parents in 1870. They settled first in Iowa, and later moved to Minnesota. She was reared in Kanabec county, where she secured a very good education and for five years before her marriage taught school in the county. To their union were born two children, both in Mora, Birdie and Beatrice.

Mr. Larson, in company with Fred Scott, formed a partnership, and started in the mercantile business, but the first year they were together they did more of a commission trade than anything, buying and selling farm produce. This partnership came to an end in September, 1900. In the meantime they had built, in the spring of 1897, a store building, 32x44 feet, on Union street in Mora, in which they handled boots and shoes, groceries and clothing. When Mr. Larson bought out Mr. Scott he concluded to keep the business in his own hands, which he has done to the present time, with very satisfactory results to his trade. His trade is as large as any man has won in the county, and he has secured it by his industry, accommodation and strict integrity. July 31, 1901, Mr. Larson suffered a total loss of store and contents by fire, and has since erected a new store building and has it completely stocked with new goods.

Mr. Larson is a Republican and was village recorder for two years. He is now a member of the Knights of the Maccabees, of which he has been recorder for a year and a half.

Mr. Larson is among the earliest settlers of Kanabec county, and when he first came into the county was employed on the Staples & Bean farm. He was in this county when Mora was not even thought of, and has rendered very substantial help in the upbuilding of Kanabec county, and he has travelled and tramped over the most of it.

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#### HUBERT D. POWERS.

Hubert D. Powers, one of the most influential business men of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, has made his residence there for over ten years and by his worthy citizenship gained an enviable reputation. He is engaged extensively in the hardware business and is one of the substantial men of Itasca county. His portrait may be found upon another page of this album.

Mr. Powers was born in Tomah, Monroe county, Wisconsin, October 10, 1864. His father, Theo. S. Powers, was a hardware merchant. He was of old American stock, as was also the mother of our subject, Emily S. (Bush) Powers. Two children were born to this worthy couple, of whom our subject was the younger. He was raised in his native place, and attended the city schools, and graduated from the Tomah high

school in 1882, after which he entered his father's hardware store and worked there until the spring of 1887, and there learned the business. He then went to Brainerd, Minnesota, where he was engaged as bookkeeper for several companies, and in 1889 started a hardware store in that town in partnership with his brother. In 1890 he went to Grand Rapids and opened a hardware store, and in July of that year shipped his stock of goods from Brainerd by steamer. At Crooked Rapids he had to leave part of the cargo for another trip, as the boat was loaded too heavy to go through the rapids. It took twelve days to get the entire stock through, and this was the first exclusive hardware store of the town. Mr. Powers and his brother were interested together and they started business in a 16x24 feet building and piled most of their goods out of doors. In March, 1892, they moved into their present building, and they now occupy a store building, 50x60 feet, and have not room for their stock, finding it necessary to store goods in other buildings. In the spring of 1902 they will extend the store with a fifty-foot front and running to the alley one hundred and forty feet. The business has steadily increased and is now one of the largest stocks and most complete in the city.

Hubert D. Powers was married in 1892 to Miss Anna B. Siers. Mrs. Powers was born near Faribault, Minnesota, and her father was a farmer by occupation and was of English-Scotch descent. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Powers, namely: William H. and Alonzo D., both of whom were born in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Mr. Powers is prominent in public local affairs. He was the first village treasurer, and was appointed county commissioner and served one term, and was the first deputy county treasurer, and has also served as president of the village council. He is an independent voter politically, and for two years was chairman of the Republican county committee, and has attended numerous conventions of that party. While a resident of Brainerd he was captain of Company K, Third Regiment, Minnesota State Guards, for three years, and was lieutenant in the Wisconsin militia, serving ten years as a militiaman. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge, and is past chancellor and past commander, and is major of the Second Battalion of the Second Regiment, Uniform Rank, Knights of Pythias. He is past master of A. F. & A. M. lodge, and is a thirty-second-degree Mason.

#### OLE T. ROGAN.

Ole T. Rogan, residing on section 10 of Flom township, is one of the influential and widely-known citizens of Norman county. He was one

of the earliest settlers of that region, taking up his residence on his present farm when the land was wild and Indians were more in evidence than civilization. He has remained to accumulate a well-improved and valuable farm, which is the direct result of his own industry and good management, and he has a good reputation as a citizen and agriculturist.

Our subject was born near Christiania, Norway, August 20, 1840. His father, Thomas Rogan, was a farmer throughout his career, and was also a blacksmith by trade. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Dorst Oleson, and her father, Ole Nolson, was a farmer by occupation. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Halga Thompson, was a farmer also. When our subject was fifteen years of age the parents and children emigrated to America and settled in Winneshiek county, Iowa. Our subject was the eldest of the family of six children, and he was early put to farm work. At the age of twenty years he enlisted in Company K, Fifteenth Wisconsin, a Scandinavian regiment enlisted from Madison, Wisconsin. He was sent south and was under General Rosecrans. The first engagement was at Union City, Tennessee, and our subject then went through Tennessee and Kentucky, and participated in the battle of Stone River and the battle of Nashville, Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain and the Atlanta campaign. He went to Savannah, and was then returned to Chattanooga, and in February, 1865, was mustered out of the service. He served three years in active army life and was injured by falling from his horse. After the battle of Chickamauga he was confined to the hospital three weeks. He enlisted as a private and was mustered out of the service with the rank of sergeant. He was appointed an orderly to carry messages for General Rosecrans and served thus one year. After his return from the war he worked for farmers in Iowa one year, and then followed farming for himself in Iowa three years. He went to Norman county, Minnesota, with his family in 1873, driving overland four hundred miles with an ox team and covered wagon, one month being consumed in the journey. Upon his arrival in Norman county he took up his residence upon the farm which he now owns, and he built a log shanty with a sod roof, and built a straw barn. He farmed with oxen ten years and broke land with them, and he passed through six years of grasshopper times. He worked for others to make a living for his family and these were the most discouraging times of his life. He had no market nearer than thirty-five miles, and he endured many privations and hardships. He is now the fortunate owner of two hundred and eighty acres of land, with one hundred and fifty acres under

cultivation and the balance in meadow, pasture and forty acres of timber. He has followed diversified farming, and now has seventeen head of cattle and seven horses, five of the latter being work horses. He has a complete set of farm buildings of good construction and finish, and he keeps a good supply of modern machinery for the handling of the grain.

Our subject was married, in 1866, to Miss Isabelle Johnson, a native of Norway, and a daughter of Andrew Johnson, who was a farmer by occupation. Mr. and Mrs. Rogan are the parents of seven children, who are named as follows: Andrew, now a merchant of Flom; Dorothy, now Mrs. Erick Urdahl; Girty, now Mrs. E. O. Bakke; Anna, now Mrs. Sven Huseby; Kaia; Taedamin; and Otto. Mr. Rogan has given his children the best educational advantages and he is an earnest worker for the educational advancement of his community. He is prominent in local affairs, and has served as postmaster of Flom for five years, and justice of the peace several years, and has also been township supervisor for several years. He took part in the organization of his township, and was one of the first township officers. He is a member of the G. A. R., and politically he is a Republican, having been identified with that party since he cast his first vote for Lincoln in 1860.

#### JOHN A. CRANSTON.

John A. Cranston, the very popular superintendent of schools of Alexandria, Minnesota, is an instructor of high rank in his profession. He has devoted his life to this work and has every reason to feel proud of his labors and results.

Mr. Cranston was born at Madrid, St. Lawrence county, New York, June 14, 1863. His parents were John and Mary Ann (Wetherson) Cranston. His father was a native of New York, and the mother was a native of Scotland, but was brought to America by her parents in her infancy. The parents are still living.

The subject of this biographical sketch spent his younger days on his father's farm, near Madrid, assisting at times in the home work and attending the Madrid Union free school, after which he attended the Canton Academy, New York, where he prepared for college. He then entered upon a course at St. Lawrence University, where he graduated in 1887. He began teaching school at the age of nineteen years, and taught three terms before entering college, and one term while attending college, striving to work his way through without help. He was compelled, however, to avail himself of his father's willingness to pay his way, but insisted upon re-

imbursing him afterward. After leaving college he went to Montana and accepted a position as principal of schools there, but after filling the position two months sickness compelled him to resign, and he visited friends at Stillwater, Minnesota, where he hoped to recuperate. After a brief stay he returned to his father's home in New York, and in the spring of 1888 he returned to Stillwater, Minnesota, and for a time traveled for the Granite Marble Works. In the fall of the same year he traveled through Arizona and southern California, seeking a desirable position in school work, and accepted a country school near Phoenix, Arizona, at a salary of sixty-five dollars per month. A majority of the scholars were Mexicans and after a six-months' stay there he resigned the position, although offered a salary of seventy-five dollars per month and an early increase of the salary. He went to Denver, Colorado, and from there returned to Minnesota in the spring of 1889, and accepted the position of superintendent of schools at Wadena, Minnesota. He served four years most successfully and was elected the fifth year, but declined the office. He then accepted the superintendency of the Elk river schools in Sherborne county, and remained there five years. In the spring of 1898 he was elected superintendent of village schools of Alexandria. During six years of his labors before mentioned he was conductor of summer training schools for teachers and was made president of the city superintendent's section of the State Teachers' Association in 1899, and in 1900 president of the Northern Minnesota Association. He holds a life certificate, granted by the state examining board. In the twelve years he has served as superintendent of schools he has been unanimously elected to the office. Alexandria has three schools, namely: The high school, the Washington and the Ward schools, in which twenty teachers are employed and about eight hundred pupils are enrolled.

Mr. Cranston was married, July 14, 1891, to Gertrude Gully, of Canton, New York, a former schoolmate of Mr. Cranston. Mrs. Cranston is a daughter of A. D. and Caroline (Curler) Gully, both of whom are deceased. Two children have been born to bless this union, namely: Alice B. and Rena G. Mr. and Mrs. Cranston are members of the Congregational church, and our subject is superintendent of the Sunday-school of that denomination. Politically he is a Republican.

#### HENRY J. RATH.

Henry J. Rath, clerk of the district court of Pine county, Minnesota, is a prominent early settler of that locality, and is a well-known business man of Pine City.

Mr. Rath was born in the village of Selent, Germany, in 1854. His father served in the German army in 1848, and came to America with his family in 1876. He was a stone mason by trade. Our subject was the only son, and being the oldest member of the family he came alone to America in 1874. He had spent the three preceding years as a seaman, and made a trip to Brazil and around Cape Horn, and thence back to Germany, and crossed the Atlantic eleven times. When he decided to make a permanent residence in America, he went from New York direct to Pine City, Minnesota, and as he was familiar with a fireman's work he engaged in this occupation in the sawmill at Pine City. He began farming in 1876, and was one of the first to engage in that pursuit in Pine county. He lived alone on his place and followed agriculture there four years. He then returned to Pine City and was employed as a clerk there, and was then appointed village marshal, serving in that capacity several years. He was deputy sheriff from 1886 to 1892, and in the latter year was elected clerk of the district court. He was re-elected in 1896, and again in 1900. He is now serving his third term as clerk of the district court. He has been interested in the sawmill and lumbering business, spending four years in that line, and is interested in Pine city real estate.

Mr. Rath was married, in 1886, to Miss Alma Scheunard. Mrs. Rath was born in Wisconsin, and is of German parentage. Her father was a farmer and miller. Mr. and Mrs. Rath are the parents of seven children, who are as follows: Ross, Leonard, Louise, Henry J., Flora, Ruth and Malinda. Mr. Rath has taken a most important part in the public affairs of his county and state, and has attended every state convention of his party as a delegate since 1880. He is a man of wide influence, and his knowledge of men and the world, coupled with his energetic character, have brought him well-merited success as a business man, and an enviable reputation as a citizen. He has served acceptably the people of his county and community in the public capacity and responsibility placed upon him, and his thorough business methods, his genial good nature and honesty of purpose have won him a host of friends.

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#### OLE O. CHRISTIANSON.

Ole O. Christianson, register of deeds of Polk county, is one of the honored public officials of the county and is a business man of enterprise and capability. He is senior member of the firm of Christianson & Strander, the well known real estate and abstracting firm of Crookston.

Mr. Christianson was born in Allamakee

county, Iowa, June 28, 1858. He was the fifth in order of birth in a family of nine children, seven of whom are now living. The parents were Ole and Anne (Viden) Christianson, both of whom were natives of Norway. They are now residents of Polk county, and reside on their farm near Fertile, Minnesota.

Ole O. Christianson and his brother Christian came to Polk county in the spring of 1879, and our subject entered claim to land in Garfield township, and the brother followed school teaching. The parents joined them in Polk county in 1880. Ole Christianson engaged in clerking for several years and in 1886 he and his brother opened a real estate office, and under the name of Christianson Brothers became one of the leading real estate firms of Crookston. In 1891 a set of abstract books was added. In 1895 the business passed to the present firm of Christianson & Strander. They have the only set of abstract books in the county, and have an extensive business in real estate, loans, insurance and abstracting. Mr. Christianson has prospered in Minnesota, and from a cash capital of three dollars when he went to his new home he has accumulated a good income and is regarded as one of the substantial business men of Crookston.

Mr. Christianson was married, in 1888, to Miss Ella Helland. The family circle is completed by Mr. and Mrs. Christianson's twin children, Ole and Ella. Mr. Christianson has given much attention to public affairs of local import and he is a competent and faithful officer. He was elected register of deeds of Polk county in the fall of 1900, in which capacity he now serves. He was city treasurer of Crookston for six years and enjoys the confidence of his associates. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and in political sentiment is a Republican and stands firmly for his convictions.

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#### NILS GREGER NILSEN.

Nils Greger Nilsen, county superintendent of schools of Carlton county, is among the efficient and faithful public officials of his county and has a host of friends and enjoys the confidence of all with whom he has to do. He is a gentleman of excellent education, wide experience and active life, and is well qualified for his high station as an official and citizen.

Mr. Nilsen was born in northern Norway on a farm June 24, 1858, and was the eldest of a family of eleven children. His father, John Nilsen, was a farmer and his family were merchants. When our subject was seven years of age the family emigrated to America and settled in Burnett county, Wisconsin, on a farm, where they lived two years, after which they removed



to Kandiyohi county, Minnesota. Our subject received his early education in the schools of Wisconsin and Minnesota, and at the age of fourteen years entered college in Minneapolis. He attended there five years and graduated with the degree of B. A. He taught school a year in Morrison county, Minnesota, and two years in Kandiyohi county, and one year in Illinois, most of which teaching was done during his vacations from college study. In 1880 he began the study of theology and continued that three years, graduating from Augsburg Seminary at Minneapolis. He was ordained a minister in the Lutheran church in June, 1883. His first charge was in Illinois, and after one year there he returned home, where he supplied the church for two years. In 1893 he located at Moose Lake in Carlton county, and took charge of the church there, which church was organized in the fall of 1894. He was the first and only pastor of this church and is the only pastor of this denomination in the northeastern part of Minnesota outside of the large cities. He has done much missionary work, and has organized churches in Pine county, west of Sturgeon lake, and others at Willow River, Rutledge, Sandstone and Oak Lake, and also preached in many places in the northern part of the state. In 1885 he was sent to the Pacific coast by order of the church, and there organized several churches in Washington and Oregon. He preaches in Norwegian, English and German languages, and has officiated in Swedish churches. He is a thorough student of Hebrew, Greek and Latin. In 1900 Mr. Nilsen was elected county superintendent of schools in Carlton county, and is now serving in that capacity. He was elected on the Republican ticket by a large majority.

Mr. Nilsen was married, in 1880, to Miss Anna Christensen. Mrs. Nilsen was born in Norway and came to America in 1867. Her father, Ole Christensen, is a farmer by occupation and is a resident of Kandiyohi county, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Nilsen are the parents of four children, namely: Nora, attending normal school; Annie, Gina and Edwin. Mr. Nilsen is a Republican in political faith, and he is an earnest worker for party principles. He has attended numerous conventions as a delegate and takes an active part in county and state affairs.

#### JOHN EID.

John Eid, auditor of Clay county, Minnesota, and one of the most popular and competent officials that has ever held that office, is a member of one of the pioneer families of the Red river valley.

Mr. Eid was born in Becker county, Minne-

sota, December 8, 1871. He was the third child in a family of nine children born to Christopher and Inger (Garthus) Eid, both residents of Clay county. They came to America and settled in Becker county among its earliest pioneers.

Our subject was reared on a farm and received his education in the country schools and the schools of Moorhead, Minnesota, taking a course at the normal school and attended a term at Concordia College. He was given a position in the Bank of Hawley, where for six years he served in the capacity of bookkeeper and assistant cashier. He opened up a general merchandise business at Hawley under the firm name of Peterson, Eid & Company, in which business he still retains an interest. In 1900 he was elected auditor of Clay county, and his able administration of the affairs of that department of county government has demonstrated the wisdom of the people's choice.

Mr. Eid was married, in 1896, to Miss Emma Tuft. To Mr. and Mrs. Eid two children have been born, namely: Clarence and Melvin. Mr. Eid has wielded much influence in public affairs and has been prominent in all movements in the interests of his county. He is respected as a citizen, honored as an official and regarded as a substantial business man.

#### RT. REV. JOSEPH FRANCIS BUH.

Rt. Rev. Joseph Francis Buh, the pioneer priest on the Iron Range, is now located at Elv, Minnesota, as priest of the St. Anthony church. He was born in the village of Lucene, Austria, March 17, 1833.

Our subject's father, Mathias Buh, was a farmer by occupation, and our subject was reared on the home farm. He attended the government schools at Potane, and later attended the public schools of Loka, and then the high school at Laibach, all the above named in the province of Krain. He was ordained priest July 25, 1858, in Laibach, and was first pastor at Laserbach, where he labored three years. He was then appointed pastor at Ratece and remained there three years. He emigrated to America in 1864, and went direct to St. Paul on invitation of Francis Pirz, the first Catholic missionary in northern Minnesota. He spent the first six months at the bishop's house in St. Paul, and had charge as prefect of several students, instructing them for the priesthood. He went to Crow Wing, Minnesota, in November, 1864, to the residence of Rev. Francis Pirz. In January, 1865, he went to Lake Winnebago, and did missionary work among the Indians for some months, learning their language and customs. He then went to Belle Prairie, Morrison county, and assumed charge

of the churches of Little Falls and Belle Prairie and adjoining missions, and also attended numerous other missions and churches in that part of the state, and spent about eighteen years in this work. He established missions at Red Lake Indian reservation, Leech Lake, Cass Lake, Sandy Lake, White Earth, and numerous others. He moved to Perham, in Ottertail county, in 1882, and was appointed pastor of the church there, and also attended surrounding missions, among them Moorhead, Detroit City and Brainerd. After spending two years at Little Falls, he was sent to Tower in 1888, and was the first priest appointed in charge of St. Martin's church. He labored in that locality until January, 1901, and established missions at Two Harbors in 1888, Ely the same year, and Biwabik about 1890, and the same year at Virginia, Hibbing and Mountain Iron. These missions have increased steadily in membership, and the first church building at Ely was dedicated on Thanksgiving Day, 1890. The second edifice for this congregation was dedicated the Sunday before Thanksgiving, 1900. The building is 60x120 feet, and is the largest and finest church on the Range. The priest's residence was built about 1896. By special grant of the Holy See the title of monsignor was conferred upon the pioneer priest, Father Buh, December 28, 1899, at Duluth, Minnesota, by the Most Rev. Archbishop Ireland, in the presence of the Rt. Rev. James McGolrick, of Duluth, and several other bishops and priests and a large concourse of the laity. A life-like portrait of Father Buh is shown upon one of the pages of this volume.

Rev. Buh and Francis Pirz were the first priests north of St. Cloud, in Minnesota, and during the past thirty-seven years Rev. Buh has expended his labors for the upbuilding of the religious and social interests of the Iron Range.

#### WILLIAM W. SHULEAN.

William W. Shulean, of Isanti, Isanti county, Minnesota, is a striking and impressive representative of Minnesota brawn and muscle, having been born in Chisago county in 1859, on a farm in the timbered wilderness. His father, who was a farmer, was born in Sweden, and came to Minnesota in 1849, settling on a farm in Chisago county three years later. The country was so new and his means so limited that he and his neighbors made the journeys from Taylor's Falls into Chisago county on foot, and brought their supplies on their backs. After securing his land he put up his home, a log shanty, 20x24 feet. In this humble home William W. first saw the light. The elder Shulean owned the only plow in the settlement at one

time. For a number of years he spent his time improving his land, as well as rafting, being foreman for a rafting company at Taylor's Falls. In 1860 the family settled at Isanti, where land was bought and farming resumed on a larger scale. Here the family prospered and soon owned farm stock, as well as many conveniences and necessities of life. In those days more Indians than white people were in the neighborhood and the first playmates that young William W. had were Indian papooses. From them he learned the Chippewa tongue.

William W. Shulean was early inured to a life of toil, and when he was seven years of age had his set tasks to accomplish. He attended the log cabin school of his early day, and at the early age of fourteen struck out for himself. For several years he worked on the farm for such men as would give him employment. His mother died when he was twelve years old, and her death broke up the family. When William W. was seventeen years of age he went into the lumber country, but after a year resumed farm work, being in the employ of C. W. Shatto, of Minneapolis, who was opening a large farm located at Milbank, South Dakota, after which he was engaged with the McCormick Harvesting Company four seasons in different parts of the northern states. At the time the Shatta farm was opened the nearest railway station was fifty miles away. In 1881 he began clerking for a merchant in Milbank, and was then employed for the McCormicks, as noted above. He traveled for them throughout Minnesota, Dakota, Michigan and Wisconsin as well as in Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky and Tennessee. These were valuable years to Mr. Shulean, not only because of the money he earned, but because of the wide information he acquired and of the valuable ideas and experiences that came to him. He thinks he gained more education in those years than in all the rest of his life taken together.

At North ranch, Minnesota, Mr. Shulean sold farm machinery and also rendered assistance in an insurance and loan office. There he was taken sick, and for two years was unable to do any active work. The year 1888 found him at his old home in Isanti county, poor in health and purse alike. That year, however, he was elected county auditor, and in 1890 again elected to the same position. In 1892 his health would not permit him to take a third term. For a number of years he did no active work beyond a little clerking and bookkeeping. In the fall of 1899 he was named cashier of the Bank of Isanti, which was established that year by F. F. Murray, of North Branch. This was converted into a state bank in June, 1901, Mr. Shulean being still its cashier. It transacts a general banking business, as well as loans and insurance, and is

the third bank established in the county, being the first to be incorporated.

Mr. Shulean is a Republican, and is a justice of peace in the town. He has passed through many varied experiences, and is a man much esteemed in the community in which his honorable and useful career is being run.

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#### WILLIAM P. BAYLEY.

Among the most successful professional men of Ottertail county William P. Bayley deserves special mention. He has won distinction at the bar and in all matters of a public nature has proved himself a worthy and deserving citizen. He has helped to give prominence and character to the Fergus Falls bar and his name is well known throughout his own and adjoining counties.

Mr. Bayley is a native of the state of New York and was born near Massena, St. Lawrence county, June 10, 1857. His father, William M. Bayley, was a farmer by occupation. Our subject's great-grandfather, also a farmer, was born in Ireland, and came with his parents to Vermont in an early day of its history. The family removed to New York state in 1835. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Laura M. Felch, was a native of Vermont, and of Welsh descent. Her father, a clergyman, was drowned at sea.

Mr. Bayley was the fourth child in a family of five children, and was reared on a farm, obtaining his early education in the public schools. At the age of sixteen years he entered the high school at Massena, and graduated at the age of twenty years. The following year he went to Alexandria, Minnesota, where he was employed for two or three years following by a machine company. In 1883 he went to Fargo, North Dakota, in the employ of the Walter A. Woods Harvester Company. He had for some time been pursuing law studies, and in 1886 he located in Fergus Falls, where he continued the study of that profession. He was admitted to the bar March 22, 1888. He opened an office and engaged in the law, real estate and collection business, having been engaged in the last named branches since his location in the city.

Mr. Bayley was married, in 1884, the ceremony taking place January 31st, the lady of his choice, Miss Amanda L. Stearns, being a native of the state of New York. Her father, A. C. Stearns, was a farmer, descended from an old New England family. Mrs. Bayley was born in Louisville, St. Lawrence county, New York, and received her education in the public schools, later graduating from the high school and Lawrenceville Academy. She then taught in her native

state till the date of her marriage to Mr. Bayley. One son, Charles S., completes their family. He was born at Alexandria, Minnesota, June 12, 1885. Mr. Bayley is a Democrat in his political belief and has been a factor in public affairs since his arrival in the county. He was a member of the city council for six years in succession and served as court commissioner for one term. He is prominent in county and state conventions of his party and was a delegate to the national convention at Kansas City which nominated W. J. Bryan, July 4, 1900. Mr. Bayley is at present chairman of the Democratic county committee. He is regarded as one of the substantial citizens and business men of Fergus Falls and has built up a large and valuable practice. He is a director of the Building and Loan Association of Fergus Falls. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America and the M. B. A.

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#### STRAWBRIDGE BROTHERS.

Among the business enterprises which contribute to a marked degree to the prosperity of Cass Lake as a business point the dry goods, clothing and shoe store of Strawbridge Brothers occupies a leading place. This is one of the best stores of the community and the proprietors are well known to the people of Cass county, Minnesota, for their honest business methods and careful attention to the needs of their community.

The elder of the brothers, B. A. Strawbridge, was born in Harford county, Maryland, October 11, 1867. He was reared on a farm, attended the common schools, then took up clerking. He later followed canvassing for a short time, and in 1890 went to Indiana to take a course in shorthand and bookkeeping in the business college. He completed this in six months, and November 1, 1890, went to Chicago, Illinois, and worked as stenographer for the Chicago Bridge and Iron Company at Washington Heights. He later worked for H. Channon Company, of Chicago, as stenographer, and in November, 1891, changed his residence to Crookston, Minnesota. He accepted a position as teacher of shorthand in the Crookston Business College, and in 1892 purchased the college. He conducted the school two years, when he disposed of his interests and was appointed court reporter by Judge Ives, of Crookston, which position he held for six years. Judge Ives was succeeded by William Watts and Mr. Strawbridge was reporter for him for a time. He then went to Cass Lake and assisted in organizing the firm of Ives & Strawbridge, and established the Cass Lake Times, the oldest paper in the town. This he conducted about

one year and then sold his interest to Mr. Ives. Mr. Strawbridge, his brother, J. H., and a cousin, George W., conducted a dry goods store at Crookston and Cass Lake until 1900, when our subject purchased the cousin's interest and the firm of Strawbridge Brothers was formed. They carry a complete line of dry goods, boots, shoes, clothing and men's furnishings. The stock is well kept and meets the demand of the extensive patronage enjoyed. The store occupies the brick block on the corner of Second street north and Second avenue west, and is one of the best mercantile establishments of the county. The Cass Lake Bank is located in the same building. B. A. Strawbridge owns that portion of the brick block forming an L half around the bank, in which the store is located.

B. A. Strawbridge is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a member of the Methodist church. Politically he is an independent Republican, believing in and advocating tariff reforms and reciprocity.

J. H. STRAWBRIDGE, the younger member of the firm of Strawbridge Brothers, was also born in Harford county, Maryland, and, like his elder brother, was reared on a farm and attended the common schools, after which he engaged in clerking for an older brother in his native state. He came west in the spring of 1898 and has since been associated with his brother, B. A. Strawbridge, in the mercantile business. He is a young man well known and highly esteemed in his community. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Politically he, too, is a Republican and stands firmly for his convictions.

J. H. Strawbridge was married, in June, 1900, to Julia Moeckel. Mrs. Strawbridge is a native of Ashland, Wisconsin.

#### FREDERICK O. KING.

Frederick O. King, one of the best known instructors of Minnesota, is superintendent of the Park Rapids public schools and is a thorough educator and devoted to his work in this line.

Mr. King was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, April 9, 1869. His father, Richard S. King, was born in Iowa, and the mother of our subject, Lois (Morrill) King, was a native of Canada. Mr. King left his native county when he was but an infant and resided in Martin county. He worked on the home farm and attended the common schools there and later attended the Fairmont high school. After graduating from this institution he attended a private college at Dixon, Illinois, and from there entered the Uni-

versity of Minnesota at Minneapolis for special work. His first work as instructor of a graded school was at St. James, Minnesota, where he was assistant principal for one year, and he then went to Sherburne, Minnesota, and taught the high school there for two years. He located in Park Rapids in 1895, and has since been superintendent of the Park Rapids high public schools. This institution now enrolls five hundred students and ten teachers are employed in their instruction. The building is a fine structure and is well located in the eastern part of the town, and the school is fast becoming an important part of the educational system of Minnesota. The instruction under Prof. King is thorough and competent and he exerts every effort for the right development of the minds placed under his guidance. Prof. King owns a comfortable residence in the village of Park Rapids, and also one hundred and sixty acres of land in Ottertail county. These properties he has earned by his industrious and honest efforts, and is deservedly one of the esteemed and respected citizens of his community.

Prof. King was married, January 1, 1892, to Lydia Whitney. Mrs. King was born in Wisconsin July 4, 1869. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. King, upon whom they have bestowed the names of Morrill W. and Letha L. Prof. King is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Modern Woodmen of America. He and family are members of the Methodist church. Politically he is a Republican.

#### JOHN MARSHALL.

John Marshall needs no introduction to the people of Minnesota. He is known throughout the state and in various other states as a man of broad mind, culture and public spirit. He is the present superintendent of schools of Wadena, Minnesota, and is a thorough instructor and ranks among the best of his profession.

Mr. Marshall was born in St. Ann, Illinois, in 1876, and was a son of Adolphus Marshall. His father was a grain buyer in former years, but is now engaged in the lumber business. The family came from France to America in 1847 when our subject's father was but an infant, and settled in La Salle, Illinois, where the grandfather began farming. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Vuline Trumble, was of Scotch-Irish descent, and her people were early settlers of Ohio.

Of a family of five children, Mr. Marshall was the fourth in order of birth. When he was five years of age the family removed to Cheshan, Illinois, where the father followed grain

buying. When he was nine years of age the family took up their residence in LaMoure county, North Dakota, where they followed farming and passed through the experiences and hardships incident to pioneer life in the northwest. Our subject grew to manhood on the home farm and received but eight months schooling while at home. He aided his father in the development of the farm, drove oxen and worked at other hard farm work, caring for the farm with his mother in the winters during the father's absence. He left home at the age of fifteen years and attended school in LaMoure and working for his room and board one year, when he went to West Superior, Wisconsin, attending the high school there two years. He earned his own way through this school, and declined a good paying position in Minnesota to devote his time to getting an education, a decision which was commendable in every respect. He graduated from the Superior high school in 1893, and then returned to LaMoure county, where he followed teaching four months in the country. This school was thirty-five miles from the mails, and there were but two families patrons of the school. Mr. Marshall hunted wolves and made as much from the bounty as he did in wages teaching. He spent three months of the following year as engineer and fireman of a threshing machine, and in 1894 entered the University of Wisconsin, taking a scientific course. He spent two years in Wisconsin University and then accepted a position as assistant in charge of the national Republican college headquarters in Chicago during the memorable campaign of 1896. He spoke through Wisconsin and Illinois and organized Republican clubs throughout the United States. The object of the organization was to get college men interested in campaign work, and he succeeded in securing many orators of force and influence for the ranks of the Republican party. After the campaign Mr. Marshall entered the University of Minnesota and there completed a scientific course, graduating from that institution in 1898 with the degree of B. S. He spent the summer of 1898 lecturing in southern Minnesota and North and South Dakotas on the Cuban war. He was then elected superintendent of the Granite Falls schools and continued his work there two years, when, in 1900, he was elected to a three-years' term as superintendent of the Wadena public schools, and is now filling that office with credit. He is taking summer courses in law at Chicago and Ann Arbor, and proposes completing his education in one of the eastern colleges of note, after he completes his present term of office in Wadena. During his college course, in company with three fellow students who had debated the money question for two years at college, he compiled a publication

entitled "Truth About Money." This publication had an extensive sale, but was not intended as a publication for speculation. Through this he received his appointment to the responsible position which he held under the Republican committee in 1896. Various offers from Washington have been made to Mr. Marshall from time to time, but he has declined each in order to devote his time and attention to the completion of his education.

While a student at the University of Minnesota Mr. Marshall was elected a member of the Minnesota Magazine Board, which published a magazine for the senior class. He was a thorough student and did double work most of the time while in attendance there. While in the Wisconsin University he was president of his class for one year, and joined the Delta Tau Delta fraternity, and was manager of the Badger, a yearly publication by the juniors of that institution. He is an active athlete and an ardent sportsman, and was captain of a boat crew at Wisconsin University, and took an active part in foot ball, base ball, track athletics and other sports. He suffered a broken leg as the result of his horse falling on him during a hare and hound chase in the winter of 1900. He is a young man of strong physique, high purpose and energy and is much esteemed among his associates and friends.

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#### PLYMPTON A. WALLING, M. D.

Plympton A. Walling, M. D., the oldest physician of Hubbard county, has an extensive practice in his profession and is one of the deservedly popular citizens of his locality. He has passed twenty years of his life there and has built up a remunerative practice by his skillful treatment of the ills of mankind and his conscientious service for the relief of his fellows. His office is at Park Rapids, where he is also engaged in the drug business, and in this he has a large and increasing patronage. A portrait of him is shown on one of the pages of this volume.

Dr. Walling was born in Pennsylvania, January 11, 1850. His father, Asaph Walling, was a native of New York, and the mother of our subject, Anna (Negus) Walling, was born in Pennsylvania. Our subject was reared in his native state and attended the common schools and worked on the home farm, assisting his father thereon until he was about twenty years of age. He then entered the Elinboro (Pa.) Normal School, and afterward continued his studies in the University of Buffalo, New York, graduating from the medical department in that institution in 1876. He began his medical practice at Clymer, New York, where he remained until 1879.

and then removed to Columbus, Pennsylvania. In 1882 he removed to Park Rapids, Minnesota. He has followed the practice of his profession here since that date, and in 1898 established a drug business in the city. He owns the building in which he conducts the drug business, and carries a stock of drugs valued at \$2,500. He also owns his residence and two lots in Park Rapids valued at \$2,500. Dr. Walling is the oldest member of his profession in Park Rapids, and has been coroner and health officer of the city. He is a member of the State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He is prominent in secret society circles, and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the K. O. T. M. Politically he is a Republican and he stands staunchly for the principles of his party. He is one of the oldest citizens of Hubbard county and is identified with its early history.

Dr. Walling was married in 1875 to Rosaline E. Kennedy. Mrs. Walling was born in Pennsylvania August 21, 1850. Three children have been born to Dr. and Mrs. Walling, namely: Jason M., Iva E. and Ivan E.

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#### MILES L. HAWLEY.

Miles L. Hawley, the efficient and popular postmaster of Audubon, Minnesota, is one of the substantial citizens of Becker county. He is an ex-soldier of the Civil war, and can review his service in defense of the Union with justifiable pride. The same loyalty and courage which prompted him in the troublous times to tender his services for his country has been dominant throughout his career and he is deservedly honored and esteemed by his fellowmen.

Mr. Hawley was born on a farm in Portage county, Ohio, February 14, 1838, and was a son of John and Fidelia (Strickland) Hawley. His father was of English descent and was a farmer throughout his life. The Hawley family came to America in Colonial times and the grandfather, John Hawley, served in the Revolutionary war. The mother of our subject was born in Massachusetts and was of Yankee stock, the family having come to America during early times. The grandfather of our subject was named Daniel Strickland.

Of a family of ten children, our subject was the fifth in order of birth. He was raised and educated in Ohio, and at the age of seventeen went with his parents to Pierce county, Wisconsin, and he there assisted on his father's farm. In September, 1861, he enlisted in Company A, Twelfth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and in January he was sent to Kansas and later to Kentucky, and was with Grant at Holly Springs,

Memphis, Vicksburg, and Jackson, Mississippi, serving a portion of the time under Sherman. After a furlough of thirty days he joined Sherman around Atlanta and then accompanied him on his famous march to the sea, up through the Carolinas, and was at Raleigh, North Carolina, at the time of Lee's surrender. He saw three years and ten months of active service, and participated in the Grand Review at Washington. After the close of hostilities he returned to Wisconsin, and began farming in Pierce county and followed the same there about six years. He went overland to St. Cloud, Minnesota, in 1870, and during the winter of 1870-71 he traveled over the northern part of the Red Lake Indian Agency. In June he returned to Becker county and settled on government land in Audubon township, and built a log shanty and lived there alone for two years, and worked at railroad construction and teaming. He assisted in building the Northern Pacific Railroad through Becker county. He began farming in 1873, and in December, 1875, his residence, furniture, money and all his possessions were burned, including a year's provisions. He then worked for others about a year, after which he disposed of his land and rented land for farming, and in 1878 he removed his family to Audubon and farmed land near the town, and also assumed the management of several farms of that locality. He was appointed postmaster at Audubon in 1896, and is now serving in that capacity.

Our subject was married, in 1873, to Miss Lucy Connelly. Mrs. Hawley was born in Minnesota, and is a daughter of John Connelly, who was born in Maryland and is of Scotch descent. Mr. and Mrs. Hawley are the parents of four children, who are as follows: Clarence W., deceased; Harry J., deceased; Martha F.; and Sue A., all of whom were born on the farm in Audubon township, Becker county, excepting Clarence, who was born at Perham, Ottertail county. Mr. Hawley is a member of the G. A. R. and the Independent Order of Good Templars. He is a Republican politically, and has attended numerous county conventions as a delegate of his party and takes a hearty interest in public affairs locally.

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#### NELS G. BROWN.

The office of county treasurer of Kittson county has been bestowed upon this gentleman and he is discharging the duties of the position with rare fidelity and increasing popularity. He has held the same for the past eight years, his term of office expiring January, 1901, and has been found efficient and faithful. He has a comfortable home in the town of Hallock, and is pro-



prietor of a valuable farm near the town, which is now conducted by his son. He is a citizen of foreign birth, but no man can be found more devoted to the interests and welfare of his adopted land than Mr. Brown. He is a man of broad mind and good education, and exercises good judgment and honesty in all his dealings.

Mr. Brown was born in Sweden, February 22, 1843. He was the eldest in a family of four children, born to Gustaf and Bengta (Jacobson) Skog, both of whom are now deceased. He served in the Swedish army eight years and was then engaged in the general merchandise business in his native land. He met with reverses there, however, and in 1880 he emigrated to America. He arrived in Hallock, Kittson county, in September of that year and purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land in Red river township and there he made a home and successfully conducted his farm. He placed valuable improvements on the same and supplied all conveniences of modern farming, and was soon in easy circumstances. He went to Hallock in 1893 and assumed his duties of county treasurer, which office he has since held. He left the farm in care of his son, who now conducts the same with good results and an annual income is received from the place. Mr. Brown has accumulated a residence property in the town of Hallock and every appointment of his home bespeaks the good taste of its occupants.

Mr. Brown was married in Sweden in 1867 to Miss Ellen Nelson, who died in 1871. Two children were born to this union, who were named as follows: Tilda, now deceased, and Gustaf. Mr. Brown was married to Miss Hannah Hanson in 1872. Fourteen children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Brown, of whom eleven are now living. Our subject is a consistent member of the Swedish Lutheran church. He and his family are highly esteemed in their community. He is a Populist politically, and is a firm advocate of reform principles.

#### CHARLES L. STEVENS.

Charles L. Stevens, the present editor of the Warren Register, was born in Macoupin county, Illinois, February 1, 1867. He was the eldest of eight children born to Thomas F. and Eliza J. (Fletcher) Stevens, both now living in Illinois. The family came to Marshall county, Minnesota, in 1883. The father began the practice of law in Warren in 1882. Our subject began reading law and completed a law course at the Northern Illinois Normal School and was admitted to the Illinois bar in 1892 and to the Minnesota bar two years later. He began the practice of his profession in Warren, but almost immediately became interested in newspaper work. Since 1894

he has been editor of The Warren Register, and it is through his good management and journalistic ability that success has come to that paper.

Mr. Stevens was married September 1, 1898, to Miss Alice Wallace. They are the parents of one daughter, Jean. Mr. Stevens is a member of the Masonic fraternity and Knights of the Maccabees. He has always taken an active interest in local and national public affairs, and is recognized as an authority on political questions. He has served as city recorder of Warren.

#### JOHN ABERCROMBIE.

John Abercrombie, the proficient and popular county surveyor of Douglas county, Minnesota, is a cultured gentleman and one of the leading citizens of the community in which he lives. He has a fine farm and comfortable home at Alexandria, where he has spent many years of his life.

Mr. Abercrombie was born at Bannockburn, Stirlingshire, Scotland, July 7, 1844. His parents were Archibald and Ann (McAlley) Abercrombie. His father was a descendant of the historic family of that name who were heroes in many a hard-fought battle for the British crown. He was engaged in mining in Scotland. Our subject had the benefit of a good education, and with the love of knowledge, for which his countrymen are famous, he early acquired the rudiments of an education, and after mastering the studies of the local schools he was sent to Andersonian College, near Glasgow, and afterward to the schools of design in that city, and there became master of technical drawing. He soon afterward found employment with J. & G. Thompson, the extensive marine engineers of Glasgow, and then worked several months at the Hyde Park Locomotive Works, also in Glasgow, to gain practical ideas and qualify for his life work. His desire was to become thoroughly proficient as a civil engineer, which naturally embraced surveying and mechanical drawing, and in this he fully succeeded. At this time Great Britain was having an ordinance survey made throughout the country, and our subject tendered his services, which were accepted, after he had qualified himself by a studious attendance at the Governmental School of Military Engineering at Chatham, England. For eleven years thereafter he was employed in these duties, in the pursuit of which he traveled considerably over England and the northern part of Ireland. In 1871 he came to America, landing at New York, and upon crossing the North river he at once found employment at a salary of one hundred and fifty dollars per month, with Mr. McComb, at Newark, New Jersey, who was making surveys of the beautiful towns of East and West

Orange, New Jersey, and he continued with this firm nearly five years. He came to Alexandria in 1875 and continued the line of work in which he was so proficient, making surveys for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, which occupied him for a year and a half, and he also made surveys for the Duluth, South Shore & Atlantic Railroad, and the Little Falls & Dakota Railroad. He was elected county surveyor of Douglas county in 1868, and has filled that position in a most satisfactory manner to the present time, having been re-elected every successive term. He is the owner of sixty-five acres of highly improved and valuable land within the city limits and has provided himself and his family a home of more than usual comfort.

Mr. Abercrombie was married at Windsor, England, within sight of the grand old palace, in 1866, to Delitia S. Bedman. Mrs. Abercrombie was a native of Hampshire, England, where our subject made her acquaintance, while traveling in the capacity of government surveyor in the "New Forest" in that country. Mr. and Mrs. Abercrombie are the parents of four children, as follows: Charles B., Wallace V., James A. D. and Delitia Ann, all of whom reside with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Abercrombie and family are members of the Episcopal church.

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#### CHARLES E. AIKEN.

Charles E. Aiken, assistant cashier of the Lumbermen's Bank, of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, enjoys the confidence of his fellowmen to an unusual degree. He is a man of excellent character and marked business ability and is widely known as a citizen of sterling worth.

Mr. Aiken was born in Decorah, Winneshiek county, Iowa, November 23, 1863. His father, Asher A. Aiken, was a manufacturer of woolen goods in Decorah and was proprietor of the Trout Run Woolen Mills. He was from old American stock and was born in Ohio. The mother of our subject, Mary (McCollough) Aiken, was born in Wisconsin and was of Scotch descent. Of a family of six children, Charles E. Aiken was the fourth in order of birth. He was raised in the city and attended the public schools, and at the age of twelve years started for himself as a chore boy in a livery barn in Decorah. The family had moved to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, but he remained in Decorah about three years thereafter and then went to Brookings, South Dakota, where he worked about two years at the tinner's trade. He then did railroad work on the Chicago & North Western Railroad as a trainman about seven years. About 1884 he engaged in the grocery business in Brookings and continued there about a year and a half, when he was appointed assistant post-

master under Cleveland and after two years in that capacity was appointed postmaster, to succeed C. W. Hastings, resigned. He held the position until 1893 and then served until 1895 as assistant postmaster. Owing to political preferences his successor was talked of in 1892, but a petition begging his nonremoval was circulated and received the signature of every voter in the city. This was presented to President Harrison by Hon. G. A. Matthews and he was not removed at the time, but finally political power prevailed and his successor was appointed. He removed to Grand Rapids, Minnesota, in 1895, and was appointed assistant cashier of the Lumbermen's Bank of that city, with C. W. Hastings, president, and F. P. Sheldon, cashier, which office he now fills in a most satisfactory manner.

Mr. Aiken was married in December, 1884, to Miss Luella Hastings. Mrs. Aiken was born at Owatonna, Minnesota, and her father, Charles W. Hastings, was a money loaner and real estate dealer, and a man of wealth and prominent in financial circles. Her parents were from New York state. Mrs. Aiken was raised in Owatonna, Minnesota, and attended the public schools there. Mr. and Mrs. Aiken are the parents of the following children: Edith, Jesse, Leilela, Marie, Wallace M. and Walter. Mr. Aiken was elected village treasurer in 1899 and re-elected in 1900, and in 1901 was re-elected without opposition, receiving every vote cast for village treasurer, attesting his popularity and faithful discharge of his duties. Politically he is a Republican. He is a musician of some note and at the age of sixteen years became a member of Brookings Cornet Band. He was soon given the leading cornet part and played with that organization for some years and was the mainstay of the band, and with the organization visited the World's Fair at Chicago, in 1893. They also went to the Yellowstone National Park with the editors of the South Dakota Editorial Association.

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#### JUDGE JOHN A. SWENSON.

In bestowing upon the worthy citizens of our country the offices of public trust, little heed is paid to the place of their nativity, and the men of intelligence and merit are placed at the head of civil government. Many of the representative citizens of Kittson county, who hold offices of public trust, are foreign born citizens, and a goodly proportion of the number hails from the Scandinavian peninsula. These men occupy seats of honor and faithfully discharge the duties of their respective offices, gaining in popularity and good standing. Among this number stands Judge John A. Swenson, judge of probate of Kittson county. He is a man of honor and un-

swerving convictions and is the right man in the right place.

Mr. Swenson was born in the parish of Träheryd, Smaland, Sweden, August 21, 1861, and was the eldest in a family of eight children born to Sven and Anna (Jonasson) Olson. The father came to America in 1868, and two years later he was joined by the other members of his family. They settled on a farm in Goodhue county, Minnesota, and our subject remained there until 1882, when he went to Kittson county. He worked as a laborer for years, most of the time on the farms of that vicinity. He gained his English education between the ages of twelve and sixteen years, but has acquired a wide knowledge of men and the world and is thoroughly posted on the issues of the day. He took land as a homestead in 1886, in section 6, in Hallock township, and is now the owner of a fine farm of four hundred and seventy acres, about six miles from the town of Hallock, the farm on which he settled in the early days and which he operated and improved. He had but an ox-team when he started thereon and he lived alone and developed his farm. He rapidly rose to prominence and was appointed deputy treasurer in 1892, and a year later was appointed clerk of probate court, and also served as deputy register of deeds. He was elected judge of probate in 1894, and has held the office since that date. He is secretary of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company at the present time and has been for several years.

In 1898 Mr. Swenson took a life companion, the lady of his choice being Miss Olivia Swenson. Mr. Swenson is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church. He is prominent in local affairs of a public nature and has served as clerk of Hallock township six years and justice of the peace four years, and is also interested in educational matters in the office of clerk of the school board. He is identified with the Republican party, but is not a strict party man, and has a host of friends in Kittson county, regardless of party affiliations.

#### ARNOLD R. HOLSTON.

Arnold R. Holston, senior member of the law firm of Holston and Hagen, of Crookston, is one of the well-known attorneys of Polk county, and has been identified with the public interests of that county for many years.

Mr. Holston was born in Illinois, March 21, 1858, and was the youngest of eight children born to William and Lydia (O'Hair) Holston. He went to the California gold fields in 1849, and he was later a Union soldier and died while serving his country. He was a native of Kentucky,

as was also the mother of our subject, who was of Scotch-Irish extraction.

Left fatherless at an early age, young Arnold was thrown among strangers. Hardships seemed all the world had to offer, and experience was his only teacher. Despite these discouragements he mapped out a professional career for himself and, rising above his surroundings, he made the best of every opportunity. He read law in the office of Coles, Sellar & Dole, in Paris, Illinois, and at twenty years of age entered Wesleyan Law School. In 1881 he located in Minnesota and clerked in the probate office at Buffalo, and the same year was admitted to the bar of Minnesota. He practiced law three years at Delano and Co-kato, from 1884 to 1887 was located at Moorhead, and from 1887 to 1891 at Red Lake Falls. He was elected county attorney of Polk county in 1890 and in 1891 took up his residence in Crookston, the county seat, where he has since followed his practice, with the exception of one year spent in Colorado. His faithfulness and popularity are best evidenced by the fact that he was twice re-elected to the office of county attorney of Polk county, and served three terms with honor to himself and the people whom he represented. The present firm of Holston & Hagen was founded in 1900, and they enjoy an extensive practice and are among the foremost attorneys of Minnesota.

Mr. Holston has been identified with the Populist party politically since 1890 and has taken an active part in campaign work, and has done much to further the reform movement. He has a host of friends, irrespective of party affiliations.

Mr. Holston was married in 1883, the lady of his choice being Caroline Nordine. Mrs. Holston presides over her home with true dignity and grace and is a helpful companion to her husband. They have a pleasant home in Crookston and are highly esteemed by all who know them.

#### ENSIGN R. TUTTLE.

Ensign R. Tuttle, who for the past twenty years has been successfully pursuing agriculture in Morrison county, is a gentleman of energetic spirit and capable mind. He has a pleasant home in section 20 of Motley township, and there enjoys the fruits of a well-spent career.

Mr. Tuttle was born in Connecticut, October 16, 1835, and was a son of Jesse and Rachel (Bathoran) Tuttle. The father was born in Connecticut, January 2, 1784, and the mother was a native of Massachusetts. Mr. Tuttle remained in his native state until he was fourteen years of age, when he removed to Massachusetts and remained there until he was eighteen years of age. He went to Wisconsin in 1854, stayed one sum-

mer and returned home, and in the spring of 1855 returned to Whitewater, Wisconsin, and then went to Prairie du Chien and worked in a brick yard and on a farm until 1858. In 1859 he went to Whiteside county, Illinois, came back to Prairie du Chien in 1863, and in 1864 enlisted from Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, and became a member of Company A, Forty-third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He participated in several severe engagements, and after one year's service was mustered out at Nashville, Tennessee, and discharged at Milwaukee, October, 1865. He returned to his home in Wisconsin, and the following year moved to Minnesota, locating in Freeborn county; from there he moved to Moore county, and later to Waseca county. He afterward took up his residence in Steele county, and in 1881 came to Morrison county, purchasing his present farm. The land is pleasantly located in the forks of the Crow Wing and Long Prairie rivers, and consists of seventy-six acres. On this tract Mr. Tuttle has erected a comfortable residence and good farm buildings, and keeps a sufficient supply of stock and horses for farm use. He has good water on the farm, and, although smaller than some farms of the locality, is among the highly cultivated tracts and furnishes a good annual income.

Mr. Tuttle was married in 1858 to Esther Morse. Mrs. Tuttle was born in England February 27, 1843, and died in Minnesota August 28, 1888. Seven children were born of this union, namely: Ellen A., May E., Bertha L., Ida Ruth, Mary W., Jennie B. and Jesse. Mr. Tuttle was married to Eliza Goodrich October 15, 1894. Mrs. Tuttle was born in New York July 30, 1820. Mr. Tuttle is a member of the G. A. R. lodge at Motley. He is a Republican politically and is firm in his convictions. The portrait of Mr. Tuttle will be found on another page in this volume.

#### RALEIGH M. POPE.

Raleigh M. Pope, the present enterprising and wide-awake editor of the Kanabec County Times, at Mora, Minnesota, was born in Plainview, Wabasha county, Minnesota, June 20, 1874, and is a son of W. H. H. Pope, a native of Vermont, who came to this state about 1850, when quite a lad, and followed the calling of a newspaper man. The career of the senior Pope was a very successful one. He studied and practiced law and was admitted to the bar at Plainview, where he owned a large farm near the city line. He married Miss Eliza Boatman, a native of Indiana.

Raleigh M. Pope is the second member of a family of three children born to his parents, and had his education at Plainview. When he was sixteen years of age he went to Little Falls,

Minnesota, to take a position in the Herald, of which his father was one of the owners at the time. There he learned the printing trade in all its parts, and in September, 1895, came to Mora, to work on the Kanabec County Times. This establishment he bought the following January from its founder and proprietor, R. W. Safford. This paper was first published by that gentleman in company with S. E. Tallman in the fall of 1894. It is a six-column quarto weekly publication, and appears on Friday. It is a Republican sheet, and exerts a strong influence for the party. Mr. Pope takes an active interest in party affairs, and has attended the county and state conventions as a delegate on several occasions. He is regarded by those who know him as a rising young man.

Mr. Pope was married in 1896 to Miss Cora Howard, a native of Mille Lacs county, and a daughter of Silas Howard. To this union has come two children, Marie, a bright and charming little tot, who was born in 1897, and Howard, a son, born September 4, 1901.

Mr. Pope is well provided with all the appointments he needs for the successful performance of his work. He has a power press, two jobbers, and a gasoline engine, and declares his paper is about the best equipped between Duluth and the Twin Cities. When he took charge of the office of the office it had only a small hand press, and he has made it what it is.

#### JACOB J. FOLSOM.

Jacob J. Folsom, editor and proprietor of the Hinckley Enterprise, is one of the well-known newspaper men of Pine county. He is a gentleman of wide experience, and in every business venture has met with marked success, and is one of the deservedly esteemed citizens of his community.

Mr. Folsom was born in Taylor's Falls, Minnesota, in 1863. His father, Levi W. Folsom, was born at South Tamworth, New Hampshire. The great-grandfather of our subject, John Thorn Dodge, was an aide to Col. Richard Dodge, his father, at the battle of Bunker Hill. Our subject's other great-grandfather, Jeremiah Folsom, was also a soldier in the Revolutionary war. His mother, Abbie (Shaw) Folsom, was born in Maine and reared and educated in Massachusetts. Her father, Jacob Shaw, was a merchant. When he was twenty-one years of age he fitted out a vessel to sail from Massachusetts to the coast of France. He was captured by the English and his property confiscated, and he was put in prison. The great-grandfather of our subject on the mother's side, Richard Soper, was a sea captain. Our subject's father went to Tay-

lors Falls, Minnesota, in 1842, and was married in St. Paul.

Jacob J. Folsom spent his early life in Taylors Falls, where he received a good education, and at the age of sixteen years started a small store at home. He was in business six years on a small scale, and then, in partnership with his brother, Walter Folsom, branched out into a more extensive business, which they continued four years. In 1890 he went to Todd county and worked in a real estate office at Long Prairie four years, thence to Hinckley, in 1895, where he purchased the Hinckley Enterprise from Angus Hay. This paper was established in 1891 by D. C. Shepherd as a weekly paper, and was published as the Pine Dart. It was purchased by Mr. Hay in 1892, and he owned it at the time of the great Hinckley fire, when the entire plant was destroyed, except the files. The name of the paper was changed to the Hinckley Enterprise in 1892, and is now one of the leading papers of that section. It is published as a six-column quarto. The job department is fitted with a good press, and all classes of job work are done neatly and promptly.

Mr. Folsom, aside from his newspaper business, was in partnership with W. H. Nowark in the real estate business, and met with a good degree of success in this line. He is one of the prominent men of the county, and has always taken an active part in township and village affairs and is now serving in the capacity of village recorder. In political sentiment he is a Democrat and stands staunchly for his party principles.

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#### THE WARREN REGISTER.

The Warren Register, of Warren, Marshall county, Minnesota, was established in March, 1887, by Stevens and Dady.

Thomas F. Stevens, one of the partners, was the father of the present editor. The Register was a Republican journal, and began as a six-column folio sheet. It has been enlarged and many improvements made, and is now a six-column quarto. The office is thoroughly fitted for newspaper work, having a cylinder press, operated by gasoline engine. The circulation of the Register is about one thousand.

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#### JAMES M. WITHEROW.

James M. Witherow, the present city attorney of Moorhead, Minnesota, has already made himself a reputation throughout the Red river valley as a capable lawyer of legal temperament and equipped with a thorough legal training. He is regarded as a man not only deeply versed in

the fundamental principles of law and equity, but quick in their application to the ordinary details of legal practice.

Mr. Witherow was born near the city of Londonderry, Ireland, December 19, 1869, and was the youngest of the four children that constituted the family born to James and Sarah (McSparrow) Witherow. Mrs. Witherow died when young James was but six years of age, and eight years later the motherless lad left home to come to the new world in search of that opportunity for industry and ambition he felt was impossible in his native island. For some two years he was a resident of Griggs county, North Dakota, where he found employment in the family of his brother, who was engaged in farming at that place, but as there were very few public schools in that neighborhood, and being determined upon obtaining an education, he went to Hendrum, Minnesota, where he attended the public school for a time, and later attended Carleton College at Northfield for two terms in the year 1887-8. When the State Normal School at Moorhead was opened Mr. Witherow became a student of that institution, from which he was graduated in 1892. For a time he taught country school, and about two years later turned his attention to the study of the law, associating himself with A. Ross in a semi-professional partnership, an arrangement that was terminated at the end of eight months. In 1895 Mr. Witherow entered the office of W. B. Douglas, who is now attorney-general for the state of Minnesota, and read law for two years, being admitted to the Minnesota bar in June, 1898, and afterwards established himself in a general practice.

The following year Mr. Witherow was elected as city attorney of Moorhead, by the city council, a decided compliment to one so young in the profession, and afterwards was again elected by the people in 1901, and is still holding that position with credit to himself and satisfaction to the public. For five years he has been court commissioner in Clay county, and is regarded as a young man of much ability and promise.

Mr. Witherow has had many serious difficulties to overcome in his upward course, but he has made himself what he is, and may well take a just pride in his honorable and successful career. He is a man of studious habits, and has acquired much valuable information on literary and professional subjects, by means of a wide course of reading and study. As a young lawyer he has developed much ability in the practice of his profession and is noted for his power of logical analysis, accompanied by an extensive vocabulary and knowledge of human nature and laws of expression, which have gained him a high degree of success with both court and jury.

In his politics Mr. Witherow is a Democrat,

and is a member of the lodges of the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and several other fraternities, where his genial spirits and ready courtesy have made him many friends.

#### OLOF G. OLSON.

To those who are familiar with the business and religious interests of Isanti county, Minnesota, the name of this gentleman will readily suggest itself as that of an exceedingly bright and capable young Swedish-American, who has pushed himself well to the front, and is counted as one of the representative men of that county.

Mr. Olson was born in Ransater, Sweden, April 25, 1865, and is a son of Olof G. Olson, a lifelong farmer, who came to the United States in the fall of 1884, and settled in Traverse county, Minnesota. Olof G. Olson is the oldest member of a family of seven living children. Two children are dead. He was reared and educated in Sweden until he reached the age of eighteen years. His was a common-school education, and his home the farm. He came to the United States one year before his parents, and worked on a farm for about a year. For about a year following he ran a farm in company with his father, and then cut loose and farmed alone on a place, which he had bought, for two years. At the end of that time he sold his farming machinery and rented his farm, to take a position with the Charles Boettcher Lumber Company, at Wheaton, Minnesota, which he held for sixteen months as a salesman. He was married there to Miss Elma C. Hokanson, a Swedish compatriot, who came to this country with her parents when she was only four years old. She died the following July.

Mr. Olson again married, Miss Annette C. Backman becoming his wife in 1894. She was born in Sweden and came to this country in 1892. Her father, Olof Backman, was a farmer. To this union have come four children: Mirjim, Milton, Hilding and Violet.

Mr. Olson entered a theological seminary in Chicago, in 1891, and studied for a year. After that he entered the North Park College, then at Minneapolis, but now in Chicago, where he spent two years. With this preparation he entered the mission ministry, and was settled in Brainerd, Minnesota, where he was settled a year and a half. For four years he served a Scandinavian Mission church at West Superior.

Mr. Olson entered into mercantile relations in 1899, when he opened up the general store of Olson, Johnson & Company, at Braham, Minnesota. This name was changed in 1900 to the Farmers Trading Company. This store is the third store to be opened in the town that is still

doing business. It began in a building twenty-four by thirty-four feet, and has been extended to twenty-four by one hundred twenty-eight feet, being one of the main stores of the place. The company, which was incorporated August 1, 1900, has a warehouse on the railway track, and very extensive horse stables. The capital stock of the company is put at fifty thousand dollars, and is divided among four stockholders, Mr. Olson being the only one who has remained with the enterprise from the beginning, and through his management a large and extensive business has been developed. The company carries dry goods, boots and shoes, clothing, flour and feed, farm machinery and building material and does a wholesale trade in hay, potatoes, and other farm produce.

Mr. Olson is a Republican and is the recorder of the village of Braham. For the last two years he has served the Swedish mission at Braham.

#### ANDREW HAWKINSON.

Andrew Hawkinson, one of the prominent business men of Virginia, St. Louis county, Minnesota, is a man of exceptional ability and has made a place for himself by his honest and energetic labors.

Mr. Hawkinson was born on a farm in Sweden, in 1857. His father, Hawkin Anderson, was a miller by occupation and lived and died in Sweden. The mother of our subject was also a native of Sweden. Of a family of six children, four sons and two daughters, Andrew Hawkinson was the first born. He gained his education in the public schools and at the age of fourteen years started for himself. He worked at farm work for two summers. When twenty-two years of age he left his native land for America, landing at New York April 12, 1880. He went to Elk Rapids, Michigan, and there worked for an iron manufacturer and for six weeks was in the wood kiln for a blast furnace. He then went to Marquette, Michigan, and later to Lake Superior and spent five months in the woods near Michigama, cutting cord wood. He then followed iron mining near Ishpeming, Michigan, and later was fireman for six months and finally took charge of the hoisting engine. He worked thus two years and never had an accident. He then run the air compressor for the same company one year. In 1884 he went to Tower, Minnesota, where he operated a stationary engine for the Minnesota Iron Company one year. He then secured employment in a grocery store to become familiar with mercantile pursuits, and he followed that about two years, when he changed his position to that of clerk in a hardware store and worked thus about three years,



becoming thoroughly versed in the hardware business. His employer, P. Richwine, failed in business and Mr. Hawkinson was placed in charge of the stock for the creditors and disposed of the same. He purchased what remained of the stock after satisfying the creditors and in partnership with N. J. Benson started in the business. He finally enlarged the stock and successfully conducted business there under the firm name of Benson & Hawkinson four years. In the fall of 1894 he went to Virginia, Minnesota, and opened a branch store, one of the first hardware stores in the town. The partnership with Mr. Benson was dissolved in 1895, and Mr. Hawkinson became owner of the business in Virginia, in which he has since engaged. Fire destroyed his building and contents, including the stock, household goods, furniture and clothing, in 1900 and he had but the lots and a small insurance left. Four days later he again opened for business with a new stock, conducting the business in a shanty until November of the same year, when his present fine business block was completed. This is of solid brick and the upper floor is used for society purposes. His hardware store and tin shop occupies twenty-eight by eighty feet and he rents out twenty-one by sixty feet of the space for a jewelry store. Mr. Hawkinson owns a residence and lot in Tower, Minnesota, and is one of the prosperous business men of St. Louis county.

Our subject was married in 1885 to Miss Mary Sokness. Mrs. Hawkinson was born in Trondhjem, Norway, and came to America in 1883. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hawkinson, namely: Eva, Harry, Carl, Arnold, Mable, Johnnie and Effie. Mr. Hawkinson is prominent in local public affairs, and has served five years as city treasurer. He is a Republican in political sentiment.

#### CONSTANT LARSON.

Constant Larson, a rising member of the legal fraternity of Douglas county, Minnesota, is a gentleman of excellent education and culture, and well merits the success which has attended his labors in that locality. He has followed the practice of law in Alexandria comparatively few years, but has become thoroughly conversant with the laws there and is a painstaking advisor and consequently successful attorney.

Mr. Larson was born in the township of Alexandria, Douglas county, Minnesota, February 7, 1870. His parents, Gustaf and Carolina (Larson) Larson, were both natives of the province of Smaland, Sweden. His father was born and raised on the home farm and after his marriage followed that occupation on his own account

in his native land for some years. Our subject was one of four children, as follows: C. Herman, Amanda, Constant and Augustus T. The first two named were born in Sweden. By a second marriage of the mother to Charles Anderson, two children were born, namely: Emil and Adolph. The father of our subject soon after his arrival in this country secured a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land, one mile east of Lake Geneva, Douglas county. He died when our subject was but two years of age and the mother afterward married again. On the home farm our subject was reared, and he attended the district schools and assisted in the farm work until he was sufficiently advanced in his studies to enter the high school at Alexandria, from which institution he graduated in 1889. He then entered the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis, and graduated from the classical course in 1893 and the law course in 1894. He at once instituted a practice in Alexandria and since July, 1894, has met with continued success in his work there. He attends closely and diligently to the interests of his clients and is rapidly approaching a leading place as a member of the bar.

Mr. Larson was married in Minneapolis, July 15, 1895, to Maud S. Merryfield, daughter of James S. and Maria (Merryfield) Merryfield. Mrs. Larson's father was a prominent lumber merchant of Minneapolis for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Larson are the parents of one child, named Loraine E. The family are members of the Congregational church, and Mr. Larson is a member of the K. of P., M. W. of A., and A. O. U. W. and M. B. A. In political sentiment he is a Republican.

#### EUGENE A. HENSEL, M. D.

Eugene A. Hensel, M. D., the efficient corner of Douglas county, is one of the leading physicians of the town of Alexandria, and has held a residence in that part of the state for thirty years. A portrait of this gentleman will be found on another page of this work.

Dr. Hensel was born in Berlin, Germany, October 9, 1867, and was the youngest in a family of six children born to Henry and Paulina (Metzner) Hensel, natives of Germany. The father was a prosperous merchant of Berlin, and incidentally a soldier in the German army, but died just prior to the Franco-German war of 1870-71, when our subject was two and a half years of age. The mother brought the family to America in 1871, landing at New York, and proceeding at once to Philadelphia, and thence to St. Paul, Minnesota, arriving in Douglas county in the fall of that year. The old log school-house of that early day furnished the rudi-

ments of an education to the sturdy boy and the farm an opportunity for healthful labor, while the timber lands and numerous lakes gave him recreation and sport. The mother removed to Alexandria in 1879, where our subject continued his studies in the public and high schools. His inclination turning to the study of medicine, he left home in the fall of 1892 and attended Rush Medical College at Chicago three years, graduating therefrom in the fall of 1895. He thereupon returned to Alexandria and began the practice of his profession, which he has since successfully continued. He has a large and increasing practice, which is not confined to a local circuit, but extends over Douglas and neighboring counties, and he is recognized as one of the leading physicians of the community and one of the deservedly influential citizens of the town. In the fall of 1898 he was elected coroner for Douglas county, and so efficiently filled the position that he was elected to a second term in 1900.

Dr. Hensel has a cultured and faithful helpmeet in the person of his wife, to whom he was married June 6, 1898. Mrs. Hensel bore the maiden name of Kate Plummer, and is a daughter of A. A. and Sarah (Pettijohn) Plummer, of Chicago. She is a lady of high education, and prior to her marriage was an instructor in a department of the high school at Alexandria. Dr. Hensel is a genial, pleasant gentleman in his association with others, and his popularity in social circles is only second to that excited by his presence in the sick room. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Ancient Order of United Workmen, and Knights of Pythias, and politically is a staunch Republican.

#### CHARLES P. PETERSON.

Charles P. Peterson, for many years a prominent merchant of Barnum, is one of the early pioneers of Carlton county, and has a wide acquaintance, and is highly esteemed by all. He has a comfortable home in Barnum, his residence being a brick structure, and one of the finest in the town.

Mr. Peterson was born in Warmeland, Sweden, on a farm, in 1858. His parents were natives of Sweden, and the father, Peter Peterson, was a wagon-maker by trade.

Charles Peterson was the third of a family of four children, and he was reared to the age of sixteen years on a farm. He then came to America alone. He had not a friend or relative in this country and landed in New York City after twenty-seven days on the water. When he reached Peppin county, Wisconsin, he had less than five dollars, and he hired out to farm labor. He attended the country schools and gained a knowl-

edge of the English language and continued farm labor for eight years. In 1878 he made his first trip to Carlton county. He spent the winter there lumbering, and farmed in Wisconsin during the summer. He had all the experiences of a lumberman and engaged in cutting ties, etc. Barnum then consisted of about three old buildings. In 1882 Mr. Peterson located at Moose Lake and worked at lumbering and farming there three years. In 1885 he went to Barnum and built a residence and worked in the sawmills. In 1887 he established a general store in Barnum, this being the third store started in the town. He made a success of the business and the same summer sold his first store and built one on the west side of the river, twenty-four by sixty-five feet and did a large business. In 1893 he built another store, twenty-five by seventy-five feet, two stories in height, on the main street, with an addition eighteen by sixty feet, this being the largest general store in the town at the time. December 19, 1897, fire destroyed the building and contents, and he recovered but half the value in insurance. In the spring of 1899 he opened a general store in Cloquet and continued in business there about ten months and had built up a good trade when fire again destroyed his store and he lost building and stock. Since 1897 his losses have aggregated over eight thousand dollars. He now makes his home in Barnum and is engaged in farm work.

Mr. Peterson was married June 3, 1883, to Miss Annie Londell. Mrs. Peterson was born in Sweden in the same county as her husband. She came to America in 1882 with her father, who was a pattern maker. She was reared in the village and attended the country schools. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are the parents of five children, namely: Edith, Ellen, David, Ethel and Annie, all of whom were born in Barnum, Minnesota. Mr. Peterson has always taken an active and leading part in local affairs and has served his community almost continuously in offices of trust. He has been president of the town board, one of the trustees, postmaster and treasurer of the County Fair Association. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen of America, and in political faith is a Republican, and is an earnest worker for party principles.

#### DR. J. A. FREEBORN, PH. G., M. D.

Dr. J. A. Freeborn, Ph. G., M. D., leading physician and surgeon and eye and ear specialist, has built up a practice in Fergus Falls and the Northwest probably unequalled by that of any one physician in the state, outside of the Twin cities.

Dr. Freeborn is a native of Canada, and was born in Waterloo county, in 1864. His father, Thomas Freeborn, was during the greater part of his life engaged in farming and was of Scotch-Irish descent. He was also a native of Canada. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Mary Scott, was descended from the Scotch and Irish blood, her family having been in America for two generations.

Our subject was the fourth child born to Thomas and Mary Freeborn, but three of the children now surviving. He was reared on a farm and educated in the country schools and in the Stratford high school, from which he graduated in 1881. He then entered a drug store as clerk, in Stratford, and later held a like position in London, Canada. He then went to Big Stone City, South Dakota, where he opened a drug store, continuing in business there for two years. In the fall of 1886 he entered Rush Medical College at Chicago, and graduated therefrom in 1889. He opened an office at Ortonville, Minnesota, where he practiced his profession until the fall of 1891. He then entered Bellevue Hospital and Medical College of New York City, and was given his degree from that institution in 1892. He returned to Ortonville and practiced there until 1896. In the latter year he located in Fergus Falls, where he has since practiced his profession with remarkable success. While pursuing his studies in Chicago and New York he specialized in diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, and he is now the only specialist in the treatment of those diseases in Fergus Falls. His practice has assumed great proportions and is being steadily expanded over a wider scope of territory. He is a conscientious practitioner and has the entire confidence of the public. In addition to the practice of medicine and surgery he gives attention to stock raising, and is the owner of a model stock farm near Ortonville, where special attention is given to the breeding of Shorthorn cattle and full-blood and high grade hogs.

Dr. Freeborn is a public-spirited citizen and takes a commendable interest in all affairs pertaining to the welfare of his city and county. He is a Republican in political faith and held public offices while a resident of Ortonville. He now devotes his entire time to his practice.

Dr. Freeborn was married in 1891 to Miss Lillian Anderson. Mrs. Freeborn was a native of Minnesota, and was born at Rochester, in that state. Her father, Dr. O. W. Anderson, was a prominent physician of that city. Mrs. Freeborn is a graduate of the Rochester high school and of the Winona Normal and taught school in Ortonville before her marriage. To Mr. and Mrs. Freeborn two children have been born, namely: Gertrude L. and Francis M. Dr. Free-

born stands high in the esteem of his medical brethren and is regarded as one of the leading physicians and surgeons of the northwest. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., the M. W. A. and the Knights of the Maccabees.

#### B. HABBERSTAD.

The well developed farms of Rockwell township contribute largely to the wealth and prosperity enjoyed in Norman county. One of these highly cultivated tracts is owned and occupied by B. Habberstad, who resides in section 34, and is one of the well-known and deservedly esteemed men of his community. He is an old settler of Norman county and by his faithful efforts to improve his circumstances and advance the growth of his locality he has placed himself among the prosperous and worthy citizens.

Our subject was born at Eidsvold near Christiania, Norway, in 1842, and was a son of Nels Habberstad, a farmer of Norway. His father came to America in 1869 and settled in St. Paul, Minnesota. Our subject was reared in his native land and was educated in the country schools there. He remained at home until the family removed to America, since which time he has earned his own way. He went to Norman county, Minnesota, in 1881, and settled on his present farm. He had no means with which to begin operating his farm, and he had a wife and child to support, but he soon gained a footing, and did his first farming with oxen and horses. He built a shanty 14x16 feet and lived therein until a more comfortable and commodious dwelling could be constructed. He has added to his possessions as circumstances permitted and is now the fortunate owner of three hundred and twenty acres of valuable land, of which he has placed one hundred and seventy acres under cultivation. He has erected a complete set of good farm buildings, including a granary fifteen by twenty-six feet, and he has a machine shed built on three sides of the granary. He has a good supply of farm machinery and has provided shelter for the same and the products of the farm. He has a spring on the farm supplying running water the year around and from which he gets water for domestic uses from a pipe laid forty rods from the spring to the dwelling. He engages principally in wheat raising and grains, but at times has owned from twenty to thirty head of cattle, his farm being well adapted to diversified farming. He has about ten acres of timber on the place. There were but three or four settlers in the township when Mr. Habberstad settled there, and he has witnessed a most striking change in the condition of the country.

Our subject was married in St. Paul, Minne-

sota, in 1880, to Mary Anderson, a native of Norway. Mrs. Habberstad came to America in 1866. She was a daughter of Andre Imerson. Mr. Habberstad is devoted to the interests of his adopted country and is prominent in local affairs. He has served as a member of the township board of supervisors and also school treasurer. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and in political sentiment is a Republican. He gives his attention wholly to his calling and enjoys well-merited success.

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#### NELS C. HANSON.

Nels C. Hanson, one of the earliest settlers of Polk county, Minnesota, is now the owner of extensive farm lands in that locality and has gained a comfortable competence and an enviable name. He has a comfortable home in Lowell township, where he has spent many years.

Mr. Hanson was born in Denmark, December 16, 1857. His parents were Hans and Anna C. (Jorgenson) Christianson, and he was one of seven children born to them. His boyhood was spent on his father's farm, and when he was but seven years of age he left home to make his own way. He managed to get some schooling, and about 1869 came with his parents to America. The father filed on a homestead near Fergus Falls, Minnesota. The family had no farming tools, implements, furniture or other effects, and but twenty dollars in money. They had been induced to come with the representation that a house had been built which belonged to a teacher of their acquaintance, and when they arrived they found this to be a log hut covered with birch bark, and with a hollow basswood log for a chimney. The hut had no floor and was adorned inside with two or three stumps. The log chimney later took fire and it was only by quick action on the part of our subject that the hut was saved. The family resided there one winter and then a house was constructed. With no stove and no money to buy one, an oven, built of dried bricks and clay mortar, served instead. Our subject worked at home and for the neighboring farmers as necessity or opportunity presented, and was later employed as driver for a transportation company. This company was hauling baled hay from Bismarck to Black Hills, a distance of two hundred and fifty miles, and the selling price of the commodity at its destination was two hundred dollars per ton. This scarcity of hay was caused by the refusal of the Indians to allow hay made near the Black Hills and a blizzard the last of March also added to the scarcity of the product. In 1879 Mr. Hanson came to Crookston and filed a pre-emption land in section 20 of Fanny township, and then

worked at odd jobs in that vicinity. In the fall of 1880 he heard of his mother's serious illness, and with borrowed money he proved his pre-emption claim and went to his home. The mother passed away Christmas eve of that year, and our subject then rented his farm for a year or two and assumed charge of his father's estate. He had lived in a shanty which he had constructed, and was his own housekeeper for two years, but had little appetite, owing to lack of time for the preparation of his food, and in September, 1882, he removed to his pre-emption, taking his young bride to their new home. After about a year the failing health of his wife caused him to change his residence to a farm at Thief lake, and there with a complete change of scene, rest and plenty of wild game the wife improved in health, and he later disposed of his right at Thief lake and removed to Thief River Falls, where he built a comfortable residence. He later bought two hundred acres of land in sections 27 and 34, in Lowell township, and he also has two hundred and forty acres north of Crookston, and conducts farming extensively. During the early days in Polk county Mr. Hanson suffered many hardships and twice came near losing his life in severe storms. In 1879, when there was no railroad to Fergus Falls, he tramped from Mentor to Fergus Falls, a distance of thirty miles, through a blinding storm in deep snow. It was a dangerous and exhausting experience and he was brought to a realization of his helpless condition when lying in the snow by a wolf licking his face and howling over him. His life was saved, but the experience was one not soon to be forgotten.

Mr. Hanson was married in September, 1882, to Miss Sophie Nelson. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson are the parents of the following children: Mary, John, Rebecca, Hans, Sophia, and Nels, Jr. Mr. Hanson is a man of more than ordinary force in his community and his earnest work for temperance and religious life is well known. He is well versed in such topics and is a fluent and earnest speaker for the betterment of his community and mankind.

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#### EDWARD J. MURPHY.

Edward J. Murphy, a prominent and much respected resident of Felton, Minnesota, was born in New York, and was a son of John Murphy, also born in New York, but of Irish parentage.

Edward J. Murphy was reared in his native state, where he had his education in the common schools. He remained at home until he was twenty-one, when he came west to Iowa, where he settled in Cerro Gordo county, on land which he bought from his father. He remained in that

section three years, and then removed to Wisconsin, where he spent one season in the lumber woods. For some time he was quite unsettled, living again in Iowa, and also in Canada, where he was employed on the Canadian Pacific Railroad for some months. In 1882 he effected a homestead settlement in Clay county, put up a shanty, 12x16 feet, and kept house alone for years. For a few years he did his farm work with oxen, and gradually made his way to comfort and ease.

Mr. Murphy was married, in 1891, to Miss Agnes Burke, of Jackson county, Iowa, a lady of pure Irish blood. Her father was a farmer and a merchant, and she was educated to become a school teacher. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy have five children, all born in Clay county: Annie L., Mary E., Joseph B., Edward A. and Leo J.

Mr. Murphy has been on his farm some nineteen years, and now owns a magnificent estate of seven hundred and twenty acres, all lying in Felton township. It has good buildings, ample farm machinery and is being more largely devoted to stock with each passing year, although at the present time it makes a fine showing as a grain farm. It has three flowing wells, and affords every convenience for profitable and successful farming.

Mr. Murphy moved to the village of Felton in the spring of 1901, where he is filling the position of deputy sheriff, which he has held since 1891, with the exception of about a year. In 1898 he was appointed game warden for the state, and has done some very effective work in different parts of the state. He was the warden at the capture of twelve hundred dollars worth of game in Marshall county, near Thief River Falls. This was a thrilling experience. Mr. Murphy had to face the guns of a special policeman and his two assistants, who tried to interfere with his operations. He captured them and took them to prison, and then secured the poachers in whose interests they were working. This is known in the history of the criminal proceedings of the state as the Thief River Raid, and was the most successful ever accomplished in the confines of Minnesota.

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#### HON. PEDER M. HENRICKS.

A four-hundred-and-fifty-acre farm in Teien township is owned and operated by the gentleman above named. He resides on section 16, and is one of the influential citizens of Kittson county, having been identified with the public matters of his locality for the past fifteen years or more. He is a representative son of the Scandinavian peninsula, and like those worthy men has come from the

Northland to make settlement in the land of liberty, and has actively participated in the development of the social and commercial life of the great state of Minnesota. To his many friends the portrait of Mr. Henricks, found elsewhere in this volume, will prove a great boon.

Our subject was born in Brono Nordlands Amt, Tromsostift, Norway, July 11, 1843, and was the eldest in a family of three children born to Henrik and Oline (Olson) Erlandsen. His home was on the northwest coast of the peninsula, and he naturally was raised to farming and fishing, but the dangers of the latter pursuit decided him in settling in America. His decision once made he put it into action, and with all his available means he started with his wife and one child for Minnesota, U. S. A. He arrived in Minneapolis with but twenty-five cents in his pocket, but he readily obtained work in the saw-mills and at railroading, and thus kept his family and himself from want, and in the spring of 1870 he went to Ottertail county to secure free land. He began the improvement of his farm there and remained on the same until 1883, when he disposed of his interests and went to Kittson county, having a knowledge of the resources of that locality from a visit paid to that region in 1880. He drove overland with his stock in the spring, and the following fall his family joined him in the new home. He purchased land with his cash realized from the sale of his place in Ottertail county, and at once became one of the leading farmers of southwestern Kittson county. He made substantial improvements on the farm, including a complete set of good buildings and prospered in his calling there. The floods of the Red river in 1897 destroyed all of his buildings and large quantities of his grain, and the loss was a severe one to our subject, but with his characteristic persistence he has recovered in large measure from the loss, and in recent seasons has gained a good income from the place, and again enjoys prosperity.

Mr. Henricks was married in 1865 to Miss Enger Johansen. Mr. and Mrs. Henricks are the parents of three children, who are named as follows: Paul, Amelia, and Henry. Early in the movements for reform in Minnesota our subject became a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and at the formation of the Populist party he became a staunch member and has been identified with the movements of that party since that time. He is a close student of current affairs, and lends his influence for the upbuilding of his township, county and state, and his adopted country. He was elected a member of the House of Representatives in Minnesota in 1894 and served one term, gaining the confidence of the people for whom he labored. He introduced House Bill No. 414, referring to the redemption of mortgages, and was a



supporter of many measures that are now important laws. He served as a member of the following committees: Municipal Legislation, State Prisons, and Enrollment and Engrossment. Mr. Henricks is prominent in county affairs, and from 1890-94 served as county commissioner. He is a consistent member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. In 1901 he was again elected to the lower house by a fusion of the Democratic and Populist tickets. He was a member of four important committees.

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#### DR. H. M. POLLOCK.

Dr. H. M. Pollock, assistant superintendent of the State Hospital for the Insane at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, was born in the village of Lyons Farms, New Jersey, in 1873. His father, George C. Pollock, was a Presbyterian minister at Litchfield, Minnesota. He was of Irish blood and a native of that Isle, and came to America at the age of eighteen years. He also filled the pastorate of the Presbyterian church at Mankato, Minnesota, and later removed to Fergus Falls. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Mattie Meeker. She was a native of Lyons Farms, New Jersey, and her ancestry dates to the early settlement of New England. Our subject's grandfather Meeker was captain of the Newark Light Horse Brigade, who escorted General Lafayette from his vessel when he visited America. The great-grandfather, Major Meeker, was in the Revolutionary army under Washington. The family were prominent in Revolutionary times and were important factors in the foundation of the government.

Dr. Pollock was the youngest of a family of three children, and he was reared in Minnesota, where the family settled when he was but eight years of age. He was thirteen years of age when the family removed to Fergus Falls, and he there received his education, graduating from the Fergus Falls high school in 1892. He taught school one year and then attended McAlister College at St. Paul one year, after which he began the study of medicine in the University of Minnesota, graduating from that institution in 1897. During his vacation he served as nurse in the hospital at Fergus Falls, and has been connected with that institution since 1893. After graduating from the university he went to New Jersey and began the practice of medicine at the home of his boyhood and at Newark, spending eighteen months there. He then returned to Minnesota and spent a short time at Glencoe and Spring Valley each, and in November, 1899, was appointed assistant physician at the hospital for the insane at Fergus Falls. He later re-

ceived the appointment of assistant superintendent in the same institution.

Dr. Pollock was married, in June, 1900, to Miss Caroline S. McCune. Mrs. Pollock was born in Wisconsin and taught in the public schools of Fergus Falls previous to her marriage. She is a graduate of the Fergus Falls high school and she completed a normal course at the Winona Normal School and is a lady of rare accomplishments. Her great-grandfather served in the Revolutionary war, and the family now has in its possession the flint lock gun which he carried. Dr. Pollock is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

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#### OLE A. HALLIN.

Ole A. Hallin, an old and prominent resident of Cambridge, Minnesota, was born in the central part of Salleron Island, Sweden, in 1847, and is a son of Andrew Hallin, who was a farmer, as were many generations of his forefathers in Sweden.

Ole A. Hallin, the oldest living child, was reared and educated on the island, where he found much hard work to be done, going into the fields when a small lad and working with tools made for him. He attended the local schools, and when he was twenty years old started for himself, working for a time in farming with his father, and marrying Johanna C. Von Kenning.

Mr. and Mrs. Ole Hallin have eight children: Andrew B., an ex-county treasurer, and now in the bank at Cambridge; Daniel O., Selma, Hilda, Adla, Katie, Fred J., Agnes—all of whom were born and reared to maturity in Cambridge, and all are married excepting Agnes.

The first work that Mr. Hallin found in America was in grading on the St. Paul & Duluth Railway in Chisago county. In 1869 he came to Cambridge, and was put in charge of a sawmill as a sawyer and engineer. Then he was put in charge of a grist mill, and was retained in this work some two or three years. Considering that Mr. Hallin had to master the intricacies of a strange and complicated tongue both in reading and writing, the progress he made was amazing, and that inside of nine years he should be serving as engrossing clerk in the senate is simply remarkable.

Mr. Hallin was clerk in stores at Cambridge and Isanti several years, and in 1878 he and Daniel Anderson bought the general store of S. B. Sheldon. The two continued together in business several years, when Mr. Anderson sold out to P. O. Peterson. Hallin & Peterson proceeded to erect the finest store building in town, in which they carried everything from general merchandise to drugs. In 1891 this partnership



was dissolved, Mr. Peterson retiring, and Mr. Hallin continued alone in the business. Mr. Hallin bought a place at the corner of State and Wabasha streets, where he put up a building, 22x60 feet, with an addition, and here he opened the finest and largest drug store in the county, success almost instantly greeting his efforts.

Mr. Hallin organized the Cambridge Cornet band, and for a number of years was its leader, and is now the only member who was in at its organization.

Mr. Hallin is a Republican, though for some years he voted the Prohibitionist ticket, and was elected by that organization clerk of the school board several times. For twelve years he was clerk of the district court, and for many years has been and still is justice of the peace. He is a man of much character, and his integrity is unquestioned in the community in which his long and useful life has passed.

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#### CHARLES MEAHLER.

Charles Meahler, a prominent pioneer of Becker county, resides in section 20 of Spruce Grove township, and enjoys a comfortable home and the esteem and respect of his fellow men. He has endured many hardships to secure this fine property and can recount many thrilling experiences of pioneer days in Minnesota. He was born in the city of Langensalza, Germany, November 10, 1850, and was a son of Andrew and Annistein (Illhard) Meahler. His father was a mason by trade. The mother died when our subject was but fourteen years of age. Of a family of seven children, Mr. Meahler was the second in order of birth and he was reared in the city and received a liberal education. At the age of fifteen years he was apprenticed to the cabinetmaker's trade, and after four years began work for himself in Hamburg, Germany, and also worked at his trade in Berlin and Brunswick until 1873. He came to America and located in Wisconsin in March, 1874, and followed farm work the first summer near Madison, Wisconsin, and later worked at his trade in the villages of the county. He moved to Madison, Wisconsin, in 1878, and after following his trade there one year took up his residence in Chicago, where he spent three years at his trade. He located in Perham, Ottertail county, Minnesota, in 1882, and he and his brother worked at his trade one summer, our subject locating land in Becker county, on section 20, in township 138, range 37, in Spruce Grove township. The land was timber land and in the fall of that year Mr. Meahler and his brother cleared a road to the farm and built a log shanty on the land, but for some time they did very little farming, and worked at their

trade to earn a living. Our subject moved his family to the farm and during one summer he worked in the city, while his wife conducted the farm. He and his brother followed farming together for some time and they had little with which to prosecute the work. Forest fire visited the locality in the spring of 1883, and Mr. Meahler and his wife fought fire three days. Through these pioneer days meat was always at hand, as wild game was plentiful, but other supplies and provisions were hard to get, owing to the distance from market, and the economy which was necessary. The farm now consists of one hundred and eighty acres, of which forty-five acres are devoted to cultivation of crops and twenty acres is meadow. This land was cleared by our subject, and he has worked persistently to improve his property and is now the fortunate possessor of a fine estate. His buildings are substantial and conveniently arranged, and with good water, fruits and other comforts of rural life he passes his years. He is progressive with his work and was the first to raise a crop of apples in his township. He engages in grain and cattle-raising, and has never had a total failure of crops, and has raised as high as thirty-eight bushels of wheat and one hundred bushels of oats per acre.

Mr. Meahler was married, in the spring of 1875, to Miss Minnie Prockmeyer, a native of Wisconsin. Mrs. Meahler's father, Fred Prockmeyer, was a native of Germany and was a farmer by occupation. Mr. and Mrs. Meahler adopted a daughter, Bessie, who is now married. Mr. Meahler has always been actively interested in township affairs, and has served as township treasurer since the organization of his township, and was assessor two years and a member of the school board several terms. He is an independent voter, and has a large circle of friends,

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#### ROGER W. SAFFORD.

Roger W. Safford, which is a familiar name to all acquainted with the business men of Mora, Kanabec county, was born in Jackson county, Wisconsin, in 1859, and comes of a family settled in New England since the very earliest part of the seventeenth century. His great-grandfather, Moses Safford, was one of the founders of the Christian church, and his granduncle, a soldier in the war of 1812, died in an English prison.

Roger W. Safford was the second member of a family of ten children, and was reared and educated in the Wisconsin country schools. He had plenty of hard farm work during his boyhood, and when he left home at the age of twenty-one he was well prepared to wrestle with the world.

In 1876 the family removed from Wisconsin

to Lac-qui-Parle county, Minnesota, where young Roger W. assisted his father in opening a prairie farm, and then entered the office of the Lac-qui-Parle County Press in 1883. After a year and a half at work in the Press office Mr. Safford came to Mora, Minnesota, where, in October, 1884, he established the Kanabec County Times, in company with S. E. Tallman, whom he soon bought out, however, and for twelve years was the sole editor and proprietor of the paper.

Mr. Safford was married, June 26, 1888, to Miss Emma Jackson, a native of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, and of Norwegian parentage. Her parents were farming people of Manitowoc county, Wisconsin. To this union were born three children, Robert E., Henrietta L. and Raymond J. Early in January, 1896, Mr. Safford sold out his paper, and went to Minneapolis, where he was engaged in job printing for about a year and a half. In September, 1899, he returned to Mora, and bought out E. L. Stroble, a furniture dealer, putting up a new building, 22x100 feet, for his trade, and greatly replenishing and increasing the stock with new and desirable goods. Mr. Safford also deals in farm lands and handles village property to a considerable extent. In politics he is a Democrat, and has been justice of the peace, in 1889 being appointed clerk of the court, which he held for two terms. Under the second administration of President Cleveland he was appointed postmaster, serving his community one term in that capacity. He has taken an active part in local and county politics from his first arrival in the county, having helped in organizing the village of Mora, on its first council. For years he has been a member of the Democratic central committee, and has also served on the state and congressional committees.

Mr. Safford well deserves recognition for the substantial success that has attended his labors. Beginning with the most modest capital, he has worked his way up by pluck and merit to his very comfortable standing in the business world at the present time.

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#### PETER LINDAHL.

Among the successful self-made men of Kittson county may be truly noted Peter Lindahl. He came to the new world from his mother country when he was but a mere boy, and since his residence here has displayed an enterprising spirit and the exercise of good judgment in a manner that commends him to all as a worthy citizen. He now resides in section 11, township 160, range 50, in the civil township of Red River, and is one of the prosperous farmers of his locality. He went to that region as a pioneer and has ac-

cumulated a fine property and now possesses a section of land, all of which he carefully and successfully operates. Mr. Lindahl has closely applied himself to the study of his calling, and he is well versed in the same and possesses what years of experience teach to the observing only.

Our subject was born in Sweden November 28, 1859, and was the second child and eldest son born to John and Cecelia (Peterson) Lindahl. His parents came to America in 1870 and established their home on a farm in Goodhue county, Minnesota. At the age of eleven years our subject crossed the ocean alone, and he was reared in Goodhue county, Minnesota. He went to Kittson county, Minnesota, in the spring of 1882, in company with J. G. Lindgren, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. He lived with Mr. Lindgren until 1890. The residence now occupied by our subject was established in 1890, and the partnership was then dissolved. Mr. Lindahl has since followed farming alone, and the present well cultivated and well improved estate bears testimony to his labors there. He has erected good farm buildings and furnished abundant shelter for stock and produce, and the best patterns of machinery for the careful garnering and disposing of the grains and other products of the farm.

Our subject was married, in 1891, to Miss Ida Sandberg, one of the earliest pioneers of Kittson county. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lindahl, who are named in order of birth as follows: Esther, Nora, Florence, Arthur and Minnie. Upon their marriage Mrs. Lindahl was installed as mistress of a new dwelling which our subject had erected, and there their lives have been passed since in peace and contentment. There their children have been born and reared, and there amid the comforts of a happy household and home our subject has seen his fortunes and reputation expand and broaden, and has experienced the first real comforts of a home—the home so happily dedicated and around which so many pleasant memories cluster. Mr. Lindahl is devoted to the interests of his community in public matters, and in 1896 was elected county commissioner for the second district. He was one of the early day leaders of the Populist party and assisted in its organization in Kittson county, and is now a member of the county central committee of that party. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church, and is an exemplary citizen in whom the people repose confidence.

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#### ERNEST BUSE.

Ernest Buse, one of the best known pioneers of Red Lake Falls, Minnesota, was one of the first settlers of that thriving town, and he was

also one of the first settlers of Fergus Falls, Minnesota. He is a business man of more than ordinary capacity and has conducted numerous extensive enterprises during his career, and is possessed of wide knowledge and a character of the highest integrity.

Mr. Buse was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, January 26, 1837, and was the second in order of birth in a family of four children born to Karl and Lisette (Olm) Buse. The family emigrated to Buffalo, New York, in 1852, and there our subject was engaged in clerking in a shoe store for three years. The family settled on a farm near Red Wing, Minnesota, in 1854, and in 1862 Ernest Buse enlisted to fight the Indians. In February, 1864, he quit the Minnesota farm, and enlisted in Company F, Third Minnesota Regiment, and served a year and a half. He was engaged in the Red River expedition and the trouble on the White river. He was mustered out at the close of the war and was one of the three hundred and sixty members of the regiment left to return home. A short time afterward he started north into the wilderness, and entered claim to the land which later became the town site of Fergus Falls. There he built grist and sawmills and was known as the founder and father of the thriving town, and it was there he gained his first practical business experience. During the summer of 1877 he was engaged in fighting the Indians. He learned from the Indians of the falls on the Red Lake river and as water power opened to him the possibilities of a thriving town he moved his family to the new location, and homesteaded land where the city of Red Lake Falls now stands. There were then but thirteen families above Crookston on the Red Lake and Clearwater rivers. He soon built a sawmill and grist mill, putting in a seventy-two-inch turbine wheel for power. This wheel now lies in the court house yard. It was brought from St. Anthony and was the first water wheel used as a power in the state of Minnesota, and dates back to 1849. The first year of our subject's residence there the township was organized and named Red Lake Falls, and in 1879 the original township was platted and named. In 1882 Mr. Buse disposed of his mills and removed to Minneapolis and there lived for three years. He then made a trip to the old country and finally located at Vancouver, British Columbia, and there invested in the lumber business, building an extensive sawmill, sash and door factory and shingle mill. He met with reverses later and in 1894 returned to Red Lake Falls, where he has since continued his residence.

Mr. Buse was married, in 1869, to Miss Eliza Greenagle. Mrs. Buse died in May, 1885. To the above marriage eight children were born, namely: Eliza, deceased; Ernest, deceased;

Louisa, Pauline, May, Lillie, Alice and Ernest. Mr. Buse was married, in 1886, to Miss Theresa Scholtz, a native of Germany. To this union four children have been born, namely: Walter, Olga, Theresa (deceased) and Carl. Mr. Buse was the first postmaster of Red Lake Falls and has ever taken an active interest in local affairs. He is a member of the G. A. R., and is the present commander of Major Beck Post, No. 168.

### JEROME W. WHEELER.

Jerome W. Wheeler, cashier of the First National Bank of Crookston, is one of the leaders of financial and social interests of Polk county. He is a man of ability and executive force, and has prospered in all enterprises in which he has embarked. He has sound judgment, and whatever enlists his attention or meets with his approval is sure to result in a most gratifying manner. On another page of this volume will be found a portrait of this well-known gentleman.

Mr. Wheeler was born in Kenosha, Wisconsin, January 15, 1863, and he and an older brother in Chicago were the only children of Jerome B. and Katherine (Deming) Wheeler. The great-grandmother was a daughter of Israel Putnam. The Wheeler family in America dates back to the seventeenth century. Our subject's mother was a teacher by profession, and she was left a widow when our subject was but three years of age. By conducting a private school she supported and educated her sons.

Jerome Wheeler graduated from McMynn Academy in 1880, and he then secured a position in Dan Head & Company's Bank. In 1885 he went to Crookston as bookkeeper in the First National Bank, and in 1892 accepted the position as cashier of the Scandia Bank, which he held three years. In 1895 he and his brother purchased a controlling interest in the First National Bank. This institution was founded in 1881 by the members of the J. I. Case Threshing Machine Company, with a capital stock of \$50,000. This was increased about 1884 to \$100,000, and the present capital stock is \$75,000. The deposits in 1895 were \$130,000, and in September, 1900, were \$400,000, a remarkable increase of business. This is one of the recognized substantial banking institutions of the northwest, and the details of the business are carefully looked after by Mr. Wheeler. For the past twelve years he has also conducted an extensive real-estate and loan business. He is a member of the State Bankers' Association, with which he has been connected for the past five years, and is also secretary of the Workingmen's Building and Loan Association, having been connected with this association for fourteen years.

Mr. Wheeler was married in 1887 to Miss Eva Hill. Two daughters have been born to bless this union, namely: Katherine and Marian. Mr. Wheeler is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and the following fraternal orders: Masonic fraternity, in blue lodge, chapter, commandery and shrine; Modern Woodmen of America, Knights of Pythias, and Order of Elks. He is a Republican politically. He has served the city of Crookston as a member of her board of aldermen, and has been chairman of the Republican county central committee.

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#### JACOB E. EID.

Jacob E. Eid, the efficient and popular postmaster of Sundahl, Minnesota, is a prosperous agriculturist of Sundahl township, his residence being located on section 24. He is one of the progressive and consequently esteemed men of his community, and he has built up a home of more than usual comforts. He is a native of Norway, and was born July 22, 1851.

Our subject's father, Erick J. Eid, was a native of Norway, and the mother, whose maiden name was Berte Aarthus, was a native of the same place. Jacob E. Eid left his native land at the age of ten years, and spent three years in Wisconsin, attending the common schools of Dane county, where he located. He then went to Freeborn county, Minnesota, in 1864, and remained there seventeen years, working on a farm. He drove overland to Norman county, Minnesota, with mules, taking three weeks for the trip and after landing there he entered claim to three hundred and twenty acres of land in Sundahl township. He had added to his possessions and is now the owner of seven hundred and twenty acres of land. He cultivates about one hundred and fifty acres, and the balance is devoted to pasture and timber. He has a large barn which accommodates eight horses and about fifty head of cattle and has ample loft room for hay, and the farm is also supplied with machinery of the most approved pattern and make and every arrangement is completed for economically conducting the place. His residence is situated in a fine grove of trees, and a fine orchard of apple trees is a feature of the place.

Our subject was married, in 1874, to Susana O. Hagen, who was born in Norway, June 1, 1855, and is a daughter of Ole Hagen. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Eid: Ole, Erick, Bent, Siri, Albert, Antwin and Marie. All reside at home with the parents. Mr. Eid is one of the broad-minded men of his locality and he has served his community as township treasurer and chairman of the township board, and for the past sixteen years he has

been postmaster of Sundahl, and faithfully performs the duties of that office. He is a Republican politically and is firm in his convictions. He and family are members of the Lutheran church, and in the community in which they reside have a host of friends who hold them in high esteem. Mr. Eid made a trip to his native land, in 1900, starting from his Minnesota home May 10th of that year. He went to New York by rail and then took passage on the steamer Oceanic for Liverpool. He next went to Stavanger, Norway, by steamer, and to Sunmar by the same source, where he visited friends a short time and proceeded on his way to Trondjen, making the trip from New York the entire distance by steamer. From Trondjen to Christiania he took the rail route and then proceeded to the home of his boyhood, Hadeland, where he visited friends and relatives about three months. He arrived at his starting place in Minnesota in the early part of September, having passed the pleasantest weeks and months of his life.

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#### CHARLES E. AITON.

Charles E. Aiton, the leading contractor and builder of Alexandria, Minnesota, is a gentleman of thorough knowledge of his vocation, and by his integrity and energetic work has gained a comfortable competence for himself and an enviable reputation. He was born at St. Paul, Minnesota, September 6, 1858.

The parents of our subject were John and Nancy (Colman) Aiton, the former a native of the North of Ireland, and the latter of Scotch descent and born at Lisbon Center, New York. The grandfather of our subject emigrated to America and settled in Iowa at an early day, but later removed to the state of New York. The father of our subject learned the trade of builder and contractor and followed that business for a number of years in the Empire state. He removed to St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1856, and resided in that city twenty-three years. He followed his trade successfully, and his business led him to other parts of the state. In 1879 he removed to Glenwood, Pope county, Minnesota, and there erected the high school building and court house, and became the owner of five hundred acres of land in Reno township, Pope county. He subsequently built the present high school building in Alexandria and resided in that town two years while thus engaged. He died in 1887. His wife survived him but three months.

Charles E. Aiton attended the public schools at St. Paul and finished his education at a private school in the same city. At the age of twenty-two years, having thoroughly mastered his trade under his father's instructions, he moved to Fer-

gus Falls, where he remained two years, conducting business there for himself. He then went to Puget Sound and lived five years at Tacoma. He helped to rebuild the city of Seattle after the disastrous fire in that city. His residence on the Pacific slope was a success financially, but the moist winters did not suit him and he returned to Alexandria in 1876, where he has since resided. Mr. Aiton built many of the best store buildings in Alexandria and the jail and sheriff's residence, which was erected in 1900, and he assisted his father in the erection of the elegant court house. He also built the jail and sheriff's residence at Glenwood, Pope county, the Odd Fellows hall at Cando, North Dakota, and many other fine structures in this and other states. He owns a well constructed brick residence located at 1014 Seventh avenue, Alexandria, and there enjoys the comforts of a happy household and home.

Mr. Aiton was married, January 1, 1879, at Glenwood, Minnesota, to Isabel Davis, daughter of Lorenzo Davis, a prosperous farmer of Pope county. Mr. and Mrs. Aiton are the parents of five children, namely: Lorna E., Roy C., Archer W., Floyd C. and James L. Mr. Aiton is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Politically he is a Republican, but does not seek public preferment.

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#### JOHN S. PATRICK.

John S. Patrick, the genial and efficient postmaster of Hinckley, is one of the leading business men and successful farmers of Pine county, Minnesota.

The parents of our subject were John and Mary Ellen Patrick, the former of Scotch extraction and the latter a native of Canada, of German descent. Our subject was the first born of a family of seven children. He grew to manhood and received his education at Trenton, Ontario, where he worked on the farm and attended the village schools. When he was nineteen years old he learned the trade of millwright, and followed that occupation until the breaking out of the northwest rebellion. He then joined the government forces and served fifteen months, during which time he took part in the battles of Knife Creek and Fort Pit. He was a member of what is known as the Northwest Mounted Police. In that service he traveled as far north as Peace river and covered all northwestern Canada. He then returned to Trenton, Ontario, and again entered the milling business. Later he worked for the Gilmore Lumber Company, and in 1889 came to the United States and located at Hinckley. There he worked for the Bremen Lumber Company as foreman, having charge of a

mill, the capacity of which was twenty-two thousand and two hundred feet per season. In 1893 he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of farm land, and began the work of improving the same. This farm lies one mile from Hinckley, and has seventy acres under cultivation. It has the reputation of producing the best crops in Pine county.

Mr. Patrick suffered from the great fire when the village of Hinckley was destroyed. At that time he happened to be at Grindstone lake with his family on a fishing excursion. He lost everything he possessed, excepting the clothes they wore. He then removed to the farm and operated the same until the spring of 1900. His estate is improved with the best buildings and supplied with an abundance of machinery, and is valued at five thousand dollars. In the spring of 1900 our subject purchased an interest in a general store at Hinckley, and in partnership with W. H. Noble has conducted the business with increasing success. Mr. Patrick was appointed postmaster in January, 1901, and now holds that office. He is also manager of the Hinckley creamery and was one of the organizers of the Creamery Association, which built its plant in the summer of 1900.

Mr. Patrick was married, in April, 1889, to Miss Ellen Mann. Mrs. Patrick was born at Leeds, in Yorkshire, England. Her father, George Mann, came to Ontario, Canada, about 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Patrick are the parents of three children, namely: Roy, Ray and Irene. In political faith Mr. Patrick is a Republican, and has taken an active interest in the public affairs of his town and county. He is classed among the leading business men of Hinckley, and has done his full share in the development of his community and county.

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#### ARNY GRUNDYSEN.

Arny Grundysen, a public spirited citizen and popular official of Polk county, is a resident of Bygland township. His services to his county have been invaluable and of such a character as to become universally appreciated by the people of the county.

Mr. Grundysen was born in Satterdalen, Norway, July 8, 1860. He was the third child in a family of six children born to Grundy and Gro Tollefson. The family emigrated to America in 1861, coming in a sailing vessel which occupied sixteen weeks in making the trip. The vessel had neared the American shores at the end of about two weeks, when it was carried by storms back to the coast of Ireland. The parents soon acquired land after their arrival, locating in Fillmore county.

Mr. Grundysen was reared on the farm, and during the winter months attended the country schools. He finally succeeded in preparing himself for teaching and was engaged in that work at various times from 1879 to 1895. In 1881 he arrived in Polk county on a visit to relatives, and after spending the summer in that county decided to locate there permanently. He took a claim in 1883 to land near Fosston and made his home there for about two years. He held this farm until 1888. In that year he was appointed deputy sheriff of Polk county and removed to the county seat. Upon the death of Sheriff Paulsrud Mr. Grundysen returned to Fosston, and in the fall of 1890 was elected to the office of sheriff of the county. This position he held four years. Upon quitting that office he purchased three hundred acres of land in Bygland township, and since that time has given his attention to the farm. He has an excellent estate, and has made a success of all his undertakings since his arrival in Polk county.

Mr. Grundysen was married, in October, 1885, to Miss Berget Torbjoinson, of North Dakota. To this marriage one child has been born, namely, Gro. Mr. Grundysen is a member of the United Lutheran church, and in political faith adheres to the Peoples party. He is a man of broad ideas and has always staunchly supported the principles of good government regardless of parties bias or political excitement. He is held in the highest esteem and everywhere regarded as a man of unusual ability and of absolute integrity.

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#### OLIVER OLSON.

Oliver Olson, one of the most prominent early settlers of Ottertail county, is proprietor of an extensive farm and also conducts an insurance business in the city of Fergus Falls. He is a man of excellent business qualifications and in whatever enterprise he has embarked he has met with unbounded success. He resides in the city and from there superintends the operation of his extensive estate. He has been an important factor in the development of the financial resources of that region and is widely and favorably known throughout Ottertail and adjoining counties.

Mr. Olson was born on a farm in the mountains of central Norway, near the town of Roros, in 1851. His father, Easten Oleson, came to America in 1869 and followed farming all his life, and became a resident of Ottertail county in 1870, and his son, Oliver Olson, came to Ottertail county in the fall of 1870, having remained a short time in Iowa.

Our subject was reared on the farm and remained with his father in Ottertail county until 1876. He walked to the new home in Ottertail

county from Alexandria, a distance of fifty miles, when there were no roads or bridges, and during the first years of their residence there they endured all the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life in the northwest. At the age of twenty-four years our subject began farming for himself, taking land as a homestead, and he has since continued in the pursuit of agriculture. He lived on his farm until 1882, part of the time in a dugout, and later in a log house. He lived alone and spent some time of the years in Fergus Falls. He was appointed probate clerk in 1880, and held the office until 1894. He has engaged continuously since in the insurance business and farming, and has met with success in both businesses. In 1894 he was elected probate judge and held the office one term. His farm consists of four hundred acres, and he has improved the place and erected good buildings thereon. The land is in Grant and Ottertail counties, and is valuable and furnishes a good annual income. Mr. Olson has built upon extensive insurance business, and is well known throughout that region as the representative of the most reliable companies.

In 1882 Mr. Olson was married to Miss Oliva Story. Mrs. Olson was born in Hedemarken, Norway, and came to America in 1878. She was reared on a farm in her native land and died in Minnesota in 1895, leaving five children. Mr. Olson was married again, to Miss Mette Melby, in 1900. Mrs. Olson is also a native of Norway. Mr. Olson is a Republican politically, and has been chosen by his party as a delegate to numerous county and state conventions and takes an active part in local affairs. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and for the past fifteen years has served as trustee of that lodge. He was among the early settlers of Ottertail county, and is the present secretary of the Old Settlers' Association.

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#### DR. ALONZO WILSON.

Dr. Alonzo Wilson, now devoted to the agricultural labors of life, has a fine home on section 10, Oakport township, Clay county, where he has made his name and influence felt as a capable and reliable citizen of Minnesota, and was born in Skane, Sweden, September 29, 1834, being the oldest member of a family of seven children born to Ole L. and Sarah (Person) Wilson, both residents of the farm Brogarden. Mr. Wilson had been a student at the University of Lund three years when his parents, moved by a laudable anxiety to provide a home for their children in the new land of opportunity, removed to the United States, bringing young Alonzo with them. Here he found himself in a strange land and feeling that he should support himself secured work



as a farm hand, continuing at this until September, 1861, when he became a Union soldier. He was a member of Company K, Fifth Iowa Volunteer Cavalry, serving under Stanley. His first experience of war was at Fort Donelson, a splendid victory that was of vast value in inspiring the north. For two years Mr. Wilson bore an active part in the duties of the field, and was then sent to the hospital on account of a severe and protracted siege of typhoid fever. While convalescing he was appointed acting hospital steward at Murfreesboro, a position in which he was employed six months, and was then attached to Bracket's battalion and sent to the plains for active duty, where his term of enlistment was fully completed.

In 1864 Mr. Wilson took up the study of medicine, graduating from the Keokuk Medical School, the old and famous Iowa institution, and at once applied himself to the practice of his chosen calling, first locating at Fargo in the Red river valley in 1876, but soon removing to Moorhead, where he covered a field eighty miles to the east and sixty miles north. He bought land in Oakport and Kragues townships and began farming in the early '80s, and found the work so agreeable that he retired altogether from medical work in 1885. The farm has been brought into good shape, and shows the touch of a master hand.

Mr. Wilson has been active in town affairs, and affiliates with the Populist party. He was married, in 1898, to Miss Ida Broberg, a Swedish compatriot, and a woman of fine character.

Dr. Wilson owns a section of land at the present time, and gives some attention to dairy farming. He owns a choice herd of Jersey cattle. He was devoted to his profession as long as he continued the practice, and as a surgeon he was successful, as well as in the general practice.

#### FRANK S. WALKER.

Frank S. Walker, well known in the Princeton section of Mille Lacs county, Minnesota, was born in Hull, England, in 1864, being the second member of a family of four children born to James Walker, a prosperous and successful farmer and land owner of Yorkshire, where he lived and died.

Mr. Walker was reared in his native community, and had the advantage of the best private schools that the times afforded, and was graduated while still a youth from Barrow College. Following the completion of his college course he studied law, but his failing health compelled a change of vocation, which he sought by coming to America in 1881. For several years after his arrival on these western shores his home was

in Toronto, Canada, where he was engaged in the employ of the Bradstreet Commercial and Mercantile Agency as a clerk. In 1887 he came to St. Paul, where he secured a situation with the firm of Yerxa Brothers in the grocery trade, which he held until 1893, the year of his coming to Princeton and of his purchase of a farm in section 25, three miles west of the village. Here he began farming, but the failures of the crops two years in succession necessitated his return to St. Paul, where he resumed work with Yerxa Brothers, remaining with them for two years, by which time things had greatly improved in the Mille Lacs country. Mr. Walker came back to Princeton to work for a time with Mr. Townsend, and then buying him out in 1898 and continuing his business to the present time.

Mr. Walker was married, in 1887, to Miss Eliza B. Bradshaw, a native of Ireland and a lady of many charming qualities. They have the following children: Eleanor, William H., Norman, Myron and Eileen. Her father, William P. Bradshaw, was a farmer and was living on the old family home in Ireland at the time of his daughter's marriage. Mr. Walker belongs to the Methodist church, and holds strong political convictions that bring him into the ranks of the Prohibitionists. He is a trustee of the church, and is an active man in the community. He is also a member of the Royal Arcanum.

#### COLLIN CAMPBELL.

Collin Campbell (deceased), whose portrait is shown elsewhere in this volume, in his lifetime a progressive and respected resident of Milaca, Minnesota, was born in Canada, in March, 1856, and was a son of parents but lately come from Scotland, and who removed to Minnesota when young Collin was about five years old. They settled on a farm near Princeton, Mille Lacs county, in 1861, and were among the earliest settlers of that portion of the state. There Collin Campbell was reared and educated, being bred to farm work, and helping his father open up his farm, which for years was a stopping place for lumbermen.

Collin Campbell made his way into the lumber woods while yet a young man and was engaged in hauling supplies to the lumber camps in the various parts of Mille Lacs county. His father was quite extensively engaged in the hay business, and much of the product was sold to the various camps in the vicinity. When Collin Campbell was twenty-three years old he began farming in Blue Hill township, Sherburn county, opening a farm of two hundred acres, and making his home there until 1888, having in that time brought the farm from raw prairie up to a condi-

tion of cultivation seldom equalled in the state. About the time of his taking this farm, he was married to Josephine M. Young, a native of New York, and a descendant of an old New England family by her maternal ancestry. Her father, who was born in Canada, came of French blood, and was a soldier in the Union army during the Civil war, being a member of Company D, One Hundred and Twenty-third New York Volunteer Infantry. He was a farmer all his life, and came to Minnesota in 1856, making his home in Mille Lacs county. His wife, and the mother of Mrs. Campbell, was Harriet B. Carter, a representative of an old New England family. To this union were born three children: Della G., who is now Mrs. Van Patten, they are the parents of one child, Collin; Andrew B., and Sarah B.

In 1888 Mr. Campbell disposed of his Sherburn county farm, and, coming to Milaca, bought the Milaca House in company with A. J. Barrett. The two partners carried on this hotel until it was destroyed by fire, in 1893, when Mr. Campbell resumed his farming life on his Sherburn county property. In the fall of 1896 he rebuilt the Milaca House, and conducted it four years. There he died, January 21, 1901, of typhoid pneumonia.

From his first arrival in Milaca Mr. Campbell was extensively engaged in lumbering, being associated at times with A. J. Barrett, and with his brother, William Campbell. For several years he maintained extensive lumber camps in different parts of the state, and devoted much attention to his various lumbering enterprises. Mr. Campbell was a Republican, and held different local offices. He was a Mason, a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America and the M. B. of America.

The parents of Mr. Campbell are still living in Mille Lacs county, near Princeton. The One Hundred and Twenty-third New York, in which the father of Mrs. Campbell did gallant service in the Army of the Potomac, was at Gettysburg, when it was sent to the west, and became a part of the wonderful army that General Sherman led to the sea, and on to Washington to participate in the grand review, closing three years of honorable and creditable service.

#### STEPHEN ASHBURNER.

Stephen Ashburner, a respected citizen of Wadena county, resides on section 28, Wadena township. He is a successful agriculturist, and his estate bears evidence of good management, thrift and prosperity.

Mr. Ashburner was born at Barrow in Furness, in England, November 13, 1859. His father was Thomas Ashburner, a native of England, and his mother, also born in England, bore

the maiden name of Elinor Lishman. The boyhood days of our subject were spent in his native land, where he received his early education. When he was fourteen years of age he came to America with his parents. He attended school in Wadena county and worked on his father's farm until he was twenty-six years old. He received a good practical education and learned with thoroughness all the details of farming in the northwest. He is now the owner of two hundred acres of valuable land, well adapted to general farming and stock-raising, and he cultivates annually one hundred and forty acres. The value of his estate is enhanced by an abundant supply of the best water, rendering the business of stock-raising a profitable department. The farm is already well stocked and Mr. Ashburner purposes entering more extensively into this branch of agriculture. He has his farm well equipped with modern machinery and is in all respects an up-to-date farmer. His present competence grew up from small beginnings. He lived in a log house for many years, and for ten years used ox teams in breaking and cultivating his lands. However, his industry, good management and enterprise have brought him deserved success, and he is regarded as one of Wadena county's most substantial citizens.

Mr. Ashburner was married, in 1886, to Altin Glasse. Mrs. Ashburner was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, July 13, 1864. Her parents were John and Mary Glasse, the former of Irish and the latter of English descent. Mr. and Mrs. Ashburner are the parents of three children, namely: Date, William and Mary E. The family are members of the M. E. church. Mr. Ashburner is a Republican in political views, and takes a commendable interest in all matters of a public nature. He is one of the pioneers of the county and is well known throughout the entire locality.

#### GEORGE A. WHITMAN.

George A. Whitman, president of the First National Bank at Eveleth, and also of the State Bank of Tower, was born in Winona county, Minnesota, in 1866. He has spent most of his life in the banking business, and is a gentleman of exceptional business ability, and has successfully operated the various enterprises with which he has been connected. For the past ten years he has been associated with the commercial interests of St. Louis county.

Mr. Whitman was the youngest in a family of four children, and was reared in the city of Winona, where he attended the public schools. He entered the Second National Bank of Winona at the age of sixteen years, and after working there as a clerk about seven years in February,

1890, went to Tower. He was appointed assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Tower. This bank was established in the fall of 1888, with the following officers: H. A. Wair, resident; D. H. Bacon, vice-president; G. W. Hurtges, cashier; and George A. Whitman, assistant cashier. Mr. Whitman assumed the duties of cashier in that bank in July, 1890. The institution was re-organized into a state bank October 1, 1895, and Mr. Whitman was elected president; E. H. Bacon, vice-president; and W. J. Smith, assistant cashier. In 1897 Mr. O. W. Akerson was appointed assistant cashier. Mr. Whitman established the First National Bank at Eveleth, September 1, 1900, and has since served as president of that institution. He purchased the interests of O. D. Kenny & Company in 1901, this being the only other bank in Eveleth, and its business was absorbed by the First National Bank at that time. The First National Bank of Eveleth and the State Bank of Tower conduct a general banking business, and are considered among the substantial financial institutions of Minnesota.

Mr. Whitman was married, in 1897, to Miss Marcell, a native of Michigan. One child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Whitman, Abbott M., the date of whose birth is 1900. Mr. Whitman is prominent in local public affairs, and is a Republican in politics. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M.

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#### WILLIAM C. L. DEMANN.

William C. L. Demann, accounted one of the most substantial farmers of Red Lake county, Minnesota, resides on his elegant estate in Lake Pleasant township.

Mr. Demann was born in Rice county, Minnesota, August 6, 1868. He is the only living child of William and Mary (Cluthe) Demann, natives, respectively, of Hanover and Mecklenberg, Germany. The father located on the old homestead where he now lives in 1879, and the family joined him there in 1880.

Our subject passed his boyhood in Rice county, and in 1880 went with his parents to the pioneer home in Red Lake county. Though but a boy, he began work on the home farm, following the breaking plow, and his knowledge of agriculture has been acquired in this part of the county. As the only child of his parents he assumed management of the home farm at an early age, and he and his father are now joint owners of all the property. Their possessions when they arrived in Red Lake county consisted of five horses and three cows, and they had no money. The farm as it now stands is undoubtedly the most handsome place in the county, a fourteen-acre grove, mostly evergreen trees, contribut-

ing largely to the beauty of the place. A substantial barn, 31x100 feet, was erected in 1886, and all machinery is under shed, including a steam threshing outfit. Water is obtained for farm use at a depth of fifteen feet in great abundance, and is of the finest quality. A windmill furnishes power for feed grinding, fodder cutting and other work. The entire farm evidences most careful and systematic methods in its operation.

William Demann is a gentleman of prominence in his locality, and takes an active and commendable interest in all public local affairs. He was elected county commissioner in 1895, and is serving in that capacity at the present date for the second district of Red Lake county, having been re-elected to that position in 1900. He is a man of sterling character, and a member of the German Lutheran church. Politically he is a Republican.

Mr. Demann was married, in 1888, to Miss Hattie Wichterman. Mrs. Demann is a native of New York state. Three children have been born to this union, namely: Charles (deceased), Edith and Rosa.

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#### GASPARD ETHIER.

To become a leader among men one must be possessed of those sterling qualities which are always commendable, as well as a sound mind and progressive spirit. The gentleman above named has resided in Marshall county, Minnesota, since its earliest settlement and has become familiar to all who reside there, and takes a foremost place among them as an energetic agriculturist and public spirited citizen. He has a valuable farm, and makes his home in section 5 of Middle River township. Mr. Ethier was born in the province of Quebec, Canada, February 20, 1851, and was the eldest of seven children born to Joseph and Felonise (Desmairs) Ethier, both of whom were of French descent and were natives of Canada.

When Mr. Ethier was nineteen years of age he quit his native place and came to the states and spent some time in Nevada. In the spring of 1879 he came to Marshall county and filed a claim to the land upon which he now makes his home. Circumstances later justified him in purchasing an additional tract of land bordering on the Middle river, and he has met with excellent success in all his farming operations. He came to that region with the first great influx of settlers and secured valuable land, but he was not a man of means, and for the first two years he worked for others of the neighborhood and did not engage very extensively in the cultivation of his own land or the improvement of his farm.

He is now the owner of four hundred acres of excellent land, and the careful attention which he has personally given the work of the place has enabled him to reap a good reward for his labors, and he now lives amid the comforts and many of the luxuries of life and enjoys a good competence, feeling secure in the idea that he has sufficient to tide him through his declining years.

Mr. Ethier was married, in 1882, to Miss Caroline Magnan. To this union seven children have been born, namely: Albert, Horace, Alfred, Alma, Clara, Edmund and Yvone. Mr. Ethier has always taken a hearty interest in the development of that region, and has aided materially in the advancement of the public enterprises, and has been honored with numerous local offices. He is now serving as chairman of the township board and is known as a leader of his countrymen. Politically he is identified with the Democratic party, and is staunch in support of party principles. He is a member of the Roman Catholic church, and is a gentleman of exemplary character and deservedly popular and influential.

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#### KNUTE N. BRAGESTAD.

Knute N. Bragestad, dealer in real estate in Gary, Norman county, is one of the well-known and influential citizens of his community. He has resided in that county for many years, and until about one year ago followed farming extensively and with pronounced success, and is the owner of a fine farm near Gary.

Our subject was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, March 30, 1858, and was the eldest of four children, who were named as follows: Knute, Ole, John and Anna. Of these Ole is now deceased, and John and Anna are conducting the homestead farm in Decorah township, Iowa. The parents of our subject, Nels K. and Gunvor (Naglestad) Bragestad, were natives of Norway. The former died in Iowa in 1884, and the latter died in the same state ten years later. Our subject remained in his native county until he attained his majority and attended the common schools and also attended Breckenridge Institute two terms. He worked on the home farm until 1879, and then went to Crookston, and from there to Norman county, Minnesota. He began farming on land in section 12, in Strand township, and remained there to improve the farm until it is one of the valuable properties of the locality. The farm is completely fenced and has a set of good buildings thereon, and about sixty head of cattle are kept. The machinery for the economical conduct of the place is of the latest pattern and every convenience known to modern farming is supplied, and the

farm is altogether one of the best equipped of the township. Mr. Bragestad has directed his attention to the real estate business in Gary for the past year, and has a flourishing business and enjoys the confidence of those with whom he has to do. When he located in Norman county, Ada was but a village and Crookston could boast of little more, and he could then look across the unbroken prairie and not a settler was to be seen in any direction. He began farming with an ox team, and like others of those pioneer days had his experiences with Indians.

Our subject was married, in 1884, to Jennie Espe, a native of Iowa, and a daughter of Ole Espe, who was born in Norway and died in Iowa. Mrs. Bragestad's widowed mother now resides in Polk county, in the city of Crookston. Mrs. Bragestad went to Norman county in her childhood. Our subject and wife are the parents of three children, who are named as follows: John, Agnes, and Olaf, deceased. The family are members of the Lutheran church, with which denomination our subject has been connected since his childhood. Mr. Bragestad is a gentleman of active public spirit and has been called upon to serve in various official capacities. He was clerk of courts from 1894 to 1898, and was a member of the first board of county commissioners. Politically he is independent and is a staunch believer in reform. He is enlightened and progressive and his high standing is well deserved.

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#### JAMES H. WHITE.

James H. White, a prosperous agriculturist and one of the leading citizens of Douglas county, is one of the pioneers of Minnesota. His pleasant home is located on section 6 of Hudson township, where he has spent over thirty-four years of his life.

Mr. White was born near Clearfield, Clearfield county, Pennsylvania, September 20, 1839. His parents were James and Margaret (Eiselman) White, who were farmers by occupation. The former was a native of Wiltshire, England, and the mother was born in Vedenburg, Germany, and was brought to America by her parents when an infant. The parents of our subject were married at Clearfield, Pennsylvania, and their union was blessed with a family of eight children, five sons and three daughters, of whom our subject was the fourth in order of birth. The father, in addition to farming, was engaged in lumbering, when timber was plentiful in that part of Pennsylvania. He died in Pennsylvania in 1860, and the mother died in Douglas county, Minnesota, in 1893, she having resided there some eight years or more prior to her demise.

James H. White attended the public schools until he was sixteen years of age. He then found work on the farm, in the lumber camp and in the mines on his own account and was self-supporting. He came to Minnesota in 1866 and entered a homestead claim to eighty acres of land on what is now section 6 of Hudson township, Douglas county, and he later acquired two forty-acre tracts by purchase, and now has a fine and well-improved farm of 160 acres. He first built a poplar hewed house 14x20 feet, consisting of a single room, which served all purposes of living, sleeping, etc., for thirteen years. He pulled this building down in 1879 and replaced it the same year with a modern and well-constructed dwelling, which he equipped with all improvements and furnished comfortably and in excellent taste. He carries on diversified farming, and keeps sheep, cattle and other stock, and has met with unbounded success in the pursuit of agriculture.

Mr. White was married at Clearfield, Pennsylvania, August 7, 1861, to Sophia J. Rubly, a daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Hoover) Rubly. Mrs. White's parents still reside at Clearfield. Six children, two sons and four daughters, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. White, as follows: Sarah Lovina, now Mrs. William Smith; Marion W.; Ageline, now Mrs. Henry Hounsell; Clara, deceased; Charles; and Cecillian. Mr. White has always taken a commendable interest in local public affairs, and he was the first justice of the peace to hold office in Hudson township, having been elected in 1868. He served in that capacity two years, and was then elected supervisor and continued to fill this office seventeen years. He also held the office of school treasurer seven years. In 1890 he was elected county commissioner of Douglas county, and after serving a term of four years was re-elected in 1898, and is at present discharging the duties of that office with eminent satisfaction to all. He was chairman of the board two years during his first term and is the present chairman of that body. He is a Republican in political views, and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

#### HALVOR O. RASK.

Success in any enterprise can be attained only by a thorough knowledge of the principles involved and the strict execution of the same. The gentleman here named has made a success of farming, mercantile business and banking by his personal supervision of the work, and his ability and integrity are well known. He is a resident of section thirteen in Hendrum township, Norman county, where he owns an extensive farm, and is

co-partner in the hardware and machine business in the town of Hendrum, and is president of the State Bank of Hendrum.

Our subject was born in Hollingdal, Norway, November 15, 1851. His father, Ole Rask, was a farmer throughout his life. He came to America in 1857 and settled in Houston county, Minnesota. He died in 1875, and the mother of our subject, who bore the maiden name of Engeberg Vermager, died in 1868. Our subject's ancestors were generally farmers by occupation. Of a family of seven children Mr. Rask was the sixth in order of birth. He attended the common schools and early learned to follow the plow, having assisted his father in developing his farm. He began for himself in the spring of 1872, assuming charge of the homestead farm, the place consisting of 120 acres of land. He continued farming in Houston county, Minnesota, until 1882, when he settled in Norman county. He visited the locality in 1877 and purchased his present farm in Hendrum township, and then left the place in charge of his brother, who attended to the improvement of the same until our subject took up his residence thereon. When he went to his new home he waded through water which came to the axle of the wagon on the open prairie, and the outlook was most discouraging. The family was established in the home of his brother, and he did not finish seeding his land until the last of May. The crop of 1880 was partially destroyed by prairie fire in the stack, and in 1887 his residence, which was erected in 1884, was destroyed by fire. A second serious flood came in 1897, when the water rose to within five inches of the floor of the house, and many places were flooded and considerable suffering and damage resulted. Despite these drawbacks, Mr. Rask has made a success of agriculture, and he is now the owner of 520 acres of land, comprising two farms, one of 400 acres and the other pasture and timber land of 120 acres. The Wild Rice river runs through his land from south to north, and along its banks plums and berries are found. A complete set of farm buildings of modern design has been constructed and the farm yields a good annual income. This estate is considered one of the most valuable in the county, and justly gets the name, owing to its careful tillage and excellent improvements. In 1888 our subject began dealing in farm machinery, and in 1893 a partnership was formed with O. D. Larson, and the firm of Rask & Larson now conduct one of the largest hardware and machine establishments of that region. In 1890 the State Bank of Hendrum was organized, and the following officers were chosen: Halvor O. Rask, president; A. M. Eckmann, cashier; and P. O. Engberg, vice president. Mr. Rask is also a stockholder of the bank.

Our subject was married in 1878 to Miss Nel-

lie Bye, a native of Houston county, Minnesota. Mrs. Rask's father, Andrew Bye, was a native of Norway, and emigrated to America and served in the Civil war. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Rask, who are as follows: Oliver, deceased; Ida, deceased; Alma, deceased; Stella, deceased; Oliver; Stella; Arthur; and Ruby. Mr. Rask, whose portrait appears on another page in this work, has served with the Prohibition party since its organization and has been the nominee for representative to the state legislature. He is a gentleman of good character, and is a member of the Lutheran church, and is deservedly accorded a prominent place as a business man and citizen.

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#### P. ALFRED HULTMAN.

The opportunities afforded honest industry to gain a footing in America were embraced by the gentleman whose name heads this article, and he is now one of the recognized substantial business men of Carlton, Minnesota. He came to this country from the Scandinavian peninsula, and characteristic with his nationality made the best of his opportunities. He had no means and was not versed in American customs or the English language, but he secured employment and with a determination to succeed went to his work. He was confident of success, and whatever drawbacks he met did not daunt his purpose. He was one of the early settlers of Carlton county, and in those early days the country was beset with rough characters, whose nightly marauding made it unsafe for men to venture from their homes. This condition has been changed, and the order and quiet of the thriving town of to-day has been brought about by the endeavors of substantial and honest citizens, who had the interests of their community to work for. Among these men may be mentioned Mr. Hultman, the senior member of the prosperous mercantile firm of Hultman & Carlson.

P. Alfred Hultman was born on a farm in the southern part of Sweden, in 1872. His father, H. P. Hultman, was a farmer and storekeeper and he spent his life in his native land. He made a visit to America in 1882. Our subject spent his boyhood in his native land, and in 1887, at the age of fifteen years, decided to try his fortune in America. He went to Carlton, Minnesota, and upon his arrival there had no money. He secured employment as a clerk for A. D. Eckland, and remained in his employ seven years. He was then manager of the railroad eating house at Carlton for one year, and then worked for M. T. Wylander a year and a half. In 1897, in partnership with E. S. Ayre, he purchased the mercantile business of Mr. Wylander, and the business was conducted under the firm name of

Ayre & Hultman until 1899. S. Alfred Carlson then bought Mr. Ayre's interest in the business, and the firm name is now Hultman & Carlson. They carry a complete stock of general merchandise and have erected one of the largest business blocks of the town, and occupy a main building 24x50 feet, with a warehouse in the rear. Their business has prospered and is conducted under strictly honest methods, and they strive in every possible manner to meet the requirements of their patrons, and enjoy an extensive trade.

Mr. Hultman is a gentleman of excellent character, and is devoted to the interests of his adopted land. He is a Republican politically, and lends his influence for good local government.

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#### OLE P. ONSTAD.

Among the representative farmers of Polk county, who have aided materially in its development and advancement, a prominent place is accorded Ole P. Onstad, who resides on his well-improved estate in section 10 of the township which bears his name. He is a gentleman of energetic character and well merits his success and high standing.

Mr. Onstad was born in Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, September 9, 1839. He and a younger brother constituted the family born to Peter and Sigri (Ramstad) Boye. Mr. Onstad was reared on the home farm and completed his education in the common schools of his neighborhood and then attended an agricultural college. In his native land he was dissatisfied with the attitude of the rich people and officeholders toward the poorer people, and he accordingly sought the freedom of thought and speech and action in America, taking up his residence in this country in 1862. He worked two years in Wisconsin, and then located in Nicollet county, Minnesota, where he rented land. He worked at teaming in St. Paul one year, in 1867, and then engaged in farming. The grasshoppers ruined his crops and he met with losses from which it took years to recover. He went to Polk county in 1881 with two horses, two hundred bushels of oats and an indebtedness of \$1,000. He was obliged to sell the oats to pay the freight on his stock and other effects. He filed on section 10, where he now lives, but for some time was in such circumstances that he found it necessary to work for others, breaking their land, and he could not do much to his own farm for some time after locating thereon. His family joined him there in 1882, and their first home was a 12x14 feet board shanty, sodded outside. A log house supplanted this in 1882, and his present residence is comfortable and convenient. He has placed good improvements on the place, has an artesian



well, the water from which comes from a depth of one hundred and sixteen feet. He owns five hundred and twenty acres of land, and is one of the substantial men of his locality.

Mr. Onstad was married in 1859 to Miss Ingeborg Onstad. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Onstad, namely: Peter, a merchant of Ada, Minnesota; and Sophia, now Mrs. Nils Skedser. Mr. Onstad assisted in the organization of the township which was named in his honor, and he was elected the first township clerk, and has been prominently connected with school and township affairs since that time. He is a member of the Lutheran church and is an earnest worker for his church. He is a Republican in political sentiment, but lends his influence for good government and supports the worthy candidate for office having the welfare of his community at heart. Through his energetic character and good management he has succeeded in clearing his old debts and has accumulated a fine property, where he may enjoy the quiet and comfort of life in his declining years, esteemed as a citizen and farmer by his fellow men.

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#### EZRA M. HEALD.

Ezra M. Heald, postmaster of Dalton, Minnesota, is one of the influential citizens of Ottertail county. He has an extensive acquaintance and is held in the highest esteem by all. He is an ex-soldier of the Civil war, and is a man of strong character and active public spirit, and well merits his high standing.

Mr. Heald was born in Aroostook county, Maine, March 30, 1845. His parents, Timothy and Elizabeth Heald, were born in Penobscot county, Maine. Mr. Heald was reared in his native village and received a common-school education there until he reached the age of ten years, when he removed with his parents to Minneapolis, Minnesota. He there completed his studies and resided there until 1861, when he enlisted in the United States army and was a member of Company A, Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He was sent at once to Kentucky, and in the battle of Stone River was taken prisoner and sent to St. Louis, but was later paroled and returned to Fort Snelling, Minnesota, in 1862. Under General Sibley he was sent to Fort Ridgely, Minnesota, and took part in the Indian outbreak. In 1863 he was again sent to Kentucky, and was in the Fifteenth Corps under Logan. After the surrender of Vicksburg he was sent to Arkansas, and remained there until January, 1864, when his time of enlistment expired. He re-enlisted and spent thirty days at home on a furlough, and then returned to Pine Bluff, Arkansas, where he remained until the close of the

war, in 1865, when he was mustered out of the service. He then went to the pineries of the upper Mississippi, in northern Minnesota, and remained there until 1867. He went to Fergus Falls and worked in the first sawmill of that district in 1867, and in 1868 accepted a position as wagon master of the United States plain trains over the plains of Dakota and Montana. He was thus engaged until 1873, when he located in Grant county, Minnesota, where he took a homestead. He stayed there some ten years, and then began purchasing wheat, and followed the elevator business at Dalton until 1900, and in the fall of that year ran for sheriff of Ottertail county. The party ticket was defeated, however, and in January, 1901, Mr. Heald accepted the appointment of postmaster at Dalton. He is an efficient and popular officer and well merits his high station. He is the owner of his residence and lot in Dalton and the building which is occupied by the postoffice.

Mr. Heald was married in 1873 to Minnie Burns. Mrs. Heald was born in Canada, February 20, 1856. To this marriage four children have been born, namely: Herbert V., Rubert D., Eva Maude and Pearl Edna. Mr. Heald was justice of the peace of Dalton for some years, and while a resident of Grant county served as sheriff four years and held numerous minor offices. Politically he is a Republican. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and has taken the degrees of the blue lodge and the Royal Arch degree at Fergus Falls. He and family are members of the Congregational church, and are held in the highest esteem in this community.

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#### GUNDER B. GUNDERSON.

Gunder B. Gunderson, a prosperous and progressive farmer of Clay county, is the owner of a valuable estate in Moland township. By his thrift and energy, aided by a natural business capacity, he has gathered about him an ample sufficiency of this world's goods to guarantee immunity from want in his old age.

Mr. Gunderson was the eldest son of Bendik and Annie (Aavaldsen) Gunderson, and was born on the farm Gjedestad in Moland, Prestegjeld, Christiansandstift, Norway, July 5, 1854. The family emigrated to America in 1861 and settled in Houston county, Minnesota. They removed to Clay county June 15, 1871. Our subject, then a youth of seventeen summers, performed the work of a mature man and conducted the farm with great efficiency. They had brought with them some stock, and as the railroad construction made a great demand for milk, butter and beef, they were able to obtain high prices for these products. Our subject engaged

in breaking land at \$4.50 to \$5.00 per acre, and in this way they tided over the trying times which followed their settlement there. For two successive years crops were destroyed by grasshoppers, but the family was kept from want through the activity largely of our subject. He managed the old home farm until 1884, when he took charge of his own land in section 20, which he had purchased in 1877, and which he still owned. He purchased more land in 1892, securing the farm in section 19 on which he now resides. He is the owner of five hundred acres of excellent farm land, and has a comfortable residence with many modern improvements and conveniences.

Mr. Gunderson married, in 1884, Anna Tveten, a native of Norway. Of this marriage eight children have been born, namely: Bennie, Allen, Agnes, Clarence, Andrew, William, Henry, and an infant unnamed. In politics our subject is a Populist. He has served in various public offices and has been an active worker in the interest of education. He became township clerk in 1876, and with the exception of one year has held that office continuously to the present time. He has also been school clerk for the past fifteen years. He is thus intimately acquainted with the public affairs of his locality, to which he has given much attention, to the great benefit of his community.

January 7, 1873, is memorable as the date of the most remarkable blizzard in the annals of the county. The storm began about 11 A. M., lasting three days. Also the year 1873 is known as the year of high water, and held the record until 1897, when all records were broken and the water stood three feet deep on the prairie along Buffalo river. 1887 is noted as the year of the severe wind storm which destroyed the school buildings and several farm residences and buildings in the locality. In 1890 this experience was repeated, severe storms passing through the township. In 1880 and 1884 hail laid waste the crops throughout the region, and in 1887 and 1890 hail and wind storms again devastated the township. For more than twenty-five years Mr. Gunderson has been clerk of Moland township.

#### GEORGE W. NESBITT.

George W. Nesbitt, whose professional skill and business ability have long commanded the respect and admiration of the people of Minnesota with whom he has come into contact, especially those of Isanti county, where he has been in mercantile business at Cambridge for a number of years, was born on a farm in Delaware county, New York, in 1828, and is a son of William Nesbitt, who was born in England and

brought to this country when only twelve years of age.

William Nesbitt was a life-long farmer, and married an American girl on Long Island. To them were born twelve children, of whom George W. was the oldest, and all their children were given a good education in the public and high schools of New York. They were good people, and their children were reared to an honest and useful life.

George W. Nesbitt left home when he was sixteen years of age, and for three years was a teacher in his native state, five years being spent by him in that calling in New Jersey, all his wages until he was twenty-one being paid to his father. When he was twenty-four he quit teaching on account of his health, and for some two years was engaged in peddling Yankee notions through the state of New York, traveling with a wagon over the greater part of the country.

Mr. Nesbitt was married in 1854 to Miss Martha Angle, a native of New York and a teacher in the schools of her native state prior to the time of her marriage. Her father, Frederick Angle, was a merchant. Mr. and Mrs. Nesbitt have become the parents of nine children: Fred, Oscar, John, Charlie, Thomas (now deceased), Mary, Nora, Nellie and Eva,—all of whom were born in Minnesota. Mr. Nesbitt came to Minnesota in 1856, making his home during the fall and winter at Stillwater, and the following spring taking a farm in Anoka county, where he put up a house, and for five years was engaged in the cultivation of his land, employing oxen all that time. In 1863 he came to Kanabec county and ran a hotel at Brunswick, from time to time holding important county offices, being also postmaster at Brunswick. For some three years Mr. Nesbitt speculated extensively in real estate and tax titles, clearing up in the course of these transactions some \$19,000. In 1866 he settled at Isanti, where he was engaged in the hotel and mercantile business, and was among the first merchants to establish their stores in that town. Mr. Nesbitt remained in business there until the building of the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad, which greatly interfered with his trade with the lumber camps, an important line, as in a single season he had sold \$160,000 worth to the camps not far away.

After the sale of his business in Isanti Mr. Nesbitt located in Cambridge, where he already had opened a branch store, the third in the place, and in this he was busily engaged until 1899, doing business in a building 26x60 feet, one of the largest in the town, in which he handled such goods as the community demanded, including the best lines of farm machinery.

Mr. Nesbitt was admitted to the bar in 1888, and for two terms held the office of county attor-

ney in Isanti, and has developed a creditable reputation as a lawyer. In 1890 Mr. Nesbitt sold his store and stock to his son, Fred W. Nesbitt, and is now devoting his attention to his farm, a half section close to Cambridge, and considerable wild land in Aitkin, Kanabec and Mille Lacs counties. In 1867 he put thirty-four pre-emption claims on Mille Lacs reservation, and in that deal lost \$24,000. In spite of that disaster, however, he has made a large success of his business, and stands to-day among the most successful and honorable men of the community.

#### JOHN M. DAHLBY.

John M. Dahlby, the capable and efficient secretary of the Wheeler Land Company, at Moorhead, Minnesota, was born in Dalsland, Sweden, April 7, 1855, and was the oldest member of a family of six children born to Jan and Britta M. (Andreasdatter) Janson, both of whom are now dead. All their children are living in St. Paul, with the exception of the subject of this article.

John M. Dahlby was only fifteen years of age when his father died, leaving the family but poorly provided with the necessities of life, and young John took upon himself the burden of caring for his younger brothers and sisters so far as his ability extended in that direction. When he was eighteen years of age he went to Norway, where he worked on the railroad, and learned the blacksmith trade. It was in Norway that he was married to Miss Marie Hendriksen, and in 1883 they left the Scandinavian lands for a home in the new world, whither so many of their race had gone to their most decided advantage. Mr. Dahlby located in St. Paul, where he secured a position in a grocery store. After about a year of this work he went into business himself as a member of the firm of Olson & Dahlby, doing a general grocery trade, in which they were engaged some two years. At the expiration of that period Mr. Dahlby began dealing in real estate, as the junior member of the firm of Knutson & Company. In 1893 he was made land emigration agent for the firm of A. E. Johnson & Company, of St. Paul, and was sent to the northwest to handle the lands of the Northern Pacific Railroad. In 1896 he formed the real estate firm of Dahlby & Grondahl, with its principal office at St. Paul, and a branch at Moorhead. In 1899 he connected himself with the Wheeler Land Company, and is regarded as one of the most capable and energetic members of that noted concern. The career of Mr. Dahlby, thus briefly sketched, is a most creditable one, and is well worthy of a conspicuous place on these pages devoted to the men whose courage and ability have made the great northwest possible and a fact.

Mr. Dahlby has recently made an extended trip to Sweden and Norway, and was impressed by the vast changes that even a few years have wrought in the conditions of life in the old country.

Mr. and Mrs. Dahlby have five children: Bertha, Oscar, Hilma L., Henry G., and Jennie. He is a Democrat, and is a man of character and standing. A portrait of Mr. Dahlby will be found upon another page of this volume.

#### JAMES CHILTON.

For over a quarter of a century this gentleman has been closely identified with the development and civilization of Becker county, Minnesota. He is proprietor of one of the finest farms of that region, the land being located in Burlington township. His residence is in section 15, and there he enjoys a fitting reward for a well-spent career.

James Chilton was born on a farm in Ontario, Canada, in 1841. The Chilton family came to America in the Mayflower in 1620. Of a family of ten children our subject was the third in order of birth, and he was reared in Canada and aided his father at carpenter work, receiving a country-school education. After reaching his majority he began for himself at carpenter work, and also sailed on the Great Lakes for some three or four seasons. He went to Becker county, Minnesota, in the spring of 1870, and was engaged on the Northern Pacific Railroad survey through Brainerd, and in the fall of that year he moved his family to Becker county and located near the present town of Frazee, then known as Third Crossing of the Ottertail river. His brother had preceded him to that locality and had built a log house. The nearest railroad town was St. Cloud, one hundred and sixty miles away, and supplies were bought at Ottertail, a small inland town. The family located on the farm in December, 1870, and the following spring our subject broke a few acres of land, and during most of the summer he followed railroading and carpentering. He moved to his homestead in Burlington township in 1873, and then proved his claim to the land and in 1881 moved to his present location. His farm now consists of two hundred and eighty acres, and on this tract he has built a complete set of good farm buildings, and has a home of more than usual comforts. He has a sawmill in the timber of his place, where he saws logs during the winter months, and for his farm he has all machinery, including a threshing outfit. During the winter seasons he often employs twenty-five men in lumbering, and he conducts an extensive business in this line.

Mr. Chilton was married in Canada in 1866

to Miss Annie Redpath. Mrs. Chilton was born near Toronto, Canada, and was a daughter of James Redpath, a farmer of Scotch and Irish descent. Mr. and Mrs. Chilton are the parents of eight children, who are named in order of birth as follows: Alexander G., Horatio F., Jennie M., Guy G., Henry G., Eva Maria, James R. and Albert Sidney. The six younger children were born in Minnesota. Mr. Chilton is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and politically he is a Republican and is an earnest worker for party principles. He has attended numerous county, district and state conventions of his party for the past twenty-five years, and is a member of the county central committee. He is prominent in local affairs, and has held numerous township offices of trust.

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#### I. A. THORSON.

I. A. Thorson, one of the popular educators of Minnesota, is superintendent of schools of Aitkin, Minnesota. He is an instructor of note, and has devoted his life to study and is a gentleman of high attainments.

Mr. Thorson was born in the village of Rock Dell, Olmsted county, Minnesota, September 22, 1874. His father, J. A. Thorson, was born in Norway, and is a minister in the Lutheran church and has for a number of years served as vice-president of that church organization. He is now in charge of one of the largest congregations in the synod. The mother of our subject, Mrs. Thorson (*nee* Haugan), was of English-Scandinavian descent, and was born in America. She was an accomplished musician and linguist, and spoke, aside from the English language, German, French and Norwegian, and was a lady of excellent education. Her brother, H. G. Haugan, is president of the State Bank of Chicago, and another brother, H. A. Haugan, is comptroller of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. The mother comes from aristocratic families on both sides.

I. A. Thorson was the third in a family of eight children, and he was reared in his native village and attended the common schools. At the age of twenty years he graduated from the college at Decorah, Iowa, with the degree of A. B. While attending this institution he had charge of the musical department and was leader of the college band, orchestra and glee club. He also took a prominent part in athletic sports, football, baseball, etc. He completed a review course at Valparaiso Northern Indiana Normal, and in 1895 was elected principal of the high school at Renville, Minnesota. At the time of his assuming charge of this school it was ungraded, and after one year's work there Mr. Thorson had it

graded and classed with the state graded schools, and in 1897 it was admitted as a high school. During that year he was elected superintendent of the school, and had ten teachers in his charge. He gave up his duties at Renville in 1899 and entered Johns Hopkins University at Baltimore, Maryland, where he took post-graduate work in history and philosophy. He had previously done graduate work at the University of Minnesota, and after a short time would take the degree of Ph. D. at Johns Hopkins, but received the offer of the superintendency of the Aitkin high school and accepted the same. While attending the former college he was the leader of the university mandolin club and glee club, and took a leading part in all games and athletic work. Since taking charge of the Aitkin high school he has organized athletic teams among the boys and girls, and has also organized a high school band consisting of twenty-five pieces, which is in a flourishing condition and reflects great credit upon the labors of Mr. Thorson. He has brought about radical changes for the betterment of the school system and work of the school, and is a popular and efficient superintendent. He has chosen the profession of teaching and has met with success, and has become one of the best known educators of the northwest.

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#### JAMES SUTOR.

James Sutor, one of the most extensive farmers of Polk Center township, is also one of the two first settlers there. He is a gentleman of active public spirit and broad mind, and at present is serving as county commissioner for district No. 1, in Red Lake county.

Mr. Sutor was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, December 23, 1856, and was the third in a family of ten children born to Robert and Mary (Topp) Sutor. The father was born in Monaghan, Ireland, and the mother was a native of Scotland. The father died September 27, 1898. Our subject was reared in the woods of Canada, where the father owned about five hundred acres of good timber. He was a lumberman by occupation, and our subject as a boy became a practical woodsman and farmer. He came to the States in 1877, and for a year and a half worked in the woods of Michigan, and then returned to his former home for a visit. After a few months spent there he ventured into Minnesota in search of land and a farming location for a permanent home. He and his brother Robert went to Becker county, and in the spring of 1880 both took land in Polk Center township, in what is now Red Lake county. Our subject erected a 14x16 feet log house and then went out to work to earn the means with which to start farming his land.

In 1882 his father presented him with a span of horses, and from that time he devoted himself to the improvement and cultivation of his farm. He lived alone for several years and was his own housekeeper, and his experiences during these times were serious and humorous in turn. He diversified his farming as much as his limited circumstances permitted, and made the best of his opportunities and observations, and met with success in his every effort. He has steadily increased his acreage and the improvements of his farm, and has recently added a fine frame barn 36x100 feet to the other excellent buildings of the place. He has a comfortable and substantial home, and has acquired a good property without assistance and through the direct labors of his many years' residence there.

Mr. Sutor was married in 1884 to Miss Wanda Liebert. The following children have been born to this union: Leon, deceased; Wanda, Frederick, Clarence J. and Hattie. Mr. Sutor has always been identified with local public affairs and he was the first treasurer of Polk Center township. He headed the county division movement in his township, and the township went unanimously in favor of the division. He was elected county commissioner in 1898, which office he fills with entire satisfaction to all. Politically he is a Democrat. He is a supporter of the German Lutheran church, and is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

#### JONAS SANDBERG.

In selecting land on which to build a permanent home much is to be considered. The task is less difficult in a country where civilization has marked the causes and effects of the elements on human work, and where man has lived for years and developed the country, but in a pioneer country, where naught but the boundless forest or prairie are in evidence the task becomes one of seriousness. To decide unwisely means many years of perhaps futile toil before one is convinced of the waste of time and endeavors, while a wise judgment brings reward beyond the expectation of the early settler of the region. Many of the farms of the Red River valley have become famous for their productiveness and pleasant locations, and these have profited the possessors in a degree wholly satisfactory. Among the pleasantly located and fertile farms of Red River township, Kittson county, that owned and operated by Mr. Jonas Sandberg is especially mentionable. This tract was located and settled upon by our subject in June, 1879, Mr. Sandberg thus becoming the first Scandinavian settler of the township, and he also erected one of the first buildings, a log structure 14x20

feet. His home is on section 34, where he chose his residence in the early day, and his present fine property bears out the assertion that he chose wisely. Misfortunes have attended him in the way of floods and other unavoidable disasters, but despite these discouragements he has remained a resident of Red River township and has gained the high esteem and respect of his associates as a farmer and citizen.

Our subject was born in Sweden, July 17, 1838. He came to America in 1868, and after working in different places for some years he settled in Kandiyohi county, Minnesota, and in 1879 he disposed of his interests there and started overland with an ox-team for Kittson county. He completed the journey of two hundred miles in this manner, and his family later joined him in the new home. During the first winter snow was too deep for oxen to travel, and our subject carried his provisions from Hallock on his back. This is but one of the drawbacks experienced in the early days there, and Mr. Sandberg can recount many incidents of pioneering which are most interesting. His pioneer home was carried away and destroyed by spring floods and he has sustained severe losses from high water. His farm is on the banks of the river, and is pleasant as to location, his home being built on the banks of the stream.

Our subject was married in 1869 to Miss Anna C. Peterson, who is also a native of Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Sandberg are the parents of four children, who are named as follows: Ida L., now Mrs. Peter Lindahl; Minnie T.; Emil G.; and Jennie B. Mr. Sandberg is thoroughly interested in the development and advancement of his adopted land, and he is identified with the Republican party politically. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church.

#### NEWTON TRENHAM.

Newton Trenham, editor and proprietor of the Alexandria Citizen, is one of the influential young men of the thriving town of Alexandria. He was born at Arnprior, Ontario, Canada, July 12, 1869.

The parents of our subject were Newton J. and Mary (Wake) Trenham, of New York and Scotland, respectively. The mother came to America with her parents when she was an infant. The father of our subject was a photographer by profession, and moved from Canada to Waterloo, New York, in 1874, and after residing there one year he came with his family to Minnesota. In the spring of 1875 he established a photograph gallery in Alexandria, where he is still engaged, and has met with success there.

Newton Trenham attended the village schools

and the high school of Alexandria, and in 1887 went to St. Paul to learn the printer's trade. After a year's apprenticeship in a job printing establishment he returned to his home and worked on the Douglas County News three years. The Citizen was established in August, 1894, by W. S. Gilpin, who had been conducting a paper of that name at Browerville, Todd county, Minnesota. A short time after the founding of the Citizen Mr. Trenham secured an interest with Mr. Gilpin, and in the fall of 1896 he purchased his partner's interest, since which time he has been sole proprietor and editor. The Citizen is independent in politics, with inclinations toward the principles of the People's party. It is published Thursday of each week and has a large circulation in Douglas county, and has been a successful enterprise since its founding.

Mr. Trenham was married November 16, 1898, to Elethera M. Sweet, daughter of S. R. and Elethera Sweet, of Alexandria. Mr. and Mrs. Trenham are the parents of one child, namely, Newton Bradford. Mr. Trenham is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and is venerable consul of the local lodge. He is also a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and is secretary of Company 2 of the Fire Department, which office he has held since 1891. Mrs. Trenham is a member of the Congregational church at Alexandria, which he attends.

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### WESLEY JENKINS.

Energetic efforts and intelligence go hand in hand in the building up of one's fortune, regardless of the vocation to which they are applied. One of the well-developed and highly improved estates of Norman county is that owned and operated by Wesley Jenkins, who resides in Lake Ida township and is the possessor of four hundred and sixty acres of land. The comfortable circumstances enjoyed by this gentleman have been brought about by the exercise of judicious labor and painstaking care, and every appointment of the place bespeaks good taste and refinement.

Our subject was born on a farm in the state of New York May 19, 1846. His father, Chauncey Jenkins, was of Yankee descent for many generations back, and he was a farmer during most of his career. The mother of our subject was also of Yankee descent.

Mr. Jenkins was the eldest in a family of six children, and he was reared to farm work and received a limited education. He left home at the age of nineteen years and settled on a farm in Stearns county, Minnesota, purchasing one hundred and twenty acres of land, which he later sold, and then bought two hundred acres of land

and continued to operate there ten years. Grasshoppers destroyed his crops in 1876 and '77. In the fall of 1876 he made his first trip to Norman county, Minnesota, where he entered claim to land in section 8 of Lake Ida township as a homestead, and in 1877 moved his family there and has since made his home in that county. He had but two yoke of oxen, and he borrowed twenty-five dollars with which to make his start in Norman county, but he has steadily marched forward to success, and is now proprietor of one of the finest farms of his locality, both as to cultivation and buildings. Two hundred acres are under a high state of cultivation and the balance of his farm of four hundred and sixty acres is devoted to pasture, meadow and timber. The residence on the place is comfortable and convenient, and the barn is one of the best in the township. An artesian well furnishes fifty barrels of water per day from a depth of two hundred feet, and the place is well adapted to diversified farming.

Our subject was married at the age of nineteen years to Sarah J. Bradley, a native of the state of New York. One son has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins, who is named Chauncey, and he is engaged in the livery business in Ada, Norman county, and also owns a dray line in that city. Mr. Jenkins enjoys the confidence and esteem of those among whom he makes his home, and he has been called upon to fill various offices of trust in his township and county, all of which he has accepted, and by his good work has aided in the upbuilding of that region. He has filled the office of chairman of the township board for several years and is now acting in that capacity, and he has also served as township treasurer and assessor. He was elected county commissioner in 1890 and served four years. He is a member of the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. In political faith he is a Republican, and since taking up his residence in Norman county has taken an active part in party matters, and has attended numerous county and state conventions as delegate.

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### JUDGE E. VAN HOVEN.

Judge E. Van Hoven, probate judge of Pine county for the past twenty years, is one of the leading citizens of northern Minnesota, and resides in Pine City.

Judge Van Hoven was born in a village in the Netherlands in 1834. He is of pure Dutch blood. His father was an attorney and notary public in his native land, where he died at the age of eighty-five years, our subject being the only member of the family to come to America.



His brothers are all lawyers in the Netherlands.

Judge Van Hoven is the youngest in a family of four boys. He attended the common schools of his native country and finished his education at the University of Groningen. He then took up the trade of draftsman to the ship building trade and followed it several years in his native land. In 1854 he witnessed the Crimean war and saw some hard fighting. Determining to come to America, our subject procured recommendations to the most extensive ship builders in this country, but on arrival here he decided to come west to Minnesota. Here he engaged in the map department of the Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company, with headquarters at Winona, Minnesota. He soon after went to Minneapolis and worked as bookkeeper for one of the first oil mills built in this country. He later kept books for Hersey, Staple & Bean, in the lumbering business in Kanabec county. In 1878 he came to Pine county and entered the law office of W. H. Grant. In 1880 he was elected probate judge of Pine county, and has held that office continuously since, having been elected ten times in succession. He has also been justice of the peace, and has served several terms as county coroner.

Judge Van Hoven was married in 1867, at Minneapolis, to Miss L. H. Freeby. Mrs. Van Hoven was born in Germany, her father being Wilhelm Freeby. She came to America in 1855, when she was five years of age. Judge and Mrs. Van Hoven are the parents of six children, namely: Henrietta, Carl H., George, Bismarck Edward, Emma and Daniel. Carl H. is now in Manila in the employ of the government. He went there with the Thirteenth Minnesota Volunteers, and has since married a Spanish lady, and now makes that city his permanent home.

The Judge is well known throughout the county and is esteemed as one of the earliest pioneers and as a citizen.

#### BENDEK GUNDERSON.

Bendek Gunderson, a prominent citizen of Clay county, now living in retirement on his farm in Moland township, is known as one of the earliest pioneers of the region.

Mr. Gunderson was born in Telemarken, Christiansandstift, Norway, September 6, 1822. His father, Gunder, owned the farm Gjedestad, and our subject being the eldest son of the family, inherited the home farm at his father's death. Farming his native land, however, did not prove a success, and in 1861 he sold out, and after clearing up his debts had about \$200 in money and with this he brought his family to America, June

15, 1861. He settled in Houston county, and farmed for ten years, operating a forty-acre farm. Acting upon the advice of his brother, Ole Gunderson Thortvedt, the pioneer of the Buffalo river region, our subject went to Clay county in June, 1871, journeying by team from Houston county. He reached Clay county after a trying journey and purchased the relinquishment to the farm which he now owns. He lived in his wagon until a log house could be erected, 14x16 feet, with elm bark roof. His first crop in 1872 was destroyed by grasshoppers, and he got no returns from his farm until the following year, when he raised three hundred bushels of wheat. He was compelled in the meantime to get his supplies at Alexandria, one hundred and forty miles distant, the trip consuming twelve days. Those trying times caused many of the settlers to leave their lands, but our subject persevered, and as times grew better he purchased railroad land and began to succeed. He now owns one hundred and seventy-eight acres of land on the Buffalo river, and has retired from active labors, turning the farm over to his son.

Mr. Gunderson has been active in public affairs in the county. He had no English education, but in the early days he drew up a petition in his own language and had it translated into English, and it was owing to the circulation of this petition that his township was organized. He is an active church worker, and was instrumental in the building of the Norwegian Lutheran church in Moland township, and has been a liberal contributor to church work. In politics Mr. Gunderson is a Republican.

In 1853 our subject was married to Annie Aavaldsen. To this marriage eleven children have been born, namely: Gunder; Jennie, deceased; Sina, deceased; Oval; Andreas; Ole, deceased; Hilbert, deceased; Andrew, deceased; Olaus; Sina; and Olaf.

#### JOSEPH W. WAKEFIELD.

Joseph W. Wakefield, one of the pioneers of Minnesota, and a business man of influence in Aitkin county, has won his high station by industry, enterprise and integrity. He is now a resident of Aitkin and is engaged in the logging business.

Mr. Wakefield was born in Washington county, Maine, in 1836. His father, Lewis Wakefield, was of American birth, as was also his grandfather, Benjamin Wakefield. The family is of Scotch ancestry. The mother of our subject was of English descent and bore the name of Abigail Watts prior to her marriage. The grandfather, Samuel Watts, fought in the War of 1812.

Joseph W. Wakefield was the third in a fam-

ily of seven children. He was raised in Cherryfield, Maine, and attended the village schools. He later learned the millwright's trade from his father. He was the inventor of the patent roller process of flour-making, but was beaten out of his patent. When Mr. Wakefield was twenty years of age the family located in Minneapolis, then St. Anthony. Our subject followed the milling business there a short time, and in 1856 went to northern Minnesota and did some of the first lumbering done above the Pine river. He engaged in logging four years and was up and down the Mississippi river many times driving logs. In 1860 he began trading with the Indians in northern Minnesota and was there at the time of the outbreak in 1862, and was obliged to go to Fort Ripley and then to Minneapolis. On his way to Fort Ripley he was chased afoot three miles by the Indians and barely escaped capture. He traded at many posts in the northern part of the state and had twelve stores in that region. He continued in this business until 1884, at which time he owned a business at Grand Rapids. This he disposed of and went to Aitkin and entered into partnership with G. W. Knox in the mercantile business. They did an extensive business, and Mr. Wakefield later sold his interest to Mr. Knox, and he has, since 1884, engaged in the logging business.

Mr. Wakefield has a family of five children, three of whom were born of his first marriage, and two to the second union. He is a man of sterling worth and has done his full share in the opening up and developing of northern Minnesota. He has witnessed a most wonderful change in that region and has taken an active part in the same, and is among the honored pioneers of the locality. He is thoroughly familiar with the state, and traveled over the country in boats previous to the building of railroads through here. He has always taken an active part in local public affairs, and has served as county commissioner of Aitkin county, and as postmaster at Grand Rapids and Crow Wing, Minnesota. He is a Republican politically. Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield appear upon another page in this volume.

#### KNUTE O. BERGET.

Knute O. Berget, deceased, was for over twenty years one of the influential and prosperous agriculturists of Polk county, Minnesota. He was a man of sterling character, and bore many hardships and privations during his life to gain a competence for himself, educate and care for his children and provide for his family when his cares had ceased. Mr. Berget made his home in Lowell township and was the owner of valuable farm lands in that and Andover townships. The

estate is now looked after by his son, Olaus K. Berget, who resides in Crookston, Minnesota.

Knute O. Berget was born in Valders, Norway, October 14, 1829. He lived in the neighborhood of his birth and was reared to farming, and after his marriage bought a small farm and continued to operate the same about a year, then disposing of the property came to America July 4, 1861. The first year was spent in Green county, Wisconsin, and from there they moved to Hamilton county, Iowa. After three years they changed their residence to Mitchell county, Iowa, where Mr. Berget purchased a farm. He resided thereon until 1878, and then, in order to give his children better advantages to gain a footing, he removed to Polk county, Minnesota, and bought a quarter section of scrip land in section 30 of Lowell township. He soon afterward bought a quarter section of railroad land. The purchase of three quarters in section 17 in Andover township in 1898 is evidence of the prosperity which attended him in Minnesota.

Mr. Berget was married to Miss Marie Olson in 1860. Of the children, the eldest, Ole K., was born in Wisconsin; Martin K., Anton K., Julia K., Olie K. and Olaus K. were born in Iowa, and Johan K. was born in Minnesota. The faithful mother has borne many troubles during her life, and her fortitude is remarkable. From September, 1882, to June, 1883, the four eldest children died of typhoid fever. In 1886 the youngest child was taken, leaving at the present time one son, Olaus K., and one daughter, Olie K., the latter an invalid. Mr. Berget died in January, 1899, having completed three-score years and ten. His was a life filled with struggles and trials, but he was always awake to his duty, and was a faithful and loving husband and father. The widowed mother survives him.

Olaus K. Berget, the only living son of Knute O. and Marie Berget, was born at Rock Creek, Mitchell county, Iowa, November 21, 1874. He is now filling the position of deputy clerk of court in Crookston, and is a man of excellent business education and high standing in his community. When he was but four years of age he removed with his parents to Minnesota, and his boyhood was spent on the farm in Lowell township in Polk county. Having finished the course of study in the common schools, he attended in turn the city school in Crookston and the Crookston College, where he completed a course in 1890. He distinguished himself in penmanship and bookkeeping, and the following year was installed as teacher of those branches in the college. This, however, kept him much from home and his aged father and mother, and he engaged a school near his home, teaching several terms. In the fall of 1896 he spent a short time in the county auditor's office, and was then engaged to fill a

vacancy in the county treasurer's office. He continued there until about 1899, and in February of that year entered upon his present duties as deputy clerk of court. He had assisted in managing the home farm and estate for some years past and upon his father's death was appointed administrator of the estate.

Mr. Berget was married January 11, 1899, to Miss Gina M. Lee, a native of Wisconsin. One child has been born to bless this union, Olava Lydia, whose birth is dated December 15, 1899. Mr. Berget is a citizen of true worth and is active in local affairs. Politically he is a Populist and stands firmly for reform principles. He attends the United Lutheran church, and is highly esteemed and respected in his community.

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#### HON. SAMUEL D. RIDER.

Probably one of the best known citizens of Ottertail county is Samuel D. Rider, whose extensive farming operations are the outcome of many years of labor and judicious management. Mr. Rider is one of the old settlers of that locality, and has an elegant farm of six hundred acres in Scambler township, his residence being located in section 24.

Mr. Rider was born in Clinton county, New York, March 2, 1849. His father, Abel Rider, was born in Deerfield City, Connecticut, and served in the war of 1812 under General Underhill. The mother of our subject, Elizabeth (Churchill) Rider, was born in New York.

Mr. Rider was reared on a farm in New York until he was fourteen years of age, when the father moved to Michigan, and there he attended the common schools and remained three years, after which he went to River Falls, Wisconsin, and remained until 1870. He went to Duluth, Minnesota, and was engaged as contractor with the Brackett & Logan Company on the Northern Pacific Railroad. In 1872 he went to Ottertail county and worked for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company at Perham, Minnesota, and also took land as a homestead. He built a log house on his land and started to work his farm with ox-teams, but the hailstorms and grasshoppers devastated everything for seven years and he was obliged to gain his livelihood by cutting ties from his timber for the Northern Pacific Railroad. He now has six hundred acres of land, of which three hundred acres are under plow and the rest is pasture, meadow and timber. He keeps fourteen horses and twenty-five head of cattle, and has met with pronounced success in diversified farming. His barn is a commodious structure, 40x80 feet, with a stone basement and storage room for two hundred tons of hay. He has a ten-room residence, surrounded by a fine

grove, and every appointment of the farm and home is complete and in good taste.

Mr. Rider was married in 1878 to Clara Hyatt. Mrs. Rider was born in New York, and died in Minnesota. Mr. Rider was married to Fidelia Hobert in 1882. Mrs. Rider was born in Wisconsin October 10, 1854. Three children complete the family circle, namely: Edna Amelia, Bessie L. and Samuel D., Jr. Mr. Rider is actively interested in all affairs of his township and county, and was supervisor of Scambler township for eighteen years. He was the candidate for sheriff of Ottertail county in 1896, and made an excellent showing, but was defeated by only twenty votes. In 1900 he was elected on the Democratic and Populist tickets for state representative of Minnesota. He was a staunch Populist, but owing to liberality on his part he had many friends among the Republican members and others irrespective of party affiliation, and occupies a unique position in the state legislature, and was the cause of numerous bills passing the house for the good of the people of Minnesota in the way of traffic on public roads and bridges. Mr. Rider is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and his family are associated with the Congregational church.

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#### NELS N. NELSON.

Among the financial enterprises of Milaca, the general mercantile establishment of Hallberg & Nelson, conducted by Mr. Nels N. Nelson and his partner, takes a leading rank. The business has been conducted a comparatively few years, but through judicious management it has become one of the first class business houses of Mille Lacs county. Mr. Nelson is widely known as a business man and worthy citizen, and enjoys a high degree of esteem.

Our subject was born in the village of Osterund, Sweden, in 1867. His father, O. Nelson, emigrated to America and made his home in Minnesota. Our subject moved with the family to Norway at the age of one and a half years, and later came to Minnesota at the age of nineteen years. He was the seventh in a family of eight children, and received his education in Norway, attending the public schools there. He began to earn his own way at the age of seventeen years, and followed a sailor's life for two years, spending most of the time in southern Europe. After emigrating to America he located at Madison, Minnesota, and there further pursued his studies in the English schools. He spent three years at farm work, and in 1889 went to Milaca. He secured employment as teamster for the Mille Lacs Lumber Company, and continued in their employ nine years, the last six years of which

time he acted as foreman. He entered into the mercantile business in 1898, renting a building for this purpose north of the railway tracks. He continued here a year and a half, and in 1900 moved to his present location, in partnership with Mr. Hallberg. They have a store 46x50 feet, and carry a general line of goods, including groceries, boots and shoes, dry goods, gents' furnishings, flour and feed, and conduct one of the largest stores in that part of the county. Mr. Nelson is classed among the prominent early settlers of that locality, and has, by his enterprise and good management, built for himself an enviable reputation.

Mr. Nelson was married in 1890 to Miss Mollie Thorsen. Mrs. Nelson was born in Norway, and came to America at the age of three years, receiving her education in this country. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Nelson, namely: Lillie, Annie, Ruth, Esther and Victoria, all born at Milaca. Mr. Nelson takes a most prominent and active part in the affairs of his locality, and has been called upon to serve in various offices of trust. He was a member of the village council some three or four terms, and served one term as village treasurer. He was school treasurer some years, and during his term of office was one of the promoters of the scheme for the erection of the sixteen thousand dollar school-house. He is a "silver Republican," and has received numerous solicitations from his party to accept nomination for high official position, and in 1900 was the nominee of the fusion forces for representative in the state legislature. He is an active worker for the principles of his party, and has attended numerous county and state conventions as delegate.

#### GEORGE NYE, M. D.

George Nye, M. D., of Hubbard county, Minnesota, is an able representative of the profession to which his life is devoted. He has followed the practice of medicine in that locality for the past decade, and has become one of the substantial citizens and prosperous men of his community. He has a drug store and office in the village of Hubbard, where he also has a comfortable home and enjoys a large practice.

Dr. Nye was born in Indiana March 12, 1845, and was a son of Ira C. and Elizabeth (Pardell) Nye, the former a native of Connecticut, and the latter born in Ohio. He was raised on a farm in his native state. He attended school, and at the age of eighteen years had a first-grade certificate and began the study of medicine. He taught for some time, and in 1870 graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, after completing a four-years course. He first practiced

his profession in Papillion, Sarpy county, Nebraska, where he remained three years, after which he located in Minnesota. He continued his residence and the successful practice of his profession there for twenty-five years. In 1880 he located in Houston county, Minnesota, practicing in Caledonia for a short time, and later removed to Wadena. In 1889 he went to Hubbard county and purchased four hundred acres of land and followed farming extensively in addition to his medical practice. He is now the owner of five hundred and sixty acres of excellent land, and his farm is well improved with good buildings and is stocked with horses, etc. Dr. Nye takes a foremost place among his medical brethren, and he is a recognized practitioner of merit and ability. He is United States examining surgeon for pensions. He is a member of the blue lodge in the Masonic fraternity, and is a Knight Templar and a member of the chapter. Politically he is a Democrat, but he takes little interest in political affairs.

#### JUDGE H. VAN BLARCOM.

Judge H. Van Blarcom, the able and efficient municipal judge of Ely, Minnesota, has long been identified with the best interests of the community where he has made his home. His name is known throughout St. Louis county, Minnesota, as the synonym of good citizenship and integrity.

Judge Van Blarcom was born in Nova Scotia in 1898. His father, John Van Blarcom, was a ship carpenter, and our subject was reared on a farm until when, in his early boyhood, he went to sea. He came to the United States in 1881, and traveled over a good share of Minnesota, Dakota, Michigan, Wisconsin and northern Iowa. During these travels he was engaged in the photographic business. He went to Tower among the first pioneers, and opened up the first and only photograph studio in that village in 1884. He arrived in Ely in the spring of 1888 for permanent location, having visited the town site in 1887 with the first settlers there. During the year 1888 he put up a building and opened up his photographic business there, which he conducted three or four years.

In the spring of 1891 our subject was elected to the newly created office of municipal judge, being the first to fill that position in Ely. He held this position until 1894, when he was appointed postmaster of Ely. He served the people in this capacity for four years, and in the spring of 1899 was again elected municipal judge.

Judge Van Blarcom was married in Canada, and has two children: Addie, a teacher in the public schools at Ely; and Josie, at home. Judge

Van Blarcom has been recognized as an important factor in local public affairs since his location in the village, and has been accorded the support and confidence of the community. He has always taken an active interest in educational matters, and has held the position of school treasurer. He has added strength to every worthy movement in the interest of his town and county.

#### FRANCOIS LAMBERT.

Francois Lambert, one of the oldest settlers of the township named in his honor, is one of the intelligent and worthy citizens of Red Lake county, and as such has gained a host of friends. He is proprietor of a fine farm and has devoted his life to agriculture, and is thoroughly versed in his calling.

Mr. Lambert was born in Three Rivers District, province of Quebec, March 10, 1847, and was the older of two sons born to Francois and Marguerite (Paquin) Lambert. The father is still living, at the age of eighty-one years, and is in the enjoyment of good health. The mother passed away at the age of eighty years.

Our subject was reared to farm work and continued in his native place until 1881. In April of that year he went to Polk county, Minnesota, where a friend had settled. His father visited the country a year previous and made favorable report of the same, and our subject, wishing to secure better opportunities for his children to obtain a good home for themselves, located in Minnesota on section 10 of Lambert township, in Polk county, now Red Lake county. The father took an adjoining claim, and they built a frame house on the line between the two farms, and they each took a tree claim also. Our subject had about \$4,000, and he was thus enabled to begin farming on an extensive plan, and was one of the most extensive farmers of the locality. However, he met with many discouragements and difficulties, owing to the nearest market being at Crookston, forty miles distant. He has prospered in his vocation and has added to his acreage and is now the fortunate possessor of four hundred and eighty acres of valuable land, upon which he has placed excellent improvements. His home is on section 10 and is in the village of Lambert, and furnishes a comfortable rural home.

Mr. Lambert was married in 1865 to Miss Caroline Belland. Fifteen children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lambert, thirteen of whom are now living. They are as follows: Xavier, farmer, living near our subject; Azelie, now Mrs. Joseph Cote; Marguerite, now Mrs. Joseph Bergeron; Joseph, farming in Lambert township; Alphonse, farming in Lambert township; Virginie, now Mrs. Joseph Beaudoin; Marie Louise, now

Mrs. Joseph Lambert; Oliva, now Mrs. G. Fortier; Dennis, deceased; Arthur, deceased; Urgele, Aristide, Celina, Emma and Rose. Mr. Lambert assisted in the organization of the township which bears his name, and he has always been recognized as a citizen of active public spirit. He has done efficient work toward the advancement of education and good roads, and he has served his community as township treasurer for many years. He was one of the leaders in the founding of St. Francois Xavier Catholic church. He is a Republican politically and stands firmly for his convictions.

#### DR. HANS J. ENGLUND.

Dr. Hans J. Englund, one of the most respected and capable physicians of Isanti county, has his home in Cambridge, where his manly qualities as well as professional abilities have won for him a wide circle of admiring friends and patrons. He is one of the leading men of the community, and exerts a good influence wherever he is called. His portrait, upon another page of this work, will add to its value in the eyes of his many friends.

Dr. Englund was born on a farm in Sweden, December 7, 1856, and comes of an old and honorable Swedish family. His father, who was born and reared a farmer, came to this country in 1866, to settle in Minnesota, where he might till the soil under better conditions for men who labor than prevailed in the old country. In July of that year he located in Isanti county, where he made a home for his family. This was wild timber land, but the Englunds, assisted by two relatives who had come into the county with them, soon opened the woods and built a home they occupied some years in common. The rising village of Cambridge was not far away.

Dr. Englund, who was ten years old at the time his parents moved to the United States, had already attended the Swedish schools at home, and he was quick to profit from whatever advantage there was to be secured from the schools of his new home. His time was demanded at home, and he could not do entirely as he wished, as a home was being created in the wilderness. When he became a young man he spent five winters in the lumbering camps of Kanabec county, putting in the successive summers on his father's farm. After he had attained his majority, Dr. Englund farmed in Isanti county several years before attending medical school, buying land in Cambridge township, close by the village of that name, where his home has long been established, and there he farmed and went through various pioneer experiences.

In the fall of 1886, Dr. Englund, having made a somewhat thorough and extensive preparation, entered Bennett Medical College at Chicago,

from which he was graduated in 1888, with the degree of M. D. The same year he opened an office at Cambridge, where he almost immediately entered upon a remunerative practice. For thirteen years he has practiced his profession in this city with most satisfactory results.

Dr. Englund was married July 1, 1891, to Miss Lizzie Bergman. She was born at Cambridge, and is a daughter of Ole Bergman, a farmer. He was born in Sweden and came to this country in 1866, being among the earliest pioneers of Isanti county, and contributing much to the growth and prosperity of that section of the state. Dr. and Mrs. Englund have four children: Effie E., who is dead; Minerva M.; Reuben W.; and Victor L., all of whom were born in Cambridge.

Dr. Englund took a course at Rush College, in Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1895. He resumed his practice in Cambridge, which has steadily grown on his hands to the present time. He is the county physician, and has served on the health board many years. When the elder Englund died, October 6, 1900, the Doctor bought a part of the paternal estate, his brother-in-law securing the other part, and now owns a fine and well-improved farm of one hundred and four acres. He is substantially interested in the Cambridge Milling Company, and is an honored member of the Swedish Lutheran church.

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#### ALFRED LABINE.

Alfred Labine, residing on section 35, of Parker township, is a member of one of the oldest families of Marshall county. His father and family located there in early days, and by their thrift and good management became owners of well cultivated tracts and citizens in whom the community found worthy support. Our subject became the owner of one of the valuable estates of that locality and annually operates five hundred and eighty acres of land. Mr. Labine was a native of Canada, and was born October 30, 1861, and was the fifth in a family of eleven children.

The parents of our subject, Modest and Ozine (Desmarais) Labine, were natives of Canada, and the maternal grandparents were natives of France. The family came to Michigan in 1871, where the father worked in the iron mines, and then, owing to failing health, he returned to Canada with his family. The sons later induced him to try a home in the Red river valley, and in the spring of 1879 the family came to Argyle, Minnesota, where they joined friends. The father chose a home on section 2, in Bloomer township, on the south bank of Middle river, and there the parents spent their remaining days. The

father died August 7, 1881. The mother survived him many years and passed away April 18, 1894. The sons assisted the father in the cultivation and improvement of the home farm, and after attaining their majority made homes for themselves. Our subject purchased the land he now owns in Parker township in 1887, and laid the foundation for his present comfortable home. The Labine family is known as the oldest settlers of Bloomer township still residing in Marshall county. They have not acquired their estates without many hardships and struggles, and it is mainly through the enterprise and integrity of Mr. Labine that he is now one of the fortunate owners of property in that region. He has become thoroughly familiar with times and seasons and uses only the most approved methods and machinery, and has met with unbounded success in his farming operations and may review his labors in Minnesota with justifiable pride.

Mr. Labine was married, in 1884, to Miss Julia Verboncoeur. Seven children have been born to bless this union, namely: Aurora, Lillian, Philip, Clara, Stella, Lawrence and Isabel. Mr. Labine is a member of the Roman Catholic church, and politically he is a Democrat. He has always taken a commendable interest in local public affairs and became identified with the new party movement and has aided in the organization of the new forces, but he does not seek public office, and is deservedly held in high esteem by all with whom he has to do.

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#### EDWARD A. TRONNES.

Edward A. Tronnes, numbered among the pioneers of Norman county, Minnesota (formerly included in Polk county), has built up a fine farm in Shelly township, and there resides, surrounded by the comforts of life and esteemed by his associates.

Mr. Tronnes was born in Nordland, Norway, March 21, 1850. He spent his childhood in his native land, and in June, 1869, came to America, going direct to Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he worked near Zumbrota during the summer, and in the falls went to the pineries of Wisconsin, where he remained a year and a half. He then returned to Goodhue county, Minnesota, but the same year removed to Wilkin county, intending to settle there. He was not satisfied with the prospect, however, and the next spring, in company with his brothers, Ole and Theodore, he went with ox teams to the Red river. He first squatted on the south half of the southeast quarter of section 12, in Shelley township, and after the government survey filed a pre-emption claim. He also filed a homestead claim to the south half of the southwest quarter



of the same section. He first built a small log shanty, and in this lived alone for a number of years. He has added to his possessions from time to time as circumstances justified, and he is now the owner of five hundred acres of good land, upon which he has placed valuable improvements. He is engaged in wheat-raising, and has met with good results in this line. He pays strict attention to his farm interests, and is a systematic and painstaking agriculturist. During his first year's residence in that part of Minnesota he teamed for the Hudson's Bay Company, and later for the Northern Pacific Railroad west from Moorhead, and also made one trip west for the government to Fort Totten. He sold wood to the steamboat company to aid him in furthering his farming operations.

Mr. Tronnes was married, in 1874, to Miss Lena Jacobson. Mrs. Tronnes was a native of Norway, and died April 28, 1887. Four children born to this union survive her, namely: Anne, Ada, Peter and Bertha. Mr. Tronnes was married to Miss Pauline Olson in 1892. Mrs. Tronnes died January 19, 1895. One son was born of this marriage, Arthur, who still survives. Mr. Tronnes is a member of the Peoples party politically, but gives little attention to public affairs. He is a man of good character, and well merits his high standing.

#### WILLIAM SPLETTSTOESER.

William Splettstoesser, proprietor of the Hudson Cheese Factory, of Hudson township, is one of the prominent business men of Douglas county. He is thoroughly versed in his line of business, and is a successful business man and worthy citizen.

Mr. Splettstoesser was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, December 31, 1870. His parents, Gottlieb and Augusta (Gordon) Splettstoesser, were natives of Stottgard, Germany. The paternal grandfather, also named Gottlieb, emigrated to America with his family in 1853. They sailed from Bremen to New York in the spring of that year and after landing proceeded direct to Watertown, Wisconsin. The father of our subject bought eighty acres of land in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, and upon this homestead William Splettstoesser was born. He is the only son, and has four sisters, namely: Helen, wife of Henry Sydow, a farmer in Wisconsin; Augusta, wife of Ferdinand Guetchrow, a resident of Beloit, Wisconsin; Matilda, wife of Albert Sydow, also farming in Wisconsin; and Emma, the youngest, who resides at home with her father on the original homestead. The mother died May 10, 1880.

William Splettstoesser obtained the rudiments

of an education in the public schools near his home, and afterward attended the high school at Watertown, Wisconsin. He remained with his father and assisted with the work of the farm until he was eighteen years of age, when he found employment in a cheese factory at Concord, Wisconsin, where he remained four years and gained a thorough knowledge of the business. He was later engaged two years at Randolph, and then bought the cheese factory at Lost Lake, Wisconsin, which he operated successfully for three years. In 1898 he disposed of his interests in Wisconsin and came to Douglas county, Minnesota. In order to become acquainted with the people and ways of the neighborhood he worked in the Hudson Dairy Association Company's employ one year, and June 1, 1900, bought the plant. Under his proprietorship and able management the business is rapidly increasing. The factory is new and well equipped for an extensive trade, its capacity being one thousand pounds of cheese daily, and he hopes soon to run it to full capacity. Mr. Splettstoesser contemplates erecting another factory in Douglas county to run in connection with his present plant, which is situated in a good farming district, seven miles southeast of that place. He manufactures a superior grade of cheese, which finds a ready sale in the home markets of Douglas and adjoining counties.

Mr. Splettstoesser was married, February 17, 1893, to Helen Cordes. Mrs. Splettstoesser was a daughter of Ludwig and Henrietta (Hofer) Cordes. Her father is a prominent farmer of Hudson township, Douglas county.

Mr. and Mrs. Splettstoesser are the parents of three children, as follows: Alexander E., Willard F. and Levi H. Our subject fraternally is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. As a business man he is possessed of push and energy and a character of the highest integrity and his success and high standing are well merited.

#### WILLIAM MCKINNON.

William McKinnon, the oldest resident business man of Cloquet, Minnesota, is also one of the pioneers of Carlton county, and is known as a citizen of worth. He has taken great interest in the development of the locality in which he has chosen to reside, and many of the buildings of that locality are the result of his handiwork as a builder. He is now proprietor of the McKinnon Hotel, and has a prosperous and increasing business.

Mr. McKinnon was born on a farm in the province of Nova Scotia, Canada, April 5, 1853. His father, Henry McKinnon, was born in Canada, and the mother, Elaxes (McDonald) Mc-

Kinnon, was born in Scotland and came to America when she was about nine years of age.

Of a family of eight children our subject was the fifth in order of birth. He was reared on the farm and received a common-school education during a few months each winter, but was employed closely upon the home farm. He remained there until he was twenty-five years of age, and from the age of eighteen years managed the farm. He located in Minnesota in 1879, and followed carpenter work and house building at Stillwater. He worked some at the trade in Canada, and after taking up his residence in Stillwater worked at the trade one year. September 9, 1880, he went to Cloquet, taking the railroad to the Cloquet lumber mill and walking on the ties the rest of the distance. He and a gang of carpenters came to build the C. N. Nelson Lumber Company's sawmill. He was engaged in steady employment on the mill one year. In the fall of 1881 he returned to Nova Scotia, and the following spring returned to Stillwater, Minnesota. After a short time he settled in Cloquet, where he took charge of the work of building for the Brandenburg Lumber Company. The crew built additions, tram roads, planing mills, etc., and were engaged at the work until the fall of 1883. Mr. McKinnon was then taken seriously ill with typhoid fever, and was confined to his bed for three months. In the winter of 1883 he became interested in the hotel business, and conducted the lumber company's boarding house for one year after which he conducted a restaurant, fruit and confectionery store for three years at the corner of A and Arch streets. Fire destroyed the building and contents, together with two other stores, in the winter of 1887, entailing a loss to Mr. McKinnon of about two thousand dollars. During the summer of 1888 he started the building of the McKinnon House, and was architect and builder of the entire plant. He erected a 28x50-foot, three-story building, and this was the first hotel of any size built in the town of Cloquet. In 1888 he was elected sheriff of Carlton county by the Republicans and Democrats, being nominated by the first named party and endorsed by the second. During his first year as sheriff he succeeded in bringing to justice nine of the toughest characters of the county and landing them in the state prison at Stillwater. In 1890 he was again elected county sheriff, and again in 1892 and 1896, holding the office eight consecutive years to the satisfaction of all. In 1897 he began the erection of the last addition to the McKinnon house, and the hotel now covers ground space 60x90 feet and is three stories in height. It is equipped with electric lights, water works and other modern improvements, and is one of the finest hotels in the city.

Mr. McKinnon was married in the spring of 1882 to Miss Anna C. Muggah. Mrs. McKinnon was born in Nova Scotia and was raised in the same community as our subject. She was of Scotch and German descent. Mr. and Mrs. McKinnon are the parents of two children, namely: William Henry and Ellen Elaxes. Mr. McKinnon is prominent in village and township affairs. In the spring of 1900 he was elected president of the village board. He has been a member of the city council, and also a member of the town board and among the early supervisors in his township. He is a staunch Republican and has attended numerous county conventions, and for the past year has served as chairman of the county central committee. He was re-elected mayor of Cloquet in the spring of 1901. In addition to the hotel business, he is engaged in farming, and has proven beyond a doubt that agriculture does pay in this part of Minnesota.

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#### PETER S. JACOBSON.

Peter S. Jacobson, among the earliest settlers of Polk county, is a prosperous agriculturist of Hubbard township. His farm is well improved and he is one of the highly respected and esteemed citizens of his community.

Mr. Jacobson was born in Stavangers Amt, Norway, March 20, 1842. He was the second of seven children born to Jacob and Ellen Dorothea Peterson, and was reared on the home farm. When a child he herded the flocks of sheep on the mountains and had foxes and wolves to protect them from. After reaching the age of eighteen or twenty years he went to sea and engaged in fishing most of the time until 1870, catching mackerel in summer and herring in winter. His brother, Peter, was in America, where he came about 1867, and in May, 1870, our subject joined him, making the trip on a sail ship and spending six weeks and four days in the journey to Rushford, Minnesota. He worked in Fillmore county, Minnesota, until May, 1871, his brother went to Dakota, where he worked three months. His brother got a team of oxen and drove through to the Red river in 1871, and the following year he lost his life by drowning in that river. After three months our subject went to Ottertail county, where he worked for a farmer getting out wood. He had been there but two weeks when an accident caused him to return, and in 1872 he made enough by trapping to take him to Polk county. He built a small shanty of logs, barely high enough in which to stand, and there he lived about three or four years. He worked with the government surveyors about three months and boarded, together with another boarder, at the

home of his brother, who was deceased. While staying there he investigated the loss of milk from the cellar, which was away from the house. He concealed himself in the cellar at night and a bear visited the spot, when our subject wounded the animal. He returned after a month and on his second visit was killed by Mr. Jacobson and when dressed weighed 300 pounds. Mr. Jacobson was called to a neighbor's on one occasion while the man was away from home and found twenty Indians there visiting the wife, but they were friendly and no trouble was had with them. In the spring of 1874 our subject bought a team of oxen and broke about five acres of land, and sold wood to the steamer at two dollars a cord to make a living. The first spring he paid five dollars per acre to get five acres of land broken, and hired help in the house, a woman and her son, to whom he paid ten bushels of seed. This was the husband's start in that locality, and he is now a wealthy man. Mr. Jacobson has prospered at his chosen calling and now controls 440 acres of land. When he went there there were no houses on the prairie and it was a swamp and mosquito garden.

Mr. Jacobson was married in the fall of 1881 to Martha T. Nessa. Mrs. Jacobson died February 17, 1886. Two children were born to this marriage, one of whom, Jacob, is now living, aged seventeen years. Mr. Jacobson was married to Miss Lisa Olson, in 1893. Mrs. Jacobson was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, in 1862. Her parents ran from the Indians in 1862. Her father served the last thirteen months of the Civil war. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson are the parents of the following children: Laura Olava, Peter, Martin Cornelius, Ellen Dorothea, and Nils Olaus. Mr. Jacobson is a member of the Lutheran church, and is identified with the People's party politically.

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#### J. A. VANDYKE, B. PH., B. PD., A. M.

J. A. Vandyke, B. Ph., B. Pd., A. M., superintendent of schools of Fergus Falls, is numbered among the leading educators of Minnesota. He was born in Jasper county, Iowa, July 29, 1861, and is a son of William R. Vandyke, who was born in Ohio. He was a farmer and engaged in school teaching for many years. His ancestors were Hollanders, who after living in Sweden for a time, came to Delaware in the early part of the eighteenth century.

Sarah F. Cushatt, who became the mother of the Minnesota teacher, was born in Kentucky, and was the daughter of Aquilla Cushatt, a native of North Carolina, and is supposed to be a descendant of the French Huguenots who set-

tled in North Carolina. During the Civil war he served four years in the Union army.

J. A. Vandyke was the first of a family of seven children, three of whom are now living. He was reared on his father's farm, and was a student in the district schools until he reached the age of eighteen, when he attended Hazel Dell Academy at Newton, Iowa, for five terms, paying his tuition by teaching in the academy. He taught the country school which he had attended in his boyhood days with marked success.

When Mr. Vandyke was twenty-one years of age, in 1882, he entered the Iowa City Academy and Normal School, where he quickly completed the preparatory course, paying his tuition by teaching from time to time. In 1883 he entered the University of Iowa, and graduated from the four-years' philosophical course in 1887, paying his way during this time by teaching in the academy, which he had previously attended. During his last two years at the university he was assistant in the chemical laboratory of the institution, where his work was exceedingly heavy. He took an active part in the literary societies and the oratorical contests of the university. During the senior year he was a first lieutenant in the University Battalion, I. N. G., serving as adjutant. He received the degree of B. Ph. in 1887; the degree of B. Pd., in 1889, on account of work and teaching already done, and that which he had done in the University, and in 1890 was given the degree of A. M. by his *alma mater*.

After graduating from the university Mr. Vandyke was elected successively superintendent of the schools at Plainview and Wabasha, both Minnesota towns, serving five years at the former, and seven years at the latter place. In 1899 he was chosen superintendent of the Fergus Falls schools, a position he now holds. He has been actively identified in the State Educational Associations, and while at Plainview advocated and organized the State Declamatory Association, of which he was president for three years. He also organized and conducted many summer schools in the state, among those being the schools at Winona, Brainerd and at Spring Valley. During three summers he served as a state inspector for summer training schools, lecturing in 1897 on Child Study, in 1900 on School Environment and the Relation of the Home to the Schools, and in 1901 on the Mission of the Common Schools. During the summers of 1900 and 1901 he visited and lectured in more than forty different summer schools. For five years he has lectured during his spring vacations on Pedagogy before the senior classes of Hamline University. For one year he was the president of the State High School Council, and was elected president of the Minnesota Educational Association for 1901. This is the highest honor

conferred by the teachers of the state upon a fellow worker.

J. A. Vandyke was married in 1888 to Miss Lydia Gaymon. She was born in Iowa City, where he secured his education. Her family is of Pennsylvania-German descent. To this union have come four children: Rose, Ruth, Carl and Walter. While taking an active interest in educational affairs of the state, Mr. Vandyke is an independent in politics. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Foresters. The many friends of Professor Vandyke will be pleased to see his portrait on another page of this volume.

#### JOHN M. WILSON.

John M. Wilson, postmaster of Wall Lake, Minnesota, is one of the prominent citizens of Aurdal township, Ottertail county. He has resided in that community for some years, and is widely known and universally respected and esteemed.

Mr. Wilson was born in Pennsylvania, June 3, 1856. His father, William M. Wilson, was also a native of Pennsylvania, and his mother, Mary (McKee) Wilson, was of Scotch descent. Her grandparents emigrated from Scotland and settled in Philadelphia about 1790, and afterwards took land and located in western Pennsylvania, in Westmoreland county.

In April, 1881, our subject left Pennsylvania and located in Ottertail county, Minnesota. He had received a liberal education in the schools of Pennsylvania and the Indiana State Normal, and after completing his studies he was engaged in teaching some six years. After taking up his residence in Minnesota he secured a position with the N. P. Elevator Company at Underwood, Minnesota, and continued there with that company from 1887 to 1893, and was also engaged with the Andrews & Gage Elevator Company at Underwood six years. He then removed to Wall Lake and established a store in that village, and also engaged in wheat buying on his own account. He received the appointment of postmaster of Wall Lake in 1899, since which time he has held that office and discharged the duties of the same in a creditable and satisfactory manner. He is the owner of property in that village and is one of the substantial and respected citizens.

Mr. Wilson was married in 1883 to Jennie Sherman. Mrs. Wilson was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, June 21, 1866, and died May 10, 1884. To this union one son was born, namely Frank M., now aged sixteen years. Mr. Wilson was married to Emma J. Minnick, in September, 1889. Mrs. Wilson was born in Pennsylvania, March 4, 1858, and died April 5, 1893.

This union was blessed by the birth of one daughter, Alice E., who is now aged ten years. Mr. Wilson was married to Ella Black, September 3, 1895. Mrs. Wilson was born February 10, 1854. Mr. Wilson's present wife, to whom he was married March 30, 1898, bore the maiden name of Emala Schachtschneider, and was born in Germany, December 10, 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are the parents of two children, namely: Herman W. and Mildred E. Mr. Wilson is a Presbyterian and attends church in Fergus Falls. Mr. Wilson was justice of the peace of Swerdrup township for four years while living in Underwood, and also school clerk. He takes an active interest in all local affairs. Politically he is a Republican. He is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen of Battle Lake, Minnesota, and the Modern Woodmen of America at Underwood. He was appointed on state grain inspection in May, 1901, and sold his store to O. M. Lien & Son, of Baker, Minnesota, giving possession June 1. M. O. Lien was appointed postmaster and got his commission July 1. After settling up his business Mr. Wilson went to Duluth, August 20, and began work for the state, moving his family September 1, 1901, and is now a resident of West Duluth, Minnesota.

#### REV. JOHN P. NEANDER.

Rev. John P. Neander, well and favorably known in Cambridge, and throughout Isanti county, Minnesota, was born in Smoland, Sweden, and comes of an old and prominent family in that part of his native country. His father, S. P. Nelson, was a land steward, and had charge of an estate of several thousand acres, mill property, and other interests. When he reached the age of thirty-five years he suddenly died, leaving his son, John P., a lad of only five years of age. His widow also lived and died in Sweden, and there John P. Neander was reared and educated. When he was a young man he had aspirations for the ministry and studied in a Swedish seminary three years for that purpose in Sweden. After his arrival in this country he still continued his preparation for that calling, and in 1877 was admitted to the Swedish ministry of the Lutheran church, having completed his preparation at the Augustana College and Seminary in Rock Island, where he studied for six years. Mr. Neander devoted his vacations in these earlier years to teaching, having taught in the old country, and at Kansas City, Knoxville, Illinois, and elsewhere in the United States, teaching in all some five years.

As a Lutheran clergyman he had his first pastorate in a rural neighborhood in Iowa, where he remained some three years; he was at Kansas

City about two and a half years, and at Clinton, Iowa, for the same period. In 1885 he came to Isanti county, to take charge of the congregation at Cambridge, and there for eleven years he faithfully dispensed the gospel, and during that time the congregation put up a fine brick building 40x65 feet, and an addition 20x36 feet for school and society purposes. A fine parsonage was also erected, and every interest of the church was well sustained. Mr. Neander helped to organize the church at Athens, Isanti county, though devoting all his time to the Cambridge church until 1896. From that year until 1899 Mr. Neander was pastor of a church at Marine Mills. In 1899 he resigned from the ministry, and located at Cambridge, to take a position as local manager for the Adams Lumber Company, now J. & W. C. Shull, lumber merchants.

Mr. Neander was married in 1877 to Miss Tilda Egnell, born at Moline, Illinois, though of Swedish parents. Gust Egnell, her father, was a carpenter, and also a furniture dealer and undertaker. Mrs. Neander died, and left four children: Victor, who is a law student; Esther, a trained nurse in St. Paul; Rudolph, who was a civil engineer, of great natural endowments, with the Great Northern Railway, is dead; Harold is a student at school.

In 1885 Mr. Neander was again married, Annie Lawson becoming his wife. She was born in Rockford, Illinois, her father, Jonas Lawson, being among the earlier emigrants from Sweden, after the movement of 1832. He was active in the organization of the Swedish church in Rockford, which has since grown to be the largest of its kind in America. He was a deacon, and on many occasions filled the pulpit very acceptably. He died in Rockford in 1894. To his second marriage were born nine children: Joseph, who is now a clerk; Hannah, Alma, Mauritz, Stanley, Elmer, Elvei, Pauline and Amy.

Mr. Neander is a Republican, and was president of the St. Croix Valley District of the Lutheran church. For twenty-two years he labored actively and zealously for the church, and for twelve years, with the help of his fellow citizens, kept saloons out of Cambridge. He took much interest in farming, and advocated the raising of potatoes long before it became the staple crop of Isanti county. Several valuable varieties, among them the Triumph potato, which is now the leading variety in this community, were introduced by him.

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#### HANS O. HAUG.

Hans O. Haug, one of the earliest settlers of Becker county, now resides in the village of Audubon, retired from active labors, in a home

of comfort and even luxury. He devoted most of his life to the pursuit of farming, and after developing and improving a fine estate in Audubon township, he retired to enjoy in his declining years the result of his labors.

Mr. Haug was born on a farm at Torpin, Northernland, Norway, August 1, 1837. His father, Ole Larson, was a farmer and lived and died in Norway over fifty years ago. The mother of our subject, Ina (Halvorsen), was also a native of Norway. Of a family of nine children born to this worthy couple our subject was the youngest. He attended the country schools and aided with the farm work during his boyhood days, and at the age of seven years he began earning his own way. He enlisted in the Norwegian army at the age of twenty-two years, and spent five years in the service and became a thorough soldier. He came to America in 1863, landing at Quebec, Canada, and from there went to Rock county, Wisconsin. He worked by the month at farm labor for four years, and in 1867 went to Douglas county, Minnesota, where he took land as a homestead and began farming for himself. He built a log cabin and farmed with oxen there, and with raw land he made a livelihood for himself and family. He remained there until 1872, and then went to Becker county, Minnesota, and purchased one hundred acres of land in sections 21, 22, 16 and 15, in Audubon township. In 1873 he went to his new location overland, with two yoke of oxen, seven head of cattle, and a covered wagon, walking the entire distance, and driving the oxen, while his wife drove the cattle. They waded streams and encountered other dangerous experiences, and took a week for the trip, and upon their arrival lived in the wagon until the log cabin could be finished sufficient to be used for a dwelling. He followed farming there until 1895, and then retired from the farm and took up his residence in Audubon, owing to the death of his only child, a son of twenty-five years of age. The farm consisted of 140 acres of land, upon which Mr. Haug had erected a complete set of excellent farm buildings and placed other valuable improvements, making it one of the best improved and best equipped farms of that locality. He followed grain raising principally and met with good results in this line, and was interested in stock to some extent, which also paid him well. He has a comfortable residence in Audubon, where he now makes his home.

Mr. Haug was married in Norway, in 1863, to Miss Karen Hanson, who was a native of that country, and a daughter of Hans Peterson, a prosperous farmer there. One son, Ole Hanson, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Haug. The son died in Audubon township, Becker county, in 1895. He was a promising young man and his death



was keenly felt by his parents, with whom he resided. Mr. Haug is one of the best known men of his locality and he has always been found a worthy citizen, laboring for the development and advancement of his community. In political sentiment he is a Republican and is firm in his convictions and lends his influence for good government.

#### JAMES BALE.

James Bale, an experienced and successful miner and explorer, is one of the pioneers of the Vermilion range district, and is a resident of Ely, St. Louis county, Minnesota.

Mr. Bale was born in Devonshire, England, July 4, 1844. His parents came to America and settled in Michigan, about 1849. The father, Elias Bale, was a miner and operated successfully in northern Michigan. James Bale was reared to manhood in Marquette county, Michigan, and at the age of twenty-one years began work for himself, going into the mines in Ontario. He worked in the Bruce Copper Mine until 1868, and then returned to Michigan and worked in the copper mines at Houghton. The same year he returned to his old home in Marquette county, and after a short visit, entered the iron mines in Michigan. He continued there until 1884, and in that year went to Duluth and then on foot to Tower. He explored the mining country around Tower and Ely, and thus began the extensive business in which he has since been engaged in the line of explorations and the handling of mineral and pine lands. He traveled on foot over every mile of the iron districts of northern Minnesota. He made his home in Duluth until 1894, when he removed to Ely.

Mr. Bale was married in 1876. Mrs. Bale died leaving three children, named as follows: Charles, now mining in Mesaba range; Aimee, now the wife of H. E. Wunder, of Tower and Soudan; William, deceased. Mr. Bale was married in Biwabik to Miss Ollie Colvin, who was born in Anoka, Minnesota. Mr. Bale is a member of the A. F. & A. M. and of the A. O. U. W. He is a Republican in political sentiment, and is thoroughly conversant with the public affairs of St. Louis county and Minnesota. He has followed the mining business for the past forty years, and was a visitor to the sites of the present towns of Ely and Tower long before villages were contemplated at those places.

#### TREFFLE DAOUST.

Treffle Daoust, dealer in groceries and provisions in Lambert, Minnesota, is the oldest settler of Lambert township. He is a man of

wide experience and has met with success in his business ventures, and is now the owner of a fine farm in that locality and conducts a prosperous business in the village.

Mr. Daoust was born in the Province of Quebec, Canada, April 18, 1838, and was the second in a family of eight children born to Christopher and Mary (Lefebvre) Daoust. His parents were natives of Canada, and were of French descent. They are now deceased.

Our subject was reared on a farm in Canada, and after attaining his majority engaged in agriculture for himself. He then disposed of his farm lands, and in 1864 went to the Rocky mountains, leaving his wife in Canada, and he engaged in freighting for the mines in the west. On the 14th of August, 1864, he was camped at Plum Creek Range, and there was a little outfit of fifteen persons camped about a mile distant, upon whom the Sioux Indians came and killed fourteen of the party, who were all buried in the same place. After this massacre the Indians came to Plum Creek Range, but were repulsed and seventeen of the red-skins were killed. Later our subject went to Bob Cross' ranch, where Cross was killed on his mower and one of his men was killed on his hay rake. Later our subject went to Cotton Wood Spring Fort, where nineteen soldiers were killed. When he reached Julius Berg Fort the soldiers discovered a crowd of Indians, who were on top of Bluff Plain. Then Col. Summers offered \$25 for the first scalp of an Indian. The soldiers made an advance and the Indians charged on them, killing fifteen. There were 300 Indians massacred the next day. On the 15th of August, 1864, as Mr. Daoust was coming from Cold Spring ranch and looking toward the Platte river he saw the smoke come out of a gun and heard a bullet whistle by within six inches of his head. It was his first intimation that the Indians were shooting at him and a very "close shave" for him. About a month later he visited the same spot and found traces showing that a large crowd of Indians had been camped there for a long time, but were gone. He also found there a dead Indian, laying on a blanket, with his pipe at his side and his pony standing near by. Our subject took the horse back with him. Mr. Daoust relates many exciting adventures of those dangerous days.

In 1867 our subject returned to his former home and engaged in the butcher business in Montreal for the succeeding twelve years. In March, 1880, he joined an excursion party of forty-two persons bound for Polk county, and in June of that year drove to the east end of the county and chose a farm in Lambert township, on the Lost river. It was a beautiful place, about fifty acres being good wood land, well watered, and about 100 acres of good prairie



without brush. He at once erected a 14x16-foot log shanty, and began trading with the Indians. He would bring a load of dry goods and groceries from Crookston, and usually found the Indians awaiting his return with snake root and skins for barter. His family joined him in his new home in 1882. It was about ten years before he gave much attention to farming, and he then broke a half section of land, which is now well improved. He removed to the village of Lambert in 1893 and established a hotel and general store. He retains his farm property and he and Mrs. Daoust own a half section of the finest land in the township. Mr. Daoust now conducts a good grocery in the village and has made a success of mercantile pursuits. He has a good home and is one of the substantial business men of that thriving community.

Our subject was married in 1859 to Mary Lecours. Mrs. Daoust died in February, 1899. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Daoust, as follows: Eudoxie, now Mrs. D. Charbonneau; Eugenie, now Mrs. A. Bancharol; and Georgianna, now Mrs. R. Varin. Mr. Daoust was married to Mrs. Zelia Bachand, *nee* Martin, in October, 1899. Mrs. Daoust was a widow of Alfred Bachand. She and her husband settled in Lambert in 1882, and they were the parents of five children, namely: Anatole, teacher and author; Antonio, farming on the old homestead; Wilfred, also farming the old homestead; Bella; and Germaine. Mr. Daoust is a member of the Catholic church and has always given hearty support to the church work. He is a Republican politically and lends his influence for good government, national and local. He is widely known and universally esteemed.

#### WILLIAM B. LARSON.

William B. Larson, a prominent business man of Halstad, Minnesota, is one of the early settlers of Norman county. He was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, May 20, 1864, and was reared on a farm in that county. He received his education in the common schools and Rushford high school, and at the age of twenty-two years left home and went to Norman county, locating at Halstad. He accepted a position as clerk in his brother's store, and was employed there five years, and in 1889 he established the first meat market of Halstad. John Eggen and K. O. Stette became partners with our subject in 1894, and they branched into the machine and livery business under the firm name of Eggen, Larson & Stette. They continued thus until 1896, when Mr. Eggen retired from the firm, and in the spring of 1898 our subject's brother became a partner in the business, Mr. Stette retir-

ing from the same. The firm name is now B. B. Larson & Co., and they conduct a thriving business in machinery and also a good livery business. Our subject is also interested in farm lands to some extent. They established a branch business in Climax, Minnesota, and while our subject was in charge there he was injured by the explosion of a boiler to a stationary engine in January, 1899, and sustained the loss of his left hand.

William B. Larson was married in 1889 to Miss Helen Ziner. Mrs. Larson is a native of Norway, and is a daughter of Paul Ziner, who came to America with his family about 1870, and is a prosperous farmer in Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Larson are the parents of five children, who are named as follows: Inez, Lidia, Bernice, Prubert and Eli. Mr. Larson is a member of the Good Templars and the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. He is a Prohibitionist in political sentiment.

#### CHARLES WENTZEL.

Charles Wentzel, of whom a portrait is presented on another page, for over a quarter of a century has been identified with the development and advancement of Marshall county. He resides at Warren, and is proprietor of one of the most valuable farms of that region. He was one of the earliest pioneers of that locality, and is a familiar personage to all who have made their home there since that early day, and a history of Marshall county is not complete without a sketch of the life and work of Charles Wentzel.

Our subject was born in West Prussia, Germany, April 18, 1841, and was the third in order of birth in a family of seven children born to John and Rosalia Wentzel. Charles Wentzel was a blacksmith in his native land, and came with the family to America in 1863. After spending one year in Canada he came to the States, and worked three years at his trade in Wisconsin, and in 1870 came to Minnesota and plied his trade at Brainerd and Crookston. While thus engaged he suffered an injury which caused him to turn his attention to agriculture, and it was with the intention of developing a farm that he pushed into the unsettled north and became a pioneer. His first visit to the country was in 1872, and his residence there dates from June 1, 1874. It was this year that the early grant of land to the railroad company expired, the land then reverting to the public's use, and our subject, then unmarried, hitched his broncho to a Red river cart and started for the Snake river with gun and traps. He erected a house and barn on the banks of the river and employed himself at hunting and trapping in the counties

of Kittson and Marshall. Those who had previously settled on the Snake river left that region when the railroad failed to send its line through there and our subject was left in undisputed possession, visited only by the wandering Chippewas. Crookston was his nearest trading point and there he went to purchase his supplies. As work began on the railroad settlers pushed in and our subject invested in a team and was engaged in locating the new comers and breaking land for them. The railroad company caused him much trouble in holding his land, but after some years of controversy the decision was given in his favor, upholding his settler's rights, and he now possesses a most valuable estate, the tract being located partly in Warren. Mr. Wentzel has prospered in his vocation, and is a gentleman of thorough knowledge of his calling, is a man of strong physique, a typical frontiersman, and with a heart filled with sympathy and kindness, and his generosity and good deeds are attested by many of those among whom he has spent the past years of his life.

Mr. Wentzel was married in 1888 to Mrs. Mary Smith, *nee* Rudy, a native of Switzerland. Mr. and Mrs. Wentzel are the parents of two sons, Edward and Benjamin. Mrs. Wentzel's daughter by her first marriage, Lena Smith, completes the family circle. In politics he is a Republican. The family are members of the Presbyterian church.

The sixtieth birthday of Mr. Wentzel was recently celebrated by his many friends in Warren, who hope he may be long spared to the community. Among the guests were many of the old settlers of the county and city. On the occasion presents were in order and Mr. Wentzel received a handsome leather covered rocking chair and a genuine French briar pipe in an elegant case.

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#### NILS BRENBORG.

Nils Brenberg, an agriculturist of prominence in Kittson county, resides on his farm in Teien township. He is one of those substantial citizens whose integrity and industry, thrift and economy have added so much to the material wealth and growth of Minnesota. Agriculture forms the basis of wealth in the northwest, and indeed in most sections of the United States. It is, therefore, of great importance that the class of people who inhabit the great farming regions of the country should represent those elements of sterling worth so prominently displayed by the sons of Scandinavia and their descendants.

Nils Brenberg was born in Sweden, September 22, 1857. His parents, Jonas and Anna (Person) Brenberg, were blessed with but two children, of whom our subject was the elder. His

childhood days were spent in his native land, but when he was about eleven years old his father came to America in the spring of 1868, and prepared to make a new home for his family. The following fall they joined him in Goodhue county, Minnesota. In Goodhue county Nils Brenberg grew to manhood, attending the public schools and working on the farm. He obtained a practical education and became a thorough farmer, and his success in later life he ascribes to the early training received on the home farm as much as to all other elements combined.

In 1881 Mr. Brenberg came to Kittson county, arriving in the month of March. There he entered the employ of the Kennedy Land & Townsite Company. He formed a partnership with John Nelson Sjöholm, and the two farmed together for several years. A sketch of Mr. Sjöholm appears elsewhere in this volume. The partnership business prospered, and our subject accumulated considerable property, which he managed with good judgment and practical ability. In 1891 the partnership was dissolved, and a division of the property made, and Mr. Brenberg continued to farm on his own account. He farmed for two years, 1893 and 1894, in Goodhue county, but soon decided that Kittson county offered superior advantages for agriculture, and returning to that county, made a permanent settlement and established his present comfortable home. He is now the owner of 680 acres of valuable land, enhanced by many valuable improvements. He has made a success of his ventures in every way, and is regarded as one of the substantial men of the county. He has already under way extensive plans of further improvement upon his large estate, and every period of his career gives evidence of a progressive and enterprising nature.

Mr. Brenberg was married in 1891 to Miss Matilda Morsen, a lady esteemed for her many womanly virtues. To Mr. and Mrs. Brenberg two children have been born, Alma and Misnia. Mr. Brenberg has taken an active interest in all matters of a public nature, and in his political affiliations is a Populist, and has always discharged his duty as a citizen and as a worthy member of his community. He is held in the highest esteem by all who know him. He was the first assessor for the township of Svea and held the office five years, and has been a member of the school board of the township of Teien for three years in School District No. 19.

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#### JOHN H. O'BRIEN.

John H. O'Brien, a prosperous and highly respected farmer of Douglas county, has a well kept and comfortable estate in section eleven of

Alexandria township. He has spent his life there and is one of the rising young men of his community.

Mr. O'Brien was born on his father's farm, near his present residence in Alexandria township, Douglas county, September 14, 1871. His parents, Edward and Ellen (Kerney) O'Brien, were both natives of Ireland, the former of County Cork and the latter of Tipperary. The father emigrated to America in 1861, landing at Boston, Massachusetts, and in that city made his home for twelve years. Soon after his arrival he enlisted in the United States navy and served during the entire war of the Rebellion, and at its close received an honorable discharge. He afterward obtained a position in the Boston Navy Yards, which he held until he decided to remove to the northwest. In 1869 he brought his family to Douglas county, and on his arrival homesteaded 160 acres of land, settling in the timber on parts of sections ten and eleven in Alexandria township. In addition to farming he did considerable freighting for several years at St. Cloud and in the Red River valley. He married Ellen Kerney in Boston. The father died May 22, 1882, and the mother passed away October 4, 1893. They are buried side by side in the cemetery at Alexandria. Eleven children were born to this worthy couple, namely: Nellie and Bridget, born in Boston, Massachusetts, and died there; Rosa, Margaret, Mable and James, born in Douglas county, all died young; Mary F., now the widow of George W. Robards, of Alexandria; Michael T.; Edward O.; John H.; and Charles J. Edward O. is unmarried and resides on the old homestead formerly owned by his father. He is a thrifty farmer and owns 160 acres of land. He is prominent in local affairs and has served as assessor of his township.

John H. O'Brien, the subject of this article, is a progressive and prosperous farmer, and has acquired 160 acres of valuable land on section eleven of Alexandria township. He has sixty-five acres under cultivation, thirty acres in meadow and the balance is pasture and timber. In 1892 he erected a comfortable residence near the timber and he has also built other buildings, including a good barn, granary, sheds, and has ample shelter for stock and products. He keeps about thirty-two head of well graded cattle and a sufficient number of work horses for the operation of the farm and makes a success of his work as an agriculturist.

Mr. O'Brien was married November 19, 1892, to Sally Grandlund, daughter of Daniel and Steena (Olson) Grandlund, farmers of Belle River township. The family consists of eight children, of whom Mrs. O'Brien was the sixth in order of birth. Mr. and Mrs. O'Brien are the parents of four exceedingly bright and interest-

ing children, named: Rosa L., Blanche M., Irwin and Myrtle. Our subject is widely and favorably known and is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Politically Mr. O'Brien is independent. He is a young man of broad ideas and keeps apace with the times, and has gained an assured position as a worthy citizen and esteemed and thrifty agriculturist.

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#### DR. ERNEST L. STEPHAN, M. D.

Dr. Ernest L. Stephan, M. D., one of the best known and most successful physicians and surgeons of Pine county, has his office at Hinckley, where he has been established nearly ten years.

Dr. Stephan was born in Cleveland, Ohio, January 28, 1869. His father, Daniel Stephan, was born in Bavaria, Germany, and came to the United States in 1834, at the age of sixteen years. He was municipal judge in the city of Cleveland for eighteen or twenty years. Our subject's mother, Mercy L. (Twitchel) Stephan, was descended from an English family named Percy, a noted family of that country. Her ancestors were among the colonial settlers in the state of New York.

Dr. Stephan is the sixth in a family of nine children, and he moved with his family to Jefferson county, Kansas, in 1874, where they resided for six years. They removed to Pine county in 1880, and settled at Pine City, and the father engaged in farming two and a half miles from that town. Our subject was educated in the schools of Pine City, and in 1890 entered the medical department of the University of Minnesota, and graduated therefrom with the degree of M. D. in 1893. He went to Hinckley in July of the same year, and opened his office there and has engaged in the practice of medicine continuously for eight years. His practice has reached extensive proportions, and now reaches into four counties. Dr. Stephan is interested in a stock ranch in Kansas, which contains three hundred and twenty acres of land.

Dr. Stephan was married in June, 1896, to Miss Clara Hay. Mrs. Stephan was born in Ontario, Canada, and is a direct descendant of the Earl of Kinsale, a Scotch nobleman. Her parents came to America about 1850, and she was educated in St. Paul and Pine City. She is an accomplished lady, and taught school in Pine county three years. Dr. and Mrs. Stephan are the parents of one daughter, Ruth. Dr. Stephan served as deputy coroner from 1893 to 1896, and for the past four years has been local surgeon for the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern railways. He has been county physician for the past seven years. He was appointed county

superintendent of schools in 1893, and was elected to that office in 1894, and served two terms in that capacity. He is a strong Republican, and was chairman of the county committee from 1894 to 1900, when he resigned. He has served one term as president of the village board, and takes a leading and active part in all local matters. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the M. W. A.

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### MIKE WENTZEL.

Mike Wentzel, the most extensive and probably the wealthiest farmer of Lowell township, is a well known citizen of Polk county. He has built for himself a valuable estate and enviable name, and well merits his high standing and success.

Mr. Wentzel was born in Prussia, in 1836. He learned the brickmaker's trade and came to America at the age of twenty-five years, and followed his trade in Canada until November, 1864. He then came to the States, remaining in Detroit, Michigan, one year, after which he removed to Wisconsin. He bought a forty-acre tract of woodland, and the work toward a home was begun with an ax. He cleared thirty-five acres of this land and built a house and barn of hewn logs. His first crop was twenty bushels of wheat. These were small beginnings, indeed, from which to gain his present financial standing, but it was his determination and energetic work, supplemented by his honest dealings that have brought him unbounded success. He had no horses or oxen, and his first young calves he broke to farm work, and with these and ax and handspike he made his first home in the west. He farmed in Wisconsin eight years, and added thirty-five acres to his possessions. For the first few years it was hard to gain a living and could not be done from his uncultivated land, and he spent a portion of his time in lumbering. He did not succeed in Wisconsin to the degree which he desired, and October 12, 1875, he removed his family to section 30, in Lowell township, having purchased two hundred and fifty-two acres of scrip land of Fletcher & Loring, of Minnesota, for which he paid eight hundred dollars. He built the first shanty of split logs, making it warmer by elm bark and sod. His stock on the farm consisted of four oxen and two cows, which he bought in Grand Forks. Mr. Wentzel has met with a fair share of good fortune and he is now the owner of about thirteen hundred acres of valuable land, aside from tracts which he has purchased and given to his sons. His residence is a large square brick structure, one of the few brick farm houses in the valley and furnishes all the comforts and many of the lux-

uries of life. Two fine barns are on the farm and Mr. Wentzel intends engaging more extensively in stock raising.

Mr. Wentzel was married in 1867 to Miss Henrietta Klinger. Mrs. Wentzel was a native of Germany and came to America at the age of seven years, and made her home in Wisconsin at the time of her marriage. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wentzel: Adolph, now married and engaged in farming; Emily, married and residing in Red Lake Falls; Minnie, residing in Thief River Falls; Louis, at home; August, attending business college at Crookston; Annie, William, Bertha, Gussie, Clara, at home; Emil, died in infancy, and Mike, at home. Mr. Wentzel is a gentleman of excellent character and is charitable to a marked degree. The locality in which he makes his home is largely composed of Germans and a prosperous society of German Lutherans worship there, and for the purpose of a church building for this denomination Mr. Wentzel donated a tract of land. Some years ago he befriended a Frenchman, who had been turned away from the saloons in Fisher and wandered down the track toward Crookston. He was found by Mr. Wentzel and taken to his home for care. His hands, feet and nose were frozen so badly as to necessitate amputation and the man now passes his life in a museum. Mr. Wentzel is actively awake to the interests of his community and aids materially in its advancement.

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### GEORGE W. DUNN.

For over a quarter of a century the gentleman whose name heads this personal history has been associated with the agricultural interests of the township which bears his name, and as an old settler of Ottertail county and one of her worthy citizens he is prominently known. Mr. Dunn is proprietor of one of the fine farms of that locality and has accumulated his property and good name by his persistent and honest labors. His residence is on section 20.

Mr. Dunn was born in Canada, May 28, 1846, and was a son of Wilson and Nancy J. (Chapman) Dunn, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. He left home at the age of ten years and settled in Pennsylvania, where he resided ten years, and then removed to Wisconsin. While a resident of that state, in 1862, he enlisted in Company H, Sixth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, "Old Iron Brigade," and was in the Army of the Potomac. He was wounded in the battle of Weldon Railroad and was confined in the hospital at Arlington Heights, Virginia, three months, when he was discharged and sent home. After three months rest he re-enlisted, in Feb-

ruary, 1863, in Company I, Fourteenth Wisconsin Regiment, as a veteran, and served until October, 1865. He was with Sherman at Atlanta and Nashville, and was mustered out of the service at New Orleans in October, 1865.

After the close of the war Mr. Dunn returned to Wisconsin and continued his residence there until 1873, when he located in Ottertail county, Minnesota. He took land as a homestead in Dunn township (which was named after him), and has resided thereon since that date. He is now the fortunate owner of two hundred and forty acres of land, on which he has placed valuable improvements.\* He has a comfortable residence, good barn with ample storage room for hay, and has other necessary buildings for conducting a model farm. He keeps five horses and ten head of cattle, besides sheep, and for the work of his place has plenty of farm machinery and supplies every convenience of modern farming. He has met with marked success and is one of the substantial men of his community.

Mr. Dunn was married in 1875 to Sophia Oleson. Mrs. Dunn was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, January 10, 1852. She died April 24, 1895. To this union four children were born, namely: William, Charles, George and Elsie. Mr. Dunn was married to Manda Johnson in 1897. Mrs. Dunn is a native of Illinois and was born in July, 1875. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dunn, namely: Emery and Mable. Mr. Dunn is prominent in local affairs and has served in the capacity of school clerk and takes a deep interest in educational matters. He has held all the offices of his township at different times. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, the Modern Woodmen of America and the G. A. R. He is a pensioner at the rate of eight dollars per month. He is a member of the Methodist church and Mrs. Dunn is a member of the Lutheran church, and the family are highly esteemed in the community in which they have spent so many years of their life. In political sentiment Mr. Dunn is a Republican.

Mr. Dunn has one of the finest sugar bushes in northern Minnesota, where he makes syrup for his family; he also keeps quite a number of bees and has plenty both to use and sell. During over forty years of his life Mr. Dunn has owned and operated a threshing machine, and he is justly regarded as one of the best threshers in northern Minnesota.

#### ROBERT S. MILLER.

Robert S. Miller, head of one of the most enterprising business houses in northern Minnesota, has become, through his honest dealings, liberal spirit and business judgment, the leading

spirit in the village of Ely, and his name is known throughout Vermillion range and St. Louis county.

Mr. Miller was born in 1853 at York Mills, a suburb of Toronto, Ontario, Canada. He was the sixth child in a family of nine children born to William and Christina (Robertson) Miller. His father was a shoemaker and a native of Scotland and came to America with his wife and one child about the year 1840.

Robert S. Miller grew to manhood in his native place, attending the public schools and also the model school and high school at Goderich, Ontario. He then taught three years in the public schools at Taylors Corners, in Goderich township, and on returning to the high school, he was compelled by ill health, at the end of one year there, to give up school work entirely. The following summer he traveled for a grocery house, and drove a wagon a part of one summer. This outdoor life had a beneficial effect upon his health. The following fall he went with a surveying party along the north side of Georgian bay, tramping about twenty-five miles per day. This party located the line of the Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault Ste. Marie Railroad, and spent about six months in this work. The next spring he joined a surveying party which located the line of the Ontario & Quebec Railway, east of Toronto.

In the fall of 1883 Mr. Miller came west and went to work for Dobie & Stratton at Hayward, Wisconsin, as clerk in a general store. The following spring he was made manager of their two stores at Paquawang and at La Cour d'Orreilles. These were large establishments, carrying lumbermen's outfits and supplies. In 1886 he went to the town of Hayward and took charge of their business there and had the buying of supplies, merchandise and the handling of all moneys, virtually running the business at headquarters. He continued with this firm until the death of Mr. Stratton, in 1888. Upon the dissolution of the firm our subject, in partnership with Malcolm and David Dobie, who had purchased the Stratton interests, opened a general merchandise establishment at Ely, Minnesota, under the firm name of Dobie Brothers & Miller, in October, 1888. Mr. Miller was given the management of the business at Ely, the other partners being in charge of their business at Superior, Wisconsin. A store building was erected at Ely, twenty-four by fifty feet and two stories in height. The business was prosperous and the partnership continued until October, 1891. Mr. Miller then purchased the stock and building, assuming all liabilities of the firm. During the past ten years he has been sole proprietor, though his brother Thomas E., has been manager of the business for the past three years. In 1892 the building

was enlarged and a basement constructed under the entire store. Just as these improvements had been completed the mines shut down and business during the summer was extremely slack, and it was very difficult to meet all demands during a few months of that year. However, business revived and in the fall of 1900 he further enlarged his facilities by purchasing two adjoining lots with buildings. He added a line of Christmas goods that year and now carries practically everything in the merchandise line excepting hardware. His building is forty-eight by eighty feet, with floor space of thirty-eight hundred and forty square feet, not including basement and outbuildings. He employs eleven clerks, together with five horses and three wagons, and he devotes his entire energies to the development of his business. The two brothers have done double work for the past ten years in this establishment.

Mr. Miller was married in 1885 to Miss Alice J. Walker. Mrs. Miller was born in South Dumphries township, Ontario, and is of Scotch descent. She attended the Ladies Seminary at Woodstock, Ontario. Her father was a native of Scotland, and died when she was about seventeen years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have one child, Robert C., born at Ely, in 1896. In politics Mr. Miller is independent. He has served in the city council, and on the school board three years. He is an active church worker, and with his family belongs to the Presbyterian church. He organized a Protestant Sunday-school in 1888, and was superintendent thereof eleven years. He has always contributed liberally of his means and has given financial support in the construction of every public building in Ely. He is a member of the Varnillion Lodge, No. 197, and Duluth Consistory, at Duluth, Minnesota, and also a member of the A. O. U. W. Mr. Miller's portrait may be found on one of the pages of this memorial album.

#### LEWIS O. JESME.

Lewis O. Jesme, of the firm of Lewis O. Jesme & Company, is senior member of one of the oldest established and most extensive general merchandise houses in the village of Georgetown, and is one of the best known and most highly esteemed citizens of Clay county.

Mr. Jesme is descended of good old Norse stock, although a native of Dane county, Wisconsin, where he was born December 28, 1865. His parents were Ole and Ingeborg (Lee) Jesme, and of a family of eleven children born to them our subject was the eighth in order of birth. In 1879 he went to Goodhue county, Minnesota, and joined his parents, who had settled there the year

previous. Our subject did not fancy farm life, and soon after accepted a clerkship in a store at Owatonna. In 1889 he located in Georgetown, and purchased a tract of land near the village. He cultivated his farm for two years and in that time became thoroughly convinced that he had missed his calling. He then entered the employ of Weum & Dalen, at Georgetown, and in 1898 purchased an interest in their business, and has become the head of the firm now known as Lewis O. Jesme & Company. He has proved himself a man of remarkable business capacity, and this, together with his energy and uprightness of character, has brought success to the business. Their patronage is extending in all lines, and is becoming known throughout the county as the most substantial and reliable firm in that region.

Mr. Jesme was married in 1899 to Miss Annie R. Weum. To Mr. and Mrs. Jesme one child has been born, namely: Irene. Mr. Jesme is a Republican in political views, and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is also an active member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, at Georgetown. He has been for many years an active and public spirited citizen and has exerted his influence in behalf of a better public service and morality. He is the present postmaster of Georgetown and discharged the duties of that position with ability and entire satisfaction.

#### JACOB FAGERLIE.

Persistent industry has placed this gentleman among the prosperous agriculturists of Becker county. He is one of the earliest settlers of Audubon township, and his home in section 9 has been gained only by the strictest economy and excellent management. The hardships which have fallen to the lot of Mr. Fagerlie would have heartily discouraged one of less persistent nature, but have only tended to make him more determined and spurred him to stronger action. With undaunted courage he has faced misfortunes, suffering and hardships incident to the life of a pioneer of the northwest, and he has remained to enjoy a fitting reward for his labors. He is now the owner of a fine property, and has the highest esteem of all with whom he has to do.

Mr. Fagerlie was born on a farm in Guldbrandsdalen, Norway, in 1837. His father, Ole Jacobson, was a farmer by occupation and spent his life in Norway. The mother of our subject, Rangnild (Guldbrandsdatter) Jacobson, was born and raised on a farm in Norway and died there. Of a family of eight children our subject was the first born, and he remained on the home farm until he was about eighteen years of age,



when he left home, but was soon called to the old homestead by the death of his father, and he then assumed charge of the farm and aided in the support of the family. He remained two years and then attended high school one year, receiving a liberal education. He followed the profession of teaching eight years near his home in Norway, and later was employed in railroad work three years in that country. He emigrated to America in 1870, and landed at Quebec, from which point he at once proceeded to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he remained a short time, and June 15, 1871, he went to Becker county, Minnesota. He entered a homestead claim to land in section 34, of Audubon township, driving to his new location in a covered wagon with a team borrowed from his cousin. He still owed over a hundred dollars on his passage to America, and he had no means with which to begin the development of his farm. He built a log house without windows, and he later chopped basswood for lumber to make door and window frames, and used oak pegs for nails, and his stove was of stones plastered with clay. To add to the discouragements of the situation his wife was ill, and on one occasion the improvised stove caused fire to break out near the roof, and had it not been for timely work himself and family would have been homeless in the snow. He supported his family by working at Oak Lake, and in the spring of 1872 began to clear the land for cultivation. The first clearing was done with a knife and was a space large enough on which to erect his shanty, the land being covered with underbrush. After about two years the wife died and left two small children to the care of the father. He then hired out at farm labor and left the children with friends, and in 1878 began clerking in Audubon, where he remained three years. He later purchased his present farm in section 9, of Audubon township, and in 1882 moved with his family to the farm, and built a small house, and with a team of mules began developing the place. After one year he hired a man to conduct the farm and he began clerking again in Audubon, where he remained about three years, making the trip to his farm each evening. He has operated the farm since 1885, and has met with most pleasing results, and is now the owner of two hundred and forty-four acres of land, and cultivates about eighty acres annually. He has a set of good farm buildings, all necessary machinery and plenty of fruits and other valuable improvements on the place, and has found grain-raising profitable.

Mr. Fagerlie was married, in 1867, to Miss Enga Marie Engebretson. Mrs. Fagerlie died in 1873, leaving two children, named Ole and Mena. Mr. Fagerlie married Miss Engeborg Oleson in 1881. Mrs. Fagerlie was born in

Guldbrandsdalen, Norway, in 1850, and was a daughter of Ole Fredrickson, who was a farmer of that country, and a soldier in the army in 1864. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Fagerlie, who are as follows: Oscar, born in 1883; Alfred, born in 1884; Rudolph, born in 1887; Clara Matea, born in 1890; George Adolph, born in 1892; Casper Walnar, born in 1895; Joseph, born in 1897; and Viola, born in 1900. Mr. Fagerlie is prominent in local affairs and has served as township assessor for the past twenty-three years, and also as a member of the board of supervisors. He assisted in the organization of the township and has taken an active part in the movements of the Republican party politically.

#### GEORGE STARKWEATHER.

George Starkweather, long and prominently known in Chisago, Kanabec and Isanti counties, in Minnesota, was born in the state of New York in 1857, coming of old Yankee stock through his paternal ancestry, and from Dutch ancestors through his mother's line, her grandmother coming from Holland.

Samuel Starkweather, the father of George, was a farmer all his life, and did valiant duty for his country in the Civil war. In 1862 the family came to Minnesota, and made a settlement just across the river from Fort Snelling, remaining there two years, and then removing to Sunrise, Chisago county, where the father took a farm. On this place he is still living, and there his four children, of whom George is the oldest, were reared and educated in the frontier schools of the time.

George Starkweather was reared in what was quite a paradise to a hardy and adventurous lad, fond of hunting and fishing, presenting rare opportunities for exciting and even dangerous sport. During the winter season he could shoot deer. The family lived in a log house some ten or twelve years, and had to go fifty-five miles to the south before they could reach their nearest railroad station, which for years continued to be St. Paul. Young George remained at home and assisted his father in the great work of opening up a forest farm, until he was about twenty years of age, when he struck out for himself, and was engaged for about two years as a clerk in a store at Center City. For some five years he was in Harris City, where he was also a clerk, and in 1874 opened a store for himself at Rice Lake, Kanabec county. There he built up a good business, and was becoming quite prosperous, dealing extensively not only in merchandise, but in ties, lumber and hoop-poles. In 1877 he sold out, and opened a general store at Harris,

which he conducted for three years, and then became largely interested in the handling of potatoes at Harris. He built a warehouse 30x40 feet, and sold yearly about 350 carloads of potatoes, Harris being at one time the greatest potato market in the northwest.

Mr. Starkweather was married, in 1893, to Miss Luella Elmquist, a native of Indiana, though of Scandinavian parentage, her father, Charles Elmquist, being a Swede by birth. He was a farmer, and brought his family to Minnesota in 1881, where Miss Luella taught school before her marriage. She was reared and educated in Indiana, taking a course at the Northern Indiana Normal School, at Valparaiso. To this union have come three children: Sidney, who is dead; Stella, who is dead; and Mabel, all being born in Chisago county.

Mr. Starkweather disposed of his potato business, and the following year the warehouse at Harris was destroyed by fire. He was made treasurer and bookkeeper for the Cambridge Milling Company in 1899, and now has local charge. This is a 250-barrel mill, and was built in 1899, embodying all the latest notions in mill construction. The engine and boiler room is separate from the main mill; electric lights are employed, and the entire business is modern and up-to-date in every respect.

Mr. Starkweather is a Democrat, and was recorder of the village of Harris several years, and took an active part in local affairs. In Cambridge, in the brief time in which he has been there, he has made many friends, and is highly esteemed by all who know him.

#### DR. MARIUS HANSON.

Wherever this gentleman has extended assistance to suffering humanity he is well known and highly esteemed. He now enjoys an extensive practice in Norman county, Minnesota, and some of North Dakota, and conducts his practice from Hendrum, Minnesota, where he has resided for some years. He is a skilled practitioner, and his surgery is well known, owing to his unbounded success in this line. He is a gentleman of progressive spirit and his studies never cease, while he makes the best of his opportunities and has adopted only the most approved methods and devices of modern surgery, and is thoroughly awake to modern ideas in his profession.

Dr. Hanson was born in Denmark, Europe, in 1870, and was a son of Nicholas and Marian (Sove) Hanson. His father was a baker by trade and came to America in 1885 with his family, and settled in Michigan, where he resided five years, after which they took up their resi-

dence in St. Paul, Minnesota. Our subject was reared in St. Paul and attended the city schools and graduated from the St. Paul high school in 1889. He then attended the medical department of the State University of Minnesota, graduating from the same in 1894, when he accepted a position as resident house physician at the Minneapolis city hospital, and followed his practice there one year. He then went to the Red river valley, when he established his office there, and has continued his practice there since with the best results. His patronage has steadily increased, and he now enjoys the largest practice of any physician of that locality. His office is well equipped with instruments, and he has a large practice in surgery alone.

Dr. Hanson was married, in 1896, to Miss Florence Fronev, a native of Wisconsin. Mrs. Hanson's father, George Fronev, is a prosperous farmer, and he and Mrs. Hanson's mother are of German descent, and were early settlers of Ohio. Dr. Hanson is a gentleman of exemplary character and enjoys the esteem of his fellow men. He is a Democrat in political sentiment, and lends his influence for the support of the principles of that party. He is not actively engaged in public affairs, devoting his time exclusively to the practice of his profession.

#### ALVA J. CONGER.

Alva J. Conger, an old and venerable resident of Mora, Kanabec county, was born on a farm in New York in 1829. Nathan Conger, his father, was born in Vermont, and came of a family whose representatives took a prominent part in Colonial and Revolutionary affairs. The Congers originated in Wales, but were very early settlers in New England.

Alva J. Conger was the fourth in a family of seven children, and was reared and educated on his father's farm in New York, rendering such help as he could to his father in the work of the farm, and led a hard and laborious life. When he was twelve years old his father died, and one year later he took upon himself the burden of his own support, making his own way since that early age. He worked out at first among the neighboring farmers, and when he was about twenty-one learned the daguerreotype business, which he followed for some seven years, his business carrying him over Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, New York and Canada. About 1859 he made his home in Stillwater, Minnesota, and engaged in business there. His stay in that city was but brief, as the same year he removed to Kanabec county, and located within two miles of Mora, setting up an Indian trading post, and having a patronage from the Indians from north-

ern Minnesota on a very extensive scale. At the end of some two years he disposed of his trading post, and bought a farm in Afton township, Washington county.

Mr. Conger was married, in 1861, to Miss Charlotte Pennington, a native of Maine, and a descendant of an old Yankee family. Her parents settled on Snake river, Minnesota, in a very early day. Mr. and Mrs. Conger have one adopted child, who is now Mrs. Libbie Lawson, the parent of two children, Charlotte D. and Lillian.

Mr. Conger continued on his Washington county farm two years, at the same time doing some logging in Kanabec county; then quitting farming, he moved to Wyoming, Chisago county, where he engaged in the hotel business for five years, at the same time doing some farming. At Cambridge, Isanti county, he owned a flour and sawmill, and was engaged in its operation for some five years. In 1880 he established himself in the drug business in Pine City, Minnesota, the first business of the kind in the place. After a year he sold an interest in the store to Albert A. Pennington, and the two bought the Lake View Hotel, then the leading hotel in the place. In 1883 he bought a lot and put up the Conger House, Mora, which Mr. Conger ran almost continuously up to 1900. That year he rented the hotel. While carrying on this business Mr. Conger was extensively interested in logging, and for two years lived with his family at Milaca, where he built and still owns the Central House. At Milaca he also had a livery barn, Conger House hotel, store and saloon, all of which were destroyed by fire in 1894. In the spring of 1901, in company with Mike Hannon, Mr. Conger started a confectionery store in Mora, putting in a good stock. This was destroyed in a fire, but the building was replaced in a short time, and inside of nine weeks the business was again in operation.

Mr. Conger is a Republican, and was the first register of deeds elected in Kanabec county, but his business was of such a character and so pressing in its nature that he refused to qualify, and never served. In early days Mr. Conger took an active part in local politics, and was very influential in shaping affairs.

At the present time he is the oldest settler in the county with the exception of his wife and a sister.

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#### CHARLES SAMPSON.

As one of the oldest citizens of Red Lake county and a public officer this gentleman is well known to the people of northern Minnesota. He is the present sheriff of the county and is now serving his second term in that capacity. His

popularity is best evidenced by the fact that he is the first Republican to hold office in the court house of Red Lake county, and his faithful service commends him to his fellowmen. On the opposite page will be found his portrait.

Mr. Sampson was born in Osseo, Hennepin county, Minnesota, October 18, 1860, and was the fifth in a family of thirteen children, eight of whom are now living. His parents, Nelson and Mary (Gervais) Sampson, were natives of Canada, and were of French descent. They are now residents of Hennepin county, Minnesota.

Mr. Sampson's early life, until he was seventeen years of age, was passed on the Hennepin county farm. In 1877 he went to Polk county, where his uncle lived, and there he worked at farm labor a few years, and in 1880 took up his residence in Red Lake Falls. He worked as foreman of a construction gang on the Northern Pacific Railroad for several years and in 1887 filed a claim to land as a homestead in section 26, of Gervais township, and there he took up his residence, developing a small farm and devoting himself to stock raising. Since holding the office of county sheriff of Red Lake county he has made his home in Red Lake Falls.

Mr. Sampson was married in 1883 to Miss Agnes Patnode. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Sampson, namely: Charles N., Fred L., Henry W., Frank F., Oliver B., David M. and Horace J. Mr. Sampson has always interested himself heartily in local affairs of importance and ably represented his locality in the county division fights. He has an extended acquaintance throughout the Red river valley and is popular with all regardless of party affiliations. He is a member of the Modern Brotherhood of America. He is an ardent sportsman and can recount many pleasing incidents and experiences of frontier life in Minnesota.

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#### ERNEST CLEEM.

Perseverance and integrity are the stepping stones by which many men have reached success, but of the early settlers of the northwest these characteristics were required in greater measure than usually falls to the men of a more settled region. Here they had little incentive to perseverance when their every effort was almost fruitless, and the blasts of winter or the storms and pests of summer destroyed the results of their toil. Those who remained through the pioneer days and witnessed a most radical change in the landscape and conditions are worthy of great praise for their work as developers of the country, and citizens of whom their fellowmen may feel justly proud. Such a man is Ernest Cleem. He now resides in section 21, of Middle

River township, where he has a finely developed farm, and he has been a resident of Marshall county for over twenty-three years.

Mr. Cleem was born in Saxony, Germany, August 7, 1854, and was the fourth in a family of nine children born to William and Caroline (Follrath) Cleem, both of whom are now deceased. In 1867 the family emigrated to America and made a home on a farm in Pierce county, Wisconsin, then a pioneer country, where our subject was reared to farm work and hardened to woodcraft and stump grubbing. In the fall of 1878 Ernest Cleem and Henry Bennewitz, now deceased, came to Marshall county and took adjoining claims on section 28, of Warrenton township. The following winter Mr. Cleem established his home in a small log house which he had built on the wild prairie, and there he and his young bride resided for some years. He took three horses and provisions for a year to his new home, and resided on the homestead farm five years, when he removed to his present farm. His estate covers three hundred and twenty acres and on the home farm he has erected a complete set of substantial buildings, and has a residence of modern architecture and finish and furnished throughout in a tasteful and most cheering style. He now enjoys all the comforts of life, but can well remember the winter of 1879, when the thermometer went to forty below zero, and his home was a small board shanty. He hovered over the stove and to keep from freezing he borrowed, as he now jestingly terms it, his neighbor's fence. He was not very proficient as a cook, and recalls in a happy manner the experiences in developing his culinary skill.

Mr. Cleem was married, in 1880, to Miss Emma Menzel. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cleem, who bear the names of Macie and Vernie. Our subject is a gentleman of intelligence and active public spirit, and has displayed great energy in the upbuilding of the social condition of his township. He is at present a member of the township board. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and with Mrs. Cleem holds membership in the auxiliary lodge, the Rebekahs. He also is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Red Men. Politically he is a Republican. He is a consistent member of the German Lutheran church, and well merits his high standing and success.

#### HERMAN CONRAD PETERSON.

Herman Conrad Peterson, one of the truly self-made business men of Clarissa, Todd county, is engaged in a profitable business as hardware merchant and manufacturer. He was born in Glatved, Jylland, Denmark, August 29, 1865.

The parents of our subject, Peter and Emarenza (Krag) Peterson, spent their lives in their native land. There were twelve children in the family, and after the mother's death the father married Julia Fisher. The step-mother of our subject is now a resident of Denmark.

Herman C. Peterson was the youngest child in his father's family. There are but four of the family now living, and of these our subject is the only one in America. Johannes is a man of wealth and makes his home in Copenhagen; a sister, Edle, is unmarried; Anna is the wife of A. Baastrup and resides in the city of Aarhus, Denmark. Her husband is a contractor and builder there, and is engaged extensively in the business.

Herman Peterson left Denmark for America in 1886 and came direct to Minnesota, and sought and found employment on the ore docks of Two Harbors, and in this occupation spent six or seven months. He then went to Larimore, North Dakota, and helped for a season in the harvest fields. He was accompanied by several of his countrymen, none of whom were familiar with the English language, nor with the "ways that are dark and tricks that are mean" of a few of the extensive wheat growers of that region. The result was he and his companions were robbed of their first earnings. Mr. Peterson then made his way to Minneapolis, and found employment as clerk, at which he worked nine months, and then started over the country selling jewelry in the western states, using his own team and buggy, and thus made canvassing a profitable business. Having acquired some capital, he began the manufacture of electric belts, and sold them himself throughout the west, and also conducted the business extensively through the mails, following this line five years. He came to Nelson, Douglas county, in 1897, and opened up a hardware store and associated with it a general line of merchandise. He carries a stock valued at from four to five thousand dollars, and also continues the manufacture of electric belts, which he sends by mail all over the United States, and is increasing his facilities for doing a more extensive business in that direction. He also manufactures insect powder, and is doing a good business with that commodity. In connection with his hardware business he carries dry goods, jewelry and musical instruments. He owned two lots in the town of Nelson and the store building in which he conducted his business. He sold out his interests in Nelson in the fall of 1901 and removed to Clarissa, Minnesota, where he continues the same business.

Mr. Peterson was married, October 8, 1893, to Myamy Booher, daughter of Andrew J. and Lucinda (Miller) Booher. Mrs. Peterson's par-

ents reside in Minnesota. The father was a native of Ohio and was a blacksmith by trade. The mother was born in Minnesota, of German parentage. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are the parents of five children, namely: Rosetta, Roy C., Leo T., Grace E. and Earl P. Mr. Peterson is a member of the Danish Lutheran church, and Mrs. Peterson is a member of the Presbyterian denomination. Mr. Peterson also holds membership in the Court of Honor. He sold, in 1901, over eleven thousand dollars worth of insect powder.

#### HENRY S. BRYAN.

Henry S. Bryan, master mechanic of the Duluth & Iron Range Railway, with his office at Two Harbors, Minnesota, is an experienced railroad machinist, and has devoted his life to that work. He was born at Cazenovia, Madison county, New York, September 7, 1836, and was a son of Luther S. and Caroline Bryan. He was educated at the O. C. Seminary, at Cazenovia, New York. He entered the railroad service in 1859 as machinist on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and has served in that capacity at various times for the C. M. & St. P., the C. & N. W., the C. R. I. & P., the P. Ft. W. & C., the L. S. & M. S., foreman round house and as foreman machine shop at Chicago, and as master mechanic of the Chicago & Iowa, the Chicago & Paducah, the Chicago, Pekin & Southwestern and the Chicago, Burlington & Northern Railways, these positions occupying his time until 1899. He then became engaged in the mercantile business in St. Paul, Minnesota, as a member of the firm of Bryan & Elmer, dealers in railway supplies, and was a member of this firm and engaged successfully in the business until April, 1890, since which date he has been master mechanic of the Duluth & Iron Range Railway.

#### TIMOTHY E. BIEVER.

Timothy E. Biever, one of the prominent business men and farmers of Polk county, resides on his fine estate adjoining the village of Euclid. He is one of the earliest pioneers of that locality, and during his residence there has manifested true public spirit and gained the esteem of his associates by his honesty and persistent labors.

Mr. Biever was born in Belgium May 14, 1860, and was the fourth child and oldest son of eight children born to Michael and Mary (Schortzen) Biever. The parents came to America in 1861 and settled in Wisconsin, and in 1866 located in Wabasha county, where our subject was reared to farming. He received the advan-

tages of the schools of his neighborhood, and always made the best of his opportunities. He became thoroughly versed in farming, and in 1879 went with his father to Euclid, and there the father conducted a hotel and our subject took charge of the farming interests in Belgium township. They were among the first families to make their homes there, and the township was named by their suggestion. In 1899 Mr. Biever began buying grain, and he is now engaged in grain buying for the Red Lake Falls Milling Company. His farm consists of two hundred and forty acres and is well located and well improved. He has devoted considerable attention to horse-raising, and has met with success in this line, as well as at farming.

Mr. Biever was married, in 1887, to Miss Amelia Tiedt. One son has been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Biever, Clifford, who is now aged twelve years. Mr. Biever is prominent in his community and has always taken much interest in local public affairs. He has taken an active part in the affairs of Euclid township, and is a man of good citizenship and many friends. He is a Democrat politically and lends his influence for the principles of that party. He is a member of the Roman Catholic church, and also the Modern Woodmen of America.

#### HARRY N. BRUCE.

Among the professional men of Ottertail county, Minnesota, an able representative is Harry N. Bruce, an attorney of Pelican Rapids. Mr. Bruce is a gentleman of broad mind and good practical training, and he has built for himself a good business and an enviable reputation as a lawyer and public-spirited citizen.

Our subject was born in Orange county, Vermont, September 7, 1846. His father, David Bruce, was born in Scotland, and the mother of our subject, Maranda (Studivant) Bruce, was a native of England.

Harry N. Bruce was reared on a farm and attended the common schools of his neighborhood. He remained at home until he was nineteen years of age, when he went to Georgia and Texas, and while in the south learned the harnessmaker's trade. He returned as far as Kansas, and in 1861 located in Minnesota. He conducted a harness shop at Mantorville, Minnesota, for two years, and then began farming in Dodge county, and for five years followed that occupation there. He went to Pelican Rapids, Ottertail county, in 1881, and studied law in the office of H. R. Day, and November 9, 1886, was admitted to the bar as a practicing lawyer. He has continued in the law, collection and insurance business since that date, and now has a

large practice and does an extensive business in all lines. His office is located on the principal street of Pelican Rapids, and there he has a fine law library valued at five hundred dollars, and a well-fitted and neatly furnished office. He carries improved and wild lands for sale, and does a good real estate business. He is the owner of his residence and two lots valued at two thousand dollars, and has accumulated a good property by persistent and faithful efforts and good management, and is one of the leading attorneys of his community.

Mr. Bruce was married, November 9, 1870, to Ella A. Dibble. Mrs. Bruce was born in New York, April 24, 1854. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce are the parents of two children, namely: Daniel R., who was born in Dodge county, Minnesota, August 2, 1871, and is now a resident of Bottineau, North Dakota; and Libbie Grace, born in Dodge county, Minnesota, August 20, 1874. Mr. Bruce is prominent in local public affairs, and has served sixteen years as justice of the peace in Pelican Rapids and as village recorder for three years, and was the Republican candidate for county judge of probate in 1900. Mrs. Bruce is a member of the Congregational church and the family are highly esteemed in their home community.

#### FREDERICK T. BRENDEMUHL.

Frederick T. Brendemuhl, whose handsome and well kept farm home is in section 22, Kragness township, Clay county, where he owns two hundred and forty acres on the Buffalo river, is one of the young men who were reared in the Red river valley, and have made homes for themselves in this fertile and productive section of the state.

Mr. Brendemuhl was born in Olmstead county, Minnesota, and there he first saw the light October 1, 1870. When he was nine years old he was brought to Clay county by his parents, and here he grew to manhood, having his education in the public schools and spending one winter in the school at Fargo.

In 1896 Mr. Brendemuhl began farming for himself, and has improved his land until he has made for himself a very comfortable home. In 1897 he was married to Miss Laura Peohls, a native of Iowa, and a daughter of Christopher and Lizzie (Krabbenhoft) Peohls, who came into Clay county in 1883. To this union were born three children, Christian, Mabel and Sadie.

Mr. Brandemuhl is a Democrat, and is making his influence felt as one of the solid and substantial younger farmers of the county. He is a bright and ambitious young farmer, and is devoting much attention to shorthorn and Durham cattle, having some fine specimens of that blood,

and means to make a place for himself among the enterprising and successful members of his calling.

#### NILS P. HANSON.

On the banks of the Red river, on section 34, Red River township, stands one of the landmarks of civilization in Kittson county. It is the residence and estate of Nils P. Hanson, one of the earliest pioneers of Kittson county, who established his home on the banks of the Red river at a time when pioneering was a reality and not merely a story to be told by comfortable firesides and at public gatherings. The courage may well be admired that planted the first seeds of civilization where the desert and storm and drought made sport of man's endeavors, and the fierce northern blast defied the rude shelters interposed against him and pressed his icy fingers upon all the pioneer possessed and held dear. Among those who endured and succeeded despite these hardships no man in northern Minnesota is more deserving of prominent mention than the gentleman who forms the subject of this review.

Nils P. Hanson was born in Sweden February 13, 1835. He is the only surviving child of a large family born to Hans and Christe Hanson. He grew to manhood and received his education in his native land, and was there noted for his integrity and energy. In 1867 he came to America and located at Red Wing, Minnesota. There he worked out for some time for others, and later rented land in Kandiyohi county. He had considerable success there, and accumulated a small property. In 1880 he came to Kittson county, making the trip by ox-team. He filed a homestead claim to the land upon which he now resides, and where he has since continuously made his home. In the desolate region of the Red river he built a small log house, 14x16 feet, in which he installed his family in the fall of 1880. The country around was a desert, but the family set cheerfully about their work and determined to have a home where happiness and the warmth of good cheer should drive out the winter chill. He had but thirty dollars in money, and from these small beginnings the valuable estate and pleasant home has been developed, and few men in the northwest are better known or so highly esteemed for those sterling virtues which go to make good citizenship than is Nils P. Hanson. In 1888 his first log house was replaced by a more commodious structure. The cold and floods and drought have failed to subdue his spirit, and he has overcome every obstacle in his path, such as would have daunted many a man with a more liberal allowance with which to begin his career. He is well



pleased with his adopted country, and has no desire to part with his splendid property.

Mr. Hanson was married, in Sweden, in 1867, just before embarking for America, to Miss Annie Olson. She was a source of strength and courage to her brave husband in their fight with the elements in the wilderness, and after many years of faithfulness as wife and mother she departed this life in 1885. To Mr. and Mrs. Hanson four children were born, namely: Oscar, Amanda, Anton and Charles.

Mr. Hanson is a consistent member of the Swedish Lutheran church, and is a Republican in political belief. For many years he has served his fellow men in the capacity of township supervisor.

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#### SOLOMON A. HALGREN.

Solomon A. Halgren, who early in life left his native land and became identified with American civilization and progress, evidenced his deep interest in the welfare of his adopted land by serving in the Civil war. He was a brave and loyal soldier and has proven himself a true public spirited citizen. He is one of the prominent business men of Becker county, Minnesota, and is proprietor of a general mercantile establishment in Cormorant township, and also owns considerable farm property in that locality, his residence being in section 36, of Cormorant township.

Mr. Halgren was born in Sweden, June 29, 1842, and was a son of Swan and Marie (Forman) Halgren, both of whom were natives of Sweden. He came to America with his father at the age of twelve years and they resided in Illinois and in 1857 moved to Minnesota, residing in Carver county. In 1871 Mr. Halgren went to Sauk Center, Minnesota, and resided there three years, when he took up his residence in Becker county, at Audubon. After two years' residence there he removed to Cormorant township, Becker county, in 1878, and there he established a general merchandise store. He carries a stock valued at five thousand dollars, including dry goods, hats, caps, boots, shoes, groceries, hardware and all articles used and called for in an agricultural community. Mr. Halgren was postmaster in the village of Cormorant for fourteen years and was an efficient and popular officer. He is the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land, and is one of the substantial business men of Becker county.

Mr. Halgren was married February 24, 1872, to Ida M. Trace. Mrs. Halgren was born October 10, 1852, and died September 5, 1880. Two children were born to this union, namely: Hattie O. and Charles M. Mr. Halgren was married to Saloma Swetland September 4, 1881. Mrs.

Halgren was born in Wisconsin February 2, 1862. One child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Halgren, a daughter, named Alma Ethel. Mr. Halgren is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, G. A. R. and Masonic blue lodge and chapter. He has served as school clerk of Cormorant and politically is a Republican.

Mr. Halgren enlisted November 12, 1861, in Company B, Twelfth United States Infantry, under George B. McClellan and Burnside's, in the Army of the Potomac. He participated in the siege of Yorktown, battles of Antietam, Gettysburg and the Seven Days fight on the peninsula, the second battle of Bull Run, battle of the Wilderness, Fredericksburg. He was wounded in the second battle of Bull Run, and also in the battle of the Wilderness, May 5, 1864, and was confined to the hospital four months. He was mustered out at Fort Hamilton, in New York Harbor, November 12, 1864. A portrait of Mr. Halgren, to be found on another page of this work, will add to its value to his family and many friends.

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#### REV. JOHN KNIGHT, M. D.

Rev. John Knight, M. D., one of Wadena county's leading professional men and an exemplary citizen, resides in the village of Sebeka, where he enjoys an extensive practice.

Dr. Knight was born in New York April 5, 1850. His parents, Henry and Lois (Witt) Knight, were both natives of New York. The father enlisted in Company H, Fifty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and died in the service during the Civil war.

When our subject was six years old he went with his parents to Illinois, where they remained for five years, returning to New York in 1861. He lived at home with his mother and worked on the farm, attending the public schools. In 1864 he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Eighty-sixth New York Volunteer Infantry, and served for nine months, to the close of the war. He was mustered out June 13, 1865. He returned to the home farm and lived with his mother, attending school and doing farm work until 1871. At this time he determined to seek his fortune further west. He reached Ottertail county, Minnesota, and located at Parker's Prairie. During his three years' residence there he served one year as pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church. From that point he went in succession to Concord, Jordan, Pine City and Rush City, and in 1878 came to Wadena. For two years he was pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church of Wadena, and then, in 1879, began the practice of medicine. He received a diploma from the state board in 1882, and since that time has been in the continuous practice of

his profession. In 1899 he located at Sebeka, where he has succeeded in establishing a valuable practice. He is the present pastor of the M. E. church of Sebeka.

Dr. Knight is a Republican in political faith, and has been an active participant in the public affairs of his county. For eight years he served as treasurer of Wadena county and has filled the office of assessor of Wadena township for seven years. He has accumulated considerable property and is the owner of a residence and lot in the city of Wadena valued at fifteen hundred dollars.

Dr. Knight was married, in 1895, to Nora Simmons. Mrs. Knight was born in Iowa, November 14, 1870. Her parents, Samuel and Sarah Simmons, are now residents of Wadena, Minnesota. To Dr. and Mrs. Knight three children have been born, namely, Nora L., Francis and Ralph. Dr. Knight is a member of the Masonic fraternity lodge of Wadena, and of the G. A. R. post of the same place.

#### ANTHONY SCHEIE.

Anthony Scheie, one of the most influential and wealthy agriculturists of Norman county, resides on his elegant farm in Anthony township, his dwelling being located on section 19. He has accumulated his fortune by his push and energy, and his high station as a farmer and citizen is well deserved. He was born at Muskego, Racine county, Wisconsin, September 29, 1844.

The father of our subject, Andrew A. Scheie, was a native of Norway, and was a preacher and farmer. He came to America in 1830. The mother was also born in Norway. The family removed from Wisconsin to McHenry county, Illinois, where they resided about three years, and then removed to Leland, Illinois. They remained in LaSalle county until 1852, when they took up their residence in Milwaukee, and remained in that city four years. In 1857 they went to Newburgh, Fillmore county, Minnesota, and continued their residence there until 1874. Our subject was reared in Fillmore county, and received a good common-school education. In September, 1861, he enlisted in the Forty-sixth Illinois Regiment, and became a member of Company K. The first engagement was at Ft. Donelson, and he was with General Grant there and for the following two years. Next he came to Pittsburg Landing, where the regiment lost two hundred men, after which came the siege of Corinth, and from there they went to Memphis, Tennessee, where they engaged in a few skirmishes, then to Boliver, Tennessee, and in 1862 they participated in a battle on Hatchie river.

They were ordered to Vicksburg and went through that campaign and capture in 1863, then to Jackson, Mississippi, and later to Natchez, where they remained a month, the longest time spent at one place during the service. Our subject was taken ill with fever and it was only by the closest watching and best nursing that his life was saved. He was sick about three weeks, and then went to Trinity, Louisiana, where he engaged in a skirmish, and from there to Clinton, Louisiana, where another skirmish occurred. They were then sent to Mobile, and participated in the capture of that city. Our subject was in the engagement at Spanish Fort and in the charge at Ft. Blakely, Alabama, and while there the assassination of President Lincoln occurred. From Mobile they went north through Alabama, and then returned to Mobile, and during the summer of 1865 was on the Red river in Louisiana. He was discharged at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and was mustered out of the service at that place. He gave four years of his life to active service for his country, in which he participated in sixteen battles and numerous minor engagements and skirmishes, and may review this service with justifiable pride.

After returning from the war Mr. Scheie went to Fillmore county, and in 1872 went to the Red river valley, and entered a homestead claim to land and began improving the same. He went to his new location overland with wagon and team, and passed through pioneer experiences during his first years in that region. He now has a farm of two hundred and eighty acres, all but about eighty acres of which is under cultivation. This is a valuable tract of land, as it is well located and Marsh river flows through the farm. He has erected a complete set of good farm buildings, and has a well equipped estate, and follows grain-raising with good results.

Our subject was married, in 1869, to Miss Betsey Larson, a native of Sweden, who came to America in 1866. Her parents resided in Ottertail county, Minnesota. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Scheie, who are as follows: Ellen, now Mrs. Theodore Wolbergel was a prominent teacher of Norman county; Delbert; Andrew; Josephine, now Mrs. Joseph Henderson; Ada, now teaching; and Selma. Our subject is a gentleman of intelligence and keeps pace with the times. He is prominent in local affairs and in 1873 was elected a county commissioner for Polk county, now Norman county, and was one of the first public officers from that region. He has also served as assessor of Anthony township, and took a prominent part in the organization of the township, and the organization and naming of Norman county. Politically he is a Republican.

## ALBERT FLINT.

Albert Flint, a well known and successful farmer of section 20, in Leaf Valley township, is one of the worthy citizens of Douglas county.

Mr. Flint was born in Jo Daviess county, Illinois, June 7, 1852, and was a son of Major and Eliza (Sartwell) Flint, the former a native of Canada, and the latter of New Hampshire. The father, now deceased, was born February 11, 1815, near Montreal, Canada, and removed with his parents to Vermont when he was a child. He was reared and educated in the Green Mountain state and as his father was a farmer he assisted when a boy and youth in the farm work, and thus received practical instruction and knowledge of this business, and chose agriculture as his future occupation. When a young man he left his home in Vermont and traveled to Illinois, and for a time resided near Rockford, and later removed to Galena. In 1858 he went to Minnesota and pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land in Fillmore county, which he farmed successfully for nine years. He sold his farm in 1867 and removed to Douglas county, in which year he bought a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres in sections 21 and 22, in Leaf Valley township, and became one of the early settlers of that locality. During the same year he built a good log house upon the place, which subsequently formed part of a modern and substantial residence, which was erected in 1887. He followed diversified farming and erected good barns and other buildings for the protection of his grain and stock. At one time he was engaged extensively in sheep culture, and was considered one of the most successful and progressive agriculturists of his township. He was married at Galena, Illinois, December 30, 1848, to Eliza Sartwell, daughter of Royal and Elvira (Evans) Sartwell, both of whom were natives of New Hampshire, and were of English-Irish descent. Major Flint and wife became the parents of seven children, five of whom are now living, and are as follows: Jane, now Mrs. Lorenzo Peck, residing on the home farm and managing the same for the mother; Albert, our subject; Ellen, wife of E. L. Thompson, a farmer of Roseau county, Minnesota; Elvira, engaged in teaching and resides with her mother in Alexandria; Frank E., a merchant at Garfield, Douglas county. Major Flint died June 6, 1896, and his death was deeply mourned by his relatives and many friends. The widow now makes her home in Alexandria.

Albert Flint received his education in the public schools of Fillmore county, Minnesota, and as soon as he was able to work assisted on his father's farm. He followed farming with his father and resided at home until he was thirty-

three years of age, and in 1885 bought an improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 20 and section 29 in Leaf Valley township. It had upon it a small dwelling house, which he supplanted with a much better building in 1897. He had previously erected a barn, granary and other buildings necessary for conducting a farm, and he has met with success in diversified farming. He has some stock and a good drove of hogs, and keeps sufficient number of horses for farm use. He has about ninety-five acres under cultivation, and raises a good crop of wheat, oats, corn, etc., annually. The farm is situated about two miles west of Spring Lake on the prairie, and the residence and other buildings are surrounded by groves of shade trees. When he was a boy Mr. Flint witnessed the planting of these trees by the original owner of the place. Mr. Flint is an independent voter and lends his influence for good government, local and national.

## FRED D. VIBERT.

Fred D. Vibert, editor and proprietor of the Pine Knot, published at Cloquet, Minnesota, is one of the rapidly rising young newspaper men of Carlton county. He has made a success of his work in that locality, and since taking charge of the Pine Knot as proprietor has doubled the plant and circulation of the paper, and added many improvements thereto.

Mr. Vibert was born in the province of Quebec, Canada, on a farm, November 14, 1874. His father, Robert D. Vibert, was born in the Jersey Island, lived there two years and then with his parents removed to Canada. He was a farmer in early life, and later engaged in the real estate business. The mother of our subject was of English descent and her parents were born in England.

Of a family of nine children, Mr. Vibert was the second in order of birth. He was raised on a farm in Canada until he was six years of age, when he went to England with his mother. In 1886 he came from London, England, to the United States and located in Cloquet, Minnesota. His father was among the oldest settlers of Cloquet, and there our subject grew to manhood. He received most of his early education in the schools of England, and during the winter of 1892-93 he took a commercial course at Valparaiso, Indiana. He had worked in the office of the Pine Knot in Cloquet and learned the printer's trade, and started to learn the trade at the age of thirteen years. After completing his commercial studies he returned to his work on the Pine Knot, and was thus engaged until December, 1896, when he bought a half interest

in the paper. He bought the remaining interest in April, 1898, and has since been sole proprietor.

The Pine Knot was established in July, 1884, and was the first paper in the county. A DeLacy Wood, of Carlton, was the founder, and after a few months he moved the paper from Carlton to Cloquet, and it became the first paper of that thriving town. It changed ownership several times prior to the purchase of the plant by Mr. Vibert, but the name remained the same. It is a weekly paper, published Saturday, and is a six-column quarto. It has the largest circulation and is one of the leading papers of the county, and is eagerly sought in Carlton and surrounding counties. Since Mr. Vibert became the owner of the plant he has put in new types, presses and other improvements, and the job department is well equipped for neat and prompt service, and all lines of job work are done there.

Mr. Vibert was married, in May, 1897, to Miss Lena Roney. Mrs. Vibert was born at Stillwater, Minnesota, and was of Irish descent, and her parents are of American birth. She was a school teacher in South Dakota, and is a lady of rare attainments. Mr. Vibert is a Republican in political sentiment, and was a member of the county central committee for Carlton county in the campaign of 1900, and is an earnest worker for party principles.

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#### PAUL SIMON.

Paul Simon, who for the past quarter of a century has resided in Polk county, and during this time has acquired a fine property as a result of his industry and good management, is widely known in his locality and is held in the highest esteem as a farmer and citizen. He has a pleasant and substantial home in Hubbard township, and is one of the prominent men of his community.

Mr. Simon was born in Telemarken, Norway, October 4, 1842, and was the second in a family of eight children born to Svennung Hageson and Anne Hageson. He was reared on the farm until he was nineteen years of age, when he came to the United States with the others of his family, the eldest brother having preceded them by one year. The ship which brought them across the water required eight weeks for the trip. They went to Stoughton, Wisconsin, and there spent a year, when they removed to Houston county, Minnesota. The father bought eighty acres of land, and the family settled there. Our subject worked out most of the time until 1871, when he and his brother Henry went to Polk county with an ox team, a distance of five hundred miles. When they reached the Wild

Rice river they were forced to bridge it with logs and carry their wagon across and also their provisions, and lead the oxen one by one. They forded the Marsh river and finally reached the Red river in Polk county. They threw up an emergency shanty, which served as their home until fall, when our subject built the log house which served as his home until 1892. He now has one of the finest residences of the township and is surrounded by all the comforts of rural life. The grasshoppers took his first crop in 1872 in about two hours. In the fall of that year he bought provisions at Alexandria and later of the Hudson's Bay Company. He has followed wheat-raising mostly, and has met with good success in this line of agriculture, but contemplates engaging in diversified farming, his farm being admirably adapted to the raising of stock as well as grain. He controls over three hundred acres of land, of which one hundred acres is timber. On his home farm he has placed valuable improvements, and now has a fully improved tract, from which he derives a comfortable competence.

Mr. Simon was married, in January, 1878, to Miss Ingeborg Anundson. Mrs. Simon was a native of Minnesota, and was born in the territory of Minnesota in 1856. To Mr. and Mrs. Simon the following children have been born: Anne died at the age of twenty years; Alfred, Carl, Mary, Palmer, Henry, Obert and Thomas Paine. Mr. Simon assisted in the organization of Vineland township, which included what is now Hubbard township, where our subject resides. The township was not divided for some four or five years after its organization. Mr. Simon was elected county commissioner in 1874 and served three years. He was a candidate for county treasurer on the Democratic ticket in 1880.

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#### SEVERSON & OLSON.

Severson & Olson, dealers in general merchandise and gents' furnishing goods, at Vining, Minnesota, are well known business men of Ottertail county. They have conducted this business in partnership for some years, and have built up a good trade and have supplied the needs of that community, and carry a complete stock in their line. They are gentlemen of practical business ideas, and by integrity and honest dealings have gained an enviable reputation.

The firm of Severson & Olson was established in 1897, and they now carry a stock valued at twenty-five hundred dollars, and also own their business block.

Mr. Severson, senior member of the firm of Severson & Olson, is a gentleman of wide acquaintance in Ottertail county, and is the efficient

and popular postmaster of Vining. He takes a deep interest in local public affairs, and has been identified with the growth of the locality for some years.

Mr. Severson was married, May 8, 1891, to Julia Olson, a native of Norway. In political sentiment he is a Republican, and is a member of the Lutheran church. He is a worthy citizen and well merits his high standing and success.

Mr. Olson, junior member of the firm of Severson & Olson, was born in Norway, and since 1888 has made his home in America. He emigrated to this country and made his way direct to Ottertail county, Minnesota, where he worked out for some time. He attended the Concordia College at Moorhead, Minnesota, and after completing his studies in that institution went to Vining, and in 1897 engaged with Mr. Severson in the mercantile business.

Mr. Olson was married, June 14, 1899, to Lena Severson. Mrs. Olson was born in Minnesota August 18, 1874. Mr. Olson is a Republican in political faith, and lends his influence for good government. He is a young man of good business capacity, and his success and good reputation are deserved.

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#### ASA D. BROOKS.

Asa D. Brooks, who enjoys the distinction of being the pioneer merchant of Deer River, Minnesota, is also an early settler of Itasca county, and during his many years' residence there he has gained a good property and an enviable reputation as a business man and citizen. His portrait, which will be appreciated by his many friends, is shown on another page of this volume.

Mr. Brooks was born on a farm in New Brunswick, Canada, January 8, 1838. His father, Daniel Brooks, was born in Canada, and was of German descent. He was a farmer by occupation. The paternal grandfather of our subject brought the family to New York during colonial days. The mother of our subject, Mary (Watson) Brooks, was a native of Canada. Her father, Peter Watson, was an engineer and sea captain. The family has been in America for many generations.

Of a family of seven children, Asa D. Brooks was the eldest. He was raised on the farm and attended the country schools and remained at his home until he attained his majority. He then clerked in a mercantile establishment in Canada until 1883 and was then employed nine years in Minnesota by J. W. Day Lumber Company. He had his headquarters at Aitkin, Minnesota, and was over Itasca and St. Louis counties, cruising and locating camps, and he located all the camps of the company during that time. In 1892 he lo-

cated at Deer River and built his present store building and opened a general merchandise establishment, this being the first general merchandise store of the town. He and his son-in-law, C. H. Marr, were in partnership and continued together until March, 1899, when Mr. Brooks bought the interest owned by Mr. Marr, and his son, P. R. Brooks, became a partner in the business. The firm name is now A. D. & P. R. Brooks. P. R. Brooks went to Minnesota with his father and was raised on the frontier. The business has been successful to a marked degree and they now command a good share of the trade of the town and meet all demands of their customers by carrying a complete line of goods and giving the business personal attention. Mr. Brooks also owns one hundred and sixty acres of land and his son a tract of the same number of acres adjoining. This is improved property and the buildings are good and the farms well stocked.

Asa D. Brooks was married in Canada in 1864 to Miss Ann Ingraham. Mrs. Brooks was of old Canadian stock and the family was originally from the New England states and the state of New York. Her father was a lumberman. Mr. and Mrs. Brooks are the parents of two children, namely: P. R., engaged in business with his father; and Winnie E., now Mrs. Charles Marr, residing at Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Mr. Brooks is a man of active public spirit and has held numerous official positions. He was elected county commissioner in the fall of 1900 and is chairman of the board. He received the appointment in 1899 of chairman of the township board. He assisted in the organization of the town and village and was the first village treasurer and held the office continuously until 1900. In political sentiment he is a Democrat and is an earnest worker for party principles.

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#### OLE C. BERGLAND.

Ole C. Bergland, a prominent farmer of Oakport township, Clay county, is one of the men who carries on a diversified system of agriculture in a most successful manner, with results that richly reward his thrift and industry. Mr. Bergland was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, February 10, 1855, and was the fifth member of a family of eight children born to his parents, Christian and Elsie (Bergland) Bergland, now living in Wisconsin. Five of their children are still alive. They were born in Tellemarken, Norway, where they were married. In 1848 they arrived in the United States, and at once made their home in Dane county, Wisconsin, at that time one of the central points of the settlement of their countrymen in this country.

Mr. Bergland was reared to farm work, and

was educated in both Norwegian and English, and retains a complete command of his paternal tongue. Being acquainted with parties who were settling in the Red river valley Mr. Bergland visited that region in the spring of 1878, and was so pleased with what he saw that he decided to remain. He made investments in the town of Lowell, Polk county, and was soon settled on a farm a few miles northwest of Crookston. In 1880 he was established in a general store at Crookston, in company with John O. Juve. This was at a time so early in the history of that thriving city that the stumps had not yet been removed from the streets. Mr. Bergland continued in the store three years, when he returned to his farm.

In 1896 Mr. Bergland availed himself of an opportunity to dispose of his Polk county property very advantageously, and removed to Clay county. Here he has lived to the present time, and become widely known as one of the most progressive and prosperous farmers of this section of the valley. He is an earnest advocate of the dairy as a relief from a too continuous and exhaustive grain farming, and is making preparation for an advance in that direction himself.

Mr. Bergland is a Republican, and in religion belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church. He is making a very fine farm, and his new barn, just completed, is the most notable in all its appointments in this part of the county.

Mr. Bergland was married, in 1879, to Miss Annie Juve, who died in 1894. She was the mother of six children: Clarence, Gina, Judith, Milton, Elsie and Rudolph. In 1897 he was again married, Mrs. John O. Juve becoming his wife. By her first marriage Mrs. Bergland was the mother of one child, Alden, and to her present husband she has born one child, Allard.

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#### JOHN E. MOORE.

John E. Moore, well known to any one familiar with the business *personnel* of Milaca, Minnesota, was born in Hennepin county, Minnesota, on a farm, in 1861, and came of an Irish parentage. Thomas Moore, his father, who was born in Ireland, was a life-long farmer, and came to the United States as early as 1840. Mrs. Thomas Moore was born in Ireland, and became the mother of a numerous family. John E. was the seventh child born to them, and was reared and educated in his native county. There was much hard work to do, as many mouths had to be filled, and times were not easy. They were pioneers and the Indians had not yet left the country.

When John E. Moore was thirteen years old

he put himself on his own resources, and worked out in Hennepin county for a year and a half, going into the woods when he was fifteen, making his way on foot with a lumbering outfit into Mille Lacs county. From that time until he was twenty years old he was engaged in the woods lumbering and river driving, when he went to Minneapolis, and spent some two years learning the blacksmith trade. In 1883 he journeyed to Fargo, where he worked at his trade until Christmas of that year, when he returned to Minneapolis to open a shop at the corner of Second street and Eighteenth avenue north, which he maintained for about a year, then removed to Anoka, where he followed the same line another year.

While he was living in Minneapolis Mr. Moore was married to Miss Judith Kennedy, a native of Nova Scotia, and of mixed Irish and Scotch blood. Her parents came to the United States in 1883, and her later girlhood was spent in Hennepin county, Minnesota. To this union have come the following children: Alice M., John E., Leo, Eugene, Kate, Hugh and Orphia, all of whom were born in Minnesota.

After working several years at different places at his trade Mr. Moore took up land in Mille Lacs county previous to its being opened for settlement, and spent some three years around Mille Lacs lake. In 1892 Mr. Moore came to Milaca, where he began work as a blacksmith, and about six months later opened a shop of his own, which was the first in the village to be kept open the entire year. This business continued for about three years, when Mr. Moore was compelled to give it up on account of injuries received in an accident. In 1895 he established a livery, having started in with one horse in 1893, and made such progress that in 1897 he was compelled to put up a barn 40x60 feet, provided with a complete outfit of single and double rigs, and prepared to meet all demands. Mr. Moore owns a farm three and a half miles out of Milaca, which he is rapidly improving.

Mr. Moore is a Democrat, and has been a trustee of the village for three years. He has watched the growth of Milaca from the beginning, and was here before ever there was a thought of a town at this point. He is one of the leading business men of the village, is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and takes a leading part in local and county affairs.

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#### HANS C. SORUM.

The well regulated farms of Audubon township contribute largely to the wealth of Becker county. The gentleman whose name introduces



this review is proprietor of a highly cultivated tract in section 20, and is one of the substantial and esteemed citizens of his locality. He is a native of Norway, and was born in Christiania, February 17, 1866.

The father of our subject, Andrew H. Sorum, was born in Norway, and is now engaged in farming in partnership with our subject. The mother, Gure (Knutson) Sorum, was born and raised in Norway. Of two children born to this worthy couple our subject was the eldest, and he is the only one now living. The family came to America in 1860, landing in New York city, and they went direct to Sheboygan, Wisconsin, where the father obtained work and labored in the brick yards there for two years, after which he removed to Becker county, Minnesota. He went to his new location by stage overland, one hundred and twenty miles, and the family took the journey later in a covered wagon with an ox team. The father entered claim to one hundred and sixty acres of land as a homestead, and thereon he built a log house, and for the first three or four years he worked for others and assisted in building the Northern Pacific Railroad through Detroit. He had no team and hired his first breaking done, and carried supplies to his home on his back. He bought an ox team and an old wagon in 1875, and he farmed with oxen the first ten years. He was engaged in cattle-raising and suffered a loss of about ten head by disease, grasshoppers destroyed nearly the whole of his crops, and altogether he kept his family only by the closest management. Our subject assisted on the farm and received a common-school education, and has passed through many hardships and discouragements. He has fought prairie fires day and night, and during their early residence there occurred the killing of Indian Agent Cook and his family. In 1888, in partnership with two others, our subject bought a threshing outfit, and operated the same each season for twelve years. The father built a comfortable residence on the farm about ten years ago and moved into it, and our subject remodeled the old home and established a home for himself there. There are now two sets of good farm buildings on the place, and the farm consists of three hundred and sixty acres. They have plenty of fruits, and engage successfully in grain-raising.

Hans C. Sorum was married, in 1890, to Miss Sophia Oleson, who was born in Kandiyohi county, Minnesota. Mrs. Sorum was reared on a farm, and for some time prior to her marriage followed dressmaking in Minneapolis. Her father, Severt Oleson, was born in Norway and came to America when a young man. He was married in St. Paul, Minnesota, and he served in the Civil war. He was a prosperous farmer

of Eagle Lake, Minnesota, and died in 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Sorum are the parents of five children, who are named as follows: Gerda B.; Selma L., deceased; Alfred R.; Herbert A.; Selma A.; and Hulga O. Mr. Sorum is heartily interested in the welfare of his township and has held numerous local offices, including school clerk for some eight or more years, and a member of the board of supervisors. He and his father are Prohibitionists politically, and are active workers for the principles of that party.

#### RILEY E. KEZAR.

Perseverance and good management, supplemented by honesty of word and deed, have placed this gentleman among the foremost agriculturists of Marshall county. He has a pleasant estate in section 10, of Warrenton township, and owns a farm of three hundred and sixty acres. He is a native of Quebec, Canada, and the date of his birth is April 11, 1855.

The parents of Riley E. Kezar were Chauncey and Lucy Kezar, and of their family of six children our subject was the third in order of birth. The father had been previously married. The mother died when our subject was but a child, but the family remained on the farm, and Mr. Kezar was reared to farm work. The father died about the time young Riley E. reached his majority, and he continued farming in Canada about three years thereafter. In the spring of 1879, in company with his brother-in-law, Mr. Rooke, he came to Marshall county, and there homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 10, adjoining the farm on which he now resides. He arrived in Warren with but six dollars, and he worked on the railroad and also at odd jobs in Crookston and Euclid. In 1880 he secured work on the Spaulding farm, and afterward assumed charge of the engine room at the Warren Roller Mills, and was thus employed for about five years. He then dealt in furniture, and in 1889 began the pursuit of agriculture, to which he has devoted himself with success for the past eleven years. The first years of his farm life he remembers as the hardest he ever spent. He was obliged to haul water from a distance and went to the Lower Snake river for fuel. He now has a finely improved farm, on which is a one-hundred-and-fifty-foot well, fitted with windmill, which not only pumps the water from the well but is utilized for grinding feed, sawing wood and elevating grain. His farm buildings are substantial, the stables are commodious and the entire farm evidences good management and thrift.

Mr. Kezar was married, in 1884, to Miss Lena Nelson, a native of Sweden. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kezar,

namely: Erwin; Albert; Alfred; Lucy; Florence; Stella, deceased; George; and Clarence. Mr. Kezar is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and the Modern Woodmen of America. He has taken a commendable interest in upbuilding the school system of his locality, and is a man of active public spirit. He has served as constable in the township and justice of the peace. Of late years he has been identified with the fusion party, and is a man of broad minded and deservedly popular with the people of his township and county. Mrs. Kezar died July 21, 1901, aged thirty-seven years.

#### DR. CARL BENNITT.

The medical profession has no more skillful practitioner or able representative in Norman county than Dr. Carl Bennitt. He has followed the practice of medicine in Halstad for some years and has built up an extensive patronage and is held in the highest esteem by all. He is a gentleman of excellent character, intelligent and progressive and well merits his position and name.

Our subject was born in the village of Orland, Indiana, in 1867. His father, Columbus Bennitt, was a miller by trade and was a mill owner most of his life. He served in the Civil war in a Missouri regiment. His people were of English descent and have been in America many generations, having settled in this country in colonial times, about 1756. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Deborah Gray, was born in Ohio, and was of English descent, the family coming from England many generations ago. To this worthy couple four children were born, of whom our subject was the third in order of birth. He was raised in the village until he was thirteen years of age, when the family moved to Texas and resided there two years and then removed to North Dakota, locating in Stutsman county. There the father entered claim to government land and followed farming and our subject was reared on the home farm. He attended the common schools in Indiana and had almost completed the high school course at the age of thirteen years, when the family removed from there. He later attended the Jamestown Presbyterian College two years and completed the sophomore year. He spent the following year teaching, having previously taught several terms of school, and in the fall of 1890 he entered Rush Medical College in Chicago and graduated from the medical course in 1893 with the degree of M. D. He went direct to Halstad, Minnesota, and established his office there and has since continued his practice in that city and vicinity. He was among the early professional

men of the town and now enjoys an extensive practice, and one which is constantly increasing, owing to his skillful treatment and the confidence reposed in him by the people among whom he works.

Dr. Bennitt was married, in 1894, to Miss Julia Jacobson, a native of Norway. Mrs. Bennitt's father, Jacob Leonet, was also a native of Norway and came to America with his family. Two children have been born to bless the home of Dr. and Mrs. Bennitt, upon whom they have bestowed the names of George Gray and Russell. Both were born in Halstad, Minnesota. Our subject is one of the rapidly rising young men of his locality and he is a hearty supporter of good government and local enterprise. He is a Democrat politically and is a staunch adherent to the principles of his party and is a frequent delegate to county and state conventions of his party. He is prominent in secret society affairs and holds membership in the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America. His career as a professional man and citizen is beyond reproach and his success is well merited.

#### COLVIN & ROBB.

Colvin & Robb, the pioneer lumber merchants of the Missabe Range, St. Louis county, Minnesota, have extensive yards at Biwabik, Eveleth and Sparta, and are among the energetic and prosperous business men of the Missabe Range. They went to Mesaba, Minnesota, in 1889, and were connected with the Mesaba Lumber Company, who owned a sawmill at that point, one partner having charge of the office and the other of the work in the yard. This mill was established in 1887, and was one of the first sawmills in that region. Mesaba was then a place of only about five hundred mill men, and there was only a trail from that point to Mountain Iron. Messrs. Colvin and Robb remained there three years, and then went to Merritt, the first town started west of Mesaba, and they started the first lumber yard in that locality in the spring of 1892. A boom time followed, and people paid fifty cents for sleeping in a blacksmith shop. Lots were sold for as high as a thousand dollars, and this rapid growth lasted until 1893, when Biwabik was started. They had sold their yard at Merritt, and in September, 1892, went to Biwabik and secured orders for lumber, and opened the first lumber yard in that town. They shipped the first freight over the Duluth, Missabe & Northern Railroad and also the Duluth & Iron Range Railroad into Biwabik. The first train into Biwabik was made up largely of cars of lumber for Colvin & Robb, and they conducted a thriving business until 1893. They established

a yard at Eveleth in 1895, and at Sparta in May, 1896. They also engaged extensively in logging and mining timber, and are the pioneers in the pulpwood business. They were first to show the value of spruce timber. The first lumber brought to Merritt was by team in the spring of 1892. They paid as high as twenty-five dollars per day for a team and sled, and all supplies at that time were hauled from Mesaba by team.

#### JACOB W. CHAFFEE.

Jacob W. Chaffee, whose fine farm consists of one hundred and twenty acres, in section 34, Dora township, Ottertail county, has been a resident of the county since 1868. He was born at Adrian, Michigan, and is a son of Allen and Abigail (Pratt) Chaffee. His father, who was a farmer, was born in Vermont; his mother in New York. They came to Osseo, Hennepin county, Minnesota, in 1854, where the husband and father died in 1857, following his wife to the grave six months after her death.

Jacob W. Chaffee attended school in Michigan and in Minnesota, but was deprived of the advantages of a good education. In 1861 he was old enough and patriotic enough to respond to the first call for soldiers, and became a member of Company D, First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. For some two years he was in the service, and was honorably discharged in 1863. His regiment participated in the operations of the campaign in Virginia, and wrote a history of which the state is proud. Mr. Chaffee is in receipt of a pension from the general government.

After his return from the army Mr. Chaffee engaged in farming in Minnesota, and in 1868 secured by homestead one hundred and sixty acres of land in Elizabeth township, Ottertail county. This tract he afterwards sold and removed to Wilkins, Wilkins county, where he preempted a quarter-section, which some years later he exchanged for hotel property in Barnesville, Clay county. This hotel was later destroyed by fire, and Mr. Chaffee came to Dora township in July, 1889, and bought for six dollars per acre the one hundred and twenty acres where he is found at this writing, the possessor of a fine and well cultivated farm and a highly respected citizen of the community.

Mr. Chaffee was married in 1865, in Indianapolis, Indiana, to Louisa Niggler, a native of Switzerland and a daughter of Randolph and Elizabeth (Arne) Niggler, both native born Swiss. To this union have come eleven children: Julia Louisa, Randolph Allen, Adolphe Warren, George Charles, Ida Mary, Abigail Elizabeth, Walter Henry, Lottie Reno, Julia, Ida and Abigail.

Mr. Chaffee carries on mixed farming, his home being pleasantly situated near the shores of Star lake. The land is rich and yields large crops of grain, while the wood pastures afford shelter and grass for his cattle. Mr. Chaffee is a Republican and is regarded as an industrious, upright and thoroughly honorable man.

#### PALMER H. IRISH, M. D.

Industry, persistent efforts and integrity go hand in hand toward success. To become proficient in any walk of life requires all of these characteristics, and but comparatively few men possess them in marked degree. Among those who are fortunate enough to possess them and have made the best of the opportunities afforded stands Palmer H. Irish. Mr. Irish started his business and professional career without means and no other help than his own efforts brought, and he has become one of the successful medical practitioners of Hubbard county, Minnesota. He has a well equipped office in the rear of his brother's drug store in the village of Akeley, and enjoys a large and growing practice. He is a gentleman of strong mind, capable, and is a skilled and conscientious practitioner and is deservedly enjoying the confidence and esteem of his associates. A portrait of Dr. Irish will be found on one of the pages of this album.

Dr. Irish was born in Vermont, March 9, 1877, and was a son of Lyman W. and Dyantha L. Irish, both of whom were natives of Vermont. He attended the common schools of his native state and left Vermont at the age of nineteen years, locating in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He attended the State University there four years, graduating from the same and then instituted a practice at Brainerd, Minnesota. He continued there but three months and August 29, 1900, established his office for the practice of his profession in Akeley. He is the only physician of the town and he has fitted elegant apartments in the rear of his brother's drug store. He is a man of wide experience and has traveled over the country from the Atlantic to the Pacific as a practitioner, but he finds Akeley, Minnesota, a pleasant town in which to make a home, and he has built up a good practice there and has decided on his permanent settlement in that thriving town. He earned his way through college and worked determinedly for his education and has always made his studies a source of profit and pleasure to him.

Dr. Irish is health officer of Akeley, Minnesota, and discharges his duties in this capacity efficiently and faithfully. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Akeley. Politically he is a Republican and stands firmly for his convictions.

## FERDINAND G. DOBMEYER.

Ferdinand G. Dobmeyer, proprietor of the Millerville roller mills, on section 13, of Millerville township, is one of the representative business men of Douglas county and a young man of sterling worth.

Mr. Dobmeyer was born in St. Joseph, Stearns county, Minnesota, July 24, 1871, and was a son of George and Justine (Fidler) Dobmeyer, both of whom were natives of Bavaria, Germany. The father came to America about 1866 and the mother came with her parents about two years later. Our subject's father learned the miller's trade in his native land and on his arrival in Minnesota went into partnership at St. Joseph with Ferdinand Dancel. They conducted the milling business together for some time and Mr. Dobmeyer then went to Cold Springs and was there occupied in milling two years. In 1873 he went to Douglas county and built the mill which our subject now owns. The building is well constructed and snugly situated on the Chippewa river near Lorsungs lake, and is operated by both water and steam power. It has a capacity of fifty barrels per day and is fitted with all the modern improvements of the roller system and is extensively patronized by the agriculturists of that rich farming district.

Our subject was one of a family of nine children, seven of whom are now living and are as follows: Carrie, Ferdinand, Barbara, Lena, Justine, Kate and John, who is now attending St. John's College. The father died October 10, 1885. The mother remarried, her second husband being Dr. J. C. Drexler, who, after the death of the father, took charge of the mill as manager and later became proprietor of the same. To the second marriage of the mother six children have been born.

Ferdinand G. Dobmeyer received his education in the college of St. Johns' at St. Joseph, Minnesota. His tastes naturally ran to the milling business, as he has been literally raised in the mill. He was but fourteen years of age when his father died, but he learned the business under the direction of Mr. Drexler, who later became his step-father. At the age of seventeen years he assumed the management of the mill and filled the position until he was twenty years of age. In 1891, with the assistance of an uncle, he purchased the mill, since which time he has continued as proprietor, and has met with good success. In addition to his milling interests Mr. Dobmeyer is the owner of two hundred acres of land, situated in Millerville and Leaf Valley townships. He rents the cultivated land and reserved the balance for stock raising. He now has a herd of forty head of fine cattle and has recently imported from Canada a thoroughbred

Shorthorn bull, seeking to improve the grade of cattle in that section of the country. He is a progressive and prosperous business man and owes his success to his energy and enterprise.

Mr. Dobmeyer was married October 25, 1892, to Anna Kotschevar, a daughter of Mathias and Mary (Absetz) Kotschevar. Mrs. Dobmeyer's father was formerly a merchant of Millerville, but is now located at Eden Valley. To Mr. and Mrs. Dobmeyer six children have been born, three of whom are living, and are named Mary, Justine and Aliuzus Joseph. Mr. Dobmeyer's paternal grandfather came to America about 1807 and became a farmer and continued in that business until his death, which occurred in 1890. Our subject is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters and is chief ranger of the same. In 1901 he was elected secretary of the congregation of the Church of our Lady of Seven Dolours, incorporated. He is a member of that church, St. Joseph's Society and D. R. C. U. G., of Minnesota.

## ANDREW THOMPSON.

Andrew Thompson, numbered among the earliest settlers of Polk county, has remained to witness a most wonderful transformation in the region in the past quarter of a century and has aided materially in the same. He is proprietor of a well developed farm and is a well-known and highly esteemed citizen of Hubbard township.

Mr. Thompson was born in Telemarken, Norway, January 2, 1845. He was the youngest in a family of twelve children born to Thore and Jörn (Tollefson) Aadneson. He emigrated to America at the age of twenty years, coming by sail vessel to Quebec, thence up the St. Lawrence river and going direct to Houston county, Minnesota. He remained there about nine years and in the spring of 1874 went to the Red river in Polk county. He worked for others while in Houston county, purposing to get a home of his own and after locating in Polk county entered claim to the land in section 30, of Hubbard township, on which he now resides. He had but a team of horses, and some of his first wheat raised was hauled to Ada. He also marketed wheat on the steamer on the Red river, where the Hudson's Bay Company had eight steamers, one named the International. The credit of the farmers with this company was generally good. The emergency shanty of logs, which was Mr. Thompson's first home on his farm, still stands. The second structure was a frame residence, in which he lived until 1899, when his present elegant home was completed. This is furnished throughout with taste and is fitted with modern improvements and well built and finished. For

the first four or five years in Polk county the grasshoppers devastated crops to such an extent that few settlers ventured in and times were hard, but our subject is now comfortably situated and derives a good competence from his estate.

Mr. Thompson was married in 1885 to Miss Sina Thorson, a native also of Norway. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, namely: Thomas and Anna. Mr. Thompson is an active worker for the better interests of his community and has served in nearly every office in his township. He is a usual delegate to conventions and although formerly a Republican, is identified with the Populist party. He is liberal in his religious views.

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#### OLE ERICKSON.

Ole Erickson, the proprietor of a very inviting farm, situated in sections 23 and 26, in Rock Creek township, Pine county, was born in Jenmt Land, in the northern part of Sweden, September 16, 1850, and is a son of Erick Erickson, who was a lifelong farmer in Sweden, where he spent his life and where he died, leaving a family of six children, of whom Ole was the second child.

Ole Erickson grew to manhood on a Swedish farm, and was inured to hard work from a very early age. His education was received at the local schools, and he remained at home until he came of age. Then he started out for himself, for some six years was engaged in railroad construction work. In 1870 he crossed the ocean to engage in construction work on railroads in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Canada, being employed on the Northern Pacific, the Canadian Pacific and the Northern Wisconsin Railways. He did well at this business, and accumulated money.

In 1876 Mr. Erickson took up lumbering as his occupation, in place of railroading, and was engaged in that business for twelve years. For a time he was in the employ of the C. N. Nelson Lumber Company and then began a contracting business for himself, taking several very considerable logging enterprises, being mainly employed along the Snake river.

Mr. Erickson and his brothers Andrew and Swan joined together to conduct a sawmill in Chisago county, which had a capacity of about forty thousand feet of lumber a day. Before he quit logging Mr. Erickson had already been engaged in this mill, and in all he and his brothers run this mill some nine years, with himself in charge. The health of Mr. Erickson gave out under the strain, and the mill property was sold out, the brothers going out of business.

Ole Erickson came to Pine county in July, 1892, and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in sections 23 and 26, township 38

and range 20. This was a raw and wild timber farm, and a space had to be cleared for the building of a house, which was twenty-six by twenty-six feet and two stories in height. The next year was built a barn thirty-two by sixty feet, and other buildings were constructed as needed. Mr. Erickson has added to his original purchase and now has two hundred and forty acres in his possession, with one hundred and ten in cultivation, and the remainder in pasture and timber. The farm has an ample supply of the best machinery needed for its successful cultivation, and will very shortly, unless all plans come to nothing, be entirely devoted to stock farming.

Mr. Erickson was married in 1872 to Miss Martha Mattson, who was born in Sweden, and came to the United States in 1871. Her parents settled in Minnesota. To this union were born: Arthur, Lewis, Oscar, Hilding, May, Walter, Charles and Theodore,—all living and at home on the farm.

Mr. Erickson is an independent voter, and at different times has attended several county conventions as a delegate. In 1898 he took a prominent part in the organization of the Rock Creek Co-operative Creamery Company, which built a creamery in 1899, and began business June 18th of that year, with Ole Erickson as president and manager; J. N. Paterson, vice-president; William E. Anderson, secretary; and George L. Stevens, treasurer. The creamery enterprise is a decided success, and largely owes its good condition to the indefatigable labors of Mr. Erickson, who has given it the closest attention in every department from the first.

Mr. Erickson is one of the old settlers of the county, and is widely known for his genuine manliness and strict integrity, as well as for his kindly spirit and genial manner.

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#### LUDVIG WALLAKER.

Ludvig Wallaker, whose pleasant home is in section 30, Kurtz township, Clay county, where he owns a four-hundred-acre farm, was born in Bergen Stift, Norway, December 24, 1849, a son of Christen and Brite Wallaker, and is a worthy representative of this hardy and vigorous nationality, which has been so efficient in the reclamation of the great northwest from its wilderness.

Mr. Wallaker left his native land in 1869, coming to Madison, Wisconsin, and was employed in the lumbering district of the northern part of that state until 1879. That year he secured land in Clay county, Minnesota, and three years later made it his home. All the money he had was just enough to admit of his beginning farming in the most limited way, but he began, and has made himself prosperous and successful. He built a frame house fourteen by six-

teen feet, which was one of a very few frame houses in the valley at the time of its erection; so in that locality he was known as the "man who lived in the big house." As he secured a little money he bought land from year to year, always paying cash and bound to succeed. In these years Mr. Wallaker has not denied himself pleasure, but has taken numerous outings with his family in the passing years, holding that it is best to live as one goes along in life. When Kurtz township was organized, he was active in the work, and was a member of its first town board.

Mr. Wallaker was married in 1882 to Miss Caroline Grove, and to them have been born the following children: Annie Bertina, born April 30, 1885, a student in Ralston University, Washington, D. C.; Thomas Christian, born September 23, 1887; Carl Walter, born August 5, 1894, and Minnie Ovedia, born March 31, 1896. Mrs. Wallaker was born in Goodhue, Minnesota, in 1861.

Mr. Wallaker has made his place beautiful as his means permitted, and at the present time a new house is in course of construction, which will be a credit to the county. The plans are for a building twenty-six by forty-six feet, with sixteen-foot posts, with a basement under the entire structure, which is to be finished in the most substantial manner. Its location on the river bank will admit of modern plumbing, and no expense is to be spared in making it a model home. In politics he is independent. He has made his own way in life and has been successful.

#### JOHN B. NUNN.

John B. Nunn, a prosperous agriculturist of Lake Eunice township, is one of the rising young men of Becker county. He has resided there since his boyhood days and is widely known and universally esteemed. He was born on a farm in Ontario, Canada, January 27, 1862, and he now resides in section 13, of Lake Eunice township, where he has built him a comfortable home and enjoys the result of his labors in Minnesota.

Mr. Nunn was the eldest of a family of seven children, and he was reared on his native place and attended the country schools of Canada. He began farm work at the age of thirteen years, and before he reached his majority went with his parents in 1882 to Becker county, Minnesota. He assisted his father in opening up his farm and one year later began farming for himself. His father gave him eighty acres of land, and he purchased eighty acres of railroad land and spent three years on the place, living alone and developing his farm. He then rented his land and worked for farmers in Minnesota and North Dakota, spending six years with one em-

ployer and three years in North Dakota for various men. He returned to his farm in 1896 and has since continued his residence thereon and has met with good success in diversified farming. He now owns one hundred and sixty acres of land, of which he has about fifty acres under cultivation, and the rest is pasture, brush and timber land. He has devoted considerable attention to stock raising and is also a cultivator of wheat. He has placed good improvements on his farm and is one of the substantial citizens of his township.

Mr. Nunn was married December 22, 1896, to Miss Elizabeth Hunt. Mrs. Nunn's father, W. P. Hunt, was of old New England stock, and he is a prosperous farmer of Becker county. Mrs. Nunn is a lady of rare accomplishments and education and was engaged in the profession of teaching in Becker county for some twelve years. Two children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nunn, who are named Joyce and Vernon. The family worship with the Congregationalists, of which denomination Mrs. Nunn is a member. Mr. Nunn is a gentleman of broad ideas and keeps pace with the times. He is an independent voter in local affairs and has aided materially in advancing civilization in his community. He is a Prohibitionist in political sentiment in regard to national government and lends his influence for good government, both local and national. He was one of the early settlers of Becker county and endured the privations and hardships of pioneer life to gain a good property and a good name, and recounts many of the experiences of his early life in Minnesota.

#### MURRY J. TAYLOR.

Murry J. Taylor, postmaster of Deer River, Minnesota, and editor and proprietor of the Itasca News, is a prominent business man of Deer River, where he has resided since its early settlement.

Mr. Taylor was born in Charles, Iowa, May 4, 1873. His father, Thomas Taylor, was a carpenter all his life. The family was originally from New York state. Our subject's mother, Odell (Downing) Taylor, was of French-Canadian stock. Her father, Benjamin Downing, resides at Charles, Iowa, and is actively engaged in farming there. He was in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company for many years.

Mr. Taylor was the eldest of a family of six children. He was raised in the pineries of Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota. He was given an education at Ashland, Wisconsin, attaining only the eighth grade. He went to Itasca county in 1889 and followed lumbering. He took a partly improved homestead near Deer River in 1891. In the fall of 1896 he established the



Itasca News. This is a weekly Republican paper and is a six-column quarto. It was the first paper in Deer River and the third established in the county. In September, 1897, after getting the paper well started and publishing fifty issues, the plant, including presses, type and files, was destroyed by fire. The loss was complete. Mr. Taylor was not to be discouraged in this way and he at once resumed the publishing of the paper and in April, 1898, the plant was again in running order. He erected a building and put in a complete new outfit. His paper is well supported and has a large circulation and is considered one of the bright and newsy sheets of the locality, and it is one of the leading papers of the county. Mr. Taylor was appointed postmaster in April, 1899, by President McKinley, and is now serving in that capacity.

Mr. Taylor was married October 25, 1900, to Miss Pearl Johnson. Mrs. Taylor was born in Iowa. Her father, Joseph Johnson, was a printer by trade for over thirty years and is now engaged in this line at Deer River, Minnesota. Mr. Taylor has always taken an active interest in local affairs and was a leader in both village and township organization and was among the first local officers. He was at the head of a movement which resulted in building the first school house, a log building eighteen by twenty-six feet. He has taken a leading part in county, state and congressional affairs and attended numerous conventions in the interests of the principles of Republicanism. He is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees and Modern Woodmen of America.

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#### SWEN C. JOHNSON.

The majority of the people who go to a country in its early days leave without testing its worth, while the few that remain reap a bountiful harvest, if industry and enterprise mark their lives. The results are not discernible at the outset, but as time goes forward and the settler makes his improvements and gathers around him the comforts of a home he appreciates the wonderful resources of the country and profits by his experiences until he has one of the well cultivated tracts of his locality and enjoys easy circumstances and the respect of his associates. The work is not easy at best, but to the man of keen foresight and good judgment it is sure, and thus he works. Among the early settlers of Skane township, Kittson county, may be named Swen C. Johnson. He has accumulated a good farm of two hundred and eighty acres and is one of the worthy citizens of his community, his home being located in section 30.

Mr. Johnson was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, September 16, 1858, and was the third in a family of six children born to Truls

and Betsey (Johnson) Johnson, both of whom are now deceased. His parents came to America in August, 1857, and settled in Minnesota, where our subject was reared on the home farm and received a common-school education. After attaining his majority he started out in the world for himself, and went to Kittson county May 1, 1880. He at once filed claim to land and in the fall of that year built a shanty thereon and in the spring of 1881, with team, wagon and a cow went to his farm for permanent residence. He lived alone there the first few months and then began more extensive improvements on his place and established a home there. He later added to his original acreage and is now the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of good land. This is under a high state of cultivation and is made to yield abundantly, while the buildings of the place are a credit to the community and stand as evidence of enterprise and good judgment.

Mr. Johnson was married in 1881 to Miss Annette Johnson. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, who are as follows: Anna, deceased; Ida J.; Elmer T.; and Nancy L. Mr. Johnson is a consistent member of the Swedish Lutheran church, and he is prominent in affairs of that denomination. He has served as a trustee of the church since its organization in his township and is very earnest in his work. In a public manner he is well known to the people of his township and takes a hearty interest in the affairs of local importance. He was a member of the first township board of supervisors, and is the present chairman of the township board, which office he has filled for the past nine years. Politically he is a Republican and is identified with the movements of his party, but is not a seeker of public office, although he was elected county commissioner from the second district in November, 1900, but prefers to lend his influence for good government by other methods. He is intelligent and a gentleman of the strictest integrity and enjoys the confidence of those among whom he makes his home.

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#### JOSEPH ASKEW.

Joseph Askew, justly termed the Father of Menahga, was until 1901 one of the most enterprising and consequently successful business men of that thriving town. He is now the proprietor of the Commercial Hotel, at Wadena, the best hotel of the town, and fitted with all modern conveniences. He is a pioneer of Wadena county, having spent a quarter of a century there, and is widely known and esteemed as a citizen of genuine worth.

Mr. Askew was born in the village of Swanton, county of Cumberland, England, April 11, 1840. His father, Joseph Askew, was a con-

tractor and bridge builder, having charge of the county bridges. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Ann Turner, was also of English birth and descent. Of a family of ten children, our subject was the sixth in order of birth. He grew to manhood in the village of Gosforth, Cumberland county, and attended the common schools of that locality. At the age of seventeen years Mr. Askew went to Scotland, where he worked on the Glasgow water works and assisted in laying the first pipes in the Dum-Barton water works system. He also visited Edinburgh, where he saw the crown of Scotland, a guarded treasure, and other relics of Scottish history, and also visited other places of interest. He then went to Newcastle on Tyne, England, where he was employed on the water works and spent about one year in that part of England. He then went to London, where he was engaged several months on the sewerage system. From there he went to France and was there engaged in tunnel work on the railroad south of Paris for six months. After attaining his majority he began work in the iron mines of Frizington, county Cumberland, England, deciding to make his home there, and was thus employed fourteen years, becoming very proficient in the work of the mines and for six years held the position of sinker and shaftman. He followed the mining business in England until 1875, and in the spring of that year came to America, landing at New York. He went direct to Wadena county, Minnesota, via Duluth, and entered a homestead claim to land in section 2, Wadena township, in the spring of 1875. He began farming on a brush prairie, without means, his small savings being exhausted during the summer of that year. He built a small lumber shanty, where he lived the first year, and during that season did little farming, and had to get all supplies to his home on his back. He then engaged in breaking land for himself and others, breaking about seventy-five acres annually for several years and spent his winters in the pineries until 1887. In the fall of 1876 he bought an interest in a threshing outfit and engaged in this business each season for twenty years. During those early days he endured many privations and hardships, finally developing a valuable estate, and remained on this tract of land until 1890, when he disposed of his farm and moved to Menahga, a new village in the northern part of Wadena county, on the line of the Great Northern Railroad. He built the Arlington Hotel, the first frame building in the town, and conducted the same with success. In the same year he bought another farm in Leaf River township, consisting of two hundred acres, in section 25, about half of which was under cultivation, and on which he built a complete set of farm buildings. Mr. Askew established the first livery barn in Menahga, which business he still

conducts with good success. During the early days there he engaged extensively in buying and selling horses and cattle. In the spring of 1901 he rented the Wadena House and changed the name to the Commercial Hotel. It is a large brick structure, situated in the business center of town, and there he is doing a very successful business. To whatever enterprise he has turned his attention he has met with unbounded success and is one of the truly self-made men of Wadena county. He can recount many interesting experiences and dangerous ones of his life as a pioneer in the wilderness of Minnesota, since first coming to the state.

Mr. Askew was married August 25, 1862, to Miss Jane Eilbeck. Mrs. Askew was born in Egermont, county Cumberland, England, and her people were of English descent. Her father was a millwright by trade. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Askew: Elizabeth A., William H., Isabelle B., Henrietta, Samuel, Wilfred L., Samuel C., Fannie H., Charles H., Alice M., Jennie, Julia and Joseph. Mr. Askew has always taken a most hearty interest in public affairs of his community, and in 1886 was elected county commissioner and again in 1888, serving a year and a half, when he resigned the office on account of his change of residence. He has served as mayor of the village of Menahga for several terms, and took an active part in the organization of the village. He is also interested in school work and served in various school offices several years and was active in getting the public school system established in Menahga. He is an ardent worker for the principles of the Populist party, having been associated with the Farmer's Alliance. He was president of the County Alliance, and was county lecturer and organizer. He was the candidate of this party for state representative, and of the Populist party for state senator. No citizen is more widely known and respected and none have done more to develop and advance the interests and resources of Wadena county than Mr. Askew. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Ancient Order of United Workmen.

The portrait of Mr. Askew appears upon another page in this volume.

#### REV. RUDOLPH VALLQUIST.

Rev. Rudolph Vallquist, a well-known and popular minister of the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran denomination, has charge of three congregations in the vicinity of Holmes City, Douglas county, Minnesota, and his able and intelligent preaching and earnest church work has endeared him to his followers.

Rev. Vallquist was born in central Sweden, March 11, 1870. His parents died when he was

but a child and he was reared under the guardianship of an elder brother. He was a student in college until he reached his fifteenth year and sailed for America in 1885. He came direct to Minneapolis and was there engaged in clerking and bookkeeping for six years. Being desirous of continuing his education and preparing himself for the ministry, he entered Augustina College at Rock Island, Illinois, and was there graduated in 1893. He entered the seminary in 1894 and was graduated in theology in 1896 and the same year was ordained. During the preceding four years he had preached at various places in Illinois almost continuously and was ordained minister of the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran church at Detroit City, Becker county, Minnesota, in 1896, where he remained two years. He went to Douglas county, Minnesota, in 1898 and has remained there since that date. He is an eloquent speaker and his intellectual and theological training and broad and tender sympathies give him a high place in the estimation of all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance. His energetic disposition fits him for the severe task of ministering to the three congregations, of which he has charge. His home is pleasantly situated in the pretty village of Holmes City, Douglas county, near the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran church, of which he is pastor. He is also pastor of the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran church of Oscar Lake, also in Douglas county, and of the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Norunga church of Pope county, Minnesota.

The first named church was organized in 1875 and incorporated January 16, 1887. The erection of the house of worship was begun in 1889 and the building was consecrated by Rev. P. Sjöblom, December 3, 1890. It is an imposing structure and is finely finished and decorated, and is valued at two thousand five hundred dollars. The parsonage near this church is owned in part by this congregation, together with the congregations of Oscar Lake and Norunga. The total membership is about one hundred and ninety. Previous to Rev. Vallquist the following pastors had charge there: O. Lindh, J. P. Hedberg and J. Johnson, who served for a number of years. This church has several societies in connection with the same for church work and is a live and growing congregation.

The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran church of Oscar Lake was organized in 1866, through the efforts of the earliest settler of that locality, Mr. O. Fablin. The second church building of this congregation was built in 1884 and consecrated in 1886 by Rev. J. Fremling, president of the conference. The building is valued at three thousand dollars and is beautifully finished and decorated. The membership numbers two hundred souls and the pastors who have had charge there are as follows: J. Magny, Aaron Wahlén,

L. Johnson, J. A. Johnson and the present pastor, R. Vallquist. Several societies are connected with the church and the young people are especially active in the work of the denomination.

The third church of which Rev. Vallquist is pastor is the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Norunga church, of Pope county. This congregation was organized in 1871 and was incorporated the same year. The house of worship was a log structure until 1895, when the present handsome temple was erected. This was consecrated in 1896 by Rev. Eric Norelius. The church is finished in natural oak, and is furnished with the largest Moline organ and other fine furnishings. Several societies are in connection with this church and a Sunday-school and parochial school are both taught, the deacons of the church serving as teachers. The membership of this congregation is two hundred, and the former pastors in charge there were Aaron Wahlén, Lewis Johnson and J. Johnson. Rev. Vallquist is a successful worker and has placed all the congregations of which he has charge on a good footing financially and has increased the membership steadily in each of the three congregations.

Rev. Vallquist was married June 24, 1896, to Segríd Hanson. Mrs. Vallquist is an accomplished lady and was a daughter of Per and Segríd Hanson, of Clay county, Minnesota. Rev. and Mrs. Vallquist are the parents of two children, Anna Lillian Gunhilda and Eva Sophia Christina.

#### LYMAN CLARK.

Lyman Clark, one of the earliest pioneers of Red Lake county, Minnesota, resides on section 6, in Roxbury township, amid comforts and even luxuries of life, which were denied him for some years after making Minnesota his home. He passed through experiences which are not easily forgotten and he has worked persistently and made the best of his opportunities and is now one of the substantial farmers of his locality.

Mr. Clark was born in Ontario, Canada, January 12, 1842, and was the oldest of a family of eight children, two sons and six daughters, born to Charles and Harriet (Davis) Clark, both of whom were natives of the state of New York. Lyman Clark remained at home until he was nineteen years of age, and then worked at farm labor and in the woods for five years. At the close of the Civil war he went to Gratiot county, Michigan, where he purchased a farm of forty acres and there lived for many years. He built up a cosy home for himself and family, with the assistance of his estimable wife, and continued to reside there until 1882. Owing to his poor health he was induced to try a change of climate to northern Minnesota, and after selling on a

week's notice he went to Crookston, arriving there, May 28. His wife was not prepared for the difference of conditions which she found from those which had been her lot, and she was truly homesick. The settlers of the locality in which they settled were mostly foreigners and many lonely hours were spent before she became reconciled to the great change. Of the original settlers of that locality but one or two now remain on their first farms. Mr. Clark has resided on this tract continuously since locating there and now has a valuable farm, well improved, and under high cultivation and is surrounded by all the comforts of life. Mr. Clark was married in Gratiot county, Michigan, to Miss Mary J. Eckert. Six children have blessed this union, namely: Mary, now Mrs. George Turville; Amanda, now Mrs. A. Weaver; Charles, married and employed in Thief River Falls; Archie; Vernie and Nina. Mr. Clark served as chairman of the township board for three years and during his term of office he succeeded in doing much toward the improvements of the public roads of the locality. He is a man of much push and energy and is actively interested in the advancement and improvement of his community and has spent much time and money to this end, urging all public improvements in the way of roads, drainage, schools, etc., and his labors in this direction will be felt in the future, as well as the past. One of the hardships of his early life in Red Lake county was going to and from Crookston, forty miles distant, their nearest market. This trip was made by ox-team, going across the country without roads, and a most treacherous place was the old Muskog, near St. Hilaire, now drained by the railroad company. On one trip he and a companion helped ten loads out of the mud at that place and then, as they had broken all their chains, had to leave others there, the women and children crying and the men swearing at the dismal prospect of being out in the swamp over night. These conditions have now disappeared and in their stead good roads, well tilled fields and comfortable residences and thriving villages greet the visitor to that region.

#### CLOQUET LUMBER COMPANY.

Cloquet Lumber Company, of Cloquet, Minnesota, is one of the ably managed and extensive lumber businesses of the northwest.

In 1879 the Knife Falls Lumber Company built a small sawmill within the present site of Cloquet village. This mill boasted a capacity of but forty thousand feet of lumber per day. In 1883 the Knife Falls Company failed and was succeeded by Renwick, Shaw, Crossett Company, of Davenport, Iowa. In 1886 Messrs. Renwick and Crossett having withdrawn, the name was

changed to the Cloquet Lumber Company, and George S. Shaw became the direct head of the company. Mr. Shaw assumed the management of the affairs and from that date the success of the company was assured, and through his efforts the business has reached its present extensive proportions. The capital in 1886 was three hundred thousand dollars and it is now over one million dollars. At that time the sawmill had a capacity of one hundred and sixty-five thousand feet, with two circle saws and one gang saw. In 1890 the Cloquet Lumber Company bought the water power plant and sawmill. This mill contained one rotary saw and one gang saw and had a capacity of sixty thousand feet. The Cloquet Lumber Company has remodeled and repaired both of these mills and made them modern in every way, and they now cut three hundred and thirty thousand feet of lumber per day. They employ in the busy season about four hundred men and pay three times the money for labor that was paid in 1886. In 1892, one of their best years, they sawed sixty million feet of lumber, and their pay roll in 1899 was one hundred and forty-eight thousand dollars. Aside from the sawmills they also have a planing-mill and forty miles of logging railroad and one of the largest general stores in Carlton county. They also have many residences for their employers.

George S. Shaw, deceased, is the man to whom is due the credit for the success which has attended the Cloquet Lumber Company. When failure had come to the former firms it took much business foresight to bring conditions to a successful termination and to this gentleman the affairs were entrusted and by him ably managed.

Mr. Shaw was born in Chelsea, Orange county, Vermont, and was of old New England stock. He received three winters' schooling when he was a boy and started for himself at the age of ten years. He worked two years for his board and clothes, with the privilege of attending school some. Later he learned house carpentering and the millwright's trade. He walked to Boston, one hundred and fifty-eight miles, for lack of money to pay stage fare, and after reaching there followed his trade. He soon afterward moved to Winthrop, Massachusetts, and invested his earnings in lands. The investment turned out well and he was one of the promoters of the town and made considerable money there. He was renowned as a charitable person. As a contractor and builder his reputation covered a wide extent, and thirteen of the finest edifices devoted to worship in the vicinity of his home were of his building. He was married in 1846 to Mary Ross. His health failed and he then went to Davenport, Iowa, where he became interested in the lumber busi-

ness and real estate, some of the most desirable additions to that city bearing his name. His death occurred in 1897, and since that time the active management has devolved on H. C. Hornby. (The above facts are given through the kindness of Hon. J. E. Lynds.)

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#### JOHN K. WEIUM.

Persistent and honest efforts, to whatever vocation applied, bring success. The gentleman above named is one of the prominent merchants of Twin Valley, Norman county, and enjoys a liberal patronage in his business and an enviable name as a citizen. He has won his way to the front by the exercise of good judgment and honest dealings and is deservedly popular with the people.

Our subject was born on a farm in Tellemarken, Norway, May 19, 1867. His father, Knut Weium, was a farmer in Norway and spent his life in his native land. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Kjesten J. Waala.

Mr. Weium was the youngest in a family of four children, and he was raised on the home farm and attended the country school and high school and also assisted his father on the farm. He left home with his brother at the age of seventeen years and came to America, landing at New York City. He came direct to Mankato, Minnesota, where he remained one year, but then became dissatisfied and returned to his native land. A year later he again came to America and settled at Red Wing, Minnesota, where he and his brother attended a seminary two years and there received a liberal education. The brother completed a theological course and entered the ministry in Norman county. Our subject completed a commercial course and in 1887 went to Norman county and clerked for Thorpe Brothers & Company in the old town of Twin Valley. He continued there two years and received practical business training from his service there. The firm removed to Twin Valley and our subject was in their employ two years and then was employed as clerk for Aaker Brothers. He went to his native land on a three-months' vacation in 1892 and in the fall of that year returned to Norman county, and in company with Lars Wallhus established a general merchandise store and conducted the same from August, 1892, until 1894, under the firm name of Weium & Wallhus. The stock occupied but one side of a twenty-two by forty-foot building when they started the same, and in 1894 our subject purchased the entire store and now conducts the business in a twenty-five by sixty-foot building, with a lean-to twelve by sixty feet, and this space is fully occupied with a complete line of groceries and general merchandise. Mr. Weium has met

with remarkable success in his business operations and he is now proprietor of as fine a store as is to be found in the town.

Our subject was married in 1893 to Miss Mattilda Ness, a native of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and a daughter of Jacob Ness, a lumberman and old settler of Norman county. Mr. and Mrs. Weium are the parents of two children, who are named as follows: Orwal and Alma. Mr. Weium is one of the progressive and well-known men of his community and he has a thorough appreciation of the needs of the people and serves them in a public-spirited manner. He has served on the village council several terms and been mayor of the village one term, and takes a most active part in village affairs. Politically he is a Republican and has attended numerous county conventions of his party as a delegate. He is a member of the Lutheran church and Modern Woodmen of America.

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#### HON. NATHANIEL CAMPBELL.

Of the present day attorneys of Polk county there are few whose abilities have won recognition to the degree accorded those of Nathaniel Campbell. This gentleman is mayor of the city of Crookston and is by profession a lawyer, and is engaged in the real estate and loan business. His life has been one of business activity as an attorney, editor, real estate man and public speaker. A portrait of him is shown elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Campbell was born in St. Clair county, Michigan, November 11, 1857. His parents were Major and Elizabeth (Fick) Campbell, to whom was born a family of three children, our subject being the second in order of birth. At an early age Nathaniel entered the school at Port Huron, Michigan, in which city his father was engaged in the general merchandise business. At the age of fourteen years he removed with his parents to a farm in Miami county, Kansas, and later the father opened a mercantile establishment at Fontana. Our subject engaged in clerking in his father's store and also at school teaching, and he there began the study of law under private instructions. His first business venture was in Hugoton, Kansas, where he engaged in the newspaper business and opened a law office. For two years he edited the *Hugo Herald*, a Democratic sheet, and in 1889 he went to Oklahoma and in partnership with Fred S. Rogers opened a law, real estate and insurance office, thus taking advantage of the boom period to establish a profitable business. While there he was elected register of deeds of Kingfisher county. His health failed him, however, in the southern climate and May 14, 1896, he came north and located in Crookston, casting his lot with the

citizens of that thriving city, who bid him a hearty welcome. He was elected mayor of the city at the spring election in 1900 and again re-elected at the annual election in 1901. He now makes a specialty of the land business and practices before the department of the interior. Since he was seventeen years of age he has taken a commendable interest in local public affairs and is identified with the Democratic party politically, and in all campaigns he has won oratorical honors. His thorough knowledge of the subject under discussion and the fact that he keeps in close touch with his hearers, his addresses abounding in originality and witticisms, while dealing plainly with facts, makes him a speaker of more than ordinary force and gains him friends and supporters.

Mr. Campbell was married in 1897 to Miss Alice M. LaBree. One daughter has been born to this union, upon whom the parents have bestowed the name of Alice C. In the fraternal world Mr. Campbell is associated with the following orders: I. O. O. F. and Camp, K. of P. and D. O. K. K., A. O. U. W., K. O. T. M. and Red Men of America, of which order he is prophet and past sachem. While the city of Crookston is Republican, Mr. Campbell has demonstrated his popularity and fitness for the position of mayor by having been twice elected to that important office.

#### AMUND P. MOEN.

Amund P. Moen, who controls two hundred and seventy acres of land in the fertile prairie of Vineland township, is one of the old settlers of Polk county, and enjoys a wide acquaintance and the highest esteem of his fellow men.

Mr. Moen was born in Guldbrandsdalen, Norway, November 25, 1859, and was the third of thirteen children born to Peter Erickson and Maret Moen. The family was engaged in farming in their native land and the father moved his family from there and came to America in 1871 in search of better opportunities. He went to Freeborn county, Minnesota, and farmed there for eight years, removing in the summer of 1879 to Polk county. He there filled a preemption on section 6 of Vineland township. The move from Freeborn county was made with oxen and required about a month. They lived in their prairie schooners for three months, while they made hay for stock and did some breaking, and in the fall a log house was built. The nearest railroad town was Fisher and the nearest store was at Belmont, North Dakota, a steamboat landing for the Hudson's Bay Company. Our subject remained with his father until the winter of 1879 and 1880, and then returned to Freeborn county to work. This was an extremely severe winter for

the settlers of the prairie as the buildings being low were covered with snow drifts. The following spring our subject returned to Polk county, and he has been a resident of that county since that date. He took land as a homestead on section 6 of Vineland township in the fall of 1880, and lived on his place a part of the time and at home with his parents until about 1884, when he took up permanent residence on his farm in a log house which he constructed. This is still his dwelling and is comfortable and remarkably well preserved. He has improved his farm and it is now under good cultivation and from it he derives a good income.

Mr. Moen was married in 1884 to Miss Thea Thronson, also a native of Norway. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Moen, who are named as follows: Mina, Hilda, Peter, who died at the age of two years, Mary, Stella, Peter, Henry and Cora. Mr. Moen is a gentleman of much active public spirit and he has served his community in various positions of trust, including school treasurer and member of the township board, with which body he is now connected. He is a member of the Lutheran church of that neighborhood, and politically is a supporter of the People's party. He is energetic and intelligent and well merits his success and high standing.

#### JOHNSTON WAGNER.

Johnston Wagner is one of the most successful farmers of Clay county, and by his industrious and thrifty life has become possessed of one of the largest farms in Clay county. His home is in Moorhead, where he is respected not only for his business ability, but for his sterling manhood and genuine worth.

Mr. Wagner was born in Indiana county, Pennsylvania, October 2, 1850, and was the second member of a family of seven children born to John and Rebecca (Campbell) Wagner, both of whom were residents and natives of Pennsylvania. In 1865, while still a lad, young Wagner struck out for himself, coming to Washington county, Minnesota, where for a number of years he was employed in the lumber woods, his first work being driving oxen. In the fall of 1879 his enthusiasm was aroused over the possibilities of the Red river valley of the northwest, and he journeyed to the new land on a trip of investigation, and being very well satisfied with the outlook made his permanent home in this section of Minnesota since the spring of 1880. In his new home he has won marked success, which has come to him not only on account of his unwearied industry, but largely on account of his employment of sane and sensible methods of farming, aiming not to exhaust the ground at once, but to sustain it at the high pitch of its first fertility.



Every year he rests a quarter of his land from wheat-raising, by either summer fallowing or else devoting it to corn and potatoes.

In 1881 Mr. Wagner had charge of the Dillworth farm, a magnificent estate of twenty-five hundred acres, in which position he was retained four years, his own interests demanding his exclusive attention at the end of that time.

In his politics Mr. Wagner is a Republican, and enjoys an enviable reputation as an upright and honorable man and public-spirited citizen. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and for the last five years has made his home in the city of Moorhead, during the school season, for the sake of its school privileges, where he owns a fine residence. In 1878 he was married to Miss Mary Parrott, and to their union were born Von K., Ivy E. and Lulu. They are bright young people, and are making good use of the exceptional educational opportunity they are having.

Mr. Wagner is a director of the Moorhead National Bank. In the spring of 1885 Mr. Wagner settled where he now lives, in section 26, of Oakport township, four miles from Moorhead. The place is now well improved and has one of the finest groves in the county. These trees were planted in 1884 and 1885. He now owns eleven hundred and twenty acres of land. The father is still engaged in farming in Indiana county, Pennsylvania, and is now seventy-eight years of age, and his wife is now seventy-three years of age.

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#### PERRY R. DAY.

Among the younger business men of Beltrami county, the popular druggist of Bagley, Perry R. Day, takes a prominent place. He has resided in that locality comparatively few years, but has gained for himself a good patronage and the respect and esteem of all with whom he has to do. He is a young man of excellent education, progressive and enterprising, and has become proficient in his profession. He has a well stocked drug store in Bagley, and is also the owner of considerable real estate in Beltrami county.

Mr. Day was born in Farmington, Dakota county, Minnesota, February 28, 1874. His father, Levi E. Day, was born in Massachusetts, and the mother of our subject, Ellen (Mills) Day, was a native of Ohio.

Mr. Day was reared in Farmington and attended the common schools there, and later graduated from the Farmington high school. He then attended Pillsbury Academy, at Owatonna, Minnesota, and graduated from that institution in 1896. He spent two years in the drug store of the Nelson Mercantile Company at Owatonna, and from there went to Minneapolis in 1897

and entered the University of Minnesota in the pharmacy department. He graduated in 1899 in pharmacy, and then entered the employ of S. F. Sanderson Drug Company, of Minneapolis, where he remained a short time. In December, 1899, he removed to Bagley, Minnesota, and entered the employ of J. M. Covey. May 1, 1900, Mr. Day purchased the drug store and stock of Mr. Covey, and has since conducted the business for himself. He carries a complete stock of drugs and sundries and his stock is valued at one thousand five hundred dollars. He has built up a good trade and receives his full share of the patronage of his locality. He is the owner of one hundred and sixty-four acres of improved land and a claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Beltrami county, and has earned all of his property by his persistent labor and industry. He worked his way through college and is one of the self made men of Beltrami county.

Mr. Day is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Bagley. He is a Republican politically and wields an influence for good in the community in which he makes his home and occupies a prominent place as a citizen and business man.

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#### HENRY EATON.

Henry Eaton is a representative Minnesota farmer, and makes his home on section 13, Dead Lake township, Ottertail county, and while his residence here is measured by a few years only he has been a citizen of the state for more than fifty years. Mr. Eaton was born in Oneida county, New York, at the little town of Deerfield, July 6, 1844, a son of George and Abigail (Baldwin) Eaton. They were also natives of New York, as were their parents before them.

George Eaton was a farmer and removed with his family to Dane county, Wisconsin, in 1847. He was the father of a family of ten children, of whom Henry was the seventh member.

Mr. Eaton died in April, 1862, and his widow March 3, 1882.

Henry Eaton had his education in the public schools and became a carpenter. He was working at his trade when the Civil war broke out, the family having removed in 1856 to Minnesota. Henry Eaton was prompt to respond to the call for troops, and enlisted in September, 1861, in Company H, Third Minnesota Infantry, and at once entered into active service with his regiment. From Louisville, Kentucky, his command was hurried to Nashville, and it participated in the battle of Murphysboro. At the siege of Vicksburg it bore a gallant part. Later it was sent to the northwestern frontiers, where, as a part of the command of General Sibley, it assisted in crushing the Indian uprisings. Mr.

Eaton was mustered out at Duvall's Bluff, Arkansas, and is now in receipt of a pension from the government for permanent injuries to his health resulting from hardship and exposure.

After the war Mr. Eaton returned to Minnesota and spent the ensuing two years in Mower county, being employed at his trade, which he also followed in Minneapolis, Faribault, Stillwater, and at Springfield, where he spent several years. For a time he lived in Arkansas, and in 1895 settled on his present farm in Ottertail county, where he assisted in the organization of Dead Lake township, which had previously been attached to Perham township as unorganized territory.

Mr. Eaton was married, June 16, 1865, in Arkansas, to Mary Ann, a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Simmons) Jones, and a native of Batesville, Arkansas, where she was born February 23, 1849. Joseph Jones was born in Alabama and his wife in Tennessee. They were the parents of nine children, Mrs. Eaton being next to their youngest child. To Mr. and Mrs. Eaton have come eleven children: Rowena E. was born August 7, 1866, at Garden City, Minnesota; Daniel W., March 8, 1868, at Yellville, Arkansas; John H., January 9, 1870, at Springfield, Missouri, died in Minneapolis January 13, 1889, aged twenty years; Abigail, December 25, 1871, at Springfield, Missouri, died at the age of eight months; Joseph P., July 23, 1873, in Springfield, died at the age of fifteen months; Emma, August 23, 1875, in Springfield; Nancy E., born in December, 1877, at Cherokee, Indian Territory; George W., September 30, 1880, at Faribault, Minnesota; Andrew S., October 24, 1882, at Faribault, Minnesota, died at the age of ten months; Marshall L., April 14, 1886, at Stillwater, Minnesota; Roy, December 19, 1889, in Minneapolis. The parents of Mrs. Eaton died in Springfield, Missouri, her mother in October, 1880, and her father in January, 1886.

Mr. Eaton owns a small farm of forty acres, now under a good state of cultivation, where he hopes to spend the closing years of a busy life and complete the education of the younger members of his family in the neighboring school. He has erected substantial farm buildings, and carries on a general system of agriculture.

Mr. Eaton is clerk of the school board, and in his politics he is a Republican. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, and is a member of Post Hold the Fort, at Perham.

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#### JOHN B. HEBERT.

John B. Hebert, one of the pioneer settlers of Red Lake county, Minnesota, is identified with its growth and development, and is serving as

county commissioner for the Fifth district, being chairman of this board. He is a well known citizen of that locality and has gained an enviable station through his active public spirit and willing service, and is one of the few early settlers who remain as central figures in the history of the early settlement of Poplar River township, Red Lake county. He is a resident of Brooks, where he has resided for over twenty years.

Mr. Hebert was born in Massachusetts, April 29, 1858, and was a son of A. H. and Mary (Deorin) Hebert, both of whom were natives of Montreal. The mother died in March, 1898, and the father still makes his home in Poplar River township, Red Lake county. Our subject is the eldest of five living children. He was educated in Hopkins' High School at Hadley, Massachusetts, and in 1877 made his way westward. He settled at Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, and April 10, 1880, went to what is now Red Lake county, Minnesota, and settled in Poplar River township, where he has since made his home.

Mr. Hebert has always displayed an active public spirit and assisted in the organization of his township. He has served as township clerk since 1888. He is especially interested in the raising of the educational standard in his locality and has assisted in the establishment of public schools in his township. He was elected county commissioner in November, 1898, and in January, 1901, was elected chairman of the board.

Mr. Hebert is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres of improved land in Poplar River township, and there has a pleasant home. His household is presided over by Mrs. Hebert, whose maiden name was Mandy Oben. Mrs. Hebert was a native of Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Hebert were married September 6, 1884, and to this union six children have been born, namely: Louise, Joseph, Clara, Leon, Dennis and Alice. Mr. Hebert is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. When he settled in Poplar River township, Red Lake county, there were but nine settlers in the township, and of these but four are now living.

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#### PETER SCHAEFER.

Peter Schaefer, editor and publisher of the Ely Miner, is a well known newspaper man of St. Louis county. His career has been devoted to this line of work, and he has met with remarkable success.

Mr. Schaefer was born at Ulmen, Prussia, Germany, June 27, 1868. His father, Nicholas Schaefer, was a shoemaker by trade. He served several years in the Germany army, and was in the war of 1870. He came to America in 1871. Our subject is the third in a family of eight chil-

dren, and was reared in Wisconsin, where the family settled on coming to America. The mother and children operated the farm, while the father worked at his trade in Medford, Wisconsin.

Peter Schaefer assisted with the work on the farm and attended the common schools in the neighborhood, and made the best of his educational advantages. He entered the office of the *Star and News* at Medford, Wisconsin, at the age of thirteen years, and served two years as an apprentice, and later worked five years on that paper. He went to Tower, Minnesota, in 1889, and worked on the *Vermilion Iron Journal* until 1890. He then took up his residence in Ely, and bought the *Ely Iron Home*. This was a weekly paper, and was the first newspaper established in Ely, being hauled to that town by team about the year 1888. Mr. Schaefer sold the plant to Robie & Bloomberg, after which he returned to Tower, and was engaged on the paper there until 1895. In July of that year he returned to Ely and established the *Ely Miner*. The first issue was put out July 25, and since its introduction into that locality has steadily gained in favor, and is now one of the leading papers of St. Louis county. It is a weekly eight-page, six-column paper. The plant is fitted with good presses and a new gasoline engine and job press were installed in May, 1901, and the office enlarged the same spring. It is now equipped for all kinds of job work and all orders are executed with neatness and dispatch. Its circulation is rapidly growing, and Mr. Schaefer enjoys deserved success as a result of his work there.

Our subject was married in November, 1890, to Miss Lillian Childers. Mrs. Schaefer was born at Galena, Illinois, and is of German and English ancestry. Three children have been born to this union, namely: LeRoy, Alvin and Stuart. Mr. Schaefer has always taken a most active part in the affairs of his community and has aided materially in the region in which he makes his home. He is classed among the leading old timers on the range, and although he went to that locality without means, has become a substantial and successful business man. He has served as city clerk of Ely for three years, and is at present deputy clerk of the district court. Politically he is a staunch Republican.

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#### HON. MATT A. GOAR.

The man who thoroughly appreciates the needs of his community and labors at all times for the common good is the honored citizen and prosperous business man. Such a person is Hon. Matt A. Goar. He is the pioneer merchant of Kennedy, and since his residence in Kittson coun-

ty has made a host of friends. He at all times stands ready to defend his people and elevate the status of society and civil government, and his labors in that locality are duly appreciated by those among whom he makes his home. He carries a line of general merchandise and farm machinery and prospers in his business.

Mr. Goar was born in Tipton county, Indiana, January 17, 1857, and was the seventh in a family of twelve children born to Henry and Martha E. (Smith) Goar. The father was a native of Virginia and the mother was born in Kentucky. Both are now living and five years ago celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Five generations are represented in this family.

Mr. Goar was reared on the home farm and passed through the experiences of grubbing stumps, splitting rails and digging ditches. At the age of nineteen years he began to learn the blacksmith's trade, and April 17, 1883, he arrived in Kennedy, Kittson county. This was then headquarters for the Kennedy Land and Town Company, and our subject entered the employ of this company as blacksmith. He established a grocery store on a small scale in a twenty by thirty-foot building, in 1886, and in 1888 he enlarged the stock and also began dealing in general merchandise in the store building which he now occupies. At that time he also began dealing in farming machinery, and the business was conducted under the firm name of Sundberg & Goar. The partnership was dissolved in 1892, and the following year Mr. Goar formed a partnership with C. N. Nyberg, under the name of M. A. Goar & Company, which continued until 1898, when Mr. Nyberg retired, and Mr. Goar has since conducted the business alone. He has a liberal patronage and yearly increases his stock and trade.

Mr. Goar was married in 1877 to Miss Alta J. Evans. Mrs. Goar died in 1880. One child was born to Mr. and Mrs. Goar, who bears the name of Eva. Mr. Goar married Miss Mary Olson in 1890. She was a daughter of Stephen Olson, who, with his daughter, twenty-three years of age, perished in the blizzard of December 3, 1891, one of the most deplorable events of Kittson county history. Mrs. Goar went to that county in 1881, and resided on the Red river in Teien township. From 1892 to 1896 Mr. Goar served as postmaster of Kennedy and in 1896 he was elected on the fusion ticket to the state legislature. While a member of the general assembly he served on the appropriation committee, the committee on general legislation and the committee on agriculture. He introduced the house bill, providing for the loan of money for the purchase of seed grain, and was active in promoting many measures that are now important laws. In Kittson county he is regarded as one of the

founders of Democracy in that county, and has served in various offices of his party, and is at present a member of the state central committee. Kennedy was organized as a village in 1899, and Mr. Goar was tendered the office of president of the village board, which position he now ably fills. He is prominent in secret society affairs and holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen of America. He is upright in his dealings with men, and earnest in his convictions and well merits his success and high position. The portrait of Hon. M. A. Goar adorns another page in this book.

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### MATHIAS SMITH.

Mathias Smith, an aged resident of Cambridge, Isanti county, Minnesota, one of the strong and sturdy host that came from the Scandinavian lands to help in the conversion of a wilderness into a peopled state, was born in Sweden, December 20, 1833. His father, Hans Schmidt, was a blacksmith and mechanic, and brought his family to the United States when Mathias was a stout and hardy lad of seventeen years. The Smiths spent two years in Illinois, and in the fall of 1852 came to Minnesota, settling near Center City, Chisago county, making their home on a tract of wild timber land, which they proposed to clear and cultivate. There they built a log house, which was their home for several years, young Mathias applying himself diligently with all the rest to the tremendous task of clearing out a farm in the wild woodland, enduring much hard work, and as they had no team, packing their supplies on their backs at first, making the journey from Taylor's Falls to their home, a distance of nine miles, on foot. Later on the family attained the dignity of a yoke of oxen, and felt quite rich, our subject being put in charge of them. The family lived in Chisago county some nine years, and in 1861 removed to Isanti county, being among the very first to settle in the county.

Mathias Smith was married, in 1857, to Brita Eastlund, a native of Sweden, and a settler in Minnesota in 1856. To this union have come the following children: Christina, born in 1859; Alfred, 1861; Martha, 1863; William, 1866; Nellie, 1869; Ella; Emma; Esther; and Carl. These children have all lived to grow up and attain respectable positions in life.

Mr. Smith was engaged in farming from 1861 to 1874, and at times ran a blacksmith and wagon shop with considerable success. In 1874 he opened a general store at Cambridge, and has been engaged in the mercantile line since that time, meeting with such success as enterprise, honesty, and a desire to deal fairly and squarely

with all his customers, is bound to win in time. During the last twenty-seven years he has sometimes been associated with different partners, and sometimes he has carried on his business alone, which he has mostly done for the last twenty-three years. His store building is 24x125 feet, and in it everything was handled during this long period that the neighborhood could desire, even to farm machinery. The store and the greater part of its contents was destroyed by fire on the night of July —, 1901.

Mr. Smith has been a Republican since the time of Lincoln, and has received some signal honors at the hands of his party. He was county treasurer of Isanti county two terms, and for several years was on the board of county commissioners. He has held several village offices, and has taken a prominent part in town and county affairs for many years.

Mr. Smith belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, having worn the union blue during three years of hard and faithful service in the Civil war, enlisting August 13, 1862, in Company A, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, the first year being spent in the Indian campaign in the northwest. Later on he saw much hard fighting in the south, especially at the battle of Nashville, and with General Sherman in his famous "March to the Sea."

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### ERIK E. STROMGREN.

The business interests of Englund, Marshall county, are ably represented by the gentleman whose name heads this personal history. For some years he has followed commercial life, and is a man of excellent executive ability and business tact, and has placed himself among the prosperous merchants of that region. He is a young man of active public spirit and is accorded a high station as a citizen. He is a native of Sweden, but has spent most of his life in this country and has become thoroughly devoted to the interests of his adopted land and identified with her progress and civilization.

Mr. Stromgren was born February 13, 1871, and was the eldest of a family of five children born to Erik P. and Sarah (Henrikson) Stromgren, both of whom are residents of Warren, Minnesota. The family came to America in 1882, and settled in Marshall county, Minnesota. They passed the first winter in Warren, and in the spring of 1883 went out into the wilderness of Marshall county, and there located in section 30, of Nelson Park township. They followed farming and our subject was thus reared to a life of activity and hard labor, assisting his father in clearing the farm and placing it in a high state of cultivation. In 1891 he entered

Hope Academy, at Moorhead, Minnesota, and he passed two winters in that institution. He began work for J. P. Lundin, at Stephen, in the general merchandise business in 1892, and continued with him about two years, and there learned the practical business methods which have served him well. In the fall of 1893 he stocked a small store with general merchandise in partnership with Erik Carlson, and they conducted the business on a small scale until 1898, in which year our subject became sole owner. They erected a store building in 1894, and upon assuming full charge of the business Mr. Stromgren enlarged the building and now occupies a structure 50x44 feet, with a warehouse, and carries a complete stock of general merchandise, shelf hardware and farm implements. He has steadily increased his trade, and through his efforts a large country trade has been gained for Englund, and Mr. Stromgren is classed among the self made men of that locality. He is also postmaster of Englund and is an efficient and popular officer.

Our subject was married, in 1890, to Miss Ada Crandall. One daughter has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Stromgren, upon whom they have bestowed the name of Pearl. Mr. Stromgren is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and was a charter member of the Modern Woodmen of America. For some years he has identified himself prominently with local affairs, and is clerk of the township and school board. In political faith he is a Republican and stands staunchly for the principles of his party. In the early days of his residence in Marshall county he had many exciting experiences hunting wild game, and three black bears fell victims to his rifle in Marshall county. That locality has undergone a most wonderful transformation and now presents a most pleasing landscape and furnishes a good proportion of the wealth of Marshall county.

#### THOMAS JEFFERSON VAN LOON.

Thomas Jefferson Van Loon, one of the earliest settlers of Douglas county, Minnesota, is engaged in farming on section 24 of Holmes City township, and has met with pronounced success in this vocation. He has a wide acquaintance and is universally held in high esteem.

Mr. Van Loon was born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, January 24, 1847, and was a son of Minor and Charity (Davenport) Van Loon, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. The paternal grandfather of our subject was for many years sheriff of Luzerne county. The father of our subject was raised to farming and was married in his native state. The family consisted of nine children. In the fall of 1856 he

moved to Carroll county, Illinois, with his wife and children, and bought land there, for which he paid seven hundred dollars cash to a swindler who did not own the land. The rightful owner turned up and the land could have been secured for the same sum, but Mr. Van Loon did not care to pay for the farm twice, and after residing a year and a half in that state he went to Meeker county, Minnesota, where he remained three years, and then in 1862 removed to Douglas county. He "squatted" on land which he later secured as a homestead on sections 24 and 25, in Holmes City township. The family consisted of nine children, five of whom are still living, and are as follows: Draper, Amanda, wife of Henry Blackwell, a prosperous farmer of Holmes City township, whose life sketch appears in another part of this volume; Thomas Jefferson, our subject; Charles; and Elizabeth, wife of F. T. Gear, of Alexandria. The father added to his original homestead by the purchase of fifty-one acres, and became a prosperous farmer. He died May 16, 1892, and the mother of our subject died February 1, 1895. Minor Van Loon filled various offices in his township and was for a number of years a member of the school board. He was a Democrat in his political views. In the early days the Van Loon family and their sole neighbors, the Blackwells, suffered greatly from the thieving Indians, who not only took some unconsidered trifles, but at times became bold and threatening in their demands. The families were compelled to go armed on all occasions and to barricade their homes for fear of attack.

Thomas J. Van Loon was reared to hard farm work and had in his early career very limited opportunity for attending school, but abundant chances for assisting in the work of his father's farms, in Meeker and Douglas counties, until he reached the age of twenty-one years. He then began for himself and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, the land being the southeast quarter of section 28, in Lake Mary township. He sold this later, and in 1890 bought forty acres from his father's estate, and later an additional thirty-five acres. Upon the forty-acre tract, close to Pocket lake, he built a pleasant home, erected necessary outbuildings, and has the land in a good state of cultivation. It is well adapted to mixed farming and produces excellent grain, and he keeps a good grade of cattle on the farm. The forest timber shelters the house and barns from the north winds and the south is open to the lake.

Mr. Van Loon was married April 2, 1871, to Emma Boyd. Mrs. Van Loon died June 16, 1893. Five children were born to this union, namely: Minnie, Winnie, Kittie, Olive and Stephen. Mr. Van Loon married Matilda M.

Boswell, December 11, 1895. Our subject is a gentleman of thorough practical knowledge of his calling, and he pays strict attention to the details of the same and has met with marked success in farming. He does not enter actively into public affairs, but lends his influence for good government, local and national, and is an esteemed citizen of his community.

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#### ARNT H. FROSHAUG.

The business interests of Twin Valley, Norman county, have a worthy representative in the gentleman above named. He is senior member of the firm of Froshaug & Myron, of that place, and aside from the partnership interests he has good property personauy, including residence and store buildings in Twin Valley, and a valuable farm near the city, on which he makes his home and conducts agriculture. He is a man of good business tact and has won a high station as a citizen as well as a business man.

Our subject was born on a farm near Christiania, Norway, in 1870. His father, John O. Froshaug, was a physician during his career, and he came to America in 1870, and was joined by his family in this country in 1880. Our subject received a portion of his education in his native land and also attended the common schools in America at Lake Park, Minnesota, where the family located in 1880. He and a brother came to America together in the fall of that year. The father conducted a drug business in Lake Park about 1876. Our subject attended Breckenridge College, at Decorah, Iowa, one year, completing his studies in 1890. The father had located government land adjoining the city of Twin Valley, in 1876, and he later secured the town site, and the family has resided at Twin Valley since 1882. Our subject has cut hay and followed farming on the present town site, the town being started when the Northern Pacific Railroad was built northward. He grew to manhood on the home farm, and in 1892, on account of ill health, went to Norway, and after spending a year there, he returned to Twin Valley and established a livery business. He continued thus one year and then founded his present profitable business, hardware and farm machinery, in partnership with O. H. Myron, under the firm name of Froshaug & Myron. They conducted the business together until the fall of 1896, when Sylvester Peterson became interested in the same and the business was then conducted under the firm name of Froshaug, Peterson & Myron. In the fall of 1899 our subject and Mr. Myron purchased the other partner's interest and the firm is now known as Froshaug & Myron. They have an establishment 24x75 feet, with a lean-to 14x75

feet, and a warehouse the same dimensions as the store building, and they conduct an increasing and prosperous business. The store was entered by burglars in the fall of 1898, and the safe was blown open and some papers and a small amount of money were taken, and about a hundred dollars worth of hardware. Mr. Froshaug's city property comprises a residence and a store building on the main street, 32x60 feet, which is occupied by J. K. Weium, general merchant. His farm adjoins the town of Twin Valley and he follows grain raising thereon. He also has other tracts of land in different parts of the county.

Our subject was married July 11, 1894, to Miss Bella Wold, a native of Sibley county, Minnesota. Mrs. Froshaug's father, Nils Wold, was born in Norway, and is an old settler of Twin Valley, having located in Norman county in 1880. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Froshaug, who are as follows: Irwin, Esther and Eva. Mr. Froshaug is prominent in public affairs of his county and township, and is serving as town treasurer and justice of the peace. He was nominee for county sheriff on the Republican ticket in 1894.

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#### HANS A. SANDWICK.

Hans A. Sandwick, a worthy representative of his native land in a state where his countrymen have done so much to increase the wealth and standing of the community in the arts and refinements of civilized life, was born in Telemarken, Norway, in 1864, and is today one of the honored and respected settlers of Willow River, Pine county, Minnesota. Anund H. Sandwick, the father of Hans A., was a farmer and a merchant in his native land, where he married Olino Oleson. They had a family of three children, who were reared on the farm and educated at Kongsberg.

When Hans A. Sandwick was thirteen years old he left the home in which he had been reared, to make his own way in the world. He was able to spend three years at school, and then was at home a year. In 1882 he sought a home in the United States. In the old home schools he had been well educated, was a graduate of what answers to the American high school, being well versed in English, German and French, so that he was prepared to wrestle for himself in the new and strange country to which he had come. He landed in Philadelphia, and made his way to Wisconsin, where he was employed as a lumberman, at first in a sawmill, and then in the lumber camps in the northern part of that state, principally along the Wisconsin river. After he had worked in Wisconsin some three years he could not resist the longing to revisit his native land. After a year spent in Norway, in 1886 he came



again to the United States, and secured a position as clerk in Duluth, being employed in the grocery store of E. G. Swanstrom, a prominent politician of that city, with whom Mr. Sandwick spent three years. As many more years were devoted to the business of Baker Swenson, who conducted a general store in that city, and in 1893 Mr. Sandwick was thrown out of work by the panic. In 1895, however, he was again in business, being employed by the Atwood Lumber Company in their store at Willow River, Minnesota. His abilities commanded respect and received recognition, so that three years later he became the general manager of the store, which is one of the most extensive in Pine county. It has a front of fifty feet and a depth of sixty-five feet. Mr. Sandwick does all the buying for the store, and sees that everything which a laboring man may desire is in stock.

Mr. Sandwick was married in 1882 to Miss Amelia Nelson, who was born and educated in Norway, and whose father was then a book-keeper in her native land. To this union have come four children: William, Jennie, Victor and Roy, all bright and cheery young folks with the promise of a bright future.

Mr. Sandwick is a Republican, and belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Foresters. He has done much to open up the northern part of the state, and is a man much respected by all who know him.

#### HANS H. BANGEN.

Among the intelligent and energetic agriculturists of Polk county, who has met with reserved success may be mentioned Hans H. Bangen, who resides in Vineland township, where he controls two hundred and sixty acres of valuable land. Mr. Bangen was one of the early settlers of that region and he is a teacher of note in his locality, and has gained an enviable reputation as a citizen.

Mr. Bangen was born in Tolgen, Norway, December 24, 1838. He was the fourth in a family of five children born to Hans and Maren (Larsen) Hanson. Mr. Bangen came to America in the summer of 1866, and was a passenger on the steamship with his neighbor Jevning. He went to Freeborn county, Minnesota, where he engaged in teaching in the Norwegian school, and also worked for farmers alternately until 1873. Ole Jevning and Ole O. Estenson, who had settled in Polk county in 1871, visited in Freeborn county during the winter of 1872, and from them our subject heard of the promising new region, and the following spring returned with his friends to the undeveloped country. He lived on Mr. Estenson's farm the first year and

in 1874 moved to his present home. His first house was of logs and was 14x18 feet. He now has a commodious frame residence, and every comfort of rural life. His farm is well improved and he has met with pronounced success in diversified farming, and is now the owner of a valuable estate.

Mr. Bangen was married in Freeborn county, Minnesota, to Miss Eline Thompson, also of Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Bangen are the parents of the following children: Mina Sofie, Hans Anton, Marie, Clara, Thea, Laura, Theodore Adolph and Helmer Elvin. Mr. Bangen is a gentleman of good education and is a thorough student, and has followed teaching as a profession during his entire career in addition to his farm work, and is at present engaged in teaching. Since 1873 he has been Kirche-Sanger to the local congregation of the Free church. He is a Prohibitionist politically, and is an active temperance worker, and is president of the Red River Valley Temperance Association. He served as chairman of the township board for four years, and is a prominent and deservedly successful man.

#### DR. QUINCY E. ANDREWS.

Dr. Quincy E. Andrews, a retired physician, who now resides on his farm in section 32, Kragenes township, Clay county, is one of the most highly respected men of this part of Minnesota. His farm, which is known locally as the "Wood-lawn farm," consists of four hundred and eighty acres, and includes about a hundred acres of timber and meadow. It is a handsome place, well improved, and is one of the most attractive rural homes to be found in the valley.

Dr. Andrews is a descendant of William Andrews, the schoolmaster of Hartford, Connecticut, who taught school in Hartford in 1639. Dr. Andrews was born in Portage county, Ohio, January 26, 1834, and was the third member of a family of four children born to Alpheus C. and Almira (Kent) Andrews. The father was a merchant during the years when Quincy E. was a youth. Before he was grown he went to New York and in 1854, when Kansas was the scene of turmoil and strife, he went to that region. From there he returned to New York, and for a time was in his Ohio home. In 1856 he went to Decorah, Iowa, where he spent about a year and then moved to Austin, Minnesota, where, deciding to study medicine he returned to New York, where he studied and prepared for the career of a physician. In these years he was deeply interested in scientific themes, especially in navigation and ballooning. He has made eight balloon ascensions, going up one time as high as fourteen

thousand feet. His medical studies were completed in Jefferson College, in Philadelphia, from which institution he was graduated in 1865. In Farmington, Minnesota, he practiced medicine until 1867, and for two years was at Alexandria, being the pioneer physician in the town. Dr. Andrews located in such an out-of-the-way place on the account of his poor health, and there he wandered the wilderness with rod and gun to his heart's content.

Dr. Andrews was employed in 1868 as surgeon in the mines at Calumet, Michigan, where he settled down and remained until 1880, building up a profitable and satisfactory practice. In 1880 he came to the Red river valley, on account of his poor health, as well as for the sake of its agricultural opportunities. He bought the "Woodlawn Farm" of Bishop Whipple and locating himself here, began a quiet farm life, giving up active practice, and bent on prolonging his days in a healthy out-of-door fashion. He is a Democrat, and has been town clerk for fifteen years. In Masonic circles he is very prominent, and for many years has been a Royal Arch Mason. Since his arrival in the valley he has made three trips to the Pacific coast. A portrait of the Doctor, on another page of this work, will greatly add to its value to his many friends.

As Dr. Andrews has no family, "Woodlawn," his beautiful home, has been placed in the care of Edmund F. Parker and his cultivated wife, who was born Hannah J. Rowe. Mr. Parker was born in Ohio, and his wife in New York. Mr. Parker is a thorough and successful farmer, and his wife a most hospitable and charming lady. Mr. Parker was a soldier of the Civil war and served his country for three years and eight months, being connected with the Army of the Potomac, where, after participating in many of the most bloody battles of that war, he was taken prisoner at Petersburg and for a time detained in southern prisons, for eight months being kept at Andersonville, being paroled from that point. Mr. Parker came to the Red river valley in 1880, and has seen the marvelous transformation of a wilderness into the fertile home of a teeming population.

#### CHARLES PIKE.

Charles Pike represents one of the pioneer families of Ottertail county, Minnesota. He has spent nearly a quarter of a century there and has a host of friends. He engages in diversified farming in section 1, of Compton township, where he has built up a home of great comfort.

Mr. Pike was born on a farm in Broome county, New York, July 6, 1832. His father, William Pike, was of English descent, and was a farmer by occupation. His grandfather, Joseph

Pike, served in the Revolutionary war. The mother of our subject was born in New York state and was of Irish descent. She bore the maiden name of Percis Crawford. Mr. Pike was the seventh in a family of fourteen children. He attended the common schools and was reared to farm work, and at the age of twenty-one began work for others on the farms of his locality. He came to Minnesota in 1857, and after spending some time in prospecting through Blue Earth county, went to Bremer county, Iowa, in 1859. He followed farming there five years, and then removed to Hancock and engaged in the same pursuit. He came to Ottertail county, Minnesota, in 1878, in search of better health. His health was impaired by an accident suffered in Iowa. One of his horses kicked him, and he sustained an injury to his head, from which he has never fully recovered. He and his son lived in a tent in Minnesota while breaking their land and erecting a suitable dwelling. They broke sixty acres of land, and their first crop was fifteen hundred bushels of wheat and three hundred and fifty bushels of oats, which sold for good figures, and by judicious management our subject improved his farm and has never suffered the hardships usual to pioneers of the northwest. He now is the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, upon which he has a complete set of good farm buildings, a good well, plenty of modern machinery, and meets with success in his farming operations.

Mr. Pike was married in Iowa, in 1860, to Miss Armena Daily. Mrs. Pike was born at Cleveland, Ohio, and was a daughter of Andrew Daily, a native of New York, and a farmer by occupation. Her mother was born in Massachusetts and was of Irish descent. Mrs. Pike was reared to the age of sixteen years in Illinois. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Pike, of whom the following is a record: Edith, born in 1861, now married; Frank, born in 1863, now engaged in farming in Todd county; Sherman, born in 1865, now deceased; Roxie, born in 1868, now married and living in Washington; Minnie, born in 1873, now engaged in teaching; William, born in 1875, now following the profession of teaching; Harvey, born in 1877, follows farming; Homer, born in 1879, now engaged in clerking; and Lloyd, born in 1882, completing his education. The children were always given the best educational advantages and are cultured and occupy high stations. The death of Sherman Pike, the second son, was a severe blow to his parents. He was a kind-hearted, honest, good natured boy, and gladness and good-will always followed in his train. For several years he was employed as trainman on the Northern Pacific Railway and was proficient in his work. In assisting the brakeman to stop

a loaded car he swung onto the break, and the pin broke, throwing both men forward. Sherman fell, and at the same time tried to clear himself from the track, but both trucks of the loaded car passed over him, causing death on the spot where he fell. He passed away without a groan, his fellow brakeman standing by his side. He was married in April, 1890, to Miss Blanche Tull, who survives him.

Charles Pike and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and are among the representative early settlers of Ottertail county. Mr. Pike has always taken an active part in local affairs, and has served his community as township supervisor and a member of the school board. He voted the first Republican ticket put into the field, and has continued a staunch advocate of Republican principles. His sons are also followers of this faith politically.

#### EDWIN R. HUTCHINSON.

Edwin R. Hutchinson, now living in retirement in the village of Georgetown, Clay county, Minnesota, is a pioneer of the Northwest, and has witnessed the development of that country from a veritable wilderness to its present prosperous condition and advanced civilization.

Mr. Hutchinson was born in New Brunswick, June 16, 1825. He was the third in order of birth in a family of nine children born to David and Elizabeth (Riddle) Hutchinson. His parents were natives of the United States, as was also his paternal grandfather. As nearly as can be ascertained our subject is of Scotch-Irish extraction.

David Hutchinson was a shipbuilder and our subject learned that trade in his youth. On attaining his majority he spent considerable time in adventure and traversed the seas, visiting many parts of the world, during a period of four years. He made several voyages to Europe and finally ascended the Mississippi river to the Great Lakes. For seven years following he was occupied in ship and bridge building. In the spring of 1857 he started into the wilderness to the west, passing through St. Paul, where he remained a short time, and from the drivers of wagon trains he learned of the extent and character of Lake Winnipeg, and conceived the idea of sailing a vessel upon it. In the fall of 1857 Mr. Hutchinson, in company with William Moorehead and Mart Kellogg, went to Otter Tail lake and wintered upon its shores, occupying the time in trapping and laying out town sites. In June of the following year our subject accompanied a party of pleasure seekers and explorers up the Mississippi river in a boat, later known as the Anson Northrop, which for some years afterward plied

the waters of the Red river. The captain of this expedition was Jeff Young. The passage up the Mississippi river, though very difficult, was attended with much genuine pleasure. Pegama Falls was the highest point to which a boat could ascend. In the winter of 1858-59 this boat was taken apart and all except the hull was transported to the Red river to a point at the mouth of the Cheyenne river and Mr. Hutchinson as the only practical shipbuilder was employed to superintend the construction of a vessel. He piloted the new boat for one year on the Red river, when it became useless. Later he piloted the International for the Hudson's Bay Company up to about 1870.

Mr. Hutchinson first came to Georgetown in 1859, and continued to make that his home and winter headquarters. He spent much time in hunting and trapping, many buffalo and elk falling before his shotgun, his only weapon. About 1870 Mr. Hutchinson was employed by a Mr. McKinney, and built a schooner of one hundred and twenty tons and also a yacht to sail lake Winnipeg, thus realizing his early dreams in the northwest. In 1871 he accompanied an expedition for the Hudson's Bay Company up the Saskatchewan river to ascertain whether that stream was navigable and upon a favorable report he was employed in the construction of a steamer on its waters. This steamer he piloted the first two trips. In 1874 our subject located a homestead on section 6 in Kragnes township, Clay county, where he resided until 1899, when he retired from active life and located in Georgetown, where he has since resided.

Mr. Hutchinson has been a Republican since his earliest recollection and staunchly supports the principles of that party. He has been a member of the Odd Fellows since early manhood. He has been an active member of the community in which he has lived and has done more probably than any other one man in developing the resources of the great northwest. His early adventures and explorations in that region led many settlers to locate there, and encouraged many enterprises which otherwise would have been delayed for many years.

Mr. Hutchinson was married in 1860 to Miss Isabel Bird, a native of Winnipeg. Mr. and Mrs. Hutchinson have thirteen living children. The following is the family record: Edwin H.; David, deceased; Susan; Alexander; Ellen, deceased; Hugh, deceased; Jessie; Randolph; Ida; James; Elizabeth; George; Belle; Arthur; Edith, deceased; Mabel; Ruth; and Mary, deceased.

RANDOLPH P. HUTCHINSON, a leading farmer and business man of Clay county, resides on section 31 of Georgetown township.

Our subject was born in Clay county, Minnesota, October 22, 1870. He is a son of Edwin

R. and Isabel (Bird) Hutchinson, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Our subject was reared to manhood in the Red river valley and brought up to farm life. He was among the pioneers of that region and grew up familiar with the institutions and history of northwestern Minnesota. He inherits from a sturdy ancestry a magnificent physique, and at the age of thirty-one years tips the beam at two hundred and thirty-five pounds. He is well known throughout the county and highly esteemed wherever known.

In 1891 Mr. Hutchinson began farming for himself and at about the same time took up the business of threshing grain, which he has followed with great success. He now operates two threshing outfits, and is kept busy during the entire season. He is an influential man in his community and for the past five years has been a member of the township board, during three years of which time he has presided as chairman. He is a Republican and has proved himself an efficient worker in its behalf. He is a member of the A. O. U. W., and affiliated with the Red Men of America.

Mr. Hutchinson was married in 1895 to Miss Mary Patton. To this marriage one child has been born, James, deceased.

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#### OLAF EASTLAND.

Olaf Eastland, an old and much respected resident of Isanti township, where his years and character alike command the regard of the community, was born in Sweden in 1834, his father at that time being employed in an iron factory. He was the oldest member in a family of seven children, and was inured to hard work from his early youth. His education was obtained in the local schools, and when he was twenty-two years of age he accompanied his parents to the United States. Just before his departure from his native land he was married to Miss Louise E. Henderson. Her father was a tailor. To this marriage were born seven children, six of whom are now living: Peter, Henry, Elizabeth, Kate, Edwin and Lilly. All these were born in the United States.

After the arrival of the Eastlands in Minnesota they settled close to Center City on a farm in 1856. Four years later Olaf came into Isanti county, where he secured land for himself. Three years before, in company with two other adventurous young men, he made a trip with a compass through this county to Princeton, in the day before roads were established. While he was in Chisago county he worked on a farm, and in that way accumulated enough for him to take up land in 1860. With his wife and one child he

began for himself under the most unpromising conditions. After making the necessary payments he had but twenty-five cents on hand. He ground wheat in a coffee mill for the family eating. In 1865 he bought his first team.

Mr. Eastland enlisted in the Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in 1862, and was a soldier for three years. Two years were spent in fighting the Indians, and the last year in the south. He spent many winters working in the woods, and at last become forehanded. At the present time he owns a farm of two hundred acres, about half of which is under cultivation. He has a good home, fine farm buildings, and every requirement for doing the farm work rapidly and successfully.

Mr. Eastland is a Republican, and has served as assessor two terms, and for many years has been chairman of the town board. For two terms he has been county commissioner. He has taken a prominent part in county politics, and is one of the influential and representative farmers of Isanti county.

Mrs. Eastland died August 29, 1900, and since her death Mr. Eastland has retired from active farming, turning the farm over to his son, Peter. He has led a long and active life, and well deserves the comfort that he is finding in his last days.

Peter Eastland was born in Chisago county, in 1859, was educated and reared in Isanti county, spent eight winters in the pineries, the balance of the time assisting in the home farm work. He was married to Huldah M. Danielson. They have three children—Ruth, Reuben and Gladys Louise. Elizabeth is the wife of Edward Norelius, mayor and merchant of Isanti; they have five children.

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#### HERBERT H. FINROW.

Becker county boasts of many fine farms, and nowhere in Minnesota is there greater evidence of genuine prosperity than is to be found in the agricultural communities of Atlanta township. Among those who have brought about this desirable state of things in Becker county, none is more deserving of a place in its history than Herbert H. Finrow. Mr. Finrow is one of the pioneers of Becker county, and is thoroughly familiar with the hardships endured by the early settlers, who braved the winters of northwest Minnesota in their search for homes for themselves and children.

Mr. Finrow was born in Norway, July 16, 1860. His parents, Hans A. and Carrie (Peterson) Finrow, were both natives of Norway. The father was born December 18, 1815, and the mother July 28, 1820. When our subject was four years old the family came to America, and

located first in Worth county, Iowa. They remained there six years, and then removed to Winneshiek county, of the same state. They remained there until 1879, when our subject came to Becker county, Minnesota. After carefully inspecting the lands in the various parts of the county he finally selected a homestead claim in section 24 of Atlanta township. He at once erected a log cabin and a sod stable. For the first fifteen years he used oxen for developing and cultivating his land. He experienced great hardships and suffered exposure to blizzards and excessive cold. On three different occasions his crops were destroyed by hail. His wood for fuel he was compelled to haul twenty-four miles across the prairies, the trip requiring two days. He has outlived these primitive conditions and has met with success in all his undertakings for many years past. He is now the owner of a farm of three hundred and twenty acres, cultivating two hundred acres annually. The land is diversified, furnishing pasture and meadow lands, and is amply supplied with a good quality of water. His farm is equipped with modern machinery, including a threshing machine, and he is also proprietor of a saw-mill located in Holmesville township, which he has operated for the past ten winters. He has a good residence and substantial farm buildings, his residence being the best in Atlanta township. He is the owner of nine head of horses, eleven head of cattle, and other stock.

Mr. Finrow was married, in 1889, to Nettie Lein, their wedding day being June 14. Mrs. Finrow is the daughter of Andrew Lein, and is a native of Norway having been born in that country March 28, 1871. Four children have been born to this marriage, namely: Arnold R., Clarence A., Morgan and Leroy Bryan. The family worship with the Lutheran church. Mr. Finrow is a supporter of the principles of the Populist party, and wields considerable influence in his locality. For the past ten years he has held the office of clerk of Atlanta township, and has also been chairman of the board of supervisors.

#### THORVALD MORCK.

Industry and energy are the dominant traits in the character of the gentleman above named, and by these he has placed himself among the popular county officials of Marshall county. He is progressive, intelligent and well educated and well merits his high social standing and success in business life. He is serving as clerk of the district court for Marshall county, and resides in Warren, where he has a large acquaintance and is universally esteemed.

Mr. Morek was born in Sarpsborg, Norway,

January 9, 1863. He was the eldest of a family of five sons born to Jacob and Jessie (Thorsen) Morek. After completing his studies in the public schools of his native land he entered a retail hardware store as a clerk in 1878, and in 1880 came to America, and at once located at Red Lake Falls, Minnesota, where he accepted a position as a clerk in the general merchandise establishment of Norde & Thorsen. He came to Marshall county in August, 1885, and worked in Argyle and then spent a year in North Dakota, after which he engaged with Olson & Holm, of Argyle, as bookkeeper and became proficient as an accountant. He continued thus engaged until 1898, when he was elected to the office of clerk of the district court for Marshall county, and has since served in that capacity. He is a faithful officer and popular with all who know him.

Mr. Morek was married in 1886 to Miss Augusta A. Quense, of New Ulm, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Morek are the parents of two children, who are named Jeanette and Frederick. Mr. Morek is a member of the Presbyterian church and is prominent in secret society circles, holding membership in the following orders: A. F. & A. M., Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen of America and Knights of the Maccabees. He is a charter member of the I. O. O. F. and K. of P. of Argyle. He is a Republican politically and since 1896 has served as secretary of the Republican county committee for two terms, and is an ardent worker for party principles. His work, as a member of the greatest political party of the world, is greatly appreciated by the members of that party and even admired by those of a different political faith. A portrait of Mr. Morek in this connection is a valuable contribution to the history of the state and may be found on another page of this volume.

#### OLE THOMPSON.

Ole Thompson, residing on section 16, in Fork township, is one of the pioneers of Marshall county and among the first to locate in Fork township. He is owner of a fine estate, which he has accumulated by his work in Minnesota, and he may well review his life with pride. He is a man of industrious habits, progressive, and intelligent, and is accorded a prominent position as a citizen and farmer by those among whom he has spent so many years.

Our subject was born in Norway, April 23, 1837, and was the fifth in a family of eight children born to Thomas and Millie (Bjerssen) Thompson, both of whom are now deceased. Mr. Thompson came to America in 1865 and joined his brother in Wisconsin, in which state he re-

mained four years, and was employed in a saw-mill, and then took a homestead in Barron county, and stayed on that farm for twelve years. He heard favorable reports of the Red river valley and in 1880 went to look over the country and selected land in Marshall county, purchasing the same from the railroad company. He changed his residence to his new farm, in 1881, taking some stock with him, and as he had about seventy-five dollars in money he erected a shanty 28 by 16 feet. This served as a home until the following spring when floods destroyed the dwelling, and from the pieces which lodged in the timber Mr. Thompson gathered enough together to rebuild the shanty. He then built a log house, and in 1891 his present substantial and comfortable residence was erected. Mr. Thompson now owns one thousand acres of land and is one of the well-to-do men of his township. He has prospered in his chosen vocation, and is well versed in the same and his counsel is often sought in matters pertaining to successful agriculture.

Mr. Thompson was married, in 1862, to Miss Betsey Olson. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, who are as follows: Annie; Thomas, a civil engineer; Martha; Ole; Minnie; Julia; Ada; and Clara. In the upbuilding and advancement of public enterprises in Fork township our subject has taken a most hearty interest and he has given close attention to public affairs and has been called upon to serve his community in various offices. He was the first chairman of the township board in Fork township and has held the office almost continuously since the organization of the township. In 1900 he was elected county commissioner of Marshall county for four years. He is a Populist politically.

#### JOHN RUNDQUIST.

John Rundquist, one of the prosperous and highly respected citizens of Kanabec county, whose career shows the possibilities of life in a new country to a man of pluck, energy and character, was born in Warmland, Sweden, in 1862, and is a son of a laboring man, who is still living in Sweden. Mr. Rundquist is the third member of a family of five children, who were reared and educated in that Swedish home. He lost his mother when but six years of age, and was put in charge of an uncle, with whom he remained until he was sixteen years of age, having had much hard farm work and but little and poor schooling. From sixteen to eighteen he was working for a large lumber company in the northern part of Sweden, and the came to the United States, landing in Philadelphia in 1885, and spending three weeks in Chicago, where he worked six days. With what money he had left

he bought a ticket to Hastings, Minnesota, where he secured farm work for the next four months. At the end of that time he secured employment on the Burlington & Northern Railroad, then building into St. Paul. Starting as a laborer in the fall of 1885, with pick and shovel, the following year he was made a foreman; and three years later a general foreman. He took small contracts for himself at various times, and in 1896, resigning his position as a general foreman, he began contracting on a large scale. This was his business for the ensuing five years. During these years he has had large and increasing interests in the Iron Range country of northern Michigan, where he did considerable railroad work, and during this time made his home at Two Harbors, where he still retains valuable mining interests. Mr. Rundquist did considerable railroad work in the Dakota country and is thoroughly familiar with the great northwest.

Mr. Rundquist came to Grassston, Kanabec county, in 1899, and bought a farm close to the village, soon buying a second and a third place, and now owns about four hundred acres, nearly all adjoining the village, and making a fine country home. Here he has built a handsome residence, large and commodious barns, sheds, and all other needed structures, and installed a good supply of farm machinery, making it one of the best appointed and most attractive farms in this section of the state.

In company with O. M. Nelson, Mr. Rundquist operates a large department store at Grass-town, and in the spring of 1901 they put up a store building 60 by 120 feet, in which they handle everything that is a subject of barter and sale among the farmers, running from dry goods to farm machinery and produce. He is also interested in the Farmers' Trading Company at Braham, and is president of that company.

Mr. Rundquist was married, in 1889, but lost his wife in 1894. He was married again in 1897, and is the father of four children: John William, Emma S., Elmer R. and Ellen, all of whom were born at Two Harbors. At that point he was a member of the village board two years and on the town board three years, being chairman one year.

#### GUS MOSER.

To the pioneer business men of Carlton is due much of the credit for her present prosperity. The gentleman above named has resided in that thriving town since its early settlement, and by integrity and good management has accumulated a good property and an extensive trade in the butcher business. He has also gained an enviable reputation as a citizen and justly so.

Mr. Moser was born on a farm in Switzer-



land, January 31, 1862. His father was a blacksmith and died when our subject was but three months of age. He had four older brothers and sisters and was reared on the home farm and assisted with the work of the place, attending the common schools of his neighborhood and receiving a fair education. He was apprenticed to learn the butcher's trade at the age of fourteen years and served two years thus. He then followed his trade four years in the counties of his native land, and in 1882, at the age of twenty years, decided to cross the ocean and see what was in store for a young man of determination and perseverance. He landed at New York and then went to Rochester, New York, where he followed his trade a short time, and then went to St. Paul and was engaged in the business there one year. He located at Moorhead, Minnesota, in 1884, and later went to Cloquet, where he remained one winter. In the spring of 1885 he located at Carlton and worked at his trade one year, and in the spring of the following year he and his brother-in-law, Fred Grnug, opened a meat market. For the past seventeen years Mr. Moser has continued in the business, and in 1893 he purchased his partner's interest and has since conducted the business alone. He has met with marked success and has one of the best markets of the town and handles the best grade of meat to be obtained.

Mr. Moser was married, in 1890, to Miss Annie Kurth. Mrs. Moser was born in Alma, Wisconsin. Her parents were natives of Switzerland, and came to America about 1855. Mr. and Mrs. Moser are the parents of one daughter, Annie, who was born at Carlton, Minnesota. Mr. Moser is a gentleman of true public spirit and he has served as a member of the village board. Politically he is a Republican.

#### OLE G. HOUGAN.

Ole G. Hougan, an ex-soldier and progressive farmer of McDonaldsville township, Norman county, is a pioneer of that locality, and although a citizen of foreign birth he has become thoroughly identified with American civilization and is one of the leading men of his community. He has a pleasant home in section 18, where he has spent the last quarter century of his life.

Our subject was born on a farm in Telemarken, Norway, in 1838. His father, Gunner Hougan, came to America in 1853 and settled in Minnesota, and died there the same year. Our subject was the third in a family of four children, and was reared on the pioneer farm in Minnesota, and owing to schools not having been established there during his early life in Minnesota he received little or no English schooling. After

his father's death he assisted the family in gaining a support and earned his own livelihood, and worked hard as a boy. In January, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and was sent to the south. He was in the Army of the Potomac and also the Army of the James, and saw about three years and three months of active service in defense of the Union. He then returned to Minnesota and spent some time in Houston county, and then went to Missouri, and he later worked in Kansas City. In 1875 he went to Norman county, Minnesota, and filed claim to the land on which he now resides, and which has since been his home farm. He had a small start and for a few years worked on the railroad more or less to get started. His first team were oxen, and he lived in a shanty which he erected. His farm now comprises two hundred and forty acres of land, but he has about three hundred acres under cultivation annually, and is engaged in grain and stock-raising. He has a fine estate and has prospered in his chosen calling.

Our subject was married, in 1871, to Miss Sophia Anderson. Mrs. Hougan died in 1874. One child was born to this union, a daughter, named Nettie. Mr. Hougan was married, in 1880, to Miss Barbara Berg. Mrs. Hougan was born in Norway and came to America in 1870. Seven children, four of whom are now living, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hougan. They were all born in Minnesota, and are named as follows: Gunner, Sophia, Martin, Mary, Clara, Oscar and Selma. Mr. Hougan has served his community in various public positions and has gained the confidence and esteem of all. He has served as supervisor and assessor of McDonaldsville township, and is one of the public-spirited men of Norman county. He has witnessed a most marvelous transformation in that region in the past twenty-five years, and to his efforts as a citizen and farmer is due much of the thrift and prosperity enjoyed around him. He is a member of the G. A. R. and the Masonic fraternity, and politically is an independent voter, lending his influence for good local government, irrespective of party.

#### PARNELL ATKINSON.

Parnell Atkinson, an influential and prosperous agriculturist of Carlos township, is one of the early settlers of Douglas county, and can recount many interesting experiences of life in the undeveloped northwest. He is now proprietor of one of the highly cultivated tracts of that locality, his home being located in section 12 of Carlos township. He was born in Ontario, Canada, November 6, 1857.

The parents of our subject were Evason and

Eliza (Curry) Atkinson, the former a native of Yorkshire, England, and the latter of Irish descent and a native of the state of New York. Our subject's father learned the trade of a butcher under his father, Parnell Atkinson, who carried on that business in addition to farming in his native land. Evason Atkinson left his home for Canada in a sailing vessel and after nine weeks tossing about on the waters landed at Toronto, January 1, 1852. He had five hundred dollars in cash and he established a meat business in Canada which he conducted until 1861. He then went to Bellevue, Ohio, and enlisted for a thirty days' service in the war of the Rebellion, after which he went to Saginaw, Michigan, where he was engaged in the salt works for two years and later opened a butcher shop in Eagle Harbor, Michigan. He came to Douglas county, Minnesota, in 1866, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 1 of Carlos township. He at once built a log house in which his family resided for fifteen years and he then erected a modern dwelling wherein his widow now resides. He increased his acreage as circumstances permitted, and at the time of his demise owned six hundred acres of valuable land. He engaged in stock raising successfully, and kept Durham cattle, Leicester sheep and good farm horses. He visited England for several months during the summer of 1881 and his failing health was for a time improved thereby. He died January 13, 1897. Mr. Atkinson was a man of sterling characteristics and had a host of friends. He served as justice of the peace and assessor of Carlos township for a number of years and was also county commissioner and chairman of that board. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and that order conducted the burial services of Mr. Atkinson in Alexandria. He was married in Canada, September 23, 1856, to Elizabeth Curry. Seven children, six sons and one daughter, were born of this union, the surviving children being as follows: Parnell, Isaac P., Frederick G. and Evason. The last named resides on the old homestead and manages the farm for the heirs.

Parnell Atkinson, the first born of the family, received a limited education in the public schools of Michigan, but he has been mostly self-taught, and through his diligent study of books and humanity he has become a gentleman of more than usual knowledge. He is an agreeable conversationalist and has met with good success in his business ventures. Mr. Atkinson journeyed to the Black Hills in 1877, soon after the discovery of gold there, and taking with him teams he did a good business freighting there one year. He then returned to Minnesota and started farming on his own account in 1882. He now owns a valuable farm of one hundred and seventy acres on the southeast quarter of section 12, in Carlos

township, and he has the entire tract under cultivation. He formerly bought and sold stock for shipment extensively, but now confines his herd to about fifty head of Durham cattle. During his early life he hunted and trapped game, when the Chippewa Indian wigwams were numerous near his father's dwelling, and on one occasion, when the Indians were driving deer he managed to head off the herd and killed five of them—deer, not Indians.

Mr. Atkinson was married at Crookston, June 6, 1882, to Margaret Curry, a daughter of John and Mary (Montgomery) Curry, both of whom were natives of Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson were born in the same town and were school mates in their youthful days. They are the parents of two children, a son and a daughter, namely: Whitford B. and Ethel. Mr. Atkinson has served as supervisor of Carlos township most of the time since he reached his majority, and he is at present chairman of the board. Politically he advocates the principles of the People's party. He holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Honor, Knights of The Maccabees, and Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is a member of the Union church of Carlos and is a director of the same.

#### DOLPHUS CHAMPEAU.

Dolphus Champeau, who enjoys the distinction of being the oldest resident settler of Lake Pleasant township, Red Lake county, has a finely developed farm in section 1. His estate consists of three hundred and sixty acres of land, and his homestead is a pleasant tract on Badger creek. He engages in diversified farming and has met with unbounded success in his vocation and has gained the esteem and highest regard of his associates.

Mr. Champeau was born in the Province of Quebec, Canada, June 29, 1846, and was the eighth in a family of seventeen children, seven of whom are now living. The parents, Anthony and Sophia (Dubue) Champeau, are now deceased. They were born in Canada and were of French descent. Our subject worked on a farm in Canada until he was seventeen years of age, when he went to Michigan and worked for thirteen years in various mines. He then engaged in contracting for the supply of cord wood for seven years and February 28, 1878, started for northern Minnesota with the idea of making a home on the farm. He had six hundred dollars with him and March 8 he paid five hundred dollars of his capital for the right to the farm he now owns and thereon he filed a homestead claim. He purchased a yoke of oxen and some seed wheat with the last hundred dollars and after his family

joined him in April he found himself in debt eight hundred dollars for board. He raised one thousand bushels of grain on the fifty acres broke on the place, and the second year cultivated sixty acres, and by practicing the strictest economy gained a good start. He lived in a 12x12 feet log shanty with a shed kitchen, and this served for a home until 1892, when the present comfortable and substantial residence was erected. In 1896 Mr. Champeau added one hundred and sixty acres to his possessions by purchase, and the farm as it now stands is one of the finest estates of the county, lying but five miles from the county seat and is well watered by Badger creek, a stream which flows the year around. It is admirably adapted to stock-raising and Mr. Champeau has met with success in this line. He is awake to modern ideas and improvements and his supplies and machinery together with buildings evidence thrift and painstaking care in the farm work.

Mr. Champeau was married in 1868 to Miss Marie Laurent, a native of Canada. To this union thirteen children were born, namely: Louis and Remi, twins, both deceased; Ida, now Mrs. L. Hubert, of Duluth; Daniel, a resident of Red Lake Falls, oldest son, was married in 1898 to Miss Melie La Plant; Joseph, residing at home and managing the home farm; Adlard, residing at home, a member of C. O. F. Lodge; Henry, deceased; Leoma, deceased; Osis, deceased; Ulric, deceased; Dona and Dora, twins, both deceased; and Anna, deceased. Joseph, the second son, was married in 1898 to Miss Felicite Robillard. One son was born of this union, namely: Harvey. Mr. Champeau is a member of the Roman Catholic church. Politically he is a Republican. He is interested in local public affairs and lends his influence for good government, but does not seek public office.

#### P. O. SATERMO.

Among the early settlers of Polk county who have prospered after many years of hardships and discouragements and are now the owners of comfortable estates may be noted P. O. Satermo. This gentleman has a pleasant home in section 26, of Vineland township, and is one of the esteemed and respected citizens of that locality.

Mr. Satermo was born in northern Norway, November 13, 1847, and was the eldest of eight children born to Ole and Carrie (Rasmusson). The father engaged in stock-raising chiefly in his native land, and there our subject herded cattle on the hillsides until he was nineteen years of age. He then determined to come to America and started on a sailing ship in the summer of 1866. Upon his arrival in this land he went at once to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he re-

mained until about New Year's, 1870, when he went to Ottertail county, Minnesota. The trip was made by train to St. Cloud and then by open sleigh one hundred miles to Fergus Falls. Here he spent eighteen months and in June, 1871, continued his way to the Red river. He "squatted" on land which proved on survey to be in sections 24, 25 and 26, of Vineland township. He owned a team but no wagon, while the Eastenson family, who went to that region at the same time, owned three teams and wagons. They worked mutually on their shanties and our subject's first shanty still stands, a 12x12 feet log shanty with a sod roof. In the fall of the first year there Mr. Satermo and others went to Fergus Falls for provisions for the winter and our subject also bought wheat for sowing the next spring. Grasshoppers destroyed everything, leaving the ground black. For the next three or four years this pest returned, but in smaller numbers, and our subject, despite these drawbacks and discouragements, began to prosper. He has improved his land with good farm buildings, and now has a carefully cultivated tract and a comfortable home.

Mr. Satermo was married, in 1873, to Miss Elizabeth Estenson, who went to Polk county at the same time as Mr. Satermo. The following children have been born to this union: Bertha, Ida, Emma, Olga, Peter, died at the age of eight months; Conrad, Palmer, Belta, Ralph, Nora and Blanche. Ida is the wife of F. C. Taft, of Donaldson, Minnesota. Mr. Satermo has always taken an active interest in public affairs, and he assisted in the organization of the township and has served on the township board for several years. He is the present assessor and has held the office for several years. In political sentiment he is a Democrat and is firm in his convictions.

#### J. A. McCONKEY.

J. A. McConkey, president of the pioneer wholesale grocery house of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is one of the active and progressive business men of Ottertail county. He has been identified with the commercial advancement of that locality since the early days of its settlement, and he has risen step by step to a high station as a business man and citizen. He has accumulated his wealth as a result of his own efforts, and now enjoys deserved success. His portrait will be found upon another page of this volume.

Mr. McConkey was born on a farm in Wisconsin, November 22, 1848. His father, John McConkey was a harnessmaker by trade. The great-grandfather on both the paternal and maternal sides served in the Revolutionary war. William McConkey, the great-grandfather, was a member of Washington's army. He owned the ferry known as the McConkey ferry, on the

Delaware river, at which place Washington crossed with his army on that memorable night, December 25, 1776, and for quite a time General Washington had his headquarters in the house of William McConkey. The paternal ancestors were originally from Scotland, while the maternal ancestors come from Holland. The mother of our subject, Margery N. (Eckelbrack) McConkey, died when our subject was but five years of age, and he being the second of a family of four small children, was bound out to a farmer until he should attain his majority. He, however, ran away at the age of seven years and resided with his grandparents until he was eleven years of age, when he returned to his father, who had meanwhile remarried and was engaged in business in St. Paul. At the age of fifteen years Mr. McConkey enlisted in Company G, Tenth Minnesota Infantry, February 12, 1864, and joined the regiment at St. Louis. He was on the raid at Tupelo, Mississippi, Abbeyville raid, General Price's raid, and on the last raid was taken prisoner in Arkansas. He escaped after three days' imprisonment and rejoined the regiment before Nashville and participated in that battle. He then pursued Hood up the Tennessee river and then went to the siege of Mobile. He was in the siege of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakeley, and at the former place was on the skirmish line and was one of the first to enter the fort. He learned of the capture of General Lee while at Greenville, Alabama, and then went to Meridian, Mississippi, and was mustered out at Fort Snelling. He saw two years of active service and was always a loyal and brave soldier. After his return to his home he began work in a printing office in St. Paul and learned the pressman's trade. He went to Stearns county in 1872 and engaged in farming and continued there four years, losing his hard earned savings, and he then returned to St. Paul and worked there at his trade for eight years. He came to Maine, Ottertail county, in 1884, and opened a small general store, and continued in this line there until 1890, meeting with good success. He then removed to Fergus Falls and established a grocery business on Lincoln avenue and continued in this enterprise with good success until May, 1898. He then saw the opportunity for the establishment of a wholesale grocery house in that city and gave his attention to its establishment and was the pioneer wholesale merchant in that line. He incorporated the business in 1899, with the following officers: Mr. McConkey, president; Cyrus Beall, vice-president, and William Dumbach, secretary and treasurer. James T. McGowan later became secretary and treasurer, and is now serving in that capacity. The firm does an extensive business and enjoys the largest patronage of any wholesale grocery establishment west of the Twin cities. They have a commodious wareroom at

the corner of Lincoln avenue and Union street, and rapidly increase their business by prompt service and honest methods.

Mr. McConkey and his family are well-known pioneers of Minnesota, and our subject has done his full share in furthering the better interests of the locality in which he has chosen his home. He has labored persistently and in the early days spent ten winters in the pineries and also worked at Fort Totton, North Dakota, driving to that unsettled region with an ox-team in the summer of 1867. His step-mother went to St. Paul as a missionary in 1843, and opened the first school and Sunday-school in the territory of Minnesota. She bore the maiden name of Harriet E. Bishop, and was prominently identified with the early history of St. Paul, and was one of the organizers of the first Baptist church in the state of Minnesota. She was thoroughly conversant with the early history of the state, and wrote several books on this subject. She died about 1881.

Mr. McConkey was married October 1, 1876. Two children were born of the marriage, Ida J., who is a native of St. Paul, and is a teacher in the city schools at Breckenridge, Minnesota; and Melville A., who died in 1891. Mr. McConkey was married a second time December 31, 1885, and of this marriage five children were born, namely: Marjorie A., born in Maine, Minnesota; Calvin, deceased; and Montgomery, James A., and Margarette M., born in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Mr. McConkey is a gentleman of exemplary character and has always been identified with the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and has held numerous offices in the lodge, and is high priest of the chapter. He also holds membership in the Knights of the Maccabees, Ancient Order United Workmen and Grand Army of the Republic.

#### JAMES T. ANDERSON.

The family of which this gentleman is a member is one of the representative pioneer families of Ottertail county. Our subject now operates an extensive farm in Compton township, his home being located in section 2. He assisted his father in developing this estate, and is one of the successful and highly esteemed citizens of his community.

Mr. Anderson was born in Falkirk, Scotland, May 27, 1865. His father, William Anderson, was born in Scotland, and was a blacksmith by trade. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Janet Taylor. She was born in Scotland, and was the daughter of a seaman. To this worthy couple six children were born, our subject being the fifth in order of birth. He attended the schools of Scotland, and in 1874

came to America with his parents. The father had joined the Furness colony in 1873, who settled in Wadena, Minnesota, but owing to his illness was not able to emigrate to his new home until 1874. He landed at New York and from there went direct to Wadena, which then consisted of some six or eight shanties, and his family remained in Wadena about six weeks, while he constructed a frame dwelling on his farm. This was a necessarily rudely constructed house, and the snow drifted onto the beds during the winters of those early days there. The first year the father worked at his trade and our subject and the mother had charge of the farm. The father purchased a yoke of oxen and then loaned them to various neighbors from time to time, and before six months passed the oxen died. The following season he bought one ox and with him they stacked their grain, hauling it to the stack on a stone-boat. The father later sold the ox and the mother sold her silk dress and with the proceeds from both they bought a yoke of steers, and in 1876 bought another team of oxen, and with these two teams our subject and his brother, aged respectively twelve and fifteen years, broke twenty acres of land, while the father worked out at his trade. They farmed with oxen about five years, and about 1879 bought horses. Our subject remained at home and farmed in common with his father for many years. He rented his father's estate in 1890, the father taking up his residence in St. Paul. The farm consists of four hundred and twenty acres of excellent land, about half of which is under cultivation. He has sixty acres of timber and eighty acres meadow land. A complete set of substantial farm buildings grace the estate, and three good wells, and plenty of farm machinery of model pattern facilitate the work of the farm. The appearance of the farm reflects credit upon Mr. Anderson and his methods and judgment, and he has reason to be proud of his efforts and the results in Ottertail county.

James T. Anderson was married, July 19, 1889, to Miss Jennie Thompson. Mrs. Anderson was born in Falkirk, Scotland, and came to Canada with her parents at the age of fifteen years. The family settled in Ottertail county, Minnesota, in 1880, and Mrs. Anderson was reared there. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are the parents of six children, as follows: Genie, Etta, Grace, Lizzie, William and Ralph. The last named died April 17, 1901. His death was a sad one. He wandered into the woods near his home, on April 16, and was not discovered until near noon of the 17th. In the meantime heavy rain had fallen, which in the early morning turned to snow, and the poor little fellow was unconscious and nearly dead when found. He died in less than half an hour. His age was two years and ten months.

Mr. Anderson has championed the cause of

the Democratic party since 1896, but prior to that time was a Republican. He is an active participant in local affairs and has served in various township offices. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. His father always took an active part in local affairs and was one of the organizers of the township.

#### WILLIAM SCOTT.

William Scott is a resident of the village of Felton, Clay county, and his career in this country is in every way creditable and honorable. As a farmer and a contractor and builder he has come into close relations with many people, and the general testimony of the community in which he has passed his most active years is that he is in every way industrious, upright and honest to a point.

William Scott was born in Berwickshire, in the southeastern part of Scotland, on a farm, in 1854, and is a son of William Scott, a farmer, who is now living in Scotland. His father was born in England, but located in Scotland, where he married a Scotch girl, whose father, a native-born Scotchman, married an English woman.

William Scott, whose name appears above, was the second child in a family of fourteen children, and was reared and educated in Scotland. During his boyhood he had much hard work, and led a life of toil, as family needs were urgent. When he was twenty years of age he left the home of his childhood, and started out in life for himself. A short apprenticeship was served by him in the ship yards at Newcastle, England, and for thirteen years he was a ship builder, working on some of the largest ocean steel and iron steamers that have gone out from English and Scottish yards.

Mr. Scott decided to seek a home in the great northwest, and came to Minnesota in 1887, buying a farm in Moore county. It comprised eighty acres, and for nine years he was engaged in its cultivation. It was in fine condition when he sold it for a very good price, in 1896, and coming to Clay county the same year, Mr. Scott bought a farm of four hundred and twenty acres, located in both Felton and Morken townships. He immediately entered upon the cultivation of this extensive tract, and had one hundred and sixty acres broken and ready for a crop the first year. He pressed steadily on in the improvement and cultivation of the place, and when he sold it in 1900 he had over four hundred acres under the plow. His principal crops were wheat, flax and oats, and in their cultivation a large success has attended his efforts. His best crop of wheat averaged twenty bushels to the acre.

For the last three years Mr. Scott has fol-

lowed the trade of a carpenter and builder, and has put up many of the homes of Felton and vicinity. At the present time he is working as a contractor and builder in Felton, and has more work than he can do ready for his hands. In politics he is a Republican, and for two years was assessor of Felton township. He is a justice of peace, and took an active part in the incorporation of Felton.

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#### ALBERT C. WILKES.

Albert C. Wilkes, a man of prominence and public spirit, is one of the pioneer settlers of Mille Lacs county, Minnesota, and is a resident of the village of Milaca.

Mr. Wilkes was born in Isanti county, Minnesota, in 1865. His parents were Leonard P. and Emilene (Barranger) Wilkes. The father was a farmer and came from New York in 1850, and was among the pioneer settlers of Isanti county, settling on the first surveyed land in that region. He was of old New England stock and his father served in the war of 1812, while our subject's father was a soldier in the Civil war.

Mr. Wilkes was the fourth in a family of ten children, was reared on the farm and received his education in the schools of Isanti county. He worked on the farm, and until fifteen years of age lived in a log cabin forty-two miles from the nearest railroad station. At the age of seventeen he began work on his own account. He found employment in the lumber woods and up till 1895 did extensive contracting and logging work, and also bought and sold timber lands. He was engaged in lumbering from the time he was twenty-one years old, principally in Kanabec, Pine and Mille Lacs counties. During this time he also did a great deal of cruising and endured many of the hardships of frontier life, sleeping out nights at all seasons of the year. In 1889 he moved to Milaca, and the following year built the Arlington hotel, which he opened for business June 20, 1890. This is a brick structure, two stories in height, and is still the leading hotel in the village. He conducted the same until 1896, when it was purchased by Clark & Warren. Mr. Wilkes opened a general merchandise business in 1896 at Milaca, and erected the finest brick building in the town, size 44x60 feet. He opened up for business with an extensive trade, which increased rapidly, and under our subject's management became one of the substantial business houses of the county. In April, 1901, he sold out to H. R. Mellette.

Mr. Wilkes is an extensive land owner and now devotes his attention to agriculture. He owns two farms near Milaca, and one on the shore of Mille Lacs lake, in all six hundred

acres, a portion of which is timber. In 1891 he homesteaded a tract at Mille Lacs lake, upon which he has since built a summer home for his family.

In 1886 Mr. Wilkes was married to Miss Josephine Simon. Mrs. Wilkes was born in Chisago county, Minnesota, the daughter of Francis Simon, a farmer and pioneer of northern Minnesota. To Mr. and Mrs. Wilkes five children have been born: Essie, born in Isanti county, and Lloyd, Orphie, Phronie and Roy, born in Milaca. Mr. Wilkes is a Republican in political sentiment and is prominent in the councils of his party. He was president of the village of Milaca five years and during his administration the village experienced its greatest advancement, adding to its improvements the water works and electric light plants. He has taken an active part in political matters in the county, and has attended numerous county and state conventions. He was one of the organizers of the village of Milaca and a member of the first village council. He erected the first brick building in the village, and in 1896 built the finest residence there.

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#### SAN FRANCISCO.

San Francisco, a practical and skillful taxidermist and a naturalist of wide experience, is a resident of Villard township, near Motley. His residence is on section 13, where he has erected a handsome residence. His entire estate bears marks of thrift and prosperity.

Mr. Francisco is a native of Wisconsin and was born September 29, 1853. His parents were Henry and Mary E. (Horton) Francisco, the former born in New York and the latter a native of Connecticut.

Mr. Francisco received his education in the common schools of Wisconsin. At the age of seventeen years he went to Iowa, and for three years resided at Mason City in that state and was employed at railroad work. He returned to Wisconsin and followed carriage painting for a few years. In 1880 he came to Minnesota, and located near Motley. Since his boyhood he had exhibited all the characteristics of a naturalist, and on coming to Minnesota, he determined to learn the trade of taxidermist. He soon became skillful in that art and has for the past twenty years followed that business. His shop is filled with specimens of his art, including most of the species of animals and birds of North America. Mr. Francisco is not only a skilled workman, but his wide experience, close observation and extensive reading have made him an authority upon the habits and peculiarities of the animal kingdom. This enables him to



mount his specimens in the most natural and life-like attitudes. He also is thoroughly up-to-date, keeping in stock the latest as well as many of the most unique styles of stands for the mounting of his specimens. He has an extensive trade throughout the northwest, and his correspondence with hunters and trappers and sportsmen is very heavy. Much of his business is done through the mails as his reputation is such that a personal visit to his shop is considered unnecessary.

Mr. Francisco was married August 8, 1874, to Miss Fannie Meyers. Mrs. Francisco was born in New York, February 22, 1855. Mr. and Mrs. Francisco are the parents of two children: Gertrude A. and Marcella.

Mr. Francisco has a pleasant home surrounded by the comforts and conveniences of rural life. He owns a fifteen-acre tract of land and is independent in the matter of finances. In politics Mr. Francisco is a Republican and has served in many of the local offices, being at the present time township clerk of Villard township. His family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Motley.

#### FRANK A. WILDES, JR.

Frank A. Wildes, Jr., who was recently superintendent of the Tower schools, has been one of the foremost educators of St. Louis county, and his wide experience in this profession and excellent training made him a man well fitted for the high position which he fills. In the fall of 1901 he was engaged with a surveying party in the wilderness, and much enjoys an out-of-door life.

Mr. Wildes was born in Parker's Head, Maine, in 1871. His father, T. A. Wildes, was a school teacher and a lumberman. He went to Minnesota about 1859, and later returned to Maine, then again moved to Minnesota, but returned to Maine a second time, and finally located permanently in Minnesota. He served in the Civil war in a Minnesota regiment. The family came from England in about 1768, and settled in Massachusetts. The great-grandfather of our subject was a captain of privateers, and served in the Revolution and the war of 1812. The mother of our subject, Virginia (Burk) Wildes, was born in Baltimore, and was of Scotch-Irish descent. Her ancestors came to America previous to the Revolutionary war, and members of the family served in our Civil war. Mr. Wildes was the third in a family of seven children, all of whom were reared to maturity, and some of whom are engaged in teaching. One sister is at Tower as assistant under Mr. Wildes.

Our subject was reared at Mankato, Blue

Earth county, Minnesota. He graduated from the normal school there in 1894, and also spent some of his time on the farm, earning his own way through the normal school. He taught his first term of school at the age of eighteen years in Blue Earth county, and later finished his normal course. He received the appointment of assistant postmaster at Mankato, and was engaged most of the time there for three years. He was principal at Morristown during 1895-6, and was also principal at Royaltin three years. He was elected to the superintendency of the Tower schools in 1899. The first school at Tower was organized in 1885, and in 1891 the present school building was erected. This contains six rooms, and is fully occupied, and another small building of one room is also put into service. The present enrollment is three hundred and seventy and eight teachers are engaged in the work there. Two full years of high-school work are carried as a part of the regular school course.

#### JOSEPH PERRAULT.

It is the duty of every citizen of a community to wield his influence for good government, and to select men for public office who will faithfully perform the duties of the same and labor for the interests of the locality in which he makes his home. This responsibility has been recognized by the citizens of Red Lake county and so wisely did they choose their first officers that they have nothing to regret. The gentleman above named is now serving as clerk of courts of that county, and the fact that he is now serving his second term in that capacity evidences his faithfulness and increasing popularity. He is well informed in public affairs and is possessed of a character of the highest integrity, and is worthy the station to which he has steadily risen.

Mr. Perrault was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, June 29, 1864, and is the fourth in a family of eleven children, nine of whom are now living. His parents were Charles and Philomene (Boyer) Perrault, both of whom were of French extraction, and are now residents of Red Lake county. When our subject was but fifteen years of age he located in Minnesota with his parents, settling on a farm in section 9, of Lake Pleasant township, in Red Lake county, then Polk county. There our subject was reared to farm work and later purchased the old homestead farm and developed the place, building good farm structures and improving the land for cultivation. He became interested in public affairs of his locality as a young man and took an active part in the division of Polk county. He was then appointed to fill the office of first clerk of courts of Red Lake county, and has since

been re-elected to this office. From 1892 to 1896 he worked in the county treasurer's office at Crookston, and there received excellent training in office work pertaining to public affairs, and is a competent and reliable official. Politically he is a member of the People's party and is an earnest worker for the reform principles of that organization. He is a member of the Catholic church, and also the Knights of the Maccabees and the Order of Red Men. Mr. Perrault's portrait will be found on another page.

### JOB SMITH.

Job Smith, a prosperous and progressive farmer of Ida township, is one of the representative citizens of Douglas county, and is regarded as a man of broad mind and wide knowledge of men and the world. He was born in the town of Clyde, Wayne county, New York, November 3, 1822.

Mr. Smith's parents, Cyrus and Lucinda (Harvey) Smith, were natives respectively of Westchester county, New York, and Vermont. The maternal grandparents were also born in Vermont. The paternal grandfather of our subject, who bore the name of Job Smith, was paymaster in the Revolutionary army. Cyrus Smith was a gentleman of excellent education, and in early life taught school for a number of years. He afterward entered the mercantile world and speculated in various extensive enterprises. He owned a general store at Marengo, New York, and afterward one at Clyde, New York, and also a flouring mill, besides other town property. He also carried on lumbering in western Pennsylvania. When the California gold fever was at its height in 1849 he started for the gold fields via ship and the Isthmus of Panama. At the last named place he contracted tropical fever and died two weeks after he reached Sacramento, California. His wife died at their home in New York one year later. The family of children consisted of seven, as follows: Albert, Job, Laura, who married William Carpenter, Cyrus, Leonard, Harvey and Henry.

Job Smith, when a youth, attended a select school and later the academy, and also assisted in his father's store, eventually becoming a partner in the business, which partnership was in force during the last four years of his father's life. His occupation for a time consisted in superintending the transportation of lumber from the Oil creek district to Cincinnati via the Allegheny and Ohio rivers. Subsequent to his father's death Mr. Smith went to Rock Island, Illinois, to settle matters pertaining to the estate, and he decided to make the west his future home. He went to St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1854, when there

were but few houses in Minneapolis. He went to Moorhead, Clay county, Minnesota, in 1879, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he sold the following year for two thousand dollars. In the winter of 1872-73 he came to Douglas county and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 29, in Ida township, and here he has since resided. He now owns an excellent farm of three hundred and thirty acres, about one hundred of which is under plow, forty acres timber, and the balance pasture land and meadow. He usually has about forty head of stock, and keeps a good supply of farm horses and about ten milch cows. The farm is pleasantly situated a half-mile north of the village of Garfield. There was a fairly good log house on the farm prior to 1900, but this was then replaced by a substantial two-story residence. Prior to his residence in Clay county Mr. Smith lived for a time in Stevens county, Minnesota, where he pre-empted one hundred and eighty acres of land. At that time buffalo roamed over the prairie in large herds and the county was not organized. Mr. Smith was appointed one of two commissioners by the governor for that purpose. He has always taken a hearty interest in the development of the community in which he makes his home and has gained a large acquaintance, and all hold him in high esteem.

Mr. Smith was married, June 6, 1879, to Mrs. Betsey Porter, *nee* Olson, the widow of Edward Porter. By her former marriage Mrs. Smith was the mother of four sons and one daughter, namely: Frank, Edward, William, Christopher and Gena L. Two of the sons make their home with Mr. and Mrs. Smith, as does also the daughter, when she is not engaged in following her profession, that of teaching. To Mr. and Mrs. Smith one daughter has been born, named Carrie L., who, like her half-sister, is a young lady of education and refinement, and is likewise engaged in teaching during the summer season. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have an enjoyable home, of which they may well be proud.

### EARNEST P. LEMASURIER.

Earnest P. LeMasurier is a gentleman of intelligence and true worth as a citizen. He is one of the rising young men of Kittson county and has resided in Hallock for the past fifteen years and has a host of friends in the city and vicinity. He is the present efficient postmaster of Hallock, and is one of the pioneers of northern Minnesota. He is a gentleman of foreign birth, but is devoted to the interests of his adopted land, and is especially active in local affairs.

E. P. LeMasurier was born in London, Eng-

land, April 16, 1806, and was the eldest in a family of nine children born to Phillip and Sarah (Stone) LeMasurier. When he was but a young child the family emigrated to America and settled in Canada, and our subject resided at Cannington until the spring of 1880. The family then removed to Kittson county, Minnesota, and located in the village of St. Vincent. Our subject learned the printer's trade, and in 1887, in partnership with W. J. Deacon, established the Hallock Weekly News. This was founded as a Republican paper and has continued thus, and is one of the widely circulated papers of the county. Mr. LeMasurier devotes his time to the business of postmaster, to which office he was appointed by President McKinley.

Mr. LeMasurier was married, in 1807, to Miss Bertha Grissinger. Mr. and Mrs. LeMasurier are the parents of two children, upon whom they have bestowed the names of Dorothy and Vera. Mr. LeMasurier is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and politically is identified with the Republican party. He is a man of strong convictions and labors for the up-building and advancement of the community in which he resides, and well merits his success and high standing as a business man and citizen.

#### ALBERT E. COWIE.

Business tact and progressiveness have placed this gentleman among the well-known and influential citizens and business men of Norman county. He is identified with the elevator business of that locality, having charge of the elevator at Perley, and he conducts the affairs entrusted to his care with satisfaction to all with whom he has to do. He was born in Wisconsin, November 25, 1870.

Our subject's father, A. George Cowie, was a native of Scotland, as was also his mother, who bore the maiden name of Margaret Faulds. Albert E. Cowie attended the common schools and high schools of his native place until he was sixteen years of age and then engaged in teaching several years. He later received an appointment as mail clerk in the railroad service and held the position under the government on the Wisconsin Central Railroad for several years. He then went to Rathie, Minnesota, where he remained two years and followed the profession of teaching, after which he obtained a position with the Minneapolis Northern Elevator Company, with which company he has continued for the past three years. He was stationed on the banks of the Red river at Big Wood, Marshall county, one year, and then entered upon the duties of manager of the station at Perley for the same elevator company, having resided there two years. He is

thoroughly acquainted with the business of grain buying and selling, and is a gentleman of integrity of word and deed, and commands the respect and esteem of all who know him. The elevator was burned March 31, 1901, and a new elevator was ready for business in July of the same year.

Our subject was married, in November, 1899, to Ellen Venaas, a native of Wisconsin. Mr. Cowie is prominently connected with local affairs, and since taking up his residence in Perley has held the office of clerk of the school board one term. He is prominent in Masonic fraternity matters and was elected senior warden two terms and delegate twice to the grand lodge of the order. He became a member of this order in Arcadia, Wisconsin. He is a Democrat politically and serves his party faithfully, lending his influence for the success of those principles. He is yet in the prime of manhood but is fast rising to an assured position as a business man and citizen and enjoys a good degree of success in his present work, and deservedly so.

#### J. B. ROOME.

J. B. Roome, in whose honor Roome township was named, is one of the sturdy pioneers of Polk county, who have attained prominence as citizens and substantial farmers. He is proprietor of one of the finest farms of that locality, and every appointment of his home farm bespeaks the careful labor and keen observation of the natural husbandman.

Mr. Roome was born in New Jersey July 18, 1829. His father, Benjamin Roome, was born in 1799 and died in 1894, and the grandfather of our subject lived to the age of ninety-six years and six months. Our subject's grandparents were born in New Jersey and the great-grandparents came from Holland.

Mr. Roome came to Wisconsin in 1854, and in October, 1855, to Winona, Minnesota, and in the spring of 1856 to Wabasha county, Minnesota, where he engaged in farming until 1878. In the fall of 1877 he contracted with the Manitoba Railroad Company for a half-section of land in Roome township, Polk county, and in March of the year following "squatted" on the land. His wife died in Wabasha county in June, 1878. He came first to this county in March, 1878, and then returned, and he remained there until September of that year, when he removed his family to Polk county. He was a carpenter by trade and worked at the same in New York city and Chicago, and built his own house on his farm, and also other buildings. He has an adjustable pyramid roof for protecting hay from the weather, and he has built some for himself and also some for his neighbors. He is now the owner of

three hundred and twenty acres of good farming land, upon which he has placed excellent improvements. He is engaged in dairying to large extent, and markets from fifteen hundred to sixteen hundred pounds of butter per year at the uniform price of twenty cents per pound. When he first settled there it was almost impossible to haul a load from Crookston most of the time, and he constructed a corduroy road west of Burnham's creek for a distance of twenty-five rods. He has had charge of much of the road work and grading done in his township, and has given the same his personal supervision.

Mr. Roome was married, in 1854, to Miss Nancy Cochran, of Wisconsin, formerly of New York. Mrs. Roome died in Wabasha county, Minnesota, in June, 1878. To this union the following children were born: William, Frank, Mary and Orilla. The two sons are now residents of Louisiana. Mary is now Mrs. Lytle, and she resides on the old home place, and our subject resides with her. Orilla is married and resides in the state of New York. Mr. Roome is now seventy-one years of age, but his years have set lightly upon his head, and he is in the enjoyment of good health. He is only partially gray, and has stood his life work well. He served on the jury at the age of seventy-one years, and when questioned as to whether he was in position of client to any of the attorneys interested he replied that he had never had a lawsuit or given a chattel mortgage, which was a remarkable record for a man of his years, who had been a pioneer three times in his life. He has spent some time each fall for some years hunting deer in northern Minnesota. On one occasion he was lost in the woods and spent the night under a pine tree in November. Four years ago Mr. Roome drove to Black Duck, a distance of one hundred and twenty miles, and killed a moose. He organized the township in 1879, and since that date has been a leader in township matters. Politically he is a Republican, but does not seek public office.

#### EMANUEL A. KRAGNES.

Emanuel A. Kragnes, one of the thrifty and progressive young farmers of Clay county, and the proprietor of a good farm in Morken township, was born in Houston county, Minnesota, in 1873, and is a son of A. O. and Engaberg (Lee) Kragnes. His parents were among the earliest settlers of Clay county, having made a home here as early as 1875.

Emanuel A. Kragnes is the third member of a family of ten children, and was reared and educated in Clay county. His earlier years were passed in a log house, and he was set to work

while still a young lad, as there was much work to be done for so large a family. Remaining with his father until 1895, he rendered much service in the making of the farm, and the putting of it in order. In 1895, in company with his brother Gilbert, he bought his present farm in section 19, of Morken township, and for four years they lived alone and kept house, man-fashion. They farmed three quarters in section 19, and one quarter in section 30. In an early day this tract of land was almost entirely covered with water, but drainage ditches have worked wonders, and it is pronounced one of the best farms of the county at the present time, being especially valuable for grain.

Mr. Kragnes was married, in 1899, to Miss Louisa Erickson, who was born in Clay county, but whose parents came from Norway, and are now farming folk of Red Lake county. Mrs. Kragnes is a well informed lady, and before her marriage held a teacher's certificate in Clay county. She is the mother of one child, Allard L. After their marriage they moved to the farm, and, putting up the present home and barn, started farming on an extensive scale. Mr. Kragnes now owns half the section, and gives his principal attention to the raising of grain, for which he is well provided with all needed stock and machinery, granary and other requirements. He harvested as high as thirty bushels to the acre, and is considered one of the best farmers of the county. In politics he is a Republican. He and wife are members of the United Norwegian Lutheran church.

#### JOHN M. HAYES.

John M. Hayes, one of the substantial agriculturists of Becker county, is a resident of Cuba township, where he lives with his father on section 20.

Mr. Hayes was born in Wisconsin, April 12, 1863. His parents, Thomas and Catherine (Lahiff) Hayes, were both natives of Ireland, and were married in Massachusetts in 1852. The father was employed for twenty-five years in Wisconsin by a furniture manufacturing company, and then removed to Minnesota and purchased land. He has since conducted farming with success and has a pleasant home, equipped with modern machinery, well stocked and supplied with the conveniences and comforts of farm life.

John M. Hayes attended the schools of Wisconsin until he was sixteen years old, when he accompanied his father to Minnesota. On reaching his majority he began farming on his own account, and is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, one hundred

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acres of which is under cultivation. He has been a successful farmer, and is regarded as one of the substantial citizens of Becker county. He makes his home with his parents on the home farm, which his labor helped to develop. In the family are three other children, William, Elizabeth and Catherine. The family are members of the Catholic church at Lake Park. Our subject is a Republican in political views. He has served as chairman of the township board of supervisors three years and as treasurer of the school board for the past ten years. He is a member in good standing of the Modern Woodmen of America, Lake Park Lodge, and also is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge at Detroit. He is a rising young man of the county, and is deservedly popular in his locality.

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### MRS. LOUISA HESS.

Mrs. Louisa Hess, one of the earliest settlers of Ottertail county, is a resident of section 34, in Compton township, where she owns a valuable farm. Mrs. Hess is one of the few women of that region who took upon herself the task of developing a farm in the wilds of Minnesota, and her present estate evidences excellent executive ability and sound judgment.

Our subject was born on a farm in Glenn county, Iowa, November 22, 1843. Her father, Mike Zimmerman, was of German descent and was from Pennsylvania. Her mother, whose maiden name was Kate Shellenburger, was of the same nationality. The grandparents came from Germany. Louisa Zimmerman was raised on the farm and received a good common-school education. She was married, in 1860, to Oliver M. Hess.

Mr. Hess was born in Pennsylvania and was of German descent. He was raised there, and by trade was a carpenter, which he followed a good share of his career. When he was thirty years of age he enlisted in Company A, Thirty-second Iowa Regiment. He served nine months, when he suffered a severe sunstroke. He was discharged for disability, and died nine years later from the effects of the attack. Upon his return from the war Mr. Hess began farming in Humboldt county, Iowa. He passed through pioneer experiences there and succeeded in developing a good farm. Mr. Hess died May 25, 1872, leaving his wife and six children, the oldest child being but eleven years of age. The following is a record of the children: Zillah C., born in 1861, is now married, and has followed the profession of teaching in Ottertail and Wadena counties, Minnesota; Ida L., married and residing in Michigan; William O., a barber of Butte, Montana; Eugene D., engaged in the same business at

Glenwood, Minnesota; Estella, married and residing in Washington; and George M., who resides with his mother and conducts the home farm.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Hess remained for some time on the farm in Iowa, and then with the aid of her brothers went to Ottertail county, Minnesota. She had endured great privations during the recent years in Iowa, operating her farm and striving to give her children educational advantages, and she also had the care of her aged father. In 1876 she located on section 34, in Compton township, Ottertail county, her brothers selecting the land for Mrs. Hess in 1875. She took the land as a homestead in the timber, when game was abundant, and with the aid of her brothers succeeded in erecting a log house, and therein she lived for the first twelve years. She has met with good success and despite the loss of her barn and contents by fire in June, 1896, and other discouragements she has gone forward and has an estate of which she may well be proud. The farm consists of eighty acres, about half of which is cleared for cultivation, and the balance is devoted to timber, pasture and meadow. Her residence is a comfortable and substantial one, and with the other buildings of the farm furnishes a home of great comfort. Her son has a feed mill and steam engine, and engages profitably in wood sawing. The farm is well equipped and is made to yield a good income. Mrs. Hess and family came overland to their new home, and have remained to gain a good property and the highest esteem of their neighbors and friends.

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### OLOF J. ANDERSON.

Olof J. Anderson, sheriff of Kittson county, Minnesota, of whom a portrait may be found in this volume, is one of the popular and efficient public officers, and is a rising young man of his locality. He is a man of good education, intelligent and enterprising, and is possessed of a good business training, all of which characteristics commend him to the highest esteem of his fellow men. His life in Minnesota extends over the past ten or more years, and he has ever been found on the side of right and justice and manifesting the true spirit of American civilization and progress. He is a native of Sweden, but is devoted to the interests of his adopted land, and has a host of friends in Kittson county. He has made his residence in Hallock since early in the '90s.

Mr. Anderson was born in Herjedahlen, Jemtland, Sweden, November 28, 1865, and was a son of Jonas and Karin (Olofson) Anderson, both of whom are still living. When a youth

of seventeen years Mr. Anderson came to America and joined his uncle in Kittson county, Minnesota, where he was introduced to farm labor as it is conducted in the great northwest. He soon afterward entered the Gustavus Adolphus College, of St. Peter, Minnesota, where he studied two and a half years, then engaging in teaching English and Swedish branches in parochial schools. He followed clerking a short time in Holmes City, and then in 1894 went to Hallock, and for the next four years was employed as clerk. He was then elected to the office of county sheriff and has discharged the duties of his position since that date, with satisfaction to all, and a degree of judgment and justice which commends him to the people. He was the popular choice of the Populist party and its candidate on that ticket for re-election in November, 1900, and received six hundred majority.

Mr. Anderson was married in 1891 to Miss Mary Nordby. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, who are named in order of birth, as follows: Joseph, Oscar, Arthur, Sigurd and Othelia. Our subject is prominent in secret society circles and is a member of the following fraternal orders: Independent Order of Foresters, Modern Woodmen of America, Independent Order Good Templars and Masonic fraternity.

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#### P. E. FREDIN.

P. E. Fredin, whose pleasant and attractive home in section 23, of Isanti township, Isanti county, is the visible result of industrious years, and who is now entering upon the late afternoon of a laborious and useful life crowned with the respect and esteem of all with whom he has come in contact, was born in Helsingland, Hassla, Sweden, in 1835, where he was reared under the most depressing privations and poverty. When he was fifteen years of age there was such depression in Sweden that he had to wander over the country with his father, seeking work where they could find it, and begging often for the little that was needed to keep them alive. When they came to the United States they had to beg and borrow money to pay their way.

P. E. Fredin started for the far west August 10, 1857, making the voyage on the William Topscott, and was seven weeks and three days on the water, landing in New York, and making his way direct to Taylor's Fall, Minnesota, where he worked with a brother the first year of his life in Minnesota. Then he spent several years in the lumber regions, and gradually began lumbering for himself. His field of operations extended over Pine county, and he had large camps of men mainly engaged in getting out ties. There were winters in which he handled

as high as eighteen thousand dollars in his business. There were many men working for him; these he paid off, kept them in supplies, fed them and did all his business without the stroke of a pen. Everything was kept in his head, and he was never known to make a mistake. He could order the entire winter's supplies for a camp and not miss the smallest item, without reference to a scrap of paper.

Mr. Fredin was very extensively engaged in lumbering until about 1880, devoting himself since that year to his farm. He was married, in 1870, to Miss Betsy Hanson, a native of Sweden, and a daughter of farming people. To them have come six children: Edward, Emil, Frank, Victor, and George and Hattie, who are twins.

Mr. Fredin bought all his land from the St. Paul & Duluth Railway Company, making his first purchase in 1872, securing a fine tract in section 23, Isanti township, where he put up a log house, which was the home of the family for many years, while he was engaged in extensive lumber operations. In his early married life there were years in which he hardly spent six weeks at home. He made contracts of large amounts of hay on the marshes, and carried through several very extensive logging deals. Since 1880, however, he has been a farmer, and has kept himself very closely at home. He began with oxen, but after several years secured horses. From time to time he bought more land, and before he deeded portions to his children he owned three hundred and sixty acres, which was provided with ample farm buildings and all needed machinery. It was considered one of the very best farms in the town. The house was worth one thousand dollars, and the other buildings at least as much more.

In 1865 Mr. Fredin made a visit to Sweden, and brought to this country his parents, a brother and a sister, paying their passage for them. Mr. Fredin, notwithstanding the remarkable success that has attended his endeavors in this country, has not been without his serious troubles and privations. Shortly after his arrival here his father lost his sight, and for many years was totally blind and helpless. His wife was sick for twelve years, and died in 1892. His son, whom he had established in business, through dishonest partners, lost some sixteen thousand dollars, which Mr. Fredin had to sustain. Mr. Fredin, however, has met all these reverses and still has a good home and a splendid farm.

Landing in this country with nothing, and lacking the most elementary education at the schools, where he never attended a day in his life, he has by sheer force of win, native pluck, and a quick eye for business opportunities, accumulated a very considerable fortune, and may more than fully contrast his present comfort and



ability with the painful circumstances of his early youth. As a pioneer in the Minnesota woods, he has many thrilling stories to tell of the times when about all the people in Pine county were Indians. At one time, in company with three others, one being an Indian, they killed four bears which they found in one tree. Mr. Fredin is considered one of the most prominent pioneers of the county, and is greatly respected in the community in which he lives.

#### DANIEL L. YOUNG.

Daniel L. Young, a pioneer settler of Aitkin, and one of the prominent business men of that thriving town, is engaged in the grocery business, and is a gentleman of excellent character and good education.

Mr. Young was born on a farm in Ontario, Canada, November 11, 1850. His father, Mathew M. Young, was born at Firthshire, Scotland, and his family was of the Presbyterian-Scotch type. He was a farmer by occupation and followed the same throughout his life. He came to America about 1844 and settled in Canada. The mother of our subject, Elizabeth A. (Southwick) Young, was born in Ontario, Canada. Her father was born near Boston, and was a Quaker. The family settled in America in early days, coming to this country in the Mayflower. The Southwick people were the first manufacturers of glass in the eastern states. They took an important part in the early government of the country and the family is one of the old and respected families of Colonial times.

Daniel L. Young was the second child in a family of nine children. He was raised on the farm and attended the common schools and grammar schools, and later took a commercial course at Toronto. He then started for himself and was engaged at lumbering for a time, after which he engaged in business in Ontario. He came to Minnesota in 1882, and in the fall of that year located in Aitkin. He followed clerking and also was bookkeeper for some six or eight years, and in 1889 entered into the general mercantile business. He conducted this seven years, and in December, 1900, opened a general grocery. He devotes his entire time and attention to the business, has gained a good patronage, and made a success in this line. He carries a complete stock and anticipates the calls of his customers and keeps the best grade of goods.

Mr. Young was married, December 24, 1873, to Miss Ophelia Burch. Mrs. Young was born in Ontario and was of an old Canadian family. Her father, Silas Burch, was a prosperous farmer of Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Young are the par-

ents of seven children, namely: Percival, Addie G., Edmund L., Elsie M., Rhue, Evelyn and Cecil L. Mr. Young has always taken a good degree of interest in public affairs, and has served as a member of the school board two terms and as township clerk. He is a Republican politically and attended the state convention of his party in 1896. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Independent Order of Foresters. He was a charter member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Aitkin, and was one of the organizers of the same. He was a resident of Aitkin prior to the organization of any church there, and he served as superintendent of the Sunday-school fourteen years, and has held many offices in the church organization. He started his business career with limited means and has become one of the substantial business men of that locality, and his success and good name are well merited.

#### ADOLPH F. ANDERSON.

Adolph F. Anderson, one of the well known Swedish pioneers of Gervais township, is proprietor of one of the finest farms of that locality, and has accumulated a fortune and gained an enviable name in his adopted state.

Mr. Anderson was born on the farm Hallmare, near the postoffice of Loftanhammar, Sweden, February 4, 1844, and was the sixth in a family of seven children born to Anders and Majgreta (Mangnason) Pettersson, both of whom are now deceased. The father was a well-to-do farmer in the old country, owning several farms, and on the home farm our subject was reared. The estate covered some three hundred acres, and at the father's death became the property of our subject. He soon afterward disposed of it and came to America to look over the farming lands of Minnesota. He arrived in July, 1887, and visited a friend, Mr. Stenhammar, and worked a season in the vicinity of Crookston, passing the first winter in the woods. He was more than satisfied with the country, and in the spring of 1888 filed claim to the land he now owns, and sent to his native land for his children, his wife then being deceased. He received about four hundred dollars from his estate in his native land, and with this he secured him a home and bought some cattle for stock-raising. He has followed this line of agriculture and has made a success of stock-raising and dairying. He finds ready market for his butter in the city of Red Lake Falls, and keeps about twenty head of cattle for dairy purposes. He erected a fine frame barn in 1899, with hay room for twenty tons, and the building is 26x50 feet, and is one of the finest of the township. He

has an abundance of good water, found at a depth of from eight to ten feet, and the farm is admirably adapted to diversified agriculture.

Mr. Anderson was married, in Sweden, to Miss Karoline Anderson. Mrs. Anderson died in 1880. To the above union four children were born, namely: Hilda, now Mrs. N. Anderson, living in Becker county; Adelia, now Mrs. L. Westerlund, living in Chicago; Gustaf, who homesteaded land in section 24, of Gervais township; and Fritz, working at home. Miss Mina Lofhalm came to America with Mr. Anderson's children in 1888, and Mr. Anderson later married this lady and took her to his new home in Minnesota.

Mr. Anderson is actively interested in public affairs, and has served his community in various offices of trust. He is the present school treasurer, and has served many years as such, and is an earnest worker for educational advancement. His eldest son has held the office of clerk of the school district. Our subject is a member of the Lutheran church and is treasurer of the same. Politically he is a Populist, and is a stanch advocate of reform principles.

#### OLE BEKKEDAHL.

The opportunities offered in America for young men of energetic character and integrity to gain a footing have brought hither many sons of the Scandinavian peninsula. They are found wielding the implements of the trades, following the vocations of agriculturists and business men, and as a rule they have become stable and honored citizens. The gentleman above named is no exception, he having become a popular and influential citizen of Shelly, Norman county, Minnesota, where he is well known in commercial circles and as a general merchant of ability and strict integrity. He is proprietor of one of the most extensive establishments of that thriving town, and enjoys the result of his practical business training and natural business ability.

Our subject was born in Norway August 31, 1867, and is a son of Peter and Mary (Tangen) Bekkedahl, both of whom were born in Norway. He remained in his native land until he was twenty-five years of age, and there received his schooling. He then came to America, wishing to find a suitable place to invest his funds which he then possessed, and upon his arrival went direct to Wisconsin, where he remained three years, and then spent three years and a half in North Dakota, where he was employed as clerk, receiving the practical business training and experience which has served him so well in the conduct of his present business. He went from

North Dakota to Shelly, Norman county, Minnesota, where he has continued in business, and now carries a complete line of general merchandise, the business being conducted under the firm name of Ole Bekkedahl & Company. They have a good trade in the town and surrounding agricultural district, and Mr. Bekkedahl may feel assured that he has invested his means profitably and well.

Our subject is one of the rising young business men of his locality, and deserves much credit for his share in the advancement of the commercial interests of Norman county.

#### ALEXANDER BURNHAM.

Alexander Burnham, who enjoys the distinction of being the first settler of Andover township, has a pleasant home and enjoys the comforts of rural life and an enviable reputation as a citizen and agriculturist.

Mr. Burnham was born in Will county, Illinois, in 1849, and was a son of Walter and Lois Burnham. His parents resided in Illinois until our subject was eight years of age and from there moved to Wisconsin, where they remained until 1858, and then settled on a homestead in Dodge county, Minnesota. In August, 1862, during the massacre at New Ulm, Minnesota, the excitement became intense, and our subject, then nearly fourteen years of age, went to the front against the "white man's enemy." Immediately after his return from the Indian troubles he volunteered for service in the Union army, but his youth prevented him from being accepted, and his widowed mother caused him to remain at home. The father died in 1857 as the results of wounds received in the Mexican war. The mother died in 1863, and this one tie to bind him to his former home being broken he enlisted in the First Minnesota Artillery, Battery K, and was sent south in the winter of 1864. In his first important engagement, at Chattanooga, Tennessee, he was wounded by a guerrilla bayonet. During four weeks and three days they camped in the mud, and for four days and three nights were without food, and during forty-eight hours of this time our subject served on picket duty. This abuse of his constitution brought on fever and dumb ague, and much to his disappointment he was ordered to the hospital. He finally managed to get on detail at light camp work. After his partial recovery he was assigned to the duty of dispatch carrier, and was thus engaged for over two weeks. Soon afterward he was ordered north and was mustered out of the service at St. Paul, Minnesota, in December, 1865. Allen Burnham, his eldest brother, served four years and a half in the

service and was killed at Montgomery, Alabama, in the fall of 1865. Rufus Burnham, another brother, was killed in the Curtis massacre in 1876. He was a member of Company C, Seventh Cavalry. His first service was in Battery B, First Minnesota. After his discharge from the service our subject took a steamer to Winona, and from there came to Crookston by ox teams, having nothing for his guide but a compass. He built the first country house in Polk county, and as it was a substantial structure was the scene of many gatherings in the early days when danger was apprehended from Indians. The tribe came a half-mile out from Crookston on one occasion and trouble was expected. Our subject rode horseback to the town to discuss the matter with Laravier and "Buckskin Joe," and it later became known that the loud drumming which they had heard was a part of the programme of a peace meeting which the Indians had planned. In 1873 the railroad was abandoned through that section and food and provisions became scarce. For a time they ground wheat in a coffeemill, but it was only a short time until other provisions were needed, and at the suggestion of our subject a lone flat car was cut in two and an ex-sailor, named Laravier, constructed and rigged a sail for one section of the car and a brake was rigged, and when the wind was favorable they blew to Glyndon and loaded up with provisions, from two to five tons being taken at a trip, and then waited for a return wind, generally being delayed there but two or three days. The railroad company later investigated the destruction of their property and our subject frankly laid the condition before the official, telling him that their people faced starvation and that he conceived the idea of thus using the car, and struck the first blow to this end. At another time a hand-car was taken for like purposes against express orders. The early days saw many hardships for these sturdy men and willing minds and hands. In 1873 our subject and August Peterson took two teams and went to Fargo, in search of honest employment to provide a living for the little family left at home, our subject returning with eighty-six dollars, a small amount when the pioneer prices of materials is considered. Then a poor grade of flour was ten dollars per sack, calico was twenty-five cents per yard, and other groceries and dry goods were in proportion. With increased immigration came brighter prospects, and our subject remained to become the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of valuable and highly improved land. He has erected commodious and substantial farm buildings, and everything about the place bespeaks good taste and painstaking care in its operation. Artesian water is one of the valuable features of the farm and is obtained

at a depth of two hundred and eighty-five feet, and is of excellent quality, being soft and pure.

Mr. Burnham was married, in 1870, to Miss Sarah E. Pierce. This union has been blessed by the birth of the following children: Wesley A., Nellie Belle, Zelda L., Otto L., Mamie D. and May. The older sons have been given the advantages of an education in Crookston College, and the younger children are attending school. Mr. Burnham is a Republican in politics, and lends his influence for the advancement of his community. He is a member of the G. A. R.

#### PATRICK J. SHEA.

Patrick J. Shea, a well known and thorough commercial and business man of Clay county, Minnesota, makes his home in the village of Glyndon, where he has established a thriving business and enjoys the confidence and esteem of a large circle of acquaintances.

Patrick J. Shea was born in Hampden county, Massachusetts, October 15, 1806. He was the second in order of birth in a family of five children born to Michael and Mary (Sullivan) Shea, both natives of Ireland, and now residents of the village of Glyndon. In 1876 the father went to the Red river valley as track foreman for the St. Paul & Pacific Railroad. In the following summer the family came west and made their home at Felton, Clay county. The father secured land near that point, but as he continued in the railway service our subject, then a boy of thirteen years, took up the burden of farm work and management. He broke and improved sixty acres with an ox-team, and pushed the work of developing a farm of three hundred and twenty acres. In 1885 our subject entered the railway service as track foreman, with the St. P., M. & M. Railroad. He continued this work for some years and in 1893, in partnership with his uncle, James Shea, opened a general merchandise business at Sabin, Clay county, and in the following year became sole owner of this business. One year later he sold out his interest there and in 1898 became proprietor of the business which he now operates with so much success in the village of Glyndon. He had been connected with this establishment since 1896. He purchased the Park Avenue Hotel in 1899 and since that time has conducted this house with entire satisfaction to the public. Throughout his business career he has displayed an energy and business capacity seldom met with and his integrity in unquestioned.

In 1889 Mr. Shea was married to Miss Julia Timrue. Of this marriage nine children have been born, three of whom are: Florence, Frances, and Equina. Mr. Shea is a member of

the M. B. A. In politics he has been identified with the Democratic party, though not strictly a party man. He has been prominent in the public affairs of the village, having served on the board of trustees for a number of years and for one year in the capacity of chairman of that body. A portrait of Mr. Shea on another page adds to the value of this work to his many friends and acquaintances.

#### WILLIAM HENNINGS.

William Hennings, proprietor of a fine farm in section 28, Compton township, is one of the earliest settlers of Ottertail county, and needs no introduction to the people of that region. He has labored there for many years, always with a determination commendable indeed, and as a result is one of the substantial farmers of that locality.

Mr. Hennings was born in Germany, in 1844. His father, William Hennings, was a carpenter and employe in a salt works in Germany and in America followed farming. He served as a cavalryman in the German army. The mother of our subject died when he was but two months old, and when he was six years of age the family came to America, landing in New York. They came to Elgin, Illinois, where the father followed carpentering one year, and then purchased land and began farming. Our subject left home at the age of eight years and worked on a farm for a Methodist Episcopal minister named Lamb, and later worked for other farmers of that locality. In 1862 he enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois, called the Third Board of Trade Regiment, and in the fall of 1862 went to Memphis. His first campaign was one of three weeks' duration, but no hard fighting during the time. His first fierce battle was in Arkansas, and later he went to Haines Bluff and participated in a two-days' engagement. Then to Vicksburg and took part in all of the Vicksburg campaign, and there was not a single day during an entire month without skirmishes or engagements. At the first assault on Vicksburg Mr. Hennings was wounded through the shoulder, and upon his discharge from the hospital he spent thirty days on a furlough and rejoined his regiment at Corinth, Mississippi. He saw no more active engagements of importance, and after three years of service was discharged in 1865. He returned to his home, and remained there in charge of his father's farm until the family removed to Iowa. He then went to Chicago and was employed by a cattleman there, and later went to Michigan. The only employment he could find was at handling slabs for seventy-five cents per day and his board during the winter, and he also spent

some time in the lumber woods. He then secured employment with a logging contractor, and remained in his employ eleven years. He returned to his father's home in Iowa in 1878, and in October of that year went to Ottertail county, Minnesota, and entered a homestead claim to land in section 28, of Compton township. This property had been sold previously for a wagon tongue, and our subject secured the homestead right for seventy-five dollars. There was a small log shanty on the place, and therein he located and established a home. He had no means and did not do much toward its development until 1880, when he bought his first team of oxen, and with these farmed about two years. He is now the owner of one hundred and forty acres of land, of which about fifty acres is under cultivation, and the balance is swamp, meadow and pasture. He has a good residence built on the farm, and this, with the other buildings, including barns, a fine stone milk house, ice house and granaries, makes it one of the valuable farms of the locality. Mr. Hennings has followed grain-raising principally, but purposes engaging more extensively in the raising of stock, his farm being admirably adapted to diversified farming.

Mr. Hennings was married, December 26, 1880, to Miss Minnie C. Borchers. Mrs. Hennings was born on a farm in Germany and came to America with her parents at the age of twelve years. Her father, Andrew Borchers, was a farmer by occupation and came to America from Germany in 1867. He served in the German army three years. Mr. and Mrs. Hennings are the parents of one son, William A., who was born in 1885. He resides at home with his parents. Mr. Hennings is a man of active public spirit and has served as township supervisor two terms. He is a Republican in political sentiment.

#### CARL S. NELSON.

Carl S. Nelson, proprietor of the popular Klondyke saloon at Argyle, Minnesota, is recognized as one of the energetic business men of that thriving town. He is a man of good business principles and his prosperous business is due solely to his good management and enterprise.

Mr. Nelson was born on the farm Ringsrud, in Norway, January 21, 1868, and was the ninth in a family of ten children born to Simon and Olia (Nelson) Nelson. The father was a school teacher and was also a soldier in the army, holding the rank of lieutenant. Our subject was educated under his father's direction, and soon after his confirmation he began clerking in the country stores, and was thus engaged for seven

years. He joined his brother in Minneapolis in 1891, and there clerked in a general store for a few months, and then went to the harvest fields of the Red river valley in North Dakota. After the season's work he returned to Minneapolis and there tended bar for his brother-in-law. He came to Argyle in the spring of 1894, and assumed charge of the Headquarters saloon. In 1897, in company with O. C. Anderson, he established the Klondyke saloon, and since March, 1900, has been sole owner of the business. Under his management this has become one of the most popular places of Argyle. The furnishings are complete, and Mr. Nelson is attentive to the wishes of his patrons. He is a young man of careful business methods and success has followed his efforts.

Our subject is identified with the principles of the Republican party, but has not sought public preferment, and lends his influence for good local government. He is a member in good standing of the Red Men.

#### THOMAS BARRY.

Thomas Barry, who has risen by honest industry and a uniform integrity to a high position in the estimation of his friends and neighbors, and who is known as one of the leading farmers of Clay county, Minnesota, was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, in 1852. His father, who was a lifelong farmer, was born in Ireland, and came to the United States when but a lad of thirteen years of age. He married a Pennsylvania girl, whose parents were born in Ireland. Thomas Barry, whose name appears above, was the third member in a family of thirteen children born to them, and was educated in the local schools.

Thomas Barry remained at home until he was about twenty-six years old, when he parted from his home interests and took a separate work in life. He was married, in 1876, to Miss Catherine Denenny, born in New York, but of Irish blood. To this union have come three children: William T., Samuel H. and Loy. Two years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Barry came to Wisconsin, and settled in Eau Claire county, where they remained three years. In 1880 they removed to Clay county, Minnesota, where they effected a settlement on government land in section 20. The first two years they lived in a claim shanty, and farmed with oxen. The family arrived in July of 1880.

At the present time Mr. Barry owns a farm of four hundred acres, with all but twenty under cultivation. He has every sort of farm building and appliance needed for his successful work, and has provided a comfortable and commodious

home for his family. His operations have been uniformly successful, and he owns an interest in addition to his farming investments in a threshing machine outfit. His troubles have been those of the early settlers and largely resulted from floods and a lack of drainage for the surface water. Ditches and drains have brought about a better state of things, and for many years prosperity has attended Clay county farmers. Mr. Barry has devoted himself principally to grain, but is anticipating a change.

Mr. Barry is a Democrat, and has been supervisor and school director and treasurer. He has taken an active interest in county affairs. He is one of the early settlers, and possesses the confidence of the community to a marked degree.

#### ADELIA E. SANDERSON, M. D.

Adelia E. Sanderson, M. D., residing in the village of Osakis, Douglas county, is a very successful medical practitioner, and has devoted many years of her life to the profession in this and the neighboring county of Todd. In the early days of the settlement of that region she was the only one practicing medicine in that section of Douglas county, and she has a wide acquaintance and is universally honored and esteemed.

Mrs. Sanderson was born in Broome county, New York, November 4, 1829, and secured her school education in Marion county, Ohio. Her parents were Henry and Lucy (Meeker) Hotchkiss. April 25, 1851, Adelia Hotchkiss became the wife of Henry H. Sanderson, with whom she lived happily for over forty years.

HENRY H. SANDERSON, deceased, was born near Oberlin, Ohio, in December, 1830. His parents, Elijah and Saphronia (Blair) Sanderson, were among the early settlers of the Buckeye state. The father was a native of Vermont, and the mother was born in Massachusetts. They were married in Boston, and journeyed to Ohio when the state was sparsely settled. The father was a carpenter and builder by trade and erected the first institute building at Oberlin. He also conducted farming, which gave employment to his son, Henry H., when not attending school. After reaching his majority he owned a farm near his old home. Immediately after his marriage, accompanied by his wife, he went to Columbia county, Wisconsin, and there bought a farm, which he occupied three years. In 1854 he removed to Faribault, Minnesota, and pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land in Cannir City township, which was the home of the family for the following twelve years. February 9, 1865, he enlisted in Company L, First Minnesota Heavy Artillery, and served eight months.

He was mustered out at Chattanooga, Tennessee, September 27, 1865. In 1866 Mr. Sanderson and wife went to Osakis, Douglas county, and he soon afterward became associated with his brother in a sawmill and became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land near the village of Osakis, in Douglas county. He filled the office of janitor for the public schools of Osakis for eight years. He was the first treasurer of his township, and was many years a member of the board of supervisors and chairman of the same, and enjoyed the confidence of all with whom he had to do. Mr. Sanderson passed away March 5, 1893. He was a member of the Baptist church and had many friends who mourned his departure. Politically he was a staunch Republican.

Mrs. Adelia Sanderson first began the practice of medicine at Cannon City, Minnesota, prior to her removal to Douglas county. She studied the profession under Dr. Norton Johnson, of that place, and after taking up her residence in Osakis continued to practice. She was ever ready and anxious to aid those in distress of body, and being the only physician within a radius of fifteen miles her practice extended over a large territory. She had as her assistant Dr. B. R. Palmer, of Sauk Center. When the state law was passed requiring physicians to secure a certificate of ability Mrs. Sanderson appeared before the state board of medical examiners at Minneapolis and obtained her certificate. Her ability is fully recognized by the leading physicians of Douglas and neighboring counties, many of whom she has associated with in consultation in numerous serious cases. She is the only lady physician practicing in Douglas county. She was chairman of the board of health of Osakis for eight years, and is a conscientious and thoroughly competent officer.

Mrs. Sanderson resides in her comfortable home in Osakis in companionship with her daughter and two sons. The number of her friends is only limited by her acquaintance. To Mr. and Mrs. Sanderson five children were born, namely: Mary Rosabel, who is engaged in teaching in the public schools; and Emma, wife of Bailey D. Judkins, of Cass Lake, and now the mother of three children, Fred F. (living at home), Carlton J. and Clinton J. (twins), the former deceased, and the latter residing in Osakis.

#### ALVIE JOHNSON.

Alvie Johnson, a resident of Pine county, Minnesota, for ten years, the latter part of the time being at Willow River, was born in LaCrosse county, Wisconsin, in 1863, and is a son of John Johnson, a native of Norway, and an emigrant

to the United States when a young man. The father was a pioneer in LaCrosse county, and for years was a pilot on the Mississippi river. His wife, Adrina, was born in Norway.

Alvie Johnson is the seventh child in a family of eleven children, and was reared to farm work, receiving his education in the district school. When he was fourteen he struck out into the world for himself, working at anything in the mills or in the woods that he could find to do. For some time he was in the railroad service, and traveled as far south as Texas and Indian Territory, and at St. Louis, and in Wisconsin. In 1890 he made his first appearance in Pine county, where he immediately recognized and embraced an attractive business opportunity. At first he was settled in Rutledge, but later removed to Willow River, where he is found at the present time.

Mr. Johnson was married, in 1893, to Miss Eliza LaLord, born in Michigan, but of French parentage. To this union have come no children.

Mr. Johnson is a Democrat, and has attended every county convention of his party for the last six years as a delegate, being recognized as one of the leading and representative citizens of the community. He is a member of the Order of Eagles, and has a handsome residence in Willow River, where his long and honorable career in pioneering in this county has made him many friends.

#### CHARLES FALK.

Charles Falk, whose push and energy have placed him among the prominent business men of Lake county, Minnesota, was an early settler of Two Harbors, and is one of the well-known business men of that town.

Mr. Falk was born on a farm in Sweden in 1867. His father, David Falk, was a farmer, and passed his life in Sweden. He served in the army of his native land. Mr. Falk was the ninth in a family of ten children, and passed his boyhood on his father's farm, assisting with the work there. At the age of fifteen years he began to learn the saddler's trade, and a year later started for America. He landed at New York city, and his first employment in this country was on a farm near Chicago, and remained there about five months. He then began railroad construction, and followed that work on the Q. B. & C. and the M. & N. W. Railroads. He followed railroading until 1886, when he went to Two Harbors and worked at ore tramming for the first two summers. He started to work in a foundry at the trade of molder at Two Harbors in 1888, and worked at this about two years, and in 1890



opened a saloon on First avenue, and conducted this until 1899. He then disposed of his business interests, and retired from active pursuits until the fall of 1900, during which period he traveled to the Pacific coast. He opened a pool room in Two Harbors in September, 1900, and in connection therewith has put in a stock of tobaccos, candies, etc. His pool room is now the leading resort of this character in the town.

Mr. Falk was married, in 1888, to Miss Christina Pearson. Mrs. Falk was born in Sweden, and came to America in 1882 at the age of fifteen years. Mr. and Mrs. Falk are the parents of one son, Fred, who is aged twelve years, and is a boy of unusual physique, weighing one hundred and sixty pounds. Mr. Falk has served as alderman one term and as constable two years, and takes an active interest in all enterprises which tend to strengthen the financial interests of his locality. He is a Republican and has attended many conventions as a delegate. He owns considerable property in Minnesota, and has dealt in lands and has other business interests. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and the U. A. O. of Druids, and other local secret societies.

#### JUDGE OLE E. HAGEN.

Probably no man in Polk county is better known than Judge Hagen, and none stands higher in the estimation of his fellowmen. This gentleman is possessed of intelligence, enterprise, and active public spirit and is worthy the high station which he fills. He is judge of probate court of Polk county, and is also engaged in editorial work in some of the leading publications of the northwest. His portrait may be found on another page in these annals.

Judge Hagen was born in Skiaker, Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, August 7, 1852, and was a son of Erik and Thora (Gubhagen) Hagen. His father is still living and resides in his old Norway home where our subject was born. Judge Hagen was reared midst the beautiful scenery of his native land and followed farming for a livelihood. He came to America in 1881 and passed two years in the southern part of Minnesota, and in 1883 located in Crookston. He then had but seventeen dollars and a family to support and he worked as a brick mason and contractor. In 1893 he established a weekly Norwegian newspaper, the *Rodhuggeren*, and published the paper at Fergus Falls. He was the sole editor of this sheet for three years and during this time he also followed his trade. In 1898 the *Rodhuggeren*, *Ejerdø Juh* and *Dakota*, were consolidated and the paper is now published at Fargo as the *Fram*, and Judge Hagen is in charge of the editorial columns of this organ. Through his

editorial work he has become well known throughout the Red river valley, and he keeps in touch with all interests of the region. In 1890 he edited the *Red River Dalen*, which became the organ of the Alliance party, although founded as a Republican paper. In 1896 Judge Hagen was elected to his present office as judge of probate court in Polk county, and his stability of character, just decisions, and faithful service have gained for him an enviable reputation.

Judge Hagen was married in 1876 to Miss Beret Overli. Mrs. Hagen died December 22, 1900. Eight children were born to Judge and Mrs. Hagen, namely: Eric, attorney, Paul, Thora, a student of Moorhead Normal, Christ, Mary, Ole, Edward and Inga. Judge Hagen is a member of the I. O. F. He has been a Populist since the organization of the reform party and has labored earnestly for reform principles.

ERICK O. HAGEN, of the law firm of Holslan & Hagen, of Crookston, and the eldest son of Ole E. Hagen, a sketch of whom appears in this volume, is one of the rapidly rising young business men of the county.

Mr. Hagen was born in Lom, Norway, November, November 28, 1877, and came to America with his parents when he was but four years of age. He has resided in Minnesota continuously since that time and he completed his common school education in the High School at Crookston in 1895. He then taught school one year and also read law and then entered the law department of the University of Minnesota in 1898, graduating from that institution with the class of 1900. As a college student he exhibited marked oratorical ability, and received the first prize at the Inter-society contest in 1900, and also represented the University of Minnesota as alternate in the Northern Oratorical League contest at Ann Arbor. He was elected vice-president of the Northern Oratorical League, which was composed of the Universities of Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and Oberlin College, of Oberlin, Ohio. In his chosen work his ability as an orator is brought into full play, and though a young man, but just launched in his professional life, a bright and prosperous future may safely be predicted for him. He was admitted to the bar in June, 1900, at the age of twenty-two years.

#### JONAS LINDQUIST.

Jonas Lindquist, whose neat and well kept farm in section 1, of Isanti township, shows the care of an experienced and industrious tiller of the soil, was born in Holsingland, Sweden, in 1852, and now while still in the prime of his years has earned and accumulated a very handsome

competence. He holds an enviable position among the honest and industrious farmers of Isanti county, many of whom are of his race and blood, and is respected by all who know him. His father was a lifelong farmer in Sweden, and of his four living children Jonas is the oldest.

Jonas Lindquist had his education in Sweden, where he was reared, and while he was still a lad he accompanied his father to this country in 1869. They stopped for a time in St. Paul, and then came into Chisago county, where they found employment in the construction of the Duluth & St. Paul Railroad, which was then in process of building. Young Jonas worked on the road until it was finished, spending some three or four years in this fashion. In 1870 the remaining members of the Lindquist family, the mother, three sons and a daughter, came to Minnesota, and the reunited family was settled on a farm in 1872 in Isanti county, and from that time the husband and father was mostly at home.

Jonas Lindquist worked in the lumber camps eleven winters, and had a wide experience in that business. During the summer seasons he helped his father on the farm, there was so much work to be done in opening it up from its original wildness. The first team they had was a yoke of two-year-old steers, which were broken by Jonas and used by him until they were six years old. Then he sold them for ninety dollars. During these years he had also trained a second yoke, which he later sold for one hundred and fifty dollars.

Jonas Lindquist bought land of his own, about 1882, a hundred and twenty acres, in section 1, of the town of Isanti, half of which, however, he soon sold. He lived at home with his parents until 1885, in a log house, which he had helped build. While on his father's farm he did much hard work, and for several years worked out in the neighborhood, at the same time helping his father develop the home farm. When they came into the country there was but one store in Cambridge, and another in Isanti.

Jonas Lindquist was married, in November, 1884, to Ella Hjeltman. She was born in Sweden, and accompanied her parents, who were farming people, to this country. Mr. Lindquist put up a house on his own land at the time of his marriage, and began farming for himself. His brother took charge of the paternal farm. The farm on which he is living is not large, but it is highly cultivated. It consists of sixty acres in section 1, where his home buildings are, and forty acres in section 14. About forty acres of it is under cultivation, and the rest is meadow and timber land. The house is 17x25 feet, with an addition, 17x16 feet; the barn and chicken house is 20x42 feet; there is a summer kitchen, 16x14 feet; the farm buildings are ample and

convenient to every requirement, and all the machinery that is required to the profitable administration of the farm is on hand.

Mr. Lindquist is a Republican, and was elected county commissioner in 1900. Several years ago he was supervisor, and has also been assessor. In county politics he is a familiar and influential character, attending the various gatherings and serving on the town committee two years. He has made a thorough study of the political history and situation of his adopted country, and is a Republican from choice and conviction.

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#### THOMAS C. HAWLEY.

One of the extensive stock farms of the northwest is located in Cuba township, Becker county, Minnesota, and is known as the Conny-meade farm. It is conducted by the gentleman whose name introduces this review, and under his management the estate has increased steadily in value and is made to yield a handsome annual income. Mr. Hawley is a gentleman of excellent characteristics, and is possessed of a good capacity for well directed labor, and is one of the worthy citizens of Cuba township. His residence is on section 23, where every convenience and comfort of modern farming is supplied.

Our subject was born in Santa Cruz, West Indies, August 8, 1854. His father, Fletcher J. Hawley, D. D., was born in Vermont, November 22, 1813, and died May 25, 1891. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Marion Canfield, was born in Vermont January 22, 1824. At the age of five years our subject left the West Indies with his parents and the family lived three years in New Orleans, Louisiana, and from there removed to Connecticut. There our subject attended the common schools and later attended Harvard College and Law School; he also attended the Vermont Episcopal Institute, at Burlington, and the Episcopal Academy of Connecticut, at Cheshire, receiving an education and training which have served him well in his life work. He went to Minnesota in 1879 and purchased a lumber business at Lake Park, and conducted the same there successfully two years, after which he disposed of the business, and in 1883 took up his residence on the Conny-meade farm in section 23 of Cuba township. This farm covers an entire section of land, and is one of the stock farms of Minnesota. The entire tract is in full cultivation, the land being devoted to stock-raising in pasture, meadow or grain cultivation for stock feed. The stock of the place includes fifteen horses, seventy-five head of full-blood and high grade cattle, one hundred head of Shropshire sheep, forty head of improved full-blood Yorkshire hogs and Angora goats. Sev-

eral barns of generous dimensions furnish shelter for the stock and produce, and other farm buildings complete a model estate. A windmill pumps a supply of good water for stock and domestic uses, and a plentiful supply of farm machinery is provided for the easy care of the farm. The residence is comfortable and is pleasantly situated in a fine grove of trees.

Mr. Hawley was married, in 1895, to Mary Fairfield, who was born in Illinois. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Hawley has been blessed by the birth of a daughter, Alice F., who was born in Becker county, Minnesota, October 30, 1898. Mr. Hawley is a recognized leader in his community in public affairs, and he has been called upon to serve in various official positions. He has been school clerk for many years, and is at present justice of the peace of Cuba township. He has served three years as county commissioner from the fifth district of Becker county. Politically he is a Republican and lends his influence for good government and the advancement of the community in which he makes his home. He and family are consistent members of the Episcopal church and stand high in the work of that church. Mr. Hawley is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Lake Park, Minnesota.

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#### PETER C. WOLD.

Peter C. Wold, a progressive and intelligent member of the farming community of Red Lake county, is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and eighty acres, and has a comfortable home on section 15, of Rocksbury township. His farm is well watered with spring water and is admirably adapted to diversified farming, in which Mr. Wold is successfully engaged.

Our subject was born near the city of Stor Hammar, Norway, January 16, 1861, and was the second of a family of six children born to Kristean and Dorothea (Anderson) Wold. His father was an invalid, and consequently young Peter C. began working at odd jobs in the city near by at the tender age of nine years. He worked as errand boy for the Hammar brewery, and while there formed acquaintances which were not conducive to his moral welfare. He soon realized this and wished to change the nature of his companions and his surroundings. He accordingly started for America in 1882. His older brother had preceded him to this country, but he did not know his whereabouts, and he had been in America a year before he found him. He landed at Philadelphia and went direct to St. Paul, Minnesota, and passed a year working in the city of Grand Forks. He purchased a relinquishment to the farm where he now lives,

and in the fall of 1883 filed his claim to the same and took up his permanent residence thereon in 1884. It was another year before he secured any stock, as he had exhausted his resources in getting his land. He purchased an ox team and lived alone in a small shanty on the place for about a year. His history for the next few years was a continuation of hard work, during which time he improved his farm and cleared the land for cultivation and erected buildings upon the place. He now has a well improved farm, and for the last three years or so has given considerable attention to stock-raising with good results, and also dairying. Together with Messrs. Bakken and Englestad, he has given attention to fine stock, and they have introduced some fine specimens into that locality, some of the finest to be found there. Mr. Wold has a good barn on his place, and other farm buildings, and has his land under good cultivation. His residence is the log house which he built in 1885. In this he installed his bride as housekeeper and there his children have been born and reared. It is none too humble to be called home, and it carries within its walls many pleasant recollections and tender memories which endear it to the occupants.

Mr. Wold was married, in 1885, to Miss Lizzie Englestad. Mrs. Wold has assisted her husband by hearty cheer and good counsel, and together they have gained a comfortable competence. They are the parents of six children, named as follows: Carrie, Emma, Dina, Christian, Laura and August. Mr. Wold is prominent in local affairs, and has served as assessor of his township for over ten years, and is the present justice of the peace. He has taken much interest in educational matters and labored for the maintenance of good schools. He is a supporter of the national Prohibition party, and is a member of the Lutheran church and the Modern Woodmen of America.

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#### JOHN H. ROESCH.

Every community boasts of its rising young men, and among this number in Mary township, Norman county, may be noted John H. Roesch. He has followed the occupation of a farmer for many years, and is the owner of a fine estate in section 1, which is the result of his own efforts, supplemented by honesty and integrity of word and deed. He is a man of good principles and commands the highest esteem of his fellows.

Our subject was born in Dunn county, Wisconsin, January 9, 1864, and was a son of John and Sophia (Schill) Roesch, both of whom were natives of Germany. He spent his early life in his native place and received his education in

the country schools of Dunn county, and in 1879 removed to Minnesota, locating in Norman county. Soon after taking up his residence in Minnesota our subject went to Oregon and spent a winter there, but returned to Minnesota and was employed in a store at Ada, Minnesota, for about six years, and then purchased four hundred acres of land, on which he has since resided. He has devoted his attention strictly to the conduct of the place since taking up his residence thereon, and his endeavors have been well rewarded. He is now the possessor of a model farm in every particular, and keeps about twelve head of horses, twelve cows and thirteen sheep. He has a good supply of farm machinery for operating the place, and his buildings include a comfortable and commodious residence, a barn 34x68 feet and other buildings to complete a set. He has a half acre devoted to fruit culture, and altogether has a comfortable and profitable home. Hail and high water have destroyed his crops at various times, but he has surmounted these discouragements each time, and has made a decided success of his vocation.

Our subject was married in 1890 to Katie Benner. Mrs. Roesch was born in Minnesota, in October, 1878. Two children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roesch, upon whom they have bestowed the names of Elvin and Violet. The elder is aged six years and the younger is aged three years. Mr. Roesch and family are most highly respected in the community in which they make their home. Our subject is a man of thought and keeps pace with the times in public affairs. He is an advocate of reform principles and is a Populist in political faith. He is a consistent member of the Catholic church, and well merits his success and good name.

#### INGEBRET LARSEN.

Ingebret Larsen, manager of the Farmers' Supply House in McIntosh, Minnesota, is one of the capable business men of Polk county. His extensive financial interests have been attained by his good judgment and industry, and it has been by giving his closest personal attention to the details of his business that his reputation as a thorough manager and merchant has been established. For many years he was engaged in farming in Sletten township, and has a wide knowledge of this calling, and at present devotes much attention to dairying and stock raising. His farm is located seven miles south of McIntosh.

Mr. Larsen was born in Hedrum, Norway, May 10, 1854. He was the eldest of eleven children born to Lars and Berte (Igebretsen) Olsen. His father is still living and resides in his native

land. At the age of fifteen years our subject went to sea as an apprentice, and became an able seaman, making trips to the coast of the United States. He studied navigation in 1874, and after attaining his majority was appointed first mate of a sailing vessel. Later he signed with American ships from New York, and in 1881 and 1882 sailed on the Great Lakes. In 1883, when the Thirteen Towns were opened for settlement, he went to the newly opened district and took a homestead and devoted his attention to farming. He lived alone for five years in a small log building on section 7 of Sletten township, and had no one but his oxen for company. He spent several winters in the woods. He assumed charge of the Farmers' elevator at McIntosh in 1895, and made his home in that town, where he has since resided, and in January, 1901, he accepted his present position as manager of the Farmers' Supply House in McIntosh. He also gives his attention to his farming and dairying interests, keeping about twenty-five head of stock on hand.

Mr. Larsen was married in 1887 to Miss Astri Kaupang. To this marriage four children have been born: Paulina, Olga, Inga and Bella. Mr. Larsen assisted in the organization of the Farmers' Alliance, and later became identified with the Populist party, and was prominent in the affairs of this organization, being a usual delegate to the county conventions. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

#### MICHAEL O. MOEN.

Michael O. Moen, residing on section 30, in Thompson township, is one of the well-known and prosperous farmers of Kittson county. He has resided there since the early days of the settlement of that region, and in the choice of his farm has displayed the best of judgment, the land being located on the banks of Two Rivers and adapted to general farming. Mr. Moen now owns three hundred and twenty acres of land, and enjoys a comfortable competence. He is systematic and progressive, and these characteristics, supplemented by honesty, have placed him in a foremost place among those of his calling.

Our subject was born in Norway June 2, 1848, and was the second in a family of five children born to Ole O. and Bendek (Mickle) Moen. He learned shoemaking in his native land and in 1869 came to America. He went to Clayton county, Iowa, where he was employed at carpenter work, and also worked in a sawmill, and in the spring of 1879 went to Kittson county, Minnesota. He selected land for himself and also his partner, Nils Paulson, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. In the fall of the same year he and Mr. Paulson went to their

land, arriving in a snow storm, and our subject at once established his family in a log house on what is now known as "Two Rivers farm." The winter following was a severe one for our subject to weather, owing to the scarcity of feed for his stock, and he had to haul hay ten miles, on one occasion taking three days to make the trip. He occupied the log house which is now his home in 1880. He has met with good success in his farm work, and is one of the well-known threshers of that locality, having followed that line of work every season since the early settlement of the country. Mr. Moen has a comfortable home and lives in contentment and peace, and although his dwelling is not of modern style it is none too humble to be called home. In it he has reared his children to manhood and womanhood, while his fortunes expanded and reputation broadened, and a wilderness has been transformed into a garden, but the recollections which haunt the modest walls of his early home make it more precious to its occupants than any marble palace in the land.

Mr. Moen was married, in 1869, to Miss Mary Olson. Ten children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Moen, who are named in order of birth as follows: Martin, deceased; Betsey, deceased; Ole; James; Tilda; Ada; Henrietta; Martin, deceased; Hans; and Lena. Two of Mr. Moen's grandchildren also make their home with the family, and are named Frieda Polmgren and Betsey Polmgren. Mr. Moen took a most hearty interest in the early affairs of his township and assisted in its organization. He served as a member of the first township board. He is a man of good ideas and keeps pace with the times and lends his influence for the upbuilding of his community. He is identified with the Republican party politically, and is firm in his convictions.

#### O. W. ERRICKSON.

O. W. Errickson, engaged extensively in railroad contracting and logging, is one of the prominent business men of northern Minnesota. He is at present engaged in the work in the vicinity of Cloquet, Minnesota, and is the owner of a fine farm near Minneapolis.

Mr. Errickson was born on a farm in Sweden in 1865. His father, Ole Errickson, was a farmer all his life. He came to America in 1868 with his family and settled near Cambridge. The mother died in Sweden in 1866. Our subject was the youngest of a family of five children, and he had one half-sister. He was raised on the farm near Cambridge until he was seven years of age, when the father died, and the family with the step-mother moved onto a farm in Sherburne county. There our subject lived with his

uncle until he was nine years of age, when he started for himself. He hired out to farmers in the neighborhood, and his educational advantages were thus given up. At the age of seventeen years he left farm work and went to Hennepin county, where he worked in the brick yards one summer, and then went to the woods near Brainerd. He engaged in lumbering winters and railroad work summers for three years, and from then until 1868 he followed railroading, a period of about fourteen years. He was foreman of the railroad crew and manager of different jobs, and was in the employ of the Great Northern Railroad. In the fall of 1868 he began contracting for the building of railroads, and has since followed this line extensively. Since that time he has built thirty-five miles of line in different parts of northeastern Minnesota, and has also done ten miles of grading. This has all been done for the Great Northern Railroad, and at present he has two camps near Cloquet, and is engaged in building a grade for the Great Northern. He has a complete contractor's outfit, comprising twenty-two teams, scrapers and twenty-two cars for grading and a mile and a quarter of track. He keeps his horses on his farm near Minneapolis during the winter and in the summer rents out the farm. He is also engaged to some extent in the logging business. He has built railroads in Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin, and has worked on the Wisconsin Central.

#### RAY F. WHETSTONE, M. D.

The subject of this sketch is one of the best known and most thoroughly reliable members of the medical fraternity of Marshall county. His residence is in Argyle, and he has built up a practice which is a credit to his ability and conscientious methods as a physician and surgeon. His portrait will be found upon another page in this volume.

Dr. Whetstone is a native of Rochester, Minnesota, and was born August 9, 1872. His parents were Henry H. and Mary (Eckles) Whetstone. Our subject remained at home on his father's farm until he was sixteen years of age, receiving in the meantime a thorough common school education. He then took a business course in Minneapolis, and also graduated from the Minneapolis Central High School. He entered the University of Hamline when twenty years of age, and graduated four years later with the class of '96, receiving the degree of M. D. He then went to McIntosh, Polk county, Minnesota, where he took charge of a professional friend's practice and met with much success. In June, 1897, he located in Argyle. His practice

has steadily increased and has now reached proportions which make it a permanent and valuable one. As a surgeon he has met with marked success and has won considerable prominence in the county. He is a member of the state board of health, and for the past three years has been division surgeon for the Great Northern Railway.

Dr. Whetstone was married January 1, 1896, to Miss Bernice Goltry. Dr. and Mrs. Whetstone are parents of one son, Victor. Dr. Whetstone is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and of the Knights of Pythias. He is a staunch member of the Democratic party, and chairman of the county central committee of that organization. Among the rising young men in the medical profession no one has greater promise or is more deserving of success than Dr. Whetstone. He is a great student, not only of books, but of human nature, and to this he attributes in a large degree his remarkable success.

#### REV. OLE JUUL.

Rev. Ole Juul, pastor of the Norwegian church of Moe township, Douglas county, is a gentleman of high attainments and marked ability, and has a large following in his locality. He is a native of Norway, and was born September 10, 1838.

The parents of our subject, Juul Olson and Betsy Olson, came with their family to America in 1848. They went to Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, where the father purchased a small farm. The mother died in 1880, at the advanced age of eighty-two years, and the father passed away four years later, aged eighty-seven years.

Rev. Ole Juul, after attending the public schools, went to Concordia College, St. Louis, Missouri, and was graduated in theology in the seminary there in 1864. He was ordained to the ministry and preached in Iowa county, Wisconsin, for two years. He was then called to New York City and most ably filled the position of pastor in Our Savior Norwegian Lutheran church, on Monroe street, New York, for ten years, from 1866 to 1876. This church is since removed to Brooklyn, New York. Rev. Juul's next call was to Chicago, where he remained from 1876 to 1893, and was pastor of Our Savior's Norwegian Lutheran church, corner of May and Erie streets. From there he went to fill the position he now holds in Moe township, Douglas county, Minnesota. He is pastor of the Moe Norwegian Lutheran church on section 7 of Moe township, and also the East Moe church on section 1 of the same township. The first named church was erected in 1878, and the first pastor was Lauritz Carlson, then I. Stadstad, and again Mr. Carlson, who took charge on his return from mis-

sionary work in Australia. He officiated until 1893, when he was succeeded by Rev. O. Juul. The East Moe church was erected in 1882. The congregation of the two churches aggregates about one hundred families. Rev. Juul's home is at the parsonage, on section 7 of Moe township, and is located near the church building and pleasantly placed amid a grove of fine shade trees. The parsonage and land immediately adjacent is the property of the church.

Rev. Juul was married in 1866 to Gustava M. Gruda. Mrs. Juul died in 1889. To this union five sons were born, all of whom have taken advantage of the excellent educational opportunities afforded them. They are as follows: Otto G., a clergyman at Elbow Lake, Grant county; Martin, clergyman at Detroit, Minnesota; Axel J., studying at Glenwood Academy, and purposes following the profession of dentistry; Gustav, a student at Decorah College, Iowa; and Rudolph, studying at Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Rev. Juul was married to Caroline Emilie Moe, a widow lady, in 1891. Rev. Juul is a preacher of ability and of commanding appearance, a true Christian, and consistent in his relations to all and an excellent orator. In his study hangs a fine picture of the sailing ship *Drafn*, the vessel which brought him and his father's family to America over fifty years ago. Many years after coming to the States he accidentally saw the picture in a marine store in New York, and spoke of it in one of the discourses. He was much pleased and surprised to have it presented to him later, elegantly framed, as a gift from the ship chandler. Rev. Juul has met with wonderful success in his church work, and is beloved by all.

#### JAMES M. GATES.

James M. Gates, a successful and enterprising agriculturist of Ottertail county, Minnesota, resides on his pleasant farm in section 31, Deer Creek township. He is one of the pioneers of the county, having driven overland by team from Rice county in 1882.

Mr. Gates was born in Indiana November 7, 1825. His parents were Samuel and Mary A. (Montgomery) Gates, natives of the states of Pennsylvania and Ohio, respectively. When our subject was an infant his parents removed from Indiana to Ohio, where he grew to manhood and received his education in the common schools of that state. In 1845 he returned to Indiana, and afterward went to Minnesota and took up his abode in Rice county. He farmed there from 1855 until 1864, when he enlisted in Company E, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and was sent to the Indian frontier. After six months of service he became ill while in Dakota, on the



Missouri river, and for several months was a sufferer from fever and inflammatory rheumatism. He partially recovered and was sent south, but a return of the malady compelled him to go to the hospital again, where he remained until he was mustered out in 1865.

After the close of the war Mr. Gates returned to Rice county, Minnesota, and farmed there until 1882. In that year he came to Ottertail county and purchased land in section 31, Deer Creek township. He is now the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of valuable farm land, has improved it and erected a good residence of ten rooms, together with good barns and other out-buildings. His farm is supplied with an abundance of farm machinery, and he has prospered during his residence in the county.

Mr. Gates was married in 1850 to Ann Tucker. Mrs. Gates was born in Virginia April 13, 1830. Of this marriage eight children have been born, seven of whom are still living. Abrial M., Samuel, Frank, Mary Ann, Rebecca J., Clara and Mary are the names of the living children, and James A. the name of the deceased. Mr. Gates is a member of the G. A. R. lodge at Deer Creek. In politics he is a Democrat, and is prominent among the old settlers of the township.

#### CHRISTOPHER C. DENENNY.

Christopher C. Denenny was born on a farm in St. Lawrence county, New York, in 1851, and is a son of Richard Denenny, who was a farmer and a native of Ireland, as was also his wife, the mother of Christopher C. Richard Denenny came to the United States a single man, and married after his arrival on these shores.

Christopher C. Denenny was the third child and only son in his parents' family, and was reared on the St. Lawrence county farm, receiving only a limited common-school education, and applied himself very early to the work of the farm. His father was in poor health, and when Christopher C. was only twelve years old he was bearing burdens much beyond his years. He remained at home and had the care and management of the farm until 1872. That year he was married to Miss Catherine Barry. Her brother was an old settler in Clay county, and her father, John Barry, who was born in Ireland, came to the United States about 1823. To Mr. and Mrs. Denenny have come the following children: Fred, Richard, William, Grace, John, Stella, Christopher and Bernice. The three oldest were born in the east; the others are natives of Clay county.

Christopher Denenny remained at home until his father died, in 1877, and then came west to Eau Claire county, Wisconsin, spending two

years in Augusta. In 1888 he came to Clay county, Minnesota. He arrived at Borup March 18, 1888, and found the country presenting a most uninviting appearance. There was two feet of water on the ice, perhaps an inch thick. He had brought in a carload of goods in company with T. H. Barry, and he slept the first night in his car. In the morning he had to walk three miles to James Rowe's for his breakfast. It took him two days to unload his car. It was not until along in May that he was able to locate on his farm. He put up a shanty 14x16 feet, and kept house all by himself the first summer. For a time he did his farming with oxen, and beginning under the most primitive conditions gradually made his way to a competency. The first season he broke thirty acres, and his crop of flax and oats was a total failure. This left him prostrate, and in 1881 he ran a railroad boarding house, and worked out by the day. The next year he planted fifty acres of wheat, which proved a fine crop. Since that year there has not been a crop failure. In 1882 Mr. Denenny resumed his residence on the farm, where he lived until April, 1901, when he took up his residence in Felton, where he has bought a fine home. Mr. Denenny has a farm of four hundred and eighty acres, with over three hundred under cultivation. His house cost fifteen hundred dollars, and a cow barn, which is 40x50 feet; the horse barn is 24x32 feet. There is a chicken house, and a flowing well of soft water is carried to the house and stock. Taken altogether, it is one of the best improved and most desirable farms in the county.

In 1883 the house was carried away by a cyclone. Eight people were in it at the time, but none were injured beyond slight scratches, though the house was completely wrecked. For two weeks the family found a home in a neighbor's sod shanty. Two weeks later the barn was destroyed by a wind storm, so the farm was cleared of buildings. Mr. Denenny's next house was a flat-roofed structure, and in 1883 he put up a new residence, and barn and cow barn built in 1885. The house was destroyed by fire in 1883, and all its contents lost. He is engaged in both grain and stock raising, and gives especial attention to Durham cattle. In horses he favors the Percheron-Normans and Clydesdales, though of late he has found a good driving horse a profitable investment. He votes an independent ticket, and has been a constable for eight years. In 1898 he was appointed deputy sheriff. He is the present marshal of the village of Felton. He served on the first school board of Felton township, being school treasurer six years and a director two years.

Mr. Denenny takes pride in the flowing wells on his farm, of which there are three, one ninety-three feet deep, the second one hundred feet

deep, and the third sixty feet. This last throws a two-inch stream. The farm lies in sections 12 and 2 of Felton township. He has greatly improved his property in Felton since his removal to the village, in the spring of 1901.

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#### HON GEORGE H. WALSH.

Hon. George H. Walsh, one of the best known attorneys of northern Minnesota and North Dakota, is a gentleman of excellent business ability and has a wide knowledge of men and the world. He is one of the founders of Cass Lake, in Cass county, Minnesota, and has made his residence there since the organization of the village. He is the owner of extensive farm lands in North Dakota, and is one of the well-to-do and progressive citizens of his locality.

Mr. Walsh was born in Canada November 24, 1845, and was a son of Thomas and Ellenor (Ranson) Walsh, the former a native of Ireland and the latter born in England. When he was ten years of age he left Montreal, Canada, and came to Henderson, Sibley county, Minnesota, with his parents. There he attended the common schools and worked in his father's mercantile establishment until he was sixteen years of age, when he went to St. Paul and entered a printing office to learn the trade. He worked on the St. Paul papers until August, 1862, when he enlisted in Company I, Tenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and was sent to fight the Indians. He served one year between New Ulm and Litchfield, Minnesota, and in 1863 went south and served through the Civil War until 1865. He participated in seven hard-fought battles and was mustered out of the service at Fort Snelling, St. Paul, September 10, 1865. He then completed a course in commercial law and book-keeping in the Commercial Business College of St. Paul. He worked on the Mississippi river steamers as book-keeper during the summer months and in the printing office in winters for three years, and in 1869 founded a paper for himself, located at Forest City, Minnesota. He disposed of his interests there in 1870 and established a paper at New Ulm, Minnesota, the Plaindealer, which he continued to publish three years. In 1874 he founded the St. Paul News, and after a short time removed the plant to Grand Forks, North Dakota, where he continued four years. During this time he continued his studies with Judge Cox, of New Ulm. He practiced the profession of law in Grand Forks in connection with his newspaper business, and he was also clerk of courts and United States commissioner. He became the owner of twelve hundred acres of land in North Dakota, and this farm is now under high cultivation, is well improved with buildings,

valued at ten thousand dollars, and he has it well stocked with cattle and horses. He has plenty of good farm machinery, including a steam threshing outfit, and the farm is well adapted to diversified agriculture. Mr. Walsh located in Cass Lake in 1899 and assisted in organizing the village. He has his law office on Second avenue and is the village attorney.

Mr. Walsh was married, in 1868, at St. Paul, Minnesota, to Laura Griggs. Mrs. Walsh was born in Wisconsin, August 15, 1850. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Walsh, namely: Florence E., Stuart T., Abbie C. and Loren F. Mr. Walsh is an active participant in public affairs of the community in which he makes his home, and he has occupied high stations of trust in North Dakota and Minnesota. He served as a member of the North Dakota legislature from 1880 to 1896, and was president of the council and speaker of the house one session. He was prosecuting attorney and county commissioner one year in North Dakota. He is very prominent in secret society circles and is a member of the Masonic fraternity, having passed thirteen degrees in this order, the Elks, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Order of Red Men, and Grand Army of the Republic. Politically he is a Republican and stands firmly for his convictions and takes an active part in local affairs. He has a host of friends in North Dakota and Minnesota, irrespective of party affiliations.

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#### OLOF P. HOGLUND.

Olof P. Hoglund, one of the noted lumbermen and farmers of northeastern Minnesota, whose career shows what energy and determination can accomplish in a new country when united with industry and character, was born in Jemtland, Sweden, in 1847, where he was the oldest member of a family of three children born to his parents. His father was a farmer, and served in the Swedish army eighteen years.

Olof P. Hoglund started out for himself when he was twenty-one years old, though he had worked at farm labors and in the lumber woods every winter since he was ten years old. In 1874 he came to the United States, and landing at New York made his way directly into Kanabec county, Minnesota, where he located in section 12, Grass Lake township. After he bought out the homestead right of the man who had preceded him on the tract, he had only fifteen dollars left, but it was enough to become the foundation of a very substantial success. The log shanty on the place was his home for many years. It has since been replaced by a convenient and attractive frame house. Mr. Hoglund was long en-

gaged in lumbering, and for nine or ten winters had logging contracts, mostly in Pine county. The first two springs he spent in the United States he was also engaged in log driving.

Mr. Hoglund was married, in 1869, to Miss Ella M. Anderson, born in Sweden, and the daughter of a farmer. To this union has come one son, Anderson A. Her health was not good for many years, and for the sake of the out-of-door life and the pure air she spent a number of winters cooking in the camps for her husband and the men in his employ.

Mr. Hoglund has also been in the threshing business, and has owned and operated two different outfits, the first in Kanabec county. He also brought in the first self binder ever seen in the county. His threshing crew has also worked very extensively in North Dakota.

Mr. Hoglund has had interests in a mercantile way in a store at Grass Lake for some two years, and is regarded as one of the leading men of the county. His original homestead of eighty-seven acres has grown into a magnificent farm of two hundred and forty acres, well improved and under good cultivation. He has dealt extensively in farm lands, and his judgment as to real estate values is regarded as exceptionally reliable. In politics he is independent, and has served as school treasurer and town supervisor. In his earlier years in Minnesota he had to endure many privations and dangers of travel. For a long time the county was devoid of roads and bridges, and Mr. Hoglund was more than once in peril of his life in crossing Snake river.

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#### OVIDE MOREAU.

Ovide Moreau, a retired merchant of Terrebonne, and the present efficient postmaster of that thriving town, is a gentleman of more than ordinary business capacity and has made a success of his life work by energetic efforts and the exercises of good judgment. He is one of the oldest settlers of Terrebonne township and is one of the well known residents of Red Lake county. A portrait of him appears in this volume, on another page.

Mr. Moreau was born in Ontario, February 18, 1850, and was the eldest of eight children born to Constant and Marie (Lafreniere) Moreau. The parents were natives of Canada and were of French descent. The father was a farmer by occupation and died when our subject was but fourteen years of age, and the family was thus separated. Our subject was the only one old enough to care for himself and he secured work in the sawmills summers and in the woods winters and made his way with little assistance from any one. He worked thus un-

til 1878 when he started for Manitoba to visit his sister. He met friends while passing through Crookston and stopped there and at once started out to find land. He located on the southeast quarter of section 6 in Terrebonne township, and at that time there were but three families in the township. He had but eighteen dollars when he arrived at Crookston and after filing his claim he was without any cash. He secured work as a sawyer in the old pioneer sawmill of Red Lake Falls and a year later worked for Mr. Hunt in a general store, and was thus employed for six years. In 1887 he was sent to Terrebonne in charge of a country store owned by Mr. Hunt, and about 1888 he accepted a good offer by Mr. Hunt and became proprietor of the business at Terrebonne. The store then occupied a building 20x30 feet and was but a small stock, but under Mr. Moreau's management steadily increased, and in 1899 a larger building was erected and the stock was then valued at about \$7,000.00. Mr. Moreau has recently disposed of the business and is retired from active pursuits to regain his health. Since 1888 he has served as postmaster of Terrebonne, and is an efficient and popular official.

Mr. Moreau was married in Canada to Miss Matilda Brasseur, who is now deceased. One son was born of this union, namely, Albert, who is now employed in the store. Mr. Moreau was married in 1882 to Miss Frazilda Papineau. To this marriage four children have been born, as follows: Joseph O. H., who graduated from St. Joseph's College, June 19, 1901; Aura, deceased; Arthur and Rosa. Mr. Moreau is a member of the Catholic church, and the Modern Woodmen of America and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a staunch Republican and is an earnest worker for party principles.

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#### GUY F. CARLTON.

Guy F. Carlton, manager of the Marshall County Elevator Company's elevator at Warren, Minnesota, is one of the most popular young business men of that section. He is thoroughly acquainted with the business in which he is engaged and was one of the organizers of the Farmers' Elevator Company, of which he is secretary and treasurer. He has an extensive acquaintance and is a gentleman of excellent education and is familiar with both Scandinavian and English. He has met with success in the county where he has spent the greater part of his life.

Mr. Carlton was born in Stearns county, Minnesota, October 19, 1872, and was the second son born to Francis W. and Lydia (Duncan) Carlton, a sketch of whom appears also in this work. When the Carlton family came to Marshall coun-

ty, Minnesota, our subject was but a child and he has passed his boyhood and manhood in this locality. After completing the studies of the common schools he took a business course at the Curtis Business College, after which he followed the profession of teaching for a short time, and then entered upon his desired career as a business man. He engaged as bookkeeper and wheat buyer for the Warren Manufacturing Company for three and a half years and this, with one year's employment with the Minnesota and Dakota Elevator Company, gave him knowledge of the elevator business, and in June, 1900, he organized the Farmers' Elevator Company, and was chosen secretary and treasurer of the same. As manager he has charge of the elevator at Warren. He has met with remarkable success in his business ventures and is fast gaining a high position among the prosperous business men of Marshall county.

Mr. Carlton was married in 1898 to Miss Nellie Stevens. One son has blessed this union, upon whom Mr. and Mrs. Carlton have bestowed the name of Harold. Mr. Carlton is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a Republican in political sentiment, but does not seek public office. He is a young man of excellent characteristics and well merits his success and good name.

#### FRANCIS W. CARLTON.

Francis W. Carlton, residing on section 24 in Oak Park township, is one of the early settlers of Marshall county. He has a farm of five hundred and sixty acres on the Lower Snake river, and is one of the well-to-do and highly esteemed citizens of that region. Mr. Carlton was born in Lincoln county, Maine, October 26, 1840. He was the oldest of five children born to Robert and Nancy (White) Carlton. The Carlton family is well known in the history of America, and representatives have served in all the great wars. The great-grandfather of our subject was killed in the Revolutionary war, the grandfather served in the war of 1812, our subject served in the Civil war, and his son enlisted for the late Spanish-American war.

In 1853 the father came to Minneapolis, then St. Anthony, and three years later he was joined by the rest of the family, and they passed a few years in that city. At the age of fifteen years our subject began carpenter work under his father's direction. November 1, 1861, he enlisted in Bracket's Independent Company of Cavalry. He was in a skirmish at Rolling Mills and Guide Gap, and also served in heavy skirmishes during Wheeler's raid. He was then detailed as scout in the northwest, and was discharged at Fort

Snelling after three years' service. After his discharge from the service he went south and worked at his trade and also raised cotton in Louisiana, and in 1870 returned to Stearns county, Minnesota. After engaging in farming there seven years he suffered failure through the devastation by grasshoppers, and in the summer of 1877 he came to the Red river and harvested on the Rive river and pushed north to look at the country on both the west and east side of the valley. He had as a companion, Mr. S. Stone, who was also an old soldier, and in 1878 they came to Crookston and in June of that year chose land on the Lower Snake river, where both made homes. Our subject made his living by breaking land and in 1879 their families joined them and the development of the farm was begun, although Mr. Carlton did not give much attention to the raising of cereals, stock-raising being the chief work of the farm. In the fall of 1879 a great fire swept the country of all the brush and changed the face of the valley. Several persons were burned and our subject escaped only through the agency of a small clearing near his home. He did not give his entire attention to farming until 1888, and he now leases his land, but resides in the home erected in the early days, built of native lumber, and made cheerful and comfortable by good companionship and contentment.

Mr. Carlton was married in 1870 to Miss Lydia Duncan. Mrs. Carlton died in 1891, and was laid to rest at Sauk Center. Seven children were born to this union, namely: James, Guy F., Paul H., Samuel C., Maude, now Mrs. Bernard, Lydia and Helen. Mr. Carlton is a member of the G. A. R., and politically is a Republican and stands firmly for his convictions.

#### THORVALD O. LIAN.

Pioneer life in a country brings many experiences, the greater share of which are discouraging and many of which are even dangerous, but despite this fact settlers have flocked to the wilds of the northern and western states and have braved the dangers and overcome the discouragements in search of fortunes and a comfortable home. Minnesota has her share of these men and Norman county contributes a large list to the number. Thorvald O. Lian became a pioneer of Winchester township, and he now has one of the pleasant and remunerative farms of his locality. His home is in section 22, and he has gained a good property and an enviable name.

Our subject was born on a farm in Jarlsberg, Norway, July 18, 1861. His father, Olaus Lian, came to America in 1888 and died at Philadel-

phia, Pennsylvania, the same year. He spent his life in Norway and was a farmer by occupation. Our subject was the seventh in a family of ten children, and was reared on the home farm, receiving but limited educational advantages. After the death of his mother in 1870, he began earning his own way, and followed farming for some time. He was also employed in a flouring mill six years, and in 1884 emigrated to America. He landed at New York City and from there went direct to Ada, Norman county, Minnesota, and after his arrival spent the first summer working at farm labor. He worked as a section man for the Great Northern Railroad for two years and then spent one winter in the pineries of northern Minnesota. He began farming in 1889, purchasing railroad land and also operating land which his father-in-law owned, and he and his young wife lived in a small house on her father's place. Mr. Lian is now the fortunate owner of two hundred and forty acres of land, and has ten acres of timber in McDonaldsville township. He cultivates one hundred and sixty acres of land and the balance of his home farm is in pasture land. He has erected a complete set of good farm buildings and has all machinery necessary for conducting a model farm. Two flowing wells, each of which flow one hundred barrels per day, add to the value of the farm. Mr. Lian has sustained heavy losses by flood and hail, but has generally succeeded.

Mr. Lian was married in November, 1889, to Miss Olava Lian, a native of Norway. Mrs. Lian's father, Martin Lian, was a farmer by occupation and came to America with his family in 1884 and settled in Norman county. Mrs. Lian was educated in Norway, but grew to womanhood in America. Mr. and Mrs. Lian are the parents of five children, who are as follows: Ellen, born January 3, 1891; Olga, born December 23, 1895; Oscar, born April 17, 1897; Ida, born January 29, 1899, and Esther, born February 23, 1901.

Mr. Lian is a man of intelligence and is active in public affairs of his community. He has served as justice of the peace one term and township treasurer two years, and six years as town clerk. He went to Norman county without means and is now one of the well-to-do and deservedly esteemed men of his community.

#### FREDERICK MEISSNER.

Frederick Meissner, a prosperous farmer of Douglas county, whose residence is situated on section 27 of Millerville township, has an excellent farm of two hundred acres and forty acres additional timber land. He is a gentleman of intelligence and true citizenship and well merits his financial success and high standing.

Mr. Meissner was born near the city of Berlin, Germany, September 21, 1859, and was a son of Gottlieb and Fredericka Meissner. The parents emigrated with their family to America in the summer of 1869, and after a brief stay in New York, they went direct to St. Paul, Minnesota, their objective point being Douglas county. At Minneapolis a wagon and team were purchased, necessities for housekeeping to a limited extent were packed in the wagon and a weary ride of 150 miles brought them to the neighborhood of Millerville. The father secured one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 5, of Millerville township, by buying a homestead right, and here he settled down to a period of hard work and privation, in which all the family became participants. By continuous labor a portion of the land was cleared for grain, and wheat and oats were sown. The former supplied the needed bread and when parched furnished the only "coffee" used in the family for years, except on such special occasions as harvest, when some of the real article was substituted. Oats at that time commanded forty cents per bushel on the market, but the market was fifty miles distant, at Perham, Ottertail county, and it required a four days journey to go and return with wagon and ox teams. In the course of time matters improved on the farm, and as the children grew older and stronger and more land was secured the elder Meissner finally owned seven hundred and twenty acres of as good farming land as any in the county, all of which was eventually divided among his children. The father died in April, 1891, and the mother now resides on the first home farm with her youngest son. They have a good and comfortable residence, which replaced the old log cabin, which occupied the land when purchased one-third of a century ago. The children of Gottlieb and Fredericka Meissner were as follows: Ernest, a farmer of Millerville township; Frederick, our subject; Fredericka, wife of Albert Gashe, a farmer of Ottertail township; Herman, a farmer of Millerville; Amelia, wife of Conrad Knoerl, a farmer of Ottertail county; William, a wheat buyer at Brandon, formerly mill owner there; Henry, living with his mother on the home farm; and Mary, the wife of Emial Weida. Mr. Meissner served his township twelve years as supervisor. In political sentiment he was a Republican. With his family he was a member of the German Lutheran church, and was a man of many friends and was deeply mourned by all who knew him.

Frederick Meissner attended the public schools in Germany before the family emigrated to America, and he had very limited opportunities for acquiring any school knowledge in this country. He, however, devoted his time to work,

but he has acquired by reading and observation a good knowledge of affairs generally and is a man well posted on the events of the day. His farm is well cultivated and produces good crops of grain, while he keeps a herd of about twenty cattle and is turning his attention to more extensive stock raising.

Frederick Meissner was married February 4, 1886, to Caroline Elgert, a daughter of Conrad and Elizabeth (Bloom) Elgert. The parents of Mrs. Meissner reside in Buffalo county, Wisconsin, where she was born. Mr. and Mrs. Meissner are the parents of the following children: Amelia, Albert, Elizabeth, Frank, Charles, Elmer, died at the age of thirteen months, and Elva. In politics our subject is a Republican. He is a member of the German Lutheran church.

#### JORGEN O. RUD.

In a home where hospitality and contentment reign, surrounded by all the comforts of life as the result of a well spent career, lives Jorgen O. Rud. His residence is on section 35 of Godfrey township, and he is one of the well known old settlers of his township, and has built up a fine farm.

Mr. Rud was born in Nes, Hallingdal, Norway, June 28, 1854. He was the sixth child and oldest son of a family of seven children. His father, Fanejunker O. Rud, was a flag bearer in his majesty's service for thirty-two years. In the fall of 1878 our subject came to America, and worked in Becker county about a year. In the fall of 1879 he started out on foot from Becker county for Polk county. He learned while at Crookston that vacant land was to be had in the Sand Hill River region, and he turned his footsteps thither and filed a claim to the land on which he now resides, taking the same as a homestead. He went to his farm in the spring of 1880 and built a log house, and during the summer worked for others. The following winter his home became bachelor's headquarters for the neighborhood and there were at times as many as eleven men stopping in the little log cabin, each doing his own cooking. Our subject extended such courtesies as lay in his power, and was a hospitable host. He owned but a shot gun, a sack of flour and a piece of pork when he went to that region and had no money, and bought an ox team on time, and by the strictest economy and careful management succeeded in getting his farming under way within a few years. He was fortunate in his selection of a location, choosing land on which was some timber and with a water front on Kettle lake. He now has a good residence, commodious barn and other buildings, and engages successfully in diversified farming. He is interested in raising

dairy stock and has a fine herd of Shorthorn Durham cattle and a fine full blooded Shorthorn bull. He was one of the leaders in establishing the Garfield Farmers' Elevator, in Fertile, and is now one of the directors and is also greatly interested in the creamery at that place. He is classed among the progressive farmers and dairy-men of that region.

Mr. Rud was married, in 1882, to Miss Mary Kittilson. His estimable wife shared the hardships of their pioneer home and cheered him and assisted in every possible way in bringing about the present comfortable circumstances which they enjoy. In the early days their home was ever open to the stranger and homeseecker and to their influence is due much of the prosperity enjoyed in that locality at present, as they provided the progressive class of settlers with food and shelter and heartily welcomed them to that locality and the hospitality of their home. Eight daughters have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Rud, namely: Anna, Lena, Carrie, Gena, Olga, Nora, Mela and Magna. The last named is deceased. Mr. Rud was a member of the first board of supervisors of Godfrey township, and is serving as a member of the board at the present time. He is a member of the Lutheran church and in political sentiment is a Republican.

#### ALMON D. FARRAR.

Almon D. Farrar, a prosperous merchant of Deer Creek, Ottertail county, has demonstrated his ability as a business man and has proved himself a substantial and desirable citizen during his residence in the county. Mr. Farrar is an old soldier who has seen service and has deserved the best that can be said of the men who defended the union in the hour of its danger.

Mr. Farrar was born June 1, 1841, in Maine. His parents were Worcester and Sarah (Dorr) Farrar, both natives of the state of Maine. In 1846 the family came west and located in Wisconsin, where the father purchased a farm. There our subject grew to manhood and received his education in the common schools. He remained at home working on the farm until 1861, when upon the breaking out of the war, he enlisted in Company B, First Wisconsin Cavalry. He was sent to Benton Barracks, Missouri, and afterwards to Bloomfield, Missouri, and was then sent on raids through Arkansas. He was wounded at the battle of Languille River, Arkansas, and was sent to the hospital at Memphis, where he was detained four months. When he was able to travel he returned to Wisconsin, December, 1862. He made his home in Wisconsin for the three years following, and then went to Minnesota. He first located in Goodhue county



and after a few years went to Dakota. He took up a homestead which he developed, remaining there from 1888 to 1895. In the meantime he had opened a general store in 1888. On disposing of his interests in Dakota, he went to Ottertail county, and opened his present general merchandise establishment. He has made a marked success of his undertaking and his business has increased rapidly, and he has now one of the most valuable merchandise establishments in the county. He carries a stock valued at about three thousand dollars, and it is well selected and always kept up-to-date. He has a good building valued at one thousand dollars. He has established a reputation for honesty and integrity, and is known throughout the county as a genial, thorough and upright business man.

Mr. Farrar is a Republican in his political faith, and takes a commendable interest in public affairs. He has had too much business of his own to permit him to seek office at the hands of his neighbors.

#### WILLIAM H. OAKES.

William H. Oakes, a pushing and energetic young business man of Brickton, Mille Lacs county, Minnesota, was born in 1861, on a farm in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, and is a son of Henry Oakes, a descendant of an old Canadian family, originally from New York, and of Julia Hebb, a native of Lunenburg, Nova Scotia.

William H. Oakes was the fourth in a family of nine children reared and educated in Nova Scotia, and when he was twenty-four years old struck out in the world for himself. The father was a brickmaker, and William H. began work in the brickyard under his instructions, when he was only eleven years of age. The father died when our subject was twenty-two years old, and for some three years the family patrimony was in charge of Mr. Oakes, now of Brickton.

William H. Oakes came to Minnesota in 1876, and made his home in Anoka, where he was engaged in brick making for John Dunn, at Coon Creek, putting in five years of hard work at that place. In 1879 Mr. Oakes entered Mille Lacs county, and secured land by pre-emption, taking two years for this purpose, much of the time, however, being spent in lumbering. For some nine years he was foreman for the extensive lumber camps of Birch & Kennedy, some of the time having a hundred to a hundred and fifty men in charge during the winter season. In 1892 he came to Brickton, and was employed by Woodcock & Campbell as overseer for their brickyard during three seasons, at the end of that time, buying out the interest of Mr. Campbell, and continuing in partnership with Mr. Woodcock to the present time. Between three and

four millions of brick can be made at the yard each season, and it is the largest plant in the county. The firm also operates a sawmill in Brickton, which will make about twenty thousand feet of lumber a day. In 1900 the firm put out five millions of brick and eight hundred thousand feet of lumber. There are now three hundred thousand feet of lumber and sixteen hundred cords of hard wood on hand.

Mr. Oakes was married in 1888 to Miss Elizabeth Smith, a native of New Brunswick, but of Irish descent. To this union have come the following children: Harry, Julia, Annie, Glennie, Stillman, Denzel and Lila. All these were born either in Anoka or else in Mille Lacs county.

Mr. Oakes is a Democrat, and is known widely as one of the leading business men of this section of the county. His standing both as a man and a dealer in brick and lumber is beyond question.

#### JOHN O. BARKE.

John O. Barke, a successful attorney and business man of Fergus Falls, has been for many years prominently connected with the financial and educational interests of his city, and Ottertail county. His portrait is shown upon another page of this volume.

Mr. Barke was born near the city of Stavanger, Norway, November 12, 1850. His father, Ove J. Barke, was a farmer and contractor in his native land and came to America in May, 1870, settling in Story county, Iowa. The grandfather of our subject served in the Norwegian army during the war between Sweden and Denmark in Norway. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Ellen Anderson, was also a native of Norway, and her people were farmers in that country.

Mr. Barke was the eldest in a family of six children, and was reared on the farm and received a common school education in Norway, and also took a course in the Latin school at Stavanger. On coming to America he entered the Lutheran College at Decorah, Iowa, and later attended the North Missouri State Normal. He taught from time to time for money to pay his expenses through the different institutions, and during the entire time was giving attention to the study of law. In 1878 he entered the law department of what is now Drake University, of Des Moines, Iowa, and graduated in June, 1880, with the degree of LL. B. In August, 1880, Mr. Barke came to Ottertail county, Minnesota, and opened a law office in Fergus Falls, having been admitted to practice in the states of Minnesota and Iowa the same year. He has been in the continued practice of the law for more than twenty years and is one of the oldest and most

respected members of the bar in Ottertail county.

In addition to his law practice Mr. Barke gives his attention to other branches of business, being engaged in the selling of city real estate and farm lands. He is also secretary and a member of the board of trustees of the Park Region Luther College, which place he has occupied since its establishment in 1892. The object of this institution is to furnish opportunities for the sons and daughters of farmers who desire educational facilities not afforded by the public schools. In this college due attention is given to the moral and religious training, as well as to the material features of education. Mr. Barke has been one of the leading supporters of education in the county, and has done his full share toward the upbuilding of this college in particular. It is now in a flourishing condition with a large attendance from many parts of the Northwest.

In 1882 Mr. Barke was married to Miss Bertha Nelson. Mrs. Barke is a native of Illinois, her father being Seward Nelson, a farmer and a native of Norway. Her brothers were Union soldiers in our Civil war. Mr. and Mrs. Barke have five children, named as follows: Ellen J., now attending the high school; Owen S., also a student in the Fergus Falls high school; Arthur R., Ralph J., and Bertha Gladys. The family are members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Barke is a Republican and has been a staunch supporter of good government, using his influence in the interest of the best men and measures and to the advancement of the material, moral and educational welfare of his city and county. He served one term as a member of the city council and has been chosen a delegate to numerous county conventions. He is a pioneer professional man of Fergus Falls and his public spirit and upright life have brought him the regard and confidence of the entire community.

#### JACOB THILL.

Jacob Thill, one of the prominent business men of Wylie, Minnesota, is an old settler of Red Lake county, and is widely and favorably known. He is the agent of the St. Anthony and Dakota Elevator Company in that thriving town, and has a thorough knowledge of the work in which he is engaged and is a faultless judge of grains.

Mr. Thill was born in Belgium, September 21, 1853, and was one of a family of thirteen children born to Charles and Katherine (Mauer) Thill, both of whom are now deceased. The family emigrated to America in 1857 and settled in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin. Our subject

remained with his father until he was twenty-five years of age, and in the spring of 1878 started for South Dakota. He met friends, however, en route and by them was induced to remain in northern Minnesota and give the country a trial. He accordingly located in Belgium township, Polk county, near the village of Euclid. In the spring of 1880 he went to his farm to begin the development of the land and he devoted himself to farming four years, placing upon his land good improvements. He then sold the pre-emption, after which he followed bridge and elevator building and was thus engaged four summers. During the winter months he was employed as second man in the elevators, and thus gained a practical knowledge of grain buying. In 1889 he assumed charge of the elevator at Euclid, then owned by the Red River Valley Elevator Company, and Mr. Thill still remains in the employ of their successors. He has been associated with one superintendent for the past eighteen years, and is a faithful and efficient agent. He purchased a farm in 1895 near Wylie, and in 1900 sold this tract, and devotes himself exclusively to the grain business. He has a comfortable and substantial residence, and is one of the enterprising citizens of Wylie.

Mr. Thill was married, in 1896, to Miss Gertrude Dorgan. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Thill, who bear the names of Katherine and Marie. Mr. Thill is a man of good ideas and broad mind, and he lends his influence for good local government. He is a Democrat in national matters. He is a member of the Roman Catholic church and is a citizen of worth in his community.

#### JENS O. RUDE.

Jens O. Rude, dealer in real estate, insurance and collections, in the village of Fertile, resides on his farm of two hundred and forty acres in Godfrey township. He is a man of good business capacity and intelligence, and has made a success in Minnesota.

Mr. Rude was born in Halingdal, Norway, September 21, 1856, and was the youngest in a family of seven children born to Ole J. and Olang (Stertebakken) Rude. The father, now deceased, served for thirty-one years in the army, and was promoted to high military positions, ranking about as colonel. Two sons and two daughters are the only members of the family in this country.

Jens O. Rude was well educated in his native land, attending the high school there for two years. At the age of seventeen years he became deputy sheriff and turnkey, and at the age of nineteen years devoted himself to the operation of the home farm. After attaining his majority

he came to America, but as he had no money, he secured work on a farm in Becker county, Minnesota. He remained there two years, during which time, in 1879, he filed a homestead claim to land in Polk county, where he became a permanent resident in 1880. He worked some for others, and also dealt in horses throughout the country in a small way. In 1887 he took charge of a machine business in Fertile, and two years later established himself in the same line in McIntosh, dealing at the same time in real estate and following the collection and insurance business. He sold his interests there in 1892, since which time he has followed the real estate, collection and insurance business at Fertile. He has been successful in his farming operations and has a pleasant home on his well improved estate in Godfrey township. This farm contains two hundred and forty acres of land, and is well improved and under high cultivation.

Mr. Rude was married, in 1887, to Miss Kristi Houge. Mrs. Rude died in 1888, leaving one child, Cecelia. Mr. Rude was married to Miss Emma Kittleson in 1889. Five children have been born of this marriage, namely: Henry, Tea, Clara, Ruth and James. Mr. Rude wields much influence in his locality, and was census enumerator of Godfrey and Onstad townships. He is a man of good information, of an observing disposition, and has an extensive acquaintance. Politically he is a Republican, and is a recognized leader of his party. He has attended all county conventions of his party for the past twelve years, and his work has been acknowledged as efficient.

#### NELS B. BENGTSON.

In listing the prosperous farmers of Jupiter township, Kittson county, a prominent place must be accorded Mr. Bengtson. He resides in section 34, and has a pleasant home, and all comforts and conveniences of rural life. His accumulations represent many years of honest industry in Kittson county, as he was an early settler of that region, and in the development of his farm and his labors in a public way he has become identified with the history of the county. Prosperity is not meted out to all and those who would partake of it must labor with mind as well as muscle. The good judgment necessary to success in the pursuit of farming is one of the characteristics possessed by Mr. Bengtson, and this, together with his integrity of word and deed, has placed him above want and provided a comfortable competence to be enjoyed in his declining years.

Our subject is a native of Sweden, and was born February 3, 1855. He was the eldest in a family of four children, and he and one brother

are the only members of the family in America. The parents bore the names of Bengt and Ellen Person. Our subject emigrated to America in 1881 and soon after his arrival began work on the railroad in Ottertail county, Minnesota. He went to Kittson county with three companions in the spring of 1882 and all took land in section 34 of Jupiter township. Our subject owed some on the amount of his passage to America, and he worked at farm labor one year to repay this and get enough to purchase a yoke of oxen to begin work on his farm. He began operating his land in 1884, and he lived alone and was his own housekeeper for ten years. He added to his acreage from time to time and is now the fortunate owner of two hundred and eighty acres of good land, which he has placed under full improvements, and annually cultivates with good results. He has erected substantial buildings and otherwise provided for the comfort of the family and stock and the shelter of products, and in every manner has arranged a model farm, and a visit to the place would at once convince one of the painstaking care exercised in the operation of the farm. Mr. Bengtson has depended upon no one but himself and may feel justly proud of his labors in Kittson county.

Our subject was married, in 1892, to Mrs. Christina Westberg (*nee* Martinson). Mr. and Mrs. Bengtson are the parents of two children, named William and Arthur (died when one month old). The family circle is completed by four children, born to Mrs. Bengtson by her former marriage, who are named as follows: Oscar, Emily, George and Esther. Mr. Bengtson is a man of active public spirit, and since taking up his residence in Kittson county has labored zealously for the welfare of his community. He assisted in the organization of his township and is now serving as township clerk, and as an interested worker for education is clerk of the school district. He is a Republican politically, and is a usual delegate from his township to conventions of his party.

#### MATHEW E. GLEASON.

Among the business enterprises of Ely, Minnesota, which contribute to the wealth of that locality, may be mentioned the furniture and hardware establishment conducted by Mathew E. Gleason. This gentleman has built up a profitable business by his push and energy and takes a foremost place among the pioneer merchants of St. Louis county, Minnesota.

Mr. Gleason was born on a farm in Vermont, November 26, 1865. His father, Michael Gleason, was a farmer by occupation, and later in life a general merchant. Our subject's mother, Mary

(Wallace) Gleason, was born in Ireland, and came to America at the age of twelve years. The Gleason family originally came from Ireland, and our subject's grandfather was one of the pioneer settlers of New York. The family located in Michigan when our subject was but three years of age, and was there engaged in the mining business.

Mr. Gleason was reared in Marquette county, Michigan, and received his education in the common schools. He began his commercial career as a bookkeeper in his father's mercantile establishment at Republic, and upon attaining his majority became a partner in the business. He continued thus eleven years, and had stores at different times in Champion, Republic, Amasa, and Loretta, most of the time conducting two establishments. In January, 1897, he went to Ely, Minnesota, and purchased the hardware and furniture business owned by P. R. Vail. This store was established by Mr. Vail in 1889. Mr. Gleason now has an establishment 50 by 125 feet, and the store is in two departments, making an exclusive furniture store and an exclusive hardware store. Success has attended his efforts from the start, and he is one of the well-to-do men of Ely.

Mr. Gleason was married, at Marinette, Wisconsin, to Josephine McDermot. Mrs. Gleason was born in Canada, and from the age of seven years made her home in Michigan. Her father, Henry McDermot, was born in Scotland, and came to Canada about 1870. He was a machinist by trade. Mr. and Mrs. Gleason are the parents of three children, namely: Michael H., born at Marinette, Wisconsin; Mathew M., and Annie Eleanor, born at Ely, Minnesota. Mr. Gleason has been prominent in local public affairs since attaining his manhood, and at the age of twenty-one was elected treasurer of Champion township, one of the largest townships in Michigan, and was elected supervisor of Waucesdah township in 1896. For the past four years he has served as chief of the Ely fire department, and for two years has been a member of the school board. He was elected mayor of Ely in 1901 without opposition. He is a Republican in politics. He is a member of the K. of P. fraternity.

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#### PAUL NILSON.

Paul Nilson, a prosperous and energetic farmer of Douglas county, Minnesota, has a fine farm on section 15, of Solem township, where he has spent the last third of a century. He has aided materially in the growth and development of that region and is one of the respected and esteemed citizens.

Mr. Nilson was born in Norway, January 24, 1831, and was a son of Nels and Sarah (Johnson) Paulson. When a boy he attended the schools of his native land and worked on the farm of his father. He came to America in 1859 by sailing vessel to Quebec, Canada, from which place he went to Fillmore county, Wisconsin, and there found work in the pineries during the winter and was engaged in rafting in the summer and occasionally assisted in harvesting. He thus continued for nearly seven years, and in the spring of 1866, May 18, joined the immigration to Minnesota. He went to Douglas county and secured a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres on sections 15 and 16, of Solem township. The land was situated at the edge of the timber and about three miles north of the present village of Kensington. Mr. Nilson has at times added to his original homestead and now has a fine farm of two hundred and sixty-six acres, ten acres of which is timber. He follows diversified farming and has about twelve head of cattle. He built a small log house when he first settled there to which he added a commodious farm residence ten years later. He has a large barn, granary, and other outbuildings suitable for the comforts and requirements of farm life. Mr. Nilson experienced the usual hardships pertaining to life in a newly settled country, and at the time he came money was scarce and necessities were high. On reaching Elk river he invested two hundred dollars in an ox team and one hundred and twenty-five dollars in a second-hand wagon, and with these reached his new home, which continued to be a home of hard labor and but few luxuries or even comforts for several years. It took considerable time to raise anything that was marketable, and the nearest market was nearly one hundred miles distant at St. Cloud. Alexandria was only a stockade.

Mr. Nilson was married December 3, 1865, to Margaret Johnson, daughter of John and Lena (Olson) Turkison. The father of Mrs. Nilson died in Norway and the mother afterward married Jergan Anderson. Mrs. Nilson was born March 10, 1839, and has become the mother of eight children, four of whom are now living, and are as follows: Olas, born August 3, 1867, is assisting his father in the management of the home farm; Carl, born June 12, 1880, also resides at home; Sarah, born October 10, 1868, is the wife of Ola Steinberg, of Kensington; and Maria, born October 8, 1872, is the wife of Bernd Dahl, and resides in Valley City, North Dakota. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Nilson has filled various township offices at different times, among them treasurer of the school board and supervisor. Politically he is a member of the People's party and formerly was identified with

the Republican party. He is a man of broad mind and keeps pace with the times and wields an influence for good in his community.

#### THEODORE H. BEAULIEU.

In no place in our great country will intelligence and enterprise be found in every walk in life in greater proportion than in Minnesota. The farmer, tradesman, and business man work persistently and with one end in view, that of prosperity for the individual and the community in which he makes his home. Becker county boasts a large share of these citizens, and a prominent place among the number is accorded Theodore H. Beaulieu. This gentleman is one of the early settlers of that locality and by his faithful endeavors has gained a good property for himself, aided in the upbuilding of his locality and all local enterprises, and stands as a striking example of worthy citizenship. He has a pleasant home in White Earth, Minnesota, and is proprietor of an extensive farm in Becker county.

Our subject was born in Wisconsin, September 4, 1853, and was a son of Basil H. and Mary (Saulliard) Beaulieu, the former a native of Wisconsin and the latter of Michigan. Mr. Beaulieu left Wisconsin in 1879, after completing his education there and spending twelve years at the printer's trade. In 1875 he entered the International Marine Service between Philadelphia and Liverpool, where he spent two years, and in 1879 entered the employ of the government as superintendent of the Indian schools at White Earth, Minnesota, at which he was employed until 1882. He served as United States land examiner for two years and is now in charge of the land department of the White Earth reservation. He established a newspaper at White Earth Indian reservation in 1887, and it proved very beneficial to the Indians and was conducted two years with pronounced success. Mr. Beaulieu published a map of Red Lake reservation in 1898 and also a map of White Earth reservation. He is the owner of twelve hundred and eighty acres of land, of which all but eighty acres is under high cultivation, and upon this farm he has erected a complete set of good farm buildings and placed upon the farm plenty of machinery to conduct the place, and keeps some stock thereon. This is one of the well developed farms of the county, and is a valuable tract, well adapted to diversified farming.

Our subject was married, in 1880, to Julia Beaulieu, who was born in Wisconsin, June 12, 1852. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Beaulieu, who are named in order of birth as follows: Clarence R., Francis D., Florence E. and Ella M. The children are intelligent and

have been given the best educational advantages, having attended the Haskell Indian Industrial School, at Lawrence, Kansas. Francis D. served as a page during the state legislature in 1896. The family are members of St. Benedict's Mission church, at White Earth, of which Father Aloysius is pastor. Mr. Beaulieu is correspondent for various papers of St. Paul and Minneapolis, and also the Field and Stream Magazine and the Northwest Magazine. He is identified with the Republican party politically and is an earnest worker for party principles and is a usual delegate to county and state conventions. His life in Becker county has been one of continued success, and he has a host of acquaintances and friends.

#### HENRY O. BJORGE.

As an intelligent member of the farming community of Becker county, this gentleman is widely known. He has followed the life of an agriculturist with unbounded success, and is also a well known and thorough lawyer, having followed his profession for some years in Detroit. He is now in charge of the father's farm, owing to the death of the latter, and cultivates the land with the best results. The farm is located in section 8, of Lake Park township and is thoroughly improved and furnishes a home of great comfort. A portrait of Mr. Borge is shown upon another page of this volume.

Mr. Borge was born in Lake Park, Becker county, Minnesota, March 7, 1871. His father, the late Ole Borge, was one of the prominent early settlers of Becker county. He was born in Ringebu, Gundbrandsdalen, Norway, September 10, 1845, and was reared on a farm in his native land. His people were not people of wealth, and he was early put to work, and April 6, 1866, set sail for America. He was the first of the family to come to America and was the means of the family settling in this country. The grandfather of our subject, Errick Borge, was a farmer of Norway. Our subject's mother, whose maiden name was Mary H. Sandsness, was born in Norway, November 14, 1845, and came to America in 1866. She was educated in the common schools of her native land. Our subject's parents were married in 1868, and three children were born of this marriage, namely: Henry, born March 7, 1871; Edwin, born May 17, 1878, and Minnie, born December 8, 1882. The parents and the father's brother, Christian Borge, arrived in Becker county, Minnesota, in June, 1870, going to that county overland with ox team and a covered wagon. Detroit then consisted of a few Indian tents, and there were not even wagon roads through the country at the time. The brothers took claims on the raw

land in Lake Park township, and our subject's father built a log cabin, the first log house in western Lake Park township. For some years they experienced dangers from Indians and other hardships owing to failure of crops, and some years elapsed before they felt repaid for their labors during the early years there. All their farming was done with oxen and all supplies were hauled from Alexandria, one hundred and twenty-five miles distant. The farm now consists of three hundred and sixty acres of land, of which two hundred acres is under cultivation, and the balance is timber, pasture and meadow. A complete set of good buildings, including residence, barns, granary, and other outbuildings, completes a home of more than usual comfort.

Ole Bjorge, in July, 1899, went to Detroit, Minnesota, to visit his son, Henry, the subject of this review, who was at that time engaged in the practice of law in that city. While on his return trip he was stricken with paralysis, and upon reaching his home was some better, but at 3 A. M., July 9, 1899, he passed away. He was a member of the Lutheran church, as were also his family, and the community lost a most worthy citizen and one of the pioneers in the death of this esteemed and respected man. Politically Mr. Bjorge was a Democrat and was a staunch worker for party principles, and attended numerous conventions of his party.

Henry O. Bjorge was raised on the home farm and attended the common schools of his locality, and assisted his father in the development of the farm which he now operates. At the age of eighteen years he entered the State Normal at Moorhead, Minnesota, and graduated in 1893. He then engaged in teaching in Becker county, Minnesota, and was thus employed two years, and in the fall of 1895 entered the State University at Minneapolis, where he completed the law course and received the degree of LL. D. During his studies at law he also spent two years in special course and received a liberal education. He began the practice of his profession in Detroit in 1898 and continued his practice there with good success until the death of his father, when he went to the home farm to assume the management of the same. He now devotes himself exclusively to farm life, and is one of the enterprising and consequently successful agriculturists of that district. In 1889 Mr. Bjorge secured a new kind of Russian wheat, and saved the product of 1900 for seed. In 1901 he planted fifteen acres and secured a crop averaging twenty-six bushels to the acre; his neighbors could get but from ten to fifteen bushels per acre from the standard variety.

Mr. Bjorge is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is an ardent worker for the principles of the Republican party, and

during the campaign of 1900 voiced the sentiments of his party throughout Minnesota, and is one of the well-known men of that party. He is a young man of much promise and well merits his high social and financial position.

#### LARS J. STENSGAARD.

This gentleman is readily recognized as a prominent and progressive farmer, and is very comfortably established on a well kept and highly cultivated farm in section 20, of Lake Ida township, Norman county, Minnesota. He was born on a farm twenty-one miles from Christiania, Norway, May 6, 1849, and still in the prime of life anticipates a large success yet to be won in this his adopted country.

Johan Stensgaard, the father of our subject, was a farmer in Norway, and came to this country in August, 1851, and settled in Washington Prairie, Wisconsin. He had seven daughters and one son, and in 1854 took his family to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he settled on government land, and here young Lars grew to manhood. His was a studious and hard-working boyhood. He helped his father put the farm in order, and was able to attend American schools only two months during his youth. But he kept his eyes open, watched the world around him, and has learned much by practical experience. In 1872 he left home and came to Becker county, Minnesota, where he settled on school land near Lake Park. He had but a modest outfit to make a play for fortune. It consisted of a yoke of oxen and a wagon, but it was the beginning of a very comfortable fortune. March 15, 1873, he was married to Miss Mary Christopherson. She was born in Norway, where her father, Amund Christopherson, was born and reared a farmer. He brought his family to this country in 1867. Mr. and Mrs. Stensgaard are the parents of ten children: Alfred, John, Carl, Oscar, Louisa, Adolph, Hannah, Emma and Nora, twins, and Ella. All these are natives of Minnesota.

Mr. Stensgaard was engaged in farming in Becker county for seven years, and for five years of this time the grasshoppers cleaned him out every summer. He worked on the railroad, however, and managed to make a living. He farmed with oxen, and for a time had his nearest trading point at Alexandria, one hundred and fifty miles away. This was in 1872. The first winters were exceptionally severe, and one of his oxen froze to death one winter's day, just after returning from a trip to the woods. In 1878 Mr. Stensgaard came to Wild Rice river, and located in what is now Strand township, Norman county. He brought with him a yoke of oxen and two cows, and drove overland in a covered



wagon from Becker county, forty-four miles away. He put up a log house with sod roof, and broke seven acres the first year. For some years he prospered, then bought land, and losing his crops two years in succession, had to sell out, and start afresh. He located in Lake Ida township, on his present holding, and here a solid and durable success has crowned his efforts. He first acquired a quarter section and has since added to it eighty acres, and now owns a compact and well developed farm of two hundred and forty acres. Here he has a good home and ample farm buildings with all needed machinery. He also owns three acres of timber not far away from his house. On his farm there is a flowing well that is fifty feet deep and runs about twenty-five barrels a day. He is principally a grain farmer, but is working into stock, and has large expectations along that line. He is a Republican, and was assessor in Strand township seven years. He was also constable for the same length of time. He came into the county among the earliest settlers, with very small resources, and has won his present position by industry, economy and good management. His sterling honesty has contributed not a little to his success.

#### JOHN L. SAWYER.

John L. Sawyer, a substantial business man of Perham, and county commissioner of the First district of Ottertail county, Minnesota, is a citizen of public spirit and individual worth. He is possessed of those traits of character which have placed him in high esteem among his fellow townsmen and throughout the county.

Mr. Sawyer is a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, and was born November 11, 1866. He is the youngest in a family of eleven children born to John N. and Linda (Flagg) Sawyer, both natives of the province of Quebec, Canada. The father was a shoemaker and continued his trade and business until recent years, and he is now living in retirement in the state of New York. The mother has been dead four years.

John L. Sawyer attended the public schools of his native state and obtained a practical education. He then learned blacksmithing, but before he had thoroughly mastered the trade, he came west in 1884, to the state of Minnesota, where he joined his brother, Edward, now sheriff of Ottertail county, but at that time in the employ of the M. P. Clark Lumber Company at Little Falls. The following year the two brothers went to Perham, and in partnership opened up a blacksmith's shop and continued the business together for some time. Then our subject sold his interest to his brother, Edward, and for a short time worked in other shops. In 1889 he formed

a partnership in the blacksmithing business with Edward Anderson, and they carried on the business together in Perham for two years. At that time Mr. Sawyer again sold out, and for one season worked for the Day Brothers Lumber Company at Minneapolis. He then returned to Perham, having married in the meantime, and purchased the business of his former partner, Anderson, and since that date, 1890, has continued the business alone.

Mr. Sawyer was married November 6, 1887, to Miss Ella M. Graham. Mrs. Sawyer is a daughter of James Graham of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and a niece of Andrew McCrea, once senator from Ottertail county. Mr. and Mrs. Sawyer are the parents of four children, the eldest of whom, Vera, died in infancy. The living children are: George, Fay and an infant, unnamed. Mr. Sawyer has been prominent in public affairs in his county, and soon after his permanent location in Perham he was elected county commissioner from his district, and is the present incumbent. The same year his brother, Edward, was elected sheriff. Our subject has served four terms as councilman, and has given his best energies to the upbuilding of the material interests of his locality. He has accumulated a comfortable competence and has made a success of his business. He conducts a general blacksmithing, shoeing and repairing establishment, and is the owner of a valuable little eighty-acre farm in Corliss township. He is a member of the Episcopal church, and affiliates with the People's party. He is also a member of the A. O. U. W. and A. F. & A. M., of which last order he has been a member for twelve years.

#### ALFRED MEILI.

Becker county, Minnesota, derives much of her wealth from the agriculturists, many of whom have resided there for years and have developed farms which rank among the best cultivated and improved tracts of the state. One of these estates is located in Erie township and is owned and operated by Alfred Meili. This gentleman is a worthy citizen and has a pleasant home in section 6, where he enjoys the comforts and quiet of country life. He has devoted his attention to farming throughout his career and has made a pronounced success of his work and is deservedly respected and esteemed.

Our subject was born in Switzerland, April 8, 1845, and was a son of Fredrick and Louisa (Augst) Meili, both of whom were natives of Switzerland. He remained in his native land until he was eighteen years of age and there received his education. He then decided to emigrate to America, and landed in Buffalo, New

York, where he resided nine years. He then went to Becker county, Minnesota, and upon his arrival there entered a homestead claim to land in section 6, of Erie township. His first house was built of logs and he also built a log barn, but these rudely constructed buildings served the family and stock for a time, until more pretentious quarters could be erected. Mr. Meili used oxen eight years in cultivating his farm and then purchased a team of horses. He has gradually improved the place and now owns a well cultivated and well improved tract of one hundred and sixty acres. He has about fifteen acres of timber and pasture land, and the farm presents a most pleasing appearance, evidencing careful tillage and good management. He keeps a team of horses and twenty head of cattle, and in the way of buildings the farm ranks with any of the neighborhood. A commodious and well finished residence has been constructed and a good barn and other outbuildings complete a home desirable in every particular. Mr. Meili was one of the first settlers of Erie township, locating there May 25, 1877, and during his residence there, covering nearly a quarter of a century, he has become one of the well-to-do farmers of his township.

Our subject was married, in 1870, to Elizabeth Meier, who was born in Switzerland, September 14, 1848. Two children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Meili, who are named Susie and Bertha. Mr. Meili has always taken an active interest in public affairs and is closely identified with the early history of Becker county. He is prominent in his township, and he has served in various offices of trust and as county commissioner of the Second district of Becker county fourteen years, twelve of which he was chairman. He is a member of the Brotherhood of American Yeomen at Detroit, Minnesota. Politically he is a Republican and is a staunch adherent and advocate of the principles of his party.

#### REV. JOHN H. LAWRENCE.

Rev. John H. Lawrence, pastor of the United Norwegian Lutheran church at Stephen, Minnesota, is a gentleman of intelligence and excellent education and occupies a high station in society in his community. He has done very efficient work in the ministry in Minnesota, and has a large following, and is beloved by all his people. He is a native of Madison, Wisconsin, and was born in —, and was the eldest of four children born to Ole H. and Bertha M. (Hall) Lawrence, both of whom were natives of Norway.

The father of our subject was a gentleman of good education and followed the profession of

teaching in the Norwegian and English schools. He came to America in 1843 and was one of the well-known pioneers of Dane county, Wisconsin. He was prominent in local affairs in Wisconsin, and held various offices of trust and was a most worthy citizen.

Rev. Lawrence applied himself to his studies as a youth, and in 1879 entered Madison University. He worked at farm labor and the molder's trade to pay his way through school, and he planned to become a machinist. After three years of university work he entered the Norwegian Lutheran Synod Seminary, in 1882, and remained there three years, when he graduated and then spent one year teaching in the public schools of Dakota, and he completed his studies with a year at the Norwegian seminary at Northfield, Minnesota. He was ordained a minister in 1887 and accepted a call at Berlin Mills, New Hampshire, where he remained six years, and then spent six years in the work at St. James, and in 1899 went to Stephen, Minnesota. He is pastor of two churches, the United Scandinavian Lutheran church at Stephen and St. Petri Scandinavian Lutheran church. The Stephen Congregation was organized in —, and now consists of sixteen families. The house of worship, erected in 18—, is a handsome edifice, and the St. Petri congregation also occupies a comfortable church building. The church property is all free of debt, and under the guidance of Rev. Lawrence is in a prosperous condition. Temperance work is one of the special features of religious work to which Rev. Lawrence directs his attention, and he has been especially fortunate in his endeavors in this work.

#### REV. ANDREW SMREKAR.

Rev. Andrew Smrekar, pastor of St. Martin's Catholic church at Tower, is a well-known missionary of St. Louis county, and is a man of zealous Christian principle.

Rev. Smrekar was born in Kuestenland, Austria, November 29, 1871. His father, Franc Smrekar, was a Slav, and was a farmer by occupation. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Mary Bozieh. Of a family of eight children born to this worthy couple our subject was the first in order of birth. He received his education in the common schools of his native place and later spent seven years in the college of Goerz. He came to America in 1891, and entered the college at St. Paul, Minnesota, where he studied six years, being appointed as a student for the ministry in the Duluth diocese. He was ordained priest in the Catholic church in 1897, after which he acted as assistant to the Right Rev. Monsgr. Joseph F. Buh, seven months. He

was then appointed pastor of the church at Ely, in 1897, and continued there until 1900, when he was appointed to his present pastorate.

St. Martin's Catholic church was established as a mission in 1884 by Rev. Champagne, with thirty families and one hundred and twenty communicants. The first church committee was composed of J. D. Murphy, Daniel Mullen, Patrick McCarthy, and the construction of the church was begun May 15, and the building was dedicated July 5, 1885. The church was attended occasionally by Rev. Urban Fisher, G. Y. Gobel and Severine Gross, vicar general. It was afterward regularly attended by Rev. Bernard Locnikar, and after January, 1888, by Very Rev. Joseph Francis Buh, who took up his residence in Tower in 1888, as rector of Tower, Two Harbors, Ely and Mesaba. In 1888 a new St. Martin's altar was erected at Tower and new pews were put in the church edifice. A priest's residence was built in 1889. Three church bells were bought and a new steeple built for them the same year. The church now has about one hundred and forty-five families and about six hundred communicants, and is the largest religious organization in the locality. This church has five societies, three for gentlemen and two for ladies, as auxiliaries to the church work.

The Austrian society connected with the church built the opera house in Tower. Rev. Smrekar built the church at Ely, one of the finest churches on either of the Iron Ranges, and this edifice has a seating capacity of seven hundred. He also has in contemplation a Catholic school to be opened when the development of the country warrants it. He is an ardent church worker, and has a large following, and is beloved by his congregations.

#### OLIVER J. SHINN.

Among the public officials of Beltrami county none enjoys the confidence of the people in greater degree than the county treasurer, Oliver J. Shinn. He has been twice elected to this office and has ably and faithfully discharged his duties, and is deserving of the highest commendation from his fellows. He is a gentleman of strict integrity, good business ability, and industrious character, and is the right man in the right place. A view of his elegant residence, of which Mr. Shinn is justly proud, may be found on another page of this work among its other illustrations.

Mr. Shinn was born in Illinois, July 8, 1861. His father, Joseph Shinn, was a native of New Jersey, and his mother, Margaret (Close) Shinn, was born in Ohio. Mr. Shinn was raised on a farm in Pike county, Illinois, until he was twelve years of age, when he came to Minnesota with his parents and settled in Weaver, Wabasha county,

Minnesota, where his father continued farming. He attended the common schools of Weaver, and at the age of twenty years engaged in farming and also the creamery business in which he continued about three years. He then learned telegraphy and worked as an operator six years for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad at South Minneapolis. He then removed to Polk county, Minnesota, and rented a farm near Fertile, where he remained three years, after which, in 1896, he located on land on a homestead in sections 5 and 8, in Bear Creek township, in Beltrami county, and engaged in the improvement and cultivation of his farm. He owns a residence and three lots in Bemidji and makes his home there.

Mr. Shinn was married, in 1890, to Marie Lundin. Mrs. Shinn was born in Sibley county, Minnesota, December 10, 1871. Four children have been born to this union, namely: Celestia M., Florence M., Dillie and George O. Mr. Shinn was elected county treasurer in 1898 and after serving in that capacity with credit to himself he received the re-election to the office in 1900 for a term of two years and is now acting in that office. He was county commissioner for Beltrami county fourteen months, and has always manifested a good degree of interest in local public affairs. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America, with lodges at Bemidji. Politically Mr. Shinn is a Republican. His residence, one among the best in the city, was built in the fall of 1899.

#### EMANUEL NIELSEN.

Emanuel Nielsen, register of deeds and a prominent early settler of Norman county, has a fine farm in Florn township, and his home farm is located on section 7 of that township. He is a gentleman of true worth to his community and by his active public spirit and integrity of word and deed has gained a wide circle of friends.

Our subject was born in the southern part of Norway, December 17, 1852. His father, Jacob Nielsen, was a business man of Drammen, Norway.

Emanuel Nielsen was the eldest in a family of six children, four sons and two daughters, and he was raised in Drammen, Norway. He attended the city schools and the Drammen Institute for Navigators, and spent several seasons sailing on the ocean, and during the winters attended the Navigators' Institute in Drammen. He sailed from the age of fifteen until he was twenty-eight years of age and during the last four years of this time he was first mate. He visited all parts of Europe and America during this thirteen years, and although his life was beset with dan-

gers and hardships he enjoyed a sailor's life. He came to America in 1880, with the intention of settling here for a home, and after a short time spent in Chicago he went to Norman county, Minnesota, where he bought land, his present farm.

Our subject was married in 1880. Mr. Nielsen is prominent in local affairs, and he has been county surveyor for Norman county for ten years. He assisted in the organization of the county and has been the Republican nominee for register of deeds and elected to that office, in the fall of 1900, which office he now holds. He has strong party affiliations and is an earnest worker for party principles. He is a member of the Lutheran Synod church.

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#### MARVIN P. LOSEY.

Marvin P. Losey, a retired merchant and farmer, residing in the village of Euclid, Minnesota, is one of the substantial citizens of Polk county. He is the owner of extensive farming tracts in that locality, but leaves the management of these to his sons, spending his declining years amid the comforts and quiet of life, enjoying the well merited esteem of his fellow men.

Mr. Losey was born in Wayne county, New York, February 25, 1827, and was the third of a family of thirteen children born to Martin and Polly (Houghton) Losey. The family name is of Irish origin, and the mother of our subject is of English descent. She lived to the advanced age of ninety-four years. On both sides the ancestors were soldiers of the Revolution and the father of our subject served in the war of 1812.

Our subject remained in the Empire state on the Wayne county farm until he was twenty-five years of age. In 1853 he established himself in the general merchandise business in Camden and Reading, Michigan, and later he traded for land property in Clinton county, Michigan, and soon had a fine farm developed. He went to Polk county in the fall of 1878, and in November of that year filed claim to the northeast quarter of section 6 in Belgium township. In the spring of 1879 he arrived with his family in Crookston, and after locating his family on the farm he purchased a mercantile business in Crookston and was engaged in commercial pursuits there three years. He then sold his business and erected a residence in the village of Euclid and invested his capital in land. His children work the land, and our subject passes his time as he wishes, either in the town or at his farms. He is a man of good business ability and has met with pronounced success in his life work, and enjoys a fitting reward for a well spent career.

Mr. Losey was married, July 2, 1848, to Miss

Cornelia V. Storer, a native also of New York. To this union thirteen children have been born, as follows: Revilo, deceased; Franklin, deceased; Charles, deceased; Anson, farming in Washington; Warren, a resident of Chicago; an infant, unnamed, deceased; Greeley, deceased; George, an accomplished free-hand artist of Lincoln, Nebraska; Marvin; Dennis, a farmer; Albert; Nellie, now Mrs. George Nelson; Lillie, a teacher in the public schools for some years and an accomplished musician. Mr. and Mrs. Losey celebrated their golden wedding anniversary July 2, 1898, and were the recipients of many remembrances from their wide circle of friends. Mr. Losey is an influential citizen and always takes an active interest in the welfare of his community, and enjoys the confidence of those among whom he makes his home. He has served as justice of the peace since 1885. He was a charter member of the I. O. O. F. lodge at Crookston and is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Presbyterian church. In political sentiment he is a Republican.

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#### JOSEPH ROSSMILLER.

Joseph Rossmiller, a young, enterprising and well-known farmer residing on section 34, Hobart township, Ottertail county, Minnesota, owns a creditable and well improved farm of eighty acres.

Mr. Rossmiller was born in McCloud county, Minnesota, May 10, 1872, his parents being Peter and Elizabeth (Keisermann) Rossmiller, both natives of Hamburg, Germany. The parents came to this country in 1854, and spent two years in Illinois. At the expiration of that period they removed to Hutchinson, McLeod county, Minnesota, and engaged in farming, where they remained many years, but left on account of drouth and grasshoppers in 1880. Peter Rossmiller secured by homestead entry in 1880 the land which his son Joseph now owns. He was the father of a family of eight children: Samuel, who is farming in Hobart township, married Lucy Heap; Lizzie is the wife of Gothald Urbach; Daniel married Emma Keller, and lives in Wisconsin, where he is a carpenter; Matilda is the wife of Arnold Falk, a farmer in Dora township; Henry married Christina Peterson, a farmer in the town of Hobart; Lydia is the wife of Allen Antonson, a farmer in Hobart township; Joseph and Samuel died in infancy. The mother of these children died in the town of Dora, Ottertail county, in May, 1880; the father, who is seventy-six, makes his home with his son, Joseph.

Joseph Rossmiller received his schooling in the local schools, and his work from a boy has been along the line of farming. He was married,

December 28, 1894, to Jessie Manlove, a daughter of William and Annie (Blair) Manlove. The Manloves and the Blairs represent very old families in America, and originated in England and Scotland, where wealthy and distinguished wearers of these two names are still found.

Mrs. Rossmiller was for many years a teacher in the public schools, and is a lady of much culture and refinement. They have no children of their own, but have adopted a bright young lad, who was born in 1892, as a member of their household. This boy is happy and content and occupies a large place in the hearts of his foster parents, who have retained his original name of Jesse Phillips.

Mrs. Rossmiller was the oldest member of a family of three girls, her sisters being Pearl and Ella. Her father, who was a gallant soldier of the Civil war, is now living a retired life at Park Rapids, Minnesota, where he makes a specialty of fancy poultry, of which he is breeding many choice varieties. Pearl Manlove married Dr. C. W. Cutler, of Park Rapids, and Ella married Lew McNamar, of the same city of Park Rapids, Minnesota.

Mr. Rossmiller has twelve head of cattle, six horses, and has brought his farm up to a fine condition. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the family are much respected in the community where their orderly and useful lives are passing.

#### SOLOMON E. BREES.

Solomon E. Brees, an old settler and influential farmer of Douglas county, Minnesota, has a pleasant home in section 29 of Orange township, and has successfully followed farming there for many years. He was born in Chemung county, New York, May 4, 1839.

The parents of our subject, John and Mary (Moore) Brees, were natives of New York. The paternal grandfather, Elias Brees, was also born in New York, and was of Dutch descent. His ancestors came to America from Holland at the beginning of the eighteenth century, and were prominent people in colonial days. One of the family was an officer of the Revolutionary war and later one represented the Empire state in the senate. The family as far back as record serves were tillers of the soil and owned and occupied farms in the east, the father of our subject being one of the first of the family to try his fortunes in that capacity in the west. The grandfather had a farm in Chemung county, New York. About a mile and a half east from Horse Head, the same county, John Brees, second, owned a farm of one hundred and three acres, and on this place our subject was born. He was one of eight

children, as follows: Alvina became the wife of Simeon Case, of Rice, Minnesota; Squire, farming at Gray Eagle, Minnesota; Solomon E., our subject; Amelia married James C. Rutan, of Wilmington, Delaware; Philena became the wife of Joel M. Jansen, this couple are now deceased; Philander, residing in the village of Horse Head, New York; Fanny married James Ormiston, of New York; and Judson A., a railroad man, residing at Sparrowbush, Orange county, New York.

In his youth and early manhood Solomon E. Brees was in delicate health and he remained at his father's home until he reached the age of twenty-six years. On account of lung trouble he left his home, in 1866, and came to Minnesota, settling in Owatonna, Steele county, where he purchased a farm and resided eleven years. He traded this property in 1877 for one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 29 and one hundred and sixty in section 32, of Orange township, Douglas county, and since that date has made his home thereon. He first built a one-room house and later enlarged it and remodeled his residence and now has a comfortable dwelling with all necessary other buildings for farm use. Mr. Brees selected a prairie farm, but within two years of his settling thereon he planted some six hundred tamarac trees, and also maples, box elders, willows, and other varieties, and his home is now surrounded with beautiful groves, which greatly enhance the value of the estate. An abundant supply of water is obtained from a depth of thirty-one feet, and one well alone furnishes a barrel of the purest water every five minutes. Mr. Brees follows diversified farming and has a small herd of good cattle and six work horses. He has met with success in his work in Minnesota, and can justly review with pride his labors there.

Mr. Brees was drafted for the army during the Civil war, but upon examination at Elmira, where he reported, it was found he was deficient in chest measurement and was not accepted. The climate of Minnesota has proved most beneficial to his health and to-day he is a hale and vigorous man. He was married in New York, October 5, 1865, to Sarah J. Thorn, daughter of Lawrence and Hannah (Van Winkle) Thorn. The father was a mason by trade and resided all his life in New York and Pennsylvania states. Mrs. Brees has five brothers and sisters, namely: William George; Fayette, who was in the war of the Rebellion and lost a limb at the battle of Bull Run; Edwin, also a soldier in the war of the Rebellion; Sarah J. and Marietta. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Brees, eight of whom are now living, and are as follows: Arthur, farming in Douglas county; Zelotus F., also engaged in farming; Harry J., married, operates a ditching machine throughout Douglas county,

has one child named Myrtle J.; Ruby M., wife of Charles Cannon, of Alexandria, they have two bright children: Fern Altheda and Floyd Stanton; Rufus Ward, residing at home; Claude L., attending school; and Clyde E. and Percy E., also attending school. Mr. Brees is highly esteemed in the community in which he lives and has served as assessor for eight years and town clerk five years. He has held other offices of trust and is the present efficient school clerk and is heartily interested in educational work.

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### CARL FISHER.

Among the pioneer settlers of Leaf River township, Wadena county, who have remained to witness a most wonderful transformation in that region and become honored and worthy citizens, may be named Carl Fisher. He is proprietor of the estate which he aided in clearing of heavy timber, and has a home of great comfort in Leaf River township.

Mr. Fisher was born in Prussia, Germany, November 15, 1858. His father, Carl Fisher, was a laborer in Germany, and served in the army in Berlin, being a member of the cavalry. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Henrietta Kock, was born on a farm in Brandenburg, Prussia. The family came to America in 1869 and settled in Brown county, Minnesota, and there our subject grew to manhood. He received a limited English education, and the family endured many hardships and passed through many discouragements in Brown county. In 1877 they became thoroughly discouraged, and removed to Wadena county, Minnesota, and were the first settlers north of the Leaf river in Leaf River township. The timber was the heaviest where their residence now stands. The father and our subject had made the trip to this locality twice, and the family went to their new location overland with a covered wagon. Our subject and his father alone built a log house, and their first crop was potatoes, but was a good yield. Our subject took a pre-emption claim in Ottertail county, and this tract he improved as time and circumstances permitted. Mr. Fisher remained at home with his father and farmed in common with him until he was twenty-three years of age, when he removed to his homestead in Ottertail county and followed farming there for some years. He went to North Dakota in 1885, and worked at teaming there and at other work, and after about three years rented his father's farm in partnership with his brother, and they conducted the place several years. Mr. Fisher bought his father's place in 1890, and has operated the same for himself since that date. Fire destroyed his barns and residence on his

homestead, causing a loss of about five hundred dollars. The farm he now owns consists of five hundred and eighty acres of valuable land, one hundred and fifty acres of which are under high cultivation, and the balance is hay, meadow and timber. He has a complete set of excellent buildings, and all machinery for conducting a model farm, and he engages successfully in stock raising, including cattle, horses, hogs and sheep. He is also engaged in dairying. His farm is well equipped, and he is recognized as one of the leading agriculturists of that locality. The father of our subject died in Alabama June 12, 1901, at the age of sixty-five years.

Mr. Fisher was married at the age of twenty-three years to Miss Sophia Imsande. Mrs. Fisher was born in Iowa, and was of German parentage. She died in 1884, leaving one child, Helena. Mr. Fisher was married to Miss Gustie Kurz, in 1888. Mrs. Fisher was born in Wisconsin. Her father, John Kurz, was a native of Germany and was a farmer by occupation. Two children have blessed this union, who are as follows: Henrietta and Dora. Mr. Fisher is prominent in township affairs, and has served as supervisor three years and assessor one year. He is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Sons of Herman. In political faith he is a Republican, but does not seek public office. He and his father are recognized as among the earliest settlers of Leaf River township, and well merit the respect and esteem in which they are held in the community in which they have spent so many years.

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### JOHN WOOD.

John Wood, residing on section 22 in Hampden township, is one of the prosperous and prominent citizens of Kittson county. He follows diversified farming with success, and owns a half section of land. He cultivates about five hundred acres of land annually, and by strict attention to the details of farm work he has placed himself above want.

Mr. Wood was born in Kent county, Ontario, Canada, August 20, 1847, and was the third in a family of six children born to John and Sarah (Hurst) Wood, both of whom were natives of Yorkshire, England. As our subject grew to manhood he followed agricultural pursuits and also worked in the woods, and April 10, 1881, he went to Kittson county, Minnesota. He walked over the northern and western parts of the county, and was pleased with the country as a prospective home, but could not arrange to make his home there permanently until the spring of 1883. He rented land on the north branch of Two Rivers, where he followed farm-



ing two seasons, meanwhile filing claim to the land which he now owns. He built a 12x16 feet frame house, which served him as a dwelling until 1898, when the present substantial and commodious residence was erected. He has one of the finest residences in the township, and every modern convenience is included in its construction. The finishings are modern in every particular, and the appointments and furnishings of the home evidence the taste and culture of its occupants. A fine cellar is one of the features of the residence, and Mr. Wood has placed other valuable improvements on the farm, including good barn and other outbuildings.

Mr. Wood was married in 1878 to Miss Margaret Clements. One child, a son, has been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wood, who bears the name of George F. Our subject is one of the well-known men of his township, and in the development of his farm he has aided materially in the advancement of his township and county. He is a member of the Episcopal church, and is a gentleman of the highest honor, aiding his fellow man and treating all with kindness and respect. He is identified with the Democratic party politically, and lends his influence for good local government. He was treasurer of Hampden township for nine years.

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#### GEORGE F. KREMER.

In compiling a list of the prominent pioneers of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, who have developed that city into a thriving business center, a prominent place is accorded George F. Kremer. This gentleman is engaged in the furniture business in Grand Rapids, and is one of the esteemed and respected residents of Itasca county.

Mr. Kremer was born in the city of Saginaw, Michigan, January 4, 1860. His father, William Kremer, was born in Germany and came to America with his wife in 1852. He was a farmer most of his life while in America. He organized a company of volunteers to serve under Lincoln's three-months call, and most of the members enlisted for three years when the call came. The mother of our subject, Sophia (Zwerk) Kremer, was born in Germany. To this worthy couple seven children were born, of whom our subject was the third. He was raised on the farm and in the city, and attended the country schools, and assisted with the farm work until he was nineteen years of age, when he left the farm. This was an undeveloped country, and he and his father developed a farm in Saginaw county. He began to learn the carpenter's trade in Saginaw at the age of nineteen years, and was later employed as foreman for a leading contractor

of Saginaw for sixteen years. During that time he superintended the construction of most of the principal business blocks of that city, the Masonic Temple, Academy of Music, High School, and several other school buildings. In 1895 he went to Grand Rapids, Minnesota, and began contracting and building, which he followed successfully until June 1, 1900. He superintended the building of the Central School, one of the best buildings of the town, and also built several fine residences, including those of E. A. Kremer, B. C. Finnegan, and Lent block, and numerous other smaller buildings, and also the school-house at Deer River. June 1, 1900, he established a furniture store, the first exclusive furniture store in Grand Rapids. He does undertaking and handles undertaking goods, and has an increasing trade in his furniture business. He handles building materials, brick, lime, cement, and all materials with the exception of lumber. He is one of the substantial business men of the town, and has made his way to the front by his energy and good management.

Mr. Kremer was married in 1883 to Miss Ada M. Vaughn. Mrs. Kremer was born at Pontiac, Michigan, and is of an old American family. She is a lady of excellent education and rare accomplishments, and at the time of her marriage to Mr. Kremer was engaged in the profession of teaching in the schools of Saginaw, Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Kremer are the parents of three children, namely: Edward, Erma and Henrietta, all of whom were born at Saginaw, Michigan. While a resident of Saginaw, Michigan, Mr. Kremer served as township treasurer, and he also held school offices. He is always interested in local affairs of public import, and keeps pace with the times in all social affairs. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Knights of Pythias and Knights of the Maccabees. In political sentiment he is a Democrat.

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#### ROBERT DUNN.

Robert Dunn, the popular postmaster at Akeley and one of the enterprising and successful business men of that village, is a gentleman of excellent character and wide knowledge of the world, and well merits his high station and the esteem and respect of his fellow men. All will be pleased to find the portrait of Mr. Dunn on one of the pages of this work.

Mr. Dunn was born in Ireland, April 14, 1863, and was a son of Dr. George Newman and Mary (Nason) Dunn, both of whom were natives of Ireland. He was reared in his native country and attended the common schools of his neighborhood and also Trinity College at Dublin. At the age of sixteen years he began his business

career by securing employment with William Ewertson, manufacturer of fine linens, and he continued thus engaged six months. He then went to London, England, and entered the employ of John Hay & Company, ship owners and brokers, and worked for them two years. He spent five years in the employ of John Holman & Sons, ship owners and insurance underwriters of London. In 1888 he decided to try his fortune across the broad Atlantic, and he made his way to Park Rapids and there secured work with Vanterpool in the real estate and collection business. He entered a homestead claim to one hundred and sixty acres of land in Beltrami county, and proved up on his land, and in 1898 came to Akeley, where he established a mercantile business and conducted the same successfully two years. He also owned an interest in a saw-mill, which he disposed of later. In 1898 he was appointed postmaster of Akeley, and he established a real-estate business the same year for T. B. Walker. He now owns one hundred and sixty acres of land and his residence in the village, and also the building in which the post-office is located. Akeley is a fourth-class office, and the salary of the official in charge is eight hundred dollars per annum. Mr. Dunn discharges his duties faithfully and well, and to the entire satisfaction of the people with whom he has to do.

Our subject was married February 13, 1894, to Lena M. Moore. Mrs. Dunn was born at Sauk Center, Minnesota, July 13, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Dunn are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Akeley, and Mr. Dunn is a trustee in the same. He is prominent in local public affairs, and serves as town clerk of Akeley and chairman of the village board. He is a member of the M. B. of A. and the K. of P., and politically is a Republican.

#### ALONZO WALLACE BROWN.

Alonzo Wallace Brown is a gentleman who is retired from the activities of business life, and makes his home with his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Norris, in Star Lake township, Ottertail county. He was born in Lewis county, New York, August 3, 1829, and is a son of John and Martha M. Brown. His mother died when he was three months old, and as his father was a sailor on the lakes, young Alonzo was placed in the home of a family by the name of Williams. There he was reared and educated. In 1851 he accompanied his adopted father, Mr. Williams, to Minnesota, reaching Carver county July 4th of that year. There Mr. Brown took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he resided until 1880. Three years later he took up his residence with M. M. Norris.

Alonzo W. Brown was married August 28, 1853, in Lewis county, New York, to Elizabeth Newton, both at that time being twenty-four years of age. To this union were born: Charles W., July 12, 1854; Martha J., born April 10, 1858; Mary Josephine, born August 24, 1859; Ida May, March 10, 1864; Wilbur J., born March 27, 1866; and Carrie E., born November 30, 1871. Of these children only Martha J. and Wilbur J. are now living. She is the wife of Mr. Norris, and Wilbur J. is carrying on a saw-mill in Wadena county. He is married and is the father of two children, William and John Frederic.

In his politics Mr. Brown is a Republican, and while living in Carver county filled various local offices, including the positions of justice of the peace and member of the town and school boards. Mrs. Brown died in 1880 in Carver county. Mr. Brown is hale and hearty, and bears himself well and vigorously despite the weight of his advanced age.

#### ERICK A. HOLM.

Erick A. Holm may be truly classed among the self-made men of Norman county. He was a pioneer of that region, and has accumulated a fine property in Flom township, his home being located in section 16. He is esteemed by his fellow men for his honesty and industry, and well merits the success he enjoys in his calling.

Our subject was born in Urland, Norway, August 17, 1844. His father, Amund Erickson, was a native of the same place, and he late in life came to America, and died in this country in 1897. He was a carpenter by trade, and followed the same most of his life. While a resident of Norway he served in the army of his native land. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Anna Thorsen, and she was from a family of agriculturists. Four children were born to this worthy couple, of whom our subject was the second in order of birth. He was reared on a farm in Norway and attended the country schools there, receiving a good education in his native language. The family came to America when he was but twelve years of age and settled in Houston county, Minnesota, where our subject found work at farm labor, and he has depended upon his own work for a livelihood since that date. He worked for others until he attained his majority, and he then purchased a farm in Houston county. This consisted of one hundred and forty acres of land, of which he cultivated about ninety acres and devoted the balance to other purposes. He remained on the farm there about twenty years, and in the spring of 1882 he went to Norman county. He lived with a neighbor the first year, and as he had no money and only

a team of horses and a wagon, he could not do much toward the improvement of his place, but he worked for others, and in 1883 began the cultivation of his own land. He built a log house with a sod roof, and also built a straw barn. The following year he began the threshing business, and has continued this line of work each season since that time, with good results. He now has a twenty-two-horse power steam rig, and has a liberal patronage from his neighbors. His farm comprises two hundred and forty-five acres of land, of which one hundred and fifty acres are tillable, and the balance is timber, meadow and pasture. He engages in grain raising exclusively, and has met with success in this line alone. His buildings are well constructed and conveniently arranged, and furnish abundant shelter for stock and products, while for the comfort of the family a nice residence has been erected and is supplied with the conveniences of modern homes. The machinery used on the farm is of the best and most approved pattern, and every equipment of the place evidences good management and thrift.

Our subject was married February 22, 1871, to Miss Randy Otterness. Mrs. Holum is a native of Norway, but was reared in America, having come to this land when she was an infant with her parents. Her father, Jans Otterness, was a farmer by occupation. Mr. and Mrs. Holum have a family of nine children, of whom the following is a record: Martha, Olei, Anna, Amund, James, Edith, Clarence and Arthur (twins) and Garfield. All were born in Minnesota. Mr. Holum is active in local affairs, and has served as township supervisor almost continuously since residing in Norman county, and he has also served many years as school treasurer. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and politically is a Republican and a most earnest worker for party principles.

#### JOHN SEDERBERG.

John Sederberg, a notable representative of the farming interests of the township of Isanti, Isanti county, was born on a farm in Medelpard, Sweden, in 1853, and has made himself a very enviable position in the country of his adoption by his thrift, industry and the exercise of those many qualities so strongly characteristic of his race and blood. His father was a farmer, who lived and died in Sweden, his son John being only about five years old at the time of his demise. His wife remained a widow and managed the farm until John and his older brother were old enough to relieve her from such responsibilities. She was a good business woman, and her two boys were well reared. In 1866 the three came

to this country, landing in New York, and coming west, spent four months in Goodhue county. The fall of the year in which they first set foot on American soil saw mother and sons established on a farm in Isanti township, taking a homestead on section 28. There they lived some five years, the mother at that time taking charge of affairs and displaying excellent qualities of management. They lived in a log house, 22x18 feet, for five years, and had a log stable with a hay roof. They did their farm work with two ox-teams, which they bought with a little money they brought from the old country. The brothers exchanged work with their neighbors, and broke land for others. Indians were numerous for a time, more so than their white neighbors. In 1871 they sold their homestead and moved into Freeborn, and were five years in bringing an eighty-acre farm into marketable shape, putting up building for the farm and developing a fine place. With a partner, John Sederberg made a business of breaking prairie, and for three years was engaged in that line from early spring until harvest each year.

In 1876 the older Sederberg and the mother united with the Mormons, but John held to the old faith, and out of the separation of faith came a separation of interests. The farm was sold and John Sederberg returned to Isanti county, his mother and brother going to Utah, where they are now living on a farm two hundred miles south of Salt Lake City.

From 1876 to 1879 John Sederberg had no particular place he called home, being in the woods in winter and following the log drives and working in the harvest fields during the summer. In the spring of 1879 he was married to Margarita Engberg, a native of Hassala Halsingland, Sweden, her father dying in her native land on the farm which he spent his life in cultivating. She came to the United States about 1874, and is now the mother of five children: Herman L., Delfie C., Earnest P., Walter J. and Robert M., all of whom were born on the farm in Isanti township, where Mr. Sederberg bought land in section 13, making this the third farm which he had improved. It consisted of eighty acres of wild timber land, not a foot of which was cultivated. In old Isanti his family had a home where they lived and from which he carried on his farming work for eleven years. He built up a good farm and owned the house and lot where he lived in town. At times he rented land and carried on very extensive farming operations. For many winters he was also engaged in lumbering, his operations extending from Kanabec to Mille Laes counties, carrying on some very extensive contracts, having one that ran for nine years in Kanabec county. He has been engaged in lumbering continuously up to the present time.

In 1890 Mr. Sederberg bought a half of section 5, in the township of Isanti, and began the opening of his fourth farm. This was also wild land. He sold his other possessions, and here he put up small farm buildings, but the place has greatly increased in value and in its appointments as well since that time. Here he owns three hundred and seventy-eight acres, with some seventy-five under cultivation. The rest is pasture, meadow and timber. His house is a two-story structure, 44x36 feet, and his barn is 30x50 feet. The requisite farm machinery is provided on a liberal scale, and in this farm Mr. Sederberg has one of the finest estates to be found in Isanti county.

Mr. Sederberg is a Republican, and for four years was assessor while living in Isanti, and for two years was a member of the board of supervisors. He was county commissioner four years, and in 1894 was elected to the general assembly, receiving the honor of re-election two years later. In the spring of 1901 he was appointed appraiser of school lands in Isanti county.

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#### HANS CHRISTIAN JOHNSON.

Hans Christian Johnson, one of the earliest settlers of Lowell township, is engaged successfully in agriculture, and commands the esteem of his fellow men as a worthy citizen and progressive farmer.

Mr. Johnson was born at Asmindrup, Høllbeck, Denmark, April 17, 1843. He lived on his father's farm until he was twenty-three years of age, and in 1866 came to America. He stopped for a time at Milwaukee, and worked for some time for an Englishman near Hartland, Wisconsin, and there had an excellent opportunity to learn the English language. He heard of railroad work to be obtained at La Crosse, and went there, but was sent to Winona, but there found no railroad work. He cut cord wood during the winter and the following summer and winter worked on the Winona & St. Peter Railroad, and was finally cheated out of all his wages. While he was thus at work he noticed a mass of rock falling into a cut in the roadbed, and he shouted to his brother, Nils, who sprang far enough away to escape death, but he suffered a crushed leg. The following summer Mr. Johnson obtained work on the boat at Winona, and in the winter worked in the pineries. He saved his earnings and made up his mind to thereafter work for himself. With a load of provisions in a prairie schooner he left St. Paul for Fergus Falls in 1868, and "squatted" on land then unsurveyed ten miles east of Fergus Falls. The land was surveyed in 1870, and Mr. Johnson filed a homestead claim to the land he had selected. Here was a hunt-

ers' paradise, and there was hard work, to be sure, but plenty of sport and good game. In 1872 he constructed a log house to supplant the claim shanty on section 28 of Lowell township, and on the 19th of June moved his young bride to his new home. In October, 1875, he returned to Fergus Falls for a visit to his relatives. His wife's serious and extended illness, the death of their first child, a son, and the loss of all the fingers of the left hand of Mr. Johnson by accidental shooting, was the list of misfortunes falling to their lot within a few months. The crop of 1876 was almost a total loss on account of grasshoppers, and many early experiences and hardships were braved by Mr. and Mrs. Johnson. It was extremely dangerous and wearisome traveling over the country for provisions in the early days, and on one occasion, in June, when going from Frog Point to Burnham's Creek, he was compelled to take the wagon apart to get it out of the mud, and it was not heavily loaded, the load consisting of but a sack of flour, a breaking plow and some bedding. Mr. Johnson now has a valuable farm, with all improvements, and derives a good annual income from the same.

Our subject was married in the fall of 1871 to Marian C. Christianson. The following children have been born to this union: George J. died an infant; Johanna, Joseph A., Carl J., Jorg W., Christian W., Clare H., Otto W., Christian A. and Anton H. Mr. Johnson visited his father in his native land in 1878, and on his return brought seven of his friends with him, among them the future wife of his brother. Mr. Johnson is prominent in township and county affairs, and was supervisor of his township for several years. He is a well-known educational worker, and has been a member of the school board for fourteen years. He is a Populist politically, and has been identified with the reform principles of this party since its organization, and is a usual delegate to county conventions. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

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#### JOSEPH BRANHAM.

The genial hotel man, Joseph Branham, is widely known and universally respected. He has a wide knowledge of men and the world, and is a business man of ability and enterprise. He conducts the hotel business successfully in Richwood, Becker county.

Our subject was born in Minnesota March 31, 1875, and was a son of John and Jane (George) Branham. The former was born in Kentucky May 26, 1818, and the mother was born in Ohio May 10, 1844. Our subject resided in his native county until he was twelve years of age, when he went to North Dakota, and there

was employed at farm labor two years. He later went to Winnipeg, Canada, where he remained a year and then returned to Minnesota. After a visit to New York and Buffalo, where he remained one year, he went to Chicago, Illinois, and spent about a year. He then traveled through Michigan and Wisconsin and into Minnesota, and upon his arrival in his native state he located in Becker county, establishing himself in the hotel business at Richwood. He operated this business there two years, and then spent one year in the same business in Detroit, Becker county. He then returned to Richwood and entered into the hotel business which he now conducts there, and has made a pronounced success of the business. He has a liberal patronage and has ample accommodations for his guests, and is one of the popular hotel men of the county.

Our subject was married in 1897 to Madeline Nien, who was born in Minnesota August 31, 1853. Mrs. Branham is the mother of three children by a former marriage, who are named as follows: William, Charles and Clinton. The family are members of the Episcopal church, and are prominently connected with the affairs of that denomination, and have a host of friends in Richwood and vicinity. Our subject is a Republican politically, and is an earnest worker for the principles of his party, but does not seek public office. He is capable and enterprising, and well merits the success he enjoys.

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#### JOHN JOHNSON.

John Johnson, a gentleman of energetic character and a reputation for honest dealing, has built up an extensive mercantile business in Biwabik, and is classed among the prominent pioneers of St. Louis county.

Mr. Johnson was born on a farm in Finland, Russia, December 14, 1862. His father was a farmer and the parents passed their lives in Finland. Four children were born to them, of whom our subject was the youngest. He passed his early life on the farm and gained his education in the public schools. He worked out at farm labor from the age of fifteen years, and after attaining his majority left his home neighborhood and located in the city of Uleabory. He joined the Finland army and served three years, after which he spent three years and a half in a saw-mill in Sweden, and altogether spent five years in that country. He came to America in 1892, landing at New York city, and from there went to Bessemer, Michigan. He worked on a railroad there one month, and then railroaded in Wisconsin, and changed his occupation for work on the city water works of Duluth, Minnesota. In June, 1893, he went to Virginia, Minnesota, and

after working two months in the iron mines the company failed and he never received his pay. He then worked two months in the Franklin mine, when the mine shut down. He was taken sick with typhoid fever, and after an illness of two months, during which time he had spent his savings, he went to Mountain Iron and went to work on the railroad, but was not fully recovered from the fever and was obliged to quit work. He went to Biwabik in December, 1893, and secured work in the Canton mine. He worked five days and was then injured and confined to his bed one month, after which he worked another month for the mine. Times were hard, and laborers received but eighty-five to ninety cents per day. He spent the summer in the Franklin mine, and in the fall of 1895 went to Biwabik and established a shoe shop, having learned the trade in Finland. After two years he bought his present business lot, and in the fall of 1898 built a store 24x33 feet and put in a stock of groceries. He built an addition to this building in the summer of 1900, and now has the largest store in the town, and handles groceries, clothing and shelf hardware. He has built up an extensive trade, and his accumulations are the direct result of his business management and honest dealings.

Mr. Johnson is an advocate of temperance, and is a member of the temperance society. He is identified with the Republican party politically, but does not seek public office, attending strictly to his business interests, which claim his undivided attention.

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#### IVER H. MJOEN.

Iver H. Mjoen, a pioneer of Polk county, Minnesota, has passed through many discouragements and losses in that region, but these have never swerved him from his purpose to gain a good home for himself and family, and he is now the fortunate owner of over three hundred acres of land in Vineland township. His home is a mile and a half from the thriving town of Climax, and there he enjoys the quiet of country life and all its comforts.

Mr. Mjoen was born near Snehedtn, Trondhjemstift, Norway, May 11, 1843, and was the second in a family of six children born to Hellaug Iversen and Rannei (Anderson) Mjoen. He was accustomed to farm life in his native land until he was fifteen years of age, and then spent three years at fishing in Lofoden, northern Norway. When he was of age he and his bride-elect came to America in the same steamer. They landed at New York, and went from there via Buffalo and the Great Lakes to Duluth, Minnesota, thence to Moorhead. From there they

went by stage to Alma river and crossed the Red river six miles below Caledonia, where a Dutchman ferried them across the stream in a dugout. They then walked across the prairie to a Norwegian settler's and gained information of the residence of the young lady's brother. After their arrival at his home our subject paid him a visit of two weeks, and then went to work on the Great Northern Railroad, then called the St. Paul, Pacific & St. Vincent. He returned to Marsh river to Mr. Halstad's in the fall of 1872, and in November of that year claimed his bride. Together they made a trip to Moorhead in a prairie schooner drawn by oxen, taking four days to make the journey. On their return they camped at the Wild Rice river, and in the morning found a blizzard, while they were still ten miles from their destination. Soon after his marriage Mr. Mjoen moved to Vineland township, where he took up his residence on section 25, on the banks of the Red river. After the government survey of the region he tried to file a homestead claim, but the section was an odd-numbered one and was claimed by the railroad company. The company finally forced him to pay for the land and the improvements he had made himself. In 1899 he petitioned the secretary of the interior and received a government patent for the land. He had but a few dollars in money, and his first sack of wheat, which he had got from a neighbor and sowed, was taken later by grasshoppers. These pests invaded his farm for the two succeeding years, but he still remained and since has met with well-merited success. He controls three hundred and six acres of farm and timber land on the banks of and near the Red river, located a mile and a half west of Climax. He drew his first wheat to Fisher, the nearest railroad town, and his team and wagon mired down four or five times en route. He was then forced to unload, carrying the sacks to a dry spot and then re-loading when he got the team and wagon out of the mire. After he built his first log shanty on his farm he went into the employ of the steamboat owner and traveled from Moorhead to Winnipeg, then known as Fort Gary. His wife remained at home with two small children, and neighbors were two miles distant. She awoke one morning to find a black bear sleeping outside the hut, and she threw fire on him and the animal at once vanished. She went for water to the spring, and there again found Mr. Bruin comfortably seated near the spring. Our subject learned of the encounter through the newspaper before he reached home.

Mr. Mjoen was married during the year 1872, to Randi Mjoen. To this union the following children have been born: Richard B., born March 15, 1873; George Martin, born Novem-

ber 18, 1875; Ole Randolph, born January 20, 1877; and Jens Immil Nikkolai, born June 28, 1881, died November 19, 1882. Several years ago Mr. Mjoen brought his father to America from Norway, and he has since made his home with his son, and is now aged over eighty years. Mr. Mjoen is a member of the Sand Hill Lutheran church, which edifice he assisted in building. He has served his township as constable for the last sixteen years, and was a member of the township board one term. Formerly he was a Republican in political faith, but he is now a liberal non-partisan. Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Mjoen will be found elsewhere in this volume.

#### CHARLES O. KANKEL.

Among the flouring mills of Minnesota which have gained a reputation for excellence of flour turned out from the fine wheat grown in that state, the Terrebonne Flouring Mills take rank with the best. This plant is located on the Clearwater river, at the small inland town of Terrebonne, and is one of the enterprises of which Red Lake county may well be proud. The mill is conducted under the proprietorship of Kankel & Ziegler, who have been the owners since 1899. The building was erected in 1893 by Ohm & Hennemuth, and in 1894 Mr. Kankel bought a fourth interest in the mill, and in 1896 became the owner of a half interest. The dam is rock and crib work, about one hundred and seventy five feet in extent, and furnished with twelve-foot head and fifty-six-inch turbine wheel. At the present time the capacity of the mills is between ninety and one hundred barrels per day, and is run to its full capacity night and day. The building is three stories and basement and is 40x42 feet. The machinery is of the latest pattern, and the flour turned out is excellent and finds ready market at home and in the pineries of Minnesota. The proprietors plan the erection of a buckwheat plant, and they also contemplate the erection of a ten-thousand-bushels-capacity elevator.

Charles O. Kankel, senior member of the firm of Kankel & Ziegler, was born in Ottertail county, Minnesota, February 2, 1875. He was the only child of Charles O. and Elizabeth (Newman) Kankel, both of whom are deceased. The father was of German nativity, and the mother was born in America. The father was a prominent miller of Minnesota, and was associated with the milling interests of Elizabethtown. He died prior to our subject's birth, and the mother died also when Charles O. was but four years of age. He thereafter made his home with his grandparents until he was eleven years of age, at which time he began to earn his own way. He went to



Caledonia, North Dakota, and there worked in a mill as sweeper and oiler for one year. He worked in the Fertile mills until 1894, and was steadily raised in position until he held one of responsibility. He invested his scanty savings in the Terrebonne Mills, and he has gradually acquired a good property as partner in the milling plant.

Mr. Kankel was married in June, 1899, Miss Olga Foss being the lady of his choice. This union has been blessed by the birth of a daughter, whom the parents have named Elizabeth. Mr. Kankel is a member of the Congregational church and the Modern Woodmen of America. Politically he is a Democrat, but does not seek public preferment.

### JOHN BETCHER.

John Betcher, a prosperous farmer of Green Meadow township, Norman county, is a representative of one of the leading families of the county. He is an ex-soldier, and although of foreign birth he is a man of active public spirit and is devoted to the interests of his adopted land. He has a pleasant home in section 32 of Green Meadow township, and is an extensive land owner, the Betcher family owning one thousand and eighty acres of land in Norman county.

Our subject was born in Saxony, Germany, March 14, 1832, and was a son of Gotlieb Betcher, a laborer. He was reared in his native land and learned the weaver's trade at the age of fifteen years, which he followed eighteen years. He emigrated to America in 1863 with his family, and February 26, 1864, joined the Union army, becoming a member of Company G, Seventh Minnesota Volunteers. He served under Captain Herman Betcher and participated in the battle of Nashville. He also served in Missouri in pursuit of the southern general, Price, and he was also at New Orleans, and later in Alabama. He was discharged from the service August 16, 1865. Mr. Betcher spent a year in Pennsylvania previous to entering the service, and after his return from the war he located in Red Wing, Minnesota, and there followed farming for eleven years. He owned an eighty-acre property situated six miles from Lake Pepin, and this farm he improved and had a fine orchard on the same. He went to Norman county in 1879 and selected land as a home and broke some land, taking the journey overland with his son Robert and Ben Baur, and they lived under the wagon boxes while breaking the first land. The family went to the new home in 1880, and their first residence was a 16x16 foot shanty, which was also used for a barn. Their first crop averaged fifteen bushels per acre. Mr. Betcher now has a farm of four hundred acres, of which three hun-

dred acres are under a high state of cultivation and the balance is valuable meadow and pasture land. He has a fine grove of trees, some of which he planted in 1882, and some have attained a growth of eighty feet in height and are a foot and a half or more through. He has fifty thrifty apple trees, and some plum trees and plenty of small fruits, and altogether the place affords every comfort of farm life. His buildings include a commodious and comfortable residence, a large barn and all necessary outbuildings, and he also has a plentiful supply of modern farm machinery, and the place is carefully and profitably managed. Mr. Betcher's son Robert owns one hundred and sixty acres of land in Pleasant View township, and has one hundred and twenty acres of the same under cultivation. He resides at home and has the management of the father's farm also. Another son, Fred, has a farm of eighty acres in Green Meadow township, and is a prosperous farmer.

Our subject was married in Germany in 1858 to Miss Erstiena Dobrenze, a native of Germany, who was raised in her native land. Her father, August Dobrenze, was a shoemaker by trade. Mr. and Mrs. Betcher are the parents of seven children, six sons and one daughter, who are named as follows: Emil, Robert, Lena, Arthur, Fred, Richard and Charles. Mr. Betcher is a citizen of intelligence and true worth, and he has served his community as township treasurer nine years and supervisor two years. He is a Republican politically, and stands firmly for his party principles. Robert Betcher is one of the rising young men of his locality, and has served as treasurer of the school district three years, and has also been township supervisor at different times. The family are members of the Lutheran church.

### NILS G. EHRENSTROM.

True citizenship is ever appreciated by a community, and the result is the confidence of the people and the bestowal of public trusts upon the worthy members. For the past six years the gentleman whose name introduces this review has served in the capacity of clerk of the district court of Kittson county, and he enjoys the confidence of the people in a marked degree. He has also held other public offices, and in each instance has proven himself faithful to his trust and earnest in his endeavors. He is proprietor of a fine farm of a half section in the eastern part of the county and has accumulated the same since taking up his residence in Kittson county. He is a man of good education, refined and enterprising, and well merits his high station and success. A portrait of him is shown on another page in this volume.

Mr. Ehrenstrom was born in Gotland, Sweden, October 28, 1862, and was the eldest in a family of seven children born to Rev. John L. Ehrenstrom, nobleman, and his wife Elise Ehrenstrom. His parents now live in Sweden, where the family earned its title to nobility in the reign of King Charles XI. Mr. Ehrenstrom attended college until he was nineteen years of age, and then embarked to seek his fortunes in the new world. He landed at New York June 6, 1882, and went direct to the lumber camps of Michigan. He went to Hallock in 1887 and worked at farming, and after about one year there became deputy auditor. He won the confidence of his associates from the start, and in 1894 he was nominated and elected clerk of the district court, and has held the office continuously since that date. Mr. Ehrenstrom has resided in the village of Hallock since taking up his duties as a public officer, and he has a comfortable residence there.

Mr. Ehrenstrom was married in 1891 to Miss Elise Johnson, also a native of Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Ehrenstrom are the parents of four children, who are named in order of birth as follows: Joseph, Alma, Signe and Albertina. Our subject has served in various local offices, including village recorder and township assessor, and he is the present chief of the fire department. He is prominent in secret society circles, and is a member of the following fraternal orders: Independent Order of Foresters, Modern Woodmen of America, and Independent Order of Good Templars. In political sentiment he is a Democrat, and is firm in his stand for party principles.

#### CHARLES N. MORIN.

Charles N. Morin, architect, contractor and builder of Argyle, is one of the substantial and popular citizens of Marshall county.

Mr. Morin is a native of the province of Quebec, Canada, and was born July 9, 1849. He is the second child and oldest son in a family of fourteen children born to Oliver and Hortense (Nauld) Morin. The parents and thirteen of the children are still living. Our subject was reared in Canada and received a good education. At the age of sixteen years he was apprenticed to learn the carpenter and joiner's trade and served an apprenticeship of four years, working mostly in the direction of church edifices. In 1871 he went to Chicago, and was there employed as foreman for a large contracting company. Two years later, however, he returned to Canada. In 1876 he made a trip to the Pacific coast, first going to California and thence to British Columbia, where he spent some time in the mining regions. He worked for five years at the contracting busi-

ness in Victoria. During his residence in British Columbia he made a trip to Alaska in 1879. On his return from British Columbia he conducted for two years his father's farm in Canada. He came to Argyle in 1884, where he has since followed his business of contractor and builder. He has superintended the erection of many large buildings and enjoys a large acquaintance throughout the county. He is a thorough workman and master architect. He has met with success in Argyle, where he has established a comfortable home for his family, and also is the owner of a valuable farm in the vicinity.

Mr. Morin was married in 1887 to Miss Victoria Schiller. They became the parents of five children, four of whom are still living. Their names are as follows: Emma, deceased; Joseph, Clara, Josephine and Homer. In politics Mr. Morin is a Republican. He is a member of the Roman Catholic church and of the Modern Woodmen of America. His business methods and thorough honesty have gained for him many friends. He has served as a member of the village board for a number of years, and for the past seven years has been a member of the school board.

#### SAMUEL PERSON.

Samuel Person, a successful and highly esteemed farmer of Evansville township, has been a resident of Douglas county, Minnesota, for the past twenty years, and has accumulated a fine property, his residence being located on section 20.

Mr. Person was born in Sweden November 28, 1855, and was a son of Per and Anna (Katrina) Johnson. He attended the public schools of his native land and then learned the mason's trade, which he followed in connection with farming in Sweden. Accompanied by his brother he sailed for America in 1881, and after landing at New York they went to Minneapolis. After a brief stay there our subject went to Duluth, and for nearly two years was employed in a saw-mill at that place. He went to Douglas county, Minnesota, in 1882, and bought eighty acres of land on section 29 of Evansville township. He later added to this by the purchase of two eighty-acre tracts in section 20, adjoining his first purchase. He erected a comfortable farm residence in the southwest quarter of section 20 in 1884, and from time to time has made good and substantial improvements on his property, and has one of the best grain and cattle farms of the township. He follows diversified farming and stock raising, and owns a herd of twenty-two head of graded stock. He is thoroughly versed in agricultural work, and is possessed of enterprising character and good judgment, and has

prospered in Minnesota, and is among the substantial citizens of his community.

Mr. Person was married March 6, 1887, to Anne Fedge. Mr. and Mrs. Person are the parents of four children, who are named as follows: Carl Oscar, Emma Cecelia, Edwin Leander and Victor Einar. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and have an excellent standing in the locality. Mr. Person is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and politically he is a Republican, but does not take an active part in political affairs and does not seek public office. He is a man who keeps pace with the times and lends his influence for the upbuilding of his community, and well merits his high standing and financial success.

#### WALTER SCOTT.

Walter Scott, one of the leading business men of Sandstone, Pine county, Minnesota, was born on a farm in New York in October, 1856, and is a son of Andrew Scott, a life-long farmer and a grandson of Samuel Scott, who came from the British Isles. The emigrant Scott was in his day a noted horseman. His wife was a Chapin, and belonged to the old Connecticut family of that name. Andrew Scott was born in New York, and was a man of much industry and strict integrity.

Walter Scott was the first in a family of six children, and was reared on a farm in Madison, New York, where he was bred to hard work and had his education in the public schools and a local seminary. When he was twenty-one he broke away from home and went to Cazenovia, New York, where he had secured a clerkship in a general store, which he held for five or six years. In 1884 he journeyed west and located in Hinckley, Minnesota, where he entered the employ of the Thomas Brennan Lumber Company as a clerk in their local store. He had come to the west on account of his health, which was greatly and rapidly improved by the change. Mr. Scott continued as a clerk in the store until 1889, when he was put in charge and served as general manager until 1894, the year of the great fire. This was an extensive establishment, occupying a store 30x80 feet and a warehouse 45x80 feet, and doing a business of more than twelve thousand dollars a month.

Walter Scott and Miss Annie Hawley were married in 1892. She was born in Canada of Irish parentage, and is the mother of three children: Margaret Frances, born in 1893; Lester, in 1894; and Franklin, in 1899.

Mr. Scott and his family passed the Hinckley fire in 1894, and were among those who escaped by the eastern Minnesota train, which left

the doomed village at four o'clock in the afternoon. This was a day of parting, and many who separated at that time have never met again.

After the fire Mr. Scott spent two months in Superior, and then came to Sandstone in November of that ill-fated year to make his home. He put up a residence, and on the 1st of the following January began the erection of a store building, in which he began business the 1st of the ensuing March. It was 24x72 feet in dimensions and had a warehouse 24x60 feet, with barn and ice-house. Here he carries the largest stock in the county, which consists of dry goods, boots and shoes, groceries, hardware, lumber and building material, provisions, farm machinery, and the thousand and one things considered essential to a complete country store. Mr. Scott began with a borrowed capital of three hundred and fifty dollars, and is to-day one of the solid and substantial men of the county.

Mr. Scott is a Democrat, and has taken his place on the board of supervisors. He is held in much respect, not only in Sandstone, where his character is so well known, but in Hinckley and throughout the county, wherever his name has gone, as that of a thoroughly honorable and upright man.

#### PETER NEHL.

Peter Nehl, well known as a pioneer settler of Wadena county, has a finely improved estate in section 31 of Meadow township. This property is the direct result of his labors in Minnesota, he having gone to the wilderness of Wadena county without means and it was only by the best management and strict economy and industry that he has accomplished his purpose.

Mr. Nehl was born on a farm in Wisconsin, February 15, 1854. His father, Henry Nehl, was born in Germany and came to America prior to his marriage, locating in this country in 1852. He served three years in the army of his native land, and followed farming, although he was a stone-cutter and mason by trade. The mother of our subject was Elizabeth Beck. To this worthy couple fourteen children were born, of whom our subject was the eldest. Eleven of these children still survive. Mr. Nehl was reared on the home farm in Wisconsin, and when he was twenty years of age the family removed to Chickasaw county, Iowa, where his parents now reside.

Mr. Nehl received a limited education in the common schools, and soon after attaining his majority started for himself. He left Iowa in March, 1880, and settled in the woods twelve miles northeast of Wadena, in Wadena county, Minnesota. There were no roads in the country at that time and no schools and few settlers.

He built a log shanty and worked for others, cut ties and did other odd work, and also managed to clear a little land, but his first crops consisted of a few vegetables. He purchased his first team, oxen, in 1885, and the following year bought horses. In partnership with a neighbor he bought a threshing outfit in 1885, and followed this line of work each season for seven years, in partnership, when he purchased a rig for himself and has followed the business each fall, with the exception of that of 1900. He now has a thirteen-horse-power steam rig. In 1895 Mr. Nehl moved to his present farm four miles east of Sebekä. There he built a sawmill and engaged in lumbering to some extent. He now has a farm of two hundred and eighty acres, with fifty acres cultivated and some meadow. The tract is well fenced and is highly improved with good buildings and equipped with modern machinery.

Mr. Nehl was married at the age of twenty-three years to Miss Minnie Koch. Mrs. Nehl was born in Missouri, and her parents were of German birth. Her mother died when Mrs. Nehl was but three years of age, and she was reared by her grandparents. Mrs. Nehl died April 10, 1891, leaving five children, named as follows: Florian H., Elizabeth, Louis, Clara and Cecelia. Mr. Nehl is one of the influential men of his community, and he has served in various local offices. He was county commissioner four years, and has taken an active part in the up-building of the school system of that locality and the establishment of public schools. He was the independent candidate for county auditor and polled the largest vote ever cast for an independent candidate in the county. He is a Democrat in political faith. On another page of this work will be found a portrait of Mr. Nehl.

#### MARTIN SWANSON.

Among the sons of the Scandinavian peninsula who have gained a good property and an enviable name in Polk county by dint of their own industry and honesty, may be mentioned Martin Swanson. For many years he has been a resident of Lowell township, and although he endured the hardships and privations of early life in Minnesota, he can review his labors there and their reward with justifiable pride.

Mr. Swanson was born near Bergen, Norway, March 3, 1848. He lived during early boyhood on a farm about twenty-eight miles from Aalesund, and here the family raised sheep, cattle and goats, and during the summer months the cattle and goats were taken up on the Saetter. When about sixteen years of age our subject went to Aalesund to learn the joiner's trade, and here he remained until he was twenty-two years

of age. He took a sailing vessel from Bergen for Quebec in 1860, and then steamer and canal boats up the St. Lawrence until he reached Hamilton, Canada, where he first saw a locomotive. He boarded the train and came to Detroit, and from there to Chicago. This was in June, 1860, and on his arrival in the last named city he had but six cents in his pocket. He did not know the English language, and he found it hard to secure work at his trade, and accordingly accepted employment in a lumber yard. As soon as his funds permitted he came to La Crosse, Wisconsin, and from there went to Lake City and hired out to a farmer, an American, to bind wheat after an old-fashioned reaper at three dollars per day. He practiced Sunday that he might be able to take his station in the field Monday. After working there a week he had sufficient money to take him to the woods of eastern Minnesota, where he spent the fall and winter. The summer of 1861 was spent in a lumber yard in Duluth, and from there Mr. Swanson came to Fergus Falls, and in July, 1872, came to Crookston. He took unsurveyed land on sections 25 and 26, but this proved to be within the railroad limits and endless litigation would be required to establish his title to the land. His first home was made of logs, which he carried up the bank of the river on his shoulder. He worked in the boat yard for the Hudson's Bay Company about six winters to get money with which to make improvements on his place. About 1878 he bought a team of oxen and broke his own land. He now has a highly cultivated tract upon which he has placed good buildings and improvements, and enjoys a comfortable home. In early days when food was scarce the river was generous in the way of pike, pickerel, catfish and goldeve, and for a time the common expression was "Catfish or no breakfast."

Mr. Swanson was married in November, 1875, to Sophia Tronnas. The following children have been born to this marriage: Severen A., Olaf B., Krdin, Thilda, Amanda, Caroline, Bertha, Minnie, Robert, and Annie, twin sister of Robert, died at the age of seven months. Mr. Swanson is a member of the Lutheran church, and is a man widely known and universally respected.

#### GALUSHA O. CROSS.

Galusha O. Cross, junior member of the real estate firm of Cook & Cross, who do an extensive business in Warren and throughout Marshall county, was one of the pioneers of the Red river valley.

Mr. Cross was born in Oswego county, New York, January 20, 1854. He was the only son and second child in a family of two children

born to Anson and Mary (Panoyer) Cross. The parents were both descendants of old New England families and our subject traces his ancestry back to early colonial times.

When Galusha O. Cross was but a child his parents settled in Neenah, Wisconsin. There our subject worked in his father's shop and learned the cooper's trade. He continued there until the spring of 1878, when he went to the Red river valley country to inspect the lands in that region. He located a farm in Polk county, developed it and resided there until 1894. He is recognized as one of the leading pioneers of that district, and experienced all the hardships of western frontier life. He lived alone for about twelve months. Crookston, twenty-four miles distant, was his most convenient trading place. He improved a farm of six hundred and forty acres, which became one of the most valuable in the county.

In 1894 he removed his family to Warren, and in 1899 disposed of his farm interests and engaged in his present business. He has made a success and is well known throughout the county.

Mr. Cross was married in 1879 to Miss Jessie Whipple. Mr. and Mrs. Cross are the parents of five children, named as follows: Helen, Filetia, Bessie, Jessie and Nellie. In political sentiment Mr. Cross is a Republican, and takes an intelligent interest in public affairs, both local and general. He is a Master Mason and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

#### LEWIS J. MORLAND.

The love of liberty and the opportunities afforded in America for honest industry to gain a foothold and bring a just reward has induced many sons of the Scandinavian peninsula to cast their lot in this country, and among the business men and farmers no more energetic and progressive class can be found. In these men Norway is well represented and a foremost rank among those residing in Norman county, Minnesota, is accorded the gentleman above named. Mr. Morland is one of the prominent and deservedly successful business men of Fossum and is the present efficient postmaster of that thriving place.

Our subject was born in Norway, December 15, 1854, and was a son of John and Kjersti Morland, both of whom were natives of Norway and passed their lives there. He attended the common schools of his native land and also attended the Horton Civil Engineering Academy for two years, after which he remained on the home farm and assisted his father with the work of the place until he emigrated to America in

1880. He went direct to Norman county, Minnesota, and spent three years at farm labor there, after which he directed his steps westward. He was employed at railroad work in Oregon and Washington one year and then returned to Ada, Minnesota, and was there engaged as clerk in a mercantile establishment until 1890. He then established a general merchandise business at Fossum, and the patronage which he now enjoys is a result of his honest dealings and business tact. He carries a good stock of general merchandise and meets the needs of the people of that locality.

Mr. Morland is a man of active public spirit, and since taking up his residence in Norman county has become widely known for his excellent character and the faultless discharge of his public duties. He is the present treasurer of the town of Fossum, which office he has held for the past year, and he has gained the confidence of the people of his community. Mr. Morland is identified with the Republican party in politics, and has stood for the principles of that party since taking up his residence in America.

#### JOHN BECKFELT.

Probably one of the best known men of Itaska county, Minnesota, is John Beckfelt, whose extensive business operations at Grand Rapids have placed him among the foremost business men of that city. He is proprietor of the principal general store of the town, and also the electric light plant, and owns extensive farm and mining lands, and also owns numerous business blocks in the business center of the city, all of which property represents his labors in Grand Rapids.

Mr. Beckfelt was born in Bremen, Germany, in 1855. His father, John H. Beckfelt, was a farmer and market gardener. The mother of our subject was also a German by birth. Of a family of seven children our subject was the oldest. He was raised in the city and attended the common schools, and at the age of fifteen years came to America, landing at New York City. He went to Chicago and then Milwaukee, where he stayed one year, where he followed clerking. He then clerked three years in a general store in Portage, Wisconsin, and there became thoroughly familiar with mercantile business. He had charge of the boot and shoe department for three years and became interested in the manufacture of boot and shoe packs, but soon afterward sold his interests in the business. He then went to Aitken, Minnesota, and engaged in clerking there in a general store for J. C. Knox & Company, and spent about six months there. He went to Grand Rapids in 1883 with the idea of taking a pine timber claim, but after reaching there he saw a business open-

ing and bought a small general store and stock of twelve hundred dollars. He had a cash start of four hundred dollars. The store was conducted in a log building 28x32 feet and had been established by L. F. Knox in 1878. Mr. Beckfelt continued in the log building from 1882 to 1891, and his success was then assured. He then erected his present store, on the corner of Kindred avenue and Fourth street, and the store now boasts a floor space 48x110 feet, which is one of the largest stores of the town. He carries a complete line of general merchandise, excepting hardware and drugs. He has a warehouse near a side track of the Great Northern Railroad to handle coarse and heavy goods. In 1895 the Grand Rapids Electric Light and Power Company's plant was built, Mr. Beckfelt furnishing the funds, and in 1896 he assumed control of the plant. This consists of a two hundred horse power Corliss engine and dynamos and all other equipment, and two thousand incandescent lights are now in use. Mr. Beckfelt also owns farm land adjoining Grand Rapids and also considerable mining land, and valuable business property in Grand Rapids. He is one of the men of high financial standing in his locality and has made his fortune by his good management and enterprise and making the best of his opportunities.

Mr. Beckfelt was married, in 1886, to Miss Carrie Horter. Mrs. Beckfelt was born in New York state and was of American parentage. Mr. and Mrs. Beckfelt are the parents of four children, namely: Carrie, aged twelve years; Ruth, aged nine years; Catherine, aged seven; and Raymond, aged four, all of whom were born in Grand Rapids. Mr. Beckfelt was appointed county commissioner in 1883, and was one of the organizers of the county, and in 1888 was elected county treasurer and served one term. He served seven years as postmaster under Arthur and Harrison, and has served as chairman of the board of supervisors. He is a Republican politically. His portrait may be found elsewhere in this volume.

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#### SWAN E. MOREN.

Swan E. Moren, one of the pioneer settlers of Biwabik, is engaged in the meat business at Biwabik, and is a man of industrious character and worthy citizenship.

Mr. Moren was born in a village in Upsala, Sweden, August 26, 1866. His father, Ole Moren, was a goldsmith, and passed his life in Sweden. Our subject was the seventh in order of birth in a family of eleven children. He attended the public schools and later worked at his father's trade until he was eighteen years of age. He then entered a machine shop and fol-

lowed engineering eight years, operating an engine in the iron mines. He came to America in 1882, landing in New York City. He went to Ann River, Michigan, where he remained one year, running a stationary engine in a sawmill. He then went to Mastodon mine, where he had charge of the whole steam plant, including four boilers, one large stationary engine and several portable engines, and continued there until 1892. He was engineer for a few months for Dunn Mine, Michigan, and in the fall of 1892 went to Biwabik, Minnesota. There were not more than two buildings in the town at this time. Mr. Moren took a position as engineer in the Canton mine, where he remained two years, and then worked at the Cincinnati mine. He was placed in charge of the water works at Biwabik in 1896, and held the position five years, when he resigned to follow mercantile pursuits, after having spent twenty-six years as an engineer. He bought the meat market owned by John Mainz in the summer of 1900, and now conducts a profitable business and has a good trade. This market was established in 1893, and was the first meat shop in the town.

Mr. Moren was married in Sweden in 1879 to Miss Emma Numan. Mrs. Moren was born and raised in Sweden in the same place as her husband. A family of five children, all of whom were born in America, constitute the family of Mr. and Mrs. Moren. They are as follows: Gertie, Arthur, Ellen, Emma and Jennie. Mr. Moren is classed among the pioneers of his locality and has aided in its advancement and financial growth. In political faith he is identified with the Republican party.

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#### JOHN E. PETERSON.

John E. Peterson, one of the older residents of Isanti township, Isanti county, where his industrious and useful career is drawing slowly to a close, was born on a farm in Sweden in 1832. His father, who was a farmer, lived and died in his native land, and both father and son served in the Swedish army.

John E. Peterson was reared and educated in Sweden, and as his parents were involved in desperate poverty, began working out when he was only twelve years of age, that his little earnings might help the folks at home. When he was twenty-five years of age he started for himself. For many years he worked as a farm hand in his native community, where he was regarded as a reliable and industrious young man, traits of character he has never lost.

Mr. Peterson was married in Sweden in 1858, and two years later removed to the United States, coming to Minnesota and taking a home-



stead in section 8 of Isanti township, Isanti county, in 1861. He put up a log house, 18x26 feet, in which he lived many years.

Mr. Peterson began farming in the most modest fashion, as he had scarcely a thing beyond his own good right arm. In 1863 he was able to buy his first yoke of oxen, and then operations began in earnest. Oxen were his sole reliance for some ten or twelve years. At the first Mr. Peterson found work in the woods, though he met with some severe disappointments there. One winter he worked the entire season and only received a third of his pay. When he began on his farm it was entirely wild, and the nearest railway station was at St. Paul. It was a hard and painful journey he has had to make, but to-day he has arrived to very different conditions, and is very comfortable in his circumstances. The farm consists of one hundred and fifty-one acres, with some thirty under cultivation, and the rest devoted to pasture and meadow, hay having been for years one of the most important crops in this section of the state. He has a good house, 18x26 feet, and an addition 16x18 feet, and there are barns, granary and other buildings as needed on the place. He has made a success of his farming, and his place, which is well improved, presents a pleasing appearance to the observing traveler.

Mr. Peterson has voted the Republican ticket the most of his life, but of late years has been associated with the Prohibitionist party. He has been on the school board, and was supervisor some three or four years. For four years he was assessor, and has taken his full share in the affairs of his town and community.

Mr. Peterson has had three children born to him, two of whom, Julia and Nancy, are dead, and the other, Dora, is married. He has passed through the pioneer days of Isanti county, the days that tested the character of a man clear down to the roots, and is now enjoying the rest and peace and comfort that should attend the closing years of so honorable and useful a life.

#### JACOB E. C. VOLLAND.

Jacob E. C. Volland, who stands as a foremost citizen and business man of Ada, is one of the early settlers of Norman county, and to his efforts since taking up his residence there is due a large proportion of the advancement and prosperity of that locality. He follows the real-estate business, and is also largely interested in other speculations and deals extensively in buying and selling horses. He is a man of keen business foresight, and has won his way to success by persistent and honest efforts.

Our subject was born on a farm in Washington county, Wisconsin, October 20, 1855, and

was the fourth in a family of nine children born to John Henry and Thresa (Meyer) Volland. His father was a wagonmaker and was born in Germany. He came to America in 1830, previous to his marriage. The mother of our subject was also a native of Germany, and she came to America when a young girl.

Mr. Volland was reared in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, and received a limited education, owing to the fact that he was his father's assistant at the wagonmaker's trade, and when he was eleven years of age the father died, since which time our subject has supported himself. He worked at the carpenter's trade, and after attaining his majority began farming in Wisconsin for himself. He continued there four years, and then removed to Norman county, Minnesota, in 1882, settling at Ada, where he established a meat market, and continued thus engaged for about one year. He then entered into the insurance business, and during the past twelve years has engaged in the real-estate business, and, as above stated, is also interested in other speculations, including farm lands. He has made a success of his business and is now well-to-do. In April, 1901, Mr. Volland bought two business buildings on Main street, in Ada. He is the first man in Ada to put down cement sidewalks.

Our subject was married soon after attaining his majority to Miss Mary E. Camp, who was born in America and was of English descent. Mrs. Volland died in Wisconsin. Mr. Volland was later married to Josephine Seigen, and in 1892 he was married to Alda M. Beringer. Two children complete the family circle, who bear the names of Earl C. and Edgar J. Our subject is prominent in public affairs of his township and county, and has served as deputy sheriff for the past thirteen years, and he served for two years as a member of the village council. He served as village constable for eight or ten years, and he is the present mayor of Ada, elected in 1901. In the development of the town and county he has spent unlimited time and energy, and has aided materially in the settlement of that region. In 1892 he organized the Business Men's Union, which was for the purpose of gaining settlers for the county, and he is the present vice-president of the organization. He is prominent in secret society circles and holds membership in the following orders: Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen of America, Knights of Pythias, Royal Neighbors, and the Yeomen. Politically he is a Republican and is active in affairs of his party. He is, in the most strict sense of the term, a self-made man, and his success has been attained entirely through his own efforts. He is such a man in whom the public recognize the fact that his word is as good as his bond, and his standing in the community has ever been

unquestioned. A portrait of Mr. Volland and a view of his residence are included among the illustrations of this work, to be found elsewhere.

#### MILLO F. JACOBS.

Milo F. Jacobs, a prosperous agriculturist of Pelican township, Ottertail county, was until July 8, 1901, the owner of over two hundred acres of valuable land, which he sold at that date, and is one of the substantial citizens of his locality.

Mr. Jacobs was born in Huron county, Ohio, November 20, 1836, and was a son of Royal and Clara (Micks) Jacobs, both of whom were natives of Ohio. He lived in his native state until he was three years of age, when the father removed to Illinois and settled on a farm near Savannah. When our subject was eleven years of age he was left an orphan, his father and mother both dying within a year, and the farm was then sold and the children returned to Ohio. He continued in school and attended a log school in Ohio and worked in a sawmill for his uncle for four years. At the age of eighteen years he went to Iowa and worked on a farm one year, and in June, 1855, went to Hastings, Minnesota. He walked from there to Faribault and worked as a contractor and built the first mill on Canon river. He lived there twenty years and engaged in farming. In 1861 he enlisted in the First Minnesota Regiment for three months and was discharged from the service on account of disability. In 1862 he re-enlisted in Company B, Eighth Minnesota Regiment, and went to fight Indians two years in northern Iowa and southern Dakota and through the Black Hills and in Minnesota. In the fall of 1864 he went south to Tennessee and was in the battle of Wilkinson's Pike, and was with Sherman at Goldsboro, North Carolina, and at the surrender of Johnson at Raleigh. He was discharged at Charlotte, North Carolina, July 24, 1865. He then returned to Faribault, Minnesota, and started to cut his grain with a cradle. He disposed of the farm later and removed to Dundas, Minnesota, where he built a grist mill. He went to Ottertail county, Minnesota, in June, 1873, and took a homestead in Pelican township. He later bought more land and his present holdings amount to two hundred acres of valuable land. He has one hundred and seventy-five acres under cultivation and the rest in hay and pasture land. He has a good house and barn and other farm buildings upon the place, and he engages in diversified farming with success, and keeps about thirty head of cattle. He has fifteen acres of land platted for an addition to the town of Pelican Rapids.

Mr. Jacobs was married in 1856 to Eliza Howard, a native of New York. He was married to his present wife, Catherine (Nichols) Jacobs, in 1878. Mrs. Jacobs was born in Ontario county, New York, July 26, 1844. By her former marriage she was the mother of three children, namely: Frank R., Eva A. and Katie May. One child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs, a son, Edward R., who died at the age of eight months. The family worship with the Congregational denomination, and Mrs. Jacobs is a member of that church and is also a member of the W. R. C., while Mr. Jacobs is a member of the G. A. R. Our subject is prominent in village and township affairs and has served on the council and as assessor of the village of Pelican Rapids for a number of years. In political sentiment he is a Republican.

#### JOHN O. FRENCH.

John O. French, an ex-soldier and the second settler of Becker county, Minnesota, and the oldest settler of Detroit township, is well known as an exemplary citizen and enterprising farmer. He was born in New Hampshire, October 31, 1842, and was a son of Edmund and Martha (Bracket) French, the former a native of New Hampshire and the latter of Maine.

At the age of fifteen years our subject went to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he attended the city schools three years and then returned to his native state, where he remained three years, and then again took up his residence in St. Paul, Minnesota, and followed the butcher's trade until 1861, when he enlisted in Company D, First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He went to Virginia and engaged in the battle of Bull Run and then went to Edward's Ferry and engaged in the battle of Ball's Bluff, and from there to the peninsular campaign and fought seven days. He was with General McClellan, and in the battle of Malvern Hill was on the flank, where the company was fired at all day by one cannon, but not a man was wounded. Then followed Antietam and the battle of Fredericksburg and Gettysburg, Bristol Station, or Mine Run, and in 1863 he was returned to Ft. Snelling, Minnesota. He then went west with Snelling to fight Sioux Indians and was away two years and was then mustered out of the service at Ft. Snelling. He made his old home in New Hampshire a visit, and then began work in the Hubbard Flour Mill in Minneapolis until 1870, when he entered an engineer corps and worked with them for the Northern Pacific Railroad two years, after which he established a meat market at Detroit, Minnesota. He did a good business and remained thus engaged for several years, and then purchased

his present farm. This consists of one hundred and ninety-seven acres of land in section 15, and has good improvements thereon, including a comfortable residence, good barn and other buildings. The land is on the banks of the Floyd Lake and is pleasantly located, a grove of native trees being one of the pleasant and valuable features of the farm. Mr. French has about fifty acres in timber and the balance of the farm is under cultivation. He keeps about six horses for farm work and five head of cattle. Altogether he has a comfortable home and a good income.

Our subject was married in 1878 to Mary Hawkins, a native of Wisconsin. Mr. French was married to Mary Biznow in 1889. Eight children complete the family circle, who are named as follows: Rose A., Sadie E., George, Grace, Mamie, Dora, Mattie and John. Our subject and family are members of the Methodist church and occupy a high station in social circles of that denomination. Mr. French is an influential citizen and has served his community in various offices of trust. He was the first constable of Detroit township and served in that capacity two years. In political faith he is a Republican, and is an earnest worker for party principles. His success and good name are well merited.

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#### ELLING O. UNDERDAHL.

Elling O. Underdahl, who has by force of pluck and push and unlimited industry won for himself a good farm and an enviable standing among the farmers of Viding township, Clay county, was born on a farm in Wisconsin in 1861. His father, Ole Underdahl, who is now a farmer in Goodhue county, Minnesota, was born in Bergenstift, Norway, and about 1850 sought a home in the United States.

Elling O. Underdahl is the second member in a family of nine children born to his parents, and received his schooling in Goodhue county, whither the family moved when he was about three years old. In 1882 he came to Clay county, and for two years was employed as a farm hand. He took a pre-emption claim in section 30, Viding township, buying out a man who had a log house on his place. For two years he rented his place and worked out among the neighboring farmers and expended the earnings on improvements of his place. In 1886 he proved up his claim and borrowed money on it to buy a team and machinery and started to work the farm himself, but in the course of five years was compelled to dispose of his farm on account of poor crops and bad luck. In those days the country was not drained and crops were often drowned out. Mr. Underdahl passed through many hardships, and scarcely made a living. It

took pluck to remain and persist. Mr. Underdahl then went into North Dakota, where he spent some months around the Mouse River country, but came back to Clay county, where for the ensuing two years he was at work among the farmers. He then took his brother in partnership and bought back his old property, and under the changed conditions has become prosperous. In 1900 his wheat went twenty-two bushels to the acre, and to-day he is well-to-do.

Mr. Underdahl was married in 1893 to Miss Annie O. Underdahl, American-born, though her parents, who are among the oldest settlers in Goodhue county, came from Norway. To this union have come five children: Joseph, Oscar, Elmer, Melvin and Edwin. They were all born on the farm.

Mr. Underdahl owns a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, with two hundred acres under close cultivation, and is engaged in general farming. For several years he was in partnership with his brother, John O., but they have dissolved partnership and each holds his own separately. Mr. Underdahl is a Republican, and has been supervisor for three years and is clerk of the school district. He is a trustee in his congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran church and is highly esteemed in the community where his quiet and useful life is passing.

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#### JOHN PENNIE.

John Pennie, one of the extensive agriculturists of Orange township, is an old settler of Douglas county, and is esteemed by all who know him. He has a pleasant home in section 17 and successfully follows his vocation.

Mr. Pennie was born in Fifeshire, Scotland, September 25, 1847. His father, Thomas Pennie, and mother, Mary (Drummond) Pennie, were both natives of Scotland, as were their parents before them. Thomas Pennie and wife had a family of six children, three sons and three daughters, namely: Daniel, farming near Villard; Elizabeth, deceased; Jeanette, wife of George Cassel, a retired farmer, residing at Villard, Pope county, Minnesota; Peter, engaged in farming in Douglas county, Minnesota; Isabel, the wife of W. L. Webb, a resident of Sauk Center, Stearns county, Minnesota; and John, our subject. The father brought his wife and children to America in 1852 and settled on a farm in Whiteside county, Illinois, and in 1859 removed to Wisconsin. He continued farming there until 1867 and then came to Minnesota and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Pope county, near the town of Villard. He was born in 1801 and died in February, 1882. The mother died in 1867.

John Pennie attended the public schools of Wisconsin and assisted on his father's farm until he was over sixteen years of age, and in March, 1864, he enlisted in Company H, Twenty-second Wisconsin Infantry, and served in the war of the Rebellion until 1865. He was honorably discharged in June of that year at Madison, Wisconsin. After his release from the service his father and family, himself included, moved into Minnesota, and lived on the homestead above mentioned, which was located in section 2 of Leven township, Pope county. Our subject came to Douglas county in 1883 and rented land in Orange township for fourteen years. He purchased three hundred and twenty acres of good farming land on section 17 of the same township in 1895, and the year following he erected a good modern farm residence, a large barn for the shelter of stock and grain and such buildings as assist in the operation of the farm. He follows diversified farming and has a large herd of cattle and a flock of sheep. The farm is situated on the prairie and most of it is adapted to grain raising, but a portion is reserved for pasture and meadow.

Mr. Pennie was married July 29, 1869, to Mary Todd, daughter of Isaac and Martha (Hueston) Todd, whose father was a farmer in Pope county but is now retired from active pursuits. Mr. and Mrs. Pennie have been the parents of twelve children, five of whom are deceased. The surviving children are named as follows: Cora, wife of Albert McDonald, residing in Idaho; Leslie married May Hardy, engaged in farming in Pope county; Libbie J., William, Harry, Webb, Fern and Maxwell are at home. The family are much respected in the community in which they reside, and Mr. Pennie has served as supervisor of Orange township for eight years, and has been treasurer of the school board for twelve years. In political sentiment he is a Republican, but does not seek public office, and is one of the worthy citizens of Douglas county.

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#### SIEVREN SWANSON.

Sievren Swanson, an enterprising and prosperous merchant of Moose Lake, is a pioneer settler of Carlton county, having located there in his childhood with his parents. He is a man of good character and is possessed of good education and practical business experience and has many friends in his community and is held in high esteem throughout Carlton county.

Mr. Swanson was born in a village in Sweden in 1864, and was the eldest of a family of three children. His father was a laborer and when our subject was eight years of age he brought the family to America and settled in Minnesota

in 1872, making their home at Moose Lake, where he engaged in farming and railroading. Our subject was reared at Moose Lake and there gained his education. At the age of seventeen years he began his business career by clerking in a general store. He followed this business ten years and learned the business thoroughly. He and his father then engaged in general merchandise business in Moose Lake. They started on a small scale and the father remained in partnership with our subject four years, after which our subject sold the business to C. McCabe and engaged in clerking one year. He then started business in partnership with John Halvorson and after two years the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Swanson then became a partner with his brother, Ole Swanson. They now have a fine building, 28x50 feet, two stories in height, and have three storerooms, one of which is located near the railroad tracks. They carry the largest stock of goods in the town and enjoy a large and increasing trade.

Mr. Swanson was married in November, 1892, to Miss Annie Gunderson. Mrs. Swanson is a native of Sweden. Two children complete the family circle, and are named Arnold and Edna. Mr. Swanson is a prominent citizen of Moose Lake and is the present village treasurer and school clerk. He was appointed postmaster under Harrison and is now serving a second term in that office. He is a staunch Republican and an earnest worker for party principles, attending all county, state and congressional conventions.

OLE SWANSON, of the firm of Swanson Brothers, general merchants of Moose Lake, is a young man of exceptional business ability and has met with pronounced success in his business enterprises. He has a wide circle of friends, as he has resided in that locality since his boyhood.

Mr. Swanson was born in Christiania, Norway, in 1869. His parents were natives of Sweden and settled in Norway after their marriage, near the division line between the two countries. Of a family of three children our subject was the youngest. He was aged one and a half years when the family came to America and settled at Moose Lake. There were but few white families in that neighborhood at that time. He was reared in the village and attended the village schools and in 1890 went to the Pacific coast. He traveled over parts of Oregon, Washington and California and worked in a hardware store in Spokane during one spring. He returned home over the southern roads and upon his return clerked in a store and was also deputy postmaster for two or three years. In 1895 he entered into partnership with his brother, Sievren Swanson, in the general merchandise business. They erected their present store building and have conducted a prosperous and increasing business under the firm name of Swan-

son Brothers. The firm also deals in real estate and has lands adjoining the town of Moose Lake. They have an extensive acquaintance throughout Carlton county and are favorably known there.

Ole Swanson was married in 1896 to Miss Maggie C. Brown. Mrs. Swanson was of Scotch-Irish descent and was born in Wisconsin. She was engaged in the profession of teaching in Moose Lake. Mr. Swanson is a member of the Independent Order of Forresters. He is prominent in local public affairs and was elected county commissioner in the fall of 1900 on the Republican ticket and is now serving his first term in that capacity. He has served as town clerk and is one of the rising young business men of his community. He is a staunch Republican politically.

#### MORRIS R. BROWN.

Morris R. Brown, one of the leading and best-known men of northern Minnesota, is a resident of Crookston, and is closely identified with its history. He is engaged extensively in the stock business and is also manager of the Great Northern Stock Yards of Larimore and Monot, North Dakota.

Mr. Brown is a native of the state of New York and was born January 23, 1839. He was the second of a family of four children born to Rhuben and Hannah (Rice) Brown, both of whom are now deceased.

In 1845 Mr. Brown left the Empire state and settled in Wisconsin, and at the age of sixteen years began railroading and served in all positions from conductor to assistant fuel agent. In 1865 he went to Bellview, Iowa, where he was engaged in lumbering for ten years, and later steamboated a few years on the Mississippi river. In July, 1878, he went to the Red river valley and looked over Dakota and then invested in real estate in Crookston and also dealt extensively in horses. He has steadily increased his business and now deals in all live stock. He entered the employ of the Great Northern Railroad Company in 1886 in charge of the stock yards and has continued thus engaged.

Mr. Brown was married in 1863 to Miss Hannah Dutcher. To this union five children have been born, namely: Margaret L., a prominent teacher of Crookston; Frank M., engaged in the real estate business in that city; Carrie J.; Mrs. C. B. March; Mary and Laura. Mr. Brown has always taken a most hearty interest in all public affairs, and in 1896 was elected mayor of Crookston. He served three successive years and was thus brought into touch with the social and financial life of the city. During his administration the Great Northern railroad shops and round house were located permanently at Crooks-

ton, and were a marked addition to the city. Mr. Brown served four years as county commissioner and nine years on the school board, and is interested greatly in educational movements. He is a member of the Episcopal church and the Old Settlers' Association of Minnesota and the Masonic fraternity in the blue lodge, chapter and commandery. Politically he is a Republican, and as a state elector and delegate to county and state conventions has been a valuable aid to his party. He was chairman of the convention at which delegates were elected supporting McKinley in his first candidacy, this convention being the first convention in the United States to pass resolutions instructing delegates for McKinley. For many years Mr. Brown has taken an active part in the political affairs of this county and is an uncompromising Republican. He has been an ardent supporter of the Republican party since its birth.

#### ADAM STEIN.

Adam Stein, one of the respected pioneers of northwest Minnesota, and a man of great energy and ability, resides on his farm in Georgetown township, and is known throughout Clay county as a citizen of worth and integrity. His portrait may be found upon another page of this volume.

Mr. Stein was born in Bavaria February 8, 1821, and came to America in 1850. For a time he worked in Indiana and Kentucky, and steamboated on the Mississippi river for two years. He reached St. Paul in the year 1855 or 1856, where he worked at odd jobs for about three years. He became acquainted with Probstfield, who had just taken a trip to the Red River valley, and in June, 1859, our subject returned with him to the town site of Lafayette, on the Red river opposite the mouth of the Cheyenne. His first work there was to make hay. This he did with a scythe, and then with an improvised hay buck of poles and himself as a horse he made about ten tons of hay, which he sold to the Hudson's Bay Company for eighty dollars. He then worked for that company during the winter constructing a storehouse, which still stands on the old site of Georgetown. He passed the following winter on the farm in Oakport township. This farm was flooded out in the spring, and our subject started for St. Cloud, intending to leave the valley. At St. Cloud he learned that the farm which he now occupies had not been taken and he returned at once and secured the land, living there until the war broke out. He enlisted at Georgetown in December, 1861, and the following spring went south with Company G. Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and was first engaged in battle at Iuka. This was followed by the battles of Corinth, Jackson, Champion Hill,

and the second battle of Vicksburg. His health now failed, and he was sent with a convalescent squad to St. Louis. His next service was with Sherman's army on its march to the sea. After over three years of service Mr. Stein was honorably discharged and was mustered out at Chicago. He made his way back to St. Cloud and remained there three and a half years until 1868, when he returned to his farm, after an absence of seven years. He conducted farming operations, kept a ferry and run a hotel, and met with success. He is now the owner of eight hundred acres of land, five hundred of which are under cultivation. He has just completed a barn 60x60 feet, and in 1899 erected a fine residence.

In politics Mr. Stein is a Populist, and is an advocate of reform in all lines of the public service. In his native land he was a revolutionist and fought for the principles of liberty, and now at the age of eighty years his mind is as active as in the days of his youth. He is a man of public spirit, of great energy and unquestioned integrity.

Mr. Stein was married in 1866 to Miss Wilhelmina Schulz. Of this marriage eight children have been born, namely: William A., now register of deeds of Clay county; John M., deceased; Charles J., in charge of the home farm; Annie; Minnie, now Mrs. Stewart, of Sabin; Lena, deceased; Herman A., inventor of the "New Model" wind straw stacker; and Louise.

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#### WILLIAM A. ZIMBRICK.

Among the public officials of Hubbard county, Minnesota, none stands higher in the estimation of the people or enjoys in greater degree their confidence and esteem than William A. Zimbrick. This gentleman is acting in the capacity of county treasurer and is an efficient officer and trustworthy in every respect. He has his home at Park Rapids and is one of the influential citizens of Hubbard county.

Mr. Zimbrick was born in Wisconsin, January 1, 1868, and was a son of Ignatz and Albertina (Schultz) Zimbrick, both of whom were born in Germany. He was the third in a family of eight children and was raised on the farm in Wisconsin and attended the common schools of his neighborhood, receiving a good education. He worked on the home farm until 1881, when he went to Park Rapids, Minnesota, and secured employment in the woods as log crusing and estimator for the T. B. Walker Lumber Company, Minneapolis. August 1, 1891, the Great Northern Railroad extension from Wadena to Park Rapids was completed and the people of the town held a grand celebration in honor of the event. On this occasion while firing a can-

non an accident occurred which cost Mr. Zimbrick both arms, one at the shoulder and one at the forearm. It was a deplorable accident and a sorrowful celebration for him. He was thus compelled to give up his work and had no employment until 1896. He was then elected to his present office of county treasurer of Hubbard county, and is ably filling the same. He and his sister live in a pleasant home in Park Rapids, and his sister, Frances, is his clerk in the court house. She is efficient and capable and does all the official work of the office. Mr. Zimbrick is progressive and industrious, and well merits his social and official position. He has been honored with several of the local offices and in every instance has proved himself trusty and efficient. He is a member of the Order of Red Men at Park Rapids, and politically is a Republican. He is now serving his third term as treasurer of Hubbard county.

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#### HENRY B. FAY.

For the past twenty years the gentleman above named has been identified with the farming interests of Friberg township, Ottertail county, and during that time he has accumulated a good property for himself and an enviable reputation. He resides on section 21, and is surrounded by all the comforts of rural life.

Mr. Fay was born in Massachusetts, February 25, 1840. His father, Lowell Fay, was born in Massachusetts, as was also the mother of our subject, Elinor (Leland) Fay.

Henry B. Fay was raised in his native state on a farm and there received his early education. He learned the shoemaker's trade at the age of eighteen years and worked at that until 1856, when he went to Wisconsin. In 1861 he enlisted in Company D, Fourth Wisconsin Cavalry, at Racine, Wisconsin, and was one of the first seventy-five thousand men called for. He was in the Army of the Potomac and the Army of the Gulf under General Butler and General Banks. He was in the siege of Port Hudson and at Vicksburg and was wounded twice. He spent a month in the hospital. He was mustered out of the service at San Antonio, Texas, August 22, 1865, and at once returned to Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming until 1879. He then moved to Minnesota and took a homestead in section 21 of Friberg township, and is now the fortunate owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land. He has seventy acres of his farm under cultivation and the rest is meadow and timber land. He has a good house and good barn and plenty of farm machinery and keeps four horses and five head of cattle. His home is pleasantly situated and he has gained a good property by his own efforts.



Mr. Fay was married May 3, 1869, to Anna Hanson. Mrs. Fay was born in Sweden, August 18, 1844, and died June 6, 1894. Four children born of this union are now living and are named as follows: Clara Eleanora, Jane B., Halbert H. and Mary L. Three children born of the union are deceased, namely: Charles A., Ralph N. and Lowell G. Mr. Fay was married to Fannie Spencer, April 27, 1895. Mrs. Fay was born in Kentucky August 20, 1860. Mr. Fay married Julia E. Bennett in 1900. Mrs. Fay was born in Minnesota July 14, 1853. Mr. Fay is prominent in local affairs and has served as clerk of Friberg township for twenty years and school clerk for several years. He is a member of the G. A. R. and the Modern Woodmen of America. Politically he is a Populist. He is a member of the church of the Latter Day Saints and Mrs. Fay is a member of the Baptist church.

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#### OLE T. OLESON.

Ole T. Oleson, a young and thrifty farmer of Kanabec county, Minnesota, was born on a farm in Dahlgren, Sweden, in 1867. The paternal Oleson was a lumberman the most of his life, and died in Sweden when his son, Ole T., was but a baby.

Ole T. Oleson was the first child and only son of his parents, and a daughter born to his mother by a second marriage is his only sister. He was reared in Sweden, and as his mother's means were limited he very early became familiar with hard work, which he found mostly on the farm. In 1881 he accompanied his step-father and the rest of the family to America, settling on a farm in the southern part of Kanabec county, which he assisted in developing. When he was fourteen years of age he started out for himself and was employed in the construction of the Eastern Minnesota Railroad, as it was building through Kanabec county, spending in this way the most of two years. In the winter he worked in the lumber woods and in a sawmill in the summer, also working more or less in the quarries at Sandstone, his employment in these various capacities bringing him up to 1891. He has traversed the greater part of Pine, Mille Lacs and Aitkin, as well as Kanabec, counties, and is very familiar with all this part of the state.

Mr. Oleson bought his present farm, which consists of eighty acres, in 1891, and started farming, putting up a small house and making as good a home for his family as he was able to do under the circumstances.

Mr. Oleson was married in 1889 to Miss Anna Bocklan, a native of Sweden but a resident of Minnesota since 1881. They have a fam-

ily of four children, all born on the farm, Victor, Clara, Leroy and Gilbert.

The first beginnings of Mr. Oleson at farming were made under conditions of financial weakness that would be thought impossible at the present time. For two years the only team he had was a yoke of oxen. In 1895 he was able to buy an additional forty acres, which he added to his farm, making it one hundred and twenty acres in all. It has a good set of farm buildings, a house 16x26 feet, a kitchen 16x14 feet and other needed structures. There are twenty-five acres under cultivation and the entire place is in good condition and shows the managing hand of a practical farmer.

Mr. Oleson is a Republican, and is a member of both the town and school board. For the past ten winters he has done a considerable work in logging. Since his settlement here he has had various hair-breadth escapes in forest fires, his worst experience being the year of the Hinckley disaster. Many times has he been called out to fight fires, and in 1893 fought the fires in the northern part of Kanabec county almost continuously.

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#### LEVI THORTVEDT.

Levi Thortvedt, residing on the old homestead farm in Moland township, is one of the early settlers of Clay county and was born in Norway, January 31, 1860, and was the third child and only son in a family of four children born to Ole G. and Thona (Saangdal) Thortvedt. The father is perhaps better known as Ole Gunderson, he having changed his name in recent years. The family came to America in 1861 and located in Houston county, Minnesota. In the spring of 1870 they started overland for Ottertail county, Minnesota. At Alexandria, Minnesota, they met Ole Strandvold and went with him to his home in North Dakota across the river from Georgetown. The location in North Dakota was not all that they desired, and the father started back for Ottertail county, their original destination. En route they met R. M. Probstfield, who offered to pilot them to Buffalo river. They located there, and the family is known as one of the three pioneer families of Moland township. On the west bank of the Buffalo river a small log house, with elm bark roof, was erected, and this served as their home for many years. The father of our subject put forth earnest efforts to develop his farm and induce others to settle in the country, and to his influence may be attributed much of the prosperity enjoyed in that locality to-day. Three families came together and passed through many struggles before gaining a permanent foothold. The crops of 1871 and 1872 were destroyed by grasshoppers and the family depended upon the

money obtained by breaking land and what they could make from their stock to support themselves during the first few years.

Levi Thortvedt has remained on the old homestead and is engaged in diversified farming and does threshing.

Mr. Thortvedt was married in 1884 to Miss Ingeborg Midgaarden. To Mr. and Mrs. Thortvedt nine children have been born. Mr. Thortvedt is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and of the M. B. A. Politically he is a Populist.

#### VICTOR CARLSON.

The opportunities afforded in America for honest industry to gain a footing and become citizens under more favorable conditions than exist in their native land has decided many in seeking a home in this country, and a goodly proportion of this number hails from the Scandinavian peninsula. These are industrious and enterprising citizens, devoted to the interests of their adopted land, and are found in all trades and industries. Kittson county, Minnesota, has her share of these men, and prominent among the number is Victor Carlson, a prosperous general merchant of Hallock. Our subject has resided there for some fifteen or more years, and he has built up a good trade and bears an enviable name as a business man and citizen.

Mr. Carlson was born in the central part of Sweden, December 22, 1847, and he and an elder brother, who is now deceased, were the only children born to Carl and Sarah (Olson) Norborn, both of whom are now deceased. He learned the baker's trade in Sweden and in 1882, in quest of better times, he emigrated to America and went at once to Kittson county, Minnesota. He purchased land in Thompson township and engaged extensively in farming. This venture did not prove successful and in 1886 he moved his buildings to the village of Hallock. He had lost not only four thousand dollars which he had when he came to this country but he found himself in debt, and for two years he worked as cook on the railroad. He then, in 1888, went to Hallock and established a bakery and restaurant, and conducted the same until 1891, when he engaged in the general merchandise business. He now conducts the same with good results and has a large and increasing trade. He has also accumulated a fine farm about seven miles southwest of Hallock, which consists of about seven hundred acres of land, and the improvements of the place are of the best and the entire farm is one of the creditable properties of the valley.

Victor Carlson was married in 1872 to Miss Anne Carlson. Mr. Carlson is one of the self-made business men of Hallock and he is a man of good business tact and strict integrity of word

and deed. He is prominent in public matters of local import and is a member of the village council. He has become thoroughly identified with American progress and is one of the deservedly successful men of his community. Politically he is an advocate of Democratic principles.

#### HERMON W. CABLE.

Hermion W. Cable, one of the most prominent business men of Two Harbors, Minnesota, is an early settler of Lake county, and in the early days there traveled over most of northern Minnesota. He is a man of much energy, and has contributed largely to the growth of the more extensive financial interests of the town in which he lives.

Mr. Cable was born in Round Plains, Ontario, Canada, Norfolk county, in 1863. His father, James Cable, was born in England and came to Canada when he was a child three years of age. He was a carriagemaker by trade. The grandfather of our subject, James Cable, was the first of the family in America.

Hermion W. Cable is the youngest in a family of seven children, five of whom are still living. When he was a child he went with his parents to Simcoe, Norfolk county, where he was reared to manhood, and there remained until 1879. He then started for himself, and went to North Branch, Michigan, where he clerked in a general store a few years, and was also engaged for himself in the real estate business in that place. He paid a visit to Canada, and then moved to Grand Rapids, Minnesota, and took up a claim and engaged in the pine lands business. He also worked with the Itasca Mercantile Company in the meat department, and later assumed charge of the meat department in their store at Hibbing. He then traveled as a representative of the Sutphin Packing Company, of Duluth, and drove over most of northern Minnesota. He went to Two Harbors in the fall of 1896, and opened a meat market, now called the "Cash Market," situated on First avenue. He erected a building and established a meat business under most adverse circumstances. Others had failed in this line of business there, but through good judgment and hard work Mr. Cable made a success. He has built up a large real estate business there, and deals in town lots and pine lands. He is president and the principal stockholder in the Two Harbors Land Company. He was one of the organizers of this company, and furnished the funds necessary to complete the organization. This company owns practically all lands where the town of Two Harbors will probably extend for many years. It comprises one hundred and thirty-five acres between the two bays, and faces Lake Superior. It contains the choicest residence

spots in the town, and since the lots were placed on the market, in 1899, a good share of them have been disposed of and some of the finest residences in the city erected there.

Mr. Cable was married, in Ontario, Canada, to Miss Rhoda Jenroux. Mrs. Cable was born in Windon Center, Norfolk county. Her father, Ely Jenroux, was born in France, and came to America when a young man and settled in Canada. On the mother's side Mrs. Cable is of Irish descent. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cable: John, born in Ontario; and Frank, born in Michigan. Mr. Cable is prominent in local affairs, and was a member of the village council when the electric light plant was installed. He is a member of the Two Harbors Commercial Club, and in political connection is a Republican.

#### CHARLES D. PHILO.

For many years the farming community of Compton township, Ottertail county, has known the gentleman whose name heads this review. He is one of the influential citizens of Ottertail county, and has built for himself a good home and an enviable reputation. His residence is in section 8, and his farm is one of the highly cultivated and improved tracts of that region.

Mr. Philo was born in Red Creek, Wayne county, New York, December 23, 1829. His father, Lewis Philo, was born in France, and came to America when a boy. He was a shoemaker by trade. The mother of our subject was of Canadian French descent. She bore the maiden name of Eliza Haskin. Her father served in the war of 1812. Our subject was the eldest of a family of five children, and he was raised to the age of sixteen years in his native village and attended the public schools. His parents died when he was seventeen years of age, and he was bound out to an uncle as a sailor. He followed this work with his uncle four years, sailing on the Great Lakes. The vessel was shipwrecked in Lake Erie and they abandoned it about ten miles west of Put-in-bay. Our subject then went to Michigan, where he spent six years on the St. Joe river, three years of which time he served in the capacity of pilot. In 1852 he went to Iowa and settled in Hancock county, and was the first white settler of the county. He built a log cabin and lived there a year and a half, and then removed to Hardin county, where he followed farming two years. He then removed to Dade county, Missouri, and there followed diversified farming two and a half years, after which he located again in Iowa and remained there five years. In 1876 Mr. Philo went overland with three horses and five head of cattle to Ottertail county, Minnesota, taking

three weeks for the trip. He located on his farm the last of October, and the first winter made a living for his family by selling railroad ties. His first crop was on rented land, but it was a good yield, and by working for others and his oldest son teaching school the family managed to pass the first few years. Mr. Philo now has a farm of eighty acres, about half of which is cultivated and the balance furnishes pasture and timber land. He has plenty of small fruits and good water, all necessary machinery, and a thoroughly equipped farm, one of the most valuable of the locality in proportion to its size.

Mr. Philo was married July 1, 1856, to Miss Hannah E. Baldon. Mrs. Philo was born in Indiana, and was a daughter of William Baldon. She came with her parents from Kentucky to Iowa at the age of seven years, and was raised on a farm in Indiana and Iowa. Her mother's people were also from Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Philo are the parents of six children, named as follows: Castella, deceased; Edwin, residing in Washington; Everet, at home; Lewis, operating a threshing machine in Washington; William, a druggist; and Grace, residing at home. Mr. Philo has always taken a commendable interest in local affairs, and has served as chairman of the township board. He is a Democrat in political faith. Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Philo will be found elsewhere in this volume, and will be appreciated by their large circle of friends.

#### OLAF T. RISHOFF.

Energy and the intelligent use of one's abilities are always recognized and appreciated in the community which they effect. On this account one of the rapidly rising young men of Norman county, Minnesota, is found in the person of Mr. Rishoff. He is energetic and progressive and is an editor of no small acquaintance in Gary and vicinity. He is proprietor of the Gary Graphic, and enjoys a liberal patronage as to the circulation of his paper and in the way of job work in the job department. He is a gentleman of excellent education and mind, and always speaks from a thorough knowledge of his subject.

Our subject was born in Ottertail county, Minnesota, September 21, 1876, and was a son of Tron and Maria (Holt) Rishoff. His father was born in Norway in 1849, and in 1880 removed from Ottertail county to Norman county, Minnesota, and settled in Strand township. The mother of our subject was a native of Norway also. Mr. Rishoff resided in his native county until 1880, when he removed to Norman county with his parents. The town of Gary was not then founded and they resided in Strand town-

ship, and there our subject attended the country schools. He then attended two years in the college at Decorah, Iowa, and completed his education with two years at Fergus Falls, after which he returned home. He was employed in a store for some years, and in 1888 established a mercantile business in Gary, and later purchased the Gary Graphic, owned by H. P. Knappen. The circulation has increased under the supervision of Mr. Rishoff, and now numbers over four hundred, while the job department is in a flourishing condition, and Mr. Rishoff may feel justly proud of his work in that line. The paper is a Republican organ, and is a bright and newsy sheet and one of the important exchanges of the newspaper world of Norman county.

Our subject is a gentleman of excellent character, and his industry and business tact entitle him to foremost mention among the business men of Gary. He was the second child in a family of nine children.

He has put forth every effort for the advancement of his community and to his efforts is due much of the prosperity enjoyed there at the present time. He is a member of the Lutheran church, with which denomination he has been connected since his childhood. Politically he is a Republican, but does not seek public office. He is staunch in his belief and conducts the paper as a Republican organ.

#### WILLIAM G. GILBERY.

William G. Gilbery, proprietor of the "Prairie View Farm," one of the highly cultivated tracts of Kragnes township, Clay county, is a man of practical experience in farming, and has built for himself a comfortable home and gained the esteem of his fellow men.

Mr. Gilbery was born in Devonshire, England, May 1, 1855, and was the second child and oldest son of twelve children born to Hugh and Dina (Newcombe) Gilbery, residents of Grant county, Wisconsin. Before our subject had reached his eighteenth birthday he came to America and located in the province of Ontario, Canada, in 1873. There, as was customary, he contracted to work six months for a farmer. A year after his arrival there his parents and the others of the family emigrated to this country. Our subject located in Michigan in 1876 and worked in the copper mines, his uncle being surface captain of the mines. He worked thus about three years, and in the fall of 1878 went to North Dakota and took a homestead northwest of Grand Forks. He assumed charge of the Captain Newcombe farm in the spring of 1879, when there were but two fields of wheat between Moorhead and Georgetown. This farm he operated two years, and then became manager of the John

Lowry farm, and then later began farming for himself. He sold his farm in Oakport township in 1890, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres, on which he now resides. He started his farming operations with about three hundred dollars which he had saved from his earnings in the mines, and he had to pay his own way and develop his farm. He is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land, and has a new and substantial residence on section 20, of Kragnes township. He has recently sunk a deep well on the place, and is constantly adding improvements and bringing the farm to a high state of cultivation.

Mr. Gilbery was married, in 1879, to Miss Clara Mildon, a native of Michigan, and of English descent. To this union eleven children have been born, namely: Annie, Charles, William, John, Ida, George, Minnie, Fred, Joseph, Robert and Raymond. Mr. Gilbery takes an active interest in the affairs of his township, and has served as school clerk since the district was organized. He is also a member of the township board. He holds membership in the M. B. A., and politically is a Republican.

#### ROBERT W. MOORE.

Among the well known and highly respected business men of Detroit, Becker county, Minnesota, Robert W. Moore is entitled to special mention. He is a young man of energetic character and good education, and is rapidly rising to the front as a citizen of active public spirit. He conducts a confectionery establishment in Detroit, and has prospered in his business venture.

Our subject was born in England May 24, 1872, and was a son of George C. and Elizabeth Moore, the former a native of Wales and the latter of England. At the age of two years our subject came to America with his parents, and the family landed at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where they resided four years, and then spent six months in the province of Quebec, Canada, from which place they returned to England. Our subject remained in his native land four years and received his education in the public schools there, and in 1881 went to Becker county, Minnesota, in company with his parents. He attended schools after taking up his residence there, and after attaining his majority engaged in the ice business in Detroit. He later established a confectionery business, and in this line he has been successful and conducts a thriving business.

Our subject was married, in 1895, to Argie Philbrick, a native of Minnesota. Two children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Moore, a son named Robert W., and an in-

fant unnamed. Mr. Moore is a young man of broad mind and active spirit and has gained an assured position in public affairs of his community. He is the present assessor of Detroit township, and politically is a Republican. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

### THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CLOQUET.

Among the sound financial institutions of northern Minnesota the First National Bank of Cloquet is entitled to a foremost place. This bank was established as a private institution by Prince, Sheldon & Company, December 11, 1888, and was incorporated as a state bank March 16, 1896, with a capital of twenty-five thousand dollars, and was succeeded by the First National Bank June 11, 1900, with a capital stock of fifty thousand dollars.

The following are the officers of the First National Bank of Cloquet: R. M. Weyerhaeuser, president; G. H. Prince, vice-president; C. L. Dixon, cashier; and C. T. Ekstrand, assistant cashier. The following are the directors: R. M. Weyerhaeuser, S. S. Johnson, C. N. Nelson, F. M. Prince, G. H. Prince and C. L. Dixon.

The institution does a general banking business and also insurance and collections, and is one of the stable banks of that region. The officers and directors are men of sound financial standing, and the men at the head of the intricate affairs of the institution are men of practical business experience and integrity, and enjoy the confidence of the community in which the bank operates.

### JACKSON S. CHAPIN, M. D.

Jackson S. Chapin, M. D., is the only medical practitioner of the northern portion of Polk county and one of the early pioneers of that region. His portrait is shown elsewhere in this volume.

Dr. Chapin was born in Batavia, Wisconsin, January 13, 1856. He was the eldest of three children born to Ahira and Margaret (Wilson) Chapin. The mother now resides at Bethel, Michigan. The father died at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, in 1871.

Dr. Chapin was reared on a farm, but as his father was an invalid the boy was early thrown upon his own resources. At the age of eleven years he went to Fond du Lac, and there our subject worked at odd jobs, clerking in stores and laboring in stone quarries. He managed to pick up a common-school education during the winter months. When he was nineteen years old he went to Coldwater and made his home with his stepfather. He soon after took up the study of medicine, reading with Dr. Woodcox, of Cold-

water, one and one-half years. He then entered Bennett College, Chicago, and took two terms. He returned to his work with Dr. Woodcox as assistant, where he remained until April, 1882. On the 18th of that month he came to Euclid, reaching that point with thirty dollars in money. He at once entered upon the practice of his profession, but after one year there he returned to Chicago and graduated from Bennett College of Medicine and Surgery in 1884. He then returned to Euclid and resumed his practice. Up to 1884 he visited all his country patients on horseback, there being no graded roads. His practice grew rapidly and absorbed his entire time and attention until, in 1896, his health failed him, and since that time he has been compelled to give up the larger share of his country practice.

In 1897 Dr. Chapin became interested in the mercantile business of E. Taylor & Company, at Euclid, and is now a member of the firm of Misner, Chapin & Fisk. He is also the owner of a four-hundred-acre farm two and a half miles east of Euclid. This land is all under cultivation and a valuable piece of property. He gives his personal attention to the conduct of his farm, though entrusting it to some extent to the management of a foreman.

In Coldwater Dr. Chapin was married to Miss Lucy Gregg. They are the parents of four children, three of whom are living: Nellie, teacher in the Polk county schools; Harry C., a student at McAllister College; Charles, deceased; and Jessie C.

As a pioneer of northern Minnesota Dr. Chapin has passed through many trying experiences. In the winter of 1885 he was called to the Keystone farm late in the evening, and with a cousin as driver he started out across the country. They followed the road safely about four miles in a heavy snow storm, when suddenly the horses plunged down a steep incline. After loosening the horses they tried to make their way back to a house they had recently passed, but the horses refused to face the storm. They then let the horses go, and turning their backs to the storm struck out in the hope of finding shelter. His companion soon gave out, and just at the moment when they thought he was freezing and after a struggle of four and a half hours through snow often waist deep, they chanced to come out in a barn yard on the Keystone farm, the only building in that direction for twenty miles. In politics Dr. Chapin is an uncompromising Republican. He was appointed postmaster in the spring of 1888, serving continually through the administrations of Harrison, Cleveland and McKinley, holding the office at Euclid for twelve years. Dr. Chapin was created a Master Mason in 1892 in Crookston Lodge, No. 141, A. F. &



A. M. He belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and is a charter member of Crookston Lodge, M. W. of A., the Royal Neighbors, the Independent Order of Foresters and the A. O. U. W.

#### WILLIAM H. VENZKE.

As a prosperous merchant and worthy citizen of Leaf Valley, Douglas county, the gentleman above named is well known. He is the popular postmaster of that office and is a young man of sterling qualifications and character. Mr. Venzke was born in Leaf Valley township, Douglas county, Minnesota, in 1874.

The father of our subject, William Venzke, was born in Pommern, Germany, and the mother, Annie (Thies) Venzke, was born in Hanover, Germany. The father was left an orphan when a small boy. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Henry Thies, came to America during the '60s, bringing with him his daughter Annie, who later became the wife of William Venzke, Sr., and of this marriage nine children were born, eight of whom are now living and are named as follows: William, our subject; Henry, Herman, Annie, Bertha, Emma, Ernest and Ida. Albert is deceased. When the father first settled in Minnesota he worked out at various places, and later secured a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 5, of Leaf Valley township, Douglas county, where he built a shack of logs and mud, in which the family lived three years. A better abode of logs was then erected, which gave place later to a comfortable farm residence. In 1890 he added, by purchase, one hundred and sixty acres of land, and is now the fortunate possessor of about four hundred and twenty acres of land, about two hundred acres of which is under cultivation.

William Venzke attended the common schools of his neighborhood and assisted on his father's farm until he was thirteen years of age, when he entered Concordia College, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and studied in that institution three years, after which he returned home and again engaged in farming with his father. He entered into commercial life in 1895, becoming a partner of Frank Flint in the general merchandise business in Leaf Valley. This partnership was dissolved by mutual agreement in April, 1899, Mr. Venzke retaining the business, of which he has since been sole proprietor and has met with success in conducting the same. He does an extensive business, and his stock occupies a large building, in which is also his dwelling. More extensive improvements are in contemplation for the near future. The stock comprises a full line of dry goods, groceries, shoes, woodenware, chinaware, tinware, in fact all articles usually needed in a

mercantile business situated in the heart of a thriving agricultural district. Mr. Venzke generally requires the assistance of two clerks in his store. He was appointed postmaster of Leaf Valley in 1899, which official position he now fills in a most satisfactory manner.

Mr. Venzke was married, June 23, 1898, to Martha Klug, daughter of Henry and Matilda (Froeming) Klug, who are identified with the prosperous and prominent farmers of Leaf Valley township. Mr. and Mrs. Venzke are the parents of one child, a bright boy, born February 2, 1900, who bears the name of Rupert W. Mr. Venzke is actively interested in local affairs, and was enumerator of the census in 1900. He is a member of the German Lutheran church, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of his associates. He is a Republican politically.

#### SAMUEL LUXENBURGE.

To pay a visit to one of the thriving agricultural districts of the Red river valley and view the fine farms there is a pleasure, and but little is realized regarding the hardships and privations endured by the early settlers of that region. The gentleman above named occupies a pleasant and well improved estate in Lake Pleasant township and is accounted one of the successful and substantial farmers of Red Lake county, but to secure this valuable estate he endured more than many would have thought possible, and to review his life there causes him to draw the conclusion that he would rather never gain even such an estate than to labor as unceasingly and endure the hardships again which fell to his lot as a pioneer of Minnesota.

Mr. Luxemburge was born in Bavaria, Germany, May 9, 1857, and his parents were Michael and Mary (Shonauer) Luxemburge, both of whom died in their native land. Our subject's early life was spent on a farm in Bavaria. In 1873 he came to America and joined his brother George in Rice county, Minnesota. There the two brothers rented a farm and their labors did not meet with good results from the start. They determined on a change in 1878, and with all their worldly possessions they started overland for Polk county, arriving with a team and wagon, plow and one hundred dollars. May 14th they filed claim to the land which they now occupy. Our subject built a log stable on his farm and lived most of the time with his brother, who was married, and the brothers cultivated their farms in partnership until 1883, when each began operating his own land. Crops were not bountiful for the first few years, and it was not until the alkali was worked out of the soil that earnest efforts brought their just reward. Conditions steadily improved, however, after the first few



years, and in 1897 our subject purchased an adjoining quarter-section of land, and later added a forty-acre wood lot to his possessions, and is now the owner of one of the excellent farms of Red Lake county.

Samuel Luxenburge was married, in 1882, to Miss Caroline Demann. Ten children were born to this union, named as follows: Jessie; Edward died of diphtheria; Ellia; Olive, deceased; Cora; Edith; Maggie; Rosa; Alexander; and Elsie. Mr. Luxenburge is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a Social Democrat politically. He has served many years as a member of the township board.

#### FRANK WEBER.

Frank Weber, a veteran of the Civil war and one of the very early settlers of Douglas county, enjoys the distinction of being the first settler of Millerville township. He resides on his well-improved estate in sections 3 and 10 of Leaf Valley township, and is a prosperous farmer, owning two hundred acres of valuable land.

Mr. Weber was born in Bavaria, Germany, April 21, 1842, and was a son of Leonard and Catherine Weber. The father followed the occupation of a well digger in his native land, and emigrated to America with his family, consisting of wife and four children, in 1848. The children bore the following names: Leonard, Barthel, Catherine and Frank. After reaching New York they proceeded to Utica, New York, where the father followed well digging for seven years. The mother died in 1853. In 1855 the father went to Minnesota with his two youngest children and located at St. Joseph's, Stearns county, near which place he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land and devoted his attention to farming. He continued there for ten years, when he retired from active business life and returned to Utica, New York. He died there in 1867.

Frank Weber attended the public schools of Utica and obtained a good education. He was later enabled to enlarge his fund of knowledge while teaching at St. Joseph. He began teaching at the age of nineteen years, and continued in that profession in connection with farming for seventeen years, teaching during the winter months and attending his farm at other times. At the call of his adopted country for volunteers he enlisted, August 16, 1862, in Company G, Ninth Minnesota Volunteers, and soon was promoted to third sergeant. The first year of his service was devoted to Indian fighting. In 1863 he accompanied his regiment to St. Louis, and after a short sojourn at Benton Barracks was sent to southwestern Mississippi, and in May to

Memphis, Tennessee. He participated in the Guntown raid in Mississippi June 11, 1864, and was taken prisoner, and for ten months suffered the horrors of close confinement in the Andersonville prison. At length his opportunity to escape arrived. He was one of five prisoners sent out to gather fuel, and they clubbed the guard sent with them, and after three weeks of terrible hardships, traveling at night and hiding in the woods by day, having no food except what was supplied by the friendly negroes, they managed to reach Savannah, Georgia. They were chased by bloodhounds most of the distance, and managed to elude some of the dogs, while some they killed. August 22, 1865, Mr. Weber received his honorable discharge from the service as an orderly sergeant, having been promoted in rank the previous year. He was discharged at St. Paul, Minnesota, where three years previously he had enlisted. In 1866 he went to Douglas county and secured a homestead of one hundred and eighty-five acres in Millerville township. This township was not at that time surveyed, and his farm was near where the village of Millerville now stands, on section 15. Mr. Weber combined teaching with farming, and he was also the first postmaster appointed there, in 1867. The mail was then brought in one day and dispatched the next by dog train, three mails going each way during the week. He held the position of postmaster three years. In 1879 he exchanged his Millerville farm for his present farm in Leaf Valley township. He erected his present residence, a comfortable and substantial dwelling, in 1880, and a few years later he erected a good barn, granary and other farm buildings, and now has a well-improved estate, upon which he raises a good crop annually. He is interested in raising cattle, horses and sheep, and has a small flock of black sheep, and has supplied many of his neighbors with sheep of this color. The fleece is considered finer and better adapted to home weaving than wool dyed artificially.

Mr. Weber was married February 17, 1862, to Mary Flesch, daughter of Leonard and Mary Flesch, farmers of Stearns county, Minnesota. To this union fifteen children were born, eleven of whom are now living, and are as follows: Lena, born March 6, 1866, wife of Joseph Faust, a farmer of North Dakota; Susan, the first white child born in Millerville township, born March 25, 1867, now wife of John C. Simons, farmer in the state of Washington; Catherine, born May 6, 1868, wife of Peter Koenig, a farmer of South Dakota; Barney, born May 13, 1869, married Mina Levoy, is farming in North Dakota; Mary, born June 3, 1871, wife of Leo Lenzen, farmer of North Dakota; Annie, born November 19, 1873, wife of John Kloepfel, a farmer of North

Dakota; John, born June 25, 1875, residing now in Alexandria; Joseph, born September 24, 1877, resides in North Dakota; Rosy, born April 27, 1879; Frank, born October 29, 1881, living at home; and Gertie, born August 3, 1886, living at home. Mrs. Weber died October 29, 1898, and was laid to rest at Millerville, beside her four children who died in infancy, Frank, Carl, Mathias and Annie. Mr. Weber is interested in local public affairs, and has been a member of the school board for many years. He is a member of the Catholic church of Our Lady of Seven Dolers at Millerville. Politically he is a Republican, and a member of John F. Reynolds Post, No. 51, of Alexandria. A portrait of Mr. Weber is presented on another page of this work.

#### AUGUST LUNDGREN.

August Lundgren, of the firm of Lindberg & Lundgren, dealers in farm machinery in Warren, is one of the leading business men of Marshall county. He is also proprietor of an extensive brick yard of that city, and in whatever enterprise he has embarked he has met with pronounced success. His intelligent use of his time and means, and integrity of word and deed, commend him to all as a citizen of sterling worth. He resides in a handsome brick residence in the town of Warren and enjoys the comforts of a happy home.

Mr. Lundgren was born in Wargarda, Sweden, March 31, 1855, and was the second in a family of ten children born to Svante and Christina (Johnson) Johnson. Four of the five surviving children are now in America. Our subject received a good education in his native land and then took up railroad work, being employed much on surveys. He decided to pay a visit to his brother in America in 1880, with the intention of returning to his native land after about a year spent in this country. After taking up his residence here he attended school in Minneapolis a few months, and there also worked in a brick yard. He went to Marshall county in 1881 and invested in land. In searching for a site for a brick yard to be established he traveled over much of that country and finally found the right kind of clay, in 1882, about a half-mile west of Warren on the Snake river. This proved to be a good bed of clay, and he began the manufacture of brick, and the yard now turns out from six hundred thousand to eight hundred thousand bricks per year. These are well made and are of excellent quality, and are used extensively in building in that vicinity. Mr. Lundgren has a handsome brick residence, the first one to be erected in Warren. In his mercantile business he has prospered, and the firm now carries a complete stock and has a large and increasing patronage.

Mr. Lundgren was married, in 1888, to Miss Mary Lindquist. Mr. and Mrs. Lindquist are the parents of six children, who are named as follows: Ella M., Edward, Ebba, Mabel, Robert and Esther. Mr. Lundgren was elected county treasurer in 1886, serving one term of two years, and since taking up his residence in Warren he has served almost continuously as a member of the city council. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church. As a Democrat he is known as the first of his nationality to embrace that faith in his locality.

#### PETER O. INGBERG.

The incomes from the well regulated farms of Hendrum township contribute largely to the wealth of Norman county, Minnesota. One of these fine estates is owned and operated by Peter O. Ingberg, who resides in section 32, and has accumulated a good property by dint of his own efforts. He was born in Norway October 31, 1852, and was a son of Ole H. and Emma (Oleson) Ingberg, both of whom were natives of Norway. The father died in Norman county, Minnesota, in 1892; the mother in Norway in 1872.

Our subject received a common-school education in his native land, and then assisted his father on the home farm and received good training in this vocation. At the age of twenty years he decided to try his fortunes in the new world, and accordingly left his native country and landed in America, locating at once in LaCrosse, Wisconsin, where he continued his residence four years. He went to Norman county, Minnesota, in 1876, and settled on section 32, in Hendrum township, taking government land as a homestead. He built a log house and a log barn, and used oxen for the work of his place for the first six years. His trading point nearest to his farm was Moorhead, thirty miles distant, and the trip there and return took three days. Mr. Ingberg traded to some extent with Indians, and he endured many hardships and privations in the early days there. He is now the owner of four hundred acres of land, all of which is improved. He has erected a good residence and commodious barn, in which he has ample hay room, and the other buildings of the place supply all shelter necessary for products and stock. He has a flowing well on the farm, and the land being located on the banks of the Wild Rice river affords native timber and is admirably adapted to general farming. He keeps about six head of horses, forty head of cattle, thirty sheep and other stock, from which a good income is derived.

Our subject was married, in 1879, to Emma Johnson, who was born in Norway January 18, 1852. The following children have been born to

Mr. and Mrs. Ingberg: Ingvald, Mary, Joseph, Helen, Barnhart, William, Albert, Samuel, Oscar (deceased) and Mary (deceased). Mr. Ingberg is a gentleman of active public spirit, and he has served four years as county commissioner, and has also served as chairman of the town board, clerk of the school district, and is the present treasurer. He is a man of advanced thought and studies the topics of the times, and in political sentiment is identified with the Populist party. He and family are members of the Lutheran church.

#### MATHEW PRETTNER.

Mathew Prettner is classed among the pioneers of the Missabi Range who entered that region before the railroads had traversed it, and has remained to build up a good business. He is a resident of Eveleth and is engaged in the liquor business in that thriving town.

Mr. Prettner was born in a village in Austria, September 21, 1859. His father, Mathias Prettner, was a carpenter by trade, and came to America in 1866. He landed at Baltimore and went to Cumberland, Maryland, then to West Virginia, and later to St. Louis. The family lived at Minneapolis and in the village of Richmond, Stearns county, and again in Minneapolis and St. Paul, then moved to Tower, Minnesota, and finally took up residence at Eveleth.

Mathew Prettner attended the schools of Richmond and also St. John's College in Stearns county, and at the age of twenty-four years began for himself. He had learned the carpenter's and cooper's trades and was also a saw filer, and worked at all these trades in Minneapolis. He was sawyer in the mills at Brainerd, Minnesota, and followed sawmill work in different parts of Minnesota about fifteen years. He went to Tower, Minnesota, in 1889, and there bought a general mercantile business, and in partnership with J. J. Murnik continued there about three years. He went to Eveleth in 1894 and opened one of the first saloons in the town, and has continued in business there since that date. He conducted a general store and boarding house on the Canton location near Biwabik before there were railroads on the range, and bought one of the first town lots in Biwabik and opened one of the first stores, and took an active part in the local affairs of that town.

Mr. Prettner was married, in 1898, to Miss Lottie Thon. Mrs. Prettner was born at St. Paul, Minnesota, and was a daughter of Phillip Thon, a carpenter by trade. Mr. and Mrs. Prettner are the parents of one daughter, Josephine, who was born in St. Paul. Mr. Prettner assisted in the organization of the Eveleth fire department in 1896, and has been hook and ladder

foreman, assistant chief, assistant foreman, and is the present assistant chief. He took part in the organization of Eveleth and was village trustee in 1900. He is a staunch Republican politically.

#### CAPTAIN JOHN A. VANSTRUM.

Captain John A. Vanstrum, register of deeds for Kittson county for the past decade, a pioneer citizen of the great northwest and a valiant soldier of the Civil war, is now a resident of Hallock, Minnesota, where he enjoys the esteem and confidence of a wide circle of friends and admirers. His portrait, upon another page of this album, will be appreciated by his host of friends.

Captain Vanstrum was born in the province of Halland, Sweden, November 5, 1838, son of Gustaf and Elizabeth Vanstrum. The parents died in Sweden, their native land. Captain Vanstrum received but a limited education in his boyhood, having to assist his father in a paper-mill from his tenth to his sixteenth year. June 22, 1855, in company with about two hundred emigrants, he left his native land, sailing from Gutemberg on the vessel Ann Washburn, commanded by Captain Winchell. The vessel was heavily laden with Swedish iron for Boston merchants. He arrived in Boston harbor August 6, 1855, and proceeded to Chicago, thence to Batavia, Illinois, where he spent the winter of 1855-6, working for his board and attending school. In September, 1856, he went to Minnesota, via Dunleith, now East Dubuque, Illinois, thence up the Mississippi river, and located at Red Wing, Minnesota, where he engaged as clerk in a store.

At the breaking out of the Civil war Captain Vanstrum was residing at Red Wing, Minnesota. He immediately offered his services and assisted the late Colonel H. Mattson in recruiting Company D, Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into service in October, 1861, at Fort Snelling. The Captain went to Chisago county, Minnesota, where he raised some thirty volunteers (Swedish) for Company D. These men he transported in wagons all the way from what was then known as Center City via Taylor's Falls, Marine Mills and Stillwater, through St. Paul to Fort Snelling, where they arrived October 18, 1861, and on the following day were mustered into service. Captain Vanstrum was appointed sergeant of Company D in October, 1861, was promoted to second lieutenant March 30, 1862, first lieutenant May 30, 1862, and Captain of Company D August 2, 1862. He reenlisted with the same company as a veteran, under the veteran enlistment act, at Little Rock, Arkansas, early in January, 1864. He was pro-

noted to be major of the Third Regiment May 25, 1865, and was honorably discharged with his regiment at Fort Snelling September 17, 1865. His record in war, as it has continued to be, is that of a brave and fearless defender of the Union and the old flag.

In 1879 Captain Vanstrum went to Kittson county, Minnesota, and located at St. Vincent, where he was postmaster from 1879 until 1885. In the latter year he resigned his office, and during that period the postoffice at St. Vincent was of more than ordinary importance. It was the international exchange office for all registered mail matter passing between the United States and the northwest Canadian provinces. All registered letters are re-registered at the St. Vincent office. From 1879 to 1885 this office ranked third in volume of registered mail from Minnesota.

Captain Vanstrum was sheriff of Kittson county from the date of its organization, April 8, 1879, to January, 1889, and is at present register of deeds of said county, having held that position continuously since the fall of 1891. Politically the Captain is an uncompromising Republican. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and is one of the representative men and pioneers of the northwest.

#### JOHN F. SPRAGUE.

John F. Sprague, the popular postmaster of Roberts, Minnesota, is an enterprising business man of that village. He is also proprietor of an excellent farm in Western township, and is one of the substantial citizens of Ottertail county.

Mr. Sprague was born in Wisconsin June 17, 1860, and was a son of Samuel and Mary (Vader) Sprague, both of whom were natives of Canada. He removed to Fillmore county, Minnesota, at the age of two years with his parents, and there he was reared on a farm and attended the common schools until he reached the age of sixteen years, after which he bought a farm in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and continued this pursuit there until 1895. He then removed to Ottertail county, Minnesota, and purchased a farm consisting of one hundred and sixty acres. He placed good improvements on the place, and in 1897 established a general store at Roberts and the same year later became postmaster of that office. He now resides in the rear of his store building and rents out his farm in Western township. He carries a good stock of general merchandise valued at about one thousand dollars, and has built up a good trade and prospered in Ottertail county. He is an efficient postmaster and faithfully discharges the duties of his office and enjoys the confidence and esteem of all with whom he has to do.

Mr. Sprague was married, in 1883, to Jennie Fay. Mrs. Sprague was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, February 3, 1864. To this union three children have been born, who bear the following names: Ethel M., Roy H. and Ray R. Mr. Sprague is prominent in secret society circles and holds membership in the following orders: Masonic fraternity, Modern Woodmen of America, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Eastern Star and Good Templars. He takes an active part in local public affairs, and is the present clerk of Western township. Politically he is identified with the principles of the Republican party and is firm in his convictions.

#### JOHN ZIEGLER.

John Ziegler, junior member of the firm of Kankel & Ziegler, proprietors of the Terrebonne Flouring Mills, is a successful business man and worthy citizen. He is well versed in the calling to which he has devoted most of his life, and the mill in which he is now interested is one of the finest of the state of Minnesota, and does a flourishing business.

Mr. Ziegler was born in Germany January 21, 1856, and was the third in a family of ten children born to John and Kate (Schels) Ziegler, both of whom are now deceased. The father was a miller by trade and our subject worked with him and thus learned the same business in the days of mill stones. He became proficient in all departments of the work. In 1881 he decided to seek a location for himself and also see the countries on the other side of the broad Atlantic, and accordingly came to America, landing at New York. He went from thence to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and there tried farm work for a short time. A limited experience convinced him and his employer that he was not suited to this line, and he was dismissed with the remark that he "could not earn his salt." He then cast about for something in his line of work, and in 1882 secured a position in the pioneer mill of Red Lake Falls. This mill was destroyed by fire and he later secured employment in another mill in that city. In 1899 he bought a half interest in the business at which he is now engaged in Terrebonne. He is among the oldest millers in Red Lake county, and has prospered in this line of business. He has taken up with new ideas in milling as they have presented themselves and introduced the same into his business, and as a consequence is proprietor of one of the finest plants of that region.

Mr. Ziegler was married, in 1885, to Miss Annie Hoss. To this union five children have been born, namely: Annie, Ida, Nicholas, John and Joseph. Mr. Ziegler is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and politically is

a Democrat. He is a member of the Roman Catholic church, and is a gentleman of exemplary character and enjoys the esteem and respect of his fellow men. He is interested in local affairs, but does not seek public office, preferring to serve his community by his influence for good government.

#### JACOB DINSMORE.

Jacob Dinsmore, now living in retirement in the village of Hawley, Clay county, Minnesota, is one of the most prominent men of northwest Minnesota, and his career as a soldier is unsurpassed by the records of the war.

Mr. Dinsmore is a native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and was born November 9, 1832. He was the eldest in a family of seven children born to John and Susan (Grinewalt) Dinsmore, both natives of America, and of Irish and German descent, respectively. Our subject was reared on a farm and learned the trade of carpenter when eighteen years of age.

At the breaking out of the Civil war he responded to his country's first call and enlisted April 14, 1861, in Company E, Seventeenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and spent the summer and fall in West Virginia and Kentucky, the company having during that time but one slight skirmish to its credit, the battle of Green Briar. Their first general engagement was at Shiloh. At the battle of Prairieville he was also under fire and was immediately afterward transferred to Battery M, Fourth United States Artillery. It may here be stated that he served in this battery for nine successive years, during six of which he was first sergeant. At Stone river his battery for two days occupied a most prominent position. At Chickamauga, after the death of the sergeant, he acted as sergeant of the battery, and received a bayonet wound while attempting to spike his gun in the face of a charge. Later in the action he received a scalp wound, and from these injuries was confined in the hospital six weeks. At Franklin and at Nashville he was in the thickest of the fights, and these actions were the last in which his company was engaged during the war. In the fall of 1865 our subject re-enlisted in his old battery and was sent to the Great Lakes on account of the Fenian troubles, where he remained two years. For two years more he was stationed at Ft. Washington, and in December, 1871, obtained his discharge and retired to private life at Smithville, North Carolina. In the spring of 1873, after having passed the previous winter in Buffalo, New York, he came west to the Red river valley, locating at Detroit, in Becker county, Minnesota, where he followed the trade of carpenter for five years. In 1878 he invested in a farm on Buffalo river, near Glynndon, and settled down to farm life. He de-

veloped a farm of three hundred and twenty acres and operated it with success until advancing years inclined him to a retired life. In the spring of 1901 he disposed of his farm and arranged for a home in the village of Hawley.

Mr. Dinsmore was married, in 1866, to Miss Margaret Cassidy. Of this marriage there are two living children: John, farming near Glynndon; and Margaret, now Mrs. Peter Wouters, of Clay county. There is probably not a man in Clay county who is better known in public affairs or who enjoys the esteem of a wider circle of devoted friends than does Mr. Dinsmore. In 1882 he was elected a member of the board of county commissioners and served in that capacity nine years, being chairman of the board for six years of that period. He has been prominent as a member of the Republican county central committee, is a member of the G. A. R. at Moorhead, L. H. Tinney Post, No. 103. He has been a Master Mason for twenty-eight years.

#### LOUIS PFUND.

The vocation of a farmer is one of the honorable callings of man, and it calls for the exercise of hospitality and kindness, and the judicious use of one's time and means in a completeness scarcely equalled by any other calling. The gentleman whose name introduces this review is one of the prosperous and deservedly popular agriculturists of Norman county, and his home being located within a short drive from the county seat, Ada, he has the advantages of the quiet country life and the social life of the city. He has resided in McDonaldsville township for many years, and has one of the finest farms of that locality, his home being located in section 3.

Our subject was born in Galena, Illinois, March 15, 1860, and was a son of John Pfund, a native of Switzerland, who came to America in 1850. His father became a thorough-going American citizen and served in the Civil war in defense of the Union. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Lena Hepftling, and was a native of Germany. The parents became early settlers of Norman county and are now living in retirement in the city of Ada. Six children were born to this worthy couple, of whom our subject was the second in order of birth. He was raised in Galena, Illinois, where the father conducted a restaurant, and remained with his parents until they retired from the farm in Norman county. The family settled in Red Wing, Minnesota, in 1867, where the subject of this review attended school, and ten years later the father settled on government land in what is now Norman county, and this tract comprises a part of the present farm of our subject. Mr. Pfund purchased the farm of his father in 1893,



since which time the parents have made their home in Ada. Our subject now has a farm of eight hundred acres, all of which is under cultivation with the exception of one hundred and sixty acres of timber and meadow. A set of good farm buildings grace the place, and machinery of the latest pattern is used in the conduct of the farm. A flowing well, with a capacity of six hundred barrels per day, furnishes an abundance of good water for diversified farming, and plenty of small fruits and other comforts make the place one of the desirable and valuable farms of the county. It is well improved and equipped and is within a mile and a half of Ada. Mr. Pfund has aided in bringing the place to the present highly cultivated farm and has prospered in his calling, and follows grain raising and is interested in stock raising.

Our subject was married in 1885 to Miss Flora Ginsberg, a native of Dodge county, Minnesota, and a daughter of Charles Ginsberg, a native of Switzerland. Mrs. Pfund is a graduate of the Mankato Normal School, and is a lady of rare accomplishments. She was engaged in teaching for several years prior to her marriage. Two children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Pfund, who are named as follows: Clarice and Raymond. Mr. Pfund is prominent in local affairs, and has served as township clerk seven years, and in 1894 was elected county commissioner. He was re-elected in 1898, and is now serving in that capacity. He has been chairman of the board of county commissioners for the past four years, and has held numerous minor offices. He has been a delegate to many political and social conventions, and has taken an active part in affairs of that locality for the past fifteen years. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., K. of P., and M. W. of A., and politically is a Republican. His portrait will be found on another page in this volume.

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#### OVE VOIGT.

It is not always that a tradesman enters upon other vocations and makes a success of the same. This gentleman has engaged successfully in agriculture in Becker county, Minnesota, after he had devoted many years of his life to other vocations, and he is now the owner of a fine farm in section 22, of Detroit township. He is well known for his perseverance and industry, and is a man of good character and honest principles, and consequently is highly esteemed by his fellow men.

Our subject was born in Denmark, April 12, 1839, and was a son of Hans C. and Marie (Oleson) Voigt, both of whom were natives of Den-

mark. He was reared and educated in the common schools of Denmark, and later learned the harnessmaker's trade. He served four years in the Danish army. He remained in his native land, working at his trade, until he was thirty-four years of age, when he came to America, and went direct to Becker county, where he worked in a sawmill and later established himself in the harnessmaker's business, and continued thus twenty-six years. He settled on his farm in section 22, in Detroit township, in 1883, and lived in a log house and built a log barn, which still stands. He now has a farm of one hundred and eighty acres, of which about fifty acres is under cultivation and the balance is pasture, meadow and timber. He has a good supply of farm machinery, keeps five horses and sixteen head of cattle, and has a good income from the place, and will pass his declining years in peace and plenty, a fitting reward for a well-spent life.

Our subject was married, in 1872, to Annie M. Larson, who was born in Denmark January 27, 1850. Mrs. Voigt's parents, Lars and Annie S. (Jenson) Peterson, were natives of Denmark. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Voigt, who are named as follows: Marie, Sophie, Hans C., Voie, Julius, George W. and Stanley. The family are members of the Lutheran church, and take an active part in affairs of that denomination. Mr. Voigt is a man of active public spirit, and is a member of the township board of supervisors. Politically he is a Republican.

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#### ERWIN I. DAVIS.

Erwin I. Davis, one of the leading lumbermen of northern Minnesota, has for many years been a resident of Milaca, and has operated extensively in Mille Lacs county.

Mr. Davis was born in New Brunswick in 1864, a descendant of old English and Scotch families. His father, Leonard Davis, was a lumberman and settled at Anoka, Minnesota, in 1877. Our subject's mother bore the maiden name of Maggie Craig.

Our subject was the eldest child in a family of seven children, and was reared and educated in Canada and Minnesota. At the age of eleven years he started out in the world to make his own way, first finding employment at farm work. He came with the family to the United States in 1877, and began work in the lumber districts when thirteen years old. He was cook for three years, and then took a contract of cooking, continuing with one lumberman until 1892. He was located at different times in various camps throughout Mille Lacs county. In 1892 he entered the lumbering business, operating principally in Mille Lacs county near the lake. At the present time he has a large contract cover-



ing 1901 and 1902 in the lake district. In his camps he works from fifty-five to sixty men.

Mr. Davis was married, in 1884, to Miss Mary Goss. Mrs. Davis was born at Anoka, Minnesota. Her father, John Goss, was engaged in the lumber business and was a pioneer lumberman of northern Minnesota, locating in the region prior to 1861. He passed through Minneapolis when it was but a village. He was a native of Canada and of English descent.

Mr. Davis is an active member of the Republican party. He served on the village board two years, and has been delegate to the county conventions of his party, and has proved himself one of the most efficient workers. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is known throughout Mille Lacs and neighboring counties as one of the prominent pioneer lumbermen. He came to the county in 1882, and in 1896 took up his residence in Milaca. He has since resided in that village, and has erected one of the best homes in the city.

#### NICHOLAS J. HAGAN.

Among the well developed farms of Norman county which contribute largely to the wealth enjoyed there is that owned and occupied by Nicholas J. Hagan. This is located in section 8, of Hendrum township, and is carefully tilled and furnishes a good income to its owner. Mr. Hagan is an early settler of that region, and he has gained a good reputation as a farmer and citizen.

Mr. Hagan was born on a farm in Trondhjem, Norway, February 4, 1856. His father, John O. Hagan, was a farmer, cabinetmaker and shipbuilder by trade. He came to America in 1867 and settled in Houston county, Minnesota. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Olava Anderson. She was born and raised in Norway in the same place as her father. Mr. Hagan was the fourth in a family of ten children, and he was reared on the home farm and received a common-school education. When he was twelve years of age the family removed to America and he was reared in this country, in Minnesota. At the age of eighteen years he began earning his own way and went to Norman county, Minnesota, in 1874, and followed steamboating on the Red river of the North for three years for the Hudson's Bay Company. March 10, 1877, he entered claim to land and began farming in Hendrum township. He erected a log cabin, 14x16 feet, and in 1878 bought an ox team and a wagon and began the improvement of his place, living the first five years alone on his farm. His parents settled on a farm in Hendrum township in 1877. Mr. Hagan farmed

with oxen three years and broke considerable land in the meantime. The farm was wild prairie when he went there, and now bears no semblance to the place he first beheld and where he has spent so many years in active work for its improvement. He is now the owner of three hundred and twenty-five acres of land, of which about seventy acres is pasture and the balance is under cultivation. He has erected good buildings, and has plenty of small fruits for family use, plenty of good water for farming, and altogether has one of the well developed and well equipped estates of the township. He engages in grain-raising mostly, and has met with some severe losses by storm, but in the main has prospered and is one of the substantial men of his locality.

Mr. Hagan was married, in the fall of 1880, to Miss Karen Grotthe. Mrs. Hagan was born near Trondhjem, Norway, and was a daughter of John Grotthe, who was a farmer by occupation and who died in America. She came to America with her parents in 1867, and the family were among the first settlers on the Marsh river in Norman county, Minnesota. Mrs. Hagan died August 15, 1895, after an illness of some six or seven weeks. She did not enjoy good health for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Hagan were the parents of five children, who are named as follows: Bertha, Martin, Clara, Jane and Hannah. All were born in Norman county, Minnesota. Mr. Hagan is prominent in local affairs and has served as justice of the peace and town clerk. He is a Democrat politically and is an earnest worker for party principles, and has attended numerous conventions of his party as a delegate. He is a member of the Independent Order of Good Templars, and is connected with the Lutheran church. He practices strict honesty in his dealings with his fellow men, and in turn is accorded a high station as a citizen by those among whom he resides.

#### ORAN S. SWEET.

Oran S. Sweet, who for the past thirty years has been a respected citizen of Ottertail county, Minnesota, is proprietor of a fine farm in Fergus Falls township. He endured the hardships and experiences of pioneer life in northern Minnesota and can recount many exciting times in the early days there. He has witnessed the transformation of that region into a thriving agricultural district and has aided materially in the same, and is entitled to much credit for his labors there.

Mr. Sweet was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, June 22, 1834, and was a son of Henry K. and Delphia (Bates) Sweet, both of whom were born in St. Lawrence county, New York. Our subject was reared on a farm in his

native state and attended the common schools. At the breaking out of the Civil war he enlisted in 1861 in Company K, Forty-ninth New York Volunteer Infantry, and was sent to Virginia and joined the Army of the Potomac. He served until the close of the war, in 1865, and was mustered out of the service in Buffalo, New York, in July of that year. He returned to Jamestown, in that state, and remained there until 1872, when he went to Minnesota. He took a homestead in Erhard Grove township, Ottertail county, and later proved up his claim, after which he disposed of the farm and settled in Fergus Falls township. He bought a farm in section 17, and is now the fortunate owner of two hundred and forty-five acres of excellent land, of which one hundred acres is under cultivation, and the rest is devoted to pasture, meadow and timber. He keeps five head of horses, twenty-six head of cattle and one hundred sheep, and on his farm has plenty of good farm machinery. His residence is comfortable and commodious, and is a ten-room, two-story structure. The barn is 52x110 feet, and has storage room for one hundred tons of hay. Good water is drawn by windmill force, and every convenience of modern farming is found on the place. Mr. Sweet drove to Ottertail county with an ox team and lived in a small log house with a sod roof, and passed through the usual difficulties encountered in a new country. These he has bravely faced, and is now one of the substantial citizens of his locality.

Mr. Sweet was married, in 1866, to Hannah Lindquist. Mrs. Sweet was born in Sweden, May 16, 1846. To this union two children have been born, namely, Lottie A. and Pearl M. The family are members of the Congregational church and have a wide acquaintance and many friends. Mr. Sweet is a member of the G. A. R., Stanton Post, No. 33. He has always taken a commendable interest in local affairs, and has served as township supervisor and justice of the peace. In political faith he is a Republican.

### THE THIRTEEN TOWNS.

The Thirteen Towns, published in the city of Fosston, is the pioneer newspaper of eastern Polk county. The Thirteen Towns was established in 1884 by A. Kaiser. The present publisher, A. W. Foss, purchased the plant in 1893, and in his hands the paper has grown in importance until at the present time it compares favorably with any weekly newspaper of northern Minnesota. It is an eight-page, six-column folio, with a circulation of more than eight hundred. The plant is fitted with a Prouty cylinder press, a gasoline engine, and its job department is especially complete and thoroughly equipped for that class of work.

A. W. Foss, the able editor of The Thirteen Towns, was born in Ontario, Canada, October 21, 1867. He completed a college course in Toronto, and then began his career in the publishing business. He first came to Minnesota in 1891, and entered the employ of the Journal at Crookston. In 1893 he located at Fosston, and since that time has identified himself with the interests and prosperity of that city. Personally and through his paper he has championed the cause of Fosston and eastern Polk county in all questions that have presented themselves during his career there. He has been a strong advocate of a division of the county, a question much discussed and of vital importance to his city. He has staunchly upheld the principles of Republicanism, and his journal has wielded considerable influence in public affairs.

### CONRAD SAUER.

Conrad Sauer, proprietor of the hotel at Millerville, Douglas county, is a gentleman of exceptional business capacity and practical business experience. He is genial, accommodating and intelligent, and in his hotel is doing a successful business and gaining an enviable name.

Mr. Sauer was born near the town of Wurzburg, Germany, November 26, 1859, and is a son of Sebastian and Anna Maria (Riedman) Sauer, both of whom were natives of Germany. They were the parents of six sons and one daughter, namely: Michael, Johanna, Sebastian, Thomas, Conrad, Ignatius and George M. Of this family three brothers came to America, Sebastian, Thomas and Conrad. The first named is engaged in the butcher business, Thomas is a lumber merchant in Roscoe, Minnesota. The father died in 1884, and the mother survives and resides in her native country.

Conrad Sauer obtained his education in Bavaria and worked upon his father's farm until he reached his majority. In 1881 he emigrated to America, going direct to Minnesota to join his brother Sebastian, who had preceded him and was residing at St. Cloud. The following eight years our subject worked in various lines of business, and in 1889 went to Morton, North Dakota, where he opened a meat market and was engaged in the business there four years. In 1890 he rented the hotel at Millerville from his father-in-law, Joseph Stariha, for one year, at the expiration of which time he went to St. Cloud and engaged in the liquor business, where he remained two years. In 1892 he returned to Millerville and bought the hotel property of his father-in-law. He has since enlarged and rearranged the hotel and added a large assembly room, which is frequently in use for balls and parties. The saloon in connection with the hotel

has been elegantly furnished and stocked with the choicest wines and liquors. The hotel is patronized by traveling representatives and the traveling public generally, and the cuisine of the establishment is liberal and of excellent quality. Mr. Sauer is doing a good and increasing business and is meeting with the success his enterprise deserves. He is a genial host and is greatly assisted in the management of the hotel by the practical help of his estimable wife. In addition to the hotel and village property Mr. Sauer is the owner of eighty acres of land adjacent to Millerville.

Mr. Sauer was married, May 14, 1889, to Katie Stariha, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Borch) Stariha. Mr. Stariha was among the early settlers of Douglas county and at the time of his daughter's marriage was keeping the hotel at Millerville. He was three times married, and was the father of six children, Mrs. Sauer being a daughter of the second marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Sauer are the parents of two children, namely: Carl and Mary. Mr. Sauer is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters, of which he is treasurer, and of the D. R. C. U. G. of Minnesota, a mutual society of Roman Catholics. He is a member of the Roman Catholic church of Our Lady of Seven Dolors at Millerville, to which denomination he contributes liberally. He is a gentleman of charitable inclinations and assists the needy and unfortunate. Politically he is a Democrat, but does not seek public office, but lends his influence for good government.

#### ROBERT MOIR.

Robert Moir, whose pleasant home is on section 16, Glyndon township, is well known throughout the county as one of the most prominent and successful agriculturists of Clay county, Minnesota. His portrait is shown on another page of this volume. His residence is located in the center of one of the first farms to be developed in Glyndon township.

Robert Moir was born in Forfarshire, Scotland, December 10, 1859. His parents were George and Jane (Middleton) Moir. On attaining his majority our subject decided to emigrate to America. He connected himself with a family of Vannett's and made the voyage, arriving at Glyndon, Minnesota, June 25, 1880.

Mr. Moir first worked on the railroad section, and became section foreman during the two years spent in that employment. He then rented land and farmed in this way until 1883, when he purchased land on section 26, Glyndon township, and there began farming on his own account, and established a permanent home. He met with success and developed a valuable estate, placing

upon it many improvements and conveniences and rendering it a valuable and profitable farm.

Mr. Moir was married in 1882 to Miss Elizabeth Vannett. Of this marriage six children were born, namely: William, Jennie, Nellie, Goodrich, David, and Elizabeth, deceased. Mrs. Moir died in 1891. Our subject was married to Mrs. Imogene Burdick in 1893. A year previous to this marriage Mr. Moir had purchased the old Burdick homestead, and now makes that his place of residence. He operates the farm together with his land in section 26, and now farms eleven hundred and twenty acres. In politics Mr. Moir is a Republican, and has been an active worker in the interests of a better condition of public affairs. He has held various positions of trust, among them being that of township clerk, which office he is now filling. For some thirteen years Mr. Moir has operated a threshing machine in Clay county, and has been as successful in this line as any man in the county.

#### CHARLES H. LARSON.

Charles H. Larson, who is extensively engaged in the mercantile business in the villages of Nelson and Evansville, is one of the most prominent citizens of Douglas county. He is possessed of excellent business capacity, and an enterprising public spirit, and has aided materially in the development and upbuilding of that region, and is accorded a prominent place among the early settlers of the county.

Mr. Larson was born in Smoland, Sweden, March 31, 1864, and was a son of Gustav P. and Carolina S. (Larson) Larson. The father was a cabinetmaker by trade and followed that business in Sweden for many years. He was a land owner, and followed farming as well as cabinet-making. In 1868, when our subject was but four years of age, his parents came to America, bringing with them the maternal grandparents, Johan and Christina Larson. They came direct to Douglas county, Minnesota, and the grandparents secured a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Alexandria township, as did our subject's father. Gustav P. Larson's quarter-section was on section 14 of this township. They lived with friends until something to shelter them could be built, and the earliest home of which our subject has any recollection was a small log house covered with birch bark and a coating of earth to keep out wind and water. This was their dwelling for a number of years, and in 1875 a modern farm residence replaced the first humble home. The father was a man of prominence and a leader among the Scandinavian people and was instrumental in bringing a great many Swedish families to the United States. He put them in a way of securing good homes in

Douglas county, and started them on the road to prosperity. He was one of the first settlers in that part of the country, and was a man of wide influence in his community. He was a member of the first school board assembled in his township. He died in the spring of 1874, deeply mourned by a host of friends. His remains were laid to rest in the cemetery at Alexandria. The mother remarried, becoming the wife of Charles Anderson, a farmer of Douglas county. Four children were born of the first marriage, and two, Emil A. and Adolphus, of the second marriage. The mother now resides on the homestead farm. The grandfather died in 1878 and the grandmother in 1898, each at the advanced age of ninety years. Charles H. Larson was the eldest of four children, his brothers and sister being as follows: Amanda S. married John Lee, the owner of an extensive horse ranch at Daisy, North Dakota; Constant, a prominent lawyer of Alexandria, whose life history appears elsewhere in this volume; and Augustus T., a prosperous lawyer in Cokato, Minnesota.

Charles H. Larson attended school and worked on the farm when a boy, and at the age of eighteen found employment in the lumber yards of Erick Johnson at Alexandria, where he remained about two years. He was employed in the grocery store of Walker & Ward in the same town one year, and was then steadily employed five years as clerk in the general store of L. K. Aaker & Company, after which he was with the Northwestern Collecting Agency a year and a half. He then formed a partnership with Andrew Bergsten, and they went into the shoe business in Alexandria, but removed to Garfield and conducted a general store there for two years. In the meantime Mr. Larson received the appointment of postmaster of Garfield under President Harrison's administration. He dissolved partnership with Mr. Bergsten in December, 1893, and took charge of the Nelson Union Store Company's business at Nelson, and in 1896 he bought the company's interests and continued the business at the old stand until 1898, at which time he completed his present commodious premises. He has an elegant double store filled with every variety of goods sought in a general mercantile house. He carries an extensive stock of the best goods and sells at reasonable prices, and has a large and increasing trade. In the year just expired he did a business of thirty-five thousand dollars. He is a pleasant gentleman and seeks to meet the demands of his patrons, and has a host of friends throughout the county. August 12, 1901, he purchased the Ole Kron store at Evansville, and now has a branch store there, where he will continue as well as at Nelson.

Mr. Larson was married, July 2, 1887, to Ida Peterson, daughter of Andrew P. and Johanna

Peterson, of Alexandria. Mr. and Mrs. Larson have seven living children, namely: Edna Viola, Elmer Vincent, Grace Ophelia, Herman Rufus, Edith Seraphia, Wallace Maximilian and Ruben Felix. Mr. Larson has been chairman of the board of supervisors a number of years, justice of the peace, and is heartily interested in public matters. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church, being treasurer and trustee of the same. He assisted in organizing the Nelson Creamery Association, which has proven a successful enterprise, and for the past five years he has been a director and treasurer of the organization. He is a business man of strict integrity of word and deed and commands the esteem and respect of all with whom he has to do.

### JOHN LINDBERG.

To such gentlemen as John Lindberg the town of Warren owes her name as the thriving commercial center of Marshall county. This gentleman is senior member of the firm of Lindberg & Lundgren, dealers in farm machinery, and he has a good name and enjoys a liberal patronage. For many years he has been identified with the commercial interests of Warren, and by his progressiveness and business ability has added materially to the wealth of that city.

John Lindberg was born in Sweden November 13, 1859, and was a son of Olaus and Johanna (Johnson) Lindberg. His parents are now residents of Carver county, Minnesota. The family came to America in 1872 and settled in Carver county, where our subject worked on the home farm and assisted in the improvement of a pioneer farm. He went to Norman county in the spring of 1881, where he remained a year, and in the spring of 1882 went to Marshall county in company with Mr. Lundgren. Together they had about one thousand dollars, and they invested in land and then both hired out to work. In 1883 they established a brick yard near Warren, the first one established north of Crookston. In 1887 our subject disposed of his interest in the business to Mr. Lundgren and purchased a stock of farm machinery, and in 1888 Mr. Lundgren became a partner in the business. The firm has built a handsome brick block for conducting their business, which has proven successful to a pronounced degree, and they may feel justified in taking a review of their work with pride. Mr. Lindberg is a stockholder and director in the People's Trading Company.

Mr. Lindberg was married, in 1889, to Miss Ida Johnson. To this union three children have been born, who are named as follows: Almer, Francis and Della. Mr. Lindberg is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and is an exemplary citizen, and has a host of friends. He

is a Democrat in political sentiment and is a gentleman of good ideas and keeps posted on public affairs, but does not seek public preferment. He attends strictly to the details of his business, and to this in large measure is due his success.

#### WALTER P. GOTTRY.

Walter P. Gottry, owner and publisher of the Pine County Pioneer, is one of the influential and prominent men of northern Minnesota. He is a resident of Pine City, where he has a host of friends.

Mr. Gottry was born in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, in 1868. His father, Anthony S. Gottry, was a native of France, and came to America in 1830, and was reared to manhood in Utica, New York. His younger days were passed in the hotel business and he afterward engaged in several other lines, including the mercantile business. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Kilgore, was born in Glasgow, Scotland, and came to America in 1841 at the age of about eight years. She was reared in the state of Rhode Island, and later went with the family to Ontario, Canada.

Mr. Gottry was the youngest in a family of four children, and spent his boyhood days in Stevens Point, where he received a common-school education. At the age of thirteen he began work on his own account, clerking in a store and attending school. He then worked at carpentering for three years, and for the next two years was employed in various capacities. In 1886 he went to Pine City, Minnesota, and entered the office of the Pine County Pioneer, as assistant to his brother, Ed. C. Gottry, who still owns a small interest in the paper. For the past twelve years our subject has controlled and supervised the running of the Pioneer with remarkable success.

The Pine County Pioneer is a six-column quarto weekly, and is published Fridays. It is the leading paper of that portion of the state, and is the official paper of Pine county. It was established December 12, 1885, by Ed. C. Gottry, and was the first paper published in Pine county. The paper supports the principles of the Republican party, and has a wide circulation and wields much influence in the public affairs of Pine and surrounding counties. In May, 1897, the plant was destroyed by fire and everything except a few type and forms was lost. The plant has been refitted and is now equipped with a gasoline engine, and has the only power presses between Minneapolis and Duluth. They make a specialty of fine job work, and turn out a product equal to the best offices of Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Mr. Gottry purchased, in 1895, the Pine City

Livery barn, and since that time has carried on the livery business with success. The livery business is supervised by our subject's father, and the barn has an equipment of the finest rigs in northern Minnesota.

Mr. Gottry was married, June 25, 1891, to Miss Marilla A. Griffith. Mrs. Gottry was born at Elk River, Anoka county, Minnesota, and was reared and educated at Pine City. She taught in various parts of Pine county prior to her marriage. Her father, John Griffith, is an engineer in the Pine City sawmills. To Mr. and Mrs. Gottry four children have been born: Frank, Raymond, Ruth and Clarence. Mr. Gottry is a charter member of the M. W. A. and of the K. of P. at Pine City.

WILLIAM J. GOTTRY, brother of Walter P. Gottry, mentioned elsewhere in this volume, is foreman of the Pine County Pioneer, and has been a resident of Pine City since January, 1892.

Mr. Gottry was born in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, January 19, 1859. He received his education there in the common schools and at the age of nineteen years began work for himself as a machinist. He followed his trade for a number of years in Wisconsin, Illinois and California, and traveled about the country for some time. In January, 1892, he went to Pine City and there learned the printer's trade, working on the Pioneer. He was made foreman of the paper May 12, 1896, and has been foreman since the paper passed into the hands of Walter P. Gottry.

Our subject is one of the popular young men of Pine City, and through the columns of the paper wields a great influence in social affairs in his city and county. He has immediate charge of the job work as well as of the paper, and is regarded as one of the most thorough and artistic printers in the northwest.

#### HAROLD THOMAS, M. D.

Harold Thomas, M. D., the pioneer physician of Menahga, is one of the successful practitioners of Wadena county. He is a gentleman of excellent education and broad mind, and is possessed of practical experience in his profession and an extensive theoretical knowledge.

Dr. Thomas was born in Yates, Orleans county, New York, October 25, 1851. His father, Cerna N. Thomas, was a physician throughout his career. He served under Captain Carthene in the Civil war, enlisting in Company M, Independent Battery, in 1861. This was the first artillery to leave New York state for the war. His father served two years as assistant surgeon. The grandfather of our subject, Alanson Thomas, was a native of Wales. He emigrated to America, and was married in this country. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of



Mable Pike. She was born in Sweden, New York, and her parents were American people, the father, David Pike, being born in New Hampshire, and the mother a native of Massachusetts. The great-grandfather of our subject, Moses Pike, had a son, James Pike, who served under General Pike in the war of 1812.

Of two children our subject was the elder, and he lived in Yates until he was four years of age, when the family removed to Michigan, where the father practiced medicine about four years, and then removed to Lockport, New York; this return was before the war. Thereafter our subject resided with his grandparents and was reared in Michigan. He studied medicine with Dr. Reynolds in Kalamazoo, Michigan, when fifteen years of age, and remained with him two years, after which he went to Grand Rapids, Michigan, and attended the high school one year. He then took a course of medical lectures at Cincinnati, Ohio. He established an office for the practice of his profession at Grand Rapids, Michigan, in the spring of 1872 and continued there until January, 1882. He then went to Moose Lake, Carlton county, Minnesota, and opened up an office there and continued his practice there two and a half years. He then sold his practice and removed to Mora, Kanabec county, and continued his practice there until the spring of 1888. During that year he came to Hubbard, Hubbard county. Later he came to his present location at Menahga, and opened up, in 1891, the first doctor's office in the town. He erected the third building of the town, and had to cut a road through to haul lumber to the house. He put in a stock of drugs, and conducted this business there until 1897 with good results. He has followed his profession there since his first location in the town and now enjoys an extensive and remunerative practice. Fire destroyed his building and some of the contents in March, 1899, he succeeding in saving the household goods. In the fall of 1899 Dr. Thomas erected a building, the outside measurement of which is two hundred and two feet. This is built in a two-story upright and one-story addition, and the second floor is occupied by the Knights of the Maccabees. Dr. Thomas resides in the single story part of the building. He has a comfortable home and has met with success despite reverses and ill health.

Dr. Thomas was married, in July, 1871, to Elenor Lawrence. Mrs. Thomas was born in Tonawanda, New York, and was a daughter of Sergi T. Lawrence, a carpenter and farmer. Her grandfather was a Sir Knight in England. On the maternal side her grandmother was a native of Canada, and her mother was born in New York state. While a resident of Carlton county, Minnesota, Dr. Thomas was county physician and coroner, and during his residence in Kana-

bec county he was county physician and coroner. He was coroner in Hubbard county two terms. He is a recognized leader in his profession. He takes a prominent part in public affairs, and has served in various offices of trust. He was the first justice of the village of Menahga, and is closely identified with every public enterprise. He is a Democrat politically, having cast his ballot for the principles of that party since 1876, and is an ardent worker for his party. He is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Modern Brotherhood of America.

#### FRED W. HALL.

In a state as large as Minnesota, where the legal profession is so well represented, it is hard to determine who stands in the foremost rank, but it is safe to assert that the gentleman above named has gained recognition among those of his fraternity, and he stands at the head of the Aitkin county bar. Mr. Hall has resided in the town of Aitkin for some years, and has always displayed an active public spirit and well merits his success as an attorney and good name as a citizen.

Mr. Hall was born in the state of New York April 23, 1856. His father, Lafayette Hall, is of old Yankee stock, and was a soldier of the Civil war, while the grandfather of our subject served in one of the early American wars. Our subject's mother, Elizabeth (Bates) Hall, died when our subject was an infant. Her family was also of Yankee stock, and her people followed various lines of business.

Mr. Hall was reared as the second of a large family of children, and at the age of ten years he went to Illinois alone and started for himself by securing employment on a farm. He spent his early youth on a farm and received a limited schooling in the common schools of his neighborhood, his time being devoted mostly to hard farm work. When about fifteen years of age he went to Minnesota and located in Morrison county. He remained there for some years and owned several farms at different times in that county. He began the study of law with J. P. Adams in 1884, and was admitted to the bar in 1888. He removed to Aitkin the same year and practiced his profession there four years, and in 1892 opened an office at Brainerd. He continued his practice there two years, and while there served one term as municipal judge. In 1894 he returned to Aitkin, and has since followed his profession in that village. He was elected county attorney in the fall of 1894 and served three successive terms, being elected to each term by the Republican party. From 1889 to 1891 he served as judge of the probate court. Since



1900 he has devoted his entire attention to the practice of his profession, and has built up an extensive and lucrative practice.

Mr. Hall was married, in 1880, to Miss Vel-dora Meddleton. Mrs. Hall was born in Canada and was of English descent. She was reared on a farm. Mr. and Mrs. Hall are the parents of two living children, namely, Fred and Cecil. Mr. Hall takes an active part in the affairs of the Republican party and has attended numerous county and state conventions. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge.

#### ANTON E. HANSON.

Anton E. Hanson, who has resided in Vineland township, Polk county, for many years, is a highly esteemed citizen of that locality and is enjoying the result of his labors there, being possessed of a fine farm of a half section.

Mr. Hanson was born in southern Norway, April 18, 1854, and was one of a family of six children born to Even and Petrina Hanson. He spent his boyhood on the farm in Norway and came to America with his father in July, 1868. The father sent for the mother and two other children as soon as he had earned enough money to pay their fares. The mother died in England while en route and the children came to America, seeing the last of their beloved mother just before the boat left England. The father and our subject went to Columbia county, Wisconsin. They remained there until 1872 and then went to Freeborn county, Minnesota. They worked on the farm there until the spring of 1874, when the father, brother and our subject went with John Thompson to Polk county by ox-teams. Our subject owned a team and with them brought Mr. Thompson's family. They spent about five weeks on the trip, going via Mankato, St. Peter, Litchfield, New Ulm, Fergus Falls and Moorhead. When they reached the Wild Rice river the water was high and they had driven through water most of the way from Moorhead to the river. There was no bridge and our subject was chosen to cross the river on a log raft and seek assistance from others who had gone before them. He did not reach the opposite side of the river, however, until the raft tipped and he was thrown into the water. He swam to the shore and was thus separated from his companions, with but little money. He found a settler about seven miles distant who could not help them across the stream, however, and the party returned to Georgetown and crossed the Red river by ferry and then came up on the Dakota side. Our subject went northward afoot, but found no bridges over the marsh of Sand Hill river. He crossed the Red river by ferry at Caledonia and

walked to Belmont, where he recrossed and reached the settlement while they were celebrating the Fourth of July. The others of the party arrived three days later. The father and brother soon filed claim to land, but our subject was not of age when he arrived there. He worked for Mr. Estenson and remained in Polk county one year and then returned to Freeborn county, where he remained four years. In 1878 he again went to Polk county, but found the homestead land all taken and he bought land of the railroad company in section 7 of Vineland township. His first house was a frame structure and he lived as a bachelor there until 1889. He has engaged almost entirely in wheat raising and has met with success in this line of agriculture and is now the owner of a well-improved estate, from which he derives a comfortable competence.

Mr. Hanson was married in 1889 to Miss Trina Kjolhaug, of Fosston, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson are the parents of four children, namely: Even Palmer, aged eleven; Gunda Tealine, aged nine years; Cora Louise, aged six years; and Alma Serina, aged one year. Mr. Hanson is prominent in township affairs and has served on the township board. He has supported the People's party since its organization. He is a member of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company of Vineland township. In religious faith he is a Lutheran, and is a member of the Sand Hill Lutheran church, which edifice he assisted in building.

#### FRED HABHEGGER.

No business man of Wrenshall, Carlton county, is better known or has met with more pronounced success in his business ventures than Fred Habhegger. This gentleman is a man of good judgment, enterprising and progressive, and by his close application to business he has built up a trade in general merchandise and is the pioneer business man of the thriving town of Wrenshall. His portrait is shown upon another page of this volume.

Mr. Habhegger was born on a farm in Switzerland, in 1836. His father was a farmer by occupation and served in the army of Switzerland. The family came to America in 1853, landing in New York city. They located at Watertown, Wisconsin, where the father engaged in business. Our subject attended the common schools and assisted on the farm. He started brick making and worked in the yards at La Crosse, Wisconsin, one year, and then went to Cincinnati, Ohio, and worked there until 1867, and thoroughly learned the business. During the war he served in the Ohio militia. He

started in business for himself at New Lisbon, Wisconsin, in 1867, at brick making, and also followed farming to some extent, but he had no capital. He continued in business there until 1882, when he went to northern Minnesota and located near Carlton. He bought land at Clear Creek, and there started a small brick yard and was in business at that point until 1888. Meanwhile the railroad was built, and in 1888 Mr. Habhegger went to Wrenshall. Soon after his locating there the town of Wrenshall was started and the name given the place in honor of a Northern Pacific Railroad official. Our subject was the first citizen and built the first building in the town. He established a brick yard there the same year. Fire destroyed his residence, brick yard and machinery in 1889, entailing a loss of six thousand dollars. The first years there our subject made from six hundred thousand to seven hundred thousand bricks per annum, and he now turns out four million. He also engages in farming to a small extent, and in 1900 established a general store and conducts a profitable business.

Mr. Habhegger was married in 1862 to Miss Catherine Baumunk. The ceremony was solemnized at Cincinnati, Ohio. Mrs. Habhegger was born in Germany, and came to America when she was a child and located with her parents on a farm in Kentucky. She died at Wrenshall, Minnesota, in 1888. Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Habhegger, namely: F. J., Caroline (deceased), John, Alice, Emma, Annie, Willie, Edith and Levis. Mr. Habhegger is an active citizen in public affairs, and is chairman of the township board. He is deeply interested in educational affairs, and has served as school treasurer since the organization of the board. Politically he is a Republican and is a staunch advocate of party principles and an earnest worker for the same.

#### WILLIAM HENRY RUSSELL.

William Henry Russell, a well-to-do farmer of Pine county, Minnesota, whose comfortable home is on section 12 of Pine township, was born on a farm in Connecticut in 1836, and is a son of William Russell, whose ancestors came to New England from England about two hundred years ago.

Mr. Russell was the second member of a family of eight children and was reared on the family homestead. As a youth he was accustomed to hard work, and at the age of twenty-one began life on his own account, going into Genesee county, New York, where he engaged in farming and where he was married in 1857 to Miss Mary A. Savage. She was born in New York and her parents in Connecticut, where her ancestors re-

sided for several generations. To this union were born four children, two of whom, Charles and Marion, are living. In 1875 Mr. Russell moved to the west and made his home in Quincy, Illinois. Near that city he followed farming for three years, and then moved into Missouri, where he farmed until 1887. For several years the family were afflicted with more or less constant illness, and Mr. Russell concluded to go north. Accordingly, in 1887 he brought his family into Minnesota, and effected a location in Pine county, taking up a homestead in section 12, Pine township. At that time the place consisted of wild timber and offered many discouragements to the farmer. Mr. Russell, however, was not daunted at the prospect, and, putting up a box shanty, 24x32 feet, applied himself to the tremendous work of converting the wild timber land into a productive farm. He has succeeded in bringing forty acres under cultivation and owns another forty which he uses for grass and timber. His house is a two-story structure, 18x32 feet, with an addition 16x20 feet. Mr. Russell raises the general products of the farm, but devotes much attention to strawberries, raspberries and other small fruits to which the soil and climate are not unfriendly.

Mr. Russell is a Republican, and has served on the town board, of which he has been chairman. He has taken an active part in town and county affairs and is regarded as one of the most reliable and straightforward citizens of the town.

#### ELOF DAHLBERG.

As an early settler of Ottertail county, and one of the successful agriculturists of Buse township, the gentleman above named is well known to the people. He is a man of active public spirit, intelligent and progressive, and has accumulated a good property and an enviable name by his energetic efforts in his calling and his faithful discharge of public duties.

Mr. Dahlberg was born in Sweden June 12, 1858, and was a son of Nels and Johannah (Swanson) Dahlberg, both of whom were natives of Sweden. Elof Dahlberg came to America with his parents when he was twelve years of age, and he was reared on a farm and attended the common schools of Ottertail county, Minnesota, where the father took a homestead. Our subject bought a farm of four hundred and twenty acres in section 9, of Buse township. Three hundred acres of this is under cultivation, and the balance is timber and meadow land. He is now engaged in diversified farming, and has a well improved and well stocked farm. He keeps forty head of cattle and ten head of horses, has plenty of farm machinery, and a windmill which pumps a bountiful supply of excellent water, both

for farm and domestic use. His buildings are modern and substantial, and include a barn 40x96 feet with a commodious hay loft. His residence is pleasantly situated and is surrounded by a fine grove. Every appointment of the farm evidences careful management and industrious labor.

Mr. Dahlberg was married, in 1880, to Christina Ring. Mrs. Dahlberg was born in Sweden December 22, 1861. Her father, Hans Ring, was born in Sweden, as was also her mother, Ellen (Olson) Ring. The family came to America in 1867 and settled in Meeker county, Minnesota, where Mrs. Dahlberg resided until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Dahlberg are the parents of five children, namely: Irene J., Arnold V., Effie H., Henry W. and Edwin T. The family are members of the Baptist church and also the Old Settlers' Association of Ottertail county. They located in the locality before the railroad was through there and lived in a log shanty, using oxen for their farm work. Mr. Dahlberg has always taken a commendable interest in all local public affairs, and he has served as chairman of the township board of supervisors of Buse township clerk for a number of years. He is a Republican politically and wields much influence in his community, and is one of the worthy and esteemed citizens of Ottertail county. His farm, which consists of four hundred and twenty acres, is located two miles south of Fergus Falls, and is one of the best stock farms in Ottertail county. Here Mr. Dahlberg has resided for twenty-one years.

#### OLE T. ANDERSON.

Ole T. Anderson, a pioneer of Norman county, Minnesota, is a resident of Shelley township, where he has prospered as an agriculturist.

Mr. Anderson was born in Osterdalen, Norway, September 26, 1842. He was the eldest son of Andrew O. and Oline (Henson) Tronnes. He lived with his parents on the farm until he was sixteen years of age, when the family moved to Nordland, and were there engaged in fishing. Our subject spent about eight years at this work and then was engaged in farming until 1869, when he came to America. He went to Goodhue county, Minnesota, and was the first of the family to leave their native land. He came by steamship from Liverpool to Quebec, the journey occupying eighteen days, and the date of his arrival in Goodhue county, Minnesota, was July 2, 1869. He worked for others in that county until 1871, when he moved to Wilkin county, and there spent nine months. In November of the same year he went to Polk county to see the country and spent about two months working on the Northern Pacific railroad east of Moorhead. He returned the same fall with oxen, and in April, 1872, moved to the land he had selected

on the Red river, now in Norman county, where he has since made his home. He squatted on a quarter of section 12, and later filed a homestead claim to the tract. He now owns one hundred and eighty acres of land, having sold a quarter section during the past year. He depends largely on wheat raising, and in this line of agriculture has engaged successfully. During his early residence there in 1872 and 1873 he teamed for the railroad company from Moorhead west to Vallev City and Jamestown, North Dakota, later for the Hudson's Bay Company and afterward for the government out of Fort Totten, North Dakota. He also worked for Captain Griggs at Grand Forks, and while there saw five hundred Indians go through Grand Forks. The residents were alarmed, but the band proved to be peaceable Chippewas.

Mr. Anderson was married in May, 1869, one week before leaving Norway, to Miss Anne Rasmusson, of Nordland. Mrs. Anderson accompanied her husband to America. The following children have been born of this marriage: Adolph; Gina, who died in 1899, at the age of twenty-nine years; Andrew; Josa; and Kala. The eldest son, Adolph, has served in the regular United States army for thirteen years. He went through the campaign in Cuba and is at present in the Philippines. Mr. Anderson is a member of the Lutheran church, and is a staunch Republican in politics and cast his first vote for Grant. He assisted in the organization of Shelley township, and takes an active interest in the public affairs of his community.

#### ISAAC F. WESTON.

Isaac F. Weston, residing on section 4 of township 133, range 31, is one of the prominent agriculturists of Cass county, Minnesota. He has resided there for the past thirteen or more years, and has accumulated a good property and enjoys the highest esteem of his fellow men. He is an ex-soldier of the Civil war, and is honored as a loyal citizen and one who is ever interested in the development and advancement of his adopted home.

Mr. Weston was born in Somerset county, Maine, April 13, 1840. His father, Edward Weston, was born in Maine, June 6, 1812, and the mother, Abbie F. (Johnson) Weston, was a native of the same state, and was born October 18, 1818. Our subject received his education in the public schools of Maine, and resided there until he was seventeen years of age, and in 1857 came to Wisconsin. There he worked in the lumber woods and sawmills and on the farm, and remained there until 1862, when he enlisted in Company A, Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He was sent to fight the Sioux Indians,

and in 1864 was stationed in Kentucky. He participated in several of the more important engagements of the war, and fought gallantly and well and with honor to himself and the country which he defended. He was mustered out of the service at Louisville, Kentucky, in 1865, and at once returned to his Wisconsin home. He remained there until 1872, and then came to Motley, Minnesota, and for ten years worked in a sawmill there. He then came to township 133, range 31, in Cass county, taking land as a homestead, and since 1888 has resided thereon. He is now the fortunate owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land, of which about forty acres is under cultivation. He keeps a good timber tract and the farm is well adapted to diversified farming. Mr. Weston keeps about eight head of cattle and a team of horses, and has good water on the farm for domestic and farm use. He has placed valuable improvements on the place in the way of residence, barn and outbuildings, and the entire estate shows painstaking care in its operation.

Mr. Weston was married in 1865 to Catherine R. Thurston. Mrs. Weston was born in Somerset county, Maine, July 5, 1845. Three children complete the family circle, and are named as follows: John H., Ada and Ruemma R. Mr. Weston has served in various local offices of trust and has always been found a faithful and conscientious officer. He has been justice of the peace for two years in township 133, and takes an active part in local affairs. He is a member of the G. A. R. Post, No. 161, Department of Minnesota, at Motley. Politically he is a Republican. Portraits of Mr. Weston and his estimable wife appear on another page in this volume.

#### BERNT O. LINDBERG.

In reviewing the early history of Polk county and compiling a list of the old settlers who have done so much to develop the region into that of thrift and prosperity, a prominent place is accorded Bernt O. Lindberg, whose home is in Russia township, where he located in the early days of the settlement of that locality. He is proprietor of an excellent farm and has made his way to the front by industrious and honest efforts.

Mr. Lindberg was born in Hedemarken, Norway, August 21, 1852, and was the eldest of five children born to Ole B. and Astri Lindberg. His father died when our subject was but ten years of age, and the mother afterward brought the family to America. They located in Steele county, Minnesota, and there the mother later married. Our subject continued his residence at home until he was twenty-five years of age, when he purchased land and engaged in farming in

Steele county. He continued his operations there two years and then removed to Polk county, taking a homestead on section 34 of Russia township. His farm is devoted to grain raising and he has four hundred acres cultivated to wheat. For several years he hauled water with oxen from the river near Beltrami, a distance of four miles, and in 1885 he sunk the first flowing well in the locality, and he now has an unlimited supply of soft artesian water. He has endured many hardships there incident to pioneer life, and has encountered severe storms. On one occasion he was returning from Crookston with a yoke of oxen when the storm came upon him and he became lost. After a time he drove to an unoccupied shanty and this he broke into and thus provided shelter for himself and oxen, but was occupied the balance of the night in efforts to keep from freezing. Daylight revealed some buildings a short distance away and making his way to them he found himself at his neighbor's, Mr. Simmons.

Mr. Lindberg was married June 10, 1878, to Miss Marie Sampson, a native of Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Lindberg are the parents of the following children: Carl Oscar, Adolph, Bernhard, Clara, Ida, Christian, Melvin, Alma, and Tina. Mr. Lindberg assisted in the organization of his township, and has served as assessor for the past thirteen years. He is identified with the reform principles of the Populist party and is a man of broad ideas, who keeps pace with the times and lends his influence for good government, national and local. He is a member of the Lutheran church in Beltrami.

Mr. Lindberg gives a very interesting account of his hardships and trials in moving into a new country, as follows:

"When I removed from Steele county, Minnesota, on the 28th of September, 1880, I drove all the way up here, a distance of about 400 miles, with ox team and covered wagon. All that I owned I had it in that wagon, which consisted of my wife and two children, Oscar and Adolph. The youngest was only three months old. We enjoyed nice weather and good roads the first two weeks of our journey, up to the 14th of October, when it commenced to rain. We traveled in the rain all day. At night we camped near a farmer whose name is Knut Gilbertson, where I purchased hay for my stock. We had then reached a point seven miles north of Elizabeth City, in Ottertail county. During the night it commenced to snow, and the wind, which then was from the northwest, increased rapidly. In the morning when I got out of the wagon I found the snow to be at least six inches deep on the level and the air so thick that it was impossible to see two rods ahead. Mr. Gilbertson came out and asked us to come in the house, and

get warmed up. I accepted the invitation with thanks, and asked if he had any shelter where I could put my stock in, as they were suffering more on account of the storm than we were. He said he hadn't any room for stock, as his stable was full, but suggested that he would go with us to one of his nearest neighbors, a half mile distant, where we could get shelter for the stock as well as ourselves. I then yoked up the oxen and, started out, Mr. Gilbertson walking ahead of the oxen to show the way. After driving about one-fourth mile we got in a big snow drift and the oxen couldn't pull the load any further. I then had to unhitch the oxen from the wagon and Mr. Gilbertson drove the oxen and two cows I had with me, while I wrapped a quilt around my oldest boy and carried him, leaving my wife and baby in the wagon until we returned for them. After making a short road long, we at last found the residence of Thomas Lagraid, a very accommodating gentleman.

"Mr. Lagraid sent one of his boys with Mr. Gilbertson back to the wagon after my wife and baby. They found them without trouble, but on going back to Mr. Lagraid's they got lost and couldn't find the place. After considerable walking back and forward and almost exhausted, they came to a neighbor of Mr. Lagraid, where my wife had to stay three days, while the storm lasted. On the fifth day we started on our long journey to our future home, very discouraged, as I knew the roads would be in bad condition after such a storm. We landed on our homestead October 31st.

"BERNT O. LINBERG."

#### CHARLES W. SCRUTCHIN.

Charles W. Scrutchin, a prominent attorney of Bemidji, Beltrami county, whose portrait is shown in this work, has won his high position by his earnest work and progressive spirit. He is the leading colored attorney of the great northwest, and is a gentleman of broad mind, excellent education and stableness of character. He has held various official positions and is widely known and universally respected, and takes a leading place among the professional fraternity.

Mr. Scrutchin was born in Richmond, Virginia, of colored slave parents, September 11, 1866. His father, William Scrutchin, was born in Virginia, and the mother of our subject, Barbara Scrutchin, was a native also of that state. The parents left Richmond when Charles was but two years of age and located in Atlanta, Georgia, where he spent his boyhood until ten years of age. The mother was a servant in the employ of General Frank Wheaton, and was taken by him to Spokane, Washington. Our

subject received his first education in the common schools of that city and graduated later from the Spokane high school. He then entered the State University of Washington, and graduated with the degree of B. A. in 1890. He then entered the State University at Ann Arbor, Michigan, and graduated from that institution with the degree of LL. B. He took a post-graduate course in the same institution and received the degree of master of laws in 1894, and was admitted to the bar to practice his profession during the same year. He started his practice in Chicago, and was assistant south town attorney under the Hon. E. H. Morris, Chicago's eminent colored lawyer, holding the position two years, from 1895 to 1897. He then removed to Bemidji, Beltrami county, Minnesota, and opened his office for practice in 1898. He has a fine suite of rooms on the ground floor on Second street, and possesses a fine and extensive library and has built up an extensive practice. He is truly a self-made man, and has earned his way to the front. While attending college he waited upon the tables for his room and board, and during his vacations earned enough to pay his tuition for the succeeding term at college. He now owns a residence in the city of Bemidji and also his office building, his real estate being valued at fifteen hundred dollars.

Mr. Scrutchin was married August 27, 1900, to Laura Arnold. Mrs. Scrutchin was born in Alabama October 10, 1867. Mr. Scrutchin takes a considerable interest in all public affairs of local import. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and has taken the degree of Mystic Shrine, and is a member of Princo Hall lodge of Chicago. He is a Republican politically and is firm in his convictions. He is a gentleman of recognized ability in his profession, and was invited to deliver the graduating address at Ann Arbor, Michigan, in June, 1900, and his complete mastery of the subject treated on that occasion won for him the applause of all who heard him.

#### NILS S. LINDGREN.

Svea township, Kittson county, is settled by Scandinavians for the most part, and a more thriving district cannot be found within the limits of the county. Their farms bespeak thrift and good management, and honest industry has placed most of them in a position desirable indeed. Among this number a foremost place is accorded the gentleman above named, whose comfortable home is in section 4. Here he has passed over fifteen years of his life, and has devoted himself intelligently and profitably to agriculture. He now has one of the finest improved farms of the township and reaps a just reward for his many years of toil. His accumulations

amount to three hundred and twenty acres, and he follows diversified farming on the same.

Our subject was born in Sweden, January 3, 1862, and was the fifth in order of birth in a family of nine children born to Svan and Christina (Aukeson) Jenson. He was reared in his native land and remained there until he was twenty years of age. He heard of the possibilities of gaining a fortune in America, his brother, John S. Lindgren, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere, having preceded him to this country, and he decided to cast his lot with Americans and accordingly set sail for the new world in 1882. He arrived in this country with fourteen dollars and at once joined his brother in Minnesota, and on account of limited means did not begin operations as a farmer for himself at once. He worked for others for some years, and in 1883 entered claim to land in Kittson county, continuing his labors at other places until 1886, when his savings enabled him to commence the improvement of his own farm and he accordingly established his residence thereon and has since remained there. His home in the early days was rough in its construction and necessarily without comforts, but he has added to his possessions and has erected substantial buildings, and his present comfortable and commodious residence is in keeping with his progressiveness and good taste. He has built a complete set of good farm buildings and added other improvements to the place and now has one of the finest farms of the township, from which he derives a good income. He is assuredly one of the self-made and successful men of Kittson county.

Our subject was married in 1886 to Miss Christina Wallin. Two sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lindgren, who are named Alfred and Svan. Mr. Lindgren has become well known as a citizen of worth in his community and he has served as a member of the township board and is a firm supporter of public enterprises and projects. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and is a gentleman of exemplary character and well worthy his position as a farmer and citizen. Politically he is a Republican and stands firmly for his convictions, but does not seek public office, preferring to aid his community and labor for his adopted land in other channels.

#### TEDDY RICHARD.

Teddy Richard, residing on section 34, in Black River township, operates with his sons a farm of four hundred and twenty acres, situated in Black River and Red Lake townships. He is one of the oldest settlers of the county and has followed farming in that region since his early residence there, and has accumulated a good estate and gained an enviable name.

Mr. Richard was born in the province of Quebec, Canada, March 14, 1843, and was the eighth in a family of eighteen children. His parents, Augustine and Mary (Bancherd) Richard, were French-Canadians, and the grandfather and grandmother Richard were natives of France. The parents of our subject are now deceased.

Mr. Richard worked with his father at home on the farm until he reached his majority, and his schooling consisted of about six months in the French school. He went to Maine in 1874, and worked in the woods there, where he took his first lessons in the English tongue. He visited a brother at Dayton, Minnesota, in 1877, and from there pushed north in April to look at the government lands of Polk county. In April of that year he filed a homestead claim to land in section 21, of Red Lake Falls township, now in Red Lake county, adjoining the present city of Red Lake Falls. His family soon afterward joined him there, and he resided on that tract until 1883, when he disposed of the same and purchased the land he now owns. He went to that country without means, and after erecting a small log house and getting his family settled, he had but an ox team and fifteen dollars of personal property. He is now one of the substantial and well-to-do farmers of the county, and as he has had no assistance in advancing himself is truly a self-made man.

Mr. Richard was married, in 1870, to Emily Darwin. To this union sixteen children were born, eleven of whom are now living, and are named as follows: Mary, now Mrs. William Marlow; Edward, residing at home; Frank; Ida, a teacher; Fred; Mamie; Clara, a teacher; Ernest; John; George; and Josephine. Mr. Richard has always taken a commendable interest in local public affairs, and he has served as a member of the township board in Black River township, and otherwise aided in the local government. He is a member of the Roman Catholic church. Politically he is identified with the Democratic party.

#### JOSEPH FISH.

Joseph Fish, whose farming operations in Butler township, Ottertail county, have been attended by a remarkable degree of success, is a gentleman of good judgment and enterprising character. He is the owner of eighty acres of excellent land on section 9, and engages in diversified farming. He is widely known as a gentleman of sterling worth and well merits his good standing and success.

Mr. Fish was born in Syracuse, New York, September 23, 1850, and he was a son of Jerome and Saran Fish, both natives of New York. The father was a cooper by trade and followed his



occupation many years in Syracuse and also in Minnesota. During the 'fifties he went to Osceola, Polk county, Wisconsin, where he bought a farm. He enlisted in the Second Wisconsin Cavalry, and served during the Civil war, and at the close of the great struggle he went to Becker county, Minnesota, where he was engaged to look after the milling interests of a firm in Detroit. He entered a claim of eighty acres of land near that place, but did not prove up on the same, but later secured a homestead for the family. The mother died in 1859, and the father later married a widow lady, Mrs. Connoley, who became a second mother to the children. The father died in 1872, leaving six children, of whom Joseph was the eldest.

Joseph Fish attended the public schools of Wisconsin and learned his father's trade, and after the family went to Minnesota, he found employment at his trade and also worked at other occupations in Wisconsin and Minnesota. In 1876 he was steamboating on the Red river and later worked in North Dakota. He now has a profitable farm and follows mixed farming. He raises excellent wheat, corn and all grains, and has a flock of one hundred sheep and thirty-five head of cattle, eleven of which are milch cows. He is a patron of the creamery and intends increasing his dairy business. He has a pleasant home, well sheltered by shade trees, and adjacent are the barns, granary and sheds necessary to the economical conducting of the place.

Mr. Fish was married May 27, 1880, to Jennie Sanders, a daughter of A. S. Sanders, a farmer of Wisconsin. Mrs. Fish is a refined and intelligent helpmeet, and is appreciated by her friends for her kindness and neighborly qualities. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Fish, namely: George, who died in infancy, and Jessie, who was born February 24, 1887. Miss Jessie is a bright young girl, and is pursuing her studies in the schools near her home. Mr. Fish has been called upon to serve as a member of the board of supervisors and has filled this office for nine years. He casts his vote independent of party, and is a man of active mind and keeps abreast of the times in all important issues, lending his influence for good government, local and national. He is a wide awake, public-spirited citizen and well merits his enviable reputation.

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#### JOHN J. OLNES.

John J. Olness is a representative farmer and the most prominent business man of Kragnes township, Clay county, and to write the story of his busy and useful life affords a pleasure to the historian.

Mr. Olness has his general mercantile busi-

ness in Kragnes, near which village is located his thousand-acre farm. The store and farm are managed wisely and his efforts in either line judiciously directed have been crowned with rich success. He was born in Bergen Stift, Norway, August 4, 1863, being a son of Jacob and Kari (Quam) Olness. His mother died in 1875 and his father, who is a leading man in his native community, is now ninety-two years of age.

Mr. Olness grew to manhood in his native country, and completed a course of education at college in Sogndal. For some four years he was a clerk and bookkeeper, during which time he served ninety days in the army. In the spring of 1887 he came to the United States and made his way directly to Clay county, where he entered the employ of John Oberg, at Kragnes. In 1890 he formed a company and bought the extensive business of Mr. Oberg. In later years Mr. Olness bought out those associated with him, and is now the sole proprietor of the very extensive establishment.

In 1896 Mr. Olness purchased section 27, of Kragnes township, which lies just north of the village, and at once engaged in farming on a most extensive scale. On this place he has made good improvements, and has added to it by subsequent investment until it contains something over a thousand acres. The farm barn is 44x90 feet, and other buildings have been provided as the development of the place demanded. Mr. Olness is a stock fancier of intelligence and discrimination, and is now investing in full-blood short-horn Durhams. He is a Republican and served for some years as a member of the Republican county central committee. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and is a man of much character and standing in the community.

Mr. Olness was married, in 1891, to Miss Eliza T. Kassenborg, and to this union have come two children, Theodora and Josephine. She is a daughter of A. Z. Kassenborg and was born in Oakport township.

Mr. Olness is also local agent for the McCormick Company, and has made sales for them in his own locality for the last ten years.

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#### JAMES M. HOWES.

James M. Howes, the efficient and popular postmaster of Bluffton, is an old settler of Otter-tail county, and for many years was a prosperous agriculturist there. He now owns a valuable estate, the result of his many years of labor. His portrait on another page in this volume adds to the value of the book.

Mr. Howes was born in Beekman township, Clinton county, New York, in 1840. His father, David Howes, was a brick manufacturer and in

later life followed farming. He was a native of the state of New York. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Dradama Cook. Mr. Howes was the third in a family of eight children, and he was raised on a farm in his native state and attended the common schools. He enlisted December 16, 1861, in Company F. Ninety-sixth New York Volunteer Infantry, and was among the second lot of troops sent to the front. He was in the Army of the Potomac, and the first engagement was in Pennsylvania. There our subject was taken ill, and was discharged January 10, 1863. He saw hard, active service all of the time which he passed with the regiment, and returned to his home in poor health, liver and heart trouble having been brought on by his army life, and he has never fully recovered his health. For the first year after his return from the army he was unable to engage in any active pursuits, but in 1864 began farming in New York state. He went to Fort Howard, Wisconsin, in 1866 and worked at farm labor one year, and then returned to his New York home. After a year there he again went to Wisconsin and began farming for himself. In 1873 the family removed to Hancock county, and there our subject followed agriculture five years, and in 1878 came to Bluffton, Ottertail county, driving the entire distance, three hundred and twenty-five miles, in a covered wagon. He took fifteen days for the trip, and he arrived on the land which he had chosen in Bluffton township November 25, 1878. He had no money and his family stayed at a neighboring farm house until he could erect a cabin. This cabin was built in midwinter, and the first year no farming was done. Mr. Howes worked for others, and in 1880 raised a good crop of vegetables from two acres of cleared land. He raised his first wheat crop in 1882. He did the breaking of his land with oxen. He continued to improve the farm and resided thereon until 1894, when he removed to Bluffton because of ill health and rented the farm. He met serious losses by fire, in all about one thousand dollars at three different times, but he has surmounted all these difficulties and is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land. He was appointed postmaster of Bluffton in 1894 and has held the office since that date, and is an efficient and faithful officer.

Mr. Howes was married in 1867 to Miss Mary L. Roberts, a native of Plattsburg, New York. Mrs. Howes is of American descent, and her father, Rhuben Roberts, was a farmer by occupation. Mr. and Mrs. Howes are the parents of four children, as follows: Mabel, now married; Alice, also married; Lucinda, attending school; and George, attending school. Mr. Howes is an active participant in local affairs and has

been honored with various offices of trust. He was elected on the first township board and held the office five years, and in 1886 was appointed chairman of the board, which office he held four years. He is a Republican politically, and is a usual delegate for his party at county and state conventions.

#### PETER CHILSTROM.

Peter Chilstrom, an aged resident of the township of Isanti, Isanti county, whose years command the respect his industrious and well spent life sustains, was born on a farm in Helsinglund, Sweden, June 26, 1829, and was the third member of a family of four children born to his parents. He was reared on the farm, and received but a limited and inferior education. When he was about thirteen he struck out for himself, and has made his own way in the world since that early age.

Mr. Chilstrom was married in Sweden, in 1857, to Miss Betsy Johnson, and to their union have come two children, who were born in Sweden, Betsy and Mary, and five children, who were born in the United States: Carrie, John, Julia, George and P. August. In 1861 the family came to this country, where Mr. Chilstrom was sure he would find a better opportunity for getting ahead than the home country presented. He made his way directly to Isanti county, and settled on a farm in section 17, of Isanti township, being one of the very earliest settlers in this part of Minnesota. He put up a log house, 24x14 feet, and it was not until 1871 that he was able to own an ox team. For the first three years after his coming into Isanti county Mr. Chilstrom worked in the woods, receiving the first winter fourteen dollars a month, and taking all his pay in goods. He rafted on the St. Croix river to Stillwater, and was an energetic and hard-working man. After he secured his yoke of oxen, he spent all his time on his farm, then grown up to wild bush and timber. During the third year of his stay in Isanti county over a hundred Indians camped around his farm, and for years they roamed freely through all this region. Mr. Chilstrom has killed over two hundred deer in Isanti and Kanabec counties, in the old days when this was all a wilderness.

Mr. Chilstrom now owns a valuable farm of 154 acres, with about eighty-nine acres under the plow, the rest being in pasture and meadow. He has a good house, and the farm is well provided with suitable buildings. It is said that there is only one house in the town older than the one in which he lives.

What Mr. Chilstrom owns today represents hard work in no stinted measure. When he landed in this country he was in debt ten dollars for his passage money, and he has made a suc-

cess of his Minnesota farm. Mr. Chilstrom was a Republican until 1894, but since that time has been associated with the Populist movement.

The experiences through which Mr. Chilstrom has passed in making his home in the wilderness are very interesting and if fully written up would make a very valuable book. For years his nearest railway point was Anoka, and he has made the trip there many times with his ox team. In 1863 he was in the Indian war. In 1861 there were only twenty-one voters in Isanti county. He has seen the country transformed.

#### THOMAS RICHMOND.

Thomas Richmond, one of the well-known early settlers of Becker county, Minnesota, is a gentleman of good business tact, and is the owner of valuable property in that region. He is the present efficient and popular postmaster of Shoreham, Minnesota, and conducts a mercantile business, and is also connected with agricultural pursuits. He has a fine farm in Shell Lake township, which he has improved himself, and he also owns a commodious boarding house in Lake View township, his home being in section 20. He was born on a farm on the banks of the St. Clair river, in Ontario, Canada, September 9, 1859.

The father of our subject, Robert Richmond, was born in Yorkshire, England, and came to America when he was about sixteen years of age, and followed the blacksmith's trade throughout his life. Our subject's mother, who bore the maiden name of Mary Baxter, was also a native of England, and came to America when she was about twenty years of age.

Thomas Richmond was the sixth in order of birth in a family of eight children, and he was reared on a farm and educated in the common schools. He assisted his father with the work of the home place and at the age of twenty-one started for himself. In 1880 he went to Fargo, North Dakota, and during the summer seasons he worked at farm labor and spent his winters in the woods of Minnesota. He entered claim to land in Becker county in 1882, settling in Burlington township, and there began farming for himself. He purchased land in Shell Lake township, Becker county, in 1886, and followed agricultural pursuits there until 1889, when he entered the employ of the Pelican Valley Navigation Company and was with them six years engaged in boating. He erected his present home in 1894, and has also built a small store building, which he has stocked with general merchandise and enjoys a good trade. During the summer months his residence is converted into a boarding house and he has a liberal patronage in this line, being able to accommodate many. He has a house

containing twenty-two guest rooms, and he and his family reside there. He retains his farm of two hundred and forty acres in Shell Lake township, and rents the land to others. From this source alone he derives a good income, having placed good improvements and equipments on the place, and brought the land to a high state of cultivation.

Mr. Richmond was married, in 1881, to Miss Emma Abeleine. Mrs. Richmond is a native of Ontario, Canada, and was a daughter of George Abeleine, who was born in Germany. Her mother was also of German descent. Mr. and Mrs. Richmond are the parents of four children, who are named in order of birth, as follows: John, Mary, George and Thomas. Mr. Richmond was an early settler of that region and by his labors there has aided materially in its advancement and civilization, and is one of the influential citizens of his community. He has served as postmaster of Shoreham for several years, and is otherwise connected with local affairs. He is independent in political sentiment, casting his ballot for the best man in his opinion for local government, and he is a man of good ideas and progressive in nature, and well merits his high standing.

#### A. O. ANDERSON.

The young man of energy and ability is successful in his business and becomes a power in his state and community. He is widely known for these characteristics and when he has acquired a good patronage in business holds it and adds to his possessions as time goes on until he amasses a fortune of which one may be proud, knowing it has come honestly and as a result of his years of energetic labor. Such a man is the subject of this review. He came to Norman county, Minnesota, a young man without means, and during his few years' residence there he has gained a good patronage and a good name, and is proprietor of a fine establishment in Shelly, where he conducts a general merchandise establishment. He is a man of good business principles and excellent education, and is popular as a citizen. A portrait of him is shown on another page of this volume.

Our subject was born in Wisconsin, January 17, 1868. His father, Ole Anderson, was born in Norway, December 28, 1835, and the mother, whose maiden name was Sigrid Johnson, was born in the same country, September 19, 1839.

Andrew O. Anderson left Wisconsin at the age of fourteen years, locating in Steele county, North Dakota, where he worked on a farm until he was twenty-four years of age. He attended the Brufadt Academy and Business College at Portland, North Dakota, and in the spring of 1893

went to Shelly, Normal county, where he established a general merchandise store. He began operations on a small scale and has increased his stock as circumstances permitted and patronage justified, and he now conducts an extensive business and carries a stock of general merchandise valued at ten thousand dollars. His stock is complete and his prices compare favorably with the neighboring markets and he has a liberal trade. He is one of the rising young men of his community and has a host of friends who wish him success in his business career.

Our subject is a young man of exemplary character, and is a consistent member of the Lutheran church. He is a gentleman of broad ideas and is identified with the Prohibition party in political sentiment.

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#### PETER SARETTE.

Peter Sarette, one of the truly self-made business men of Cloquet, who have attained prominence as worthy citizens, is a man of good business ability and sterling character. He is a prosperous merchant of that village and has resided there since its organization.

Mr. Sarette was born in the province of Quebec, Canada, on a farm, in 1852. His father, Pierre Sarette, was a farmer by occupation, and was a native of Canada. The grandfather came from France and he later served in the war of 1812 on the English side. The mother of our subject was born in Canada and was of French blood. Her ancestors were prominent people, being attorneys, priests, etc. She died when our subject was but one month old. He was the younger of two children and was raised on a farm by his uncle and other relatives and was given little opportunity for gaining a schooling. At the age of fifteen years he left home and started for himself, learning the shoemaker's trade. At the age of seventeen years he came to the United States and followed his trade in various towns and cities of New York, and then went to Worcester, Maine, and later to Detroit, Michigan. He remained there five months and then started a shop for himself at Stony Point, Ontario. He continued in business there for ten years and built up a good business. In 1883 he went to Cloquet, Minnesota, and was among the first settlers of the town. He started in the liquor business, and continued this six months in partnership with others. During this time he worked at his trade and built up a good business for himself, and in 1884 he put in a stock of shoes, and in 1885 he added a stock of gent's furnishings, boots, caps, etc. In 1886 fire destroyed part of his stock, and the loss amounted to about sixteen hundred dollars. He at that time owned some lots south of the railroad

track and he erected a building thereon and was preparing to open his store in about a month, when fire again destroyed his store building. This occurred March 28, and May 8 he began business in a new house. He now has a store 24x62 feet, and this is well stocked with general merchandise, and his success and good business are due alone to his good management and honest dealings.

Mr. Sarette was married January 18, 1877, to Miss Julia Bone. Mrs. Sarette was born in the state of New York, and was of French blood. Her parents were natives of Canada, and her father was a farmer by occupation. Mr. and Mrs. Sarette are the parents of nine children, namely: Ella, Rosy, Willie, Harvey, Eddie, Freddie, Oliver, Eva and Allen. Mr. Sarette assisted in the organization of the village of Cloquet, and he has served as village and township treasurer and has been a member of the village council and board of supervisors. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World, and the Knights of the Maccabees, and is record keeper of the last named lodge. In political faith he is a Democrat.

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#### PETER A. THOMPSON.

Peter A. Thompson, proprietor of one of the fine farms of Vineland township, is an early settler of Polk county, and has accumulated a good property and gained an enviable reputation as a citizen. He is well versed in his calling, having followed the life of an agriculturist since his boyhood, and he has made the best possible use of his observations and practical experiences and is one of the intelligent and energetic men of his community.

Mr. Thompson was born in Vestre, Toten, Norway, August 21, 1845, and was the fifth in order of birth in a family of seven children born to Thomas and Mary (Peterson) Thomason. He was reared to farm life in his native land until he attained his majority, when he came to America in company with two of his sisters. He sailed from Christiania and landed at Quebec, Canada, and from there went to Columbia county, Wisconsin. He there worked on a farm for about eighteen months, while his sisters resided in Freeborn county, Minnesota. As soon as he had earned enough money to pay his indebtedness to them and pay his fare to Freeborn county he joined them there and worked in that county until 1873. He then went to Polk county, arriving about the middle of June, after a five weeks' journey with oxen via Georgetown, up the Dakota side to Belmont. On this trip he could not rest at night, as he had to watch the cattle else they would stray some miles from camp and he had to go for them in the morning before pro-

ceeding on the journey. After reaching Polk county he filed claim as a pre-emption on section 11, of Vineland township. This proved to be railroad land and he had to pay the railroad company seven dollars per acre and also pay for each cord of wood used. He resided on this tract until 1892, when he bought land in section 7, of the same township, and he has since been a resident there. He controls three hundred and twenty acres of good land, all of which is tillable. He marketed his first wheat in Fisher until the St. Vincent line of railroad was built, and his market place now is Climax. In the early days everybody's credit was good with the Hudson's Bay Company, and the settler could not have endured without this aid. The company furnished them with anything from thread to stock and machinery, but the prices paid were necessarily high. The first stove our subject owned was an ordinary affair and cost forty-three dollars. Coffee was three pounds for a dollar, flour eight dollars per barrel, and salt ten dollars per barrel.

Mr. Thompson was married, in 1871, to Miss Mary Peterson. Mrs. Thompson was of Norwegian parentage, and was born on the ocean. She died in 1877, leaving one son, Christian Thorvald. Mr. Thompson was married to Miss Mathea Thronson, of Norway, in 1879. Two sons born to this union are living, namely: Henry and Arthur. Mrs. Thompson died in 1885. Mr. Thompson married his present wife, whose maiden name was Mary Frederickson, in 1887. To this union seven children have been born, namely: Beta, Thea, Magda, John, Olaf, Peter and Hans. Mr. Thompson is a member of the Sandhill Lutheran church. He is a supporter of the People's party politically, and is a usual delegate to county conventions, and is an earnest worker for party principles.

#### WILLIAM WALDE.

William Walde, a well known farmer and blacksmith, who resides on section 26, Candor township, has been a resident of Minnesota for thirty years, and of Ottertail county since 1878.

Mr. Walde was born in Saxony, Germany, October 15, 1835, his parents, Carl and Fredrika (Smith) Walde, both being native-born Germans, and dying before young William was seven years old. William Walde attended the schools of his native community, and when he was fifteen was apprenticed to the blacksmith trade, which he learned thoroughly and well, after the old country fashion. At this trade he worked in Germany until 1861, when he came to this country, making his first stop in Wisconsin, where he worked at his trade two years, and was engaged in northern Michigan for about the

same time. After this, Mr. Walde went back to Wisconsin, and purchased a shop at Granville Station, Milwaukee county, carrying on a very successful business at that point for some three years. In 1868 Mr. Walde made his first appearance in Minnesota, when he bought a shop in Young America, Carver county, and worked at the forge for some ten years. In 1878 Mr. Walde disposed of his property in Carver county and located in Ottertail county. Here he has remained to the present time, coupling the blacksmith trade with the occupation of a farmer, and meeting with much success in this double labor. As a farmer he owns and cultivates one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he devotes to general farming, and producing equally good crops with his neighbors, has learned to take life more easily as age approaches, though he is still vigorous, hale and hearty.

Mr. Walde built in 1899 a large and fine appearing brick residence on an elevation close to the highway, and opposite to his workshop, which stands under a spreading shade tree across the road. His front porch commands a picturesque view of Loon lake, and from his steps a stone could be tossed into the waters; his home is pronounced the best residence in the township, its location is unsurpassed, and Mr. Walde is to be congratulated on this happy outcome of his long and industrious career. Mrs. Walde presides over this very attractive country home with dignity and hospitality.

Mr. Walde was married April 11, 1865, to Pauline Miller, a German compatriot, and daughter of Carl and Amelia Miller, farming people of Wisconsin, where they died full of years and honor. They had come from Germany in their youth, and by thrift and industry soon became forehanded. They reared a family of ten children in Wisconsin, and died on their farm. Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Walde four are now living: William, Frank, Louis and Oscar.

William Walde is married, is the father of three boys, Raymond, Elmer and Arthur, and owns a farm in Edna township. Frank is also married, and is engaged in the meat business in West Superior, Wisconsin. He is the father of two children, Leonard and Florence. Louis is unmarried. Oscar is single, and assists his father, both in the shop and on the farm. Thekla Mrs. Burgner (deceased) left two children, Mable and Walter.

Mr. Walde is prominent in local affairs, and has filled the offices of township treasurer, assessor, school treasurer, road master and supervisor. In his politics he is a Democrat, and is a familiar figure at the county conventions of the party.

Mr. and Mrs. Walde have been great workers through life, and have lessened each other's toil

by kindly consideration and an even temper. They live in peace and comfort in their declining years, and are greatly respected by all who know them.

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#### OLE C. LARSON.

Ole C. Larson, a prominent pioneer settler of Becker county, is proprietor of one of the finest farms of that locality, his home being located in section 8, of Hamden township.

Mr. Larson was born on a farm north of Trondhjem, Nomdalen, Norway, August 15, 1862. His father, Christian Larson, was a farmer by occupation, and he now resides with our subject in Becker county. The mother of our subject, who bore the maiden name of Beata Larson, was born in Norway, and died in Becker county, Minnesota, in 1888. Mr. Larson's grandparents were farmers and fishermen, and his grandmother died in Norway at the advanced age of ninety-nine years. The family came to America when our subject was six years of age, locating in Yorkville, Wisconsin, in 1868, and they later moved to Bloomfield, Fillmore county, Minnesota, and in 1871 took up their residence in Becker county, Minnesota, selecting land in Hamden township. Their first home was a dug-out in a side hill and they had but a few dollars in money, no provisions and no household goods or implements, and the date of their purchase of a stove for their humble home was accounted worth memorizing, and was October 15, 1871. For the first four years their crops were a failure and the father worked on the railroad, and our subject hunted and marketed game to provide provisions for the family. The father bought a yoke of oxen and a neighbor owned a wagon, and together he and the neighbor went to their farms overland from Fillmore county, a distance of four hundred miles, spending seven weeks on the trip, and enduring many hardships and encountering many dangers en route.

At the age of twenty-two years Mr. Larson rented his father's farm and operated the same two years, and in 1886 he bought land and began improving the same. He is now the owner of two extensive tracts of land, one of two hundred and forty acres and the other containing three hundred and eighty acres. He cultivates over three hundred acres annually, and his home farm is devoted principally to cattle raising, while his other tract is cropped in small grains. On both tracts he has a complete set of farm buildings, his home farm being fully improved and one of the finest farms of the county. The buildings include one of the best dwellings of that locality; a commodious horse barn and substantial cattle barn, two granaries, blacksmith shop, and all other outbuildings usual to a model farm, all of which are well located in a fine grove.

His cellar is stoned, as is also the cistern, and every appointment of the farm is well kept and evidences painstaking care in the operation of his farm. For the past twenty years Mr. Larson has engaged each season in threshing and he personally supervises the running of the machine and has never met with serious accident or delay in this business. He has all machinery for the operation of his farm, and has made a success of his chosen vocation.

Mr. Larson was married, in 1886, to Miss Carrie Moc, a native of Norway. Mrs. Larson was a daughter of Jake Moc, a shoemaker by trade, who spent his life in Norway. Mrs. Larson was raised on a farm, and in 1884 came to America. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Larson, who are as follows: Beathea, Caroline, Alpha, Lizzie, Christian and Hulda. Mr. Larson has always taken a hearty interest in the affairs of his locality and has held numerous township offices, including treasurer, assessor, and has served as delegate to numerous county conventions of the Populist party. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

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#### REV. MATHIAS BILBAN.

Rev. Mathias Bilban, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes church at Virginia, Minnesota, is a gentleman of finished education and earnest zeal. He was born in the village of Zapoge, Carniola, Austria, in 1863. The father of our subject, Casper Bilban, was a Slav, and a blacksmith by trade. He served in the Austrian army. Of a family of six children our subject was the third in order of birth. He was reared in his native village and at the age of ten years entered school at Laibach, where he attended until 1883. In October of that year he left for America, and from New York City went to Collegeville, Stearns county, Minnesota. There he attended the English school, and took up Latin and other studies with the intention of entering the ministry. He taught school in Ottertail county until 1885, then taught in the country, and later returned to Brockway, Stearns county, where he taught a short time. He then attended St. Thomas Seminary, at Merriam Park, Minnesota, and studied there six years, becoming very proficient in Latin, Greek and other languages. He was ordained a priest in 1892, and then assisted in several places in the archdiocese of St. Paul. He was called to Tower, Minnesota, in 1893, to attend the missions at Ely and Tower, and two years later took charge of the missions at Ely and Virginia, and in October, 1896, was appointed pastor of the church at the last named place, with the adjoining missions, Eveleth, Mountain Iron and Biwabik. He established the churches at Virginia and Eveleth, and built edifices in Eveleth



and Mountain Iron, and completed buildings already started, at Biwabik and Virginia, and at Eveleth has a flourishing congregation. The church at Virginia was dedicated at Christmas time, 1894, and the first pastor was Father Mevel. The church at Eveleth was dedicated October 22, 1899, and was built under the supervision of Rev. Bilban, as was also the church at Mountain Iron, which was dedicated in the fall of 1898. The Biwabik church was dedicated in 1893, and the edifice was started by Father Buh, and completed in the summer of 1900 under the pastorate of our subject. Rev. Bilban attends McKinley, Elba and Sparta, and has worked zealously eight years on the Missabi Range. His congregations include people of many nationalities, including English, French, Italian, German, Austrian, Polandish, Bohemian and Slavic, and our subject speaks all of these languages, and generally holds services in English, Austrian or German.

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#### OSCAR NELSON.

Oscar Nelson, one of the energetic and forcible characters of Isanti county, whose career is closely associated with the building up of the community in which he lives, was born in Jamptland, Sweden, in 1865, and is the fifth child in a family of six children born to his parents, Swedish farming people, who lived and died in the old country. He was reared and educated at home, attending for a short time one of the higher schools of the community, and acquiring a very fair education. His father owned a small store, and when young Oscar was about sixteen years of age he was put in charge of it, where he remained some two years. After that he attended school again, and also worked in lumber camps, taking some small contracts and displaying considerable business ability.

Mr. Nelson came to the United States in 1888, landing at New York, and arriving at Rush City, Minnesota, without money, but with a great spirit of hope and determination. He secured a position in a saw-mill, where he earned a dollar and a half a day, and from there he went to Duluth to work on the ore docks. There he received as high as four dollars a day. Mr. Nelson was engaged later in the employ of the Duluth Street Car Company, and still later in the quarries at Sandstone. After traveling extensively through Minnesota he located in Pine county, and began in the lumber business in Royalton township, where he put up a saw-mill in partnership with five other men. They made their start during the years of the panic, and it was difficult to do business. The mill was moved to Brunswick, Kanabec county, and here they did better. Mr. Nelson bought out his associates and became the sole proprietor of the business. In 1899 he

moved the mill to Andree, Isanti county. There he is doing a very successful business.

Mr. Nelson started a lumber yard and wood-working factory at Braham, Minnesota, in the fall of 1901, in partnership with G. M. Nordell, under title of Braham Lumber Company, and the two have expended some five thousand dollars in putting up a large and complete plant.

Mr. Nelson was married, in 1895, to Miss Salina Anderson, a native of Sweden, who came to the United States in 1893. To this union has come one child, Esther. Mr. Nelson has established his family on his Pine county farm, a choice place of eighty acres, well developed, and with a dwelling house on it said to be worth alone at least three thousand dollars.

Mr. Nelson is a Republican, and is one of the leading men of this section. His education in English was secured in a four months' attendance at a night school in Duluth, and in a business college at Minneapolis, where he attended some four months. His command of the language is good, and he is proud of his adopted country. A portrait of Mr. Nelson will be found upon another page of this work.

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#### ANDREW NORDGREN.

If determination turns on the road to success, the difficulties and hardships experienced on the way are afterward looked upon as nothing when the goal is reached. The gentleman above named was left without the care of a father or support at the age of eight years, and was the youngest of a family of seven children and naturally was less competent to provide for himself than were his elder brothers, but he is today one of the well-to-do and respected members of the farming community of Teien township, Kittson county, and has accomplished his success through his own endeavors. He has a farm of about three hundred acres and has placed good improvements on the same, and adds to the wealth of Kittson county by his labors and active spirit in the interests of his community and fellows, and in turn enjoys the confidence of all. His residence is in section 12, where he established his home some twenty years ago.

Our subject was born in Sweden, November 7, 1858, and, as above stated, was the youngest in a family of seven children born to John and Sarah (Olson) Johnson, both of whom are now deceased. The father passed away in Sweden, and the family remained in their native land for some time after the father's death. One son came to America in 1879, and from the favorable reports of the country which he sent to his old home the family decided to join him in the new land of promise, and they accordingly crossed the waters in 1880, and went direct to Minnesota.

They spent a short time in Kandiyohi county, and in the fall of that year went to Kittson county and spent the winter with the family of Mr. Westman. All members of the family entered claim to land and lived on the land which our subject now occupies. Our subject had borrowed funds with which to make his voyage to America, and with this debt hanging over him he was not enabled to at once begin operating his land or placing improvements on the same, but as soon as he could free himself from debt and buy a team and some machinery he began the development of the place. Few families who entered the unsettled country endured more privations than fell to the lot of our subject and his mother and the others of the family. Our subject secured work on the railroad, and was thus employed about a year when he bought a yoke of oxen and took up his permanent residence on his farm. He has remained to witness the development of that region and aid materially in the same, and he now has a fine property and enjoys easy circumstances.

Our subject was married, in 1884, to Miss Christina Olson, and two children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nordgren, who are named Theodore and Joseph A. Mr. Nordgren assisted in the organization of his township and was chosen the first township treasurer, which office he has filled continuously to the present time and has given satisfaction and gained the confidence of all. He is a member of the Swedish Mission church, and politically is a Republican. He is firm in his convictions for right and is loyal to his friends.

#### PETTER JOEL G. WINKJER.

Petter Joel G. Winkjer, a prominent young business man of Garfield, Douglas county, is the efficient manager of the Garfield Creamery Company works at Garfield, Minnesota. He is a gentleman of intelligence and thorough practical knowledge of the business which he conducts and well merits his success.

Mr. Winkjer is a native of Douglas county, Minnesota, and was born December 31, 1870, on his father's farm in the town of Moe. His parents were Gunder T. and Karen Annie (Helle) Winkjer, the former a well known and successful farmer, who has been established upon his present farm for thirty-five years. The paternal grandparents of our subject were natives of Norway and came to America in 1859 and passed their declining years with their daughter, Mrs. Foslien, in Douglas county. Gunder T. Winkjer, the father of our subject, was born in Norway in 1840, and at the age of nineteen years left home for the Australian gold diggings. He made a circuit of the world and returned to Nor-

way, and the same year, 1859, set sail for New York, and from thence went direct to Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he rented land and remained until 1866. He then went to Douglas county and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 1, in Moe township, upon which he and his wife now live in a comfortable home which they have acquired by their industry. He has added to and sold from his estate at various times, but still owns two hundred acres of well improved land, including the old homestead. He was married in Goodhue county, Minnesota, to Karen Annie Helle, and to this union eleven children were born, eight of whom are still living, and are named as follows: Toulo, proprietor of a meat market in Brandon; Petter Joel, our subject; Mary, Gideon, Lena, Johathan, Theodore and Lawritz Kraft. The children who are deceased bore the following names: Jonetha, Jonetha, and Josias, who died in infancy. The father, in addition to his farming interests, was for many years president of the Farmers' Elevator Company, at Garfield, and for eleven years was owner of the lumber yard in the same village, which he sold to the present proprietor, Andrew Gustafson. He is at present a patron and shareholder in the Garfield Creamery Company and has been a prominent factor in his neighborhood. While taking life somewhat easier than of yore, he still conducts a good farm, upon which he ranges thirty to forty head of cattle, and good crops of grain are raised. His original home there was a log cabin, but his present abode is a good substantial farm residence set in a grove of ornamental shade trees. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and is highly esteemed in his locality.

Petter Joel G. Winkjer received his early education in the public schools near his home, and alternated his studies with hard work on his father's farm. For two winters he attended Wilmar Academy in Kandiyohi county, Minnesota. Wishing to gain a thorough scientific knowledge of farming and dairying he went to the State Agricultural College at Minneapolis, Minnesota, and was there graduated in 1893. He afterward took a two-years course in the University. He is now devoting his attention to the creamery business, and in 1901 was one of eight out of eight hundred to receive honorary reward of merit, besides cash prizes from the Buttermakers' Association at Minneapolis. He is a stockholder in the creamery which he so ably manages, and has made the business a pronounced success in every respect. He is also proprietor of a general store in Garfield, and is destined to become a leader in the financial affairs of that thriving town.

Mr. Winkjer was married, August 7, 1897, to Helga Elizabeth Eggen, daughter of Adolph and Bereth Martha (Halsan) Eggen, both na-

tives of Norway, who came to America in 1880 and engaged in farming in La Grand township, Douglas county. Mr. Winkjer is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and is prominent in church work, filling the office of superintendent of the Sunday-school. He fills the office of justice of the peace in Garfield and enjoys the confidence of all with whom he has to do.

#### ANTHON H. GORDON.

Anthon H. Gordon, one of the pioneer business men of Hendrum, is widely known throughout Norman county, as he has resided there for many years and has gained a good standing as a prosperous and worthy citizen. He is senior member of the firm of Gordon & Rogness, general merchants, and the firm is one of the prosperous business firms of the town.

A. H. Gordon was born in La Crosse county, Wisconsin, April 1, 1867, and was a son of Hans Larson and Christie (Larson) Gordon, both of whom were natives of Norway. His father was a shoemaker by trade and after he came to America he followed farming, locating in Wisconsin in the early days of the settlement of that state. He enlisted in the army in 1863 and was in active service throughout the south. He resides in Shelly township, Norman county, and was one of the first settlers of that locality.

Mr. Gordon was the tenth of a family of eleven children, and he was one of twins. He was reared on the home farm in Shelly township in Polk county, now Norman county, the family having removed to that place when he was but four years of age. They made the trip from La Crosse county, Wisconsin, by team, taking about six weeks for the trip of five hundred miles. Our subject attended the common schools and one winter at Augsburg Seminary, in Minneapolis, and in 1885 he began clerking for his older brother, A. L. Gordon, in Hendrum. He remained thus engaged for about a year and then taught school two terms and clerked in a hardware store and lumber yard a good share of two years in Hendrum. He then, in company with A. M. Eckmann purchased the hardware and lumber business of H. M. Parker, and they continued thus under the firm name of Eckmann & Gordon for about three years. Our subject built a hardware store and conducted the same in Hendrum about one year for himself and then retired to farm life, taking up his residence on the tract which he purchased in 1891. He continued his labors there about three years, making a success of his farm, and he owned three hundred and twenty-five acres of land. In 1897 he moved his family to Hendrum and engaged in buying wheat for the Hendrum Elevator Company for about three years. He entered into his

present partnership with Ole P. Rogness, July 25, 1900, purchasing the business from the Hendrum Mercantile Association. The grocery department was established by Anderson Brothers in 1890, and the dry goods department was founded by O. O. Brohaugh in 1895. These last named stores were united in 1897, and were afterward conducted under the firm name of the Hendrum Mercantile Association. The stock is now complete and occupies a building 52x60 feet and is one of the largest general merchandise establishments of the town.

Mr. Gordon was married, in 1890, to Miss Susanna Mjolsness. Mrs. Gordon was born in Norway and came to America alone in 1887. Her parents now reside in Norway, and several of her brothers are in America. Mrs. Gordon died September 21, 1900, after a short illness, leaving a husband and five children to mourn her loss. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon are named as follows: Clara, Helen, Theresa, Herman and Lloyd. Mr. Gordon is one of the rapidly rising young men of Norman county. He is deservedly popular in public affairs and takes a hearty interest in the same. He has served as chairman of the township board and as justice of the peace and town clerk, and during his residence in Shelly township took a leading part in public affairs. He is a staunch Prohibitionist.

#### PETER STUHR.

Peter Stuhr, manager of the Minneapolis & Northern Elevator at Euclid, and a farmer of prominence in Euclid township, Polk county, was born in Germany, April 13, 1866. He has demonstrated the success that awaits young men of push and energy in the northwest.

Mr. Stuhr was the second in order of birth and the oldest son in the family of children born to Carsten and Elsie (Rogge) Stuhr. The parents now reside on their pioneer homestead in section 4, Euclid township.

When our subject was but a year old the family emigrated to America, and though the first few years of his life were passed in Boston, his earliest recollections are of the farm life in Goodhue county, Minnesota. There he passed his early boyhood days, picking up such education as the country schools afforded. In 1880 he removed to their new home in Polk county and did his full share of the work of developing the homestead farm. In 1891 he began work as second man in the elevator and also doing farm work. From 1893 to 1895 he had charge of the home farm. In 1896 he rented land and began farming on his own account. He was given entire charge of the elevator in 1899 (Mr. Misner was the manager of the elevator prior to 1899), and the business has since continued in his hands.

In 1896 our subject was married to Mrs. Bertha L. Misner. They are the owners of a comfortable house in Euclid and a farm of two hundred acres adjoining the village. To this union two children have been born, Florence and Gordon. By a former marriage Mrs. Stuhr has three children, Harold, Vesta, and Ruth. In political sentiment Mr. Stuhr is a Republican. He is treasurer and assessor of Euclid township, and has served as school director three years, and is now serving his second term of three years, making a six-year service when he has completed his second term as school director. He has taken an active interest in all local public affairs, and is a popular citizen. He is a member of the German Lutheran church and also holds membership in the Modern Woodmen of America, the I. O. F., and Royal Neighbors.

#### CURTIS M. CHAFFEE.

Curtis M. Chaffee is one of the representative farmers of Ottertail county, Minnesota, where he is living on his fine farm in section 21, Hobart township. He was born in Tioga county, Pennsylvania, December 29, 1857, and is a son of Wells and Bathia (Babcock) Chaffee, both farming people. The father was born in Pennsylvania, and the mother in Bath, New York.

When Curtis M. Chaffee was five years old his parents, with their family, then consisting of fourteen children, removed to Rochester, Minnesota. Curtis was the youngest member of this interesting family, which consisted of seven boys and seven girls. The father was a farmer, and the land which he bought on first coming into the state was sold by him a few years before his death, his home being made with his children, mostly with his youngest son, Curtis. He died at Pine City, Minnesota, in 1895, his wife having passed away the previous year. Three of their sons were in the Union army during the Civil war, one serving in a regiment of Minnesota artillery, and two in regiments from Pennsylvania.

Curtis M. Chaffee had his education mostly in the schools of Homestead county, Minnesota, learning the blacksmith trade in his youth, and also becoming proficient in carpentering and in mason work. For nine years he expounded the gospel according to the faith of the Seventh Day Adventists, having more than a local reputation as an orator and logician. He is also a noted violinist, and his manipulation of that king of musical instruments is regarded as that of a master. At the present time he is the leader of the Perham orchestra band.

After leaving school, while still a boy, he went into Faribault county, Minnesota, where he spent four years in the study of machinery

and in the mastery of the blacksmith trade. He is a thorough machinist, and holds a first class engineer's certificate. For a number of years he operated a threshing machine in the Minnesota harvest fields. In 1886 Mr. Chaffee came to Ottertail county, where, after a brief stop in Perham, he located in Amor township, where he was engaged in preaching for nine years. In 1895 he removed to Becker county, and four years later bought the farm he now owns in Hobart township, which consists of half the section. The tillable land he rents, and here he makes his home in a very comfortable place, working at the mason trade.

Mr. Chaffee was married September 26, 1880, to Mary Ellen Shirk, of Clayton, Fairbault county, a daughter of Jacob E. and Catherine (Snyder) Shirk, both born and reared in Pennsylvania, where their ancestors, of Holland extraction, had long been settled. Mr. Shirk was a sailor in his early days, and sailed the ocean, penetrating into all parts of the world. During the Civil war he served on board the U. S. S. Mississippi, commanded by Captain Dewey. Mr. and Mrs. Shirk had a family of sixteen children, of whom ten were boys, Mrs. Chaffee being the fourteenth member of the family.

To Mr. and Mrs. Chaffee have come a family of nine children: Grace May, now the wife of Edwin Dunhart, of Luce; Matilda M., Charles G., Clifford D., Ross J., Rill Bird, Leah M., Alta B. and Darwin A. Mr. Chaffee is a Republican.

#### ERIC GUSTAVUS OLSON.

Eric Gustavus Olson, a man whose industrious and useful life attests the quality of his manhood and shows his worth and character was born in Jemtland, Sweden, in 1856, and with his father came to this country in 1868. They landed in New York in 1868, and the following year came to St. Paul. They remained in the Minnesota capital about a year, and in 1870 entered Chisago county. They settled on a farm in that county, then largely an unbroken wilderness, and made their home in a log house, but it was like a palace, as it belonged to them. These were difficult times and much hard labor was to be done. The supplies needed for their simple living had to be brought from Rush City and boated across to the farm, often being carried on the back of the stout young lad. In 1874 the mother of the family died and this broke up the household. In 1875 Mr. Olson struck out in the world for himself, coming to Kanabec county, and finding employment for some years in the lumber woods and on the log drives. He was in the Red river valley for a time and his operations extended all over northern Minnesota.

Mr. Olson was married, in 1888, to Mrs. Betsy Hallboom. She was born in Sweden, and came to the United States in 1884. By her first marriage she was the mother of three children: Ella, John and Hannah. To her union with Mr. Olson have come four children: Walter, Alice, Mabel and Edwin.

Mr. Olson has secured and developed a very fine farm in Kanabec county, comprising one hundred and twenty acres, in sections 1 and 2, in Grass Lake township. In his earlier political activities Mr. Olson was a Republican; then he became a Prohibitionist, and is now a Populist. He was town clerk from 1883 to 1886, and from 1889 to the present time with the exception of one term. He saw the building of the first house in the village of Mora, and was the first town clerk in Kanabec county. As a Prohibitionist he was nominated both for county auditor and probate judge, and though not elected received a very complimentary vote.

#### ROBERT ARCHIBALD.

Robert Archibald, who enjoys the distinction of being one of the first to locate in the neighborhood of Deer Wood, Minnesota, is a prosperous and intelligent agriculturist, and enjoys all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life by dint of his own efforts as a pioneer. He has one of the finest located summer resorts of that locality, his farm having a mile of lake frontage, and he has made it an ideal spot for summer travelers and excursionists.

Mr. Archibald was born in Nova Scotia, on a farm, in June, 1844. The father of our subject, William Archibald, was born in Nova Scotia, and his family is of old Canadian stock and dates back to Revolutionary times. The mother of our subject, Diana (Hutchinson) Archibald, was of Scotch extraction. When young Robert was eleven years of age the family located in Minnesota, settling near Lake Minnetonka, in Hennepin county, in 1855. There was but one store in Minneapolis at that time. The father went into the big woods and opened up a farm and built a log cabin, and passed through pioneer experiences there. On this farm our subject passed his boyhood, and at the age of eighteen years he enlisted in Hatch's Indian Battalion to fight the Indians in Minnesota. He served three years in Dakota and Minnesota, and was mustered out of the service in June, 1866. He then returned to Minneapolis and worked on a farm, and in 1870 went to Duluth. He followed the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad as far as Deer Wood, and there took a homestead in 1872. For two years previous he had been in the government employ as surveyor in Crow Wing and Aitkin counties and traveled over a large part of the

country afoot. He also worked on the Northern Pacific Railway between Detroit and Fargo. He followed farming on his homestead and lived alone on the place about fifteen years, and did a great deal of trapping and hunting, and killed many bear and deer and had many thrilling experiences. He has been a progressive farmer and was the first to introduce the culture of small fruit into that region. During one season he shipped two thousand five hundred quarts of strawberries and about one thousand quarts of raspberries from his place. His home is pleasant and well located, and he entertains many summer boarders. He was the first to conduct a boat house at Deer Wood.

Mr. Archibald was married February 1, 1887, to Mrs. Oleson. Mrs. Archibald's father, Ole Oleson, was a tradesman and came to America with his family in 1881. He followed farming in Crow Wing county. Mrs. Archibald was born in Norway. She was married first in Chicago to Andrew Oleson, a carpenter by trade. One son was born of this marriage, namely: Clarence. Mr. and Mrs. Archibald are the parents of four children, all of whom were born on the farm at Deer Wood, and are named as follows: Douglas William, Israel D., Edgar O. and Robert I. Mr. Archibald takes a commendable interest in local public affairs and has done his full share in the upbuilding and development of his locality. He has served as township supervisor most of the time for the past fifteen years and also as constable, and is a public spirited and esteemed citizen. He is a Populist politically, and formerly was identified with the Republican party and principles.

#### HENRY L. LEWIS.

The wealth of Douglas county is made up in large measure of the incomes from the various highly cultivated and well-improved farms, and that owned and operated by the gentleman above named is among the number. Mr. Lewis resides in Holmes City township, and his residence there has extended over a period of over thirty-five years, in which time he has formed an extensive acquaintance and has gained the esteem and highest confidence of all.

Henry L. Lewis was born in Sweden, August 20, 1845, and was a son of Peter and Carrie Lewis. The mother died when our subject was an infant, and the father and stepmother brought the family to the United States in 1857. After landing at New York they went to Clayton county, Iowa, where the father's brother resided, having preceded the family eight years. Peter Lewis settled to farming, which was his life occupation. He died on his Iowa farm in 1885.

Henry L. Lewis worked on his father's farm

and attended school when a boy, as opportunity offered, but his chances were limited for obtaining a good education, and his education has been self-acquired.

At the early age of eighteen years, in 1863, Mr. Lewis enlisted in Company I, Twenty-seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry, under Colonel Gilbert, and from Davenport went to Vicksburg, joining Sherman's army. Afterward he was with the Red River expedition under General A. J. Smith, and fought for his adopted country in the battles of Pleasant Hill, Jellaby, Tupello, Nashville, Mobile, Fort Blakely and other places, and although he participated in some severe fighting he escaped injury. He obtained his discharge from the service at Memphis, Tennessee, January 20, 1866. He then returned to his father's home, where he remained two months to recuperate and then went to Douglas county, Minnesota. He secured a homestead of 160 acres of land in section 22 of Holmes City township. He sold this tract two years later, and then, in partnership with Jonas Swenson, bought one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 15, of Holmes City township, and here he now makes his home. In 1871 he bought his partner's interest in the farm and has since added to his possessions and is now the owner of two hundred and fifty acres of fine land. One hundred and thirty acres is situated in section 15 and one hundred and twenty acres lies on section 16. His residence is a large handsome building, located near the timber on a high slope of ground, with good barn, granary and cattle sheds near by. Ornamental shade trees and well cultivated fields adjacent make it one of the pleasantest homes in that part of Douglas county. The farm is adapted to all kinds of grain and for the raising of cattle, and Mr. Lewis keeps about twenty or thirty head of cattle.

Mr. Lewis was married, June 7, 1873, to Christina Fahlin. To this union the following living children have been born: Albert, who is engaged in mining in the iron mines of the St. Louis Company in northern Minnesota; Christine, Hattie, and Oscar, who has served two terms as page in the legislature, served in thirty-first and thirty-second sessions. He is one of the most popular boys of the state. He is now fourteen years of age. Oscar Lake church, a large building with a lofty spire, is located on part of Mr. Lewis' farm. This is a Swedish Evangelical Lutheran church, and the family are members of this denomination. Mr. Lewis has lived long and worthily in his neighborhood, and all who know him esteem him for his many good qualities. He has held various official positions in his township almost continuously since taking up his residence there a third of a century ago, including assessor, supervisor, member of the school board,

of which he is treasurer, and has filled the position of town treasurer the past fifteen years and is the present incumbent. On the Independent ticket he was elected to the state legislature, in 1884, and faithfully served his constituents two years. Mr. Lewis is an ardent Republican and has always been such. His portrait appears elsewhere in this volume.

### JOHN GRATZEK.

John Gratzek, one of the first Polish settlers of Marshall county, resides in Wright township, where he has built up a home of great comfort. Of the eleven members constituting the first colony of Polanders to settle in Marshall county, but two remain, our subject and Frank Kurowski. The settlement has increased, however, and now occupies some of the finest farms of eastern Marshall county. None have done more to further the interests of the settlement than Mr. Gratzek, and he stands the recognized leader in public and social affairs.

Mr. Gratzek was born in Prussian Poland February 5, 1855, and was the fourth in order of birth in a family of seven children born to Andreas and Catherina (Guzman) Gratzek. When he reached the age of eighteen years he realized that little hopes of advancement or even a life of comfort was offered in the land of his nativity and he decided to seek a foreign land and there try his fortune. He met a man of his own nationality, who had passed a year in America, and in 1873 he decided to cross to the new world. He arrived in Chicago with four companions, and for some years was employed at different kinds of work. His experiences during these years would make an interesting volume if related by him. The comical, though natural blunders of a stranger in a strange land must be of interest to all and his first impressions of our country, his mastery of the English language, his efforts to secure work, and his feeling when taken past his destination by the conductor of a train, with his blunders at farming, when recounted by him make him an interesting companion for an evening's chat. He worked in Illinois and Michigan nine years, and in the spring of 1882 went to Stephen, Marshall county, Minnesota, and homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 8, in Wright township. His wife soon joined him in his new home, and their capital of nine hundred dollars was used in the improvement of the place, but it was three years before he could enter extensively into farming. He is now the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of excellent land, and he has placed valuable improvements thereon, including a handsome residence, built in 1900, one of the finest of the township.

Mr. Gratzek was married, in 1877, to Miss



Valeria Schuffetowski. Mr. and Mrs. Gratzek are the parents of eleven children, namely: Sallie, Lucy, Angie, Thomas, Praxada, Mary, Amelia, John P., Edmund, Wanda and Frank. Mr. Gratzek is a gentleman of good mind, and although he received but three months of English schooling, he is well versed in the language and is also possessed of knowledge of Polish, German and Bohemian. He is awake to the interests of his community and has been called upon to serve in various local offices, including chairman of the township board and clerk since 1885. Politically he is a Democrat, and wields great influence with the Polish element in local affairs.

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#### ANDREW J. KELLEY.

Andrew J. Kelley, who for over a quarter of a century has aided in the advancement and development of the agricultural resources of Polk county, Minnesota, owns a pleasant home in Crookston township and engages successfully in diversified farming. His farm is on the banks of Red Lake river, and no more ideal spot can be found for diversified farming or pleasantly situated home.

Mr. Kelley was born in La Grange county, Indiana, September 3, 1845. His grandfather served in the Revolutionary war, and his father, John Kelley, was wounded by a tomahawk and left for dead on the battle-field of Tippecanoe in 1811. He was instilled with loyalty and a love of liberty, which served to make of him a brave soldier of our Civil war. His early boyhood was spent on his father's farm, and in 1862 he offered himself as a volunteer in defense of the Union. The recruiting officer objected to his enlistment on account of his being but seventeen years of age, but Mr. Kelley insisted, mentioning the fact that his grandfather and father had each done their duty with the gun and he proposed to do his duty in defending what his ancestors had established and bravely fought for. Despite his youth the approval of the officer was won and Mr. Kelley conducted himself with credit throughout the war, distinguishing himself at Knoxville by leading a party of six in firing a stone mansion which was the key to the Confederate position. The undertaking being hazardous, volunteers were called for, and our subject promptly said, "I'll go, for one." After firing the house the party returned in safety to their comrades, although bullets whistled thick and fast about their heads. In recognition of this service congress voted our subject a medal for gallantry.

After the close of the war our subject attended college at Adrian, Michigan, and in 1869 he accepted an official position at the penitentiary

in Jackson, Michigan. In 1873 he read of the possibilities of the new northwest, and on account of failing health he decided to seek a location for a home in Minnesota. Upon his arrival at Detroit, Minnesota, the official at the land office directed him to what was then known as Red Lake Crossing, now Crookston, a city of 7,000 inhabitants. He took a pre-emption claim there, and later purchased two hundred acres of land and afterward took land on his soldier's homestead right. He now has a farm of four hundred and eighty acres, of which one hundred and sixty acres are timber. All is on the north bank of the Red Lake river and is within a two-mile drive of Crookston. It is a fine farm in every particular, and its value has been greatly enhanced by the improvements placed thereon by Mr. Kelley and the painstaking care he has bestowed upon its cultivation and development.

In 1869 Andrew Kelley was married to Miss Ella Fleming, a daughter of Rev. Fleming, of Burr Oak, Michigan, a scholar of some note. To this union the following children were born: Herbert A., now in Alaska, a surveyor in the employ of the Canadian government; Edwin F., who enlisted in the Spanish-American war; Clara M., married and residing near her parents; Mabel M., a graduate of Crookston high school, engaged in teaching; Maude E., residing at home; Lulu C., also a graduate of Crookston high school; and Leonard, a youth of fourteen years. Mr. Kelley is heartily interested in local public affairs, and assisted in the organization of Crookston township, and since its organization has served as town clerk. He is a man of intelligence and true worth, and enjoys well-merited esteem and respect of his fellow men. His portrait will be found on another page of this work.

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#### LEE WEBSTER.

Lee Webster, young and energetic, and one of the most stirring and wide-awake business men of Hinckley, Minnesota, was born on a farm in Compton county, Canada, in 1858, and is the son of Homer Webster, who was all his life a farmer. The Webster family has long been established in Canada, but comes of English origin. Homer Webster married Phoebe Parker, a member of an old Canadian family, but of German descent.

Lee Webster was the second member of a family of seven children, who were born and reared on the farm, who secured their education from the common schools, and were inured to hard work from an early age. When young Lee was twelve years old he went out from home to work for himself, and since that time has supported himself. Seven years later he broke

away from home entirely, and in 1877 transferred himself and his little store of worldly goods to Minnesota, which he had determined should henceforth be his home. His first location was in Goodhue county, where he did farm work for six months, and the same year he came to Pine county to take a position as a lumberman. For a number of years he was busy in the woods during the winter season, where he worked mostly as a teamster, and in the summer as a saw-setter in the mills. In 1886 Mr. Webster took a position with the Hurley Brothers, at Hinckley, and remained in their employ some four years. In 1890 he opened the first furniture store in Hinckley, in a two-story building, 25x75 feet. This was the most extensive store of the kind in the county at that time, and at once became a popular center of trade. Mr. Webster also did an undertaking business, and carried a full line of supplies for that branch of his trade.

At the time of the Hinckley fire, in 1894, Mr. Webster was mayor of the city, and had gone far in the way of prosperity. But that fierce conflagration was a sore calamity to him. In it he lost his wife, all his property was swept away, and with the utmost difficulty his own life was saved in the gravel pit.

After the flames had died away, Mr. Webster called the first meeting of the citizens, and helped to rekindle the enthusiasm that afterwards restored Hinckley. The day of the fire Mr. Webster was out doing what he could to stay the progress of the flames. He had left his wife in the store, and about three o'clock in the afternoon he decided they must go to the gravel pit, telling his wife to get ready. Then he went out to the barn and turned his horses loose, and back again to the store, but he never found his wife, and does not know what became of her. She was burned somewhere beyond recognition.

Mr. Webster opened a meat market in Hinckley, November 1, 1894, it being the second place of business in the town after the great calamity, and here he continued until January, 1895. December 17, 1894, he opened a general store, the second in the town after the fire, in company with John K. Anderson. This was a considerable establishment, and occupied a store room, 28x60 feet, first floor and basement, with a warehouse 40x38 feet. This was the largest store in the town, and here he carries drygoods, clothing, boots and shoes, farm machinery, furniture, groceries and undertaking goods, being a licensed undertaker. The store offers to the public, as Mr. Webster says, everything that people need from the cradle to the grave. In 1898 Mr. Anderson sold out to H. V. Miller, and the present style of the business is that of the Hinckley Mercantile Company, the two owning the business. It has become very successful.

Mr. Webster was married in the fall of 1889

to Miss Belle Miller, who perished in the Hinckley fire, as noted above. In the spring of 1896 he was again married, Miss Nellie Brennan becoming his wife. She was born in Ireland, and came to this country when a little girl. Her father, Dennis Brennan, is employed on the railroad.

Mr. Webster is a Republican, and was mayor of the town during 1894. From 1895 to 1899 he was village treasurer, and has always taken an active part in county and other gatherings of his party, and is an earnest and wide-awake citizen. He is among the earliest settlers of the county, and has done his full share in its development.

#### ABRAHAM S. HOILAND.

Abraham S. Hoiland, a prosperous and influential farmer of Halstad township, resides in section 16, and is the possessor of four hundred acres of choice land. He has one of the finest farms of the township, and can review a well-spent career. He entered his present farm when it was raw prairie and he has aided materially in producing the wealth enjoyed in that locality, and is one of the worthy and esteemed citizens. He was born in Egersund, Norway, January 3, 1853.

The father of our subject, Sigvald Hoiland, was a blacksmith by trade and followed farming as an occupation. The grandfather of our subject, Erick Hoiland, was also a farmer in Norway. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Martha Abraham Grosfield. She and our subject's father came to America, and both died in Norman county, Minnesota. They reared a family of seven children, of whom five grew to maturity. One son, Erick, died in 1882. He was an old settler of Norman county, and gave the site for the Augustana Lutheran church. Our subject was the third child in the family, and was raised on the home farm and received such education as was gained from the common schools, which in his early life were held in the homes of the farmers of the neighborhood. He assisted with the farm work, and at the age of eighteen years emigrated to America and settled with a sister in Wisconsin, and the following year the others of the family came to America. Our subject engaged in farming in Wisconsin about seven years, and then made a trip to Norway after the lady of his choice, whom he had known in his native land. Upon his return to America he followed farming one year in Wisconsin, and in 1879 went to Norman county, Minnesota, where he bought school land. He had a team of horses, a wagon, and his household goods, and he and his brother farmed in partnership. He built a log house and lived over two years on rented land. He had lost his effects in

Wisconsin, in 1874, by fire, and hail destroyed his crops for some years after he located in Norman county, but he persisted in his labors and is now the fortunate owner of four hundred acres of land, of which about sixteen acres is timber, and the balance is mostly under cultivation. He has a complete set of substantial and commodious farm buildings, including barn, granary, blacksmith shop, and all necessary buildings for a model farm, and his machinery includes everything from a hoe to a threshing machine. He has followed threshing for the past two years with good results. His residence is situated in a grove of trees and is a pleasant and peaceful retreat.

Our subject was married in Wisconsin to Marie Berg. Mrs. Hoiland is a daughter of Mikkell Berg, who is a farmer by occupation, and is the oldest Norwegian voter and citizen of Norway, having reached the age of one hundred and one years, July 18, 1901. Ten children, nine of whom are living, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hoiland, and they are named as follows: Severt M.; Mikkell; Edward; Sophia; Milla; Thomas; Amanda; Tilla, deceased; Tilla; and John. Mr. Hoiland is prominent in local affairs and has served many years as township supervisor and school clerk. He is a Republican politically and has been a delegate to numerous county and state conventions. He is a gentleman of exemplary character and is a member of the Lutheran church. In 1888 Mr. Hoiland and his wife and four children visited their parents and relatives in Norway, remaining in their native land about six months.

#### AUGUST NELSON.

August Nelson, a prosperous farmer of section 20, in Sullivan township, is the owner of a section of land, most of which is under plow, and was one of the well known men of Polk county.

Mr. Nelson was born on the farm Hesta-Skalla, in Linerad, Sweden, July 12, 1848. He was the youngest of a family of eight children born to Mungus and Mary (Munson) Nelson, both of whom are now deceased. In 1878 he and his brother started for America and went direct to the Swedish settlement at Center City, near St. Paul. Soon afterward four young men struck out afoot from that settlement to Lake Superior. Our subject worked mostly at carpenter work in Duluth. He worked on the railroad a year and then in a sawmill at Thompson, Minnesota, and there remained until 1877, when he settled on the farm he now owns. Two years prior to this he had visited the valley and looked over the Goose River valley in North Dakota. Upon his arrival at his farm he had one thousand

eight hundred dollars. He bought his right for four hundred dollars and also bought one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land on payments, and before he harvested a crop he was in debt. As he started his company gave him a carload of lumber, and he erected the main part of the house he now owns, which at that time was noted as the handsomest dwelling in the township. He raised grain exclusively and labored on his farm persistently and has succeeded in gathering about him a fine property and is truly classed among the self-made men of that region.

Mr. Nelson was married in 1873 to Miss Ida Ellingson. Mrs. Nelson died in 1889. To this union five children were born, who were named as follows: Edward, Tilda, deceased, Annie O., Carl E., and Otto, deceased. Mr. Nelson was married to Miss Martha Berg, in 1891. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Nelson, namely: William and John. Mr. Nelson takes a commendable interest in local public affairs, and he has served almost continuously for the past fifteen years and has filled the offices of chairman of the township board and member of the board and of late years has been treasurer of the same. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and in political sentiment is a Republican.

#### JOSEPH E. BOUVETTE.

Joseph E. Bouvette, editor and proprietor of the Kittson County Enterprise, is one of the widely-known men of his profession, as well as one of the pioneers of the northwest. He was born in Minnesota, and his life has been spent in that region. It is filled with incidents, many of them connected with the Indian times in that section, and of later years our subject has been identified with the growth of civilization and has aided materially in the same. He is a man of intelligence and integrity and is held in the highest esteem by his fellow men. He has resided in Hallock for some years and has met with success in his vocation.

Our subject is a native of St. Cloud, Stearns county, Minnesota, and was born August 17, 1861. He was the third in order of birth in a family of six children born to Frank and Mary (Goudri) Bouvette, and he received a good education in the common schools wherever he resided in his boyhood. The family started for Fort Gary in 1866, but upon reaching the International boundary line, their outfit with which they traveled, consisting of about two hundred Red river carts, was captured with Louis Riel, leader of the northwest rebellion, who was then operating against the British, with O'Donahue, the Fenian leader, and were detained some days. This delay, and afterwards meeting with British forces

who were coming to garrison English Fort (now West Lynne), which Riel had under capture, and the frequent Sioux Indian outbreaks west of Pembina, caused our subject's father to change his course and he accordingly settled near Fort Pembina, North Dakota, which was then being built, and in command of Colonel Wheaton, now operating in the Philippines. Fort Pembina was at that time garrisoned by four companies of the Twentieth United States Infantry and two companies of cavalry, affording good protection against Indians to the white settlers who were at that time pushing west in large numbers.

This was the wildest of wild country at the time, and amid these surroundings our subject was reared. He, however, received a good education in English, and also speaks French, Cree and Chippewa. He made the best of his opportunities and when about fifteen years of age he entered the office of the Pioneer Express, and remained there eight years, learning the trade thoroughly. He was appointed inspector of customs at Fort Pembina, North Dakota, during Harrison's administration and held the office nearly four years. He also served two years as deputy state game warden for the state of Minnesota under Governor John Lind. In 1894 he purchased the Kittson County Enterprise, which he has since conducted. The paper was established in 1882 by W. F. Wallace, who sold the plant to E. H. Love, from whom our subject purchased the same, and he has made a success of the paper. It is a strictly Democratic organ, and has a good circulation, and is considered one of the bright exchanges of the newspaper world of northern Minnesota.

Mr. Bouvette was married, in 1895, to Miss Nellie E. Chevins. Two children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bouvette, upon whom they have bestowed the names of Clifford W. and Mildred E. Mr. Bouvette is prominent in public affairs of local importance, and has served six years as chairman of the Democratic county central committee. He is also serving at present on the congressional committee, and is a gentleman who keeps pace with the times and is earnest in his convictions. His success as a newspaper man is well known, and is due to his integrity of character and broad mind. A portrait of Mr. Bouvette will be found on another page of this volume.

#### ALEXANDER CHERRY.

Alexander Cherry, one of the foremost business men of Becker county, Minnesota, is engaged in the general merchandise business at Cormorant. He is also the owner of valuable farm land and is one of the substantial citizens of his locality.

Mr. Cherry was born in Scotland, July 13, 1855, and was a son of Neil and Jenneth (Walker) Cherry, both of whom were born in Scotland. He came to America with his father at the age of seven years and they first resided in Pennsylvania. They lived there ten years, and in February, 1873, went to Minnesota, locating at Farmington, where they remained five years. Mr. Cherry then went to Becker county, locating in Lake Eunice township. He bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 32. This farm is under high cultivation, and he is also the owner of fifty acres of timber land. He conducts a general merchandise establishment in Cormorant township, and has met with pronounced success in his business operations. He carries a stock valued at two thousand four hundred dollars, and this is complete in every line. He also owns a grist mill and residence in the village, and has charge of the postoffice at Cormorant. He is a popular official and discharges his duties faithfully.

Mr. Cherry was married, in June, 1882, to Catherine Glann. Mrs. Cherry was born in Germany, July 13, 1863. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cherry, namely: William H., Ray H., Neil C. and Clarence A. Ellen died at the age of five years. Mr. Cherry is a member of the Lutheran church and Mrs. Cherry is a member of the Presbyterian church. They are highly esteemed in their community. Our subject is prominent in local public affairs, and is heartily interested in the welfare of his locality, and has served as township clerk of Cormorant, and school clerk. He is a member of the United Workmen Lodge of Detroit, Minnesota. In political sentiment he is a Republican, but takes little interest in political affairs and does not seek public office. His residence there has been marked by persistent and faithful labor and honest dealings and he has attained a deservedly high standing.

#### DR. JOHN M. SETNAN.

Dr. John M. Setnan was one of the rising young men in the medical profession of Otter-tail county. He stood very high in the rank of his fraternity and enjoyed an extensive and growing practice in the city of Fergus Falls and the surrounding country. He was a man of high attainments and very conscientious in the performance of his duties.

Dr. Setnan was born near Trondhjem, Norway, in 1869, where his father followed the occupation of a farmer. During his boyhood he lived on the farm and attended the common schools until the age of fourteen, when he began a course of private instruction. In 1886 he came to the United States and at once settled in Minneapolis, where he was employed in a

store for nearly two years. He began studying at the Minneapolis Academy in the winter of 1888, and two years later entered the academic department of the University of Minnesota. After three years of study here he entered the medical department and graduated in 1896 with the degree of M. D. While at the academy and and university he earned the money necessary to pay his way by doing outside work. Soon after graduation he opened an office at Sacred Heart, Minnesota, and began the practice of his profession. He succeeded in building up a large practice and met with such excellent success that he soon began to look about for larger fields. In May, 1900, he removed to Fergus Falls and in a very short time obtained a very extensive practice. During the early winter of 1901, partially through overwork and partially through exposure, he contracted a severe attack of grip. For a time he continued to work, but it was not long before he got so bad that he was compelled to quit altogether. He then sought the advice of eminent specialists in Minneapolis, but only to find that his lungs were already affected by tuberculosis. Upon their advice he threw up his practice and about the first of May left Fergus Falls, as it proved, never to return. Two weeks later he went to New Mexico, in hopes that the southern climate might benefit his health. This hope was vain. He died at Albuquerque, New Mexico, June 7, 1901.

Thus ended altogether too early a bright and very promising career. As a man of culture and varied attainments, Dr. Setnan was looked up to by all who knew him. He stood very high in his profession and had he lived it is safe to say that he would have taken his place in the very front rank. Dr. Setnan was married to Miss Mathilda O. Berg, of Sacred Heart. Mrs. Setnan is a native of Minnesota, her father being Rev. J. E. Berg, a minister of the Lutheran Synod.

#### OLE LARSON.

Ole Larson is one of the oldest and most respected farmers in the town of Kurtz, Clay county, where he owns a half section of land, which has been greatly improved by his thrift and industry with buildings and all the belongings which go to make a first class Minnesota farm, and to give it more than a local reputation as one of the finest and choicest farms of the town. Mr. Larson was born in Christiania Stift, Norway, in 1852, and made his way to this country in 1871, spending a year in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and then coming to Clay county to purchase a small tract of land. Here he worked for Ole Thompson for some years before he settled down to farming in the '70s. Conditions were not very favorable for the farmer in this part

of the state, and it was some time before Mr. Larson made up his mind to build on his place, doing so on a very limited scale when he finally did build. When he came into Clay county he was owing money and what he has gained he has hammered out by honest toil and hard work. In 1894 he erected a good residence, 26x32 feet, and in 1898 a barn 28x64 feet. He has a very pleasant home, situated on an eminence overlooking Red river, and affording a delightful view.

Mr. Larson is a Republican, and is much respected in the community where his honest and industrious career has brought him comfort and a competence, if not affluence, while still in the prime of life.

Mr. Larson was married, in 1875, to Miss Ingaborg Swanson, and to this union have come the following children: Christine, who married J. R. McLeod; Louise, a graduate of the Fargo Business College, and engaged in business as a stenographer; Genia is dead; Julia is a student at the Fargo Agricultural College; Lewis is taking the mechanical course at the Fargo College; Randie, Swen, Elmer and George are the younger children of the home.

Mr. Larson has been a successful grain farmer, and has had as high as forty-two bushels of wheat to the acre.

#### CHARLES BRENDEMUEHL, JR.

Charles Brendemuhl, Jr., the third son of Charles A. and Mina (Fink) Brendemuehl, was born near Rochester, Minnesota, June 17, 1871, and as a young man but lately established in farming he has made a remarkable record. He has harvested but three crops, in Kragnes township, and his success with these crops has been such that he has been able to so substantially improve his farm, that to-day it presents an appearance that invites comparison with the best rural homes in the county. His first two crops of wheat, beginning with that of 1898, the year in which he began farming, averaged him twenty-two and one-half bushels to the acre, a most remunerative yield. That year he built a snug little house, which is neatly and attractively finished and furnished. It has a brick basement; there is a deep well adjoining, other conveniences and improvements are provided; and the place may be regarded as a model and typical Minnesota farm. A windmill gives power for grinding feed and pumping water. He has a well prepared system of rotating his crops, and his clean fields are evidence of his thorough cultivation of his land. He has two hundred and forty acres of well improved land.

Mr. Brendemuhl is a Democrat, and for two years has served as assessor of the town. In 1898 he was married to Miss Hulda Peohls, a

daughter of Christian and Lizzie (Krabbenhoft) Poehls, now residents of the town of Elmwood, Clay county. To this union has come one child, Lena. Mr. and Mrs. Brendemuhl are well situated, and the future appears very bright to them. They are among the best people in Kragness township. He has lived in this vicinity for twenty-two years. Mrs. Brendemuhl was born in Iowa and came with her parents to Clay county when about two years of age. Portraits of both Mr. and Mrs. Brendemuhl are shown on another page in this volume.

#### CHARLES HYATT.

Charles Hyatt, whose hospitable nature and kindness have attached him to the people of Ottertail county, is proprietor of a fine farm in Dunn township and a summer resort on the banks of Lake Lizzie, one of the finest lakes of the famous lake region of Minnesota. He is surrounded by all the comforts of life and passes his declining years amid his many friends, enjoying the results of his many years of labor as a pioneer of that locality.

Mr. Hyatt was born in Cold Spring, New York, April 1, 1833, and was a son of Alvey and Prudence (Gray) Hyatt, both of whom were also natives of New York. He attended the schools of his native state and learned the machinist's trade and continued there until he was twenty-four years of age, when he went to Buffalo, New York, and worked at his trade on the railroad and in the Government Machine and Engine Works. He engineered the work on the tunnel under the Niagara River in 1875, completed for the Buffalo water power and City Water Works, and in 1876 took up his residence in Ottertail county, Minnesota. He selected land on the banks of Lake Lizzie and built a residence there in 1878, which was the first house in the county. In 1879 this building was burned with its contents. Mr. Hyatt purchased land in Dunn township, and now has eighty acres on the bank of the lake. On this tract he has a comfortable and commodious residence and other buildings and a summer resort on the bank. This is located eight miles from Pelican Rapids, Minnesota, and the lake is six miles long and two miles wide. It is stocked with black bass and pike, and other fish, and is one of the ideal summer resorts of the region. The sojourners there may choose between the cottages for their use or board at the home of Mr. Hyatt, and at very reasonable rates he furnishes boats, fishing tackle, and other equipments for sport and pastime, including a steam launch which accommodates forty persons. These are included in the rates for board, and no more hospitable

host can be found in the locality than Mr. Hyatt.

Our subject was married in 1853 to Mary Evaline Wayant. Mrs. Hyatt was born in the state of New York, March 10, 1851, and died October 1, 1894. To this marriage three children were born, namely: Adalaide, Lillian I. and Evaline G. Mr. Hyatt is a prominent citizen of his township and has served in various offices of trust, including supervisor, justice of the peace and school treasurer. In political sentiment he is a Republican. He has recently paid a visit to Cuba. Starting from his home near Pelican Rapids, Minnesota, in 1899, he went to New York City, where he remained one month and then took passage on a steamer for Habana, landing there December 1. He went to the home of his brother, George W. Hyatt, in Wanatacoa, Cuba. His brother is mayor of that city and inspector of public works in the machinery department. He is also the owner of a large sugar plantation in Habana and owns one of the largest machine shops in that city. After landing, our subject was ushered into General Ludlow, brigadier general, of whom he obtained permission to enter Morro and Cabana fortresses and all the government works of Habana. After remaining in Cuba two months he returned to New York, from where he went up the Hudson river for a three weeks' visit and from thence returned to his Minnesota home, after a profitable and delightful trip.

#### LEWIS SWORD.

Lewis Sword, whose neat and well kept farm in section 31, of Isanti township, Isanti county, attest the skill and industry of its owner, was born in Jefebergs Lane, Sweden, on a farm, in 1860, and is rated today among the most successful farmers of this part of Minnesota.

Ole Sword, the father of Lewis, was a life-long farmer. He emigrated from Sweden in 1868, bringing his family with him, and settled in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where for some time both he and his wife found work among the neighboring farmers. In 1871 they removed to Isanti county, living in Isanti until 1874, when they settled on section 31, taking up a farm, and building a shanty, 12x14 feet, as their first home. For some half a dozen years Mr. Sword drove an ox-team and hauled all his supplies from Anoka, the trip being made many times by young Lewis, then a stout and husky lad.

Lewis began working out when he was only thirteen years old. After that time he made his own living. About 1886, shortly after he had bought his first team of horses with which to do



the farm work in place of the oxen he had so long used, the elder Sword retired from active farm work, and turned the management of the place over to his son, Lewis. The farm consists at the present time of one hundred and forty acres, with about seventy-five under cultivation, and the rest in pasture and meadow. Grain, hay and potatoes are the principal crops. It is a well improved and equipped farm, and is handled in a manner calculated to secure the largest returns.

Lewis Sword was married in 1882 to Miss Hulda Sondell. She was born in Sweden, and came to this country with her parents. Her father, John Sondell, is now a farmer of South Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Sword have a family of five children, Minnie, Hilda, Arthur, Ida and Emil, all of whom were born on the farm.

Mr. Sword is independent in his political views, but favors the Democracy. In local affairs he takes an active part. He belongs to the Congregational church.

The Swords, both father and son, have done their full share of pioneering, and have come to their present comfortable situation through privations that would have discouraged weaker men. The father came to this country without a penny, and the son started for himself when only thirteen years old, with nothing but his own good right arm to befriend him.

#### ANDREW MUNSON.

Andrew Munson, one of the prominent young business men of Neilsville, Polk county, is the owner of a fine farm adjoining the town and has extensive financial interests.

Mr. Munson was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, August 11, 1866, and was the only son of three children born to Knute and Carrie Monson. His parents were natives of Bergen, Norway, and the father came to this country in about 1851, and served in the Civil war as a member of the Eleventh Missouri Zouaves. He received three bullet wounds in his thigh, two of which were extracted, but the third he carried until his death. The grandfather of our subject emigrated from Norway to America and soon after arriving in this country took a claim in Houston county, Minnesota, and was an early pioneer of that region. Our subject's father lived on this farm for a time and later bought land in Fillmore county, where our subject was reared.

Andrew Munson remained at home until 1887, when he went to Polk county and bought a homestead. He controls one hundred and sixty acres of land, all of which is under cultivation, and he rents out his farm to others. His land is on the east side of the track ad-

joining the town site of Neilsville and is well located and well improved. Mr. Munson makes his home in the thriving town of Neilsville. In this town are found two general stores, one hardware store, one hotel, one restaurant, one meat market, a harness shop, a temperance saloon, two blacksmith shops, two feed mills, three elevators, two lumber yards, a livery barn, a five-room school house, and the United Lutheran church, of which O. H. Brodland is pastor. Mr. Munson is engaged in buying grain for the Northwestern Elevator Company, whose headquarters are in Minneapolis.

Mr. Munson was married in 1886 to Miss Anne Nordby. A daughter, now eight years of age, survives the wife and mother, who died January 15, 1900. Mr. Munson is an active member of the Modern Woodmen of America, which has a thriving camp at Neilsville. He is a Republican politically and cast his first vote for General Harrison. Since residing in Polk county he has held the office of justice of the peace two years and township clerk for ten consecutive years.

#### PETER S. NELSON.

Peter S. Nelson, until recently the genial and popular postmaster of Argyle, is a well known business man of Marshall county, and his business methods and honesty of purpose have gained for him a host of warm friends. His portrait on another page of this volume will be greatly appreciated by all who know him.

Mr. Nelson is a native of Westre Gausdal, Norway, born July 1, 1860. He was the fourth child in a family of ten children born to Simon and Olia (Nelson) Nelson. Of this family all but two of the children now reside in America. When Mr. Nelson was sixteen years of age he entered a general store in Lilihammer, Norway, as clerk. Six years later he decided to come to America, and on his arrival here he joined his brother, residing at Baldwin, Wisconsin. He shortly after obtained a position in Minneapolis, as clerk. After serving in that capacity four years he established a grocery business on his own account in that city. In 1890 Mr. Nelson sold his grocery business in Minneapolis and spent the winter in visiting former friends in the old country. Returning in 1892 he came to Argyle in the capacity of clerk for Olson & Holen. He remained with that firm six years, and in 1898 he received the appointment of postmaster of Argyle. He is proprietor of a confectionery and notion store which he conducts in connection with the postoffice.

Mr. Nelson has proved himself a capable business man and a thoroughly reliable and trust-

worthy citizen. He has been honored by his townsmen with the important office of city treasurer, and has performed his duties to the public with faithfulness and fidelity. He has taken a commendable interest in public matters, and gives his support to the principles of the Republican party. He is a member of the Lutheran church, a Master Mason, and also affiliates with the I. O. O. F. and the Modern Woodmen of America. In order to devote more time to his rapidly increasing mercantile business Mr. Nelson resigned the position of postmaster, July 1, 1901.

#### HARRISON GUILLES.

Harrison Guiles, deceased, one of the earliest settlers of Douglas county, and an ex-soldier of the Civil war, was a gentleman of exemplary character, and gained a host of friends during his long residence in Holmes City township, and was deeply mourned by all at his demise.

Mr. Guiles was born in Montgomery county, New York, and was a son of William and Margaret Guiles, natives and farmers of the Empire state. His parents went to Holmes township, Douglas county, Minnesota, in 1865, making the journey from New York by team and wagon, occupying a period of eleven weeks. They were the parents of thirteen children, the eldest being Harrison, our subject. Four of the sons fought for "Uncle Sam" in the Civil war and were loyal and brave soldiers.

Harrison Guiles was reared on his father's pioneer farm and when the first call for volunteers was made in 1861 he enlisted in Company F, New York Volunteers, at Binghamton, New York. He was a soldier in the Army of the Potomac for two years and participated in the first and second battles of Bull Run and in minor skirmishes. He received his honorable discharge papers at Elmyra, New York, in 1863. He received no bounty, as many did, when he enlisted, and the pay of the soldier was small at the commencement of the Civil war. He survived the war more than thirty years and refused to apply for a pension. An application for the same was made by his widow in 1900 and was granted by the government.

Mr. Guiles remained in New York state until 1865, and then went to Douglas county, Minnesota, where he secured a homestead of one hundred and sixty-four acres in the timber, previous to the government survey. It proved to be on section 14 in Holmes City township, and this is still the home farm. A log house was built in 1865 and a start made toward the clearing of the farm. This house was strongly built and sheltered the family for twenty-two years. It was replaced by a commodious and well appearing frame residence in 1887. Mr. Guiles

cleared the timber from most of his land and brought the fields to a fine state of cultivation and raised good crops of grain. He had a small herd of seventeen head of cattle and forty sheep, and like conditions remain on the farm at present.

The marriage of Mr. Guiles was solemnized at Milburn, New York, March 12, 1864, when he led to the altar Jennie E. Darling, a native of Broome county, New York. They became the parents of ten children, all of whom are living, and are as follows: Ada Lincoln, who claims New York for her native state, is the wife of Charles Shear, of Garfield, Douglas county. She has a family of five children, two of whom make their home with their grandmother, Mrs. Guiles; the second child and first born in Minnesota, is Cora L., the wife of Michael Johnson, a farmer of Holmes City township; Lena, wife of George Leoffler, a mechanic of St. Louis county, Minnesota; Alice Eugenie, wife of Thomas Johnson; L. H. married Minnie Van Loon; John W. married Caroline Brandon; William R., who resides at home and assists his mother in the management of the farm; Muriel V.; Ethel L., wife of Jack Johnson; and Francis J. The parents of Mrs. Guiles remained in the East. The father was of Connecticut Yankee stock and the mother of Scotch-English parentage. Mrs. Guiles is an estimable lady and intelligently manages her farm and business affairs. She lives happily in her pleasant, hospitable home, surrounded by the younger members of her own family and several of her grandchildren.

Mr. Guiles died March 22, 1896, deeply mourned by his family and many acquaintances. He was laid to rest in the cemetery not far from where he lived for so many years. He was prominent in local affairs and was a man of active public spirit. He served his township as justice of the peace, and member of the school board, and supervisor, and was chairman of the last named board at the time of his death. He was a man of industrious habits and exemplary character, and in his death the community lost a faithful and worthy citizen.

#### REV. M. O. STOCKLAND.

Rev. O. M. Stockland, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church, of Eveleth, St. Louis county, Minnesota, is an earnest worker and popular minister.

Rev. Stockland was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, May 22, 1864. His father, Oswald Stockland, was born in Scotland, and came to America in 1844. He settled at Oshkosh, in Wisconsin. He served in the Civil war. Our subject's mother was of Irish descent. Of a

family of seven children Rev. Stockland was the eldest. He was raised in his native city and attended the public schools there, and graduated from the Oshkosh high school at the age of seventeen years. He then followed railroading a few years as trainman in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and also in Mexico. In 1888 he entered a theological seminary, in Chicago, and graduated therefrom in 1891. He was ordained deacon by Bishop Vincent in 1894; an elder by Bishop Hurst in 1892, and was then appointed pastor of the M. E. church at Frisco, Oklahoma, and preached there two years. He was transferred to northern Minnesota in 1896, and served as pastor of the church at Aitkin two years, when he was appointed pastor at Eveleth. The Methodist Episcopal congregation at Eveleth was organized in 1895, and a church edifice was erected the same year. Rev. L. F. Merritt was the first pastor; Rev. Severt Stevens was the second pastor, and our subject the third. He has accomplished much in the way of church work since taking up his charge there, and has a large following.

Rev. Stockland was married, in 1895, to Miss Agnes E. Lee. Mrs. Stockland was born in Marshfield, Missouri. To Rev. and Mrs. Stockland three children have been born: Vincent, Marvin and Robert Lee.

#### ANDREW ANDERSON.

Industry, honesty and economy are the stepping stones by which this gentleman has reached a high station in agricultural and business circles. He is president of the Hallock Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and is also engaged in farming in section 12 of township 160, range 50, in the civil township of Red River. He has a fine property which is highly cultivated and improved by good buildings, and represents many years of labor for Mr. Anderson in Kittson county. He is a citizen of foreign birth, but is devoted to the interests of his adopted land, and manifests the true spirit of American independence and progress. His farm covers a section of land, and is well adapted to diversified farming, to which our subject has devoted the same.

Mr. Anderson was born in Sweden, April 11, 1857, and was the third child and oldest son born to Ola and Margaret (Olson) Anderson. The family crossed the water in 1869 and located at Red Wing, Minnesota, where the father secured land, and our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits. In the spring of 1881 Mr. Anderson secured free transportation to Kittson county, and arrived there without a dollar. He began working at farm labor and also clerking in a store at Kennedy, and later secured his land. He was unable to begin operating the farm, how-

ever, on account of no means with which to furnish teams and supplies, and it was not until 1884 that he began farming and the improvement of the place. He has since devoted his attention to his farm, and has met with remarkable success in the same. He has erected good buildings and otherwise improved the place and it is now one of the fine farms of that locality and is in striking contrast in appearance to the land as Mr. Anderson first beheld it. The first settlers of a country know more of the region as time goes on than the present purchasers of land, who either purchase what others have partially or wholly improved or are enabled to judge by the surrounding estates what can be accomplished in that locality with the land not yet occupied. It is no easy task to select land from a wilderness or boundless prairie which will insure good results from improvement and cultivation, and the fact that the farm now owned by our subject has proven all that is desired is striking evidence that good judgment and foresight are dominant in Mr. Anderson. These, coupled with industrious habits and economy in work and expenditure, have placed him in a foremost rank among the agriculturists of his community.

Mr. Anderson was married, in 1882, to Miss Hilda Mattson. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, who are named as follows: Awley, Martha J. and Nannie. The Hallock Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company was established in 1886, our subject being the instigator of the plan, and he is now serving as president of the company. He is identified with no political party and is held in high esteem because of his non-partisanship. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church.

#### REV. GEORGE E. TINDALL.

Rev. George E. Tindall, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church, at Frazee, Minnesota, needs no introduction to the people of that region. His active labors for Christianity in Minnesota during the past decade have endeared him to his people and brought most pleasing results to himself and for his cause. He was born in Simcoe county, Ontario, Canada, December 23, 1861.

Mr. Tindall's father, Joseph Tindall, was a farmer by occupation, and was a son of James Tindall, a native of Devonshire, England, and the first of the family to settle in America. Our subject's mother, Susan (Keam) Tindall, was born in Bodmin, Cornwall, England. Of a family of seven children, four sons and three daughters, born to this worthy couple, our subject was the third in order of birth. He now has one brother residing in Chicago, Illinois. Rev. Tindall was reared and educated in the country schools and at Bradford high school, and also

in the Collegiate Institute, at Barrie, the county seat of Simcoe county. After two years' study there, and attending the normal school six months, he received a teacher's certificate, entitling him to teach thereafter without further examination. He followed his profession five years in the village schools of his native county, and in 1890 he entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was preparing to take the examination to enter the Toronto Conference, when he received communications from his friends in the west urging him to enter the ministry in Minnesota, and in May, 1890, he went to his new location. He received his first charge at Ada, Minnesota, from Rev. J. B. Hingeley, presiding elder of the Fergus Falls district, and he continued in charge at Ada eighteen months. He was admitted to the Minnesota conference, in October, 1890, and was then returned to Ada and reappointed for the year following, and began his conference course of study. He was appointed pastor at Melrose in October, 1891, and spent one year there, and in October, 1892, was appointed pastor at Grove Lake, Polk county, where he continued his labors four years. In 1896 he was placed in charge of the Staple congregation in Todd county, and remained there as pastor two years, and in October, 1898, went to Long Prairie, the county seat of Todd county. He was appointed pastor at Frazee, Becker county, in October, 1899, and reappointed in October, 1900, again in 1901, and is now serving as pastor of that church. He is an active worker for temperance and reform, and while pastor at Long Prairie was president of the Anti-Saloon League. It was through his agitation that these leagues were formed and he took an active part in the work of the league. He is also active in Epworth League work, and has served on the district cabinet in Crookston district during the entire life of the organization, and has taken an active part in organizing chapters in different parts of the district, and has organized at least six chapters. He is now serving his fourth year as district secretary of the Epworth League, and was sent as representative, in 1901, to the fifth international convention at San Francisco. He does not confine himself strictly to work within his denomination and leads an active life for Christianity and philanthropy. He superintended the construction of the parsonage at Staples, and the church building at Frazee was dedicated during his first year there, and through his efforts the building has been completed and is entirely free from indebtedness.

Rev. Tindall was married at Bradford, Ontario, in November, 1893, to Mary McAfee, who was born in Simcoe county, Ontario, Canada, in April, 1863. Mrs. Tindall is a daughter of Robert McAfee, who is a farmer by occupation. She is a lady of refinement and high attain-

ments, and was before marriage a devout member of the Presbyterian church, and a constant worker for Christianity. Four children have been born to bless the home of Rev. and Mrs. Tindall, who are named as follows: Mathew E., Lena May, George B. and Anna Pauline. All were born in Minnesota. Rev. Tindall casts his vote with the Prohibition party, but is not prejudiced as to party principles and lends his influence for good government and the uplifting of his fellowman.

#### ARTHUR P. TOUPIN.

Among the early settlers of Red Lake county who have aided materially in the development of that region and have become influential citizens and prosperous business men, a foremost place is accorded Mr. Arthur P. Toupin. This gentleman is engaged in the real estate, loan, insurance and collection business, and has met with success in his financial affairs and enjoys a wide circle of friends as a citizen.

Mr. Toupin was born in Montreal, April 16, 1866, and is the eighth of a family of nine children born to Louis and Esther (Fortier) Toupin. The parents were of French extraction and the grandparents were natives of France. When our subject was three years of age the family removed to the copper regions of Michigan, and in the spring of 1878 they took up their residence in Polk county, Minnesota, and the father homesteaded land in Red Lake Falls township, then in Polk county. Their homestead was but one mile from the present city of Red Lake Falls, a town then unthought of, and Crookston was their nearest town for six years. Our subject's first labor there was following an ox team and turning the prairie sod. Their home was a log house 16x20 feet. The father disposed of his farm there in 1886, and removed to his present home.

Mr. Toupin was married at the age of eighteen years, and was thus enabled to claim a homestead, although not yet reached his majority. He selected land in section 15, of Poplar River township, which he improved and resided on for six years. In 1890 he entered the employ of Johnson & Marshall, and bought wheat for four years and dealt in farming implements. In 1895 he entered exclusively into the farm machinery business in partnership with Joseph Helm, and in 1896 disposed of his interest in the business and engaged in his present business. He is interested in farming to a considerable extent and is developing a fine farm three miles from the city, which is one of the best tracts of the county. He is a director of the First State Bank, and is one of the substantial business men of Red Lake county.

Mr. Toupin was married, in 1884, to Miss

Laura Pouliot. Mrs. Toupin is one of the earliest settlers of that region, having resided there since 1877. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Toupin, namely: Delia M., Joseph, Ernest, Dora and Irving. Mr. Toupin served as village and city recorder for many years, and nine years as secretary of the school board. He is a Republican politically and has been a delegate to county and state conventions of his party. He is a member of the Catholic church, I. O. O. F. and G. O. F.

#### CHARLES HOLMBERG.

Charles Holmberg, a well known business man of Cloquet, Minnesota, is a worthy citizen and highly esteemed by all. He has been a resident of that city for the past thirteen years and has gained a prominent place among the public-spirited men of his community.

Mr. Holmberg was born in Stockholm, Sweden, November 3, 1860. His father, Carl Holmberg, was a captain in the army and served many years. Of a family of six children, our subject was the fifth in order of birth. He was raised in his native city and attended the common and private school and received a liberal education. At the age of sixteen years he entered a wholesale grocery house and worked as clerk seven years in Stockholm. He came to America in 1886, landing at New York July 26. He obtained a position there with a ship brokerage company and spent two years in New York City. In July, 1888, he located in Cloquet, and spent one year in a grocery business. 1890 to '92 he was manager of a general store at LaPrairie, Minnesota, for Mauson & Company, when he returned to Cloquet and opened a grocery store. He continued in business two years, and then entered the employ of August Peterson as clerk in the gents' furnishings and clothing store. He was thus engaged until 1898, when, upon the death of Mr. Peterson, he was placed as manager of the business and he has since conducted the business and has met with pronounced success in this line. The business was established by Mr. Peterson in 1886 and was conducted by him until his death until 1898. It is now a 25x60 feet store, and Mr. Holmberg carries a complete line of gents' furnishings, boots, shoes, hats, caps, clothing, etc., and conducts a large and increasing business.

Mr. Holmberg was married in November, 1899, to Mrs. A. Peterson, *nee* Murry. Mrs. Holmberg was born in America, of Irish parentage. She is the mother of four children by her former marriage. Mr. Holmberg is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias, and the Scandinavian Relief Lodge. Politically he is a Republican, but does

not enter actively into public affairs and lends his influence for good government. He is accounted among the progressive business men of Cloquet and his success and good name are well merited.

#### ARTEMUS C. PACKARD.

Artemus C. Packard, a prominent early settler of Oak Valley, Ottertail county, resides in section 1. He has a fine estate there and enjoys a fitting reward for a well spent career. He is an old soldier, and fought bravely for the cause he loved.

Mr. Packard was born on a farm in Rutland county, Vermont, in 1831. His father, Nathan Packard, was a farmer. The family came to America in the Mayflower in 1620. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Celia Holton, was a native of Vermont, and was of Yankee stock also. Our subject's father served in the war of 1812, and his ancestors served in the Revolutionary war.

Mr. Packard was the eighth in a family of nine children. He resided in Vermont until he was fourteen years of age, when the family came to Illinois and settled in Cook county, eighteen miles from Chicago. The father died when our subject was but four years of age. When he was eighteen years old he left home and went to Iowa, and after three years there went to Wisconsin. After spending three years there he returned to Illinois and resided there eighteen years, engaged most of the time in farming. He conducted a hack line while residing in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. He disposed of his farming interests in 1875, and came overland with ox-teams and covered wagon to Ottertail county, Minnesota. He spent one month on the journey, and camped out with tent. He had previously visited Ottertail county, and he selected land as a homestead in section 2 of Oak Valley township. This was the first homestead taken in the township, and his log house built thereon was the first erected in the township. The land was covered with timber and brush, and he broke his first land in 1876 and raised a good crop the following season. He farmed with oxen for seven years, and for the first two years depended upon game and its sale for a living. The hind quarters of a deer sold in 1875 brought him \$10.72, and during that winter he sold sixty-four dollars' worth of furs. Mr. Packard progressed well with his farm work, and is now the fortunate owner of two hundred and forty acres of good land. He has a substantial and comfortable residence, and good barns, granary, wagon shed and other outbuildings, and has a good supply of modern machinery. A creek runs through the farm and supplies good water for stock and the watering of his land.



He has plenty of small fruits and wild fruits. A fine tract of timber furnishes ample shelter for the house and buildings.

Mr. Packard enlisted in Company A, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, and was sent down the Mississippi, the first engagement being at Cape Girardeau, Missouri. They then went to Little Rock, Arkansas, and on to Louisiana. At Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, thirty-four men went into a skirmish and but fourteen came out of the engagement, and of this number four were wounded. They went to Mississippi and conquered General Forrest, and then to Louisville, Kentucky, and finally engaged in a nine-days' battle at Mobile. Mr. Packard was in hospital at Montgomery, Alabama, and in August, 1865, was discharged from the service. Five times his clothes were pierced with bullets, but he escaped without injury. He is a member of the G. A. R.

Mr. Packard was married at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, in 1853, to Miss Malinda B. Mathews, a native of Kentucky. Mrs. Packard's father died in Kentucky when she was a child. Mr. and Mrs. Packard are the parents of twelve children, of whom the following are now living: Sidney, Julia M., Walter, Celia, Stacey, Dora, and Guy. All the children are grown and are engaged in agricultural pursuits. Mrs. Packard died March 14, 1895. Mr. Packard is active in township and local affairs, and has served as chairman of the township board many years. He is road overseer and has done a fair share toward the development of the community in which he has spent so many years. He is a Republican, and is an attendant and delegate to numerous conventions of his party in the county. A portrait of Mr. Packard will be found upon another page in this volume.

### JOHN THOMPSON.

John Thompson, whose early settlement in Polk county made him one of the best known men of that region, is a resident of Vineland township, and is proprietor of one of the fine farms of that locality. He is esteemed highly as a citizen and wields an influence for good in his community.

Mr. Thompson was born in the southern part of Norway, March 24, 1852, and was reared and educated in the common schools of his native land. He followed farming there and remained until 1871, when he came to America with his mother, via Christiania, to Quebec, Canada. They spent nine weeks on the trip and encountered a severe storm for twenty-four hours. There were about six hundred passengers aboard the vessel. Our subject stopped off the train at Albert Lea, Minnesota, and spent three years at farm work in Free-

born county, Minnesota. In the spring of 1874 he went to the Red river in Polk county. He had no team and brought only his clothes and provisions, going with John Hanson, his neighbor, and John J. Borsvald, who had started later but had come to his friend's on the way. The journey was much delayed by mud and rain, and by being frequently compelled to retrace their steps to find river crossings. They came to Wild Rice river, but could not cross. There they found a notice to wait as some one would be sent to help them cross. This was posted on a tree, and was apparently in his brother Peder's hand writing and signed by him. They went on to Georgetown and crossed to the Dakota side, going up to the Elm river. There they met other homeseekers and together they built a bridge on Sunday, and they arrived at Belmont, July 5. Our subject "squatted" on section 24 of Vineland township. He stayed most of the first year with his brother Peder, and he then hauled logs from the river and built a shanty in which they lived until 1887, when their present comfortable frame dwelling was erected. Mr. Thompson now owns two hundred and fourteen acres of land, of which fourteen acres is timber on the Red river. He chose a good location in the early days there, and has prospered in his farming operations.

John Thompson was married at Christmas-tide, in 1873, to Miss Johanna K. Lovlien. Mr. Thompson and his bride were engaged to marry prior to his leaving Norway, and he sent her a ticket to join him in America. Their marriage has been blessed by the birth of nine children, namely: Martha Marin, Thomas Hagbart, Julius, Peter Adolph, Magda Oliva, died at the age of eleven years, Trina Hellene, Josephine, Alf Mauritz and Nora Eugenie. Mr. Thompson is a member of the Sand Hill Lutheran church and served on the committee when the church was erected. He has served as township clerk for the last ten years, and most of the time as justice of the peace. He was one of the early constables and was chairman of the township board. Of late years he has been a Populist politically, and was formerly a Republican. An examination of the records in our subject's office shows that Vineland township was organized in July, 1876, with the following officers: Henry Simon, chairman of the board; Steener Knudson, member of the board; Ole O. Estenson, member of the board; P. O. Satermo, treasurer; C. Steenerson, clerk; Paul Simon, justice of the peace; P. O. Estenson, justice of the peace; and A. J. Bramseth and P. Thompson, constables.



## C. EDWARD NORDBY.

Among the younger business men of Halstad who are rapidly rising in prominence in the affairs of Norman county, may be noted C. Edward Nordby. This gentleman is thoroughly awake to the advancement of his locality and his business ability and excellent education afford him a prominent place. He was, until recently, in charge of the business of the Duluth Elevator Company in Halstad, and for many years was engaged extensively in the mercantile business in that thriving town. He was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, August 10, 1868.

The father of our subject, L. E. Nordby, was a wheat buyer most of his life after coming to America, and he also engaged in the general hardware business from 1892 to 1899 in Halstad. He was born in Norway and came to America in June, 1868, with his family. He served in the Norwegian army from the age of seventeen years until he was twenty-three years of age and has a good army record. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Karen Anderson, and her people were farmers in Norway. Our subject was the only child of the family and he was raised in the village of Lanesborough, Minnesota, until he was eleven years of age, when the family removed to Lake Park, where the father engaged in the mercantile and grain business three years. They then removed to Crookston and resided there for three years, and in 1886 went to Halstad, Norman county, our subject being at that time about seventeen years of age. He was given a good education and in 1892 entered into partnership with his father in the hardware business in Halstad under the firm name of Elling Nordby & Son, and they remained in partnership until 1899, when our subject disposed of his interest in the business to T. Reep. This was the first hardware store in the town and was established by A. C. Andrews. Our subject's father purchased grain for some years before entering the mercantile business and while thus engaged our subject learned the business and in the fall of 1900 assumed charge of the elevator at Halstad for the Duluth Elevator Company. He made a success of grain buying and conducted the business in a most satisfactory manner.

C. Edward Nordby was married, in 1894, to Miss Annie Braseth, who was born in Norway and came to America in 1885 alone. Her father, Johannis Braseth, is a prosperous farmer of Norman county. Mr. and Mrs. Nordby are the parents of three children, who are named in order of birth as follows: Kalma, Amanda, and Lyman, all of whom were born in Halstad, Norman county. Mr. Nordby has served as village treasurer two years, and one year as a member of the village council, and he takes a most

hearty interest in the affairs of his township and county. He is a man of broad ideas and lends his influence for good local government, and in political sentiment is a Republican. He is an earnest worker for party principles and has a large following. He is prominent in secret society affairs and is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America. The elevator of which Mr. Nordby was manager burned June 24, 1901, and Mr. Nordby is not now connected with the Duluth Elevator Company.

## WILLIAM E. YOUNG.

William E. Young, one of the earliest settlers of Ottertail county, Minnesota, has succeeded in building up a comfortable home in Compton township, his home being in section 34. He can recount many interesting experiences of early life in Minnesota, and is one of the substantial and worthy citizens of his locality.

Mr. Young was born in Parkman, Geauga county, Ohio, August 21, 1836. His father, William B. Young, was born in Massachusetts, and was a miller by trade. He served in the war of 1812. Both our subject's paternal grandparents were New Englanders, Benjamin Young, one of his ancestors, coming from England in 1640 and locating on Staten Island. The mother of our subject was of Scotch descent and her family settled in America in colonial times.

In a family of five children Mr. Young was the fourth in order of birth. When he was about twelve years old he removed to Farmington, Ohio, with his parents, where the father bought a mill. They remained there four years, when the father died and the mother removed the family to Parkman, Ohio. Our subject attended the common schools and the Farmington high school and received a liberal education. He left home at the age of twenty years and went to Sauk county, Wisconsin, where he lived about one year. He went to Iowa in 1857 and one year later settled in Boone township, Wright county, where he took a pre-emption claim. He built a claim shanty and opened up his farm and passed through pioneer experiences there. In the locality in which he resided there was no timber or any means by which to break the severe winter blizzards and in 1875 Mr. Young went to Ottertail county, Minnesota, in quest of a better location. He found hunting excellent and made more at trapping than farming, and he also engaged in building and carpenter work. He selected his present farm in sections 34 and 35, in Compton township, and in the

spring of 1876 brought his family overland in a covered wagon to his new home. He started on the trip with horses, and while on the way traded for oxen, arriving at his destination with a team of horses and a team of oxen. He built a small shanty and later added to this building, and this house served as a home for the first ten years. Most of his early farming was done with oxen and his crops were fair, and by hunting venison for meat and other game the family were supported well for those times. Mr. Young now owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation, and upon which he has built a complete set of substantial buildings. A grove shelters the house and surrounding buildings and is a valuable feature of the farm. He has all machinery to conduct a model farm, and has met with pronounced success in Minnesota.

Mr. Young was married in 1859 to Miss Catherine May. Mrs. Young was born in eastern Iowa. Her father was of German descent, and her Grandfather Zimmerman was of Pennsylvania Dutch birth. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Young, seven of whom are natives of Iowa. Those living are as follows: Mary I.; William H.; Eva M., now married; James A.; Charlotte S., now married; Earnest F.; Harry M.; Kate M., deceased; and Mildred E. Mr. Young is prominent in local affairs and in 1878 was elected justice of the peace and held the office several terms. He has been township assessor for the past thirteen years. Politically he is a Republican.

#### ARTHUR L. HAMILTON.

Arthur L. Hamilton, editor and publisher of the Aitkin Republican, is one of the well-known newspaper men of Aitkin county. He has resided there for some years and has built up a large patronage for his paper and an enviable reputation for himself.

Mr. Hamilton was born on a farm near Almonte, Ontario, Canada, November 5, 1862. His father, John Hamilton, was born in Scotland and came to Canada in 1844. He taught school several years and is now residing in Michigan, where he is engaged in the practice of medicine. The mother of our subject was born in Canada, in 1836, and was of Scotch descent.

Arthur L. Hamilton was the fourth in order of birth in a family of nine children, and he was reared in the village of Almonte. When he was six years of age the family moved to Brussels, Ontario, and there he received his education, attending the public schools until he was thirteen years of age. He then entered a printing office

and learned the printer's trade. His parents moved to Michigan and he later went to that state and entered the office of the Gratiot County Journal. He remained there eight years and then traveled through some of the western states. In 1890 he received an appointment in the government printing office at Washington, and he was thus engaged four and a half years. He located in Aitkin, Minnesota, in 1894, and assumed charge of the Aitkin Republican. The paper was established three months previous by E. A. Zuver, and in February, 1895, Mr. Hamilton purchased the plant and has since been proprietor and editor. The Aitkin Republican enjoys a steady growth in circulation and influence, and is the leading paper of Aitkin county. It is thoroughly Republican in political sentiment and is ably edited and well managed. It is a neat appearing sheet, filled with the latest advices on all matters, and is the popular paper of the locality.

Mr. Hamilton was married, in 1891, to Miss Emma L. Clark. Mrs. Hamilton was born at Sharon, Pennsylvania, and is of Scotch descent, her parents being natives of Scotland. Mr. Hamilton is a member of the Masonic fraternity and is prominent in local affairs.

#### HENRY W. SHARP.

Hewett, Minnesota, is one of the thriving towns of Todd county, and it owes its present prosperity to its energetic and progressive business men and public-spirited citizens. A prominent place among those who have aided in bringing about this pleasing result may be accorded Henry W. Sharp. This gentleman has not resided in this city as many years perhaps as others who have attained prominence there, but he has become well and favorably known and his labors in behalf of the interests of his community have been given willingly and with the one purpose of meeting the demands of the residents of Hewett and vicinity. He is one of the leading hardware merchants of the town and conducts a prosperous business in this line.

Mr. Sharp was born in Ohio, April 1, 1842, and was a son of David and Elizabeth (Jenkinson) Sharp, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Pennsylvania. Our subject left Ohio at the age of six years and resided in Illinois, attending the common schools and the commercial schools of his locality. He assisted on his father's farm, and after attaining his majority he went to Minnesota, locating at Parker's Prairie, Ottertail county. He took land as a homestead there and resided in Ottertail county twenty-six years. He then disposed of his farm interests and removed to Todd county, establishing a hardware business at Hewett, and also engaged in the farm machinery business, and for

the past four years has met with success in mercantile pursuits. He is the owner of a residence and six lots in the town of Hewett, and has accumulated his possessions by his good management and strict attention to business.

Mr. Sharp enlisted in July, 1862, and became a member of Company E, Seventy-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry. After three months' service he was mustered out, and later enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Forty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was sent to Tennessee, and remained in the service there until the close of the war, and was mustered out at Nashville, that state, and in August, 1865, received his honorable discharge at Indianapolis, Indiana. He is a member of the G. A. R.

Mr. Sharp was married in November, 1866, to Irena Dobbins. Mrs. Sharp was born in Indiana May 8, 1843. Two children have been born of this union, namely, Minnie A. and Alonzo H. Mr. Sharp is a member of the Republican party and stands firmly for the principles of that organization. He is mayor of the city of Hewett, and is prominently identified with the public affairs of the community in which he makes his home.

#### CHARLES JESMORE.

Charles Jesmore, one of the extensive lumbermen of St. Louis county, resides at Eveleth, where he is also interested in the livery business, and has an increasing trade. Mr. Jesmore was born in Oswego county, New York, two miles from the town of Oswego, in 1852. His father, John Jesmore, was a farmer, and was of French birth. He came to the United States when a boy. The mother of our subject was also a native of France, and a brother owns property in that country.

Mr. Jesmore was the fifth child in the family and was raised on the farm and attended the common schools. He started for himself at the age of seventeen as a teamster, and worked at various occupations in Michigan, and has followed lumbering almost continuously since his early manhood. At the age of twenty-one years he was foreman of a gang in the woods, and at the age of twenty-seven he was walking boss, and had charge of four to six camps, remaining in the employ of F. Crawford for many years. He went to Minnesota in 1885, and in June located at Duluth, and later went to Tower. There he began exploring and dealing in pine lands, and as a pioneer located men on claims. He moved to Eveleth in January, 1895, and opened the McInnis Hotel, being the first hotel opened in the town. A few frame buildings constituted the town at that time, and the present main street was then timber. He conducted the hotel here two months and a half, and in 1896 built the first livery barn

of Eveleth, and one season was owner of a stage line from the head of Vermilion lake to Crane lake, St. Louis county. He sold the hotel in 1897, and has since followed the livery business and logging. He now has a camp on the Eastern Minnesota Railway near Buel, and does an extensive business.

Mr. Jesmore was married in 1889 to Miss Tilda Johnson. Mrs. Jesmore was born in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and is of Scandinavian descent. Three children have been born to this marriage, namely: Mamie, Allister and Ruth. Mr. Jesmore took an active part in the organization of the village and was elected president of the village board in 1899 and again in 1901, and is now serving his second term as mayor. He is a staunch Democrat and has attended numerous county conventions of his party.

#### SAMUEL E. MOOERS.

Samuel E. Mooers, whose extensive farm operations and marked success have made him the leading agriculturist of northwest Minnesota, makes his home on section 7, township 141, range 42, Becker county, where he has a fine residence and one of the most valuable farms in the state.

Mr. Mooers was born in Minnesota May 26, 1859. His father, Daniel S. Mooers, was born in Maine, February 19, 1837, and his mother, whose maiden name was Annie Aitken, was a native of Wisconsin. Our subject was reared in Fort Ripley, Wisconsin, receiving a common-school education and later attended the schools of Little Falls, Minnesota, and Belle Prairie, Minnesota. On reaching his majority he farmed for several years in Crow Wing county, where he owned a farm of seven hundred acres. He remained there until the death of his father, when he sold out his interest there and in 1897 visited Becker county. Being of Indian extraction, he took a tract of land under birthright claim in the White Earth Indian reservation. He improved his lands, erecting substantial farm buildings, and adding many conveniences. He is the owner of nine hundred and sixty acres well adapted to general farming and stock raising. Four hundred acres of his lands are cultivated annually. A flowing well supplies abundant water for residence and farm use. His farm is stocked with twenty-two head of horses, fifty to sixty head of cattle and about fifty hogs. His prosperity has increased as the years have gone by, and his estate is now one of the best and most valuable in the state of Minnesota. He has manifested excellent judgment in the handling of stock and crops, and to this may be chiefly attributed his remarkable success.

Mr. Mooers was married in 1885 to Achsah

Root. Mrs. Mooers is a native of Pennsylvania, and was born February 27, 1868. To this marriage six children have been born, named as follows: Elsie, Daniel, Eberard, Eugene, Alice and Lewis. Our subject is giving his children the best school advantages procurable, and has surrounded his family with all the comforts and conveniences and many of the luxuries of life. Mr. Mooers is a Republican in political faith, and wields much influence in the politics of his county. He is a Modern Woodman of America, holding membership in the lodge of Lake Park. Portraits of Mr. Mooers and his wife appear upon another page of this volume.

### JAMES WALKER.

James Walker, ex-village recorder, has been identified with the best interests of Alexandria, Minnesota, for a quarter of a century. He was born in Ontario, Canada, June 16, 1844. The parents of our subject, Daniel and Sarah (Baird) Walker, were both natives of Scotland. His father was a blacksmith by trade and while residing in his native land worked in the large iron works and ship building yards of Napier & Son, at Glasgow. He came to America in 1843, settling in Canada, where he followed his trade and also engaged in farming. Of a family of seven children our subject was the second son and third child, and from his early boyhood he worked in his father's shop and upon the farm until reaching his majority, in the meantime attending school as circumstances permitted, but his opportunities in this direction were limited. At the age of twenty-one years our subject came to the United States and found employment in the pineries of Minnesota and worked at lumbering on the Rum river for three years. He secured a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in 1867 in Alexandria township, five miles southeast of the village of that name, and there he followed farming two years and later continued upon the farm three years, after which he changed his residence to the village of Alexandria, intending to make but a short stay there. However, he was induced to purchase his brother's blacksmith shop, which had been established in the village for some time, and this he conducted one year, renting his farm in the meantime. He then purchased a stock of notions and operated this business three years, after which he disposed of the business and entered into partnership with his brother-in-law, James Purden, in the grocery business. After operating the business thus three years he purchased his partner's interest and admitted N. P. Ward as a partner, and the business was successfully conducted seven years under the firm name of

Walker & Ward. In 1887 the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Walker, having erected a new store building, carried on a thriving grocery trade for nearly ten years. In 1896 he retired from this business, since which time he has rented the building. The lower floor is used as a store and the upper floor is occupied by the Odd Fellows society. Mr. Walker disposed of his early homestead, but has become possessed of a farm of eighty acres, two miles north of the village, upon which he has a summer cottage, delightfully situated near Lake LeHomme Dieu, which is a favorite resort for summer excursionists.

On August 4, 1868, Mr. Walker was married to Margaret Smith, a daughter of Malcolm and Mary (Scott) Smith. The children born of this marriage are as follows: Daniel G., a bookkeeper; James J., volunteer in the Fourteenth Minnesota Regiment for the Spanish-American war, and re-enlisted in the spring of 1900 and was assigned to Company M, Third Infantry, and is now stationed at Manila; Mary, widow of George W. Simpson, who has one child; Margerite; Sarah; Minnoe; Henry H. and Clara. Mr. Walker was twice elected president of the village and filled the office most satisfactorily during 1889-90 and 1894-95, and by virtue of his office has a voice in the village council. He officiates in the management of the city water works and the electric light plant. He attends the Congregational church and is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the I. O. O. F. Politically he is a Republican.

### HALVOR SLANG.

From a life of ease and luxury to one of labor and hardships is a step not sought after by the average young man, but to the gentleman above named it had no terrors. He chose his course, and after taking up his residence in the unsettled region of Marshall county, Minnesota, he set about the task of improving his financial condition by the labor of his hands. His present fine property attests how well he made his labors count. He is now the owner of one of the finest farms of Parker township, and his home in section 4 is all that could be desired. Mr. Slang is a thoroughgoing citizen, and his success and good name are well merited.

Our subject was born on the farm Slang, near Fredricksdahl, Norway, October 23, 1859, and was the oldest of a family of four children born to Christian and Andrea (Neggaard) Slang, both of whom are now deceased. Our subject and one brother are the only members of the family in America. Mr. Slang passed a life of ease in his native land and attended the agricultural college three years. He had heard of the possibilities of the Red river valley, and in

1881 he and a school friend emigrated to America, and then went direct to Stephen, Marshall county, Minnesota, and our subject at once chose the land upon which he now resides. He worked at farm labor and other employment for several years, and in 1885 began farming on his land, and he has since developed a farm of two hundred and forty acres, and has become one of the substantial farmers of his township. With his meager knowledge of American ways and the English language, and unused to labor, he necessarily met with many obstacles over which it was hard to pass, but with an indomitable will he went on his way, and is truly one of the self made men of his township.

Our subject was married, in 1886, to Miss Elna Larson. Four children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Slang, who are named as follows: Hilda, Charles, Bella and Richard. Mr. Slang has always taken a most hearty interest in the affairs of his township, and he has served as a member of the township board six years and is now chairman of that body. He has also served as township treasurer five years, and is always an efficient and faithful public servant. He is a Populist politically and is an active party worker, and attends county conventions. He is a member of the Scandinavian Methodist Episcopal church.

#### CONRAD KNUTE SEMLING.

Conrad Knute Semling, editor and proprietor of the Halstad Reporter, is one of the well-known newspaper men of Norman county. He has operated this organ for the past three or four years with success and credit to himself, as for some years prior to his purchase of the plant it was not conducted on a paying basis, and this naturally made it the harder for our subject to make a success there. It is now a bright, newsy sheet, and the plant has been enlarged and is in a prosperous condition. Mr. Semling is also engaged in the real estate and insurance business. He is well known as a gentleman of true citizenship and well merits success.

Mr. Semling was born in Valders, Norway, June 8, 1865. His father, Ole Jacobson Semling, was a farmer and school teacher, and came to America with his family in 1866, and settled in Houston county, Minnesota. When our subject was fifteen years of age he and the others of the family went to Hendrum township, Norman county, in 1880. Since he was fifteen years of age he has earned his own way, and at the age of seventeen years he purchased a farm and conducted the same two years in Mary township, Norman county. He then attended school at Willamar five years, at the Minnesota Lutheran Seminary and Institute, graduating from this in-

stitution in 1889 from the English course, and also took such Norwegian and German as were taught there. He paid his way through this institution by teaching and he has followed that profession through several terms. After completing the above named school he took a business course at Caton's Business College at Minneapolis, and graduated there in 1892, after which he became manager of the business department of Portland Academy and Business College at Portland, North Dakota, which position he held two years. He essayed newspaper work in 1893 and purchased the Portland Press, which paper he conducted one year. He then moved the plant to Grafton and established the Northwest Standard, and was proprietor and editor of the same about six months. He bought the Halstad Reporter at sheriff's sale in January, 1897, and has since conducted the same. This paper was established in August, 1892, and soon afterward became the property of W. A. Kelley and J. A. Quamme. Mr. Kelley later assumed control and then J. A. Sorley purchased the same, who in turn was followed by Mickels Brothers, and these parties sold the plant to J. J. Rue, the last owner prior to our subject. Mr. Semling has made a success of this work and he also does an extensive business in farm loans and insurance. He went to that locality by ox-team, and walked overland, driving a small herd of cattle, and when a boy he worked on the Great Northern Railroad as it was built through Norman county, and also worked on the Grandin farm in North Dakota.

Mr. Semling is a gentleman of intelligence and worth, and he was the nominee of the Farmers' Alliance party for superintendent of schools of Norman county in 1890, and he has served as justice of the peace since 1897. He is identified with the Republican party and has done very efficient work for his party.

#### DAVID H. MILLER.

David H. Miller, the owner of seven hundred and twenty acres of fine farm land in Angus township, is numbered among the earliest settlers of the township. His home is on section 32, and he is surrounded by all the comforts of rural life. A fine portrait of him will be found elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Miller was born in Wisconsin August 4, 1854, and was the youngest of nine children born to David and Margaret (Reiley) Miller. His parents were natives of Scotland, and emigrated from that country to America about 1852. Our subject was reared on a farm in Dunn county, Wisconsin, and began supporting himself at the age of fourteen years, working in the lumber camps and on the drives. In the fall of 1877 he went to the Red River valley with a party of



fourteen persons. They secured teams at Crookston and drove north on an eight days' trip, looking over the country. On this trip only two persons were met, Mr. Wentzel and Mr. Davis, who were making hay on Snake river. In May, 1878, Mr. Miller invested his capital of nine hundred dollars in horses and implements and went again to that locality. He first homesteaded on section 24 of Angus township, and there made a home for two years, and then gave up his claim and made a homestead on section 28, where he lived until 1889, when he purchased the farm he now owns and operates. He and the McLennan boys kept house together for about three years, taking turns at the cooking. Mr. Miller has improved his farm, and is one of the foremost dairymen of the township. He has a herd of about fifteen cows, and has a hand separator for dairy purposes. His cellar is bricked and cemented, and every method used for conducting the dairy business to the best possible advantage. He has gathered about him all the comforts afforded in a quiet country home, and is one of the substantial men of his community.

Mr. Miller was married in 1881 to Miss Ella S. Petry. Seven children have been born of this union, namely: Harry, Frank, Robert, Jessie, Walter, Mary and Mildred. Mr. Miller is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and in political sentiment he is a Populist and is a stanch advocate of reform principles. He is prominent in local affairs, and was elected a member of the first township board of Angus township, and held the office for many years.

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### JAMES SCOTT.

As a citizen of prominence and an agriculturist of thorough business methods this gentleman stands foremost in Burlington township, Becker county. He has prospered in his calling, through the exercise of honest industry, and well merits his high station and enviable name. He has a home in section 9, and cultivates a large tract of land annually.

Mr. Scott was born on a farm in Ontario, Canada, November 18, 1860, and was a son of Thomas Scott, who was of Irish birth and was a farmer by occupation. Our subject's mother was of English descent. Of a family of four children Mr. Scott was the second in order of birth and he was reared on the farm where he was born and attended the country schools of his neighborhood. He left Canada at the age of eighteen years and went to Polk county, Minnesota, in 1878, where he began farming and worked at farm labor. At this time Crookston had but a few buildings, and in 1880 he became owner of land and thereon built a claim shanty.

He had a team of horses, wagon, plow and harrow, and he continued farming and lived alone for eight or nine years, and in 1885, meeting with only fair success, he sold his land and moved to a farm near Macintosh, Polk county, making this his homestead farm. He improved the raw land and met with good results there, improving the farm with buildings, fences, and clearing the land for cultivation, and he still retains this valuable piece of property. He continued his residence there until 1893, when he removed to Becker county, and located in Burlington township, purchasing the land upon which he now lives. His home farm consists of four hundred acres, and he has placed valuable improvements on the place, including a comfortable residence, substantial barn and other farm buildings, and he engages successfully in diversified farming. He cultivates about two hundred and fifty acres of land, and is interested somewhat extensively in the raising of sheep and cattle. He has plenty of small fruits on the place, three good wells and other features which add to the comfort of those who live thereon as well as enhance the value of the property. The farm is well kept in every particular and furnishes a good income.

Mr. Scott was married in 1889 to Miss Lucretia D. Chilton, who was born and raised in Canada and was a daughter of John Chilton, a farmer and mechanic. Five children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Scott, who are named in order of birth as follows: Elizabeth, Etta M., Thomas J., Ray P. and Paul. Mr. Scott was among the earliest settlers of northern Minnesota, and he has served in various local offices, including chairman of the township board. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and politically he is a Populist, and was one of the organizers of that party in his community. He studies public affairs and lends his influence for the best government, national and local, and is deservedly popular with those among whom he makes his home.

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### OLE JEVENING.

Ole Jevning, proprietor of a valuable farm in Vineland township, is one of the earliest settlers of that locality and has a wide circle of acquaintances by whom he is held in the highest esteem.

Mr. Jevning was born near Bardu, northern Norway, April 12, 1845, and was the youngest of six children born to Johan and Ingeberg Jevning. The mother died when he was but a few days old. He was reared on a farm in his native land and received his education there. The summer he attained his majority he came to America with about seventy-five other emigrants from the same parts. He left May 7 and arrived in Freeborn



county, Minnesota, August 29, 1866, and worked at the carpenter trade there for two years, after which he went to Ottertail county. In 1869 he joined the government supply train leaving St. Cloud for Ft. Abercrombie, and worked as cook. On returning to St. Cloud he received orders to haul from Sauk Rapids up the Mississippi river to Ft. Ripley, and he was then ordered to Ft. Snelling, arriving there Christmas and remained until March. He took a homestead claim in Ottertail county in 1869, and after holding the same two years he let the land revert to the government. He journeyed to the Red river in the summer of 1871 with the Estenson family. At that time there were no roads, not even a trail, and the rivers had high banks and muddy bottoms. They wandered about in search of good land, little knowing where they were going. They noticed bits of bark on the prairie, which denoted a recent flood, and they pushed on to Sand Hill river, where the appearance of the land was more satisfactory, and from there they went to the Red river, where they saw the steamboat Selkirk, a welcome sight. There was then but one building in Grand Forks, a combined residence and store building, the property of the Hudson's Bay Company. Our subject was an experienced builder and he was detailed to this work while the others of the party broke land. The first house built was for Mr. Estenson, Sr., and was a log structure, 20x24 feet. Our subject spent the day preparing the logs and the others assisted in hauling them to the site and peeling off the bark during the evening hours. They had poles and long bunches of prairie grass for a roof. The house had no floor, no windows and no door, and a rain-storm in the night wet their hay bed, and in the morning they found their shoes floating in their house. Our subject lived in his prairie schooner until fall, when he completed his own log house. He resided there as a bachelor until February, 1872. He has fully improved his farm and is now the owner of a comfortable home and a good property, from which he derives a good annual income, and has met with success in the pursuit of agriculture.

Mr. Jevning was married in February, 1872, to Miss Ingeberg Estenson. This was the first marriage which occurred in the county, and was consummated under difficulties. Mr. Jevning and Miss Estenson had return tickets over the stage route to Pembina, the nearest point where they could find one who could officiate on such an occasion, this gentleman being General Harrison, of the fort there. After their arrival there the stage route was sold six different times in as many days and no trips were made meanwhile. The new company refused at first to recognize the return tickets. Mr. Jevning and his young bride took their seats in the sleigh and defied ejection, and when they arrived at Grand Forks

the officers there gave them permission to ride to Belmont without charge, owing to the annoyance to which they had been subjected. Mr. and Mrs. Jevning are the parents of the following children: Ingeberg, Johann Ragnolf, Ole Elmer, Ingvard Anton, died at the age of four years; Ida, Inga, Anna Johanna Rebekka and Olive. Mr. Jevning is prominent in local affairs and assisted in the organization of his township, and has served on the township board. He is a member of the Lutheran church and assisted in the organization of the church body in 1872. He is a liberal Republican politically and is a respected and esteemed citizen of Polk county.

#### THOMAS HARBORN.

Thomas Harborn, one of the most successful general farmers of Kittson county, has devoted his career to this line of work, and has gained a fund of knowledge which enables him to properly execute his farm labors and be a source of information to others less favored by experience or observation. He has one of the charmingly located farms of the county, and as his success in his calling is assured he adds substantial improvements to his place and enjoys the usual comforts of rural life and many of the luxuries. His accumulations have been steady and the result of his own endeavors, and he has a wide reputation as a gentleman of honor and ability. His home is in section 11 of Hampden township, and he operates a farm of sixteen hundred and eighty acres.

Mr. Harborn was born in Chatham, Ontario, Canada, March 29, 1853, and was the third in a family of five children born to Christopher and Elizabeth (Render) Harborn. His parents were natives of Yorkshire, England, and emigrated to Canada in 1851. His father was a grain buyer, and when our subject was nine years of age he opened up a farm in the back woods of Canada, and there young Thomas was educated in farming, but received little school advantages during his early youth. After he attained his majority he worked a year at the confectionery business, and then a year at butchering, after which he engaged in market gardening, and later followed farming there. In the spring of 1884 he spent several weeks in the west, and in the spring of 1885 removed his family to Two Rivers, in Minnesota, and has been a resident of Kittson county since that date. He had but limited capital, but he purchased four hundred acres of land and began operating the same, meeting with success from the start. He chose a location suited to diversified farming, the land lying along the banks of the river, and he has become one of the substantial agriculturists of the valley. He began raising Shorthorn cattle in 1894 and now has

a herd of seventeen full-blood cattle. He also has a fine herd of sheep and a herd of the finest Poland China hogs in the township. Grain raising proved profitable, but he also saw the advisability of stock raising, and is now one of the well known stock raisers of the county. He has furnished ample provisions and shelter for his stock and the products of the farm, and his farm buildings include a comfortable residence, barn, etc., and are of substantial construction and convenient design. Painstaking care is evident in the work of the place, and all machinery for the operation of the farm is of the most approved style and pattern. Altogether the farm is one of the pleasant estates of the township, and is a home of which Mr. Harborn may be justly proud.

Mr. Harborn was married in 1877 to Miss Caroline Powell. Mr. and Mrs. Harborn are the parents of three children, who are as follows: Annie, now Mrs. James McFarlane; Roy; and Mabel. Mr. Harborn is an active member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Ancient Order of United Workmen, and also holds membership in the Presbyterian church. He is identified with the Republican party politically, and is a staunch adherent to his political faith. He is prominent in public affairs, and supports every measure for the upbuilding and advancement of his community. From 1888 to 1892 he served as county commissioner for the fourth district, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow men. Mr. Harborn's portrait is to be found on another page of this book.

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#### DONALD MORRISON.

Donald Morrison, a prosperous farmer and business man of Northcote, Kittson county, was one of the earliest settlers of that region, and harvested the first wheat crop of the county. He is interested extensively in farm lands in the vicinity of Northcote and is also in charge of the elevator business at that place for the Peavey Elevator Company.

Mr. Morrison was born in Quebec, Canada, September 15, 1852, and was the eldest in a family of seven children born to John and Isabella (Murray) Morrison, both of whom were natives of Scotland. The father died in 1878. Our subject was reared on the home farm, but at the age of sixteen years left the home to learn the carpenter's trade, and at the age of twenty-four years he went to Winnipeg, where he assisted in the erection of many of the buildings of that then new town. On his way up the Red river he had fancied the location in Kittson county which later became his home, viewing the country from the deck of the steamboat, and on Christmas day, 1877, he arrived on the north branch of Two riv-

ers. In company with N. D. Murray he erected a log shack and passed the winter there, filing claim to his land the following summer. His only neighbor was Robert Thompson, whose home was nine miles distant on the south branch of the river, and the nearest market was Emerson, to which point he was obliged to make the trips afoot. He soon completed his preliminary arrangements for farming, and marketed his first wheat crop in 1880, which was the first harvested in the county. Mr. Morrison has dealt extensively in real estate, and succeeded in getting some of the most substantial citizens of the locality to settle there. He follows farming on four hundred and twenty acres of land, of which one hundred acres are adjoining the town of Northcote and three hundred and twenty acres are near Red river. The lands are made to yield abundantly, and the improvements on them are of substantial nature, and Mr. Morrison enjoys prosperity and a comfortable home.

Mr. Morrison was married in 1884 to Miss Mary Murray. Mr. and Mrs. Morrison are the parents of the following children: Isabella, John, Emma, Robert S., William R.

Mr. Morrison is a man of true citizenship and was prominently identified with the early history of his township and county. Upon the organization of Hampden township in 1881 our subject suggested the name, and he served as first assessor of the township, and has since taken a hearty interest in township affairs. He was elected county commissioner in 1896 and faithfully discharged the duties of that office. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, and also the Independent Order of Foresters. In political sentiment he is a Republican, and is a staunch advocate of party principles. He has a large circle of friends in Kittson county and he is held in high esteem by all.

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#### JACOB J. RAUSCHER.

Among the younger agriculturists of Ottertail county who have proven their ability and good management since taking up their labors there may be mentioned Jacob J. Rauscher. He is proprietor of a well-improved and well-equipped farm in Compton township, his residence being in section 24. He is enterprising and progressive and has a wide acquaintance and an enviable reputation.

Mr. Rauscher was born on a farm in Dakota county, Minnesota, in 1870, and was a son of Fred Rauscher. His father was born in Germany and came to America in 1867. He is a farmer by occupation. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Catherine Roller, and she was a native of Germany also. In a family of nine children our subject was the fifth in

order of birth. He was raised on the home farm in Dakota county and received a common school education. When he was ten years of age the family removed to Ottertail county, Minnesota, and settled in Compton township on a farm. There were but two buildings in the neighborhood at the time. They had but limited means and consequently could not begin extensive operations and our subject assisted his father in developing the farm. He remained at home until he was twenty-five years of age, when he began farming for himself on land which he had purchased in section 24 in Compton township. He has added valuable improvements to the place and his residence, erected in 1895, is a convenient and substantial structure, and the other buildings of the place evidence thrift and prosperity there. Mr. Rauscher owns eighty acres of land, about sixty-five acres of which he devotes to crops and reserves the balance for meadow and pasture. He has followed grain raising most exclusively with good results and has a thoroughly improved estate. He has spent most of his life in Ottertail county, and in aiding his father to develop a farm and also improving and developing his own present valuable farm he has proven himself an excellent agriculturist and one devoted to the interests of his locality.

Mr. Rauscher was married June 28, 1894, to Miss Theresa Duman. Mrs. Rauscher was born in Hennepin county, Minnesota, and was a daughter of William Duman, who was a native of Germany and came to America at the age of seven years. He was a farmer by occupation. Mr. and Mrs. Rauscher are the parents of one son, George Edward, and an adopted son, William. Mr. Rauscher is a Republican politically, but does not seek public office. He is a man of good ideas, and lends his influence for good local government and the upbuilding of the community where he makes his home.

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#### MARTIN W. GEE.

The "Oak Grove Farm," owned by Martin W. Gee, is one of the most attractive rural estates in Clay county. It comprises eight hundred and fifty acres, with about seventy-five acres of timber and meadow land, presenting a variety of farm land that would please the most fastidious farmer from the east. The home is arranged for comfort, and the "Oak Grove Farm," with its numerous shade trees and air of general prosperity, presents a most inviting appearance.

Mr. Gee was born in Nottinghamshire, England, November 22, 1865, being the youngest member of five children born to William and Mary (Cottam) Gee, and while still a youth was induced by representations and inducements held out by his brother to cross the Atlantic in 1884,

arriving in Clay county, Minnesota, in the month of July of that year. He was at once employed by Captain Newcombe, whose daughter, Jennie, he married in 1895.

Captain William H. Newcombe, known up and down the valley as "Cap." Newcombe, was a man of marked individuality, who came to Clay county in 1879, and "Oak Grove Farm" was the result of his labors and the pride of his declining years. It was his home until his death, in 1895.

Upon taking charge of the farm the year of the death of his father-in-law, Mr. Gee followed out his plans to the letter, giving much attention to diversified farming, and at the present time is the owner and breeder of some of the finest draft horses in the county.

Mr. Gee is a Democrat, and has served as town treasurer, a position he is holding at the present time. In religion he belongs to the Congregational church. To his marriage were born three children: Milton; Louisa, who died September 4, 1899; and Bessie Marie. Mrs. Gee was born in Houghton county, Michigan, May 10, 1870. Portraits of Captain W. H. Newcombe and Martin W. Gee and wife will be found on other pages in this volume.

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#### A. G. KASSENBERG.

A. G. Kassenborg, a very prominent farmer of Clay county, Minnesota, and a resident of the Kassenborg farm, owns about a thousand acres along Buffalo creek, having his home in section 1, Oakport township. Of this fine stretch of Minnesota soil about six hundred acres are under cultivation and the rest is in timber or pasture, thus making it one of the finest farms in this section of the state.

Mr. Kassenborg was born in North Lund, Norway, December 1, 1836, and was the second member and the oldest son of a family of three children born to Gilbert and Astrea (Anderson) Gilbertson. This family emigrated to this country in 1850 and located in Wisconsin, where they remained three years in Rock county, then securing a permanent home in Houston county, Minnesota.

When Mr. Kassenborg became a young man he secured a farm for himself in the county where his later youth was passed, and was well known in Houston county. In the spring of 1876, however, he determined to try his fortunes in a newer part of the state, and leaving his land in Houston county to increase in value, he entered the Red river country in the days that tried men's souls. Ten years later he had become so successful and well satisfied with Clay county that he disposed of all his outside property and bought his present magnificent estate.

Mr. Kassenborg deserves much credit for what he has made himself, and every dollar he owns bespeaks honest toil, careful management and a wise perception of the opportunities around him.

The life of Mr. Kassenborg is a striking example of courage and loyalty in a foreign-born youth, making his way by thrift and industry, supporting his parents in their old age with filial devotion, and gradually becoming one of the leading citizens of his adopted state.

Mr. Kassenborg occupies a comfortable and commodious country home and has his large farm well provided with barns and other buildings. In politics he is a Republican, and in religion a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. For about eighteen years he has served in several township offices, and has discharged their duties creditably.

Mr. Kassenborg was married in 1858 to Miss Tilda Olson, and to their union have come eight children: Annie is Mrs. O. C. Berglund; Augusta is Mrs. Markham; Gilbert is at home; Mary is Mrs. Moe; Edward is a farmer; Lizzie is Mrs. Olness; Julia is Mrs. Christ Halverson; and Melina, who died November 1, 1901.

Mr. Kassenborg has given much attention to fruit and garden vegetables, and is doubtless the most successful farmer in Clay county. His Concord grapes attract general admiration and his currants and berries are quite as thrifty.

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#### WARREN A. DOE.

Warren A. Doe, an old and substantial citizen of Willow River, Pine county, comes from the state of Maine, where he was born in the village of Clinton in 1835, and springs from old New England stock, his ancestors having been residents of that part of the country for many generations. His father, Welcome Otis Doe, was a prominent character in the business circles of Maine for many years and was connected with various important commercial enterprises. He was married to a Miss Lois Hall, and they were the parents of four children, who were reared and educated in the village of Old Town, Maine, being given the best educational advantages the local schools afforded and prepared for honest and industrious lives.

When Warren A. Doe was sixteen years of age he took upon his own shoulders the burden of his support and care, and became a lumberman, though he had worked with his father at that since he was thirteen years old. He continued in the business in Maine until 1862. That year he determined to try the opportunities of the Minnesota pine country, as so many other sons of Maine were doing at the time. He came to Stillwater, where he remained but a short time, and

went on to Lake City, then an important point, and secured a position in a lumber yard, where he continued some eighteen years, part of the time as yard superintendent and part of the time as a partner in the business.

Mr. Doe was married in 1856 to Miss Gilpatrick, a native of Maine, and of Scotch blood, her family having been in Maine many years. To this union were born five children, only two of whom are now living.

Mr. Doe spent some time at Winnipeg as receiving and distributing agent for the Canadian Pacific at that point, and then returning to Stillwater for a brief stay. In 1882 he became agent for the St. Croix Lumber Company at Aberdeen, South Dakota, forming a partnership with them for business at that point. This business relation was terminated in 1884, and Mr. Doe, journeying back to Stillwater, was associated for some years with Hersey & Bean, prominent lumbermen of that city. In the winter of 1893 he went to Mineral Point, Wisconsin, where he was in business for himself about a year, and then was appointed the general superintendent of the Atwood Lumber Company at Willow River, Minnesota, where he has charge of a sawmill with an output of one hundred and fifteen thousand feet of lumber a day, one of the largest mills in northern Minnesota. Over a hundred men are employed in the saw and planing mills, and the position which Mr. Doe holds is a very responsible one. The plant was established by Fox & Wisdom in 1888, and has been greatly added to since that time.

Mr. Doe is a Republican, and has been president of the village board and also treasurer of the town. Since 1894 he has been school treasurer, and takes an active part in local affairs. He is a Mason and is well and favorably known in that fraternity. Mr. Doe has had a most active and industrious life, and, beginning at the bottom, has worked his way to a most substantial and creditable success.

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#### CHARLES H. TUCKER.

Charles H. Tucker, a pioneer settler of Ottertail county, Minnesota, and one of the prosperous farmers of Scambler township, has a pleasant home in section 12 and has prospered as a result of honest and persistent labors. He is widely and favorably known as a citizen and well merits his success and good name.

Mr. Tucker was born in Wisconsin, March 30, 1854, and was a son of Lyman H. and Mary (Vannader) Tucker, the former a native of New York and the latter of Pennsylvania. His father moved from Wisconsin to Minnesota overland with a wagon and horse team and became one of the earliest settlers of Ottertail county. He

built a log house on his claim and our subject assisted him with the work of developing a farm in the new northwest. He attended the common schools after the parents located there, being at that time but six years of age, and he continued his studies and assisted with the work on the home farm until he was old enough to claim land for himself and devote his attention to the cultivation and improvement of the same for himself. He now has a farm of two hundred and fifty acres, of which one hundred and twenty acres is under cultivation, and the farm is one of the well-improved and valuable estates of the locality. He has erected a good residence and barn thereon and has a fine grove surrounding his house. He keeps six horses and nineteen head of cattle and follows diversified farming with pronounced success. He has a good supply of farm machinery for economically conducting the farm, and is well versed in the most approved methods of agriculture.

Mr. Tucker was married in 1893 to Rose Wallace. Mrs. Tucker was born in Pennsylvania, November 16, 1856. Mr. Tucker is a gentleman of active public spirit and is prominent in local affairs. He is earnestly interested in educational matters and is the present school treasurer. In political sentiment he is a Populist. He has resided in Ottertail county since his boyhood days and has a wide circle of acquaintances, by all of whom he is held in the highest esteem. He helped his father to improve and cultivate a farm before he became the owner of a tract, and by this early training he acquired a thorough knowledge of agriculture in the northwest and has made the best of his opportunities and may be justly proud of the results he has attained in this line.

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#### GEORGE W. EASTMAN.

George W. Eastman, one of the truly self-made men of Polk county, conducts a well regulated farm in Andover township and is a gentleman of wide knowledge of men and the world and thoroughly versed in his vocation. He is energetic and possessed of a character of the highest integrity and is highly esteemed by his associates.

Mr. Eastman was born in Salisbury, New Hampshire, October 26, 1857, and was of old Pilgrim stock, his ancestors having landed at Plymouth Rock. Jackson Eastman, great-grandfather of our subject, served in the Revolutionary war under Stark. He was wounded while in the service, and while waiting for the wound to heal, being stationed at Mt. Independent, he made a powder horn and carved it with his penknife, cutting the name of his son, Thomas Eastman, thereon. The desire of the maker was that it

should descend from father to son, and it is now in possession of our subject. In 1862 our subject's father moved to Wisconsin, and died in that state after one year there. George W. Eastman was then but six years of age and was next to the youngest of eight children. He did not have much of a home after his father's death, and lived four or five years with a brother-in-law, and then worked out wherever he might. He went to Minnesota in the fall of 1877 and worked on the Marsh & Spalding farm at Warren, and afterward for W. G. Lytle. While here he filed a preemption on a quarter section of land in section 34 in Andover township, in 1880, and the following year he acted as field boss on the Bailey & Dill farm at Mapleton, North Dakota. He then returned to his old home in Wisconsin and in the fall of 1882 went to Washington county, Minnesota, where he lived some six years. He then moved to Polk county and lived for eleven years on the W. G. Lytle farm. He sold his preemption and bought the southwest quarter of section 13 in Andover township, where he now resides. He has placed good improvements on his farm and enjoys a pleasant and quiet rural home.

Mr. Eastman was married in 1882 to Miss Bertha Henry, of Washington county, Minnesota. Mrs. Eastman has spent her life in Minnesota. Her uncle, David Hone, built the first frame house in the St. Croix valley about 1840, and his wife was the first white woman in Washington county. Her youngest son was the first white child born in the state of Minnesota. Mr. Eastman is an influential worker for the welfare of his community and has been called upon to serve in various offices of trust. He was a member of the township board for one year and chairman of the township board for six years, and for the past three years has served as county commissioner. He is a Populist politically and is active in convention work and all matters pertaining to reform principles.

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#### SAMUEL TODD.

From a rude log house to a commodious and comfortable residence is the record of this gentleman in Hendrum township, Norman county. Mr. Todd went to that region during the pioneer days, when even if means permitted it was next to impossible to furnish more than humble quarters for the early settler, and he has remained to witness a most wonderful transformation and bear a good share of the credit of this change. He is now one of the most extensive farmers of Norman county, and his present well-cultivated and well-kept estate tells a most interesting story. Energy, perseverance, undaunted courage, supplemented by integrity of word and



deed, have been the stepping stones by which he has gained a fortune and a good name. He resides in section 31, in a home of pleasantness and good cheer and surrounded by all the comforts of life.

Our subject was born in the province of Quebec, Canada, June 12, 1837, and was a son of John and Jane (Lamb) Todd, both of whom were natives of Ireland. He was reared in his native place and attended the public schools until he was sixteen years of age, and then worked on the home farm. After attaining his majority he began farming for himself, and continued operations in Canada until he was forty-four years of age, when he went to Norman county, Minnesota. He made a trip to California in 1861, and spent five years there at mining, but met with unsatisfactory results and returned to Canada until 1879, when he purchased his present farm. He is now the owner of twelve hundred acres of valuable land, all of which he has placed under good improvements, and on his home farm he has erected a fine residence, two good barns and such other buildings as are necessary on a model farm. He has a plentiful supply of farm machinery of modern make, including a steam threshing machine, and another feature of the place is a good flowing well. He keeps about twenty-five horses and thirty head of cattle, and ample provision is made for their shelter. This farm is one of the finest in Norman county and furnishes a good income for our subject.

Mr. Todd was married in 1868 to Eliza J. Liggett, who was born in Canada September 6, 1846. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Todd, six of whom are now living and are named as follows: Albert J., Frederick, Roxanna M., Thomas L., Chester A. and Victor C. One son, William, is deceased. The family are members of the Presbyterian church, and are widely known and most highly respected. Mr. Todd has served as justice of the peace for three years, and he is actively interested in the affairs of his community. He is a Republican politically, but does not seek public office, and has a host of friends. His portrait is shown upon another page of these memoirs.

#### CHARLES W. BURNHELM.

Charles W. Burnhelm, now of Bock, Mille Lacs county, Minnesota, was born in the German province of Schleswig-Holstein, then a part of Denmark, November 22, 1860, and was reared on a farm. His father, Arthur Burnhelm, was a life-long tiller of the soil, and is still living in Denmark, whither he removed rather than to accept German domination, and where he gave his two children as good an education as his circumstances permitted.

When Charles W. Burnhelm was eighteen years old he came to this country, landing at New York, and spending the first year and a half in traveling over the United States and becoming thoroughly familiar with the country. At the age of twenty-one he took a position as time-keeper in a Connecticut stone quarry, where he remained thirteen months, and then journeyed west to Wisconsin, where he was employed for nine months in a sawmill, holding the position of foreman and doing scaling as well as other work around the mill. At the expiration of this period he went to California, where he bought lots near San Francisco and speculated for nearly a year in gold properties. For about seven months he lived in Bozeman, Montana, and for a shorter period was in Spokane, Washington. In 1885 he was in Duluth, Minnesota, for about a month, going from there to New York, where he was some three months. The ensuing three years found him in California, Montana and in Washington, where he made one hundred and sixty-eight thousand dollars, losing, however, all but eighteen thousand dollars at a later period in a little less than three hours.

Mr. Burnhelm kept books in Minneapolis for a year, and in 1888 made his advent in Mille Lacs county, being the first settler in Burnhelm township, which bears his name. He bought forty acres, and, putting up a small house, has engaged very extensively in lumbering. In 1890 he erected a sawmill and also kept a store in another building close at hand. Having received a good proposition, he sold the mill, and was out of business for about two years.

Mr. Burnhelm and George Bock entered into a partnership in lumbering, operating the sawmill, and Mr. Burnhelm furnishing the logs. In 1899 they built their present mill, with a capacity of twenty-two thousand feet of lumber a day and requiring the help of some eighteen or twenty men in its successful operation.

Mr. Burnhelm is one of the most extensive business men of this part of the state, and aside from his direct lumber business deals in wood and ties on a large scale.

Charles W. Burnhelm and Miss Alice Nyorde were married in 1897. She was born in Iowa, and comes of Norwegian parentage. To them have come three children, Alfred, Victor and Blaine, all born in Bock.

In his politics Mr. Burnhelm is a strong Republican, and at one time or another has filled about all the town offices, having been justice of the peace, clerk and chairman of the county supervisors, having served on the board many years. He has attended numerous conventions as a delegate, and has taken a very active part in local and county politics. At the time of his arrival there were only three houses in Mille Lacs, and he has done his full share in the development of the



county. In 1899 he was burned out, his store, dwelling and stock of goods being totally destroyed, inflicting upon him a loss of at least three thousand dollars. His was a stout heart, and obtaining supplies from Milaca, he at once renewed his trade, rebuilding and establishing himself more firmly than ever in the confidence and respect of the community.

Mr. Burnhelm has never signed a mortgage, nor given a note, nor borrowed money, making his own way on what he had from the beginning.

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#### MERTON W. STONE.

Merton W. Stone, one of the prominent newspaper men of Becker county, is a gentleman well versed in his vocation and carries on his business extensively and profitably. He is proprietor of the Frazee News, a bright and newsy paper, published weekly, and one of the leading sheets of that region. Mr. Stone is a native of Goodhue county, Minnesota, and always displays a true spirit of patriotism and hearty interest in the advancement and development of the locality in which he makes his home and is one of the influential citizens of the town of Frazee.

Mr. Stone's birth is dated in 1878, and the place of his nativity is Pine Island, Minnesota. His father, Anson K. Stone, was a native of the state of New York and was a wagonmaker and inventor. He made many improvements and inventions on wagons and vehicles of all descriptions, and conducted an extensive business in this line in Pine Island. Our subject's mother, Belle (Flint) Stone, was born in Kentucky and raised in Ohio and Wisconsin. The maternal grandfather of our subject served in the Civil war in the Second Wisconsin Cavalry and died soon after the close of the war.

Merton W. Stone was the third in order of birth in a family of four children, and he was reared in his native village and received a high-school education. At the age of fourteen he began work in a printing establishment, and was employed on the Pine Island Record, and there learned the printer's trade. In 1896, in partnership with R. W. Irish, he purchased the paper and conducted the same two years under the firm name of Irish & Stone, and in July, 1898, Mr. Stone disposed of his interest to Mr. Irish and purchased the Park Region News at Frazee, Minnesota, of which R. J. Hochtritt was editor and proprietor. This paper was founded in 1896 by A. De Lacy Wood, under the name of the Park Region, as a weekly paper, and in the fall of 1897 Mr. Hochtritt established the Frazee News, and a year later purchased the Park Region, consolidating the papers under the name of the Park Region News. Mr. Stone purchased the paper in July and in the fall of that year changed the

name to the Frazee News. It is published weekly and has a large circulation, extending over the southern part of Becker county and into other localities. During the ownership of Mr. Stone the plant has been greatly increased and a fine job department and modern presses are features of the plant. It advocates the principles of Republicanism, and through its columns our subject stands firmly for the principles and movements of that party.

Merton W. Stone was married in July, 1899, to Alice Cronan. Mrs. Stone was born in the state of New York and was of Yankee descent. She went to Wisconsin at the age of five years and was reared there, and in 1896 went to Frazee, Becker county, Minnesota. Mr. Stone was the village recorder of Frazee in 1899, and is secretary of the board of education. He takes an active part in all public enterprises and local government, and politically is a Republican and is a member of the county central committee. He is a young man of excellent characteristics and deservedly holds a high station as a business man and citizen.

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#### OLE H. KLEMETRUD.

The photographic art is one not easily mastered and the success of the operator depends largely upon his attention to the principles involved and the exercise of good judgment. The present large patronage enjoyed by the subject of this review is marked evidence of his ability and integrity. Mr. Klemetsrud is the photographer of Twin Valley, and was the first to establish a permanent studio there. He also has two branch studios in Fertile and Ulen respectively, and each does a profitable business.

Mr. Klemetsrud was born on a farm in Valdres, Norway, in March, 1865. His father, Herman Klemetsrud, was born in Sondre Aurdal Valdres, Norway, April 29, 1838, and was a farmer by occupation. He came to America in 1866 and settled in Dane county, Wisconsin. The grandfather of our subject, Herman Severson, was born May 2, 1790, and he was a farmer in Norway. He died in Grant county, Wisconsin, October 26, 1877. The mother of our subject, who bore the maiden name of Gundhil Gundwaldsdatter, was born in Norway, December 19, 1842, in the same place as her husband. Her father, Gundwal Olson, died prior to her birth and her mother died in 1856, leaving her an orphan at the age of fourteen years. Our subject's parents were married in Norway July 11, 1863, and the father followed the carpenter's and painter's trade in his native land, but after coming to America his occupation was farming.

Mr. Klemetsrud was the eldest in a family of six children, and he resided in Dane county two years and then removed to Grant county, Wis-

consin, where he grew to manhood. He aided with the farm work and received his education at the country schools. The family settled in Hegne township, Norman county, Minnesota, in 1881, where the father entered claim to government land. They erected a 12x16 feet shanty and lived therein for some time until a larger and more comfortable residence could be constructed. In 1883 our subject purchased eighty acres of railroad land and began farming the same, but remained at home until he attained his majority and then took land as a homestead in section 28 of Hegne township. He built a shanty thereon and proved his claim, and continued farming there until 1892. His farm covered two hundred and forty acres, of which he put eighty acres under high cultivation, and devoted the balance to meadow. He began working in a photograph gallery in Ada, Minnesota, in 1892, and remained there one year to learn the trade, and the following year established a business in Twin Valley. He rented a small shack now used as a printing office, and he remained in business there two years, when he built his present quarters and now has a good building for the prosecution of his work. He established a branch office at Fertile in 1895 and another at Ulen, Clay county, in 1896, and these branch offices, with the home office at Twin Valley, constitute a large and ever-increasing business. Our subject was one of the pioneer business men of Twin Valley and he is now one of the permanent and popular citizens of that thriving town.

Mr. Klemetsrud was married July 17, 1894, to Miss Anna Bakke, a native of Minnesota. Mrs. Klemetsrud's father, Andrew Bakke, is an old settler of Norman county. He was formerly a farmer there, but is now in the meat business in Twin Valley. Our subject is a Republican in political sentiment, but he takes little part in party affairs and does not seek public preferment. He is held in high esteem by all who know him.

#### HALVOR GUNDERSON.

Halvor Gunderson, one of the most prominent Scandinavian agriculturists of Marshall county and county commissioner from the second district, resides in his handsome residence on section 32 in Oak Park township. He has a farm of about one section, including three hundred and twenty acres of timber land on the Red river.

Mr. Gunderson was born on the farm Odegardin, in Numedal, Norway, January 14, 1854. He was the fourth in order of birth in a family of five children born to Gunder and Berget (Syversdatter) Gunderson. The parents in later life joined their children in America and made their home with our subject. The father died in 1897

and the mother is still living at the advanced age of eighty-five years.

Mr. Gunderson engaged in farming in his native land and in 1876 started for America to join his brother in Iowa. He had some trouble in finding his brother and tramped afoot some forty-one miles before he found him. He saw no possibilities for establishing a home in that state and in the spring of 1878, hearing of the Red river valley, he went to Minnesota, leaving his wife in Iowa. He had but fifty dollars when he started on the trip and a portion of this was borrowed from friends, and he was not yet familiar with the English language. He arrived at Fisher's Landing among strangers and with small means, but possessed of determination and energy, and he was one of the early settlers and had the vast expanse of the northwest to choose a suitable location from. He first went south, then east to Black river and looked over the land near Crookston. He came to an Indian camp, which he gave wide range, and proceeded to locate his homestead April 15, choosing the land upon which he now resides. This was selected on account of its fine location, combining shelter for stock and fertile prairie. He was beyond the usual path of the land seeker and thus felt secure in the fact that he could get to the land office prior to another claimant. He made the journey, one hundred and thirty miles, and filed his claim and in August of that year returned with his wife and infant son from Iowa. While his family remained in Fisher's Landing he chopped his house logs, and worked nine days in payment for the moving of his household effects to his home. Their shelter for the first few days was a tent and later an enclosure made of stumps and logs with the flooring boards of his house for a roof, and thus they lived about two weeks until he could complete the log house. They were disturbed one night by a bear and they built a fire for safety and took their one cow into the little enclosure. The log house then built still stands, and with additions furnished them a home until 1899, when the residence now occupied was completed. This is a modern dwelling and is probably one of the most handsome and substantial modern residences from Fargo to Winnipeg. No pains have been spared in its construction or furnishings and every appointment of his home bespeaks good taste and refinement. Mr. Gunderson went to his new home equipped with the characteristics which make success and he has advanced steadily and is now one of the substantial men of that locality.

Mr. Gunderson was married in 1877 to Miss Ingeborg Johanson, a native of the same valley as our subject. Six children have blessed this union, namely: Gunder, Betsey, Tilla, Julia, John and Henry. Mr. Gunderson has been instrumental in settling many of the now prosper-

ous citizens in Oak Park township, and has aided materially in the advancement of the social and financial interests of that region. He assisted in the organization of the township and was a member of the township board for the first thirteen years. He was instrumental in organizing the school and took a leading part in organizing a church congregation and the erection of a house of worship. He is a member of the Lutheran denomination. Politically he is a Republican, but does not seek public preferment. Mr. Gunder-son has made the best of his opportunities in his business life and since 1885 he has met with good success in the sawing of lumber and chopping cord wood during the winter months and devoting the summer season to the cultivation of his farm. He is energetic and deservedly held in the highest esteem by all who know him.

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#### CHARLES J. C. BEDMAN.

Charles J. C. Bedman, proprietor of one of the pleasantly located and highly improved farms of Douglas county, resides on section 26 of Ida township, and is a representative agriculturist and highly esteemed citizen. He was born in Adrian, Michigan, March 9, 1856. The parents of our subject were James and Elizabeth (Cryer) Bedman.

James Bedman was born in New Hampshire, and his father, who also bore the name of James Bedman, was a native of Gloucestershire, England. Our subject's father first came to the United States in 1850, and after staying a short time went back to England and again came to America in 1853. His first voyage westward was one long to be remembered. He was on a sailing vessel, which took fourteen weeks to make the trip. The ship had reached the banks of Newfoundland, after a pleasant run, but was there met with adverse gales, which finally blew them back to the Irish coast. The journey was continued and the vessel was ultimately wrecked and James Bedman was picked up with life almost extinct four days after the wreck, having floated in the ocean lashed to a spar. He had learned the trade of mechanical engineer in a thorough manner in England. Soon after coming to America he proceeded to Douglas county, Minnesota, and he secured a farm about a mile and a half north of the present site of Alexandria and in connection with farming opened a blacksmith shop. Although the country was sparsely settled he found plenty of work to do, as he had the shoeing of government horses for the forts and also those used on the stage routes. In 1862 the Indians devastated property generally in that region and the army, which routed them, succeeded in taking what was left by the Indians and our subject's father moved his family to St. Cloud and later

to Sauk Center. He worked at his trade two years and then returned to his Douglas county farm, but sickness seized him and for two years he was unable to work and was compelled to mortgage his farm and finally lost the property. In 1870 he entered a homestead claim to one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 26 of Ida township, on the west shore of Lake Ida, on which he erected a claim shanty. Subsequently he went to Winnipeg, Manitoba, and from there to New Jersey, where he died in 1875. He was married at Iron Acton church in Gloucestershire, England, to Elizabeth Cryer. His wife survived him eighteen years and died in Douglas county, Minnesota, in 1893. But one child was born to this worthy couple, namely, Charles J. C., our subject, who, as was above stated, was born in Michigan, where his parents made a short stop on their way westward.

Charles J. C. Bedman gained his early education in the public schools and later completed his studies in the normal school at St. Cloud during 1875-76. He afterward taught school in Douglas county for fifteen years, making his home with his mother until her death. He now resides on the homestead farm and has a home of more than usual comforts. In 1898 he erected a modern residence, commanding a beautiful view of Lake Ida and the picturesque woods and scenery around. He has forty acres of farming land, and on the lake he owns a number of pleasure boats, which are greatly in demand during the fishing and boating season by the many excursionists who visit this beautiful spot for their annual recreation.

Mr. Bedman was married May 28, 1891, to Christine Erickson, a native of Sweden, who came to America in 1868 with her parents, Andrew and Anne Erickson, who are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Bedman are the parents of one child, namely, Harry T. D., whose birth is dated June 6, 1897. Mr. Bedman is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is a Republican politically and is a man of broad ideas and stands firmly for his convictions. E. G. Erickson, a brother-in-law of Mr. Bedman, is a resident of Alexandria and the best boat builder in this section of Minnesota.

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#### ERICK NORLAND.

In the growth and development of Kittson county, Minnesota, the settlers of Swedish birth have played so prominent a part that much space is deservedly given them for a review of their lives in this volume, and it is a special pleasure to mention the first pioneer of the locality of that nationality, Erick Norland, who settled on his farm in Hallock township in May, 1878.

Mr. Norland, of whom a portrait is shown elsewhere in this album, was born in Sweden, November 16, 1843, and was the second child and only son in a family of three children born to Erick and Christina (Olson) Erickson. He went to America in 1860, and worked in Iowa and southern Minnesota, and in the spring of 1878 went to Moorhead, and from there, in company with his half-brother, Henry, and another companion, made a trip down the Red river to Winnipeg, returning to Pembina. The three then started afoot through Kittson and Marshall counties, which were then almost wholly unsettled, and for about a week they tramped, wading through water and rafting across the swollen streams, sleeping wherever night overtook them. Although this was not a pleasing introduction to the country, our subject decided the possibilities for farming were good, and he filed claim to the land which he now owns in May of that year, choosing land on the banks of Two Rivers. This has proven a most productive locality, and he has never regretted his choice. In September, 1878, he again started from Moorhead, taking his wife and household effects in a flat-boat, his half-brother, Ole, and family accompanying them. They moored the boat at the mouth of Two Rivers and a home on our subject's claim was established for all. These were the first Swedish families in the county, and our subject's home became the stopping place for the Scandinavian immigrants. He became known and proved himself a true friend to the pioneers, and by his knowledge of the country was of invaluable service to them in assisting them to select suitable locations. During these early days he did all in his power to induce the visitor to that locality to become a permanent settler, and might be styled the "father of his township." He has accumulated a good property, and follows diversified farming with most pleasing results. His improvements of his farm include a complete set of farm buildings, and modern machinery is used for garnering and disposing of the products. His residence is in section 2 of Hallock township, and affords every comfort and many of the luxuries of life.

In 1872 occurred the marriage of Mr. Norland and Miss Emma Backman. Mrs. Norland is a native of Sweden also, and with her husband enjoys the reputation of extending hospitality and good cheer to all who enter within her home. She is a lady of culture, and much credit is due her for the fair share she has taken in the good management which has resulted in their comfortable surroundings. Mr. and Mrs. Norland have no children, but their family circle is completed by a child, who bears the name of Ella, who makes her home with them. Mr. Norland, although a gentleman of public spirit and de-

voted to the upbuilding of his community, takes little part in public affairs aside from lending an influence for good. He does not seek public office and is not a stanch party man politically. His business relations always bear close investigation, and he is deservedly popular.

#### PETER NOESEN.

The vocation to which this gentleman has devoted his life is one of the honorable callings of man. For half a century he has been identified with the development of the agricultural resources of the northwest, and he has gained for himself a comfortable competence and an enviable name as a citizen. His home is in Russia township, and he is one of the influential men of Polk county.

Mr. Noesen was born in Germany, October 15, 1837. He was reared on the home farm, and after he attained his majority left his native land, locating for a time in Ozaukee county, Wisconsin. He worked there at farm labor for a time and later bought a tract of woodland for himself. About 1865 he moved to Michigan to work in the copper mines, and he recalls the complete cessation from work when the news was received of President Lincoln's assassination. He engaged in mining until the latter part of 1866, when he returned to Wisconsin and bought improved land. He removed to Wabasha county, Minnesota, in 1873, but did not meet with the desired success there, and in the spring of 1878 he took land as a homestead in section 4 of Russia township, in Polk county. He brought three horses and with these broke one hundred and ten acres of land, living on the place alone, meanwhile leaving his family in Wabasha county. In the fall of that year he returned for his family, then consisting of his wife and eight children, and he also brought his stock and machinery to his new farm. Their first home was an unpretentious one, 14x16 feet in measurement, and the eldest two boys slept in the barn during the first winter. The second winter was severe and snow drifted over the barn, so that the stock could not be taken out. Thirteen steps dug in the drift led down to the barn door. During a blizzard Mr. Noesen was overtaken by the storm while getting a load of wood. The team lost the road and he found a line of weeds which had grown up in one of the furrows, and by following these he reached a neighbor's house. The team of mules were found four hours later where he had left them not much the worse for the storm and exposure. Mr. Noesen has remained to witness the growth and development of that locality and is the owner of one of the well-improved estates and has six hundred acres of land.

Our subject was married in 1863 to Miss Rosa Wunderly. This union has been blessed by the birth of the following children, all of whom have been reared to a life of usefulness and have obtained good educational advantages: Bernhard, born in 1864, died in 1892; Martin B., born in 1865, now a Catholic priest in Deadwood, South Dakota; George, born in 1867, residing in Wabasha county, Minnesota; Mary, born in 1869, makes her home with her brother Martin; Adele, born in 1871, now in the convent at St. Cloud; Theodore, born in 1872, engaged in farming in Russia township; John, born in 1874; Katrina, born in 1876, died at her home in 1896; Joseph, born in 1878; Lena, born in 1880; Louis, born in 1882; Emma, born in 1884; and Rosa, born in 1886. The youngest six children make their home with the parents. Mr. Noesen is always heartily interested in the welfare of his community and has taken an active part in local matters. He does not seek public preferment, but has been called upon to serve as chairman of the township board, which office he filled nine years, then as township treasurer about six years until the last eight months, when he was stricken with an illness which confines him to his home. He is a staunch Democrat politically, and while not willingly active in politics, he has been induced to serve his party in numerous conventions in the county. He is a Catholic in religious faith and has worshipped with this denomination throughout his life.

#### FRANK L. GATES.

Among the younger members of the farming community of Deer Creek township the gentleman above named is entitled to a prominent place. He has built up a good home on section 29 and is one of the enterprising and progressive agriculturists of Ottertail county.

Mr. Gates was born in Rice county, Minnesota, October 25, 1868, and is a son of James and Ann (Tucker) Gates, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Pennsylvania. Our subject spent his boyhood on his father's farm in Rice county and assisted with the farm work and in 1882 moved with his parents to Ottertail county. The family were pioneers of that region, and young Frank assisted with the development and improvement of his father's homestead farm, and also attended school, making the best of his opportunities. He has accomplished much since taking up his residence in Ottertail county, and is now the fortunate owner of a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Deer Creek township. He is possessed of good, practical experience in farming and has gained a knowledge of his calling which enables him to successfully operate his farm. Painstaking care is evidenced in the appearance of his farm, and the buildings upon

it are substantial and furnish shelter for the family, stock and products of the place. He has devoted his entire attention to this pursuit and his success is the result of his honest industry.

Mr. Gates was married in 1897 to Esther Nyberg. Mrs. Gates was born in Sweden, August 8, 1872. She is an accomplished lady and has engaged in teaching for some years in that part of the state, and is one of the prominent ladies of Deer Creek. Mr. Gates takes a good degree of interest in all local affairs and has served as assessor of Deer Creek township. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Deer Creek. In political faith he is a Democrat and firmly stands for his convictions. He is a man of good judgment and may be truly classed among the self-made men of that locality.

#### NELS BANGSON.

Nels Bangson was born on a farm in Sweden in 1863, and is now one of the leading men of Ogelvie, Kanabec county, Minnesota. His father was a farmer in Sweden and in his early manhood served in the national army. In 1890 he came to America and made his home in Ogelvie.

Nels Bangson is the second member of a family of three children born to his parents, and was reared and educated in Sweden, where before he was twenty years old he entered the Swedish army, and completed a term of three years. In 1886 he sought a home in the United States, landing in New York, and making his way to Big Lake, Sherburn county, where he made a brief stop, and then took a place with the Great Northern Railway, working out from Fergus Falls and Elk River, doing section work for about two and a half years. In 1889 he was made a foreman and put in charge of the section at Ogelvie, there being only a siding here at the time. Since that day he has seen the wilderness grow into a settled and orderly community, in the development of which he has done his full share.

In 1894 Mr. Bangson bought four hundred acres of land at five dollars an acre and began farming. He has two hundred acres of good meadow land, and at the present time has about twenty-four acres under the plow. His land is all fenced, and he has buildings on two different farms. On the home farm is a house 28x32 feet, a story and a half high, and a kitchen 16x23 feet, and is regarded as one of the best residences in Ogelvie. This is on a forty-acre tract adjoining the town. Mr. Bangson has bought and sold farm lands quite extensively.

Mr. Bangson was married in 1887 to Betsy Oleson. She was born in Sweden, and came to this country in 1886. Her father was a blacksmith all his life, and died in Sweden. Mr. and



Mrs. Bangson have two children, Ella and Ellsworth B.

Mr. Bangson is a Republican, and has been town treasurer two terms, and is also treasurer of the school district. He has taken an active part in local affairs, and was instrumental in starting the first school.

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#### F. E. DUDLEY.

F. E. Dudley, the present mayor of Bemidji, Minnesota, and one of the bright and enterprising business men of that thrifty burg, has built up a good business as the proprietor and manager of the Dudley Meat Market, and holds a creditable position in the confidence and esteem of that community. He was born in Geauga county, Ohio, some thirty-six years ago, where he secured his education in the public schools and developed that sturdy character that has been so strong a factor in his successful career. Mr. Dudley came to Minnesota in 1881, and much of the time since his coming has been spent by him in the lumber regions of the northern part of the state.

Politically he is a stanch Republican, and served seven years as a county commissioner, having been appointed to that position prior to the organization of the county, by Governor Nelson. In 1900 he was elected mayor of the city of Bemidji, and his administration of city affairs was so successful that he was re-elected to the same position in 1901. His friends anticipate for him farther and higher honors in the political world, for which his business ability, his personal integrity and genial manners so well qualify him.

Mr. Dudley was married in 1889 to Miss Nellie Hartley, who was the first white child born in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. To this happy union have come two children, Nona and Edith. Mr. Dudley is a Mason of reputation and character, and belongs to the chapter at Crookston. He is also a member of the Knights of the Maccabees.

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#### WILLIAM R. TILLOTSON.

William R. Tillotson, of the law firm of Tillotson & Campbell, is one of the leading attorneys and business men of Moorhead. He has been a resident of Clay county for over twenty years, and during this time has made a wide circle of acquaintances, and has gained the respect and esteem of all with whom he has to do.

Mr. Tillotson was born in New Hampshire in 1856, and is of old New England stock. He remained at home, receiving his elementary education there, and completed his studies at Dartmouth College, graduating from that institution

with the class of 1877. Immediately following his graduation he began reading law, and was admitted to the New Hampshire bar in the fall of 1880. In the spring of the following year he went to Moorhead, Minnesota, and entered the employ of the law firm of Burnham & Gould. He continued thus two years, and in 1883 joined the firm, which was then known as Burnham, Mills & Tillotson. The partnership continued three years, when Mr. Mills was elected to the bench. Mr. Burnham died in 1898, and in 1899 the present firm of Tillotson & Campbell was established. They conduct a general law practice, and are also engaged in the insurance business. They have built up a remunerative business, and have become widely known as business men and lawyers of much capacity.

Mr. Tillotson was married in 1888 to Miss Harriet Tanner. Two children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tillotson, namely, Bradley and Frances. Mr. Tillotson has taken a most commendable interest in the public affairs of the community in which he has made his home, and in 1892 was elected mayor of Moorhead, and in 1901 was again elected to that office. His efficient and faithful work in this capacity has proven of great and permanent benefit to the community. In political faith Mr. Tillotson is a Republican, and he is a member of the Protestant Episcopal church.

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#### JOHN S. LINDGREN.

John S. Lindgren, residing on section 20 of Skane township, is one of the prosperous and highly esteemed men of Kittson county. He has gained his high standing through his thorough appreciation of the needs of his community and his ready support of all enterprises which tended to enhance the value of the township in any way. He was the first settler of his township, and is identified with the early history of that region. A man of estimable character, he has taken his position as a promoter of moral good and educational methods, and deservedly lives in contentment in his comfortable home, which is the center of hospitality and good cheer.

Our subject was born in Sweden April 5, 1855, and was the eldest son of a family of ten children born to Svan and Karen (Akeson) Johnson. His father is still living and makes his home in his native land. Our subject came to America in 1879 and located in Goodhue county, Minnesota. He went to Hallock, Kittson county, in 1880, and at once prospected through the county and selected his farm, and he erected the first buildings in Skane township. He had but seventy-five dollars when he located there, and he worked on the railroad to obtain funds to



begin the improvement of his place. He took up his residence thereon in the spring of 1881, and has since made valuable improvements and provided every comfort and convenience of modern farming and enjoys a good competence from the farm. He has devoted his entire attention to agriculture as a vocation, and his present estate testifies to the fact that he has learned the best methods to be employed and the most desirable machinery for the economical garnering and disposition of the products of the place.

Our subject was married in 1881 to Miss Engre Olson. Mr. Lindgren was prominently identified with the early affairs of his township, and while a resident of Svea township, from 1882 to 1887, he took an active part in the organization of the same. Skane township, in which he now resides, was organized at a meeting held at the home of our subject, May 28, 1887, and Mr. Lindgren at that meeting was chosen chairman of the township board. When the first school was organized in said township he was one of the board of education for a period of seven years. He is active in affairs of the Lutheran denomination, and assisted in the organization of Red River congregation of the Swedish Lutheran church, September 8, 1881. He is a Republican in political sentiment and is firm for the principles of his party, lending his influence for the best government.

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#### LEOPOLD PETERS.

Leopold Peters, the enterprising druggist of Carlton, Minnesota, is a gentleman of excellent education and thorough knowledge of his profession. He has one of the most extensive drug stores of the county and carries a complete line of goods, including prescription drugs, proprietary medicines, and druggists' sundries, stationery, notions and toys. He has built up a good trade in Carlton, and is highly esteemed as a business man and citizen.

Mr. Peters was born at Lyons, Iowa, March 24, 1860. His father, Clement Peters, was born within twenty miles of Lyons, France, at Bun Remey, the birthplace of Joan of Arc. He served in the revolutionary war of 1848, and was in the service of his country from the age of nine years until after the revolution. He learned the cabinetmaker's trade in London, England, and was a furniture dealer. He emigrated to America about 1855. The mother of our subject was of German birth, and came to America in 1885, spending seven months on the voyage across the ocean. Her brother also served in the revolution of 1848.

Leopold Peters was the second in a family of four children. He was reared in the city of

Lyons, Iowa, and educated in the public schools of that city and Fulton, Illinois, where his father located in 1871. He assisted his father in the furniture business and at cabinetmaking until he was sixteen years of age, and then engaged in clerking in a grocery, and later spent five years as a drug clerk at Fulton. He became a registered pharmacist of Illinois, and later took a course in pharmacy at Philadelphia, receiving his diploma in 1885. He then worked at Sterling and Waterloo, Iowa, and in 1887 at St. Paul, and two years at Minneapolis. He went to Carlton May 22, 1889, and worked for different drug companies there from 1889 to September, 1893, when he purchased his employer's business. In May, 1894, he erected his present commodious store building. The store occupies a room 24x34 feet, and around this he has a gallery which contains shelf room for an extensive line of goods, making altogether a large store. His wareroom and residence are in the rear of the store. He has increased the stock as fast as the growing business justified, and he now has an extensive trade. His stock is neatly and artistically arranged, and is complete in every particular.

Mr. Peters was married in 1890 to Miss Mary J. Martin. Mrs. Peters was born at Brantford, Ontario, Canada. Her father, George B. Martin, was a blacksmith and carriagemaker. Both parents were natives of Scotland. Mr. and Mrs. Peters are the parents of two children, Capitola Martina and George Clement, both of whom were born in Carlton, Minnesota. Mr. Peters is prominent in local affairs, and has served as town treasurer, and enjoys the confidence of his fellow men. He is a Democrat politically and stands firmly for the principles of his party.

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#### WILLIAM WINTER.

William Winter, who for the past thirty years has been closely identified with the growth and development of Ottertail county, is a prosperous agriculturist, residing on section 32 of Deer Creek township. He has devoted his entire career to the pursuit of farming, and has gained a knowledge of his calling which is invaluable to him and enables him to assist others less fortunate than himself. He is an old soldier, and staunchly defended the preservation of the Union in the Civil war, and is an honored member of the G. A. R.

Mr. Winter was born in Germany December 25, 1837. His parents, Lewis and Louisa Winters, were also natives of Germany. Our subject left his native land at the age of fifteen years, landing in New York, to try his fortunes in America. He remained in New York two years and then came west to Illinois and resided in that

state until 1861. At the breaking out of the Civil war he enlisted in Company F, of an Illinois regiment, and served three months. He enlisted a second time in the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, and served three years, participating in the hard-fought engagements at Gettysburg, Fredericksburg, Harpers Ferry, Antietam, and many smaller engagements. He was wounded four times and once in the head, but he served until the close of the year 1865. He then returned to Illinois, and after a short stay there went to Minnesota, locating in Goodhue county. He removed to Ottertail county in 1869 and took a homestead in section 21 of Buse township. In 1883 he bought his present farm in Deer Creek township, which consists of two hundred and eighty acres, of which one hundred acres are under high cultivation. He has good barns and sheds, and has erected a comfortable and substantial residence, and enjoys the comforts of rural life. He keeps five horses and fourteen head of cattle, and has a bountiful supply of farm machinery for the economical conduct of the place, and has met with unbounded success in Ottertail county.

Mr. Winter was married in 1861 to Linda Hamonway. Mrs. Winter was born in Pennsylvania in 1832, and died in 1893. She was the mother of five children, namely: Aaron, Henry, Bernhard, Rutherford and Mathew. Mr. Winter was married subsequently to Hulda Johnson. Mrs. Winter was born in Pennsylvania February 24, 1874. To this union one child has been born, who bears the name of Florence. Mr. Winter is a member of the German Lutheran church, and is a gentleman highly esteemed in his community. He is a Republican in political sentiment, and stands staunchly for the principles of his party, and lends his aid to good local and national government. Portraits of Mr. Winter and his wife are shown on another page of this work.

#### JOHN GULDBRANSON.

John Guldbranson, a well-to-do farmer and old settler of Becker county, resides in section 8 of Audubon township. He is a man of honest principles and industrious habits, and is accorded a prominent place as a worthy citizen. He is a native of Norway, and was born in Sandsuer on a farm in 1829.

The father of our subject, Guldbran Halvorson, was a farmer throughout his life. He died when our subject was but six years of age. The mother, Annie Maria (Sunne) Halvorson, spent her life in Norway. Of a family of six children our subject was the fourth in order of birth, and he remained on the home farm until after the father's death, when the family went to the home

of his grandfather, and there our subject was reared to the age of eighteen years. He attended the common school of the time, but had little educational advantages, and at the age of eighteen years he went to Kongsberg, Norway, and there hired to a wealthy man as coachman and general house man. He remained with this man nine years, and in 1856 came to America, landing at Quebec. He went to Wisconsin and worked in the pineries in winter and on the river in summer, and spent five years in lumbering. In the fall of 1861 he enlisted in Company D, Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, and after drilling at Madison, Wisconsin, during the winter was sent in the spring to Missouri. He participated in the battles of Murfreesboro, Perryville, Rocky Face Mountain, Chatousha Mountain, and in many minor engagements in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia, and was with Sherman around Atlanta. He saw over three years of active service, and on one occasion barely escaped capture and death during a charge of the regiment. After the close of hostilities he returned to Wisconsin, but owing to ill health he could do only light work. He went to Becker county, Minnesota, in 1870, and September 1st settled on his present farm in section 8 of Audubon township. He built a log house the following spring, and did some breaking of land with an ox-team and lived a bachelor's life for two years, his living consisting chiefly of pudding and milk. His log cabin was furnished with a basswood log split for a table and three railroad ties for a bed, and it was some years before he found himself able to supply even ordinary comforts for his home. Grasshoppers destroyed several crops, and it was not until the third year of his farming that he raised and harvested a good crop. He has prospered since, and is now the owner of one hundred and sixty-eight acres of land, on which he has placed modern improvements, and in a comfortable residence, situated in a fine grove, he enjoys the reward of his many years of labor in Becker county.

John Guldbranson was married in Wisconsin to Miss Adaline Jane Nelson. Mrs. Guldbranson was born in Baraboo, Sauk county, Wisconsin, and was a daughter of Nels Nelson, who was among the first Scandinavians to come to America, and followed farming successfully in Wisconsin. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Guldbranson, five of whom are now living, and are named as follows: Gilbert J., Alfred J., Mary N. J., Henry J. and Edwin J. Two others, Annie Henrietta and Edwin J., are deceased. Mr. Guldbranson is a member of the G. A. R. at Detroit, Minnesota, and he is a member of the Lutheran Synod church, to which denomination the family also belong. Politically he is a Republican.

## ANDREW PETERSON.

The qualities that wring success out of adversity, and which have done so much to make the wilderness of the great northwest a fertile garden, are largely displayed in the career of the gentleman whose name introduces this article. He is industrious, frugal, strictly honest and upright, and possesses that persistent disposition that is bound to win, if not on the first, then on the second or a third endeavor.

Mr. Peterson was born in Jamptland, Sweden, on a farm, in 1854, where his father lived and died, a life-long farmer. Andrew was the next to the youngest in a family of six children, and was reared and educated in Sweden. When he was nineteen years old he struck out for himself and worked six years as a farm hand. At the end of that time he came to the United States and landed at New York City, from which he made his way direct to Rush City, Chisago county, Minnesota. At the time of his arrival here he had but a limited amount of money, but by thrift and economy was able to buy a farm in Isanti county in 1880, on which he moved.

Mr. Peterson was married in Sweden in 1877 to Miss Betsy Ann Erickson. They have two children: Peter E., born in Sweden, and Amanda C., born in Minnesota.

When they established themselves on their farm they lived in a log cabin for some time, after which they put up a frame house. There was not a bit of cleared land on the place, and prodigious labor was required to make it ready for the plow. For the first five winters Mr. Peterson went into the woods, and in the falls and springs found employment in Minneapolis. In 1886 the chintz-bugs swept away the growing crops, and it needed the money earned in the woods to pay expenses on the farm. To add to his trouble sickness came, and not only was all the money he had used to meet the doctor bills, but a mortgage of one hundred dollars was put on the farm. Mrs. Ann Peterson died in 1882, leaving her husband with two small children, and in 1885 he was again married, Miss Annie Norrell, who was born in Sweden, becoming his wife. She came to the United States in 1861, when twenty-four years of age.

With Mr. Peterson, as is always the case, "things had to get their worst before beginning to mend," and their came a turn in the tide of trouble. Things began to grow better. In 1896 he cleared fifteen hundred dollars from his farm, and is living in very comfortable circumstances. He owns a fine place of one hundred and fifty acres, about seventy acres of which are under cultivation, the remainder being used for pasture and meadow. His farm buildings are very good and the place presents a neat and well-kept ap-

pearance, very pleasing to the eye of the traveler. The house is 22x28, and has an addition 20x20 feet; the barn is 28x56 feet; there are two granaries, each 24x16 feet; a machinery shed, 16x24 feet; a supply house, 14x24 feet; a machine shop, 16x22 feet, with a stone basement ten feet deep. Mr. Peterson has achieved a very flattering success, not by accident or chance, but by persistent industry and unremitting hard work, and he is what he is to-day by virtue of clear grit and stick; had he been easily discouraged, or fond of change, he might well have been no better off than when he came into the county. He raises grain and potatoes as his principal crops, and is a successful farmer.

Mr. Peterson is a Republican, and has served on the school board. He takes an interest in local improvements, and is on the board of directors of the Cambridge flour mill, and owns stock in the starch factories established at Cambridge and Isanti, in both of which he also serves as a director. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and is one of the honored and respected pioneer settlers of the county.

## HALVOR O. KOPPANG.

Among the prosperous farmers of Aurdal township, Ottertail county, none stands in higher rank for enterprise and progressiveness than Halvor O. Koppang. He is the owner of a finely improved property, and has made his fortune since he located in this country, and has become one of the public-spirited citizens of his adopted state.

Mr. Koppang was born in Norway November 7, 1845. His father, Ole Koppang, was born in Norway, as was also his mother, Ellen (Holverson) Koppang.

Our subject was reared in his native land and was educated there, and continued his residence in Norway until he was twenty-seven years of age, when he came to America. He reached Ottertail county, Minnesota, in 1872, and took a homestead in section 18 of Aurdal township, consisting of eighty acres. Here he erected a log house and a log barn, and used oxen eight years for his farm work. He proved his claim to the land, after which he sold the property and bought three hundred and forty-five acres in section 18. Of this tract one hundred acres are under cultivation and the rest is devoted to pasture and meadow land and timber. He has a comfortable and commodious residence standing in a fine grove, and good water is one of the features of the farm. His barn, which cost seven thousand dollars, is one of the finest of the locality, and is a structure 50x150 feet, with plenty of storage room for hay, machine shed and granary in con-

nection. The cattle and horses are sheltered in the stone basement of the barn. He keeps eight head of horses, forty head of cattle and other stock, and has met with pronounced success as an agriculturist in Minnesota.

Mr. Koppang was married in 1871 to Annie Torgalson. Mrs. Koppang was born in Norway March 12, 1846. To this marriage nine children have been born, namely: Emma H., Annie, Tillie (deceased), Oleina, Hannah, Torgal, Ole, Thora and Helga. Mr. Koppang and family are members of the Lutheran church of Aurdal. In political sentiment Mr. Koppang is a Prohibitionist, but he does not take an active part in political affairs and does not seek public office. He is a gentleman of sterling character and wields an influence for good in his community. Portraits of Mr. Koppang and wife are shown elsewhere in this volume.

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#### NAPOLÉON B. SOPER.

Napoleon B. Soper is well known in Polk county as the most extensive grain farmer of Andover township, and a gentleman of good management in his calling and a worthy citizen. He went to the state of Minnesota nineteen years ago without means, and by energetic efforts and good management has acquired control of nine hundred acres of the best wheat growing land of that section. He is also engaged in threshing, and has attained more than local note in this business and has owned several outfits. With them he has established a reputation for speed and thoroughness of execution enjoyed by few, and his work is highly appreciated by farmers of the Red river valley, where the season for taking care of the grain is of short duration.

Mr. Soper was born at Galesburg, Illinois, January 9, 1860. He was one of a family of six children born to R. R. and Melissa (Duclon) Soper. His brothers and sisters are as follows: Annie E., Emma, Walter, George and Edward, the last named now deceased. The mother and two sisters now make their home with our subject, and have resided in Polk county since 1884. The home is a pleasant one, and is well kept and comfortable in every particular, and Mr. Soper devotes his attention to his farm and the details of his home. He is unmarried.

In his early youth our subject removed to Lawrence county, New York. He was thrown upon his own resources by the death of his father at the age of fourteen years, and he also aided in the support of the family until 1882, when through the solicitations of Mr. W. G. Lytle, of Crookston, Minnesota, he sought a new home. His success demonstrates the wisdom of his choice, and also demonstrates what may be

accomplished by a determined and persistent effort in the right direction. For the first two years he had no means and worked at farm labor in the vicinity of Crookston, becoming familiar with the western methods of agriculture, and laying aside his earnings toward the establishment of a home. He rented land in 1884 and began farming for himself, and as circumstances justified purchased a tract and has since added to his acreage, and is now engaged in farming nine hundred acres of valuable land. He has always used modern machinery and conveniences, and is awake to the most approved methods of farm work. His home farm is carefully tilled and evidences painstaking labor in its operation.

Mr. Soper is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees. He is a man of good ideas and keeps pace with the times, and is heartily interested in the advancement and development of his community and lends his influence for good government, local and national. He attends strictly to his farm work and does not seek public preferment, and is enjoying well-earned success and an enviable name.

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#### JACOB M. HURSH.

Jacob M. Hursh, a farmer of experience and a man of much influence in his community, resides upon his farm in section 18, Inman township. He has demonstrated the possibilities of successful agriculture in Ottertail county, and deserves great credit as one of those who have contributed to the material prosperity of northwest Minnesota.

Mr. Hursh was born in Greene county, Ohio, July 7, 1851. His parents were Frederick and Tamson A. (Mercer) Hursh, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of Ohio. Frederick Hursh was a veteran of the Civil war and enlisted in Company G, Fifty-fourth Volunteer Infantry, serving four years. When our subject was four years old the family removed from Ohio to Illinois. There Jacob attended the common schools until he was fifteen years of age. He then went to Minnesota and located in Hennepin county, where he lived for eleven years. When he was twenty-six years old he went to Ottertail county, making the trip overland by ox-team. He took a homestead claim in Inman township, on section 18, in the year 1876, that being the first homestead claim to land in the west half of Inman township. He took possession in October of that year and began the erection of a residence, which he completed during one of the most severe snow storms he had ever experienced. This tried his courage to the utmost, and he found great difficulty in overcoming his desire to return to Minneapolis. He perse-

vered, however, and his industry and energy have received a due reward. He has prospered during the later years of his residence there, and is now the owner of five hundred acres of valuable land, two hundred and fifty acres of which are devoted to crops, the balance being pasture and meadow. He has a good barn and an abundance of farm machinery and stock. He has seven head of horses and from forty to fifty head of other stock. His residence and barn yards are thoroughly protected by one of the finest groves in the county.

Mr. Hursh was married April 9, 1873, to Lucy E. Braman. Mrs. Hursh was born in Minnesota February 23, 1856. Of this union thirteen children have been born, namely: Ethel May, Marian M., Frederick Cy, Ida D., Clarence R., Laura S., Perry, Ada M., Mertie, Emma I., Katie, Lottie and George. Mr. Hursh adheres to the principles of the free-silver standard of money, and has interested himself in public affairs to some extent. He has served as chairman of the board of supervisors of Inman township for eight years, and has acted as school clerk for seven years. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, being a charter member of Lodge No. 179, of Henning. His industry, energy and integrity have brought him success.

#### AXEL JNO. LUNDQUIST.

Vega township, Marshall county, is inhabited by a thrifty and energetic class, most of whom are natives of the Scandinavian peninsula, the Swedish people being in the lead in numbers. The fine farms of that locality are a credit to those who operate the same as well as to the county and state, and the incomes from these well-cultivated and highly improved estates form a large proportion of the wealth of Marshall county. Among the pioneers of Vega township who have done so much to bring about this gratifying condition, may be mentioned Axel Jno. Lundquist. He has a pleasant home on section 2 and enjoys the results of a well-spent career.

Mr. Lundquist was born at Catrineholm, Sweden, March 23, 1865, and was the only child of Andrew J. and Anna C. (Johnson) Lundquist, both of whom now reside near our subject. The father was a master carpenter on the railroad in Sweden, but wished to engage in agriculture, and his means would not permit the purchase of the lands of that country, thus deciding him in emigrating to America. He came direct to the Red river valley, where he took advantage of the free homestead law by filing on the land he now owns. This was in the spring of 1880, and he has since resided thereon and has improved a good farm.

After his arrival in Marshall county our subject, then fifteen years of age, secured employment on the Snake River farm, and continued there for some time. He was conversant with the Scandinavian and German languages, and having natural ability as a linguist, he soon became familiar with the English language, and although he has attended English school but two days in his life, he is a thorough speaking American and has mastered the three languages, Scandinavian, German and English. He began work with his father on the home farm in 1885 and remained with him until 1888, when he removed to his homestead farm. In the early days the family were in reduced circumstances, and the strictest economy of means and hard labor and good management were necessary. Our subject is now proprietor of a valuable farm, on which he has placed good improvements, including a one-hundred-foot well, recently sunk, which furnishes an abundance of excellent water for domestic and farm use.

Mr. Lundquist was married in 1888 to Miss Hattie C. Lindquist, also a native of Sweden. Mrs. Lundquist passed six years in Missouri prior to coming to Minnesota in 1888. One child blessed this union, a son named Harry M., born November 26, 1897. Mrs. Lundquist, the wife and mother, died in 1901. She was a young woman of great intelligence, and in whom the Christian graces were present in a marked degree. Mr. Lundquist has served as township clerk for the past seven years, and he is a man of active public spirit. He is especially interested in educational advancement and is an earnest worker for good schools and competent instructors. He is a member of the Free Baptist church, Politically he is a Republican.

#### THE WARREN SHEAF.

The Warren Sheaf, the pioneer newspaper of Marshall county and one of the most popular local organs, was established in December, 1880, by A. Dewey. It was Republican in political sentiment from its founding, and faithfully recorded the movements and progress of the party and the community happenings. Mr. Dewey was soon succeeded as proprietor by Mr. Brown, and soon the ownership was changed and F. D. Pierce became proprietor, and late in 1882 W. R. Edwards assumed the plant. He remained in possession about three years, when A. J. Clark, the veteran newspaper man of the county, assumed proprietorship of the paper, and in 1886 he sold the same to Mussey & Mattson, who also purchased two other papers of the county. From 1888 to 1890 Mr. Mussey was sole proprietor, and in 1890 the plant was purchased by the present owner, Mr. John P. Mattson, a



sketch of whose life is herewith given. Mr. Mattson also purchased the Leader, but soon disposed of that paper and has been identified the past ten years with the Warren Sheaf. The office of this paper is now well fitted for job work, and a fine cylinder press, operated by a gasoline engine, was added to the plant about a year ago. The paper is issued as a six-column quarto, with all home print, and it has met with pronounced popularity since being edited by Mr. Mattson.

John P. Mattson was born in Savannah, Illinois, December 18, 1857. His father was a farmer by occupation, and when our subject was but one year of age the family located in Carver county, Minnesota. There our subject was reared, and at the age of sixteen years began teaching. He entered Gustavus Adolphus College, and later graduated from Winona Normal School, and immediately afterward went to Warren, Marshall county. He began teaching there, and in 1883 was elected county superintendent of schools and held the office five years, during which time he became interested in newspaper work. Under the present administration he is serving as postmaster at Warren, and is an efficient and popular officer.

Mr. Mattson was married in 1885 to Miss Clara Oberg. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Mattson, as follows: Alvin E., Lillie H., Edith, Clarence W., William A., Edgar and Astrid E. Mr. Mattson is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church, and in political faith he is a Republican, and by voice and pen extends the interests of his party. A portrait of Mr. Mattson may be found on another page of this volume.

#### HON. JOHN B. HOMPE.

Hon John B. Hompe, a prominent merchant of Deer Creek, Ottertail county, is a gentleman of integrity of word and deed, and has accumulated a good property by his own endeavors.

Mr. Hompe was born in Holland February 4, 1846, and was a son of Anthony P. and Henrietta (Wyman) Hompe, both of whom were also natives of Holland. The father and family emigrated to America when our subject was but three years of age, landing at New York. John B. Hompe was reared on the home farm in New York state and received a common-school education. In 1862 he enlisted in Company D, One Hundred and Forty-seventh New York Volunteer Infantry, and joined the Army of the Potomac. He was in the battle of Fredericksburg, and was a member of Fox's three hundred fighting regiments. He was wounded six times while in the service. He was discharged from the service in August, 1865, and was mustered out

at Syracuse, New York. He returned to his former home, where he attended Falley Seminary one year and then engaged in teaching, and also worked on a farm there a few years. He left New York in 1875, locating in Michigan, where he taught school one term, and in 1876 went to Deer Creek, Minnesota. He entered a homestead claim and began operating the same, and now has a farm of four hundred acres, of which one hundred acres are under plow and the balance is timber land. In 1891 he established a general merchandise store in Deer Creek, and he carries a stock valued at five thousand dollars. He has met with success in his business enterprise, and is one of the substantial men of his region. He has a comfortable residence in the town of Deer Creek, and is one of the public-spirited and well-known citizens of that thriving place.

Mr. Hompe was married in 1879 to Ella A. Nottingham. Mrs. Hompe was born in New York May 30, 1857. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hompe, namely: Howard E., Bernard A., Byron J., Harold and Edward G. Mr. Hompe is a member of the Masonic fraternity, the Maccabees and the Modern Woodmen of America, and also the G. A. R. He is a justice of the peace of Deer Creek, and always takes a commendable and hearty interest in the affairs of importance in his community. He was elected a member of the legislature as a representative in 1888, and his faithful work and popularity are best evidenced by the fact that in 1890 he received the election to the office of state senator. During his term as senator he was a faithful and earnest worker, wielding much influence for good government, not only in his home community, but in state affairs, and all affairs bearing upon the development and upbuilding of the state and nation. He is a member of the People's party in politics. During his first term as senator he was elected presiding officer of the senate, and served in such capacity for more than half of the term, on account of the ill health of Lieutenant-Governor Ives.

#### WILLIAM A. WHEELER.

William A. Wheeler represents not only the agriculturists of Carlos township who have acquired a good property by the exercise of judgment and energetic labors, but he is also one of the pioneers of that region, having located in Douglas county in 1868, and for the past thirty-three years he has always taken a hearty interest in the development of his locality, and is deservedly esteemed by his fellow men. Mr. Wheeler has a comfortable home on section 11, and conducts farming with the most pleasing results.



Our subject was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, October 17, 1834, and was a son of Ira and Charlotte (Raymond) Wheeler, the former a native of New York state, and the latter of Canada. The father was a shoemaker by trade. He died when Mr. Wheeler was a boy. The mother is still living, at the advanced age of ninety-two years, having been born January 19, 1810.

Mr. Wheeler attended the public schools of his native place, and when a boy learned his father's trade, but this not being suited to his tastes he turned his attention to agriculture. He was handy with tools and learned the carpenter's trade, and followed that business for several years. He moved with his family to Mercer county, Pennsylvania, in 1865, and worked on the Jamestown & Franklin Railroad for one year, but his desire to secure a home in the far west brought him to Hastings, Dakota county, Minnesota, in 1866, where he worked for a time on a farm. In January, 1868, he came to Douglas county and secured a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of good land on section 11 of Carlos township, and here he has made his home since that date. He lost no time in erecting a two-room shanty of hewed logs with a trough roof, and this was a comfortable if humble home during the winters, but the old home gave place to a modern structure in 1876, when he built a commodious farm residence better suited to the times. A few years since he sold eighty acres of valuable land, upon which a good residence was erected, and the families are living close neighbors. The home farm contains one hundred and twenty acres of excellent land, upon which Mr. Wheeler conducts diversified farming, with the usual amount of stock for a farm of this size. Good buildings have been erected, and shelter is provided for stock and products, while the family enjoy the comforts of rural life in their pleasant and comfortable home.

Mr. Wheeler was married in Canada February 14, 1859, to Catherine A. Clark. Mrs. Wheeler's father was a native of Vermont, and her mother was born in Canada of German parentage. To Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler twelve children have been born, ten of whom are still living, and are as follows: Mary A., the wife of T. Weatherhead, a prosperous farmer; Emma F., now Mrs. Oliver Hartman, residing in Fargo, North Dakota; Ira H. married Lena Engfer in 1892, and is engaged in farming near the homestead of his father; Edgar E.; Eva, now Mrs. Gustave Lund, residing in Fargo, North Dakota; Lottie, now Mrs. A. Darch; Stephen, residing at home; William, also at home; Katie J. and Lois E., who make their home with their parents. Mr. Wheeler and family attend the Carlos Union church, and are highly respected in the

community in which they have spent so many years. Our subject has served as justice of the peace and assessor of his township for a number of years, and is a man of active public spirit.

#### PETER L. MELBERG.

Peter L. Melberg, a resident of Borup, Norman county, Minnesota, was born on a farm in Benton county, Iowa, March 20, 1867, and though he is still a young man he has attained a very commendable standing in local business and social circles. His father, Lars P. Melberg, is an old settler in the county, and spent the first part of his life in Norway, where he was born and reared to manhood. He was married to Martha Johnson, also a native of Norway, in Benton county, Iowa, and in 1865 he came to the United States, locating in Iowa.

Peter L. Melberg is the first in a family of eight children, and spent the first seven years of his life on the farm where he was born. Then he was taken with the family to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where his residence was still continued on a farm. His father tilled the soil six years in that county, and in 1880 removed to Norman county, making his home in McDonalds-ville township. Mr. Melberg had the usual advantages of the district school, and when he was twenty spent six months in the college at Canton, South Dakota. The next year he was married to Miss Josephine Strand, a native of Fillmore county, Minnesota. Her father, Cornelius Strand, is a successful Minnesota farmer, and her people were born in Norway. He is the father of seven children: Thomas, John, Moeller, Sam, Albert, Josephine and Annie, all of whom are living. After his marriage our subject went to farming in Pleasant View township on rented land, and also working on a cream wagon. He followed this line of work for seven years. In 1896 he sold out his farm machinery and moved to Borup and started a general store. It was the first enterprise of the kind in the village, and met with a friendly welcome from the settlers of a new country, who were glad to have such a privilege close at hand. Business increased so rapidly that the first quarters, 18x24 feet, soon proved inadequate, and in the fall of 1898 he put up a building 24x60 feet, on the corner of lot No. 1, block 12, and it burned in December, 1900. In 1899 Mr. Melberg received Peter Olson as a partner in the hardware and machinery departments of the business, but the firm dissolved in the fall of 1900. Since the fire Mr. Melberg has been engaged in the drug and hotel business. His hotel, the Palace, was built in the spring of 1901.

Mr. Melberg was appointed postmaster in

1896, and is the second man to fill that office in Borup. In the spring of 1898 he started a creamery, which is still the only one in this part of the county. It has a capacity of one thousand pounds of butter a day, and is a valuable help to the agricultural interests of the region. It forms a part of the extensive business under the personal care of Mr. Melberg, and has proved a very profitable venture. Mr. Melberg is a Republican, and served as township treasurer three years and justice of the peace two years. He has taken an active and intelligent interest in public affairs ever since his arrival in the county. He has quite a family of brothers and sisters, all of whom are living close at hand. Their names are: Martha Maria, married; John, farming in Norman county; Sina, married; Moeller, photographer at Borup; Hannah; Edward; and Leonard. The last four are still living at the old homestead. Our subject, whose portrait is shown elsewhere in this volume, has worked hard, is active and energetic, bears a good reputation, and is to be congratulated on the very large success that has already come to him. By the fire he lost six thousand dollars. His hotel cost two thousand dollars. He is now doing a good drug business, and his hotel is practically the only one in the town.

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#### MARTIN E. DAHL.

Martin E. Dahl, the leading druggist of Twin Valley, Norman county, is one of the most prominent young men of his locality. He is a pioneer of that region, and has not only witnessed its development and advancement, but has aided materially in the same, and is now comfortably located in a good business and has a host of friends.

Our subject was born on a farm in Fillmore county, Minnesota, October 24, 1871. His father, Hans O. Dahl, was born in Norway and came to America in 1866, settling in Minnesota. He was a farmer by occupation. The mother of our subject was a native of Norway also and came to America with our subject's father. This worthy couple reared a family of nine children, of whom our subject was the eighth in order of birth. He was raised on the home farm and attended the country schools in Fillmore, Moore and Norman counties. In 1875 the family moved to Moore county and there resided seven years, and then, when our subject was eleven years of age, they removed to Norman county. At the age of sixteen years our subject entered the normal school at Moorhead and attended a part of 1888, 1889 and 1890. He graduated from the Curtis Business College at Minneapolis in 1891. He had previously taught school some, and con-

tinued thus engaged one year after completing his studies. He was then employed by Aker Brothers as clerk in their general store, and remained with that firm four years, and in 1896 established a drug business at Twin Valley. He began on a small scale, and opened the store for business in October and continued in that building three and a half years. In the summer of 1900 he erected a brick store on Main street, 24x60 feet, which is one of the finest buildings of the town, and he carries a general line of drugs, druggists' sundries, stationery, etc., and has made a success of the business in every particular.

Our subject was married in 1895 to Miss Hilda Olson, a native of Iowa. Mrs. Dahl's father, P. S. Olson, was a native of Norway and was a miller by trade. He is now engaged in farming near Twin Valley. Mr. Dahl recounts many experiences of early life in Minnesota. His father's first building on the farm was a board shanty with a sod roof, and the family lived therein three months. They went to the new home overland with a wagon and camped on the road, taking three weeks for the trip of about four hundred miles. There was but one house in sight when they settled on the homestead farm, and in the early days they farmed with oxen for several years. During the winter of 1883 our subject and two brothers were caught in one of the worst snow storms in the history of the country. They had a team of oxen, and night came on before they reached shelter and they were exposed to the storm for three hours. They had no overcoats, and suffered severely from the long exposure. Mr. Dahl is a young man of good business ability and broad mind. He is active in affairs of his township, and has been called upon to serve the people in the capacity of member of the village board. He is a Republican politically, and is an earnest worker for party principles, and has many friends regardless of party affiliations.

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#### ANTON JENSEN.

Anton Jensen, proprietor of the McIntosh Roller Mills, is a business man of more than ordinary ability, and has accumulated a fine property and gained a high standing as a citizen of Polk county. He has farming interests in that locality, and has made a success of his business operations in Minnesota.

Mr. Jensen was born in Denmark July 7, 1857, and was the youngest of seven children. The father resides in Wisconsin, and has reached the advanced age of eighty-four years. Our subject was six years of age when the family crossed the Atlantic. They settled on a farm in Wisconsin, where he was reared to manhood. He re-

ceived the advantages of a common and high school education. In 1880 he visited his brother, who had a homestead claim near Fertile, Polk county, Minnesota, and in the fall of that year our subject filed a claim to land in the same locality. In 1884 he opened a country store in partnership with J. P. Johnson, and in 1887 Mr. Jensen became sole proprietor, and he was also postmaster of Valley postoffice. He closed out his business there in 1893 and went to McIntosh, where he and his brother established a flouring mill in 1889, and our subject took charge of the books of the firm after his arrival in the new location. In 1897 he purchased the plant, and has since been sole proprietor of the mills. This mill has a capacity of seventy-five barrels of flour per day. It is run by steam power, and is fitted for grinding graham, buckwheat, rye, cornmeal and the best patent process flour. The country tributary to this mill is a wheat growing district, and supplies an abundance of grain for grinding. Aside from his milling property Mr. Jensen has farming interests, and he has recently, in 1900, erected a handsome residence, the finest in the city. It is a substantial structure, modern in every particular, and fitted with the latest plumbing, and heated by hot water. It is neatly decorated and finished, and is tastefully furnished throughout.

Mr. Jensen was married in 1884 to Miss Nicoline Hendricks. To this marriage eight children have been born, namely: Henry, deceased; Arthur, Alvin, George, Clara, Ernest, Ralph and Vernon. Mr. Jensen has mixed freely in the affairs of his city, and in 1890 was elected president of the village. During his term of office the saloons in the town were closed, and other important and desirable reforms were instituted, and he was a faithful and popular official. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America. Politically he is a Republican. In 1901 Mr. Jensen erected a complete electric-light plant, and furnishes light to the city of McIntosh,—business houses and residences.

#### RASMUS MONSON.

Our subject was born in Norway July 14, 1859. He was the youngest in a family of four children born to Mons and Johanna Pederson. He remained in his native land until he attained his majority, and in 1880 decided to seek his fortunes in America. With this end in view he set sail for the new world in 1880, and went direct to northern Wisconsin upon his arrival, and there and in southern Minnesota he spent about two years. He went to Kittson county during the

harvest of 1882 and was employed at farm labor, and then saw the possibilities of that region. Three years later he invested his savings in land there, and in 1888 purchased his present home farm. He has fully improved the place, and is systematic in his work and well posted in his vocation, and has met with success since taking up his residence in Teien township. He has good buildings and a bountiful supply of machinery, and engages in diversified farming.

#### CHARLES G. TRACY.

Foremost among the business men of Clay county and one of the most widely known merchants and highly esteemed citizens is Charles G. Tracy, of Glyndon, whose fine portrait adorns one of the pages of this work.

Mr. Tracy was born in the province of Quebec, Canada, July 26, 1843. His parents were Elijah S. and Arabella (Hibbard) Tracy. They removed to Vermont from Canada in 1842. The Tracy family came originally from Tewksbury, England, to New England, as early as 1637, and Lieutenant Thomas Tracy was the first representative of the family in America. The great-grandfather of Charles G. Tracy was Elijah Tracy, a soldier of the Revolutionary war, enlisting from Preston, Connecticut, came to Vermont in 1780, locating at Tunbridge.

When our subject was eighteen years of age he came to the United States and worked on a farm in New York, and later came to Wisconsin. In 1864 he enlisted in Company G, Second Illinois Light Artillery. His services were brief, but during the time he was engaged in the battle of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely. After about one year of service he received his honorable discharge.

In 1866 Mr. Tracy crossed the plains with a wagon train, starting from St. Cloud. For one year he tried his fortunes in the mines of Montana, and then went to Oregon, where he followed teaching and clerking in a store for another year. In 1872 Mr. Tracy came to Clay county, Minnesota, and began to work at carpentering in the village of Glyndon, which at that time comprised three frame buildings and numerous tents. He continued at this work until 1881, when he purchased the hardware business of Hensilwood & Nolan. He met with success in this department for six years, and then a destructive fire, which drove so many business men out of Glyndon, compelled our subject to retire from business. A year later, however, he again opened the hardware business, adding a stock of general merchandise, and since that time he has met with continued success, and now conducts a prosperous and increasing business. He is a

man of unquestioned honor, and enjoys the esteem of a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

Mr. Tracy was married in 1875 to Mrs. A. T. Deming, *nee* Tucker. Of this marriage one son was born, Fred G., who now resides in Chicago. A stepdaughter, Miss Carrie Deming, completes the family circle. The latter was married to L. A. Huntoon, of Moorhead, Minnesota.

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#### REV. P. O. HANSON.

Rev. P. O. Hanson, pastor of the Virginia Swedish Lutheran church and a missionary worker of northern Minnesota, was born in Skane, Sweden, December 18, 1861. His father was a farmer by occupation, and settled in Illinois, emigrating from Sweden in 1869. Rev. Hanson was the fifth in a family of six children, and was reared on the farm until he was seventeen years of age. He came with his parents to America at the age of ten years, and attended the country schools until sixteen years of age, when he entered the high school at Knoxville, Illinois, and there studied one year. He then attended Hedding College at Abingdon, Illinois, and the next year attended Augustana College and Theological Seminary, and graduated in 1888. He was ordained minister in the Swedish Lutheran church the same year. He received his first church at Peshtigo, Wisconsin, and was pastor there about two years, and then spent two years as pastor at Escanaba, Michigan. He was then pastor of the church at Saronville, Nebraska, three years, and then at Dahlsburg, Boone county, four years. He was then called as traveling missionary to the Missabe Range, and received the appointment as pastor of the church at Virginia, Minnesota. He is also pastor at Eveleth, Hibbing and Ely. He has a mission at Mountain Iron and also organized a church at Buel. He has organized churches at the above named places, and also at Grand Rapids, and has established missions at Sparta, McKinley, Biwabic, Shaw, Zim, Albert and Mountain Iron, and has Sunday-schools organized at Virginia, Hibbing, Eveleth and most of the missions. He has raised three or four thousand dollars for these organizations the past two years, and has traveled thousands of miles. He has organized young people's societies and ladies' aid societies, and his earnest and zealous work has been well rewarded, and he has the satisfaction of seeing the religious work of that region rapidly progressing. The Virginia Swedish Lutheran church was organized in 1894, and was the first church of that denomination on the range. The same year a church building was erected, and in 1899 a parsonage was built. Rev. J. A. Krantz visited the

church a few times in early days, but our subject was the first pastor.

Rev. Hanson was married in 1887 to Miss Anna Gibson. Mrs. Hanson was born in Skane, Sweden, and came to America in 1880, residing at Moline, Illinois. Her father was a farmer and spent his life in Sweden. To Rev. and Mrs. Hanson four children have been born, as follows: Luther Gerhart, born in 1888; Anna Paulina, born at Escanaba, Michigan, in 1891; Reuben Justinus, born in 1893; and Joel Laurentius, born in Nebraska in 1896.

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#### JOHN SWANSON.

Among the prosperous and hospitable farmers of Becker county a high station is accorded John Swanson. He resides in section 13 of Lake Eunice township, and has built up a good home and enjoys the comforts of rural life. He is a native of the southern part of Sweden, and was born March 28, 1860.

The father of our subject, Swan Nelson, was a farmer of Sweden, and passed his life in his native land. Our subject's mother, whose maiden name was Mary Johnson, is now a resident of Sweden, and was a daughter of a farmer. The grandfather of our subject, John Gustafson, was a farmer, watch repairer and wagonmaker all his life, and lived to the advanced age of seventy-five years. The great-grandfather of our subject served in the Thirty Years war in Sweden.

Mr. Swanson was the third in order of birth in a family of five children, and he was raised on the home farm and assisted his father with the work of the place. He received a liberal education in his mother language, and at the age of eighteen years emigrated to America to seek a fortune. He landed at Boston and at once went to Becker county, Minnesota, and there was employed by his uncle, Ostra Oleson, at farm labor, and continued in his employ about one year. Detroit was then but a village, four buildings being built on the south side of the railroad and a few on the opposite side, and the surrounding country was desolate indeed. Our subject began railroad work in 1881 and continued in this line four years. He purchased a tract of land in 1881, and in 1885 began the improvement of the place. He erected a log shanty, and his first team were oxen, which he later sold to Hank Smith, a resident of Shell Prairie. He used this team three years before disposing of them, and then rented his land and went farther west and spent three years away from the place. He worked on the Howe farm in Cass county and the Park farm in the same county, and spent six seasons in that locality, and during several harvests operated a steam thresher. He later re-

turned to Becker county, Minnesota, and in 1896 disposed of the property and began farming on the prairie at Pelican Lake. Success did not attend his efforts there and he lost about one thousand dollars while operating this farm. He remained thereon five years and then purchased his present home on section 13 in Lake Eunice township and erected a log shanty, and now owns forty acres of valuable land, which is fully fenced and about ten acres are under high cultivation. One of his misfortunes while residing near Pelican Lake was a heavy loss by fire, when his residence and entire contents, including fifty bushels of corn and fifty bushels of potatoes, were consumed. Since taking up his chosen calling our subject has cleared some three hundred acres of land while employed at farm labor, and he has aided many of his fellows in improving farms and cultivating land. He is well known as a gentleman of good ideas and thorough knowledge of his calling, and he has made a success of his work in Lake Eunice township.

Mr. Swanson is prominent in local affairs, and has served as assessor two years, and in 1895 was census enumerator. He takes a hearty interest in township and county affairs, and politically is identified with the Republican party.

#### ALERT L. GLASOW.

Albert L. Glasow, one of the leading and most highly respected citizens of Pine county, Minnesota, has a business at Sandstone in which he has won the confidence and trust of the community to a marked degree. He was born in Niagara county, New York, two miles from the Falls, and near Tonawanda, in 1861. John Glasow, the father of Albert L., was born in Germany, and came to the United States in 1854. He was a life-long farmer, and removed to Wisconsin when Albert L. was a baby, settling in Sheboygan county on a farm.

Albert Glasow was reared on the farm and attended public school during his boyhood and youth, receiving special instruction in the business college at Fond du Lac. He remained on the farm until he was twenty-one, when he went to work at cheese making, having learned the trade at Plymouth, Wisconsin. Two years later he ran a cheese factory north of Sheboygan county, and in 1884 came to Pine county to work for a brother as clerk in a general store. He was with him three years, and then came to Sandstone, where he opened a general store, which was the first establishment of the kind in Sandstone. Mr. Glasow bought out Henry Nanirk, who had a small stock of goods in a shanty, 12x16 feet, and added to the goods, and built on to the shanty until he had a very complete country store. In Sep-

tember, 1894, it was entirely swept away by the tremendous forest fires of that year. Mr. Glasow saved his life and his family by getting into the waters of Kettle river until the devouring tempest of flames had swept by, but everything he owned that was consumable had gone up in fire.

Mr. Glasow was married January 6, 1890, to Miss Bertha Sievert, a native of Germany, and an emigrant to this country in company with her parents. They have a family of three children: William, Arthur and Margaret.

Mr. Glasow is a Democrat, and took part in the incorporation of the village, serving as its first president and contributing much to its prosperity. He was appointed postmaster in 1896, and continued in office until his successor was appointed, April 1, 1901, presenting in his own history the somewhat remarkable and unusual case of a postmaster holding office only a little over four years and yet serving under three different administrations. At the present time he continues in the office as assistant to the postmaster.

Mr. Glasow has developed a very considerable real-estate business and owns a tract of forty-five acres within the city limits. Here he does a limited farming.

When Mr. Glasow first came to Sandstone there were not over five or six houses in the town, and he was one of the first boarders in the first hotel, which was not yet completed. The St. Paul & Duluth was the nearest railroad, and the rapid development of this section of the state is attested by the fact that though Mr. Glasow is still a young man he is one of the early pioneers of the county. He is a member of the school board and was secretary in 1898. He is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and is one of the representative and leading men of Sandstone.

#### REV. J. A. NYVALL.

The Swedish Lutheran Bethesda church of Moorhead, Minnesota, was organized in 1880 by the Rev. A. F. Tornell at a time when there were but few people of that nationality in the county, the original organization consisting of but ten families. Rev. J. O. Cavallin was put in charge of the new movement, and for ten years he ministered faithfully to the spiritual wants of his countrymen in this community. He was succeeded by the Rev. S. A. Lindholm, and in 1895 the Rev. Mr. Nyvall, whose name introduces this article, was called to the pastorate. He has put forth strenuous efforts to better the financial condition of the parish, with a degree of success satisfactory both to the congregation and pastor.

The Rev. Mr. Nyvall was born in Sweden



March 12, 1861, and from his early boyhood had the ministry before him as the career of his life. His education was bent in that direction, and in due time he was graduated from the Karlstad Royal College, to become a teacher in the old country, and much of the success of the Kristinehamn Technical School was due to his unremitting efforts in its behalf. His health failed, and after the death of his wife he traveled through Germany and the British Isles, and then to the United States, from which he returned to his native land in 1892. He felt his work lay in the United States among his countrymen, and coming back here, he pursued his studies in the seminary in Rock Island, Illinois, and was ordained to the ministry in 1895. His first location was at St. Cloud, Minnesota, from which he soon came to Moorhead, as noted above. In the old country Mr. Nyvall had done editorial work, and in 1889 he established at Kristinehamn, Sweden, an illustrated family newspaper, *The Illustrerad Familjeblad*, which is still in existence. In 1896 he organized the Swedish Lutheran Clara church at Comstock, which is in a flourishing condition. A five-thousand-dollar church building has been erected, and the congregation is free from debt and numbers seventy-five communicants.

Mr. Nyvall was married in 1880 to Miss Augusta Roadberg, who died in 1892, leaving two children, Ragnac J. and Yngve J. A second marriage was contracted by Mr. Nyvall in 1895, when Miss Amanda Kjellstrom became his wife.

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#### NICK HOSS.

Nick Hoss, a prominent miller of Polk county, is a member of the co-partnership of Hoss & Kankel, proprietors of the Garfield roller mill near Fertile.

Mr. Hoss was born in Germany April 20, 1856. His parents were John and Margaret (Sholzon) Hoss, both of whom are now deceased. Five children were born to them, all of whom now live in America, our subject being the third child of the family. Since he was sixteen years of age he has worked at milling and has become thoroughly posted in that business. He came to America in 1882, and after searching for his cousins and failing to find them, he obtained employment in a brick yard in New York. He could speak no English, and consequently did not readily find employment. In the fall of the same year, with two companions, he started for Minnesota. Soon after his arrival there he secured employment in the mill at Fertile, and continued thus engaged about three years. He then, in partnership with Richard Ohm, rented the mill at Faith, and a year later purchased it.

He was in charge there until 1891, when he disposed of his interests and purchased a mill at Perham, Ottertail county. He operated a saw-mill and flour-mill at that point for two years, when he sold a half interest and went to Fertile and purchased a quarter interest in the milling property at that point, including the land and building, and he and Mr. Kankel now operate the same. They also own the flour and feed mill at Perham. Mr. Hoss has a comfortable home near the mill, and is counted among the substantial business men of his community.

Mr. Hoss was married in 1887 to Miss Eva Belland. Mrs. Hoss is of French descent, and was born in Ottertail county, Minnesota. Mr. Hoss is a man of good citizenship and keeps abreast of the times, but does not enter actively into the public affairs of his locality. He is affiliated with the Democratic party politically, and in religious faith is a Roman Catholic.

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#### DR. KARL E. BERGQUIST, M. D.

The medical profession is ably represented in Ottertail county by the gentleman above named, whose office is at Henning. Dr. Bergquist has given his time wholly to the perfection of his knowledge in this line, and his skill and conscientious practice are recognized by all with whom he has to do. He is the leading physician of his town, and although he has resided there a comparatively few years, he has become widely known and has built up a good practice.

Dr. Bergquist was born in Nicollet county, Minnesota, December 24, 1874. His father, Charles F. Bergquist, was a native of Sweden, as was also the mother of our subject, Emma (Appelquist) Bergquist. The family removed to Page county, Iowa, when our subject was a boy, and the father engaged in teaching school and music; was also organist for the congregation. Dr. Bergquist was reared on the farm and attended the common schools. He then removed with his parents to Minneapolis and attended the graded schools there and resided in that city thirteen years. The father then removed to Sibley county, Minnesota, and engaged in the hardware business at Winthrop, Minnesota, in partnership with C. J. Larson. He graduated from the high school at Minneapolis in 1894, and then began the study of medicine. He took a two-years course at the State University of Minnesota, and graduated as M. D. and surgeon from Hamline University, of Minneapolis, June 10, 1897. He practiced one year in the hospital at St. Paul, and in 1898 located at Henning, Ottertail county. He at once opened an office in that town, and has steadily gained a remunerative and large practice.



Dr. Bergquist stands at the head of his profession in that district, and is examining physician for all lodges of the town of Henning. He worked his way through college, and by his faithful work has gained a good knowledge of his profession, and his practical training and natural inclinations make him a representative among his profession. He is identified with the Republican party politically, but does not seek public preferment. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

#### FARQUHAR McLENNAN.

Farquhar McLennan is one of the bachelor farmers of Polk county and is numbered among the earliest of the pioneers of that region. He is a gentleman of prominence in his community and has met with pronounced success in the pursuit of agriculture, and is now proprietor of one of the well-cultivated and well-improved tracts of Polk county.

Mr. McLennan was born in the province of Quebec, Canada, March 7, 1844, and was the fourth in order of birth in a family of ten children born to John and Agnes (Stark) McLennan. The father was a native of Canada, and was of Highland Scotch descent, and the mother was born in the lowlands of Scotland. Our subject remained at home engaged in farming until 1861, when he came to the States. Soon after his arrival the Civil war broke out, and in the spring of 1862 he enlisted in the government service, working on the transports on the Mississippi river and on supply trains. He was employed by the government until the spring of 1867, when he started for California, but after going as far as Omaha changed his plans and went to Stillwater, Minnesota, and soon afterward began working in the Wisconsin woods, and was thus employed about ten years. He began farming in Dunn county, Wisconsin, in 1876, and May 11, 1878, arrived at Crookston, Minnesota. He soon afterward homesteaded land on section 28 of Angus township, upon which he now resides. Five companions came with him from Dunn county, and all settled in Angus township. They were as follows: D. H. Millar; F. R. Steavens; D. McLennan, now deceased; John Boarland, now residing in Florida; Alexander Boarland, a resident now of South Dakota. Mr. Steavens had his family with him, but the others of the company lived together, and our subject made a residence on his own farm in 1880. He secured seven hundred and twenty acres of land at the start, purchasing it from the railroad company, and he was soon extensively engaged in wheat raising, and within five years had about five hundred acres under plow. He now has a farm of seven hundred and sixty

acres, and his farm is well improved. One of the features of the farm is the artesian well which furnishes an abundance of clear, pure water.

Mr. McLennan assisted in the organization of his township, and served on the township board almost continuously since, and for the past seven years has been chairman. He is a Democrat in political sentiment. He is prominent in secret society circles, and is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Knights Templar and Shriners, of St. Paul, and Eastern Star, Warren, and also the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a member of Constantine Commandery, No. 20, of Crookston. A fine portrait of Mr. McLennan will be found upon another page of this volume.

#### JOHN C. BOYD.

A pleasantly located residence in a grove of native trees is the home of John C. Boyd. He has been a resident of Thomastown township for many years, and is one of the energetic and highly esteemed citizens of Wadena county.

Mr. Boyd was born in Wisconsin September 10, 1859, and was a son of John and Jane (Clark) Boyd, both of whom were natives of Scotland. He attended the common schools of Wisconsin until he was eighteen years of age and assisted his father on the home farm. At the age of nineteen years he came to Wadena county, Minnesota, landing at Thomastown township, and soon afterward took land in section 30. He built a log house and a log barn, and passed through true pioneer experiences, using oxen in his farm work for the first two years. He has steadily progressed with his farm work, and is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of valuable land, of which two hundred and twenty acres is under cultivation and the balance of the farm is devoted to pasture and timber land. Mr. Boyd engages in diversified agriculture, and keeps a goodly number of horses, cattle and hogs. His residence is a comfortable one and built at a cost of fifteen hundred dollars, and his barn is a commodious structure, 32x52 feet, with twenty-foot posts, and affords ample shelter for stock and the hay and feed for the winter use. He has an excellent well, which supplies an abundance of water, and this is equipped with a windmill. The entire farm evidences careful management and good judgment in its operation, and Mr. Boyd may well be recognized as one of the leading men of his calling in that region.

Mr. Boyd was married, in January, 1888, to Ida Baker. Mrs. Boyd was born in Wisconsin December 19, 1865. One son has been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Boyd, upon whom they have bestowed the name of William J. The family are members of the Methodist

Episcopal church. Mr. Boyd is a gentleman of active public spirit, and he has served as township treasurer for ten years and has always been found on the side of right and justice, and enjoys the confidence of those among whom he makes his home. Politically he is a Republican and stands firmly for the principles of the party.

#### JOHN F. O'CONNELL.

John F. O'Connell, one of the well known business men of Grand Rapids, was an early settler in Itasca county, Minnesota. He has been successfully engaged in various enterprises in that locality, and is widely and favorably known. He is now engaged in the retail liquor business.

Mr. O'Connell was born in Bangor, Maine, December 20, 1853, and was the son of Timothy O'Connell, a native of Ireland. He was the oldest in a family of four children, and was raised in his native city, attending the public schools. He went to Colorado at the age of twenty-four years, and there entered the mining business, and spent about five years in mining. He went to Minneapolis in 1883, and from there went to the woods of Minnesota, where he followed lumbering and the log drives for three years. He then located at Aitkin, Minnesota, and engaged in the saloon business there five years. He removed to Grand Rapids in 1890, and erected a place of business there. He later became interested in the hotel business at La Prairie, and operated this about three years, after which he disposed of his interests there.

Mr. O'Connell was married, in November, 1892, to Miss Rosa Green. Mrs. O'Connell was born at Minneapolis, and is of Irish-Scotch descent. Mr. and Mrs. O'Connell are the parents of two children, Mabel and Margaret. Our subject is an interested worker for the welfare of his community, and is a member of the village council, as a member of which body he has served five terms. He is a Democrat in political faith, and has attended numerous county conventions of his party. He is an influential citizen, and is considered one of the pioneer business men of Grand Rapids, and has met with deserved success there.

#### ANDREW KITTELSON.

Andrew Kittelson, who, with his brother, resides on section 21, in Bloomer township, is one of the thrifty and energetic farmers of Marshall county. He has resided there for over fifteen years and has always been found on the side of enterprise and public advancement of his community, and is a man in whom the people repose confidence and esteem. He owns a section of fine land, which he rents.

Mr. Kittelson was born in Winnebago coun-

ty, Wisconsin, October 21, 1856, and was the second in order of birth in a family of eight children born to Thoston and Margaret (Anderson) Kittelson. The parents were both natives of Norway, and soon after their marriage came to America and made a home in Winnebago county, Wisconsin. Our subject was reared in Dunn county in the last named state, and when twenty-two years of age he went to Barnes county, North Dakota, in 1878. He later spent several years near Fargo, North Dakota, and worked by the month at farm labor. He was industrious and economical, and in 1884 came to Marshall county, Minnesota, with five hundred dollars in money. He at once saw the possibilities in Minnesota and he invested in a quarter-section of railroad land, but did not begin operations on the same until 1886. He then erected a 16x20-foot log house, and took up his residence therein and has resided there as his own housekeeper since that time. He has developed a valuable estate and is accorded a high station among the self-made men of his township. In 1900 he further improved his farm by the erection of a commodious barn, 48x32 feet, with sixteen-foot posts, and here he has ample shelter for his stock and products which he desires to store. He has met with unbounded success in his farming endeavor and lives amid the comforts of a model country home.

Mr. Kittelson manifests the true spirit of progression and is ever ready to support feasible enterprises which tend to the good of his community. He is recognized as a representative citizen, and has served in various township offices of trust. Politically he is a Populist and stands staunchly for the principles of the new organization.

#### ED NELSON.

Ed Nelson, one of Becker county's substantial business men and an experienced dairy and creamery manager, is a resident of Cuba township and is connected with the Cuba and Atlanta Creamery Company.

Mr. Nelson was born in Guttenberg, Sweden, January 31, 1873. His parents, Andrew and Anna (Johnson) Nelson, were both natives of Sweden. Our subject was reared in Hennepin county and attended the Minneapolis schools until he was fourteen years of age. He then entered a law office in that city as errand boy, being thus occupied for two years. He was then employed in the shops of the Minneapolis Street Railway Company as machinist five years. At the age of twenty-two years he entered the Minnesota Agricultural Academy at Minneapolis, and graduated from a two-years' course in that institution. He then went to work for the Crescent Creamery Company, now the Hogfrey Cheese Company, of St. Paul. He remained in their

employ for some months and then accepted an offer from the Cannon Falls, Minnesota, Cheese Factory, operated by the Farmers' Co-operative Association. During his two years employment there he received valuable experience, and being of an observing nature became an expert cheese maker. He then went to Wangs, in Goodhue county, where he worked for two years. Early in 1900 Mr. Nelson came to Becker county, and was employed by the Cuba and Atlanta Cheese Factory Company. His experience and good judgment have made his services valuable to his employers, and they have given liberal proof of their appreciation.

Mr. Nelson was married, in 1897, to Annie Emberg. Mrs. Nelson is a native of northern Sweden, and was born February 2, 1874. Of this marriage two children have been born, namely, Evaline and Clarence. The family are devoted members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Nelson is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, his membership being in the Cannon Falls lodge. He is also a member of the Detroit lodge of Knights of Pythias. He is a highly respected member of the community, and enjoys to a marked degree the confidence and esteem of his fellow men.

#### PETER FAIRWEATHER.

Peter Fairweather, one of the most extensive agriculturists of Polk county, is a gentleman of wide experience and intelligent judgment, and prospers in his chosen vocation. He is manager of the Kilrenny farm in Euclid township, among the finest tracts of farm land of which that part of the state can boast.

Mr. Fairweather was born in Scotland September 6, 1830, and was the third of a family of four children born to Robert and Margaret (Millar) Fairweather. He grew to manhood in Scotland and was there married and reared a family, devoting himself exclusively to the pursuit of farming. In the spring of 1883 he and his estimable wife joined the oldest son in America. This son, Robert, in 1880 secured a fine farm of thirteen sections of land in Polk and Marshall counties. Our subject made his home on the farm in Polk county, which is now owned by Archibald Williamson, and since 1886 he has personally supervised the work of the farms, and now controls about ten thousand acres of land in Marshall and Polk counties. The following fine farms are included in this: Argyle farm, Middle River farm, River View farm, Spring Bank farm, Poplar Grove farm and others, all in Marshall county. Mr. Fairweather is a practical farmer, and his observation and experience coupled with his good judgment make him one of the best farmers of that locality. He advocates flax-raising, and on the land which comes directly un-

der his control he has raised a crop of this product about every three or four years.

Mr. Fairweather was married, in 1851, to Miss Catherine Dakers. To this union twelve children were born, nine of whom are now living. They are as follows: Robert, engaged in the grain and commission business in Chicago; Maggie, now Mrs. J. B. Soutter, residing in Scotland; Catherine, now Mrs. A. Gilmore, of Oakland, California; Elizabeth M., now Mrs. Isaac Stewart, of California; Patrick, residing in San Francisco; James, residing at home; Charlesina H.; Agnes C. J., now Mrs. James Rutherford, of Oakland, California; and David, residing in Tacoma, Washington.

#### WILLIAM KAPPAHN.

William Kappahn, one of the early settlers of Douglas county, Minnesota, is a well-to-do agriculturist of Millerville township. He has endured pioneer hardships and aided materially in the development of that region, and much credit is due him as a citizen of true worth.

Mr. Kappahn was born at Birmingham, Pennsylvania, October 3, 1845, and was a son of Frederick and Dorothea (Diedrich) Kappahn, the former a native of Saxony and the latter of Hesse, Germany. They came to America at an early day with their respective families. Frederick Kappahn was a blacksmith by trade, having learned the business in his native land. He continued the same business in the neighborhood of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

William Kappahn, when a boy, attended both German and English schools, and can speak both languages equally well. His parents had a family of twelve children, eight of whom are now living, namely: William, Henry, Laura, Christian, Gustav, Louisa and Louis (twins) and Annie. After leaving school William assisted his father in his business for several years, and at the age of seventeen years he enlisted in Company M, First Minnesota Mounted Rangers, and saw service on the frontier. He re-enlisted in Company M, Second Minnesota Cavalry, and served under Generals Sully and Sibley. He received his honorable discharge at Fort Snelling December 4, 1865. While he was serving his country in the ranks his father homesteaded a farm of one hundred and seventy-three acres on section 31, in Leaf Valley township, and when his services were no longer needed in the army he returned to the home farm. He remained with his father a year, and then, in 1867, homesteaded a one-hundred-and-sixty-acre tract on section 25, in Millerville township. After the death of his father, which occurred in 1893, he bought the father's farm and later deeded it to his son. He also bought one hundred and sixty

acres of school land in section 36, of Miller-ville township, which he deeded to his other son, and he and his sons each own a fertile farm near each other in one of the best farming districts of Douglas county. The home farm, of which about one hundred acres is under plow, is now managed by the sons, the father having retired from active pursuits. About twenty head of cattle feed on the pasture land. Our subject's residence is a substantial one and is within a few yards of that of his son, and there is an air of comfort and even luxury about the place, a sufficiency of forest trees for shade and shelter, and an apple orchard with good fruit-bearing trees.

Mr. Kapphahn was married, December 28, 1870, to Magdalena Yerka, daughter of Powell and Franceska Yerka, both of whom were natives of Prussia. Mr. and Mrs. Kapphahn have three living children, namely: Frederick, who married Barbara Merklin and has four children; William P., who married Franceska Hoffner, and has one child; and Dorothea, the wife of Mathias Koll, of Alexandria. In the early organization of that part of Douglas county Mr. Kapphahn held four separate offices, each for a term of four years, namely, assessor, town clerk, justice of the peace and supervisor. He is a Republican politically and cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln on his second election. The family worship at the Catholic church in Millerville, of which denomination Mrs. Kapphahn is a member.

#### JOSEPH PEACHA, SR.

Among the various enterprises of the thriving town of Cloquet, Minnesota, the lumber business is among the most extensive. The gentleman above named is in charge of two of the large sawmills of the C. N. Nelson Lumber Company, and under his superintendency the business has largely increased in this line. He is a man of much energy and is widely and favorably known, being a pioneer of that locality and intimately associated with many of the enterprises which have aided in its development.

Mr. Peacha was born at St. Bridget, Quebec, Canada, on a farm, in 1852. His father, Augusta Peacha, was born in Canada, and was of French ancestry. He was a blacksmith by trade. The family have been in Canada for many years.

Joseph Peacha was the fifth in a family of twelve children, and he was raised on the farm and attended the common schools of his neighborhood. He left home at the age of thirteen years, having resided for two years in Stillwater, Minnesota, where the family moved when he was eleven years of age. His first employment was on the Stillwater boom for two seasons, and he spent the next five summers in the sawmills and the winters in the woods. Most of his work in

the sawmills was setting for Isaac Staples. In 1881 he went to Cloquet and assumed charge of the mill for the C. N. Nelson Lumber Company, and since has had the superintendency of this mill and the one built in 1891. The mill started with a capacity of one hundred and seventy-five thousand feet of lumber per day in 1881, and now has a capacity of three hundred and fifty thousand feet per day. Aside from his work as superintendent at the mill he has some river work at Cloquet to superintend, the building of booms, etc. In partnership with his brother, James Peacha, he owns a stock farm of two hundred and eighty acres, and is considered one of the substantial citizens of Carlton county. He has a commodious residence in Cloquet, which is tastefully and elegantly furnished, and he enjoys a happy home.

Mr. Peacha was married, January 10, 1876, to Miss Bridget Haye. Mrs. Peacha was born at Stillwater, Minnesota, and was raised in Le Sueur county. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Peacha, three of whom were born in Stillwater and the others in Cloquet. They are named as follows: Joseph T., employed in the offices of the Northern Lumber Company; Maggie, Gertrude, Julia, Henrietta, Francis and Lewis. Mr. Peacha has always taken a commendable interest in local affairs, and he has served in various local offices. He has been alderman two terms. Politically he is a Democrat. He is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters.

#### JOHN JOHNSTON.

John Johnston, a well-known resident of Felton, Clay county, was born in Berwickshire, Scotland, in 1859, and is a son of John Johnston, who lived and died in Scotland. Elizabeth Nealins, who married Johnston, and became the mother of John, of Felton, is still living in her Scottish home at the venerable age of ninety years.

John Johnston is the fifth member of a family of seven children born to his parents; and was reared and educated in Scotland, where he attended the common schools. He remained at home with his parents until he attained his majority, and in the spring of 1881 he came to the United States, landing at New York. For some two years he was employed at farm labor in New York, and it was not until 1883 that he arrived in Moore county, Minnesota. There he bought land and was engaged in farming until 1896. At that time he had come to own a well cultivated farm of two hundred and forty acres, nearly all of which was under cultivation, and was well provided with buildings, machinery and all the modern conveniences for carrying on an extensive business.

Mr. Johnston was married, in 1887, to Miss Mary Scott, also a native of Berwickshire, Scotland, where she was reared and educated. William Scott, her father, was a Scottish farmer. She came to the United States the year of her marriage, and is the mother of the following children: John, George, Elizabeth, Isabelle and Robert, all of whom were born in Minnesota.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnston, with their children, came to Clay county in 1896, where they bought a farm of a half-section in Felton township. Here they lived until the spring of 1900, when Mr. Johnston sold his land and moved into Felton, where he had erected a large livery barn, going into the livery and horse-selling business on an extensive scale. The barn is 30x80 feet, and can accommodate comfortably thirty-one horses, besides the livery office and buggy sheds. The same spring he also bought his present home, and the six acres of land on which it is located.

Mr. Johnston continued in the livery business until August, 1901, when he traded it for two hundred and forty acres of wild land in Kittson county. In connection with the livery business Mr. Johnston owned and conducted the Arlington Hotel, a property which he has exchanged for one hundred and sixty acres of land in Marshall county.

With the exception of a brief interruption Mr. Johnston has been all his life a farmer, and is now well provided with horses, cows and machinery to resume operations. In politics he is a Republican, and in Moore county served on the board of supervisors several years. At present he is a member of the board of trustees of Felton. He has done his full share in the improvement of this section, and has brought two Minnesota farms to a high pitch of fertility. The Clay county farm had a house on it that cost over a thousand dollars. It had a flowing well, and all the improvements were fine.

#### ANDREW P. ERICKSON.

Andrew P. Erickson, deceased, was a gentleman widely known and greatly respected, and prominent in farming affairs during his life, owning at his demise five hundred and thirty acres of land. A portrait of him on another page of this work will add greatly to the value of the volume to his many friends.

Mr. Erickson was born in Smoland, Sweden, February 2, 1843, and was a son of Erick John and Louisa Larson. The father was a well-educated man and a musician of considerable ability. This worthy couple passed their lives in Sweden. Andrew P. Erickson grew to manhood in his native country and married there. In the fall of 1868 he emigrated to America via England, and after landing in New York went on his way to

Douglas county, Minnesota. On reaching St. Paul, Minnesota, it was found that an important part of their baggage was missing, and he remained at St. Paul one month awaiting its recovery. His wife and child proceeded to Douglas county and found a temporary home with friends who preceded them. In 1869 Mr. Erickson homesteaded a quarter section of land, part of the present farm, situated on section 15 of Alexandria township, adjoining Lake Geneva. He lost no time in building a small shack, and the following year a log house was built, which was the home of the family for several years. In 1876-7 he erected, near the log building which still stands, a commodious modern dwelling, pleasantly situated on rising ground in a natural park and grove. A fine belt of timber slopes to the beautiful lake, and the farm has a mile of frontage on this sheet of water, and is admirably adapted to general farming. The forest land contains some of the best timber in Douglas county. The barn on the place is perhaps the largest in the county, and a granary and other buildings have been erected for conducting a model and extensive farm. This estate and also nearly a section of land Mr. Erickson had acquired in a few years of energetic labor and economical management, in the meantime giving his children the best education the schools and colleges of the county afforded.

Mr. Erickson passed from this life the last day of the nineteenth century, December 31, 1900. He was a man of exceptionally good judgment, conservative in business and sound in counsel, his advice was sought in public and private affairs, and he had a wide influence. He was a lover of home and family, and his death was deeply mourned by relatives and friends. He was a usual attendant at county conventions, and occasionally conventions of the state, and in political faith was a staunch Republican. He had held the office of path-master, justice of the peace, treasurer, and for many years a director of the school board, and was chairman of the board of supervisors of his township. He was a member of the Lutheran church of Alexandria and was a trustee of the same and one of its organizers. In addition to his wife and children, Mr. Erickson left four brothers and three sisters, of whom three of the brothers reside in Douglas county.

Mr. Erickson was married in Sweden in 1868 to Emma Frederika Larson, daughter of Lars Erick and Eva Louise Larson. Mrs. Erickson had five brothers and two sisters. Her brother, Gustav Larson, was the first permanent settler of Alexandria township. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Erickson, as follows: Charles Alfred, who died in 1893; Theodore August, Emma Louise, Hilda Christina, Ellen Josephine and Rosella Cordelia.



Prof. Theodore A. Erickson was born at the old homestead September 2, 1871. He attended the public schools and graduated from the high school at Alexandria, and later graduated from the State University at Minneapolis, and attended the State Normal School six months at Dixon, Illinois. For two years he held the professorship of the Swedish department in the Wesleyan University at Lincoln, Nebraska, which he resigned in the fall of 1901. During his university career he taught school and was two years in the Art School at Minneapolis, and was three years in the district school and two years in the ward school at Alexandria. Emma Louise resides with her widowed mother at the old home. Hilda Christina is a graduate of the high school at Alexandria and a graduate in music of the Northwestern Conservatory of Music in Minneapolis, and for six years has taught school during the summer months. Ellen Josephine is also a graduate of the high school at Alexandria, and has been engaged in teaching three years. Rosella Cordelia is living at home. Prof. Erickson is an ardent Republican.

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#### ANDREW A. HASTIE.

Many of the prosperous farmers of Norman county are the pioneers, who have experienced hardships and have after many years of energetic labors gained a good home and aided in the development of the community in which they live. Among this number a prominent station is accorded Mr. Andrew A. Hastie, who resides in section 35, of McDonaldsville township, and has accumulated a good property and gained an enviable reputation as a citizen and agriculturist. He used good judgment in the choice of a location in the early days, and has remained to transform the wild land of that day to a highly cultivated and remunerative tract.

Mr. Hastie was born on a farm in Indiana county, Pennsylvania, March 30, 1855, and was a son of John and Elizabeth (Clark) Hastie, both of whom were natives of Scotland. His father came to America at the age of twenty-one years, and was married in Pennsylvania, in which state he died at the age of sixty-nine years. The maternal grandfather of our subject died in Pennsylvania at an advanced age, and the grandmother reached the age of eighty years.

Mr. Hastie was the eldest in a family of four children, three sons and one daughter, of whom three are now living. He was raised on the home farm in Pennsylvania, and received a common-school education, and assisted his father with the work of the farm until he was twenty-three years of age. He went to Minnesota in 1879, and the same year went to Fargo, North Dakota, and worked on the Dalrymple farm near there

one season. He worked on various farms in that region and spent five summers and three winters near Fargo, Cassleton and Mapleton. He purchased the land on which he now resides of the Great Northern Railroad Company in June, 1879, but did not begin operating the same in a regular manner until 1884. He then built a 16x16, one-story house, and he has a team of horses, a wagon and some machinery, and paid cash for his farm and implements, earning the amount by hard labor on the farms of North Dakota. His first crop of wheat averaged fifteen bushels per acre. He lived alone the first year on his farm and continued to improve the place. He engages in grain-raising almost exclusively, and only keeps cattle for the family use. He has two hundred acres of cultivated land, twenty acres of timber, and has good buildings and all machinery for the economical conduct of the place. Water is obtained in abundance from a flowing well two hundred and eight feet deep, and a surface well fifty-seven feet deep. The farm has wild and tame fruits, and the residence is located in a fine grove within twenty rods of the school house, and four and a half miles from the county seat.

Mr. Hastie was married, June 23, 1885, to Miss Mary A. Jarvis, a native of New Brunswick, Canada, of English and Irish descent. Mrs. Hastie died in 1892. Three children were born to this union, who are named as follows: Amber, Lizzie Bell and Mary Mable. After his wife's death Mr. Hastie was left with the care of two small children, the eldest but five years of age, and the years which followed were ones of care and anxiety. Mr. Hastie married Mrs. Louise M. Bloom, *nee* Crocker, June 22, 1897. One child, a daughter, named Viola May, completes the family circle. Mr. Hastie is prominent in local affairs, and has served as clerk of the school board for the past ten or twelve years, and has been chairman of the board four years. He has held township offices almost continuously since residing in Norman county. Politically he is a Democrat, and is firm in his convictions. He is a member of the Congregational church, and the Modern Woodmen of America.

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#### GEORGE ETZELL.

George Etzell, one of the very early settlers of Minnesota, is still living on his finely kept farm in section 32, Hobart township, where he has farmed during the past twenty-two years. He was born in Wyoming county, Pennsylvania, November 8, 1854, and is a son of John and Margaret (White) Etzell. The father was born in Bavaria, Germany, and the mother in Alsace-Lorraine, then a province of France. Both were brought by their parents into this country when



young, and found their homes in Pennsylvania in the early part of the last century. They were married in Pennsylvania, and became the parents of seven children, two of whom died in infancy. Henry and Charles were twins; Frances, George and Margaret were the three younger children. The father died in 1860, but the mother is still living in Carver county, Minnesota, at the venerable age of eighty-two. John Etzell was the proprietor of a sash and blind factory in Pennsylvania, but wishing to make a home for himself and his family in the west came to Carver county, Minnesota, in 1856, and there pre-empted one hundred and forty-four acres, and became quite a successful farmer. He had a better education than the average, and was a good business man. After his death his widow again married, taking for her husband Thomas Thompson.

George Etzell received his education in the common schools of Carver county, supplemented by a term at Carlton College, the well known institution at Northfield. When he reached early manhood he became a teacher, and was teaching at the time of his marriage in Carver county, continuing in that vocation in various parts of the state a number of years after that event.

Mr. Etzell was married, May 3, 1876, to Laura Sperry, a daughter of Charles and Olive Sperry. Her father was born in Ohio, and her mother in Pennsylvania. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Etzell have come eight children, four of whom are now living: Ethel is the wife of Andrew Preske, a barber, whose place of business is at Frazee, Becker county; George, Hugh and Ruth are at home. The two older daughters died from diphtheria within a very few days of each other: Inez, who was of the age of eighteen years, and had married George Croff, a merchant at Young America, and Edna, a charming young girl of fifteen years, who, learning of her sister's illness, went to help care for her, and both were dead before their parents knew that they were sick. Jennie died at the age of eight months, and one boy died unnamed.

Mr. Etzell left Carver county in 1879, and came to Ottertail county, settling on a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 6, Edna township, a place he recently sold. While a resident of that township he filled various town offices, having been a member of the school board, assessor, supervisor and justice of the peace. He is now making his home on the north side of Sybil lake, and spends much of his time in fishing and hunting. He entertains tourists and fishing parties at his home and accompanies them on their boating excursions, keeping for such purposes a number of boats. Mr. Etzell is a boatmaker of no little skill, constructing not only his own craft but many which he sells at a good price. His reputation as a master of fishing and hunting extends through-

out the northwest, and parties come from Iowa, Nebraska and elsewhere to enjoy his hospitality and recruit their tired nerves close to nature. He also keeps good driving rigs for their accommodation, and maintains one of the most interesting and entertaining summer homes for outing parties that may be found in the state.

Mr. Etzell is a Republican, and a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. During the Civil war three of his brothers made good records as gallant soldiers for the Union. John and Charles were in the Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and Henry in the Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry.

### OTTO KANKEL.

Otto Kankel, one of the oldest settlers, and doubtless one of the best known men of Polk county, is identified with the financial interests of that locality as a business man and proprietor of a fine farm. His home is at Fertile, where he has extensive milling interests.

Mr. Kankel was born near Berlin, Germany, May 5, 1845, and was the fourth in order of birth of six children born to William and Mary (Nogel) Kankel. He is the only member of the family to make his home in America. He became a millwright in his native land, and there also served three years in the German army. He served in the war of 1866, receiving three bullet wounds. With a desire to better his financial condition he came to America in 1870, and after remaining eighteen months in Wisconsin he went to Watertown, Minnesota, where he obtained employment as a miller, and remained thus engaged three years. He then spent two years in Alexandria, Minnesota, and then located at Fergus Falls, where he worked for Ernest Buse. Later, in partnership with Mr. Buse, he erected a new mill near Fergus Falls. In 1878 Mr. Kankel became identified with Red Lake Falls, and he and Mr. Buse operated the pioneer mill of that region. In 1880 he sold his interest to Mr. Buse and went to the Sand Hill river, where, about a half-mile south of the present site of Fertile, he and Mr. Sohler constructed a dam of logs in the river, and soon completed a grist and flour mill, fitted with a set of French buhr millstones. This mill had a daily capacity of about thirty barrels. In 1882 they erected a mill at Faith, twenty miles southwest. Mr. Sohler took charge of the new mill and Mr. Kankel remained at Fertile. In 1884 the Garfield roller mill was erected about one and a half miles west of Fertile, on the Sand Hill river; a mill was also put up in Caledonia, North Dakota, and in 1889 Mr. Kankel became sole owner of these four mills. He soon afterward disposed of all but the two Fertile mills. In 1893 Mr. Nick Hoss became a partner with

Mr. Kankel in the milling business, and they now operate extensively. The Garfield roller mill is a frame structure, three stories high, fitted with the latest improvements in the way of machinery and has a capacity of one hundred barrels. The power is water, with a twenty-four-foot head, and a twenty-six-and-one-half-inch turbine wheel. This water power is one of the finest small powers of the state. The old mill south of Fertile is now fitted for grinding feed, meal, buckwheat, graham and rye. In 1895 Mr. Kankel erected a fine residence near his old mill, at a cost of seven thousand dollars. It is modern throughout, with water works, and its equal will be hard to find in northern Minnesota. Mr. Kankel borrowed ten dollars with which to cross the ocean, and without other assistance he has gained a position among the substantial men of Polk county. He is the owner of five hundred acres of land.

Our subject was married, in 1873, to Miss Lizzie Ziecher. Four children were born of this marriage, namely: Charles, a miller of Ulen; Otto W., a practicing physician; Gustaf and Arabella. Mr. Kankel is a member of the German Lutheran church, and of the I. O. O. F. Politically he is a Democrat.

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#### CHRISTIAN BOETTCHER.

Christian Boettcher, an old and respected farmer of the town of Bradford, Isanti county, was born in Prussia, April 2, 1844, and was the third son of a family of seven children born to his father, a laborer in the village. He was reared and educated in his German home, and at the age of fourteen years started for himself, mostly employed at farm work for the ensuing six years. For three years he was a soldier in the Prussian army, and served in the war with Austria, being in three different battles in that short but decisive struggle. In the spring of 1868 he came to the United States, being a little over five weeks on the way in a sailing ship. He brought with him his father and mother, two brothers and two sisters, all of whom are now dead. One sister, who came over in 1864, is living in Hennepin county. Mr. Boettcher came to Hennepin county from New York and secured employment at farm work during the season, and in the winter was in the woods. In 1869 he worked on the St. Paul & Duluth Railway, a line of work he followed for two years, keeping with the construction of the road until it entered Duluth, at that time that place having only three buildings. He was employed one summer in a brick yard in Minneapolis, and in 1870 settled on his farm in Isanti county on section 34, which he had secured on his first arrival in the state.

Mr. Boettcher was married, in 1872, to Miss Anna Ziebell, born in Germany, and a daughter

of Charles Ziebell, who lived and died in that country. To this union were born: William, Frederick, Mary, Charles, Ida, Elizabeth, and Henry and Martha, who are twins. All were born on the farm.

Mr. Boettcher began farming with a yoke of oxen and a cow, and had Anoka for his nearest market. There was only one wagon in the neighborhood. He had a log house, 16x18 feet, in which he lived eighteen years, and in which all his children were born. In 1888 he built a new home, and used the old log house for a barn. In his earlier farming he raised considerable stock, and often his cattle would go astray and the family would spend two or three days in hunting them.

There were hard and difficult years through which the Boettcher family had to pass. One year hail destroyed the entire crop; then wind storms did damage to the buildings. In 1879 he was able to find bread with the greatest difficulty for the family. But he passed through all the trouble and trial, and now owns a fine farm of two hundred acres with about eighty acres under cultivation. This is aside from the eighty he passed to his oldest son. The house is 18x26 feet, with an addition 14x20 feet. The barn is 50x28 feet; there is a large granary, a commodious and well appointed chicken coop, farm machinery as the place needs, abundant water for the stock, and a fine run of pasture and hay land. All this has come by hard work and good management. He borrowed money to pay his fare to Minneapolis, and he worked the first season to pay his debts. With his family he belongs to the Lutheran church, and was instrumental in the erection of the pleasant and attractive house of worship which that church possesses.

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#### OLE TANG.

Ole Tang, one of the venerable settlers in Clay county, whose home is in section 32, Egdon township, where for long years he has carried on farming operations on an extensive scale, was born on the Tang farm, in Bergen Stift, Norway, in 1829, and is the son of a farmer, who lived and died in the old country.

Ole Tang was the oldest in a family of many children born to his parents, and was reared and educated in his native community. When he was eighteen years old he began at the shoemaker's trade, and for many years was devoted to that occupation in Norway, and also after his coming into Clay county. In 1859 he was married, in Norway, to Miss Severson, by whom he had twelve children, six of whom are still living: Susan is married; Annie taught school, and is now married; Severt, who was born in Wisconsin, is a school teacher; Sophia and Chris-

tian, both of whom were born in Freeborn county, Minnesota.

Mr. Tang came to the United States in 1862, and settled in Madison, Wisconsin, where he followed his trade. When the Civil war was ended he moved to Wauzeka, Crawford county, Wisconsin, where he followed his trade two years. At Albert Lea, Minnesota, he had his home ten years, working at his trade, and also carrying on a small shoe store. In 1877 he moved into Becker county, locating on a farm in Lake Park township, where he remained one year, then removing to a homestead in section 32, Clay county, and devoted himself to making his present comfortable and attractive farm home. He put up a log house, and began farming with a boundless determination to succeed. His first crop of wheat ran fifteen bushels to the acre. For several years he did all his farm work with oxen, but now has every convenience that modern farming demands. He owns a farm of two hundred acres, with about eighty under the plow, and is regarded as a very capable and successful man.

Mr. Tang holds to Democratic ideas, and has been on the town board, of which he was chairman one term. For several years he has been school treasurer. He and his family are earnest and devoted members of the Lutheran church, where his character and known integrity give him a good standing.

#### OWEN RYAN.

For many years the "Two Rivers Farm," located in Thompson township, has been known as one of the most choice of Kittson county's farms. The buildings are situated in section 34, and comprise every building and shelter necessary to the economical conduct of a model farm. They are substantial and in every equipment meet the demands of the vast tract cultivated annually. The extent of the farm in acres can not easily be figured exact, as the amount operated varies from year to year, but an average estimate would be about three thousand acres. This is the most extensive farm in the county, and is one of the most productive. It is located on the south branch of Two Rivers, and about three hundred acres of the farm is in timber. With this well-known farm is associated the name of Owen Ryan, who owns a controlling interest, and under whose guidance the farm work is carried on.

Mr. Ryan was born in Pontiac county, Quebec, August 16, 1859, and was the seventh in a family of nine children born to John and Margaret (Hogan) Ryan, both of whom were natives of Ireland. He remained on his father's farm in Canada until 1882, and received a common-school education, and in that year came to

the United States and located in Kittson county. He spent about eighteen months there in various places. He went to Utah in 1885 and worked on his brother's cattle ranch about seven years, and in 1892 returned to Kittson county and assumed charge of the "Two Rivers Farm." He has since purchased a controlling interest in the farm and resides thereon. He also purchased a section of land in Red River township in 1895, which he operates in connection with the main farm. He is a man of wide knowledge of his calling, and is one of the typical bonanza farmers of the northwest. Whatever methods he approves are sure to meet with success when applied to the work of the farm, and unless he sees practical use for any method or machinery he does not give it room on his place, and his judgment in all cases is unerring. Every department of farm work to which he gives his attention brings most pleasing results, and a handsome income is realized annually from the property.

Owen Ryan was married in 1887 to Miss Lydia Billingsley. Five children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ryan, who are named in order of birth as follows: Ralph P., Owen D., Kathleen E., Agnes L. and John F. The calling to which Mr. Ryan devotes his attention is one of the honorable pursuits of man, and in that vocation a hospitable spirit and brotherly kindness are necessary in as great a degree as in any other calling. These characteristics are dominant in the nature of Mr. Ryan, and although he is not one of the oldest settlers of his locality, he has become one of the best known and is most highly respected and esteemed for his uprightness and good citizenship. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and Ancient Order of United Workmen, and in political sentiment he is a Democrat. He is a member of the Catholic church, and well deserves his success and good name. Mr. Ryan's portrait will be found on another page of this volume.

#### GEORGE L. PARKER.

George L. Parker, for whom the township of Parker is named, was the first settler there, and now has a handsomely improved estate in section 2. He has followed farming throughout his career, and is thoroughly versed in all matters pertaining to his calling, and is one of the solid men and influential citizens of Marshall county. He was born on a farm in Somerset county, Maine, May 20, 1854.

Mr. Parker was the second child and eldest son in a family of six children born to Jonas and Hannah (Varney) Parker. His ancestors were pioneers of the locality in which he was born, and the old homestead has been in the

family for many generations. Mr. Parker was reared to farm work, and at an early age decided to devote his career to that calling, and in 1876, in company with his school friend, Albert L. Nutting, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume, he went to the pineries of Wisconsin. In May, 1880, our subject went to Marshall county, Minnesota, and purchased a half-section of railroad land, and contested two quarter-sections of land. Mr. Nutting joined him there soon afterward, and to him Mr. Parker turned one of the farms, and together these lifelong friends and companions farmed until 1895. The young men worked the farms during the summer months, and in the winter seasons returned to the pineries in Wisconsin. Mr. Parker erected his modern and comfortable residence in 1890, and he now has a home of great comfort, and his farm is one of the best improved farms of the township, and comprises four hundred and eighty acres of land. He has a good flowing well on the place and follows diversified farming with the best of results.

Mr. Parker was married, in 1886, to Miss Nellie Johnson. Mr. and Mrs. Parker are the parents of eight children, who are named as follows: Fred W., Hannah M., deceased; Frank J.; George C.; Herbert M.; Elmer L.; Ruth E.; and an infant unnamed. Mr. Parker assisted in the organization of Parker township, and whenever duty called he has served his community faithfully and well, and is deservedly held in high esteem by his fellow men.

#### MAHLON M. NORRIS.

Mahlon M. Norris is a prominent farmer of Star Lake township, Ottertail county, where he has been located for the last twenty-three years. He has a comfortable and commodious residence on section 28, which he built in 1897, replacing a log house constructed in 1878.

Mr. Norris was born on his father's farm in Marion township, Pike county, Ohio, September 27, 1854, a son of James P. and Mary Norris. Both parents died when Mahlon M. was young, leaving a family of eleven children, of whom he was the youngest. His brother, James, is a farmer in Gerard township, and is the only other member of the family who has settled in Ottertail county.

Mahlon M. Norris had his education in the public schools of Ohio, and was reared to the work of the farm. In 1875 he struck out for the west, and made his home in Carver county for three years, where he secured farm work. There he was married, January 1, 1878, to Martha J., a daughter of Alonzo W. and Elizabeth J. Brown. Mrs. Norris has lost her mother, but has her father in her own home, where she be-

stows upon him the attention of a devoted daughter.

The farm on which Mr. Norris makes his home consists of one hundred and twenty acres of fine land, on a portion of which he has a growth of good oak timber and other forest trees. The residence is an up-to-date building, tastily ornamented around with shade trees. The farm is well provided with those buildings that are demanded by a thrifty agriculturist. He has a small herd of cattle, some good hogs, and produces good grain, making quite a feature of corn.

When Mr. Norris first came to Ottertail county he made a homestead entry of eighty acres in Star Lake township, on section 28. At a later period he purchased forty acres.

Mr. Norris is the father of a family of three children. The oldest of his children, Lizzie Mary, is the wife of Louis Strader, of Frazee, Becker county, and is the mother of one child, Myrtle. Ella C., the second child, makes her home with her parents. She was educated in the public schools of her community, graduating from the high school at Perham, and is a young lady of many accomplishments. She is but seventeen years old, and has taught two terms, and is still engaged in that calling. Leslie M., the youngest of the family, is attending school.

Mr. Norris has at different times filled most of the town offices, and is at present the chairman of the board of supervisors. He was clerk six years, has been assessor, justice of the peace and a member of the school board. In politics he affiliates with the People's party, and frequently attends the county conventions of that movement. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and Modern Woodmen of America.

#### ALBERT E. HIGBIE.

Albert E. Higbie, one of the prominent old settlers of Becker county, Minnesota, is proprietor of a fine farm in Wallworth township. He has accumulated this property through persistent industry, good management and honest dealings and is entitled to the enviable position he holds as a farmer and citizen.

Mr. Higbie was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, June 6, 1851, and was a son of William and Emma (Driskel) Higbie, both of whom were natives of New York. Our subject was born on the homestead farm and was there reared to manhood, and after gaining his education in the public schools of his neighborhood he engaged in farming for himself in his native state. He continued there until 1878, when he went to Becker county, Minnesota, and entered a homestead claim to one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 22, of Wallworth township. These were pioneer times and he had to face great dif-

faculties before he could bring about even a promising condition of affairs there, but by working faithfully and managing well he succeeded in securing one of the fine farms of that locality. He is now the owner of over six hundred acres of land, all of which is under high cultivation. He has erected excellent farm buildings on the place, including a ten-room residence, which furnishes a comfortable home. He also has a good barn and sheds, plenty of hay room, and other necessary farm buildings. An abundance of good water is brought from a depth of fifty feet by a windmill, and every convenience of modern farming is supplied. He keeps about thirty head of cattle and sixteen horses, and has plenty of farm machinery for the economical conduct of the place. A fine grove is one of the pleasant features of the farm. Altogether Mr. Higbie has a home of great comfort and even luxury.

Our subject was married, in 1872, to Eudora Tallmage. Mrs. Higbie was born in Montgomery county, New York, May 12, 1858, and was a daughter of Henry and Jane Tallmage, both of whom were residents of New York. To Mr. and Mrs. Higbie two children have been born, namely: Claude E., born in Wisconsin in 1878, and Frank E., born in Minnesota in 1881. The sons are members of the Ulm Camp, Modern Woodmen of America. They are well known throughout their community and highly respected by all. Mrs. Higbie is interested in educational matters and is a lady of much refinement. She is clerk of school district No. 35, of Becker county. Mr. Higbie is a man of good principles, always awake to the public movements of his state and country, and casts his vote with the Democratic party. He assisted in the organization of Becker county, and a history of that locality would not be complete without prominent mention of his life and work there.

#### EUGENE G. CUMMINGS.

Eugene G. Cummings, a thrifty and pushing young farmer of Cromwell township, Clay county, was born in Wisconsin March 4, 1870, and is a son of Francis M. and Lavinia (Stott) Cummings, born in Buffalo, New York, and in Manchester, England, respectively. Francis M. Cummings came to Minnesota, and in 1880 secured a homestead while he was in the employ of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company. He was located in Clay county, and worked here for thirteen years. In 1893 he removed to California, selling his farm to his son, Eugene G. He was called to California on account of his brother-in-law's sickness. His mother, Mrs. Sarah A. Cummings, died at San Diego, California, September 23, 1894, aged seventy-five years.

Eugene G. Cummings had a common-school education, and received his academic instruction in a business college at Fargo, North Dakota. For ten years he has been engaged in pressing hay and running a threshing machine, in which he owns a half interest. His farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres. Mr. Cummings is working into stock, and owns now twelve horses and fourteen head of cattle. His barn is ample to his needs, and his house is commodious. The farm abounds in every appliance for the rapid and economical administration of its many labors.

Mr. Cummings is a Populist and is treasurer of the school district, and is a justice of the peace. In fraternity he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Royal Neighbors at Hawley. He is the oldest son of his parents, belongs to a family of six children and is unmarried.

The family of Francis M. Cummings and wife consists of the following members: Eugene G.; Francis M., Jr., is married to Lina Hanson, and they have one child, Francis M., and live in Walla Walla, Washington; Lewis H., of Fargo, North Dakota, married Lucy Krowl; John S. is living on the home farm; Elmina A., who studied for a year in the business college at Fargo, is living at home with her mother; Ida E., also living at home. The mother and daughters are living on the home farm. The business of the estate is operated under the title of the Cummings Brothers.

#### ARVE ARVESON.

Many of the successful farmers of the northwest have gained their knowledge of their calling since taking up their residences in this country. They are experienced in other vocations, most of them foreign to that of agriculture in every particular, but this does not detract from their success when they put the shoulder to the wheel and persist in gaining a fortune and a reputation in their new surroundings. Kittson county boasts many of these men, and a prominent place among the number must be given the worthy gentleman whose name introduces this review. He has a fine farm in section 10, of Davis township, and is one of the deservedly popular men of his community.

Our subject was born in Fredrickstad, Norway, November 6, 1858, and was the third child and oldest son born to Ole P. and Ellen T. (Hanson) Arveson, both of whom are now living in Norway. His father was a prominent farmer of his locality, and was a gentleman of broad ideas, and gave his children the best educational advantages of the land. When our subject was seven years of age he was placed in a good school in the city and there he passed seven years.

when he completed his studies and then shipped on a merchant sailing vessel of which his father was part owner, acting in the capacity of cabin boy. From this position he steadily and rapidly rose in rank, and at the age of twenty-four years he was a captain. He followed the sea ten years, and during the time he suffered shipwreck three times. The life of a sailor was not altogether desirable to him, and in 1882 he left the seas and spent the winter in England. The following spring he decided to sail for America and here continue his life as a sailor on the Great Lakes, but upon his arrival in America he went to Minnesota in order to view the country, and was so favorably impressed with the possibilities of Kittson county that he changed his former plans and settled in the promising region, taking land under his homestead right. He had but little money, barely enough to pay the fees of filing his claim, and for the two winters following he worked in the woods. He settled permanently on his farm in 1885 and began the improvements of the place. He kept house alone for some years and developed a farm of six hundred acres. This is under a high state of cultivation, and is one of the fine properties of the township and is the result of Mr. Arveson's earnest endeavors. During his many years' residence in that region our subject has experienced many hardships, and he has passed through several severe blizzards, the most notable of which was in the fall of 1884, when he made a trip by ox team down from Tamarack swamp to his home in a blinding storm, reaching his destination in the middle of the night after many hours of exposure.

Mr. Arveson was married, in 1898, to Miss Esther Olson, and one daughter, named Edna A., has been born to bless their home. Mr. Arveson is a member of the Lutheran church and is an exemplary citizen, who enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellowmen. He takes a hearty interest in the affairs of his township, and in 1896 was elected county commissioner for District No. 1, and is now prominently identified with the affairs of his county. He is a Republican politically, but does not seek public office.

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#### ROALD BENTSON.

Among the prominent and influential members of the farming community of Douglas county, Minnesota, is the gentleman whose name heads this article, a long time resident of section 10, in Solem township, Douglas county, Minnesota.

Mr. Bentson was born in Norway October 8, 1837, and is a son of Bern and Ingeborg (Peterson) Johnson. He was raised to habits of industry from his early youth, and acquired a scholastic education in the land of his nativity,

first by district teachers, who went from house to house and stayed a few days, the length of time depending upon the size of the farm, and he afterward attended the public schools, in the meantime working upon his father's farm. He later learned the carpenter's trade and also wagon-making. At the age of twenty-nine years in the spring of 1866 he sailed for America, and proceeded to Dane county, Wisconsin, and soon found work in a wagon factory in that place. The following spring he went to Sauk Center, Stearns county, Minnesota, where he continued the work of his trade during the summer, and in the autumn of 1867 he came to Douglas county and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres on section 10, of Solem township. He has made this his home since that date and has added to his acreage by purchase, and now owns two hundred and fifty-six acres of well improved land. He at first built a small log house, which served as his home for nine years. In the meantime he had purchased land adjacent to his homestead, and he selected a better sheltered and more desirable place for a residence, where he erected a good building. This was burned in 1898, and he lost no time in building a more modern dwelling, which is pleasantly situated near a fine lake, and is well sheltered from storms by the hills and groves of forest timber. His farm is well adapted to the growing of grain and raising of cattle, and his herd now consists of twenty-three head. Wheat is, however, the leading product of the farm, the soil being well adapted to the growth of this cereal. Twenty-five acres of the farm is timber land.

Mr. Bentson was married, in Norway, before his emigration to America, to Beret Olson, daughter of Ole and Annie (Johnson) Olson. Mrs. Benson's parents both died prior to her marriage. Twelve children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bentson, of whom nine are now living, and are named as follows: Ingeborg, Annie, Ida, wife of Christ Ashla, of Kensington, Olaf B., Pater O., Edward, Roald, Nettie, Martinus and Bertina. Mr. Bentson has given his children the advantage of a good education. In his earlier experiences in Minnesota he devoted a portion of his time to carpenter work, and built a number of substantial farm houses in Douglas county, and the neat Norwegian church near his home. He has filled most of the township offices at various times, including assessor, clerk, justice of the peace, school director, chairman of the board of supervisors, and was elected county commissioner in 1877, holding that office until 1884. In 1896 he was re-elected to the board of county commissioners. He has attended numerous county and state conventions and takes a deep interest in public affairs. He was formerly a Republican in political sentiment, but recently became associated with the People's party. He is a member of the



Norwegian Lutheran church. The parents of Mr. Bentson came to America in 1870 after he was well established in his new home, and took up their abode with him, and remained there until their passing away. The mother died in 1883 and the father ten years later. Both were born in 1801.

#### GEORGE C. SMITH.

George C. Smith, one of the well-known business men of Mountain Iron, conducts a prosperous livery business in that town, serving his patrons with satisfaction and furnishing livery service to all parts of St. Louis county and to many points in adjoining counties. He is a man of wide experience and has gained an assured position of integrity and worth.

Mr. Smith was born at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, in 1851. His father, George C. Smith, was a ship carpenter, and helped to put the first sailing vessel of any size on Lake Superior. He was born in Vermont, of old Yankee stock, and of Scotch ancestry, and learned his trade in Ohio. The mother of our subject was born in Ohio, and was probably of English descent. She died in Wisconsin in 1865. The father went to California just prior to our subject's birth, and he did not see his father until he was nine years of age. He was the youngest in a family of eight children, and all of his brothers and one brother-in-law served in the Civil war on the Union side, and are all still living and are members of the G. A. R.

Mr. Smith lived in St. Charles, Missouri, when the war broke out, and from there the family moved to Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, where he lived until about fifteen years of age. He began earning his own way as newsboy on the C. M. & St. P. Railway between Prairie du Chien and Milwaukee in 1865, and followed this about two years, being one of the first newsboys to run from McGregor, Iowa, to St. Paul. He then railroaded a short time as trainman, and then in the fall of 1868 went to Menominee, Wisconsin, and there worked for a lumbering company in the woods. He rafted on the Mississippi as far as St. Louis, and later traveled through the southern states, and visited twenty states in the Union. In 1878 he went to Duluth and worked in the woods, and in a livery barn in that city, and for seven years had charge of a teaming outfit at Duluth. He went to the Pacific coast with Porter Brothers in 1891, and spent three years with them on bridge construction on the Great Northern Railway, after which he returned to Duluth and worked in a livery barn. He then went to Mountain Iron, where he engaged in lumbering the first season, and in the spring of 1897 assumed charge of the Mountain Iron livery barn, owned by Mrs. J. E. Beach, and since

the fall of that year has controlled the business. During the early development of Duluth he teamed for many of the large buildings under construction in that city, among them being the Spaulding Hotel, American Exchange Bank, First National Bank, St. Louis Hotel, Lyceum Theatre and Masonic Temple. He has been over most of northern Minnesota, and was on the Vermillion Range in 1880.

Mr. Smith was married, August 27, 1897, to Mrs. Jennie E. Beach, *nee* Merrit. Mrs. Smith was raised in Iowa, and is of a prominent and wealthy family of old Yankee stock. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have one child, Mildred E., and Mrs. Smith is the mother of three children by her former marriage, namely, Florence, Lianda and Eddie P. Beach. Mr. Smith is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees and is commander of the lodge at Mountain Iron. He is a staunch advocate of Republicanism.

#### HENRY PLOWMAN.

Henry Plowman is a prominent farmer residing on section 34, Hobart township, Ottertail county, where he has a pleasant home. At the present time he is a member of the General Assembly from this county, where his reputation as a man of honor, integrity and honesty is established. On another page of this work his portrait is shown.

Mr. Plowman was born in Lower Canada, July 15, 1837, a son of William and Margaret (Manlay) Plowman, both natives of the Emerald Isle, the father of county Kildare and the mother of county Wexford. They were married at Inverness, Canada, and became the parents of eleven children, whose names are: Jane, Alice, Henry, George, Ann, Sarah, Hannah, Mary Margaret, William and Nellie. Mr. Plowman was a successful farmer in Canada, and left an honorable name.

Henry Plowman attended the public school and assisted on the farm when a boy and a youth, and on reaching manhood, in 1858, went to LeSueur county, Minnesota, where he found employment at lumbering, at the same time securing under the pre-emption law one hundred and sixty acres in that county. There he was engaged in farming in 1862, when the Indians took to arms and swept the western borders of civilization with fire and blood. Mr. Plowman joined the "LeSueur Tigers," a volunteer organization of the citizens to fight the Indians, and bury the dead. After about a month of this kind of work, he joined Company B, First Minnesota Cavalry, known as "the Minnesota Rangers," his term of enlistment running one year. At the expiration of that time he again enlisted

in the same command for three years or the war. In 1863 his command was attached to the forces under General Sully, and did duty at Fort Sisseton, the Black Hills, and the Missouri River country. During the fall of 1864 he was made a second lieutenant at Fort Snelling.

Mr. Plowman entered into mercantile business at LeSueur, Minnesota, after his retirement from the army, but with unsatisfactory results. In the fall of 1877 Mr. Plowman went to Ottertail county where he secured one hundred and sixty acres under the homestead law, in section 34, Hobart township, where he now resides. The following year he bought one hundred and twenty acres of railroad land adjoining his home, for which he paid a dollar and a half an acre. At the present time he owns two hundred and eighty acres of very desirable Minnesota soil, all fenced in, and about eighty acres under cultivation. Here he follows diversified farming with land that produces very satisfactory crops of grain, and ample pasture for his horses, cattle and sheep.

Mr. Plowman was married in 1867 in LeSueur, Minnesota, to Frances Smedley, a native of Medina county, Ohio. To this union were born two children: Alice and Herbert. Miss Alice is an accomplished young lady, and at the present time is a teacher in Idaho. Herbert owns one hundred and sixty acres in Hobart township, is a near neighbor to his father, and gives assistance in the overseeing and managing of his father's estate. Mrs. Frances Plowman died in March, 1875, and on March 17, 1876, Mr. Plowman was united in marriage with Miss Etta Seal, who was the first white child born in the town of Sharon, LeSueur county. Her parents were John E. and Lena (Brunsted) Seal. The father was a native of England and the mother of Norway. Mrs. Plowman was the oldest of a family of seven children. To Mr. Plowman and his present wife were born five children, all of whom are exceptionally bright and intelligent. Mr. Plowman believes in giving his children a good education and the best advantages they have the capacity to receive and use. Grace, the oldest child of the second marriage, is engaged in school teaching, and Frances, her sister, is also a teacher, now engaged in Perham, but for several years having taught in Washington. Mary is teaching school, and the two youngest, May and John L., are attending school. Grace Plowman is a graduate of the Lutheran College at Fergus Falls. Frances is a graduate of the high school at Fergus Falls and May, a graduate of the high school of Perham.

Mr. Plowman resides in a comfortable farm house, pleasantly situated and surrounded by shade trees, among which are some stately monarchs of the "forest primeval." He is improving the quantity and quality of his cattle, and

is introducing into his sheep the pure blood of the Oxford Down. When Mr. Plowman was a resident of LeSueur county, he assisted in its organization, and became one of its county commissioners. In 1887 he became a candidate for General Assembly on the Farmers' Alliance ticket, was elected, and served in 1887 and 1888. He was sergeant-at-arms in the session in 1890, and elected again in 1897, and was elected a member of the General Assembly in 1900, and is now serving in that capacity. These elections were on the People's Party ticket, save the first as noted above. He was the author of the important bill, which, however, did not pass, calling for the taxation of mortgages in real estate. Several less important bills were introduced by him and became laws. Painsstaking and conscientious in the service of his constituents, he is a popular and leading citizen.

A member of the Old Settlers' Union, he attends its annual meetings, both state and county, and is a very popular character. He belongs, as might be expected after the recital of his long and honorable military career, to the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Plowman is a Mason of character and standing, and is much respected in the mystic circles of that fraternity.

#### CHARLES MATSON.

Charles Matson, a progressive and enterprising agriculturist of Andover township, is one of the well known old settlers of that locality. He went to Polk county prior to the government survey of the region, and has resided there since that date, and has become the owner of a valuable farm and gained the confidence and esteem of his fellow men.

Mr. Matson was born in Sweden October 24, 1844. He was reared to farm life, and in June, 1868, came to America. He stopped for a short time in Red Wing, Minnesota, and from there went to Goodhue county, then to Douglas county, and from thence to Ottertail county in 1871. Here he became thoroughly familiar with farming, hunting and trapping, and has since found the knowledge there gained of much benefit to him. In 1872 he came to Crookston, closely following his neighbor, Mr. Burnham. He at once squatted on a piece of land in section 6, of Andover township, and held the land two years before the government survey. He then turned it to a homestead claim. With a hand-saw he squared the logs for the walls of his house, and also made the flooring, the latter being of thinner boards. He made his planes from blocks of wood and half-round steel files, in true Robinson Crusoe style. His life there was not, however, exactly that of a Crusoe, as he had neighbors, and some less fortunate than himself, and he ac-

cordingly turned his attention to assisting them. He has prospered in his work in Minnesota, and now has a very comfortable home in the shelter of the timber on the south bank of Burnham's creek, and his farm consists of about two hundred and forty acres of excellent land. He lost his residence and many valuable books, papers and personal effects by fire in 1882.

In 1877 Mr. Matson went to North Dakota to do carpenter work for a minister, and while thus engaged became acquainted with a sister of the minister, Miss Ingeborg Harstad. Their friendship ripened into affection, and a short time after their first meeting they were married and took up their residence in Minnesota. The following children have blessed this union: Christina, Ole Anton, Thilda Annetta, Theodore Martin, Ida Selmina (who died July 22, 1891), Carl Gustav, Emma Charlotte and Selma Idella. The eldest son, Ole A., has attended the State Agricultural College one year, and intends completing a course in this institution. Mr. Matson has always given his children the best educational advantages afforded in his community, and is a man of excellent character and broad mind. He and family are members of the Lutheran church and are highly esteemed and respected in the community in which they have resided for so many years. In politics he is a Prohibitionist.

#### HON. LEVI H. MCKUSICK.

Hon. Levi H. McKusick, one of the most prominent public men and influential citizens of northern Minnesota and a leader in the public life of Pine county, resides at Pine City, where he has built up and maintained a successful and valuable practice in the profession of law. He is a man of integrity and a lawyer of pronounced ability.

Mr. McKusick was born at Baring, Maine, March 31, 1854. His father was a lumberman in Maine, and was a leader in political affairs, and was chosen to represent his district in the legislature. The mother of our subject was born at Deer Island, Maine. She was an accomplished lady, of superior education, and was the daughter of a sea captain, William Marshall.

Levi H. McKusick attended the common schools of his locality, and began teaching at the age of sixteen years to earn money to pursue higher studies at the summer schools. He also read law meanwhile, and in January, 1878, went to Pine City, where he taught school four months. He was admitted to the bar at Stillwater in 1878, and in the fall was elected county attorney of Pine county. He was elected to the legislature in 1882, in 1884 and in 1888, and in 1898 he was elected state senator, and for sixteen years has held the office of county attorney

of Pine county. As demonstrating his general popularity, it should be mentioned that he was at one time a candidate on both tickets, the Democrats having nominated and elected him to the office of county attorney, and the Republicans nominating him and electing him to the legislature the same fall. He is one of the leading old settlers, and has an extensive acquaintance throughout the county and northern Minnesota. He has always been a staunch Republican, and is an eloquent and forcible public speaker.

#### HENRY C. JENNE.

Henry C. Jenne, the genial store keeper and postmaster at Star Lake, has his residence on section 34, Star Lake township, Ottertail county, and has lived here since February, 1879. He was born in Ohio in 1835, and is a son of Leonard and Mercy Jenne. His father was an early settler of that state, but was a native of Plymouth, Massachusetts; Leonard Jenne was the father of three boys and four girls. The brother and sister of Henry C. Jenne, Chillis and Viola, are residents of the town of Maine, Ottertail county.

Leonard and Mercy Jenne removed from Ohio to Iowa, where they followed a farming life for many years, and in the latter state Henry C. received his education in the public schools. There the young man became early interested in the science of farming, and to it has devoted many of the best years of his life.

Henry C. Jenne came into Minnesota during the Civil war, and in 1864 enlisted in Company F, Hatches' Minnesota Volunteer Cavalry, at Fort Snelling. His military career was chiefly devoted to Indian warfare in the neighborhood of Fort Abercrombie, where the command was stationed. He was honorably discharged, and is in receipt of a pension for injuries resulting from being violently thrown from a horse.

Mr. Jenne was married, December 16, 1866, to Miss A. E. Hoyt, a daughter of F. Philander and Melissa Hoyt. Her father is dead, and her mother is in California. Mr. and Mrs. Jenne have three children: Minnie V., who is the wife of Charles Obert, is the mother of five children; Lela M., the wife of Charles Dale, lives in Idaho, and is the mother of four children; Frances H. is unmarried.

Mr. Jenne was appointed postmaster of Star Lake in March, 1873. Since that time he has most ably filled the duties of that position, and in the discharge of the various functions connected with the office has proved himself in every way a competent and trustworthy official.

Mr. and Mrs. Jenne also conduct a store, well stocked with general merchandise, and enjoy a trade that comes from long distances, so completely have they made friends of the entire country side.

Mr. Jenne was both town and school treasurer for about seven years, for several years he was assessor, and acted as chairman of the town board several terms. Politically he is a Republican, and is a frequent figure at county conventions, and other gatherings of the party. Personally he is a genial and courteous gentleman, and takes pride in showing to those interested the sword which he wielded in the service of his country.

#### OLE I. STEEN (DECEASED).

The pioneers of Minnesota, who went to the country when nothing but raw prairie or broken timber greeted the eye, are entitled to much credit for their labors there and the success which they have attained in the line of agriculture. Among this number stands Ole I. Steen, who was one of the most prosperous and widely known farmers of Norman county, whose home was on section 32, of Anthony township. He went to his new home without means and met with unbounded success through his own efforts entirely, and became the owner of a valuable tract of land, from which he derived a good income. He was born on the farm Tolgen, in Norway, October 22, 1855.

The father of our subject, Iver Steen, was a farmer in Norway, as were his forefathers for some generations back. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Annie Steen, and her father, Iver Steen, was also a farmer of Norway.

Ole I. Steen was the eldest of a family of four children, and he was raised on the farm and attended the country schools of his native place. He came to America at the age of twenty-four years, landing at Quebec, and from there went direct to Jackson county, Minnesota, and after working there one year he went to Fargo, North Dakota. He worked on the railroad and at farm work there one year, and then went to Montana and was employed on the Great Northern Railroad. He went to Norman county, Minnesota, in 1882, and worked the first summer on the farms of that locality, and in the fall of that year bought the present farm. He began farming in the spring of 1883, and he had two ox teams and a wagon. He broke the land and lived alone on the farm about six years. His first crop was nine hundred bushels of wheat. He fully improved his farm, and the buildings he erected include a two-story dwelling, which is comfortable and substantial and is in keeping with the other buildings of the farm. The barn is one of the best in the neighborhood, and together with granaries and other outbuildings furnishes shelter for stock and products, and the entire farm presents a most pleasing appearance.

Our subject was married, in 1888, to Lena

Johnson. Mrs. Steen is a native of Iowa, and is a daughter of Peter Larson, a prosperous farmer of Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Steen had a family of six children, who are named as follows: Adelia, Iver, Peter, Blanch, Oscar and Samuel. All were born on the farm in Norman county, Minnesota. Mr. Steen was a gentleman of exemplary character and was a member of the Lutheran church. He took an active interest in the local school affairs and served as school treasurer. He enjoyed the esteem and confidence of the people. Politically he was a Republican, but did not seek public office, and did not take an active interest in party affairs, lending his influence for good local government. O. I. Steen died September 12, 1901, after a short sickness caused by apoplexy. He was buried September 15, 1901. The community and family lost a dear friend and father.

#### HANS OLESON.

Hans Oleson, who holds a creditable position among the farming people of Eglon township, Clay county, where his home in section 16 gives evidence of thrift and prosperity, was born on a farm in Christiania, Norway, in 1840. His father, who was a farmer, came to the United States in 1869.

Hans Oleson was the youngest born of a family of three children, and remained with his parents until his coming to America in 1867. While in Norway he served three years in the national army. On arriving in this country he landed at Quebec, and making his way at once to the west located at Spring Grove, Houston county, Minnesota, where he worked at the carpenter trade several years. In 1871 he came to Clay county, taking a homestead in section 10, Eglon township. He was employed in the construction of both the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern railroads through Clay county, serving as cook for several crews on both these lines. On his farm he put up a log shanty, 14x16 feet, and there made his home four years.

Mr. Oleson was married, in 1869, in Houston county, to Miss Mary Gilbertson, a Norwegian compatriot, who came to the United States in 1867. To this marriage have come nine children: Gilbert; Ole and Ole (2), both of whom are dead; Emma, Annie, Anton, Peter, Henry and Julia. In 1875 he sold out his homestead, on which he had raised no crops, and moved to his present farm in section 16, of the same township. There he used an ox team for ten years, and began farming under most restricted conditions. To-day he owns two hundred and thirty-five acres, and is very well fixed, having good buildings on his farm, and being provided with every convenience for modern agriculture.

In politics Mr. Oleson is independent, but of late years has regarded the Populists with a favorable consideration. For sixteen years he has been town treasurer, and is regarded as one of the leading citizens of the county.

### ELMORE S. JENKINS.

Business enterprise may be well applied to farming and is sure of good results, as is the case with other vocations. Among the pioneers of Norman county, who have applied themselves intelligently and persistently to their work, and are reaping a just reward, the name of Elmore S. Jenkins takes a foremost rank. He went to Norman county over twenty years ago, and during that time has become entirely identified with the advancement and prosperity enjoyed there, and entirely through his own efforts has made a success of his calling. He had but limited means in that early day, and is now the fortunate owner of an excellent farm, well equipped and highly cultivated, and enjoys the respect and esteem of his fellowmen. His home is in section 12, of McDonaldsville township, and there he enjoys the comforts of life.

Our subject was born on a farm in the state of New York, October 7, 1856. His father, Chauncey Jenkins, was of Welsh descent and became a settler of Minnesota in 1866, and followed farming there during the rest of his life. The mother of our subject, who bore the maiden name of Sadie Davis, was of Quaker descent some generations back.

Our subject was the fifth in order of birth in a family of six children, and he was reared on the home farm and assisted with the work, receiving a common school education. He left home at the age of nineteen years and began for himself, and worked for a banker and in a livery barn at Sauk Center, Minnesota. He went to Norman county in 1879, and in the fall of that year entered claim to government land where his present farm is located. He went overland to the place, one hundred and sixty miles, with a covered wagon and ox team, and the first winter he lived with his brother, and in the spring of 1880 erected a shanty 14x22. He farmed with oxen the first three or four years and crops were not good, and he followed stock raising more extensively than grain. He has developed a farm of two hundred acres, about ninety acres of which is tillable, and on his farm he has erected a complete set of good farm buildings, and placed all modern conveniences on the farm, thus easily garnering and disposing of the products. An artesian well furnishes good water in abundance and the place is well adapted to general farming, of which Mr. Jenkins has made a success.

Our subject was married in July, 1879, to Miss Mary Reynolds, a native of Wisconsin, and a daughter of Solomon Reynolds. Mrs. Jenkins is a lady of excellent education and followed teaching in Minnesota for about two years prior to her marriage. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins, upon whom they have bestowed the names of Ruby, Jessie and Effie. All were born in Norman county, Minnesota. Mr. Jenkins is an active worker for education and has served as treasurer of the school board for the past eighteen years. He takes an active part in all local affairs and has served as chairman of the board of township supervisors for several years, and is the present civil township treasurer. He is a Republican politically and has attended conventions as a delegate. He is prominent in secret society circles and holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen of America. He has been a director of the Norman County Agricultural Association since its organization, and is now its president, and altogether is one of the widely known and most highly esteemed men of his township. Mr. Jenkins' portrait is shown on one of the pages of this album.

### REV. KNUD WINDBERG.

The Scandinavian Methodist Episcopal churches of Stephen and Warren, Minnesota, have an earnest worker in the person of their pastor, Rev. Knud Windberg. Under his guidance they are prosperous and are doing much good in the locality in which they are situated. Rev. Windberg has devoted his career to ministerial work, and he is a gentleman of excellent education, broad mind and earnest nature, and has endeared himself to his congregation. His home is in Stephen.

Our subject was born in Norway October 6, 1861. His parents, Christen and Maria Windberg, died when he was but a child, and at the age of fourteen years he crossed the waters to join his brother in Swift county, Minnesota. He secured employment on the farms of that locality, and later engaged in farming for himself, and when his circumstances permitted he entered the Norwegian and Danish department of the Garret Biblical Institute, at Evanston, Illinois, graduating from that course in 1897. He passed a year at Thief River Falls, and in the fall of 1898 he went to Stephen, Minnesota. He was ordained in 1899, and for the past three years he has had the care of the Stephen and Warren congregations. His home congregation is the pioneer religious organization of Stephen, dating from December 10, 1885, when Rev. G. C. Jensen organized the body. A church building was



erected in 1890, and the building is free of all debt and the congregation prospers. It now numbers twenty-five communicants. The Warren congregation, which originally was connected with the Stephen congregation was organized as a separate congregation after some years, and they now have a fine church building, without debt, and a membership of twenty-five persons. services are also held in various parts of the county from time to time, and Rev. Windberg is doing a great work for the cause in Marshall county.

Our subject was married, in 1887, to Miss Mary Hegland. Mrs. Windberg is a lady of refinement, and is of great assistance to her husband in his Christian work.

### ERICK ANDERSON.

Among the pioneer farmers and substantial citizens of Becker county Erick Anderson is deserving of creditable mention. His farm is located on section 32, of Cuba township, where he has a comfortable residence and valuable property.

Mr. Anderson was born in Sweden February 6, 1845. His parents were Andrew and Mary (Erickson) Nelson, both natives of Sweden, the father born May 10, 1817, and the mother April 8, 1814. Our subject spent his boyhood days in his native land, where he received a practical education. At the age of twenty-four years he came to America, and located in Michigan. Shortly after he went to Charles City, Iowa, and worked on a railroad for three months. He then went to Minnesota, and worked on the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad. His next work was on the Winona & St. Peter road, where he took a contract to build one-half mile of track. This he finished and then went to St. Paul and worked in a sawmill six months. He then determined to try the frontier. In 1870 he visited Becker county in search of land, and there secured employment with the government surveyors. After working in this capacity for three months he took up a homestead claim on section 32, in Cuba township. He proceeded at once to its development by erecting a log house and log barn. For fifteen years he used ox teams in the clearing and cultivation of his land. During this time he experienced all the hardships and dangers of pioneer life. He now owns one hundred and ninety-five acres of good land, one hundred and twenty acres of which he cultivates annually. His farm is well fitted with farm machinery, has an abundance of stock, good water, grove and fruit trees.

In 1881 Mr. Anderson was married to Annie C. Anderson. Mrs. Anderson was born in Sweden March 6, 1855. To this union six children

have been born, as follows: Andrew C., Ellen O., Hannah, Sarah, Harry B. and Henry. The family worship with the Swedish Lutheran church at Lake Park. Mr. Anderson is a Republican, and for the past twenty years has held the office of township treasurer. He has also served as clerk of the school district for fifteen years.

### WILLIAM F. BOETTCHER.

William F. Boettcher, the proprietor and manager of the leading hotel in the village of Isanti, Isanti county, and who has had an adventurous and varied career, was born in Bradford township on a farm in 1875, being the oldest of a family of eight children, born to his father, Christian Boettcher. A sketch of this gentleman appears on another page and affords interesting reading.

William F. Boettcher was born in a frontier log cabin, and attended the second term of the district school of his neighborhood. This was located on his father's farm, and was noted as the only frame school house in that part of the county at the time. The school was of a poor grade, the teachers were inefficient and the pupils wild and boisterous. Much hard farm work, however, afforded an outlet for surplus enthusiasm, and Mr. Boettcher began for himself when only seventeen years old. For some three months he was in North Dakota at Buttzville, and for three seasons was engaged in threshing in that state. He was all over the western part of Minnesota, his summers and falls being mostly employed there in harvesting and threshing, his winters being spent in the lumber woods, mainly at home. The winters of 1894, 1895 and 1896 were spent by him in Minneapolis, as a man of all work, ready for anything he might find to do.

Mr. Boettcher was married in the spring of 1899 to Miss Louise Kruger, a native of Little Falls, Minnesota, and a daughter of German parents long settled in this state. Mrs. Boettcher was a dressmaker before her marriage and worked in St. Paul the most of the time. She was reared and educated in Sherburne county on a farm and is now the mother of two children: Leona, who was born February 26, 1900, and Walter, who was born March 27, 1901. Previous to his marriage Mr. Boettcher bought a piece of land from his father, ninety-seven acres in all, and for some time was engaged in clearing it, and bringing it under cultivation. He has a house, sheds and fourteen acres under cultivation. Immediately following his marriage Mr. Boettcher secured a position as clerk with Gouldberg & Anderson, at Cambridge, with whom he remained two years. In the spring of 1901 he



bought the Central Hotel at Isanti, which he opened for business May 7, of that year. The building is new, having been completed in the fall of the previous year, and has already gained a good name with the traveling public as the leading hotel of the place.

Mr. Boettcher takes an independent stand in politics, but favors the Republican party. He was among the first white children born in Bradford township, and in his youth was a great hunter, having a game range now almost impossible to find within the limits of the United State. Along with the very serious hardships of frontier life for a robust and healthy lad, there was much to compensate and make life worth living, skating, hunting, fishing, sleighing, parties, and much to make the passing days bright and joyous.

#### LEWIS C. JOHNSON.

Lewis C. Johnson, whose pleasant and attractive farm home in section 14, Cromwell township, bespeaks the ownership of an industrious and intelligent man, boasts good Norwegian blood in his veins, and exhibits in his own career many of the best traces of his hardy and progressive race.

Mr. Johnson was born in Norway July 16, 1850, and is a son of Carl and Johanna (Peterson) Johaneson, both born and bred in Norway. He secured his education in the local schools of his native community and worked as a lumberman and farmer until he was twenty-one. In 1871 he came to the United States and located in Beaver township, Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he worked for eleven years. In 1882 he entered Clay county, and took a homestead on section 14, of Cromwell township, where he put up a small sod shanty. Starting in to improve the land, he soon became fore-handed, and now owns three hundred and sixty acres in his home farm and twenty-eight acres of timber in Becker county, with about two hundred acres under the plow and the rest in meadow and pasture. He has a good one-and-one-half-story house, with some nine rooms and a fair barn. The place affords fine water and is regarded as one of the best in the township.

Mr. Johnson is working into stock, and has thirty-five head of cattle with sixteen milk cows. He has eleven horses, and is in fine shape.

Mr. Johnson was married in 1876 to Miss Ella Hanson Hillestad, who was born in Norway October 25, 1855. To them have come the following family: Thea Johanna, now the wife of Iver G. Lee, a farmer of Clay county,

and has two children; Hans Christian; Emma Louise; Ida Sophie; and Nora Maria.

Mr. Johnson is a Populist in his politics, and has been assessor for twelve years and supervisor for four years; and is school clerk for district No. 44, Clay county, and has been a trustee of the school since its organization fifteen years ago. He belongs to the Lutheran church and is highly esteemed for his many good qualities.

#### JACOB K. QUAMME.

The early settlers of Polk county can justly take much credit to themselves for the present prosperity enjoyed in that region. Through their earnest efforts the wilderness has been transferred into a thriving agricultural district and the result is in accordance with their early desires. They went to a new country, many without means, and no other tools than those with which nature endowed them, and they have remained to witness a most wonderful transformation and assist materially in the same and must be classed among the worthy citizens of Minnesota. Of these early settlers the name of Jacob K. Quamme takes a prominent place. He has a valuable estate in Lowell township and engages successfully in diversified farming.

Mr. Quamme was born near Bergen, Norway, November 2, 1859, and was the youngest of a family of eight children born to Knute and Gunhild Quamme. The brother of our subject came to America in 1861 and settled in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and four years later induced his parents to dispose of their little property in Norway and emigrate to the new world. They left Bergen on the day of Abraham Lincoln's assassination and came in a sailing vessel, spending fourteen weeks on the voyage. They went to Winona, Minnesota, where our subject's uncle met them with a yoke of oxen and a prairie schooner, and took them to within five miles of Preston, Minnesota. The parents had little left after paying their way to America, and for two years the family lived by working for others. They then removed to Ottertail county, Minnesota, making the trip overland with their own oxen and prairie schooner. On the trip they saw a stray buffalo, the last of its kind seen in those parts. Upon their arrival the father took government land, which was then unsurveyed, and lived in the wagon until a log house with a sod roof could be constructed. The family took a stove with them and this piece of furniture is still in use in our subject's summer kitchen. Our subject remained at home until 1878, assisting the

father with the development of the farm and engaged in hunting and trapping finding this a profitable pastime. In 1878 they disposed of the home farm and removed to Crookston, and our subject and a brother, now Rev. Quamme, of Cooperstown, North Dakota, bought a half section of scrip and railroad land in sections 30 and 31, of Lowell township. The parents resided with them until 1880, when the mother passed away. Mr. Quamme has improved his farm with good buildings, cleared the land for cultivation and made for himself a comfortable and pleasant home. During his early residence in Minnesota he hauled groceries from St. Cloud to merchants of Ottertail, Minnesota. The Indians were plentiful and often brought geese and other wild game to market, taking in exchange bread.

Mr. Quamme was married in the spring of 1886 to Miss Mattie Olson. The following children have been born to this union: Gea Matilda, Johann Martin, Otila. Mr. Quamme is a member of the Free Lutheran church. He is actively interested in the welfare of his community and has been honored with the various township offices, including member of the township board, constable and treasurer. He is a Republican politically and cast his first vote for Garfield and has stood for Republican principles since that time.

#### PHILLIP ENDICOTT.

Phillip Endicott, now engaged in the pursuit of farming in Ottertail county, Minnesota, is the owner of a fairly well improved property in Friberg township. He is a well known citizen of Ottertail county.

Mr. Endicott was born in England June 6, 1853, and was a son of Samuel and Mary (Partridge) Endicott, both of whom were natives of England. Mr. Endicott left his native land at the age of one and a half years with his parents, and the family located in Victoria county, Canada. There he was reared on a farm and attended the common schools and in 1877 came to Minnesota. He bought land in Orwell township, Ottertail county, and lived thereon three years, when he sold his interests there and removed to Friberg township in 1882. He bought a tract of ninety-three acres, and now has fifty acres under cultivation and the rest is devoted to pasture and meadow land and some timber. He has a comfortable residence and good barn and other farm buildings, and keeps two horses and four head of cattle. His farm is well provided with the conveniences of a model farm.

Mr. Endicott was married in 1881 to May

Olds. Mrs. Endicott was born in Van Buren county, Michigan, January 31, 1862. To Mr. and Mrs. Endicott the following children have been born: Loah May, Ray M., Elizabeth, Arthur J., Cylda, Mary H. and Horace M. Mr. Endicott and family are members of the Presbyterian church and are held in the highest esteem in the community in which they make their home. Mr. Endicott, since his residence in Ottertail county, has taken a commendable interest in all local public affairs, and has served as assessor of Friberg township for ten years and school director for a number of years. Politically he is a Republican, but does not take an active part in political affairs. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of the Macabees. He is one of the self-made men of his community and his success and high standing are well merited.

#### OLE H. STEROSLE.

To develop a farm in Minnesota and especially in Norman county and vicinity required hard labor and keen foresight, and many who went there in pioneer days gave up the struggle and went in quest of easier lands to till and less hard work in the transformation of wild land into thriving agricultural land. But many are still there who began the task in early days, and a prominent place among those who have met with unbounded success in their efforts is held by the gentleman above named. Mr. Sterosle now has a fine farm and a comfortable home in section 18, of McDonaldsville township, where he has resided for many years and gained a host of friends.

Our subject was born on a farm in Norway, August 26, 1844, and was the eldest in a family of ten children. His father, Halver Storosle, came to America with the family in 1854 and engaged in farming throughout his life. The mother of our subject was a native of Norway.

Mr. Sterosle was reared on the home farm in Houston county, Minnesota, and received a common school education. At the age of twenty-one years he left the parental home and began farming for himself, although he had worked at farm labor for others considerable since he was thirteen years of age. He went to Norman county, Minnesota, in 1882, and entered claim to government land, and with an ox-team he broke the land. He has added to his possessions as circumstances permitted, and is now the fortunate owner of two hundred acres of good land. On his home

farm he has a complete set of substantial and commodious buildings and the estate bespeaks careful and painstaking labor. He uses modern machinery and approved methods, and has made a success of grain raising, and also devotes some attention to stock raising.

Our subject was married in 1869 to Miss Caroline Vrowl, a native of Wisconsin, and a daughter of Lawrence Vrowl, a farmer of Scandinavian descent. Nine children, eight of whom are living, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Sterosle, who are named as follows: Elsie, Lewis, Torene, Tilda, Henry, Charlie, Sarah and Teao. Mr. Sterosle has always given attention to the public affairs of his township and county and aided in its advancement and is a gentleman of advanced ideas, and politically is a Prohibitionist. He is a consistent member of the Lutheran church, and is highly esteemed and respected by all who know him.

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#### SAMUEL O. WAGENIUS.

Samuel O. Wagenius, one of the foremost citizens and business men of Douglas county, Minnesota, is the efficient postmaster of Holmes City, and is a general merchant of that thriving town.

Mr. Wagenius was born in the northern part of Sweden, January 16, 1849. His parents, Ole S. and Carrie Wagenius, passed their lives in their native land. Of the family of five children born to them our subject was the second in order of birth. The father was a farmer and Samuel O. assisted in the farm work and supplemented a common school education with a course in the seminary at Delsbo, Sweden, from which institution he graduated as a teacher and for a time engaged in the profession of teaching. He left home for America in 1871, landing at Quebec, Canada. His objective point was Iowa and he went direct to the town of McGregor, where he continued his studies, working at different occupations and teaching school, and thus passed seven years of his life. He went to Goodhue county, Minnesota, in 1878, and clerked in a mercantile store in White Rock, where he stayed three years, and then went to Holmes City, Douglas county. He secured employment as clerk with M. F. Munsen, who conducted a flour mill and general merchandise store. In 1884, in partnership with Ole Olson, Mr. Wagenius purchased the store and its contents from Mr. Munsen and they carried on the business together until 1897, when Mr. Wagenius bought his partner's interest and has since been sole proprietor of the business. A shocking calamity occurred two years after

the firm became Wagenius & Olson. The building and contents, in 1886, were destroyed by fire, and the body of Mr. Olson's son was found in the ruins. He slept on the premises, and it is supposed he was killed by robbers and the store ignited to cover up the more serious crime. Mr. Wagenius carries a complete stock of general merchandise and is assisted in his business by his son, Carl, who is also assistant postmaster. Mr. Wagenius is the owner of thirty-nine acres of valuable land, a considerable part of which is within the town limits. He was appointed postmaster of Holmes City in 1886, which position he has continued to fill since with great satisfaction to the general public.

Mr. Wagenius was married June 29, 1881, at Cannon Falls, Goodhue county, Minnesota, to Betsy Hogman, daughter of Imbric and Brita Hogman, farmers of that place. To this marriage five children have been born, namely: Carl, born August 27, 1882; Mary Caroline, born October 3, 1884; Hattie Victoria, born June 2, 1889; Ruth A. B., born March 14, 1897; and Samuel R. E., born August 1, 1899. Mr. Wagenius and family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church, of which our subject is deacon, secretary and Sunday-school superintendent. He has devoted much time and active efforts to the religious work of the denomination and his efforts have been rewarded by a membership of seventy in the Sunday-school. Mr. Wagenius has many friends and is greatly esteemed by all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance. He is an active worker for the welfare of the community in which he makes his home, and in political sentiment is a staunch Republican. He has held the office of township clerk for fifteen years and is secretary of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company.

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#### EDWIN O. STUDLIEN.

Edwin O. Studlien, one of the substantial farmers on the Buffalo river, resides on section 26, Kragnes township, and owns five hundred and forty acres of valuable farming land. He has spent his career in this locality, and with his father, Ole Studlien, who is now retired from active pursuits, became a pioneer of Clay county and aided in the development of the agricultural resources of that region. The family is well known in that part of Minnesota, and their hospitable kindness will always be remembered by the early settlers there.

Edwin O. Studlien is a native of Houston county, Minnesota, and was born March 3, 1865. He is the eldest son of Ole and Bertha (Ensberg)

Studlien, both of whom were born in Norway. When he was a boy of thirteen years of age he accompanied his father and two sisters to the Red River valley in the spring in 1878, and there put forth his best efforts to aid in building up the home farm. This he purchased some twelve years ago, and he is now the owner of the same and has brought the land to a state of high cultivation and placed valuable improvements thereon. He assumed charge of the farm for his father in 1889. He now crops about four hundred and fifty acres annually, and engages in farming in a scientific and careful manner, meeting with success as an agriculturist.

When the family settled in Clay county they were one of a half dozen families who had taken up their residence in Kragnes township. The father, Ole Studlien, a man of clear perception and generous spirit, became a well known figure in that early day, and many new comers, unacquainted with the country, were helped in various ways, and their pioneer experiences made easier to bear.

Edwin O. Studlien was married, in 1889, to Miss Ingeborg Roholt, a native of Norway, who came alone to America at the age of nineteen years. To this union three children have been born, namely: Olaf, Eugene and Alida. Mr. Studlien is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a man of active public spirit and has served as chairman of the township board and justice of the peace. Politically he is a Republican. Portraits of Mr. Studlien and his family appear on another page in this work.

#### FRANK E. CARLSON.

Frank E. Carlson, one of the younger farmers of Kanabec county, whose large and well appointed farm lies in Grass Lake township, has had a somewhat varied and eventful career, and his story of pluck and push is one that should interest every reader.

Mr. Carlson was born in Westeyetland, Sweden, in 1866, and was the third member in a family of six children born to his parents, who were Swedish farming people. When he was only thirteen years of age he sought a home in the United States, landing in New York, and coming direct to Grass Lake township, Kanabec county, Minnesota. For some years he worked at anything he could command in the county, his first being as "cookee" in a lumber camp on the Kattie river in Pine county. For six years he spent the summer in Dakota and in the Red river valley. During the winter he was lumbering in Pine, Kanabec and Aitkins counties. He was also at work at different times in Mille Laes county.

Mr. Carlson bought land in 1893 in section 1, of Grass Lake township, where he spent the summers for a time in bringing his land into shape. Until 1895 he lived with his neighbors. Mr. Carlson was interested in a sawmill at this point, which was twice destroyed by fire. Mr. Carlson now owns a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, well supplied with farm buildings and machinery, and with forty acres under the plow. In 1888 he set up a steam threshing outfit, and for some eight or nine years operated it very extensively through Kanabec and the neighboring counties. He still retains the steam engine.

Mr. Carlson is a Republican and takes an active interest in town and county politics, and he has become one of the leading men in his community, his character, ability and integrity combining to give him standing before the people who know him so well and esteem him so highly.

#### NELS ERICKSON.

Nels Erickson, one of the thrifty and energetic citizens of Eglon township, Clay county, has become prosperous and successful by his industry and economy, and now owns a fine farm in sections 16 and 17, of that township, which is the result of his own earnest labors and frugality.

Nels Erickson was born in Tarpen, Norder Land, Norway, in 1845, and his father, who was a farmer and blacksmith, died soon after landing in America, at Quebec, in 1857. The rest of the family made their way to Green county, Wisconsin, where they located on a farm the same year. There young Nels found his home for the ensuing five years, though he had made his own living from the time of his first coming to that country by working on the farm for the neighbors. He had but little schooling, though his knowledge of the world and of passing affairs is very good, observation and reflection supplying the place of school instruction.

In 1862 he went to Alamakee county, Iowa, where he was engaged in farming until 1870. That year he was married to Miss Mary Smye, a native of Wisconsin, though of Norwegian parentage. To this union were born five children: Edwin, deceased; Louisa, Emma M., Henry E. and Otto M. After his marriage Mr. Erickson bought a farm in Alamakee county, on which he settled and remained four years. At the end of that time he sold out and came west to Clay county, Minnesota, locating on a farm in section 17, of Eglon township, in 1875, having purchased the land the

previous year. He put up a house fourteen by eighteen feet, to which the family came, making the journey overland by team, and being a month on the way. In 1876 Mr. Erickson had twelve acres of wheat, five acres of oats and a few potatoes. Part of this was destroyed by the grasshoppers. He has passed through all the troubles and annoyances and discomforts of pioneering, and now owns two hundred and forty acres of good farm land, with about ninety acres under the plow. He has good farm buildings, and all the machinery needed for his place. He has made a decided success in Minnesota agriculture. Mr. Erickson is a Republican, and has been town clerk for sixteen years. In 1883 he was elected county commissioner, a position he held for seven years.

Mr. Erickson was interested in a mercantile enterprise at Hawley from 1875 to 1877, being a partner with Christian Nelson, and for some five years after 1880 had a threshing outfit.

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#### JOHN A. ROSS.

The appearance of a man's property bears testimony of his character to a large extent. Judging from this standpoint the subject of this review is a gentleman of energetic nature and excellent business ability. He has a pleasant farm in section 11, of Hampden township, and enjoys all the comforts and many of the luxuries of rural life. His residence is one of the finest in the township, and its appointments and furnishings are in accord with the taste and refinement of its occupants. Mr. Ross has chosen his farm on the north branch of Two Rivers, and has a highly cultivated tract, from which he derives a good income.

Mr. Ross was born on Prince Edward's Island, September 15, 1857, and was the third child in a family of ten children born to Angus and Margaret (McGinnis) Ross. His father was a farmer and miller and our subject learned the trade of millwright. While residing at home he learned through a lecture, to which he listened, of the wonderful resources and advantages of the northwest, and he decided to visit Manitoba. In company with Charles Clow he arrived at Emerson, and after a careful view of the situation and prospecting through the country he decided to locate in Minnesota. He filed on land near Humboldt, in St. Vincent township, in May, 1879, and built a twelve-by-twelve-foot shanty, with a roof. The structure cost twenty-two dollars, and in this he made his home for some time. He later located in Clow township, where he resided until 1890, and then purchased the

farm he now owns, and whereon he has placed the most substantial improvements. He cultivates five hundred and twenty acres, and has made a success of general farming.

Mr. Ross was married in 1880 to Miss Ambrosine Eastor. Mr. and Mrs. Ross are the parents of four children, who are named as follows: John, Maggie J., Ella and Annie. Upon the marriage of Mr. Ross he took his bride to his little shanty in St. Vincent township, and their home was there for some time. Mrs. Ross is a lady of true womanly grace and by good sense and good cheer has aided her husband in his struggle for a fortune. They have worked together and now enjoy the fruits of their labors in Kittson county, their home being one of the finest properties in the township of Hampden. Mr. Ross passed through many pioneer experiences and can recount many exciting incidents of early life there. On one occasion, in February, 1880, he was down the south branch of the river with a companion, when a blizzard overtook them and prevented their return home. Their lunch was appropriated by the dogs, and the situation was indeed discouraging, but after some time they reached shelter and were little the worse for their experience. Mr. Ross is a member of the Presbyterian church and is an exemplary citizen. He is a Republican politically.

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#### SOLOMON A. SWANSON.

Solomon A. Swanson, one of the oldest settlers of Red Lake county, Minnesota, of whom a portrait is elsewhere shown in this work, is an influential and prosperous business man of Red Lake Falls, where he is engaged in the real estate, loans, abstract and insurance business.

Mr. Swanson was born in Fort Lee, New Jersey, June 26, 1874, and is the eldest of a family of eight children born to Peter and Ingri (Anderson) Swanson. His parents were natives of Sweden, and are now residents of Black River township, Red Lake county, where they located in 1881. They arrived in Crookston, April 12, of that year, and our subject was then but seven years of age. The snow was three feet deep when the father, guided by his brother, Andrew, chose the farm he now occupies. The family remained with relatives until spring, when a frame building 16x24 feet was erected, and farming was begun with an ox team. Crookston, twenty-five miles distant, was for three years the nearest railroad point.

For sixteen years our subject remained on the farm and was educated in the common schools. He began teaching and later attended the State Normal, at Moorhead, and also took

a course in the Crookston Business College. In 1896, when Red Lake county was organized, he was appointed the first register of deeds, having already become identified with the public interests of the county. In 1899 he was appointed official abstractor by the county board of commissioners, and he then engaged also in the real estate business. During the last campaign he was the choice of the People's party for state representative. A three cornered fight followed, with inevitable result that the Republican candidate was elected, but though defeated for the office, Mr. Swanson proved his strength as a party man and popular citizen. The abstract business which he now owns was formerly conducted under the firm name of Swanson & Grady, Mr. Swanson becoming sole owner in 1900. The business is in a flourishing condition and he has made a success of his work.

Mr. Swanson has always taken an active and commendable interest in local affairs since his seventeenth year and early identified himself with the People's party and is a strong advocate of the reform principles. He wields much influence and is a usual delegate to legislative, state and county conventions, and was a member of the last state and congressional conventions. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and also holds membership in the following fraternal orders: Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of the Maccabees, I. O. R. M. and M. W. A. He is a director of the Merchants State Bank and is one of the substantial business men of Red Lake county.

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#### HENRY JOHNSON.

Henry Johnson, who was born in Norway December 24, 1843, was reared and educated in his native land until he reached the age of thirteen years, when he came to the United States, making his home for two years in Houston county, Minnesota, when he moved into Iowa, finding a home in Hesper township, Winneshiek county, where he learned the blacksmith trade. He mastered his trade and carried on a shop until 1861. The outbreak of the Civil war found him ready to respond at once to the call of his adopted country, and he enlisted at Decorah, Iowa, in the Twelfth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. The regiment went into camp at Dubuque, and as soon as it was organized went to the front. At Fort Donelson it assisted in the capture of the fort and fifteen thousand prisoners, after a brilliant battle of two days. At Shiloh the regiment was captured on the first day's battle, with General Prentiss in command, but Mr. Johnson and a few others escaped. He was made part of the Union Brigade, and after the battle

secured a sick furlough to come home for two months. Returning to his command at the end of that time, he was in time to participate in the battle of Corinth. In 1863 he was attached to Battery K, First Missouri Light Artillery, and here he completed his term of enlistment. In 1864 he re-enlisted as a veteran. On July 4, 1864, he participated in the battle of Helena, Arkansas, subsequently at the capture of Little Rock, Arkansas, and served until the closing scenes of the war. He was mustered out at St. Louis in 1865.

Coming back to Iowa, Mr. Johnson bought a farm and devoted himself to its cultivation. In 1867 he was married to Miss Betsia J. Johnson, who was born in Norway, October 13, 1845. To this union have come ten children, five of whom are dead: Christina D., Theodore, Albert H., Agnald A., and Ella H.

Mr. Johnson came to Highland Grove township, Clay county, Minnesota, taking a homestead on section 18, of Highland Grove township. His homestead comprised one hundred and sixty acres. He sold it in 1897, and bought a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 13, Cromwell township. Here he does modern and progressive farming. He has five horses and eight cows. The place has all needed farm machinery. There is a good farm house, a two-story structure with six large rooms. The barn is thirty-two by forty feet, and has a fine hay loft. He is a member of the G. A. R. and has held the offices of town clerk and assessor and for nine years was a member of the school board. He and his family are members of the Synod Lutheran church. In politics he is a Republican and has been a delegate to the district, county and state conventions.

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#### ALFRED HUTCHISON.

The agricultural interests of Cass county, Minnesota, have been enhanced and promoted by such men as Alfred Hutchison, who enjoys a pleasant home in section 34, of township 134, range 31. This gentleman is an old settler of that locality and by his labors there has become widely known as a well-to-do and worthy citizen. He owns a fine farm of two hundred and eighty acres, and has accumulated his possessions by his ability, integrity and perseverance.

Mr. Hutchison was born in Kentucky, December 26, 1832. His father, Hewey Hutchison, was a native of Scotland, and the mother of our subject, Johanna (Oles) Hutchison, was born in New York. Mr. Hutchison remained in his native state until he was twenty-two



years of age, receiving his education there. He then resided in Indiana five years, engaged there in farming, and then took up his residence in West Virginia, where he followed the same occupation eleven years. He came to Minnesota in 1872, and for the first eight years after removing to this state he was in the employ of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company. He then became a resident of Motley, Minnesota, and in 1880 entered a homestead claim to land in township 134, range 31. Of his farm of two hundred and eighty acres he has about fifty acres under high cultivation and the balance is devoted to meadow, timber and pasture. He has followed diversified farming successfully and now has four head of horses and thirty-seven head of cattle. He has a well watered farm, adapted to stock raising and general farming, and for the conduct of the place he has supplied all necessary machinery. He has built a good residence and barn and other farm buildings, and altogether has a comfortable home and remunerative farm.

Mr. Hutchison was married in 1878 to Rosa Mee, a widow, and the mother of five children by her first marriage. The children are named as follows: Patrick, Maggie, John, Kenn and Bridget Mee. Mrs. Hutchison was born in Ireland, August 20, 1838. Mr. and Mrs. Hutchison are the parents of two children, namely: Robert B. and Mary. The family are members of the Catholic church at Motley. Mr. Hutchison enlisted for the support of the Union August 4, 1864, in Company H, Ninety-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was sent to Virginia, and was in the Eighth Army Corps, under General Crooks. He served eleven months and twenty-eight days, and was mustered out of the service at Cumberland, Maryland. He was engaged in the battle of Cedar Creek, and some minor engagements, and served until the close of the war. He is a member of the G. A. R. at Motley. Politically Mr. Hutchison is a Republican.

#### AARON ECK.

Aaron Eck, chief of police of Crookston, is a popular and efficient city official. He is a gentleman of stability of character, is energetic and intelligent, and has made his way in the world through these characteristics and counts a host of friends in Polk county.

Mr. Eck was born on the farm Hvilstad, Hackvad, Orebro, Sweden, July 1, 1866, and was the youngest of a family of three children born to Olaf and Caroline (Anderson) Eck. The father died when our subject was but six months of age, after a lingering illness, which left the family in destitute circumstances. The

mother survives and makes her home in Crookston. As a boy of tender years our subject began to make his own living working on a farm. In 1883, when he was seventeen years of age he received a ticket from his brother, who had been in America about ten months, and he immediately embarked for the new world. He arrived at Quebec October 28, 1883, and made his way to Ashland, Wisconsin, which was then but a small village. He worked at odd jobs until winter and then in December went to the Wisconsin woods as a lumber jack. He went to Minneapolis in 1884 and in August went to the harvest fields of Dakota, remaining near Fargo until the fall of 1885. He then went to Roseau county in search of land and in the wilderness he and two companions spent three months among the Indians. They paid their expenses by hunting and trapping, but the land did not suit and in the spring of 1886 Mr. Eck went to Crookston. He entered the employ of the Red River Lumber Company, and was in their employ nine years, and became an expert lumber grader and served three years as shipping clerk. He joined the police force of Crookston in 1895, and in January, 1901, was advanced to the office of chief of police of Crookston, a position acquired through his efficient and faithful service.

Mr. Eck was married in 1893 to Miss Mary Nyquist. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Eck, namely: Agnes, Algate, Lizzie, Ellen and Harry L. Mr. Eck is nonpartisan in politics and lends his influence for good government, local and national. He is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

#### WILLIAM CAMPION (DECEASED).

William Campion (deceased) was one of the earliest of the homeseekers of northern Polk county. He turned the first furrow in Angus township, and by persistent industry built up a comfortable home near the village of Angus. The farm lies in Angus township, and is now conducted by Mrs. Campion and her sons.

William Campion was a native of Waukesha county, Wisconsin, and was born July 15, 1843, the son of William and Esther Campion. He was reared in his native county, and from there enlisted for the Civil war in Company A, Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He served over three years, until the close of the war, when he was sent to Mexico, and there served six months. Upon his return from the service, he made his home in St. Croix county, Wisconsin. In November, 1877, he went to Polk county, Minnesota, and purchased a half section of railroad land, and filed on a tree claim of

one hundred and sixty acres, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres. His wife joined him in the spring of 1878, and both being pleased with the new country, made a permanent home there. He built up a farm of eight hundred acres, which he fully improved, and provided a comfortable home for his family.

Mr. Campion was married, in 1869, to Miss Belle Coxe, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Mrs. Campion is a native of the state of Georgia. She is a lady of intelligence, and ably operates the home farm, assisted by her sons. Mr. Campion passed away July 23, 1894. His death was caused by consumption, and he left a host of sorrowing friends, who will all appreciate the portrait of him to be found on another page. He won the respect of the community, and was prominent in local matters, being a man of marked energy, and manifesting deep interest in all affairs and enterprises tending to develop the region which he had chosen for his home. He was a staunch Republican in political faith. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, past master's degree, and was also a member of the G. A. R. post of Crookston.

Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Campion, namely: Manton A., deceased; Elsie I., deceased; Alfred T. and Jesse W. Alfred T. is in charge of the home farm. He is twenty-seven years of age, and is prominent in the Masonic order, being a York and Scottish Rite Mason and Shriner. The youngest son, Jesse W., also makes his home with his mother.

#### LARS ENGESETH.

Lars Engesether, who was born on a farm in Rice county, Minnesota, is well entitled to a prominent place among the successful farmers of Clay county. His industrious habits, economical disposition and general thrift are known in the community in which he lives, and have made for him many sincere and lasting friendships.

Lars Engesether drew his first vital breath in 1864, on the farm of his father, Sever Engesether, who was born in Saagen, Norway, where he was reared and married. He came to the United States before the Civil war. Here his first wife died and he was married a second time, Lars being a child of his father's last marriage. On the Rice county farm there was a numerous family of children, and they had to work at an early age. Their education was secured in the district school, and all were reared as honorable and upright citizens.

Mr. Engesether remained at home until he reached his twenty-first birthday, when he was put in charge of his father's farm, who died in

1887. After cultivating and managing this farm for some half dozen years he came to the Red river valley in 1892, where for several years he was employed in threshing and other farming operations in both Dakota and Minnesota. It was in 1895 that he established himself on his present farm in section 33, Morken township, and the following year he broke one hundred acres. In 1898 the present buildings were erected. He now has a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, with all but twenty acres under cultivation. He has five horses and a good beginning of a herd of cattle. It may justly be said that he has made a success in his farming in Minnesota. In politics he is a Republican, and has filled the position of road overseer.

#### ERWIN D. DAVENPORT.

Erwin D. Davenport, the first agriculturist to turn a furrow in Western township, and the first to thresh grain in that township, is now proprietor of one of the finest farms of Otter-tail county. He has become well known to all throughout that region as an energetic and well versed farmer, and his success and good name are well merited.

Mr. Davenport was born in Lewis county, New York, September 24, 1850, and was a son of William and Louisa (Cheney) Davenport, both of whom were natives of New York. He was reared on a farm in his native county and attended the common schools there. He followed farming and also learned the cheese maker's trade, at which he worked for two and a half years, until he went to Minnesota in 1871. In that year he located in Western township and took a homestead claim in section 22. He built a frame house and a sod barn and broke his land with the use of oxen. He is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land, of which one hundred and twenty acres is under cultivation, and the rest is pasture and meadow land. He has erected a complete set of good farm buildings on his place, including a good house, two barns, one twenty-four by sixty feet and one forty-two by forty-four feet, machine sheds and other farm buildings. He has a supply of farm machinery for economical conduct of the farm and keeps five horses, fifteen head of cattle and about one hundred and twenty sheep. A fine grove and some fruit trees add to the value and beauty of the place, and good water is found in abundance. Altogether the farm is one of the best in the locality and is the direct result of many years of earnest labor expended thereon, and a careful management of affairs.

Mr. Davenport was married in 1886 to Mar-

garet Avere. Mrs. Davenport was born in Canada, December 15, 1859. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Davenport, namely: Alice, William, Lucy, Avere and Eleanor. The family are members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Davenport is a member of the Court of Honor lodge. He is a man of active public spirit and has served as treasurer of Western township for a number of years. He is an efficient and popular officer and enjoys the confidence of the entire community. In political sentiment Mr. Davenport is a Republican, and wields much influence for the principles of his party.

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#### OLE D. OLESON.

Five hundred acres in Becker county is owned and operated by the gentleman above named, and there he has a home of more than usual comforts. He was one of the first settlers in Cuba township, and is a man of energetic spirit and honest principles. He has gained a handsome estate and the confidence of his fellow men, and provided a competence for his declining years. He is a son of the Scandinavian peninsula, and like his nationality possesses a capacity for well-directed labor and a character above reproach. He has become a thorough American citizen, and by his active public spirit has gained high station in his community. His residence is on section 8 of Cuba township.

Our subject was born in Hasi Hallingdal, Norway, December 4, 1849, and was a son of Ole and Margaret (Oleson) Jerganson, both of whom were natives of Norway.

He was reared in his native land and there received a good education and at the age of twenty-three years decided to make his home in America. He went direct to Becker county, Minnesota, upon his arrival in this country, and at once entered a homestead claim to land in section 8 of Cuba township. Upon this tract he built a log house and a log barn and at once began the development of his farm. He used the log house for some years until circumstances justified erecting a more pretentious dwelling and during the pioneer days in his humble home he endured many hardships, but withal learned to look with pride upon that first dwelling as a home around which cling many pleasant memories. He used oxen for the first ten years of his life there and his market was at Detroit. He has added to his possessions and is now the owner of five hundred acres of valuable land, about half of which is under high cultivation, the rest of the farm being devoted to pasture, hay land, and timber.

His residence is modern and convenient, and the barn is a commodious structure and has a large hay loft. He keeps fourteen horses, thirty head of cattle, six hogs, and has a good supply of farm machinery, windmill, and such other improvements and conveniences as are found on a model farm. The residence is surrounded by a grove and is a quiet and pleasant retreat. This farm is one of the finest in the township, and to his own efforts alone is Mr. Oleson's success due.

Our subject was married in 1872 to Rachel Engabretson, who was born in Norway, October 26, 1848. Mr. and Mrs. Oleson are the parents of seven children, who are named in order of birth as follows: Olivas, Adolph, Mary, Carl, John, Minnie and Julia. Mr. Oleson is popular in local public affairs, and was the first treasurer of the school district and has held the office continuously since that time. He has also served as township supervisor of Cuba township and otherwise worked for the interests of his locality. He enjoys the confidence of all who know him, and politically he is identified with the Republican party and is an earnest worker for party principles. He and family are members of the Lutheran church at Lake Park, and have a host of friends in the community in which they have spent so many years.

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#### HENRY BLACKWELL.

Henry Blackwell, one of the well-to-do farmers of Douglas county, Minnesota, who resides on his farm on section 25, of Holmes City township, has been a land owner in Douglas county, Minnesota, since 1862. He has gained a good property there and an enviable reputation as a farmer and citizen. His portrait may be found on another page in this work.

Mr. Blackwell was born in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England, August 25, 1839. His parents, George and Mary (Barrowdale) Blackwell, were natives also of England. The father came to America in 1851, bringing our subject with him. He landed at New York, and in the state of New York, Henry found employment and remained three years. The father went to Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, and joined his two sons, John and George, who had emigrated to Canada in 1850. The mother remained in the old country, and intended following her husband and children to the new world later, but the Indian war scare and other circumstances arose which prevented her doing so, and a year or two later she died and was laid to rest in England. The father had followed gardening in his native land and was ambitious to better his condition and that of his family, and came to the conclusion

that he could more readily accomplish this in America. Our subject joined his father and brothers in Canada, in 1854, and together they went north into the unbroken forest called the "Queensbush," and jointly took up four hundred and fifty acres of hard wood timber land. This they sold some years later to good advantage, and then sought Minnesota as a cure for the "prairie fever". After reaching Meeker county, that state, the sons, John and George, each secured a homestead, and the father and our subject went to Douglas county. In 1862 Henry Blackwell took a claim of one hundred and sixty acres on what is now section 3, of Holmes City township, five years before the township was surveyed. This land he afterward sold and then bought the northeast quarter of section 25, in the same township, which is his present home farm. The father made his home with our subject during his life in Douglas county, and died in 1877. Mr. Blackwell's first home was a log house 18x24 feet, and this was the residence of the family for twenty-three years. Modern improvements were made upon it in 1887 and a comfortable farm house was the result, and a cellar and other improvements are at present under way. The house is surrounded by shade trees and is pleasantly situated near Pocket lake. The farm is well conducted and the usual system of diversified farming, stock, grain, etc., is followed.

Henry Blackwell was married, in 1860, to Amanda Van Loon, daughter of Minor and Charity (Davenport) Van Loon. The Van Loon and Blackwell families were near neighbors in the early settlement of Douglas county. They came to the county together and had no other neighbors nearer than Alexandria, then a stockade eighteen miles distant. The Indians were numerous and far from peaceable, and the two families during the first few years were ever on the alert. Their homes were arranged for defence against the red men, and a rifle was a constant companion wherever duty called them. While not injured personally, Mr. Blackwell suffered considerable from their depredations, and he has at the present time a claim of one hundred and thirty-eight dollars against the government, which is being prosecuted, for robberies committed by the Indians over thirty-five years ago. To Mr. and Mrs. Blackwell six children have been born, three of whom are now living. They are as follows: William; Stephen; Emma, wife of John Anderson, a farmer, residing near our subject; Nettie, who died on Christmas day in 1900; Francis and John, both of whom died in infancy. The eldest son, William, married Miss Minnie Lorman, and five children bless their home. He is proprietor of a farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 11, of

Holmes City township, and also rents his father's farm at present.

Henry Blackwell has at various times acted officially in his township, including supervisor. For a number of years he was county surveyor, holding the office during the 'sixties, prior to the installation of John Abercrombie, the present incumbent. In politics Mr. Blackwell is an adherent to Republican principles.

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### JOHN P. STRANDELL.

John P. Strandell, a farmer of much prominence, is a citizen of Kittson county and is the owner of a valuable estate located in section 18, of Svea township, consisting of two hundred and forty acres of land. Mr. Strandell has proved himself a worthy citizen and a valued member of the community, and like so many of his fellow citizens from the lands beyond the sea, has built up from small beginnings a fortune of no mean proportions, and has established him a home in the new world, which may well serve as a model for the new generation to pattern after.

Mr. Strandell was born in Sweden, and the date of his birth is March 3, 1850. He was the second child and eldest son born to John P. and Annie M. (Johnson) Strandell. He received his education in his native land, and when he was about twenty-eight years of age determined to come to America. He brought with him his mother and sisters, and arrived in Pope county, Minnesota, in 1878. Two years later, in the spring of 1880, he came to Kittson county, and took up the land upon which he now resides. His means were limited, and he was compelled to put up with many inconveniences and endure many of the hardships incident to pioneer life in northern climates. He erected a small log house, about twelve by twelve feet. This was his home for four years. He had an ox-team and but \$17.50 in money, but with his characteristic energy he set to work to develop his lands and to make a living in the meantime. In his home in the wilderness he learned the lessons of economy and perseverance, endurance and success, which has so impressed itself upon the civilization of the great northwest, and out of which have come the prosperity and sterling citizenship which have made that region famous the world over. Notwithstanding their foreign birth, no people in the United States have shown a greater degree of patriotism nor a more profound sense of the duties of citizenship in a free republic than have the native born of the great Scandinavian peninsula. Among the most

deserving of these it is fitting to mention the subject of this review.

Mr. Strandell was married in 1887 to Miss Sophia Person, a lady of high worth and many womanly virtues. Mrs. Strandell is a native of Sweden, and like her husband, is thoroughly satisfied with her adopted land. To Mr. and Mrs. Strandell eight children have been born, named as follows: Hulda, Mary, John P., Selma, Axel, Ella, Henry and Emel. The family worships with the congregation of the Swedish Mission church. Mr. Strandell is a Republican in political sentiment, and has always taken a commendable interest in public matters. He is held in high esteem throughout the community and county.

#### ANDREW H. DAHL.

Andrew H. Dahl was born on a farm in Lower Telemarken, Norway, in 1862, and is a son of a farmer and laborer in that country. His parents removed to the United States in 1870 and settled at Waukon, Iowa, where the family lived four years on a farm. After that they all came into Clay county, Minnesota. As might be imagined from these changes and constant movement to the frontier, young Andrew had but a very limited opportunity for instruction in the schools, as he not only had to work hard, but schools were few and poor in his boyhood and youth. He has, however, gained a good practical knowledge of the world and of men by close observation and reflection.

In the earlier days in Clay county trapping was the principal occupation of the family, as there were practically no crops for the first three years of their stay in Clay county. Young Andrew remained at home until 1888, when he took a position as a clerk in a store in Hawley, where he remained four years. In 1892 he started in the lumber business in that city, in partnership with William Ritterman, soon developing a large and profitable business, of which he disposed the following year to engage in a hotel business. In this he was engaged one year, and in 1894 began farming. In 1895 he moved to his present farm in section 8, Eglow township. This was then raw prairie, but under his industrious cultivation it has become a fine and productive place. He has provided himself with a good home, and has built all the farm buildings the place requires. His stock is promising and is increasing. He is a general grain farmer, and in 1895 had thirty bushels of wheat to the acre. He owns a place of two hundred and forty acres, and has something over ninety acres under cultivation.

In politics he is a Republican, and has been assessor of the township one term, town treasurer five terms and constable in both Hawley and Eglow townships. From 1886 to 1890 he served as deputy sheriff of Clay county, and has been appraiser of school lands and was census enumerator.

Andrew H. Dahl was married in 1891 to Miss Gena Simonson, a native of Norway, and an emigrant to the United States in 1869 with her parents. To this union have come four children: Edwin, August, Adora and Anton.

#### JOHN A. ENGLUND.

John A. Englund is the present treasurer of Kittson county. Undaunted courage and persistent industry have placed this gentleman in comfortable circumstances in Kittson county, Minnesota. He is proprietor of one of the fine farms of Tegner township, and owns three hundred and fifty acres of land. His home in section 12 is one of good design and finish, and is comfortable in every particular. Mr. Englund has won his way unaided to success and is entitled to just credit for his labors in behalf of his adopted land. His portrait adorns one of the pages of this volume.

Mr. Englund is a native of Olmstad, Jankopings Lau, Sweden, and was born September 10, 1855. He was the eldest in a family of four children born to Gustaf and Johanna (Hokansdatter) Englund, and he and his brother, Oscar, are the only ones of the family in America. His parents were people of limited means, and at the age of twelve years our subject was apprenticed to learn the tailor's trade, and worked at the same four years. This trade was distasteful to the boy of venturesome disposition and spirit, and he decided to seek other means of support and visit other climes, and he accordingly emigrated to America, arriving at Boston, June 4, 1872. He had then but a few pennies in his pocket and he was in debt for his passage to America, but he went direct to Goodhue county, Minnesota, and there obtained work on a farm, and remained there about seven years. During his stay there he attended school three winters and gained a start in English studies. He next worked in Douglas county, and there further pursued his studies and perfected himself in the English language, and also learned engineering. He went to Kennedy, Kittson county, April 18, 1883, and at once filed claim to the land on which he now resides. He erected a small shanty and began making other improvements on the place. He purchased a second quarter-section of land in 1888, and he is now the owner of three hundred and fifty acres of

good land. He has been fortunate in his labors there and now has a thoroughly improved farm, which furnishes a good yearly competence. The buildings on the place include a comfortable and substantial residence, good barn and such out-buildings as are necessary to conduct a model farm.

Mr. Englund was married, in 1886, to Miss Jennie Gustafson. Two children have been born to bless this union, who are named as follows: Esther and Edwin. Mr. Englund is one of the self-made men of Kittson county, and he is accorded a place among the intelligent and enterprising citizens of Tegner township. Since taking up his residence there he has taken a most hearty interest in affairs of a public nature and has been called upon to serve in various local offices. He was elected county assessor in 1884, and served in that capacity three years, and succeeded this office by that of township clerk, which position he now fills. He is prominently identified with the Republican party in political matters, and has served as a delegate to various conventions of the party. He is a member of Emans Swedish Lutheran church, and is a gentleman of excellent character and deservedly high standing. In November, 1900, he was elected to the office of treasurer of Kittson county, on the Republican ticket, by a majority of one hundred and forty-four, and began his official duties January 9, 1901.

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#### JOHN FORD.

John Ford, a sturdy and substantial Englishman, whose sound and wholesome life, industrious habits, and frank and uncompromising honesty attest the best traits of his race and blood, was born in England, June 26, 1847, and is a son of William and Jane (Smart) Ford, both of whom were born in England.

John Ford was reared and educated in England, where he learned the wagonmaker's trade, which was his occupation until his removal to the New World. In 1873 Mr. Ford came to Clay county, Minnesota, and secured a homestead in section 26, Cromwell township. Here he has developed a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, with about one hundred and fifty under the plow, the balance being devoted to pasture and meadow. The farm is in a high state of improvement and there is a good grove around a fine house and a large and roomy barn. The place has been equipped with a good outfit of farm machinery, and Mr. Ford has eight horses. He keeps twenty-three head of cattle and some sheep and hogs.

Mr. Ford was married in 1867 to Miss Mariana Parsons, who was born June 14, 1843, in

England. Mr. Ford is a Republican, and has been treasurer of the township for seven years. For several years he has been assessor and supervisor. In the school district he has served as director and treasurer. During his past years he has passed through many trials, faced privations, endured many burdens, and may well congratulate himself upon the very substantial success which has crowned his labors in this land of opportunity.

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#### FRED GRUNIG.

Fred Grunig, a prosperous business man of Cloquet, has attained his financial success and good name as a citizen by his earnest work and integrity. He was a pioneer of that town and despite many drawbacks has pushed to the front and now enjoys a good trade in the meat business.

Mr. Grunig was born in Switzerland in 1862. His father, Christ Grunig, was a butcher and farmer and lived and died in Germany. Our subject was the third in a family of twelve children and was reared on a farm, and during his boyhood worked on the home farm and attended the common schools of his neighborhood. He served an apprenticeship of three years in the butcher's trade in Switzerland, and since he was sixteen years of age has earned his own way. In 1881 he came to America, landing at New York City. He had no money and went to Rochester, where he obtained work in a brick yard and remained thus engaged until the fall of that year, when he went to St. Paul. He there found work in a butcher shop and worked in St. Paul one year. Then went to Dakota and worked at Grand Forks two years and at Fargo some seven or eight months, and later was employed at Superior, Wisconsin. About 1884 he went to Cloquet and took charge of the butcher shop for the C. N. Nelson Lumber Company, and continued with this firm two years. This was the only store of the kind in the town and in 1886 Mr. Grunig started a small butcher shop for himself on the island at Cloquet. He lost most of his effects by fire in 1887 and he afterward built his present market on Avenue C. This is a well fitted shop twenty by forty feet, and there he has succeeded in obtaining a good share of the patronage of the town in the meat trade.

Mr. Grunig was married in 1888 to Miss Lizzie Court. Mrs. Grunig was born in Wisconsin, and her father was a native of Switzerland. She was reared on a Wisconsin farm. Mr. and Mrs. Grunig are the parents of two children, who bear the names of Alfred and



Walter. Mr. Grunig is a man of good citizenship and lends his influence for good government. He has done his full share in the up-building of the town of Cloquet and is one of the respected citizens. In political sentiment he is a Republican, but he does not take an active part in political affairs and does not seek public preferment or office.

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#### ROBERT ANDERSON.

Robert Anderson, numbered among the oldest settlers of Grand Forks township, has gained a position of affluence and esteemed citizenship through his commendable labors there. He is the owner of extensive farm lands in Polk county and manages the cultivation of his home farm.

Mr. Anderson was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, January 28, 1847. He was the youngest of six children born to John and Margaret (McHardy) Anderson. The family crossed the ocean in 1854 and settled on a farm in the woods of Gray county, Ontario, Canada. There our subject grew to manhood, and although he is ten years younger than any of the other children, he is the only one of the family who came to the United States. In 1871 he went to the Michigan woods and worked until April, 1874. April 8 of that year he was married, and June 14, 1874, he and his bride stepped from the stage at Grand Forks, North Dakota, having thus made the trip overland from Fargo. Our subject had about five hundred dollars, and he secured a position with the Hudson's Bay Company for the first year. During this time he took a homestead on section 22 of Grand Forks township, where he now makes his home. In the spring of 1875 he purchased a yoke of oxen and two cows, and after erecting a frame building, 16x24 feet, became duly established as a farmer. From the first he gave much attention to dairying and has a wide reputation as a dairyman. He is now the owner of eight hundred and forty acres of land, and of this he cultivates about two hundred and eighty acres, leasing the balance to others. He possesses one of the choice farms of Polk county and has every comfort and many of the luxuries of life in his quiet country home.

Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Mary Patterson April 8, 1874. The wife shared the hardships of his pioneer home and assisted by her cheerful ways and good counsel in the development of their home farm until 1898, when she was called to the land beyond. Four children were born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, namely: Charles Herbert, a graduate of the North Dakota University, now in the employ of the Great Northern Railroad Company; Margaret J., now Mrs. M. M. Fraser, of

Nelson, British Columbia; Aaron L. and John, who have charge of the home farm.

Mr. Anderson assisted in the organization of his township three times. First it was Huntsville township and Mr. Anderson served as the first clerk; later, upon it being organized as East Grand Forks township, he continued in this office. He was again elected to the office at its final organization as Grand Forks township. He took an important part in organizing the second school district of Polk county, and was at that time, in 1876, elected school treasurer and has held the office for twenty-five years.

He is a Presbyterian in religious views, and was a charter member of both the West and East Grand Forks churches of this denomination.

In the early days he worked most earnestly as a Republican politically. In 1888 he supported the People's party, and took a prominent place in the affairs of this party in county and state. In 1898, finding his views in accord with the Republican foreign policy and money affairs, he again became identified with this party. In all public matters he is wide awake and keeps interested, and exerts a wide influence in his community.

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#### CHARLES OAKMAN.

Charles Oakman, one of the prominent pioneers of St. Louis county, Minnesota, is located at Mountain Iron, where he is engaged in the restaurant and liquor business. He was born on the farm in Sweden in 1867.

The parents of our subject were natives of Sweden, and the father was a farmer throughout his career. The family came to America in 1876 and settled in Becker county, Minnesota, on a farm. He drove overland in a covered wagon from St. Paul, with thirty others, and settled in the woods, where he opened up a farm. Our subject was reared on the frontier, and had plenty of hard farm work. He was raised in a log house and attended the first school in a log school-house for a short time when he was fourteen years of age. After reaching his majority he started for himself, and went to Brainerd, Minnesota. He worked in the pineries of northern Minnesota for three years and drove logs on the Mississippi river from the head of Blueberry and Crow Wing rivers to Anoka, and worked at all lines of lumbering. He went to Duluth about 1891, and later engaged in the liquor business in several of the range towns, including Ely, Tower and Virginia. He located in Mountain Iron April 20, 1900, and has successfully engaged in the restaurant and liquor business in that town. He has been all over the range country with exploring expeditions, and carried a

pack on his back through Virginia and Hibbing before the railroad traversed that region.

Since taking up his residence in Mountain Iron Mr. Oakman has become deeply interested in local affairs, and is the present assessor in that village. He keeps abreast of the times, and in political sentiment is a Republican.

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#### FAYETTE MOFFATT.

Fayette Moffatt, proprietor of the Northwestern Hotel, at Ada, Minnesota, is one of the early settlers of Norman county, and is widely and favorably known. He is an ex-soldier of the Civil war, and devoted a year or more of his life to a loyal and active service for his country.

Mr. Moffatt was born on a farm in the state of New York June 27, 1843, and was the eldest of a family of four children born to H. and Hannah (Avery) Moffatt. His father was a laborer and was of Scotch descent some generations back, of which nationality his mother was also a descendant.

Our subject was reared on the home farm and received a common-school education, and at the age of eighteen years enlisted in the United States Volunteer Army and became a member of Company I, Tenth New York Heavy Artillery. He was sent to Washington and was in the fort there until 1864, when he joined Grant as a member of the infantry and was at Cold Harbor and with him until the close of the war. He returned to his home state in 1865 and remained employed at farm labor there one season, and in March, 1866, went to Minneapolis, Minnesota. He remained there four years, and in 1870 began farming on a homestead in Swift county, Minnesota, located near Benson. He experienced pioneer life there, and developed a fine farm, but devoted considerable time to employment in an elevator at Benson under A. C. Clausen, who later became chief grain inspector of Minnesota. Our subject was placed in charge of the elevator at Carlisle in 1881 for Pillsbury & Hulbert Elevator Company, and after one year there removed to Osakis, Minnesota, where he remained three years with the same company. He went to Hendrum, Norman county, in 1884, and spent five years there for the Pillsbury & Hulbert Company, after which he entered into partnership with Charles Canning in the buying of grain. They continued together three and a half years, and our subject then assumed charge of the Farmers' elevator at Hendrum and operated the same three and a half years. He went to Ada, Norman county, in January, 1896, and purchased the Northwestern Hotel, in which business he has since engaged with success. While a resident of Hendrum, in addition to the grain business, he also

operated a hotel known as the Moffatt House, and it still bears that name. Mr. Moffatt is an expert in judging grains, devoting twenty-one years of his life to the business.

Our subject was married in Minnesota in 1868 to Miss Lizzie Faulk. Mrs. Moffatt was born in Sweden in 1844 and came to America in 1862. She was employed in the North Star woolen mills in Minneapolis several years before her marriage. Three sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Moffatt, all of whom are natives of Benson, Minnesota, and are named as follows: Victor, Walter and Rollin. Mr. Moffatt is actively interested in the affairs of his community and keeps pace with the times, but is an independent voter politically. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and its auxiliary lodge, Eastern Star. He is a man of good principles and earnest endeavors, and well merits his success and high standing.

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#### FERDINAND PERGANDE.

Among the self-made men of Ottertail county who have met with success in the pursuit of agriculture, a prominent place is accorded Ferdinand Pergande, who has a pleasant home in Carlisle township.

Mr. Pergande was born in Germany June 7, 1855, and was a son of William and Fredericka Pergande, both of whom were born in Germany. At the age of sixteen years he came to America, landing in Wisconsin August 1, 1871. He resided in Cedarburgh for some years, and then removed to Steel county, Minnesota, and resided near Owatonna. After two years residence there he removed to Ottertail county, Minnesota, in 1880, and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 27 of Carlisle township. The country was then new and he used ox-teams for farm purposes and lived in a small board shanty, 12x16 feet, for some eight or ten years. He had little with which to begin improvements on his place, and was dependent upon his labor for the cultivation of his land and the support of his family. He has remained to gain an excellent property, and has good improvements on his place, including a comfortable residence and substantial barn, with stone basement. This structure is 40x60 feet and has a storage room for twenty-five tons of hay. Mr. Pergande keeps seven horses, and about twenty head of cattle, and he has equipped his farm with all necessary machinery and conducts the place on an economical and profitable basis. He has one hundred and twenty acres of land under cultivation and the balance of his farm is pasture and meadow. Around his dwelling he has a fine grove, and this adds to the beauty and comfort of his home, as well as to the general appearance of the farm.

He has been industrious and attentive to the details of his farm work, and has met with deserved success.

Mr. Pergande was married, in 1881, to Fredricka Kipbush. Mrs. Pergande was born in Germany, January 9, 1860. Twelve children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Pergande, namely: Henry W. C., Fritz A., Carl E., Herman H., Mary M., Ferdinand F., Freida W. J., Hulda A. E., Johnnie H., Ella C. A., William A. and Emma. Mr. Pergande and family are worshippers in the German Lutheran Evangelical church, and are held in the highest esteem in the community in which they reside. Mr. Pergande is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees lodge, and in political faith he is a Republican. He is one of the old settlers of Carlisle township, and has a wide circle of acquaintances and friends.

#### SOLOMON P. ANDERSON.

Solomon P. Anderson, one of the younger farmers of Clay county, Minnesota, whose push, brains and industry, combined with an intelligent and active interest in public affairs and more than common thoughtfulness and general information, have put him in the number of leading citizens of Tansem township, where his handsome and well-kept farm is found in section 17, was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, on a farm in 1870. Brede Anderson, his father, was born in Norway, and came to the United States in 1870, settling in Iowa, but becoming one of the very early settlers of Clay county. Solomon P. Anderson is the fourth member of a family of ten children born to his parents, and when he was but a year and a half old his parents removed to Clay county, making the journey from their Iowa home in wagons drawn by oxen, and being nearly five weeks on the way. In May, 1871, the family arrived in Clay county and at once made a home in section 8, Tansem township, where the father took a homestead and at once put up a shanty, 12x14 feet, built mainly of logs. This was the family home for many years. For the first ten or twelve years all their farm work was done by oxen, and as their nearest market town for a long time was to be found at Alexandria, the journey to and fro required several days. For a few years the family fortunes were hard, and the crops were lost several years. Courage was not lost, and presently the Andersons attained considerable comfort and prosperity.

Solomon P. Anderson remained with his parents until 1899, having, however, bought his present farm in section 17 of Tansem township in 1892, which he has greatly improved and brought into fine condition.

Solomon P. Anderson and Miss Mary Erickson were married in 1899. She was born in Clay

county, and her father, Erick Hanson, is one of the earliest settlers in Tansem township. To this marriage was born one child, Emmaline B.

Mr. Anderson has put up a house, barn, granary and other structures and owns a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, half of which is under cultivation and the rest in pasture and meadow. He is a good farmer and is bound to succeed.

Mr. Anderson is a Socialist, and has been justice of the peace three years, and for two years was assessor of the town, having filled other positions as well. He has taken an active part in local affairs and has attended many county conventions of the Populist party.

#### RALPH W. SMITH.

Good management and close observation, supplemented by industry, make a success of every honest calling. This is true of farming in a larger degree, perhaps, than in any other vocation, and the man who applies himself intelligently to his work reaps a fitting reward. The pleasant homes of Becker county evidence the work of the farmers of that locality, and Cuba township boasts a good proportion of the number. Ralph W. Smith is owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 25, and by his close application and wide knowledge of farm operations he has become one of the substantial men of his locality. He has spent his career in agricultural pursuits, and at various times has controlled extensive farm lands and managed the same with pronounced success. He is a worthy citizen and is accorded a high station by his associates.

Our subject was born in Erie county, Ohio, March 15, 1853. His father, Jacob Smith, was a native of Pennsylvania, and was born October 13, 1806, and died February 2, 1860. The mother of our subject, Harriett (Berdue) Smith, was born in Erie county, Ohio, October 23, 1826. She still survives and is a member of the United Brethren church of Berlin Heights, Ohio.

Ralph W. Smith spent his boyhood and early manhood in Ohio, and at the age of twenty-five years went to Becker county, Minnesota. Upon his arrival there he entered a homestead claim to one hundred and sixty acres of land, whereon he resided until 1898, when he disposed of the property. For sixteen years he was foreman of the Hawley farm, a tract of two thousand acres, and while thus engaged gave entire satisfaction and discharged his duties faithfully and well. He recently purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 25, in Cuba township, and there has a comfortable and pleasant home. A neat residence, good barn and other buildings usual to a modern farm are found as features of the place, and a windmill draws good water

from a depth of over two hundred feet. Mr. Smith engages in diversified farming, and keeps twelve horses, about twenty-three head of cattle, and some other stock, and he has a good supply of small fruits on the place.

Our subject was married, in 1888, to Nellie Anne, who was born in Norway, January 26, 1868. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith, who are named as follows: Ellen B., Waldo A. and Harriett M. Our subject takes a hearty interest in local affairs wherever he makes his home, and he has been called upon to serve in various local offices of trust. He served as supervisor of Cuba township one year. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and is an officer of the lodge at Lake Park. He and family are members of the Congregational church. Politically Mr. Smith is a Republican and stands firmly for the principles of his party. He has spent an honest and industrious life and well merits his financial and social standing. A portrait of Mr. Smith will be found elsewhere in this volume.

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#### TORGE THOMPSON.

Torge Thompson, who is successfully engaged in farming in Douglas county, Minnesota, has his home on section 4 of Solem township. He also owns other lands on sections 33 and 34 in Urness township, his possessions aggregating two hundred acres of valuable farm land.

Mr. Thompson was born in Norway, April 4, 1851, and came to America with his parents, Thore and Margaret Osmundson, in 1861. The father settled in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where they worked at various occupations, and then settled in Belle Creek township, where he bought a farm of eighty acres, which he sold two years later, and in 1866 the family removed to Douglas county, where the father homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres on section 4 of Solem township. They at once built a log house, in which the family lived for eight years. A better house was then built, which in turn was replaced by the present modern structure recently erected by our subject. Our subject was one of seven children, namely: Osmund; Sarah; Tilda, wife of Ole Swanson; Torge; Malina, wife of Hubbard Schwalen, a resident of Wisconsin; Julia, widow of Ingval Olson; and Aleck, a resident of Kensington, who is married to Carrie Olson. Some years before the death of the parents the homestead farm was deeded to Torge Thompson on condition that the parents make their home with him during the rest of their lives. This condition was faithfully carried out and the father and mother received every care and attention until they passed away.

Mr. Thompson's farm is well cultivated, and wheat is the staple crop, although barley, flax and corn are also raised and yield well. Twenty-seven head of cattle and six horses are among the live stock of the farm. The residence, large barn and other farm buildings stand on high ground amidst groves of young trees planted by Mr. Thompson and the buildings overlook the beautiful Red Rock lake and altogether have a commanding appearance. The house is one of the best in that part of the county and was erected in 1889.

Mr. Thompson was married January 2, 1876, to Hilma Swanson, daughter of Nels Swanson, a leading farmer of Solem township. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are the parents of eleven children, named as follows: Mary, Hannah, Tilda, Selma, Amanda, Henry, Carl, Leonard, Ella, Edwin and Arnold. Mr. Thompson is a gentleman of good mind and keeps abreast of the times, and has served his township in several official positions. He is now supervisor, an office which he has faithfully filled for thirteen consecutive years. He and family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. In political sentiment Mr. Thompson is a Republican, and stands firmly for his convictions.

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#### ELDREDGE LABINE.

The handsome residence occupied by Eldredge Labine testifies to his success as an agriculturist. He is proprietor of one of the highly developed tracts of Marshall county, and his home is one of the finest in the county and ranks as the first of Tamarac township. It is located in section 32 and is a modern structure, handsomely designed and finished and is two stories and brick-basement, is furnished with steam heating apparatus, and every appointment of the home is in good taste and furnished with a view to the convenience and comfort of the inhabitants. The farm owned by Mr. Labine covers five hundred and sixty acres and is a valuable estate, which he has gained wholly by his own efforts, and he is deservedly one of the esteemed citizens of that locality.

Mr. Labine was born in the Province of Quebec, Canada, December 20, 1856, and was the third child of Modest and Ozine (Damarias) Labine. When about thirteen years of age he moved to Michigan and resided there until the spring of 1879, when he came with his parents to Marshall county. The father entered claim to land in Bloomer township, and our subject also entered a homestead claim in Tamarac township on section 32. The family had but one yoke of oxen for the farm work, and, as they had no means with which to proceed with their farm

improvements, their labors amounted to little for the first few years. Our subject had nothing except his hands with which to toil and a determination which upheld him in his work, and for the first two winters he had to work in the woods in Manitoba to gain a livelihood. He aided his father and the farm work fell largely upon himself and his young brothers. He had resided in Minnesota some four years before he began farming his own land advantageously, and until 1893 he lived in his pioneer log house, which was only 10x12 feet in size. His present fine residence was erected in 1900. He has also built a large and substantial barn and other buildings for the easy operation and care of his farm stock and products. He has met with unbounded success in his calling, and is one of the substantial men of his township.

Mr. Labine was married, in 1882, to Miss Emelie Beaudry, a native also of Canada. One adopted child completes the family, namely Delvina Geroux, who has made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Labine since she was two and a half years of age. Mr. Labine is a member of the Catholic church and politically is a Democrat.

#### WILLIAM RITTEMAN.

To the man of ability, resolution and industry success is certain. The gentleman above named is one of the prosperous business men of Hawley, Minnesota, and is known throughout Clay county as a gentleman of practical nature, and one of the self-made men of his locality. He is senior member of the Ritteman and Johnson Elevator Company, and has a one-third interest in an extensive general merchandise business, and is also the owner of a valuable farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Cromwell township, and other property in the city.

Mr. Ritteman was born in Iowa March 28, 1864. His father died while he was an infant, and the mother passed away when he was but eight years of age, thus leaving him an orphan among strangers at a tender age. He succeeded in gaining a common-school education, and at the age of seventeen years located in Clay county, Minnesota. He worked on a farm five years and then spent one year in North Dakota, and then returned to Hawley and engaged again as a farm laborer for three years. In 1894 he started a lumber yard in Hawley and conducted the business one year, and since 1895 has been engaged in wheat buying for himself, forming the firm of Ritteman & Johnson Elevator Company. He has gained steadily in his business, and has accumulated valuable property. He has a comfortable residence and three lots in Hawley, and also owns a brick business block on the main street of the village. He is one of the leading business

men of Hawley, and enjoys well merited success in his financial affairs and the confidence and esteem of his associates.

Mr. Ritteman was married, in 1886, to Delia Whaley. Mrs. Ritteman was born in Iowa May 10, 1868. To this union four children have been born, namely: Cloise M., Ralph W., Ruth M. and Irene F. Mr. Ritteman is heartily interested in the public affairs of the town in which he makes his home, and he has served one term as a member of the village council. He is a man of sound judgment and is a firm supporter of right, and can be relied upon to further every enterprise looking to the upbuilding of his town or the good of the community at large. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Brotherhood of American Yeoman of Hawley. Politically he is a Republican, and is firm in his convictions.

#### JOHN NELSON.

The business interests of Lake Park, Minnesota, have a worthy representative in the person of John Nelson, who conducts a drug and jewelry establishment in that thriving city, and is one of the successful and highly esteemed men of his community. He is a young man in whom the people repose every confidence, and he is possessed of indomitable will and energy and a well developed mind, which makes him an influential citizen. He was born in Becker county, Minnesota, January 30, 1875.

Our subject's father, Nelse Nelson, was born in Sweden March 15, 1837, and in 1871 located in Becker county, Minnesota, where he entered a homestead claim to land in Lake Park township, and there our subject was reared. The mother bore the maiden name of Christina Larson, and was also a native of Sweden. The father developed a farm in Lake Park township, and our subject assisted him with the work of the place until he was fifteen years of age, when he entered Hope Academy at Moorhead, Minnesota, and after spending three years in that institution he entered the State University at Minneapolis, and after two years' study graduated as a Doctor of Pharmacy in 1895. He then entered the employ of Jay Hensfarter, at Fargo, and was employed there four months, and then spent one year in the employ of Fout Porterfield, after which he went to Lake Park, Minnesota, and was employed six months with C. O. Heyerdahl. He then accepted a position at Hillsboro, North Dakota, and later for a Chicago Castoria Company, and then returned to Lake Park and purchased the drug business of C. O. Heyerdahl. He has since conducted the same successfully, and has an ever increasing patronage. He carries a complete line of drugs and also includes jewelry in



the stock, the stock carried being valued at three thousand dollars. On the 26th of December, 1900, a fire occurred in Lake Park which consumed the building and destroyed his stock; he was partly insured. He has since erected a solid brick building, and has his place elegantly fitted and filled with entirely new goods. Mr. Nelson has a thorough knowledge of the business which he conducts, and he compounds prescriptions accurately, and every appointment of his store is carefully looked after by him.

Our subject is a young man of extensive acquaintance, and he is popular in the community in which he lives. He is a gentleman of exemplary character and holds membership in the Lutheran church at Eksjo, located a few miles from Lake Park, Minnesota. He is actively interested in political issues, and is identified with the principles of the Republican party.

#### J. F. WHITING, M. D.

J. F. Whiting, M. D., one of the most noted and successful physicians of Isanti county, who has proved himself equally capable in the practice of the healing art, in the management of extensive business interests, and in the apprehension and discharge of his duties as a citizen, was born in Bangor, Maine, in 1844. Jacob B. Whiting, his father, was also a physician and practiced his profession the greater part of his life in Boston. The Whiting ancestry reaches back to early Colonial days, dating from their first settlement in Hartford, Connecticut, about 1634. His mother also belonged to an old family that was early planted at Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

J. F. Whiting was the youngest member of his father's family of six children, and when he was but three years old the family removed to Boston, where he lived until he was twelve years old. He remembers the first railroad that was laid in Bangor, Maine. When he reached the age of twelve years his parents came west to Wisconsin, where his father gave up practice and followed farming and lumbering as long as he lived. He died in Wisconsin.

J. F. Whiting attended common school, and in 1878 and 1879 was a student of medicine at the University of Michigan, in Ann Arbor. In 1897 he took a course at the Post-Graduate School of Medicine, in Chicago. He began his medical studies under Dr. Adams, in Wisconsin, in 1876.

Dr. Whiting was married, in 1865, to Emma Lewis. She was born in Michigan, her father being Henry Lewis. He died when Mrs. Lewis was a child. The mother again married William Shurtleff. He long held a position as keeper of a light house. The Lewis family is also of old American stock. To this union have come four

children: Isabelle, Henry, Annie and Jennie, all born in Wisconsin. After his marriage Dr. Whiting was engaged in farming, and prosecuting his medical studies under the direction of his father. In the fall of 1879 he set up his practice in Merrill, Wisconsin, where he remained some three years or more. In the spring of 1882 he removed to Spencer Brook, Isanti county, and is recorded as one of the very first physicians to establish himself in that county, of which he was appointed county physician in 1884, holding the position several years.

Dr. Whiting impressed himself strongly on the community, and has been largely called, not only throughout Isanti county, but far into the neighboring counties, building up an excellent practice, and attaining an enviable reputation both as a man and a physician. Dr. Whiting, in company with his son, Henry W., is interested in several very desirable tracts of farming land in Isanti county. The son is in the real estate business in Minneapolis. Dr. Whiting is a Democrat, and for a number of years was town clerk. For the past seven or eight years he has been town treasurer, and has filled school positions at different times. He belongs to the Masons, the Knights of Pythias and the Order of Odd Fellows. Mrs. Whiting was a teacher at the time of her marriage, and was reared by her stepfather, the keeper of the light house on Washington Island. Dr. Whiting was registered as a pharmacist under the laws of Minnesota in 1885.

#### PAUL NELSON.

Paul Nelson, residing on section 20, of Euclid township, is proprietor of a fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres. He has gained a good competence by his faithful efforts and good judgment and is one of the highly esteemed citizens of Polk county.

Mr. Nelson was born on the farm Negor Engelman in Skone, Sweden, October 3, 1832, and was the fifth child and oldest son of eight children born to Per and Karoline (Gudmanson) Person. He worked on the farm until he was twenty years of age and then shipped as able seaman, making trips to France, England and Holland. He decided to try his fortunes in America in 1868, and after reaching this country made his way to Goodhue county, where he worked for various farmers for some years. About 1873 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land and engaged in farming there about eight years. During this time he met with severe reverses and lost practically all his possessions, and in the spring of 1882 he removed to Polk county. At this time he still owned a span of mules, a horse, and two cows. Upon his arrival there he found the government land taken, but



he rented land and remained there, although times were hard, indeed. The wife followed the plow while he worked out for others, and their first home was a small shanty which had also to serve as shelter for the mules in time of storms. In 1888 Mr. Nelson paid eight hundred bushels of wheat for the relinquishment of the northwest quarter of section 20 and entered a homestead claim to the same. He purchased an adjoining quarter section in 1891. He succeeded in making a living, but until 1895 they were burdened with the debts formerly contracted, and in this year their bountiful crop of wheat cleared them of debt and their farm is now well improved and their indebtedness has disappeared by judicious management and energetic work. They have excellent improvements on the place, including artesian well, and Mr. Nelson is now classed among the substantial farmers of his community.

Mr. Nelson was married, in 1873, to Miss Caroline Hansen, a native of Peine, Hanover, Germany. Mrs. Nelson has shared her husband's trials and hardships and has aided him in bringing about the present comfortable circumstances which the family now enjoy. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Nelson, namely: Ferdinand, deceased; Henry, who is now in charge of the home farm; and Caroline, deceased. Mr. Nelson is interested heartily in the welfare of his community and has served as a member of the board of supervisors of his township. In political faith he is a Republican.

#### GILBERT KRAGNES.

Gilbert Kragnes, who holds a creditable position as a man and a farmer in Morken township, Clay county, was born in Houston county, Minnesota, in 1870, and is a son of A. O. and Engaberg (Lee) Kragnes, being the oldest member of a family of ten children born to his parents.

Gilbert Kragnes was reared and educated in Clay county, whither his parents came in 1875. His education was secured in the public schools, and as the domestic requirements for such a family were insistent, he was early set to work, and while still a small boy drove ox-team. He remained with his parents until twenty-five years of age, when he struck out in the world for himself, and in company with his brother, Emanuel A., bought his present farm. For several years they lived together, kept house and brought the place into some kind of order. Many difficulties attended them. The ground was flat and lacked drainage, and more than once they lost their crops through excessive moisture. Since then ditches have been dug on a liberal scale, and this has become the best grain land in the world, of inexhaustible depth and fertility.

Gilbert Kragnes was married, in 1897, to Miss Elsa Skala, who was born in Telamarken, Norway, and came to the United States in 1894, leaving her parents still in the old country. To this happy union have come two children, Albert and Goodwin.

Mr. Kragnes has half a section of land included in his farm, which is devoted to the raising of wheat, for which he is well provided with all the machinery that makes that work easy and rapid as well as profitable. In 1897 he set up a threshing outfit, of twenty-seven horse-power capacity, and has since devoted considerable attention to the threshing business every season.

Mr. Kragnes is a Republican, and has been elected justice of the peace and road overseer. He takes an active part in town affairs. He is well-to-do, and may justly be included in any history of the men who have helped to make the Red River valley the granary of the world.

#### BERNHARDT PEPPEL.

Bernhardt Peppel, whose portrait is shown on one of the pages of this book, will be readily recognized as one of the leading business men and citizens of Borup, Norman county. He is junior member of the firm of Anderson & Peppel, general merchants of that town, and he has accumulated a good property by his own efforts.

Our subject was born on a farm in the eastern part of Germany November 24, 1860. His father, Bernhardt S. Peppel, served in the German army. He came to America in 1882 and settled in Minnesota, and was a farmer by occupation. The mother of our subject was of German birth and parentage.

Mr. Peppel was the fourth in a family of eight children, and was raised on the home farm. The mother died when he was but fourteen years of age, and the family then became scattered, and since our subject has earned his own way. He spent three years as an apprentice to the carpenter's trade, and then followed the trade four years in Germany, after which he emigrated to America, landing in New York. He went to Ada, Norman county, in 1881, and worked there at farm labor for about two years, and then followed his trade of carpenter in Ada and vicinity for seven or eight years. He purchased a farm in Winchester township in 1889, and removed his family there, and with a limited start began operating the farm. His crop for the first year was two hundred and twenty-five bushels of wheat and seventy-five bushels of oats. The farm originally consisted of forty acres, but the second year he added another forty acres to his possessions, and a year later purchased an additional one hundred and sixty acres, and

in 1897 bought eighty acres. In the spring of 1900 he disposed of one hundred and sixty acres of land, but retains one hundred and sixty acres, all of which is well improved. Hail destroyed his entire crop in 1899, and he has had many experiences with prairie fires, but despite these he has prospered by persistent efforts. In the fall of 1899 he became interested with J. O. Anderson in general merchandise and machine business in Borup, and they continue together under the firm name as above stated. Mr. Anderson established a hardware store there about three years previously, and the machine business and general merchandise have been added since Mr. Peppel became interested with him. They carry a complete line of goods and have a store 24x40 feet for groceries, one 18x24 feet for hardware, and one 24x60, the largest building in the town, for machinery. They do an extensive business in all lines which they handle.

Mr. Peppel was married, in 1884, to Miss Augusta Germolons, a native of Germany, who came to America the same year as our subject. Mrs. Peppel is a daughter of George Germolons, a tailor by trade, who now resides in Minnesota with his children. Mr. and Mrs. Peppel are the parents of six children, who are named as follows: Mac, Frank, Wilmar, Annie, George, and Rinehart. All are natives of Minnesota. Mr. Peppel is a gentleman of advanced ideas and keeps abreast of the times in public affairs. He has served as justice of the peace and is an earnest worker for the upbuilding of his community and good government. He is a Republican politically and is firm for the principles of his party. December 11, 1900, the hardware and general merchandise store was destroyed by fire, the loss being about seven thousand dollars above the insurance, and the firm still continue the general merchandise and machine business. The buildings were also lost. They are now doing business in a store 24x60 feet.

#### FREDRICK H. MACKENZIE.

Fredrick H. Mackenzie, residing on section 9, of Thompson township, is one of the most extensive agriculturists of Kittson county. He operates nine hundred and forty-five acres of land, most of which is under cultivation, and he has met with remarkable success in his calling. He is a man of wide knowledge and good business ability, and the present thrift he enjoys is the result of many years of honest industry.

Mr. Mackenzie was born in London, England, March 14, 1864, and was the eldest son of a family of six children born to Fredrick and Emma (Banks) Mackenzie. His parents now make their home in Calumet, Michigan. The

family crossed the waters in 1867, and settled in the mining regions of Michigan, where the father accepted a position in the supply office of a large concern. Our subject took a business course at Valparaiso, Indiana, in 1879 and 1880, and then entered the supply office with his father. In the spring of 1882 he went to Kittson county, Minnesota, and assumed charge of his father's farm of eight hundred and twenty acres, which had been previously purchased. He has since continued his operations in the Red river valley, and has improved the farm until it is one of the finest in that region. He began operating the entire tract from his early residence there, and this was one of the most extensive farms of the northwest in the early days. All improvements are modern and substantial, and the creditable appearance of the estate bespeaks painstaking care in its operation.

Mr. Mackenzie was married, in 1893, to Miss Inga Peterson. Three children complete the family circle, upon whom the following names are bestowed: Florence E., Fredrick M. and Robert E. Mr. McKenzie is a gentleman of broad mind and active public spirit, and he has been called upon to serve the community in various important positions. He was elected county commissioner to the third district in 1893, and served during 1893 and 1894 as such. He is a member of the Democratic party politically, and is firm in his convictions. He is well known and deservedly held in high esteem as an agriculturist and citizen.

#### FRANK W. WOODWORTH.

Frank W. Woodworth, an intelligent and progressive member of the farming community of Ordwell township, is the owner of an extensive farm, which he has placed under good improvement, and has made for himself a comfortable home and gained an enviable reputation as a citizen.

Mr. Woodworth was born in Ashtabula county, Ohio, August 12, 1856, and was a son of William N. and Lucy (Grant) Woodworth, both of whom were natives of Ohio. The family removed to Rice county, Minnesota, when our subject was one year of age, and there he resided with his parents until he was old enough to go to school. He attended the public schools of Northfield, and later he entered Carlton College, at Northfield, Minnesota, which he attended for some time. He went to Ottertail county, Minnesota, in 1878, and bought two hundred and forty acres of land in section 2, of Ordwell township, and one hundred and sixty acres in section 12, and began farming in a limited way. He now has one of the finest estates of the county. Two

hundred and fifty acres are under cultivation, also has forty acres of timber, and the balance of the farm is pasture and meadow. He engages in diversified farming, and is interested largely in stock raising. He has a horse barn 28x32 feet, with commodious hay loft, and three other barns of about the same size for cattle, sheep and hogs. He keeps thirteen horses, twenty-five head of cattle and about one hundred and ten sheep. The machinery is of modern pattern and he has a sufficient supply to economically conduct the farm. He has a grove of ten acres of planted trees, which add to the value of the place as well as to the beauty of the landscape, and a fine well furnishes an abundance of good water, the same being pumped by a windmill. His residence is a comfortable and substantial one, consisting of ten rooms, and is two stories in height. Mr. Woodworth has labored earnestly to gain his property, and is one of the substantial and deservedly successful farmers of his locality.

Our subject was married, in 1888, to Rena Phelps. Mrs. Woodworth is a native of Vermont. Two children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Woodworth, upon whom they have bestowed the name of Clara C. Miss Clara was born in Ottertail county, Minnesota, May 10, 1889, and is a promising young lady of twelve years of age. One child died at eight months of age. The family are members of the Episcopal church, of Fergus Falls, and Mr. Woodworth is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at the same place. He is prominent in public affairs of his township, and is treasurer and school director, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellowmen. Politically he is a Republican, and stands firmly for his convictions.

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#### COL. J. F. STONE.

The material growth and social and intellectual development of northern Minnesota has had no contributor of greater ability than the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. Col. Stone is a man of prominence, not only in Pine City, but in the state of Minnesota. He is one of the pioneers of Pine county, and is held in the highest esteem wherever known.

Col. Stone was born in Cornish, York county, Maine, March 2, 1839. His ancestry is of old New England stock. The Stone family came from the north of England, and settled in Massachusetts about the year 1660. Members of the family took an active part in the Revolutionary war, and a great-great-uncle, Thomas Stone, was a signer of the Declaration of Independence. The father of our subject, Levi Stone, was a farmer in Maine, as was also his father.

Col. Stone was reared and educated in

Cornish, taking the common school course and finishing his education at an academy. He prepared himself for teaching, and had just begun a career in that line, when it was interrupted by the breaking out of the Civil war. He enlisted in the Ninth Maine Volunteer Infantry, in 1861, and served three years. He saw service in South Carolina and Florida, and was at the siege of Charleston and the capture of Hilton Head Island. He was under General Butler at the siege of Petersburg, and remained with the Army of the Potomac from May, 1864, until the close of the war.

At the close of the war Col. Stone engaged in contract work during summers and taught in the winters, but later devoted his time entirely to teaching, following that profession from 1868 to 1880. He came west in 1878, and was appointed principal of the Pine City schools. In 1881 he opened the Pioneer House, the first hotel in the city. He continued the hotel business eighteen years. In 1898 he entered the newspaper field, establishing the Pine County Record. He sold the paper in 1904, and it was merged with other papers of the county. Col. Stone has always been of a literary turn of mind. During his army service he was a regular correspondent of the Maine papers and contributed several articles to the New York and Philadelphia papers. In later years he has been a regular correspondent of several large dailies, including the Pioneer Press and St. Paul Globe. He is a clever writer, and in addition to his newspaper articles has contributed poetic sketches which have received favorable comment from the best critics. He has also written and published essays on geology and the drift theory, in which he has advanced original ideas on that science, which has been approved by many modern geologists, and is rapidly gaining ground in scientific circles.

Col. Stone is a Democrat and has taken an active part in public matters for the past forty years. His first public speech was made during the Tilden campaign, and he has been one of the substantial supports of his party in Pine county and Minnesota. His object in establishing the Record was to further the interests of the Democrats in the campaign of 1898.

In 1859 Col. Stone was married to Emily J. McKusick. Mrs. Stone died March 24, 1898, leaving one child, Lizzie E., now Mrs. Breckenridge. Mrs. Stone was a lady of thorough education and high accomplishments. She taught school in Maine prior to her marriage, and was held in the highest esteem by the people of Pine City and county. To her zeal and patience and efficient help Col. Stone attributes the greater share of his success in life. She died sincerely and universally mourned by a large circle of acquaintances. Col. Stone has been active in

social affairs, and is a member of the Masonic fraternity, having represented his lodge in the grand lodge of the state. He is also a member of the G. A. R., the K. of P., and the I. O. O. F. He was nominated by the Democrats on different occasions as representative in the house, and also for the state senate. For many years he has been a member of the Democratic state central committee.

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#### OLE C. LUND.

Ole C. Lund, in whose career is found a striking illustration of the possibilities of the northwest for men of energy and industry, and who is now living on his well appointed farm in section 26, Tansen township, Clay county, was born in Trandjem, Norway, in 1845, on a farm, where his father had for years devoted himself to the cultivation of the soil, and where young Ole remained until he was seventeen years of age. Then he went to Sweden and found work in a lumber yard and remained there until twenty-one years old. At that period in his life he left home and became a sailor of the ocean, his first trip being across the world to Australia, thence to Peru and return around Cape Horn. For eight years Mr. Lund was a sailor and proved himself a daring and adventurous young man, ready for any call and equal to any duty. He visited in the course of his voyaging all parts of the world, and was at Manila five months. He was in North and South America, at Alexandria, Egypt, and elsewhere, acquiring a fund of general information as to the character and habits of the different nations that make him a most interesting conversationalist. His last experiences as a sailor were had on the Great Lakes in North America; and giving up a life on the water, he worked four months in the iron mines of Michigan. For a short time he was engaged in farming in Wisconsin, and in the fall of 1874 located on a homestead claim in section 26, Tansen township, Clay county, Minnesota. He built a shanty, 14x16 feet, and applied himself to the making of a farm home out of the prairie wilderness. During his first years on the homestead he had to contend against all sorts of difficulties, principally the grasshopper plague, but he persevered, and now has a fine standing in the agricultural and business world.

For three seasons he worked on a flat boat on the Red river, and in 1877 bought a threshing machine, and engaged in the occupation of grain threshing, which has been his work every season to the present time, and in that long period wearing out three sets of threshing outfits. In the prosecution of this business Mr. Lund has been all over this part of the state.

Mr. Lund was married, in 1876, to Miss Johanna Johnson, a native of Norway, and an

emigrant to this country in 1874. Her father died in Minnesota. To this marriage has come a family of seven children: Kia M., Ida, Robert, Olaf, Jalmer, Olga and Ragenor, all born on the farm where they are now growing to maturity, a rugged and interesting family of young people.

Mr. Lund owns a farm of two hundred and eighty acres, with one hundred and fifty acres under active cultivation. His house is large and commodious, and the barn and other buildings equal to all the requirements of the place. His wheat has run from thirteen to fifty bushels to the acre, and he is now working into stock.

In politics Mr. Lund is a Populist, and has been chairman of the town board for nine years. He takes an active interest in town affairs. In the various county conventions of his party he has for years been an influential worker.

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#### WILLIAM G. CAMERON, M. D.

Although this gentleman has been a resident of Staples, Minnesota, comparatively few years, he has rapidly risen in prominence as a physician and worthy citizen, and he now enjoys the patronage of the people and the highest esteem of all with whom he has to do. He is a gentleman of excellent knowledge of his profession, having attained a high standard of theoretical knowledge through the colleges which he has attended, and also practical knowledge by his experiences in the leading hospitals in the east and his observations and careful study while engaging in the practice of medicine.

Dr. Cameron was born in New York, November 3, 1873, and was a son of Alexander and Mary K. (Fulton) Cameron, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of Ireland. He was left an orphan at the age of four years, and resided thereafter with his brother at Traverse City, Michigan. He there attended the high school until he was seventeen years of age, when he secured employment in a retail book and stationery establishment, and during the same year established a business for himself in that line. He handled all the daily papers and was circulating manager of the Daily Eagle, of Traverse City, until 1893, when he disposed of his business interests and began a course of study at the University of Pennsylvania. He attended that institution four years, and graduated from the medical department, in 1897, with the degree of M. D. He had his first practice in Chester hospital, at Chester, Pennsylvania, and also worked at the St. Christopher hospital at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 1898 he came to Brainerd, Minnesota, as assistant physician for the Northern Pacific hospital, and was there engaged two years, when he located in Staples and opened his office. He is railroad physician

for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, and his office is located opposite the Northern Pacific station on Front street. He is one of the health officers of Staples, and has gained a position of prominence there and has become widely and favorably known. He is the owner of valuable residence property in the village of Staples, and he also owns a fine driving team for use in his country practice.

Dr. Cameron was married November 14, 1900, to Mabella Davis. Mrs. Cameron was born in Minnesota, November 16, 1877, and was a daughter of Walker and Martha Davis, who reside in Brainerd, Minnesota. Dr. and Mrs. Cameron are members of the Episcopal church. Dr. Cameron is prominent in secret society circles and is a member in good standing in the following lodges: Elks, Maccabees, Modern Woodmen of America, Ancient Order of United Workmen and Degree of Honor. Politically he is identified with the principles of the Democratic party, but does not seek public office, and wields an influence for good in the community in which he has chosen his home.

#### NICK NELSON.

Nick Nelson, manager of the general merchandise establishment of Christian Nelson, his father, is a young man of exceptional business ability and has built up an extensive trade in Hawley, Minnesota, and vicinity. He is progressive and energetic, and keeps in touch with the needs of his patrons and by courteous treatment and honest business methods has gained the confidence of all with whom he has to do. He is classed among the rising young men of Clay county.

Mr. Nelson was born on a farm in Iowa, December 2, 1873, and after receiving a good common school education he turned his attention to mercantile pursuits, and spent his boyhood and early youth behind the counter of a general merchandise store, thus gaining a practical knowledge of that business, and a knowledge which has served him well in the position which he now occupies.

Nick Nelson is the only child of Christian and Lieve Nelson, both of whom are natives of Norway. The father was born January 1, 1840. The parents of our subject were married in 1870, and made their home in Iowa until 1875, when they removed to Hawley, Clay county, Minnesota, and the father established the first store in the town. He conducted the business about ten years, and then sold his mercantile interests and engaged in farming. This he continued to engage in until 1894, when he started a small grocery store and lunch room. Fire destroyed his property, and he then built a brick business

block and put in a stock of general merchandise. The stock is now valued at six thousand dollars, and all lines necessary in an agricultural community are carried. The management of the store has fallen upon our subject, Nick Nelson, and under his guidance the business is in a prosperous condition, and the establishment has become headquarters for traders in all lines of general merchandise.

Nick Nelson is a popular young man and has been called upon to serve as village treasurer. He is prominent in secret society circles, and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, Brotherhood of American Yeomen and the Royal Neighbors, of Hawley. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

#### ADNA HANSON BREILAND.

Adna Hanson Breiland is one of the very oldest settlers of Kragnes township, Clay county, Minnesota, though he is by no means bent and bowed with age himself, such a statement indicating the newness of settlement in this part of the valley. He was born in Bradsberg Amt, Christiansand Stift, Norway, March 3, 1846, and was the second member of a family of five children born to his parents, Hans and Tone (Bjurfdsatter) Odnason, both of whom are now dead.

Mr. Breiland came to this country in 1868, with the plan of remaining here about three years, first stopping at the home of his sister in Dane county, Wisconsin, and going from there to the residence of an aunt in Houston county, Minnesota. For some five years he was employed in various labors in this state, spending two winters in the woods. In the spring of 1871 Mr. Breiland joined a party of some fifty men going with ox teams to the Red river valley. He found a desirable location, and took a pre-emption claim in the town of Moland, Clay county, where he remained for about a year. In the grasshopper plague every green and growing thing on his place was destroyed, and Mr. Breiland threw up his farm in disgust, returning to his home in Houston county. In 1875 he went back to Norway, thinking to stay there the rest of his life. Instead he only stayed six months, and was glad to come again to the United States. In the spring of 1877, convinced that the grasshopper was not a permanent institution of the Red river country, Mr. Breiland bought land in Clay county and established himself where he is living to-day. His land is situated on the Buffalo river, and comprises a half-section of very desirable soil. Mr. Breiland brought with him on the occasion of his second settlement about a thousand dollars, and has provided himself with good buildings, a flowing well and other conveniences of modern life. A

view of his residence is shown upon another page of this work. He is a Republican, and belongs to the Lutheran church. He was a member of the first town board of Kragnes township, and has at one time or another held different offices in the town. In 1876 he was married to Gro Torgensdatter Aken, and they have one adopted daughter, Gena Braland. In 1896 Mr. Breiland, with his family, made an extended visit to Norway. He is one of the successful men of the Red river valley.

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#### ALFRED BURK.

As a business man and wide awake citizen of Virginia, Minnesota, the gentleman above named is widely known throughout the county. He entered St. Louis county during the pioneer days of that region, and his labors since that time have resulted in the accumulation of valuable property.

Mr. Burk was born on a farm in Sweden, February 8, 1861. His father, Andrew Burk, was a carpenter by trade, and passed his life in Sweden. Of a family of five children our subject was the third in the order of birth. He was raised on the farm and attended the Lutheran school of his neighborhood. He began earning his own way at the age of sixteen years, when he went to sea. He spent five years sailing in coast trade, after which he worked for a wholesale liquor house, and was with this establishment four years. He then emigrated to America, landing in New York City, and from there went to Ohio. He there worked on the ore docks at Ashtabula about seven months. He then went to the lumber woods of northern Wisconsin, and was employed with the Peshtigo Lumber Company, and spent one year lumbering. He later went to Michigan, and was foreman in the Ishpeming water works about one year, when he went to Ironwood, Michigan, where he remained until 1892. In that year he went to Virginia, Minnesota, and looked over the situation. There was not a building there at that time, and it was dense woods. He went again to that locality in January, 1893, with a complete outfit of saloon fixtures, and opened for business February 26, being among the very first dealers to begin business in the village. He was obliged to clear the timber off the lot upon which his building was erected. He has engaged in real estate to some extent, and also owns considerable mineral lands.

Mr. Burk is identified with the Republican party, and is a man who keeps pace with the times, and lends his influence for good government and the upbuilding of the various enterprises of the locality in which he makes his home.

#### JOACHIM WALSETH.

Joachim Walseth, attorney and counselor at law, is the oldest practitioner of Fertile, and is a leading professional man of Polk county.

Mr. Walseth was born in Throndhjem, Norway, August 17, 1849. He was the only child born to Joachim and Christine (Tothammer) Walseth. The family is well known in the Scandinavian peninsula, and numbers among its members some of the leading men of Throndhjem.

Mr. Walseth received a collegiate education in the old country, and at the age of sixteen years began reading law in an attorney's office. He continued there two years, and then, being somewhat discontented, he broke away from the restraints at home, went to Germany. He passed a few months there, and in the fall of 1867, arrived on American shores. For the first two summers he was connected with the Great Northern Emigration Bureau as interpreter, being proficient in English, German and his native tongue. He next engaged in school teaching in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and after three years there, went to Kandiyohi county, Minnesota, where he continued the profession of teaching, following his law studies meanwhile. He went to Fisher, Minnesota, in the spring of 1882, and became one of the early teachers of Polk county. In 1893 he opened a law office at Fertile, and a year later was admitted to the bar, since which time he has engaged in a general law practice, and has rapidly risen to prominence in his profession.

Mr. Walseth has served as village attorney two years, and is an active worker in public affairs, and during the last national campaign was secretary of the McKinley and Roosevelt club of Polk county, and stands staunchly for the principles of the Republican party. He is a gentleman of intelligence and ability, and well merits the success which he enjoys.

Mr. Walseth was married, in 1869, to Miss Mary Thompson, a native of Norway, who died in 1871. One child was born to this union, namely: Julius F., a conductor of the Northern Pacific Railroad. In 1874 he married Miss Thora Jurgenson, also a native of Norway. Two children were born to this union: Theodore, who is engaged in farming, and Delphine, a well known school teacher of Polk county.

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#### BRYNGLE O. LEE.

Bryngle O. Lee, a prosperous and influential citizen of Norman county, is proprietor of a fine farm in section 16, of Lee township. He is a young man who makes the best of his opportunities, and although he was given some property at the time of his attaining his majority, he has



acquired most of his present holdings by good management and the exercise of energetic efforts. He was not content to stop with what was given him, but pushed forward to add to the amount, and his present fine property furnishes a good reward for his labors. He now lives in easy circumstances in Norman county, and is one of the widely known and esteemed citizens of that locality.

Our subject was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, December 6, 1869, and was a son of Ole J. and Anne J. (Aslokstrom) Lee, both of whom were natives of Norway. The parents lived in America until December, 1884, then they returned to their native land and now reside there. When our subject was two years of age he removed with his parents to Fargo, North Dakota, where he resided six years, when they made their home in Norman county, Minnesota. Our subject later purchased land there and he now owns one hundred and sixty acres, which is well improved with good buildings, and is fully equipped with machinery. He keeps ten head of horses and about thirty head of cattle, and has a farm well adapted to general agriculture, owing to its location on the banks of the Wild Rice river.

Our subject was married, in 1897, to Maria Larson, who was born in Ottertail county, Minnesota, October 5, 1872. One child, a daughter, named Estella, has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lee. In 1884 Mr. Lee accompanied his father to Norway and there visited four years, and upon his return to this country and after he attained his majority, the father gave him property and means with which to develop the same. This he gave each of his children as they reached their majority.

Mr. Lee and family are members of the Lutheran church and are most highly esteemed in their community. Mr. Lee has served as assessor of Lee township for the past four years and takes a good degree of interest in local affairs and is one of the rapidly rising young men of his township.

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#### JACOB O. HATLING.

Jacob O. Hatling, one of the foremost merchants of Dalton, has been identified with the commercial interests of that locality for many years, and by his energetic and honest efforts has built up an extensive business, and now conducts one of the largest hardware and tinshop establishments of the town. He also has large farm interests, and is one of the well-to-do and worthy citizens of Dalton.

Mr. Hatling was born near Stenkjer, in Nordre Trondhjem Amt, Norway, December 17, 1851. His father, Taral Olson, was a farmer

and came to America with his family in 1865. He established one of the first stores of Dalton, Minnesota. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Enger Huse. Our subject was the eldest of a large family of children, of whom but two are now living. He was raised in Norway until he was about thirteen years of age, when he came to America with his parents. The family settled in Winnishiek county, Iowa, where they followed farming for two years, and in 1867 settled in St. Olaf township, Ottertail county, Minnesota. They moved in wagons the entire distance from Iowa, and terrible rainstorms while they were *en route* made the roads almost impassable, and washed out bridges. Seven yoke of oxen were hitched to a wagon to cross a river. The colony consisted of about thirteen families, and they settled in St. Olaf township, arriving there July 31, 1867, after two and a half months spent on the journey. At the Chippewa river, in Douglas county, they ferried their loads across, taking the wagons apart and floating the boxes over, carrying the other parts of the wagons. Some time was occupied after their arrival in Ottertail county in locating land, and they finally settled in timber and prairie land, building a log house, and they cut hay for the stock. The father lived in the log house for five years, and for the first two years used oxen for breaking the land. Oxen tramped the grain for threshing, and the grain was cleaned from the chaff by throwing it with a shovel. Our subject was engaged at pioneer farm work and received but about two months schooling. After attaining his majority he followed farming for himself and continued thus for some years, the last four years of which time he owned his land. He came to Dalton in 1882 and entered into partnership with his father in the mercantile business, and they conducted a general store and operated it in partnership for several years. Our subject purchased his present hardware business in 1885, and the father and our subject's brother conducted the mercantile business, while our subject gave his attention to his hardware business. Later the father sold his interest to our subject, and the brothers operated the same under the firm name of Olson Brothers. The partnership was dissolved in 1897, the brother assuming the general store and our subject becoming sole proprietor of the hardware business. For several years he also carried a line of farm machinery, but is now dealing exclusively in hardware and conducts a tinshop in connection. He began business in a store 18x28 feet, with a small stock, and he has enlarged the store and stock as circumstances and trade justified, and now has a building 18x44 feet, and carries a complete line of hardware, the largest stock of this line in the town. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of

land, which he rents, and from this derives a good income.

Mr. Hatling was married, when he reached the age of twenty-one years, to Miss Gusta Olson, who was born in Norway, at the same place as our subject. Mrs. Hatling came to America in 1867. Seven children have been born of this union, namely: Ole, Lewis, Emma, George, Julia, Noble and May. Mr. Hatling is prominent in local affairs, and has always taken a most commendable interest in all matters calculated to benefit or uphold the interests of the community in which he makes his home. He has served in all the township offices, and for the past six years has been township clerk. He was deputy sheriff of the county two years, and takes an active part in county affairs. Politically he is a Republican, and has been chosen by his party as a delegate to many conventions. A fine portrait of Mr. Hatling is shown on another page of this volume.

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#### ALBERT H. BRAMAN.

Albert H. Braman, an old and respected resident of Clay county, has his farm home in section 12, Alliance township. His honorable and useful life gives dignity to his years, and he is widely respected alike for his manly qualities and industrious habits.

Mr. Braman was born on a farm in Massachusetts in 1838, and came of a family long established in the east. His father, Harvey Braman, was a butcher, and could trace his family lineage back to the "Mayflower." Both the maternal and paternal grandfathers of Harvey Braman were soldiers in the Revolutionary war.

Albert H. Braman is the sixth member of a family of nine children born to his parents, and was reared and educated in his native village, where he attended the public school, completing the high school studies. When he was twenty years old he learned the carpenter trade, and for many years was a journeyman carpenter in both New England and Minnesota. He has also done some contracting in the Dakotas.

Mr. Braman was married, in 1858, in Massachusetts to Miss Augusta H. Pike. She was born in New Hampshire, and descended from a long line of sturdy New Englanders. Her father was a major in the war of 1812. Mr. and Mrs. Braman have a family of six children: Ella is dead; Charles A. and John H. are farmers; George W. is dead; Grant C., a reporter in Portland; Gertrude I., a student in the normal at Moorhead.

Mr. Braman and his family moved west to Iowa in 1869, where he was engaged in farming. In 1878 he went to Texas, where he was extensively engaged in contracting. He has also en-

gaged in the same line in Missouri. In 1881 he came to Fargo, North Dakota, where he was largely interested in building operations through several years. In 1881 he built five stores on Broadway in that city.

In 1885 Mr. Braman came to his present farm in section 12, Alliance township. This farm comprises prairie land, and has now been brought into a high state of fertility. Mr. Braman had one section of land in North Dakota, and in all farmed three sections there, but his landed interests in the Dakotas he has disposed of and makes his home in Clay county. Here he has a quarter section of land in a high state of fertility. Mr. Braman has every variety of the best machinery, and the farm is operated both as a grain and stock farm, according to the most modern and progressive notions.

Mr. Braman is a Republican, and has been chairman of the town board many years, and has also served as clerk of the school district and justice of the peace. In Iowa he served as town clerk many years, and was active in the organization of several towns in Humboldt county. As a wheat farmer in Minnesota and Dakota, his work has been attended with considerable success, and one forty-acre piece yielded as high as forty-five bushels to the acre.

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#### REV. O. N. FOSMARK.

Rev. O. N. Fosmark, president of the Park Region Luther College, and pastor of the Fergus Falls Lutheran church, is a gentleman of most high attainments and well merits the success attendant on his labors.

Rev. Fosmark was born on a farm in Columbia county, Wisconsin, November 17, 1853. His father, Nels Fosmark, came to America in 1845, and the same year located in Wisconsin, where he followed agricultural pursuits the remainder of his life. The mother of our subject, Brita (Bjorgass) Fosmark, was born in Norway, and came to America when she was a child. The parents of our subject were married in America, and of their family of eleven children our subject was the first born. He was raised on his father's farm until he was fifteen years of age and assisted with the work of the place. In 1869 he entered the Lutheran college at Decorah, Iowa, and graduated from that institution in 1875. He then entered the Theological Seminary at St. Louis, Missouri, and graduated therefrom in 1878. October 2, of that year, he went to Fergus Falls and at once assumed charge of the Lutheran Synod congregation. This church was established about 1874, and the first pastor was Rev. T. Vetlesen. The first house of worship was a shanty, about 24x20 feet in size, and here meetings were held until one year after our subject

became pastor. The present church building was completed in 1880 and the parsonage was erected in 1881. The church is now free of debt and has been so for many years, and is in a flourishing condition under the guidance of Rev. Fosmark. For several years after taking up his work at Fergus Falls Rev. Fosmark had charge of three other congregations, and in addition to his charge at Fergus Falls he now has charge of a congregation at Aurdal. Rev. Fosmark raised the funds for the erection of the Park Region Lutheran College and for the erection of the church at Fergus Falls, and he is president of the college. This is a self-supporting institution and under the guidance of Rev. Fosmark has met with excellent success in its work. A more lengthy review of the college is found elsewhere in this work. Rev. Fosmark is well adapted to the work he is doing both as pastor of the church and as president of the college, being of an excellent education and mind. He pursued classical courses at college, studying, English, German, Latin, Greek and Hebrew, and always thoroughly mastered all that he undertook.

Rev. Fosmark was married, in 1871, to Sarah Norman. Mrs. Fosmark was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, and previous to her marriage taught school in Ottertail county, Minnesota. Her father, Alexander Norman, was a farmer by occupation. He was a native of Norway and came to America about 1843. Mr. and Mrs. Fosmark are the parents of six children, as follows: Alexander, now attending college; Agnes, Louisa, Clara, William and Charles.

### JOHN SCOTT.

John Scott, a prosperous farmer of section 29, Liberty township, enjoys the distinction of being the oldest settler on Sand Hill river. Since taking up his residence in Polk county he has become the owner of a fine property, and his success may be attributed to his persistent industry and good business methods.

Mr. Scott was born in the Lowlands of Scotland April 25, 1846. He was the ninth in a family of eleven children born to Robert and Jane (McConnel) Scott, both of whom are now deceased. He worked on the home farm in the old country till he was eighteen years of age, when he came to America to join an older brother, who resided near River Falls, Wisconsin. After a residence there of three years he went to Minnesota in 1867, and a year later entered a homestead claim to land near Fergus Falls and became an early pioneer of that region. In the fall of 1878 he went to Polk county, and purchased the one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land which now comprises his home

farm. He made the change of location owing to a favorable report of the country given him by his father-in-law, Patrick Connery, who had located in that region the previous spring. Mr. Scott remained for a time at the home of Mr. Connery, and after providing a home for his family he was joined by them in 1879. Their first dwelling was a small frame house, 14x20 feet, with kitchen. His family and the family of Mr. Connery were the only inhabitants of that region, and the prairie chickens and wolves were in sole possession of the country. They built their pioneer homes amid these wild surroundings on the south bank of the Sand Hill river. Mr. Scott's farming ventures further south had not been successful, and he went to his new home with little to depend upon, his personal effects consisting of four horses, two cows and a small amount of machinery, and to make his first payment on the farm he was obliged to sell one horse. He began wheat-raising, with which he has been successful, but did not neglect his stock interests, and has representation among the dairymen of that locality. From time to time he purchased land, and his farm now includes six hundred acres, of which eighty acres is meadow, twenty acres timber and the balance arable farm land. He keeps a herd of twenty milch cows, and operates a home dairy, and always finds a market at high prices for his products. He has given much attention to stock grading, and has some registered short horn Durhams. On his farm he has five flowing wells, which furnish water to all his pastures, and his land, though level, is well drained. The entire farm shows painstaking care in its operation, and it is one of the most handsome properties in that part of the country.

Mr. Scott was married, in 1876, to Miss Mary Connery, daughter of Patrick and Maggie (Cantlon) Connery. Mrs. Scott's mother died in 1896, and her father makes his home with her, and is now seventy-four years of age. He enlisted for the Civil war, and served about one year, until its close, and was a member of the First Minnesota Heavy Artillery, and was stationed the greater part of the time at Chattanooga. He is one of the early pioneers of Polk county, and has vivid recollections of the trying times and exciting events of frontier life in the northwest. He is remarkably active and well preserved, and boasts of having voted for President Pierce. He and Mrs. Connery are natives of Ireland, and were married in Vermont, U. S. A. To Mr. and Mrs. Scott five children were born, four of whom are now living, and are as follows: Rutherford, who is in charge of the home farm; Etta, teaching in the schools of that district; Ella, residing at home; and Grace. Maggie, a twin sister, is deceased. Mr. Scott,

whose portrait is shown on another page of this work, assisted in the organization of Liberty township, and was the first treasurer of his township. He has always exhibited marked interest in public improvements, and has been one of the advocates of good schools and good roads. Of late years he has been identified with the Populist party, and is a wide-awake citizen.

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#### AUGUST BLANK.

Among the early settlers of Douglas county, who have prospered as agriculturists and now enjoy homes of great comfort and have an enviable name among their fellowmen may be noted August Blank. This gentleman has not only assisted in the development of the agricultural interests of his adopted county, but did much at an earlier day to add to the beauty and interest of Alexandria, the county seat. He resides in section 16 of Belle River township and conducts a model farm.

Mr. Blank was born in far northern Germany, near the shores of the Baltic Sea, December 19, 1845. His parents, August and Wilhelmena (Tour) Blank, were both natives of that part of Germany. The father was bailiff or steward to a wealthy nobleman and had charge of the forestry and estate generally. The maternal grandfather of our subject was engaged extensively in sheep culture on the coast.

August Blank was raised on the estate and after attending the public schools until fourteen years of age, he was sent to a private school for two years, and was then apprenticed to learn gardening at seventeen years of age. After becoming thoroughly qualified he proceeded to Berlin and there followed his profession. He was naturally drafted into the German Army, and served four years, one year of which he was in active service, as he fought through the Franco-German war in 1870-71. He escaped without wounds although he participated in many fierce engagements and was in the thickest of the fray. After the war he received an honorable discharge, and he then returned to his old home and continued working at his trade until 1874. He then left Bremen for America and landed at Baltimore on the 4th of July. The ship was honored with salutes and much waving of flags, and our subject appreciated the welcome in honor of the day. He proceeded to Chicago to visit a brother, who had come to America some two years previously, and after remaining in the city a short time only he went to Alexandria, Douglas county, where other relatives resided. Here he soon found employment for his skill and did much to beautify the grounds of some of the best homes in the village. He planted

most of the shade trees which adorn the streets, laid out the court house grounds and decorated many of the gardens of the leading citizens. In 1879 he purchased eighty acres of school land situated on section 16, of Belle River township, to which he added eighty acres of excellent meadow land on section 2 of the same township, and from this tract he realizes a good crop of hay annually. Mrs. Blank owns fifty acres of land in Carlos township over which Mr. Blank has general supervision. On his home farm he keeps a small herd of Durham cattle and engages successfully in the raising of hay and grain. He has a pleasant home, which is visited by a host of friends and acquaintances during the hunting and fishing season, and they find Mr. and Mrs. Blank genial and hospitable to all. They number friends among St. Paul residents and even as far away as Cincinnati, Ohio. Game is not as plentiful there now as in former days, when as high as fifteen deer were killed on the place in one season.

Mr. Blank was married December 6, 1878, to Ida Wenzel, daughter of Michael and Carolina (Hakbart) Wenzel. Mrs. Blank's parents were natives of northern Germany and emigrated to Belleplaine, Scott county, Minnesota, in 1869, bringing with them Miss Ida, then eleven years of age. The parents lived in Scott county until 1876 when they removed to Douglas county and secured eighty acres and later added another eighty-acre tract to their farm. Mr. Wenzel died December 4, 1898, and Mrs. Wenzel survived but a few months, passing away March 24, 1899. Three children were left of the family, namely: Amelia, now Mrs. Adolph Egbert, of Great Falls, Montana; William, residing on the homestead farm; and Ida, Mrs. Blank. Mr. and Mrs. Blank are the parents of seven children, as follows: Paul, born September 21, 1879; Marie, born April 13, 1881; Elizabeth, born July 18, 1882; Amelia, born June 30, 1887; Martha, born December 6, 1889; Victor, born February 24, 1893; and Caroline, born August 27, 1896. Mr. Blank is prominent in local affairs and has held the office of supervisor eight years. He is a member in good standing of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

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#### ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Red Lake Falls, Minnesota, is a strong Catholic city and the people there take pride in their beautiful churches. The oldest church is St. Joseph's, and this is also the most handsome edifice and harbors the largest congregation. This congregation was organized in 1878 by Father Champagne, who, as the pioneer of religious workers of that region, laid a solid

foundation for the advancement which has been since realized. Although minds and hearts were willing, money was scarce in the early days and it was only by the noblest sacrifices of the congregation and the earnest work of the ministers that the work was advanced. Father Champagne was succeeded by Father Marcie, who in turn was followed by Father Arpin. In 1894 Rev. Father F. E. Fayolle was called to the charge. The congregation at that time numbered one hundred and fifty families and the church building was unfinished. During the last six years much has been done. The efforts of the minister have been faithfully seconded by the congregation who are wholly in unison with him. The house of worship is a handsomely finished structure 100x40 feet, with a seating capacity of nine hundred. A large pipe organ, the first taken into that part of Minnesota, has been secured, and the congregation has increased in the past six years to two hundred families. Rev. Father Fayolle enjoys a high degree of popularity. He is a kindly advisor, social companion, liberal thinker and eloquent speaker, and commands the respect of all and the love of the religion he so ably teaches. His life has been passed in missionary work.

Rev. Father Fayolle was born in France, and was educated in Paris. He took Holy Orders in 1874 and afterward spent many years in foreign countries, laboring in North Africa, and Canada, and was then sent to Crookston. He remained there about six years, and then went to Red Lake Falls, where his work has continued.

St. Joseph's church has a relic which should be mentioned in connection with its history. This is an iron bell which hangs in the church yard. It was the first bell brought into Red Lake county, and dates back to the pioneer times of 1880. For many years its tones proclaimed happiness or sorrow, and its peals alone awoke the echoes along the Red Lake and the Clear Water rivers.

#### JOHN H. REID.

John H. Reid, editor and proprietor of the Clay County Herald, is a young man of intelligence and keen business faculties. He has built up a good business in his line in Hawley, Minnesota, and has become widely and favorably known throughout Clay county. He edits a bright and newsy paper and one which deals fearlessly with all important questions of the day, and his success in this line is due exclusively to his own efforts.

Mr. Reid was born in Christiania, Norway, June 27, 1873, and was adopted by Peter and Mary Reid, both of whom were natives of Nor-

way. His foster parents came to America when our subject was but four years of age, and located in Clay county, Minnesota, in 1877. The father took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Riverton township and engaged in farming thereon. Our subject was reared in Clay county, and received a good education in the common schools there. He learned the printer's trade, taking up this line of work at the age of eighteen years, and spent eight years thus at Glyndon. He went to Hawley, Minnesota, in June, 1899, and established his recent business, since which time he has met with well merited success. His newspaper plant is valued at two thousand dollars, and he has in connection with the newspaper a finely equipped job printing outfit, and does excellent and prompt work in job printing and leaflets. He owns the building in which the plant and office is situated and is classed among the substantial business men of Hawley. The Clay County Herald is one of the leading papers of the county and now boasts a circulation of nearly one thousand subscribers. It is widely circulated and eagerly waited for by its patrons. It gives the news of the day in a concise and spirited manner and is counted among the best newspaper exchanges of the county.

Mr. Reid is a popular and influential young man and is connected fraternally with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a member of the Union church. In political convictions he is a Republican, and a firm supporter of the principles of his party.

#### ADAM MILLER.

Adam Miller, a noted farmer of Bradford township, Isanti county, who has made his way from poverty to a condition of comparative affluence, was born in Baden, Germany, in 1856. His father, who served his time in the army of Baden, was a laborer, and lived and died in his native land.

Adam Miller was the second member of a family of five children, and was reared and educated in his native community in Baden. When he was nine years of age he began working that he could help the family, and from that age has supported himself. In 1877 he was called to serve his time in the German army, and remained a soldier until 1880. The following year he came to the United States, and, landing at Baltimore, made his way at once to North Branch, Minnesota, where he arrived with five cents in ready money. For a year after his coming to this state he worked out as a farm hand. In 1883 he bought eighty-three acres of land in section 7, of Isanti township, on which he put up a small log house, 16x20 feet. He began farm-



ing with a yoke of oxen and a cow, and it was two years before he owned a span of horses. This land was entirely wild, and it was his home for six years. In 1889 he bought a forty-acre farm in the town of Bradford, on which he moved the same year, into a frame house of his own erection. This house was his home until 1899. That year he built his present home, 22x26 feet, with a kitchen 16x16 feet. His farm now comprises two hundred and seventy-two acres, and he has one hundred and five acres under the plow. The farm buildings are new and satisfactory; the farm machinery is abundant and well selected. There are twenty-six head of cattle and five horses on the place. He is quite a dairy farmer, and ships milk to Duluth.

Mr. Miller was married, in 1882, to Theresa Footter, who was born in Germany, and came to this country in 1881 in company with her father, who was a public official in Germany. To this union were born: Lena, Ernest, Johnnie, Carrie, Mary and Willie,—all of whom were born on the farm.

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#### ORANGE S. PARMETER.

Orange S. Parmeter, an ex-soldier and prominent early settler of Becker county, Minnesota, is a gentleman of energetic spirit and intelligence. He has a fine estate in section 32 of Holmesville township, and enjoys easy circumstances and a pleasant home.

Our subject was born in the town of Romney, New Hampshire, June 10, 1836, and was a son of John and Elsie (Baker) Parmeter. His father was born in Massachusetts and the mother in Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Our subject was reared to the age of twelve years in his native state, and then removed to Rhode Island, where he resided twenty years. He received his education in these states and after he reached his sixteenth year he learned the trade of designing and engraving and followed the same forty years. He then went to North Dakota, to make a home for himself in the northwest and there he engaged in farming, applying himself faithfully to his new calling, and he remained in that locality five years, after which he removed to Minnesota. He at once entered a homestead claim to land in section 32, of Holmesville township, Becker county, and thereon erected a log house and a log barn. These were but rudely constructed, but served the welcome purpose of a home and were the start toward a home of comfort. Oxen served in the cultivation of the land for some five years after settling there, and success attended every effort of Mr. Parmeter in his new home. He now owns one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he carefully tills and gathers a good annual crop from the same. A

good residence and barn have taken the place of the first home and everything on the farm is in keeping with the prosperity enjoyed by our subject. The residence is surrounded by a natural grove, and is a pleasant retreat and modern in finish and design.

Our subject was married in 1860 to Harriett W. Melville, who was born in Rhode Island, February 12, 1838. Mrs. Parmeter died December 10, 1880. Mr. Parmeter married Mary E. Cavney, in 1885. Mrs. Parmeter was born in Ireland, March 8, 1850. The family circle is completed by two children, Elmer and David. Mr. Parmeter and family are members of the Methodist church of Detroit, Minnesota. Mr. Parmeter has taken an active part in local public affairs since taking up his residence in Becker county, and he has served his community in several offices of trust, being chairman of the township board, and justice of the peace in Holmesville township five years. He is a gentleman of self education and was employed for about a year as editor of the Audubon Journal, at the time he was running for probate judge on the Populist ticket, but becoming disgusted with the principles of the party, returned to his "old love," the Republican party. He enlisted for the preservation of the Union in September, 1861, and became a member of Company D, Fifth Rhode Island Light Artillery. He went to Virginia and in the battle of Munson Hill he was wounded and after a service of five months he was discharged from Camp Dupont on account of disability. He now receives a pension for his services from the Government, and is one of the prominent old soldiers of Becker county. Politically he is a Republican and always stands firmly for his convictions and the principles of his party. He well deserves his success and good standing.

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#### LAFAYETTE KNOX.

LaFayette Knox, for the past few years an extensive lumberman of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, is a pioneer business man of that city and is a promoter of the financial enterprises and interests of the town. He has been engaged in various enterprises in that locality and has met with pronounced success in all his business ventures and is now one of the substantial men of Itasca county.

Mr. Knox was born in Elizabethtown, Essex county, New York, June 16, 1838. His father, George Knox, was a farmer all his life and was born in Elizabethtown, New York, in 1811, of Scotch-Irish parents. The mother of our subject, Julia Ann (Jackson) Knox, was born at Elizabethtown, and was also of Scotch-Irish de-



scents. Of their family of seven children LaFayette Knox was the oldest. The family moved to Chicago when he was but four years of age and there the father was engaged in draying for a short time, when they settled at Beloit, Wisconsin, and continued their residence there until the spring of 1849. They lived at Baraboo, Wisconsin, one year and then moved to the Indian lands in Adams county, Wisconsin, where the father became a pioneer settler. There our subject grew to manhood, assisting in the development of the home farm. He was given little educational advantages and walked two and a half miles to the nearest school. He worked at odd jobs some two or three years after starting for himself, and he then crossed the plains to Oregon with an ox team. He left in the spring of 1860, going via Council Bluffs, Omaha, Ft. Kearny and Ft. Larimore. He crossed the mountains near Fremont Peak and South Pass. He remained three years in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho, and returned via Portland, San Francisco, and Panama to New York. In the spring of 1864 he enlisted in Company K, Forty-second Wisconsin Volunteers, and was sent to Memphis, Tennessee, and during his entire service he was on provost duty. After the close of the war he went to Dell Prairie, Adams county, to his old home, where he followed farming four years, and later went to Kilbourn, Wisconsin, where he was engaged in clerking seven years. He went to Grand Rapids, Minnesota, in 1877, and assumed charge of the general merchandise establishment of Potter & Knox, which he conducted one year. He then spent a short time in Wisconsin and in the fall of 1878 settled permanently in Grand Rapids and opened a general store for himself. He started in a small log house, but soon moved into a larger log building on the banks of the river. He continued in the mercantile business until 1895, when he sold his interest. The first load of goods he shipped was poled up the Mississippi river on a flat-boat from Aitkin, one hundred and sixty miles. In 1894 he built the first saw-mill of any proportions at Grand Rapids, and this is located on the banks of the Mississippi river and there he manufactures all kinds of lumber, and has a planer, and does an extensive business in lumbering. He is one of the town-site owners and was one of the promoters of the village of Grand Rapids.

Mr. Knox was married, in 1864, to Emily E. Tenney. Mrs. Knox was raised on a farm and for some time was a school teacher. She died in 1880. One child was born of this union, namely, Emily E., who was born at Dell Prairie, Wisconsin, May 31, 1865. Mr. Knox was married to Miss Allie Polley, at Aitkin, Minnesota, in 1882. Mrs. Knox was born in Indiana, of American parentage. To this marriage one son and one daughter has been born, namely: Julia I.

and LaFayette, Jr. Mr. Knox has always taken a good degree of interest in local public affairs and has served in numerous offices of trust and responsibility. He was appointed by the governor as one of the first county commissioners when the county was attached to Aitkin county and when Itasca county was organized he was again appointed county commissioner. He was among the first village officers, and has ever labored for the welfare of the community in which he makes his home, and is a respected and esteemed citizen there. Politically he is a Republican and cast his first presidential vote for Lincoln while he was a resident of Oregon.

### JAMES DAVNIE.

Probably no more thriving agricultural district in the state is to be found than Thompson township, Kittson county. Most of the estates of that locality have been improved and brought to a high state of cultivation by the present owners, who entered the region when it was wild and bore no resemblance to its present state. Among those who became early settlers there and are now counted among the prosperous and worthy citizens may be noted James Davnie. He has a fine property in section 9, all of which he has accumulated by honest labor, and is deservedly respected and esteemed by his fellows. His portrait is shown upon another page in this album.

Our subject was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, October 17, 1849, and was the eldest in a family of three children born to William and Margaret (Smith) Davnie, both of whom are now deceased. Mr. Davnie is the only member of the family in the United States. He learned the carpenter's trade in his native land, and in June, 1873, he arrived in America with his chest of tools. He began work at his trade in Duluth, Minnesota, and soon afterward went to the copper regions and was there employed at his trade until 1877. Iowa was his next field of labor, and in the spring of 1878 he went to southern Minnesota, and in the spring of 1882 went to Kittson county. He purchased the farm which he now owns, and during his years of residence thereon he has made valuable improvements and acquired a competence to tide him through his declining years. The farm is well equipped with substantial and commodious buildings and all machinery for the operation of a model farm, and everything about the place evidences painstaking care in the methods and work there. Mr. Davnie displayed excellent judgment in the choice of his location, his farm being located on the middle branch of Two rivers, and is remarkably well adapted to diversified farming. During the early settlement of the township it was almost im-

possible to imagine to what an extent the country would develop, and this made it the harder to select the choice tracts of land, taking the chances of distance to market, and the destruction of crops, etc., by floods and other causes, but Mr. Davnie chose wisely and now has one of the pleasant farms of Thompson township. The farm contains three hundred and twenty acres.

Our subject was married, in 1884, to Miss Annie D. Milne. Mr. and Mrs. Davnie are the parents of four children, who are named in order of birth as follows: Maggie J., Ellen I., William F. and Muriel. Mr. Davnie is prominent in local affairs of public nature and served as chairman of the township board for about ten years. He is identified with the Democratic party politically, and is a stanch adherent to the principles of his party. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and is a man who commands respect and esteem wherever he is known, both as a progressive farmer and worthy citizen. Mr. Davnie was postmaster at Hallock for four years, having been appointed by President Cleveland in 1893, and served until 1897. He was one of the most efficient postmasters the town of Hallock has ever had and gave universal satisfaction.

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#### PETER J. CAREY.

Peter J. Carey, a progressive and enterprising farmer of Reis township, was one of the two first settlers of that township, and has developed a fine farm and become an influential citizen of Polk county. His home is on section 26, and he is the owner of a fine estate containing four hundred and eighty acres of land.

Mr. Carey was born at Delevan, Wisconsin, April 30, 1855, and was the fourth in a family of six children born to Daniel and Winnifred (Cahill) Carey. The parents were natives of Ireland. They and all the children are still living.

At the age of twenty-two years Peter Carey left the parental roof, in July, 1877. He worked through haying and harvesting on a farm near home, then drifted to Chicago and for a time worked at farm labor in southern Illinois. He then returned to Chicago, in the spring of 1878, and after two weeks' tramping the streets, secured work in the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy freight house in Chicago, and later removed to Iowa and Minnesota, where he followed the reapers, binding by hand; after harvest and threshing going to St. Paul, he hired out as a teamster on the construction on the Great Northern Railroad between Crookston and Winnipeg, and went direct to Crookston. After the iron was laid to the boundary line late in the fall of 1878 he returned to Edna, two miles south of

Beltrami, for the winter of 1878-9, where he had charge of thirty horses. He passed the winter alone in an 8x12-foot tent, which was heated by an old cook stove. He suffered from loneliness and cold during these long months. The horses were kept in a sod stable and had to be driven two miles to water. The following spring he began work on the Great Northern Railroad. After a year of railroading, the following spring Mr. Carey began farming, and in the fall of 1881 secured employment with Johnson & Stevens, dealers in farm machinery. He was with this firm four years and then spent two years in the employ of the Minnesota Chief Threshing Company. In the summer of 1887 he purchased a half section of land, upon which he now resides, and once more began farming. He planned stock-raising, but as prices dropped he changed to grain growing. He has since decided stock-raising was the more profitable, and of late years has given special attention to this line of agriculture and now has a herd of ninety cattle, in which the Shorthorn Durham strain predominates. He has one of the finest herds of beef cattle to be found in southern Polk county. He has other financial interests and is a member of the board of directors of the Farmers' Elevator Company at Beltrami, and is a successful business man.

Mr. Carey was married, in 1881, to Miss Effie Peasley. Mrs. Carey died in 1886. Mr. Carey subsequently married Miss Isabel Stephen. Six children complete the family circle, who are named as follows: Blanche, Mary E., Martha, Winnifred, Peter J., Jr., and Clara Isabel. Mr. Carey assisted in the organization of Reis township, and was the first justice of the peace. He served as a member of the township board three years and is at present school clerk, and has given much attention to educational matters and the development of the school system in his district. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen of America, and Ancient Order of United Workmen. He worships with the Catholic denomination, of which church he is a member. In political sentiment he is a Democrat, and is a man of strong faith, and stands firmly for the principles of his party.

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#### GUST BERMAN.

Gust Berman was born in Wemerborg, Sweden, in 1866, where he was reared on his brother's farm, in the old home country. Gust Berman was the fourth member of a family of six children born to his parents in the Swedish home, and when he was sixteen years of age he completed his attendance at the local schools,

and struck out in life for himself. For two years he was employed as a farm hand in the neighborhood, and inured to hard work became a stout and sturdy young man.

In 1884 Mr. Berman came to the United States, landing at Philadelphia; and later was employed in the Pennsylvania coal mines and coke ovens for about two years. He has spent one winter in Kentucky, and in the spring of 1887 went to Michigan, where he remained until July of that year, when he made his first appearance in Clay county. Here he was employed for some months at farm work, and the same year made his way to Seattle, Washington, and to Fairhaven, in that state, where he worked in the lumber woods, and remained a year and a half. It was not until 1890 that he returned to Clay county, and became engrossed in that farm work in which he has proved so very successful.

Mr. Berman was married, in 1894, to Miss Susanna Rowe, who was born in this county, her father being one of the very earliest pioneers of Clay county. Mr. and Mrs. Berman have two children: Charles, and William, who is dead.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Berman settled on a farm in section 10, where they bought land, and became familiar to all the farmers of Felton township, as extremely industrious and kindly hearted people. Mr. Berman built a house, a barn, and other buildings, and has ample machinery and stock with which to operate his farm economically and successfully. At first he was but a grain farmer; now he turns his attention to stock, corn and potatoes. His farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres, and all but twenty acres of it is under plow. Mr. Berman is a Republican, and has held various school offices.

#### WILLIAM H. GEHRKE.

William H. Gehrke, a young and pushing farmer of Alliance township, Clay county, was born in a village in Hanover, Germany, in 1870, and is a son of William Gehrke, who was a day laborer in the old country. He married a German woman, and brought his entire family to the United States about 1873, stopping for a time to work in the coal mines in Pennsylvania, and coming west to Chicago in 1875. Four years he was a resident of that city, and then lived four years on a farm in Illinois. In 1880 he moved to Clay county, Minnesota, and settled on a farm in section 10, Alliance township. He began as a homesteader, and had a shanty 12x16 feet, with an addition 12x14 feet. For two years he farmed with oxen.

William H. Gehrke was mainly reared on the Clay county farm, and in his earlier years

drove the oxen, and helped about the farm work as he could. He remained with his parents until 1896, when he located on a farm of his own in section 9, Alliance township. When he began here his land was all raw prairie, but by untiring exertion and persistent push he has brought it up to a fine condition. He has good farm buildings, all the machinery the farm requires, and several good horses and other stock. Mr. Gehrke has had some losses by hail, but in the main has prospered in his farming enterprises, and has done well.

The elder Gehrke owns a quarter section which William H. operates in connection with his own farming of two hundred and forty acres, making in all about three hundred acres which he has under cultivation.

Mrs. William H. Gehrke was born Lena Koester, and is a native of Rolling Stone, Minnesota. Her father was an old settler in Wisconsin, and moved into Winona county, Minnesota, at an early day. There he engaged in farming near Rolling Stone. In his early manhood he served in the German army. Mr. and Mrs. Gehrke have three children: Melvin, Adelhide and Edwin,—all of whom were born on the farm. Mr. Gehrke does a general grain and stock farming business, but is giving special attention to potato culture. In politics he is independent, and takes an intelligent interest in public affairs. When he began on his place there were but three shanties in sight from his father's place; a very different condition now prevails, when the entire country is very largely taken up and under cultivation.

#### RICHARD J. ANGUS.

Richard J. Angus, a resident of Fergus Falls, whose influence has been felt in all commercial and financial circles of the city and county, deserves mention among the business men of the northwest.

Mr. Angus is a native of Scotland, and was born in Bathgate, February 16, 1863. His father, Alexander Angus, was a merchant in his native land and came with his family to Minnesota, through the influence of a brother, R. B. Angus, who at that time was closely connected with J. J. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railway, in the old St. Paul M. & M. Railroad. This brother is now one of the directors of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and has been one of the leading men in the development of the resources of the great Northwest. The father of our subject engaged in farming in Minnesota.

Richard J. Angus was reared and educated in the city of Bathgate, completing an academic course and then entered the University of Edin-

burgh. He came to America with the family in 1880. At the age of twenty-four Mr. Angus entered the real estate office of Miller & McMaster, of Fergus Falls, and was employed there about six years. In 1888 he went to Neligh, Nebraska, as assistant manager of the Nebraska office of the Globe Investment Company of Boston, Massachusetts. The following year he was transferred to Kansas City as cashier of the combined Nebraska and Kansas offices of the same company. In 1891 he again located in Fergus Falls and opened a real estate office and engaged in the real estate, insurance and loan business, in which he has been remarkably successful. He owns large bodies of land in different parts of the county, aggregating about six thousand acres in the great grain growing district. Lying south of Fergus Falls he owns a farm of four hundred and fifty acres known as the Horseshoe Lake farm. North of Fergus Falls he owns a stock farm on the Pelican river, consisting of two hundred and forty acres. A large share of Mr. Angus' attention is devoted to his farming interests. He is half owner of a substantial brick block in Fergus Falls, now occupied by a large wholesale grocery firm, which promises to become the most extensive west of the twin cities. Mr. Angus also represents large property owners in Scotland and England, handling for them several of the business blocks in the city. His real estate business is extensive, as he controls about seventy-five thousand acres of land for the bondholders of the Globe Investment Company resident in Boston. He has been most influential in attracting capital to Fergus Falls and much is due to his energy and influence.

In political sentiment Mr. Angus is a Republican. In 1896 and 1897 he served as a member of the city council. He is a prominent member of the Knights of Pythias lodge and has been an officer in their grand lodge for six years. He is at present grand trustee for the order in Minnesota. He is also a Mason and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

#### NELSE M. NELSON.

Among the younger members of the farming community of Detroit township, Becker county, a high station is accorded the gentleman above named. He is one of the early settlers of that locality, and has a wide circle of acquaintances who esteem him as a citizen and energetic and well versed agriculturist. He has a pleasant home in section 16, where he resides with his mother, and follows general farming with good results.

Our subject was born in Ohio, July 11, 1878, and was a son of Martin and Annie Nelson, both

of whom were natives of Denmark. He was reared to the age of five years in his native state and then accompanied his parents to Detroit township, Becker county, Minnesota, where he remained until he was thirteen years of age, and was educated in the public schools of Detroit City. He then went to North Dakota and remained two years, and then returned to Becker county and resided there three years, employed in conducting his father's farm. He was pleased with the advantages of North Dakota and again took up his residence there, remaining about four years, when he returned to his father's farm in Becker county, Minnesota. He is the owner of a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in section 16, of Detroit township, of which he has sixty acres under cultivation, and he has placed good improvements on the place. He has a comfortable residence, good barn, and such buildings as are necessary for conducting a model farm, and his machinery is carefully selected and well kept. He has good water on the farm for domestic uses and for the stock of the place, and altogether the farm is one of the valuable tracts of that locality. He keeps two horses and six cows and lives comfortably and in easy circumstances, his mother having charge of his home.

Mr. Nelson is a member of the Lutheran church and is a young man of excellent character and deservedly popular with all who know him. He is a Republican politically and stands firmly for the principles of his party.

#### PATRICK A. COFFEY.

Patrick A. Coffey, accorded a place among the prominent pioneers of St. Louis county, Minnesota, is engaged extensively in the meat business at Virginia, and has a wide circle of acquaintances, by all of whom he is held in the highest esteem.

Mr. Coffey was born on a farm in Canada, in 1865. His father, John Coffey, was of Irish descent, and was a farmer by occupation. The mother of our subject was born in Canada, and was of Irish ancestry.

Patrick Coffey was the fourth of a family of five children and he was raised on the farm and remained at home until he was thirteen years of age. The mother died when he was young and after the father remarried our subject left home and worked for an uncle on his farm, attending school winters. He went to Michigan at the age of seventeen years, and worked for the Ross Common Lumber Company a short time. He then took a course in the Guelph Business College and graduated at the age of twenty-one years, after which he returned to Michigan and worked as foreman

for the same lumber company. He continued in the lumber business there with different firms for several years and in the fall of 1892 went to Virginia, and he and his brother, John Coffey, started one of the first boarding houses of the town. Our subject went into the meat business with J. B. Orr in the fall of 1893 and the same winter bought his partner's interest. Later Mr. Ole Halverson and Mr. Edward Berg became partners in the business. The other partners bought Mr. Berg's interest and in 1897 the partnership between Mr. Halverson and Mr. Coffey was dissolved, our subject continuing in the business with his half. He lost his building, fixtures, etc., by fire in 1900, and he immediately rebuilt, completing the first building erected after the first which destroyed a greater part of the town. This building is two stories and has living rooms on the second floor. It is a 25x58-foot substantial structure, and Mr. Coffey has built up a most successful business there. He went to Virginia with small capital and is now one of the substantial business men of his town.

Mr. Coffey was married in May, 1896, to Miss Bertha Demgen. Mrs. Coffey was born in Michigan, and is of German descent. Her father was a contractor and was sheriff of Baraga county, Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Coffey are the parents of two children, Margaret and Beatrice. Mr. Coffey has served as village alderman two years, and is a wide-awake citizen, lending his influence for the welfare of his town.

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#### WILLIAM F. C. GADAU.

Among the prominent business men of Cloquet, Minnesota, who are well known as pioneers of that thriving town and citizens of worth may be mentioned William F. C. Gadau. This gentleman is engaged in the manufacture of cigars and is also proprietor of a well-stocked cigar and tobacco store. He has met with success in his business while a resident of Cloquet and is an energetic and reliable citizen.

Mr. Gadau was born in Mieste, Province of Magdeburgh, Germany, June 6, 1859. His father, Christ Gadau, was a carpenter by trade. He served in the German army and in 1867 came to America and his family joined him here two years later. He located at Burlington, Iowa, and there passed the rest of his life. Our subject was reared in Burlington, and there received a liberal education in the public schools and also the German schools of that city. At the age of fifteen years he began to learn the cigarmaker's trade in Burlington,

and at the age of eighteen years secured his first employment in this business. He traveled over a large part of the west, and visited through California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Dakota and Minnesota. In February, 1889, he went to Cloquet, and from February until August of that year conducted a cigar business for McKewen and Castle. He then purchased their business and started for himself. He conducts a general cigar store and has prospered. In 1891 he moved to his present location on the corner of B and Arch streets, and now has a good store, well stocked and neatly kept.

Mr. Gadau was married, in 1893, to Miss E. E. La Salle. Mrs. Gaudau was born in Pennsylvania, and was of French descent. To Mr. and Mrs. Gadau the following children have been born: Dudley, Myron and Eugene. Mr. Gadau is interested in the welfare of his community and has served in various local offices of trust, including village recorder one term, village treasurer two terms, town treasurer one term, and he has always discharged his duties faithfully and well and enjoys the confidence of all who know him. He is a stanch Democrat and wields much influence in the community in which he makes his home.

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#### OLE E. TANGEN.

Ole E. Tangen, a prosperous and successful farmer in section 16, Kragnes township, well deserves mention among the most noted representatives of the agricultural interests of Clay county, and owns a half-section on the west banks of the Buffalo river. He was born in Christiania Stift, Norway, January 19, 1851, and was the second member of a family of ten children born to his parents, Even and Bertha M. (Stensgaard) Tangen.

When Ole E. Tangen was ten years old the family emigrated to the United States, settling in Fillmore county, Minnesota. There young Ole grew to manhood, his education being most limited, and consisting of such instruction as he could obtain from a few terms at the English and Norwegian schools. When he was eighteen years of age he began work as a railroad grader, for several years being employed in this line, in 1871 going as far west as Bismarck, North Dakota. In 1873 he began working on a farm in Winona county, Minnesota, and later in Houston county, where he was married in 1878, and the same year came to Clay county with his father-in-law, bringing with him three cows and about three hundred dollars in money. At a sale of school land he bid in some land, and before he could start farming he found himself

deeply in debt. He was not discouraged, and has worked out in fine shape, his industry and good business sense standing him well in hand, and largely explaining the very abundant success he has attained. His farm is being rapidly improved and brought up to the very highest level of valley agriculture. It is peculiarly fortunate in the possession of two of the finest flowing wells to be found in the neighborhood, and in every respect shows the touch of a master hand at the tilling of the soil.

Mr. Tangen is a Republican and he belongs to the Lutheran church. He helped to organize the township, and has held some town office continuously to the present time, having been on the town board, and assessor many years. He is much interested in school matters, and gives close attention to the management of the neighboring school.

Mr. Tangen was married to Miss Gilena Studlieu in 1878. They have twelve children: Mary; Edward, who is dead; Benhart; Clara I.; Genelia; Selma; Oberlin; Jonetta; Walter, who is dead; Winnifred; a second Walter; and Esther. A portrait of Mr. Tangen will be found on another page of this work.

#### JOHN H. JOHNSON.

In the comparatively few years that this gentleman has been a resident of Winnipeg Junction, Minnesota, he has built up a prosperous general merchandise business and has won the confidence of his fellow men. He is a man of exceptional ability as a business man and has aided materially in the development of the business interests of the thriving town in which he has chosen to conduct his financial affairs. He is well known throughout Highland Grove township as a man of good business principles and honest dealings and well merits the station he occupies.

Mr. Johnson was born in Norway, October 15, 1862, and was a son of John and Tildie (Torsen) Johnson, both of whom were also natives of Norway. The parents came to America when our subject was seven years of age, and the father took land as a homestead. His death occurred March 10, 1896, and our subject became the owner of the estate and later sold the property to his sister Tildie. She is living on the homestead at the present time. He resided in Houston county one year and in Douglas county the same length of time.

John H. Johnson received his education in the common schools and assisted his father with the farm work. He sold a farm of two hundred and fifty acres in Ekland township, Clay county, in 1898, and after spending one year as a machine agent he went to Winnipeg Junction, in 1899,

and established a general merchandise store in that town. He now carries a general stock of groceries, boots, shoes, dry goods, etc., the stock being valued at four thousand dollars. He is also the owner of two residences and lots in the village.

Mr. Johnson takes an active and commendable interest in all affairs of his city and has served as a member of the village council of Winnipeg Junction. He is a man of good mind and keeps pace with current events and lends his influence for the upbuilding and development of the financial resources of the community where he resides. In political sentiment he is a Republican.

#### MARTIN MATTSON.

The home of Martin Mattson is one of the pleasant farms of Kittson county. It is in section 2, of Svea township, where this gentleman has made a success of agriculture and is one of the substantial citizens. He is one of the rising young men of his community and has passed his boyhood and early years of manhood in his present locality, and has become widely known for his integrity and honest industry. His present possessions and comfortable circumstances have been gained by the pursuit of agriculture and he is well versed in his calling and systematic in his work.

Our subject was born in Sweden, January 2, 1868, and was the second child and eldest son of a family of seven children born to Magnus and Ingrid (Hoganson) Mattson. His parents now reside in Kittson county, near the home of our subject. The family emigrated to America in 1880, and after spending one year in Goodhue county, Minnesota, the father went to Kittson county in the spring of 1881, and in the fall of that year he was joined in his new home by his family. Our subject was then but thirteen years of age, and as he was the eldest son he was early put to work on the home farm. The family had no means with which to improve the place and no teams to conduct the farm and they did not cultivate the land for the first two years of their residence thereon. Our subject worked for others to assist in supporting the family and when not thus employed remained at home, and after the first few years lived on the home farm and conducted the farm in common with his father until 1894. He then purchased the land upon which he now resides and began the improvement of the same. He now owns a handsome property, which is improved with a substantial and modern dwelling and all farm buildings necessary for conducting a model farm. Everything about the place evidences thrift and prosperity and the careful management of the farm and



the appointments of his home bespeak culture and refinement, and the farm altogether furnishes a home of more than usual comforts.

Mr. Mattson was married, in 1896, to Miss Charlotta Nyberg. To this union one son has been born, who bears the name of Earl E. Mr. Mattson is a gentleman of broad ideas and excellent character and he is a firm supporter of public enterprises which tend to the welfare of his township and county. He is identified with the Republican party in political faith, but does not seek public office, and lends his influence for the upbuilding of good local government.

#### FRANK GROUWS.

Frank Grouws, one of the leading business men of Elizabeth, Minnesota, and proprietor of extensive farm lands of Ottertail county, is a pioneer settler of that region and is widely and favorably known. He can recount many interesting incidents of early life in the northwest, and during his early residence there suffered the privations of all who made that their home. During the first winters he trained dogs for driving, and was almost dependent upon these faithful animals for carrying provisions during the severe winter months. He went to that country with oxen and spent much of his early life on the farm. He is now a resident of Elizabeth, where he has a comfortable and pleasant home. His portrait adorns another page of this work.

Mr. Grouws was born in Carver county, Minnesota, May 1, 1861. His father, John Grouws, was a native of Germany, and after coming to America he followed farming and also the trade of a butcher, and conducted a hotel. He served as a soldier during our Civil war. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Minnie Hammond, was also a native of Germany.

Of a family of seven children our subject was the oldest. He was raised on the farm and attended the common schools, and during his boyhood assisted the father with the work of the home farm. He started for himself at the age of seventeen years, and he was one of General Custer's men during the expedition when that general lost his life. He was the only boy in the expedition and was commonly called Abercrombie Kid. He returned to his home late in the fall and remained there in charge of his father's farm until 1888. The family removed to Ottertail county in 1873, going to their new home overland with ox teams, and upon their arrival there they built a small log cabin with a sod roof. This family was among the first in the township and they improved their farm the first few years with oxen. Indians were numerous. Trapping game was a profitable busi-

ness and the only means of support for some time after locating there, until the railroad came to that section, when work could then be secured at railroad building and grading. Mr. Grouws engaged in farming until 1888, when he established a mercantile business in Elizabeth, and has continued there since that date. He is also engaged extensively in farming and owns a tract of four hundred and fifty acres, and has over one hundred and forty acres under high cultivation. He owns his residence property in Elizabeth and a summer resort on Long lake in Ottertail county. He rents his farm and devotes his entire attention to his business in Elizabeth, which is entirely successful.

Mr. Grouws was married, in 1888, to Miss Lucy Bureau. Mrs. Grouws was born in Oscio, and was a daughter of Ed. Bureau, a farmer and stock trader of Ottertail county. He is one of the pioneers, locating there in 1872, and he has built up several extensive farms in that county. He came to America from Germany and settled near Minneapolis, and from there removed to Ottertail county. Mr. and Mrs. Grouws are the parents of three children, namely: Lawrence, Wallie and Harry, all of whom were born in Elizabeth. Mr. Grouws is prominent in local affairs and is at present village treasurer. He is faithful in the discharge of his duties and has gained the confidence of the people. Politically he is a Republican and stands firmly for his convictions.

#### GUSTAF JOHNSON.

Gustaf Johnson, for many years a prominent hotel man of St. Louis county, was among the pioneer business men of Virginia village. He has recently rented his property, but continues his residence there.

Mr. Johnson was born on a farm in Sweden, in 1863. His father, Johan Bengtson, is a farmer by occupation and resides in Sweden. Our subject was the third of a family of ten children and was reared on the home farm and assisted with the work there. At the age of fifteen years he started for himself and sailed as a coast sailor two years. He came to America when he was nineteen years of age and went to Michigan, where he spent two years, and then worked two years on the Canadian Pacific Railroad in Canada, after which he traveled in Wisconsin, Illinois, the Dakotas, and Montana, and finally returned to Wisconsin. He started in the saloon business in Rhinelander, Wisconsin, in 1888, and continued there five years, when he removed to Virginia, St. Louis county, making the trip from Mountain Iron afoot. He opened the Hotel Svea for business in April, 1893, and this structure was one of the first hotels of the

town. Elias Nelson was in partnership with Mr. Johnson, and after conducting the business together two months, fire, which swept through the town and destroyed a good share of the village, totally destroyed the hotel and contents. Mr. Johnson succeeded in rescuing his wife and saved a trunk of personal effects. Through this agency he lost about six thousand dollars worth of property. He immediately rebuilt the hotel, however, and in March, 1900, purchased his partner's interest in the business. Fire again destroyed the building and contents in June, 1900, and Mr. Johnson lost all his property excepting his residence and contents. In partnership with Albert Olson he built another hotel. This is a 48x110 feet building, two stories in height, and is equipped with all modern appliances and conveniences, including city water, etc. Mr. Johnson spent three months in Sweden in 1899, visiting his parents and his old home, but returned to America, as he was best suited with this country and its possibilities and the opportunities for business and social progress.

Mr. Johnson was married, in 1891, to Miss Anna Nelson. Mrs. Johnson was born in Sweden and came to America in 1886. Her father, Sven Nelson, was a farmer by occupation. Mrs. Johnson died in 1900. Four children were born to this union, two of whom survive, namely: Myrtle and Adaline. Mr. Johnson is actively interested in the welfare of his community and has served as alderman of Virginia two terms, serving five years, when he resigned from the office while on his third term. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in political sentiment is a Republican and is a usual delegate to county conventions of his party.

#### ANDREW ANDERSON.

Andrew Anderson, an old and prominent resident of Isanti county, now a prosperous farmer of Bradford township, where his manly character and industrious habits are well known to his neighbors, was born on a farm in Dharlarne, Sweden, in 1840. His father was a farmer who lived and died in Sweden.

Andrew Anderson was the oldest child in a family of five children, and was reared and educated in Sweden. He remained at home until he was twenty-seven years of age, when he came to the United States, entering this country at Detroit, in 1868, and coming west to Minnesota the same year. His first winter in this state was spent on the construction of the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad, and in the lumber woods. He secured a farm very soon, and on it erected a shanty. At a later period he built a frame house, hauling the lumber and brick all the way from

Anoka. For a number of years he farmed with oxen, and in 1878 spent two months in visiting in Sweden. In 1879 he started a store at Cambridge, and was in business there until 1882. A big business was done by him in general merchandise. In 1883 he came back to the farm, where he has remained to the present time. He owns one hundred and sixty acres, with about half under cultivation, and the balance in timber, pasture and meadow. It is a good farm, and is provided with all the necessary buildings and machinery.

Mr. Anderson was married, in 1881, to Miss Anna Anderson. She was born in Sweden, and came to the United States in 1880, landing in New York City. They have three children: Bernardt, Victor and Anna, all born on the farm.

Mr. Anderson is an independent voter, and at the present time is a member of the board of supervisors, being chairman of the board. He is treasurer of the local school district, and takes an active part in local and county affairs.

#### HANS H. BERG.

Hans H. Berg, one of the earliest settlers of Polk county, is passing his declining years amid the comforts and quietness of a rural home, the result of his labors in that locality for the past quarter of a century. He is widely known as an energetic farmer and worthy citizen and is a resident of Vineland township, in which township he has taken an active part as to its government and public affairs.

Mr. Berg was born in Toten, Norway, December 7, 1830, and was the fourth of five children born to Hans and Kerstine (Olson) Hanson. His father was a farmer and blacksmith and our subject was reared in the same occupations. He remained at home until he was twenty-five years of age, and after his marriage he came to America in 1867. He crossed the waters on a sailing vessel and five weeks and four days were consumed in the journey. He set sail from Christiania and landed at Quebec, from which point he went direct to Detroit and Chicago, and thence to Freeborn county, Minnesota. The first year of his residence there he hired out to others and then spent six years at the blacksmith's trade. He went to the Red river in August, 1873, in company with Hans Bangen, Ole O. Estenson, and Peter Thompson, making the trip with oxen and taking other stock along, taking a month to complete the journey. They arrived at their destination too late to break land and our subject went to work cutting hay for stock. He built his own log house with his wife's assistance. He went to Oak Lake, Becker county, and filed his claim to one hundred and

thirty-five acres of land in section 10, of Vine-land township, and this tract has been his home continuously since that date. He is now the fortunate owner of three hundred acres of valuable land, of which some is timber on the banks of the Red river. His first house was a log structure, with no floor, door or window. He now has a pleasant residence and is comfortably situated. In the early days Mrs. Berg was poisoned in the woods and was confined to her bed for several weeks, with no doctor and no medicine to be had. In the early days mosquitoes were plentiful and nets for the people and a smudge built for the stock was the only relief from these pests. Mr. Berg marketed his first wheat at a flat-boat near Belmont. This boat was owned by Clark & McClure, and the wheat was shipped north to Manitoba for seeds there. The Red river flood of 1897, following the hard, snowy winter, flooded the land around our subject's barn and he put his calves and sheep in the hay loft and kept his large stock outside on the prairie until the water subsided.

Mr. Berg was married at the age of twenty-five years to Miss Trina Thompson. Mrs. Berg died in 1884. Mr. Berg was married to Miss Severina Hanson, in 1886. The following children were born to this union: Karine, Hilda, Theresa, Emma, Sarah, Hans, Laura, Marguerette and Hanna Soffie. Mr. Berg has always been deeply interested in the affairs of his township, and during his early residence there served as chairman of the township board for six years. He is interested in educational advancement and has served as school treasurer since the organization of a school district twenty-five years ago.

### JOHN O. ANDERSON.

Strict integrity of word and deed and the exercise of intelligent mind has placed the gentleman here named in a foremost place among the business men of Borup, Norman county. He is senior member of the firm of Anderson and Peppel, who conduct a general merchandise and machinery business and enjoy a liberal patronage.

Mr. Anderson was born on a farm in Fillmore county, Minnesota, August 30, 1871, and was a son of Ole Anderson. His father was a native of Norway and came to the United States about 1865, his wife and five children accompanying him, and the family settled in Chicago. The mother, whose maiden name was Annie Knutson, was born in Norway. After residing in Chicago two years the father removed to Fillmore county, and there our subject was reared. He worked on the home farm and received a country schooling, and in 1877 went with the

family to Norman county, settling in Mary township. They went to their new home overland, with a covered wagon and an ox team, and had a small herd of cattle with them. They lived in a small log house, 14x16 feet, and did their first farming in Norman county with an ox team. Insect pests were numerous, especially mosquitoes, in the early days of the settlement of that region. Mr. Anderson remained on the home farm until after he attained his majority, and he then took a small pack of tinware and notions and traveled with them through the country. He soon purchased a horse and wagon, and followed the same business a good share of the time for seven or eight years, and also spent some time at home assisting with the farm work. He built a small store building in Borup, Minnesota, in 1896, and resided in the second story, and continued peddling one year, and in November, 1897, purchased a line of hardware and conducted that line exclusively two years. In 1899 Bernhardt Peppel became a partner in the business, and they erected an addition to the store, 24x40 feet, and stocked the building with a line of general merchandise, including groceries, dry goods, boots, shoes and harness, and continued in the hardware business also. A machine shed for the sale of farm machinery was built in the spring of 1900. This is a 24x60 feet building, and the machine business which is conducted therein has proven a successful venture. The entire line of goods carried by this firm meets the demand of the people of their locality and they enjoy a liberal trade.

Mr. Anderson was married, in 1894, to Miss Mary Thompson, a native of Rice county, Minnesota. Mrs. Anderson's father, T. O. Thompson, is a native of Norway and is a farmer by occupation. Mrs. Anderson was reared on the home farm and received a good education. She is in ill health and the necessary expenses on this account have been a constant drain upon the finances of our subject. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, who are as follows: Della, Tillie and Truman. Mr. Anderson was among the earliest settlers of Norman county, having assisted his father in the development of a farm there, and he has not only witnessed the growth of his locality, but has aided materially in the same, and is one of the rising young men of the county. He is active in public affairs of his community, and was appointed town clerk in 1898, and is now serving in that capacity. In political sentiment he is a Republican.

The hardware and general merchandise store was destroyed by fire, with a loss of about seven thousand dollars above the insurance. The firm still continues the general merchandise and machinery business. The buildings were also de-

stroyed and the firm is now doing business in a store. A portrait of Mr. John O. Anderson is shown on another page of this volume.

### REV. TORBJORN A. SATTRE.

Rev. Torbjorn A. Sattre, pastor of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Evansville, Douglas county, has labored in that congregation for over fifteen years and has a sincere following.

Rev. Sattre was born near Rochester, Olmstead county, Minnesota, in 1857. His parents, Ole S. and Ingeborg (Gjesme) Sattre, were both natives of Norway and came to America with their respective parents in 1844. Both are living at the present time on the homestead farm in Olmstead county. Our subject assisted on the farm when a boy and attended the public schools of the neighborhood. In the fall of 1874, at the age of seventeen years, he entered the Lutheran College at Decorah, Iowa, and taking a classical course there graduated as a B. of A. from that institution in the summer of 1880. In the fall of that same year he entered the State University of Minnesota, in the meantime becoming a teacher in the schools. In 1882 he took up the study of theology at the Lutheran Seminary in Madison, Wisconsin, where he remained two years. In 1884 he went to Ohio and entered the Capitol University at Columbus, and graduated therefrom in 1885. He then returned to Minnesota, locating at Evansville, and preaching his first sermon as pastor in Alexandria, November 8, 1885.

Rev. Sattre was married, April 15, 1891, to Gurine Hellekson, daughter of Christen and Saave Hellekson, both of whom were natives of Norway, and were brought to the United States by their parents when young, and settled near the parents of our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Sattre are the parents of three children, namely: Carl Orlando, Ingeman Sanford and Hana Theresa.

The Norwegian Lutheran church at Evansville was organized and rules and regulations adopted October 9, 1869. Previously ministers from other settlements came periodically to preach to the people of that faith and it was not until 1871 that a permanent pastor was chosen. Rev. Carlson was the first minister to fill the position and he remained four years. From the fall of 1875 to 1885 Rev. Stadstad served the congregation as pastor, and from that date Rev. T. A. Sattre has filled the position with ability and steadfastness. The services of the church until 1880 were held in the "old log school-house on the hill," and the present commodious building was erected in that year. The fine parsonage near the church was built in 1900. The first trustees of the church were Ole Grandlokken,

John Davidson and John Saterlie. The present congregation consists of about four hundred, mostly from the farming district. The church is free from debt and besides the edifice and parsonage, which is located on high ground in the west part of the village, commanding an extensive and picturesque view of the surrounding country, there are nine valuable lots adjacent to the church.

Rev. Sattre is a gentleman of broad mind and good address, and is possessed of pleasing manners and marked ability and is sincerely devoted to his calling. Besides his official duties in Evansville he preaches alternately at Alexandria, Nelson, Urness, Solem and Erdahl. He is highly appreciated throughout Douglas county, and his home bespeaks peace, felicity and comfort.

### OLE WINDSETH.

Ole Windseth, the present capable and popular postmaster at Felton, Clay county, was born in Trondhjen, Norway, in 1865, and is the son of a farmer, who lived and died in that country.

Ole Windseth is the youngest member of a family of six children, and was reared and educated in his native land. When he was fifteen years of age he was confirmed in the church, and began life for himself as an apprentice at the carpenter trade. For three years he worked in this line, after he had become a journeyman. About this time he determined to seek an opportunity in the new land of hope and endeavor, whither so many of his countrymen had already gone, and came to Minneapolis by way of New York. For about a year he worked mostly at Anoka. For some three years he was a carpenter in West Superior, Wisconsin.

In the fall of 1887, prior to his removal to West Superior, he was married at Anoka, to Miss Carrie Heen, a native of Norway, and an emigrant to the United States in 1885. To this union have come the following children: Ida; Arthur, who was born in Wisconsin; Eugenie; May, who is dead; all born in Minnesota, except as noted above.

In 1893 Mr. Windseth came to Felton, Minnesota, where he worked for two years. In 1895 he built the Hotel Arlington, in Felton, and was its landlord for two years, when he put up a building and opened a hardware store, which was the first in the town. It was at the corner of Fifth street and Atlantic avenue. His large and increasing trade demanded roomier quarters, and in 1899 he erected his present commodious store building, 60x90 feet. It is the largest store in the town, and in it he carries a fine stock of furniture, hardware and undertaking goods.

Mr. Windseth is the most prosperous and successful merchant in the place, and may well revert to the day when he arrived in this community without money, and was glad to be employed in the harvest field.

Mr. Windseth is a Republican, and was appointed postmaster in 1899, a position he is still holding, to the very general satisfaction of the community. Mr. Windseth is also interested in a grocery store, with a partner, A. T. Specht, who has immediate charge of the enterprise.

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#### HENRY POEHLS.

Henry Poehls, who was born in 1871 on a farm in Iowa, is one of the youngest farmers of Alliance township, Clay county, who has but recently essayed independent farming in Minnesota, and from the industry and energy which he displays, his friends are warranted in the expectation that he will soon take his place among the most solid and prosperous farmers of this region.

Christ. Poehls, the father of Henry, was born in Germany, and coming to the United States, in 18—, has all his life followed farming. His wife was born in Germany.

Henry Poehls was reared and educated in Iowa, where he attended country school, and was early inured to hard work. He remained at home and assisted his father in the work of his farm until he was twenty-nine years of age. In 1899 he was married to Miss Dora Wright, a native of Minnesota. Her father, Christ Wright, is a prosperous farmer, and comes of pure German blood. Mr. and Mrs. Poehls have two children: Eddy and Mary.

Henry Poehls bought his farm in 1899, and at once began farming. Farm buildings and some other improvements were already on the place, but much work remained to be done. Now he owns a half section of land, with about two hundred and eighty acres under cultivation. He has an ample supply of machinery, and is building up a fine herd of cattle. The farm is fenced, and is regarded as one of the most desirable in the town.

Mr. Poehls is an old-line Democrat, and is known as one of the best and most reliable citizens and farmers of the county.

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#### JACOB J. IDE.

One of the extensive farms of Roome township, which is under high cultivation and furnishes a handsome income, is operated by the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this review. For many years Mr. Ide has fol-

lowed diversified farming in Polk county, and now controls four hundred acres of choice land, and is one of the prominent citizens of his community. His portrait may be found by his many friends upon another page of this book.

Our subject was born in Bergen, Norway, December 27, 1843, and was a son of Jacob Ide, a sea captain who lost his life when our subject was but four years of age. At the age of nine years he came to America with his widowed mother and they resided in Brooklyn four years. Our subject helped his mother by selling papers in the streets, attending school there meanwhile. Their residence in Brooklyn was prior to the days of horse cars in that city. When Jacob Ide was eleven years of age his mother remarried, becoming the wife of B. C. Jorgenson, and in 1856 the family removed to St. Paul, where our subject attended school, and soon after they moved to a farm in Wabasha county. In August, 1862, Mr. Ide enlisted in Company K, Eighth Minnesota Volunteers, serving until July, 1865. His regiment spent the first year fighting redskins, crossing the territory of Dakota through the "Bad Lands" into Montana and Idaho. In the "Bad Lands" they found no living thing, and on one side a cone rose one hundred feet, while on the other side was a pit of equal depth, with water in the bottom of such character that not more than a cupful could be obtained clear. At Killdeer mountain the loss on both sides was considerable, the Indians harassing them from the heights and firing into their camp below. A charge was made to dislodge them, but the soldiers were fatigued and many fell asleep at every halt. Their camp was invaded by stampeded buffaloes, one of the largest herds ever seen, and more than a hundred of the animals were killed and eaten by the soldiers. After the Indians had been scattered and brought to terms the regiment to which our subject belonged was sent south and joined the Twenty-third Army Corps under General Cox and later were under General Schofield. The regiment were in camp at Washington on frozen ground, waiting transportation south, the Potomac being frozen over, and spent three weeks there in their tents. They met Sherman at Goldsboro, and our subject participated in the last engagement with General Joseph Johnston. After being mustered out of the service in July, 1865, he returned to the farm in Wabasha county, Minnesota, and resided there until 1877, when he went to Polk county. He took government land in Andover township, and in 1880 bought land of Mr. Bivins in Roome township and moved thereon, keeping house alone for some years. He engaged in wheat and stock-raising and dairying, and has a comfortable home and a profitable business.

Mr. Ide was married, in November, 1889, to Miss Marie Knutson, a native of Norway. Mrs. Ide died of consumption in 1897. Mr. Ide married Miss Mary Knutson in 1898. The family circle is completed by the following children: Helen, John McKinley and George Clarence. Mr. Ide is prominent in local public affairs, and has served as chairman of the township board for the past fifteen years, and is the present assessor. He was the nominee of the Republican party for county treasurer in 1898, and enjoys the confidence of all with whom he has to do. He has always been a Republican and is firm in his convictions.

#### ROBERT M. CALDWELL (DECEASED).

Bloomer township, Marshall county, counted among her thrifty agriculturists many of the sturdy sons of Scotland and indeed the excellent management and strict integrity of these citizens are characteristics of the fatherland. The gentleman above named acquired a prominent place among this number and he had a home in section 21 where he was surrounded by all that goes to make country life pleasant. He was proprietor of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and successfully pursued diversified farming, until his death, which occurred May 12, 1901.

Mr. Caldwell was born in Airdrie, in the suburbs of Glasgow, Scotland, October 6, 1851. He was the fourth in a family of eleven children born to Alexander and Jannet (Montgomery) Caldwell. The family came to America in 1854, and located in Ashland county, Ohio, where our subject remained until 1867 working on a farm. He there acquired a practical knowledge of farming. The family removed to Canada and there purchased land and engaged in farming, and Mr. Caldwell remained at home until 1883, when he came again to the states and after traveling through several states he chose a home in Marshall county, Minnesota. He purchased the farm upon which he now resides in the spring of 1884, but for some years thereafter he worked for others at various occupations, passing some time in the woods and also working for the farmers of the neighborhood. In 1889 he invested his accumulated means in an ox team, and he also built a 12x16 feet shanty on his farm and lived therein alone for five years. This building is still in excellent condition. Mr. Caldwell prospered in his calling and became one of the substantial farmers of Bloomer township. His death was sincerely mourned by a large circle of friends.

Mr. Caldwell was married, in 1894, to Mrs. Charlotte Anderson, *nee* Palmquist. By her former marriage Mrs. Caldwell is the mother of

two children, namely: Hugo A. Anderson and Agnes N. Anderson. Mr. Caldwell was a prominent citizen of Bloomer township and for eight years served as assessor and continuously held township offices. He was especially active in educational affairs, and advocated comfortable school-houses and competent teachers. He was a Democrat politically and attended numerous county conventions for his party and was widely and favorably known. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

#### CAPTAIN JOHN S. HUNTSINGER.

Captain John S. Huntsinger, one of the most prominent citizens of Park Rapids, Minnesota, is an ex-soldier and resides in his comfortable home in that city. He is retired from active pursuits, but keeps pace with the times in all matters and is especially interested in the welfare of his community.

Captain Huntsinger was born in Indiana, December 25, 1829, and was a son of Joseph and Susanna (Schock) Huntsinger, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. He was raised in his native state and attended the common schools there and worked as clerk until 1862. He then enlisted in the Twenty-second Indiana Battery and Light Artillery and served six months. He then assisted in raising the Colvins's Battery, Illinois Light Artillery, afterwards known as Company K, First Regiment Illinois Light Artillery; was in turn second lieutenant, first lieutenant and captain. He went through the southern states and participated in a number of important engagements and skirmishes and raids, burning railroad bridges and Confederate buildings. He escaped being wounded by the enemy, but was injured by a horse falling on him while engaged in battle and was disabled for six months. He served from August 23, 1862, to July 15, 1865, and was a loyal and brave soldier.

After the close of the war Captain Huntsinger returned to Indiana, where he remained a short time, and then went to Iowa, where he resided about nine years. He then returned to Indianapolis and acted as cashier of a bank in that city six years. He located in Park Rapids, Minnesota, in 1882, and soon after his arrival was forced to the front as a leader of public affairs. He was deputy clerk and register of deeds until 1900, and held the register of deeds office for fourteen years. He is retired from business life. He, however, interests himself in local affairs and wields an influence for good government and the social and financial betterment of the locality in which he makes his home. He has a residence and six lots in the village of Park Rapids.



Captain Huntsinger was married, in 1852, to Martha I. Galbraith. Mrs. Huntsinger was born in Indiana, January 26, 1829, and died May 7, 1898. Eight children have been born to Captain and Mrs. Huntsinger, three of whom are now living, and are as follows: Nancy M., Mary J. and Alice C. Belle D. died at thirty-six years of age, in 1897. Captain Huntsinger is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Grand Army of the Republic.

#### GUSTAVE DEMARS, M. D.

Among the professions there is probably no more exacting one than that of medicine, and the pioneer physicians of a country are placed in position to realize this to the fullest extent. During the early settlement of Kittson county, Minnesota, the gentleman whose name heads this review followed the practice of medicine amid dangers and hardships which can hardly be imagined by the present settler of that region. He was skilled in his profession, and ready with his aid for every sufferer and his calls extended far and wide. He made many trips to the Indian village over seventy-five miles distant from his home, and thus brought relief to the little settlement of Chippewas. He became endeared to them, and his life and labors in Kittson county and vicinity have made him a host of friends, who seek his counsel and honor his name. Dr. Demars has a pleasant home in Hallock, where he has resided for many years.

Dr. Demars was born in the province of Namur, Belgium, December 2, 1835, and is a descendant of an old French family. After receiving his education in the common schools he spent four years in Carlsbad, and there began the study of medicine. He started for America in 1857, and after a three-months' voyage reached Chicago early in the spring of 1858 and at once entered the office of Dr. Brainard. During the Civil war he cared for sick soldiers, many times going to the front to aid and care for wounded men. He followed his profession in Kankakee and St. Anne, Illinois, and in 1870 permanently located in Chicago. He built up an extensive practice and received the best of practical training, and became a proficient physician. He went to Hallock, Kittson county, Minnesota, in 1883, the town then consisting of but about a dozen houses, and from that point he practiced through Kittson county and from Crookston to Winnipeg. On many of his long drives to a suffering family he did not meet a person, although this section is now the scene of busy agricultural life. He, however, went in those early days with a willingness which commended him to all, and he now enjoys a liberal patronage. He is a popular

family physician, and during his professional life he has gathered material and is arranging charts with the idea of publishing in the near future a volume for mothers.

Dr. Demars was married, in 1864, to Miss Elize Reeves. Four children are living to Mr. and Mrs. Demars, who are as follows: Lizzie, now Mrs. Robertson; Stella, now Mrs. Nelson; Gustave G.; and Ralph. Dr. Demars is an active worker for the upbuilding of his community, and he assisted in the organization of Hallock village, and served as mayor of the village for two years. Politically he is identified with the Democratic party, and is a Lincoln-Jefferson follower. He takes great interest in public matters and has spoken on various occasions to French audiences on political issues. Dr. G. Demars was for four years a supervisor in St. Anne, Illinois, and for four years a justice of the peace in Chicago, and was the first mayor of Hallock for two years. A portrait of Dr. Demars appears on another page in these memoirs.

#### MICHAEL DURKIN.

Michael Durkin, who is successfully engaged in farming on section 33, in the town of Hobart, Ottertail county, was born in Wassel, Staffordshire, England, a son of Thomas and Mary (McGuire) Durkin, both natives of Ireland, but residents of England for many years. Thomas Durkin was a miner, and died when his son, Michael, was a child of five years. He was the father of six children, of whom his oldest child, Thomas, died at the age of two years; John was the second child; the others in their order were: Michael, James, Mary and Dennis. The mother was again married, after the death of Mr. Durkin, to Patrick Murphy, and he brought his wife and children to this country in 1867. The following year they lived in Wyandotte, Kansas, but soon removed to Missouri, and, in 1874, sought a home in Minnesota, where Mr. Murphy pre-empted eighty acres of land on section 26, of Hobart township, which was later changed in the entry papers to a homestead, covering an additional eighty acres. At a later period still he secured a third eighty, making a fine Minnesota farm of two hundred and forty acres in all.

Michael Durkin received a little schooling in England before coming to this country, but the most of his education was obtained in the public schools of this country. He was introduced to hard work, however, early in life, and secured employment on the railroad, in the saw mills and on the farm, as the opportunity presented itself.

In 1878 Mr. Durkin bought a quarter-section of land on section 33, Hobart township, on

which he built a house two years later. In 1882 he went to Dakota to take a position as section foreman on the Northern Pacific Railroad, which he held until 1884, when he came back to his farm.

Mr. Durkin was married November 23, 1881, to Margaret, a daughter of John and Mary (Qualey) O'Gorman. Her father was born in County Clare, Ireland, in 1816, and came to the United States in the fall of 1848. His wife was also born in County Clare, and their marriage took place in Albany, New York. Early in the '60s they came to Minnesota, and located in St. Paul, where he worked at the stone mason trade. In 1870 they came to Ottertail county, making a homestead settlement of eighty acres in Gorman township, named in honor of him, where he became the owner of two hundred acres, and was known as a prominent and influential farmer.

John and Mary O'Gorman were the parents of nine children, of whom the first died unnamed; Michael is a farmer in Hobart township; Daniel is a farmer in Gorman township. The others are: John, Catherine, Mary, Margaret, David and Richard. When Catherine O'Gorman was two and a half years old she strayed from her father's house one busy day, and was lost in the forest two and a half days and two busy nights. Diligent search was made for her by parents and friends, and the entire country side was aroused. People came from Minneapolis and other distant places stirred by the thought of a little child in the forest. Her little bare feet could here and there be traced, as a little summer rain had fallen, and her tracks were plainly visible in places where she had toddled from the woods into the timber roads, and back again into the forest. She was lightly clad in a low-necked dress with short sleeves. As the hours went by her parents were almost distracted, never expecting to see her again. Eventually she was found only three-quarters of a mile from home, and lived to marry, becoming herself the mother of ten children. She died in 1894, at the age of thirty-four years.

John O'Gorman took an active interest in the affairs of his township, and was chairman of the board of supervisors for fifteen years, having been town treasurer in Dakota county before his coming to Ottertail. His death occurred in November, 1883, eleven weeks after the death of his wife.

Michael Durkin and wife are the parents of a family of six children, of whom Grace, the oldest, is a school teacher. The others are Irene, Blanche, Georgiana, Ralph and Catherine. Mr. Durkin is endeavoring to give all his children as good an education as his circumstances permit. He is a member of the town school board, and has been supervisor for eight years, a position

which he is occupying at the present time. For two years he held the office of town treasurer.

With the exception of Capt. Wellman, Mr. Durkin is the oldest settler now living in the town of Hobart, and was the first man to drive a team from Perham to Lake Sybil, near his home.

Mr. Durkin is the proprietor of a very choice farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he devotes to general farming, having good average crops of grain, and meeting with much success in the culture of corn. He has ten head of cattle, horses sufficient to his needs, and makes a very creditable display of hogs. Mr. Durkin deserves a prominent place among the industrious and up-to-date farmers of his neighborhood. In politics he affiliates with the Populist party, and in religion the family are all associated with the Catholic church.

#### BENDT O. HITTERDAHL.

Among the highly cultivated and well improved farms of Clay county, that owned and operated by Bendt O. Hitterdahl, located in section 8, of Highland Grove township, takes a foremost place. Mr. Hitterdahl has spent the past thirty years on this estate, and he has met with pronounced success in its operation. He is a man of unswerving character, industrious, energetic and progressive, and with these attributes has marched steadily forward to his present high station as an agriculturist and citizen.

Our subject is a native of Norway and was born November 30, 1855. His parents, Ole and Betsy (Hartsie) Hitterdahl, were also natives of Norway. Our subject was reared in his native land and received a good common-school education. He left Norway at the age of fourteen years, locating in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he remained one year. He then spent one year in Winneshiek county, Iowa, and in 1871 went to Clay county, Minnesota. He at once took land as a homestead in section 8 of Highland Grove township, and has since made his residence there. He now owns four hundred and sixty acres of land, of which three hundred acres is under cultivation, and he has plenty of meadow and pasture land. He keeps twenty-four head of cattle and ten horses, and engages in diversified farming with success. He has placed valuable improvements on the farm, including a complete set of substantial farm buildings, and wind mill, farm machinery, etc., and has every convenience for economically conducting the place. His residence is pleasantly located in a grove and is a two-story structure containing ten rooms. He has a commodious barn and large

storage space therein for hay and also storage room for other products of the farm. Our subject personally superintends the work of the place and every detail is carefully looked after.

Mr. Hitterdahl was married in 1882 to Annie Larson, who was born in Wisconsin, May 11, 1856. To this union six children have been born, namely: Paul, Oliver, Albert, Joseph, Henry, Edjule and Bernard. Mr. Hitterdahl has always taken a commendable interest in the affairs of his township and has served as justice of the peace six years. He is an educational worker and held the office of school treasurer for ten years. He enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellowmen, and is a citizen of sterling worth. He is a member of the Lutheran church. In political faith he is a Populist.

#### JOHN W. BRAGG.

John W. Bragg, a well known resident of Ogelvie, Kanabec county, Minnesota, was born in Red Wing, Minnesota, in 1863, and is a son of Ezekial Bragg, a contractor and builder through all his active years, and a farmer the latter portion of his life. Prominent in politics, the paternal Bragg was judge of probate in Stevens county for six years. He was born in New York, and came of Scotch antecedents. His wife, Mary Howe, the mother of John W., was born in Scotland, and was brought to this country by her parents when a baby.

John W. Bragg is the fourth member of a family of thirteen children reared and educated by his parents in Red Wing, and remained at home to assist his father on the farm until he reached his majority, when he started out in the world for himself. He was engaged in lumbering and in sawmill work in Barron county, Wisconsin, for a period of ten years, covering in the course of his labors much of the northern portion of that state. In 1890 he came to Kanabec county, and located at Ogelvie when it consisted of a section house, a siding and one store, and here in 1895 he opened a general store, which was the only store in town at that time. He had a building, 20x30 feet, and as he handled what the community wished and had natural mercantile abilities of a high order, his trade has rapidly increased, compelling the erection of a new store, in 1901, 26x50 feet, two stories high, and a warehouse in the rear, for agricultural machinery. This is one of the largest stores in the county, and does a business of about two thousand dollars a month. Mr. Bragg is also extensively interested in real estate in company with George Hinchy.

John W. Bragg was married, in 1893, to Miss Mary Anderson, born at Ellsworth, Wisconsin, of Danish descent, by whom he has two children, Robert and Ethel, both of whom were born at Ogelvie.

Mr. Bragg is a Republican, and is town clerk, having been on the town board, and is now a member of the Republican county committee. He has taken an active part in politics, and has been a delegate on several occasions to both county and state conventions.

#### CHRISTIAN O. HAWKINS.

It is well to review the lives of the young men of Norman county who are fast becoming prominent business men and following successfully the plans and channels of business life and society mapped out by the older members of the community who began the development of the country and are entitled to much praise for their efforts. Among the young business men of Shelly, Norman county, none stands higher or has more friends than the subject of this personal history. Mr. Hawkins saw the possibilities open to a young man of energetic character in the drug trade of Shelly, and he located in that thriving town determined to succeed. His present extensive trade bears testimony of his prosperity as a result of his efforts.

Our subject was born in Norman county, Minnesota, September 16, 1876, and was a son of Andrew and Sarah (Brandt) Hawkins, both of whom were born in Norway. He received his education in the country schools near Halstad, Minnesota, and then entered the high school at the age of fifteen years. Graduating from this institution he began to learn the drug trade and completed a course of instructions in the National Institute of Pharmacy in Chicago, receiving a diploma from that institution in 1897. In April, 1901, he graduated from the Minnesota Institute of Pharmacy at Minneapolis. He clerked in a drug store owned by John E. Fladeland, in Portland, North Dakota, and then went to Hillsboro, where he was employed by C. J. Floberg until 1898. In that year he established himself in the drug trade in Shelly, Norman county, and has continued there since that date. He has added to his stock as circumstances permitted and as patronage justified and now carries a complete line of drugs and druggist's sundries, valued at about three thousand dollars. The business is conducted under the firm name of the Shelly Pharmacy.

Mr. Hawkins is a young man of patriotic nature, and at the outbreaking of the recent war he enlisted in Company L, First Infantry of North Dakota, under Charles W. Morgan. He

participated in the campaign under Amasa P. Peas, in command of the regiment. Mr. Hawkins is popular in secret society circles and holds membership in Lodge No. 114, Knights of Pythias, and also several mutual life associations. He casts his ballot for the Republican ticket and stands firm for the principles of that party.

#### HON. EDMUND C. WESTON.

Probably no man in Ottertail county is better known than the gentleman whose name heads this brief biography. Mr. Weston has displayed a commendable interest in the public affairs of the locality in which he resides, and by his faithful service for his fellow citizens has gained an enviable reputation as a citizen of true worth. He is intelligent and progressive, and in business matters is judicious and energetic, and to these characteristics much of his success is due. He is the owner of one of the well cultivated tracts of Ottertail county, and has a pleasant home in Paddock township, where he has resided for many years. His farm consists of one hundred and sixty acres of land, and the residence is located on section 22 of the above named township.

Mr. Weston was born in Smithfield, Madison county, New York, April 30, 1838. His parents were James and Miranda (Look) Weston, the former a native of the state of Maine and the latter born in New York. The father was a farmer by occupation, and in 1851 moved with his family to Wisconsin, and settled on a farm of eighty acres in Waukesha county. He died there in 1861. The mother afterward married George O'Brien, and one son, Thomas, was born of the second marriage. The children of the first marriage were two sons and one daughter, namely: Edmund C., Lloyd L. and Clarinda Jane. The mother survives and makes her home with her children in Wisconsin.

Edmund C. Weston attended the public schools in Smithfield, Madison county, New York (a town named in honor of Garret Smith), and completed his education in the graded schools of Waukesha. He also worked on the farm and has since followed that occupation. He enlisted in Company K, Forty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry, in April, 1865, and did service on the borders of Kansas and Missouri, and later crossed the plains and was stationed at Denver, Fort Lyons and Pueblo, Colorado. He remained in the service one year, and was mustered out at Leavenworth, Kansas. He received his honorable discharge at Madison, Wisconsin, in 1866. He now draws a pension from the government, and is recognized as a brave and loyal citizen. After the close of the

war he returned to his farm in Wisconsin, and remained there until 1868, when he went to Butler county, Iowa, and thence to Ottertail county, Minnesota, where he entered a homestead claim to the quarter section upon which he now makes his home. He gives considerable attention to dairy farming, and is a patron of the creamery at Paddock, which has recently been established. He has a small herd of cows and his farm is admirably adapted to dairying. The Red Eye river flows through the center of the farm, and no pains are spared by Mr. Weston in making the place produce a good income through economical and proper management. He is now living in the second residence which he has erected on the place, and has a comfortable and pleasant home, and has a good barn, granary and other farm buildings.

Mr. Weston was married in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, in December, 1862, to Hulda Hills, daughter of Cromwell and Lucy Hills. Mrs. Weston's father was a farmer of Wisconsin, and both parents of Mrs. Weston are now deceased. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Weston, as follows: Stephen Wallace, a farmer and operator of a sawmill in Ottertail county, is married and has four children. Ina Belle, the wife of George E. Warner, a farmer of Paddock township. They are the parents of one child. Lauren is married, and is the father of two children. They reside with our subject. James Lloyd is a farmer and fruit grower of Ohio. George Arthur is a lumberman and makes his home with his parents. The youngest child, Albert Julian, is also engaged in lumbering.

Mr. Weston has always championed the principles of the Republican party, and on that ticket was elected, in 1899, to the thirty-first session of the state legislature, and filled the position in a faithful and dignified manner, with credit to himself and his constituents. He was renominated by acclamation, but was defeated by a small adverse majority. Among other measures which he originated was the bill known as the cemetery bill, which provided for the care of cemeteries by the town board at the expense of the public treasury. He was the author of the bill which was carried through by Henry Plowman, representative from Hobart township, Ottertail county. He has filled most of the township offices, including assessor, member of the school board, justice of the peace and supervisor, and was chairman of the board of supervisors. He is a member of the G. A. R. post at Wadena. He is active in political work and attends the county and state conventions of his party. Among his associates of his boyhood days Mr. Weston had the present Senator Knute Nelson, of Alexandria, and an intimate schoolmate in the late Senator Cushman J. Davis, of Minne-

apolis. Mr. Weston has gained a wide circle of acquaintances and is universally esteemed and respected.

#### JAMES McDONALD.

James McDonald, one of the early settlers of Polk county, has accumulated a valuable property in Nesbit township. He is an energetic farmer, and has taken great pains in the development of his homestead, adding to its value and beauty by the careful culture of trees, shrubs and other ornaments and improvements which greatly enhance the value of his estate.

Mr. McDonald was born in western Ontario, December 6, 1853, and was the second in a family of ten children born to Donald and Ellen (Hannah) McDonald. His childhood was spent on the farm in Canada, and he left his home there in 1876. He went to Polk county, Minnesota, and has since resided there. Soon after locating there he filed a homestead claim to one quarter of section 32, in Nesbit township. This is his present home, and by its pleasant location and good improvements evidences what may be accomplished in northern Minnesota by industry and perseverance. Mr. McDonald has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits, and has become thoroughly acquainted with the operation of a model farm. Fortune has favored him, and he has added to his acreage, as circumstances justified, and is now the owner of five hundred and sixty acres of valuable farm lands. He has given considerable attention to the improvement of his immediate home surroundings, and his efforts are rewarded by the enjoyment of a pleasant and comfortable home.

Mr. McDonald was married in 1878 to Miss Isabel Miller, also of Canada. This union has been blessed by the birth of the following children: Ethel Ellen, William James, Eva Belle, Daniel Lloyd, Mabel Jennie, Maggie Fern, Roy Herbert, Kate Gladys and Mary Edith. Mr. McDonald, with his family, worships in the Presbyterian church, he being a member of that denomination. He also holds membership in the I. O. O. F. and in the I. O. F. He is a Republican politically and stands firmly for his convictions and lends his influence for the principles of his party. He is a citizen of true worth in his community, and has always taken an active part in township affairs and served as a member of the township board for a number of years.

#### NELS CHRIST NELSON.

The younger men of a community are the ones who are responsible in a large degree for the future of the country where they reside. The gentleman above named has located in Detroit town-

ship, Becker county, where he follows agriculture and by his industrious habits and active public spirit has proven himself a citizen of most exemplary character. He is one of the men upon whom the region in which he lives may depend for a prosperous future and morality. He has built for himself an enviable name and a comfortable home in section 16.

Our subject was born in the state of New York July 11, 1873, and was a son of Martin and Christina Nelson, both of whom were natives of Denmark. He left New York with his parents at the age of two years and went to Ohio, and from there at the age of nine years to Minnesota, his father purchasing a farm in Becker county. He attended school at Detroit until he was fourteen years of age, and after passing his boyhood there he went to Hillsboro, North Dakota, where he remained three years. He then returned to Becker county, Minnesota, and purchased a farm of one hundred acres. He has fifty acres under cultivation, and the rest of the land is timber and pasture land. A good residence and good barn, with other necessary buildings, complete a home of many comforts. Water is plentiful, and he has a good supply of farm machinery, and conducts a model place. He keeps three horses for the work of the farm and six head of cattle for dairy purposes, and derives a good income from each feature of the place.

Our subject was married in 1896 to Mary Johnson, who was born in Sweden May 28, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are the parents of two children, Martin and Nora. Mr. Nelson and family are members of the Lutheran church at Detroit City, and are actively interested in the affairs of that denomination, and are held in high esteem by their neighbors and friends. Our subject is a young man of good education and studies the topics of the day, and is identified with the reform principles of the Populist party.

#### OLE C. RIAN.

Ole C. Rian, well known as one of the old settlers and influential business men of Ottertail county, whose portrait appears elsewhere in this volume, does an extensive business in general merchandise at Elizabeth, and is the oldest resident settler of that city. He is a man of excellent business capacity and from a meager start has built up a profitable and increasing trade.

Mr. Rian was born on a farm near Trondhjem, Norway, January 27, 1847. His parents were natives of Norway, but of their work and lives our subject knows little, having left home at an early age. He was the fourth in a family of six children and was reared on a farm. While still a boy he went to sea as a fisherman, and

since he was ten years of age has been self-supporting. He followed fishing about seven years, sailing along the coast of Norway, and in 1869 came to America, landing at Quebec, Canada. He went at once to Red Wing, Minnesota, and his first work was on the Hastings & Dakota Railroad with a wheelbarrow and shovel. He received a dollar and a quarter per day and his board, and he followed this work two seasons. He still has eighteen dollars wages due him from this railroad. He spent the winters in Wisconsin chopping cord wood. In 1871 Mr. Rian came to Ottertail county, locating at Elizabeth, where he secured employment as clerk for Jacob Maurin, and he followed this work one year and then clerked in the same store for Maurin Brothers until 1884. He then established his present business in Elizabeth, opening the store for business September 24, 1884. He had a stock of about three thousand dollars, and this was in a building 40x24 feet. The business has been a paying one from the start, and he now carries a general line of goods and occupies a store 24x72 feet, with an addition, 18x72 feet, and conducts one of the largest general merchandise establishments of the county. Mr. Rian has a pleasant home in Elizabeth and attends personally to the business of which he is the head.

Mr. Rian was married, in 1877, to Miss Bertha Lill, a native of Germany. Mrs. Rian's father, Anton Lill, was a farmer by occupation, and one of the pioneers of Ottertail county. Mr. and Mrs. Rian are the parents of eight children, all of whom were born in Elizabeth, and are named as follows: Joseph, Annie, Ida, Robert, Wencel, Martha, Charlie and Lawrence. Mr. Rian has always taken an active interest in local matters and has served as town clerk and a member of the village council. He is active in educational affairs and has served as school clerk. He is an independent voter and lends his influence for good government, national and local. He is an enterprising and worthy citizen and enjoys well merited success in his business and an enviable name as a man.

#### NELSE E. GREFTE.

Nelse E. Grefte occupies a high station as an enterprising agriculturist and worthy citizen of Clay county, Minnesota. His home is on section 32 of Goose Prairie township, and he is one of the early settlers of that locality. He is proprietor of a fine farm, and has accumulated his property by dint of his own industry and good management.

Mr. Grefte was born in Sweden July 8, 1845, and was a son of Erick and Carrie (Johnson) Johnson, both of whom were natives of that

country. He was reared in his native land and received his education in the common schools there, and at the age of twenty-five years made his way to America in search of better opportunities to earn a living and provide a home for himself. He located in Minnesota, and was engaged at railroad carpenter work in Winona for three years. After six years, residence there he removed to Fillmore county, and spent two years there as carpenter. In 1878 he took up his residence in Clay county, taking one hundred and sixty acres of land as a homestead in Goose Prairie township. He lived in his barn with the horses for the first two years, and then built a two-story house, containing seven rooms. He now has good farm buildings and has prospered since taking up his residence there. He is the owner of two hundred and forty acres of land, all but forty acres of which are under the plow. He keeps four horses for farm use and about fifteen head of cattle, and he has a good supply of farm machinery. A grove which protects the farm buildings adds to the value of the property, and the home is one of comfort in every particular.

Mr. Grefte was married in 1875 to Tone Gunderson. Mrs. Grefte was born in Norway October 10, 1847. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Grefte, named as follows: Cora C., Annette E., Gina B., Nelse Theodore, Caroline Leonora and Edward A. Our subject is a man of industrious habits and good judgment and management. He is interested in all local affairs of a public nature, and has served as supervisor of his township and school director. He is a member of the Lutheran church of Hitterdahl, and is very active in church work, being deacon of that denomination. Politically he is a Populist and is firm in his convictions.

#### LUTHER H. BRYAN.

Luther H. Bryan, general foreman of the Duluth & Iron Range Railway, is a man of wide experience in railroad work, and is a machinist of thorough and practical ability. He has a pleasant home at Two Harbors, and is a well-known citizen of Lake county.

Mr. Bryan was born at Waverly, Bremer county, Iowa, June 30, 1864, and is of English-Dutch extraction. His great-grandfather emigrated to America with his family. Mr. Bryan is the oldest son in a family of three children. He lived in Chicago until five years of age, and then spent his boyhood in Aurora, Illinois, where he completed his education in the common and select schools and the Jennings Seminary, which institution he attended three years. Aside from the regular studies of this school, he completed



a business course. He entered the railway shops of the Chicago & Iowa Railway, now a branch of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, at about the age of fifteen years, and served as an apprentice one year. He began as fireman at the age of sixteen, and after three years was promoted to locomotive engineer, in 1884. He followed this work until October, 1891, with the exception of one year spent in the machine shops. He has worked on four of the principal railways of the country as a machinist and engineer. He went to Two Harbors, Minnesota, January 7, 1893, and was machinist on the Duluth & Iron Range Railway for two years, and January 1, 1895, was appointed assistant general foreman, and general foreman January 1, 1896. He is faithful in the discharge of his duties, and fills the position to the satisfaction of all.

Mr. Bryan was married October 7, 1885, to Miss Maude J. Edwards. Mrs. Bryan was born at Mendota, Illinois. Her father, Dr. Joseph W. Edwards, served about five years in the Civil war as surgeon. Mr. and Mrs. Bryan are the parents of two children, Pansy, born July 16, 1886, and Corinne, born July 25, 1897. Mr. Bryan has taken a prominent part in the affairs of his community and served as village justice for two years. He is a staunch Republican, and has served on the county central committee two years. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and has taken the Scottish Rite degrees, and is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of Pythias, and other fraternal organizations.

#### JOHN SWANSON.

John Swanson, whose home is in section 13, of Alliance township, Clay county, was born in Smoland, in the south central part of Sweden, in 1840. His father was a farmer in Sweden, and served in the Swedish army, as did John Swanson. He was the third and next to the youngest child born to his parents, both of whom were dead by the time he was ten years old, leaving him to struggle against the world for his living. For a time he worked as a farm hand, served three years in the army, and for five years was a laborer on the railroads. For four years he worked in the mines, and while there employed had a narrow escape from death, when the mine caved in, hitting him with a large rock and pinning him against the wall, perfectly helpless until his rescue. Mr. Swanson resumed his railroad work, and after about a year, in 1871, he sought a home in the United States, coming by way of New York direct to St. Paul, where he remained about four months, and then entered the lumber woods near Brainerd. The following summer he came to Glyndon, Minne-

sota, and in the fall to Moorhead, when there were only three houses in the place. The same year he reached Bismarck, being all the time engaged in railroad work. In 1873 he was employed the greater part of the time in farm work near Moorhead and two years later he took up a homestead near Mapleton, North Dakota. There he put up a shanty and "batched" four years. He began with ox-teams and remained on this farm about four years, when he sold out, and coming to Moorhead was busied at anything he could get to do for about two years. He was married, in 1882, to Miss Mary Erickson, who was born in Sweden, and came to this country in 1880. Her father was a farmer and died in Sweden.

Mr. and Mrs. Swanson have six children: Martina, who is a school teacher; Gus Edward; Anton; Arthur, deceased; Selma; Lillie, deceased. All were born in Moorhead.

Mr. Swanson remained in Moorhead many years after his marriage. In 1883 he opened a hotel and saloon, which he named the Erickson House, and which he ran fourteen years. He was alderman in the city council, and built up a good business. In 1897 he rented the hotel and the following year it was destroyed by fire, being a total loss, there being but a very small insurance on the property. Mr. Swanson came to his home farm in section 13, 1897, a place he had bought the previous year, and to this he devotes all his attention. It comprises two hundred acres, and all but about thirty acres are under cultivation. Whisky creek runs through it from south to north. At the present time he is mostly engaged in grain farming.

#### JOHN DUNDAS.

The successful pursuit of farming requires a thorough knowledge of a diversity of subjects and practical experience contributes largely to this knowledge. The gentleman above named has devoted his life to the calling of an agriculturist and his wide knowledge of times and seasons and his close observation of nature and results have served him well. He is a scientific and methodical farmer and has a home of great comfort in section 15 of Bloomer township, and is one of the highly esteemed citizens of Marshall county. His farm consists of one hundred and sixty acres and he crops annually about three hundred acres.

Mr. Dundas was born in Forfarshire, Scotland, December 13, 1839. After attaining his majority he was engaged as foreman for Mr. Faireweather in Scotland, and as land steward near Montrose. He resided in his native land until 1882, and then decided to try his fortunes

in the new world. His sons had taken up their residence in Marshall county, Minnesota, and the possibilities afforded in the northwest were presented to the father and he accordingly crossed the ocean and upon his arrival became satisfied of good results from careful tillage of the soil and the improvement of the region by the pioneers and accordingly settled there. He purchased the land in Bloomer township, on which he now makes his home, and for four years worked Mr. Winchester's farm in Polk county. In 1887 he took up his residence on his own land and has since improved the same and developed a valuable estate. Painstaking care is evidenced on the farm and the yield is always good and the farm well managed in every detail. Mr. Dundas has accumulated for himself and family a good home in Minnesota and is thoroughly identified with the advancement and development of his adopted state.

Mr. Dundas was married, in 1860, to Williamina Urquhart. The forty years of their married life has been blessed by the birth of eleven children, ten of whom are now living, namely: Mary Ann, now Mrs. Carnegie; Thomas, engaged in farming in North Dakota; Christina, then Mrs. Williams, who was killed by lightning in 1895; James O., a prosperous farmer of Marshall county; John R., also farming in Marshall county; Wilhelmina, now Mrs. Cargill; David, clerking in Argyle; Katherine, now Mrs. Anderson, residing in Roseau county; Margaret, a teacher attending the St. Cloud Normal; Susanna F., also a teacher by profession; Charles, a teacher, residing at home. All the children are natives of Scotland. Mr. Dundas is a man of broad mind and active public spirit, but does not seek public preferment. He is non-partisan in politics and lends his influence for good government, national and local, and is deservedly one of the respected and esteemed citizens of his township.

#### OLE VEGAR.

Among the influential early settlers of Hamden township, Becker county, who have gained a comfortable competence and the respect and esteem of their fellow men, may be noted Ole Vegar. He resides in section 6, and is a thorough agriculturist and has made a success of his vocation.

Ole Vegar was born on a farm in Lom Guldbrandsdalen, Norway, in 1852. His father, Rasmus Vegar, was a native of Norway, and was a farmer by occupation and spent his life in his native land. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Tora Oleson. Of a family of six children Mr. Vegar was the youngest, and he was raised on a farm and received his

education in the country schools. He remained at home until he was twenty-eight years of age, assisting his father with the work of the farm, and he then decided to seek his fortunes in this land. He came to New York City in 1880, and at once came to Brown county, Minnesota, and there worked at farm labor three years. He then came to Becker county in 1883 and took land as a homestead in section 6 of Hamden township. This was wild land, and on the farm he erected a log house and with a team of oxen began the improvement of his farm. He is the owner of seventy acres of land, of which forty-five acres are under cultivation and the balance is devoted to pasture and hay land. He has erected a complete set of excellent farm buildings, including a comfortable residence, barn, machine shed, granary and other outbuildings, and has a plentiful supply of farm machinery on the place. An abundance of water from two wells on the place makes it one of the valuable farms of the community, and he has met with decided success in diversified farming, and raises some cattle.

Mr. Vegar was married in 1882 to Miss Engra Erickson, who was born in Norway and was a daughter of a farmer of that country. Mrs. Vegar came to America in 1880. Mr. Vegar is a Populist politically, and is a staunch advocate of reform principles. He is a consistent member of the Lutheran church at Lake Park, and takes an active interest in works of his church and denomination. He is an exemplary citizen, enterprising and public spirited, and his success and good name are well merited.

#### DANIEL McLAREN.

Daniel McLaren, a resident of Hinckley, Pine county, Minnesota, was born in 1851, and is counted at the present time among the most substantial as well as useful men of the community. He is a native of Canada, as is also his father, John McLaren, who married Margaret Sneth, of English parentage, but born on the Atlantic ocean, while her parents were making the voyage to America.

Daniel McLaren was reared in Canada, and had but a limited schooling in that city, as he was early thrown on his own resources to shift for himself. In his earliest years he worked on the farm, and learned the blacksmith trade in the United States. In 1875 he came to Minnesota, making his headquarters in Minneapolis and working at his trade in various parts of Minnesota during the summer season, and in the winter engaging in lumbering and blacksmithing.

Mr. McLaren came to Hinckley and bought the lot on which his present shop is located, in 1882, putting up here one of the first blacksmith

shops in the place. Mr. McLaren was associated in this enterprise with O. C. Cox, and their partnership continued until 1899, when it was terminated by the death of that gentleman. Mr. McLaren increased the capacity of their shop from time to time, and in 1894, at the time of the Hinckley fire, it consisted of a building 40x61 feet. At the present time Mr. McLaren owns one of the best equipped shops along the line. He is also the inventor of the McLaren patent sled, the right of which is now held by Nichols & Dean, of St. Paul.

Mr. McLaren was an eye-witness to the Hinckley fire and saw everything he owned go up in ashes. He was one of the local committee on the rebuilding of the town, and was chosen by people who were still sheltered from the fire behind a box car. As chairman of the relief committee he aided largely in the rebuilding of the village.

Mr. McLaren was married in the spring of 1875 to Miss Agnes Scott, a native of St. Paul, Minnesota, and a member of an old family in New England. Her father, Henry H. Scott, was born at Newport, Vermont, and served four years and four months in the Civil war, as a member of the Third Vermont Volunteer Infantry, and of the Seventh U. S. Veteran Infantry. Mr. and Mrs. McLaren have one boy, Donald.

Mr. McLaren is a Republican, and has been president of the village board two times and school treasurer for nine years. Since he came to Hinckley he has taken a very active part in local affairs.

Before the Hinckley fire Mr. McLaren and his partner had a store. They also dealt in lumber, and for several years owned the only lumber yard in the town. Mr. McLaren is known as the oldest settler in Hinckley.

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#### HALVOR G. WOSFRET.

The Scandinavian peninsula has furnished some of the most progressive and enterprising settlers of the northwest, and Norway has been well represented among this number. The pioneers of Minnesota have labored persistently to bring that region into a high state of civilization, and their labors have not been in vain. No more thrifty agricultural locality can be found within its borders than in Clay county, and the farmers of Keene township have done their full share in bringing about this most pleasing result. Halvor G. Wosfret has resided on section 12 of this township for nearly a quarter of a century, and he has accumulated a fine property and gained an enviable reputation, also adding materially to the wealth of Clay county.

Mr. Wosfret was born in Norway July 4, 1860, and was a son of Gilbert and Gorie (Hawkinson) Oleson, both of whom were natives of Norway. He was reared in his native land and attended the common schools there, and at the age of seventeen years came to America, locating in Clay county in 1877. His father took land as a homestead and our subject entered a tree claim in 1890. He is now the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of land, half of which is under plow. He has erected good buildings upon his farm, including a comfortable dwelling and a commodious barn, and all conveniences for modern farming in the way of machinery, etc., are supplied. He has a fine grove around the buildings and his home is one of comfort. He keeps about ten horses and twenty head of cattle, and has a well-improved and well-stocked farm.

Mr. Wosfret was married in 1882 to Carrie Evanson. Mrs. Wosfret was born in Norway January 22, 1861. To this union six children have been born, namely: Gilbert H., Edward H., Ole H., Gilman, Mary and Annie. Mr. Wosfret takes an active interest in all local public affairs, and has served six years as school treasurer. He enjoys the confidence and esteem of his associates. He is a member of the Lutheran church. Politically he is identified with the Republican party. He keeps abreast of the times and is one of the worthy citizens of the community in which he makes his home.

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#### EUGENE GRANT, SR.

Eugene Grant, Sr., a prosperous and successful farmer of Clay county, is well known throughout his own and neighboring counties as one of the pioneers of northern Minnesota. His home is on section 18, of Glyndon township.

Mr. Grant, whose portrait is shown elsewhere in this volume, was born in Perry, New York, November 13, 1831. He was the second child in a family of two children born to Charles Grant and his second wife, whose maiden name was Matilda Moe. This family of Grants is related by blood to the celebrated family of U. S. Grant. Our subject's great-grandfather served in the early Indian wars of the United States, and his grandfather served in the war of the Revolution and his father in the war of 1812. The latter lived to be ninety-three years of age, and this characteristic of longevity has marked the entire history of the Grant family. About the year 1835 our subject's parents came west to Ann Arbor, Michigan, and two years later went to Lyons, that state.

Eugene Grant at the age of fifteen years left his father's farm in Clinton county, Michigan, and learned the carpenter's trade. He was one

of the first property owners of Saginaw, Michigan, where he lived about fourteen years. During this time he turned his attention to agriculture and developed a valuable farm in Huron county. In 1869 our subject went to Duluth, where he engaged for two years contracting on breakwater work. He returned to Duluth in 1873 and remained until 1877, at which time he located in Clay county, taking charge of Colonel C. E. Bostwick's farm, which he managed four years. He then opened up and took charge of the farm of C. P. Jones in Elmwood township. During this time he secured a tree claim and in 1882 began farming for himself. He had much difficulty in growing trees, and spent several hundred dollars in perfecting his title. He erected a comfortable house in 1887, and since that time has made many and valuable improvements.

Mr. Grant married, in 1854, Miss Charlotte Dickinson. Of this marriage three children have been born, namely: Frederick E., deceased; Jennie, now the wife of Rev. G. S. Pelton, a well-known pioneer minister of the gospel throughout Clay and Becker counties; and Eugene D., at home, in charge of the farm. Mr. Grant is a well known Republican and has been active in public matters. For seven years he served as town clerk and has been a member of the school board and enjoys the esteem and confidence of a wide circle of friends.

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#### CARSTEN STUHR.

Carsten Stuhr, a resident of section 4 of Euclid township, is one of the painstaking and prosperous farmers of Polk county. He has entered extensively into this business and has met with pronounced success, and is now the owner of two sections of land, all of which is under cultivation.

Mr. Stuhr was born in Hanover, Germany, February 23, 1837, and was the eldest of four children born to Daniel and Lucy (Schmedje) Stuhr. His parents died in their native land. Mr. Stuhr was reared on a farm and remained at home until he was thirty years of age, when letters from a brother in America decided him in trying his fortunes in this country. He arrived in South Boston in 1867, and went to work in the sugar refinery, and in 1868 he came to Goodhue county, Minnesota. After working out a time he secured a farm of his own, which he worked until 1880. In the fall of 1879 he made a visit to the Red river valley and bought a relinquishment of the quarter section of land upon which his farm buildings now stand, and he also secured a tree claim adjoining. In the spring of 1880 he removed his family to Polk county and began his

new home, and at once erected the comfortable residence which he now occupies. There were about one hundred acres of the land broken for crops, and his first crop was good. In 1883 he decided the country was good for agricultural advancement and he accordingly sold his farm in Goodhue county and invested the proceeds in Polk county lands. By 1897 he was in possession of twelve hundred and eighty acres of valuable land, and his success was assured. He now has a complete set of farm buildings on his home farm, including barns, granary, etc., and has a feed mill, and excellent flowing well, the water being soft and pure, and coming from a depth of seventy-five feet. Mr. Stuhr has given much attention to the introduction of good stock, and he has raised some fine horses. His crops have ranged in yield from seven to forty bushels of wheat per acre, and he is accorded a prominent place among the systematic and careful farmers of his region.

Mr. Stuhr was married in 1864 to Miss Elsie Rogge. To this marriage six children have been born, namely: Annie, now Mrs. L. Giese; Peter, farmer and grain buyer in Euclid; Katie R.; Mary, now Mrs. Charles Mead; Henry, practicing medicine in St. Paul; and John William, a student of McAllister College. Mr. Stuhr is a gentleman of active public spirit, and always enthusiastically endorses all enterprises and movements for the advancement and upbuilding of his community. He is an advocate of good educational systems and is an earnest worker for this end. Politically he is a Republican, and is a man who keeps pace with the times and lends his influence for good government, local and national.

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#### WILLIAM KING.

William King, a prosperous and respected farmer of Wyanette township, Isanti county, Minnesota, whose career is a story of persistent pluck and determined industry, was born in County Greenville, Ontario, Canada, January 20, 1833, a son of Robert King, a life-long farmer and a native of County Derry, Ireland. Robert King came to America in 1832, bringing his family with him and settling on a farm in Canada, which is still in possession of the family. In the rebellion of 1837 he served on the side of the government, and was in the battle of the Windmill.

William King was the oldest child of his parents, and his educational privileges were limited to a few days of school during the winter season, there was so much hard farm work to do, and he was set to it at a very early age. His father was a poor man in his youth, but died in good circumstances. At the age of twenty-two William King went to London, Canada, working in a

brick yard for four months, and then coming to Michigan, was employed on the log drives and in the lumber camps about two years. In 1857 he came into Minnesota, and for nine years had his headquarters in St. Anthony, now Minneapolis, being employed the most of that time in the lumber woods and in rafting, being in charge of crews for several years, often earning as much as a hundred dollars a month.

Mr. King was married in 1861, at Ogdensburg, New York, his wife dying about 1871, leaving four children: Mary Jane; Ida; Levi, who is now dead; and Elizabeth. In 1866 he located his family in Isanti county, taking land in section 10 of Wyanette township, being among the very first white settlers in the town. They came in from Princeton by the river. He put up a farm house, 16x20 feet, in which he lived fifteen years. The farm work was done by three yoke of oxen, and a tremendous amount of hard work was done in grubbing and clearing the land. At the present time he owns five hundred and sixty acres of choice land, free from debt and in good condition. He began with a quarter section and from time to time has bought land as the opportunity presented itself. He has one hundred and fifty acres under active cultivation, and follows general farming. The farm home is 30x22 feet, with an addition 16x24 feet; there are barns, granary, sheds, farm machinery, making it a well-equipped as well as a finely improved farm.

Mr. King is highly respected in the community in which so many years of his long and useful life have been passed, and has repeatedly been called to public position, having been supervisor, assessor and county commissioner, being elected to all these positions without solicitation or desire on his part. He is a Democrat.

Mr. King was married in 1873 to Ellen Miller, who was born in Canada, of Irish parentage. To this marriage have come the following children, all of whom are at home except the oldest: Robert, Wellington, Nelson, Laura and Ada.

#### ALBERT J. GROTHE.

A fair share of the wealth of Norman county, Minnesota, is gained from the farms of Hendrum township. Among those who have prospered in that locality may be mentioned Albert J. Grothe, whose home is in section 7, and whose labors in that region have done much to further its development. He was reared in Norman county, and is devoted to the interests of his adopted state, and has gained a good property and an enviable reputation.

Our subject was born on a farm in Trondjem, Norway, November 7, 1856. His father, John Grothe, was a farmer in Norway and came to

America in 1867, locating in Fillmore county, Minnesota. Our subject's mother, Karen Grothe, was of Norwegian birth and was reared in that country.

A. J. Grothe was the sixth in order of birth in a family of eight children, and he was reared to farm work, both in his native land and in America. He was educated in his mother tongue and also in English, and at the age of twelve years began to assist his father with the farm work. The family removed to Norman county, Minnesota, in 1871, driving overland with ox teams, taking six weeks for the trip. The father entered claim to land in Halstad township and later removed to Hendrum township. Our subject assisted in the development of the home farm and passed through pioneer experiences, driving oxen and breaking the raw land. He began for himself at the age of eighteen years and worked for the farmers of Fillmore county and also went to Minneapolis. He spent about four years thus and then returned to his boyhood home, and in 1878 took government land and began farming on a small scale, and worked at home also. He sold his homestead and purchased railroad land, and in 1883 began work on his place. He has continued its improvement and is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres of valuable land, well located, the Wild Rice river touching the west side of his farm. He has about one hundred and fifty acres under cultivation, and the balance is devoted to pasture and meadow land and timber, and he has met with good results in diversified agriculture. His farm buildings include a handsome and commodious residence, substantial barn, granary, machine shed, wood shed, ice house, etc., the complete set valued at about three thousand dollars. He has all necessary farm machinery, and the entire farm is well improved and equipped and is the pride of his township.

Our subject was married, in 1883, to Miss Karen Snustad, a native of Norway. Mrs. Grothe came to America about 1880. Her father, Ole Olson, was a native of Norway, and was a farmer by occupation. He passed his life in his native land. Mr. and Mrs. Grothe are the parents of seven children, who are named in order of birth as follows: Oliver, James, Christian, Carl, Bennett, Olena and Alma. Mr. Grothe is a gentleman who keeps pace with current events, and he has been called upon to serve his community in various local offices of trust. He has served in the capacity of township supervisor, and has otherwise aided in advancing good government and is popular with the people of Hendrum township. He is an independent voter and lends his influence for reform principles. He has attended as delegate numerous conventions of the party, and was one of the



first to join the ranks for reform. He is a consistent member of the Lutheran church, and is a gentleman in whom all may repose confidence and trust. His portrait is shown elsewhere in this volume.

### JACOB THOMAS.

For the past quarter of a century this gentleman has been one of the foremost agriculturists of Norman county, Minnesota. He has a pleasant home on section 10, in Mary township, and enjoys the fruits of honest and earnest toil. He is a man of excellent character, industrious and progressive, and is thoroughly identified with American civilization. He is the representative of a highly respected family, and is popular as a farmer and citizen.

Our subject was born in Paris, France, June 23, 1832. His father, John Thomas, was a native of Scotland, and his mother was born in Germany. Our subject remained in his native place until he was three years of age, when he went to Germany and remained there until he was eleven years of age, receiving his education in the schools of Germany. He emigrated to the United States in 1843, and spent thirteen years afterward in Dubuque, Iowa, being employed at farm labor, and in a store and mill, by a man named Schew. He worked in a mine at Cascade, Iowa, two years, and then conducted a restaurant until 1856, when he went to Minnesota. After spending one year in St. Paul he removed to Belle Plaine, and later removed to Shakopee, serving as sheriff of Scott county eight years. He removed to Moorhead after the expiration of his term of office, and after about two years went with General Custer and General Terry, remaining in the service five months, fighting Indians. After his return from the service he settled on the farm which he now occupies. His possessions at that time covered one hundred and sixty acres, but he has added to this tract, and is now the fortunate possessor of one half section of valuable land. He has erected a complete set of substantial farm buildings and uses approved methods in the operation of the place, and has supplied every convenience and a good supply of farm machinery for the easy garnering of the products of the farm. High water from the Wild Rice river has done damage to his crops at different times, and twice he suffered material loss by hail storms, but despite these drawbacks he has prospered and is now in easy circumstances.

Our subject was married in Dubuque, Iowa, to Miss Mary McLean. He resided there several years after his marriage, and the eldest of six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas is a native of Iowa. The others were born in Minnesota. The children are as follows: Peter, residing on

a farm in Norman county, Minnesota; Bert L., residing in Cando, North Dakota; Helena, residing in Fargo, North Dakota; Frances J., now Mrs. Shoobert; Emma, now Mrs. McLaughlin, residing in Cando, North Dakota; and Ellis N., residing at home. Mr. Thomas has been called upon to serve his community in various offices of trust, and has always been found willing to perform the duties of his office with fidelity. He has been chairman of the town board for several years. Politically he is a Democrat, and is a strong advocate of that party's principles. He has been a life-long member of the Catholic church, and is an exemplary citizen. During the early days in Minnesota he assisted in gathering the corpses of the victims of the Minnesota massacre at Mankato. After the Custer massacre he went to the Black Hills and hauled freight overland, enduring many hardships and encountering dangers on every side.

### SWAN JOHNSON.

Swan Johnson, one of the leading farmers of Morken township, Clay county, is a man who has fought his way out of privations and trials into his present independent circumstances. He knows what it is to struggle and endure, and be strong in the expectation of a better time coming.

Mr. Johnson was born in Skona, Sweden, in 1842, and is the son of a farmer, who was also a carpenter, and who died when he was a small lad, leaving him when seven years old to make his own way in the world. His schooling was of the most limited extent, as he taught himself to read and write. When he became a young man he served five years in the Swedish army, and then became a farmer, after having served a seven-years' apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade.

Mr. Johnson was married in 1869 to a Miss Chesta, who died in Sweden, leaving two children, both of whom have since died. In 1873 Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Elsa Larson, a native-born Norwegian. To this happy union have come the following children: Annie M., Axel, Louis, Edward, Emma and Nels. All these were born in the United States.

After his marriage Mr. Johnson lived six years in Sweden, and then came to the United States, landing in New York in the spring of 1880, and making his way at once to Moorhead. For some six years he found employment in and around that city. In 1886 he came to Morken and settled on section 6 of that township, buying his farm. He put up a shanty, 12x16 feet, and this was his home for some seven years. All his money was exhausted in the purchase of the place, and he had not a cent with which to begin farming



operations. His heart, however, was strong, and he persevered. For some years it was a struggle. His crops were drowned out by floods, and misfortunes of one kind or another attended him. Finally, however, he found his feet, and is quite prosperous and fore-handed. His house is fourteen feet square, with an addition 12x28 feet; his barn is 15x36 feet, and his granary fourteen feet square. He has enough machinery to do the work of the farm in good shape, and may fairly be pronounced a successful farmer. Mr. Johnson is a Republican, and belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church. He has sold his present home and bought another farm of one hundred and sixty-six acres in Georgetown township, to which he will move in the early part of 1902. It was wild land, but Mr. Johnson intends to make it one of the best farms in the township. He has made one fine farm and well knows how to make another.

#### ROBERT BAKER.

Among the younger representative agriculturists of Ottertail county a foremost place is accorded Robert Baker. He has spent his life in Lida township, and has gained a good knowledge of farming and made a success there, and now has a pleasant and comfortable home in section 12.

Mr. Baker was born in North Dakota May 12, 1873, and was a son of Harrison and Helen (Ulven) Baker. His father was a native of Kentucky, and the mother of our subject was born in Norway. The parents removed to Ottertail county, Minnesota, from North Dakota, when our subject was but one year of age, and the father took land as a homestead in Lida township, Ottertail county. He was one of the earliest settlers of that part of the country, and erected a log house on his farm and used oxen for the farm work in early days there. He made his living by cutting and hauling wood, and breaking his land for cultivation as fast as possible.

Robert Baker was educated in the common schools of his neighborhood, and at the age of seventeen years, upon the death of his father, he assumed control of the home farm. This consists of eighty acres of choice land, about half of which is under plow. He has a good residence thereon and other farm buildings for the shelter of stock and grain, and has a plentiful supply of farm machinery and equipments for economically conducting the place, and has made a success of diversified farming. He keeps three horses and ten head of cattle, and his farm is one of the well-improved and highly cultivated small farms of that region.

Mr. Baker was married in 1900 to Hulda

Hoffman, of Dora township, Ottertail county, Minnesota. Mrs. Baker was born April 15, 1882. To Mr. and Mrs. Baker one child has been born, Harry Edward, who is a native of Lida township, Ottertail county, Minnesota. Mr. Baker and wife are members of the Lutheran church, and are highly esteemed in their community. Mr. Baker is a member of the Modern Woodmen Lodge of Pelican Rapids. He is prominent in local affairs, and for four years served as constable of Lida township. In political sentiment he is a Republican. He is one of the rising young men of his community, and is devoted to the interests of his adopted state.

#### LARS KNUDSON.

Lars Knudson, one of the most extensive farmers of Audubon township, is a man of excellent character and has wide acquaintance and many friends. He has spent the past thirty years in Becker county, and by his energetic work and active public spirit has acquired a handsome estate and enviable reputation. His residence, on section 34, is a fine one. A view of it forms one of the illustrations of this work and will be found on another page.

Our subject was born on a farm in Hollingdal, Norway, in 1843. His father, Knud Knudson, was a farmer by occupation and died when our subject was but a child. The mother, Berget (Rime) Knudson, came to America in 1869 and died on a farm in this country. Lars Knudson was the third in a family of five children, and he was reared on a farm and received a very limited education, most of his education having been acquired after he attained his majority by self study and the help of school children. At the age of ten years he began earning his own way, and he worked at farming and in the sheep business in Christiania, Norway, and spent two years in the Norwegian army. He came to America in 1868, landing in New York city, and from there went direct to Wisconsin, where he followed railroad work one year. In 1869 he went to Duluth and there worked in the sawmills and at mason work one year, and thus learned the trade. He went afoot from Sauk Rapids to Becker county with two companions in the fall of 1870, and at one time they went thirty hours without being able to get anything to eat. Upon his arrival Mr. Knudson entered claim to his present farm, and during the winter of that year he worked on Buffalo lake, getting out logs for a sawmill, and in the spring of 1871 began farming. He planted a half-acre of potatoes in the sod with a spade, and these yielded well and he sold them for one dollar per bushel. He worked for others in that neighborhood, and

did not do very extensive farming on his own land for the first three years. His first home was a log cabin and after a few years he built an addition to the house and resided therein for some ten years until his present commodious and comfortable residence was erected. Mr. Knudson now owns two farms, covering five hundred and twenty acres, and he operates six hundred acres annually. He has three hundred acres of his land under cultivation, and he has placed valuable improvements in the way of buildings, fences and machinery on the place, and the farm is one of the best grain farms of the county, which is due to the good management and industry of the owner.

Mr. Knudson was married, in 1874, to Annie Johnson, who was born in Norway and came to America in 1870. She was the daughter of a farmer of Norway, who spent his life there. Mr. and Mrs. Knudson are the parents of thirteen children, who are named in order of birth as follows: Bertha M., Carl L., Emil H., Oscar, Ewind, Engwal, Alf C., Annie L., Myrtle M. R., Harman W., Selmer M., Elma E. and Elvira A. Mr. Knudson early became identified with the public affairs of his township and county, and was one of the organizers of his township. He has held various local offices, and in 1888 was the Prohibitionist nominee for the state senate. He was formerly identified with the Republican party politically, and was active in party affairs, but for the past sixteen years he has associated himself with the movements of the Prohibition party, and is a staunch advocate of the principles of that party.

#### PETER WESTERLUND.

Peter Westerlund, a prominent farmer residing on section 22 of Lund township, is energetic and progressive, and has become the owner of one of the best improved farms in the northwestern part of the county.

Mr. Westerlund was born in Sweden November 18, 1866. His parents, Osten and Ingrid Westerlund, conduct a farm in Sweden and have never visited the United States. While attending school in his native country Mr. Westerlund assisted his parents on the farm when a boy, and in early manhood he learned the trade of a mason. This business he followed for several years, and in 1892 came alone to America. His objective point was Minnesota, and upon reaching Hubbard county he found good wages could be earned in the lumber camps, and not being afraid of hard work, he sought and secured employment lumbering, working in the woods winters and on the drive in summer. It was hard times and hard labor, but at the end of three years he had saved

money, and in the spring of 1895 he went to Douglas county to visit his uncle, Gabriel Peterson, who had been farming there for many years, but was getting too far along in years to continue the business. Mr. Westerlund purchased the farm, consisting of one hundred and fifty-eight acres of good land, on section 22 of Lund township. The uncle of our subject, Gabriel Peterson, was a native of Sweden and was born in 1820. He was twice married, and no children were born of either union. He came to America in 1868 and homesteaded the farm which our subject purchased. It consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, but two acres he donated for church purposes, and upon this the Swedish Lutheran church now stands, a commanding building, well attended by the Scandinavian residents in its vicinity. Mr. Peterson, who is now upward of eighty years of age, makes his home with his nephew, our subject.

Mr. Westerlund was married September 30, 1899, to Miss Ida Bergstrum, daughter of Erick P. and Annie Bergstrum, prominent farmers of Lund township. In politics Mr. Westerlund is associated with the People's party, and cast his vote in the national elections of 1894 and 1898 for the nominee of that party. He and wife are members of the Swedish Lutheran church. He is progressive in all matters pertaining to his vocation, and is highly thought of by his friends and neighbors.

#### THOR ELLEFSON.

Thor Ellefson, the last years of whose industrious and useful life have been passed on his farm in section 12, Alliance township, Clay county, and who has commanded the ungrudging respect and confidence of the community by his integrity and manifest desire to do what is right and neighborly, was born on a farm in Bergensstift, Norway, in 1844. When he was twenty years old he accompanied his parents, who were farming people, to the United States. They landed at Quebec, but came direct to Goodhue county, Minnesota, and there the father of Thor died after he had been in this country four years.

Thor Ellefson is the fifth member of a family of seven children born to his parents, and began to make his own living when he was fourteen years old. Since that time he has steadily followed farm work. About 1868 he came to Ottertail county, where he took a homestead and began farming with fifty dollars. Part of this he loaned, and with twenty-five dollars began operations. He put up a log house, and as he had two cows, a yoke of oxen and some other necessities, he was very well prepared to wrestle with a hard fate, as all pioneers were compelled to

do at that time. For a time he had to go forty miles to mill and sixty-five miles to market.

Mr. Ellefson was married in 1867 to Martha Brekka, a native of Norway, who came to this country in 1866. She was the mother of the following children: Annie, Samuel, Anton, Christina, Thorsten, Engaberg and Martha. Mrs. Ellefson died in Ottertail county, and Mr. Ellefson was married in 1882 to Mary Botam, by whom he had the following family: Charlie, Samuel, Martha, Cora and John.

Mr. Ellefson remained fourteen years in Ottertail county, struggling all the time against the hindrances of poor lands, bad crops and remote markets. He farmed with oxen for ten years, and had all the hard work and discouragements that come to the pioneer. His farm consisted of two hundred acres, and he sold it in 1882 for what he considered a very fair price. He came to Clay county, and with the proceeds of his sale in Ottertail county bought a farm in section 12, Alliance township. He put up a twelve-foot-square shanty and a straw stable. His first crop on this place consisted of seventy bushels of wheat from a fifteen-acre tract. To-day he owns a fine and well-improved two-hundred-acre farm, with all but twenty acres under cultivation. His house is said to be the largest farm house in the township, and is 26x50 feet in dimensions. There is a commodious barn and chicken house, as well as sheds, granary and other buildings to care for his machinery and farm products. He has four binders, two drills, two drags, four wagons, and generally possesses a well-improved farm, which represents a vast amount of hard work and much administrative ability. Mr. Ellefson is a Republican, and in his religion belongs to the Lutheran church. He is a good citizen, and has done his full share in the improvement of the northwest.

#### JOHN A. REDFERN.

John A. Redfern, superintendent for the Penobscot Mining Company, at Hibbing, was one of the first business men of that locality. He has heavy financial interests in Itasca county, and is universally respected as a business man and citizen.

Mr. Redfern was born in Derbyshire, England, in 1867, and was a son of Herbert Redfern. His father was a cord manufacturer, and settled in Ontario, Canada, when our subject was five years of age, he being the second in the family. They removed to Marquette county, Michigan, in 1879, where Mr. Redfern grew to manhood at Negaunee. At the age of sixteen years he began mining, his first work being that of blacksmith's helper. He then went into the iron mines

of Marquette county, and has since filled every position in mining, from that of helper to manager of the company. From 1890 to 1893 he was employed by the Cleveland Cliffs Company to look after their timber and mineral lands and surveying, and had formerly acted as time-keeper and assistant engineer for Moore, Benjamin & Company until 1890. Since 1893 he has been with the Penobscot Mining Company as superintendent. He explored the property and cut the first timber, and opened up the mine in 1895, and the entire work of constructing the mine has been under his personal supervision. This company is now shipping about three hundred thousand tons per annum, and are now working about two hundred men. A plant for pumping water from the mines was put in operation in December last, and the successful installation and operation of this apparatus is due to the enterprise and good judgment of Mr. Redfern. In 1891 our subject became interested in the First National Bank, and is one of the directors of this institution.

Mr. Redfern was married in 1894 to Miss Lillian Seass. Mrs. Redfern was born in the state of New York, and her father, who removed from that state to Michigan, was owner and proprietor of the Brighting House at Negaunee. Mr. Redfern is actively interested in the local government, and is president of the village board and served one term as a member of the village council. He is identified with the Republican party politically, and has attended numerous county conventions as a delegate.

#### THOMAS INGLIS.

Thomas Inglis, a prominent merchant of Hallock, is one of the early settlers of Kittson county, and has been identified with its development. He has prospered in his business and conducts a hardware store in that city.

Mr. Inglis is a native of Roxburghshire, Scotland, and was born in 1835. He was one of a family of twelve children born to James and Nellie (Robson) Inglis, and he was reared to manhood in his native land. He then went to England and remained there over fifteen years. He was employed in the coke ovens, but lack of employment caused him to dispose of his household effects and emigrate to America. He went to Canada, arriving there in the spring of 1870, and he soon afterward went to Manitoba. He went to Emerson, Canada, and after a few weeks there returned as far as Hallock, Minnesota. He had but ten dollars in money when he arrived, and he and his three sons at once found work on the railroad. He built a small shanty on the banks of Two Rivers, near where the one store

of the village and the lumber yard then stood. Within a few years he became possessed of a homestead farm in Kittson county, located in Hallock township, and there lived about ten years. He then disposed of his interests in Minnesota, and paid a visit to his native land. In 1892 he established his hardware business in Hallock, and the same has constantly increased and he now has a good patronage.

Mr. Inglis was married, in 1857, to Miss Agnes Jackson. About 1880 Mrs. Inglis became broken in health and after a long illness she passed away. Twelve children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Inglis, of whom the following survive: John, now a resident of Montana; Elizabeth, residing in England; Jannet; James, a prosperous farmer near Hallock; Andrew; William, in business with our subject; Nellie; Peter; and Annie. Mr. Inglis, on the death of his wife, was left with four small children to care for. He followed farming at the time, and for some years he was housekeeper in the home and cared for the children in addition to his farm work. In 1895 Mr. Inglis was married to Miss Maggie Robson. One child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Inglis, who bears the name of Frank. Mrs. Inglis died in 1897. Mr. Inglis, whose portrait appears on another page in this volume, is a man of broad mind and keeps pace with the times in public affairs. He is devoted to the interests of his community, and has filled various local offices of trust, including county commissioner, which office he held six years, and four years of the time he served as chairman of the board. He has taken an active part in the upbuilding of the township and village of Hallock and served five years on the village board. He is a member of the Presbyterian church. Politically he is identified with the Republican party and is a firm believer in party principles. He is industrious and progressive and his success and high standing are well merited.

#### RED LAKE COUNTY COURIER.

In the few years of its existence the Red Lake County Courier, published at Red Lake Falls, Minnesota, has attained a degree of popularity scarcely credible and seldom reached by a local newspaper. It is the official organ of the Populist fusion party of Red Lake county, and stanchly advocates its principles.

This paper was established in October, 1898, by E. F. West, and was at that time an advocate of Republicanism. In December of the first year of its existence it passed into the hands of Frank Jeffers and Charles Boughton, the present proprietors and editors, and they stamped it with their political principles. The paper is a six-

column quarto, and the plant is complete in all appliances. The manager of the Courier office is Frank Jeffers, the genial and popular county superintendent of schools, of whose life a few facts are presented.

Mr. Jeffers was born in Rice county, Minnesota, April 17, 1870, and was the youngest of a family of five children born to Michael and Mary (Mosley) Jeffers. The family went to Crookston in 1880, and the father took a prominent part in the public affairs of Polk county. In 1883 they moved to a farm four miles north of the present city of Red Lake Falls, which at that time was not founded or recognized as a town.

At the age of sixteen years Frank Jeffers began teaching, and four years later he entered the employ of the Great Northern Railway as general division time-keeper and material clerk of the railroad company, and was employed there three years. He then resumed his work as teacher at Terrebonne, and when Red Lake county was organized he was appointed county superintendent of schools in 1896, and has filled the office creditably and with increasing popularity.

Mr. Jeffers was married in 1895 to Miss Marcellean Rose. Two children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jeffers, namely: Grace and Tracy M. Mr. Jeffers is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen of America, Order of Red Men, and Knights of the Maccabees. He is a member of the Catholic church. Politically he is a Populist, and as secretary of the county central committee has done efficient work for his party.

#### THOMAS G. THOMPSON.

Thomas G. Thompson, a prosperous and energetic hardware merchant of Crookston, Minnesota, is a pioneer of that state and has been closely identified with its history.

Mr. Thompson was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, March 20, 1854, and was the eldest of a family of five children born to Andrew and Gunhild (Gunbjonson) Thompson. The father died when our subject was eight years of age, and the mother remarried, and of the second union five children were born. The family removed to Fillmore county, Minnesota, when our subject was three months of age, and he thus became one of the pioneers of the territory of Minnesota, and is at present a member of the Minnesota Territorial Pioneers Society. He was reared in Fillmore county and in 1869 went to Ottertail county with his step-father and engaged in farming there for three years. In 1872 he went to Moorhead and worked two years on the river, and then learned the miller's trade. He was thus engaged when caravans of eighty to one

hundred teams came down from the Goose river country. Mr. Thompson went to Crookston in 1883, quitting the miller's business owing to failing health. He followed farming two years in Black River township, Polk county, and in 1885 opened up a retail liquor establishment in Crookston, operating the California Wine House. He disposed of this business in 1898 and purchased the hardware business of Bjoine Hardware Company, and consolidated it with the business of A. O. Busterud, under the firm name of Thompson & Busterud, which partnership has recently been terminated after the building up of a prosperous business. Mr. Thompson sold out his hardware business in May, 1901.

Mr. Thompson was married in 1877 to Miss Peterson. Eight children have been born to this union, namely: Oscar, engaged in farming; William, clerk in the postoffice; George; Frederick; Liona; Martin M., deceased; Etta, deceased; and Martin. Mr. Thompson is a charter member of the Knights of Pythias, and is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and has taken the Master's degree in the Masonic fraternity. For the past two years he has served as alderman in the city of Crookston, and takes an active interest in local affairs. He is a Republican, and is an earnest worker for party principles. The family are connected with the Lutheran church.

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#### JOHN HEPFEL.

John Hepfel, a prominent business man and farmer of Itasca county, Minnesota, is a resident of Grand Rapids, where he is engaged in the saloon business.

Mr. Hepfel was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1858, and is a son of Andrew Hepfel. He is the oldest in a family of seven children, and was raised in the village and attended the common schools. At the age of sixteen years he started for himself and learned the locksmith's trade, which he followed until he reached his majority. He came to America in 1881, landing in New York City, and from there went to Milwaukee, where he worked in a machine shop one year. He then visited the Pacific coast, and worked at his trade in Oregon and Washington, and as a cowboy on the ranches. In the fall of 1886 he returned to his native land. He again came to America and located in St. Paul, being employed in the machine shops of the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad for three years. He went to Cloquet, Minnesota, in 1890, and engaged in the hotel business, conducting the Everett House for one year. He then went to La Prairie and worked in the railroad shops of the Duluth & Winnipeg Railroad until the fall of 1897, when he went to

Grand Rapids, Minnesota, and engaged in the saloon business on Third street. In July, 1899, he removed to his present location on Third street. The building he now occupies is two stories, and Mr. Hepfel has spent considerable money in making it one of the best buildings of the town. He is engaged in farming, and is the owner of ninety-five acres of land on Pokegama lake.

Mr. Hepfel was married in the spring of 1887 to Miss Terrace Hinerish. Mrs. Hepfel is a native of Germany, and her father was a farmer of that country. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hepfel, and are named as follows: Mary, Hilda, Annie, Carl, Ernest and Terrace. Mr. Hepfel takes an active part in the affairs of his locality, and is identified with the Democratic party, and attends county conventions as a delegate. He has served two years in the village council, and is a popular citizen of his town.

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#### MARTIN BENSON.

Martin Benson, the leading furniture dealer of Fergus Falls, has proved himself a business man of ability and one of the most substantial and worthy citizens of Ottertail county. His portrait is shown upon another page of this volume.

Mr. Benson was born in Sweden, in the city of Lund, June 9, 1880. His father, John Benson, was a painter in his native land, and his mother, whose maiden name was Olive Okkerholmer, passed the greater part of her life in Sweden. Her brother was a captain in the Swedish army, and after the death of our subject's father assumed the place of a parent to young Martin, who was at the time but seven years old. The mother's family has furnished many prominent members of the professions in their native land. In 1880 the family came to America, and our subject, who is the third in the family of five children, came direct to Ottertail county. He first entered the employ of a merchant at Pelican Rapids, with whom he remained six or seven months. He then attended the public schools there and received a good education. He learned the trade of a miller and followed that business for twenty-two years, during which time he had charge of several different mills. He made a success of this business and spent the last seven years in this line in the city of Fergus Falls. Seeing an opening for the establishment of a furniture and undertaking business in that city, he ventured to lay in a stock and opened in a small way on the north side of Lincoln avenue in May, 1898. His business succeeded and six months later he secured a larger building in the Allen and Cutler block on Lincoln avenue. His store room there is 25x80 feet, with a basement,

while he still occupies his former store with the undertaking department. His warerooms are packed with the latest models and best grades of furniture, and his business is the most extensive in the city. He is thoroughly competent in the undertaking business and carries a well selected and varied stock. It is confidently asserted that his establishment is the most extensive and best conducted furniture and undertaking business west of the twin cities.

Mr. Benson was married, in 1882, at Pelican Rapids, to Miss Julia Moe. Mrs. Benson is a native of Norway, and came to America when she was seven years old. Her mother and a sister and brother are amongst the oldest settlers of the county, having arrived in that locality in the pioneer days of the northwest. Her father died in Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Benson are the parents of four children, namely: Otto, Mary, Bennie and Annie. Mr. Benson has a pleasant home and is giving his children the benefits of a thorough education. He is a man of prominence in the city and has taken an active interest in public matters. He has served as a member of the city council and has done much toward the upbuilding of a substantial prosperity for Fergus Falls. He is the owner of an eighty-acre farm and home at Pelican Rapids, where his aged mother resides, and is provided for by our subject. For the last five years Mr. Benson has been engaged in the undertaking business at Fergus Falls, and is the only licensed embalmer in the city. His undertaking rooms are at No. 220 Linden avenue, just around the corner from the furniture store.

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#### THOMAS J. HOLMAN.

Thomas J. Holman, proprietor of one of the well-improved farms of Ottertail county, is a man of sterling worth as a citizen and has prospered as an agriculturist by his energetic work and integrity of word and deed. Mr. Holman located at Pelican Rapids about three years ago, and during his residence here has become well known and is esteemed and respected.

Our subject was born in Kentucky March 18, 1841, and was a son of Squire and Elinor (Owen) Holman, both of whom were natives of Kentucky. Thomas J. Holman was born on a farm, and at the age of six months went with his parents to Missouri, where the father bought a farm, and there the family resided until our subject was ten years of age. They then moved to Wisconsin, where the father followed the occupation of farming, and our subject remained at home and attended school until he was sixteen years of age. He farmed with his father until 1861, when he enlisted in Company C, Sixth Iowa Volunteer

Infantry, at Eldora, Iowa, and he went south and was under General Fremont. He went through Missouri, Tennessee and Mississippi, and was in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Vicksburg, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge and Chattanooga, and was with Sherman on his march to the sea. He enlisted twice, the second time in 1864, when he became a member of Company A, Forty-fourth Wisconsin, and served until the close of the war in 1865. He was mustered out of the service at Louisville, Kentucky, July 6, 1865. He soon afterward returned to Hardin county, Iowa, and there learned the carpenter's trade and stayed there one year. He then moved to Boone county, Iowa, and in 1869 to St. Joseph, Missouri. He crossed the plains to Salt Lake City, Utah, and Denver, Colorado, and remained there one year, when he took up his residence in Ringgold county, Iowa. He was elected sheriff of that county and served in that capacity two years. At the expiration of his term of office he went to Wisconsin, and from there later to Taylor's Falls, Minnesota, and in 1881 to Fergus Falls, Ottertail county. He lived at Fergus Falls fourteen years and worked at the carpenter's trade, and also bought land and followed farming in Star Lake township, Ottertail county. He now owns one hundred and fifty acres of land, upon which he has excellent improvements, and from this property he derives a good annual income. He removed to Pelican Rapids in 1899.

Mr. Holman was married in 1882 to May Brown. Mrs. Holman was born in Canada May 10, 1848. Their union did not prove a happy one and they were divorced. Mr. Holman married Mrs. Clara Straider November 6, 1897. Mrs. Holman was a widow and is the mother of six children by her former marriage, namely: Charles, Lawson, Bell, Floyd, Roy and Minnie. Mr. Holman is a member of the G. A. R. and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In political sentiment he is a Republican.

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#### THEODORE TINGDAHL.

Theodore Tingdahl, a prosperous agriculturist of Clay county, Minnesota, stands foremost among the younger members of the farming community of Goose Prairie township. He owns six hundred acres of land and is extensively engaged in general farming. He is a foreign-born citizen, but has become thoroughly identified with America and her progress and civilization, and is accorded a high place as a citizen and farmer.

Mr. Tingdahl was born in Sweden October 21, 1864, and was a son of Swen and Cecelia (Swenson) Thorstenson, both of whom were natives of Sweden. He was reared in the land of his birth and remained there until he was seven-



teen years of age, when he came to America, locating in Clay county, Minnesota, selecting land in Goose Prairie township. He began his residence there in 1881, and is classed among the early settlers of that locality. He purchased for himself and his brother, Olaf L., six hundred acres of land. His brother died in 1900, and the land thus became the sole property of our subject. Mr. Tingdahl has about half of the six-hundred-acre tract under cultivation and the rest is devoted to pasture and meadow. He has a fine grove of two acres on the place, which adds to its value as well as beauty. The farm is supplied with water from Goose lake, and this abundant supply is one of the features of the farm. Mr. Tingdahl has placed good buildings upon the farm, including a two-story, twelve-room residence and a commodious barn with plenty of storage room for hay and other products of the place. He has plenty of farm machinery, and also keeps about twenty-five head of cattle and eighteen horses, and altogether has one of the well-improved and well-stocked farms of the township.

Mr. Tingdahl was married in 1888 to Mary Ann Oades. Mrs. Tingdahl was born in Canada January 17, 1870. To this marriage five children have been born, namely: Nellie M., Swen A., Agnes C., Lillian M. and an infant daughter, Inez Ethel. Mr. Tingdahl is prominent in local affairs, and has served as supervisor of Goose Prairie township four years, and school clerk of district No. 89, of Clay county, for three years. He is awake to the needs of his community, and can be relied upon to support every enterprise which tends to the upbuilding of the better interests of the community in which he makes his home. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. In political sentiment he is a Populist.

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#### JOSEPH LOISEL.

Joseph Loisel, a prominent and substantial merchant of Cloquet, Minnesota, is an early settler of Carlton county, having located in his present home town about two years after its founding. He has made many friends during his residence there and has met with pronounced success in his business ventures. He is a gentleman of good business ability and judgment, and by his integrity and honest dealings has reaped a rich reward for his labors.

Mr. Loisel was born in Paspebiac, Quebec, Canada, in September, 1865. His father was a native of Canada, and was of French blood. Our subject was the oldest of a family of six children and was reared in his native village, where his father was a merchant. There he received a good common-school education and the business

training which served him well in later years. He later entered college and graduated from Notre Dame De Levia. He then left home and entered the lumber camps of Michigan, where he spent two years, and in 1884 made his way to Cloquet, Carlton county, Minnesota. He worked for the Nelson Lumber Company and was in their employ some fourteen years, twelve years of which time he followed clerking in their store and two years was engaged in scaling lumber in the sawmill. In 1898 he entered into partnership with C. F. Beaupre in the hardware, crockery and sash and door business, in a store building 40x75 feet, the largest hardware store in the town. They opened the store for business January 1st, and January 25th Mr. Loisel purchased his partner's interest, since which time he has been sole proprietor. He has increased his trade and carries a complete stock, and his many years of practical experience make him a successful and popular merchant. He went to that locality with no capital, and is now enjoying the result of his industry and keen business foresight.

Mr. Loisel was married October 21, 1888, to Miss Emma Jane Carey. Mrs. Loisel was born in New Richmond, Canada, and was of French-Irish descent. Her people were from Maine. To Mr. and Mrs. Loisel the following children have been born: Simon W.; Joseph L., deceased; Albert R., deceased; O'Dile A.; and Joseph L. Mr. Loisel has always taken a prominent part in local affairs, both social and public, and he is most highly esteemed as a gentleman of active public spirit. He has served as city clerk three years, and is at present a member of the village council. He and family are members of the Catholic church, and Mr. Loisel is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters and was chief ranger for three years in that lodge, and is the present treasurer. He is also a member of the Woodmen of the World and the Modern Brotherhood of America.

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#### LEWIS BURTON.

Lewis Burton, a prominent character in Barnesville, Clay county, was born in Ballo Gemente Rolde, Holland, on a farm, in 1850. He father, Lambert Burton, was a weaver and a farmer, and came to this country soon after the conclusion of the Civil war. He died in Michigan in 1888.

Lewis Burton was the third boy in a family of six children born to his parents in Holland, where he was reared and educated in the public schools. His mother died when he was twelve years old, and since that time he has made his own way in the world. All the money, however, that he earned went to his father until 1872, a

sum of money that in all amounted to very nearly a thousand dollars.

Mr. Burton was married at Grand Rapids, Michigan, when he was twenty-two years old, to Miss Nancy Sikkenga, a native of Holland and an emigrant to the United States when she was eighteen years old, coming with her parents, who settled at Grand Rapids, where they lived and died. To Mr. and Mrs. Burton have come five children: Gertrude, Jennie, Annie, Lambert and Nancy. Three of these have lived to grow up and marry.

After his marriage Mr. Burton was engaged in dairy farming in Michigan, where he did a very large business. In the panic of 1873 he lost everything that he had on account of a slight encumbrance hardly worth speaking of in good times. Mr. Burton was able to pay up and make a fresh start in Iowa, where he farmed some three years, and was then engaged for a time in working on the grading of the Milwaukee road in Iowa, taking contract work, and proving highly successful, frequently employing from seventy-five to a hundred men. He worked on railroads in Iowa, Dakota, and graded seventy-five miles of the Canadian Pacific Railroad.

Mr. Burton came to Clay county in 1885 and took both pre-emption and homestead claims, as well as a tree claim, starting in on wild land with a total capital of four hundred dollars with which to operate. He put up a small house, a barn and a granary, and began his farm with a horse, a mule and a yoke of oxen. His first breaking was done on section 26, Barnesville township. His first crop consisted of wheat and potatoes. Until very recently he has owned a magnificent estate of two thousand acres of land, which he has sold, and has bought two fine farms in Michigan, to which he will remove shortly with the intention of spending his remaining years in that state. All his years have been characterized by the most active and industrious habits, and there are many in Clay county who will sincerely regret to see him leave for the east. Mr. Burton has held various school and town offices, and has taken a very active part in local affairs.

#### FOSTER R. PAIGE.

Foster R. Paige, a thoroughgoing business man and agriculturist of Clay county, resides on section 30, Riverton township.

Mr. Paige was born in St. Albans, Vermont, June 5, 1865. He was the second in order of birth in a family of three children born to Foster A. and Clara (Beals) Paige, both well-known New England families. Our subject was reared in Vermont on the farm, and in the spring of 1881 accompanied the family to Glyndon, Minne-

sota, in the interest of the Barnes & Tenney estate near that place. Our subject worked in his father's store at Glyndon for some years, and then in 1877 entered the employ of the New Hampshire Trust Company, with headquarters at Aberdeen, South Dakota, where he performed the duties of loan examiner. He was connected with this business in South Dakota for about three years. At the end of that period he returned to Clay county, Minnesota, and purchased the farm which he now owns. Aside from his farming operations Mr. Paige handles the business of the Fidelity Hail Insurance Company, of Winnebago City, with which institution he has been connected for the past four years. His operations extend throughout the county, and he is an able representative of his company in that line of business.

Mr. Paige supports the principles of the Democratic party, and has done effective work in his locality and throughout the county. His services to his party have been recognized on various occasions, and his influence is one of the political factors to be reckoned with in the county. During President Cleveland's administration he was appointed postmaster of Glyndon, and filled that position in a most creditable and satisfactory manner.

Mr. Paige was married in 1889 to Miss Katherine Johnston, daughter of John F. and Mary Ann (MacVicar) Johnston. Of this marriage one son has been born, Foster R., Jr.

#### MONTGOMERY BERFIELD.

Montgomery Berfield is a representative residing in a pretty house on section 18, Dead Lake township, Ottertail county, where he owns and runs a sawmill which is in active operation during the lumbering season. He was born in Young America, Carver county, Minnesota, November 11, 1872, a son of Montgomery and Susan Berfield. The former was born in Pennsylvania; and the latter in Canada, and is of Scotch-Irish descent. The elder Berfield was born in Bellefonte, Center county, Pennsylvania, March 1, 1828, and died March 6, 1896. During the Civil war he wore the Union blue, enlisting August 15, 1862, as a corporal in Company H, Ninth Minnesota Infantry, receiving his discharge at St. Louis May 15, 1865. Among the more important battles in which he participated were those at Guntown, Tupelo and Nashville; and among his commanding officers were General J. M. Sibley, General Schofield and General S. D. Sturgis. Montgomery Berfield, Sr., was twice married. His first wife was Margaret Barr, by whom he had three children: Matilda, wife of August Borne; Thomas; and Nancy, wife of

William Erickson. His second wife, Susan Wakefield, was a widow, whose maiden name was Susan Niel. Her first husband was killed in the army, leaving her with three children: Winona, wife of Charles Lamphere; Maria, wife of Oren Bull; and a boy who died in infancy. It was in Carver county, Minnesota, January 30, 1867, that Mr. Berfield, Sr., was united in marriage to Susan Wakefield, and to this union have come three girls and four boys: Linda L., the wife of E. Perry; Ida F., the wife of William Westover, a prosperous farmer in Maine township; Marietta, the wife of George Evans; Montgomery; James Wesley; Francis G.; and Newton J. Mr. Berfield came to Minnesota in 1860 and settled in Carver county, where he followed the trade to which he had been bred in the east, that of milling, for many years. He was a practical engineer, and operated the first steam thresher in Minnesota. When a young man he was perhaps the first in the United States to use a thresher for the threshing of rice in Georgia. In 1879 he came to Ottertail county and made homestead entry of a quarter of section 14, Star Lake township. His death was the result of an accident in Becker county, where he was killed by the overturning of a load of logs, which fell upon him.

Montgomery Berfield, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the public schools of Fergus Falls, where he completed the high-school course in due time, and then learned the milling trade of his father. With this he began for himself at the age of twenty years, finding employment first in Star Lake township, then in Becker township, afterward coming to Dead Lake township, where his lumber mill is now located, and here we find him engaged in a very good business.

Mr. Berfield was married December 1, 1892, to Myrtle Shaver, a daughter of Ephraim and Lettie (Lawson) Shaver. To this union have come five children: Edna, Judson M., Edith, and Nina and Ethel, twins. A sixth child, Gladys, died while an infant.

Mr. Berfield was constable in both Star Lake and Dead Lake townships, and has served as justice of the peace in the latter town. He is a Republican, and has a clear and definite idea of the obligations of citizenship in a republic. He is a young man of an energetic and thrifty disposition, and gives close attention to his business interests, which are of a most profitable character.

EPHRAIM SHAVER, the father of Mrs. Berfield, was born in New York June 14, 1841, being a son of Adam and Nancy Shaver. He was sixth in a family of seven children, and while still a boy learned the trade of a blacksmith. During the Civil war he was a soldier, serving in Company B, Seventy-fifth New York Volunteer Infantry, following the flag during four long years.

He took part in the siege of Port Hudson, in the battle of Winchester, where he was wounded in the arm September 19, 1864, and in many other important engagements. He was discharged at Albany, New York, and for a time followed his trade in Ulster county, in his native state, but presently moved to the west, arriving in Faribault, Minnesota, March 14, 1872, and for five years worked at his trade in that city. In 1878 he journeyed to Fergus Falls, where he took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Friberg township, Ottertail county. His marriage with Lettie Lawson occurred February 10, 1864. To this union no children were born, but they adopted a girl, who is noted above as the wife of Montgomery Berfield. Mr. Shaver was appointed postmaster of Redington in 1900, a new office in Dead Lake township, Ottertail county, in connection with which he has a fine country store.

#### CRIST L. SULERUD.

Crist L. Sulerud, whose portrait appears elsewhere in this volume, needs no introduction to the people of Norman county, as he has been identified with the business interests of that region for many years, and his integrity and ability are well known. He and his brother, John C. Sulerud, conduct one of the most extensive hardware businesses of the county, and are also largely interested in farming and own one of the most productive and best improved estates of that locality. They reside in Halstad and from there conduct their extensive business.

Crist L. Sulerud was born in Eidsberg, Norway, in 1865, and was a son of Crist Sulerud, a farmer and blacksmith, who died in his native country before the birth of our subject. Mr. Sulerud was reared in his native land and attended the common schools until he was fifteen years of age, and then spent one year in Christiania as a clerk in a grocery house. At the age of sixteen years he emigrated to America, landing at New York city, and from there went direct to Ada, Minnesota, where he met his oldest brother, Carl. He clerked in a store in Strand township several years and then attended the American schools a short time, after which he started in business with Peter Hanson in Gary, Minnesota, in 1887, and continued with him in the general merchandise business about two and a half years. He disposed of his interests in Gary in 1890 and went to Ada and there clerked for the hardware firm of Larson & Lystad about three years. He and his brother, John C., bought the business of this firm in 1893, but in the fall of that year disposed of the same, and the first of the year 1894 they purchased the hardware business in Halstad of M. J. Lindal. This was

conducted in a small store about one year, and they then removed to their present location, and now occupy a building 25x140 feet, including the warehouse, and carry a general line of hardware, one of the largest stocks of the kind in Norman county. They are interested largely in farm lands, having two hundred and five acres about two miles north of Halstad, on which they conduct general farming, and from which they gain a good income, and a half interest in a four-hundred-acre farm south and west adjoining Halstad. These lands are under a high state of cultivation.

C. L. Sulerud was married, in 1893, to Miss Emma Biese. Mrs. Sulerud was born in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, and was a daughter of August Biese. Her father came to America from Germany when he was a young man and settled in Wisconsin, and her mother was born in New York city. She was a school teacher, as was also Mrs. Sulerud prior to her marriage. Her brothers, Charles Biese and Rudolph Biese, are practicing physicians at Fergus Falls, Minnesota; another brother, George Biese, is an attorney at Hancock, Minnesota, and a fourth brother, Henry Biese, is a dentist at Windom, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Sulerud are the parents of four children, who are named as follows: Hazel, Gladys, Clark and George. Mr. Sulerud is a man of excellent character and is a strong worker for temperance, and is identified with the Prohibition party. He has served as president of the local school board for the past three years, and has also served on the village council. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, Good Templars and Modern Woodmen of America. He refused to accept the nomination on the Populist ticket of Norman county in 1900 for county auditor.

JOHN C. SULERUD, of the firm of Sulerud Brothers, hardware merchants of Halstad, Norman county, is one of the well-known and highly respected business men of his community. He was born in Norway January 5, 1862, the home being on a farm in Eidsberg.

The mother of our subject, who bore the maiden name of Keren Johnson, passed her life in Norway, and died when our subject was but eleven years of age, leaving him an orphan, as the father died when he was but three years of age. At the age of fifteen years our subject went to Christiania and clerked in a grocery house there about five years, and at the age of twenty emigrated to America, going to Ada, Minnesota, from New York, where he landed in 1883. For about a year he was employed at farm work, and then clerked in a general merchandise establishment in Ada for G. Gilbertson, remaining in the employ of this gentleman about nine years. He and his brother, Crist L. Sulerud,

then began business for themselves, purchasing the business of Larson & Lystad in Ada, and since taking up business together have prospered, and now conduct one of the most extensive hardware stores of the county, and also own in common some valuable farm lands, their fortunes being made together by pluck and good management.

John C. Sulerud was married, in 1891, to Miss Anna Aaker. Mrs. Sulerud was born in Ridgeway, Iowa, and was a daughter of H. O. Aaker, who was a farmer by occupation and died in Iowa. Mrs. Sulerud was a lady of rare accomplishments, and for many years followed the profession of teaching in Iowa and in Norman county, Minnesota, and was popular as a lady and teacher. Her brother, H. H. Aaker, was mayor of Moorhead in 1900, and for many years has been principal of Concordia College at Moorhead. She died in 1896, leaving one daughter, Ruth, who was born April 30, 1894, and died July 14, 1901. Mr. Sulerud is a gentleman of much influence in his community and has served as president of the village board for the past three years, and has also taken an active part in temperance work in the village and county.

#### ALEXANDER TURNER.

Alexander Turner, the first white settler of St. Vincent township, Kittson county, is a man of sterling character and commands the esteem of all with whom he has to do. He resides in section 25, township 164, range 51, and is one of the well-to-do men of that locality. To him is due in great measure the present prosperity enjoyed in his township, as during the early days he did more than his share toward the upbuilding and development of that region by inducing good citizens to become settlers there and locating land for them. He was thoroughly familiar with the topography of the country, and his counsel was sought and advice heeded. Kittson county was sparsely settled by whites and half-breeds, and it was necessary to increase the number of industrious and intelligent members of society in order to transform that region into one of thrift and prosperity. This fact was appreciated by Mr. Turner, and he was always at his post, and is entitled to much credit for his labors.

Our subject was born near the Tweed, in Berkshire, Scotland, February 14, 1832, and was eldest of nine children born to William and Isabella (Bolton) Turner. The family emigrated to Canada in 1849, where some of the children had located previously, and our subject later came to the States, and in St. Clair, Michigan, learned the iron moulder's trade. He returned later to Canada, and there worked as an engineer. He settled in Goodhue county, Minnesota,

in 1867, and from thence removed to Wisconsin, where he resided six years. In May, —, he arrived in the Red river country and looked over the land in the vicinity of Emerson, Canada. He chose land on the American side, and then went to Detroit, Minnesota, to place his filings on a tree claim, and also secured a pre-emption. His wife and family joined him in June, and he located them in a small frame house in section 30, township 164, range 50. Kittson county was then a wilderness, but he remained there and continued farming until 1886, when he disposed of his property. He became agent for the land office, and being furnished with blanks, he went afoot to the various good locations and was instrumental in bringing many settlers to that region during those early days.

Mr. Turner was married in 1849 to Miss Margaret Purvis. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Turner, who are as follows: Isabella; John; William; Alexander; James; David; and Jessie, deceased. Mr. Turner is prominent in local affairs, and for two years he served as assessor of the northern half of Kittson county. He is a consistent member of the Presbyterian church, and is deservedly one of the most highly esteemed men of his township. Politically he is a Republican, but does not seek public preferment.

#### ALEXANDER BOYD.

Alexander Boyd, one of the well-to-do and energetic agriculturists of Wadena county, has a pleasant home in section 30 of Thomastown township. He is a man of good education and active public spirit, and has a host of friends in the community where he has spent over twenty years of his life. His accumulations are the result of his own efforts, and his high station and good name are well merited.

Mr. Boyd was born in Wisconsin August 21, 1855, and was a son of John and Jane Boyd, both of whom were born in Scotland. The family made their home in Wisconsin for many years, and our subject was reared there and gained his education in the common schools of his native place. He assisted his father on the home farm and continued his studies until he was twenty years of age, and received a good practical training in the calling of an agriculturist. About a year after he attained his majority he decided to establish a home for himself in Minnesota, and he accordingly made his way to Wadena county and located in Thomastown township, taking land as a homestead in section 30. He built a log house and a log barn and soon began the improvement of his farm, but being a young man of limited means, he was not able to make very material progress with the work for some time. His de-

termination and perseverance, however, have brought just reward, and he is now proprietor of one of the highly cultivated tracts of that locality and owns three hundred and sixty acres, of which he crops two hundred acres. He has a good supply of timber and extensive pasture land, and engages successfully in diversified farming, giving particular attention to stock raising. He keeps about five horses, twenty or more head of cattle, one hundred sheep and a dozen or more hogs, and for the work of his farm supplies good machinery and all that is necessary for the economical operation of the place. He has a good well on the farm, equipped with windmill, and his buildings are substantial and furnish ample shelter for stock and products. His residence is one of the best in the township and was erected at a cost of twelve hundred dollars. It is surrounded by a grove, and is a pleasant and quiet retreat from the labors which have ever been the lot of Mr. Boyd. He has met with good results in all his operations, and now lives in plenty and contentment.

Our subject was married in 1882 to Jane Warden. Mrs. Boyd was born in Wisconsin October 17, 1865. Four children complete the family circle, and they bear the following names: Violata, Mable, Lillian and Ethel. Mr. Boyd and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and are highly esteemed in Thomastown township and vicinity. Mr. Boyd is a man of broad mind, and has served his township in various offices of trust, gaining the confidence of all. He was supervisor of Thomastown township for some time and school treasurer for twenty years. He is a Republican politically, but does not take an active part in party matters, lending his influence at all times for the best local government.

#### OLUF A. PAULSRUD.

Oluf A. Paulsrud, a rapidly rising young business man of Polk county, is engaged in the threshing machinery business in Neilsville, and enjoys an extensive patronage.

Mr. Paulsrud was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, March 22, 1870, and was the oldest of eight children born to Nils O. and Bertha (Amundson) Paulsrud. The father was born in Lillhammer, Gulbrandsdalen, Norway, in 1846, and was a son of Ole and Elsie Nelson. January 10, 1868, the father married Miss Bertha Amundson, and the following year they emigrated to America, coming by sail ship and spending twelve weeks on the passage. They went direct to Zumbrota, Goodhue county, Minnesota, where they spent about a year and a half, and then went to Wilkin county to make their home, but after the snow disappeared the following



spring they were not satisfied with the land and moved to the newly opened country on the Red river, and "squatted" on what is now section 24 in Hubbard township, Polk county. After the land was surveyed by the government the father entered a homestead claim to his quarter section. He resided here until his election to the office of sheriff of Polk county, in 1886, when he moved to Crookston to take up the duties of that office. He resided there nearly four years, and died of heart failure a short time before the expiration of his second term. The children born to ex-Sheriff and Mrs. Paulsrud were named as follows: Oluf Albert, Emma Kamilla, Gina Bertha, Johann Arnt, Edwin Julius, Anne Julia, Bernhard Nikkolai and Gayhard Elmer. The younger brother of our subject, John, ran away from home to enlist in the Thirteenth Minnesota Regiment, as a member of Company L, and served with his regiment until its return from Manila.

Oluf A. Paulsrud was but two years of age when his parents made the trip through to Polk county by ox-schooner. The father was away from home much of the next two years, teaming for the Hudson's Bay Company. Our subject had the advantages usual in country districts until the removal of the family to Crookston, where he attended the city schools. He was sent later to Curtiss Commercial College, in Minneapolis, from which institution he graduated with honor in 1892. After his father's death he had charge of the farm, consisting of three hundred and seventy-five acres, and continued to manage the same two years, when he went to Thief River Falls and assisted in the construction of a steamboat for the T. B. Walker Company, of Minneapolis, which boat was for service on the Red lake. He then returned to the old homestead and remained there until 1898, when he erected his present handsome and commodious residence in Neilsville, Minnesota.

Mr. Paulsrud was married in the spring of 1893 to Miss Sophia Johnson, of Crookston, Minnesota. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Paulsrud: Nils Arthur, now aged eight years; Alice Bertina, aged six years; Oliver Clifford, aged three years; and Ruth Helena, aged one and a half years.

#### JOHN NICHOLAS BROWN.

John Nicholas Brown, a prominent and prosperous agriculturist of Douglas county, resides in section 18, of Belle River township, where he is surrounded by the comforts of country life, and is esteemed by those who know him. He was born in Belleplaine, Scott county, Minnesota, June 24, 1867.

Our subject's parents were Nicholas and Sus-

annah (Reuter) Brown, the former a native of Luxemburg, Germany, born in 1836, and the mother a native of the same place, born ten years later. They were farmers by occupation in their native land. The father obtained his school education in Germany, and when he reached his majority he sailed for America, landing at New York in 1857. He proceeded direct to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and having knowledge of engineering became engineer on a steamboat on the Mississippi river, and was thus engaged two years, running between Memphis and New Orleans. He was married, November 7, 1865, at Belleplaine, Minnesota, to Susannah Reuter, a daughter of Nicholas and Josephine (Mozel) Reuter, who were natives of Germany. Four children were born to this union, as follows: John, our subject; Josephine, who was accidentally drowned in a well when six years of age, May 11, 1874; Susannah P., born January 7, 1881, now residing with her parents; and one child who died in infancy. Nicholas Brown, after quitting the river, ran a stationary engine at Belleplaine for six years. He moved with his family to Douglas county, Minnesota, in 1869, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 18, of Belle River township. He increased his acreage until he had a farm of five hundred and twenty acres of good land. He built a log house on section 18 in 1870, in which the family lived for eleven years, and in 1881 this gave place to a modern dwelling. He also placed other valuable improvements in the way of buildings on the farm, and these have since been added to by his son, John. In 1893 Mr. Brown built a fine brick residence on his farm in section 7, of Belle River township, and in 1897 took up his residence there, and is now retired from active pursuits, his farm of about three hundred and sixty acres being carefully looked after by his son, John. Mr. Brown served several years as supervisor of his township, and he and his family are highly respected in their community. They are members of the German Catholic church. Mr. and Mrs. Brown enjoy good health and contentment amid their pleasant surroundings. The maternal grandmother of our subject came to America many years ago and now resides in Douglas county, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years.

John Nicholas Brown, after leaving the public school, attended two terms at St. John's University in Stearns county, Minnesota, and assisted between times in the work of the farm. He purchased the original homestead farm of one hundred and sixty acres from his father, and now has a pleasant home, and is an indefatigable worker and a most successful farmer. In addition to operating his father's land in the neighboring township, he owns and operates one hun-



dred and sixty acres in section 18, in Berlin township, Todd county, and eighty acres on section 24, in Spruce Hill township, Douglas county. His farm is stocked with Durham cattle, of which he has forty head, and he also keeps about fourteen head of horses. He is thoroughly versed in farm work and uses only the most approved methods.

Mr. Brown was married, October 5, 1897, to Josephia Hintzen, daughter of Leonard and Elizabeth (Fox) Hintzen, prominent farmers of Belle River township. Mrs. Brown has five brothers and six sisters. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are the parents of two children, namely, Josephine J. and Marian S. Mr. Brown is a member of St. Mary's Court, No. 1067, of the Catholic Order of Foresters, and he and wife are members of the Catholic church. Mr. Brown is prominently identified with local matters and was elected to the board of supervisors and has served four years, being chairman of the board. He has also served as school clerk nine years.

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#### SILAS M. POSTON.

Silas M. Poston, well known throughout Barnesville township and that section of Clay county, was born on a farm in Adams county, Illinois, in 1854. His father, Jeremiah Poston, came into Minnesota the following year, and was among the very early pioneers of the state. He was born in Virginia, and his forefathers had resided in this country for many generations. His wife, Mary Cartright, was born in Illinois, and of her children eleven lived to reach maturity.

Silas M. Poston was the third member of his parents' family and was educated in Washington county, Minnesota, at a time when but most limited schooling was to be had on the frontier. The school house was a log structure, a mile and a half from home. There was hard farm work to be done, and young Silas early learned the meaning of hard work in helping to clear and grub the land. It was the day of the Indian, and roving bands of the aborigines were to be seen daily. In 1874 Mr. Poston left home and began life for himself. He bought a team and started in farming in Blue Earth county, where he continued until 1877. His first crop was entirely destroyed by grasshoppers, and the second season the crop was greatly damaged, 1875-6. In 1877 he went back to Washington county to spend some four or five years in both Washington and Chisago counties. Mr. Poston was married, in 1880, to Miss Rachel McCurdy. She was born in St. Paul and her parents were natives of Ireland. Her father, Archibald McCurdy, was both a farmer and a carpenter. He was married in Philadelphia. Mr. and Mrs. Poston are the par-

ents of the following family: Francis E., Bertha M., Cedona, George, Silas, Claude R., Martha I., Richard G. and Mary,—all of whom were born in Minnesota. After their marriage Mr. Poston moved to Anoka, where he spent a year, and then made his home in Stillwater for some four years. In 1884 he moved to Minneapolis, where he did teaming until 1891. That year he came to Wilkin county and located on a farm four miles southeast of Barnesville. There he farmed up to 1898. In 1894 he bought his present farm in section 34, Barnesville township, Clay county, which consisted of all raw prairie at the time of his purchase. In 1898 he moved on this tract of land and began making it fit for farming. He already had fifty acres broken, and at once put up a shanty twelve feet square, and a barn, 14x28 feet. Now he has a house, 16x24 feet, with an addition, 12x16 feet, and a barn, 14x52 feet. All the machinery the place requires for its successful operation is on hand, and, though Mr. Poston had been mostly engaged in grain farming, he contemplates working rapidly into stock. He is a Republican, and was formerly a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In Barnesville township he has been supervisor two terms, and school director two years, and since his coming here has taken a very active part in local affairs.

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#### EDWARD G. GROVER.

Edward G. Grover, of Moland township, Clay county, is a farmer of advanced ideas and modern methods. He conducts a farming business on a very extensive scale, and all his affairs are accurately and carefully managed. He is the owner of a tract of eleven hundred and twenty acres under active cultivation, and has other lands which he cultivates in his vicinity.

Mr. Grover was born in Houston county, Minnesota, September 11, 1861, and is a son of T. A. and Gelena (Kassenborg) Grover. His father was a well-known citizen of Clay county, and intimately connected with its politics and social affairs. He numbered among his friends the oldest pioneer settlers of the region, and was born in Moland, Tilemarken, Norway; his mother was a native of Land in the same country. The father came to America in 1846, and engaged in commercial pursuits in Houston county, Minnesota, retiring to farm life about the date of the birth of Edward G. Grover in 1861. In 1874 he brought his family into Clay county, and made his home on Buffalo river. His services as township officer and county commissioner brought him into close relationship with public affairs, and gave him an extensive acquaintance throughout the county. He died March 14, 1895.

Edward G. Grover was reared to farm life in Houston county, and came to Clay county with his father. His early manhood was devoted to the development of the family homestead, which has since passed into his possession. He drove an ox-team and breaking plow and grew up with a practical knowledge of Minnesota farming. In 1882 he began in the mercantile business. In 1883 he became agent for the McCormick Company, and so continued till 1890. In 1890 and 1891 he was located at Fargo as a representative of the Deering Company. In connection with his brother, C. A. Grover, in 1891, he purchased his father's farm of four hundred and eighty acres, and in the fall of the same year he bought out his brother, and thus became the sole owner of the grand old Grover homestead. It is due to his energetic labor that this fine farm has reached its present excellent state of cultivation. He is a man of remarkable business capacity as well as executive ability, and has won for himself a distinguished place in the ranks of the twentieth century agriculturists. Mr. Grover is unmarried, and belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, also the R. N. A., and the M. B. A. He has held various local offices since 1893, and in the fall of 1900 was elected county commissioner from the Third district.

Mr. Grover was engaged in a mercantile and machinery business for some ten years prior to his engaging in farming, in 1892. His first years of farming were not successful on account of poor crops and low prices.

In 1894 Mr. Grover began raising potatoes, devoting twelve acres to that vegetable, gradually increasing the acreage until 1900, having two hundred acres in potatoes that year. In 1901 he had one hundred and seventy-five acres of potatoes, from which he harvested thirty thousand bushels, only "Early Ohios" and "Triumphs" being allowed a place in his fields. He supplies seed potatoes very largely to the southern and south central states. He also raises in large quantities, wheat, oats, barley, flax and corn, and in 1901 had a corn field of one hundred acres, besides thirty-five acres devoted to fodder corn.

In politics Mr. Grover is an uncompromising Republican, and for many years has taken an active part in the public affairs of Clay county. At the present time he is a member of the executive committee of the Republican central committee of Clay county, and is a member of the committee of his township. His father was a leader in his party, and was a life-long Republican. He was born June 16, 1830. His widow, who now resides on the old Grover homestead, was born November 1, 1834.

Portraits of Edward G. Grover and his father, T. A. Grover, will be found on different pages in these annals.

#### THE MARSHALL COUNTY BANNER.

The Marshall County Banner, of Argyle, Marshall county, Minnesota, now conducted by Martin H. Novotny, editor and manager, is the only paper published in that village.

The Banner was established in 1882 by A. J. Clark, and was shortly afterward purchased by H. W. Brown. The files of the paper during its early history having been lost, it is not now possible to trace with accuracy the line of ownership. In 1892 the paper and plant was purchased by Martin H. Novotny, the present owner. The Banner is an independent paper. It began as a five-column quarto and was conducted in the interests of the Republican party. Upon organization of the Farmers Alliance the Banner championed the principles of the new organization. At the present time it is conducted as an independent newspaper. Its present size is a seven-column folio. The circulation of the Banner is about eight hundred. In addition to the publication of a newspaper, Mr. Novotny also conducts a job printing office. The office is well fitted for artistic job work, and inspection of many samples prove our subject to be one of the most thorough and painstaking printers in the northwest.

Mr. Novotny was the seventh child in a family of thirteen children born to James and Elizabeth Novotny, both natives of Bohemia. Our subject left home at an early age and entered a printing office at the age of twelve years. Having learned the printer's trade, he came to Argyle about the year 1888. He remained but a short time, however. He then traveled through the west, spending about one year in Utah. In 1892 he assumed management of the paper which he now conducts. He has inaugurated many and valuable improvements, adding from time to time desirable and popular features.

Mr. Novotny was married, in 1898, to Miss Anna Kirsch, who now presides with much grace in their cozy and comfortable home. They are the parents of one daughter, Eunice Mae.

#### CARL J. ROOS.

Carl J. Roos, who for many years has been identified with the agricultural interests of Clay county, has a home of great comfort in section 6, of Highland Grove township. He is a man of sound judgment and careful management, and has gained a valuable property. He is widely and favorably known as a worthy citizen and well merits his high position and success as an agriculturist.

Mr. Roos was born in Sweden December 24, 1840, and was a son of John and Christina (Peterson) Oleson, both of whom were natives

of Sweden. Our subject was reared on a farm in his native land and received his education there in the common schools. He learned the blacksmith's trade and in 1876 came to America. He went direct to Logansport, Indiana, thence to Dakota, Minnesota, and worked there and at Hastings as a blacksmith for one year, after which he went to Owatonna, Minnesota, working at his trade there. He later went to Farmington, Minnesota, and spent one year in Stillwater, returning then to Dakota county. From there he removed to Ottertail county and took land as a homestead near Fergus Falls. He continued farming there seven years, and then disposed of his interests in Ottertail county, Minnesota, and removed to Clay county, purchasing railroad land of his father-in-law. He has since added to his acreage and is now the owner of a tract of four hundred and seventy-five acres, of which about half is under plow. The balance of the farm is used for pasture and meadow land, and he also has a grove on the place, which affords shelter and adds to the value of the farm as well as to the beauty of the landscape. He has a comfortable dwelling, good barn and plenty of farm machinery, and conducts the farm on a paying basis. He keeps eleven horses and six cows, and has made a success of farming in Clay county.

Mr. Roos was married, in 1870, to Anna Nelson. Mrs. Roos was born in Norway December 31, 1840. Four children were born to this marriage, namely: Dina H., Nelse J., Mattie and Alma. Mr. Roos is a member of the Union Lutheran church, and in political sentiment he is a Republican. He keeps abreast of the times and lends his influence for good government, but does not seek public favor, devoting his energies rather to the development of his farm and the perfection of the vocation in which he is engaged.

#### LORENZO DAVIS.

Lorenzo Davis, whose integrity and enterprise have placed him in the front rank among the successful agriculturists and prominent citizens of Polk county, is classed among the pioneers of Minnesota, having resided there for the past forty-five years. His portrait, which rightfully belongs in a history of this character, will be found upon another page.

Mr. Davis was born in Dublin, New Hampshire, February 26, 1830. His ancestors were from Scotland and settled in the north of Ireland, from whence they emigrated to America about 1630 or 1632. The grandfather and his brother were minute men in the war of the Revolution, and took part in the last battle of that conflict. Our subject's father was a farmer and dairyman, and our subject remained at home, assisting on the home farm and attending school,

until he was eighteen years of age. He then taught for three winters, and later spent eighteen months in the woolen factory at Lawrence, Massachusetts, and then returned to Dublin and learned the shoemaker's trade. His father's sickness soon demanded his care, and he attended him through his last illness and acted as administrator of the estate after his father's death. He made his home in New Hampshire until about 1856, when, on account of depression in manufacturing interests in New England, he and his wife moved to the west, crossing the Mississippi river in April, of that year. They located on a homestead in Wabasha county, Minnesota, on government land, to which he secured a perfect title after the enactment of the homestead law, and the number of his entry being under one hundred evidences the fact that he was one of the early settlers of that region. Minnesota was then a territory, and Mr. Davis opened up a good farm in the Grub country, and after twelve years there sold his interests for about four thousand dollars, that amount being about ten times what he had when he entered the western country. He moved to new land in Pope county, Minnesota, in 1868, and there made a success of farming. This was immediately following the Indian outbreak. He freighted for the United States government, and he and others drove a wagon train, each driver handling three yoke of oxen and being paid at the rate of one dollar and twenty-five cents per hundred weight per hundred miles. Most of the work was from Sauk Center and St. Cloud to the northwestern forts. Mr. Davis was one of the first men to get to Breckenridge in 1871, being one of a company of old settlers upon an excursion to that place. He has seen all the railroads built west of the Mississippi river in Minnesota. In 1877 he took the land on which he now lives as a tree claim, and the wife remained on the farm in Pope county and resided thereon until the summer of 1883, when the family became residents of Polk county and have resided there since that date. Mr. Davis was the pioneer dairyman of northwestern Minnesota, and he proved that this line of agriculture could be made a profitable one in that region. He now furnishes a ton of butter yearly to private families in Crookston, and for the past fourteen years has furnished butter to several families. On account of poor health and old age he sold his farm in 1901 and now resides in the city of Crookston.

Mr. Davis was married in New Hampshire in 1853 to Miss Mary E. Prescott, of Groton, Massachusetts. Mrs. Davis can readily trace her ancestry back three or four generations in England, she being of the eighth generation of Prescotts in the United States, and six generations are definitely known without an absent link

and are as follows: John Prescott and Mary Platts; Jonas Prescott, born in 1648, and Mary Laker; Jonas Prescott and ———; Abel Prescott, born in 1759, and Hannah Spaulding; John Buckley Prescott, born in 1800; Mary E. Prescott, wife of our subject. Many of the family were prominent in the Revolution and in local affairs, among them being Colonel William Prescott, of Bunker Hill fame, and the historian Prescott. To Mr. and Mrs. Davis the following children have been born: Anna Melissa, born in Dublin, New Hampshire, December 1, 1855, widow residing in Crookston; Isabel L., born December 5, 1857, in Wabasha county, Minnesota, now residing in Alexandria, and is married; Fred Lorenzo, born May 12, 1860, at Reed's Landing, married and living in Roome township, Polk county, Minnesota, has three children living; Emma Matilda, born November 15, 1863, died December 14, 1863; Ida Mary, born January 11, 1865, died in Louisiana December 30, 1894, leaving four children; Carrie Lenora, born July 13, 1868, in Reno, Pope county, Minnesota, married and resides in McIntosh, Minnesota; Charles Henry, born February 23, 1875, died September 18, 1875. Three of the daughters have engaged in teaching and have met with success as instructors. Mr. Davis has always been deeply interested in school affairs, and has served continuously in some capacity since Minnesota first became a state. While a resident of Pope county he served the people first as county commissioner and later as probate judge. He has a wide acquaintance and is universally esteemed.

#### WILLIAM EDWARDS.

William Edwards, an intelligent and influential farmer of Ottertail county, Minnesota, operates three hundred and twenty acres of land, his home being located in section 34, of Butler township. He is a man of good judgment and enterprise, and has met with pronounced success in his calling.

Mr. Edwards was born at East Harling, Norfolk, England, July 1, 1846, and was a son of James and Mary (Daynes) Edwards. The father still resides in England, and is now retired from active pursuits, but in his business career followed the carpenter's trade. The mother of our subject is now deceased. The maternal grandfather of our subject, James Daynes, lived to the remarkable age of one hundred and eight years and nine months. He was a hearty, vigorous man until within a few months of his death. He died from the scratch of a cat, which produced blood poisoning. The parents of our subject had three children, namely: William, Frank (deceased) and Eliza, the latter residing in England.

The mother died when the children were young, and the father later married again, and to the second union three children were born, namely: Arthur, deceased, Eliza and Sarah.

William Edwards attended the English schools in his boyhood days, and was then apprenticed to the carpenter's trade and thoroughly learned the same, and followed it in London and other parts of England. He then joined the British army and served therein eleven years, five and a half of which time he was first class staff sergeant in the Army Service Corps, and was stationed at Malta, on the Rock of Gibraltar, and other points on the Mediterranean. He was invalided home and spent some months in Netley hospital, Isle of Wight. On his recovery he sailed for New York in 1875, in the steamer, City of London. He went direct to Canada and joined his brother Frank at Kingston, Ontario. They formed a partnership in the carriage-making business, which was continued together until 1882, when our subject sold his interest to his brother and went to Frazee, Becker county, Minnesota, where he had friends. He had purchased a ticket to far western Canada, and while enjoying a stop-over privilege at Frazee his friends persuaded him to locate in Minnesota. He secured his present farm as a homestead in 1882, and for a time continued his work at carpentering in Frazee and the adjacent country. He built his present comfortable residence in 1889, and he has acquired a good property. He is the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 34, of Butler township, and Mrs. Edwards owns a like amount in the same section and township, and the entire tract is ably managed by Mr. Edwards and is made to return a good annual income. About twelve milch cows are kept on the farm and diversified farming has been found to be profitable under the management of our subject.

William Edwards was married, in Canada, January 23, 1878, to Sarah Hartley. Mrs. Edwards died on the home farm in March, 1888. Three children were born to this union, namely: Elizabeth, Frank and Iye Wilhelmina, who died in March, 1882. Mr. Edwards was married to Martha Anderson September 30, 1889. Mrs. Edwards was born in New York, and was a daughter of Robert and Mary Eliza (Lindzay) Anderson, the former now deceased and the latter residing in New York. Her father was a native of the north of Ireland and served in a New York regiment during the Civil war. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards have adopted a daughter, Martha, and are completing arrangements for the adoption of another child, Alice. Mr. Edwards is prominent in local affairs, and is classed among the popular and deservedly esteemed citizens of Ottertail county. He has served as chairman of the township board for several terms and

was justice of the peace for seven years. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and the Episcopal church, and in political sentiment is independent.

#### JOSEPH W. SWANBRO.

Joseph W. Swanbro, a prosperous farmer, a respected citizen of Wyanette township, Isanti county, and an honored veteran of the Civil war, was born in Erie county, New York, in 1834, a son of Richard Swanbro, who was a carpenter, and died in Michigan shortly after his birth. The Swanbros came from Vermont, and were of Scotch ancestry, the mother of Joseph W. Swanbro, Malinda Carpenter, being from an old New England family.

Joseph W. Swanbro was the third and youngest member of his father's family, and was reared and educated in Erie county, though his schooling ended when he was nine years old. From that age he has made his own way in the world. As a small boy he worked on the Erie canal nine summers driving. He was also employed on the Illinois canal and the Wabash Valley canal in the same capacity. Mr. Swanbro came west about 1859, and for three years was employed on the California stage road driving stage between St. Louis and California. He enlisted in August, 1861, in Company I, First New York Light Artillery, from Buffalo. He had been employed as a teamster in the government service previous to his enlistment. He was in the battles of Cross Keys, Culpeper Court House, White Sulphur Springs, Bull Run and Gettysburg. Captured by Mosby's cavalry, he was sent to Libby prison, being removed from that place to Belle Isle, and then to Andersonville, Savannah, Milan Junction, and was paroled at Savannah, terminating a period of sixteen months in rebel prisons. This practically terminated his military experience, and at the conclusion of the war Mr. Swanbro was employed for a time in the Pennsylvania oil fields.

Mr. Swanbro was married, in Lancaster, New York, in 1864, to Miss Lucy A. Clapp, a native of Harmon, New Hampshire. Orvil Clapp, her father, was a farmer, and came of old Vermont stock. The Clapps are an old New England family, and came to these shores about the time of the Mayflower. Her mother's people, the Coleburns, were also long settled in New England. To the marriage of Mr. Swanbro and Miss Clapp were born five children: Emma F., born in 1866, is now married; Alice M., born in 1869, is a teacher; William H., born in 1872, is a farmer; Jessie P., born in 1874, is a teacher, as is Mabel, who was born in 1876.

Mr. Swanbro settled in Spencer Brook, Isanti county, in 1867, being brought into the state by the fact that his wife was a relative of Gov-

ernor Clough. He took a homestead in Spencer Brook, where he lived ten years, in a house 16x16 feet, made of a thousand feet of lumber, in which all the children were born, with the exception of the oldest child, who was born in Lancaster county, New York. Mr. Swanbro worked in the woods, and for years brought in his supplies by team from Minneapolis. About 1877 he lived for a year or more in Anoka, and then returned to Spencer Brook, to settle in 1883 on a farm in section 10, of Wyanette township. Here he now owns a well-improved farm of about two hundred acres, with fifty acres under the plow. He follows diversified farming, and is very successful. He is a Republican.

#### NILS PAULSON.

Nils Paulson, residing in section 4 of Tegner township, is one of the enterprising farmers of Kittson county. He is also a tradesman, and devotes his time to carpenter work in addition to agriculture, and has a comfortable home, the result of his own handiwork. He operates a farm of two hundred acres, and has made a success of his labors in that locality.

Mr. Paulson was born in Skone, Sweden, April 3, 1853, and was the second child and oldest son of a family of four children born to Paul and Emma (Nilson) Okesson, both of whom are now deceased. He is the only one of the family in America. He was reared and educated in his native land and there learned the carpenter's trade, serving an apprenticeship of two years. He borrowed money of his father in 1872, and in company with his uncle and about sixty emigrants came to America. His first work was on the railroad, and after a month he was taken ill, and for some time longed most heartily to be in his native land. He began carpenter work in St. Paul soon after his recovery, and in that city he began a course of study in English. Later he attended Curtis's Business College and became well versed in the English language. He went to Fargo, Dakota, in 1877, and remained there about two years, and in May, 1879, filed upon land in Kittson county, Minnesota. M. O. Moen had gone to Kittson county and selected land for himself and our subject, who remained in Fargo until October of that year. He then went to his farm and built a small board shanty, and soon afterward a log house was in course of construction. With an improvised "whip-saw" he and Mr. Moen sawed over three thousand feet of lumber on Two Rivers during the winter of 1879-80, and the dwelling which our subject now occupies is constructed of a part of that material. It is a substantial structure, and is not too humble to be called home. For three years after locating



his farm Mr. Paulson followed his trade, and in 1882 he began farming and followed the same until 1886. From 1886 to 1893 he resided in St. Paul and Minneapolis, and then passed some time in Hallock, and in 1896 took up his permanent residence on his farm. He devotes his attention to general farming, and has met with good results in his operations there, and cultivates about two hundred acres of land.

Mr. Paulson was married in 1882 to Miss Ellen Walter. Mr. and Mrs. Paulson are the parents of six children, who are as follows: Anna E., Carl Wilhelm, Nils Edward, Ida C., Minnie A. and Harry Winifred. Mr. Paulson has taken a most hearty interest in the development of his township and county, and served as the first treasurer of Tegner township. He is a man of excellent character, industrious and energetic, and has many friends in the community in which he makes his home. He is a member of the Lutheran Mission church. In political sentiment he is a Populist, and stands firmly for the principles of the party with which he is identified. On another page of this volume will be found a portrait of Mr. Paulson.

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#### EDWIN SCHRAM.

Edwin Schram, a prominent liveryman of Frazee, is one of the substantial business men of Becker county. He has gained his possession by dint of his own efforts and is accorded a high station among the worthy citizens of that locality. He is a native of Canada and was born on a farm near London, Ontario, December 10, 1862.

The father of Mr. Schram, Robert Schram, was of German descent and was a farmer by occupation. The family has been in America many generations. The mother of our subject, Maggie (Austin) Schram, was of Scotch descent. Of a family of ten children born to this worthy couple our subject was the second in order of birth. He was reared on a farm and attended the common country schools. He removed to Faribault, Minnesota, with his parents when he was two years of age, and there the father located on a farm, where our subject grew to manhood. After attaining his majority he started farming for himself, and in the fall of 1883 he went to Becker county, Minnesota. He had a team and wagon, and drove overland the entire distance. He worked on the St. Cloud & Hinckley road, and then went to Moorhead on a farm, and in the fall of 1883 entered claim to land in Becker county, and bought a homestead right in Burlington township and built thereon a log house, and with a team, plow and cow began farming the land. He followed the cultivation of his farm with oxen

for some three or four years, and he lived on the place alone for about a year and a half. The land was all timber land, and he at once began clearing it for cultivation. He remained on the place eight years and engaged in grain and stock-raising. The farm consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, with forty acres under cultivation, and he has built a complete set of good farm buildings on the place. In 1891 Mr. Schram disposed of the farm and removed to the town of Frazee, where he engaged in the stock business. He erected a livery barn in 1897, and this was the first extensive livery business established in the town. The building is 30x100 feet, and has accommodations for forty-two head of horses. Mr. Schram has built up an extensive business, and has prospered since taking up his residence in Becker county.

Mr. Schram was married, in 1884, to Miss Tilli LaDuke, who was born in Wisconsin, and was a daughter of Peter LaDuke, a farmer of French descent. Mr. Schram is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. As an early settler of Becker county he became identified with its early history, and he has served in various local offices, including trustee of the village board. He is a Republican politically and has attended various county and township conventions of his party, and takes a good degree of interest in the movements of that organization. He is an intelligent and progressive citizen and is deservedly popular in Frazee and vicinity, or wherever he is known.

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#### JOHN SEVERSON.

John Severson, residing in section 30, of Winchester township, is one of the early settlers of Norman county. He is a man of wide knowledge in agriculture and made a good selection in his farm location. He now has one of the highly cultivated tracts of his community, and enjoys just reward of persistent and honest industry.

Our subject was born on a farm near Christiania, Norway, March 4, 1854. His father, Sever Nelson, was a farmer throughout his career, and came to America in 1873, locating in Mitchell county, Iowa. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Caren Satterbuck, and the parents were past middle age when they came to America. Seven children were born to this worthy couple, of whom our subject was the fourth in order of birth. He assisted on the home farm and received a country-school education, and at the age of eighteen years left home and began for himself. He came to America and settled in Mitchell county, Iowa, where he found employment at farm labor. He made his home in Iowa eight years, and worked a year and a half of the time on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. He spent eleven months in



1880 in North Dakota and was employed on the Northern Pacific Railroad, and in 1881 he went to Norman county, Minnesota, and settled on his present farm in section 30, of Winchester township, which land he entered claim to from the government. He had but sixty dollars in money and he built a 12x14 shanty, and worked with oxen, and worked for others the first two or three years and used oxen on his own farm for about five years. Hail destroyed or partially destroyed his crops several years, but despite this he has prospered, and is now the owner of two hundred acres of good land, of which he has about one hundred and fifty acres under cultivation. He engaged in stock-raising in early days, but now follows diversified farming with good results. A small creek, with running water the year around, runs through a corner of the farm and enhances its value materially. Good buildings and a good supply of farm machinery bespeak thrift and good management.

Our subject was married, in Iowa, in 1879, to Miss Margarette Knutson, a native of Norway. Mrs. Severson came to America alone in the spring of 1879. Her father, Vetley Knutson, was a native of Norway and died there when she was a child, and she was reared in her native land. Mrs. Severson died January 3, 1898, after an illness of about six months. She was in ill health for over thirteen years before her last illness. Eight children, all of whom are living, and were born in Minnesota, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Severson. They are named as follows: Annie, Clara, Sigvair, Julia, Knut, Inga, John and Oscar. Mr. Severson is prominent in local affairs and has served as chairman of the township board of supervisors for several years and as school director for the past twelve years. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and in political sentiment is a Populist and is very active in party matters.

#### CHARLES NELSON.

Charles Nelson, one of the foremost agriculturists of Polk county, Minnesota, has a pleasant home a half-mile drive from the thriving village of Climax, and he is accorded a prominent place among the citizens of Vineland township.

Mr. Nelson was born in Numedahl, Norway, June 30, 1844. His mother died when he was but two years of age, and in 1857 he came to America with the father and our subject's only brother. They located in Dane county, Wisconsin, and after five years' residence there they removed to what is now Kandiyohi county. At the time of the Indian outbreak they were forced to retire to Goodhue county, and the father died there in 1863. Our subject continued to live at Red Wing, Minnesota, until 1878. About 1879 he

went to Polk county and bought land of a homesteader on section 29, of Vineland township, and a year later took up his residence thereon. He has prospered to a marked degree, and is now the owner of four hundred acres of fine farming land. He has improved his property and has acquired a valuable estate by his energetic efforts and good management, and is classed among the substantial men of Polk county.

Mr. Nelson was married, in 1878, to Miss Carrie Olson, of Goodhue county, Minnesota. This union has been blessed by the birth of the following children: Nels Olaf, Carl Marcus, Clara Cecilia, Lily Josephine, Valborg and Ralph Melvin. Mr. Nelson is a gentleman of excellent character, and is a member of the Lutheran denomination. He was confirmed in the same class with the great Scandinavian writer, Rasmus Anderson. He is now a member of Skatvol congregation of the Lutheran church. He is a man of deep thought, and politically is a liberal Democrat. He cast his first vote for McClellan. Mr. Nelson has recently been called upon to bear the loss of his only brother. He died in the southern part of Minnesota March 2, 1901, as a result of an accidental fall from a ladder while pruning trees. He has been a member of the township and school boards.

#### NICOLAI F. FIELD.

Nicolai F. Field, a rising young attorney and business man of Fergus Falls, has begun a career in his profession which promises to give him a high rank in the near future and to place him at the head of the legal fraternity of Ottertail county. Upon another page of this volume will be found an excellent portrait of him, which will bring pleasure to his many friends.

Mr. Field was born in Murray county, Minnesota, August 13, 1872. His father, Fred N. Field, was formerly register of deeds of Ottertail county for six years. He was a farmer and among the pioneers of the county, settling there in 1876. He was a native of Norway, and came to America about the year 1870. Our subject's mother was also a native of Norway.

Of a family of eleven children our subject was the eldest. He was reared on a farm and his early education was in the country schools. He graduated from the Fergus Falls high school in 1894, and then for three years served as deputy register of deeds of Ottertail county. He was then employed in the bank of F. G. Barrows one year. In 1897 he entered the law department of Drake University, of Des Moines, Iowa, and after a two-years' course there graduated with the degree of LL. B. in 1899. He was admitted to the bar in Iowa and also in Minnesota in 1899, standing the highest upon the examination of

any applicant admitted at that time. In June, 1899, he opened an office in the Pickett block, and has been in continuous practice of his profession since that time. He has laid the foundation of a successful and valuable career, and his clients are among the most substantial business people of the county. Mr. Field is also the official abstractor of Ottertail county.

Mr. Field was married in September, 1900, to Miss Ida Adams. Mrs. Field was born in Minnesota, and is a daughter of Charles Adams, a farmer now residing in the state of Washington. Mrs. Field was a teacher in Ottertail county prior to her marriage. Mr. Field is a Democrat in political faith, and is influential in the councils of his party. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Modern Woodmen of America, and is regarded as one of the pioneers of the county, and is thoroughly conversant with the details of its growth and history.

#### C. M. ATKINSON.

C. M. Atkinson, editor and proprietor of the Hibbing News, an influential paper in St. Louis county, Minnesota, was born in Appleton, Wisconsin, November 14, 1862. Our subject's father, James F. Atkinson, was an attorney and publisher and owner of several weekly newspapers throughout Michigan and Wisconsin. He was born at Liverpool, England, and came to America in 1839 and settled at Stratford, Ontario, Canada. He served four years in our Civil war in a Wisconsin regiment. Our subject's mother, Anna (Waterbury) Atkinson, was born at Howland, Maine, and was of old Colonial English stock.

Mr. Atkinson was the oldest in a family of three children, and in his boyhood lived at Appleton, Wisconsin, and Fort Howard, Wisconsin, and five years in Missouri. He was reared at Escanaba, Michigan, from the age of nine years. He entered the printing office in that town at the age of twelve years, working on the Tribune, which his father later purchased and named the Iron Fort. From there he went to the iron regions of Michigan and worked on the Menominee Range until 1880. He then went to Florence, Wisconsin, and with his father established the Mining News, which is still published. He continued there until 1883, and then worked in offices in different parts of Michigan, and in 1886 located at Crystal Falls. The following year he established the Diamond Drill, and published it until May, 1893. This is one of the leading papers of that part of the state. In 1894 he went to Salt Lake, Utah, and was publisher of the Rock Springs Independent for two years, and changed that paper from Democratic to Republican politics. He went to Virginia, Minne-

sota, in 1897, and was associate editor on the Virginian one year. He then established the Republican at Eveleth, but later sold the plant, and in May, 1899, became publisher and editor of the Hibbing News. This was the fourth paper established in this part of the country, and was founded by Charles A. Smith in January, 1894. It was Democratic until 1896, and then changed to a Republican paper, and is published successfully as such each Saturday.

Mr. Atkinson was married, in 1886, to Miss Ida Lott, a native of Escanaba, Michigan. Mr. Atkinson has taken an influential part in the politics of the localities in which he has lived.

#### CHARLES E. BOUGHTON.

Charles E. Boughton, attorney at law, is the pioneer practitioner of Red Lake Falls, Minnesota, and is one of the prominent members of the Red Lake county bar, and is president of the local bar association.

Mr. Boughton was born in Waupaca, Wisconsin, September 2, 1867, and was the fifth child and oldest son of six children born to Austin and Anna (Shoeberle) Boughton, both of whom are now deceased. The Boughton family is of old New England stock and settled at New Haven about 1620.

Charles E. Boughton was educated in the high schools of Waupaca and in 1887 went with his parents to Becker county, Minnesota, where he engaged in school teaching. He entered the law department of the University of Minnesota and graduated with the class of 1892. In June of that year he began the practice of law in Red Lake Falls, Minnesota. His business immediately assumed fair proportions and his present extensive practice is the result of his intelligent work there. In 1898 he became connected with the Red Lake County Courier, a popular local newspaper, and he is one of the editors of that sheet. He has made a good showing as a criminal lawyer, having lost but one case out of thirty-five tried during his term as county attorney of Red Lake county.

Mr. Boughton was married, in 1895, to Miss Rosa Zeh. One son has been born to this union, upon whom the parents have bestowed the name of Charles A. Mr. Boughton was formerly a Democrat, but is now identified with the reform principles of the Populist party. He was the counsel for the county division committee, and conducted the fight before the supreme court, which resulted in a victory and the organization of Red Lake county. He was appointed the first county attorney of Red Lake county and held the office two years. He was and is city attorney of Red Lake Falls, having served for five years, and takes an active part in local matters. He is a

member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Modern Woodmen of America. He is a gentleman of ability and true citizenship and well merits his success and high social standing.

#### PETER ERICKSON.

Peter Erickson, a progressive farmer of Pine township, Pine county, was born on a farm in Sweden in 1858. His parents were of Swedish nativity, and in his native land the father died when young Peter was three years of age. The widowed mother was married a second time, her second husband being a blacksmith and the owner of a farm, on which the young lad, whose career is the subject of this biographical writing, was reared, often doing hard and laborious work and rendering a helping hand very early in the shop.

When Peter Erickson was twenty-one he started out in life for himself, and sought a field for his best work in the new world. He left Sweden May 12, 1880, landed in Boston, and came west to Hastings, Minnesota. On his arrival in Boston, Mr. Erickson had ten cents in Swedish money, and was but poorly prepared to make his way among strangers. His was a stout heart, however, and he never failed to find a way out. Mr. Erickson was employed some years in the neighborhood working at farm work during the summer, and in a blacksmith shop during the winter season. In the summer of 1881 he made a trip into the Bigstone country, and was so pleased by what he saw that he determined to make his home there, and for the accomplishment of that purpose secured a farm by homesteading, spending three summers in the western part of the state. In the spring of 1883 he came to Pine City, and bought eighty acres of land on section 11, and thirty-eight acres in section 12. It was all raw timber land, but he was not afraid, and in company with his brother, Charles, lived in a 17x21 log shanty, which they had put up together and covered with boards. In 1887 the brothers dissolved partnership divided the land, and Peter, of whom this is written, was married to Miss Johanna Nelson. She was born in Sweden, but came to this country with her parents in 1882. They made their home in St. Paul immediately following their coming to these shores, and their daughter Johanna was eleven years old at the time. Her father, Hans Nelson, is a farmer in Pine county, and one of its best and most prominent citizens. Mr. and Mrs. Erickson have two children: Lilly, born in 1888, and Herman, born in 1890.

Mr. Erickson had such difficulties to meet, and made his way so slowly, that he did not own his first team of horses until about 1889. Before that time both he and his brother had employed

oxen in their work. To-day he owns a fine and well cultivated farm of one hundred acres, something more than half being under the plow and the drag, and the remainder being pasture and timber. His people have a good farm house, and the place is well provided with other needed buildings, a bee house that shelters four hundred hives of bees, a substantial barn and a large granary. The house is 17x26 feet, and is very pleasantly situated. Mr. Erickson gives his attention very largely to timothy hay, and has lately taken up bee culture on a very extensive scale, and markets from one to four thousand pounds of honey a year. He has a good farm, and it is well supplied with all kinds of farm machinery, and considering the fact that he was heavily in debt when he landed in this country his success is exceedingly creditable to his industry and determination.

#### OLE J. HAGEN.

With the advance of civilization through the northwest, marked by the present railroad system, and the improved highways, well-cultivated farms and thriving villages and towns, it seems an easy task to accomplish most pleasing results in the line of agriculture. This is in most striking contrast to a few years ago, when the early settlers of Minnesota, the Dakotas and the northwest generally had the work of developing the country and transforming it into a garden in place of the once barren prairie or timbered valleys. Ole J. Hagen set the task for himself of developing a farm in Hendrum township, Norman county, Minnesota, and his present highly cultivated farm evidences his good judgment in the choice of land and his good management in the operation of the same. He endured hardships which the present generation little knows, and he has been rewarded by the accumulation of a fine property. His home is in section 15. A view of his residence, on another page, forms one of the illustrations of this volume. He is one of the popular citizens of his township.

Our subject was born on a farm in Norway January 4, 1852, and at the age of fourteen years came with his parents to America. He received a good education in his native land, and after his arrival in this country settled with his parents in Houston county, Minnesota, where he was reared to manhood. He has made his own way since he was fourteen years of age, and in the fall of 1873 he and his brother, N. J. Hagen, went to Clay county and during the two seasons worked for the Hudson's Bay Company, boating on the Red river of the North. Our subject took government land in Clay county in 1875, and remained there one year. He located in Hendrum township, Polk county, now Norman county, in 1876, and purchased railroad land and began im-

proving the same. He built a small log cabin, but resided there little during the first few years of his ownership of the place. His first team were oxen, and he farmed with them about ten years and broke all his land and many acres for others of that locality. He has had many experiences with prairie fires and losses from hail and grasshoppers, and can recount many pioneer experiences and hardships. While going to Ada from Clay county in 1876 he came to a prairie which had been burned and was water-soaked at that time so soft that he was forced to leave his ox-team tied to the wagon and walk through water and marsh lands seven and a half miles to his brother's home, reaching there about midnight, almost exhausted from the exposure and tramping. Despite these discouragements, he is now the owner of two hundred and twenty acres of well-improved land, and he engages in grain raising with good success. He has a complete set of farm buildings of modern finish and construction, and his buildings include residence, barn, granary, repair shop and such outbuildings as are necessary for conducting a model farm. He engaged in threshing each season for over fourteen years, but in 1897 sold his outfit. He has plenty of small fruits, a nice grove, plenty of good water, and altogether the farm is one of the best of the township.

Our subject was married in 1888 to Mary Olson, a daughter of Ole Odden, who still lives in Norway. Mrs. Hagen came to America about 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Hagen are the parents of six children, who are named as follows: John, Olaf, Matea, Christian, Gena and Ragnheld. Mr. Hagen took an active interest in the organization of his township, was chairman of the first township board, and was assessor four years. He has also served as school clerk many years. He is an independent voter.

### JOHN HUTCHINSON.

John Hutchinson, a very successful and much respected farmer, whose home is in section 25, Barnesville township, Clay county, was born on a farm near Oshkosh, Wisconsin, in 1872, and is a son of Richard Hutchinson, who was a lifelong farmer, and was born in the town of Tullamore, County Kings, Ireland, in 1842. In 1871 he came to this country and was married the day before he left his native land. He was reared and educated in Ireland, and served three years in the British army, being engaged in the coast guard service. On arriving in this country with his wife, Mr. Hutchinson settled in Wisconsin, where he was engaged in farming eight years. For sixteen years he lived on a farm in Wilkin county, Minnesota, taking a homestead there and

putting up a claim shanty, 12x16 feet, with a sod barn, and making his first beginning at Minnesota farming with oxen, being without a team of horses for the first three years of his stay in this state. Here his first crop was a ten-acre wheat tract, which yielded one hundred and eighty bushels. In 1891 he lost his wheat by hail storms, the crop, which had a fine promise, proving a total loss.

John Hutchinson struck out in the world for himself when he was fourteen years old, and for some years was employed as a farm helper in Clay and Wilkin counties. In 1893 he made his first appearance in Clay county, being employed that year on the farm of Nathan Butler, where he was also engaged the ensuing year. Richard Hutchinson sold out in Wilkin county in 1898, and coming to Clay county established himself here. In the meantime young John had bought eighty acres in section 25, Barnesville township, which was already provided with a house, and on which he put up a barn, a granary and other sheds and buildings as the needs of the farm required. He now has fifty acres of his own land under cultivation, and operates five hundred acres of rented land, being extensively engaged in grain farming. He owns twelve horses and is well supplied with machinery.

Mr. Hutchinson is a Republican, and has been overseer of the roads. An active part is taken by him in town affairs, and he is regarded as one of the influential and reliable men of the day. He belongs to the Knights of the Macca-bees. For several years he has been associated with the First National Bank of Barnesville, and has done considerable work in collecting for that institution.

### ANDREW FELLERER.

Andrew Fellerer, the capable and progressive brewer and manager of the extensive brewing plant of Peter Schrader at Perham, Minnesota, is also a successful farmer in Ottertail county. Mr. Fellerer was born in Germany, at Sulzbach, Bavaria, January 18, 1860, and is a son of Frank and Katrina (Stager) Fellerer, both Bavarian born and bred. They were the parents of a family of five children: Joseph, Mary, Louis, Ursula and Andrew. The father was a brewer and a contractor, and died in his native land in 1879, the mother living a widow five years, and passing away in 1884. Neither ever put foot on the American soil. After the death of her husband Mrs. Fellerer sold the brewery and other property and retired.

Andrew Fellerer was well educated in the German schools when a boy, the training there received being supplemented by private instruction, and when it was time for him to select a trade

he determined to be a brewer, soon becoming most proficient in that work. After the death of his father young Andrew came to America and made his way to Milwaukee, whither his brother Joseph had preceded him, where he readily secured a position in Pabst's breweries. His residence in Milwaukee was brief, as he desired to see something of the country in which he had cast his lot, and for some months Mr. Fellerer was engaged in traveling through the west, working in various more important breweries in several larger cities, and obtaining a comprehensive knowledge of the country into which he had come. Mr. Fellerer resumed work with the Pabsts, but again soon left Milwaukee, as he was offered the charge of the malting department of the Perham brewery. This position he accepted in 1885, and that same year bought a homestead right to one hundred and sixty acres of land in Ottertail county. This, however, he presently abandoned, as it did not seem a good investment, and instead bought a forty-acre piece of land near Perham, in section 24, Perham township. To this original tract he has added several purchases and now owns two hundred and thirty-one acres. In addition he rents eighty acres, and may fairly be classed among the leading farmers of Ottertail county.

For six years Mr. Fellerer filled the position of malster in the brewery, and in 1891 became master brewer and manager of the entire plant, a position he continues to fill with the greatest satisfaction to all concerned, for the business has greatly increased under his efficient management. At the present time the output of the plant is about four hundred barrels of beer a month.

Andrew Fellerer was married, March 24, 1887, to Anna Munstett, a native of Germany and a daughter of Henry and Caroline (Ruhman) Munstett. Her father died when Mrs. Fellerer was but a girl of six years, and her mother in 1898. Their entire lives were spent in Germany, where their ashes repose. They had a family of four children, of whom Mrs. Fellerer is the youngest.

To Andrew Fellerer and his wife were born nine children: Joseph, Mary, Katrina, Frank, Cecelia, Helen, Gertrude, Annie and Louis.

Mr. Fellerer conducts his own farming operations, having, of course, the necessary assistance, and is known as a man of fine executive ability, making all his various enterprises bear a handsome profit. On his farm he has a pleasant residence, which is located near the brewery where much of his time and thought is still needed.

Mr. Fellerer is a great lover of books and possesses a well stocked library of works by the best writers, the works of Goethe, Schiller, Shakespeare and others being found there in

costly binding. Having had a good education himself, Mr. Fellerer intends that his children shall not lack such educational advantages as he can command and by which they can profit. The family are members of the Catholic church, and Mr. Fellerer is a Republican.

#### FRANK WIRFS.

Frank Wirfs, a wide-awake and progressive young German, who was born in the Rhine country in 1874, has his home on section 32, Comfort township, Kanabec county, and is rapidly making his impression on that new and developing part of the state. Simon Wirfs, the father of Frank, came to this country in 1892. His father, the grandfather of Frank, was an officer in the last war between France and Germany, and made a commendable record as a brave and gallant soldier. Frank Wirfs is the fourth child in the family, among those who are living at the present time.

When the subject of this article was eight years old he was brought to the United States by two of his sisters, who located with him in Ramsey county, Minnesota. From the time of his arrival in this country he has worked his way and made his own living. For five years he was employed in farming labors in Dakota county, where he obtained the greater part of his schooling. He worked in his later youth at Chaska, in Carver county, and was also employed in Sibley county, where he worked three years for only two farmers. When he was seventeen years of age he went to Duluth, where he secured work on the Duluth, Mesaba & Northern Railway as a cook for a construction party. After the completion of the railroad he worked in wagon works at Kenosha, Wisconsin, for a time. Coming back to St. Paul, Mr. Wirfs was employed for a year in the plow works, and was engaged another year in teaming in the city. In 1893 he spent a fall in South Dakota engaged in harvesting, and while in the state traveled through it somewhat extensively, gaining a very good knowledge of its possibilities.

Mr. Wirfs was sent to Hinckley by the St. Paul & Duluth Railway immediately after the great fire (1894) and put in charge of their coal sheds, a position he held for three and a half years. It was in Hinckley, in 1896, that the marriage of Mr. Wirfs to Miss Ella Clink occurred. She was born in Sweden and came to this country when only eight years old. Her people are old settlers in Pine county, where they are much respected for their honest disposition and industrious habits. To this marriage were born two children, Clarissa Frances, and Clarence, who is dead.

In the spring of 1898 Mr. Wirfs came to



Kanabec county to take charge of the Roxbury farm, a tract of three hundred and twenty acres, at that time having few, if any, improvements. The following year he bought the farm under very favorable terms, and has put substantial buildings and needed improvements on the place, having already cleaned up and brought under cultivation one hundred and thirty-seven acres. He has fenced the farm and built a two-story house, 26x48 feet, with an addition, 12x20 feet, and a cellar, 26x48 feet. The barn is 32x106 feet, with posts sixteen feet in the clear. There are sheds for all the farm machinery, a granary, an ice house, a stone milk house and a milk separator. Altogether this is regarded as one of the best farms in the county, and it is devoted to both grain and stock. Mr. Wirfs ships considerable butter, and plans to work much more extensively into dairying in the very near future.

The politics of Mr. Wirfs are Democratic, and he is now treasurer of the town, and is the present school clerk. He is much respected in the community where he has already made such a large success.

#### DENNIS L. DURKIN.

No man has taken greater interest in the development and advancement of the locality in which he resides than Dennis L. Durkin. He is an extensive land owner of Minnesota, and is also one of the prominent business men and influential citizens of Frazee, Becker county, where he conducts the machine business and grain buying. He is a native of Warsaw, England, and was born March 19, 1863.

Our subject's father, James Durkin, conducted a confectionery store in England, and was of Irish descent. He died when our subject was an infant twelve days old. The mother of our subject, Mary (McGuire) Durkin, was born in County Mayo, Ireland, and was of Irish parentage. She died in Ottertail county, Minnesota, in 1890. Our subject was the youngest of a family of five children, and by a second marriage of the mother the family consisted of two half-brothers and one half-sister. In 1868 the step-father and the family came to America and settled in Clay county, Missouri, and in 1874 moved to a farm near Frazee, Minnesota. There were but four buildings in the town at that time, and the depot was located east of the Ottertail river, fully a mile from its present site. The family lived in a log house several years, and our subject drove oxen during his boyhood days and assisted his father in the development of the home farm. The nearest school required six miles of travel to attend it, and Mr. Durkin had the advantages of but three months' study a year. At the age of nineteen years he entered the employ of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company as a train-

man, and also was employed on the Union Pacific and the Chicago & Northwestern, and during his last year's service he filled the position of conductor. He was called to the bedside of his mother in 1885, and through her solicitations was induced to give up railroad work, and in that year he began farming in Ottertail county, Minnesota, near his father's home farm. He remained on this tract six years and paid for the land and thoroughly improved the place. In 1891 he removed to Luce, Ottertail county, and there established a general merchandise store. He was appointed postmaster at Luce, under President Harrison and held the office six years, and in 1897 he disposed of his mercantile business in Luce and removed to Frazee, where he has since continued his residence. In the spring of that year he founded his present business, that of farm machinery, and he now has a large and ever-increasing trade in this line. He is engaged in farming extensively and has three tracts of land in Ottertail county, which he rents to others. He has also been engaged in the grain business for the past six years and buys grain for the Monarch Elevator Company.

Mr. Durkin was married, in 1886, to Miss Mary E. McGrau. Mrs. Durkin was born in Alexander Bay, Jefferson county, New York, and was of Irish-Yankee descent. Her father, William McGrau, is a prosperous farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Durkin are the parents of three children, who are named as follows: William H. died December 26, 1896, Mary Jessie and Francis Isabelle. Mr. Durkin is well and favorably known as a citizen of more than usual public spirit, and he serves his community in various offices of trust with rare fidelity and increasing popularity. He is mayor of the village, now serving his third term, and in political sentiment is a Democrat, and is chairman of the county central committee of his party.

#### THOMAS G. ANDERSON (DECEASED).

Thomas G. Anderson, deceased, who occupied a prominent place as a public-spirited citizen of Clay county, was a prosperous agriculturist of Highland Grove township, his residence being located in section 6. In accumulating his possessions he demonstrated what persistent industry and honest dealings can accomplish. He was one of the early settlers of that locality and built for himself a comfortable home and an enviable reputation. He died October 10, 1901.

Mr. Anderson was born in Norway August 10, 1850, and was a son of Gunder and Aaslong (Thompson) Anderson, both of whom were natives of that country. Our subject was reared in Norway and attended the common schools there. He remained at home until he was nineteen years of age, when he decided to try his fortune in



America, and in 1869 he made his way to Fillmore county, Minnesota. He resided there until 1880, when he located in Clay county, and after taking land as a homestead began the improvement of the place. His original farm consisted of one hundred and sixty acres in section 6, of Highland Grove township, and at his death he was the fortunate possessor of four hundred and forty acres of fine land, about half of which he had placed under plow, and the balance of the farm is devoted to pasture and meadow. A comfortable residence was recently erected on the place to supplant one burned in 1899 and which was a total loss. A commodious barn, 24x80 feet, with ample hay loft, and six head of horses and twenty head of cattle are on the place, and plenty of farm machinery, and the farm is carefully conducted on an economical basis and is made to yield a good annual income.

Mr. Anderson was married, in 1880, to Ellen S. Gunderson. Mrs. Anderson was born, in Wisconsin November 24, 1860. Seven children complete the family circle, namely: Theodore J., Anna M., Gilbert, Olaf, Tina, Martha and Tillie S. The family are members of the Evangelical Lutheran church and are well known in their community and most highly respected. Mr. Anderson was the first postmaster of Hitterdahl, which position he held for five years. He assisted in the organization of the town and always worked for its upbuilding. He served as justice of the peace and chairman of the township board of supervisors, and was prominently connected with all local public movements. Politically he was identified with the Democratic party.

#### FRANKLIN J. BURNHAM.

Franklin J. Burnham, deceased, was born in Norwich, Vermont, December 31, 1842, and died at his home in Moorhead, Minnesota, April 17, 1898, where he was known as a capable business man and an old pioneer in the valley. His forefathers came from England, and their posterity took a prominent part in the Revolution. The family has stood well wherever its representatives have gone, and have largely followed an agricultural career. Mr. Burnham was reared to a farmer's life, and as he was of a studious turn of mind, his father gave him such educational privileges as his circumstances permitted, sending him to the academy at Meriden, New Hampshire, from which he was graduated in 1862. Almost immediately after leaving school he enlisted in Company E, Ninth New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry.

As a soldier boy Mr. Burnham had an honorable career. He was engaged at South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, and later in the rear of Vicksburg. In 1864 his command was re-

turned to the Army of the Potomac, and passed through the dangers and perils of the Wilderness campaign. The surrender at Appomattox terminated his military experiences, and presently he was mustered out and returned to civil life. Mr. Burnham rose from the ranks by successive steps to become a commissioned officer, and in February, 1865, was named as a first lieutenant. On three occasions he was slightly wounded, and his entire army record is one of which his children have just reason to be proud and grateful. He never shirked a soldier's duty, nor a battle, and was one of the last to quit the field of danger.

After his return from the war Mr. Burnham resumed his studies, and was graduated from Dartmouth College in 1871, and the law department of the Chicago University in the spring of 1872. For three years he practiced law at Glynndon, Minnesota, and then removed to Moorhead, where he was at once recognized as a responsible, influential and prominent citizen.

Mr. Burnham helped in the organization of the First National Bank of Moorhead, and for fifteen years before his death was its honored and trusted president. During his career in this city he filled prominent public stations, and was at different times county attorney, commissioner, surveyor and superintendent of schools. He was an elder in the Presbyterian church, and belonged to L. H. Tenney Post, No. 103, G. A. R. In 1880 he became a companion of the Minnesota Commandery of the Loyal Legion. He was married in 1873 to Miss Harriett Laughton, of Chicago, and to them were born three children, viz.: Elizabeth A., James H. and Frank H. The mother died in Moorhead February 28, 1897. A portrait of this prominent and respected citizen is shown on another page in this volume.

JAMES H. BURNHAM, the oldest son of Mr. Burnham, was born in Moorhead, Minnesota, September 30, 1875, and as a dealer in real estate and loans, and president of the Clay County Abstract Company, he is rapidly making a reputation as a business man in the city of his birth. After the completion of his studies in the Moorhead schools, he entered McCallister College, and was just fairly embarked on a college course when the death of his father threw the responsibility of the family patrimony on his hands, and he did not hesitate to assume the responsibility. He turned his whole attention to the real estate enterprises which his father had started in connection with his banking, and is known to-day as one of the most substantial and reliable real estate men in the city.

The Clay County Abstract Company, of which the younger Mr. Burnham is president, was originally known as the Burnham & Tillotson Company, and owns the only complete set of abstracts in the county. Mr. Burnham is a Republican and

a thirty-second-degree Mason. In the city he is a member of the board of aldermen, and since the death of his father belongs to the Order of the Loyal Legion. In 1890 he was married to Miss Letitia Morrissey, of Grand Rapids, Michigan. James H. Burnham's portrait will be found on another page in this work.

### OLE O. ESTENSON.

Ole O. Estenson, one of the earliest settlers of Polk county, has spent most of his life in Minnesota, and has aided materially in the development and advancement of his community since reaching his majority. He is widely and favorably known and is a worthy citizen, and enjoys well merited success as an agriculturist, having a pleasant home in section 23, of Vineland township.

Mr. Estenson was born in Norway October 28, 1849, and was the eldest son of Ole and Ingrid Estenson. His experience for the first few years was that shared in common by the family. He went first to Green county, Wisconsin, then to Pierce county in 1860, and to Freeborn county, Minnesota, in 1862, at the time of the Indian outbreak. When the people along their route saw their schooner they were questioned whether they were fleeing from the Indians. Our subject's father reached Mankato the day after the hanging of thirty-nine redskins there. The father and others of the family spent the winter in Ottertail county, and our subject worked in Freeborn county. He started for western Minnesota the same day his parents did, in the year 1870, but he was about three hundred miles behind them. When near Georgetown, Minnesota, he had but two pieces of bread and butter, and on this he started on to find his father and family afoot. He met a party of travelers from whom he received a little sour milk and bread, and he walked the rest of the distance without food, and finally found his folks. He took a squatter's claim to land in what is now section 23, of Vineland township, and he has remained there to gain a good property and make for himself a comfortable home. He is now the fortunate owner of three hundred and forty acres of land, and is one of the substantial men of his community.

Mr. Estenson was married, in June, 1875, to Miss Paulina Hanson, of Norway. Five children were born to this union, namely: Emma, now married and residing near her parents, Helmer, Peter, Ida and John. Mr. Estenson is a director and treasurer of the Vineland Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company, the first company organized in Polk county. It was founded in 1885, and that it has been a pronounced success is shown by the fact that the average loss

has been but one mill per dollar. Mr. Estenson has always taken an active and hearty interest in local public affairs and has served in various offices of trust. He was the first assessor in his township, and made his first trip to Crookston after his books afoot, the land being too mirey for horses, and he waded some of the distance in water up to his thighs. He was serving as county commissioner at the time Polk county's first court house was built, and he is at present a member of the township board. He takes great interest in church work, and was one of the trustees when the Lutheran church was built in his locality. Politically he is a Prohibitionist. He is also interested in a general merchandise store in Climax.

### JOSEPH WAMBACH.

Joseph Wambach, a leading agriculturist and prominent citizen of Clay county, Minnesota, resides upon his extensive estate in section 32, Georgetown township.

Mr. Wambach is a native of Prussia, Germany, and was born February 1, 1853. He is the eldest in a family of nine children born to Nicholas and Katie (Laitzen) Wambach. The father is now deceased, and the mother is living in Georgetown township, Clay county. The family emigrated to Ontario, Canada, from their native land about the year 1857 or 1858. They came to the United States in 1874 via the Great Lakes to Duluth and thence to Moorhead, Minnesota, in which place they lived one year. In the spring of 1875 the father purchased land on the Red river in what is now Georgetown township, and established his residence on section 7.

Our subject having married in Canada just before starting to the United States, he purchased what was known as the old Probstfield place about one year after his arrival in the county. He took up his residence upon that estate and began farming for himself. He was accompanied by his father-in-law, Joseph Steohr. They farmed together until the death of Mr. Steohr. They dwelt in a sod shanty, 12x18, with a straw roof, the straw being protected from the heat of the stove pipe by a layer of river clay. In the fall of 1875 he erected upon his new farm a residence, 20x28 feet, of hewn logs, and during the first winter it was covered by a dirt roof. It was not until 1876 that a crop was raised, and in the meantime our subject chopped wood along the Red river as a means of livelihood. The first three years of their pioneering will be ever remembered by this heroic family. In 1876 there was some disturbance among the Indians of the northwest and Mr. Wambach was held up by a dozen of them while returning from Moorhead, but aside from the fright which he suffered they did not harm him. Another incident of his early

days occurred while he was one day walking through a dense growth of prairie grass, about one and a half miles from his home, when he encountered a prairie fire. It was traveling at a rate that would not permit him to turn back, and having no matches with which to start back firing he dashed through the flames, and the injuries he received confined him to his bed for more than a week.

Mr. Wambach is now the owner of nine hundred acres of land, two hundred acres of which is in timber, the estate being well watered and thoroughly improved according to the most modern ideas of agriculture. The success that has come to him has been achieved by his untiring efforts and his able management and strict integrity. He has for many years been held as one of the most prominent public-spirited citizens in Clay county. For fourteen years he has served on the township board and has wielded an influence in his community in behalf of better government and a higher social standard. He is a member of the Roman Catholic church, and in politics is a Democrat.

Mr. Wambach was married, in 1874, to Miss Lottie Steohr. To Mr. and Mrs. Wambach ten children have been born, as follows: Joseph, now married and now running the Independent elevator at Georgetown; Frank; Matthias; Nicholas; Katie; Josephine; Alphonso; Mary; John, deceased; and Edmund. They also have one adopted son, Johnie.

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#### RUDOLPH SIEBER.

Rudolph Sieber, whose years but add to the esteem and regard his high personal character and industrious life command in Barnesville township, Clay county, and everywhere else he is known, was born in Baden, Germany, in 1838, and is the seventh child of John Sieber, who was the progenitor of sixteen children. The father was a farmer and also dealt in farm produce. In early life he learned the miller's trade, but preferred to devote himself to the farm and its products.

Rudolph Sieber lived in Germany until he was fourteen years of age, when his father died in Germany in 1845, and Rudolph, in company with his mother and two brothers came to the United States in 1852, making their home for a time in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where young Rudolph began to learn shoemaking, but soon removed to Pittsburg, where he was employed in the iron business for a time. At Wheeling, West Virginia, he was associated with a liquor dealer for twenty-five years, and for some years was employed in a distillery, which was located at Bridgeport, Ohio. There he was married, in 1862, to Louisa C. Dorn, a native of Wittenberg,

Germany, and a daughter of Emanuel Dorn, a dyer in Germany and a distiller in the United States. To this union were born the following children: Albert, J. R., Charles Augustus, Henry M., F. William, Percy, Louise, Lena, Eddie, Jennie, John, Christ, Mary and Nellie.

Rudolph Sieber came to Minneapolis in 1863 and for two years was in charge of a liquor store belonging to John C. Oswald. In all he spent sixteen years in Minneapolis, and in 1879 came to Clay county, settling on a pre-emption claim in section 12, Barnesville township, at that time having only two neighbors. He put up a house, 16x28 feet, with twelve-foot posts. He had a span of horses and a wagon, with which he drove overland from Minneapolis. Now he owns a farm of five hundred acres, devoting the greater part of it to stock-raising. He has about one hundred and twenty acres devoted to hay and grass.

Mr. Sieber was one of the first in the town to engage extensively in stock, and now has one of the most profitable dairy farms in the town. For thirteen years he has sold milk in Barnesville, missing only two days in that time. His farm buildings are ample and his place is considered one of the best in the county. His house is large and attractive, the main part being 32x18 feet, with an addition, 16x28 feet, and a summer kitchen, 14x20 feet. This has been developed by hard work and boundless energy.

Mr. Sieber is a Republican and has been town clerk, being now chairman of the town board. He was elected county commissioner in the First district in 1900, and is now filling the duties of that responsible position.

Before his marriage Mr. Sieber made a trip to Memphis, stopping at small towns along the shore, and got a practical insight into southern life at a time when it would cost a man his life to say that he was a Republican.

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#### THOMAS J. BARROS.

Thomas J. Barros, a progressive and enterprising farmer of Lake Mary township, Douglas county, is one of the sons of the Scandinavian peninsula who have taken up their residence in the northwest and have become thoroughly identified with the advancement and development of that region. His residence is on section 1, and he is engaged successfully in diversified farming and is a highly esteemed citizen.

Mr. Barros was born in the northern part of Norway, near the city of Throndheim, June 16, 1855. He was named for his paternal grandfather, Thomas Barros, who was a farmer by occupation and passed his life in his native land. The parents of our subject were Josias and Ingeborg (Hansen) Barros, who were married in

Norway and followed farming there. They reared a family of four children, namely: Annie, the widow of Paul Johnson, resides in Iowa with her four children; Emma, the wife of John J. Hagan, residing in Duluth, Minnesota, and they are the parents of six children; Thomas, our subject; and Henry, who makes his home in Alexandria, Minnesota. Josias Barros brought his wife and family to America in 1866, coming direct to Red Wing, Goodhue county, Minnesota, near which place he settled on a farm in Holden township, where he remained five years. He then removed to Douglas county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in La Grand township, on section 21, and lived there nine years. He then disposed of his farm and purchased one near Brandon in Douglas county, where he died in 1901 at the advanced age of eighty-one years. The wife and mother died in 1880. Mr. Barros remarried, Margaret Thompson becoming his wife. No children were born of the second marriage.

Thomas Barros was educated in the public schools and remained on his father's farm until after he attained his majority. At the age of twenty-five years he erected a hotel at Evansville, in the western part of Douglas county, and conducted the hotel business profitably for two years. He then disposed of the same and removed to Alexandria and rented the farm owned by Senator Knute Nelson, adjoining the town, which he operated satisfactorily for four years. He also filled the position of street commissioner in Alexandria two years, and was city marshal one year. In 1888 he was appointed to fill the office of sheriff of the county by the commissioners, Ole J. Utness, the former sheriff, retiring from the office. In the meantime Mr. Barros had purchased one hundred and two acres of his present farm and had built a comfortable residence upon it on section 1, in Lake Mary township. He moved to his farm in 1891 and has since added to his estate and now owns a valuable farm of two hundred and seven acres. Eighty-five acres are under plow and the balance is pasture and meadow land. The farm is pleasantly situated near the timber and is three miles south of the town of Alexandria. Mr. Barros farms intelligently and makes his vocation a profitable one. He is awake to all improvements which lessen labor and add to the productiveness of the farm. He recently erected a commodious and fine appearing barn with modern conveniences for the shelter of stock and protection of grain, and has at present thirty-five head of cattle, five horses and a small flock of sheep. He owns his own separator for dairy purposes and finds it vastly superior to old methods, saving valuable time and producing butter which commands the highest market price. The

farm is well kept and he enjoys easy circumstances and a pleasant home.

Mr. Barros was married, November 18, 1880, the lady of his choice being Christina M. Nelson, daughter of John A. and Dorothea (Linglen) Nelson. Mrs. Barros was one of five children and she had three half-brothers and sisters, her mother having been previously married to Carl Anderson. To Mr. and Mrs. Barros ten children have been born, all of whom are living and are as follows: Ella, Emily, William, Edward, Albertina, Melvin, Jennie, Mabel, Florence and Blanche. The family attend the Lutheran church and are highly esteemed in the community in which they make their home. Mr. Barros is prominent in local affairs, and has been assessor of his township three years, and in 1900 was enumerator on the census. He has taken a commendable interest in educational matters and has served as a member of the school board altogether nine years. Politically he is a Republican and is firm in his convictions.

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#### FRANK MARGET.

Frank Marget, an old and honored resident of the town of Bradford, Isanti county, has earned the confidence and respect of the community in which his useful life is passing by his industrious habits, unquestioned integrity and neighborly spirit.

Mr. Marget was born in 1824, near Frankfurt, Germany, in a farming village where his forefathers had long been settled, and where he was reared to manhood. In 1849 he came to the United States, and made his home in Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin, where he farmed and worked in a pump shop, and where he was married, in 1850, to Elizabeth Walter. She was born in the same part of Germany as her husband, and came to the United States about 1850. To this union were born seven children: Katie, Charlie, John, Maggie, August, Lewis and Walter.

Mr. and Mrs. Marget came to Minnesota in 1870, and took up government land in section 34 of Bradford township. Mr. Marget put up a log house, 18x16 feet, which was the family home some six years. The first team he had was oxen and his farming was done with them for years. Anoka was the nearest railway point, and the trip to that place was made by Mr. Marget many times with his oxen. In his early years he had to contend with the destruction of his crops by the wild birds, and cattle was his only sure marketable farm product. The children had to walk some two miles to attend a log cabin school house, and they had but little opportunity to do that, as the work of opening the new farm was a heavy burden on the family.

Lewis Marget has constantly resided at home, and during some years the farm has been mostly in his charge, and the work done by him. The farm is a quarter-section, of which about sixty acres are under cultivation. The house is 18x24 feet, with a kitchen 14x16 feet; there is a barn, 24x28 feet, a granary, corncribs, a complete set of farm buildings. This farm at the present time is owned and operated by the youngest son, Walter. Grain, beans and potatoes are the principal crops.

Lewis Marget has been supervisor two terms and has also held other town and school offices. He is one of the progressive men of the town.

Frank Marget has had his full share of the lights and shadows of pioneer life. He has passed through the eventful years very successfully and now in the evening of his day on earth he enjoys a well deserved success. He has made a good record, lived a useful life and reared a family that would do credit to any parentage.

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#### JOHN NELSON SJOHOLM.

The vast farming interests of Minnesota have had their greatest impetus from the energetic efforts of the sons of Scandinavia, whose immigration to this region has added untold wealth and prosperity to every department of business and enterprise. It is difficult to measure the effect of this great adjunct to the development of the northwest, or to imagine what would have been the condition of Minnesota at the present day without this added impulse and source of wealth. All over the state are found the material evidences and the substantial results of the thrift of these worthy sons of the north land, while in all matters of state, in business and in educational enterprise is felt and realized the valuable results of their influence. Among those who have contributed their full share toward a better prosperity and good citizenship, to solid enterprise and enlightened morality none is more deserving of mention than the worthy gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. His home is located on section 20, Svea township, and his estate comprises some eleven hundred acres of valuable lands.

Mr. Sjolholm was born in Vallansharad, Kristanstadland, Sweden, March 2, 1842. He was the fifth child in a family of six children born to Nils and Inga (Nelson) Larson. He is the only member of the family in America. He was reared and educated in his native land, receiving the advantages of a good schooling in his own language. In the spring of 1874 he came to seek his fortune in America. He located in Goodhue county, Minnesota, and farmed there for some years in a small way. He had fair success there, considering the start he had, and in

1882 he came to Kittson county, arriving in the early spring. He invested the few hundred dollars realized from the sale of his Goodhue county farm in land in Kittson county and began its improvement and the development of a farm for himself. He succeeded and by degrees added improvements to his estate, and enlarged his holdings from time to time until he has become one of the largest land owners and most substantial farmers of the county.

Mr. Sjolholm was married, in 1876, to Miss Betsy Brenberg, and they are now the parents of eight children, named as follows: Ingrid, Ida M. (deceased), Ida P., Hilma A. (deceased), Nils (deceased), Ella M., Louis and Hilma. Mr. Sjolholm is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church, and in political sentiment is a Republican. He takes an active interest in the public welfare of his county and state, and is always found favoring those men and measures promising the best interests of his community. He has never sought office, but is an influential citizen, and has been chosen to the office of township treasurer. He has been an active worker in the interests of the public schools and for the moral and substantial advancement of his neighborhood.

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#### JEROME A. BENSON.

"Forest Home Farm," located on the south branch of Two Rivers, is one of the most charmingly situated farms of Kittson county, Minnesota. It comprises one hundred acres of timber land and over three hundred acres of cultivated land, and the tract is devoted to diversified agriculture. It is the property of Jerome A. Benson and Thomas Carney. The former resides in the comfortable residence on the farm located in section 30 of Thompson township.

Jerome A. Benson is a native of Oneida county, New York, and was born May 1, 1844. He was the eldest of a family of six children born to Orin W. and Mary E. (Hall) Benson. When he was nine years of age the family removed to Green Lake county, Wisconsin, and there our subject was reared to manhood and assisted with the labor of a farm. The family removed to Goodhue county, Minnesota, in 1862, but later returned to Wisconsin and engaged in the hotel business and general merchandise. Mr. Benson's father-in-law was the founder of Emerson, Manitoba, and in 1874 our subject and Mr. Carney went to that point and engaged in the furniture business, and thus became old settlers of the Red river valley. About 1885 they engaged in the hardware and lumber business in Hallock, Kittson county, and also became interested in farm lands. The tract now occupied by Mr. Benson was purchased in 1894, and has since been highly



improved and is one of the finest farms of the valley. The buildings on the place are of good design and construction and every method employed in the operation of the farm is of the most approved kind. The crops are abundant and of superior quality, and all the work of the place is under the supervision of Mr. Benson. Our subject is interested in raising shorthorn Durham cattle and he also has some fine horses on the farm, of which animals he is especially fond. He is an ardent sportsman, and over his land of No. 1 hard wheat he has hunted elk, moose and deer. He has spent much of his life amid pioneer surroundings and can recount many interesting incidents of life in the early days. His present comfortable circumstances and surroundings are in striking contrast to that lived in early days, and he is well rewarded for his earnest labors in the northwest.

Mr. Benson was married, in 1873, to Miss Georgiana Carney. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Benson, upon whom they have bestowed the following names: James L.; Fred W., deceased; Thomas C., and Claude. Mr. Benson is a gentleman of good ideas, and keeps pace with the times in civil affairs. He is a Republican politically and stands staunchly for party principles. A portrait of Mr. Benson will be found on another page of this volume.

#### CHRISTIANSON & MARTIN.

The Beltrami County News is one of the leading papers of Minnesota, and is published by the firm above named. It was established in 1898 by Mr. Martin and is a flourishing paper of eight pages, and enjoys a large subscription list, numbering six hundred or more. The plant is valued at three thousand dollars and the office force for newspaper work and job work is selected with a view to the best interests of the paper. It gives the news in a concise manner and does much to further the public enterprises which tend to the development or advancement of the community in which it exists. Mr. Martin is an old newspaper man, is thoroughly read on all topics, and his business management and methods are beyond criticism.

Christ Christianson was born in Denmark, in 1879, and came to America at the age of ten years. He attended the common schools in Ottertail county, Minnesota, and his parents now reside in that county on a farm. He learned the printer's trade at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and was later employed in the printing office by Mr. Martin and continued with him until 1901, when he purchased a half interest in the paper and assumed the duties of editor of the same. He has succeeded

in his chosen work and is one of the active and progressive young business men of Beltrami county.

Carl R. Martin, the founder of the Beltrami County News, was born in Indiana. He was educated in the common schools and resided in his native state until after he attained his majority. He located in Beltrami county, Minnesota, in 1898, and has since made his residence in Bemidji. He has spent his life in newspaper work and is thoroughly familiar with it. He was reporter on the Detroit Free Press, of Detroit, Michigan, for a number of years, and from there went to Washington state coast and conducted a newspaper in the far west for ten years, after which he located in Bemidji.

Mr. Martin is a citizen of prominence wherever he resides, and is active in fire department work. He is secretary of the Northern Minnesota Fireman's Tournament Association, and is secretary of the fire department of Bemidji.

#### JOHN P. WOLDEHL.

John P. Woldehl, one of the representative farmers and influential citizens of Clay county, is proprietor of a fine estate in Highland Grove township, his residence being located on section 8. He is a man of good judgment, honest industry and sterling worth and has met with pronounced success as an agriculturist. He is one of the early settlers of that region and by his labors there has aided materially in the upbuilding of the agricultural interests and added to the wealth of Clay county, Minnesota.

Mr. Woldehl was born in Norway, January 28, 1848, and was a son of Peter P. and Oliva J. Woldehl. He was reared on a farm in his native land and attended the common schools of his neighborhood. He remained in Norway until he was twenty years of age, when he emigrated to America on the steamer Nestorian, landed at Quebec in May, 1868, and settled in Decorah, Iowa. He engaged in farming there and after spending ten years in that state sold his farming interests and removed to Clay county, Minnesota, in 1878. He entered a homestead claim to land in section 8, of Highland Grove township, and has since made his home there. He drove from Iowa to Clay county overland, and upon arriving at his destination erected a small claim shanty. His original farm consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, but this he has increased from time to time and is now the owner of four hundred and ten acres of land, of which three hundred acres are under cultivation and the balance is devoted to pasture and timber. On his farm he has erected a complete set of stib-



stantial buildings, including residence, barn and other necessary shelter for stock and products. The barn is 40x75 feet and accommodates ten horses and he also keeps about twenty head of cattle on the farm. He has a bountiful supply of good water, which is pumped to a water tank by a windmill, and every convenience of modern farming is provided, including plenty of farm machinery of model pattern and make. Altogether the farm is one of the best improved and most highly cultivated tracts of the county.

Mr. Woldehl was married May 13, 1871, to Ele Jenson Haugen. Mrs. Woldehl was born in Norway, January 2, 1850, and died November 4, in 1875. She was the mother of twin boys, one of whom died when the mother died. The surviving son was named John Edward, who is attending school at Hawley. Mr. Woldehl was married to Sophia A. Johnson April 12, 1878. Mrs. Woldehl was born in Norway, November 9, 1854, and died July 25, 1883. Mr. Woldehl is a member of the Lutheran church and is an exemplary citizen and prominent in local affairs. He has served as treasurer of Highland Grove township for two years and enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow men. In political sentiment he is a Republican.

Mr. Woldehl paid a visit to his native home in Norway in the summer of 1900, sailing on the steamer Ivernia from New York June 1st, returning on the 20th of July, from Christiania on the Teutonic. He had a most enjoyable visit and was glad to get back to the home of his adoption.

#### JOHN COSTIN, JR.

John Costin, Jr., one of the earliest business men of Virginia, Minnesota, is a young man of marked ability and has won an assured position as a citizen of active public spirit and true worth.

Mr. Costin was born in the mining town of Hancock, Michigan, in 1868. His father, John Costin, was a contractor and builder and was of Irish birth and descent, and came to America when an infant. Our subject's mother, whose maiden name was Ronan, was also a native of Ireland and came with her parents to America, the family locating in Michigan. Our subject was the first born of a family of four children and he was raised in Marquette county in the mining district and attended the public schools there, after which he worked in the mines. He later graduated from the business department of the Northern Indiana Normal School, in January, 1890, and then went to Armour, Michigan, where he worked in the office of the Metropolitan Iron

and Land Company. He was later express agent at Ironwood, Michigan, for the Northern Pacific Express Company. In the summer of 1892 he had his first experience in the insurance business, and in January, 1893, went to Virginia, where he engaged in the fire insurance and real estate business. He opened his office in January and was among the first business men of the town and he has followed this line extensively since that date. He is well acquainted with the locality and has met with remarkable success there and now conducts an extensive business.

Mr. Costin is awake to the needs of his community and is an earnest worker in local affairs. He was elected city assessor in 1895 and held the office one term, and the following year was elected city recorder, which office he filled satisfactorily one term. He is a Democrat in political faith, and is one of the rapidly rising young business men of his community.

#### ERICK L. BERG.

Erick L. Berg, cashier of the Bank of Borup, holds an enviable station among the business and financial leaders of Norman county, Minnesota. He is a man of thorough training and has clearly defined policies and principles for the conduct of business.

Mr. Berg was born at Broadhead, Wisconsin, October 24, 1875. His parents, T. K. and Asa Berg, were natives of Norway, and came to the United States in 1851 and settled in Wisconsin. The father died there in 1893 and the mother is still a resident of that state.

Erick L. Berg first attended the common schools of his native state and then took a course at the Stoughton Academy, of Stoughton, Wisconsin, and after two years there returned to the farm, and had general supervision of the work on the homestead estate during 1895. The three years following were spent at the Northern Indiana Normal School, at Valparaiso, Indiana, and in June, 1898, he graduated from that institution with diplomas from the law, scientific and business departments.

Since 1898 Mr. Berg has been continuously engaged in the banking business. He reached Borup, Minnesota, ——— 12, 1900, and assumed the duties of cashier of the Bank of Borup. He has demonstrated his capacity as a business man and has won the confidence and esteem of his associates and the patrons of the institution with which he is connected.

Mr. Berg was married December 20, 1900, to Miss Christini Sorensen, who was born at Orfordville, Wisconsin. Mr. Berg is a Republican in political sentiment and a member

of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is very popular in business and social circles and a brilliant future awaits him.

The Bank of Borup opened for business January 7, 1901, with a capital of seven thousand dollars. In addition to a general banking business departments of insurance, land and real estate are conducted in connection with the institution. It has met with remarkable success since its organization.

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#### PETER O. ESTENSON.

Peter O. Estenson, one of the earliest pioneers of Polk county, Minnesota, has passed an eventful and successful life, although he has met with many discouragements and financial losses. He is now proprietor of a fine farm in Vineland township and can review his labors there with justifiable pride. He is known throughout Polk county, and is held in the highest esteem by all.

Mr. Estenson was born in Tonset Osterdalen, Norway, May 14, 1850, and was the second in order of birth of eight children born to Ole and Ingrid Estenson. When he was four years of age he left his grandmother to search for his parents, who were in the harvest field, and when night came the child was not yet found. A general alarm was given and at day-break six hundred men joined in an organized band for his search. The mother was prostrated by her loss, and the child was not found until after sunset. The father brought the family to America when our subject was seven years of age, hoping to better the condition of his children. They took passage on a sailing vessel and nine weeks were spent on the sea, during which time the children suffered a course of whooping cough and measles. Their tickets carried them to Chicago, but when they reached there they were penniless and they desired to go to Janesville, Wisconsin, then the end of the railroad. Their freight was thirteen dollars and the father put in pawn the bedding and best clothing of the family, and they still found themselves fifty miles or more short of their destination and without money. A man named Skraeder passed the hat and got enough money to take them to Steward, Green county, Wisconsin. The father worked hard there and paid the debt and bought a yoke of oxen, ten cows and a wagon. In the summer of 1861 they moved by prairie schooner to Martell, Pierce county, Wisconsin. This was a heavily timbered country and no hay could be raised there and during the winter they lost their oxen, and had to sell nearly all of the cows and work hard until the fall to make up their loss. In October, 1862, they hitched up a pair of un-

broken steers and moved to Hartland, Freeborn county, Minnesota, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land. On this the family lived until 1870. The father enlisted in the Union army in April, 1865, and became a member of the Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. In the summer of 1870 the family moved to Ottertail county. They did not like the land there and went on westward to the Red River of the North in 1871, and the father and two eldest sons took land as "squatters." This proved to be in what is now Vineland township, Polk county. They were thirty days journeying one hundred miles to their new home, and as their trail was the first through that region they found it necessary to bridge the streams, the worst of which was the Wild Rice river. Here an elm tree had fallen with the top in the stream and they felled another large tree upon it from the opposite side and by piling brush alongside made a bridge over which they could pull their wagons by hand. They led their horses over singly and swam the cattle across. When the government survey was completed their land lay in section 23, of Vineland township. Mr. Estenson's first shanty was of logs, with an elm bark roof, and this building was burned later by prairie fire. He marketed his first wheat at the steamboat landing near his house and continued to do this until the extension of the Great Northern Railroad to Fisher. He now controls two hundred and forty acres of land, of which one hundred and sixty acres is in field, and he has met with excellent success in farming.

Mr. Estenson was married in 1879 to Miss Anna Bangen, of Norway. The following children have been born of this union: Ingrid, Stella, Simon, Bjorstjerne, Olga and Ole. Mr. Estenson is prominent in all local public affairs and has served his community in various offices. In November, 1873, he served on the county canvassing board with Henry Shepard and E. M. Walsh. From 1880 he served six terms as township clerk, and from 1890 he served four terms as chairman of the township board. He is now serving his fourth term as township treasurer, and is enjoying the confidence and esteem of his associates. Politically he is a Prohibitionist.

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#### WILLIAM A. BRENDEMUEHL.

William A. Brendemuhl, the oldest son of Charles and Mina (Fink) Brendemuhl, was born in the city of Rochester, Minnesota, May 29, 1869. When he was but nine years of age his parents removed to Clay county and established a home on the banks of the Buffalo

river. He came with his father in 1879, and remained with him during the first summer, while he was preparing the way for the coming of the family the following year. In these years he tasted some of the hard experiences of pioneer life, which made a vivid impression on his boyish mind. With youthful adaptation, however, he fitted himself to his surroundings, and from the wilderness around him extracted much pleasure. The other members of the family came on the following spring, and here young William grew to manhood, being thoroughly schooled in the farming methods peculiar to the valley.

As manhood followed youth it was not surprising that an industrious and observing character like the subject of this sketch should grow into a successful farmer. He owns a good farm and has a pleasant home of his own. In 1895 he began independent farming on a place of two hundred and forty acres. This he has increased to four hundred acres, and has provided for its successful and profitable cultivation all the buildings, stock and machinery that are needed.

Mr. Brendemuhl is a Republican, and is regarded as one of the bright and progressive young farmers of the town, which he is now serving for the second time as town clerk.

The year in which he began farming he was also married, Miss Minnie Folster becoming his wife. They have three children, Walter, Ellen and Arthur, bright little people, and are very happy in their home and in the success that has crowned their industrious years.

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#### JACOB NICKLAY.

Jacob Nicklay, a young and energetic farmer of the township of Barnesville, Clay county, whose industrious habits, upright character and determined energy are rapidly bringing him to the front, as a representative farmer in this section of Minnesota, was born in Wisconsin in 1863, his father, John Nicklay, being established on a farm at that time in Dane county. The father was born in Germany, and something of the family history may be found in the sketch of Christ. Nicklay, whose sketch appears on another page of this work.

Jacob Nicklay was the second member of his father's family and was reared and educated on a farm. Such time as he had to spare he has always devoted to reading and studying, and enjoys a very good fund of general information, though his schooling was never what he wished, as his family moved when he was only two or three years old to a farm in Buffalo county, Wisconsin. The entire family moved to Minnesota in 1879 and settled on a

homestead in Clay county, where young Jacob was early called to assist in driving some three yoke of oxen on a breaking plow. All his boyhood days he had plenty of hard work, and passed through some very laborious years, though he remained with his father until he reached his twenty-fourth year. At that time he took a homestead in section 10, Barnesville township. (His present home is on section 15.) This was in 1887, and since that year he has steadily devoted himself to the improvement of his place. His first crop was from fifteen acres of wheat, which yielded him at the rate of twenty-five bushels to the acre.

Jacob Nicklay was married in 1893 to Miss Mary Nath, a native of Wisconsin and a daughter of Mike Nath. He was of German birth, and the husband of a German wife. They settled in Clay county, where they are still living. Mr. and Mrs. Nicklay have a family of six children: Susan; Ruth and Reuben, who are twins; Mike; Martin, deceased; and Alfred. All these were born on the farm.

Some two or three years after his marriage Mr. Nicklay put buildings on his farm and now possesses a fine and well appointed farm with all requirements for active and profitable cultivation of the place. He owns two hundred and eighty acres, with one hundred and sixty acres under the plow, and the balance in grass and pasture. He is well fixed and his prosperous condition has only come through hard work and boundless energy. He is a Democrat, has been town supervisor, and has taken an active part in local affairs. Mr. Nicklay belongs to the Catholic church, and is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters.

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#### ISAAC FOSTER.

Isaac Foster, one of the widely known business men of Wadena county, is a pioneer of that region and has become identified with the development and advancement of his community. He is engaged extensively in the sawmill and lumber business and is also a prominent hardware merchant and farm implement dealer of Sebeka.

Mr. Foster was born in the county of Renfrew, Ontario, Canada, on a farm, in 1857. His father, J. C. Foster, was a farmer and blacksmith by trade. He was a native of Ireland, and the mother of our subject was of German descent, although her parents were natives of Pennsylvania. Her maiden name was Caroline Van Dusen. In a family of ten children, six sons and four daughters, our subject was the eldest. He was reared on the farm and received but six months' schooling in the country schools of his neighborhood, and at the age of fourteen years he went to the woods and followed lumbering about four-

teen years. He did all of the various work of a lumber camp and became thoroughly experienced in the lumber business, and he rafted on the St. Lawrence river as far as Quebec. He came to Grafton, North Dakota, in 1882, arriving there June 18. There was less than one hundred feet of sidewalk in the town at that time, and when he left there, in November of that year, five and a quarter miles of sidewalk had been laid. He operated a threshing machine in the fall of 1882, and later went to Deer Creek, Ottertail county, Minnesota, where he spent a few weeks chopping cord wood. He had learned the blacksmith's trade from his father while at home and he followed the same in Deer Creek six months and then operated an engine in a sawmill one year at that place. In the fall of 1883 he bought forty acres of land and followed farming and threshing there four years and then returned to the engineering business. He bought a sawmill in Amboy, in partnership with Charles Lane, in 1888, and engaged in this business since that time. He bought the interest on time, and conducted the same in Amboy two years, when he bought his partner's interest and since that time has been sole proprietor. He moved the mill to Rockwood township and in 1892 moved it to Sabeka. He now engages extensively in the business and the mill has a capacity of twenty thousand feet of lumber per day. Mr. Foster also owns an eight thousand feet capacity mill located seven miles northeast of Sabeka. In 1898 Mr. Foster and E. O. Salverson established a hardware and implement business in Sabeka, opening the establishment for business April 24 of that year. In August, 1899, John Foster, brother of our subject, purchased Mr. Salverson's interest and the store is now conducted under the management of Foster Brothers. This was the pioneer hardware store of the town and was started in a building 24x44 feet. The stock is now one of the largest in that locality and occupies a store room 24x88 feet. The firm carries a complete line of farm machinery and anticipates the needs of that community in their line. Mr. Foster has a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres adjoining the village of Sabeka, and eighty acres in Meadow township.

Mr. Foster was married, in 1886, to Miss Eva Robins. Mrs. Foster was born in Iowa, and her parents were of American birth and German descent. She was reared on a farm and received a good education. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Foster, as follows: Arthur, now deceased; Norby; Florence; Bessie; Clarence, and Irvin. Mr. Foster is a man of much influence and active public spirit, and he has been honored with numerous local offices of trust, including treasurer of his township and also as a member of the village council, being one of the

first to act in this capacity. He participated in the organization of the village and has always taken a hearty interest in village affairs. In political faith he is a Republican. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Ancient Order of United Workmen, and Modern Woodmen of America. His portrait will be found upon another page of this work.

#### DANIEL ZIMMERMAN.

Daniel Zimmerman, a prosperous and influential farmer of Compton township, Ottertail county, is one of the earliest settlers of that locality. He has a pleasant home on section 35, and his present fine property is the direct result of good management and persistent industry.

Mr. Zimmerman was born on a farm in Randolph county, Indiana, in 1830. His father, Michael Zimmerman, was born in North Carolina, and his ancestors came from Germany. Our subject's mother, whose maiden name was Kate Shellenburger, was born in Tennessee, and was of German descent.

Daniel Zimmerman was the sixth in a family of ten children, and he was reared on a farm in Iowa, where his father moved in 1836. The farm upon which the family settled was a battle ground of the Black Hawk war, and war relics found thereon were plentiful. The father lived in various parts of Iowa and our subject was reared in that state. After he attained his majority he began farming in Iowa, purchasing land in Fayette county. He took a homestead claim in Humboldt county in 1857, and followed farming there until 1875. During the first years there Indians were troublesome and our subject was one of those chosen to watch the Indians. A massacre occurred fifty miles from his home, in which three hundred were killed by the Indians. Later grasshoppers visited the country, and during his residence there our subject suffered many losses and hardships. He disposed of his farm in 1875 and drove overland to Ottertail county, Minnesota. He spent twenty-one days in the trip, and this was a most enjoyable journey. He carried a large tent and other comforts with him and each night camped in the tent. His family and William Young and family came together. Upon his arrival Mr. Zimmerman purchased one hundred sixty acres of land of the Northern Pacific Railway, and erected a log cabin thereon, living in his tent meanwhile. He lived in the shanty four years and then erected his present residence of hewn logs. This has served him the welcome purpose of a home since 1879 and is comfortable and well located. His barns, granaries, ma-

chine shed and other farm buildings are substantial and furnish good shelter for stock and products. His farm is all fenced and eighty acres are under cultivation and Mr. Zimmerman has a thoroughly equipped and improved estate.

Our subject was married in 1855 to Margarette Mapes. Mrs. Zimmerman was born in Kentucky and was a daughter of Thomas M. Mapes, who was employed in the iron foundries all his life. He was a native of the state of New York. Mrs. Zimmerman died in Ottertail county, on the home farm, in May, 1897, leaving her husband and six children to mourn her demise. The names of the children are as follows: Lewis, engaged in farming; Gabriel, a dairyman; William, also farming; Daniel B., engaged in farming; Dora, now married; and Maud, also married. Mr. Zimmerman's father died in Ottertail county in 1882, and Mrs. Zimmerman's father died in that county also in 1893.

Mr. Zimmerman is a man of good judgment and active public spirit and he has been closely identified with the advancement and development of the locality in which he has chosen his home. He has held various school offices and is prominent in township affairs. He is an independent voter politically. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

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### CHRIST JOHNSON.

Christ Johnson, a prominent merchant of Carlton, Minnesota, has been a respected citizen of that locality for the past twenty-seven years. He is a man of wide experience and has traveled extensively and gained much practical knowledge.

Mr. Johnson was born in the northern part of Sweden on a farm, in 1851. His father, Jonas Johnson, was a farmer all his life in his native land. When our subject reached the age of eleven or twelve years he left home and went to Bordeaux, France, and from there shipped as cabin boy. He sailed on a Swedish vessel to Buenos Ayres, South America. He grew to manhood on salt water and sailed altogether seventeen years, during which time he was in all parts of the world; Africa, West Indies, East Indies, Spain, Italy, Japan and China. At the age of eighteen years he entered the United States navy and served three years. While a sailor he was shipwrecked off Cape Horn, South America. The masts, all rigging and upper works were carried away, and the vessel grounded on a small island, where the crew had to remain six months. They then returned home via Valparaiso, Chili. When Mr. Johnson was eighteen years of age

he paid a visit to his old home in Sweden, and was then confirmed in the church and school. This is the only time he has seen his home since he was eleven years of age. When he was twenty-four years of age he landed in New York City, and instead of returning to the life of a seaman he came inland to St. Paul, where he spent the winter, and then went to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, where he worked in a sawmill, the first work he ever did on land, except three months that he worked as a railroad section laborer. He later went to Thompson, Carlton county, Minnesota, and in 1891 established his present business in Carlton, and moved his family to that place. He has prospered and is one of the substantial citizens of his community.

Mr. Johnson was married in Carlton county to Miss Annie Samuelson. Mrs. Johnson was born in Sweden and came to America at the age of twelve years with her parents. Her father was a railroad man. Mrs. Johnson died in 1896. Five children were born to this union, namely: Albert R., Arthur, Myrtle, Jennie and Gust, all of whom were born in Carlton county, Minnesota. They are a bright and interesting group of children, and Mr. Johnson keeps his little ones around him in his comfortable home by keeping a housekeeper since the death of the wife and mother. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Scandinavian Lodge and is a popular and influential citizen of Carlton. He is a Republican politically and is a usual delegate to county conventions of his party. He went to that region without anything, aside from his personal effects, and is now one of the substantial business men of Carlton.

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### ANDREW BLOMQUIST.

Andrew Blomquist, who is well and favorably known among the older settlers of Isanti county, Minnesota, where he enjoys an enviable reputation as a thoroughly honorable and trustworthy man, was born in Mora, Sweden, in 1837. His father was a farmer, and lived and died in Sweden, but his mother accompanied him to America, and died in Isanti county.

Andrew Blomquist is the oldest member of a family of six children and had his education in the public schools of his native community. When he was twenty-one the burden of the support of his mother and younger brothers and sisters was thrown on his shoulders by the death of his father. He manfully met this duty and in 1868 sent two of his brothers to the United States to prepare for the coming of the rest of the family. With the others he followed them in 1870. They landed at Quebec



and came direct to Isanti county, where for some time they lived on the homestead which one of the brothers had secured in section 24, of Spencer Brook township, in a log house 24x16 feet, the home of the entire family for six years.

Andrew Blomquist and his brother Louis bought land in section 15, of Spencer Brook township. They put up a house and made extensive improvements, to which Andrew brought his bride in 1872, having been married on the last day of August of that year to Miss Carrie Peterson. She was born in Sweden and came to the United States the same year with her husband. Her father died in this country. To this union have come two children: Oscar, who is dead, and Oscar William, who was born in 1879 and was graduated from the dairy department of the State Agricultural College in 1901. He is now the butter maker at the Spencer Brook Creamery.

Andrew Blomquist and his brother Louis farmed and lived together until 1890. For several years they farmed with oxen, and had Anoka as their nearest market, to which point they went many times with their slow ox-teams. On his own place Mr. Blomquist had his first crop of wheat in 1872. In 1891 he and his brother divided their possessions, and Andrew now owns a fine place of one hundred and thirty-four acres, with about forty under the plow. His farm house is 18x26 feet, with a kitchen 14x16 feet, there is a barn 26x27 feet, a sixteen-foot shed, a granary, 16x21 feet, with a shed on the side, an ice house and all the needed farm machinery.

Mr. Blomquist is a Democrat and has a creditable history among the very early settlers of the county.

#### SAMUEL H. BAKER.

Among the early settlers of Ottertail county, Minnesota, none stands higher as a citizen among those who have known him for the past quarter of a century than Samuel H. Baker, whose pleasant home is situated in section 18, in Dunn township. Mr. Baker is one of the substantial citizens of his community and merits his success and high station.

Samuel H. Baker was born in Virginia November 28, 1848, and was a son of Stephen and Lizzie (Castor) Baker, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Ireland. He removed with his parents to Indiana when he was twelve years of age, and remained there nine years. In 1864 he enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Forty-ninth Indiana In-

fantry, and served in the Army of the Potomac. He went to Alabama, where he was taken ill and was confined in the hospital in Nashville until he was discharged from the service in 1865. He then returned to Indiana and made his home there until 1869, when he went to the Indian Territory. After two years' residence there he went to Sioux City, Iowa, and after a short time to Dakota, where he worked on the Northern Pacific Railroad. In 1872 he located in Ottertail county, taking land as a homestead in section 18, of Dunn township, and he has continued his residence thereon since that date. He is now the owner of one hundred acres of land, of which he has sixty acres under high cultivation, and from this land derives a good annual income. He has plenty of farm machinery for conducting the place economically, and his buildings are substantial and comfortable. He keeps four horses and two cows for dairy products, and is surrounded by all the comforts of rural life.

Mr. Baker was married in 1880 to Amanda Tucker. Mrs. Baker was born in Wisconsin April 17, 1857. To this marriage two children have been born, who are named as follows: John and Kate. Mr. Baker is a gentleman of broad mind and is an active worker for the good of his community and is deeply interested in the welfare of those around him and associated with him in public affairs. He is a supervisor of his township and is school treasurer and enjoys the confidence of all who know him. He is a member of the G. A. R. and the Order of Maccabees.

#### JOHN HUGHES.

John Hughes, one of the earliest settlers of Marshall county and one of its most influential citizens, resides in Stephen, where he enjoys the comforts of a happy home. He is a native of county Kildare, Ireland, and was born October 16, 1834.

Mr. Hughes was the eldest of three children born to James and Catherine (Kelly) Hughes, and at the age of thirteen years he came to America with his parents and the family made a home in Genesee county, Michigan. He was reared to farm work and in 1859 settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, and in 1864 removed to St. Croix county. He visited the Red river valley in the fall of 1877, and purchased land in Wanger township, in Marshall county. He later disposed of his Wisconsin interests and in the spring of 1878 removed his family to the new home. He continued farming there until 1880, when he homesteaded land in Sinnott township, and he assumed charge of the section house at Tamarac im-



mediately south of the present site of Stephen. During the three years of his residence there he was instrumental in organizing Tamarac township and school district and in April, 1879, secured a postoffice at Tamarac, the nearest office then being Crookston. Mr. Hughes served as postmaster at Tamarac three years and then removed to his homestead in Sinnott township. After continuing farming there three years he disposed of his farm in 1885. Shortly afterward Stephen village was organized and he established a drug business there and continued in the business until 1896.

Mr. Hughes was married in 1857 to Miss Mary McNeely. Mrs. Hughes died in 1868. Four children were born to this union, who are named as follows: James, deceased; Catherine, now Mrs. P. J. Sinnott; Mary, now Mrs. John Whalen; and John, residing in St. Paul. Mr. Hughes was married to Mrs. Catherine Whalen, *nee* Nolan, in August, 1871. From his earliest residence in Marshall county Mr. Hughes has taken a hearty interest in public affairs and there are few men who have attained the prominence accorded him. Since 1886 he has served as township clerk of Tamarac township, and he has held various offices of trust. For sixteen years he has been justice of the peace and for four years in the early days was a member of the county board. He is a member of the Catholic church and in political faith is a Democrat.

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#### MARIA SKAURUD.

Executive ability is not confined strictly to the male members of a community, as is evident from the present comfortable circumstances enjoyed by the subject of this review. Mrs. Skaurud has managed a large estate for some years, and has succeeded admirably in her work. She was left a widow after a few years of wedded life and the responsibility of conducting the home farm fell upon her, but with true womanly dignity she has risen to the occasion and has made for herself and her little family a home of more than usual comforts. She resides in section 9 of Wild Rice township, and has one of the pleasant farms of Norman county.

Our subject was born in Norway, March 9, 1857, and was a daughter of Simon and Julia (Mickelson) Houg, both of whom were natives of Norway. The parents now reside in Wild Rice township.

Mrs. Skaurud was married to Albert J. Skaurud, at Heiberg, Norman county, Minnesota, November 23, 1884. Mr. Skaurud died in 1891, in his twenty-eighth year, and was laid to rest at Twin Valley. He was born in Winneshiek coun-

ty, Iowa, July 24, 1863, and was a man of good principles, energetic and industrious, and always provided well for his family. He was prominent in his community and took an active part in local movements. Politically he was a Republican. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Skaurud, who are named as follows: John Selmer and Alfred Morris.

Mrs. Skaurud went to Norman county, Minnesota, in 1880, and entered a homestead claim to land in section 9 of Wild Rice township, where she has since resided. She now owns two hundred acres of valuable land, about one hundred and twenty-five acres of which is under cultivation annually, and the land has yielded twenty-five bushels of wheat per acre. The family residence is surrounded by a fine grove, and the place is one of the pleasant appearing and well kept places of the county. A barn and other out-buildings complete the farm.

Mrs. Skaurud is a consistent member of the Lutheran church, of which denomination she has been a member throughout her life. She has many friends in Wild Rice township and enjoys well earned success as an agriculturist. She has resided twenty-one years in Wild Rice township. A portrait of Albert J. Skaurud will be found on another page in this volume.

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#### CHRIST. NICKLAY.

Christ. Nicklay, one of the enterprising and wide-awake young men of Barnesville, Clay county, was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, in 1861, where his father, John Nicklay, was engaged in farming. That gentleman was born in Germany and came to the United States when only ten years of age. In 1879 he moved to Minnesota.

Christ. Nicklay is the oldest in a family of seven children, and was reared and educated in Wisconsin, where his youth was early devoted to hard work, beginning as early as nine or ten years old with the systematic performance of his full share of the labor of the farm. He also worked for about five years on the Great Northern Railroad. He remained at home until his marriage in 1890.

John Nicklay settled in section 14, Barnesville township, Clay county, in 1879, and built a house and sod barn. Beginning with four horses and five cows, together with some farm machinery, he made very good progress and was very well-to-do at the time of his death, in 1898. His fuel he hauled from Norwegian Grove, in Becker county, the boys usually making the trip.

Christ. Nicklay was married in 1890 to Miss Annie Bruels, who was born in Minnesota, of

German parentage. Her father was a stonemason, and was killed in an accident at Man-kato, when his daughter Annie was but a year and a half old. To Mr. and Mrs. Nicklay have come seven children: George, Leo, Mary, Katie, Dora, Anton and Freddie. Mr. Nicklay bought his present farm in 1883, and at the time of his marriage had a farm in fine shape. To-day he owns a half section of land, with about two hundred acres under cultivation, the balance being devoted to meadow and pasture. He is an extensive grain farmer, and has been very successful in that line.

Christ. Nicklay is a Democrat and has been town treasurer some fourteen or fifteen years. He has served as school treasurer, and has taken an active interest in the Catholic Order of Foresters, of which he has long been one of the leading members. He belongs to the Catholic church.

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#### JACOB ANDERSON.

Jacob Anderson, a prominent early settler of Audubon township, Becker county, is engaged in the pursuit of agriculture in section 13. He has a handsome property and has gained the same by dint of his honest industry, and in consequence is accorded a high station as a citizen of his community. He was born on a farm in Bergen Stift, Norway, in 1844.

The father of our subject, Andrew Jacobson, was a native of Norway, and was a laborer and mason by trade. He came to America in 1871 and settled in Becker county, Minnesota. Our subject's mother, Annie (Severson) Jacobson, was born in Norway and died in her native land. Our subject grew to manhood on the home farm and attended the common schools, and from the age of nine years began earning his way. He came to America in 1866, landing at Quebec, and spent the first year in Goodhue county, Minnesota, and then three years in Fillmore county. He went to Jackson county, Minnesota, in 1869 to look for a suitable location and after a year spent there went to Becker county in the spring of 1870. He at once entered claim to his present farm in section 13, of Audubon township, and thereon built a log shanty, and hired some land broken. He earned his way by working on neighboring farms and in the fall hunting game and caught and sold some valuable furs. He lived alone for several years, spending what time he could on his place, and in 1873 he bought his first team, a yoke of oxen, and with these began the improvement of his land. He lost four crops by grasshopper visitation and he worked for others until 1876, when he took up his permanent residence on the farm. Since then he

has lost fifty tons of hay by prairie fires, but otherwise has met with no severe losses, and he is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of well improved land. He has engaged principally in grain raising, and has met with good results in this line.

Mr. Anderson was married in 1891 to Miss Mathea Evans, who was born in Norway and came to America in the spring of 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are the parents of seven children, who are named in order of birth as follows: Annie, Edward, Amberg, Joseph, Oscar, Severt and Louis. The children were all born on the farm in Becker county. Mr. Anderson is an influential citizen and takes a good degree of interest in local affairs of a public nature. He has served as township supervisor and constable and also road overseer for many years, and township assessor. As a member of the Republican party he has attended numerous county conventions as a delegate. He has aided in the advancement and upbuilding of his community and enjoys well merited esteem. He is a consistent member of the Lutheran church.

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#### J. J. STUART.

J. J. Stuart, the genial and popular landlord of the Hotel Hibbing, is the pioneer hotel man of Hibbing, St. Louis county, Minnesota, and a well-known and enterprising citizen.

Mr. Stuart was born in the village of Cornwall, Canada, March 29, 1857. His parents were John and Mary (Johnson) Stuart, the former a contractor and builder, of Scotch parentage, though a native of Canada, and the latter also a native of Canada, but of American parentage and of Pennsylvania Dutch extraction.

J. J. Stuart is the youngest in a family of seven children and was reared to the age of fifteen in the village of Cornwall, at that age coming with his parents to Wisconsin. The family settled in Peshtigo, Marinette county, where our subject attended the common schools until his nineteenth year. He then went to Chicago and obtained employment with an ice company, and was thus engaged for eight years. In 1883 he returned to Peshtigo, and, having married, went into the hotel business there, running the company house four years. He then went to the Gogebic Range, in Michigan, where he engaged in the hotel business about three years. He then went to Minnesota and located at what was then called the New Town, now Hibbing. The village consisted at that time of a few tents, and after looking over the situation, Mr. Stuart decided to accept the offer to start

a boarding house for the Lake Superior Consolidated Mining Company, and opened up the first boarding house of any description in Hibbing. The buildings for this purpose comprised three log houses, and he was soon running smoothly with one hundred and fifteen boarders. He next went to the Mahoning mine, where he conducted a boarding house one year. In 1896 he went to Colorado, where he remained one year, operating a small hotel. He then returned to Hibbing, and took charge of the Hull Hotel at the Hull mine. There he was burned out, losing everything. He then went back to Mahoning and conducted a hotel there eight months. His present connection was next formed, whereby, in partnership with Mr. Secard, the Hotel Hibbing was rented, and has since been operated with great success. The Hotel Hibbing was established in 1895, in the month of February, by Frank Hibbing, whose widow is the present owner of the property. It is the leading hotel in the city, and enjoys the most liberal patronage from the traveling public.

Mr. Stuart was married in 1885 to Miss Althea May Tainsch. Mrs. Stuart is a native of Wisconsin and of German descent. Mr. Stuart is held in high esteem in the community, and is distinguished as one of the pioneer business men of the region.

August 1, 1901, Mr. Stuart bought out Mr. Sicard and is now running the hotel alone.

#### ANTON A. AUBOL.

Anton A. Aubol, who enjoys the distinction of being the first settler to make permanent residence in Rocksbury township, Red Lake county, has accumulated a fine farm and is one of the substantial men of his locality. Others filed claim to land in that region prior to his making filings to his land, but did not reside thereon permanently. Mr. Aubol is a man of much push and energy and to his own persistent labor is due his marked success in Minnesota.

Our subject was born in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, November 20, 1854, and was the fourth of a family of ten children born to Andrew and Carrie (Olson) Aubol, both of whom are now deceased. The parents were natives of Norway. Until 1880 our subject remained at home and his first venture was to go to northern Minnesota. He arrived at Crookston in March, where he was snowbound for a week. He looked for land in Dakota and near Fisher's Landing and finally, in April of that year, visited the east end of Polk county and filed claim to land in sections 32 and 33, which property he recently sold. His first

home was a log cabin 16x22 feet, and to this humble home he took his bride in 1881. A team and cow was the extent of their possessions and our subject was forced to depend on day labor for a livelihood. The spring of 1881 was remarkable for its length. April 14 Mr. Aubol shoveled snow and two days later the snow was melted, leaving the country like a lake. He invested all his meager savings in young stock for his farm, but did not engage in the cultivation of his land until about 1892, when he broke the ground for cultivation. He lost this crop by hail and was forced to sell some of his cherished stock to pay expenses. He has since engaged in diversified farming and has become very successful. He sold his old homestead in 1898 and purchased the farm he now occupies in section 28, of Rocksbury township. This comprises two hundred and sixty-five acres, and upon this property Mr. Aubol is making noteworthy improvements. He has a comfortable residence and good barn and other necessary farm buildings, and has all machinery and equipments for conducting a model farm.

Mr. Aubol was married in 1881 to Miss Marv Larson. Seven children have been born to this union, namely: Alfred, Cornell, Clarence, Mabel, Effie, Harvey and Walter. In the early days, before his eyesight failed, Mr. Aubol took a most prominent part in township affairs. He assisted in organizing the township and served three years as township supervisor. He was a Farmers' Alliance man and assisted in organizing the new reform party and is now a staunch Populist. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

#### LARS O. HITTERDAL (DECEASED).

In the death of Lars O. Hitterdal Minnesota lost one of her pioneer settlers, Clay county a most worthy citizen, the town of Hitterdal its founder and benefactor, and the family a kind husband and father. Mr. Hitterdal was identified for many years with the development of that region and prominent mention must be made of his work in the history of that locality. He was a man of good judgment, industrious character and honest dealings and numbered all citizens of his acquaintance among his friends. He accumulated a fine property in Clay county, and at the time of his demise was one of the substantial agriculturists of his community. The widow, Ingeberg O. Hitterdal, resides on the home farm in Goose Prairie township, the residence being in section 34. She ably conducts the affairs of the home farm and is a lady of exceptional ability and business management.

Lars O. Hitterdal was born in Norway April 26, 1859, and was a son of Ole and Berith (Larson) Hitterdal, both natives of that country. Our subject came to America with his parents when he was ten years of age, and the father engaged in farming in Iowa two years. In 1871 they removed to Minnesota, and the father entered a homestead claim to land in Clay county. At his death the property was left to our subject, who conducted the same continuously and made excellent and substantial improvements on the place. He passed through the usual experiences of a pioneer of the northwest, plowed the wild land with ox-teams, lived in a log house and had many discouragements, but all these he surmounted and at the time of his demise was the owner of one of the finest properties of that region. He experienced a total failure of crops for two seasons on account of grasshoppers and engaged in trapping during the winter months to earn a livelihood. The farm now contains five hundred acres and is fitted with all modern improvements and conveniences, and a complete set of substantial buildings, including a ten-room, two-story brick residence, large barn and other substantial buildings. A grove planted by Mr. Hitterdal furnishes shade and shelter for the house and other buildings, and the well water and other conveniences of the place make it a home of great comfort. The farm work is carried on extensively and the farm is one of the best producing tracts of Clay county and one of the best improved and most pleasantly located.

Mr. Hitterdal was married in 1883 to Ingeberg Klemmitson. Mrs. Hitterdal was born in Norway, March 25, 1863, and came to America at the age of ten years. Her parents, Klemmit and Christie Klemmitson, were natives of Norway, and the father died in that country, leaving his widow with seven small children. The mother came to America with her children, the youngest but three weeks of age and the eldest nineteen years old and the family located in Houston county, Minnesota. There the children obtained employment to repay the money borrowed for their passage to this country. After five years' residence there they removed to Clay county, Minnesota, where Ingeberg Klemmitson was married to Lars O. Hitterdal. To Mr. and Mrs. Hitterdal seven children were born, namely: Clara B., Olga J., Minnie C., Odin, Clevert, Leonard and Harry. The family are members of the United Lutheran church.

Lars O. Hitterdal died November 21, 1900, mourned by a circle of relatives and many friends. He was a man of active mind, always public spirited and progressive. He was the founder of Hitterdal, a thriving town of

about one hundred inhabitants, located on the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, about six miles north of Winnipeg Junction. Mr. Hitterdal was prominent in local public affairs and wielded a wide influence for good government, local and national. In political following he was a Republican and was firm in his convictions for right.

#### OREN SIMMONS.

Oren Simmons, who has been identified with the farming interests of Polk county for nearly a quarter of a century, is one of the influential and worthy citizens of his locality. He has a valuable estate in Russia township and is one of the widely known men of his community.

Mr. Simmons was born in Racine county, Wisconsin, February 2, 1848, and in 1850 the family removed to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where the father died in 1852 and the mother again married, and our subject was reared on the home farm. He remained there until 1863, when, at about the age of fifteen years, he enlisted in Company E, Thirty-eighth Iowa Volunteers. He saw service in the Department of the Gulf, around Mobile. Up to the time of his enlistment he had never spent a night away from home and the hardships of war consequently told upon him. His company was at the front in the charges on Forts Blakeley and Morgan. Provision wagons failed to connect and they marched three days without food other than corn that had been tramped into the ground. The swampy character of the country caused much work, such as pulling ammunition wagons out of the mud, building corduroy roads, etc., and these endurances were hard on the youth of but fifteen years. Although he had close calls in rifle pits and in reconnoitering, he was never wounded, but the hardships of the war brought on fever and ague, which left him afflicted with deafness of the right ear. He was mustered out of the service in Texas and returned by steamer to Davenport, Iowa, where he was discharged. Although he experienced much happiness in again being at his home, he has never regretted that he gave some of the best years of his life in loyal and brave service for his country.

In 1867 Mr. Simmons attended Breckenridge Institute in Decorah, Iowa. In 1869 his mother and step-father moved to the town to reside, and our subject assumed control of the farm, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres of land. He remained there nine years and met with good success in his labors. In 1878 he disposed of the property in Iowa and in the fall of that year located in Russia town-

ship, Polk county, Minnesota. He now has four hundred and forty acres of land and good improvements thereon. The early winters were severe indeed, and he had to haul water about three miles and wood ten miles. Prairie fires were frequent and one season, while he was away from home, prairie fire destroyed his crops and the barn was saved only through the timely appearance of a neighbor, Tom Bjoin, who extinguished the flames by pouring sour milk on them, there being no water at hand.

In April, 1875, Mr. Simmons was married to Miss Margaret Johnson, a native of Norway. Their union has been blessed by the birth of the following children: Herbert, Elmer, Alfred, Alma, William, Minnie and Truman. Mr. Simmons has always taken an active interest in local public affairs, and he assisted in the organization of his township, and has served as clerk of the same from its organization to the present writing. The township name was chosen from Russia station, it having been suggested by Captain Soule, who had been connected with the Russia Iron Works in Ohio. Mr. Simmons was formerly identified with the Populist party, but is now a Republican in political sentiment. He is active in public matters. He is a member of the Hauges Lutheran church and well merits his high standing and success.

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#### MAX KERN.

Among the prominent early settlers of Wadena county may be noted Max Kern. He resides on section 12 in Leaf River township and conducts the largest sawmill of the township. He is a successful business man and has gained a good property and an enviable reputation.

Mr. Kern was born on a small farm in Bavaria, Germany, March 18, 1855. His father, Joseph Kern, was a stock speculator in Germany. The mother of our subject, who was a native of Germany and reared there, bore the maiden name of Frances Dancer. Of a family of four children our subject was the second in order of birth, and when he was thirteen years of age the family emigrated to America, landing at New York City in 1869. They settled in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and there the father was employed in the sawmills. They later removed to Janesville in the fall of 1869 and the father was employed on the Winona & St. Peter division of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. They settled on a farm near Mankato in 1872. There our subject was reared to manhood, receiving but one month's schooling in the English schools. He remained at home until he was twenty-five years of age, and in 1879 went to

Wadena county, settling in a farm in section 12 of Leaf River township. His brother Anton went with him and together they settled in the thick timber, and the following year another brother, Joseph, joined them. They erected the second sawmill of the township, and for five years they and our subject's wife lived in a shanty on the land. Mr. Kern and his brothers added to the mill and it now has a capacity of about eight thousand feet of lumber per day, and is the most extensive mill of the locality. Mr. Kern has cleared a tract of land and raises some grain, but does not enter extensively into farming operations. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of land, and thereon has a comfortable home. He and his brothers began threshing in 1884 and have followed it each season since that date, the engine of their sawmill being used for threshing in that season. They have built a business block in Wadena, containing two stores, this being one of the finest business blocks of the town.

Mr. Kern was married December 7, 1879, to Miss Mary Hoffman. Mrs. Kern died in 1882, leaving one son, named Max. Mr. Kern's parents resided with him for about five years after the death of his wife, and the mother was his housekeeper. Mr. Kern then married Miss Veronica Fruth. Mrs. Kern was born in Germany and came to America alone in 1884. Seven children have been born to this union, who are as follows: John, Elizabeth, Cecil, Josie, Leo and Alois. Mr. Kern is a member of the Catholic church and also the Catholic Order of Foresters. He is always active in local public affairs and has served on the town board and also takes a commendable interest in educational matters and has served in various school offices. Politically Mr. Kern is a Democrat, and is firm in his convictions.

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#### THOMAS S. NOYES.

Thomas S. Noyes, an ex-soldier of the Civil War, and a prominent citizen of Ottertail county, Minnesota, has a well improved estate in Orwell township and is engaged successfully in farming.

Mr. Noyes was born in New York, July 23, 1840, and was a son of Frederick and Betsy (Daniels) Noyes, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of Vermont. He was reared in his native state on a farm until he was thirteen years of age, when he went to Minnesota with his mother and located in St. Paul in 1856, residing there two years thereafter. The father worked in a factory in New York and also engaged in farming, and he died in that state prior to the removal of our subject to Minnesota. Thomas S. Noyes and his mother removed later

to Dakota county, Minnesota, and from there our subject enlisted in Company F, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in 1862. He went to fight the Indians and was at New Ulm, Minnesota, at the time of the massacre there and helped in caring for the wounded and picking up the dead. He fought against Sitting Bull under General Sulley, and was stationed at Fort Ripley for a time until 1864, when he was sent to Kentucky and Tennessee. He fought in the battle of Stone River under General Scofield in the Twenty-third Army Corps. He was discharged from the service at Charlotte, North Carolina, August 13, 1865, after exactly three years' active service for his country. After his honorable discharge he returned to Dakota county, Minnesota, and sold his interests there, removing to Sioux City, Iowa. He resided in Iowa one year, and in 1872 he settled in Murray county, Minnesota, where he resided for almost eleven years. In 1882 he came to Ottertail county and bought land in section 15 of Orwell township, where he now has a well improved farm on which he has erected good buildings, and has plenty of farm machinery, windmill, and excellent water. He owns a half section of land and is one of the substantial men of his locality.

Mr. Noyes was married, in 1868, to Georgia Mott. Mrs. Noyes was born in England, February 17, 1851. Ten children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Noyes, namely: Georgia E., Minnie M., Frederick I., Frank, Nora B., Mark M., Marvin E., Hattie E., Harry and Harvey H. Mr. Noyes takes an active interest in local affairs and is the present assessor of Orwell township, and has served as supervisor for a number of years. Politically he is a Republican and lends his influence for good government, national and local. Mr. Noyes' brothers, Leonard D. and James, were also soldiers in the Civil War. Leonard D. died in Ottertail county in 1892, and James died in Murray county in 1893. A lifelike portrait of Mr. Noyes adorns one of the pages of this work.

#### JOSHUA M. DOUDNA.

Joshua M. Doudna, an ex-soldier and early settler of Douglas county, is a man of wide acquaintance and is universally respected and esteemed. His home is in Alexandria, where he has resided for the past quarter of a century, and there he has made a success of bee culture on a small tract of land.

Mr. Doudna was born at Belmont, Ohio, August 25, 1835, and was a son of Joseph and Mary (Van Law) Doudna. The father was of English and Dutch descent, and was born in North Carolina and moved to Ohio in 1802, being among the earliest settlers of that

state. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Henry Doudna, was a farmer by occupation and was a mechanic by trade. His father before him followed the sea. The father of our subject became the owner of a section of land in Ohio and followed farming until his death. Our subject was the third in order of birth in a family of eleven children, eight sons and three daughters. He spent his boyhood days upon his father's farm, and received but little schooling, but indulged in hunting and fishing. The love of these sports has continued with him to the present day and he can recount many interesting experiences with rod and gun, not only in his native state but in Minnesota. The fact that this new country was so well adapted to his tastes in that direction was one of the leading causes of his locating there after his long and wearisome service in the army of the Rebellion.

At the age of eighteen years Mr. Doudna was apprenticed to the blacksmith's trade, but did not follow it in after life. He went to southern Indiana when a young man and secured employment in a sawmill at Seymour. When the Civil war broke out in 1861 he enlisted at Seymour in Company K, Thirty-ninth Indiana Infantry, and was in the Army of the Cumberland under General Buell. He participated in the battle of Shiloh and numerous other engagements and February 1, 1863, was transferred to the Mississippi Marine Brigade and ram fleet, employed in patrolling the river. He was also mail agent for the fleet, with headquarters on the flagship. He assisted in several engagements and was struck in three places by an exploding shell, at the siege of Vicksburg, but was only slightly wounded. He was honorably discharged from the service at Vicksburg, Mississippi, February 1, 1865, and returned to his people in Ohio. He soon afterward left for Indiana, where he remained two years, and then removed from place to place in search of health, visiting Illinois, Kansas and Colorado, and finally in the spring of 1868 settled in the beautiful lake region of Douglas county, Minnesota, homesteading a farm of about one hundred and sixty acres in Carlos township. This farm he improved and five years later sold. In 1873 he bought a small tract of land near Alexandria, upon which he subsequently built a pleasant residence. He bought one hundred and twenty acres of land in Ottertail county, Minnesota, in 1875, and after one season disposed of the tract. He divides his time between field and lake sports and the care of his apiary. At present he has one hundred and twelve stands of bees, which are a source of pleasure, as well as profit.

Mr. Doudna was married July 2, 1857, to



Cynthia Jane Strahl, a daughter of David and Deborah Strahl, of Ohio. Mrs. Doudna died April 15, 1858. Mr. Doudna is a member of the Masonic order and is a charter member of Constellation Lodge, No. 81, of Alexandria. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Politically he is a Republican and is a man of good judgment and keeps pace with the times and lends his influence for the best local and national government.

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#### HANS P. OLSON.

Among the early settlers of Norman county none have been more useful in promoting its growth and sustaining good government than Hans P. Olson, whose home is in section 33 of Anthony township. He has a fine farm, which he has accumulated since settling in that region, and in conducting his affairs has shown good management and a capacity for well-directed labor, and he has gained a host of friends by his honesty and integrity.

Our subject was born in Vernon county, Wisconsin, in 1857. His father, Peter Olson, was a native of Norway, and was a farmer and school teacher. He came to America about 1851 and settled in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he passed the remainder of his life. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Agatha Holden.

Mr. Olson was the third in a family of six children, and when he was three years of age the family moved to Fillmore county, where he was reared to manhood on the home farm, attending the country schools and one winter in the high school. He began earning his own way at the age of fourteen years, his father having died when he was but nine years of age. After beginning work for various farmers of his neighborhood he saved his earnings, and when he attained his majority had about four hundred dollars. He went to Polk county, now Norman county, in 1878, and settled on railroad land, which he later purchased, and built a shanty 8x12 feet. His mother and others of the family accompanied him to the new home and all lived together but engaged each for himself in farming. Our subject did the first cultivating of his land with oxen, and after two seasons purchased horses. He went to that country in a covered wagon, four weeks being required for the trip, and his first crop was in 1879. He now owns three hundred and twenty acres of land, of which two hundred and fifty acres is under cultivation, and he has a good tract devoted to pasture, etc. The buildings which he has erected on the farm are substantial and include a commodious story-and-a-half dwelling and a large barn and other buildings necessary for the economical con-

duct of the place. He has a complete set of machinery, which is well cared for and protected from the weather by a machine shed, and, taken altogether, the farm is one of the best-equipped farms of the township. An artesian well is a feature of the place and furnishes an abundance of good water for farm and domestic uses.

Mr. Olson was married in 1887 to Maria Waraberg, a native of Norway. Mrs. Olson is a daughter of Henry Waraberg, who emigrated to America from Norway about 1881, and is a prosperous farmer and well-known old settler of Norman county. Mr. and Mrs. Olson are the parents of three children, who are named Alma, Henry and Harald. Our subject is a gentleman of exemplary character and is a staunch worker for prohibition, and has attended county and congressional conventions of the Prohibition party and taken a most active part in promoting this faith. He is prominent in local affairs and has continuously held various township offices, and has served the past seven years as township clerk. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and has served as secretary of that denomination. His life in Norman county has been one of continued success, and his uprightness and honesty have made him many friends in his home community.

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#### EDMUND J. LONGYEAR.

Edmund J. Longyear, leading prospector, prominent business man and pioneer citizen of Hibbing, requires special mention in connection with the history of northern Minnesota.

Mr. Longyear was born in Grass Lake village, Michigan, November 6, 1864. His parents were Isaac and Roanna (Davis) Longyear, the former a native of New York and the latter born in the village of Grass Lake, Michigan. The father was a contractor and builder, and was descended from a family who came from Holland in colonial times. His ancestors fought in the Revolutionary war and were well known in the state of New York for several generations back.

Mr. Longyear is the youngest in a family of three children, and received a preliminary education in the public schools of Grass Lake, having graduated from the high school of that village. He then entered the University of Michigan and took a three years course in civil engineering. At Houghton he took a course in the School of Mines, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science (S. B.), graduating in 1888 with the first class that graduated from that institution. He then went into northern Michigan and engaged in exploring the iron region. He spent two years in this work, having conducted explorations all over the entire iron belt of northern

Michigan. In 1890 he went to Minnesota, and was among the first explorers of the Missabe Range, locating the first at the old town of Mesaba. He established several camps in that section and spent one year in this work. In 1896 he established a permanent office at Hibbing, and has the distinction of being the first explorer to penetrate within ten miles of Hibbing. He operates forty complete drilling outfits scattered through the range, employing two hundred men. His is the most extensive business in this line in the locality. In addition to this work Mr. Longyear also handles the Pillsbury Addition to Hibbing, a forty-acre tract divided into town lots.

Mr. Longyear was married in 1890 to Nevada Patten. Mrs. Longyear was born in southern Indiana, and was a teacher in that state. Her father, George W. Patten, was a substantial farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Longyear have four children, namely: Clyde S., Robert D., Philip W. and Margaret. Mr. Longyear is a Republican in politics, and has taken an active part in local public matters. He has served on the school board, has been president of the village and township supervisor. He has done his full share in the development of the locality and region about Hibbing, is public spirited and popular, and has met with well-merited success.

#### GARRARDUS LOOKER.

Garrardus Looker, an enterprising and prominent farmer of Inman township, has been a resident of Ottertail county, Minnesota, for the past fourteen years. He is an old soldier and an honored member of the G. A. R.

Mr. Looker was born in New York, August 11, 1847. His parents were Henry E and Sophia T. (Van Vorst) Looker, both natives of the state of New York. When our subject was eight years old the family left New York and settled in Wisconsin, where the father purchased a farm. There Mr. Looker grew to manhood and received his education in the common schools. He remained at home until 1864, when he enlisted in Company F, Third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He was sent to Atlanta, Georgia, and was with Sherman on his famous march to the sea. He took part in five battles and was in the hospitals of Madison, Indiana, and Nashville, Tennessee. He was at Atlanta and Savannah, and was in all the trying marches and campaigns of Sherman's army during the closing year of the war. He returned to Madison, Indiana, and there received his honorable discharge May 25, 1865. At the close of the war he returned to Wisconsin and remained at home until 1887. He then went to Minnesota and purchased land in section 15, Inman township, Ottertail county. He developed his farm from the wild prairie and

has now one hundred and twenty acres of land, all under a high state of cultivation, well improved, with a good residence and capacious barns and other outbuildings. He has an abundance of farm machinery, together with stock sufficient for all practical purposes.

Mr. Looker was married in June, 1875, to Miss Olive Shelley. Mrs. Looker was born in Wisconsin, March 8, 1857. Of this marriage four children have been born, namely: Edith, Edna, Forest E. and Floyd V. Mr. Looker is a populist and staunchly supports the principles of that party. He has taken an interest in public affairs, and has served as school clerk for six years. He is a respected member of the community in which he lives and is held in high regard by all who claim his acquaintance. He is one of the pioneers of the township and has endured all the experiences and trials of frontier life.

#### FRED WEBER.

The incomes from the well-developed farms of Goose Prairie township contribute largely to the wealth of Clay county, Minnesota. One of these highly cultivated tracts, lying in section 10, is owned and operated by the gentleman whose name heads this brief review. Mr. Weber has now resided in this locality many years, but during his residence there has gained a host of friends and is one of the influential men of that section of the county. He is the owner of seven hundred acres of land, and he has five hundred acres of this valuable land under plow. He has spent his life in agricultural pursuits and is a man of good management, close observation and honest industry, and has acquired a fine property and an enviable name.

Mr. Weber is a native of Germany and was born April 27, 1849, and was a son of Peter and Gustie Weber, both of whom were natives of Germany. He left his native land at the age of ten years and came to America, landing at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where he was reared and educated. His father was a farmer and blacksmith and the family resided in Wisconsin twelve years, when they removed to Blue Earth county, Minnesota. Our subject and his father each purchased farms near Mankato, and they continued farming there until 1897, when our subject sold his interests and removed to Clay county. He at once bought seven hundred acres of land and now has one of the finest farms of the locality. He has five hundred acres under plow and the remainder of the land is devoted to pasture and meadow. He has a set of good farm buildings upon the place, including a nine-room residence, which was built at a cost of one thousand dollars. He also has a large, substantial barn which cost the same amount and which furnishes shel-

ter for hay and stock, including seven horses and eight head of cattle. The farm buildings are enclosed in a grove and are pleasantly situated. He has plenty of farm machinery and a good well, water being pumped from a depth of one hundred and twenty-three feet. The farm yields a good income and the home is supplied with every comfort of modern farming.

Mr. Weber was married in 1880 to Eliza Ketchoffer. Mrs. Weber was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, January 10, 1856. To Mr. and Mrs. Weber ten children have been born, namely: Annie, Leo, Albert, Martha, Bertha, Charles, George, Clara, Selma and Henry. Mr. Weber takes an active and prominent part in all affairs of local importance, and is serving as chairman of the board of supervisors of his township, and is school clerk and secretary. He is a member of the German Lutheran church and in political faith is a Republican.

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#### JESSE H. CONNELLY.

Jesse H. Connelly, proprietor of one of the well-regulated farms of Lake Eunice township, is one of the substantial citizens of Becker county. His residence is in section 1, and he is well known as one of the earliest settlers of that locality. He is the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land and operates the same with marked success.

Mr. Connelly was born on a farm in St. Croix county, Wisconsin, October 10, 1860. His father, William W. Connelly, was of Scotch descent and was a cabinet maker by trade. He also followed the occupation of a farmer. He served in the United States army during the Civil war and died while in the service at Johnsonville, Tennessee. The mother of our subject, Martha J. (Merchant) Connelly, was of English descent and was born in Maryland. Her father, Noah Merchant, was born in England, and was a farmer by occupation. Our subject was the youngest in a family of eight children. Two of his half-brothers died in the army, two half-sisters are deceased and two half-sisters still survive. When our subject was but three years of age the family removed to Hudson, Wisconsin, where the father followed his trade until he entered the army. The family continued residence there until our subject was about ten years of age, when they removed to Becker county, Minnesota, in the summer of 1871, and the stepfather of our subject entered claim to the land upon which our subject now resides. The step-father's death occurred in 1872, and as the other children of the family had located elsewhere the work of developing the farm devolved upon our subject and his mother. He was then but twelve years of age, but with a

courageous heart and willing hands he assisted his mother in improving and cultivating the farm and he began operations on one acre of cleared land and from this derived support until more acres could be cleared. He received limited educational advantages, attending the country schools but a short time each winter, and the mother and son continued on the farm until 1886. They then removed to St. Paul, Minnesota, where Mr. Connelly began work as fireman on the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad, which occupation he followed for some four years. In the fall of 1890, with his mother and his wife, he returned to his farm in Becker county, and in the spring of 1891 began operating the same. One year's residence there convinced him of the success in store for him and he added to his acreage and the farm assumed its present generous proportions. Of his farm he has put ninety acres under cultivation and devotes the balance to pasture and timber. He has a good, comfortable residence, barn, granary and all usual farm buildings, and has a well-improved and well-equipped estate. He owes no man and is truly one of the self-made and worthy citizens of his township.

Mr. Connelly was married in January, 1890, to Miss Lizzie Bennett, who was born in Pennsylvania and was a daughter of David Bennett. She is a lady of excellent education and devoted some time to teaching and also dressmaking for some time prior to her marriage. Her father is of Scotch descent and a shoemaker of New York City. Mr. and Mrs. Connelly are the parents of one child, born in the fall of 1890, who is named Dean. Mr. Connelly is identified with many of the public movements of his home township and has held numerous local offices and is popular as a citizen and farmer.

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#### JOHN THOMAS GEE.

In the town of Kragnes it would be difficult to determine just what farm would be the most valuable and desirable. With the Red river along the west, and Buffalo river cutting diagonally across the town from southeast to northwest, many beautiful buildings are to be found, and the soil is as fertile as can be found anywhere in the valley.

Among the several farms worthy of note in this charming spot is that of John Thomas Gee, which is located on the Red river. It affords four hundred acres of arable prairie land and eighty acres of timber and pasture surround his beautiful new home. Portraits of Mr. J. T. Gee and his estimable wife appear on another page in this volume.

Mr. Gee, who is known locally as "Tom" Gee, is a man who by industry and careful management has built up his fortunes from nothing to

his present ease and comfort. He was born in Nottinghamshire, England, September 19, 1861, and is proud of his race and nationality. He was one of a family of five children born to William and Elizabeth (Cottam) Gee. Mr. Gee and his younger brother, Martin, who lives in Oakport township, Clay county, are the only members of the family in this country.

John T. Gee came to the Red River Valley in the spring of 1883 from his home in the old country, and his first experience in working out did not tend to impress him favorably with the farmers of the valley, as he had to work Sundays as well as every other day of the week. He soon entered the employ of Captain Newcombe, of the Oakgrove farm, with whom he remained for the ensuing six years. In 1885 he bought the eighty acres where his buildings now stand. In 1889 he bought eighty acres adjoining him on the east. In 1890 he purchased a small frame house which he moved to his land to make a home for him. He started in slowly, but soon succeeded, and in 1891 bought one hundred and sixty acres in addition to his first two purchases, and seven years later another quarter section was added to his real estate holdings. Until the present year (1901) he has resided in the small frame house of pioneer days, but has recently taken possession of his new and handsome home.

Mr. Gee is a Democrat, and is a deacon of the Congregational church, of which he has long been a member. He is a thorough farmer and all his ambitions are centered on the successful cultivation of his farm.

Mr. Gee made a visit to his old English home in 1894. Mr. Gee has been the builder of his own success, and to-day he is one of the well-to-do, self-made men of the Red river valley. He was united in marriage to Miss Alice M. Noble (who was born in England and there was educated), in 1895, at Moorhead, Minnesota. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Gee are these three children, viz.: Gertie, John William and George H. The parents of Mrs. Gee, William and Anna (Brompton) Noble, still reside in Girton, England.

#### FRANK ENGREN.

Frank Engren, who was born on a farm in Isanti county, Minnesota, in 1867, is a son of Erick Engren, who settled in Isanti county as early as 1862, and was among the oldest and most respected pioneers of this section of the state. Erick Engren was a soldier in the Union army during the Civil war, and served in the Eleventh Minnesota Infantry. He died in Anoka county, Minnesota, in 1892.

Frank Engren is the youngest member now living in a family of which four children now

remain. When he was six years old the family moved into Anoka county, where he was reared and educated at the common school. When he was fourteen years of age he started for himself, working at farm labor or anything he could secure until he was old enough to go into the lumber regions. Five winters he was in the woods and two springs on the drives. For four years he worked as a saw filer in a Minneapolis mill, and in 1893 came to his present home in Standford township, Isanti county, on a farm of three hundred and fifty-one acres, which belongs to William Engren. Eighty acres are under cultivation, eighty acres in meadow and the remainder in pasture. For eight years this farm has been under the full charge of Frank Engren, by whom all improvements have been effected, and the farm brought into its present admirable condition.

Mr. Engren is an independent voter, and is now chairman of the town board. He has also held other town offices, and takes an active part in public affairs. He was among the earlier settlers in Isanti county, and has been engaged in lumbering in Michigan and in Itasca and Mille Lacs counties, Minnesota. He is a man of character and fine spirit and is much esteemed in the community.

#### CARL H. BERG.

Carl H. Berg, a sturdy and creditable representative of his race and faith in Barnesville, Clay county, was born on a farm near Christiania, Norway, in 1834, where his father, who lived and died in Norway, had charge of a church and cemetery. Carl H. was the ninth child in a family of eleven children born to his parents, and was reared and educated in his native community. When he was seventeen years old he took upon himself the burden of his own support, working for the parish minister the first year and then going into a machine shop in the city, where he worked for six and a half years, quite thoroughly mastering the machinist trade. For two years he worked his father's farm, and in 1878 came to the United States, settling for a time in Lafayette county, Wisconsin, being engaged in farm work for two years, and then coming to Mankato, Minnesota, to take work on the railroad in 1880, soon becoming a section "boss," a position he held for some five months. That same year he was married to Miss Antoinette Shanks, who was born in the northern part of Norway, close to the Russian line. She came to this country on the same boat in which her future husband was a passenger, and the acquaintance thus begun soon ripened into love. Four children have come to bless their union: Alphin H., Jennie, Arthur and Ellowina,—all of whom

were born in Minnesota. In 1881 the young couple went to Fergus Falls, where Berg secured a position in the car shops, and was engaged in car repairing for four years. With the moving of the division headquarters to Barnesville they came to Barnesville, and here they have lived to the present time. From 1887 to 1892 Mr. Berg was a brakeman on a passenger train of the Great Northern Railway. He is now back at his old work in the car repair works at Barnesville, and for twenty years has been a railroad man. In 1897 he bought a farm in section 24, Barnesville township, to which he has devoted all his spare time. He put up a house and barn and began the cultivation of the land the same year he bought it. The farm comprises two hundred and fifty acres, and is well provided with stock and machinery. The land is all under cultivation, and is devoted to grain farming, in which Mr. Berg has proved a decided success.

Mr. Berg is a Republican, and belongs to the Odd Fellows. His children are at home and do the farming, while his position at Barnesville keeps him very closely confined. A very good measure of success has crowned his work, and his standing in the community as an honest and industrious man, a kind neighbor and an upright citizen is beyond question.

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#### JOHN LINDGREN.

John Lindgren belongs to the great army of strong-armed, clear-eyed and true-hearted men who have come from Sweden to assist in the conversion of the Great Northwest into rich and fertile states. His nativity was in Sweden, in 1862, where he was born and reared on a farm belonging to his father, Nels Lindgren, all his life a farmer, and still living in his native Sweden.

John Lindgren was the oldest in a family of seven children, all born and reared on the Swedish homestead, where they had the advantage of the local schools, and brought up in the good old country fashion.

John Lindgren was married in 1884, in his native land, to Miss Anna Errickson, also Swedish born and bred. To this union have come: John Emanuel, who was born in Sweden; Christine Elizabeth, born in America, as were Lilly Victoria, Anne Erricka and Hilding Julius.

Mr. Lindgren came to the United States in 1887, landing at Philadelphia, and journeying directly to Minnesota. Here he worked for a time in a sawmill near Carlton, and in all spent some four years in Carlton county. It was in 1890 that he came to Pine county and bought him a small piece of land, some forty acres, and lived there one year, when he put up a sawmill one mile west of Greeley Postoffice, being engaged in running it for five years. In 1896 he

moved it to Brunswick,\* and operated it there two years, when he sold it to other parties. In the fall of 1899 he opened the Greeley store, and secured the location of a postoffice at that point, of which he was placed in charge as postmaster. In the store he carries a surprisingly good line and has built up a successful business, securing a patronage from a wide range of country and displaying a mercantile ability of more than the usual order.

Mr. Lindgren is a man of much public spirit, and assisted in the organization of the Royal Co-operative Creamery Company and gave the land on which the creamery was built. He is treasurer as well as stockholder in the enterprise, which has now been in operation since May 20, 1901, and is already assured of a brilliant future. Its present capacity is six thousand pounds of milk a day, and by another year it will handle twice as much.

Mr. Lindgren has a farm of eighty acres, with about thirty acres under cultivation. His dwelling house, which is very pleasantly situated, is 16x24 in the upright part and 16x18 in the addition, posts fourteen feet in height. He has also built a barn, granary and other needed farm buildings, and is very cosily situated.

When Mr. Lindgren landed in this country he was not able to bring his family until a year later, and was owing on his passage ticket. The success which has attended his efforts in this country is the natural result of his own push and energy, when under the control of an unusual business skill, so that it is small wonder that to-day he is ranked among the leading men of this part of the county.

Mr. Lindgren is a Republican and is widely known as a good citizen.

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#### ERIK ENGSON.

Erik Engson, popularly known in the community as Dr. Engson, is one of Kittson county's pioneer citizens, and since the earliest days has enjoyed to a high degree the esteem and confidence of those who know him. He resides on section 2 in Thompson township, where he has developed a valuable property. To few men is due equal credit for the advancement of his community and county in educational and in material interests, and to none have come greater popularity and regard. In his youth, naturally a great student, he took up the reading of medicine, and though making no claim to technical professional knowledge, he found abundant opportunity among the pioneers of Kittson county to apply the practical and common-sense means of treatment, and at a time prior to the coming of professional men to the county he did what he could to alleviate the sufferings of his neighbors,

giving his services free of charge. He found it difficult to retire from the extensive practice that had grown up in the community, and it was some years before his neighbors would consent to it.

Dr. Engson was born in Sweden, June 8, 1853, the second child and eldest son of Erik and Ingeborg (Johnson) Swedberg. He grew to manhood in his native land, residing on his own farm until 1882. In that year he came to America, accompanied by his brother. They arrived in Kittson county, in September of that year and in the following spring began farming. He has prospered steadily since that time, and while his prosperity has been all that could be desired, his attention has been largely given to matters of public interest. He has given much encouragement to education and has been a constant advocate of free schools and a higher plane of general education. He has served a number of years as a member of the township board, and for the past four years has been school treasurer. Every public enterprise worthy of popular support has had his earnest approval.

Dr. Engson was married in 1878 to Lisa Olson. Dr. and Mrs. Engson have one son, Edward, now a successful teacher holding a second grade certificate. Mr. Engson has surrounded his family with the comforts and conveniences appropriate to the best modern residences, and their home is marked by a degree of refinement and genial hospitality.

#### W. DANA NEALEY.

Among the rising young men of Ottertail county and northern Minnesota Mr. W. Dana Nealey deserves prominent mention. He has proved his business capacity as well as his integrity and high character in his dealings as a merchant, and his popularity is co-extensive with the circle of his acquaintances. His place of business is in Deer Creek, and he has done much for the interests of that village.

Mr. Nealey was born October 16, 1876, at Anoka, Minnesota. His parents are Walter and Hannah A. (Warren) Nealey, both natives of Maine. The father left Anoka when our subject was one year old, and took up his residence in Minneapolis. There young Nealey received his education, attending the public schools and taking the high-school course, after which he spent one year in the University of Minnesota.

Having finished his schooling Mr. Nealey went to Idaho in 1898 and spent one year in mining and prospecting with Mr. John Brigman, of Oregon. He returned to Minnesota in 1899, locating in Wadena. In May, 1900, he located at Deer Creek and purchased the stock of merchandise of Stewert, Kepler & Company, valued at eight thousand dollars. The business has since

been conducted by our subject and father as partners. They have met with a good degree of success, and their business is constantly increasing and growing in value.

Mr. Nealey was married, September 1, 1900, to Margaret Wahlfell. Mrs. Nealey was born in Illinois August 27, 1879. Mr. Nealey is a Republican in political sentiment and wields a wide influence in the councils of his party. He has always been active in public affairs and is at present city mayor and president of the council. He is also a member of the board of health. He holds membership in the Modern Woodmen of America and in the Episcopal church. He is a man of great energy and industry, and exhibits those admirable traits of character which are sure to bring success.

#### PETER P. BRATE.

Peter P. Brate, an enterprising and successful agriculturist of Wadena county, resides on his pleasant farm in Wadena township. He is one of those whose labors have added wealth to the state and developed the civilization of the northwest frontier. His name is well known throughout the county, and is the synonym of enterprise and judicious effort. His well kept and productive farm bears evidence of the thrift and industrious character of its owner.

Mr. Brate was born in Albany county, New York, March 14, 1841. His parents, Peter J. and Hannah (Brate) Brate, were natives of the state of New York. Our subject was reared and educated in his native state and attended the public schools until he was fifteen years of age. He learned the carpenter's trade and became a contractor and builder, and followed that business until he was thirty years old. He then left the state of New York, going to Hancock county, Iowa. There he farmed for seven years with considerable success. In 1876 Mr. Brate arrived in Wadena county, Minnesota, and after considerable investigation of the merits of the various localities he purchased land of the railroad company in section 5, of Wadena township. He erected a frame dwelling and barn and for four years used ox teams in his farm work. By degrees he succeeded in developing a valuable estate and is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of the best lands in the county, one hundred and twenty acres of which he cultivates annually, the balance affording excellent timber and pasture land. His farm is supplied with an abundance of good water, having two flowing streams through it. He has plenty of stock and the best modern farm machinery. He keeps abreast of the times and his farm is regarded as the best kept and one of the most valuable in the township. From small beginnings he has by



good judgment and constant labor attained his present prosperity.

Mr. Brate was married, in 1862, to Margaret Keeffer. Mrs. Brate was born in the state of New York August 28, 1845, and is the daughter of Ransom and Anna Keeffer. To this marriage two children have been born, namely, Hattie May and Cora B. The family are devoted members of the Methodist church at Wadena. In political faith Mr. Brate is a Prohibitionist. He is an influential citizen and takes much interest in public affairs. He served three years as sheriff of Wadena county, and for the past twelve years has been a member of the township board. He is a member in good standing of the A. O. U. W. lodge of Wadena. Mr. Brate recounts with interest the early history of Wadena county, and his pioneer experiences would make valuable reading if incorporated in the annals of that county.

#### FRANKLIN BIVINS.

Perhaps one of the best known and most highly esteemed men of Polk county is Franklin Bivins, whose home is in section 9, Andover township. For the past quarter of a century he has resided there and by his labors has acquired a valuable estate and the esteem of his fellow men. He has always kept abreast of the times and was foremost in all matters or enterprises calculated to improve the condition of his community and can review a well spent career. He has displayed good judgment and business ability and is passing his declining years amid the comforts of life.

Mr. Bivins was born twenty miles east of Buffalo, New York, in 1829, and was one of ten children born to Moses and Polly (Felton) Bivins. His parents moved to Clinton, Michigan, when he was but four years of age, and the mother died there two years later. Her death caused the separation of the children and our subject went to live with his brother-in-law, who conducted a livery barn in Clinton. When he was about sixteen years of age the brother-in-law moved to Hillsdale, the town now famous for her college, then without a railroad. From this place Mr. Bivins drove a four-horse stage coach for seven years, and about this time the strap iron railroad came into existence. He next drove from Fond du Lac to Beaver Dam, but soon returned to Hillsdale and assumed charge of the livery business for his brother-in-law. In 1855 he went to Minnesota, locating at Reed's Landing, in Wabasha county. He took horses with him and at once established a livery business there. From the emigrants he learned of the unsettled country in Polk county and decided to try his fortune with the other early settlers. He knew nothing of the pursuit of agriculture,

but began his labors with a determination and progressiveness of spirit that has served him well. After twenty years of labor there he can be justly proud of his estate. In the spring of 1877 he bought section 9, in Andover township, of the Great Northern Railroad Company for two and a half dollars per acre. After harvesting his first crop he removed his family to the new home. Soon after his locating there he planted trees on the farm, the prairie being a treeless expanse for miles and miles. This grove has proven one of the finest of the locality and is a valuable addition to the farm. The first lathed and plastered house in Crookston was built by Mr. Bivins in 1877, and some time later he built his present comfortable home on section 9, of Andover township. He had previously purchased a quarter-section of land on the river and the lumber of his residence, with the exception of doors and window sash, was sawed from the timber taken from this quarter-section of land. Mr. Bivins has induced many of his friends to embrace the opportunities afforded in the west for gaining a home and the comforts of life, and he has labored earnestly for the upbuilding and advancement of his community. When he went to Crookston he was the only passenger on the train and Mrs. Bivins was the first white woman to ride on the train from Breckenridge to Glyndon.

Mr. Bivins was married, in 1854, to Miss Jane E. Roberts. Five children, all of whom are living, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bivins, namely: Edwin M., now managing the home farm; Bert F., traveling representative for Buffalo Pitts Company; Walter J., engaged in the collecting business; Hattie L., now Mrs. Bugg, whose husband is a miller in Crookston; and Cora E., who became the wife of Mr. Lee, a wealthy miller of Buffalo, New York. Mr. Bivins is a member of the Congregational church at Crookston, and is a regular attendant upon the meetings of the same, despite his advanced age of seventy-two years. He is a man of broad mind, and supports Democratic principles on national questions and is non-partisan in state and local matters, lending his influence for good government. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Constantine Commandery, No. 41, of Crookston. He has been treasurer of this commandery almost since its organization.

#### LEVI STEENERSON.

Probably no one of the early settlers of Polk county, Minnesota, is better known in his community than Levi Steenerson, who controls an extensive tract of land and is engaged successfully in diversified farming, his home being in Vineland township.

Mr. Steenerson was born in Telemarken, Nor-

way, July 22, 1847, and was the second in a family of nine children born to Steener and Bergit Knudson. The family emigrated to America when our subject was but four years of age. They left Norway in May, coming via Kragro, New York, Albany, Erie canal, and the Great Lakes to Milwaukee, and thence by wagon to Dane county, Wisconsin. The father worked there for a year and then went to LaCrosse to obtain work, leaving the family in Dane county. There he cut wood and was cheated out of his earnings. He then hired out to go on a raft from LaCrosse to St. Louis, and the trip netted him fifteen dollars. In 1853 the father's family joined him in LaCrosse and they settled on a claim which he had taken in Luna valley, Houston county. The father bought a pair of young steers for sixty dollars and found it necessary to mortgage them in order to get a barrel of flour. Later he bought fourteen bushels of wheat on time from the father of ex-Congressman Johnson of North Dakota. Mr. Johnson was at that time a Methodist minister in Winneshiek, Iowa. Mr. Steenerson sold out there one year later and moved to Sheldon, in the same county, and there the family lived through the war. The father went to the front in Company K, Eleventh Minnesota Regiment, and served during the war. In 1871, Levi, our subject, hired to the Hudson's Bay Company, freighting from St. Cloud, Minnesota, to Belmont, North Dakota, then called Frog Point, which was the company's landing on the Red river. The work assigned our subject was driving four ox teams hitched to as many wagons. During the summer and winter of 1870 he worked on the Northern Pacific Railroad, and June, 1871, went to Polk county, Minnesota, taking a "squatter's" claim on section 30 in Vineland township. In 1872 he was hired to run a raft of logs from Grand Forks to Winnipeg. These logs had been cut from government land on the Red river by Griggs & Walsh, and amounted to eight hundred thousand feet. When our subject, who was called Captain, and his assistants got the logs to within two miles of Pembina, North Dakota, the United States marshal arrested them. They got permission to move into town, where the raft was tied up. Some parties interested loosed the raft, however, and it reached Canadian territory before the marshal was aware of the fact. On their return to Pembina our subject and companions were re-arrested, and given a preliminary hearing. Judge LaMeure, since famous in North Dakota politics, went on our subject's bail, and he was never called upon to appear in court. He then continued farming in the summer and contracting in the pineries in the winter until recently, and he also sold farm machinery from Fargo, and later from Grand Forks. While in the employ of the company he dug the president of the Hudson's Bay

Company out of a snow bank in which the latter's team had floundered. When the Fargo and St. Vincent line of railroad went through there our subject arranged to have the depot located on his land and he soon platted the town of Climax, naming the same from Climax postoffice, which had been kept by his brother. The village has prospered, and now includes a flour mill, lumber yard, two general stores, two hardware stores, a restaurant, two hotels, a photograph gallery, two millinery stores, blacksmith shop, bank, livery barn, three elevators, one church, a two-room school building, and four saloons. The village has excellent fire protection, having a reservoir, stationary engine, and one thousand six hundred feet of hose. Mr. Steenerson now controls one thousand five hundred and sixty acres of land, most of which is under cultivation, and he derives a handsome annual income from his farming operations. His portrait adorns another page of this volume.

Mr. Steenerson was married, in 1891, to Miss Sigre Ostby, a native of Norway. Five children have been born to bless this union, who are named as follows: Steener, Bergit, Ingebor, Torger and Halvor.

#### FRANK F. SEAMAN.

Frank F. Seaman, an extensive lumberman of Deer River, Minnesota, is one of the substantial citizens of Itasca county, and enjoys deserved success in his business operations and the esteem and regard of his associates.

Mr. Seaman was born in Green Lake, Wisconsin, in 1856. His father, Aaron Seaman, was of German-Welsh descent, and his family has been in America many generations. He was a farmer by occupation. The great-grandfather of our subject was one of the men to capture Andre. Our subject's mother, Melvina (Robinson) Seaman, was born in Connecticut and was of Scotch descent. The family have been in America many generations. Of a family of five children our subject was the third in order of birth. He was raised on his father's farm and received his education in the public schools and remained at home until he was twenty-three years of age, when he located at Farmington, Minnesota. He worked at farm work there and was the owner of a threshing machine and continued in that business sixteen years. In 1882 he moved to Sainbourn county, South Dakota, where he followed farming and threshing. He took government land and passed through the privations and hardships of a pioneer in the northwest, living in a sod shanty and having other discouragements to meet. He continued there fourteen years, and in 1894 went to Itasca

county, Minnesota, but did not remove his family there until 1896, when he located at Deer River. He engaged in the horse business and later engaged to a small extent in cedar lumbering. His business in this line has steadily increased and he now conducts an extensive and profitable business. His brother H. G. Seaman, is interested with him and the business is conducted under the firm name of Seaman Brothers. In 1900 they shipped two hundred and fifty cars of cedar posts from Deer River to places in Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska and North Dakota, and their name is fast reaching into other states.

Mr. Seaman was married in 1886 to Miss Annie Wilson. Mrs. Seaman was born in Canada. To Mr. and Mrs. Seaman two sons have been born, as follows: Morton J., born in 1889 and Vernon F., born in 1891. Mr. Seaman is actively interested in the welfare of his community and is serving in the capacity of village treasurer, to which office he was elected in 1901. He is a Republican politically.

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#### ROBERT B. COFFIN.

Robert B. Coffin, one of the first settlers of Crow Wing county, Minnesota, follows the calling of a farmer, and has accumulated a valuable property at Deer Wood by his own industry. He is one of the influential citizens of his locality and has aided materially in the advancement of the social and financial interests of his township and county.

Mr. Coffin was born in Jamestown, North Carolina, in the county of Guilford, near Guilford Court House, the scene of an important engagement in the early wars of America. His father, Abel Coffin, came to Nantucket Island. The grandfather bore the same name. The family were Quakers and were among those driven from Massachusetts. The first ancestor to come to America was Capt. J. Coffin, who located here in 1680. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Maria Iddings. Her grandfather, John Iddings, was a minuteman in the Revolutionary war.

Of a family of nine children our subject was the third in order of birth. He was reared in Indiana, where the family located when he was but three years of age. He attended the common schools and remained at home until he was about seventeen years of age. He then worked in a planing mill and at carpenter work. He went to Hennepin county, Minnesota, in 1860, and bought land there. August 11, 1862, he enlisted in Company D, Sixth Minnesota Volunteers. They were sent to upper Minnesota river to fight the Indians. After

three or four engagements with them they buried the massacred people and returned to the settlements in December. In June, 1863, they were sent south along the Mississippi river to St. Louis, and there reorganized and went south and campaigned through to Mobile and assisted in the capture of Mobile and then returned to Montgomery, Alabama. Soon afterward they were returned home, after over three years of active and loyal service. Mr. Coffin returned to his farm twenty miles west of Minneapolis. In 1873 he removed to Crow Wing county. For the first two years he lived in a log house and had a small start. His family was the first to locate in Deer Wood or in the eastern half of Crow Wing county. His home was the refuge of many lumbermen of the early days, and many times they have come to his home after being twenty-four hours without food. His hospitality is well known and he has a large acquaintance who hold him in the highest esteem.

Mr. Coffin was married in 1869 to Miss Elizabeth Archibald. Mrs. Coffin was born in Nova Scotia, and her ancestry is Scotch and English. She settled in Hennepin county, Minnesota, with her parents and the others of the family in 1855. Her father, William Archibald, was prominent in local public affairs in Hennepin county and he held numerous offices. He was county commissioner and a member of the township board for several years and had a large share in the public movements of the county. He was one of the first settlers in Hennepin county, and he improved a raw farm and made a success there. Two of his sons served in the Civil war. Mr. and Mrs. Coffin are the parents of two children, namely: Orla C., and William A., who was the first white child born in Deer Wood. Mr. Coffin is prominent in township affairs and has served in local offices almost continuously since taking up his residence there. He was justice of the peace sixteen years, and was also district assessor. Politically he is a Republican and stands firmly for the principles of his party.

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#### WILLIAM BLAKE.

The pleasant home of William Blake is located in section 14, of Lake Eunice township. He is an early settler of that region and is well known throughout Becker county as an exemplary citizen and prosperous farmer. He was born in New York city in 1842.

Our subject's father, James Blake, was born in the city of London, England, and was married in his own land. He was a pipe organ manufacturer in the city of New York and was employed by a pipe organ manufacturing establish-

ment for many years. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Hudson.

Of a family of ten children Mr. Blake was the fourth in order of birth. He was reared in his native city and was given a liberal education in the city schools and then learned the organ builder's trade. At the age of eighteen years he enlisted in the One Hundred and Thirty-fifth New York Infantry, called the Anthony Wayne Guards, and the regiment name was changed to the Sixth New York Heavy Artillery, but they carried muskets and participated in twelve of the hardest battles of the Civil war, being in the Army of the Potomac. They participated in the battle of the Wilderness, Trinity Church, and were around Richmond and Petersburg. Our subject was engaged three years in hard and active service and he was one of the loyal men of our country, ever ready to defend the union. His oldest brother was killed in the second battle of Bull Run.

Upon his return from the army Mr. Blake resumed the organ builder's trade and followed the same from 1865 to 1872. He went to Detroit, Becker county, Minnesota, in June, 1873, and entered claim to government land and also bought a right to a small tract of land, where he now resides. One acre of land was cleared and a log house was constructed on the place when he purchased the same, and he did his first farming with an ox team, a wagon and a cow. He purchased his first team of horses in 1884. He has engaged in wheat raising to more or less extent, but is also interested in cattle raising and dairying. He now has a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, of which about sixty acres is cultivated and the balance is timber. His buildings erected since he took his residence thereon are substantial and conveniently arranged, and his farm affords a home of great comfort. Fruits are grown for family use, and the place is pleasantly arranged generally. All necessary machinery is supplied and every equipment of the farm bespeaks good judgment and a thorough knowledge of his calling.

Mr. Blake was married, in 1867, to Miss Anna Maria Hackett, a native of Brooklyn, New York. Mrs. Blake's father, Charles Hackett, was a foreman in Jardine's organ factory. Her people were from Pennsylvania and were of Dutch descent. Mr. and Mrs. Blake have been the parents of five children, four of whom are now living, and are named as follows: Eliza G., Sarah M., Alexander H. and James E. The youngest three children were born in Minnesota. Mr. Blake is prominent in local public affairs and has served eleven years as town clerk, many years as justice of the peace, and school clerk for some years. He casts his vote independent of party, and is a man who keeps pace with the times and sup-

ports every measure which tends to the advancement and development of that region.

Mr. Blake takes a justifiable pride in the rapid conversion of his broad acres into a fertile and highly tilled farm. At the time of its purchase it was covered with a dense growth of underbrush, some of the brush being as much as fifteen feet high. Mr. Blake used a sixteen-inch plank, to which he attached four good teams of horses, and proceeded to turn it under like stubble. The neighbors were amazed at his tireless push and energy, but the results have justified his work. On this breaking grew an immense crop of wheat, some of the wheat stalks having as many as twenty-nine stools. This was a tough contract, to make a farm out of this wild, rough land for a young church-organ mechanic from New York to take, but he had no notion of being discouraged. He has bravely won out.

During the Civil war Mr. Blake was color-bearer in the following battles: Wapping Heights, Virginia, July 23, 1863; Lowell Hill, May 6, 1864; Todd's Tavern, May 7, 1864; a battle on May 12, 1864; another, May 19, 1864; North Anna, May 24, 1864; Bethesda Church, May 30, 1864; Petersburg, June 18 and July 30, 1864; Cedar Creek, October 19, 1864, and Bermuda Hundred in April, 1864.

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#### M. J. SOLUM.

In the thriving town of Hitterdal, Clay county, Minnesota, the hardware trade is well represented by the gentleman above named, who deals in light and heavy hardware, farm implements, etc. Mr. Solum has met with success in his business in this town, and is one of the prominent citizens of his community. He is a gentleman of good business principles, and by his honest dealings, and thorough appreciation of the needs of his community has built up a large trade in Clay county and vicinity.

Mr. Solum was born in Norway, June 14, 1873, and was a son of John and Mattie (Peterson) Solum, both of whom are natives of Norway. At the age of fifteen years our subject left his native land and located in America, taking up his residence in Clay county, Minnesota. He worked out at farming for the first two years and then learned the carpenter trade, at which he worked four years. He removed to Hitterdal in 1893 and established a hardware store in that town. He has increased his stock as business justified and now carries a stock of hardware and farm implements valued at three thousand five hundred dollars. He owns his store building and the

lot upon which it is located and is one of the substantial business men of the town.

Mr. Solum was married, in 1896, to Annie Anderson. Mrs. Solum was born in Sweden, October 12, 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Solum are the parents of two children, namely: Norman and Mattie Christina. Mr. Solum is prominent in local public affairs and has served two years as justice of the peace and one year as treasurer of Goose Prairie township. He is connected fraternally with the Good Templar Lodge of Tanson, Clay county, and is a member of the Lutheran church of Hitterdal. In political sentiment he is a Populist and is firm in his convictions. He keeps pace with the times in all public matters and lends his influence for good government, local and national. He is one of the self-made men of Clay county and enjoys deserved success in his business affairs and has the confidence of all with whom he has to do.

#### PATRICK A. McCLERNAN.

Patrick A. McClernan, attorney-at-law, located in Stephen, Minnesota, is one of the rapidly rising young men of Marshall county. He is intelligent, progressive and earnest in his work and success is assured him in his profession. He has made the best of his opportunities, and realizing that a position in society and the commercial world is attained only by close application to study he has continued his work and is now one of the regularly practicing attorneys of Marshall county.

Mr. McClernan was born in Plainview, Wabasha county, Minnesota, April 27, 1860, and was the third in a family of eight children who were born to John and Mary (Gildea) McClernan. His parents were both natives of Ireland, and the father was of Scotch-Irish descent. Both are still living. Our subject was reared on the farm where he was born and received a common school education. He then learned the barber's trade, and in 1890 began business in Stephen. This trade was not in keeping with his ideas, and he began the study of law, reading during his spare moments. He then took a course in the Sprague Correspondence School of Law, and graduated after two and a half years' study. He completed his readings, aided by his fellow lawyers, and in the spring of 1900 he was admitted to the bar in Minnesota, and during the summer of that year he decided to try his fortunes in his profession in the place where he was well known. He accordingly placed himself before the public as a practicing lawyer, and he now has a good and increasing patronage. He is well and favorably known as a worthy citizen and gentleman of ability, and can truly depend upon his profession for his success in life. He is the owner of a valuable

tract of land in the Red river valley, consisting of four hundred acres.

Mr. McClernan was married, in June, 1898, to Miss Belle F. Wilson. One daughter has been born to bless their home, upon whom they have bestowed the name of Mary. Mr. McClernan is prominently identified with the movements of the Democratic party and is secretary of the Democratic county central committee.

#### TED SMITH.

When confidence in the commercial growth of a city is secured the prosperity of the city is certain. Enterprising men with extensive business operations locate there and take an interest in the development and advancement of the commercial and social interests. Among those who have contributed largely to the prosperity enjoyed in Bemidji none stand in a higher position than Ted Smith. He is a gentleman of broad mind, progressive spirit and true enterprise, and in his business relations is always strictly honest and commands the esteem and respect of all who know him.

Mr. Smith was born in the city of New York, August 15, 1859, and was a son of Patrick and Catherine (Nightengale) Smith, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of England. He resided in New York until he was nine years of age when his parents moved to Saginaw, Michigan. There he was reared and attended the common schools and the high school, and grew to manhood in that city. He removed to Itasca county, Minnesota, and entered into the restaurant business after attaining his majority. He disposed of his interests in 1880 and went to North Dakota, and remained there in the restaurant business until 1895, when he returned to Minnesota and settled in Bemidji. He conducted a restaurant in that city until 1897 when he closed his business and acted as representative of the Minneapolis Brewing Company. He was thus engaged two years. In 1898 he was elected mayor of the city of Bemidji. While he served in this capacity he worked earnestly for the advancement of the public enterprises of the community, and under his good management an elegant city hall and hose house was erected, and a fire department was organized, a structure of which a city of ten thousand people might be proud. A fine well furnished opera house is a part of the city hall building, and aside from these improvements the city water plant and the electric light plant were agitated and started, and other public enterprises proposed. The city is now under way to be one of the finest places of the northwest.

Mr. Smith has a pleasant home in Bemidji, his residence being one of the finest in the city,

and is furnished in excellent taste. He also owns a store building in the city, and has a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 36, township 146, range 33, with fine improvements thereon, including excellent buildings. The land is under cultivation and the farm is well stocked with horses and cattle. Mr. Smith has accumulated a goodly share of this world's goods, and it is due to his enterprising and industrious spirit and good management, supplemented by his honest dealings.

Mr. Smith was married, in 1898, to Cora E. Kincannon. Mrs. Smith was born in Wisconsin, March 2, 1869. Mr. Smith is a member of the United Order of Improved Red Men at Bemidji. He served as mayor of the city two years. Politically he is a Democrat and stands firmly for the principles of that organization. Through the efforts and enterprising spirit of Mr. Smith the city of Bemidji has attained a modern status in the way of her public improvements.

Mrs. Smith graduated from the Plattville high school, in Wisconsin, and for thirteen years taught school in her native state, Minnesota and North Dakota. She is one of Beltrami county's pioneers, she having taken a homestead in Bemidji in the year 1896, and from its productive soil she is now reaping the benefits of her labors. Mr. Smith has been engaged in the hay and wood business for four years.

Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Smith and view of their fine residence, to be found on different pages of this work, will greatly add to the value of the volume in the eyes of their many friends.

#### EMBRET O. BERG.

Embret O. Berg, whose residence is on section 14, Atlanta township, is a farmer of much prominence in Becker county. He is the owner of substantial farm properties and holds valuable interests in some of the leading enterprises of his locality.

Mr. Berg was born in Norway, August 30, 1857. His parents, Ole J. and Elia E. (Leren) Berg, were both natives of Norway. Our subject received a practical education in his native land, and at the age of twenty-two years came to America. He found his way to Becker county, and took up land under the homestead claim on section 14 of Atlanta township, in 1879. He built a house 16x16 feet, and also a sod barn. For a short time he was compelled to use ox teams in the cultivation and development of his lands. He was one of the pioneers of the county and as such is thoroughly versed in the early history and experiences of the settlers of northwest Minnesota. He is now the owner of one hundred and eighty acres of land. He cultivates about one hundred

and twenty acres annually, the remainder being devoted to meadow and pasture land. His farm is equipped with all modern machinery, and stocked with horses, cattle and sheep. He has a comfortable residence furnished throughout, and in addition to the ordinary conveniences his residence is equipped with a telephone. His barn and farm buildings are of the best.

Mr. Berg is treasurer of the Atlanta and Walworth Cheese Factory Association, and director of the Lake Park and Ulm Telephone Company. He is an enterprising and public-spirited citizen and no worthy undertaking of a public nature has ever failed to enlist his interest and support. In political faith he is a Republican. He has served as treasurer of Atlanta township for fourteen years and school clerk for two years.

In 1877 Mr. Berg was married to Marit Bakken. Mrs. Berg was born in Norway, March 7, 1850, the daughter of Nels Bakken, also a native of Norway. To Mr. and Mrs. Berg three children have been born, namely: Nora, Olga and Oscar. The family are members of the Lutheran church at Atlanta. Mr. Berg has lent his influence to all worthy enterprises, and has taken much interest in educational matters. He is thoroughly respected by all who know him.

#### CHARLES C. OPPEL.

Charles C. Oppel, one of the first white men to traverse the ground upon which the present thriving town of Tower, Minnesota, now stands, was the pioneer merchant of that town seven years later, and has continued to build up a prosperous and extensive business there, and is classed among the influential citizens of St. Louis county.

Mr. Oppel was born in Saxony, Germany, in 1855. His father, C. H. Oppel, came to America about 1857, and settled in Wisconsin. He later went to upper Michigan, and about 1870 settled at Duluth, Minnesota, and was among the first business men of that city. He started in the mercantile business there in a small frame building, and is at present one of the extensive general merchants of Duluth.

Charles C. Oppel was the oldest in a family of eleven children, and in 1873 began to earn his own way by clerking, teaming and other work, and spent three years in upper Michigan. He traveled over Michigan, working with a cattle dealer, and went as far as Chicago, and then up to Duluth, at which time he paid a visit to Lake Vermilion, trading with the Indians seven years before the village of Tower was started. He spent about eight years in St. Paul with a wholesale grocery firm, in charge of their shipping and receiving department, and in 1884 went to Tower with freighting teams. He took one of the first



stocks of goods into the town and opened the first store on his present location, corner of Birch and Maine streets. He began selling goods from the packing boxes before the store building was completed, and the hat he was wearing was one of his first sales. He enlarged the store in 1886, and a year later again added to his room, and now has a building 40x100 feet, with warehouses in the rear, and a residence also in that block. He has built up an excellent business, and aside from his mercantile interests he has mineral and timber lands in northern Minnesota.

Mr. Oppel was married, in St. Paul, in 1879, to Miss Emma Bost. Mrs. Oppel was born at St. Paul and is of German descent, her parents being natives of Germany. To Mr. and Mrs. Oppel five children have been born, namely: Winnie, Charles W., Cecelia, Robert J. and Jay W. The three first named were born at St. Paul, and the two youngest were born at Tower. Mr. Oppel is heartily interested in all village and township affairs, and has served as village treasurer six or seven years. He is an earnest worker for educational advancement, and has served as member of the school board for two years. He is a Republican and stands staunchly for the principles of the party with which he is identified.

#### REV. ALOIS RASTOR.

Rev. Alois Rastor, whose successful and faithful work as pastor of the Roman Catholic church at Millerville, Douglas county, has given him a place among the beloved priests of that denomination and a large following, is a gentleman of excellent mind and thorough education. The church of which he has charge, "Church of Our Lady of Seven Dolors," is familiar to all residents of Douglas county, and its towering spire can be seen for miles overtopping everything in the vicinity. The first church in Millerville was built in 1868, prior to which mass had been said at the homes of some of the early settlers, among whom were Mr. Larsung, Mr. Weaver and John A. Miller, for whom the town of Millerville was named. The old church, built of logs, was pulled down to give place to the present church building, which was erected in 1892. The first priest officiating at Millerville was Father Pierce, in 1867, who was succeeded by Father Tomazin, who built the priest house. This building as well as the first church have long since disappeared. Father Tomazin remained until 1873, then Father Holzer in 1875, Father Schneider in 1877, Jacob Hilbert in 1881, Father Cramer in 1882, Father Gunther, O. S. B., first term in 1882 to 1885, then successively Fathers Ewen, Jerome and Borgerding. In 1888 Father Gunther returned and remained until 1895. To this gentleman is due the credit for the

erection of the church and parsonage, which buildings were entirely free from debt when he retired from the pastorate in April, 1895. He was followed by Father Weist and Father Kicken, after which Father Alois Rastor assumed charge. Rev. Otto Weist, on account of his excellent character and his masterly eloquence, was held in universal respect. In October, 1901, a beautiful and costly monument was erected over his final resting place.

Rev. Alois Rastor, the present pastor, was born in Bavaria, Germany, May 18, 1859. He obtained a good education in his native land before coming to America in 1884. He then studied theology at the College Abbey of St. Vincent's, Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania. After passing his examination and graduating from the college, in 1888, he took passage for Europe and celebrated his first mass at his old home in the Bavaria Forest. He has a brother now residing in Little Falls, Minnesota, but his parents have never visited America.

On his return from Europe Rev. Rastor was placed in charge of thirteen missions in different counties in Minnesota, and he was appointed assistant at the Cathedral of St. Cloud, called the Church of the Guardian Angels. He was afterward transferred to the Church of the Sacred Heart at Little Falls, Minnesota, where he remained nine years, during which time he built a hospital, priest's house and parochial school near the church. His work in Millerville has been most satisfactory and he is beloved by his people. He is in consultation with the bishop to gain consent to erect in the near future an elegant church edifice of brick and stone, as the present structure is inadequate for the congregation, which now numbers two hundred souls.

#### JOHN WULFF.

John Wulff, a well-known farmer of Skree township, Clay county, where his thrift, industry and integrity have won for him a very enviable standing in the good opinion of his neighbors and of the community generally, was born on a farm in Oldenburg, Germany, in 1844. His father, John B. Wulff, was a farmer all his life, and made two trips to this country, coming first in 1850 and returning to his native land in 1861. In 1866 he made the second journey to this country, to remain three years, and then returned to Germany, where he died in 1880. He was born in 1791, and served in the German armies during the Napoleonic wars. In 1812 he went to France.

John Wulff was next to the youngest in a family of thirteen children, and was reared and educated in Germany. When he was fourteen years of age he began for himself, being a farm

laborer until his arrival in the United States in 1866. He came direct to Ozaukee county, Wisconsin, where he was employed by a milling firm eight years. Mr. Wulff was married, in Wisconsin, to Miss Sophia Delicate, who was born in Hanover, Germany, and came to the United States alone in 1868. They have had fourteen children, only three of whom are now living: Sophia, Caroline and Elissa. For six years Mr. Wulff was engaged in farming in Wisconsin, and in 1881 made his way to Clay county, Minnesota, where he began farming in Humboldt township, having an equipment of two cows, a team of horses and a wagon. In 1887 he moved to a farm in section 34, Skree township, on land which he had bought in 1881. Here he put up a house and barn, and was engaged in the cultivation of this place for five and a half years. In 1887 he moved to his farm in section 34, Skree township, where he now owns a fine farm of two hundred and eighty acres, one hundred and sixty under cultivation, the balance being devoted to meadow and pasture. All the machinery the place requires has been provided, and Mr. Wulff is very largely engaged in grain farming, though he has twenty head of cattle, thirty hogs and seven horses.

Mr. Wulff is a Republican and casts an independent vote. For three years he has been on the school board, and was chairman of the town board one year. In religion he belongs to the Lutheran church, and socially he is a member of the Sons of Herman, and the U. A. O. Druids.

Fred Wulff, the brother of John, came to the United States in 1850, and served in the Union army all through the war of the Rebellion. He was with the troops in Minnesota and Dakota, and helped build Fort Abercrombie. For a time he was a head carpenter in connection with a railroad in the south, and is now a merchant in Alabama.

#### ANTON THOMPSON.

Anton Thompson, one of the prominent attorneys of Ottertail county, Minnesota, is a young man of more than ordinary ability as a business man and thoroughness of character, which commends him to all his fellow townsmen as a worthy citizen and one destined to become an influence for good in his community. He is a thorough business man and has accumulated valuable property during his residence in Henning, where he has his office for the practice of law.

Mr. Thompson was born in Ottertail county, Minnesota, in 1870. His parents, Bernt and Inga (Goldseath) Thompson, were natives of Norway. They were farmers of St. Olaf township, and there our subject was reared to manhood, assisting with the farm work and attending the common schools until he was fifteen years of age,

when he entered the seminary at Wilmar, Minnesota. He graduated in that institution, and then taught school five years. He then entered the State University of Minnesota in 1896, and graduated therefrom in the law department in 1899. He at once located at Henning, and started the practice of law, and also the insurance and real estate business, his office being located on the corner of Douglas avenue and Front street. Mr. Thompson is a notary public, and is the only practicing attorney in the town of Henning. He has built up a good practice in that locality, and is widely known as a man of good character and strict integrity. He owns a comfortable residence and three lots in the village, and has for sale a valuable farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Ottertail county.

Mr. Thompson was married, in 1897, to Ragnhild Vinje. Mrs. Thompson was born in Norway, in November, 1873. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, namely: Marion B. and Gladys H. Our subject is deeply interested in the welfare of his home town and is serving as village attorney. He is a member of the Lutheran church, of Henning, and in political sentiment is a Republican. He has accomplished great good in his community and has a bright future.

#### CHARLES N. NOBEN.

Among the younger business men of Hitterdal, Clay county, a prominent place is accorded Charles N. Noben, proprietor of two general merchandise establishments in that thriving town. This gentleman is a man of exceptional ability and is one of the rapidly rising young men of Clay county and vicinity. He is one of the early settlers of that region, and has always shown himself a firm supporter of every enterprise which tends to the welfare of the community in which he makes his home. He is progressive and popular and enjoys well merited success in his financial affairs.

Mr. Noben was born in Decorah, Iowa, July 5, 1870. His parents, Ole O. and Christine (Lein) Noben, were natives of Norway. The family resided in Decorah, Iowa, until 1879, when they changed their residence to Minnesota, and the father took a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres in section 22, of Atlanta township, Becker county. A younger brother of our subject, Martin Noben, recently died at the home of the widowed mother in Atlanta. This young man was well known throughout that region, having served at different times in the office of the clerk of the district court and two years as deputy register of deeds, under his father, Ole O. Noben, late register of deeds. He was a young man of much promise and an ex-

emplary citizen, and his death was a deep affliction to the widowed mother, his brothers and sisters, and his many friends. The father Ole O. Noben, was a prominent citizen of Becker county, having been identified with its early development, and in his death the people lost a faithful servant and the family a kind husband and father.

Charles N. Noben was reared in Becker county on his father's homestead farm, and received his education in the public schools of his neighborhood. He operated the home farm for three years, and then located in Hitterdahl and purchased a stock of general merchandise. He now has two stores in that town, carrying stocks of about four thousand dollars and fifteen hundred dollars respectively. He carries a general line of dry goods, groceries, boots, shoes and gents' furnishings, and handles all kinds of produce. He owns a two-story business block valued at sixteen hundred dollars, and a half acre of land in the town, and has prospered since engaging in mercantile pursuits.

Mr. Noben was married, in 1895, to Matilda Tindahl. Mrs. Noben was born in Sweden, December 31, 1872. To Mr. and Mrs. Noben three children have been born, namely: Agnes Christina, Hazel Alice and Alfo T. C. Mr. Noben is prominent in local public affairs and has served as chairman of the board of supervisors of Goose Prairie township for two years. He was census enumerator of Goose Prairie and Keene townships in 1900, and is widely and favorably known. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and is an exemplary citizen and is most highly esteemed. In political sentiment he is a Republican.

#### ANDREW L. WILSON.

Andrew L. Wilson, who has made for himself a creditable reputation both as a business man and a public-spirited citizen, in the village of Stanchfield, Isanti county, Minnesota, was born on a farm in Sweden in 1854, and his father, who was a farmer, died the year after his birth. Andrew L. was reared in Sweden, and his education was largely obtained in his native land. In 1869 he came to this country with his mother and two brothers. They went to Chicago. Our subject stayed there one year and learned basket making. The mother and two brothers after two months' sojourn in the "Windy City" proceeded to Minnesota. The family bought a small farm of forty acres, and made a settlement in Isanti county. They lived in a log house sixteen feet square, and the boys applied themselves to the farm work in a brave and manful fashion. One brother died in 1871.

After spending one winter in the woods, Andrew L. Wilson spent the ensuing five years as a

printer in Anoka and Cambridge, being employed on the Anoka County Press and the Isanti County Press. Following this for some time he was a clerk in Cambridge, and also carried on a small farm of eighty-acres close to the village. Mr. Wilson was married, in 1881, to Miss Anna Olson. She was born in Sweden, and accompanied her parents to the United States in 1866. They settled in Isanti county, where her father was one of the oldest settlers. To their union have come six children: Amelia, Annie, Raynold, Mildred, and Edgar and Edward, who are twins.

Mr. Wilson started a general store in the fall of 1888, at Cambridge, in company with H. J. Johnson, which was continued for about a year and a half. In the fall of that same year he was elected register of deeds on the Republican ticket in Isanti county. This position he held for eight years, being re-elected three times. In 1890 he sold the store on account of its interfering with his office work. From 1896 to 1901 he clerked and carried on his Cambridge farm. In February, 1901, Mr. Wilson erected a general store building at Stanchfield, and began business on the first of the following May. He has put in a large and well selected stock of general merchandise, including boots and shoes, dry goods, crockery and groceries. He has secured a good patronage, and feels he has a hopeful enterprise.

Mr. Wilson has always been a Republican, and was town clerk in Cambridge ten years. In Stanchfield he has been supervisor, and has taken a very active part in public affairs.

#### MATHIAS FRANKOVIZ.

Mathias Frankoviz, a successful business man of Fergus Falls, conducts an extensive hardware business in addition to his farm interests. He is one of the substantial citizens of Ottertail county. His portrait appears upon another page in this volume.

Mr. Frankoviz is a native of Austria, and was born in the province of Kroatia, near the line of the Turkish empire, in 1844. His father, Joseph Frankoviz, was engaged in the farming and milling business in Austria, and his mother died there in 1879.

Our subject was the fourth child in a family of seven children, and was reared on the farm, receiving but a meagre education. He remained in his native country until 1863. In that year, when nineteen years of age, he came to America, landing in New York City. Thence he proceeded to Chicago, and his first work in America was unloading lumber from canal boats. This was very heavy work, and he was subjected to great exposure and hardships. He then went into the country and engaged in farm work near Lanark, Illinois. Here he worked on the farm

during the summer months and attended the public school in winter for six years. In 1869 he went to Duluth, Minnesota, and then to Elizabeth, in the same state, where he clerked for Maurin Brothers in a general store. During his five years' employment there he received an excellent business drill. In 1875 he rented a flouring mill at Cannon City, in Rice county, and operated the same one year. He then went to Stearns county and bought an interest in the general merchandise business of Jacob Simowitch, at Richmond. This partnership continued one year. He then worked for a year for his old employers, Maurin Brothers, at Cold Springs. In 1879 he went to Parkdale, Minnesota, where he opened a general store. After two years of fairly successful business at that point he went to Fergus Falls, in 1881, and purchased the business of Liedl & Evans, general hardware merchants. This business was established in 1875. In 1885 Mr. Frankoviz moved it to its present location on Lincoln avenue, and now occupies a store 25x140 feet, in which he carries a general line of hardware and plumbing goods, and conducts the business of steam fitting and tin work. His is the most extensive hardware business in the city.

Mr. Frankoviz was married, in 1879, to Sophia Kaus. Mrs. Frankoviz is the daughter of Anton Kaus, a pioneer of Minnesota. Her parents were born in Austria and in later years came to America, settling first in Minnesota. Mrs. Frankoviz taught in Ottertail county before her marriage, having charge of the Erhart school. Of this marriage nine children have been born, named as follows: Mary, John, Frank, Jr., Rosa, Joseph, Annie, Helena, Margaret, Alexander; all born in Minnesota. Frank, Jr., is now attending the State University. The family are members of the Catholic church and have been active in its support. Mr. Frankoviz is a Democrat. He was among the earliest pioneers of Ottertail county, and by hard work, able management and enterprise has built up a most valuable and successful business. He is intimately acquainted with the history of Minnesota in its pioneer days, having first engaged in farming on a pre-emption claim in Wilkin county, where he built a log shanty and lived the life of a bachelor for several years. He lost crops by grasshoppers, and endured the severe winters of the early days in the northwest.

#### DR. LEON W. HYDE.

Dr. Leon W. Hyde, a bright young physician of Moorhead, Minnesota, who is rapidly pushing to the front ranks of his profession, was born in Mankato, Minnesota, May 10, 1874, the oldest of four children born to C. W. G. and Christiana (Conlthard) Hyde, of English and Scotch ex-

traction. The father was assistant superintendent of public instruction in this state for some years, where he had many friends, by whom he was highly esteemed both for his educational ability and personal character.

Dr. Hyde graduated from the St. Cloud Normal school, and after teaching for a time to help himself through the medical course, he took a preparatory course for his work at Carlton College, and a special course at the University of Minnesota, and completed his studies at Rush Medical College, the famous Chicago school of medicine, in 1897. While in Chicago he did six months' work in the Presbyterian hospital, and was regarded as very thoroughly prepared for the profession to which he had devoted his life.

Dr. Hyde established for his first location at Chokio, and in the spring of 1898 removed to Brown's Valley, where he enlisted as a private soldier in the Spanish-American war. He soon became a sergeant, and taking an examination before the regular army board, was made assistant army surgeon, working under contract as first lieutenant. His two years' term as hospital surgeon was largely spent in Augusta, Savannah and Tampa, and he was discharged at Hartford, Connecticut.

After a brief time Dr. Hyde opened an office in Moorhead, in the fall of 1899, and is rapidly building up a most creditable and remunerative practice. He is a Republican, belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America, and is very popular in social circles. Dr. Hyde was married, in 1901, to Miss Eva Rockwell, of Portland, Oregon.

#### JOHN SPECHT.

John Specht, a capable and pushing resident of Humboldt township, Clay county, was born near Dresden, Saxony, in 1859, and was a son of John Specht, who died when his son was about six years old.

John Specht was the youngest child of his parents, and was reared and educated in his Saxon home. When he was fourteen years of age he took care of himself, and was employed at farm work at one place five years, having been employed on various farms for several years. He came to the United States in 1881, landing in New York City, and making his way at once to Pepin county, Wisconsin, where he spent three months, and then came to Union, Minnesota, in the spring of 1882, when he went to Montana, where he worked on the Northern Pacific Railway. In 1883 he came to Clay county, and for a time was employed by different farmers in Clay and Wilkin counties. For some years he was a section "boss" on the railroad, with headquarters at Barnesville and Moorhead. From

1889 to 1897 he was employed in the repair shops of the Great Northern Railway, at Barnesville.

Mr. Specht was married, in 1889, to Miss Amelia Peters, a native of Germany, and an emigrant to the United States in company with her sister. Her parents and the rest of the family came two years later. Her parents reside at Barnesville. Mr. and Mrs. Specht have four children: John F., Willie, Walter and Dora, all of whom were born in Barnesville and on the farm.

Mr. Specht bought a farm in section 10, Humboldt township, in 1896, on which he began farming the following year, beginning in a modest way with a small house, and intending to make himself well off by industry and economy. Now he owns a farm of two hundred and forty acres, with all but eighty acres under the plow, and a commodious and well appointed house and barn. He has seventeen head of cattle and seven horses, and an ample supply of modern farm machinery. His best crop of wheat was eighteen bushels to the acre, of oats, forty, and of barley, fifty bushels. He is an independent voter, and has been road overseer and a member of the school board. While he lived in North Dakota he had a homestead, but did not continue there long enough to "prove up".

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#### JOHN E. CAVANAUGH.

As early as 1882 George S. Shaw, Patrick Cavanaugh and his son, John E. Cavanaugh, walked to Cloquet from Carlton, and started the Cloquet Lumber Company. These gentlemen were the first to enter extensively into the lumber business at that thriving town, and of the three but one is now living, John E. Cavanaugh, whose life history is of interest, being intimately associated as it is with the development of one of the largest financial enterprises of that region.

John E. Cavanaugh was born at Davenport, Iowa, in 1865, and was a son of Patrick Cavanaugh, a lumberman and superintendent of the sawmills of the Cloquet Lumber Company. His father spent two years on the ocean as cabin boy, and then came to America at the age of eleven years. He and George Shaw were the men to put the conditions of the Cloquet Lumber Company on a firm basis. Patrick Cavanaugh died in the lumber yard where he was engaged at his work in 1899. He passed away suddenly of heart failure. He was one of the most prominent business men of that locality, and his death was deeply felt by the entire community. The mother of our subject, Mary (King) Cananaugh, was born at Paterson, New Jersey.

John E. Cavanaugh was the sixth in a family of seven children, and he was raised in the city

of his birth and educated there. At the age of sixteen years he went with his father and George S. Shaw to Cloquet, Minnesota, and engaged with them in the lumber business. At that time he did contract work and engineering, and also operated a planing mill. He was employed by the different companies who previously owned the property of the Cloquet Lumber Company, and is now the oldest employe of the firm. He has served in every department of lumbering and holds chief engineer's papers. Upon the death of his father he was appointed superintendent of the Cloquet Lumber Company's sawmill, and had previously been engaged as assistant superintendent. He now has charge of two mills, each with a capacity of about two hundred thousand feet of lumber per day, and also has charge of the repair shops. His first introduction to Cloquet was after a walk from Northern Pacific Junction, now Carlton, on the night of November 6, 1882, and since his arrival there he has engaged in active and energetic work, and has met with pronounced success.

Mr. Cavanaugh keeps pace with the times in public matters, and he is an advocate of the principles of the Republican party, although until 1896 he favored Democratic principles. He is an influential citizen and is deservedly esteemed as a pioneer of Carlton county, and one of the wide awake business men of Cloquet.

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#### JOHN BYGVIST.

While the pioneers of a county should be given due credit for their labors during its early settlement, a fair share of credit is due those who enter in later years and make a success of their work and thus aid materially in the onward march. The gentleman above named has resided in Kittson county for some years past, and has met with good success in the pursuit of agriculture in section 10, of Tegner township. He was not one of the first settlers of that locality, but since his residence there has manifested the true spirit of progressiveness, and is rewarded by a good property and an enviable reputation as a citizen.

Mr. Bygvist was born in Sweden, April 4, 1863, and was the sixth in a family of seven children born to Andrew and Anne (Pedreson) Clauson. He and his brother and sister, all residing in Tegner township, Kittson county, are the only ones of the family in America. The parents are deceased. Mr. Bygvist came to America to join his brother in Goodhue county, Minnesota, in 1882. He worked on the railroad the first summer, and then began farm labors for various men of that locality. In 1888 he went to Kittson county and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land. He owed for his passage

to America, and on his arrival in Kittson county, he purchased his farm on time, adding to the original purchase as his means permitted, and he is now in possession of four hundred and eighty acres of valuable land, on which he conducts diversified farming with good success. He has accumulated his fine farm and fortune by dint of his own efforts, and may justly be proud of his labors in Minnesota.

John Bygvist was married, in 1890, to Miss Anne Carlson. In 1893 Mr. and Mrs. Bygvist took two children to live in their home, who are named as follows: Harrold Rostburg and Agnes Rostburg. Mr. Bygvist is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church, and is a gentleman of exemplary character and has a host of friends in his community. He is active in local affairs and has served two years as a member of the township board. Politically he is a Republican, and stands firmly for the principles of his party. Mrs. Bygvist died June 7, 1901.

#### JOSEPH L. HARTELL.

Joseph L. Hartell, a prominent merchant of Pillager, Minnesota, is one of the influential citizens of Cass county, and deservedly so. He is a gentleman of good education, intelligent and possessed of practical business knowledge and a character of the highest integrity, and is ever awake to the welfare of his adopted home.

Mr. Hartell was born in Minnesota, August 17, 1871, and was a son of John and Mary (Eckels) Hartell. The father was born in Austria, and the mother was a native of Pennsylvania. After spending four years in Carver county, Minnesota, the county of his birth, Mr. Hartell resided two years in Swift county. He then became a resident of St. Paul, Minnesota, and there received a liberal education, attending the St. Paul high school. He resided there until he was fifteen years of age, and then located in Clear Lake, Minnesota, and was engaged there for four years in the pursuit of farming. He later moved to his present location in Pillager, and learned the blacksmith's trade, and now conducts a blacksmith shop in that thriving town. His stock of blacksmith's supplies is valued at five hundred dollars. Mr. Hartell also conducts a general merchandise business, and carries a complete stock, valued at two thousand dollars. He is a man of good business ability and by honest dealing has gained a large patronage and a host of friends and has made a success of the mercantile business.

Mr. Hartell was married, July 3, 1899, to Maude McDonald. Mrs. Hartell was born in Wisconsin, September 17, 1874. Mr. Hartell is a member of the city council of Pillager, and is keenly alive to the wishes of the citizens of

the town and ready with his labors to meet the just demands of the people whom he represents. He is a Republican politically, and adheres firmly to the doctrines of the organization with which he is identified.

#### JOHN L. FEVIG.

Norway has contributed much in brawn and muscle as well as in brains and character as factors of the great northwest, and the industrial and social value of her children on the plains of the new world cannot be light or easily measured. Among his compatriots in the valley the gentleman whose name introduces this article has an honored position.

Mr. Fevig was born in Norway November 13, 1851, and is a son of Lars O. and Mary (Ingelson) Fevig, both of whom were born and reared in Norway. He was brought by his parents to this country while still a boy, and spent some years in Wisconsin. From that state they removed to Freeborn county, Minnesota, going from there to Fillmore county, in this state.

Mr. Fevig attended the common schools of Wisconsin and Minnesota, becoming familiar with the habits and ways of his adopted country. He helped his father on his farm during the later years of his boyhood, and in 1878 came to Clay county, Minnesota, where he secured a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 12, Hagen township. From time to time he has added to this until he owns today a continuous farm of five hundred and twenty acres. Three hundred acres are under cultivation and the rest is devoted to meadow and pasture. He has a good eight-room house, 16x26 feet in the main, and an addition sixteen feet square. The main part of the barn is 32x60 feet, with a shed addition 14x65 feet, and posts sixteen feet in the clear. At the present time he has twelve horses and fifty head of cattle. All the machinery that the farm requires for its economical management is provided. There are gang plows, and a threshing machine with a sixteen-horse-power engine. Good water abounds, and this is one of the most desirable farms to be found in a long day's travel.

Mr. Fevig was married in 1881 to Carrie Casperson, a native of Norway, where she was born June 18, 1852. They have five children: Mary, Alfred C., Mollie D., Lund O. and Annie S. Mr. Fevig is Republican, and belongs to the Lutheran church. For the last three years he has been supervisor, and is recognized as one of the solid and reliable men of his town. He has worked hard all his life, and is in the enjoyment of a very satisfactory property, which has come as the result of his own thrift and economy.



## THOR GILBERTSON (DECEASED).

In the death of the late Mr. Gilbertson a worthy citizen is mourned. He was a prosperous farmer of McDonaldsville township, Norman county, and the family estate is in section 26. This is one of the extensive and carefully cultivated tracts of that locality and was accumulated by our subject by persistent and honest efforts. A fine view of the family residence forms one of the illustrations to be found in this volume.

Thor Gilbertson was born on the farm Nass Hollingdal, Norway, June 24, 1850, and was next to the youngest in a family of ten children. His father was a farmer by occupation and the parents were natives of Norway. The mother came to America and died in Minnesota in 1896.

Mr. Gilbertson was reared on a farm in his native land, attended the country schools, and at the age of twenty-one years emigrated to America. He settled in Minnesota, and worked among the farmers of Houston county for many years. In 1878 he drove overland to Norman county with a covered wagon, and he had a yoke of oxen and some cows and with these as a start began operations on his farm, settling on government land. His first building was a 12x14 feet shanty, and he lived in the same two years and farmed with oxen. Fire came near destroying his property several times and frost destroyed his crops one year and hail did damage to them another year, but despite these discouragements and losses he progressed with his farm and the property now consists of five hundred and sixty acres of land, most of which is under cultivation, and there is plenty of timber land and pasture. The buildings on the home farm are comfortable and commodious and include every shelter for the easy operation of the place. A good supply of machinery of modern pattern assists in the work of the place and a flowing well is also a feature of the farm.

Mr. Gilbertson was married in Fillmore county, Minnesota, in 1878, to Anna Evans, a native of that county. Mrs. Gilbertson's father, Nels Evans, was born in Numedahl, Norway, and came to America in 1844, prior to his marriage. He settled in Illinois and followed the occupation of a farmer. Mrs. Gilbertson's mother bore the maiden name of Jane Gunhild. Mrs. Gilbertson was reared in her native county on a farm, and since the death of our subject has managed the farm in Norman county. Ten children, all of whom are at home, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gilbertson, and are as follows: Gilbert, born in October, 1878; Nellie, born July 7, 1880; Belle, born December 31, 1881; Annie, born July 8, 1884; Nels, born December 26, 1887; Clara, born February 8, 1890; Emil, born March 26, 1892; Ruben, born November 29, 1894; Albert, born

October 31, 1896; Esther, born January 23, 1898. The family are members of the Lutheran church and are highly esteemed in the community in which they reside. Mr. Gilbertson was accidentally injured on his farm in July, 1900, and, after one week's illness, passed away, July 28, 1900. He was a man of industrious habits, progressive and honest, and Norman county has lost a public spirited citizen and one of her pioneers. He was a Populist in political sentiment and was an active worker for the principles of his party.

## ANTHONY KOTCHEVAR.

Anthony Kotchevar, one of the most successful general business men of Ely, resides in the city of Ely, where he has extensive property.

Mr. Kotchevar was born in a city in Austria, in 1865. He was the fifth child in a family of six children, and his father, Mark Kotchevar, was a wine maker and grape grower in his native land. He also served in the Austrian army, and for three years was in active service in wars. Anthony Kotchevar grew to manhood in his native place, and at the age of seventeen learned the wine maker's trade and began work for himself. He came to America in 1885, when he was twenty years old. He located first in Pennsylvania, but after a few weeks came west to Tower, Minnesota. There he worked in the iron mines nearly five years. In 1888 he came to Ely, where he worked in the mines about two years. During his mining experience he was foreman one year at Tower, and two years at Ely, and his great care for the welfare of those under his direction is evidenced by the fact that no accident occurred during his foremanship. In 1891 Mr. Kotchevar opened a saloon in Ely at the corner of Sheridan and First avenue, one of the best locations in the city. He rented for one year, and then purchased the place. It was a small building, 25x50 feet. This he enlarged and a basement under same with stone walls and cement floors, making it one of the largest buildings in Ely. He continued to run the saloon until April 7, 1901. He then leased the place and started a livery barn. He occupies a building 50x100 feet, which he built for livery purposes, and it is well equipped with horses and buggies. He is doing a good livery business in this region, and has been successful from the start. Our subject is also wholesale agent for Ham & Company, of St. Paul, and has charge of the wholesale beer trade in Ely.

In addition to these interests Mr. Kotchevar is extensively engaged in logging for various mining companies and is also interested to some extent in mines. He has done much for the growth and development of the city and has

done his full share of building and improving since his location in Ely. He is also engaged in the lime, brick, and cement business and all these varied enterprises have succeeded in a remarkable degree under his supervision.

Mr. Kotchevar was married May 4, 1896, to Miss Annie Malerich. Mrs. Kotchevar was born in Austria. To this union three children have been born, namely: Annie, Vena and Mary. Mr. Kotchevar is a Republican and has served two years in the city council. He is one of the old settlers of the Vermillion range region and is well known all over St. Louis county. He has at various times operated saloons in Virginia, Hibbing and Eveleth.

### JOHN HOMELVIG.

John Homelvig, residing on section 14 of Home Lake township, is one of the prosperous younger members of the farming community of Norman county. He was reared in that locality, and has witnessed a most striking transformation in the last twenty years there. He has spent nearly thirty years of his life in Norman county and as a developer of the country and a citizen of strict integrity he has gained a wide circle of friends.

Our subject was born in Tronjem, Norway, September 15, 1858. His father, Jonas Homelvig, was a shipbuilder by trade and followed the same in his native land until 1870, when he came to America and settled in Goodhue county, Minnesota. He went to Norman county with his family in 1871 and settled in what is now Home Lake township in the spring of that year. He built a claim shanty and established his permanent residence there, and became one of the well-known early settlers. The township of Home Lake, in Norwegian Hemelvig, was named for him.

Our subject received some schooling in his native land and came with his parents to America. He followed farming with his father in Goodhue county and also Norman county and has broken many acres of land with an ox team. He assumed management of the home farm in 1883, and his lands now comprise three hundred and seventy-five acres, of which two hundred and fifty acres is under cultivation, and the balance affords ample pasture, meadow and timber land. The buildings of the farm are substantial and commodious, the residence being the largest in the township. The barn and granary and other outbuildings are in proportion and all complete a home of more than usual comforts. Mr. Homelvig follows diversified farming, and his best wheat crop averaged twenty-six bushels per acre. The residence is situated in a grove of trees and is

a quarter mile from the creamery. Our subject does a large dairy business, and is secretary of the Creamery Association. He has one of the finest farms as to location and improvement in the township, and aside from farming he is also interested in the mercantile business in Twin Valley.

Mr. Homelvig was married, in 1883, to Miss Martha Flom. Mrs. Homelvig was born in Norway and came to America when she was one year of age. She was raised in Iowa, and her father was one of the prominent old settlers of Norman county, Minnesota. Nine children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Homelvig. Our subject is a gentleman of excellent reputation and since attaining his manhood he has rapidly risen to prominence. He has served as township clerk for eighteen years and justice of the peace twelve or fourteen years, and has taken a hearty interest in township affairs, and assisted in organizing Home Lake township. He keeps pace with the times and is identified with the People's party politically and is prominent in party matters, serving as delegate to numerous county conventions.

### MADS W. JENSEN.

Mads W. Jensen, numbered among the oldest business men of McIntosh, is a prominent citizen of Polk county, and is engaged in the furniture and farm machinery business in the above named city. He is a man of exceptional business capacity and in every enterprise in which he has embarked he has met with success.

Mr. Jensen was born in Jutland, Denmark, August 15, 1854. He was the sixth in order of birth in a family of seven children born to Jens and Marie Christensen. The mother was born in 1813, and the father in 1816, and the latter with six of the children still survive. The family came to America in 1863 and settled in Wisconsin.

Mads W. Jensen was reared amid rural surroundings, working on the home farm and going to the woods winters from the time he was eighteen years of age until 1878. The seasons of 1874 and '76 he harvested in Minnesota and in 1878 he went to Goodhue county and remained there one year. In March, 1879, he went to Polk county, locating a homestead in the town of Garden, near Fertile, Minnesota. He settled there in June, and with J. P. Johnson operated one of the early horse-power threshing outfits of that region. He located in McIntosh in the summer of 1889, when that village was in the first year of its existence. In partnership with his brothers, Anton and J. P., and O. P. Johnson, he erected a flour mill at that place and took charge of the business, which he successfully conducted

until 1897. The building at present is much as it was in those days, and but slight alterations have been undergone. Our subject became interested in the early years there in the furniture store known as the McIntosh Furniture store, operated by John Peterson. In 1897 Mr. Jensen became proprietor of the business and now devotes his attention to this line, and has the only furniture store in the village. In partnership with J. P. Johnson he owns Jensen's addition to the town site.

Mr. Jensen was married, in 1879, to Miss Hannah Johnson, a native of Goodhue county, Minnesota. Six children have been born to this union, namely: Marie L., Willie A., Florence M., Albert V., Mabel E., deceased, and Mabel M. Mr. Jensen early became identified with the affairs of the village and has labored earnestly for its advancement and upbuilding. He has been assessor since the organization of the village, with the exception of but one year. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and a charter member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is politically a Democrat and has attended county and state conventions in the interests of his party, and is a man of wide influence.

#### REV. J. F. LEMMER.

Rev. J. F. Lemmer, the able pastor of St. Henry's Catholic church at Perham, Minnesota, is a gentleman of easy and affable address and excellent abilities.

Father Lemmer was born at Marathon, Wisconsin, March 30, 1873. His parents, John A. and Mary (Fischer) Lemmer, were natives of Luxemburg, Germany, and with their respective parents came to America, the former at the age of six years and the latter when an infant.

John A. Lemmer, the father of our subject, represented the best business interests of Marathon during his active life, but is now living in retirement in that place. He conducted a sawmill in Marathon city and previous to that time had taught school for eighteen years and for a long period was treasurer of Marathon county.

Rev. J. F. Lemmer was the fifth in order of birth in a family of fourteen children, thirteen of whom were boys. He attended the public schools until his tenth year and then entered the parochial school of his native city where he remained four years and then spent four years in the St. Francis Seminary near the city of Milwaukee, studying the classics. He afterward went to St. Joseph College at Dubuque, Iowa, where he studied philosophy, finally completing his collegiate course at St. John's University at Collegeville, Minnesota,

where he graduated in theology and was ordained to the priesthood June 24, 1896. He said his first mass at St. Mary's church, Marathon city, Wisconsin, and preached his first sermon at St. Cloud Cathedral, Minnesota, August 3, 1896. He was made assistant of St. John's at Wahpeton, North Dakota, by Bishop Marty. He then became pastor of Elk River below St. Cloud, and afterward pastor of the Lady of the Angels church at Sauk Center, where he remained six months and was then appointed pastor of St. Thomas church, McCauleyville, Minnesota. After a pastorate of four years at that place he came to Perham, December 7, 1900.

In the spring of 1874 the present church building of St. Henry's was commenced and services held in the same by Rev. Ignatius Tomazin and in the fall of 1875 the building was completed and consecrated by Rt. Rev. Rupertus Seidenbach, Bishop of St. Cloud, and the first regular priest was L. Spitzelberger, who was appointed pastor in 1886. The church is a large structure, but it is contemplated that within two years from this writing it will be replaced by a splendid brick edifice at a cost of thirty thousand dollars. A sinking fund for this purpose has been started. The present congregation consists of one hundred and thirty families. In connection with the church is the Sisters' Home, and parochial school, which was started in 1883 with sixty children. It now has an attendance of two hundred. The entire property is free from debt.

#### CHARLES H. LYDICK.

Charles H. Lydick, a well-known resident of Mora, Minnesota, was born in Washington county, Maine, on a farm, in 1861, and comes of a New England family of considerable importance. His grandfather came from England, and his grandmother from Scotland. They were married and made their home in the east.

Michael H. Lydick, the father of Charles H., was engaged in business as a wholesale butcher in early life, but became a farmer in his later life.

Charles H. Lydick was the oldest member of a family of six living children, was reared and educated in New England, and when he was about nineteen years old made his way to Minnesota. In the fall of 1879 he engaged in lumbering at Aitkin, Minnesota, covering Aitkin and Itasca counties in his operations. He was in Aitkin before streets were laid out, or the town surveyed, and was also at Grand Rapids before the town had taken shape. For some ten years or more Mr. Lydick was in that part of Minnesota engaged in lumbering, and at the same time handling extensive logging contracts, most of the time being in partnership with his brother, O. A.

Lydick. During the winter of 1891 they operated one of the large logging concerns of that part of the county. At the same time he had under his management and ownership an extensive livery barn in Grand Rapids. For some time after 1890 he lived in Minneapolis, and had a veterinary office on Second street, First avenue north, and in 1896 made his headquarters at Mora, where he bought potatoes, dealt in horses, and in 1900 leased the Conger House, which he conducted for about a year. In 1890 Mr. Lydick had a livery at Mora, and has for years taken a keen interest in horses. He is an extensive real estate dealer and has owned over twenty different farms in Kanabec county. Town and city property has also been handled on a large scale by him, and in 1900 he engaged in the sale of farm machinery, and for a short time did an extensive business in that line.

Mr. Lydick is raising and developing blooded stock on a considerable scale. At the present time he is more largely interested in fine horses than any other man in the county, and raised and owned the first registered horses of Kanabec county.

Mr. Lydick was married, in Harris, Minnesota, in 1895, to Miss Lillian Franklin. Mrs. Lydick is a native of Harris, Minnesota, and her parents, who were born in Sweden, were brought to this country when children. She is a niece of the bishop who is at the head of the Swedish churches in this country. To this union were born two children, Gladis and Glen, both of whom first saw the light at Mora.

Mr. Lydick is a Republican, and is often seen at the county gatherings of his party, as a delegate from his precinct. He is an active worker in county politics, and is a man of more than local prominence.

The first meat market in Itasca county was opened by Mr. Lydick at La Prairie, and he also owned a steamboat which ran from Pakegama Falls to Ball Club Lake. He carried supplies for the Great Northern as it was being constructed through Grand Rapids, and for some two seasons had this boat in active operations. He has also sold jewelry in lumber camps.

Mr. Lydick began with nothing, and has made his way to a very comfortable competence. He was the proprietor of the first restaurant in Itasca county, at La Prairie, when he took an active part in the first county-seat fight which was waged between Grand Rapids and La Prairie. As already noted above, he has taken a deep interest in fine horses, and owns some very valuable stock himself, among those in his possession, Allen Maid, with a record of 2:16½; and Anoka Stallion, who has made a trial heat of 2:17, and has a record of 2:27; Our Boy, the guideless wonder, record 2:10¼. He owns also several standard

bred colts, whose promise is very bright. Mr. Lydick is the most extensive shareholder in the Kanabec county fair grounds, taking a very active part in the organization of the Fair Association. An annual fair is held. He was a driver in the first race that ever took place in Itasca county. In addition to his many other enterprises Mr. Lydick has several teams on the road, in the eastern part of the state and in Wisconsin, selling veterinary medicines of his own manufacture.

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#### GUST FEVIG.

Gust Fevig, whom years have lightly touched, and who still bears himself with the strength and sturdiness of middle life, is a gentleman who deserves the confidence and respect of the community in which his useful life is passing. He has worked hard, been frugal and careful, proved a kind neighbor, and is a good citizen, of whom all who know him speak well.

Mr. Fevig was born in Norway, November 5, 1846, and is a son of Lars and Mary (Ingelson) Fevig, both of whom were also born in Norway. When he was about five years old his parents brought him to this country. They settled for a time in Wisconsin, but after some six years resumed their western migration, and found a home in Freeborn county, Minnesota, where they made a home. After remaining there a year, however, they moved on to Fillmore county, in 1859. There they remained until 1877. That year they came to Clay county, and made a homestead entry of one-quarter of section 18, of Ulen township. They drove overland and lived in a log house for years and endured every privation that belongs to a pioneering life.

Mr. Fevig was reared in Wisconsin and Minnesota, and had such educational advantages as the public schools afforded. From early boyhood he has been accustomed to hard work, and has kept closely associated with his parents in business. With them he owns a farm of five hundred and twenty acres; more than half of this is under the plow and the rest is given over to pasture and meadow. There is a good house on the farm. It has eight rooms, and is 14x16 feet, with an addition 16x26 feet. The barn is 32x50 feet, with 12-foot posts in the clear. Around the house as well as the barn extends the storm protection of a fine poplar grove, and the place is very attractive. On the farm he has nine horses and twenty-nine cattle. The farm is well supplied with all the machinery needed for the work of its cultivation.

Mr. Fevig was married, in 1875, to Miss Emma Baukens. She was born in Norway, March 26, 1860, and by this marriage has become the mother of twelve children, as follows: Lou-

isa, Nellie, Emily, Ida, Clara, Adolph, Annie, Carrie, Charley, Adrie, Harry and Effie.

Mr. Fevig is a Republican, and has been school treasurer. He belongs to the Lutheran church, where he is regarded as one of the working members of the organization.

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#### BERNT O. BERGERSON.

Becker county, Minnesota, is well known as a thriving agricultural district. The farms are well improved, and are generally selected with a view to pleasant surroundings for the occupants of the place, and many who have built a home there have exceeded, rather than fallen short, of the purpose first planned. Among those who went to that country in pioneer days and started a home amid surroundings which had few encouragements, and have remained to enjoy a good reward for the many years of labor, may be mentioned Bernt O. Bergerson. His farm is in Cuba township, and the residence is located in a pleasant spot in section 36.

Our subject was born in Norway, July 23, 1848, and was a son of Jacob and Annie (Jensen) Bergerson. The father was born in Norway, November 21, 1821, and the mother in the same country, October 20, 1823. Our subject came to America at the age of five years, and resided in Iowa until he was seventeen years of age, attending school at Decorah, Iowa. He aided his father on the home farm and after completing his education went to Freeborn county, Minnesota, where he and his father farmed together for about eight years. He then removed to Becker county, Minnesota, driving to his new home overland with oxen, and three weeks were consumed in the journey. Upon his arrival in what was then a vast wilderness he selected land in section 36 of Cuba township, and entered a homestead claim to the same. He built a log house and a log barn, and broke his land with oxen, and followed farming thus for the first ten years. During these times it is difficult to imagine the hardships endured, amid pioneer surroundings, far from market, and with limited means, but Mr. Bergerson has steadily increased his acreage and the improvements of the place have been added as circumstances permitted and he is now the fortunate owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land. Of this he has about one hundred and twenty-five acres under cultivation, and he devotes the balance of the land to pasture, meadow and timber. He has now a comfortable residence, built at a cost of one thousand five hundred dollars, and his commodious barn and other buildings of the place are in keeping with the extensive operations of the farm. He has a windmill which draws a plentiful supply of water from a depth of one hundred and thirty-

four feet, and he has also placed such other improvements on the farm as facilitate the work of the place. He keeps nine horses, fifty head of cattle, and has a good supply of farm machinery. His residence and barn are on the bank of a lake and are surrounded by a fine grove. Mr. Bergerson has met with success in his farming operations and is one of the substantial men of his township.

Our subject was married, in 1871, to Engeberg Oleson, who was born in Norway, May 22, 1848. Four children have been born to bless this union, who are named as follows: Oscar, Annie, Albert and Mable. Mr. Bergerson during the quarter of a century in which he has lived in Cuba township has always been found standing for right and justice and serving his community with true public spirit. He has served as township clerk for twenty-five years, and two terms as school clerk, and he is secretary of the Lake Park and Cuba Fire Insurance Company. He and family are members of the Lutheran church at Lake Park. Our subject studies the questions of the day and in political sentiment is a Populist.

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#### OLAUS ERICKSON.

Olaus Erickson, residing on section 14 in Kragnes township, is classed among the energetic and prosperous farmers of Clay county, Minnesota. He has accumulated a fine property and enjoys the esteem of all who know him. Portraits of him and his wife will be found elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Erickson was born in Christiania Stift, Norway, October 26, 1835, and was the oldest of three sons born to Erik and Martha (Jacobson) Carlson. The father died in 1843, and the mother lived to the advanced age of ninety years, passing away in Polk county, Minnesota, in 1900. The family had no possessions in their native land, and when our subject was seven years of age he became a herdboy, and after the death of his father he was employed as a letter-carrier until he was fifteen years of age and earned his board and clothes only. Then for five years he earned a dollar a year, and at the end of nineteen years' service he was receiving twelve dollars per year. By strict economy he laid by one hundred dollars, and then, in 1866, tried to purchase land of his employer, but he could not secure the land, and becoming thoroughly disgusted with the state of affairs in his native country, he emigrated to America. He first hired out on a farm in Houston county, Minnesota, and after a few years rented land. The chintz-bugs destroyed two crops, but he managed to clear about two hundred dollars from the place, and in the spring of 1878 he started overland for the Red River

valley, taking with him about fourteen head of horned stock. He started in May, but the spring being a late one and the weather very unfavorable for camping, the journey was a hard one to make. In the valley he found the country submerged, and he was indeed thankful to finally arrive at the home of A. Kragnes, on Buffalo river, with whom he stopped for a week. He bought the land he now owns from the government at five dollars per acre, and he camped in his wagon on the farm until he built a small frame shanty. This was covered with tar paper and sodded on the outside, and this building, with alterations, forms a portion of his present comfortable home. Mr. Erickson has placed valuable improvements on his place, among them being two artesian wells, one for domestic and one for farm use. He has a valuable property, and although he does not count himself wealthy, he has every reason to be proud of the result of his labors in Minnesota.

Our subject was married in 1869 to Miss Mary Johnson. The following children have been born to this union: Edward; John, deceased; Tilda, now Mrs. P. Tufton; Carl; Amelia, now Mrs. Ole Thompson; Patrina, deceased; Peter, deceased; Peter, Gilbert and John, triplets, the first of whom is deceased; Levi; Casper; and Alfelt T. Mr. Erickson is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Politically he is a Republican. His farm now consists of two hundred and forty acres and the same is well improved. He served seven years in the Norwegian army, the pay for which was sixteen cents per day and a loaf of bread every fifth day.

#### HELGA KLEMMETSON.

Helga Klemmetson, whose extensive and well-cultivated farm in section 22, Ulen township, Clay county, shows the touch of an experienced and cultivated farmer, was born in Norway, February 24, 1854, and is a son of Klemmet and Christa (Holverson) Helgesen, both Norwegian born and bred. When he was eighteen years of age young Helga left his native land and came to Houston county, where he remained for a time, and in 1877 came to Clay county, where he took up a homestead in section 22, of Ulen township. Here he built a log house, and for several years used oxen in doing his farm work. About 1893 he completed a handsome frame house, and in 1900 constructed a barn 50x60 feet, with ten-foot posts and an immense hay loft. There is a handsome grove around both house and barn. He owns a handsome farm of two hundred acres, with all, but fifty acres which are reserved for meadow and pasture, in cultivation. He has bought liberally of farm machinery.

There is good water in abundance on the farm, and it is one of the most desirable places in the valley.

Mr. Klemmetson was married, in 1875, to Gor Oleson. She was born in Norway, June 10, 1848. They have six children: Christina, Helmer, Olaf, Sarah, Billa, and Gida. Mr. Klemmetson is a Republican and has been town treasurer for about a year. He and his family belong to the Lutheran church, and are counted among the solid and reliable people of the town. They are not showy and pretentious, but quiet and modest, and in every way substantial.

#### LOUIS LOREN.

Louis Loren, one of the thrifty and successful farmers of Stanchfield township, Isanti county, Minnesota, whose present enviable position in social and business circles has come as the result of character and industry, was born on a farm in Sweden, July 16, 1851. His father, Lorens Louis Erickson, who was a farmer, also carried on the business of making grindstones in Orsa, Hansjo, and there he lived and died.

Louis Loren was the fourth in a family of seven children, and was reared and educated in his native community. His father died when he was sixteen. About this time the crops were very poor throughout Sweden, and a period of hard times came upon the country. Money was sent from America for the relief of the poor, and it was distributed through work on the highways. Young Loren and his mother worked on the road in ditching. The next winter, with his mother, brother and sister, he went into the woods and made charcoal. In 1869 they came to the United States, his mother making him a vest and trousers, and buying a good second-hand coat for him in Stockholm. They landed at Quebec, where young Louis bought molasses and bread, on which they lived until well down the St. Lawrence. Then he sold his watch for two dollars, with which they had food to last to St. Paul. There he borrowed money with which to get into Isanti county, as he had borrowed money for passage across the ocean. His character and determination soon secured him work. For six weeks in the fall of 1869 he worked on the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad. During the winter he worked among the farmers, and in the lumber camps in Isanti county. In 1873 he bought eighty acres of railroad land, and took up a homestead of forty acres. The same year he was married to Miss Anna Hansdotter, who was born in Sweden, and came to the United States in 1872. They have a family of four children: John, who is a hotel man; Albert who is a farmer; Ellen and Leonard. The first born, Erick, died at the



age of eleven. They lived four years in a log house, 14x18 feet, and eight feet high. It has not been all sunshine with the Lorens by any means. He began farming with a span of horses, and in hauling wood to Rush City one horse fell and broke its leg. It had to be killed. Then he farmed for a year with a yoke of oxen, and one of these got killed. His wife was at one time sick in bed for eighteen weeks. But he persevered, and has conquered his difficulties.

Mr. Loren worked in the woods two winters, and began raising cattle. His health was good and he worked hard. At first he raised wheat and potatoes. He later has marketed considerable tame hay. It took three days to get flour from Rush City. Now he has a good and well improved farm of one hundred and thirty acres, with about sixty under cultivation. His house is 19x26 feet, with a lean-to, 16x24 feet; the barn is 35x42 feet; the granary is 16x18 feet; there is a shed for the sheep, and the place is well provided with farm machinery. Mr. Loren has been a successful farmer, and has won for himself a good home.

Mr. Loren is a Republican, and for fifteen years was supervisor. He was assessor one year, and one year town clerk. He was elected county commissioner in 1900. He is generally interested in the business welfare of the community, and is a director and the treasurer of the Stanchfield Starch Manufacturing Company. He assisted in its organization in 1887. He also assisted in the organization of the Nessel Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

#### ALBERT T. MILLS.

Albert T. Mills, editor and proprietor of the Hewitt Enterprise, is one of the recognized prominent newspaper men of Todd county. He has succeeded in his work in Hewitt and now has a good plant and enjoys an enviable name.

Mr. Mills was born in Nicollet county, Minnesota, October 20, 1855, and was a son of William and Anna (Graham) Mills, both of whom were natives of Canada. He was reared in Nicollet county and in Brown county, and worked on the home farm and in his father's hotel at Ft. Ridgely, and was at the latter place when the Indian outbreak occurred in 1862. He lived in St. Peter, Minnesota, three years and attended the common schools there and in 1868 went to Redwood Falls, Minnesota, where his father was engaged in the hotel business and was operating the stage line. Mr. Mills later went to Lacqui-parle county, Minnesota, where he entered a homestead claim to land and continued as an agriculturist there for some time. He learned the printing business at Montevideo, Minnesota, and decided to make newspaper work his vocation.

Accordingly, in 1897, he came to Hewitt and soon afterward started the Hewitt Enterprise, a paper which has gained steadily in popularity and now boasts a circulation of over three hundred copies each issue. It is widely circulated and is considered one of the bright exchanges of the newspaper world of Todd county. Mr. Mills is a property owner of the city of Hewitt, having acquired a half acre tract of land in the city and a residence which affords all the comforts of life.

Our subject was married, in 1882, to Clara B. Peck, who was born in Wisconsin, May 31, 1861. Six children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mills, namely: Elmer A., Alta, Grace, Phoebe, Ellen and William. Mr. Mills is prominent in city affairs and is recorder of the village. He is identified with the Republican party and is secretary of the Republican club of Hewitt. He is ever awake to the interests of his home town and county and well merits the high standing which he enjoys and respect of the people among whom he labors.

#### OLE O. EGGE.

Ole O. Egge, whose handsome and well appointed home in Humbolt township, Clay county, attests the ownership of an industrious and intelligent gentleman, was born on a farm in Graams, Presteggeld, Hadeland, Norway, in 1861. His father, who lived and died in Norway, was very extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising.

Ole O. Egge was reared on his father's farm and received his education in what corresponds to the American public schools, going as far as the high school grades would carry him. He was very well educated, and when he was twenty-four years he left home, coming to the United States and landing at New York, and coming to Clay county in 1884, bought a homestead right and made his location there. The place had a claim shanty, 14x16 feet. The same year he was married to Annie O. Egge, a native of the same community where her husband was born. Her father was a day laborer. Mr. and Mrs. Ole O. Egge have had five children: Clara O., Olga R., Oscar O., Gena and Henry A., all of whom were born on the farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Egge began housekeeping in the little shanty, and as they had but little money they made a modest start. In 1885 Mr. Egge harvested fifty-three acres of wheat and oats. He kept on working and hoping, and presently in the face of severe and repeated losses by hail and wind storms, finally achieved a substantial success. His farm now comprises four hundred and twenty acres, with about two hundred under

cultivation. He has a good farm house, 26x16 feet, with an addition sixteen feet square. Fourteen-foot posts are used in the barn; the granary is very large and commodious, and all the farm machinery is well cared for and sheltered. There are fifteen horses and eighteen head of cattle on the place, which is largely conducted as a grain farm, Mr. Egge's best wheat yield being in 1895, when he had thirty-one bushels to the acre. His farm has been built up by his unflagging industry and wise management until it has become one of the best in the county.

Mr. Egge is a Populist, and with his family belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he is the official secretary, and in which he takes an active interest.

### JOHN SCHWARTZ.

John Schwartz, deceased, was for many years a farmer of prominence in Douglas county, and was a citizen of the United States for over a third of a century. He was born at Schwemlinger, Prussia, in 1838, and acquired a good education in the public schools of Germany, and there learned the trade of tinning and plating and also served three years in the German army, being corporal of an artillery company. He had but one brother, Peter Schwartz. The brothers left their native land for America in 1864 and coming via New York went direct to the west and settled for four years at St. Louis, Missouri. In the fall of 1868 they came to Evansville, Douglas county, and in joint partnership they erected a brewery plant and launched into the brewing business, which was successfully conducted by them for six years. In 1874 John Schwartz sold to his brother all interests held by him in the brewing establishment and turned his attention to farming, in which he became afterward very successful. He secured a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres on section 5 in the town of Brandon, Douglas county, principally timber land, upon which there was nothing whatever in the way of improvements, simply a rolling piece of woodland with a small creek of clear water running through it. By untiring industry he made this, after many years, one of the best farms of its size in Brandon township, the entire family assisting in the effort as they became old enough to work. The timber was heavy and when hauled to market assisted greatly in meeting the expense of the clearing. When Mr. Schwartz first occupied the farm he erected a small log dwelling, which later gave place to a good comfortable farm residence. The farm is now well cropped with grain and fifty head of cattle are grazing on the hillsides and eight horses find ample work

in the sowing, reaping and hauling of the products.

Mr. Schwartz was married in the fall of 1868 to Annie Schindler. Mrs. Schwartz was born in Germany and came to America with her parents when she was eight years of age. Her parents, Joseph and Caroline Schindler, emigrated from Germany and settled near Cleveland, Ohio, and conducted a farm near the city for four years. They removed with their family to Chaska, Carver county, Minnesota, where the father became the owner of one hundred and forty acres of land, which he continued to farm until his death, which occurred October 18, 1900. The mother of Mrs. Schwartz died many years earlier. Eleven children were born to this worthy couple. To Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz ten children have been born, eight of whom are now living. They are as follows: Carl P., who married Theresa Brinish, and is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Brandon township; John P., who has the management of the home farm for his mother, and also owns a one-hundred-acre farm; Frank H., who is engaged in teaching in Douglas county; Nicholas W., Mary B., Elizabeth A., Rosa B. and Annie M. are all at home contributing to the success of the farm and the comforts of home life thereon. Caroline and Minnie are deceased. Mr. Schwartz died while undergoing an operation in St. Raphaels Hospital at St. Cloud, December 3, 1900, at the age of sixty-two years, and was buried in the faith of the Catholic church at Millerville, Douglas county, Minnesota. He was prominent in public local affairs and held various offices of trust, including constable, road overseer, member of the school board. Politically he was a Democrat and took an active interest in all affairs pertaining to the welfare of his township and county.

### CHARLES E. WESTBERG.

Charles E. Westberg, residing on section 1 of Vega township, is a representative of the thrifty agriculturists of Marshall county. He is not a native born citizen, but since taking up his residence in America he has become thoroughly identified with American progress and civilization, and is one of the deservedly successful and highly esteemed men of his adopted state. He owns a valuable farm of two hundred acres and also leases additional acreage and crops about five hundred acres annually.

Mr. Westberg was born in Sweden, October 19, 1869, and was the eldest of three children born to August and Lena (Anderson) Westberg. The family came to America in the

spring of 1880, and landing at Castle Garden at once proceeded to Warren, Marshall county, Minnesota. The father entered a homestead claim to land in section 12 of Vega township, where he still resides. He worked on the railroad and our subject secured employment at herding cattle. The family had no means, and borrowed about ten dollars to enable them to reach their destination, and it was only through the hardest struggle that they were enabled to pass the first winter in their new home. They purchased a yoke of oxen in 1882 and then began the development of the farm and by constant labor and good management the improvements of the place rapidly shaped themselves into paying conditions. Mr. Westberg remained with his father for some years and engaged with him in farming, and since 1895 has followed the same pursuit on his own estate in section 1 of the same township. He has prospered in his chosen vocation, and has erected good buildings on his farm, among them a commodious barn, which was built in 1897. This is a 26x40-foot structure, and furnishes an abundance of shelter for stock and is a valuable improvement to the place.

Mr. Westberg was married in 1893 to Miss Ida M. Strand. To this union three children have been born, namely: Carl G., Frida and Selma. Mr. Westberg is a member of the Swedish Mission church. Politically he is identified with the Fusionists and is a man of strong convictions and deservedly popular with those among whom he labors.

#### Æ. K. WINBERG, A. B., M. D.

During the past decade this gentleman has become widely known in the vicinity of Becker county as a practicing physician of skill, and he enjoys an extensive and increasing patronage. The profession which he follows is one of the most difficult professions to master, and much depends upon the breadth of character and intelligence of the student. It is true that experience does its share toward perfecting the physician, but it is equally true that this must be supplemented by a theoretical knowledge of his work. The subject of this review devoted some years to study of the subject and during the past eight or more years he has let nothing pass his notice which would in any way tend to perfect him as a physician and surgeon, and his constant study and persistent work have been fraught with the most pleasing results. Dr. Winberg is located at Lake Park, and his practice extends over a large portion of Becker county.

Our subject was born in Norway, July 21, 1864. His father, Kristne Winberg, was born

in Norway, and died in the Danish army when our subject was but eight years of age. The mother, Mary K. (Alsaker) Winberg, survived the father but a short time and died in Norway, leaving our subject an orphan while yet a mere boy. He attended the schools of his native land and at the age of seventeen years came to America, locating at Minneapolis, Minnesota. He remained there eleven years, during five years of which time he attended the State University of Minnesota, and graduated from the same in 1892. He then went to Wilmar, Minnesota, and there established his office for the practice of medicine, and continued there one year, and in September, 1893, located in Lake Park, Becker county. He has continued his practice there since that date, and has met with unbounded success in his profession. He attended the Post-Graduate Medical School in New York in 1895, taking a five months course, and then resumed his practice in Lake Park.

Dr. Winberg was married in 1895 to Alpha Carlson, who was born in Becker county, Minnesota, in 1871, and was the first white child born in the county. Her father, Elling Carlson, was one of the first settlers of the county. Dr. and Mrs. Winberg are the parents of two children,—Carl, who was born September 27, 1896, and Wesley, born August 24, 1898. Both children are natives of Becker county, Minnesota. Dr. Winberg is rapidly rising to prominence as a citizen of active public spirit, and he is health officer of the village of Lake Park, and also is heartily interested in all public enterprises which tend to the advancement or development of his home town and community. He is independent in political sentiment and is a man of broad mind, who keeps abreast of the times and his influence is felt and advice heeded.

#### KNUT H. BRANDVOLD.

The present prosperity enjoyed in Dalton is due in a great measure to the thrift and enterprise of the early business men, who started there with a determination that has never waned, and have brought prosperity to themselves and likewise to others who have cast their lot with them. Among those who have contributed largely to this condition may be prominently mentioned Knut H. Brandvold. For over twenty years he has conducted a prosperous general merchandise business in Dalton, and has also successfully operated a farm adjacent to the village, and is now one of the best known men of that locality, his good name and enterprising spirit covering Ottertail and neighboring counties.

Mr. Brandvold was born on a farm in Tonset, Norway, in 1845. His father, Halvor S. Brand-

vold, was a farmer by occupation, and died when our subject was but three years of age. The mother bore the name of Karre Bronvold. Mr. Brandvold was the elder of two children, and at the age of fifteen years he became self-supporting. He received a limited country schooling, and at fifteen years of age learned the shoemaker's trade, paying four dollars and what work he could do for two years. He then followed his trade until he was twenty-one years of age, and in 1867 came to America, landing at Portland, Maine, in May of that year. He went direct to Fillmore county, Minnesota, and for the first two years worked on farms during the summer season and attended English schools during winters. He then followed farm work two years in Goodhue county, Minnesota, and in 1871 went to Ottertail county. He purchased land and began farming for himself. His first home was a log shanty 15x16 feet, part oak and pine boards for floor. He lived there alone and followed farming for two years, and did not accomplish much at improving his property for the first few years, owing to his limited means. He used oxen for the breaking and cultivation of his land, and he passed through pioneer experiences, his nearest railroad town being either Perham or Herman, each thirty-five miles distant. The farm now adjoins the town site of Dalton, and is a well-located and highly improved tract, and Mr. Brandvold has resided thereon continuously since 1871. He established a general store in Dalton in 1880, and this was the second store opened in the town. He opened his store in a small shanty with a small stock of goods, and by good management and honest dealings has increased his business, and now occupies a large building and carries a general line of goods, including groceries, boots, shoes and dry goods. His store was entered by burglars in 1890 and about a hundred dollars' worth of goods taken, and the safe injured, although not broken into. Mr. Brandvold has suffered few losses since engaging in business, and his energy and strict attention to the requirements of his patrons assures him a good trade.

Our subject was married about 1876 to Miss Bertha Steien. Mrs. Brandvold was born in Canada, and was of Norwegian parentage. Her people were farmers by occupation and were among the pioneer settlers of Ottertail county. Mrs. Brandvold died in April, 1890. In July, 1892, Mr. Brandvold was married to Miss Maria Larson, who was born at Strommen Osterdalen, Norway. Mr. Brandvold's family consists of three children, namely: Halvor, Oliver and Carrie. Mr. Brandvold is one of the influential and popular men of his community, and takes a most hearty interest in local public affairs. He has served as township assessor for two years and

chairman of the board of supervisors for twelve years. He is especially interested in educational advancement, and has served as chairman of the school board, and for the past ten years as school treasurer. He was formerly a Republican politically, but is now identified with the Populist party and lends his influence for the principles of the reform party. He is a member of the Old Conference Lutheran church, and is a gentleman of exemplary character and enjoys the confidence of his fellow men. His portrait will be found on another page of this history.

#### REV. ANDREAS OEFSTEDAL.

Rev. Andreas Oefstedal, pastor of the Drangedal Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran congregation of Fertile, Minnesota, and three other congregations, is a prominent missionary of Minnesota. The above named congregation is the oldest religious organization of the village of Fertile and was organized in 1881. The first pastor was the Rev. A. Megrund, followed by Rev. E. B. Slettedal, who had charge from 1886 to 1891. The work was then taken up by our subject, and from 1892 to 1900 the work was in charge of Rev. A. H. Gjevre, after which Rev. Oefstedal resumed charge. The congregation numbers two hundred, and the church edifice, the first erected in the village, stands in a good state of preservation.

Rev. Oefstedal was born September 1, 1855, at Voss, Norway. He was the sixth in a family of eleven children born to Anders and Agatha (Lavik) Oefstedal, their home being the farm Oefstedal, where our subject passed the early years of his life. In his sixteenth year he came to America, where two of his brothers then resided. He worked among the farmers of southern Minnesota for three summers, and attended school winters. He entered the Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, in the fall of 1874, and took up the normal work, later taking the Latin course, completing four years there. In the fall of 1878 he entered the Theological Seminary at Madison, Wisconsin, taking three years' work. Before the completion of the time, however, he received a call from the Little Norway Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran congregation in Polk county, Minnesota. He was graduated before his class and was immediately ordained, and June 3, 1881, arrived to take charge of his congregation, which then numbered one hundred and fifty souls.

Prior to assuming his duties in Polk county he was married to Miss Matilda Bronson. Their first home was a dug-out, and later they lived in a small log house, thatched with bark. Here in the wilderness he took up mission work, and

during the first year four congregations were established, namely: Faaberg, at Rindal, Norman county, which he served eight years; Sundal, in Norman county; Vaernes, in Polk county, and Our Saviour's, also in Polk county. He homesteaded land in Garfield township, where he resided until 1892, when he accepted a charge at Moorhead, Minnesota, and after five years went to Bethel Lutheran church in Chicago. He remained there three years, and then accepted a unanimous call from his early congregations. He is now serving four congregations, all of which have church buildings, and altogether number about one thousand souls.

Mrs. Oefstedal died in 1886. No children born to this union are now living. Mr. Oefstedal was married to Miss Matilda Markuson, in 1887. Six children have been born of this marriage, namely: Theodore, Agathe M., Clarence, Ella, Rudolph and Eunice.

#### ELLING KLEMMETSON.

Elling Klemmetson, who has an attractive home on section 2, Ulen township, Clay county, is one of the hard-working, clear-eyed and honest-hearted sons of Norway, who have helped make Minnesota great and rich. His upright life, his industrious habits, and his thrift and judgment have helped him to the signal success he has achieved in the valley, and are factors of his career which his friends readily recognize and confess.

Mr. Klemmetson was born in Norway, May 13, 1861, and is a son of Klemmet and Christine (Holverson) Helgesen, both of whom were natives of Norway. Young Elling left Norway with his parents while he was still a lad, and for some years attended school during the winter season in Houston county, Minnesota. March 1, 1880, he entered Clay county, where he secured a homestead of one-quarter of section 2, in Ulen township. Here he put up a log house, and for many years did his farm work with oxen. Now he has a good frame house and a barn 30x50 feet. Good water is abundant, and is pumped with a wind mill. On the farm are nine horses and fourteen head of cattle. All but twenty-five acres are under cultivation, and these are devoted to meadow and pasture. He has abundant farm machinery and is a thoroughly modern and up-to-date farmer.

Mr. Klemmetson was married, in 1885, to Segre Severson, who was born in Norway, December 1, 1861. To this union have come the following children: Carl S., Christina, Henry, Carolina, Oscar E., Edward, Annita, Bertha E. and Inga Mada.

Mr. Klemmetson is a Republican and has filled the position of school treasurer for four

years. He and his family belong to the Lutheran church at Ulen. He has worked hard all his life, and well deserves the rest and comfort that are before him in his last years.

#### FRED HAGBERG.

Fred Hagberg, one of the early settlers of Lake county, Minnesota, is a well-known business man of Two Harbors, and has been identified with the growth of that locality.

Mr. Hagberg was born in a mining district in Sweden, January 15, 1868. His father, John Carlson, owned a small farm and was also engaged in mining. Our subject is the fourth in a family of seven children, and was reared in his native place and gained his education in the public schools. He began work in and around the mines at the age of ten years, spending his school vacation in this manner. He became a miner at the age of sixteen years, and followed that business until he was nineteen years of age. He emigrated to America in 1888, landing at New York City. From there he went direct to Two Harbors, Minnesota, and then to Tower, and in the fall of the same year to Ely. He worked two years in the mines, and then spent some time on the Missabe range, at McKinley, Virginia and Eveleth, and has visited every town on the range. He has tramped over that entire region with exploring parties and is thoroughly familiar with the country and the leading mines. He went to Two Harbors in 1895, and the same year opened a saloon business. He has built up a good trade, and his place of business is one of the leading saloons of the town.

Mr. Hagberg was married, in 1896, to Miss Augusta Wickstron. Mrs. Hagberg was born in Sweden, and came to the United States about 1890. Two children, both of whom were born at Two Harbors, complete the family circle. Their names are Charles and William. Mr. Hagberg is a member of the American Order of Druids and the Scandinavian Independent Workmen Association. He is a wide awake citizen, devoted to the interests of his adopted country, and has many friends where he makes his home.

#### OLE P. NOKKEN.

Ole P. Nokken, whose pleasant and attractive farm is in section 7, of Kurtz township, Clay county, is one of the oldest settlers in this part of the state. He was born in Sogn, Norway, January 17, 1852, and was the second member of a family of four children born to Peder and Anne (Quame) Nokken. The father, who brought his family to America in 1870, is now making his home with his son, Ole P. The

mother died in 1890. The father had their home in Goodhue county, Minnesota, after their arrival in this country, for a short time. He came to Clay county to buy a homestead right in the fall of 1870. He brought his family in 1871, Ole P. then being a stout and sturdy young man of nineteen years.

Ole P. Nokken lived with his parents a few years, and then going into Cass county, North Dakota, secured a homestead, which he developed. In 1882 he secured the farm which he now owns, and where he is found today. This is a very choice farm, consisting of three hundred and seventy-two acres, nearly a hundred of which is timber land. Mr. Nokken has made his own way in the world, and this splendid farm is the result of his own industry and thrift. He may well be spoken of as a self made man in every sense of the word.

Mr. Nokken is a Republican, and his is a familiar presence at the various conventions and gatherings of the party. In the organization of Kurtz township he was one of the principal workers, and has been successively elected to various positions of trust and responsibility in the town, being now chairman of the town board. In his religion he is a member of the Lutheran church, and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

Mr. Nokken and Miss Emelie Hetland were married in 1883, and to their union have come the following children: Peder A., Mabel, Emma, Annie, Henry B., Oscar Gilford, Engel and Caroline. Mr. and Mrs. Nokken are honorable and industrious people, and have the respect and confidence of the community to a flattering degree.

#### ALBERT OBERT.

Albert Obert is one of the most prominent farmers identified with the farming interests of Star Lake township, where his home has been since 1879.

Mr. Obert was born on his father's farm in Allamakee county, Iowa, March 26, 1859, a son of Hartman and Harriet (Green) Obert, both of whom are now living in the home of their son Albert. The father is a well preserved old gentleman, who was born in 1811, and bears his advanced age with surprising ease. The wife and mother is nearing her eightieth birthday. They enjoy good health and are in the possession of all their faculties.

The paternal grandfather of Albert Obert was a farmer in New York, but removed to Pennsylvania with his family when Hartman was a small boy, where his son, the father of Albert, attended public school, and became a master of the carpenter and building trade. Hartman Obert settled in Chicago when that city was but

a straggling village by the lake side, and worked at his trade in various Illinois towns and cities. In the early '50s he located in Allamakee county, Iowa, where he engaged in farming. He was the father of ten children, of whom Albert Obert was the youngest but one. Two of the sons of this family are settled in Ottertail county, and are not far removed from the home of their brother, Albert.

Albert Obert attended the public schools of Iowa, and afterwards gained a considerable knowledge of the carpenter trade. He found, however, that his natural bent was for farming, and in 1879 he came to Ottertail county, taking up a homestead farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Dead Lake township. This land he exchanged some years later for a livery business in Perham, which he conducted for three years. At the expiration of that period he sold the livery to its present proprietor, Mr. Alexander, and bought a farm of one hundred and fourteen acres on section 13, Star Lake township, where he is living at the present time. This property he bought of his brother, and when it was transferred to him it had a house and barn. These still remain, but in 1900 Mr. Obert put up a house that is the best built and the most substantial of any residence in the town. It is a handsome two-storied structure, to a very great degree the results of the work done by Mr. Obert himself. Its location is near the public road, and but a few yards from the waters of Star lake.

The marriage of Albert Obert and Katie Jenne was celebrated June 3, 1872, at Fergus Falls, Minnesota. The parents of Mrs. Obert are Newton and Sarah Jenne, farming people of Star Lake township. Newton Jenne died in 1896, but Mrs. Jenne is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Obert had four children: Leon, Effie, Harvey and Nellie. One child is dead, and the wife and mother passed away in the fall of 1893. Mr. Obert has contracted a second matrimonial relation, his marriage to Miss Ida Hendstrand taking place February 5, 1899. The parents of Mrs. Obert were born in Sweden, and are now residents of the town of Dead Lake, Minnesota. To Mr. and Mrs. Obert have come one bright and pretty girl, whom they have named Sadie.

In addition to his farming operations Mr. Obert has a half interest in a portable sawmill, his partner being his friend and relative, Richard Obert. The mill finds constant employment in this heavily timbered section of the county. Mr. Obert also owns and operates a threshing outfit, and does all the threshing in his neighborhood. He is a mixed farmer, and has brought his farm up to a high pitch of fertility.

Mr. Obert has served as chairman of the board of supervisors two years, town treasurer



two years, and is a member of the school board. He is a Republican, and is regarded as a man of much character, decided integrity and strenuous industry.

#### CHRISTOFFER STEENERSON.

Probably no man in Polk county is better known for his active public spirit and worthy citizenship than the gentleman whose name heads this review. Mr. Steenerson is a pioneer of that locality and has aided materially in its development in financial and social matters. He is a progressive and intelligent man, and has made a pronounced success of agriculture as his occupation. He is the present efficient and popular postmaster of Climax, and his home is located in Vineland township at the junction of the Sand Hill and Red rivers. A portrait of Mr. Steenerson is shown upon another page of this volume.

Mr. Steenerson was born in Sillejord, Prastegjeld, Norway, February 22, 1850. He came with his parents to America when he was but one year old, and lived in Dane county, Wisconsin, for a year, and then in Houston county, Minnesota. In that newly settled Indian region educational advantages were not to be had, and when the father returned from the Civil war he sent our subject to college at Decorah, Iowa, where he spent about two years, taking the classical course. He remained at home until he was about twenty-five years of age, and from the age of seventeen years was engaged in teaching from time to time. He then went by ox-team to Polk county, Minnesota, with his brother Levi, and settled on section 36 of Vineland township, upon which he has since resided. He was elected to the office of district clerk of courts in 1879, and two years previous he served as county superintendent of schools, and three years as clerk of courts. He then went to Beltrami and took a timber claim as a pre-emption, and spent three years there getting the timber off the land, when he returned to the farm where he now lives. He now controls a half section of land on the Sand Hill river, and his home farm is now within the corporate limits of the town of Climax.

Mr. Steenerson has the honor of being the organizer of the township of Vineland, and he served as the first clerk. He has been justice of the peace most of the time since its organization, and is at present serving in that capacity in Climax. The postoffice was originally situated a mile and three-quarters west of its present location, at our subject's home, and he has served as postmaster of Climax under Hayes, Garfield, Arthur, Cleveland, Harrison and McKinley, and is at present filling that office. While serving as county superintendent of schools there was no county court house, and he had his office at his own

home, which was a log shanty with a sod roof. Polk county then included the present counties of Polk, Red Lake, Norman, Marshall and Kittson, and in all this territory were but eight organized districts. As superintendent Mr. Steenerson had ten dollars per year allowed to each district. He visited the schools on foot, satchel in hand, fording the streams and at times wading through the mud knee deep. Politically Mr. Steenerson is a Republican, and he lends his influence for good government, national and local. He is a gentleman of more than ordinary business capacity, and by his integrity of word and deed has gained a high standing among his associates, and is a gentleman of extensive acquaintance.

#### LOUIS SHULENBERG.

Louis Shulenberg, a very successful farmer of Humboldt township, Clay county, was born in Big Woods, Sibley county, Minnesota, in 1856. His father, Herman A. Schulenberg, was a farmer, and was born in Germany, coming to Wisconsin when only four years old. During the Civil war he served in the Union army. He was among the very early settlers of Minnesota, and married a wife whose people were also of German blood.

Louis Shulenberg is the oldest member of a family of eight children, and was reared and educated in Sibley county, where he attended a log cabin schoolhouse. Until he was twelve years old he was in the woods on the frontier, and was early set to hard work. When he was eighteen years old he worked out as a farm laborer, and spent a year in Winona county. Another year was spent by him in Carver county. In the spring of 1880 he came to Wadena county, where he was employed three months, and then took up a homestead in Humboldt township, Clay county, his farm being in section 22, of that township, there being at that time but one building between him and the city of Barnesville. Mr. Shulenberg put up a shanty 16x22 feet, bought a yoke of oxen, a plow and a wagon, and did considerable breaking in this and the adjoining county. For a time he lived by himself during the early days, and pushed steadily ahead to the accomplishment of his ambitions for an honorable and independent position in life. By 1887 he was fairly prepared to undertake the cultivation of his farm as his permanent business in life, and there he "batched" five years.

Mr. Shulenberg was married, in 1895, to Miss Mary Hardenberg, who was born in Germany, and had come to the United States the preceding year with her mother. Her father died in Germany. To this union were born three children: Herman, Walter and Olga.

Mr. Shulenberg is largely devoted to grain farming, though he is planning to work into stock raising more and more each year. His farm buildings are very good, his granary being 16x32 feet, and all the machinery being on the farm it needs. His farm comprises two hundred acres, and about one hundred and thirty acres are under the plow. He has made a decided success. He has long been a prominent Democrat, has served on the board of supervisors, and takes a very active part in town affairs. In his religion he is a member of the German Lutheran church, and socially belongs to the United Order of Ancient Druids.

#### EDGAR M. IRISH.

Edgar M. Irish, the popular druggist at Akeley, is one of the prosperous business men of Hubbard county, Minnesota. He is thoroughly versed in his trade, and has one of the finest equipped and best kept drug stores of that section. He makes a specialty of prescriptions and carries a complete stock of drugs, perfumes and druggists' sundries.

Mr. Irish was born in Vermont, October 27, 1871, and was a son of Lyman W. and Dyantha L. (Terrill) Irish, both of whom were natives of Vermont. He was reared in his native state, and received his early education there, and at the age of seventeen years went to Minneapolis, where he attended the common schools, and in 1890 located in Wadena. He entered the employ of L. L. Benedict, who conducted a drug store there, and remained thus employed five years, becoming thoroughly conversant with the business. He then completed a three-months course in the Drew Medical and Pharmacy School, and graduated as a pharmacist. He then returned to Wadena and passed five years as clerk in the store of M. L. Swartz, after which he assumed the management of the store of H. Spalding, at Brainerd. He continued thus engaged six months, and then in October, 1900, decided to establish himself in the drug business. He accordingly went to Akeley and purchased the drug business of Gardner & Crow. He now has a fine drug stock valued at thirty-five hundred dollars. His store is fitted with a long distance telephone and the building is substantial and commodious, and the store is exceedingly well stocked for a town of the size of Akeley. Our subject owns a residence in the village of Akeley, and is one of the truly progressive and prosperous men of the town.

Mr. Irish was married November 22, 1900, to Cora Butler. Mrs. Irish was born in Wisconsin, November 10, 1871. Our subject is a Republican in political sentiment, but does not seek public preferment, choosing to serve the com-

munity for its better interests by lending his influence for good national and state and local government. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, holding membership in the Brainerd lodge. He is a young man of bright prospects and is highly esteemed in the community in which he makes his home.

#### JOHN R. JOHNSON.

John R. Johnson, who holds a creditable position in the farming circles of Pine county, was born in Westmenland, Sweden, on a farm in 1861, and is a son of farmer-bred parents. His father came to the United States in 1885, and settled on the farm with his son, John R., and is now living with another son.

John R. Johnson is the oldest son in a family of five living children, and was born and reared in Sweden, where as the first born in his father's family, he early learned to work hard. There was much to do, and times were difficult for the poor to get along. When Mr. Johnson was nineteen years of age he came to the United States, landing at Philadelphia, and reaching Rush City, Minnesota, with just ten cents in his pocket. During the first summer he worked on a farm in Stanchfield township, and all the money he earned went to pay for his ticket and other expenses in coming to the United States. In the winter of 1881 and 1882 he entered the lumber woods, and this was the first of many seasons he spent in that occupation. In the fall of 1883 Mr. Johnson bought his farm in section 18, of Royalton township. It was then all wild land, and two years later he built his present house. In 1884 he broke seven acres, and for several years had only oxen with which to do this work.

Mr. Johnson was married in the fall of 1891 to Miss Hilda Marie Johnson, also born in Sweden, and an emigrant to the United States in 1891. Her father was a farmer in her native land. To this union have come: John Herbert, George Harry, Myrtle Victoria, Mabel Auridia Mildred Goldia, and Esther Theresia, who died in 1901, aged three years.

When Mr. Johnson was first in this country he was engaged in railroading for a time on the Great Northern, but did not long follow in that line, getting into farming as quickly as he could see the way. Now he owns one hundred and twenty acres of fine land, with about eighteen under the plow. His farm buildings are good, and his farm machinery ample to all his needs. He has made a decided success in farming. For a time Mr. Johnson had to contend against serious difficulties, but he has come out at the head of the procession. He is a Republican, and for six years has been assessor, also holding the

office of clerk of the school board. Both himself and wife belong to the Swedish Baptist church, and are much respected in the community where their useful lives are passing.

#### • HILMER PEDERSON.

This gentleman, who is established on section 20, of the town of Ulen, Clay county, where he is following a farming life, and making himself felt in the community by his honest and upright ways and his industrious habits, was born in Norway, March 20, 1861. His father, Peter Olsen, and his mother, Ingeberg Hanson, were both born and reared in Norway, where they were married, and where their simple and useful career was run.

Hilmer Pederson left Norway and came to Minnesota when he was seventeen years of age, bringing with him enough money to secure land held by the railroad company in section 20, Ulen township, Clay county. Here he now owns six hundred acres, and has good farm buildings, his barn being 30x50 feet, and an addition 30x46 feet with ten-foot posts. He owns eleven horses and has fifty cattle. Three hundred acres are under cultivation, and the farm provides its own timber.

Mr. Pederson was married in 1887 to Thora Johnson, who was born in Norway, October 10, 1859. They have three children: Inga, Julia and Oscar S.

Mr. Pederson is a Republican, and with his family belongs to the Lutheran church of Ulen. They are highly respected people, and are well worthy of honorable mention in a work devoted to the men who made their way to success and prosperity in what was but yesterday a wilderness.

#### JACOB RODBERG.

Jacob Rodberg, one of the thrifty and enterprising young business men of Stanchfield, Isanti county, Minnesota, was born on a farm in section 12, Maple Ridge township, in 1872. John P. Rodberg, his father, is well known as one of the most industrious and reliable farmers of the county, and has for a number of years devoted all his attention to preaching. He was born in Sweden, and came to the United States in 1871. For a year he remained in St. Paul, and was married there to Anna Johnson, by whom he has had three children, Hilda, Jacob and Anna. In 1872 he took a homestead in Istanti county, on which he put up a log house 12x14 feet, and there all his children were born. He had an ox team, and packed all his supplies at first from North Branch on his back. He kept on grubbing and

working, and presently had a fine farm. A few summers were spent by him in carpenter work in St. Paul. He owns a good farm of sixty acres, of which about twenty is under cultivation, and the buildings in a very creditable condition.

Jacob Rodberg has spent the most of his life under his parents' roof. He attended the public schools, and is a notable representative of the younger generation of the Swedish settlers of this country. He understands the duties and responsibilities of American citizenship in a manner that would put to shame the children of Plymouth Rock, and is thoroughly progressive and up-to-date. In the spring of 1901 he formed a partnership with Emil Peterson and is engaged in the business of potato-buying, an enterprise that has been successful from the beginning. His future is bright and promising.

#### CARSON FEDDERSEN.

Carson Feddersen, residing on section 32, in Middle River township, is one of the prosperous and highly esteemed citizens of Marshall county. He is one of the early settlers there, and by his own efforts has succeeded in accumulating a good property and an enviable name. His farm consists of two hundred acres, and on this he has erected a set of good buildings and enjoys a competence sufficient for his declining years. Mr. Feddersen was born in Germany, March 11, 1846, and was the sixth in a family of eight children born to Fedder and Christina Feddersen, both of whom are now deceased.

In 1865 Carson Feddersen came to America and worked as a farm laborer in Iowa. He learned the cooper's trade and followed this eleven years in Illinois, Wisconsin and Nebraska, going from place to place in order to see as much as possible of the country which he had adopted for his future home. He sustained a heavy loss by fire in Baldwin, Wisconsin, and in the spring of 1879 he gathered together the scant means left him and started for Marshall county, in company with Mr. Humphrey, now deceased, and Mr. Bradshaw. All three entered a homestead claim to land. Our subject's wife joined him in the summer of that year, and they were soon established in one of the most comfortable pioneer homes of the township. Mr. Feddersen has steadily progressed and prospered in his farm work, and is now proprietor of one of the valuable estates of that locality. He has devoted his attention entirely to his farm work, and with his thorough knowledge of agriculture and a determination to succeed, he has pressed forward and met with just reward, as his present comfortable home testifies.

In all of his early struggles on the pioneer

farm Mr. Feddersen found a loving companion and faithful wife in the person of Mrs. Feddersen, to whom he was married in 1879. Mrs. Feddersen bore the maiden name of Hilma Ida Meisch. After ten years of married life Mrs. Feddersen passed away, just as the hard struggle for existence was past and comforts and luxuries of life had been gained by constant labor. Three children blessed this union, namely: Rosa, deceased; Walter; and Robert, who resides at home. Mr. Feddersen has always taken a hearty interest in the welfare of his township and assisted in the organization of the same and he has served as a member of the township board. He is a member of the German Lutheran church and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Politically he is a supporter of the Fusionists, and is a man of strong convictions and awake to the better interests of his adopted land.

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#### ROBERT CASMEY.

Robert Casmey is classed among the prosperous and intelligent agriculturists of Polk county. He has a well developed farm on section 29, of Euclid township and is among the pioneers of that locality.

Mr. Casmey was born in Ontario, Canada, June 12, 1840, and was the eldest of three children born to William and Anne (Cook) Casmey, both of whom were natives of Ireland. The father was a farmer and lumberman and as our subject expresses it he "grew up wild in the woods." He began to work around the lumber camps when he was but twelve years of age. In 1862 he went to Cleveland, Ohio, and worked two years with a railroad construction crew. He then returned to Canada and learned the blacksmith's trade and in 1873 came again to the United States and worked at his trade in New York. He went with his family to Crookston in the fall of 1878 and bought lots and erected the Commercial Hotel, which he sold a year later. In the spring of 1879 he removed his family to Euclid township and for a year lived on a tree claim on section 32. He filed a homestead claim to land in section 34 in 1880 and removed there for permanent residence, remaining there until 1890 when he went to Euclid to reside. He spent seven years as a resident of that village and in 1897 in order to give his children the opportunity to enjoy better educational advantages he made a home for them in Crookston. In 1896 he invested in a section of land, which he cultivates to small grains and from this derives a good annual income.

Mr. Casmey was married in 1865 to Miss Fanny St. Germain, a native of Canada. They are the parents of ten children, who are as fol-

lows: Emma; Charles, living on section 28; Fanny, now Mrs. Peter Rutherford, of Euclid township; Almeda; Robert, Ida, Agnes, Florence, John A. and Lewis. The oldest son, Charles, resides on section 28 of Euclid township and farms three hundred and twenty acres of land, upon which he has a comfortable home. He was born in the Empire state October, 1872. He went with his parents to Crookston, Minnesota, when a boy and has for three years been farming for himself. He was married in 1896 to Miss Jennie Morrison.

Robert Casmey is a man of energetic character and commendable public spirit, and he has served his community as a member of the township board for about twelve years and is the present chairman of that body. He takes great interest in educational matters and works earnestly for the advancement of the public school system. In political sentiment he is non-partisan. In the early days in Polk county Mr. Casmey passed through many experiences which were unavoidable in the new northwest. While making his way home from Grand Forks one afternoon about four o'clock he was overtaken by a snow storm and the faint trail was soon covered. He lost the trail and about ten o'clock at night gave up trying to gain shelter that night and unhitched his horses and drove them around the wagon during the long hours which followed until the storm broke about five o'clock in the morning when he found he was about a mile off the trail and soon afterward succeeded in reaching home.

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#### TOBIAS TOLAFSON.

Tobias Tolafson, a prosperous farmer of Flom township, Norman county, is a gentleman of progressive ideas and a wide knowledge of men and the world. He is well versed in his calling and has met with marked success in the same in Norman county, and is now the owner of one of the fine tracts of his locality. He is an early settler there and by his active public spirit has aided materially in the upbuilding and development of that region and gained for himself an enviable name as a farmer and citizen. His pleasant home is in section 34.

Our subject was born on a farm in the southern part of Norway, in 1849, and was a son of Tolaf Oleson, a farmer of Norway, who spent his life in his native land. Mr. Tolafson was the seventh in order of birth in a family of eight children, and he was reared on the home farm and assisted with the work of the place. At the age of seventeen years he went to sea, and sailed three years, visiting Sweden, England, France, Denmark and Belgium. He came to America at the age of twenty years, and settled on a farm in

Iowa and worked at farm labor there three years, and then began farming for himself. He continued thus three years and then with an ox team started for Minnesota, and five weeks were consumed in the trip. Upon his arrival in Norman county he entered claim to government land and erected a shanty 12x14 feet, and with oxen began farming the land. It was timber and he and his son have since cleared the same of stumps and brought the land to a high state of cultivation. Prairie fires were numerous and the property was barely saved on many occasions. The farm now consists of six hundred acres of land, with plenty of timber, pasture and hay land on the same, and the buildings of the home farm include residence, barn and outbuildings necessary for the comfort of the family and the sheltering of stock and products, and are of substantial nature, and the entire farm evidences painstaking care in its operation. Mr. Tolafson removed with his family to Moorhead in 1892, and resided there five years in order to give his children a liberal education. He has a ten-acre tract there and from this small acreage netted enough to almost clear expenses of living while there. He returned to the farm in Norman county in 1897 and has resided thereon since. He engages in grain and stock-raising and has never experienced a failure of crops. Personally he has been exposed to many blizzards of that region, and in 1875 his nearest market was twenty miles distant. In the early days Indian disturbances and scares were numerous, but despite these dangers Mr. Tolafson remained to become one of the prosperous agriculturists of Norman county, although many others gave up the struggle and went to other parts where civilization was more marked.

Our subject was married, in 1872, to Miss Lorena Johnson, a native of Iowa. Mrs. Tolafson's father, Andrew Johnson, was a native of Norway. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Tolafson, who are named as follows: Amanda Josephine, now Mrs. Hans Olson; Theodore; Tea and Selma. Mr. Tolafson is a member of the Lutheran church, and he is an active worker for that denomination. He has devoted considerable attention and means to the establishment of churches and schools in his locality and aided in elevating the status of society. He is a Republican politically and has attended numerous conventions of his party as a delegate.

#### JOHN BRADEMEAR.

John Brademear, whose handsome and well kept farm home in section 20, Humbolt township, Clay county, shows the work of a master farmer, was born in Chicago in 1852, and is a son of William Brademear, who was born in Germany, and

came to Illinois while still a young man, and there followed farming all his life.

John Brademear is the fourth member of a family of fifteen children born to his parents, and was reared and educated in Wilkins, Illinois. He remained at home until he was twenty-seven years of age, when he started out for himself, and seeking a location, traveled over several states before he located in St. Louis. Nine years were spent in farming by him in Benton county, Iowa, and in 1881 he came to Clay county, Minnesota, settling on a farm in Clay county, where he became a homesteader in section 20, Humbolt township. There he built a house 11x14 feet, and started farming with a yoke of oxen, a plow, a drag and a wagon. His first crop was a yield of one hundred and fifty bushels of wheat. He owns now one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 20, with all but twenty acres under the plow. He is extensively engaged in grain and stock farming, and has won an enviable position in the esteem of the community by his many manly and industrious habits. He is thoroughly honorable and upright, and holds a leading place at home and in the county.

Mr. Brademear was married, in 1882, to Miss Annie Typner. She was born in Germany in 1852 and came to the United States in 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Brademear have five children: Rosy, Johnnie, Mary, Sophie and Arthur, all of whom were born on the farm, where they are being reared to a useful manhood and womanhood.

#### BENGT E. SUNDBERG.

Bengt E. Sundberg, one of the most extensive land owners of Kittson county, resides on his farm near the village of Kennedy. He is a pioneer settler of Davis township and has aided materially in the advancement and development of that section of the county. His farm is one of the best improved in the county and bears little resemblance to its early state. Mr. Sundberg has worked intelligently and persistently, and has met with pronounced success in his endeavors. His portrait adorns one of the pages of this volume.

Mr. Sundberg was born in the southern part of Sweden January 26, 1851, and was the fourth in order of birth in a family of eight children born to Nils R. and Inger (Germanson) Sundberg. His father met with business reverses when our subject was but fifteen years of age, and thereafter the children aided in the support of the family and became dependent upon their own resources. Our subject went to Germany, where after a short time he was engaged as foreman in a distillery, and he remained there until 1871. In the spring of that year he emigrated



to America to join his father, who had preceded him to the new world the year before. Our subject settled in Red Wing, Minnesota, and there learned the carpenter's trade. He was sent to Hallock, Kittson county, to erect Hallock Hotel building in the spring of 1880, and while thus employed he investigated the prospects of farming in that locality. He was thoroughly gratified with his researches, and in the spring of 1881 he entered claim to land in section 6 of Davis township, where he now resides. He followed his trade until 1888, and many of the pioneer buildings of Kittson county are the result of his handiwork. He retired from his trade in 1888 and has since devoted his entire attention to agriculture, and has met with more than usual success in the same. This has not been accomplished without persistent labor, as he was without means when he went to Kittson county, and he has gained his present holdings by his own efforts, and he is now one of the well-to-do men of his county. In 1897 he erected a substantial and commodious barn upon his farm. This is the best building of its kind in the county and will accommodate one hundred head of stock and two hundred tons of hay. His residence is large and comfortable, and is constructed with a view to convenience and is modern in every appointment, and the entire estate presents a most pleasing appearance.

Mr. Sundberg was married in 1876 to Miss Anna Johnson. Mrs. Sundberg died in January, 1889. Two children were born to this union, who are named Blanda and John E. G. Mr. Sundberg was married to Miss Albertina Johnson in 1892, and two children have blessed this union, who are named Roy A. and Anna E. Our subject is a gentleman of broad mind, and he takes an active interest in the public affairs of his adopted land, and politically is identified with the Republican party. He served as postmaster at Kennedy for eight years. He is a gentleman of good character, and is deservedly held in high esteem by his associates and those among whom he has spent so many years of his life. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, having been made a Knight Templar in Crookston Commandery.

#### GILBERT J. THOMPSON.

Gilbert J. Thompson, one of the prominent and representative young farmers of Douglas county, Minnesota, and chairman of the board of supervisors of Miltona township, was born on the home farm in Douglas county, January 16, 1874. His early education was gathered from the public schools supplemented by a term at Vath College, Sauk Center, Stearns county.

The parents of Mr. Thompson are Tolleff and

Inger (Hendrickson) Thompson, both natives of Ringeriget, Norway, and passed their youthful years in the same town. The paternal grandparents, Toro Olson and Gertie Iverson, were well-to-do people in Norway and extensively engaged in farming. Tolleff Thompson, our subject's father, was born July 4, 1840, the only child of his parents. He was reared to hard work, and his opportunities for scholastic education were limited. He remained with his parents until twenty-six years of age. In May, 1866, his marriage occurred, and after the birth of their first child the young couple came to America. They landed in New York, December 22, 1866, and went direct to Chicago, where they remained but a short time, proceeding a few weeks later to Iowa to visit a brother of Mr. Thompson, who had settled there a few years before, and who is now conducting farming on a large scale in that state. Mr. Thompson found work in various places and then came to Douglas county, in 1872. He secured a homestead in the southwest quarter of section 22, in Miltona township. The waters of Lake Miltona flow over nine acres of the tract. On his first settling on the land he put up a small log house, 10x12 feet, which he enlarged by additional rooms two years later, and subsequently made other improvements on the house for the comfort and convenience of the family. In 1890 Mr. Thompson disposed of four acres of land bordering on the lake to the Monmouth Club, a party of eastern people, who annually resort to Miltona lake during the fishing and sailing season. They have erected a club-house, boat-house, and other conveniences for the benefit of the club and their summer visitors.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson's family consists of six children, namely: Torinna, born in Norway, now the wife of Edward Lanager; Herman, Gilbert J., Ida, Helen and Lillian. Mr. Thompson has assisted materially as an official of his township, serving as assessor, justice of the peace, member of the town board and school board, and was town clerk for a number of years.

The parents of Tolleff Thompson lived to be very old and left this world within a few weeks of each other, the father at the close of the year 1900, aged ninety-two years, the mother at the beginning of the new century, aged ninety-one years. They died in Iowa, having followed their son to America a few years after his emigration hither.

Gilbert J. Thompson, whose name heads this brief sketch, was early initiated into the business of farming, and after he had completed his education at Vath College he purchased his father's farm in Miltona township (1894) and has put forward every effort to make the estate a valuable and profitable one. He follows mixed farming with good judgment and produces good crops of



grain every year. He also has considerable good stock upon the place. He has all the necessary barns, granaries and sheds for the protection of his stock and the housing of his grain. He is persistently industrious and enterprising. On the banks of Lake Milona near his residence and on a picturesque spot he has erected a commodious summer hotel, where, during the yachting and fishing season, he entertains scores of visitors "on pleasure bent," who come from the eastern and middle states to enjoy the recreation and entertainment which this splendid lake affords. Mr. Thompson has always on hand an abundance of boats, fishing tackle, and vehicles to convey his guests to and from the depot at Alexandria, fourteen miles distant.

In 1897 Mr. Thompson was elected town clerk and was three years thus engaged, and in 1901 was made chairman of the board of supervisors. He is a man of sterling worth and deservedly popular in his county.

#### CHRISTOPHER A. ERICKSON.

One of the fertile farms of Thompson township is that owned and operated by the subject of this review. Mr. Erickson resides on section 20, and his land is located on the middle branch of Two rivers. He has resided in Kittson county since his boyhood days and is devoted to the interests and upbuilding of his adopted home. He has one of the well located farms of the county, and his work thereon has brought the most pleasing results, and he and his two brothers, who farm together, are the owners of over seven hundred acres of valuable land in that locality.

Christopher A. Erickson was born in Sweden, September 18, 1870, and was the second in a family of three children born to Andrew and Annie Erickson. The family crossed the ocean in 1882 and went direct to Kittson county, Minnesota, where the father at once entered claim to land as a homestead. This farm is the one on which our subject now resides, having purchased the same from his father in 1898. Mr. Erickson was reared on the home place and received his education in the common schools of the county. Since attaining his majority Mr. Erickson has followed farming for himself, and his home place is now well cultivated and improved. His brothers, John and Andrew Erickson, farm in company with him, and they prosper in their calling. The land lies on both sides of the river and is well adapted to general farming, and is made to yield abundantly, while modern methods and machinery are used in the operation of the farm.

Mr. Erickson was married in 1898 to Miss Annie C. Anderson. One son has been born to

bless this union, upon whom they have bestowed the name of August L. G. Mr. Erickson is a gentleman of progressive nature and public spirit and is prominent in local affairs. He has taken special interest in educational matters of his township, and has served as school clerk for the past eight years. He keeps pace with the times in political matters and is identified with the reform principles of the Populist party. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church, and his high standing and good name are well merited.

#### JOHN KRAUS.

John Kraus, a progressive and prosperous farmer of the town of Hobart, Ottertail county, has a fine farm of two hundred and forty-three acres on section 19, where he has maintained his home since 1880. He was born in Germany, July 13, 1856, and is a son of Henry and Matilda (Halfmann) Kraus, farming people, his father being still alive in the old country home, the mother passing away in 1862. In the parental home were five children: Ida, Aletta, John, Anna and Herman. Aletta is the wife of Henry Harnamon, a farmer in Carver county, Minnesota, and is the mother of a family of five children; Herman married Nina Crapps, by whom he has had one child, and is a farmer in North Dakota; Ida is at home with her father in Germany.

John Kraus had his education in the schools of his native community, and followed various avocations in the old country until 1875. That year he came to the United States, accompanied by his sister, Aletta. They landed at Philadelphia, and came direct to Carver county, Minnesota, where he found work for some five years among the farmers of that county.

In 1880 Mr. Kraus came to Ottertail county and bought one hundred and sixty-three acres lying along Long Lake, in section 19, Hobart township. Here he put up a log house, and began the improvement of his land, which was very largely timber. At a later period he bought an eighty-acre tract which adjoined his farm, and now has a well improved place. From time to time he has enlarged and greatly improved his residence; he has built a good barn, and other needed farm buildings; he grows all kinds of grain, and in the past twenty years his farming has been very successful. Gradually he is working into stock, and now owns twelve head of cows, besides horses, hogs, and is seriously considering the question of sheep.

Mr. Kraus was married, August 19, 1881, to Anna Shaffer, a daughter of Nicholas and Katie Shaffer, farmers of Carver county, Minnesota. To this union have come six children: Henry, Nicholas, Frederick, Emma, Herman and Matilda.

Mr. Kraus is a man of considerable importance in the business and political circles of Otter-tail county, where he has served on the town board and is now its chairman. He is a strong believer in a good education for his children, and has held the office of school treasurer for eighteen years. In his political relations he affiliates with the People's party, and in religion belongs to the Lutheran church at Long Lake.

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#### WILLIAM J. CLYDE.

William J. Clyde, an ex-soldier and prominent early settler of Becker county, Minnesota, resides in a pleasant home in section 29, of Holmesville township. This estate is one of the fine properties of that region and has been acquired by our subject through his own persistent efforts. He is a man of excellent character, earnest in his convictions, intelligent and progressive and his success and good name are well merited. He was born in Canada, August 9, 1834.

The father of our subject, Edward Clyde, was born in Ireland, as was also his mother, whose maiden name was Catherine Boyd. Our subject was reared to the age of five years in Canada and then went to the state of New York, where he resided sixteen years and received his early schooling in that state. He spent a year in Clinton, Iowa, and in 1856 went to Scott county, Minnesota. Here he resided until 1858. He then removed to McLeod county, Minnesota, where he remained until 1861. September 11, of that year, he enlisted as a member of Company K, Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, at Fort Snelling, and was sent to Kentucky, where they were placed in the Fourteenth Army Corps under General Thomas. The first engagement was at Millsprings, January 19, 1862, after which came the battle at Gallitan, Tennessee, and a four hours' engagement there was followed by the battle of Chattanooga. He participated in the battle of Missionary Ridge and was under severe fire for twelve hours. Mr. Clyde was mustered out of the service at Atlanta, Georgia, September 11, 1864, after just three years of active and loyal service in defense of the union. After his return from the war he resided in St. Paul, Minnesota, and there worked as mail clerk and also in the railway mail service until 1878, when he sustained the loss of a limb in a railroad accident and then removed to Becker county, Minnesota. He went to Holmesville township, where he entered claim to fifty-three acres of land as a homestead, and whereon he has since resided. He built a log house and a log barn and otherwise improved the farm, and he has steadily added to his possessions and now has a thoroughly cultivated and developed tract of land, from which he makes a good income. He keeps

about four head of cattle for dairy use and some other stock on the farm, and has a set of good buildings and an ample supply of machinery for conducting the place. His buildings stand on the banks of a lake, and form a home of comfort and pleasant surroundings.

Our subject was married, in 1858, to Jennie Connelly, who was born in Canada, September 17, 1841. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Clyde, who are named in order of birth as follows: Ageline, Addie, Hattie, Emma and Maude. Mr. Clyde and family are well known in their community and most highly respected. They are worshipers and members of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Clyde, from his early settlement in Holmesville township, became early identified with its history and in all public matters he has ever taken a hearty interest and served his community in various offices of trust, including justice of the peace and treasurer of the school board. He has passed a well-spent career, and now enjoys a fitting reward, a peaceful and comfortable home.

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#### OLE A. MELLUM.

Mr. Mellum has a brother, Ammon O., also established in section 32, of Ulen township, and the two are among the sturdiest and most successful farmers of Clay county. They are not afraid of hard work, and have come through much privation and toil before reaching their present enviable position as independent farmers.

Ole A. Mellum was born in Norway, October 25, 1854, and is a son of Andrew and Pauline (Oleson) Mellum, both of whom were born and reared in Norway. Mr. Mellum left Norway when he was but twelve years of age, and made his way to Houston county, Minnesota, where he attended winter school and worked on the farm during the season. In 1878 he entered Clay county, and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 32, of Ulen township. He built a log house, and broke land with oxen. At the present time he owns some four hundred acres, and has about two hundred and fifty under cultivation, the rest being in pasture and meadow. There are thirteen horses on the farm, and thirty-five cattle. The farm barn is 54x60 feet, with ten-foot posts. Good water is abundant, and a flourishing grove serves to break the wind from the house and barn.

Mr. Mellum was married in 1875 to Hilga Knutson, a native of Norway, by whom he has had five children: Albert, Peter, Hilman, Theodore and Arthur. In 1888 Mr. Mellum contracted a second marriage with Barbara Branna, who was born in Norway, February 16,

1864, and to this union have come seven children: Helmina, Ida, Penella, Cora, Christella, Clayton and Eldred.

Mr. Mellum is a Republican, and was supervisor of Ulen township for a year, and school director for two years. Mr. Mellum and family belong to the Lutheran church, and are good and honorable members of the community.

#### THE MOORHEAD NEWS.

The Moorhead News, weekly, and the Moorhead News, daily, Moorhead, Clay county, Minnesota; Richards & Titus, editors and proprietors.

The above journals not only take rank with the best country newspapers of Minnesota, but are the pioneer publications of Moorhead. The daily edition was among the first country dailies established in the state, dating back to 1882. The weekly was established by a stock company in 1878, and its earliest issues were devoted to the interests of the Republican party. In 1883 the plant was purchased by George N. Lamphere, and April 1, 1900, the present owners, Robert W. Richards and William D. Titus, purchased it, and have since edited and published the daily and weekly issues with success. The plant is a valuable one, and its offices are well fitted for all kinds of job work. The paper has become a household necessity in Moorhead and Clay county, its well edited and bright, newsy columns making for it a reputation and for its owners a substantial and valuable business. At different periods of its career the News has supported the Democratic and Populist theories, but in the hands of its present management its future will be devoted to the interests of the Republican party.

#### JOSEPH MANTEL.

Joseph Mantel, a thorough business man and enterprising merchant of Ely, has demonstrated his ability in the handling of merchandise business in the face of great competition. He is well known throughout St. Louis county and his integrity and business judgment are everywhere recognized.

Mr. Mantel was born in Austria in 1872. He was reared on a farm and at the age of seventeen years came to America, first landing in New York City. He came west, first locating at Tower, Minnesota, where he went to work in the hard ore mine. He followed mining for two years and then entered the employ of John Skala as clerk. He then attended school at Wilder, Minnesota, a short time and on returning to the range obtained employment at Mountain Iron as a clerk.

After two and a half years there he formed a partnership with Anthony Kotchever and opened a saloon at Hibbing. He remained there but one year and in 1897 located at Ely. He clerked for three years in the establishment of Louis Sletten and in October, 1900, was appointed as manager of the Slovenien Croatian Stock Company store at Ely. This is one of the leading establishments in the city, occupying a building 25x50 feet, and carrying a general line of merchandise together with meat. His wide experience with the best concerns has enabled Mr. Mantel to acquire a thorough knowledge of the merchandise business. At Mountain Iron he was employed by the Itasca Mercantile Company, one of the largest concerns in Minnesota, having establishments at Mountain Iron, Hibbing, Grand Rapids and other points in the range.

Mr. Mantel was married in 1894 to Miss Fannie Kukar. Mrs. Mantel is a native of Austria, where her parents still reside. She came to America on the same voyage with Mr. Mantel. Mr. Mantel is a Republican and is thoroughly conversant with public matters, being one of the pioneers of this region. He came to America without means and has succeeded to an admirable degree.

#### CHARLES W. CANNING.

Charles W. Canning, an enterprising young man of Hendrum township, Norman county, is engaged in agriculture in section 25, range 49. He has an extensive tract and engages in diversified farming with most pleasing results, and is one of the influential citizens of his locality.

Our subject was born in Ireland August 15, 1865, and was a son of Robert and Mary (Wilson) Canning, both of whom were natives of Ireland. He was reared in his native place and received good educational advantages, and remained there until he was twenty years of age. He then sought his fortunes in America, landing at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he remained one year, and then went to Pittsburg, and from there to Norman county, Minnesota. He has resided there since and has accumulated six hundred and thirty acres of land. He was wise in his selection of this tract, as it lies along the bank of the Red river, and is not only well located for a pleasant home, but is a most productive soil. A plentiful supply of water for use on the farm is obtained from a flowing well, and every arrangement has been completed for the comfort of the family and shelter of stock and products, while the machinery supplied is sufficient to operate the place and is of the most approved pattern. Mr. Canning has erected a comfortable residence and good barn, and the entire

farm bespeaks painstaking care in its operation. He keeps seventeen farm horses and forty-one head of cattle, and has engaged to some extent in stock raising, the timber on the place forming natural shelter for the stock. Altogether the farm is one of the well-cultivated and well-kept estates of that locality, and Mr. Canning has gained for himself easy circumstances by persistent efforts and honest dealings.

Our subject was married January 18, 1893, to Mary Canning, a native of Ireland. One child, Robert, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Canning, and the place of his nativity is Norman county, Minnesota, and the date July 15, 1895. Mr. Canning is director of the Farmers' Elevator at Hendrum, Minnesota, and is well versed in the elevator business. He is an active citizen for the advancement of his locality, and for several years he has served as school clerk. Politically he is a Democrat, but does not seek public preferment. He is prominent in secret society circles and is a member of the following orders: Independent Order of Foresters; Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Hendrum; and A. P. A., at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He and family are members of the Presbyterian church at Hendrum, Minnesota. Portraits of Mr. Canning and his wife will be found on another page in this volume.

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#### ERICK E. BOEN.

The opportunities afforded in America to gain a good home and enjoy the liberties of free speech and thought have been embraced by many sons of the Scandinavian peninsula and Norway is well represented among the number. One of these liberty-loving citizens who came to America to seek their fortunes and have remained to become worthy and honored citizens is Erick E. Boen. He is a well-to-do farmer of Aurdal township, Ottertail county, and has met with pronounced success since taking up his residence there.

Mr. Boen was born in Norway October 13, 1853, and was a son of Erick T. and Ingeborg (Bjorga) Boen, both of whom were natives of Norway. He attended the common schools of his native land and in 1868 borrowed the money required to pay his passage to America. After landing in this country he worked hard to repay the borrowed money and gain for himself a comfortable home. He went to Mower county, Minnesota, where he worked until 1871, and then took up his residence in Ottertail county, October 17, 1871, where he worked for a year. In 1872 he bought eighty acres of land in Aurdal township and in 1873 bought an additional tract, his farm now containing one hundred and twenty-seven acres of excellent land. He passed through the usual experiences of a pioneer of the

northwest and used ox-teams for ten years after locating in Minnesota. He now has a well improved farm and all machinery for conducting the same. He has seventy-five acres under cultivation and the balance of the farm is pasture and meadow. In 1900 he erected a modern residence at a cost one thousand six hundred dollars. This structure is two stories in height and contains twelve rooms and is a model of convenience and design and is well finished and furnished. It stands in a grove of fine trees, as does also the barn, and the home is a pleasant one in every particular. He has an abundance of shelter for stock and product of the place and keeps three horses and twenty head of cattle. He has given the farm his personal supervision, and every detail is carefully looked after and the farm presents a most pleasing appearance.

Mr. Boen was married October 21, 1878, to Christina Holvarson. Mrs. Boen was born in Wisconsin, July 30, 1860. To this union six children have been born, namely: Edith G., Clara I., Ida M., Edwin C., Gustaf and Mabel E. Mr. Boen is prominently associated with the public affairs of his community and has served as supervisor, treasurer, and assessor of his township for four years, and chairman of the board of supervisors for eight years. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, Lodge of Underwood, Minnesota. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Boen is a Populist in political faith, and stands firmly for the reform principles of his party.

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#### JOHN JANNECK.

John Janneck, whose handsome and well appointed farm residence in section 18, Humbolt township, Clay county, shows evidences of careful and profitable farming, was born in Pommerania, Germany, in 1834, and is the son of a laborer, who in his time did duty as a member of the Ninth Infantry of the Prussian army.

John Janneck is the second member of a family of seven children born to his parents. When he became of age he served in the Prussian army from 1854 to 1857. He was married the year he completed his term with the colors, to Dorathy Schultz, who was also born in Germany, and whose father was a shepherd. To this union there has come a family of ten children: August; Frederick, who is dead; Albert; William; Augusta; Charlie; Annie; Frank; and Lizzie, who is dead. The first four children were born in Germany.

Mr. Janneck was foreman on a farm in Germany twelve years. In 1870 he came to the United States, and for the first eight years of

his residence in this country was employed in a tile yard in Albany, New York. In 1878 he came to Minnesota, and after spending five months near Minneapolis, located on a homestead in section 18, Humbolt township, Clay county, where he is to be found at the present time. As he brought five hundred and twenty-five dollars with him he was able to make his beginning in very comfortable shape. He built a house, bought ox teams, and began well. As there were no roads and bridges at that early day, he had to live two years without a brick chimney, and on several occasions was nearly destroyed by fire. His first crop of wheat was from rented land, and he had five hundred and eighteen bushels from thirty-five acres of land. During the intervening years Mr. Janneck has worked very hard, and accomplished a good deal, so that he now owns a fine farm of five hundred fifty-one acres, with all but twenty-five acres under improvement. The farm buildings are easily worth over three thousand dollars. With the house there is a fine cistern, stone cellar, wood house, barns, granary and all other buildings which are considered necessary. In 1896 he threshed out five thousand five hundred and fifty-five bushels of wheat, and over two thousand bushels of oats. That year his entire grain crop amounted to over ten thousand bushels. He may be truly said to have made a marked success of farming. He is a Republican, and has been town treasurer for the past twelve years, and has filled the position of supervisor for many years. He and his family are members of the German Lutheran church, and he is counted among its most active and useful members. Mr. Janneck served in the Austro-Prussian war of 1866, and fought in the battle of Sadowa, July 3, 1866, and he has a certificate of honorable discharge from the Prussian army.

#### KNUTE STEENERSON.

Knute Steenerson, who resides in Vineland township, Polk county, is a gentleman of much knowledge of the world and a wide acquaintance with men. He has a well improved farm and is a substantial agriculturist of Polk county.

Mr. Steenerson was born in Sillejord, Prestegjeld, ovre-Telemarken, Norway, November 21, 1844. His father, Steener Knudson, brought the family to this country in May, 1851, coming to the seaport town of Skien, going from there in a small sail boat to Kragero, whence they made the voyage to America in the sailing vessel, Columbus, which bore at its prow a life-size figure of Columbus. Mr. Steenerson insists that it should more properly have been a heroic representation

of Leif Erickson, the predecessor of Columbus in his western voyaging by long centuries.

The Knudson family reached Albany in due season, and journeyed west by the Hudson river and the Erie canal to Buffalo, going from there to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, by the Great Lakes, their western going anticipating by long years the construction of railway into what was then largely a wilderness. For some two years the family lived in Pleasant Spring township, Dane county, Wisconsin, and then moved with prairie schooner and ox-team to LaCrosse, Wisconsin, whither the father had gone the year before to prepare a home. In 1853 the family settled on a claim in Looney Valley, Houston county, Minnesota. There the parents both became sick with fever and ague, and were confined to the bed the most of the summer. The home was a log house, through which the wind swept freely, and into which the rains beat in days of storm and showers. Young Knute would run to the creek to fill bottles of water, which his parents would empty in great haste, so great was the fever upon them. He was also engaged in gathering wood for the house. Many of the settlement died that summer, and Mr. Knudson sold out his claim for a hundred dollars cash which was paid to him in gold, a strange sight to the young lad, Knute, who well remembers his impressions to this day, as the pile of yellow metal was poured out before him. The family crossed the Root river, and relocated one mile below Sheldon. Mr. Knudson did not deny his obligation to his adopted country, and served as a member of the Eleventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry during a considerable portion of the Civil war.

Knute Steenerson and a companion, each with a covered wagon drawn by a yoke of oxen, and carrying a gun, went into the Minnesota river country, in 1869, and each took a claim at the junction of that river with the waters of the Lac qui Parle. The following year Mr. Steenerson "proved up" on his claim, and then taking a covered wagon and an ox team went into the Red river valley, at that time almost an untraveled wilderness, and built him a log cabin on the banks of the Red river, locating on unsurveyed land. This was substantially what is now Vineland township. The unsettled condition of the country was not inviting, and Mr. Steenerson sold his oxen, and walked to Fergus Falls, by way of Grand Forks, where there were less than half a dozen houses at the time. On the way from Grand Forks to Fergus Falls, he met a train of half breeds engaged in freighting from St. Paul to Winnipeg. From Fergus Falls he returned to the Lac qui Parle country, a distance of some two hundred miles, which he made on foot. Mr. Steenerson opened a farm in Chippewa county, where he remained until 1875, when he was elected sheriff, and served two years in that capacity. In 1877 he engaged in the hotel busi-

ness in Fargo, North Dakota, and then had a store in Montevideo, Minnesota, where he spent one year. At Watson he was in the mercantile business for two years, and was interested in farming still later in St. Hillaire, Minnesota, where he also had a hardware store, and a newspaper deal. When the railroad began its extension from Devil's Lake to the Missouri river, Mr. Steenerson moved to that point and ran the Dakota House, one of the well known Devil's Lake hotels, for four years. For four years he was a hardware man at Rugby Junction, North Dakota, and also had a branch store at Bottineau. At West Superior he found his next home, and for a number of years was very extensively engaged in real estate at that point, buying lots and erecting houses on them which he rented at a good figure. He also ran a hack line from the depot to the steel plant, and for two years was the proprietor of a notion store. In 1893 the general stagnation so reduced the values of real estate that Mr. Steenerson sought the opportunities of a new country, moving into Oklahoma and opening up a farm. The continuous failure of the crops for several seasons made the struggle a hard one, so that Mr. Steenerson sold his land at a serious sacrifice and spent the winter in St. Joseph, Missouri. In the following spring, that of 1898, Mr. Steenerson and his two oldest sons drove through Polk county, Minnesota, the others of his family making the journey by rail. Immediately on his arrival here Mr. Steenerson bought a quarter of section 26, Vineland township, from the railroad company. The first year he raised eight hundred bushels of flax, which he sold for a good price, and bought another quarter section of land. In 1900 despite the general failure of crops, he cleared up over thirteen hundred dollars from his land.

Knute Steenerson was married, July 13, 1873, to Miss Marie Anderson, a native of Adams county, Wisconsin, and a daughter of parents who were born in Skavellhuset, in Valdris, Norway. To this union have come the following children: Simon Leif, now aged twenty-two years, born in Chippewa county, Minnesota; Ella Bergetha, aged twenty years, also born in Chippewa county; Conrad Siver, born in Polk county, is eighteen years old; Eda Maria, born in Polk county, is sixteen years old; Robert Ingersoll was born in Rugby, North Dakota; Clara Melvina, born in West Superior, Wisconsin, is nine years old; Anna Bertha, aged five years, was born in Oklahoma; Elmer Clarence, born in Polk county, is two years old.

While he lived in Oklahoma, Mr. Steenerson organized a school which he served as clerk. During the present year he organized District No. 259, in Polk county. In religious affairs he is liberal, and holds to reform in tariff and money.

His first vote for president was cast for Horace Greeley in 1872. Personally he is a man of striking proportions, standing six feet three inches in his stockings, and weighing over two hundred pounds. His eyes are blue, and though his age is fifty-seven, his hair is still rich brown. He is the oldest and tallest of seven brothers.

#### ALBERT COX.

Albert Cox, who, as manager of the general merchandise store of the C. N. Nelson Lumber Company, has built up one of the most extensive financial enterprises of the town of Cloquet, is a man of keen business foresight and marked ability, and is ranked among the foremost citizens of Carlton county.

Mr. Cox was born in Hazel Green, Grant county, Wisconsin, September 23, 1862. His parents were born in England and his father, Frank Cox, came to America about 1845 and the mother on the same boat. They came from Cornwall, England, and the mother's ancestors came to England with William the Conqueror. The father of our subject was a miner in the copper mines of Michigan. When a young man he went to California, via Panama and again across the plains, and he could recount many thrilling experiences with the Indians, etc.

Of a family of ten children our subject was the sixth in order of birth. His parents moved to Central Mine, Michigan, when he was two years of age and there he was reared and educated and remained until he attained his majority. At the age of sixteen years he entered a general store at Central Mine and worked as a clerk there for five years. In 1883 he went to Cloquet, Minnesota, and his first work there was in the lumber yards of the C. N. Nelson Lumber Company. He was given a position as clerk in the store of this company in April, 1884, and in July of that year was placed as manager of the store. At that time the stock occupied a building 40x60 feet and they also had a warehouse 60x50 feet. It was the only store in the town of Cloquet. In 1886 the building was enlarged, again in 1890, and again in 1896. In 1900 the last addition was built and the store now is 55x120 feet, two stories high, and is one of the largest and best stocked stores in the northern part of the state. A general stock is carried comprising all articles necessary for that section of the country and a prosperous business is conducted. The business has been successful from its establishment in 1880, and all the improvements to buildings and addition to stock have been made under the supervision of Mr. Cox.



Through his energetic efforts it is now one of the best known mercantile establishments of Carlton county.

Mr. Cox was married in 1883 to Miss Lydia Goldsworthy. Mrs. Cox was born in England and came to America when an infant. Her father was a stationary engineer and she was raised near where Mr. Cox lived when a boy. Mr. and Mrs. Cox are the parents of four children, namely: Ella, Irene, Hannaford and Lydia, all of whom were born at Cloquet. Mr. Cox is prominent in public local affairs and has held all the important town and village offices. He served as mayor one term, clerk of the school board for ten years and chairman of the township board for two years, and was elected to each office without opposition. He is independent in politics. He was one of the early members of the Masonic fraternity at Cloquet.

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#### MALCOLM C. BARRY.

Malcolm C. Barry, agent for the St. Anthony & Dakota Elevator at Georgetown, is a gentleman of intelligence and exceptional business capacity, and has met with success in all ventures in a financial way, and has also gained an assured position as a citizen of sterling worth. He is well known throughout Clay county, and carefully conducts the affairs of the institution with which he is connected. A portrait of Mr. Barry may be found upon another page in this work.

Mr. Barry was born in Galway county, Ireland, October 7, 1856. His parents, Robert and Barbara (Connolly) Barry, were descendants of well-known Irish families. The father, though not a land owner, had charge of extensive land interests, and our subject was given the best of educational advantages. After completing the schools of his native land he came to America in 1872 and joined his brother in Wabasha county, Minnesota. During the first winter in this land he began teaching, and was thus engaged during the succeeding ten years, sparing time to also attend four terms at Carlton College. He resigned his position as principal of the Frontenac school in 1883 to accept the position of elevator agent for Pillsbury & Hulbert, the predecessors of the firm now known as the M. & N. Elevator Company. As the railroad was being completed in the fall of 1883, he was stationed at Georgetown, and bought most of the first season's crop on a temporary platform, loading direct into the cars. This was followed by warehouse work, with all the grain handled by hand. He now has charge of a modern elevator of seventy thousand bushels capacity, and also a feed mill operated in connection. His work there has been entirely satisfactory in every particular, and he is a man of

thorough knowledge of the work and sure of success in the same. An early investment in land proved a paying venture, and Mr. Barry recently established a general merchandise store in Georgetown. This business is conducted under the firm name of Barry & Marquart, and Mrs. Barry has charge of the interest owned by our subject.

Mr. Barry was married in 1885 to Miss Minnie Herbert, a native of Minnesota. Mr. Barry is a gentleman of firm convictions, and he keeps pace with current events. He is an earnest worker for the principles of the Populist party, and staunchly upheld the same by addresses and joint debates in the campaign. He is a man of marked oratorical ability and fine literary discrimination, but does not pass as a public speaker, being best known, perhaps, as an organizer for his party. He has served for years as a member of the Populist county central committee. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America.

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#### KNUT O. KNUTSON.

Knut O. Knutson, the popular postmaster of Big Woods, Minnesota, is one of the oldest settlers of the state. He has been identified with the advancement of the community in which he now makes his home, and is one of the prominent business men of Marshall county. He conducts the ferry across the Red river, and has a pleasant and comfortable home on its banks.

Mr. Knutson was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, November 25, 1849, and was the eldest of a family of three children born to Ole and Gunhild (Trondsen) Knutson. His parents were born in Telemarken, Norway, and came to America in 1843, and were married near Madison, Wisconsin, where they made their home. They removed to Goodhue county, Minnesota, in 1856, and there our subject was reared to manhood. The father and son engaged together in farming, and also operated a country blacksmith shop. He took a trip through the Red river valley in 1889, and the following year removed his family to the newly settled region and purchased a small tract of land on Red river, where he still makes his home. His intention when he located there was to establish a business there. He began purchasing wheat for the Minneapolis & Northern Elevator Company for their warehouse on the banks of this river, and continued with this company four years, and then started the ferry and a blacksmith shop. He was instrumental in procuring a postoffice at Big Woods, and was appointed postmaster at the same and has filled the position with fidelity to the present time. He also owns an interest in a general store and has prospered in his business

ventures. He is a man of good management and judgment and is highly esteemed as a business man and citizen.

Mr. Knutson was married March 19, 1872, to Miss Andrena Hawkinson. Mr. and Mrs. Knutson are the parents of four children, namely: Mollie, now Mrs. Hillegow; Julia, now Mrs. Paulson; Carrie; and Ole. Mr. Knutson is a man of broad mind and is actively interested in the welfare of the community in which he has chosen to reside. He has served in various township offices, including school treasurer and chairman of the township board, and does all within his power to promote the growth of the feasible enterprises of his community. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Politically he is identified with the Republican party and lends his influence in favor of the principles of this organization.

#### STEPHEN A. ROBERTSON.

Wadena county owes its prosperity in great measure to the enterprise and industry of the men who have developed its agricultural resources, and among these none is more worthy of special mention than the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this review. His valuable estate lies in section 21, of Wadena township, where he has surrounded himself with all the conveniences and modern appliances for the successful prosecution of agriculture.

Mr. Robertson was born in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, September 1, 1864. His parents were Stokley and Levinia (Rimney) Robertson, the former born in Tennessee, and the latter a native of Illinois. When our subject was five years old his parents removed to Douglas county, Minnesota, where they lived for seven years. During this time our subject received most of his education in the country schools. On leaving Douglas county the family resided for a short time in Wisconsin, and finally located in Wadena county in 1880, and purchased railroad land on section 21, of Wadena township. They were among the pioneers of the county and experienced the many hardships endured by the early settlers of that region. Mr. Robertson is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, and cultivates annually one hundred acres. He has devoted his attention to general farming and stock raising, having an abundance of water, pasture and timber. His farm is well stocked with horses, cattle and hogs, and he has an abundance of the best farm machinery.

Mr. Robertson was married, in 1889, to Neva Schermerhorn. Mrs. Robertson was born in Floyd county, Iowa, January 14, 1863, and is the daughter of Addis and Samantha Schermerhorn. To Mr. and Mrs. Robertson one child

has been born, namely: George Laverne, the date of his birth being June 30, 1894. The family are communicants of the Methodist church, of Wadena. Mrs. Robertson is serving as clerk of the school district in which they reside, and Mr. Robertson has served in the office of supervisor of Wadena township three years. Politically he is a Republican, and has always taken an active interest in public affairs.

#### OLE CHRISTIANSON.

As an early settler and energetic farmer of Polk county this gentleman is well known. He is proprietor of a valuable estate in Lowell township, and has followed diversified farming successfully thereon. He is a gentleman of the best of character, enterprising and progressive, and well merits his success and enviable name.

Mr. Christianson was born on the Isle of Sjaelland, off the coast of Denmark, September 21, 1852, and was one of a family of eight children, all of whom are still living, born to Christian and Caroline Hanson. His early boyhood was spent at home on the farm. A brother and sister came to America in 1867, and being more than satisfied with the new environments induced the parents to bring the family to this country. They accordingly crossed the ocean in 1869, and the father located in Ottertail county, Minnesota, taking government land. Our subject remained in St. Paul eighteen months, during which time he had little opportunity to converse in his mother tongue and consequently made rapid strides in acquiring a knowledge of the English language. He went to his father's farm in the fall of 1870 and remained with him until the spring of 1875, when he was induced by his brother-in-law, H. C. Johnson, to take land as a pre-emption in Lowell township. He took a yoke of oxen and two or three cows to stock his farm, and for two years he lived alone on his place, working under disadvantages, but with the one object in view of getting the land under high cultivation and placing good improvements on his farm. He endured the hardships and pioneer experiences of life on the northwest frontier, and is now living in the enjoyment of a comfortable home and surrounded by all that goes to make farm life pleasant. His land is on the south bank of Red Lake river, and is of the richest soil, yielding never less than ten bushels per acre and as high as twenty-eight bushels per acre. The farm consists of two hundred and twenty-seven acres and the buildings thereon are substantial and protected from the blasts of winter and severe storms by natural timber on three sides. Mr. Christianson has a threshing outfit and in addition to threshing his own grain attends to that of his neighbors.

Mr. Christianson was married in the spring of 1879 to Miss Anna Olson, and to this union the following children have been born: Carl, Alfred, Caroline (who died at the age of six months), Christina, Laurina and Ellis. Mr. Christianson is a gentleman of active public spirit and is influential in his community. He has been called upon to serve in various local offices and has filled every office within the gift of his township with the exception of justice of the peace. He has taken a prominent part in the county conventions of the Populist party, and has several times served on the county central committee. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Crookston, and is a man of good principles and one in whom the people repose confidence.

#### AMMON O. MELLUM.

Ammon O. Mellum, a thrifty and energetic farmer, whose home is located in section 32, of Ulen township, and whose career in the valley is an interesting illustration of the value of character and industry as factors of success in this day, was born in Norway, February 26, 1858, and is a son of Lars and Paulina (Oleson) Mellum, both of whom were native to the soil of Norway.

Mr. Mellum left Norway at the early age of ten years, and coming to Houston county, Minnesota, spent the remaining years of boyhood in work and in study in the common school, gaining a clearer insight into the ways and thought of his adopted country, than many of his compatriots have ever possessed—a knowledge that has greatly aided him in his endeavors in after years.

Mr. Mellum came to Clay county in 1878, and selected a homestead claim in section 32, of Ulen. It was at first a quarter section, but has added additional land to it from time to time until he now owns a handsome and well appointed farm of four hundred and forty acres, three hundred of which are under cultivation. The rest is given up to meadow and pasture. On the farm is an abundance of machinery, and the house and barn are very roomy and well built. The barn is 50x50 feet, with ten-foot posts, and a capacious hay loft. He has eight horses and twenty cattle. There is a fine grove running around all his buildings, and it is often pronounced the finest farm in the county.

Mr. Mellum was married, in 1883, to Jane Larson. She was born in Wisconsin, and is the mother of six children: Alma P., Lydia P., Hannah E., Stella V., Celia and Alice J. Mrs. Jane Mellum died, and after her death Mr. Mellum was married a second time to Martha Anderson. She was born in Norway, and is the mother of one child: William E. Mr. Mellum

is a Republican, and is now holding the position of school treasurer. Mr. Mellum and his family are identified with the Lutheran church, where they are much respected for their sterling and genuine character. All his life Mr. Mellum has worked hard, and while still in the prime of life is reaping the rich reward of his honest and industrious years.

#### EMIL PETERSON.

Emil Peterson, who is well known as a young and enterprising farmer in Stanchfield township, Isanti county, has made a good name and an enviable position for himself by his unwearied industry and strict integrity. He was born in the town where he is now living in 1874, and is a son of Gustave Peterson, a lifelong farmer, who was born in Smoland, Sweden, in 1832. The father was married in Sweden. He came to the United States in 1869. He brought his children with him, his wife having died in Sweden before his coming to this country. The elder Peterson worked on the railroad in Iowa, Illinois and Nebraska. In 1871 he came to Isanti county and took a homestead in section 14, Stanchfield township, being married the same year to Mrs. Ricka Sunquist. She was born in Warniland, Sweden, and came to the United States the year prior to her marriage. To the first wife were born three children, Frank, Annie and Lena. The second Mrs. Peterson is the mother of three children, Leonard, Emma and Emil. For the first ten or twelve years he farmed with oxen. He died July 14, 1896.

Emil Peterson took charge of the farm in 1895, and has continued to manage it to the present time. It is a very desirable place of one hundred and fifty acres, with about a third of it in cultivation. The house is 18x24 feet, with a kitchen, 16x16 feet; the barn is 28x32 feet, and the granary, 18x20 feet. All the machinery needed to carry on the farm operations in a satisfactory and profitable manner has been provided, and the farm is devoted to grain and stock. Success crowns his earnest and systematic endeavors, and he is much respected by those who know him well.

#### ALBERT P. BRANDVOLD.

Albert P. Brandvold, the enterprising and wide awake proprietor of the noted general store at Ulen, Clay county, Minnesota, was born in Norway, September 3, 1862, and is a son of Peter and Carrie Brandvold, both of whom were born in Norway, and were thoroughly honorable and upright people.

While still a lad Albert P. Brandvold left

his home in Norway and came to the United States in 1873, making his home in Goodhue county, Minnesota, on a farm, where he attended district school and made himself familiar with the conditions of life in the new world in which he had pitched his home. He worked on the farm until he was thirty years of age, when he started a country store in Goodhue county. This proved a decided success, and he carried it for five years. In 1898 Mr. Brandvold sold his Goodhue county store and removed to Ulen, Clay county, where he started a general store, in which at the present time he carries about three thousand dollars worth of groceries, crockery, notions and light hardware, and maintains what is generally regarded as the finest establishment of the kind in the town. Its success is very largely due to the ability and integrity of its proprietor, who holds to "honest goods for an honest dollar."

Mr. Brandvold is a Republican and belongs to the Lutheran church. He has had a very laborious life, and is now reaping the rich reward of hard working and self-denying years. In addition to his store, he owns a half section of land in Keene township, Clay county.

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#### NELS A. KJOS.

A list of the self-made and prosperous citizens of Norman county, Minnesota, would not be complete without the name of Nels A. Kjos. He has amassed a good property in Sundahl township by his earnest and honest efforts and is entitled to a prominent place as a well-versed agriculturist and worthy citizen. His residence is in section 26, and he is enabled there to enjoy the comforts of rural life. He is not a native of our country, but since taking up his residence here he has manifested true patriotism and has taken his place among the progressive and loyal citizens of America.

Our subject was born in Norway May 10, 1860, and was a son of Andrew and Kjersti (Kjos) Kjos, both of whom were natives of Norway. He was reared in his native land and received his education there in the public schools and then learned the shoemaker's trade, which he followed until he was twenty years of age in his native land, and then emigrated to America. He went direct to Freeborn county, Minnesota, where he remained three years, and then removed to Norman county. He drove to his new home overland with an ox team, and twenty-one days were consumed in the journey. Upon his arrival he entered claim to one hundred and sixty acres of land, upon which he erected a log house and a log barn and resided there about eight years, improving his property as time went on. He then removed from Strand township to Sundahl township, and has since resided there. He

is now the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of land, of which he cultivates about two hundred and fifty acres annually and devotes the balance of his acreage to timber and pasture. He keeps about ten farm horses, twenty-seven head of cattle and such other stock as furnish a good income from their annual sale. He has supplied the farm with plenty of machinery of the latest pattern and has arranged all for the comfort of the family and the easy work of the place. The farm is one of the well-kept and carefully cultivated estates of the township, and Mr. Kjos enjoys easy circumstances.

Our subject was married, in June, 1883, to Martha Helgeson, a native of Winneshiek county, Iowa. Five children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kjos, who are named in order of birth as follows: Minnie, Albert, Ole, Selma and Ida. The family are members of the Lutheran church and are held in high esteem in their home community where they are known. Mr. Kjos is a man of broad ideas and keeps pace with current events, and lends his influence for advancement and good government. He is a staunch Republican, to which party he has belonged since taking up his residence in America, and in local affairs he is heartily interested and popular with the people. He has served as school director for the past six years and has served eight years as constable. His life is that of an exemplary man and his success is well merited.

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#### EDWARD FERGUSON.

Edward Ferguson, a prominent citizen of Carlisle township, Ottertail county, is proprietor of a general merchandise business in the village of French, and is also postmaster of that thriving village. He is a young man of ability and integrity and has won recognition as a worthy citizen of his community.

Mr. Ferguson was born in Pope county, Minnesota, March 4, 1866, and was a son of Peter and Sarah (Stanley) Ferguson, the former a native of Scotland and the latter born in England. The birthplace of our subject was on a farm in Pope county, near Glenwood, and there he was reared and attended the common schools, and later learned the stone mason's trade. He followed his trade until 1894, when he went to Ottertail county and established a store in Carlisle township, in the village of French. He was later appointed postmaster of that office and is now filling the position creditably and faithfully. He is also engaged in wheat buying for the Monarch Elevator Company, and is a young man of exceptional business capacity. He carries a stock of general merchandise valued at about one thousand dollars, and everything usual to a country store is found there. He is attentive to the needs

of his community and their wishes and has met with success in the mercantile business. He is also owner of a blacksmith shop in the village, and in this line he has met with good results. He owns a pleasant home and enjoys the comforts of life.

Mr. Ferguson was married, in 1897, to Jennie Robertson. Mrs. Ferguson was born in Canada, July 11, 1870. Two children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson, upon whom the parents have bestowed the names of Cecil Peter and Kenneth S. Mrs. Ferguson is a member of the Baptist church and they are highly esteemed in their home community, where they are well known. Mr. Ferguson is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge. He is actively interested in the public affairs of his township, and is justice of the peace of Carlisle township. In political faith he is a Republican, and is stanch for the principles of his party. He is a young man of energetic character and his success and good name are well merited.

#### LARS EKLUND.

In the pioneer days of Kittson county Lars Eklund became a settler there. He had passed through the pioneer experiences in other parts of the country, and knew to what he was devoting his attention when he began his labors in the then wild region of the Red River valley. Those were the days of that country when the miner, the prospector and the trapper, inured to western hardships, deserted the plow and welcomed the perils of their former occupations, rather than remain as agriculturists in that desolate country and gain their fortunes by the comparatively slow process of farm life. But our subject was a man of different mold, and his foresight served him well. He took up his labors with a determination to develop a farm the model of the country and the pride of his locality, and the present fine property he possesses in section 3, in Red River township, has not fallen short of the mark. He has remained at his task, always industrious, economical and honest, and he now owns two lots in Red Lake Falls, besides six hundred and twenty acres of land, well improved and well tilled, and while accumulating this fortune Mr. Eklund has gained what is more valuable, the highest esteem and regard of his fellow men.

Our subject was born in Sweden June 10, 1847, and is the only child now living born to Peter and Christina (Olson) Eklund. He was apprenticed to a tailor, but later learned the shoemaker's trade, and followed the latter until 1868. He borrowed money with which to pay his way to America and came in 1868, and was first employed at railroad work, and also found employ-

ment in the harvest field and in the pineries. He went to Becker county, Minnesota, in 1870, where he entered claim to land and followed agricultural pursuits there about ten years. He had no means with which to improve his farm, but by strict economy and hard labor he accumulated a good property. He disposed of the farm in 1880, and with the proceeds invested in the land which he now owns. He is now one of the most substantial men of Kittson county, and his home farm is one of the best in way of buildings and appearance. He has erected a handsome, commodious dwelling and good barns and other buildings necessary for the conduct of a model farm, and has otherwise improved the property by fences, etc., evidencing the thrift and prosperity enjoyed by Mr. Eklund.

Our subject was married in 1870 to Miss Mary Olson. Mrs. Eklund died in 1893. Seven children were born to this union, who are as follows: Victor, Peter, Minnie, William, Erwin, Betsey and Anna. The marriage of our subject to Miss Magdalena Stafanson was solemnized in 1894. Mr. and Mrs. Eklund have been the parents of four children, who are as follows: Amanda V., deceased; Herman M.; Amanda; and Alfred. Mr. Eklund is a gentleman of good ideas, and keeps abreast of the times in public affairs. He is identified with the Republican party politically and is firm in his convictions. He has made his own way in life and has been successful, and is one of the leading men of Kittson county. Portraits of Mr. Eklund and his wife appear upon another page in this volume.

#### BENJAMIN GUNSALUS.

Benjamin Gunsalus, a representative farmer and highly esteemed citizen of Douglas county, Minnesota, is one of the earliest pioneers of that locality and resides on his well-developed farm in section 9 of Hudson township. He has held his residence there for the past thirty-four years and in this time has always manifested the true spirit of progression and advancement of the interests of his community and state.

Mr. Gunsalus was born in Center county, Pennsylvania, April 1, 1835. His father, Samuel Gunsalus, was a native of Ohio, and the mother, Mary (Bradford) Gunsalus, was born in Pennsylvania. The father was a farmer and lumberman. After securing the education afforded in the local schools before he reached the age of twelve years our subject took up farm work and also worked in the lumber camps and in the coal mines of that region. After attaining his majority he owned a farm and coal mine and operated the latter for several years. He came to Minnesota in the spring of 1867 via La

Crosse and Winona and stopped for a short time at Rochester, Olmstead county, where he left his family while he journeyed to Douglas county to find a permanent home for them. He purchased a "squatter's" claim on section 9 of Judson township for seven hundred and fifty dollars and also homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, upon which was forty acres of good timber. He successfully cultivated the entire tract for twenty-two years and in 1889 sold eighty acres to advantage. He now has a good farm upon which he has placed a comfortable residence, barns, sheds and such buildings as are necessary for conducting a model estate, and he engages in diversified farming with good results.

Mr. Gunsalus was married in Pennsylvania, November 15, 1855, to Sarah White, daughter of James and Margaret White, of Clearfield, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Gunsalus was a half-sister to James H. White, whose life history appears elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Gunsalus died March 16, 1897. Four children were born of this union, of whom three survive and are as follows: William F., a resident of South Dakota; Alice, now Mrs. Thomas Steele, residing on a farm in Judson township, the mother of seven children, namely: Sarah, Florence, Bessie, Roy, Lloyd, Maud and Edna; the third child of our subject is named B. F. Butler. Mr. Gunsalus was married May 9, 1899, to Sophia J. White, a half-sister of the late Mrs. Gunsalus. Mr. Gunsalus has filled the office of supervisor for a number of years and takes a good degree of interest in public affairs. He is a Republican politically and stands firmly for the principles of that organization.

#### NELS HANSON.

Red River township, Kittson county, is settled largely by natives of the Scandinavian peninsula. These men are, as a rule, enjoying prosperity and a good name. They are earnest, industrious and honest, three requisites to success, and with one accord turn their attention toward the development and upbuilding of that community in which they reside. This is one of the most substantially improved townships of the county, and a drive through that locality is filled with interest and pleasure, and convinces one of the thrift of the agriculturists. Among the earliest settlers there may be named Nels Hanson, who is the fortunate owner of a fine tract of land, and who has met with marked success in his calling. He resides in section 14, township 160, range 50.

Our subject was born in Sweden, March 7, 1846, and was the second in a family of four children born to Hans and Sissa (Nelson) Hanson. He emigrated to the new world in 1868 and commenced farming in Mecker county; Min-

nesota, and later settled in Goodhue county. He disposed of his interests there in May, 1879, and in company with Lars Mattson, now deceased, he went to Kittson county, and was the first one who obtained a homestead in the town of Red River—only himself and three other families who lived here that winter. Since that time he has been a resident of the township. He has placed his farm under good cultivation and improvement and uses modern methods in the operation of the same.

Our subject was married in 1873 to Miss Ellen Nilson. Ten children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hanson, who are named in order of birth as follows: Evald M., Henry T., Arthur E., Esther A., Albert L., Victor E., George O. W., Hilda A., Walter F. and Nannie F. Mr. Hanson enjoys the confidence of all with whom he has to do, and he is now, together with his sons, working eight hundred acres of land. He is a well-known character of the township, having assisted in its organization, and is closely connected with its history and development. He is a man of broad mind and is identified with the Populist party politically and is an earnest worker for party principles. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church, and his success and high standing are well merited.

#### CHARLES F. KANKEL.

Charles F. Kankel, the leading miller of Ulen, Clay county, Minnesota, was born in Ottertail county, October 21, 1872, and is a son of Otto and Louisa (Zaiser) Kankel. His father was born in Germany, and his mother in Missouri. The first five years of the life of the subject of this writing were spent in Ottertail county, and then his father, who was a miller, moved to Red Lake Falls, where he remained until 1881. That year the elder Kankel sold out at Red Lake Falls and removed to Fertile, Polk county, to start a mill.

Charles F. Kankel had his education in the local schools and at a business college in Iowa, from which he was graduated in 1889. For some years immediately following this he was employed in his father's mill at Fertile, learning the milling trade thoroughly under his competent instruction, and in 1894 was put in charge of a mill at Terrebonne, Minnesota. This mill he operated until 1898, that year coming to Ulen and putting up a mill with a capacity of fifty barrels a day. This mill was the first to be set up in this part of the county, and is valued at fifteen thousand dollars. It has a good patronage, and regarded as among the best institutions of the kind in the valley.

Mr. Kankel was married in 1899 to Eva Cook, a native of Iowa, where she was born



February 10, 1882. They have one child, a boy, named Lloyd. Mr. Kankel owns a house and lot in the village, and for so young a man has gotten far ahead in the world. He is a Democrat, and for two years has served on the village council of Ulen. Mr. Kankel belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and with his wife is associated with the Congregational church. They are well regarded in the community for their many excellent qualities, and look to a bright future.

#### THE ENTERPRISE.

The Enterprise, an independent weekly newspaper, published by S. L. Burton at Evansville, Douglas county, is a bright five-column quarto and has a good circulation throughout the county. It was established by Horace G. Urie in 1882. Its politics at that time were decidedly Republican. Mr. Burton purchased all rights to the paper and the plant in 1899, since which time he has greatly increased the circulation and advertisement department of the same. Mr. Burton is a native of the Empire state and was born at Rensselaer Falls, St. Lawrence county, New York, September 5, 1871, a son of E. L. and Eleanor (Washburn) Burton. His paternal ancestors were English, who emigrated to America in 1837. His parents came to Minnesota in 1873 and settled on a farm near Plainview. S. L. Burton after leaving the public schools attended the normal school at Valparaiso, Indiana, afterwards teaching school until he came to Evansville, in 1899. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and is unmarried.

#### JOHN ISAACSON.

The well-developed farms of Detroit township have contributed largely to the wealth of Becker county and given it a name as a thriving agricultural district. One of these carefully cultivated tracts is owned and operated by the subject of this personal history. Mr. Isaacson has resided in that locality for many years and has accumulated a fortune and an enviable reputation, and has a pleasant home in section 7. He is a native of Sweden and was born September 22, 1867.

The father of our subject, Jonas Isaacson, and the mother, Caroline Isaacson, were natives of Sweden. They came to America when our subject was but two years of age and settled in Kansas, residing there seven years. There our subject received his first schooling, and when he was about nine years of age the family removed to Freeborn county, Minnesota. He attended the country schools of that county until he was sixteen years of age, and then worked on the farm

with his father until he was twenty-six years of age. He then learned the painter's trade and worked at this five years in Albert Lea, Minnesota, after which he went to Becker county and decided to try his fortunes at farming. He has accumulated a farm consisting of two hundred and thirty-five acres, of which about fifty acres are under cultivation and the rest of the land is in timber and used for pasture. He has built a comfortable residence on the place and a good barn and has a complete set of farm buildings. One of the features of the farm is an abundance of good water, and the land is admirably adapted to diversified farming.

Our subject was married in 1893 to Mary Hanson, who was born in Denmark, April 17, 1877. Mr. and Mrs. Isaacson are the parents of two children, who are named Leonard and Lillie I. Mr. Isaacson has given his children the best educational advantages and the home is pleasant and refined. The family are members of the Baptist church and are respected and esteemed by their neighbors and friends. Our subject is a Republican in political sentiment and is firm in his convictions. He has labored earnestly throughout his career and is a young man of assured position socially.

#### MICHAEL WEINZIERL.

Michael Weinzierl, jeweler, watchmaker and general merchant of Ely, is one of the most thorough business men in this locality and is numbered among the pioneers of the Vermilion Range.

Mr. Weinzierl was born in Hennepin county, Minnesota, in 1861. His father, Joseph Weinzierl, was a farmer and miner, and with our subject's grandfather, Joseph Fickerer, served in the Indian wars in Minnesota. They were both natives of Bavaria, Germany. Mr. Weinzierl was reared on a farm in Hennepin county, taking part in the farm work at an early age. He swung the grain cradle when he was twelve years old. He obtained his education in the country schools and at the age of seventeen years started out in the world for himself. He first went to Chaska, Minnesota, and then to Minneapolis where he learned the watchmaker's trade, spending about seven years in that city. In 1887 he went to Dakota and spent about a year and a half working at his trade, and then went to Red Lake Falls and two years later to Duluth. He went to Tower in 1881, went into business there among the first pioneers of the place, and at the end of six years came to Ely and put up a building and opened up a jewelry business. He was the first man in this line in Ely, and has done a thriving business since his establishment here. He now occupies a two-story building,

23x60 feet, and carries a complete stock of jewelry, watches and a general line of merchandise.

Mr. Weinzierl was married in 1891 to Miss Louise Wehle. Mrs. Weinzierl was born in Minnesota, and her father, Jacob Wehle, a native of Germany, is now a farmer in Hennepin county, Minnesota. Mr. Weinzierl is among the pioneers of the Vermilion Range and his acquaintance extends throughout the entire region. He owns interests in the gold mines in the Rainy Lake region. He is held in high esteem and considered among Ely's most substantial men.

#### DR. MARY M. PRATT.

Dr. Mary M. Pratt, a resident of Ulen, Clay county, Minnesota, is a good illustration of the professional woman, who with stout heart and unwavering spirit has overcome great hindrances and made herself a place among the world's workers, where she could fulfill the dreams and ambitions of her inmost life.

Dr. Pratt was born in Newport, Vermont, March 29, 1850, and is a daughter of Samuel and Harriet (Fales) Page, her father being a native of Vermont and her mother of Massachusetts. Mary M. was reared to young womanhood in her native state, and was graduated from the Newport high school. She remained at home until February, 1871, taking in the meantime a four-years' course at the Buffalo Medical Institute, from which she was graduated in 1870. In 1871 the young woman doctor came west and settled for a time in St. Paul, and in 1873 opened an office for the practice of her profession in Hinckley, Minnesota, where she remained eighteen years and started a drug store and continued the practice of her profession.

Dr. Pratt was for years the only physician in Pine county, and led a hard and laborious life. She came to Hawley, Clay county, in 1893, and practiced medicine there for about three years, when she saw a good field in Ulen, and, coming here in 1896, at once opened a drug store and an office. She was the first physician and druggist to come to Ulen, and at once commanded a good patronage, which she still retains. She is now the examiner for the Royal Neighbors and the Modern Woodmen of America, and is health officer for the village. She owns a quarter section in Keene township, which is well improved with good buildings and thorough cultivation. Dr. Pratt has about a thousand dollars invested in her drug store, and puts up her own prescriptions. She has a good country practice as well as in the village, and is quite prosperous. She is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and the Royal Neighbors, and belongs to the Congregational church of Ulen.

Dr. Pratt is a widow, her husband having

died of cancer of the stomach December 16, 1899. She has had a hard struggle all her life, and has worked her way through the world. Now she owns a comfortable home, has a good practice and commands the respect of the community to a marked degree.

#### MICHAEL E. KIRSCH.

Michael E. Kirsch, one of the prominent business men of Crookston, is engaged in the real estate and loan business. He has various financial interests and is one of the substantial citizens of Polk county, and enjoys the esteem of a large circle of friends.

Mr. Kirsch was born in Belgium, October 15, 1846. His father, Henry Kirsch, died when our subject was but four years of age, leaving the mother, Elizabeth (Bauret) Kirsch, in comfortable circumstances, with four children. She brought the family to America in 1860, and a home was made in Wisconsin, where Mr. Kirsch grew up to farm work. He led a studious life as a boy, but had few opportunities to attend school, but prepared himself for teaching, however, by studying nights. He spent several years in the school-room as instructor and was a successful and popular teacher. The family settled in Wabasha county, Minnesota, and Mr. Kirsch joined them there in 1867, and secured a position in a store as clerk and bookkeeper. In the fall of 1871 he opened a general store in Minnetonka, Minnesota, where he conducted a profitable business for three years. He then removed to Reed's Landing, and in the fall of 1878 disposed of his interests there and in company with three others went to Polk county, taking land near Euclid. He made improvements on his farm the next season, and in 1880 moved his family to Euclid, where he opened a hotel, the first hotel established in the town. He became well known throughout that locality as a man of active public spirit and an organizer, and during Cleveland's first administration was appointed postmaster of Euclid. He was elected county commissioner in 1886 and held the office ten consecutive years. In 1889 he removed to his Crookston home and he then opened his present real estate and insurance business. He has prospered in this line and has a good business as the result of his management and industry. He is a director of the Scandia American Bank.

Mr. Kirsch was married in 1869 to Miss Elizabeth Becker. Mr. and Mrs. Kirsch are the parents of six children, namely: John N., a railroad postal clerk; Adolph P., engaged in the same employment; Josephine E., now Mrs. W. E. Rowe; Phrona; Arthur, a student in the University of Minnesota; and Ralph. Mr. Kirsch is a staunch Republican, but in former years was a

Democrat in political faith. He has been active in public affairs of his locality, and served as president of the city council of Crookston for three years and is now alderman-at-large. He is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees, and is a member of the Roman Catholic church. He is, in the most strict sense, a self-made man and has been successful.

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#### PETER DAHLMAN.

Peter Dahlman, the senior member of the firm of P. Dahlman & Company, at Stanchfield, Isanti county, Minnesota, and a very enterprising and ambitious young tradesman, was born in that village in 1870. Louis Dahlman, his father, was a farmer, and came to the United States in 1865, settling on his homestead where Stanchfield now stands. He brought his wife and their three children from Anoka and housed them in a structure partly a dug-out, the upper part being composed of boughs and branches brought over and fastened together. In such a primitive fashion several families lived together, and made a beginning that eventuated in a sturdy and self-reliant independence. The first season the men put up a large amount of hay, which they hauled to the logging camps with the only span of oxen in the neighborhood. Louis Dahlman, M. A. Peterson, his brother-in-law, and Andrew Oleson lived together for the first year and then put up a log house. Louis Dahlman presently came to own a yoke of oxen and found life easier.

When Peter Dahlman was six years old his parents moved to section 11, Cambridge township, and here he was reared and educated in the public schools. When he was about twelve years old he took an active and increasing interest and share in the farm work, and when he was about eighteen years of age, in company with his brother Henry, he started a blacksmith shop. The boys intended to do only their own farm repairing, but the neighbors soon discovered that they were handy, and a very modest enterprise soon became an important business with a constant and profitable patronage. The two brothers do all kinds of repairing, and in 1894 the elder Dahlman passed the farm over to them, as increasing age made it hard for him to attend to it. The two are still running the farm, which consists of one hundred and sixty acres, with about one hundred and thirty under the plow. The house and farm buildings are good, and all the machinery needed for the successful operation of the place has been provided. The Dahlmans have passed through lean years and have seen hard times, but they have struggled on to a very substantial success.

In 1897 the Dahlman brothers formed a partnership with William Lester, under the firm name

of Dahlman & Lester, and were engaged in the potato business at Rush City the ensuing year. The next year Peter and Andrew Dahlman, under the firm name of P. Dahlman & Company, bought potatoes at Grandy, Cambridge and Braham, and also at Stanchfield, putting up a warehouse at Grandy in 1900, 28x80 feet. The potato business has taken on very large proportions and has been a decided success from the start.

Mr. Dahlman is a Republican, and has been school clerk. In 1895 he was married to Miss Annie Hanson, who was also born in Stanchfield. Her father, Henry Hanson, is a farmer, and came to the United States in the late 'sixties. They have three children, Eben, Annie and Clifford.

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#### JOSEPH SADLIER.

Joseph Sadlier, one of the representative farmers of Ottertail county, whose portrait is shown on another page, has his farm and residence on the borders of "Long Lake," section 28, of Hobart township, where he has lived for the last twenty years. Mr. Sadlier was born in Alton, Illinois, November 27, 1854, being a son of Edward and Mary Sadlier. When Mr. Sadlier was an infant he lost his mother, and the father, marrying again, removed to Kentucky with his family in 1855. Edward Sadlier up to this time had been constantly engaged in farming, but on his removal to Louisville became engaged in steamboating on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. In 1857 he died from cholera.

Joseph Sadlier was then put into an orphan asylum near Beardstown, Kentucky, where he was reared and educated. When old enough he left the asylum and for two years taught school in Kentucky, after which he secured a position as teacher in Indianapolis, which he held for two years. He taught two years at Natchez, Mississippi, when he returned to Indiana to engage in farming near Seymour, where he remained a year. In 1880 he came to Minnesota and devoted himself to farming in Le Sueur county, near Le Sueur. A year later he took up a homestead of one hundred and thirty-seven acres in section 28, Hobart township, Ottertail county, and here he has developed a fine farm which he has continued to occupy to the present time. He has bought and sold land near by, but his original homestead he still retains, and now owns about one hundred and forty acres, the greater part of which is under a high state of cultivation. The family residence, which has been recently erected, stands on rising ground close to the clear waters of Long Lake, and the surroundings are pleasing to the eye. An open lawn slopes to the water's edge, and near by is a thick growth of natural timber. A boat house and a number of good

skiffs add picturesqueness to the scene. The house is commodiously arranged for the comfort of summer visitors, who come annually to the lake for its fishing, for which he provides all the necessary tackle, as well as conveyances for the guests. There are a number of families who come yearly from a considerable distance to spend weeks of rest and recreation at this ideal fishing resort,—among them being parties from Minneapolis and Fargo, who feel well repaid for the distance they travel by the good sport and comfortable quarters, as well as by the attention which Mr. Sadlier devotes to their convenience and pleasure.

Mr. Sadlier carries on diversified farming, his lands being well adapted for both grain and stock, and he gives considerable attention to sheep as well as hogs, cattle and horses. Upon his farm are sixty sheep, and he is enthusiastic as to their possibilities.

Mr. Sadlier was married February 9, 1891, to Katherine, a daughter of Nicholas and Susan (Colling) Kauffman, both of whom were natives of Germany, where Mrs. Sadlier was also born, her birthplace being near Berlin. To this union were born five children, two of whom died in infancy, the living being Mary, Edward and Phillip. The family are members of the Catholic church.

In local affairs Mr. Sadlier has filled the office of town clerk eleven years and that of supervisor three years, having been chairman of the board one term. Personally he is a genial gentleman, an entertaining host and a good neighbor. He is devoted to his family, and in his politics has always been a Republican. In the community where his useful life is passing he is highly respected, and both himself and his good wife are reckoned among the best people of the town.

#### THE EVANSON BROTHERS.

The Evanson Brothers are general merchants at Ulen, Clay county, Minnesota, and their stock of goods, which is carefully selected for the local market, together with their courteous treatment of their customers and their fair and upright dealings with all who patronize them, have combined to make their store the headquarters of trade in this part of the county and bring them customers from a long distance. A. S. Evanson was born in Iowa, in 1865, and his brother, E. S., drew his first breath in Norway in 1860.

Evan Evanson, the father of these two successful tradesmen, was born in Norway, where he married Mary Anderson, also a native of that country. They came to the United States in 1861, and for a time lived in Iowa, but very soon moved to Houston county, Minnesota, where

they reared their children as well as they could, giving them as good an education as the schools afforded.

A. S. Evanson had his education in a high school, after which he came to Hawley, Clay county, and for some five years was employed in a grocery store. At the expiration of that period he started the first general store in Ulen, which has grown into a very considerable establishment, carrying over ten thousand dollars' worth of goods, consisting of clothing, boots and shoes, groceries and dry goods, with an elevator in connection. Mr. Evanson was married in 1890 to Miss Cora Whaley, a native of Iowa, and to their union have come three bright and charming little people, Clayton, May and Lee A. Mr. Evanson is president of the school board, and has been on the village board one year.

E. S. Evanson married Clara Gunvalson in 1897. She was born in Minnesota, and is the mother of one child, Eldridge. The brothers are Republican in their politics, and belong to the Lutheran church.

#### AUGUST DAHLBERG.

August Dahlberg, one of the pioneers of northern Minnesota, braved the dangers and privations of the early days there, and is now comfortably situated on one of the finest farms of Ottertail county. He is a resident of Buse township, and is one of the best known and most highly esteemed citizens of his community.

Mr. Dahlberg was born in Sweden, November 8, 1853, and was a son of Nels and Johannah (Swanson) Dahlberg, both of whom were natives of Sweden. He was reared on his father's farm and continued his residence in Sweden until he was sixteen years of age, attending the common schools. In 1870 he came to America with his parents and located with them in Ottertail county, where the father took a claim in Buse township. The family lived in a log house and drove oxen for the farm work for a number of years. In 1878 our subject and his brother Elof bought the home farm of their father and divided the estate between them. Our subject is now the owner of two hundred and seventy acres of fine land, of which one hundred acres are under cultivation and the rest is pasture and meadow. In 1888 he erected a fine ten-room, two-story residence and set out a fine grove around it. He has a large and substantial barn with one cattle shed 18x56, and he has built a wagon shed and machine shed, also a granary 20x32 feet. He has a good well, windmill, plenty of farm machinery and one of the best equipped farms in the county. He keeps ten horses, twenty-five head of cattle and other stock. He has met with severe losses, one year on account of grasshoppers and twice his

crops have been destroyed by hail, but on the whole he has met with good results, and his land bears well and good quality of grain. He was a true pioneer of northern Minnesota, and has remained to witness a most wonderful transformation in the country and share in the same, and he now has a good income from his property and is enabled to enjoy his rural home.

Mr. Dahlberg was married in 1878 to Louves Larson. Mrs. Dahlberg was born in Sweden, December 20, 1856. Five children have been born to this union, four of whom are living, namely: William A., Esther W., Annie E. and Robert C. The family are members of the Baptist church at Fergus Falls. Mr. Dahlberg is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Modern Woodmen of America lodges at Fergus Falls. He is prominent in local affairs and has aided materially in the advancement of his township. He has served as treasurer and assessor of Buse township for ten years and has been a member of the school board of District 46 in Ottertail county for about twenty years, and is an earnest worker for educational advancement. Politically he is a Republican.

#### OLE E. REIERSGARD.

Ole E. Reiersgard, who is a good representative of his hardy and industrious race, that has done so much for the making of the great northwest, was born in Norway, July 23, 1875, and, like the great majority of his countrymen, is noted for his thrift, industry and notable integrity. His parents, Even and Guri (Benthagen) Reiersgard, were of Norwegian birth, and left their native land when he was but a babe of nine months. They crossed the ocean and sought a home in the wild regions of Minnesota, remaining a year and a half in Houston county, and in 1878 came into Clay county, where two years later they settled on a homestead in Hagen township.

Ole E. Reiersgard worked on the farm with his father at a very early age, attending the local school until he reached the age of fifteen years, and then becoming a student in the high school at Moorhead, where he spent three years. He completed his schooling by taking a course at the business college from which he was graduated in 1894. For some three years he was a capable and successful teacher, and in 1898 came to Ulen to buy the printing office of E. J. Taylor, from which was published the Ulen Union. This paper now has a circulation of over four hundred copies, and under his able management is the most entertaining and newsy publication of the county.

Mr. Reiersgard was married January 3, 1897, to Clara Bjerke, a native of this state, having

been born here September 9, 1878, and to their union have come two children, Alice G. and Erwin Norman.

Mr. Reiersgard is a Republican, and has served as village recorder for two years, and is also justice of the peace at the present time. He belongs to the local camp of the Modern Woodmen of America, and both himself and wife belong to the United Lutheran church of Ulen. They are bright and enterprising young people, have many friends throughout this section of the county, and their future is very promising.

#### ALVIN M. GREELEY.

Alvin M. Greeley, editor of the Bemidji Pioneer, is one of the prominent newspaper men of Beltrami county. He is experienced in his vocation and is a gentleman of excellent business ability, good intellect and broad ideas, and ably edits the publication of which he is part owner.

Mr. Greeley was born in Stearns county, Minnesota, November 7, 1871, and was a son of Albert and Eliza (Clark) Greeley, the former a native of Maine and the latter born in Massachusetts. The parents removed to Minnesota in 1863 and settled in Stearns county, where the father took a homestead and there our subject was born. He received his early education in the common schools of his neighborhood and graduated later from the high school at Sauk Center, Minnesota, and in 1895 graduated from the Northern Indiana State Normal at Valparaiso. He engaged in the theatrical business one year and then went to Texas and founded the Athens Headlight, which paper he conducted one year and then sold his interests and removed to Bemidji, Beltrami county, in 1899. He soon afterward purchased an interest in the Bemidji Pioneer, and has edited the paper since that time. The paper was established by Edward Kaiser and a Mr. Foss February 22, 1896, and a year later Mr. Foss sold his interest to Mr. Street, who had editorial charge until Mr. Greeley became editor. Mr. Kaiser retains a half interest in the plant and is business manager of the same. The Pioneer is a flourishing paper, one of the most successful in northern Minnesota, and has a circulation of one thousand, and is a well-edited sheet of ten pages. The office is large and the composing and press rooms are separate, and in the latter the latest improved Babcock cylinder press is used with a Webster gasoline engine. The job work is neatly done on a Gordon quarto job press, and is up to date in every particular. Six persons are employed on the paper and in the office and the work is promptly done. The Pioneer is the official paper of Beltrami county and is Republican in politics and the oldest paper of the county.



Mr. Greeley is the owner of two valuable farms, one of sixty acres in Stearns county and one comprising eighty acres in Burnett county, Wisconsin, and also a homestead in the pine country. He is a Republican in political sentiment and lends his influence for the principles of his party and good government locally, regardless of party affiliations. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Modern Samaritan Lodge of Bemidji.

#### CHARLES E. PURDY.

Charles E. Purdy, residing on section 31 in North township, is one of the enterprising and successful agriculturists of Red Lake county.

Mr. Purdy was born in Northumberland county, Canada, September 13, 1857. He was the fifth in a family of eight children. His parents, Stephen and Mary E. (Ives) Purdy, were natives of Canada. The father moved to Clay county, Minnesota, in 1872 and entered a homestead claim to land about nine miles from Moorhead. He was one of the Tenny colony and went to Minnesota with the first extensive settlement. Our subject and one brother are the only members of the family residing in Red Lake county.

Mr. Purdy removed to Dodge county, Wisconsin, with his parents when he was four years of age, and there a farm of forty acres was cleared and improved. He was reared on his father's farm in Clay county, Minnesota, and resided there from 1872 until 1894 with the exception of one year spent in railroading and two years spent in Montana. He located in Red Lake county in 1894 and has since followed farming there. He and his wife are the owners of a fine farm and have met with success in its operation.

Mr. Purdy was married in 1892 to Miss Emma C. Millis. One daughter has been born to bless this union, namely, Mary M. Mrs. Purdy is one of the oldest settlers of northern Red Lake county. She was reared in New York state, and attended the Cook academy at Savannah, New York, and taught school one year. In 1880, in answer to an advertisement for a music teacher, she went to Crookston, Minnesota, and there she formed a class in music. This accomplishment seemed much needed in that locality, the town still being in its crude state, with stumps in the streets and no sidewalks to be seen. Mrs. Purdy also taught in the city schools until 1883. In the early days of her residence there she used her homestead right on section 31 in North township, where she and Mr. Purdy now reside. A pre-emption adjoining was also secured, and on both tracts she resided six months and paid two hundred dollars for each. Many incidents of her

farm life during her vacations are of interest. On one occasion she completed the shingling of her little home. The workmen who erected the shanty did not have enough shingles on hand to complete the work and when the shingles arrived the men had gone. A storm was approaching and Mrs. Purdy determined to have her roof shed the water, and with hammer and nails she set about the task of shingling. She did not wait to nail cleats, but at once began laying the shingles, clinging to the spaces between the roof boards, and thus gradually worked her way to the top, reaching there before the storm broke. She was delighted with her carpenter work and hurled her hammer to the ground, when she suddenly realized that her shingles so well laid covered the ladder by which she had ascended to the top, and she found herself too high to slide to the ground. Finally the branches of a small tree close by presented a means of descent, and by clinging to them she dropped to the ground in safety, profiting much by her experience. In 1882 Mrs. Purdy was the possessor of three hundred and twenty acres of good farm land, and, having secured her claim, she returned to her home in the east and taught a ward school in Three Oaks, Michigan, where her father then resided. In 1889 she again took up her residence in Minnesota, and taught school three years thereafter, being located most of the time at Glyndon, in which town she became acquainted with Mr. Purdy. Since the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Purdy they have resided on the pioneer farm and have a comfortable and pleasant home.

Mr. Purdy is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and in political sentiment he is a Populist. He is an active worker for the welfare of his community and is the present clerk of his township, and enjoys the esteem of a large circle of acquaintances.

#### CHARLES REINHOLDSON.

Charles Reinholdson, who holds an enviable position in the esteem and confidence of his fellow townsmen of Sandstone, Pine county, was born in a village in the central part of Sweden in 1856, where his parents lived and died. He is one of four children, and was reared and educated in his native community. At the age of fourteen he began life for himself as a clerk in a general store several miles from his home. During the ensuing few years he was employed in different parts of Sweden, and visited its largest cities, including Stockholm. When he was twenty-four he left his native land, bound for the United States, where so many of his compatriots had found rich success waiting on their honest labors. He landed in New York and spent two years in Connecticut engaged in factory work.



From Connecticut he came to Minnesota, and spent several years in St. Paul, doing carpenter work and whatever came to his hands, after which he opened a restaurant and ran a hotel in 1883. From St. Paul he came to Sandstone in 1895.

Mr. Reinholdson was married in 1883 to Miss Selma Oleson, a native of Sweden and a daughter of G. Oleson, coming to the United States the same year as did her future husband. Her father was a sea captain, and very prominent in his day. To them have come six children: Havida, Lillie, Ellen, Effie, Eva and Carl, only two of whom are now living.

Mr. Reinholdson was in the hotel and restaurant business in St. Paul several years, and employed in the health department of that city four years, being so engaged at the time he came to Sandstone. Here he opened a place of business on his arrival in 1895, and in company with C. Anderson went into business. Mr. Anderson bought out Mr. Reinholdson after a time, and then our subject went into business for himself, putting up a building 24x90 feet on the main corner of the town.

Mr. Reinholdson owns a tract of twelve hundred acres four miles east of Bruno, along Sandstone creek, where he is opening up a very fine farm, and is employing ten men in the work of its development. A very complete set of farm buildings is projected, and this fine place will be devoted to stock. Mr. Reinholdson owns and operates every summer a sawmill with a capacity of ten thousand feet.

In his politics Mr. Reinholdson is a Democrat, and was a delegate to the Kansas City convention in 1900. He has taken an active part in politics since his arrival in Minnesota.

Mr. Reinholdson belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the United Independent Order of Druids, in both of which he is an active and useful member. He is a great lover of out-of-door sports and is very fond of hunting and fishing. There is in his home a fine collection of deer horns, shot by himself.

#### OLE J. WANGBERG.

Ole J. Wangberg, an ex-soldier and prominent pioneer of Norman county, resides in section 8 of Hendrum township, where he conducts farming with marked success. He is a citizen of foreign birth, but no American-born citizen is more loyal to the interests of our country or has devoted more active service to its defense than Mr. Wangberg, and he may justly review his life in America with pride.

Mr. Wangberg was born on a farm in Trondjem, Norway, October 16, 1830. His father, John Wangberg, was a sea captain and followed

the life of a sailor all his life. Our subject was reared in his native land and attended the country school, and as soon as he was old enough was given work to do on the home farm. He left home at the age of twenty-one and emigrated to America, landing at Quebec, from which place he went direct to Houston county, Minnesota. In the fall of 1861 he enlisted in Company B, Twelfth Iowa Infantry, and was sent to Dubuque, and in the winter was sent to St. Louis. They were ordered out in the spring, and the first engagement was at Fort Henry, and then Donelson. At the battle of Pittsburg Landing our subject was taken prisoner, and he was sent to Macon, Georgia, where he was held six months and was then paroled out. His health was broken owing to fever, ague and dysentery, and he went to the hospital at St. Louis for three weeks and then returned home to Iowa with his captain. He joined the regiment at Vicksburg in February, and passed through the Vicksburg campaign, and while on the way to Jackson, Mississippi, received a sunstroke, and then went to the hospital. He re-enlisted in the same regiment as a veteran in 1863, and aided in defending Memphis against Price, and then hunted guerrillas, after which he participated in the battle of Nashville. He chased Hood, and was in the service over four years, one of the most loyal and active soldiers of the war. He endured many hardships during this time, the regiment having to subsist on corn from the field for a week at a time, when they had no other provisions.

Upon his return from the war Mr. Wangberg went to Houston county, Minnesota, and purchased a farm in Spring Grove township, and there engaged in farming until 1878. Provisions and clothing were high and times were hard generally, and he did not make a success of his work there, and he then went to Norman county and bought eighty acres of land and filed a soldier's homestead claim. He had about five hundred dollars in money, and at once began the improvement of his farm. He went to his new home with a covered wagon overland, and soon after his arrival there he built a 14x16 feet log building. He now has a complete set of substantial buildings, and with a flowing well, cistern, all necessary farm machinery and other equipments, conducts a model farm. His farm consists of two hundred and forty acres of land, on which is a nice grove of five acres and the entire farm is well improved and well tilled. Mr. Wangberg is justly proud of his residence, a view of which forms one of the illustrations in this volume.

Mr. Wangberg was married in 1867 to Miss Olena Olson, a native of Norway. Her parents were farmers in Norway. Nine children have

been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wangberg, of whom the following is a record: John E., born August 12, 1868; James G., born November 14, 1870; Alava M., born October 12, 1872; Otilda, born March 26, 1876; Oscar, born October 5, 1878; Clara B., born January 11, 1881; Clara O., born June 13, 1885; Josephine M., born August 5, 1888; John Oscar, born March 19, 1881; and Oliver, born April 17, 1896. Mr. Wangberg was among the early settlers of Norman county, and has always taken a hearty interest in local affairs. He has served as supervisor of his township, and as a Republican has taken an active part in political issues, but does not seek public office.

#### RICHARD STEPHENS.

Among the younger members of the farming community of Carlos township who contribute to the better interests of that locality and are rapidly gaining an assured position as citizens and thriving agriculturists may be mentioned Richard Stephens. He has a pleasant home in section 13, and enjoys a good income from his farm.

Mr. Stephens was born at Copper Falls, northern Michigan, September 7, 1872. His parents, James and Jane (Varker) Stephens, were both natives of Cornwall, England. The father followed the sea for many years along the stormy coast of his native land, and in that country the parents were married, and three children were born in England of this union. The family came to America in 1872, and after landing at New York went direct to Michigan. The father naturally sought the copper mines, with which matters he had been familiar from his early youth. He soon found employment at the mines, and shortly became superintendent and manager of a large force of men, and being a man of powerful physique and thoroughly familiar with the work, he was well adapted to the position. He had a great desire to see the west, and in the same year proceeded to Minnesota and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Carlos township, Douglas county, upon which our subject now resides. After constructing a fairly good house on the land with lumber which he hauled from Sauk Center, he returned to his duties in Michigan, remaining there until 1875. He then brought his family to their Minnesota home and proceeded to improve and cultivate the farm and stock it with cattle, sheep and horses. He later bought an additional quarter section of land, and owned a fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres at the time of his death, which occurred in April, 1897. The mother of our subject died in 1891. This worthy couple were the parents of the following children: Eliza Jane, now Mrs. John Crabb; Bessie, now

Mrs. Richard Crogar; James; Mollie, now Mrs. Benjamin Hocken; John; and Sarah, who is married and residing in Mexico. During the lifetime of the parents the daughters were liberally provided for, and at the death of the father the farm of three hundred and twenty acres passed to the three sons. Recently Richard and John bought the interest held by their brother, and now own and farm the land together.

Richard Stephens received his education in the public schools and assisted with the development and cultivation of his father's farm. He now conducts a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, while his brother cultivates the other half of the homestead estate. He has made a success of diversified farming, and gives special attention to the raising of cattle, horses and hogs. He is a man of thorough knowledge of farm methods, and has good buildings on his place and the most approved machinery for conducting the work.

Mr. Stephens was married December 28, 1898, to Miss Flawn Kingston, daughter of Daniel and Jane Kingston, of Copper Falls, Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Stephens are the parents of two children, namely: Richard W. and Sarah J. The family attend the Union church of Carlos, near their home, and Mr. Stephens is a liberal giver to this denomination, and contributed largely toward the erection of the present house of worship.

#### JOHN T. EAMES.

John T. Eames is one of the early settlers of Becker county, and in the development of a fine farm he has aided in transforming that region to a thriving district and given it a name as one of the wealth-producing districts of the northwest. Farming is one of the honorable callings of man, and our subject has applied himself to this vocation during his entire career and has met with the best results. He now has a fine home and is living in contentment and at peace with the world and has a host of friends, many of whom remember his early struggles in the new country and many of whom are acquaintances of later years, but all willingly accord him a high station as a citizen. His home is in section 15 of Detroit township.

Our subject was born in England, October 9, 1850, and was a son of William and Sarah (Littlemore) Eames, both of whom were natives of England. He received his education and training in his native land and remained there until he was twenty-eight years of age, when he saw that labor did not bring ample reward there and he decided to try his fortune in America. Upon his arrival in America he went direct to Becker county, Minnesota, where he has continued his residence. For the first three years after locating

in Minnesota he followed the carpenter's trade in Detroit township and then purchased a farm of eighty acres in section 15 in the same township. He has placed fifty acres of his farm under cultivation, and the balance is pasture and timber land. He keeps three farm horses and one cow for domestic use and engages in grain raising with good results. The farm is on the banks of one of the fine lakes of which that country abounds, and a natural grove is one of the pleasant and valuable features of the farm. Mr. Eames has erected a good house and substantial barn and other buildings and has a plentiful supply of farm machinery for the operation of the place. He has spared no pains in the improvement of his place, and the appearance of the farm evidences good management and careful cultivation.

Our subject was married in 1873 in England to Mary Course, a native of that country. Mr. and Mrs. Eames are the parents of four children, who are named as follows: Ruth, William, Harry and Horace. Mr. Eames and family are highly esteemed in their community and are consistent members of the Wesley Methodist church at Detroit City. Our subject is a man of firm convictions and stands for right and justice, and politically is a Democrat. He is a staunch adherent to his political faith and works for the success of the principles he advocates.

#### ELLING WAALE.

Elling Waale, well known in the village of Hawley, Clay county, as a prompt and reliable man, whose industrious habits and upright character have brought him a good measure of success, was born in Nore Numadal, on a farm, in 1849. His father was a farmer and lived and died in Norway.

Elling Waale is the fourth member in a family of nine children born to his parents, and was reared and educated in Norway, where he started out for himself at the age of sixteen years, and worked both as a laborer on the farm and in the pineries. In 1871 he came to the United States, landing at Quebec in May, and stopping for a time in Rock county, Wisconsin, being accompanied by a younger brother, Christian. His first work was on a tobacco farm. For some three years he remained in that part of the state, and then went to Green Bay, Wisconsin, where he spent one summer. He came to Goodhue county, Minnesota, at the end of that time. In the fall of 1875 he came to Red Wing, Minnesota, where he spent the ensuing three and a half years, the most of the time in a stone quarry.

Mr. Waale was married in September, 1874, to Miss Jennie Myron. She was born in Norway and came to the United States in 1868 with her

parents. She spent a year in Illinois and then removed to Zumbrota, Goodhue county, Minnesota. To their union have come eight children: Clara E., who is married; Hilda I.; Ellen J., a dry goods clerk; Emma C., a school teacher; Nina S.; Ida L.; Enger M.; and Amanda S.

Mr. Waale came to Clay county in the spring of 1878, at a time when Hawley had but three or four stores and but a handful of people. When the family arrived the section-house was their only home for a week. For the ensuing three weeks they lived on the Ole Jacobson farm. By that time Mr. Waale had completed a shanty twelve feet square. This was their home for a month. By this time he had completed a log house, which became the family home for eighteen years. In his farming operations Mr. Waale had to depend on ox-teams at first, but after about four years he had horses. His home was on section 18, Eglon township, and his first crop was twenty-one bushels from a three-acre patch of wheat. To-day he owns two hundred and eighty acres of good farm land, with about one hundred and seventy acres under cultivation, and has a fine farm home, with a good house, a good granary, barn and other farm buildings. He has a nice grove surrounding his house and barn and water for house and stock purposes is supplied by a well one hundred and forty-two feet deep, pumped by a windmill. He is a Republican, and has been on the board of supervisors, and also a school director. Since coming into town he has taken an active part in Hawley affairs.

In the spring of 1901 Mr. Waale rented his farm and moved to Hawley, where he has bought a home, and is giving his children a good education.

#### CHARLES E. HAINES.

Charles E. Haines, proprietor of a fine farm adjacent to the town of Aitkin, Minnesota, is a gentleman of sterling worth and is a well-known and highly esteemed pioneer of that region. He has made a success in Aitkin county by good management and perseverance and his farm bespeaks painstaking care in its operation and prosperity attendant upon its owner.

Mr. Haines was born in the village of Foxcraft, Maine, in 1828. His father, Walter Haines, was a farmer by occupation and was of American birth and parentage. The family has been in America many generations. Samuel Haines coming from Westbury, Wiltshire, England, in 1635. The family were prominent in the early American wars. The mother of our subject, Lidia (Carlton) Haines, was born in the state of New Hampshire, and was of American parentage. Her grandparents came from England.

Charles E. Haines was the eldest of a family

of twelve children, and he was raised on a farm in his native state and assisted with the work there, receiving but limited education. He left home at the age of twenty-one years and worked at farm labor for several years. He followed this line of work during the summer seasons and spent his winters in the woods. In 1857 he went to Minnesota, and the first six months there were spent in Minneapolis. He then began farming in Hennepin county, twenty-eight miles from there, and he continued farming there about five years, but was driven out of that locality by the Indian outbreak. He resided at Rockford, Wright county, sixteen years, following the wagonmaker's trade there. About 1880 he located in Aitkin, when there were but few houses there, and there were but two or three white families there. He began contracting and working at job work and continued until 1896, when he disposed of his interests in the town and purchased a wild piece of land adjoining the town and began farming thereon. He has cleared the timber from the place and has improved the farm and has made a success of vegetable raising, his potatoes taking first premium at the state fair. He has a good orchard on the place and also raises berries and small fruits. His place is well kept and is one of the pleasant homes of Aitkin county.

Mr. Haines was married in Maine to Elizabeth Perkins. Mrs. Haines was born in Maine and was a daughter of John Perkins, who was of English descent. Mrs. Haines died in Minnesota. Three children were born to this union, namely: Charles W., Wesley and Frances. Mr. Haines was married to Charlotte Douglas in Minnesota. Mrs. Haines was the widow of a soldier of the Civil war and was a native of Canada. She died in 1898. Mr. Haines married Jennie Porter in December, 1899. Mrs. Haines was born in Indiana and was a widow. Our subject has been identified with the Republican party since Lincoln's time, and previous to that was a Whig. He was in the convention that nominated Hannibal Hamlin for governor of the state, and he took a prominent part in the public affairs of Maine and also of Minnesota. He served as coroner of Aitkin county four years and as justice of the peace four years and as township supervisor two terms.

#### OLE A. HOLMBERG.

Ole A. Holmberg, one of the very thrifty and successful Minnesota farmers, whose home is in the town of Cambridge, Isanti county, was born in Wester Botten, Sweden, in 1850. His father was a farmer, and his grandfather was a soldier in the Napoleonic wars.

Mr. Holmberg is one of a large family of children, fourteen of whom lived to reach maturity.

He was reared in Sweden and had no schooling. His knowledge of writing and reading was acquired by the help of his parents, and his education has very largely come from contact with the world. Mr. Holmberg was twenty-two years of age when he was married to Mary H. Pearson, who was born in Sweden in 1848. To this union there have come the following children: John P., who is a railroad agent at Rock Creek, Minnesota; Charles Oscar; Gustave; Teckla M.; Nina; Victoria; and Annie.

Mr. Holmberg and his family came to America in 1873, landing at Quebec, but making their way into Illinois, where he worked for a time as a tailor, a trade which he had learned in his native land. Three years later he brought his family into Isanti county, and for a time was busy at whatever he could find to do. In 1878 he bought a farm in section 29, Cambridge township, where he put up a small dwelling house and began his farming operations with oxen, upon which he depended for the ensuing ten years. His supplies, after the manner of the times, were hauled from Anoka, and many a night did he sleep on the roadside. To-day he owns a fine farm of about one hundred and twenty acres, with some forty-five improved and under cultivation, the rest being pasture and meadow. His farm buildings are modern and good, and his supply of the needed farm machinery ample.

Mr. Holmberg is a Republican, and has been supervisor for nine years and county commissioner four years. For twenty-one years he has been a member of the Lutheran church at Cambridge, and is an active man in that communion. Once he has been a representative in the Synod and twice in the Conference.

#### ANDREW MELHUS.

Prosperity comes sooner or later to the man of energetic character and strict honesty. Such a gentleman is the subject of this review. He is a resident of section 21 in Bear Park township and is one of the prosperous and influential citizens of Norman county. He has followed the calling of a farmer for many years and is now proprietor of a fine estate, which furnishes the comforts of life and many of its luxuries, and he has incidentally gained a good name as a citizen. He is a native of Norway, and was born August 2, 1854.

Our subject's father, John Melhus, was a native of Norway, as was also the mother, whose maiden name was Annie Lilliberg. Our subject remained in his native land until he was twenty-four years of age and there received his education. He then emigrated to America, locating in Houston county, Minnesota, where he remained about a year, and then spent a year in Jackson

county, Wisconsin. He later returned to southern Minnesota and was employed as bridge carpenter on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, and then went to Manton, where he followed the carpenter's trade about a year. He then went to Norman county and located his farm in Bear Park township, where he has since held residence. He is now proprietor of a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, of which eighty acres is under plow and the balance is devoted to pasture and timber. He has placed good buildings on his farm and has provided every comfort for the family and stock and keeps three horses and seven head of cattle. He has a good supply of farm machinery for the easy garnering of the products of the farm, and altogether the place has the appearance of good management and careful cultivation.

Our subject was married in 1883 to Elita Jorganson, a daughter of George Nelson, a native of Norway. Mrs. Melhus was born in Norway, February 3, 1859. Mr. and Mrs. Melhus are the parents of one child, upon whom they have bestowed the name of Annie. The family are members of the Lutheran church and are most highly esteemed by their neighbors and those who know them.

Our subject is a gentleman who gives the topics of the day his earnest thought, and he is prominent in public affairs of his community. He has served as chairman of the township board for the past eight years and is widely known as a farmer of good ability and a citizen of sterling character. He is a Populist politically and is a hearty supporter of reform principles and movements. Mr. Melhus was appointed postmaster of Ranum, Norman county, in March, 1899, and is the present incumbent. He is also president of the Bear Park Mercantile Company, and the business is carried on in the same building as the Ranum postoffice.

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#### JOHN GLEASON.

John Gleason, the subject of this sketch, is one of the well-known men of Polk county, and ranks among its leading citizens. He is a gentleman of excellent character, intelligent and progressive, and has a host of friends throughout the county and surrounding country.

Mr. Gleason was born in Auburn, New York, February 26, 1846, and was the only child born to Edward and Julia (Wentworth) Gleason. He enlisted in Company B, Sixteenth United States Infantry, March 17, 1862, and served three terms. He was the youngest soldier of his company, and was discharged from the service with the rank of first sergeant. During 1862 to 1865 he was with the Army of the West, and was at Stone River, Missionary Ridge and in the battle before Atlanta,

and was also engaged at Chattanooga. He saw much active service and served his country with loyalty and honor.

After the close of the war Mr. Gleason engaged in mercantile pursuits, and in February, 1880, located at Fisher's Landing, which was then at the height of its boom, and was the most important point for emigrants of the northwest. Mr. Gleason established a general merchandise store in partnership with C. H. Sproat, and until 1894 was identified with the business interests of the place. In the fall of that year he was elected county auditor, and was subsequently elected twice to this office, and has since 1894 made his home in Crookston.

Mr. Gleason was married in June, 1878, to Miss Jessie V. Sprout. Two daughters have been born to this union, upon whom the parents have bestowed the names of Gertrude and Nettie. Mr. Gleason is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the G. A. R. In early life Mr. Gleason was identified with the Republican party. He became connected with the Populist party in 1890, through the Alliance movement, and assisted in the organization of the Populist party, and was secretary of the county central committee six years. He votes independent of party, and lends his influence for good government, national and local.

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#### ANDREW J. ADAMS.

Andrew J. Adams, deceased, was a farmer of much prominence and a citizen of great influence in Wadena county. He resided on section 4 of Wadena township, where he surrounded himself with the conveniences and comforts of modern rural life. His portrait will be found upon another page of this volume.

Mr. Adams was born June 19, 1829, in West Virginia. His parents, Philip C. and Mary (Tawley) Adams, were natives of Virginia. In his native state our subject received a good common-school education, and on reaching his majority he opened a hardware and general merchandise business, which he conducted for some time. He then devoted himself to farming, and continued to reside in West Virginia until 1880. At that time he determined to see what the west offered to an enterprising man, and the same year emigrated to Minnesota. He lived for one year in the city of St. Paul, and then in 1881 came to Wadena county and purchased land in section 4 of Wadena township. His farming operations succeeded to a marked degree, and he was at the time of his death the possessor of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres of well-diversified lands, adapted to general farming and stock raising. For the last eleven years of his life he rented his farm and lived practically in

retirement. He had a comfortable residence and one of the most desirable estates in the county.

Mr. Adams was one of the surviving old soldiers of our Civil war. He enlisted September 16, 1862, in Company H, Third West Virginia Volunteer Cavalry, and during his three years' service was promoted to be captain of Company B. He performed meritorious duties for the cause of the Union and saw much hard service. He was mustered out June 30, 1865.

In 1849 Mr. Adams was married to Eliza Pickens, a native of Virginia. Mrs. Adams died leaving one son, namely, Philip C., the date of his birth being October 5, 1855. In 1890 Mr. Adams was married to Rachel A. Raines. Mrs. Adams was born in West Virginia January 10, 1850. Of this marriage one son has been born, namely, Philander, the date of his birth being May 22, 1892. Mr. Adams was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and of the G. A. R. He died July 19, 1901. He was held in high respect, and was well known through the county as one of the respected early settlers. The widow and son still rent the farm and reside in the residence thereon.

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#### NELS LARSON.

Nels Larson, an industrious and successful farmer, whose pleasant and well-kept farm home in section 30, Eglon township, Clay county, affords every evidence of thrift and prosperity, was born in Tillemarken, Norway, in 1827, and is the son of a shoemaker, who lived and died in Norway. The father served in the Norwegian army ten years.

Nels Larson was the oldest member of the family of children born to his parents, and was reared and educated in Norway. When he was eight years old he was thrown upon his own resources, and at the age of sixteen set himself to learning the shoemaker's trade, which he followed until he was twenty-three. In 1851 he sought a home in the United States, and was in the advance of the great flood of Norwegian immigration that has brought so much brawn and muscle, brains and thrift to this country. He landed in New York and came straight through to Walworth county, Wisconsin, where he was engaged in farming for a short time, and then became an employe of a brick yard. Presently he bought out his employer and ran the yard himself for some eighteen or twenty years. Mr. Larson developed a very extensive business, and at one time owned three different places in Walworth county.

Mr. Larson was married in 1853 to Miss Christine Olsdatter, who was born in Norway, close to the birthplace of her husband. Her father was a laborer. To this union were born

six children: Ole is a farmer; Louise is married; Louis is a farmer; Nels is at home; Caroline is married; and Andrew is at home. All were born in Wisconsin.

Mr. Larson came to Clay county, Minnesota, in the spring of 1876, taking his present farm as a homestead, in section 30, Eglon township. He put up a log house, 16x20 feet, which is still standing and in use as a granary. Mr. Larson brought in his family in 1877, though they did not move into the log house until the following year, as he operated a rented farm the year of their coming.

Mr. Larson had for his first team a pair of stags, and also bought a yoke of steers. For some four or five years he did all his farm work with oxen. He was manufacturing lime on his farm for some four or five years. From twelve acres of wheat he harvested his first crop of two hundred and forty bushels. To-day he owns a farm of four hundred acres, with about half of it under cultivation, and very largely devoted to grain.

When Mr. Larson landed in New York he had nothing to rely upon but his own courage and muscle, and it is not too much to say that he has made a remarkable success.

In 1863 Mr. Larson enlisted in Company F, Thirty-fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and saw service in the southwest, at New Orleans, in Alabama and in Texas. He was in the army two and a half years and made a record as a brave and loyal soldier of his adopted country, of which his children and friends may well be proud.

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#### GEORGE W. MANNING.

George W. Manning, a well-to-do and intelligent farmer of Buse township, is classed among the worthy citizens of Ottertail county, Minnesota. He has passed through pioneer life in the northwest and has succeeded through his industry and careful attention to his business and is now the owner of one of the finest farms of that region.

Mr. Manning was born in Pennsylvania, February 3, 1838, and was a son of Harvey B. and Betsy (Grimes) Manning, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter born in Pennsylvania. Our subject was raised on a farm in his native state, where he attended the common schools, and later worked on the farm and in the lumber woods until he was thirty years of age. He then went to Michigan and was in the lumbering business there ten years, when he disposed of his interests in Michigan and removed to North Dakota in 1878. He purchased land and entered extensively into stock-raising, and there owned two sections of land, half of which he gave



to his son and the other half of his land he sold in 1899 and located in Ottertail county, Minnesota. He bought a half section in Buse township, and is now the fortunate owner of three hundred and twenty-six acres of land in all. His residence is on section 22, and is one of the best farm houses of the county. It is a ten-room house, two stories, and furnished with every comfort and convenience. His barn is 80x80 feet, with twenty-foot posts, and has hay room for one hundred and seventy-five tons. He also has other barns for the shelter of sheep, cattle and other stock, and is engaged extensively in stock-raising. He has about thirty-five head of cattle and forty head of horses, including blooded stock, trotters and running stock. He has plenty of farm machinery, and good water is drawn by a windmill. His residence is pleasantly situated in a grove of twenty acres of transplanted trees, and every detail of the place is carefully looked after and managed.

Mr. Manning was married in 1863 to Rubie Starkweather. Mrs. Manning was born in the state of New York, December 16, 1841. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Manning, namely: William H., Mary E. and Maude I. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Fergus Falls, and Mrs. Manning is a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Maccabees Lodge. Mr. Manning has always taken an active interest in local affairs wherever he has resided. He was one of the oldest settlers of Ransom county, North Dakota, and was the first sheriff of the county, which position he held for three years. Politically he is a Republican, and is a man of wide influence.

#### MARVIN W. BUCKLAND.

Marvin W. Buckland, living on section 17, Wadena township, deserves mention along with those successful agriculturists who have made northwest Minnesota famous. He is one of the substantial citizens of Wadena county, and his estate is well known as one of the best kept and most prosperous appearing farms in the township.

Mr. Buckland was born in New York November 7, 1849. His parents, Alver and Lucy (Patterson) Buckland, were natives of Vermont. Our subject was reared to the age of fourteen years in his native state and received his education in the public schools. He then went to Jackson county, Michigan, where he attended school six months. He then went to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and did farm work for three years. In 1869 he began farming on his own account, having removed to Iowa in that year, and for ten years following he farmed in that state, meeting with considerable success. He arrived in Wadena county, Minnesota, in 1879, and selected a tract

of land which he purchased from the railroad company. He followed lumbering for five years, and then in 1891 purchased another farm on section 17 of Wadena township. He erected a good residence, barn and other outbuildings, and proceeded to place his farm in a good state of cultivation. His estate is supplied with an abundance of water, and he devotes his attention to general farming and stock raising. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of the most valuable land in the township, and cultivates annually over one hundred acres. He has plenty of stock, the best farm machinery, and many conveniences and modern appliances for the successful prosecution of agriculture.

Mr. Buckland was married June 13, 1897, to Mrs. Taylor, formerly Minnie Stell. Mrs. Buckland was born in Richmond, Virginia, October 8, 1864. She is the daughter of George and Annie Stell, both of southern birth. Mr. and Mrs. Buckland have one adopted son, Earl B. Buckland, born in Minnesota July 10, 1892. Mr. Buckland is a kind and indulgent husband and a man of good judgment and business capacity. In politics he is a Democrat, and takes an intelligent interest in all public affairs. He is highly esteemed in the community in which he lives, and well merits his success and prosperity.

#### NILS MALM.

Nils Malm, residing on section 14, in Big Woods township, Marshall county, Minnesota, may well be called the pioneer of that locality. Through his instrumentality many settled in that region, but he is the only one of those who went to the country with him who has remained to witness the striking transformation in the landscape and profit by his labors. He is now proprietor of a fine farm and enjoys the comforts of rural life and the esteem of his community.

Mr. Malm was born in Oppnanna Sacken, Christianstadsland, Sweden, February 5, 1855, and was the only child born to Alfred and Anna (Olson) Johansson. The father died when our subject was but a year and a half old, and he was reared by his uncle, Ored Malm, by whom he was treated as a son, and when he emigrated to America he honored his foster parent by taking the name of Malm. From the age of nine years he worked in a livery barn, and in 1873 came to America to join his uncle in Kandiyohi county, Minnesota. He worked first at shoveling snow on the railroad, and then secured employment in an elevator at Wilmar, Minnesota, and was thus engaged three years. In the spring of 1879 he went in search of government land, and walked from Crookston to Argyle, where he stopped for a short time with Peter Jarvais, who loaned him a pony with which to hunt his location, and after

spending three days in looking over the country he selected the homestead on which he now resides, and March 11th filed his claim. In April of the same year he started from Kandiyohi county with his uncle and aunt, and driving overland as the guide for a train of emigrants consisting of eight wagons, he arrived with the party and seventy-one head of cattle at his homestead May 21st. He is now the only one of the company who makes his home in Marshall county. The family lived in their wagon for some time until a 12x16-foot house was built, and this was the first frame house within a radius of ten miles. Mr. Malm devoted himself to stock raising and general farming, and he has developed a farm of five hundred and forty acres. He has successfully given much attention to the stock raising industry, and his farm is admirably adapted to this branch of agriculture. The land is well drained and he has a forty-acre wood lot. His farm buildings are good, and every improvement of the place is of the most approved style.

Mr. Malm was married in 1882 to Miss Anna Martenson, who died April 5, 1891. Five children were born to this union, namely: Albert; John, deceased; Selma, deceased; Victor; and William. Mr. Malm was married to Miss Betsy Lidan in 1891. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Malm, named as follows: Arthur; Esther, deceased; and Minnie. Mr. Malm is prominently identified with the Populist party. He assisted in organizing the Farmers' Alliance, and has been an energetic advocate of Populist doctrines from the early organization of the party.

#### ANDREW KROGH.

Andrew Krogh, a thrifty and provident farmer, resides on his farm in section 33, Eglon township, Clay county, where he has built up for himself a very successful agricultural business. He is industrious and honest, devotes himself to his farming with enthusiasm, and is a striking specimen of what it is possible for a son of Norway to become in this land of opportunity. Mr. Krogh was born in Trondjem, Norway, on a farm, where he was reared. His father was a miller as well as a tiller of the soil, and came to this country several years later than Andrew.

Andrew Krogh is the second member of a family of three children born to his parents, and was educated in his Norwegian home. When he was sixteen years of age he began life for himself as sailor in the coast trade, penetrating into every part of the Norwegian and Swedish shores. In 1880 he came to the new world, landing at Halifax, Nova Scotia, and for a time was engaged in the construction of the Canadian Pacific, on the line west of Lake Superior. After some two

months of this work he came to Minneapolis, and in the spring of 1881 began farming.

Mr. Krogh had already been married to Miss Betsy Braseto before he left the fatherland. They were married in 1875. Her father was a farmer. In 1881 Mr. Krogh bought eighty acres of railroad land in section 27, Eglon township, on which he lived for some three years, doing all his farming during that time with oxen, and from his first summer's work harvesting one hundred and eighty-five bushels of wheat from five acres of ground. In 1884 he sold out and went to Dayton, Washington, where he was engaged for some two years in a flouring mill, and in 1886 returned to Clay county and bought a farm of eighty acres in section 33, Eglon township. To-day he owns two hundred acres, about half of which is under cultivation. He has good farm buildings, all the machinery required for the thorough cultivation of the place, and an ample supply of good horses and other stock. Very successful in all his undertakings, he owns a good farm and has attained a high standing in the community by close and hard work and strict attention to his business.

Mr. Krogh is a Republican, and has filled the positions of supervisor and member of the school board. He and his good wife are members of the Lutheran church, where they are highly esteemed and have many friends.

#### ARMAND CLEMETSON.

Armand Clemetson, whose fine home in section 26, Eglon township, Clay county, affords ample evidence of thrift and industry, is a man whose honesty is unquestioned, and whose manly character has won for him a host of friends. He was born on the farm Syrud Hangan, in Kongsvinger, Norway, October 15, 1851, and comes of a family long devoted to the cultivation of the soil. His father was a farmer, and served in the Norwegian army. In 1871 he brought his family to this country, landing in New York, and making his way to Clay county, where he arrived June 14, 1871. As far as Benson he was able to come by rail, but from that point he completed the journey into Clay county by ox-team. He took up a homestead in section 26, Eglon township, and began a farming career. At first but poor success crowned his efforts. His crops were poor. In 1873 there was nothing to sell, and it was almost as bad the following year. In 1875 hail destroyed what was a promising crop. Mr. Clemetson did the best he could, and finally won out in good shape after a hard struggle, and became quite prosperous.

Armand Clemetson remained with his parents two years, and helped his father establish himself on the farm, and then striking out for himself,

made his living for quite a term by hunting and trapping. He later engaged in stock raising, and worked for quite a time on the railroad. In the spring of 1876 he was married to Miss Anna Anderson, who was born in Norway and came to the United States alone in 1873. To this union has come a numerous family, consisting of the following children: Anna and Lena, who are married; Carl; Ella; Eda; Andrew; Sophia, who died June 22, 1886; Severt; the twins, Oscar and Alfred; Edward; Hilda; Stella; and Richard.

Mr. Clemetson took a farm in section 4 of Park township in 1873, where he lived one year after his marriage, in a log house 18x16 feet. As already noted, those were unfavorable years, and but little could be done in grain raising. In 1877 Mr. Clemetson removed to his present farm, which is the southwest quarter of section 26, Eglon township. When he located here he had but twenty acres of open land, all the rest being covered with a heavy growth of shrub and brush. Now he has one hundred and twenty acres under the plow and the rest in hay and timber land. In 1878 he built his first house and barn on this place, where he now has a fine two-story house, built in 1898, 16x28 feet, with a kitchen 16x18 feet, and a cellar under the main part. His barn is 26x70 feet, and his granary 16x24 feet, with fourteen-foot posts. He has all the machinery needed for the successful operation of this farm, and is running quite extensively into stock raising. Since 1877 he has had what he regards as good luck, but it is rather the success that is bound to come to earnest endeavor and steadfast work. He has harvested as high as forty bushels to the acre and never less than eleven.

Mr. Clemetson has engaged extensively in threshing, and owned one of the first self-binders brought into the town. To-day he owns four hundred acres, and is regarded as one of the most successful farmers in the neighborhood. He is a Republican, and is now school treasurer. He is a Lutheran, and has taken an active part in church affairs.

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#### PETER MAURIN.

Peter Maurin, the pioneer merchant of Elizabeth, Minnesota, whose portrait appears on another page, is a man of more than ordinary business ability, and has climbed to the top of the mercantile business of Ottertail county by dint of his energy and good management. He is proprietor of an extensive business at Elizabeth and also Cold Springs, Minnesota, and is also the owner of extensive farm lands in Ottertail and adjacent counties.

Mr. Maurin was born on a farm in Carniola, Austria, in 1839. His father, Marcus Maurin,

was a wholesale dealer in goldsmith tools, and traveled over Europe and made some visits to America, but spent most of his time in his native country in the sale of his goods. The parents of our subject were Slavs and talked the Slavic language. Of their family of nine children our subject was the third in order of birth. He was raised on a farm and attended both the Slavic and German schools. He came to America at the age of nineteen years and began to support himself. He landed at New York City the middle of October, 1859, and from there went direct to Chicago, arriving in that city with but twenty-five cents. He at once purchased a stock of goods on time, and with them went direct to Minnesota, peddling with a horse and wagon. This was his start in a business which has proven profitable, and his present extensive trade is due to his first successful efforts. He followed this manner of selling for about four years, and thus visited the greater part of Minnesota, doing a good business among the Indians and the soldiers, as he kept an assorted stock, ranging from a needle up to wearing apparel and jewelry. He opened a general store in Cold Springs in 1863, conducting the business under the firm name of Maurin Brothers, and conducted the business there with unbounded success for nine years. This is now the largest mercantile establishment in Cold Springs, Mr. Maurin still retaining his interest there. He located in Elizabeth, Minnesota, in 1872, and purchased a business which had been previously established there. The town then consisted of but a half dozen buildings, there was no railroad nearer than Breckenridge, and it was truly a pioneer town. In August of that year Mr. Maurin assumed personal supervision of the business at Elizabeth, and has since enjoyed a good business with the exception of the years when grasshoppers devastated the country. He conducted the business in a log building about eight years. His store now occupies a building 34x96 feet, with an addition 16x96 feet, and a storehouse 24x70 feet, two stories in height. This is the largest general store in Ottertail county and a complete stock to conduct a model department store is carried. Mr. Maurin's brother has the management of the store at Cold Springs, which occupies an even larger building than the store at Elizabeth, and a larger stock is kept. Aside from the mercantile business Mr. Maurin engages in farming extensively, and also stock raising and he has about twenty-five hundred acres of land in Ottertail county. He is also interested in a grain elevator at Carlyle, Minnesota, and he follows grain buying.

Mr. Maurin was married at Faribault, Minnesota, July 27, 1868, to Annie A. Kaus, a native of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Mrs. Maurin's father came to America from Austria and settled in

Wisconsin. Mrs. Maurin was reared in Lafayette, Minnesota, and received a liberal education there. Mr. and Mrs. Maurin are the parents of seven children, namely: Emma A., now married; Martha J., Matilda J., Marcus P. B., Frank J., Antonette J. and Henry F. Mr. Maurin has always taken a commendable interest in public affairs, and is president of the village board and chairman of the township board of supervisors, and has served as postmaster ten years. He and family are members of the Catholic church, and Mr. Maurin has taken an active part in church work. He was one of the organizers and builders of the church at Elizabeth and also Cold Springs, and has served as a member of the board of trustees. Politically he is a Democrat, and is an earnest worker for party doctrines.

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#### MARTIN CHRISTOPHERSON.

Martin Christopherson, deceased, was born on the Atlantic ocean in 1854, his parents at that time being on their way to the United States. They settled in Vernon county, Wisconsin, on a farm, where Martin was reared and educated. When he was sixteen years of age he began life for himself, working as a farm hand for some three years, and then made his way to Minnesota. He spent several years in Iowa, Minnesota and the Dakotas, finally locating in 1881 in Clay county, Minnesota, where he made a homestead entry of the southeast quarter of section 34 in Morken township. Putting up a claim shanty, 12x14 feet, he settled down to the improvement of his place, and lived alone until his marriage, in the fall of the following year, to Miss Tilly Thompson, who was born in Vernon county, Wisconsin. Her father, Christian Thompson, was born in Norway, and was a sailor in his early days, but became a farmer later in his life. While he was a sailor he visited every country in Europe. Mr. and Mrs. Christopherson had two children, Charles, who was born in 1883, and Mary Ann, who was born in 1884.

Mr. Christopherson began his farming with an ox-team, and slowly made his way to a condition of comfort and independence. His first crops were good, and then several were destroyed by the floods, but gradually the country was drained and is now in fine condition for grain farming. His widow owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, almost all of which is under cultivation. In an early day he gave much attention to stock raising and found it very profitable.

For three years the family has lived in Moorhead, for the purpose of sending the children to the schools of that city. Mr. Christopherson died in December, 1900, leaving behind him a name of honor and respect. His death threw the bur-

den of the farm on his widow, who has taken hold of the management of affairs and demonstrated the possession of much business ability. Her farming is a success. Mr. Christopherson was a Republican, and at one time served as supervisor, and also as a constable.

On the Christopherson farm is a fine flowing well, a good house, and all the machinery that is needed for the successful cultivation of the farm. It has a commodious barn and an ample granary.

While living in Moorhead Mr. Christopherson conducted a store, in which he made a specialty of new and second-hand furniture, stoves and similar goods. Charles Christopherson, his son, attended Concordia College in Moorhead, and Mary Ann Christopherson, the daughter, has attended the Moorhead high school. She is a musician of acknowledged ability, and is taking instruction from local teachers, with promise of much result.

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#### REV. T. TJORNHOM.

Rev. T. Tjornhom, the consecrated and popular pastor of Our Saviour's Lutheran church of Fergus Falls, has been a factor in the development of the moral and religious interests of Minnesota, and deserves a place in the history of the Lutheran church in the northwest.

Rev. Mr. Tjornhom is a native of Norway, and was born April 26, 1866. His father, Aaron Tjornhom, was a prominent teacher and principal of schools in Norway. Our subject traces his ancestry back twelve generations to the time when two brothers came from Holland to serve in the Norwegian army. One of these brothers married a wealthy Norwegian lady, by whom he came into possession of vast landed interests. These early ancestors took part in the Norwegian war from 1563 to 1571. They were prominent people and were much in public life, and their descendants were among the first to join the reformation. The grandfather and great-grandfather and their ancestors for generations back have been lay preachers, our subject being the first to be regularly ordained. His mother was Malene Soland, daughter of Ole Johannas, who was a prominent business man in Norway and had extensive fisheries. He assumed obligations for others, however, and becoming involved, his last days were passed in comparative poverty. Many of her ancestors were sea captains and sailors, and one of her brothers was also a sea captain.

Our subject is the eldest in a family of nine children, and was reared on the farm until he was thirteen years old, attending the common schools in the meantime. At this age he left home and attended the academy in the city of Flekkefjord. After completing a three-years course there he entered college in Christiania,

where he took a two-years course. He then obtained a position in the postoffice at Christiania, where he remained until he was twenty-one years old. He was then made assistant preacher in the Norwegian Seaman's Mission in Amsterdam, Holland, and served in this capacity three years, during which time he mastered the Hollandish language and studied theology. In 1890 he came to America, and in the general council of the Lutheran church was ordained at Pottstown, Pennsylvania. While attending the Lutheran seminary at Mount Airy, in the city of Philadelphia, he had charge of congregations. He was called to St. Paul in December, 1892, and there took charge of the Norwegian Trinity Lutheran church, of which he served as pastor for nearly seven years. In the summer of 1899 he was called to Fergus Falls and assumed the pastorate of Our Saviour's Lutheran church of that city, in which capacity he is now serving. This church was established in 1871, Rev. John Arnt Berg being its first pastor. The present church building and parsonage were erected in 1873. The second pastor was Rev. M. Iverson, the third was Rev. A. Wvold, the fourth was Rev. Jord Lind Svenoe, and the fifth is our subject. The conclusion has been reached by the congregation to build a new church in 1902. The church has prospered since its establishment, and the congregation now numbers more than fifty families, and is one of the leading churches of the city. Rev. Mr. Tjornhom also has charge of a church at Kongsberg, three and a half miles northeast of the city, the congregation there comprising twenty families. This church was established in 1871, and their present building was erected in 1894.

Rev. Mr. Tjornhom was married in Norway in 1886 to Miss Hannah Olson. Mrs. Tjornhom was born in Christiania, and her father was Nels Olson, a tailor by occupation. Mrs. Tjornhom died in July, 1899, in Fergus Falls. Rev. Mr. Tjornhom is a thorough musician and acts as organist for the congregation on many occasions. He is a man of oratorical powers, and his influence is felt throughout the northwest.

#### MAX A. FANKHANEL.

Max A. Fankhanel, who is engaged in the saloon business in Barnesville, Clay county, was born in Saxony, Germany, in 1872. His father, who was a shoemaker, came to the United States in 1882, and settling in Wilkin county, took up a homestead. On this pioneer farm young Max grew to manhood, and there he had all the experiences of privation, hard work and fun and frolic that come to farmer boys on the frontier. He spent two years in St. Paul, and then coming back to Barnesville in 1896, started in business for

himself that year, and in it has been very successful, now having one of the leading places in this part of the county.

Mr. Fankhanel was married in 1897 to Miss Augusta Janneck, a native of Albany, New York, though her parents were both born in Germany. To this union has come one boy, Walter. Mr. Fankhanel is a Republican, and belongs to the Improved Order of Red Men and Ancient Order of Druids.

#### JOHN O'DONNELL.

John O'Donnell, one of the best known and most popular business men of Cloquet, Minnesota, is a pioneer of that region, and his business interests represent many years of industry and good business ability. Mr. O'Donnell is proprietor of a prosperous hotel, livery, feed and logging contract business in Cloquet, and is a man of energetic character and honest dealings.

Our subject was born on a farm in New Brunswick June 22, 1852. His father, James O'Donnell, was born near Londonderry, Ireland, and came to America when a young man. He was a farmer and hotel-keeper. The mother of our subject, Ellen (Welch) O'Donnell, was a native also of Ireland.

John O'Donnell was the youngest of a family of seven children, who grew to maturity. He was raised on a farm and received a country-school education, and at the age of eleven years left home and started for himself. He followed farm work for some time, and at the age of fifteen years came to the United States. He went to Stillwater, Minnesota, and there secured employment in the lumber camp as cook. He followed that business twenty-five years, and cooked in camps in all parts of Minnesota, Wisconsin and on the steamboats on the lakes. He made two trips to California and Washington, and one trip to Sitka, Alaska. He engaged in logging two winters, and conducted a hotel two years at Stillwater, Minnesota. He located at Cloquet as manager of C. M. Nelson's boarding house, and continued thus engaged about two years, and in the spring of 1898 built the O'Donnell House, and in May of that year opened the hotel for business. The same year he started a livery and dray business in connection with the hotel, and also a feed and sale stable. He now has the largest barn in the town and does the largest business, and has met with success in all his business ventures. In 1899 and 1900 he ran a logging camp for the Cloquet Lumber Company and banked logs for that company, and aside from the hotel business he now does contracting for the different lumber companies of that locality.

Mr. O'Donnell was married in September, 1882, to Miss Adelaide Duncan. Mrs. O'Donnell



was born in Maine, and her parents are of Scotch-Irish descent. Her father, Malcolm Duncan, was born in Scotland, and her mother was a native of Maine. Mr. O'Donnell takes a commendable interest in local public affairs, and has served as a delegate to numerous county conventions. He is a Democrat in political sentiment. He holds membership in the Woodmen of the World and the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

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#### MIENROD OCHSNER (DECEASED).

Becker county lost a most worthy citizen and Audubon township a representative early settler in the demise of Mienrod Ochsner, who had been a resident of Audubon township for many years and prospered in the pursuit of farming. He was born in Einsedel, Switzerland, January 22, 1843. His parents died in Switzerland, and he has one brother residing in Kansas City, Missouri, and other relatives in Tacoma, Washington.

Mr. Ochsner was the second in a family of eleven children, and he was reared near a village and became used to farm labor. His parents were strict in their discipline, and at the age of sixteen years he left home and came to America, in 1859, landing at New York City. He went to Chicago and during the next few years traveled over most of the states of the Union, and worked in most of the large cities of the east. He hired as a substitute in the Civil war, but did not enter the service. He teamed in Idaho, hauling quartz mills, and there is scarcely a state in the Union which he has not visited, and twice he possessed as much gold as he could carry, and then traveled and spent the amount. He and a companion went to Minnesota in 1870 and secured work constructing on the Northern Pacific Railroad west of Wadena, and worked on the line at different points through to Fargo. He had learned the butcher's trade after coming to America, and in 1871, in partnership with W. J. R. Herring, he established a meat business at Audubon, Becker county, and also opened a branch market at Lake Park, Minnesota. These were the first markets in these towns and did an extensive business, supplying meat for railroad construction crews and also to the Indian reservation. Mr. Ochsner also owned an interest in a saloon at Audubon for a few years. He followed the meat business there some sixteen years, and also dealt in live stock and engaged extensively in stock raising. He purchased his farm in Audubon township while engaged in the meat business, with the view of using the same as a stock farm, it being located but a mile and a half from Audubon. His health began to fail, and in 1888 he disposed of his interest in the meat business and moved to his farm, and in the fall of that year began operating the same.

The land was wild, a few improvements only having been put upon it, but he at once began the breaking of land and the cultivation of the same, and the farm became thoroughly improved and well tilled. It comprises three hundred acres, and is one of the best farms of the township.

Mr. Ochsner was married April 24, 1877, to Miss Matilda Peterson, who was born in Sweden and came to America about 1859 with her parents when she was an infant. Her father, Andrew Peterson, was a tailor by trade and also a laborer, and the family settled in Moline, Illinois, and became early settlers there, and there Mrs. Ochsner was reared and educated in the public schools. The family moved to northern Minnesota about 1870. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ochsner, who are as follows: Georgie, born February 22, 1878; Nora, born November 15, 1880; Maynard, born August 21, 1882; Mildred, born December 24, 1885; Laura B., deceased; and Winifred Hazel, deceased. Mr. Ochsner was not a man of strong physique, and he was troubled with heart disease more or less during his life, and while visiting at Perham, Minnesota, June 23, 1900, he dropped dead on the street beside his wife. His widow has recently married, and is now Mrs. Gundersen.

Mr. Ochsner was a man of strict integrity of word and deed, and his reputation was never called in question. He had a host of friends where he had spent so many years of his life, and he was universally mourned. He was prominent in township affairs and was chairman of the township board at the time of his demise, which office he had held two years, and he was ever interested in township and village affairs, and was identified with the advancement of civilization in Becker county, Minnesota. He was independent in politics.

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#### TOBIAS THOMPSON.

Tobias Thompson, residing on section 18 in Spring Brook township, is one of the early settlers of Kittson county. He is a man of wide experience, having traveled extensively, and his knowledge of men and the world has served him well. He is progressive and intelligent, and well merits his high station as a citizen and agriculturist.

Our subject was born on the farm Hegland, in Lyngdal, Norway, December 30, 1855, and was the second child and eldest son born to Thomas and Mary (Christiansen) Carlsen. He belongs to the family Carlsen, who for twenty-two generations have lived on the farm Quelland, in Lyngdal, Norway. At the age of seventeen years our subject went to sea and for eight years he followed this life. He crossed the Atlantic thirty times and visited many foreign shores. He loved



travel and adventure, and can recount many stories of his travels abroad, and enjoys descriptions and stories of foreign places. He came to America for a location in the spring of 1881 and spent some time in Rice county and one year at Fisher's Landing, Minnesota, and in the spring of 1883 he entered claim to the land upon which he now resides. He was obliged to borrow money with which to purchase materials and erect a small shanty, and his personal property at the time consisted of a cow and calf. He worked at painting and any other work obtainable, and it was about three years before he began to work his farm to any extent, he then being able to purchase a yoke of oxen. He is now the owner of a well-improved estate, and he has earned the same by his own energy and industrious habits. He was one of the early settlers of his township, and of necessity endured the hardships incident to pioneer life, but with undaunted courage he set about his task and has been rewarded for his labors, and is one of the substantial farmers of his township.

Our subject was married in 1878 to Miss Caroline Anstensen. Ten children have been born to bless this union, who are named as follows: Amelia; Theodore; Emma; Amanda; Julius; Clara; Turner; Norman, deceased; Nora; and Charles. Since taking up his residence in Kittson county Mr. Thompson has taken a most hearty interest in the public affairs, and he has been called upon to serve as a member of the township board and for ten years as justice of the peace in his township. He is a Populist politically, and was one of the organizers of the party in his township, and as a delegate he has been prominent in affairs of political import.

#### CHARLES E. COLBY.

Charles E. Colby, one of the bright and pushing business men of Barnesville, who has done not a little to the making of this part of Clay county, was born in Wabasha county, Minnesota, in the town of Plainview, where his father, George H. Colby, lived for many years. The father is now living as a retired farmer at Hector, Minnesota. He served in the Civil war for two years. He came into Minnesota from New York.

Charles E. Colby was reared and educated in Glencoe, Minnesota, where he passed through the local high school, and was a student at the Archibald Business College, in Minneapolis. He had been in a printing office prior to attending college and had become thoroughly familiar with the printer's trade from the time he was thirteen years old. In 1884 he went to Groton, South Dakota, where he spent the ensuing four years as a clerk

in the postoffice and as mailing clerk in the railway postal service. In 1888 he bought the Glencoe Enterprise, was its editor and manager for two years, and then sold out to establish a job office in Duluth, which he conducted until 1893. While in Duluth Mr. Colby was married to Miss Anna Termath. She was born at LeSueur, Minnesota, of a German lineage, though her parents were born in America. To this union have come two children, Dana and Everett.

Mr. Colby removed to Grand Rapids, Minnesota, in 1893 to take the position of foreman of the Magnet, which he held until 1896. In January, 1897, he established the Barnesville Record, and has been a resident of that city to the present time. The first issue of the paper was on January 28, 1897, and has not failed to appear every Thursday since that date. It is devoted to the principles of the Republican party, and is a readable and newsy sheet.

Mr. Colby is also largely interested in the real-estate business, and has dealt extensively in farming lands all over northern Minnesota and North Dakota. He has built up a good real-estate business, and has brought his paper up to a paying basis.

#### AUGUST E. ANDERSON.

August E. Anderson, residing on section 35, Granville township, is one of Kittson county's representative citizens, and may be classed among its pioneers. He is a native of Sweden, and has been fortunate in his adventures in his adopted land. Mr. Anderson was born January 6, 1863. His parents were Andrew and Gusta (Person) Anderson, both now deceased. The father was a prominent farmer and country merchant in Sweden.

August E. Anderson was reared and educated in his native land, and at the early age of fifteen years began to plan for his eventual settlement in America. Three years later he prevailed upon his father to allow him to make the venture, and on October 22, 1881, he arrived in Chicago. On leaving Chicago he was in a railroad wreck on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, in which there were many injured and three killed, and Mr. Anderson sustained injuries. He soon secured work on government contracts on the Mississippi river, and for two years following worked at such occupations as presented themselves, and it was not until 1883 that he came to Minnesota. In the spring of that year he arrived in Kittson county, but finding the country covered by water he decided to make no permanent settlement. However, he returned to the county during the harvest of the same year, and the prospect was so encouraging that he decided to make it his future home. In the spring:

of 1886 Mr. Anderson invested in his present farm and proceeded to develop it, in the meantime residing with his brother-in-law. His present estate is one of the most valuable in Kittson county. The improvements are of the best, and his conveniences are all of modern style. The present value and excellent condition of his property is due to his industry, persistence and businesslike management.

In 1889 Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Dorothea Carlson. They have a family of four children, named as follows: Hulda, Hattie, Helmar and Hildur. They have a pleasant home, and their education receives a good degree of attention from their parents. Mr. Anderson is a member of the Lutheran church, is prominent in his community, and for ten years has been a member of the township board. In 1895 he made a trip to Sweden, and spent three months revisiting the scenes of his boyhood and renewing acquaintances formed in his youth. Mr. Anderson is well known throughout the county, and the circle of his popularity is only limited by his acquaintance. He is essentially a self-made man and has done much for the county of his adoption. He has in his farm three hundred and eighty acres of choice land. For ten years he has operated a threshing machine. On another page of this work will be found the portraits of both Mr. and Mrs. August E. Anderson.

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#### MORRIS J. SEGAL.

Morris J Segal, who occupies a prominent position among the early settlers of the Vermilion Range, is a successful business man of Tower, St. Louis county. He has been associated with the business interests of that locality since attaining his majority, and has reached a position of wealth and influence. Mr. Segal was born in Covno, Russia, in 1868.

Our subject's father, Jacob Segal, spent his life in Russia, and died when our subject was but five years of age. He was a baker by trade. Mr. Segal was reared in the city and gained his education in the public schools, and began his career in a private school. He went to England at the age of fifteen years, and held a prominent position with a Jewish society of London for about three years. He emigrated to America when eighteen years of age, and the first year after landing at New York he was engaged in clerking in that city. He went to Duluth about 1887, and with that city as his headquarters traveled over the adjacent country selling merchandise. He then established a wholesale and retail produce business at Boston, Minnesota, in 1890, which he followed three months, and then began the manufacturing of cigars at Tower in partner-

ship with Wolf Simon. They continued in business until about 1896, and their trade extended over the entire range, and Mr. Segal continued alone until 1899. Mr. Segal opened a saloon at Tower in 1899, and the following spring opened another saloon in West Duluth. In the spring of 1900 M. Harlow became a partner with Mr. Segal in the Tower branch saloon. In July, 1900, Mr. Segal sold his saloon in West Duluth, and disposing of his interest in Tower, he opened a saloon in Virginia. After two months he sold the business and again located in Tower in February, 1901. He has made his home at Tower during his various business operations elsewhere, and is among the well-known citizens of that town.

Mr. Segal was married in 1894 to Miss Fannie Simon, who was born in Vilno, Russia. Mrs. Segal's father, Jacob Simon, is a general merchant. Mr. and Mrs. Segal are the parents of four children: Samuel, David, Abraham and Eliah. Mr. Segal is a Republican.

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#### JOHN H. ELDRIDGE.

John H. Eldridge, a well-known hotel man of Clay county, Minnesota, was born in Ontario, Canada, in the village of Prescott, in 1861. His father, Charles Eldridge, was a hotel-keeper for eighteen years, and was born in England, where he served his time and thoroughly learned the trade of a bricklayer, and married Mary Ann Cox, an English girl, in Ontario, Canada. He came to the United States in the latter part of the 'fifties.

John H. Eldridge is the oldest member of a family of three children, and was reared and educated in the Canadian home, where he attended the public school and was well prepared for an active life. In March, 1882, he left home and came to Hallock, Minnesota, where he engaged in farming, taking a homestead and putting up a claim shanty, 12x14 feet. There he kept house for a year in company with Tom Wells, having the shanty on the farm line. His bed was against the wall, and to reach it he had to climb on the stove. He had a fair start, but the second year his crops proved a failure. He came to Grand Forks and secured a position with John F. Ohmer, a noted hotel and restaurant man of the northwest, with whom he remained nine years, being employed six years at Crookston and three at Grand Forks. He was also in charge of the depot hotel at Barnesville, under Mr. Ohmer, from June, 1887, to September, 1889. In that month he bought the depot hotel from Mr. Ohmer and has run it continuously to the present time with the exception of about a year, in 1896 and

1897. This hotel has been the leading place of its kind since its establishment.

Mr. Eldridge was married in June, 1897, to Miss Liddie C. Burgoffer. She was born in Illinois in 1864 and came of American parentage, her father having been born in Pennsylvania. To them has come one child from this union, Charles Hiram, who was born at Barnesville in December, 1898.

Mr. Eldridge has twice been alderman of Barnesville, and is a stanch Republican. He takes an active interest in local affairs. He is one of the early settlers of the county, and has done his full share toward its development. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Modern Woodmen of America. He takes an active and leading part in all social affairs in the city.

#### EDMUND M. WALSH.

Edmund M. Walsh stands in a foremost rank as a pioneer business man of Crookston, and one who has advanced the interests of the city in a marked degree and aided in bringing about the present prosperity enjoyed there. Mr. Walsh is manager of the Crookston Telephone Company, and was one of the organizers of the company. As a business man and citizen he holds the confidence and esteem of his associates.

Mr. Walsh was born in Essex county, New York, March 2, 1851, and was a son of Thomas and Eleanor Walsh. He resided in the Empire state but six years after his birth, and in 1857 removed with his parents to Henderson, Sibley county, Minnesota, and dates his Minnesota residence from that time. He was educated in Sibley county and grew to manhood there, and in 1870 assumed charge of his father's mercantile establishment there, which he later closed out. He then started out for himself, without money, but filled with a determination to make his fortune. He was a tinsmith by trade, and went to the Red river valley and spent some time in North Dakota and Manitoba plying his trade. He located in Crookston in 1872 and hauled lumber from Grand Forks and erected the first frame business houses of the city. He worked at his trade about a year there, and then entered into partnership with William Ross in the establishment of a general merchandise and hardware store. From 1880 to 1884 he was sole proprietor of the business. In 1890 he engaged in the real-estate business, and still deals in Minnesota lands. With the development of the city of Crookston the necessity of a telephone system became apparent, and in 1894 Mr. Walsh organized the Crookston Telephone Company, and he has since held the office of

manager of the company. This telephone system is the most extensive and satisfactory local system of the northern part of the state, and the business of the company has increased steadily and rapidly under the guidance of Mr. Walsh. Mr. Walsh has a pleasant and substantial residence on Summit Farm, a fine tract of land immediately adjacent to the city of Crookston, and there he has the advantages of the city and the quiet of country life. He devotes considerable attention to the advancement of dairy and stock raising interests, and has one of the best farms of Polk county.

Mr. Walsh was married in November, 1874, to Miss Emma Barrett, of Crookston. Five children have been born to bless this union, who are named as follows: William M., George H., Ella M., Edward and Clifford. Mr. Walsh is a gentleman of intelligent mind and pleasing personality, and he can recount with unerring accuracy the early incidents and experiences of life in Minnesota. He is active in all public movements, and has been honored with numerous public offices of trust. He served as county auditor from 1872 to 1875, and as clerk of courts in 1886. He served on the first city council, and in 1885 was elected mayor of Crookston and served two subsequent terms. He has a host of friends in Polk county and vicinity irrespective of party affiliations, and is one of the deservedly successful business men of his community. He was made a Mason in 1880, and created a Knight Templar in Palestine Commandery, No. 14, at Fergus Falls, in 1886.

#### HALVOR LEE.

Many of the sons of the Scandinavian peninsula have become thrifty and esteemed citizens of the United States and are found in almost every occupation, and especially through the west. Norman county, Minnesota, can boast of many of these desirable men, and a foremost place among the number is accorded Halvor Lee. He is a public-spirited citizen, devoted to the interests of his adopted land, and his labors in his present locality have done much toward strengthening local government and promoting prosperity.

Mr. Lee was born in Norway June 17, 1875, and his present home is at Gary, where he is engaged in the creamery business. He was the eldest in a family of ten children born to Ole and Aslaug (Evenson) Lee. His father was born in Norway June 5, 1848, and his mother was also born there, February 16, 1845. When five years of age our subject emigrated to America and located in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and after two years he removed with his parents to the farm in Norman county. He went to school in Fergus Falls, and in 1882 located in Ada, Min-

nesota. He took one hundred and sixty acres of land in Strand township as a homestead and worked on the place in company with his father, in the meantime attending the country schools. He remained at home until he was twenty years of age, when he began work in a creamery, and has devoted his attention to this business continuously since that time, and has met with good results. In his early life on the farm he followed ox-teams and drove a binder with oxen when he was but ten years of age. Heavy snows have been a part of his experiences in Minnesota, and he has passed through many blizzards. He was among the first settlers of Norman county, and he has witnessed its development and assisted materially in the same.

Our subject was married in 1899 to Alma Johnson, a daughter of Martin Johnson, a native of Norway, who now resides in Norman county and is one of the oldest settlers of that county. Mr. Lee has been a life-long member of the Lutheran church, of which denomination Mrs. Lee is also a member. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lee are widely known and most highly esteemed by their many friends. Our subject is constable of Strand township, and is a man in whom the people repose trust. In political sentiment Mr. Lee is a Prohibitionist and is a man of advanced ideas, and is thoroughly posted on current events. He was early forced to rely upon his judgment and experiences for a place in the world, and is truly one of the successful self-made men of his county.

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#### WILLIAM DALTON.

William Dalton, a leading farmer of Star Lake township, has his residence on his fine farm, consisting of two hundred and three and a half acres, the largest in the township which is farmed by its owner, and one of the largest in Ottertail county, of which the same may be said. His residence stands on section 22, and is a comfortable farm-house, nicely shaded with fruit and ornamental trees.

Mr. Dalton was born May 4, 1834, near Zanesville, Muskingum county, Ohio, a son of John and Charlotte (Nancy) Dalton, and a grandson of Nathan Dalton, who was English born, but a soldier in the armies of freedom during the Revolutionary war. Nathan Dalton married a woman from Germany, and settled with his family near Baltimore, Maryland.

William Dalton was the only child of his parents. His mother died when he was three months old, and his father married a second wife, by whom he had nine children. William Dalton was born and bred a farmer, and on the paternal acres grew to manhood. His was a youth of toil, relieved by but little schooling, as the exigencies

of life in those early days made the lot of the small farmer in Ohio a hard and dreary one. Young William attended the district schools, such as they were, to a limited extent, and remained at home until he reached his twenty-fifth year, and then worked for himself a time. He was drafted into the Union army September 4, 1864, becoming a member of Company I, Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. He is in receipt of a pension for injuries sustained to his health during those long and weary months. His military services were with the Army of the Potomac under General Grant, and he was a witness of the surrender of General Lee at Appomattox.

Mr. Dalton returned to his native state at the termination of the war and remained there some six years, but feeling that the northwest presented very much better opportunities to industry and thrift, he came to Carver county, Minnesota, in 1872.

Mr. Dalton and Miss Matilda Daniels were married in Pike county, Ohio, November 8, 1857, and to their union were born six children. The first died in infancy, unnamed; the second, Rosa, is the wife of Jacob L. Morris, of Tennessee, and is the mother of ten children; Caroline married Asa Phelps, a farmer of Star Lake township, Ottertail county, and is the mother of six children; Nancy is the wife of John Engelman, of St. Joseph, Missouri, and is the mother of four children; Andrew married Sarah Drayton, and is a farmer, with a fine home near his father, where he is rearing two children, Richard W. and Sarah Matilda; Charlotte is unmarried and keeps house for her father, making his home one of peace and comfort.

When Mr. Dalton came to Ottertail county, in 1878, he secured a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, and later added to his real estate holdings until he now has a farm of over two hundred acres, a portion of which he rents occasionally. His first home in Ottertail county was a log house, but it was later replaced by a substantial structure. Mr. Dalton has been supervisor and constable, as well as other local positions in Star Lake township. He is a man much respected by all who know him, and his good wife, who died October 1, 1898, was a lady of many womanly charms and graces.

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#### CARROLL H. CLIFFORD.

Carroll H. Clifford, an ex-soldier and prominent early settler of Becker county, Minnesota, is a gentleman of honest principles and industrious habits and by these traits of character has acquired a valuable property in Spruce Grove township, and the esteem of





## Y AND BIOGRAPHY.

He cleared the land. Four hundred acres of land are now in possession of the family and a set of good buildings has been erected there and seventy acres of land improved for cultivation. The farm is a valuable one, located on the Red Eye river, and has a mile and half of shore line, and one of the finest tracts of land in the state.

Mr. Clifford was married in 1867 to Miss Maria Fuller. Mrs. Clifford was born in Stowe, Vermont, and was a daughter of Madison Fuller, a mason by trade. Her parents went to Stearns county, Minnesota, when she was eight years of age and there she was reared and received an excellent education and followed the profession of teaching in Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Clifford are the parents of nine children, who are named as follows: Myrtle, Fred, Edith, Charlie, Walter, Jessie, Edward, Annibel and Burt. Mr. Clifford has always been prominently identified with the local history of the community in which he made his home, and while residing in Ottertail county held numerous offices of trust, and in Beck county is well known as a citizen of active public spirit. He was one of the organizers of his township and has served as justice of the peace since that date and has served as a member of the school board a good share of time. He was postmaster of Sand Lake, Minnesota, two and a half years, and at the establishment of Clifford postoffice on his farm in 1888 he was made postmaster and held the office four years, and Mrs. Clifford served in the same capacity eight years. Politically he is a Republican and is an earnest worker for party principles.

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## PETER A. PRESTING.

Peter A. Presting, a prominent merchant of Holden, Norman county, is a man of good executive ability and is a worthy citizen. He was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, in 1869, and is devoted to the interests of his native state. The father of our subject, Alenius Presting, came to America from Norway in 1866 and settled in Goodhue county, Minnesota. He was a blacksmith by trade and followed the same throughout his career. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Hannah Gjervan, was born in Norway, and came to America in 1858. Seven children were born to this worthy couple, of whom our subject was the first in order of birth. He was reared in Holden, Goodhue county, and attended the village schools, and when he was twelve years of age the father died, from which time our subject has depended upon himself for a livelihood. He worked at farm labor for ten years, and the family located in Nor-



man county in 1878 and settled in Fossum township. Our subject carried United States mail one year between Ada and Faith, Minnesota, after which he worked in a general merchandise establishment in Fossum township six months, and there learned the business principles which aid him in his business at his present location. He was employed in Twin Valley two years for Waller, Homelvig & Company, and also P. P. Berg and Aaker Brothers, and in 1895 he went to Syre, where he clerked for Waller, Homelvig & Company two seasons. He purchased the stock of this firm in 1897, and has since conducted the business there for himself. He has an increasing patronage, and carries a complete line of general merchandise, sufficient to meet the demands of the locality in which he does business. He is one of the early settlers of Norman county, and by his energetic spirit and strict attention to business, supplemented by the exercise of honesty, he has aided in its advancement and built for himself a good business and an enviable reputation.

Our subject was married in 1897 to Tena Waller, a native of Home Lake township. Mrs. Presting's father, P. O. Waller, came to America from Norway about 1865, and is a farmer by occupation. Mr. Presting is prominent in public affairs of his community, and has served as township clerk and justice of the peace. He is a Populist politically, and is a man who keeps pace with the times and lends his influence for good local government and reform. He has attended as delegate numerous county conventions of his party and is an active member of the same. He has a comfortable residence and other property, and his success and the fortune he has gained are the result of his own efforts. His portrait appears elsewhere in this volume.

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#### CHARLES W. CORWIN.

Charles W. Corwin, a farmer in Grass Lake township, Kanabec county, Minnesota, has had a varied and eventful experience, and his career is a good illustration of the versatile and resourceful spirit of the native born American, who is ready to turn his hand at anything, and is good in whatever occupation he is found.

Mr. Corwin was born in New York in 1846, and his father, Philander Corwin, was a printer, but moving early to Michigan, became a pioneer farmer in that state. The ancestors of Mr. Corwin were among the old families of New York and New England, and his maternal grandfather assisted in the construction of the first suspension bridge in the country, the one at Niagara Falls. His name was David Polly,

and he became widely known as a mechanic, dying at the age of ninety-nine.

Mr. Corwin was the fourth member of a family of five children born to his parents, and was reared and educated in Michigan, where, when he was thirteen years of age, he started out in life for himself, as did his father, when he was only nine years old. Until he reached the age of sixteen he was employed on the farm, and then enlisted, July 4, 1862, in Company D, Seventeenth Michigan Volunteer Infantry. The regiment was soon plunged into the thickest of the war, being engaged at South Mountain September 14, and at Antietam the 17th of the same month, within a very short time after its enlistment. The regiment was in the battle of Fredericksburg, and was then sent into Kentucky. It followed Mosby to Knoxville, Tennessee, where it was besieged thirty-two days. It was at the siege of Vicksburg and at Jackson, Mississippi, and was then returned to the Army of the Potomac, to pass through the Wilderness campaign and the siege of Petersburg. Mr. Corwin was wounded before Petersburg, June 23, 1864, terminating his active service, with the exception of a brief time in the following spring, when he was able to be with his regiment at the final scenes of the great Rebellion.

The war-worn veteran came back to Michigan, where he followed farming some three years, when he sought a connection with the Phoenix Furniture Company, of Grand Rapids. With that firm he was engaged some eleven years, the most of the time being in charge of a department.

Mr. Corwin was married in Grand Rapids in 1867, and there his wife died, leaving him three children, Wilbur, May and Della. He was married a second time in St. Croix Falls, Minnesota, November 16, 1884, to Miss Carrie C. Larson, born in Denmark. Her father, who was a shoemaker, came to the United States in 1879, and she followed him in 1881. The family settled in Taylors Falls, Minnesota. To this union have come two children, Minnie M. and Forest A.

Mr. Corwin took a homestead in Dickey county, North Dakota, in 1882, and there he lived until October, 1896. In 1884 he was joined by his wife, and they lived after the pioneer fashion, in a small house, farmed with ox teams and hauled their supplies from Ellendale, twenty miles away. When he sold out in North Dakota, he had a quarter-section, all but thirty acres of which were under cultivation, and was renting land, so that he was farming about two hundred and fifty acres. He was also extensively interested in stock raising, having about sixteen head of horses, as well as other stock. After selling he came



to Sauk Rapids, Minnesota, and lived on rented property two years, making his home part of the time in the village and spending much time in driving over the northern part of the state and seeking a good location. He located September 26, 1899, on section 25, of Grass Lake township, in Kanabec county, on a tract of wild land, from which the pine timber had been taken, leaving a badly tangled waste. He at once put up farm buildings, made a home, and now has nineteen acres of cleared land. He is principally engaged in dairying.

Mr. Corwin is a Democrat, and has held several township offices in Dakota, and took an active part in political affairs. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, and can exchange military experiences with his wife's father, Lars Christian Hemmingson, who was a soldier in the Danish army.

#### TORGRIM O. MORKEN.

Torggrim O. Morken, a prominent character in Morken township and Clay county, where his industry, thrift and genial spirit have made him many friends, was born in Telemarken, Moland, Norway, in 1846, and is the son of a farmer, who came to the United States in 1867, settling in Houston county, Minnesota, where he died.

Torggrim O. Morken, who was the second child in a family of five children, grew to manhood in Norway, where he profited as best he could from the limited schooling his parents were able to give him. While still a boy he began for himself at the age of fifteen years, accompanying his parents, however, to this country in 1867, and for a time spent the summers at home and worked in the Wisconsin woods in the winter. One year he was employed in the Lake Superior iron mines and for some months was in the employ of the Southern Minnesota Railroad. He has been in many parts of Minnesota, and was employed for quite a period on steamboats principally between Winona and La Crosse.

Mr. Morken came to Clay county in 1875, to take his present farm. He was the first homesteader in Morken township and had the pick of the situation. Putting up a log hut, he occupied it for some time with A. O. Kragness, who had taken an adjoining homestead, and the two kept house together for some time. Mr. Morken gradually improved his place, though he had little with which to begin, and his progress was at first slow. His first fifty acres he broke with a yoke of steers, and for two years oxen were his sole dependence.

Mr. Morken was married in 1878 to Miss Augusta Kassenborg. She was born in Houston county, Minnesota, where her father was engaged

in farming. He has since come into Clay county. Born in Norway, he is a man of much character and determination.

Mr. and Mrs. Morken have a family of children as follows: Andrew, Gilbert, Salve, Martin, John, Obert, Henry, Tilda and Trina, all of whom were born on the farm.

Mr. Morken had to contend against floods in his first settlement in the county, and for a number of years the ground was so poorly drained that eight or ten bushels to the acre was regarded as a very good yield. Now wide and deep ditches carry off the surplus surface water, and the land has come to its true value as grain land. The farmers who persisted have become wealthy. Mr. Morken had a difficult path to follow. His health failed, and for a time he had to leave home. He stuck to it, however, and now owns a fine and fertile farm of one hundred and sixty acres, well improved and in fine condition, with good buildings and all machinery the place requires.

Mr. Morken went back to Norway in 1883, visited his old home, and renewed the friendships of the long ago. Returning, he visited Sweden, Denmark, Holland, and came slowly home to the United States. His health was greatly improved by the voyage, which was his principal reason for the journey. On his farm he has devoted himself very largely to grain farming. Of late years his wheat has run from eighteen to twenty-five bushels to the acre.

Mr. Morken is a Republican, and was the first town clerk of Morken township, which bears his name. He was treasurer many years and was also supervisor. He has been school clerk for a long time.

#### J. J. TUCKER.

J. J. Tucker, who has engaged in active business operations in Fort Ripley, Minnesota, for many years, is one of the prominent men of Crow Wing county. He is the station agent for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, and also does a considerable business in buying and shipping wood, ties and produce. He handles notes, drafts, checks and other financial papers, and has an extensive business.

Mr. Tucker was born near Maysville, Kentucky, July 10, 1863. His father, C. A. Tucker, was a farmer and was from old New England stock, and came to Kentucky from Virginia. The mother of our subject was of Scotch-Irish descent, also from Virginia.

Of a family of seven children our subject was the first born. He was raised on the farm and assisted with the work, and received a common-school education. At the age of twenty years he left his native state, locating in Wisconsin, and attended the Western School of Telegraphy, at

Janesville, that state. After graduating there he went to Chicago and was employed by the Western Union Telegraph Company two years. He then worked six months for the Baltimore & Ohio Telegraph Company, and then returned to the Western Union Company. He began railroad work at Turtle Lake, Wisconsin, in 1887, for the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Railway, and remained there one year. In 1888 he was employed by the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, and his first work was at Elk River, Minnesota, as an operator. He was then appointed agent at Crow Wing, Minnesota, and after one year was appointed relief agent, and was thus engaged in various places for a year. In 1889 he was appointed station agent at Fort Ripley, and has since held this office. He handles town, county and school orders, notes, checks and drafts, and is one of the prominent business men of the town. In November, 1893, he was appointed postmaster at Fort Ripley, under President Cleveland, and he held the office until January 1, 1897.

Mr. Tucker was married September 24, 1890, to Miss Minnie M. Pedley, of Little Falls, Minnesota. Mrs. Tucker is of English extraction, and her father is a farmer and dairyman. She is a lady of rare accomplishments, and was engaged in teaching at Crow Wing when Mr. Tucker formed her acquaintance. Mr. and Mrs. Tucker are the parents of five children, namely: James Wesley, Clarence, Claudius, Gertrude and Irving, all of whom were born at Fort Ripley. Mr. Tucker served as town treasurer one year and as a member of the school board ten years, and takes a prominent part in local affairs. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and is venerable consul of the order. Politically he is a Democrat and stands firmly for the principles of the party.

#### MARTIN H. RUDD.

Martin H. Rudd, a notable and successful resident of Milaca, Mille Lacs county, Minnesota, was born on a farm in Fillmore county, Minnesota, in 1854, being the son of M. K. Rudd, a farmer and one of the very earliest pioneers in Fillmore county, having located there in 1852. The father, who was born in Norway, came to the United States and settled in Wisconsin in 1847.

Martin K. Rudd was reared on the farm and educated in the local schools until he was fourteen years of age, when he took the full course at the Atwell Commercial College, a well-known school at LaCrosse, Wisconsin, completing his studies in 1870, and then taking a position in a retail lumber yard, in which he was employed for some two or three years.

In 1873 he came back to Minnesota and entered the employ of Clough Brothers, Governor Clough, of Minnesota, being a member of the firm. For twenty years Mr. Rudd remained in the employ of this notable firm, having, when he quit their service, the entire charge of their wholesale yard at Minneapolis. During the first four years of his connection with the firm he worked in the woods and on the river drives, and when the firm began to manufacture lumber in 1882 he became one of their salesmen, and had charge of the books. While on the drives he bought supplies and had charge of the boats.

In 1893 Mr. Rudd was offered a position in St. Cloud as assistant secretary of the St. Cloud Lumber Company, composed of Foley Brothers & Guthrie. They established the business in Milaca in company with Bean & McClure. At the present time the local firm consists of Foley Brothers, Jacob Bean, Samuel McClure and A. Guthrie. Mr. Rudd has charge of the business in Milaca, where they have a mill with a capacity of a quarter of a million feet of lumber in twenty hours, and also maintain one of the largest mercantile establishments in the county. Mr. Rudd has a general supervision over all these interests of the company's business at this point.

#### PETER SWENSON.

Peter Swenson, a progressive and influential settler in section 20, in Shelby township, has passed many years in that locality, and is widely and favorably known. He was born in Norway, December 6, 1850; and was a son of Swan and Maria (Jacobson) Peterson, both of whom were natives of Norway.

Peter Swenson remained in his native land until he was twenty years of age, and there received a good education in the public schools. He assisted his father with the farm work until he attained his manhood, and then decided to seek his fortunes in the new world and accordingly sailed for America in 1871. He went direct to Wisconsin and a year later removed to Norman county, Minnesota, driving to his new home with ox teams. Upon his arrival he entered claim to land as a homestead, and upon the farm built a log house and log barn. He passed through Indian experiences and other dangers and also the privations of pioneer life, but persisted in his work, and is now the owner of an estate covering two hundred and forty acres. He has about one hundred and fifty acres under cultivation, and he has a well improved and equipped farm. He keeps about seven farm horses and seventeen head of cattle and has met with good results in

general farming. His farm buildings include a substantial barn and good comfortable residence, built on the banks of the Marsh river, and a flowing well and natural grove are prominent features of the place. Mr. Swenson is thoroughly posted in his vocation, and was reared as a farmer's son and early trained to the work of a farm, thus aiding him in operating his own estate after taking up his labors in this country. He has devoted his life to the study of his work, and has a capacity for well directed labor that has made him one of the substantial agriculturists of his community.

Our subject was married in 1878 to Sarah Johnson. Mrs. Swenson was born in Norway September 21, 1851, and died July 2, 1900. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Swenson, who are named in order of birth as follows: Pauline S., Matilda S., Savannah, John, Ida, Bertha M., Teaha and Clara. The family are members of the Lutheran church, to which denomination Mrs. Swenson belonged for many years prior to her demise. Mr. Swenson is a man who keeps abreast of the times and in political sentiment is a Republican. He is firm in his adherence to the right and his friends and is widely known and universally respected.

#### JOHN F. JOHNSTON.

John F. Johnston, one of the leading farmers of Glyndon township, Clay county, Minnesota, resides on section 2. His home evidences all of those refinements that are found in the families of the cultured, and his estate bears evidence to the thrift and business ability of its owner. A fine portrait of this estimable gentleman will be found elsewhere in this book.

Mr. Johnston was born in Sterlingshire, Scotland, May 6, 1830. He was the fourth child in a family of six children born to Dr. Alexander and Marian (Forrest) Johnston. In June, 1874, our subject came to America in the interests of a London merchant of great wealth, Howard Gilliat, who now resides in the city of London. Mr. Johnston lived in Elmwood township, Clay county, looking after the landed interest of his employer, and while thus engaged he began operating a farm for himself. About 1880 our subject purchased a farm near Glyndon, where he now resides. He erected a comfortable residence and continued to operate his various tracts of land. He has met with remarkable success, his various ventures yielding him good returns.

Mr. Johnston was married in 1860 to Miss Mary Ann MacVicar. Mrs. Johnston died in 1891. She was born near the Bridge of Allan, Scotland, in 1836. She was educated chiefly in

Edinburgh. Her father was John Ross MacVicar, and her mother was Catherine (Young) MacVicar. She was a lady of refined tastes and culture, and was exceedingly popular in the community where she resided. Coming to America a stranger, she endured the hardships of frontier life with patience, and was a constant source of aid and encouragement to her husband in his struggle with fortune. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnston: Alexander, deceased; Katherine, now Mrs. Foster Paige; John R., farming near Sabin; Marian, deceased; William, deceased; Jane H., deceased; Alexander, farming on the old homestead near Sabin; Robert, deceased; Annie Y.; and Flora M.

Mr. Johnston has acquired a valuable property and has built for himself an enduring reputation for honesty and good citizenship, and he is valued as a member of society and for his constant efforts to upbuild the interest of his community, morally and socially.

#### JAMES GLASGOW.

James Glasgow, long familiar to the people of Barnesville as the local representative of the Minnesota and Dakota Elevator Company, and one of the solid and substantial citizens of Barnesville for many years, was born on a farm in Ayreshire, Scotland, in 1855, which his father, Andrew Glasgow, had long been engaged in cultivating. One of the brothers of James passed through the entire struggle of the Indian mutiny of 1857-58, as a member of the Seventy-ninth Highlanders, and an uncle served in the same war as a member of the Royal Horse Artillery.

James Glasgow came to the United States with his father in 1873, he being the only son of his parents, and having only one sister. All his education was given him in Scotland, where he spent his last two years of schooling in a private academy. The Glasgows, on their arrival in Clay county, opened a large farm of two hundred and forty acres, two miles south of Hawley. Though they began their farming operations with oxen, Mr. Glasgow owned the first team of horses brought into the county. For three years about all they could raise was grasshoppers. In those years the settlers trapped muskrats very extensively, some men making as much as four or five hundred dollars out of their season's work. Mr. Glasgow trapped beaver, muskrats, otters, minks and foxes, young Glasgow becoming an expert, and following the North Buffalo river from its source to its junction with the Red river.

James Glasgow remained with his parents until 1881, when he took land of his own and bought a homestead in section 14, township of

Hawley, which he soon brought into a high state of cultivation.

Mr. Glasgow was married in 1880 to Miss Josephine Narveson, who was born in Iowa, and whose father, John Narveson, was at that time a farmer in Clay county. To this union have come six children: Annie, who is married and lives in Hawley; Andrew; Agnes; James; Josephine and Ruth—all born near Hawley.

Mr. Glasgow continued farming until 1888, carrying on both his own and his father's farm. He had a half section under his management, but in 1888 he sold out his own farm, and took charge of a place of seventeen hundred and forty acres belonging to Dr. C. Sill, of New York City, making a specialty of Short-horn thoroughbred cattle, and sending to market a very fine and perfect make of butter. He operated on this place the first cream separator ever brought into Clay county, and a threshing outfit of twelve horse power. The main barn was a hundred feet square; a second barn was 30x90 feet; a machine shed, 38x45 feet; there was a blacksmith shop; two dwelling houses and a boarding house provided for the people; there were from seven to twenty men employed on the farm. Mr. Glasgow remained there four years and then went to Oregon, in the employ of the Northern Pacific Elevator Company. He bought grain at Athena, Oregon, and when the company went by the board he returned to Minnesota. In 1892 he went west and the following year he came back to Hawley, and in September of that year became the grain buyer for the Minnesota and Dakota Elevator Company, at Barnesville. When they sold out to Duluth Elevator Company Mr. Glasgow continued with the new management, and is still engaged in the business.

Mr. Glasgow is a Republican and has been a city alderman for one term.

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#### WILLIAM L. HILL.

William L. Hill, proprietor of Hill's Hotel at Biwabik, is one of the pioneer hotel men of St. Louis county, Minnesota. He was born on a farm in Pennsylvania in 1859.

The father of our subject, H. B. Hill, was a lumberman, farmer and merchant at different times. He was of old American stock, and served four or five years in the Civil war. Our subject's mother bore the maiden name of Briggs, and was born and raised in Pennsylvania. The family moved to Minnesota when William L. Hill was but an infant, and settled on the frontier near Litchfield. There our subject was reared to manhood and assisted

with the work on his father's farm. He attended school in Monticello and Wright counties, and at the age of eighteen years began farm work, and later engaged in clerking and was occupied thus about twelve years. He went to Carlton, Minnesota, in 1884, where he conducted a hotel two years, and was then in the hotel business in Minneapolis a year and a half, conducting the Merchants' Hotel on Third street. In 1888 he went to Ely, and was in the real estate business and dealt in pine lands until 1892. In that year he located at Merritt, and was manager of the Merritt Hotel about seven months, and in the fall of that year opened a saloon in Biwabik, and was among the first to erect a building in the town. In 1895 he established the Wilcox House, a small hotel on Canton avenue. This he conducted a year and a half and in 1897 assumed charge of the Arlington Hotel, and was proprietor of this establishment about one year. He bought the Hills Hotel in 1898. This was built for an office building and store and saloon during the winter of 1892, and was among the first buildings erected in the town. It has since been remodeled and is a modern hotel in every particular, being equipped with water works, electric lights and other modern conveniences. Mr. Hill is a genial host, and his hotel is patronized by many travelers, and he has gained an enviable reputation as a citizen.

Our subject is a member of the K. of P. and politically is a Republican. He does not push himself forward as a candidate for any office, but lends his influence for good government.

Mr. Hill was married in St. Paul in 1882 to Miss Anna B. Dunleavy. Mrs. Hill was born in Ireland, and came to America with the other children of the family when she was fifteen years of age. She settled at Hudson, Wisconsin, and in 1878 went to Minneapolis, Minnesota. She had seven brothers in America at one time, four of whom are now living in Minneapolis, where one sister also resides. Her parents died in Ireland.

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#### NATHANIEL McCONACHIE.

Nathaniel McConachie is a well-known and successful farmer, who makes his home on section 29, of Corliss township, Ottertail county, Minnesota, and comes from Scotland, his native country, where he was born in Banffshire, March 12, 1850, a son of John and Helen (Watt) McConachie. The father followed the trade of a tailor, and both parents died in Scotland many years ago.

Nathaniel McConachie had his education in Scotland and was an apprentice to a stone-

mason while yet a young man in Aberdeen. There he became an expert granite worker, and qualified himself as a master workman to take charge of the construction of houses, bridges and other work requiring a thorough training and practical knowledge of building. In Scotland he worked at his trade until 1883. That year he went to South Africa and was employed in the construction of the railroad running from East London to Aliwalnorth, having special charge of the stone bridges along the line. This work gave him an insight into the political condition of the country, and on this subject he discourses fluently. At that time being a British subject, it is hardly necessary to say that his sympathies are all with the English in the present desperate struggle between the Briton and the Boer. He traversed the Orange Free State, and remained in Africa three years. Seeking neither gold nor diamonds, he attended strictly to his business, though he has an interesting collection of relics and souvenirs, including many photographs of various native tribes, ostrich eggs, feathers, and many other curiosities, on which he sets much store. The railroad on which he was employed was capitalized by Englishmen, who let the building of it to contractors, who in turn sub-let. Mr. McConachie became a sub-contractor, with very successful results to his pocket. In 1886 he returned to Scotland, and soon after brought his wife and family to America, landing at Philadelphia and journeying to Fargo, North Dakota. There Mr. McConachie remained two years, working at his trade, being foreman of the masons engaged in the construction of the Agricultural College and the fine Congregational church of that city. Since he established himself as a farmer he is still in demand as a stone worker, and has done some important work in Castleton, Mayville and Lacota, in North Dakota, and in Bozeman and Anaconda, Montana, in the construction of both houses and churches. Some of the churches in Minnesota stand as monuments to his skill as a mason and a master builder. Since 1899 he has given his time and attention to the improvement of his farm. That year he came to the town of Corliss, Ottertail county, where he purchased one hundred and twenty acres in section 29, situated near the north end of Big Pine lake. Here he has erected a good set of farm buildings and is still engaged in making extensive improvements upon the farm. The most of his attention is given to grain, but he has seventeen head of cattle, which, with horses, sheep and hogs, give a diversified character to his agricultural operations. He was justice of the peace for some time, and has been chairman of the board of supervisors.

Mr. McConachie was married October 27, 1877, to Margaret Farquharson, a daughter of Peter and Margaret (McConachie) Farquharson, both natives of Scotland, where her father died when Mrs. McConachie was a child; her mother is still alive.

To Mr. and Mrs. McConachie were born seven children, Donald George, John Alexander, Alice and Theodore William, and three who died in infancy. The children who are living are receiving a good education and are all at home. Mr. McConachie is a member of the Congregational church, and in politics is a Republican. He is a man of much experience in the world, and with his fine mind and accurate powers of observation is capable of imparting a fund of varied information to his many friends, who have learned to know and appreciate his sterling worth.

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#### MRS. LORETTA PADDOCK.

Mrs. Loretta Paddock, one of the earliest settlers of Wadena county, was born in Cataugus county, New York, December 23, 1846. Her parents, George and Lydia N. (Falkner) Norton, were natives of Vermont and New York, respectively.

When our subject was but an infant her mother died and she went to live with an uncle, who brought her west to Wisconsin, when she was but five years old. She lived at Racine for about one year and then went to LaFayette, Wisconsin, where she lived four years, receiving there her first schooling. She then removed to Neshannok, Wisconsin, and resided there several years, and in 1864 went to Winnebago City and resided there with friends until her marriage to Lauren A. Paddock, in October, 1870.

LAUREN A. PADDOCK was born in Ohio March 27, 1837. His parents were Thomas J. and Laura Paddock, natives of Vermont. Mr. Paddock enlisted in Company B, First Wisconsin Light Artillery, in 1862, and received his honorable discharge after three years of meritorious service, in 1864. Mr. and Mrs. Paddock were married at Winnebago City, Minnesota, in 1870. They conducted a hotel in Minneapolis for one year, and then lived for one year at Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. At Brainerd, Minnesota, Mr. Paddock followed lumbering for two years, and then in 1874 was among the first pioneers to locate in Wadena county. He took a homestead claim on section 20 of Wadena township and erected a log house and barn. Oxen served him for a team for the first three years. He later erected a more commodious residence, and this was destroyed by fire. In 1888 he erected their

present residence, at a cost of over one thousand dollars. Mr. Paddock was a Mason in good standing, his membership being at Stillwater, Minnesota. He died January 8, 1900.

Mrs. Paddock is conducting the farm with success and has proven herself a good manager and an agriculturist of ability and sound judgment. The estate is one of the most valuable in Wadena county, and in every detail shows evidence of thrift and energy.

Mrs. Paddock has six living children, named as follows: Dolly, Lauren A., Helen M., Della G., Ethel and Anna B. The deceased children are Arthur G. and Elbridge G. The family are members of the Methodist church at Wadena, and enjoy the respect and esteem of the entire community.

#### OTTO DAHL.

Otto Dahl, though still young in years, has won recognition as a thoroughly competent and successful business man at Felton, Clay county, and was born on a farm in Wisconsin in 1871, where his father, Anton Dahl, who was born in Norway, and an emigrant to the United States, was engaged in farming. Otto Dahl was the first born of a family of eight children. He was well educated, and completed his schooling in a college at Decorah, Iowa. His father died when he was but twelve years of age, and from the time he was fifteen until he was twenty-four the farm was entrusted to him. It consisted of a quarter-section, and was largely devoted to stock raising.

Otto Dahl came to Minnesota in 1897, and locating at Felton, secured a small interest in a store, which he managed in partnership with his uncle, J. I. Opsahl. In the spring of 1900 Mr. Dahl sold his interest in the store to Mr. Opsahl, and established a general store at Felton, with his brother-in-law, T. O. Melby, as partner, where he quickly secured a very remunerative patronage. In the fall of 1901 they opened a branch store at Borup, Minnesota, where they also have a general line of merchandise, under the management of Mr. Melby. This firm handles farm produce on a very extensive scale.

Mr. Dahl was married in the fall of 1897 to Miss May Dewell, of Decorah, Iowa. She comes of an American family, and is the mother of two children, William A. and Doris. Her father, Herbert Dewell, was a farmer at Leroy, Minnesota.

Mr. Dahl belongs to the Modern Brotherhood of America, and has been identified with that order since the establishment of the camp at Felton, in 1899, he being one of its charter members. That year he also assisted in the organization of the Felton Cornet Band, of

which he is leader and instructor. Mr. Dahl was active in the formation of the village of Felton, and has been town clerk and school clerk some three years. He is a strong Republican and takes a very active and intelligent interest in local affairs.

#### WILLIAM G. CHILTON.

William G. Chilton, proprietor of one of the most extensive and best equipped farms of Becker county, resides in section 26, of Burlington township, and is a man of excellent characteristics and is influential as an agriculturist and citizen. He was born in Ontario, Canada, February 12, 1846.

Mr. Chilton was reared in his native place and attended the common schools and assisted with the work on his father's farm when a boy. At the age of eighteen years he began life on the Great Lakes as a sailor and continued thus employed until he was twenty-four years of age. Near Oswego, New York, the vessel went ashore in a storm, the ship was destroyed and the crew were rescued in a life boat. In 1869 he went to Louisiana and Mississippi and there spent the winter in the wood business, and in March, 1870, went to Crow Wing county, Minnesota, and drove logs on the river until July, then, with five companions, he went eighty miles to Becker county, with oxen and covered wagons. They spent fourteen days on the trip and every night rain fell. Our subject located in Burlington township and built a log house of hewed logs, with a shingle roof, made from the timber off his land, and this was the best house in Becker county at the time. He and his brothers lived together and did their own housekeeping. During the winter of '70 and the summer and fall of '71 our subject was employed in grading for the Northern Pacific Railroad. In the early days of his settlement in Burlington township his nearest postoffice was Ottertail, twenty-five miles distant, and from there he hauled all supplies. To transact some business he walked one hundred and sixty miles to St. Cloud, and from there went into Canada and bought a team of horses, with which he returned to his farm. He bought a sawmill site in 1871 and built a dam for water power and started the first sawmill in Becker county, which he sold in the fall of 1872. This has earned seven thousand dollars in one summer, and this sum represented the earnings of four men. Mr. Chilton then began the improvement of his farm and has continued his residence there since that time and now has a tract of one thousand and forty acres, of which six hundred acres are under cultivation. His residence is a substantial brick structure,



and his barns, granary and other farm buildings are commodious and substantial, and all machinery found on a model farm is supplied, including a threshing outfit. From two to four men are required for operating the place, and in busy seasons eight men are kept at work. He follows general farming and stock raising and keeps about sixty head of cattle. Mr. Chilton devotes his entire attention to the operation of his farm, and he has met with pronounced success and is one of the substantial men of Becker county. In 1898 he became interested in the milling business with his brother-in-law, and later he assumed control of the entire business. This was located at New York Mills, in Ottertail county, but in the fall of 1898 Mr. Chilton moved the same to Frazee, and he now has a mill of fifty barrels per day capacity, and in company with E. F. Gunner, successfully operates the mill.

Mr. Chilton was married in 1875 to Miss Katherine Rutledge, who was born in Canada, and was of Irish descent. Mrs. Chilton died in 1883, leaving four children. Our subject was married to Miss Shadbolt in 1885. Mrs. Chilton was born in the state of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Chilton are the parents of six children. Our subject attends strictly to his affairs, but is interested in the advancement of the community in which he makes his home, and he has served several terms as township supervisor, but does not seek public office. Politically he is a Republican.

#### JOHN KITTELSON.

John Kittelson, residing on section 20, in Bloomer township, conducts a farm of three hundred and sixty acres and is one of the highly esteemed agriculturists of Marshall county. He has resided there for many years and has met with excellent success in his chosen vocation and enjoys a good competence.

Mr. Kittelson was born in Dunn county, Wisconsin, May 27, 1865, and was the sixth in a family of eight children. He received a liberal education in English and Norwegian, and after completing his studies began farm work. He joined his brother in Marshall county, Minnesota, in 1889. Soon after his arrival there he purchased a tree claim and filed a homestead claim to land in that county and began operations on the same. He saw the possibilities of that region as an agricultural section and he has developed a fine farm and aided in transforming the wild land of Marshall county into a thriving farming country. He and his brother lived economically and managed well and from time to time, as his

means justified, he added to his acreage and his present fine farm evidences his good judgment in the choice of a location and the careful attention which he has always bestowed upon the work and improvement of the place. He keeps some stock and engages successfully in diversified farming and for the shelter of his stock he has erected a substantial and commodious barn, with stable room for twenty-five head of stock.

Mr. Kittelson is not only a successful man in a financial way, but he has also placed himself among the foremost citizens of that locality by his active public spirit and integrity. He has been honored with some of the local offices and is the present chairman of the township board and has been a member of that body for many years. He is a Populist politically, becoming identified with the early movements of that party and aiding in its organization.

#### HARVEY CHASE MISNER.

Harvey Chase Misner, a prominent merchant and general business man of Polk county, is a member of the firm of Misner, Chapin & Fisk, of the village of Euclid.

Mr. Misner was born in Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, January 9, 1854. In a family of four children he was second in order of birth. His parents were Ira P. and Irvilla (Chapin) Misner. The mother is now deceased, and the father is a resident of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Of their children, but two survive.

When thirteen years of age our subject quit his father's farm and made his home in the city of Fond du Lac. Three years later he entered a general store as clerk. Here he obtained valuable experience, and in the spring of 1879 was one of the members of the firm of Misner & Lindsley, who opened a grocery store in Fond du Lac. Three months later the business was removed to Fourteen Mile Switch, now the city of Euclid, Minnesota. The village consisted at that time of a section house. Here on the open prairie they erected a temporary store building 14x26 feet, which served them for a store and bachelor's lodgings. Severe reverses came to them, and in 1881 the firm of E. Taylor & Company was formed, and Mr. Misner was placed in charge of the business. His brother, Wells C. Misner, was a part owner in this firm until his death, in 1894. At that time our subject purchased the business, but soon after sold a half interest to Mr. Pitkin, and the business was thereafter conducted under the firm name of H. C. Misner & Company. In 1899 the partnership as it now exists was organized.

From the beginning of his business career Mr. Misner has dealt in real estate, conveyancing

and insurance. Their mercantile business is in a most flourishing condition, and they carry a stock of general merchandise, shelf hardware, farm machinery and lumber, which will inventory twelve thousand dollars. For eighteen years Mr. Misner has been engaged in buying grain, sometimes for elevator companies and at other times on his own account.

Mr. Misner is a thirty-second-degree Mason and Shriner, and is a member of the Elks and of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a Republican in politics and has given much attention to local and state public affairs, acting at all times in a wholly disinterested capacity. When Euclid township was organized Mr. Misner was elected its first clerk, and served in that capacity for seventeen years. In 1895 our subject erected a fine residence, supplied with all modern conveniences. The building is heated by hot water by use of acetylene gas. His residence is modern throughout, with hardwood floors and finished in quarter-sawed oak.

Mr. Misner was married in 1881 to Miss Ida M. Taylor, of Lyons, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Misner the following children have been born: Harvey W.; Florence, deceased; and Carl E., deceased. In 1896 Helen M. became a member of the family by adoption. Mr. Misner, whose portrait is shown on another page of this book, has won deserved success, and is one of the most popular and substantial citizens of Polk county.

#### MANLY I. CLARK.

Manly I. Clark, a well-known and popular resident of Milaca, Mille Lacs county, Minnesota, was born in the town of Brewer, Penobscot county, Maine, in 1859, and comes of old Yankee stock. His father, Almond Clark, was an extensive brick maker, and carried on the business for forty years in the town of Brewer, and was a veteran in the Civil war, Company B, Fifteenth Maine Infantry, and was a member of the G. A. R. He died October 29, 1899. His mother, Mary A. Wentworth, was descended from an old colonial family, and her forefathers were prominently associated with the early history of New England. The Clarks were also long settled in Maine, where our subject's father, grandfather and probably great-grandfather were born.

Manly I. Clark was the third member of a family of five children reared and educated in Maine. In 1878 he broke the home ties and struck out into the world for himself, coming west to Michigan, where he spent a year, and in 1879 entering Minnesota, and settling in Mille Lacs county, where he was mostly engaged in lumbering for the next ten or twelve years. In company with his brother, Wilbur

A. Clark, he spent three years at the brick business in the state of Washington.

Mr. Clark was married in 1891 to Miss Abbie F. Warren, born in St. Paul, her father, T. J. Warren, being extensively interested in the lumber business at Mille Lacs lake. They have one child, Edgar Van Buren Clark, born at Milaca.

Manly I. Clark was engaged in lumbering up to 1895, when he bought the Arlington, having had charge of it for a year previous to its purchase, and has now been in the hotel business for some seven years, to the eminent satisfaction of the traveling public. His is and has been the leading hotel since his connection with it.

Mr. Clark is a Republican, and has been village treasurer four years, and has been chairman of the town board in Robbins township. He was instrumental in building the first road in the northwest part of Mille Lacs county in 1893, and is without doubt one of the leading men in business in Milaca.

Mrs. Clark descends from that General Warren who was at the battle of Bunker Hill. Her father, who came from Maine, served in the Civil war.

#### OLE A. BRATTLAND.

One of the most pleasantly situated homes of Norman county is that of Ole A. Brattland, (whose name was changed to this form by order of court in July, 1901), in section 12, range 49, in Lee township. This estate is well kept and carefully cultivated and the entire farm bespeaks culture and good judgment. The home is on the banks of the Red river and is well known as a hospitable retreat for music lovers and refined society. It is but a short distance from market and the city and affords the quiet of country life and the social and educational advantages of the nearby town. Mr. Brattland is widely known and is highly esteemed as a citizen.

Our subject was born in Waseca county, Minnesota, August 15, 1858. His parents, Michal and Elizabeth (Strom) Anderson, were both natives of Norway. The father bought land in section 12, range 49, township 143, in Lee township, and resided thereon until his death in 1888.

Ole A. Brattland attended the common schools of his native county until he was sixteen years of age and then began farm work and assisted his father on the home place. He went to Norman county with his parents in 1881 and continued to work with his father until his father's death, when our subject assumed management of the farm, the property having been left to him, and he has since made his home there. He has developed two hun-

dred acres for cultivation, and devotes about forty acres to pasture and timber. He has a good supply of machinery to run the farm, and has erected a substantial residence and good barn and other necessary farm buildings on the place. The land is on the banks of the Red river and is productive and made to yield to the fullest extent by its excellent cultivation. Mr. Brattland engages in grain raising principally, but keeps about eight horses for farm use, and has fifteen head of cattle on the place.

Our subject was married July 20, 1884, to Ida Johnson, who was born in Iowa, October 8, 1868. Mrs. Bratland is a daughter of John Johnson, a native of Norway. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Brattland, five of whom are now living and are named as follows: Isabella, Minnie, Ellen, Guy and Daniel. A daughter, Jennie, was born January 27, 1888, and died October 22, 1897. The children are given the best education to be had and are talented musicians, and the home is pleasant and breathes an air of refinement. Mr. Brattland is a gentleman of studious nature, and has acquainted himself with current topics and is identified with the principles of Socialism. In religious faith he is a spiritualist. He holds membership in the Independent Order of Foresters, which he joined some six years ago.

Mr. Brattland now intends to remove himself and family to Hillsboro, Washington, in the fall of 1901.

### ROBERT STUART.

Robert Stuart, a progressive and consequently successful business man of Nelson, Douglas county, Minnesota, is a gentleman of excellent characteristics and is held in the highest esteem by his fellow men. He was born in Coleraine, near the city of Belfast, Ireland, September 5, 1859.

The parents of our subject were John and Jane (Miller) Stuart. The grandfather of our subject, Andrew Stuart, was a native of Scotland and moved to the north of Ireland about the middle of the eighteenth century. He was engaged in the business of stageing, draying and teaming generally, and added farming to his other occupations. He was an eye-witness to the cutting of the chain stretched across the Loch Fail river during the siege of Londonderry, and saw the ships sail in with provisions to relieve the besieged garrison. At that time the entire country was filled with religious disputants, and murder, pillage and strife racked the country from one end to the other. Andrew Stuart was a Protestant and settled there in business after the Rebellion

was suppressed. John Stuart, the father of our subject, received but little education at school, but later in life became self educated. He was set to work in the linen works at the age of thirteen years and continued in that business throughout his life time. He progressed from boy to workman, then agent, and eventually became one of the proprietors of the largest linen manufacturing and bleaching establishment in the north of Ireland. He grew his own flax, and owned the factory and boiler works and the bleaching greens necessary to the business. The woof and warp was given out to the local weavers, and from planting to the perfecting of the finest linen goods everything moved under his careful superintendence and management. He was one of the agents appointed by the government for the distribution of the shiploads of corn and other provisions sent to Ireland through the beneficence of the American people to feed the starving poor during the famine of 1849. John Stuart died in 1890 at the age of eighty-one years. The mother of our subject, who was born in 1817, still survives. Thirteen children were born to this worthy couple, of whom Henry, the ninth in order of birth, died at the age of five years. The surviving children are as follows: Andrew, a banker at Enniskillen and manager of the Ulster Bank, in Ireland; John, a Presbyterian minister in the ancient town of Derry; James, living in the old home, having succeeded his father; Marv J., now Mrs. Kennedy, residing in Belfast; Edward, a wholesale stock dealer in Sioux City, Iowa; Thomas, engaged in farming in South Dakota; Margaret, married and residing in London, England; Robert, our subject; David, an attorney at Windom, Minnesota; William, a farmer and stock dealer; Samuel, a Presbyterian minister in county Down, Ireland; Henry, a dry-goods merchant in Coleraine, Ireland.

Robert Stuart attended the National schools of his native place in early boyhood and afterward the model schools, where he learned the higher branches. He came to America at the age of sixteen years, reaching Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1875. He remained there four years engaged in clerking and then on account of the climate went to New Orleans, but after a stay of six months there returned to the north and located for a short time in Cleveland, Ohio, from thence to Detroit, and later returned to New Orleans. He went to Brainerd, Minnesota, in 1885, where he engaged in the mercantile business and then paid a visit to his relatives and friends in Ireland and on his return to his adopted land he followed the real estate business in Minneapolis two years. He then became interested in the cheese business in Raymond, Hancock and Hudson, Minne-

sota. In 1900, in association with his brother, William, he opened a general merchandise store in Nelson. They have a well stocked store of entirely new goods and carry a full line of dry goods, clothing, boots, shoes and groceries, and deal extensively with a good agricultural community. Robert Stuart personally manages the business. He is a thorough business man, genial and attentive to the smallest wishes of his customers, and is building up a good and profitable business.

Mr. Stuart was married November 17, 1887, to Miss Anna Holgate, daughter of Levering and Kate Holgate. Mrs. Stuart's father was a native of Pennsylvania and became a resident of Elk River, Minnesota, in the '50s, and was one of the earliest settlers of that territory and served through the Civil war. He died in 1892 and was buried at Minneapolis under the auspices of the Knights of Pythias. Mrs. Stuart's mother was born in New York and is still living. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Stuart, namely: Marguerite and Alice.

#### LEO S. BAYRELL.

The legal profession of Marshall county is honored by many attorneys of ability, and among these the pioneer attorney of Argyle, whose name heads this sketch, deserves a high degree of credit. Mr. Bayrell came to Argyle when that village was in its infancy, and began the practice of his profession, which he has continued with much success to the present time.

Mr. Bayrell was born in Dubuque, Iowa, November 11, 1855. While still a child, however, he removed to Red Wing, Minnesota, and there spent his boyhood, where he received a good education. On reaching manhood, having determined upon a legal career, he entered the office of Hon. F. M. Willson, and began the reading of law. He was admitted to the bar in 1880 and in 1882 located in Argyle. Mr. Bayrell has high ideas as to the duties and responsibilities of the lawyer, and has exemplified his ideas in his professional life. He has taken an active part in political affairs, and is well known throughout the county as a man of public spirit and genuine worth. He has been honored by the citizens of his county with the office of judge of probate court and also that of county attorney, which position he held for two terms. In these responsible positions he discharged his duties in a thoroughly conscientious and creditable manner.

In 1898 Mr. Bayrell was married to Miss Allene C. Carr. Mrs. Bayrell's former home was in Overton, Nebraska. She is an active worker in the W. C. T. U. and is president of

the district organization of the fourteenth district. She is a lady of high worth and of many amiable qualities. Mr. Bayrell, in addition to his law business, is also engaged largely in real estate, being senior member and manager of The Bayrell Land Company of Argyle. He has met with deserved success in his business career and is known and respected throughout the county. For six years he was editor of the Marshall County Banner, which he conducted as independent in politics.

#### CHARLES KEARNEY.

Charles Kearney, deputy sheriff of Itasca county, is one of the pioneers of northern Minnesota, and no one of the citizens of that locality could have been better fitted for the office which this gentleman holds than Mr. Kearney. His wide knowledge of men and the world, coupled with the fact that he is a man of strong character and integrity, makes him an especially good man for the office. He discharges his duties faithfully and his popularity increases each term he holds office.

Mr. Kearney was born in Tramore, County Waterford, Ireland, in 1846. His father, James Henry Kearney, was a physician and surgeon all his life. He lived in America a few years and then returned to Ireland, where he was married, and died in 1855. The mother of our subject, Louisa (Graham) Kearney, was born in Dublin, Ireland, and on both sides the families are of illustrious Irish stock. Our subject was reared in his home village and also lived in Dublin, where he attended the private schools. He took the arts examination at Trinity College, and then began the study of medicine at the College of Surgeons and also Queens College of Physicians. He also attended the Ledwidge School of Medicine, and in 1871, while pursuing his medical studies, he came to New York, intending to return and complete the study of medicine. He went to Toronto, Canada, where he spent a year, and then took a position in the Northern Illinois Hospital for the Insane as a druggist, and was thus engaged one year. He then traveled through the west, Nebraska, Wyoming, Colorado, Montana and Idaho, and while in the west became a typical cowboy for two years. He then returned to Wisconsin, where he spent a short time, and in 1875 went to Aitkin, Minnesota. There he worked on the section for the Northern Pacific Railway, and followed that work and lumbering at Aitkin about three or four years, after which he worked on a steamboat on the Red river between Breckenridge and Winnipeg two years, and was on the boat that made the last trip to Breckenridge. He then spent two years in Wisconsin, and in 1883

located in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. He worked for W. Potter & Company four years, and in 1888 bought a hotel in partnership with A. T. Nason. He continued to conduct the hotel until 1891, when he was appointed register of deeds for Itasca county, and was the first to fill that position in the county. He was then elected to the office a second and third term and held the same about six years, during which time he was a so justice of the peace. He was appointed deputy sheriff in 1899 and reappointed in 1901, and is now serving his second term in that capacity to the entire satisfaction of all.

Mr. Kearney was married, in 1890, to Mrs. Harriet Esther Crossley. Mrs. Kearney was born at Talmage, Ohio, and was a daughter of Nicholas Nolan, a native of Ireland. Mrs. Kearney was raised in Minnesota. She is the mother of two children by a former marriage, namely, Edith Elizabeth Lloyd Crosslev and Josephine C. Mr. Kearney is a Republican in political sentiment, but for many years he was an advocate of Democracy. He was a member of the first township board and also served on the school board for eight years, and has twice been president of the village board, and also township clerk for several years. He was elected county commissioner in 1890, but did not serve in that office. He was one of the organizers of the first school district in the county, and is an influential and highly esteemed citizen.

#### CHARLES T. LANMAN.

The McIntosh Times, one of the bright and interesting weekly publications of Polk county, and a credit to Minnesota journalism, was established in October, 1888, by W. H. Averill. In June of the following year it became the property of Charles T. Lanman, by whom it had been edited and managed from the beginning. At the present time it is published as a six-column, six-page paper, and is entirely home-printed. The outfit of the shop comprises, among other valuable adjuncts, a Babcock cylinder press and a gasoline engine. Special attention is given to job printing, and the equipment is very complete in that line in both jobbers and an abundance and variety of type.

Mr. Lanman was born in Brookline, Massachusetts, September 2, 1864, and his ancestry may be traced back to Governor Bradford and the Mayflower. His parents were Thomas and Mary Elizabeth (Bradford) Lanman, honorable and intelligent people, who were much respected in the community in which their active days were passed. In his early life Charles T. Lanman worked in the machine department of the iron works and the machine and tack and rivet works of his native state. About 1883 he made an ex-

tended trip through the southern states, bringing up after some three years in Iowa. He came to Minnesota in 1887 and was engaged on a railway survey some six months. After this was finished Mr. Lanman established a real estate office in McIntosh, which he still maintains, and in connection with which he has become familiarly known as Lanman the Landman to a host of people.

Politically Mr. Lanman is a conservative reformer, fearlessly independent and not married to any political organization. His newspaper reflects his own spirit, but is devoted chiefly to the upbuilding of the home community. He belongs to the Maccabees and the Modern Woodmen of America, and is personally highly respected and very popular throughout the county.

Mr. Lanman was married, in 1894, to Miss Ingeborg Scotland, by whom he has five children: Arthur Paul Revere, Vernie M., Thomas, Theodore and Ethel, all bright and charming little people.

#### GUSTAF CARLSON.

Gustaf Carlson, a well-known and successful farmer of Hallock township, resides in section 3 and owns a farm of four hundred acres. He cultivates about five hundred acres annually, and has accumulated a good property by the exercise of good judgment and honesty. He went to his present location without means, and has devoted his entire attention to agricultural pursuits, with the results above mentioned. The property was not purchased at once nor in one tract, but as circumstances permitted our subject has increased his acreage. Such men are a credit to the community in which they locate and are entitled to due consideration and a prominent position among the worthy citizens of their community.

Mr. Carlson was born in Sweden June 6, 1864, and was the eldest of three sons by the father's second marriage born to Carl and Ingeborg (Person) Christofferson. By a previous and subsequent marriage of the father the family of children numbered eight in all. In 1882 the family emigrated to America, and arrived in Hallock in May of that year. They became residents of Thompson township, and were among the early settlers of that locality. Our subject assisted on the home farm until 1887, when he rented a part of the farm which he now owns and began farming for himself, and he has remained thereon and has purchased lands until his farm attained its present extensive dimensions. He has a thorough knowledge of his calling and has closely applied himself to the same, and is one of the truly self-made men of Kittson county. On his home farm every convenience advisable

has been provided, while a complete set of good buildings has been erected. His barn is large, being 56x46 feet, and is conveniently arranged and substantially constructed, and the other improvements of the place are in proportionate measurement and of a substantial nature.

Mr. Carlson was married in 1895 to Miss Anne Hammestad. Mr. and Mrs. Carlson are the parents of three children, upon whom they have bestowed the names of Olga C., Carl G. (who was accidentally killed May 27, 1901), and Alfred C. Our subject is a gentleman of active public spirit and broad mind, and every enterprise tending to the advancement or upbuilding of his locality meets with his hearty approval and support. He is a member of the township board and is prominent in local affairs. Politically he is identified with the Republican party, but does not seek public favor, preferring to lend his influence otherwise in behalf of his community, and his success and high station are well merited. Portraits of Mr. Carlson and his wife will be found in this volume, on another page.

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#### HANS N. LINDBERG.

What may be accomplished by persistent industry is demonstrated in the present fine estate owned and operated by Hans N. Lindberg. This gentleman went to Minnesota in the early days of the settlement of Kittson county and he had not means with which to locate himself permanently there on his farm, but he worked for others, and as circumstances permitted began operating his own farm in a modest way, and is the present owner of a fine property, one which has aided in giving to Svea township a reputation as a thriving agricultural district. Our subject had little knowledge of American ways and the English language at that time, having but a short time before emigrated to America, and this fact, coupled with the fact that he had all his accumulations to make without aid, marks him as one of the truly self-made men of his community. He is well known throughout his township, and enjoys the respect and esteem of his associates. His residence is in section 8, and there he has a comfortable home and enjoys well merited success.

Mr. Lindberg was born in Sweden December 6, 1853, and was the eldest in a family of twelve children born to Hans and Elna (Anderson) Nelson, both of whom are deceased. Four of the five living children are now located in Minnesota. Our subject was reared in his native land and received a good schooling in his own language, and in 1880 he emigrated to America, landing at Castle Garden, New York. He at once went to Red Wing, Minnesota, and for the following two years traveled over that region

and became thoroughly familiar with its advantages and resources. He worked at whatever presented itself during this time, and then heard of the government lands open for settlement in Kittson county, and in the spring of 1882 he went to the new country to prospect. His funds permitted him to board there a few weeks, but otherwise his expenses were of necessity limited, and after taking his land under a claim he was obliged to work at farm labor for others for about two years before he secured an ox team and began farming on his own land. He steadily improved the place and from time to time purchased additional land, and his present fine estate bears testimony of his thrift. He has made ample provision for shelter for his stock and has built a neat and substantial dwelling for the comfort of the family, and every equipment necessary for modern farming is to be found on the place, which consists of six hundred and eighty acres.

Mr. Lindberg was married, in 1884, to Miss Inga S. Anderson. To Mr. and Mrs. Lindberg seven children have been born, who are named in order of birth as follows: Hilmer, Nils, Hilda, Henry, Ellen, Hannah and George. Our subject is a gentleman of intelligence and active public spirit and is prominently identified with the growth and development of his community. He assisted in the organization of the township and acted as a member of the first township board, and is the present chairman of this board. He was for five years a member of the school board and was the first man to begin the organization of his school district. He is a consistent member of the Swedish Lutheran church and is highly esteemed for his citizenship and broad mind. Politically he is a Republican, and is influential in local affairs, supporting good government and raising the educational standard in his community.

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#### SEVERT JACOBSON.

The Scandinavian peninsula has furnished many sons for citizens of Minnesota, and these are always found wielding the implements of the trades, following commercial life or developing the wild lands of the northwest. These sturdy men are industrious, honest and capable, and at whatever vocation they engage themselves as a rule meet with success. A prominent place among those who have chosen agriculture as their life work may be accorded Severt Jacobson, who resides in section 12, of Highland Grove township, and is one of the substantial citizens of Clay county.

Our subject was born in Norway June 24, 1841, and was a son of Jacob and Maggie Jacobson, both of whom were natives of that



land. He was reared and educated in Norway and spent his early manhood there, and at the age of twenty-five years came to America. Immediately upon his arrival he located in Iowa, and there remained one year, and then spent one year in Wisconsin, and in 1869 removed to Fillmore county, Minnesota. He resided in the village of Rushford two years, and in 1871 went to Highland Grove township, Clay county, and entered a homestead claim to land in section 12. He built a log shanty and a sod stable and used oxen in cultivating his farm for about ten years. Then settlement was made by more people and times became better, and the markets gradually became more accessible, making it much easier to take care of the products of the farm and make improvements. A more pretentious dwelling was erected and other buildings on the farm, and the place now presents a most pleasing appearance and is in direct contrast to the early day home of Mr. Jacobson. He now owns two hundred and fifty acres of land, about half of which is under plow, and he follows general farming with marked success. He has a comfortable residence, good barn and keeps some stock, including horses, cattle and hogs, and may well feel satisfied with the result of his life and labors in Minnesota.

Mr. Jacobson was married, in 1867, to Synneva Wingum, a native of Norway. Eight children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson, who are named in order of birth as follows: John, Jense, Ole, Mary E., Annie, Line, Selma and Walter. Mr. Jacobson is most active in local affairs and has served as supervisor of his township, township clerk, assessor and clerk of the school district. He and family are members of the Lutheran church and are widely and favorably known. Politically our subject is identified with the Republican party, but he is not actively interested in political issues and does not seek public office.

#### FRANKLIN F. JOHNSON.

Franklin F. Johnson, one of the recent settlers of Wadena county, and who by his industry and good management gives promise of becoming a worthy citizen and valuable addition to the farming population of Wadena township, resides on section 18. He has a comfortable and pleasant home with all the adjuncts of modern farm life.

Mr. Johnson was born in Lee county, Illinois, December 19, 1855. His parents, Harvey E. and Mary J. (Wheat) Johnson, were both natives of New York. Mr. Johnson was reared and educated in Illinois and at the age of twenty-five years removed to Iowa and purchased land in Cherokee county. He farmed with success in

Iowa and resided there for seventeen years. In 1900 he arrived in Wadena county, and at once purchased land in section 18, of Wadena township. His farm consists of one hundred and ninety-eight acres of the most desirable land in the township. About one hundred and forty acres he devotes to crops, the remainder affording pasture, hay and timber. He has stocked his farm and erected convenient, modern farm buildings, and his estate is supplied with an abundance of the best water. His farm machinery is all of modern pattern and his entire property impresses the observer with an air of prosperous thrift. Mr. Johnson suffered many reverses while a resident of Iowa, by fire, hail and tornadoes, but with bull-dog tenacity hung on.

Mr. Johnson was married, November 1, 1876, to Ida Rand. Mrs. Johnson is a native of Ogle county, Illinois, and was born December 17, 1858. Their marriage has been blessed by the birth of ten children, named as follows: Fred J., Grace M. (now the wife of George H. Holly, a farmer of Wadena county, being married in August, 1901), Raymond F., Pearl E., George H., Earl J. (deceased), Maud F., DeForest, Howard and Phronje. Mrs. Johnson is a member of the United Brethren church. Mr. Johnson is a Republican and has been an influential member of that party. He was township assessor for two years, and for four years was a member of the school board. He was also treasurer of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company, of Marcus, Iowa, for four years. He is a man of business acumen and good judgment. He has always enjoyed the confidence and respect of his fellow men. He has been the architect of his own fortune, always self-reliant, and is in every sense of the word a self-made man.

#### JOHN WILSEY HUNT.

John Wilsey Hunt, a leading pioneer of Pine county, is now a respected resident of Pine City. He has been an enterprising and public-spirited gentleman and has aided materially in the development of his city and county from the original solitude to its present prosperous condition.

Mr. Hunt was born in Washington county, New York, in 1849. His father, George R. Hunt, is of Irish extraction, his ancestors having originally emigrated from the north of Ireland and settled in America at an early day. Our subject's mother, Anna (Wilsey) Hunt, was of Holland Dutch descent. Her grandfather, Wilsey, established the family in America and was a soldier in the war of 1812. He came to the state of New York when it was regarded as the western frontier.

Our subject is the third in a family of five

children and was reared and educated in the state of New York, attending the village schools. He began life on his own account at the age of fourteen years, working at any occupation that presented itself. He came to Minnesota in 1873, and two years later settled at Pine City. Indian wigwams were still on the site and the railway had just been laid through the city. Indians occupied the lands purchased by our subject.

Mr. Hunt engaged extensively in cruising for different lumber companies and also conducted lumbering and real estate business on his own account. He took an active part in the development of the region, and in 1880 was elected sheriff of Pine county. He held the position two years and was then elected county surveyor, and in the fall of 1892 was elected register of deeds. He has always wielded a great influence in public affairs and has attended numerous state and county conventions of the Republican party. He laid out the first cemetery in Pine county in 1881 and named it Birchwood cemetery. Previous to that time the dead had been buried in the woods.

In 1879 Mr. Hunt was married to Mertie A. Willard. Mrs. Hunt was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Her father, Augustus Willard, was foreman of a sawmill and was descended of old American and English stock. Prior to her marriage Mrs. Hunt taught school in Minnesota. Five children have been born of this marriage, namely: Royal, Anna, Carrie, John and Earl, all born in Pine City. In 1897 Mrs. Hunt died and was sincerely mourned by a wide circle of friends. Her womanly conduct and kindly disposition had won for her the esteem and regard of the entire community. Mr. Hunt and his son, Royal, made a trip to the Klondyke in 1898, going by way of White Pass and down the Yukon river to Dawson and St. Michael. They returned thence by boat to the United States, having spent one summer in that northern region.

#### ANDREW P. ANDERSON.

Andrew P. Anderson, one of the bright and progressive young farmers of Isanti county, whose home is in Cambridge township, commands the confidence and esteem of those who know him to a marked degree. His industry, thrift, integrity and genial disposition have made him many friends, and he is a good example of the successful Minnesota farmer, wide-awake, hustling, energetic and bound to win.

H. A. Anderson, the father of Andrew P., was born in Rettvick, Sweden, in 1826, and was bred to farming in the old country, where he lived many years, and was married in 1851 to Miss Annie Olson, by whom he had the following children: Annie A., Bessie M., Christine, Andrew P., Charlie T. and Willie.

Mr. Anderson came to the United States in 1868 and settled with his family in Isanti. They made their way from Anoka into Isanti county with an ox team and bought land in section 30, Cambridge township. There the family was sheltered in a log house, 27x28 feet, which was their home until 1900, when a new and handsome frame building was erected. Mr. Anderson had nothing with which to begin his career in Minnesota except his strong arm and stout heart, and the very substantial success he has attained since coming here is in evidence of his character and industry.

Andrew P. Anderson was two years old when his parents located in Isanti county, and his youth was spent on the frontier. By the time he was fifteen years of age he was entrusted with responsibilities ordinarily reserved for a much older age. In 1899, in company with his brother, Charles T., he took charge of the farm, the father under the pressure of his advanced years passing the management of the place over to his two sons. The farm consists of one hundred and fifty-nine acres, with about seventy-five under cultivation, the remainder being timber and pasture lands. It has good barns, granaries, sheds and all the machinery necessary for its profitable and successful cultivation. The brothers are doing well and the broad acres of the family homestead show hard work and good management.

#### HANS O. SOLUM.

Hans O. Solum, the successful proprietor of a half-section of land, and a well known grain buyer of Barnesville, Clay county, Minnesota, was born in Hadeland, Norway, in 1862, and is the son of a man who was a day laborer in the old country, but who became a substantial and well-to-do Minnesota farmer. In 1868 the Solum family came to Minnesota, and spent some four years in Fillmore county, when a homestead was secured in Clay county, and the family embarked on the way to a haven of comfort and prosperity. The elder Solum was among the first to settle in Tansum township, and began an agricultural career with a wagon, a yoke of oxen and three cows. He built a log cabin with a sod roof, which was the home of the family for several years.

Hans O. Solum assisted his parents in the opening of the farm, and early learned to drive the oxen, making a trip on one occasion with them as far as Alexandria.

Mr. Solum was reared and educated on a frontier farm and his boyhood days were replete with hard work, interspersed with those delightful experiences only possible to lads in a new country. He attended the common schools, and remained at home until he was twenty-three

years old. In 1885 he was married to Miss Engborg Haugen, who was born in Norway, and came to this country with her parents, who were numbered among the earlier settlers of Ottertail county. To this union have come five children, Peter, Hilda, Emma, Carl and Mabel.

After his marriage Mr. Solum bought land in Tansem township and began farming operations with oxen. For three years he remained on the farm, and then coming to Barnesville bought grain for the Minnesota and Dakota Elevator Company, with which he remained two years. For a number of years he was in partnership with S. F. Packard in the grain buying business in Barnesville. They had warehouses at Barnesville and at Lawndale, and for six years did a very successful business. Mr. Solum disposed of his interest in the business in 1895, and connected himself with the Minneapolis and Northern Elevator Company, where he has spent the last four years or more. Mr. Solum still retains his half-section farm, and has about one hundred and fifty acres of it under cultivation and devoted to wheat, flax and oats.

Mr. Solum is a Republican and has served on the city council some two years, and is also a member of the board of education. While he was living on the farm he owned and operated a thirteen-horse power threshing outfit for eight years.

#### REYNARD F. ANDERSON.

Ideal locations for farms have been sought throughout the northwest, but perhaps no one locality furnishes a more inviting place than the south branch of Two Rivers in Kittson county, Minnesota. Along its banks the present agriculturist of that region lives in contentment and plenty, and feels a just pride in having chosen well in the early days. Before its cultivation and development, the natural resources of a country do not appeal to the searcher for a home, and for this reason many of those who went to Kittson county in the pioneer days of its history turned backward to their former location or pressed onward in search of better camping grounds. Of those who foresaw what might be accomplished in that region and remained to reap the rewards of honest industry is the subject of this review. Mr. Anderson has a pleasant home on section 10 of Hallock township, and is one of the widely known pioneers of his locality.

Mr. Anderson was born in Sweden August 2, 1860, and was the eldest child and only son in a family of five children born to Gustaf and Maria (Gustafson) Anderson. The family came to America in 1872 and made their home in Red Wing, Minnesota, where the father worked in a moccasin factory, his trade being that of a shoe-

maker. Our subject was given the advantages of the city schools of Red Wing during some months of each winter, but in the main did not receive very liberal advantages, and as the family later moved to a farm, he assisted with the work of the place and thus his schooling ended. The father was not successful on his first farm, and in 1882 he located in Kittson county and secured land. Our subject accompanied his parents to the new home, and soon afterward, in the spring of 1883, he secured land for himself and has operated the same successfully since that date, and has resided thereon since 1890. He has placed good improvements on his home farm, and owns a tract of two hundred and forty acres. He has accumulated this farm unaided, and is one of the prosperous young members of the farming community of Hallock township.

Mr. Anderson was married in 1891 to Miss Hannah Hokanson. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, who are named Delphine and Fregof. Upon the marriage of our subject he took his young wife to their present comfortable home, and they have resided there since that date in contentment and plenty. Their dwelling is substantial and well furnished, and Mrs. Anderson presides over her household with true dignity. Mr. Anderson is prominent in township affairs, and has served ten years on the township board, during four years of which time he acted in the capacity of chairman of the board. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church, and is identified with the Republican party politically, but is not a strict party man, and has a host of friends regardless of party affiliations. Among the illustrations of this memorial volume will be found the portraits of Mr. Anderson and his family.

#### CAPTAIN DAVID L. WELLMAN.

Captain David L. Wellman, a prominent citizen with more than a local reputation in Ottertail county as a noted wheat grower and farmer, has resided on his present home farm for more than thirty years. It consists of one hundred and sixty acres in Hobart township, and was secured on a homestead filing May 18, 1871.

David L. Wellman was born in Grafton, Rensselaer county, New York, September 17, 1832, being a son of David and Catherine (Hayner) Wellman, both natives and long-time residents of that county, where also lived Oliver Wellman, the paternal grandfather of the Ottertail county farmer. The Wellmans settled in the United States long prior to the Revolutionary war, and a brother of Oliver Wellman served in the war of 1812. All were tillers of the soil as far back as their history can be traced, and in the service of war and in the arts of peace the

family name has descended untarnished to the present time.

When Captain Wellman was a child his parents removed to Clarkson, Monroe county, New York, making the journey by the Erie canal,—as that was the only means of traveling for the public, for railroads were not built at that time,—a vivid recollection of the journey and the boat still lingering in the mind of Mr. Wellman, when the steersman would call out "low bridge," and all on deck would have to lie down or hurry down the gangway to the cabin and of falling down the stairs more scared than hurt, and of seeing small packet boats, where the horses went on the trot, for people that were in a hurry, and with a French brass horn announced their arrival at the small places along the canal. The father bought a farm and established his home in Monroe county, New York, where he remained until 1872. That year he disposed of his property in the east and coming to Ottertail county, following the example of his son, David L., who had made his entry into this county the previous year, bought a farm adjoining his son, where he spent his last days, dying in 1895. Mrs. Wellman died in 1888. They had a family of five children, David L., John, Catherine E., Henry and Timothy B.

David L. Wellman began his education in the public schools of Monroe county, and completed his schooling in Lima Seminary, Livingston county, New York. When he became of age he worked for a time in Niagara Falls, but soon struck out for the west, making his way to Oswego, Kendall county, Illinois, where he followed farming. In 1853 he taught school, and late in 1856 made his first appearance in Minnesota and settled at Lake Elysian, in Waseca county, on the first day of January, 1857. For several years he was variously employed in different parts of the state.

In the meantime the Civil war had broken out and before the closing of the first year Mr. Wellman became a Union soldier, his enlistment occurring December 20, 1861, at Fort Snelling, when he became a member of Captain John E. Tourtellott's Company H, Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. This regiment had a long and glorious career. Mr. Wellman fought under the command of Grant, Sherman and Logan, and was in the battles of Iuka, Corinth, Jackson, Raymond, Champion Hill, at the siege and assault of Vicksburg, Missionary Ridge and Allatoona Pass, also "marched to the sea" with Sherman. At Allatoona he was one of the nineteen hundred men to hold the position and guard three million rations for Sherman's army around Atlanta previous to the march to the sea against the determined and persistent assault of six thousand Rebels of General French's division, of Hood's army. The fall of this point would have

been a disaster to the Union forces, and its successful defense was the most glorious achievements of the war. Captain John E. Tourtellotte had been promoted to colonel of the Fourth Minnesota and was in command of the post at Allatoona. Two other small regiments, the Ninety-third Illinois and the Eighteenth Wisconsin, were the only defense of the post, but during the night before the battle General Z. M. Corse arrived with reinforcements of one thousand men from Rome, Georgia, by railroad. He had gotten his orders the day before from General Sherman at Atlanta by wire to Kenesaw mountain, by signal flag from Kenesaw to Allatoona (over the heads of Hood's army, who had destroyed the telegraph and railroad), and then from Allatoona to Rome by wire. It was during the battle that General Sherman sent to General Corse the message by signal flag from Kenesaw, "Hold fast, for I am coming," which Evangelist Bliss, in his song, changed to "Hold the fort, for I am coming." After the war Colonel Tourtellotte was appointed captain in the Twenty-eighth United States Infantry and assigned to the Seventh Cavalry and detailed as aid-de-camp on General Sherman's staff, where he served over eighteen years.

Mr. Wellman was promoted from the ranks as orderly sergeant to second lieutenant and first lieutenant, and he became the captain, at Allatoona, of Company I, Fourth Minnesota. His services were continued until the close of the war and he was mustered out and discharged at St. Paul, Minnesota, August 17, 1865, after having participated in the grand review at Washington. His regiment enjoyed the honor of leading the columns of General Sherman on the second day of that memorable occasion. This regiment was also honored in being the first to enter Vicksburg at the surrender on July 4, 1863, and camped on the court house yard as provost guard of the city. Other regiments moved inside of the fortifications at the same time, but not into the city. The Fourth Minnesota, Colonel John B. Sanborn commanding, had charge of the guarding and parolling of the thirty-one thousand and six hundred prisoners, looking after one hundred and seventy-two captured cannons and over forty thousand stands of small arms. Lieutenant D. L. Wellman was acting adjutant of the regiment during the siege and capture of Vicksburg. Captain Wellman was slightly wounded on the nose at Savannah, Georgia, by a piece of shell that tore off his hat rim, skinned his nose and cut a hole through the cape of his overcoat.

When Mr. Wellman entered the service as a private and was taking his first lessons in drill and guard duty he commenced the study of Hardee's tactics on "School of the Soldier," "Company and Battalion Drill," and he soon had them committed to memory, so that he could repeat

them page after page, and he was soon quoted and referred to as authority on disputed points. When he was commissioned as an officer he made the study of "Army Regulations" his first business, so as to be qualified for any duty or emergency that the service might require of him. While he was a lieutenant, whenever for any cause the adjutant was absent, he was always called on to act as adjutant on dress parade or other duties at regimental headquarters. He was frequently detailed on court martial and other special services. As captain, at Savannah, Georgia, he was detailed as provost marshal of the Third Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, General John E. Smith commanding the division, and served as such until the division was disbanded at Raleigh, North Carolina, for the reason that the war was really ended by the surrender of General Johnston to General Sherman near here as the last large body of Confederate troops. He returned to his company and regiment and marched to Washington, D. C. The regiment was now assigned to the First Division of the Fifteenth Corps, Gen. Charles R. Wood commanding, and when the Fifteenth Corps started for Louisville, Kentucky, to be mustered out, Captain Wellman, with his company, was detailed to take charge of about thirty prisoners who were under arrest for minor offenses during the last two or three months and held at division headquarters awaiting court martial. As soon as he was relieved of that duty at Louisville he was detailed as acting inspector general of the First Brigade, First Division, General William B. Wood commanding, and served as such until mustered out of service with his regiment.

When the war was over Captain Wellman came back to Minnesota and for a time was engaged as agent and jobber for agricultural implements, a business he continued to follow until 1871. That year he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Hobart township, where he established his home and where he is found at the present time very comfortably situated in a roomy and attractive home, which he constructed himself. Handsome shade trees ornament his lawn and the whole place is scrupulously neat and orderly, showing the constant care and supervision of the owner. Captain Wellman still carries on active farming and does not hesitate to take any share of the work which may seem necessary to him at the moment. As a farmer he is very successful, and is recognized as an expert and authority on all kinds of grain. Two varieties of wheat, which he has propagated and brought to a high pitch of perfection, have received very great commendation from the farmers and experiment stations of the northwest. In the published agricultural reports of Canada his variety, "Wellman's Fife," is placed second in a list of seventy-two valuable varieties

of wheat. This is the consolidated report of the five experiment stations for six years. His other variety, the "Saskatchewan," is the original No. 1, hard grade of the northwest. His home crops are prepared and cultivated with much skill and industry, and it is hard to find a farm where the crops look so thrifty and abundant.

Captain Wellman is a correspondent of the agricultural press and is a great reader, taking in all some thirteen papers and newspapers. He is a noted exhibitor at state fairs of agricultural produce, for which he has borne away many valuable prizes, including hundreds of dollars in cash, a silk banner, silver medals and a silver tea set. Agricultural displays were prepared and furnished by him at the New Orleans National Fair, the Chicago World's Fair and the Pan-American Exhibition at Buffalo, New York. The grain exhibit from North Dakota at Chicago was prepared by him.

Captain Wellman has at various times been called upon to fill the offices of supervisor and member of the school board in his town, and appeared on the Republican ticket as a candidate for representative to the state legislature in 1896. This was an adverse year for his party in the county, and he and the other candidates on the ticket with him were beaten by five hundred votes.

Captain Wellman was married, September 15, 1868, to Anna R. Roberts, by whom he had six children: Louise, Milton, Hobart (who was the first white child born in the town of Hobart), Timothy, Eva and Nettie. Milton married Bridget Mahoney, a noted teacher and assistant superintendent of schools in Ottertail county, and is a wheat buyer in North Dakota. Louise is the wife of P. S. Brubaker, of Fargo, North Dakota. Eva married Fletcher Larson, a farmer now at Juneau, Alaska. The other children are at home. Captain Wellman has given his children a good education, and has sent several of them to the normal school at Moorhead. In the community he is much esteemed, and is well known throughout this and neighboring states as an agricultural writer and the "wheat man" of Frazee postoffice, Becker county, Minnesota.

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#### A. O. TRONNES.

A. O. Tronnes, a retired farmer of Norman county, Minnesota, is a man of wide experience and thorough knowledge of the vocation to which he has devoted his career. He has accumulated a fine property and by his earnest work and strict honesty has gained an enviable reputation. He is now enjoying the result of his labors and despite his advanced age is in the enjoyment of good health, and makes his home in Shelley

township with his son, Theodore, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work.

Mr. Tronnes was born in Osterdalen, Norway, June 23, 1813, and was the youngest of five children born to Ole and Sarah (Oldsdatter) Tronnes. He was reared on the farm in his native land and was married to Miss Anna Katrina Erickson. Their youngest son, Theodore, came to America in 1870, and as he was pleased with the country the others of the family followed him to the new world in 1871, arriving at the Red river June 5, 1872. He settled on a quarter-section of section 1, in Shelley township, Norman county, and finally secured a government patent to land after an expense of over two thousand dollars in litigation with the railroad company. He has continued to reside on the same section since that time, and for the last two years has made his home with his son. He is now eighty-eight years of age. He developed a fine farm and prospered in America. He went into Wilkin county in June, 1871, but left the following spring for the Red river. He had a boat with him and they rowed over the Wild Rice river for the purpose of prospecting.

Mr. Tronnes has been a member of the Lutheran church from his infancy and is a man of exemplary character. Mrs. Tronnes died in 1898, at the age of eighty-three years.

THEODORE TRONNES, one of the most successful and highly esteemed agriculturists of Shelley township, is an old settler of Norman county, and can recount many experiences in connection with his pioneer life in the northwest. He is now comfortably situated on his fine farm and devotes his attention to the careful and systematic operation of the same.

Mr. Tronnes was born in Nordland, Norway, May 20, 1852, his parents having moved to that place from Osterdalen, Norway. At the age of eighteen years our subject came to America, arriving in Red Wing, Minnesota, with but thirty-five cents. He remained there one year and then went to Wilkin county, and May 5, 1872, took up his residence in Polk county. He drove to his new home with oxen and he owned but one cow and the ox team. His first shanty was of round logs and the family "squatted" on section 1, in Shelley township. The railroad company claimed the land and considerable litigation was necessary to clear the patent, but our subject later proved claim to his land as a homestead. He has since purchased the property and he now controls about six hundred acres of land, eighty acres of which is located across the river in North Dakota. Mr. Tronnes built a 12x12-foot shanty for his first home there, and his second dwelling was built of hewn logs. In this he resided until 1898, when he erected his present commodious and substantial residence. His farm is under high cultivation and the improvements

thereon bespeak painstaking care in its operation and good judgment in all methods employed.

Mr. Tronnes was married May 18, 1878, to Miss Johanne Iverson, of Norway. To Mr. and Mrs. Tronnes the following children have been born: Alfred, Caroline, Albert died at the age of one year, Martin, Tyler, John, Thilda, Oscar, Bella, Edwin and Henry. Mr. Tronnes is a member of the Lutheran church at Neilsville, Minnesota. He is well known as a worthy citizen and has served as juryman on several occasions. Of late years he has affiliated with the People's party in politics, and is a man of broad mind, who keeps pace with the times and lends his influence for the upbuilding of the social and financial interests of the township, county, state and nation.

#### NELS O. FAHLIN.

Nels O. Fahlin, who occupies a prominent place among the younger members of the farming community of Homes City township, Douglas county, resides on section 8. He is a native of Minnesota and has the welfare of his native state at heart and is actively interested in the upbuilding of his home community.

Mr. Fahlin was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, August 14, 1863. His parents, Olaf and Breta Fahlin, were natives of Sweden, and came to America, landing at Quebec, Canada, in 1857. They went direct to McGregor, Goodhue county, Minnesota, where they rented a farm and stayed there until they removed to Goodhue county, Minnesota. In 1864 the father went to Douglas county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, which was on sections 7, 8 and 18, and upon this land our subject now resides. The father built a log house and from time to time their dwelling was enlarged and modernized, and is to-day a very comfortable farm residence. In 1861 Olaf Fahlin enlisted as a volunteer in the Union army in Company D, Third Minnesota Infantry. He served six months and was then compelled to withdraw, through sickness, receiving an honorable discharge from the service. He returned home and continued farming. He was married, in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, April 6, 1858, to Breta ———. Eight children were born to this worthy couple, three of whom are now living, namely: Sarah, wife of Andrew Bergland, of Farwell, Pope county, is the mother of four children; Nels, our subject; and Hannah, wife of Louis Suckstorff, of Kensington, Douglas county. The father died December 5, 1899. The mother lives on the home farm, and, although she has passed the age of three score and ten, she is in remarkably good health and attends to the duties of the household, keeping a home for our subject, Nels, who is unmarried. The father during his life and residence



in Holmes City township filled the offices of supervisor and school director for several terms, and was a gentleman of active public spirit and was mourned by a large circle of friends.

Nels O. Fahlin received his education in the public schools of his neighborhood and has engaged in farming from his earliest recollection. He is possessed of practical knowledge of his calling, and is a man of strict integrity of word and deed, and has worked persistently for the upbuilding and advancement of his community. He was for years clerk of the school district in which he lives and is a member of the Oscar Lake Swedish Lutheran church. In political sentiment he is a Republican, as was also his father.

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#### EDWARD SOLVESON.

Edward Solveson, residing on section 29, in Anthony township, is one of the truly self-made men of Norman county. He is an early settler of that region and since taking up his residence there has proven himself a worthy citizen and intelligent agriculturist. He has a well equipped farm and enjoys the comforts of rural life.

Our subject was born on a farm in Dodge county, Wisconsin, October 14, 1857. His father, Holver Solveson, was a native of Norway, and he came to America in 1844. He made a trip to California in 1849 with ox teams. The grandfather of our subject, Solve Engebretson, emigrated to America from Norway and died in this country after residing here fourteen years. The mother of our subject, who bore the maiden name of Anna Anderson, was also born in Norway, and died in 1883 in Wisconsin. Of a family of eleven children, five of whom are living, our subject was the eldest. He was raised on the farm and assisted his father with the work and attended the village school. He finished his education at White Water Normal School, and received a liberal education. After attaining his majority he went to Colorado, where he worked in the silver mines five months and then returned to Chicago, where he remained for twenty months. He went to Minnesota at the age of twenty-four years and settled on his present farm and in the spring of 1882 purchased the land. He bought a team of horses on time and lived on the place alone and followed farming, and met with good success. In 1888 and 1889 his crops were almost a total failure on account of drouth, and in 1899 he lost his entire crop by hail storm, but despite these drawbacks he has prospered and is now the owner of a fine estate. He engages in diversified farming and pays much attention to stock-raising, horses being the principle stock kept. He has a fine barn and a good comfortable residence and such other buildings as are needed for conducting a good farm, and all ma-

chinery needed, and in fact has all equipments which will be found adding to the convenience of operating the place.

Our subject was married, in 1887, to Ella Gunderson, a native of Jefferson county, Wisconsin. Her father, Nels Gunderson, is a native of Norway, and came to America in 1845, and is a prosperous farmer of Wisconsin. Mrs. Solveson died May 13, 1897, after an illness of fourteen months, leaving a family of five children. Mr. Solveson is a man of good principles and is active in local affairs. He has held numerous township offices, including township clerk, supervisor, justice of the peace and is the present treasurer. He was a resident of Norman county prior to its organization and was prominent in county affairs. He is a member of the Lutheran church and was chairman of the church building committee when the church of that denomination was erected in 1896. He is a firm supporter of public enterprises and is a worthy and esteemed citizen.

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#### ERNEST W. EVERTS.

Carlisle township has much to count in rating the thriving agricultural townships of Ottertail county. One of the fine farms which is classed among the best of the township is owned and operated by Ernest W. Everts, a young man of good business ability and thorough training as an agriculturist. Mr. Everts has a wide circle of acquaintances, and is held in high esteem by all.

Our subject was born in New York January 21, 1879, and was a son of Edwin R. and Nettie (Morey) Everts, both of whom were born in New York. The father, of whom a portrait will be found in this volume, located in Ottertail county, and purchased a farm there consisting of six hundred and forty acres of land and engaged in farming the same until 1900. He was engaged in the stock, creamery and dairy business for many years, and was later engaged in selling North Dakota lands for the government. He was a citizen of prominence and a man of active public spirit. His marriage to Nettie Morey occurred in 1870, and to this union six children were born, namely: Newton J., Albert O., Edwin C., Ernest W., Mae R. and U. S. Grant. The family are Republicans in political faith. They are members of the Methodist church, and are highly respected in their community.

At the age of ten years Ernest W. Everts left his native state with his father and brother and they located in Ottertail county, Minnesota, after which they assisted the father on his extensive farm, and remained at home thus engaged until 1900. They then bought their father's improved farm and divided the land between them, our subject becoming the possessor

of three hundred and seventy-eight acres, and the brother two hundred and forty acres. They reside at home with the mother, and together own thirteen head of horses, one hundred and six head of cattle and one hundred and eighty sheep. Our subject has a commodious, good barn on his land, and a ten-room residence, two stories in height. A well supplies excellent water for farm and domestic use, and the farm is one of the well-improved and well-cultivated tracts of the locality. The farm machinery used is of modern pattern, and every equipment necessary for conducting a model farm is at hand. Mr. Everts has met with success in his calling, and is one of the rising young men of his community. The father died April 17, 1901.

A portrait of Ernest W. Everts also forms one of the illustrations in this work, and will be found on another page.

#### EMIL TORGESON.

Among the younger business men of Stephen a most prominent position is accorded Emil Torgeson, of the general merchandise firm of E. Torgeson & Company. He is a gentleman of sterling qualities, is possessed of ability and foresight and is rapidly rising to the highest rank as a citizen of active public spirit.

Our subject was born in Vernon county, Wisconsin, September 6, 1862, and was the ninth in a family of ten children. His parents, Ole and Sigrid (Olson) Torgeson, were natives of Norway. They came to America, and the father, who now survives, adopted farming as his occupation after his arrival in this country, and our subject was thus reared to farm life. At the age of nineteen years he engaged as salesman at Genoa and later at Independence, Wisconsin, and in 1898 the mercantile firm of which our subject is the head was formed and the business of G. G. Steaning, deceased, one of the pioneer business men of Stephen, was continued. The firm now carries a stock valued at about nine thousand dollars, and they have an increasing trade in Stephen and from surrounding country. The business has been promoted to its present proportions mainly through the efforts of Mr. Torgeson, and he has anticipated the needs of the community and supplied a stock in accordance and well merits his business success.

Our subject was married, in 1892, to Miss Clara Frenstad. To this union three children have been born, to whom the following names have been given: Heron, Selpha and Clarence. Mr. Torgeson is prominent in secret society circles and is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Order of Red Men. He is a consistent member of the Scandinavian Lutheran church and is an exemplary citizen. In political faith

he is a Republican and takes an active interest in party matters, and has served two terms as treasurer of the Republican county central committee. He has resided in Stephen comparatively few years, but during that time he has rapidly risen to a place of prominence in local affairs, and in 1899 became a member of the village council and is at present serving as president of the council.

#### ROLAND BAARDSON.

Roland Baardson, one of the rising young men of Becker county, is proprietor of a fine estate in section 12, of Audubon township. He is a native of that county and is well known as a young man of active public spirit and honest industry.

Our subject was born in Audubon township, Becker county, Minnesota, October 30, 1873, and was a son of Ole Baardson, who became a prominent early settler of Becker county. He was born in Norway and reared and educated there, and when a boy of eight or ten years started to earn his own livelihood and thereafter received no assistance from the home roof. He was married to Miss Christina Stenkjer, who was also a native of Norway, and the same month of their wedding came to America, landing at Quebec, Canada. He went direct to Minnesota, and settled in Goodhue county, and there hired to others until 1870, when he located in Becker county, Minnesota. He drove overland to his new home and he had no means upon his arrival with which to begin the development of his place, his first home being a dugout. There he lived for the first few years, and although it was a humble abode it was none too humble to be called home, and in this rudely constructed dwelling our subject was born. In the early days of their residence there prairie fires were numerous and had to be fought night and day, and many narrow escapes from losses can now be recalled. Grasshoppers added to the destructive elements and life was filled with many discouragements, but the father worked with determination and by economy and good management gained a good home. He worked on the railroad and spent his means for the support of the family and the development of his farm, and after several years began to train our subject for farming, and by the time he had reached the age of thirteen years he was able to lift considerable of the load from the father. He was the second in a family of three children; his two sisters died at the respective ages of ten and seventeen years. He remained at home and attended the country schools, gaining a good education and making the best of his opportunities, and upon the death of his father, in 1893, he assumed charge of the homestead. He is now the owner

of two hundred and sixty acres of land, upon which he has recently built a comfortable residence and good barn and placed other valuable improvements, and with machinery necessary for conducting the place derives a good income from the farm. Mr. Baardson has become thoroughly identified with the history of Becker county, and he has held various offices in Audubon township, including school treasurer, in which capacity he has served the past six years. He is a young man of broad mind and is identified with the Prohibition party politically and stands firmly for the principles of his party. He has a wide acquaintance and is universally esteemed and respected. Mr. Baardson was married, December 12, 1900, to Ragnhild Holen, daughter of Svend and Elsie Holen. She was born in Norway, as were her parents.

#### ALBERT ROHRER.

Albert Rohrer, one of the representative business men of St. Louis county, is a tradesman of Eveleth and does a good business in the jewelry store which he owns in that town. He has a fine residence there and is surrounded by all the comforts of life. He is thoroughly versed in the jeweler's trade, having mastered it in the old country, and is a man of good business ability and worthy citizenship.

Mr. Rohrer was born in the manufacturing city of Furtwangen, in the province of Baden, Germany, in 1864. His father, Joseph Rohrer, was a watchmaker and spent his life in Germany. Our subject was the youngest of four children and was reared in the city and attended the public schools. He began to learn the watchmaker's trade at the age of fourteen years and served an apprenticeship of three years. He then emigrated to America and worked at his trade as an apprentice two years longer in this country. He began work as a journeyman at Calumet, Michigan, and after spending two years there went to Hancock, Michigan, where he remained five years. He went to Tower, Minnesota, in 1889, where he followed his trade one year and then established a business for himself at Tower and remained there ten years, building up a good trade and an enviable reputation. He went to Eveleth in the spring of 1900 and opened a jewelry store in that thriving town and carries the largest and best stock of jewelry goods in Eveleth. Aside from his mercantile interests Mr. Rohrer is interested in gold mines in the Rainy lake country. He has erected a handsome residence in Eveleth and become one of the permanent and progressive citizens of that town.

Mr. Rohrer was married, in 1893, to Miss Paulina Ruf. Mrs. Rohrer was born in Germany and came to America in 1885. Mr. and

Mrs. Rohrer are the parents of three children, namely: Adaline, Clara and Leona, all of whom were born in Tower, Minnesota. Mr. Rohrer takes an active interest in the community in which he makes his home and while a resident of Tower served four years as village treasurer. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. and K. O. T. M.

#### H. J. RASK.

For nearly a quarter of a century this gentleman has been a land owner and prosperous farmer of Hendrum township, Norman county. His residence is in section 12, and there he enjoys the comforts of rural life. He was born in Hollingdal, Norway, July 4, 1854.

Mr. Rask came to America in 1857 with his father and the other members of the family and they made their home in Houston county, Minnesota, having gone there direct from Quebec, Canada, at which point they landed in America. Our subject grew to manhood in Houston county and attended the common schools, receiving a good education. He assisted with the work of the home farm and at the age of eighteen years began farming for himself in Houston county on twenty acres of land which his father had given him. He worked his own land and was also employed for others until the spring of 1878, when he went to Norman county and established his home. He had made a trip to the new country in the spring of 1877 and purchased a homestead in Hendrum township, and with three horses and a wagon went there the next year overland. He went the entire distance of four hundred and fifty miles in this manner, camping wherever night overtook him, and he spent two weeks on the trip. The first three years of his residence on his farm he boarded with neighbors, and his first dwelling was a 16x26-foot frame building. He lived there alone a part of the time and some of the time boarded with others. He improved the place and in 1882 and 1883 rented the land to others and did not follow farming himself during these two seasons. He has added to his possessions from time to time and is now the fortunate owner of four hundred and eighty acres of land, the farm being divided into three tracts. He has about three hundred and sixty-three acres under cultivation and has plenty of timber land and pasture. He has a complete set of good farm buildings, including a large and comfortable residence, good barn, granary, etc., and the farm is well equipped with machinery. A flowing well is one of the features of the place and furnishes an abundance of water for domestic and farm uses. Mr. Rask engages in grain-raising to large extent, and also is interested in cattle-raising to some extent, and at present has about forty head. Drouth and hail have visited the farm and have

caused considerable loss of crops at various times, but despite these drawbacks Mr. Rask, always persistent and energetic, has made a success and is now one of the substantial and well versed farmers of his township. He and his brother were interested together for some time, but of late years our subject has conducted his pursuit alone, and his success is due to his own efforts.

Mr. Rask was married, in 1890, to Miss Ellen Spande, a native of Stavanger, Norway. Mrs. Rask came to America alone and resided in Fillmore county, Minnesota. Her father, Joseph Spande, lived and died in Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Rask are the parents of three children, who bear the following names: Olaf S., Enga D. and Harold E., and all are natives of Norman county, Minnesota. Mr. Rask is associated with the Prohibition party politically and is a firm advocate of reform and temperance.

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#### PETER L. MOODY.

Peter L. Moody, of the township of Cambridge, in Isanti county, though still a young man, has had a varied and interesting experience and through hardship and adversity has held his courageous way until he has attained a very substantial success.

Mr. Moody was born in Helsingland, Sweden, in 1850, and is the son of a laboring man, who was employed for years in manufacturing charcoal for a big iron company. During the summer season he engaged in farm work, and was the father of a family of nine children, of whom Peter L. was the oldest. Six of his children are now living.

Peter L. Moody was reared and schooled in the old country until he was about eleven years old, when the family emigrated to the United States, landing first at Taylor's Falls, Minnesota, and went on to Chisago lake for a stay of two years. The father worked out and secured means with which to support his family, but the times were difficult, and many mouths were to be fed, so that Peter L. began to care for himself as early as 1863. The following year the family removed to Isanti county, where the father secured a homestead in section 26, of Cambridge township, and put up a log house, 24x28 feet, which was the family home for several years. They began here with a cow, a heifer and a cook stove as about the inventory of their total possessions.

Peter L. Moody was at Rush City before it had a house and for fifteen years was engaged in the lumber woods, principally in Kanabec, Pine and Carlton counties, helping to construct the wagon road from Brunswick to Pine City. No settlers were along the road and heavy game,

like bears, were very plentiful. It is said that on one occasion a bear prowling around the house found a two-gallon jar of butter. It ate the butter and then filled the jar with sand. Our subject's work began in the lumber regions when he was seventeen years old, and he was employed on log drives two seasons.

Mr. Moody drove out to the neighborhood of Moorhead and Fargo in the summer of 1871 and broke eighty-five acres of land near Glendive. During the whole trip he slept in his wagon. In the fall of that year he returned to Isanti county and bought his present farm in sections 26 and 25, of the town of Cambridge, putting up the house and barn and improving his land until his has become a very choice and attractive farm.

Mr. Moody was married, in 1878, to Miss Maggie Pauline, a native of Sweden and who was brought to this country by her parents in 1867. The family settled in Isanti county and have made a very creditable position for themselves in the new world. To this union have come the following children: Clarence, Clara, Victor, Frank, Dora, Herbert and Myrtle; one child, George, died at the age of two years and two months, and an infant unnamed.

Mr. Moody owns two hundred and sixty acres of land and has about eighty acres under the plow. He is a hard working and thrifty man and has made himself what he is by unflagging industry and devoted application to his calling. Through ups and downs he has held his way and now is independent. In politics he is free to vote as he pleases, refusing to be classed as a party man, and is a member of a temperance society in Cambridge.

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#### OSCAR S. JOHNSON.

Oscar S. Johnson, an influential citizen and prosperous agriculturist of Polk county, resides in Russia township and is the owner of a well improved farm.

Mr. Johnson was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, December 15, 1855. His father, John Johnson, was a Lutheran minister and also owned a farm. He received a liberal education and in 1876 came to Fargo, North Dakota, bringing horses. In 1878 he came to Polk county, Minnesota, and took as a homestead a quarter-section of land in section 2, of Russia township. He also took a tree claim in section 12, of the same township. He built his house of native lumber, and it was the first house constructed in Russia township. He took the trip from Iowa to Polk county in a covered wagon, a distance of five hundred miles. He had one companion and they took six horses, and frequently found it necessary to swim their horses across the deep streams. Mr. Johnson has continued farming since his earliest settlement in Polk county, and is now in

possession of a section of excellent land. For the first ten or twelve years after his settlement there he made a business of shipping horses into Polk county from Iowa and disposed of them to his neighboring farmers. He spent the winters of 1878, 1879 and 1880 in Iowa and the rest of the time he spent on his claim, living there alone. He knows the topography of the surrounding country well and has assisted many strangers in locating land, and is widely and favorably known.

Mr. Johnson was married, in January, 1881, to Miss Gurina Hagelia, who was also a native of Winneshiek county, Iowa. Four children were born to this union, namely: Oliver, Leonard, Clarence and Oscar. Mrs. Johnson died March 20, 1895. Mr. Johnson has always taken a commendable interest in township and county affairs. He assisted in the organization of his township and held the office of assessor for eight years thereafter, and he has also served on the township board. He is a staunch Republican, and for six years was about the only one to champion the principles of this organization in Russia township, but he now has a large following, and the town has a majority of Republicans. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Lutheran church and is a man of high standing.

#### HANS C. STRUMNAS.

Hans C. Strumnas, a prominent citizen of Barnesville, Minnesota, where his manly qualities and industrious habits have made him many friends and brought him into very comfortable circumstances, was born on a farm in the northern part of Tronhjelm, Norway, in 1865, where his father lived and died a farmer, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years.

Mr. Strumnas was the youngest member of a family of eight children, and was reared and educated in his native community, where he attended the public schools and later a private institution of learning. When he was fifteen years old he began at the tailor's trade, serving an apprenticeship of three years, and then following it until he was twenty-two years of age. This was in 1887, and the same year he came to the United States, landing in New York and coming directly west to Clay county, Minnesota, where for a time he was employed on a farm. In the fall of 1888 he spent a short time in Duluth, and the following spring started to work at the tailor's trade. The following summer he bought out the tailor shop of Charles Klemme and for three years was in business for himself, when he sold out to John Nelson. For some two years he was employed in the clothing department of John Marth's store, and then he opened a general store at Rothsey, Minnesota, in company with O. H. Brandhagen, under the firm name

of Brandhagen & Strumnas. The two were together for seventeen months, when Mr. Strumnas retired in favor of his partner and came back to Barnesville, where for about a year he was engaged in a tailoring business. In 1898 he put in a stock of confectionery into his tailor shop, and carried the two on at the same time until August, 1900, when he discontinued the tailor trade and devoted himself exclusively to his confectionery, to which he added a lunch counter and an ice cream parlor. He has been quite successful and has established a very profitable trade.

In the spring of 1901 Mr. Strumnas was elected city justice for a two-years term. He is a Republican and is highly regarded in Barnesville and wherever he has lived.

Mr. Strumnas was married, in 1891, to Miss Clara Christianson, a native of Minnesota and a daughter of J. Christianson, a farmer and an old settler and a very wealthy man, who died in 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Strumnas have one girl, Edna M., who was born in Barnesville in 1894.

#### JACOB C. SLETTEN.

In compiling a list of the popular and successful men of Fossum township, a most prominent station must be accorded Mr. J. C. Sletten, of Gary. He is one of the public-spirited citizens of his community, and as he has resided there for many years, has a host of friends who appreciate his thorough-going manner and energetic spirit.

Our subject was born in Norway March 6, 1847, and was a son of Christopher and Carrie Sletten, both of whom were natives of Norway and passed their lives in their native land. Mr. Sletten was educated in his native place, attending school until he was fifteen years of age, since which time he has depended upon his own resources, and he has led a busy and active life. He began earning his livelihood by work on a railroad, and later was employed in a livery barn, and at the age of twenty-three years emigrated to America, locating in Minneapolis, Minnesota. After a few months he removed to Detroit City, Minnesota, and there worked at railroad labor three years, after which he went to Lake Park, Minnesota, obtaining a position there as clerk in a store. He was also engaged in buying wheat for R. H. Abraham, and remained there seven years. He then moved to Audubon, Minnesota, where his brother was engaged in farming, and he was employed on the place, and purchased wheat also. From there he went to Norman county, Minnesota, and purchased a tract of land in section 24 of Fossum township. He remained on the farm about eight years, and met with success in his farming, but during his stay there he was called upon to mourn the loss of his life com-



panion, and he later removed to the town of Gary, where he now makes his home.

Mr. Sletten was married in the spring of 1873, in Oak Lake, Minnesota, to Isabelle Goodrich. Mrs. Sletten was born March 19, 1850, in Dane county, Wisconsin, and was reared in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and died in Crookston, Minnesota, July 6, 1884. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Sletten, as follows: Ida C., deceased; Cora H.; Charles H.; Amina J.; Paulina, deceased; and Julia. Mr. Sletten is a man of intelligence and keeps pace with the times in public affairs, and takes more than a usual interest in the development and advancement of his adopted land and state. He has held various offices of trust, and has proven himself a faithful and able servant of the people of his community. He was census enumerator in 1900, and has also served as president of school district No. 43, of Fossum township, and is the present assessor of the township. Politically he is a Republican and stands firmly for the principles of his party. A portrait of this estimable gentleman will be found upon another page in this work.

#### ERIK ANDERSON.

For the past twenty years this gentleman has devoted his time and attention to the pursuit of agriculture in Kittson county, Minnesota, and he has met with a good degree of success in the same. He is a carpenter and joiner by trade and is a man of ability and ingenuity, displaying these characteristics in the appointments and equipments of his farm. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 18, of Hazleton township, and carefully tills the same and has provided every means for the economical conduct of the place. His calling is well chosen and he is one of the highly esteemed and progressive citizens of his community.

Mr. Anderson was born in Sweden September 5, 1853, and was a son of Anders and Brita (Johnson) Johnson. He learned the carpenter's trade in his native land and worked at the same in Ostersund until 1881, when he came to America in quest of his fortune. In January, 1882, he filed claim to land in Kittson county and it once began the improvement of the same. He built a log house and lived humbly and economically and is now the fortunate owner of a good estate. In 1899 he erected a substantial barn and this, with other outbuildings of the place, evidences the thrift of the owner. Mr. Anderson and his brother live together and our subject is one of the well-known bachelor farmers of that section.

Progressiveness, integrity and enterprise mark Mr. Anderson as one of the foremost men of his calling in Hazleton township. He was in

debt when he went to his present location, but he has since become able to cancel this and owns one hundred and sixty acres of good land without incumbrance, all as the result of his own endeavors. He is most prominent in public affairs of his township and he has served the people in various local offices, in all of which he has proven his integrity and faithfulness. He has been township treasurer since the organization of Hazleton township, and for ten years has served as treasurer of the school district.

#### BARTH WOLF.

Among the prominent pioneers of Carlton county, Minnesota, who have witnessed the growth of that region and have aided materially in the development, may be noted Barth Wolf. This gentleman is thoroughly familiar with the locality in which he makes his home, as he has been a resident there since its early settlement and has engaged in various places in agriculture and brick-making. He is now connected with Mr. Habegger in the art of brick-making and has been associated with this gentleman continuously in this work for the past ten years.

Mr. Wolf was born on a farm in Switzerland in 1852. His father, Valentine Wolf, was a farmer all his life and spent his life in Switzerland. Of a family of five children our subject is the youngest. He was reared on the home farm and was given an opportunity to work on the place from early boyhood. At the age of sixteen years he started for himself. He came to America via Hamburg and New York on a new steamer, and then made his way to Fountain City, Wisconsin. He there followed farm work and remained from 1869 to 1871, after which he went to Minnesota, locating at Lake City. He there went at farm work and spent about two years in that locality, and spent the following years until 1879 at all lines of work in that part of Minnesota. He went to the south and spent two years in plantation work in Louisiana, and in 1881 returned to Minnesota. Two years he resided in West St. Paul and two seasons worked in the brick yard and there became familiar with brick-making. In the fall of 1883 he went to Northern Pacific Junction, in Carlton county, and worked in Carlton and also near Wenshall at the brick business and also at lumbering, etc. In 1884 he was engaged by Fred Habegger at Clear creek in the brick yard and he has continued in his employ a greater share of the time since, and for the past ten years continuously. He is thoroughly versed in the art of brick-making and is competent and reliable.

Mr. Wolf was married, May 6, 1886, to Miss Alice S. C. Habegger. Mrs. Wolf was born in New Lisbon, Wisconsin. Three children have



been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wolf, namely: Edith C., born at Carlton, Minnesota; Fred J., born in Carlton; and Barbara F., also born in Carlton. Mr. Wolf is prominent in public affairs and has served as justice of the peace two years, school clerk four years. He is a charter member of the Knights of the Maccabees and for the past four years has served as secretary of the lodge. His many years' residence in Carlton county and vicinity gives him a wide acquaintance and he is universally respected and esteemed. In political faith Mr. Wolf is a Republican.

#### ROBERT F. SHIELDS.

Robert F. Shields, one of the most influential citizens of Park Rapids, Minnesota, is an ex-soldier and bravely fought to preserve the Union. As he was loyal to his convictions in those troubled days, so he has maintained his strict adherence to the right and justice and equity in all things and has made for himself an enviable place in the hearts and minds of his fellow men. He is now retired from active pursuits and has a home of comfort in the city of Park Rapids, where he owns considerable real estate.

Robert Shields was born in Pennsylvania June 2, 1845. His father, James Shields, was born in Ireland, and the mother of our subject, Susan (Simmons) Shields, was a native of New York. When he was but two years of age he removed with his parents to Rock county, Wisconsin, and he was reared on a farm in that state. He attended the common schools of his neighborhood until he was sixteen years of age. He then went to Janesville, Wisconsin, and enlisted in the Twelfth Wisconsin Battery in August, 1863. He went to Madison, Wisconsin, and from there was sent to Arkansas. He was through the southern states and participated in fourteen different engagements. In the battle of Bentonville, North Carolina, March 21, 1865, he lost his right leg and was taken to Newborn hospital of North Carolina. Later he was taken to the hospital of David's Island, near New York City, and was then transferred to Prairie du Chein, Wisconsin, hospital. He was discharged from the service September 12, 1865.

Mr. Shields was one of the first settlers of Park Rapids and built the first store building in the town and conducted a merchandise business therein under the name of the Pioneer store. He now owns two store buildings and a residence and four lots in the city. He is awarded a pension of thirty-six dollars per month, and this, with his other incomes, relieves his financial needs.

Mr. Shields was married, September 26, 1866, to Margaret Dinning. Mrs. Shields was born in Canada June 26, 1845, and died in Min-

nesota November 5, 1894. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Shields, namely: Winnie S., Lydia F. and Mattie E. Mr. Shields was married to Augusta C. Knutson February 19, 1896. Mrs. Shields was born in Minnesota February 11, 1860. Mr. Shields was the first sheriff of Hubbard county and has always taken a commendable interest in public affairs. He served as postmaster of Park Rapids for eight years and was the first chairman of the village council, and served in that capacity four years, and he served two years as president of the school board. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, which order he joined in 1871 at Painsfield, Iowa. He and family are members of the Methodist church at Park Rapids and are held in high esteem by the entire community. Mr. Shields is a Democrat politically and stands firmly for the principles of his party.

#### JUDGE CHARLES E. NELSON.

Judge Charles E. Nelson, judge of the municipal court of Virginia, St. Louis county, Minnesota, is one of the leading business men and old settlers of the county.

Judge Nelson is a native of Sweden, and was born near Norrkaping March 13, 1860. His father was a manufacturer of inks and shoe blacking and died in his native land. Our subject was one of a large family of children, his father having married three times. Young Nelson was reared in the place of his birth and attended the city schools, receiving a substantial common-school education. He began work under his father's superintendence at the age of twelve years, and so continued until he was fourteen years old. He then entered his apprenticeship to learn the blacksmith's trade. For the six years following he worked at his trade in Norrkaping, and then, in May, 1880, embarked for the United States. He landed at Baltimore and then went to Chicago, where he worked for a short time at his trade. He then followed other work, and for two years followed peddling in the city of Chicago. He then went to Michigan and there, in the Menominee Range, he worked in the iron mines about six months. In 1883 he went to Phillips, Wisconsin, where he worked on the section as a common laborer. He later worked in Ashland, Wisconsin, and spent one summer and winter in the pineries. He next found himself in Minneapolis, where he worked at anything he could get to do. He then returned to Phillips, Wisconsin, and from there went to the Gogebic Range in Michigan, where he worked in the mines six months, and was at the end of that time appointed to the police force. He served in this capacity one year and then was appointed county jailor of Gogebic county, and held that position

one year. In December, 1889, he returned to Sweden, where he visited till April, 1890.

On returning to America Mr. Nelson was, after a few months' service as watchman at Ironwood, Michigan, appointed deputy register of deeds, which office he held for two and a half years. In 1893 he arrived in Virginia, Minnesota, among the first settlers in that place. Here he engaged in various enterprises and in 1894 was elected village constable for one year. In 1895 he was elected justice of the peace, serving in that office one year. In 1895 the municipal court was organized and Judge Nelson was elected municipal judge. He was re-elected in 1899, and is now serving his second term in that capacity.

Judge Nelson is a Republican in his political views and has been a factor in the affairs of his party in the county. He has attended numerous conventions as a delegate and his influence in local politics has always been recognized. He is numbered among the pioneers of the locality and is held in high esteem wherever known.

#### HELGE H. THORESON.

As a well-to-do and successful agriculturist and worthy citizen this gentleman is well known to the people of Polk county. He has a fine estate in Roome township, and is one of the early settlers of that locality.

Mr. Thoreson was born in Osterdalen, Norway, May 2, 1864, and was the second of eleven children born to Helge and Johanna Thoreson. The father brought the family to America in 1868, locating in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they remained three years. They then moved to Ottertail county and settled on a homestead which the father entered claim to. He went to that county with fourteen dollars and a yoke of oxen and a wagon and left seven years later with five hundred dollars in money and some stock. The sheep and calves they had were kept in the cellar to keep them from freezing, when they lived in Ottertail county. The father saw no good opportunity in Ottertail county for his children to gain a good property and in 1878 he removed to Polk county, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land. At his death, which occurred in 1892, he was the owner of seventeen forty-acre tracts of land, all in good condition. He went to the Red river with oxen, but these were soon replaced with farm horses. Helge H. Thoreson, Jr., purchased his first eighty acres of railroad land in 1886 and moved from his parents' home on his own land in Roome township in 1887, where he had a small frame house. In 1898 this was replaced by an elegant and commodious residence, one of the

finest in the county. He has also built excellent barns and other farm buildings and now has four hundred and thirteen acres of land and one of the best improved farms of that neighborhood. Everything about the place bespeaks refinement and good taste and painstaking care in the operation of the farm.

Mr. Thoreson was married in January, 1887, to Miss Anna O. Bangen, of Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Thoreson are the parents of eight children, who are named as follows: Josephine, Christine, Amanda, Helge, Thilda, Olga, Ole and Eddy. Mr. Thoreson has been a member of the township board since his residence in the township until he declined to serve in that capacity longer. His townsmen then elected him township treasurer and although he did not wish to serve in any public office they thrust it upon him, and he is now acting in that capacity and enjoys the confidence and esteem of all who know him. While a member of the township board he was energetic in getting grading done and succeeded remarkably well. He is a member of the People's party politically.

#### CHRISTIAN MADSON.

Christian Madson, one of the prosperous farmers of Norman county, resides in section 21, of Halstad township, and is well known as an early settler there. He has passed through pioneer experiences in Minnesota, but, possessed of an indomitable will, he has remained to witness its transformation and aid materially in the same, and is deservedly one of the respected and esteemed citizens. He was born in Neystad, Denmark, April 8, 1858.

The father of our subject, Mat. Peterson, is a clerk in a wholesale establishment in Neystad, Denmark, and has been a trusted employe of that establishment all his life. He served his army term and is a respected citizen of his native place. The grandparents of our subject were blacksmiths by trade. The maternal grandfather bore the name of Peter Peterson, and the paternal grandfather was Peter Hanson. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Johannah Peterson. She was the mother of three children, of whom our subject was the second in order of birth. He was raised in the city and educated in the common schools and at the age of fourteen years went to sea. He followed a sailor's life ten years, during which time he visited many countries of the globe, including Africa, Australia, China, Japan, South America and North America, sometimes on a sailing vessel and other times aboard a steamer. He has visited Santiago, Cuba, and has an extensive knowledge of the countries which he has visited.

He came to America in 1881 and settled in Wisconsin, where he stayed about two years, and then went to Norman county, Minnesota, where he purchased land and began farming. He built a log house 14x20 feet, and with an ox team, wagon and plow began the improvement of his farm, and followed this course with oxen for eight years, breaking all his land in the time. A 12x12-foot addition was put to his shanty after a short time and to this he has added many improvements and enlarged the house. He now has a comfortable and conveniently arranged residence, built in 1898. The other buildings of the farm include a good barn, granary, etc., and every arrangement has been made for the economical conduct of the place. All machinery is of modern pattern and he owns all that is necessary to conduct a model farm. The farm comprises three hundred and twenty acres of land, and this is mostly under cultivation and yields a handsome annual income.

Our subject was married in 1883 to Christina Baggerud, a native of Norway, who came to America about 1878. Her father, Ole Baggerud, is a prosperous farmer of Norman county, Minnesota. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Madson, who are named as follows: Martin, Clarence, Charles, Mandle and Oden. Mr. Madson is a prominent citizen of Halstad township and is an active worker for its advancement and development. He has served in various township offices for some years, and has served as chairman of the board of supervisors. He was elected county commissioner in 1898, and is now serving in that capacity. He aids the reform principles of the Populist party and is a man of broad ideas and keeps pace with the times in public affairs. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

#### THE PRESS.

The Press, published in Thief River Falls, Minnesota, is one of the bright papers of Red Lake county. It was edited and published by W. C. Smiley, who made a success of the paper after it had passed through a most checkered career. It is not usual for a paper to meet with success from its establishment, but its financial success is now assured. It is now conducted on a paying basis, has a large circulation and is considered one of the best papers of the newspaper world of Red Lake county. The present publishers are Bagley, Dudley & Bagley, who came from the southern part of the state.

The Press is the pioneer paper of Thief River Falls, and was founded in August, 1889, by C. C. Knappen, as a six-column folio, Republican pa-

per. It was printed on an old-style army press, and the Thief River Falls Press headed the first issues. The ownership of the paper since its foundation has been as follows: C. C. Knappen, in August, 1889; Evenson Brothers & White, in August, 1890; Evenson Brothers, with Mr. White as editor, in December, 1890; H. E. Mussey, February, 1891; Mussey & Ware, June, 1892, in which year a new press was added to the plant; Ware & Galean, January, 1894; Paul S. Ware, November, 1894; Mussey, in 1898; and in August, 1900, William C. Smiley became proprietor. July 15, 1901, it passed into the control of Bagley, Dudley & Bagley, and the city of Thief River is justly proud of its pioneer paper.

#### HUGH B. CAMERON.

Hugh B. Cameron, a prominent farmer and ex-soldier residing in section 2 of Hallock township, is one of the early settlers of Kittson county. He is proprietor of an extensive farm of six hundred acres, and has gained his possession since taking up his residence there, by dint of his own efforts. He commands the respect and esteem of all who know him and lives a happy and contented life in his comfortable home.

Mr. Cameron was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, December 21, 1843, and was the youngest in a family of four children born to Dugald and Helen (Bisset) Cameron. His father died while our subject was an infant, and the mother was left with no support for her family but what she could provide. How well she performed her task in rearing her little ones is evidenced in the estimable character of her son Hugh B. The family went to the province of Ontario, Canada, in 1854, and there our subject assisted with the work of a farm and thus received his training in agricultural pursuits. He remained on the home farm until after he attained his twentieth year and aided the mother in the support of the family, and in January, 1864, came to the United States. February 18th of the same year he enlisted in Brady's Sharpshooters, and was attached to the Sixteenth Michigan Infantry. He participated in the battle of the Wilderness, and also Cold Harbor and Fort Wheaton, and joined in the last campaign culminating in Appomattox. He was discharged from the service in July, with the rank of corporal. Returning from the war, he next tried his fortunes in the oil regions, and later worked three years at railroading in Texas. He then returned to his boyhood home in Canada, and after a residence there of six years he returned to the States in 1880 and went direct to Kittson county. He assumed charge of the Sprague farm there and conducted the same five years, and then purchased land and began farm-

ing for himself. This is the tract he now occupies, and he at once began improvements on the place. The family lived five years in a small log house, which had been built by the half-breeds, and this was not too humble to be called home. A more pretentious dwelling was then erected and the present residence is one of substantial structure and is convenient and comfortable in every particular. Other buildings to complete a set have been erected on the farm and every means provided for the garnering and sheltering of crops and the shelter of stock. Mr. Cameron may feel justly proud of his work in Kittson county. He is well versed in his calling and makes his farm a profitable one.

Mr. Cameron was married, in 1877, to Miss Malitta Winch. Mr. and Mrs. Cameron are the parents of six children, who are named in order of birth as follows: Percy M., Douglas, Martha, Alice C., Euphemia and Helen J. Mr. Cameron is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Presbyterian church, and is a gentleman of exemplary character. He is identified with the Democratic party in political faith, but does not seek public preferment. He keeps pace with the times and lends his influence for good government and advancement. Portraits of Mr. Cameron and his respected wife are shown upon another page of this volume.

#### ALBERT B. CORNELL.

Albert B. Cornell, the popular and efficient postmaster of Hewitt, Todd county, Minnesota, is one of the prominent business men of that section. He owns considerable valuable property in the county, and conducts an insurance business in addition to his postoffice duties. Mr. Cornell was born in Indiana, August 23, 1860, and was a son of William H. and Sarah L. (Heaton) Cornell, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Indiana. Our subject left his native state at the age of seven years and came to Minnesota, stopping at Mankato, in Blue Earth county. After a short stay he went to Redwood Falls, and there he received his early education. He worked in the lumber woods of northern Minnesota a number of years and in 1882 came to Todd county and purchased an eighty-acre tract of land, which was good timber land. He has good buildings located in section 32, in township 133, range 35. Mr. Cornell also owns two houses and lots in the town of Hewitt, and the building in which the postoffice is located is valued at thirty-five hundred dollars. After taking up his residence in Todd county he followed the profession of school teaching some six years, and was the first teacher in the village of Hewitt. His first term of teaching school being in a small frame house in Fawn Lake township, Mr. Cor-

nell walked twenty-five miles to his home after the week's work was finished. He was traveling representative for the American Book Company of Chicago for some time, and also represented the Deering Harvester Company for a period of two years. He is now agent for the Hartford of Connecticut and the American Central Fire Insurance Companies.

Mr. Cornell was married in 1885 to Eva L. Stone, who was born in Houston county, Minnesota, April 30, 1869. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cornell, namely: Violet L., Vernon L. and Hazel. Mr. Cornell is the present postmaster of Hewitt, and performs the duties of his office faithfully and to the satisfaction of all. He is prominent in local affairs and is identified with the Republican party politically. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, the Royal Neighbors and the United Commercial Travelers. He is the state clerk of the first named order, and is active in secret society work.

#### JAMES R. BALLENTINE.

James R. Ballentine, an extensive farmer of Alexandria township, has a pleasant home in section 7, and is a representative member of the agricultural community of Douglas county. He was born at Cape George, Nova Scotia, November 4, 1828.

The parents of our subject, George and Annie (Reid) Ballentine, were natives of Nova Scotia. The father was a farmer and stock raiser and an extensive shipper of stock, to which business he also added that of boat building.

James R. Ballentine was the fourth member in a family of eight children, four sons and four daughters, and as that vicinity afforded but little opportunity for school education, he began at an early age to assist his father on the farm and in the workshop. His inclination led him to the sea, and he soon found congenial employment on the fishing and sailing craft of his native shore. From boy to man he worked before the mast, and was promoted to mate and afterward became captain, and later owner of the "Stuart Campbell," a coast craft plying between Halifax and Boston. About 1861 he went to Newfoundland, and for a number of years was engaged there in the freighting business. He came to Minnesota via Montreal and Milwaukee in 1871, and in that year homesteaded eighty acres of land in Pope county. He later disposed of this tract and removed to Alexandria, where he could give his children better educational advantages. He there worked at various enterprises for a number of years. In 1883 he shipped cattle at different times to Montana, himself going to inspect the country with a view of locating there, but the climate not being favorable to his health, he returned home.

In 1892 he purchased his present home farm near Lake Darling, in Alexandria township, still retaining, however, two tenement houses in town. In 1899 he bought one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 21 in Milona township, and follows diversified farming with good success. He keeps a small herd of graded cattle, and with other stock and a good supply of modern machinery his farm is made to produce a good annual income.

May 24, 1861, Mr. Ballentine was married to Annie Kennedy, daughter of Dougal and Jane (Watson) Kennedy, natives of Scotland and Cape Breton, respectively. Mrs. Ballentine died in December, 1888. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ballentine, as follows; George, now married and residing in Minneapolis; Jennie the wife of Bliss Cook, residing at Boston, Massachusetts; Steuart, who is married and follows the business of a printer in his office in Minneapolis; Ida, who is married and resides in Helena, Montana; Carrie, who taught elocution in Minneapolis and Boston, and later was married in the latter city; Isabelle, a professional nurse at Minneapolis; Emma, engaged in teaching at Fergus Falls, Minnesota; Robert, who lives at home and assists his father in the management of the farm. Mr. Ballentine is a man of good judgment and is a citizen of sterling worth. He keeps pace with the times, and is a man of active public spirit, and is identified with the principles of the Republican party in politics.

#### ALFRED OLSON.

Alfred Olson, whose residence is in section 33, Kragnes township, of Clay county, is one of the representative and notable farmers of the Red river valley, where he not only owns and cultivates a thousand acres, but rents additional land. He is very successful, and takes a high rank in the list of the extensive and prosperous farmers of the valley.

Mr. Olson was born in Vermland, Sweden, June 11, 1861, and is a son of Anders and Lisa (Anderson) Olson. His father is still living in Sweden, but his mother is dead.

Mr. Olson came to the United States as soon as he reached his majority, and established himself at Ada, Minnesota. In the spring of 1883 he went to Cass county, North Dakota, where he was employed on the Oliver Dalrymple farms some thirteen years, when he was made foreman for the largest farm in the northwest, a position he held until 1895. That year he purchased the farm he now occupies, and became his own proprietor. With the very best training for a successful career in Red river farming, the future is bright for his success.

When he entered Minnesota he had nothing but his clothes and a boundless hope and ambition, and what he owns to-day is the result of his own thrift and industry. He is in every respect a self made man, and may well be pleased that his work has met with such satisfactory results. He owns an Advance threshing outfit, and is giving much attention to stock-raising. In his politics he is a Republican, and has served several years on the town board. At the present time he is chairman of the township board.

Mr. Olson was married, in 1889, to Miss Anna Nodde, a native of Norway, by whom he has had the following family: Alvin H., Benjamin L., Olga A., Robert E. and Stewart. Portraits of both Mr. and Mrs. Olson will be found on another page in this volume.

#### JACOB KOHLER.

Among the citizens of Becker county who are honored for integrity and enterprise may be named Jacob Kohler. He has a wide acquaintance and is universally esteemed and respected. He is engaged in the pursuit of agriculture on section 8, of Lake Eunice township, and is proprietor of one of the finest farms of Becker county. He was born in Switzerland in 1845.

The father of our subject, George Kohler, was a wagon maker by trade and followed the same in Switzerland. He served in the Revolutionary war in Switzerland in 1845. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Greete. Mr. Kohler was reared in his native place and educated there in the common schools and at the age of sixteen years was apprenticed to learn the wagon maker's trade. After serving thus three years he entered the Swiss army and there spent one year, and in 1866 emigrated to America, landing at New York City. He went to Pennsylvania and began ship carpentering, which he followed one year and then worked three years at house carpentering in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Then he went to the oil regions of that state and there followed his trade, building derricks and working around the oil wells for four years, after which he spent four years at house building in that locality and in 1878 went to Buffalo, New York. There he followed his trade four years and then went via the Great Lakes to Minnesota. From Duluth to Detroit, Becker county, he and family rode in box cars with wooden benches for seats, and arrived in Detroit May 5, 1877. He followed carpenter work in Detroit about one year, while his family lived in the country, and after about three years he moved to Audubon, and



was among the first settlers of the town. There were but four or five shanties in the village and he erected a neat and comfortable dwelling for his family and followed his trade there eighteen years. He has built or assisted in building over half of the buildings of the town and all the business blocks of the town were erected under his supervision. He has also followed his trade in different parts of the country, has erected several elevators and until 1891 he conducted an extensive business in contracting and building. In 1888 he disposed of his home in Audubon and purchased eighty acres of land in section 8, of Lake Eunice township and in 1891 purchased another tract of eighty acres adjoining his original purchase and then removed to his farm. He built a log house and with a team of ponies, a wagon, plow and hay rake he began operating his farm. He had but nine acres cultivated at the time, and he has thoroughly developed and improved the place, and is now the owner of two hundred acres of land. He has engaged successfully in wheat raising, and in 1895 his storage room was insufficient for the crop raised. He erected a granary in 1896 and also a machine shed, and in 1899 he built a commodious and substantial barn, with a stone basement, and a wing addition for his horses. He has a modern home, both in design and finish and this is furnished in good taste, and altogether the farm is one of the best in the county.

Mr. Kohler was married in 1871 to Miss Catherine Stubbenrough, who was born in Germany and came to America in 1868. Her father, Bernhardt Stubbenrough, was also a native of Germany and died there. Mr. and Mrs. Kohler are the parents of seven children, who are as follows. Ida, born in Titusville, Pennsylvania, October 14, 1872; Lulu, born in Titusville, March 29, 1875; Jake, born in Buffalo, New York, February 7, 1877; Kate, born in Audubon, Minnesota, August 4, 1879; George, born in Audubon, January 14, 1882; Fred, born December 2, 1884, and Joseph, born June 14, 1890. Mr. Kohler has given his children excellent schooling and provided them a pleasant and comfortable home. He is prominent in local affairs and has served as marshal four and a half years and constable seven years in the village of Audubon.

#### JAMES W. TIBBETTS.

Over thirty years ago the gentleman above named took up his residence in the wilds of Aitkin county. He was not unfamiliar with that region, as he has bravely fought the Indians of Minnesota and Montana and the Dakotas, and was a

westerner of the truest type. His pioneer experiences, however, were not any the easier to surmount, and many hardships fell to his lot in his new home. These he encountered bravely, and has remained to witness a most wonderful change in the scenes, and the present prosperity enjoyed in that locality is the direct result of the efforts of himself and others of the early settlers who molded the destiny of the country. He now has a model farm, well improved, near the village of Aitkin, and engages in farming and lumbering with success.

Mr. Tibbetts was born in Kennebec county, Maine, in New Sharon township, September 1, 1825. His father, J. L. Tibbetts, was a farmer and school teacher. He was a graduate of the academy at Belfast, Maine, and was a literary man of considerable note. The grandfather of our subject served seven years in the Revolutionary war. The father of our subject served as a musician in the war of 1812. The great-great-grandfather settled in America with his five sons, coming to this country from England. The mother of our subject, Christiana (Dunton) Tibbetts, was a member of an old American family, who have been in this country many generations.

Of a family of eleven children our subject was the fifth in order of birth. He was raised on a farm in Maine and received only a limited education, three months' country schooling being all he received in a year. He went to Wisconsin at the age of twenty-two years and worked in the woods there one year, and then went to St. Louis on a raft of lumber. He was taken ill and returned to his home and remained one year. In 1846 he located in Minnesota, at Elk River, thirty miles above Minneapolis, on a farm. He engaged in lumbering and farming there and remained about fifteen years. He lived in a log house, and aided in driving the Winnebago and Sioux Indians from that part of the country, and did considerable Indian fighting in Minnesota and Montana. In 1862 he enlisted in Company A, Eighth Minnesota Regiment, and was sent to the plains in Dakota and Montana. He spent two and a half years on the frontier, and in September, 1864, was sent south. He was in several engagements, and at the close of the war returned to his home in Minnesota. He resided there until 1871, and then located in Aitkin county and brought the first white family into the county. His daughter, Mrs. Seeze, was the first white child born in Aitkin county. Mr. Tibbetts went to his new home by stage to Brainerd, and thence by rail to Aitkin county. He then moved into the forest and built his cabin. He helped shingle the first house that was shingled in Minneapolis, and the work was done on Sunday morning.

Mr. Tibbetts was married before the war to Miss Hannah Heath. Mrs. Tibbetts was born



in Brownsville, Maine, and is of an old American family. Four of her brothers served in the Civil war, and her maternal grandfather served in the Revolutionary war. Eleven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Tibbetts, two of whom died in infancy. The surviving children are as follows: Christian, Sarah E., Cassius M., Margarette, Thomas, Giles, Bart, Bertha and Rutherford B. Mr. Tibbetts was the first sheriff of Aitkin county, and served nine years. During these days he had many rough characters to deal with, and always performed his duties faithfully and with justice to all. He was United States deputy marshal three years. He served on the school board twenty-two years, and took an active part in the organization of both county and village government. He has been a staunch Democrat for many years.

#### ANDREW B. LARSON.

Andrew B. Larson, a prominent merchant and farmer of Halstad, is a pioneer of Norman county, and was born in Stavangers Amt, Norway, December 23, 1847.

The parents of our subject followed farming in Norway and came to America in 1854, and our subject grew to manhood in Fillmore county. He was the second of a family of ten children and he was reared on a farm and received an English education. In 1869 he settled in Ottertail county, Minnesota, and began farming for himself, taking government land. He built a log shanty and lived there alone three years and farmed with oxen, and his nearest railroad town was St. Cloud, one hundred and sixty miles distant. He proved his claim on the land and made a success there and then disposed of the farm to good advantage, and in 1872 went to Norman county and there entered claim to land as a homestead in Halstad county, where he built a log shanty and began farming. He broke land with ox teams and was there through three years of grasshopper times and had to work for others to make a living for himself. He did considerable freighting from St. Cloud to points on the Red river as far west as Ft. Totten, and generally had three ox teams. He crossed streams with rafts and freighted some three or four years over a large part of northern Minnesota and North Dakota before the railroads were built west of St. Cloud, and was among the Indians a large part of the time. He removed from his farm to Halstad in 1884 and built his present residence, which was among the first buildings erected in the town, and he established a mercantile business and conducted one of the first general stores of the town. He continued actively engaged in business for about fifteen years and then retired to farm life, but still retains an interest in the

business. He now has a farm of three hundred and sixty acres, most of which is under cultivation, and he has plenty of timber and meadow on the place, his land being finely located and is about one mile from Halstad. This is considered one of the best farms of western Norman county. Mr. Larson also owns one hundred and sixty acres of land in Halstad township adjoining the town site of Halstad, and his farms are well improved and equipped with all necessary machinery.

Mr. Larson was married, in 1884, to Miss Belle Oleson, a native of Norway, who came to America with her parents. Her father, Ole Bagerud, was a farmer by occupation and her people are old settlers of Norman county. Six children have been born to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Larson, who are named in order of birth as follows: Tilla, Albertina, Clara, Belvind, Viola and Gladys. Mr. Larson takes an active interest in the affairs of his township and county and is accorded a high station as an influential citizen. He has held numerous village offices in Halstad, and took an important part in the incorporation of the town and was a member of the first village council. He was a resident of the county prior to its organization and he held township offices before the county was organized. He is a Republican and has done very efficient work for his party in the county and state, and is a frequent delegate to conventions of his party.

#### HALVOR HOLTE, M. D.

Among the well known physicians and surgeons of Polk county, Dr. Holte, of Crookston, stands in a foremost place. He is the oldest Scandinavian medical practitioner of that vicinity, and has built up an extensive practice. He is a careful surgeon and successful physician and has gained a wide reputation as a professional man and worthy citizen. On another page of this volume will be found a portrait of Dr. Holte.

Dr. Holte was born on the farm Holte, near Stavanger, Norway, July 11, 1857, and was the second of a family of five sons born to Halvor H. and Thuri (Selland) Holte. The parents now reside in Fillmore county, Minnesota, the father at the advanced age of seventy-six years, and the mother aged seventy-four years. The family crossed the Atlantic in the sailing vessel Hebe, in 1872, landing at Quebec. After a few months they were located on a farm in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where our subject grew to manhood. He devoted his time to farm work summers, and worked for his board and attended the public school during the winter. In 1882 he entered Augsburg Seminary at Minneapolis, but sickness in the family necessitated his discontinu-

ing his studies for two years, at the end of which time he began a course in St. Olaf College at Northfield, Minnesota, where he took four years' work in the classical course. He then entered the medical department of the University of Minnesota, and graduated with the class of 1893. During the progress of his studies he associated with Dr. K. Bendeke, of Minneapolis, and under him received practical instruction in his profession. In July, 1893, he located at Crookston, since which time his practice has steadily increased and his acquaintance and reputation broadened. In 1898 he erected the Bethesda hospital, which he later transferred to the Lutheran church. His hospital work places him in the foremost rank among the medical fraternity and the public generally, and he is one of the well-known physicians and surgeons of the state of Minnesota. Dr. Loe was associated with him in his practice from 1897 to 1899, since which time Dr. Holte has continued his practice alone. He is a self made man and appreciates the struggles of a young man to gain an education unaided.

Dr. Holte was married, in 1894, to Miss Josephine Loe. Mrs. Holte died in 1899. Two children were born to the union, Harold and Evelyn, the younger of whom is now deceased. Dr. Holte is a business man of ability and has accumulated considerable property in Minnesota, being the owner of valuable farm lands to the extent of about seven hundred acres, which he leases. He is a member of the Lutheran church. Dr. Holte is a member of the Minnesota State Medical Association, and the American Medical Association.

#### GEORGE TOLLERUD (DECEASED).

George Tollerud, deceased, was born in Saler, Norway, in 1859, and was a son of a Norwegian farmer. George Tollerud was the sixth member of a family of nine children born to his parents, and was reared and educated in Norway. When he was twenty years old he came to the United States, and settled on a homestead in section 26, Tansem township, Clay county. He put up a log house and lived alone several years.

Mr. Tollerud was married, in 1879, to Lena Stokka, a native of Fillmore county, and a daughter of Hans Stokka, a farmer and one of the first settlers of Clay county, locating there on a farm as early as 1872. At that time there were but few families in the neighborhood, and Mrs. Tollerud passed through the Indian wars. In 1874 all the family left home during an Indian scare. During the first years of his farming he did all his work with ox teams, and as Alexander was their nearest market town, many long and tedious journeys were necessitated.

Mr. Stokka removed to Grafton, North Da-

kota, in 1880, taking land and engaging in farming. He is still living there.

George Tollerud died in 1896, on the farm where he had lived during his active manhood. It is a farm of a half section of land, and has over two hundred acres under cultivation. It has a good house, a commodious barn and granary, and is a finely improved place. For some five years prior to his death ill health compelled him to abandon the activities of the farm, and the management of the place fell on the shoulders of his faithful and devoted wife, who has displayed abilities of a high order in her management of the family affairs, and the direction of the industries both in and out-of-doors. At the present time the place is rented, and Mrs. Tollerud devotes herself to the care of her five children: Josephine, who was born August 10, 1883; George, who was born January 1, 1886; Annie, who was born July 22, 1890; Jensine, who was born May 17, 1892; and Hermina, born March 30, 1896. Mr. and Mrs. Tollerud were much respected in the neighborhood where their lives were passed, and she is much admired and respected for the courage she displayed in the trying days of her husband's illness, and for her devotion to her children.

#### JOHN STEENERSON.

John Steenerson, now of Esmond, North Dakota, was for many years classed among the progressive and intelligent business men of Polk county, Minnesota. He is now engaged in the hardware business at Esmond, North Dakota, and is one of the prominent citizens of that locality. He has extensive financial interests, including farm lands and business property, in Neilsville and Climax, Minnesota, and is a man of strict honesty and exceptional business ability.

Mr. Steenerson was born in Minnesota July 6, 1862, and was the youngest son of Steener and Bergit Knudson. His parents fled from the Indians in the outbreak of 1862, when our subject was but six weeks of age, but they were not molested. Our subject lived at home in Houston county until 1876, when the family moved to Polk county, the father having taken a claim there six months before. The winter of 1876-7 was spent on the farm of our subject's brother, Christoffer, and in the spring of 1877 the family moved to the father's claim. After his confirmation our subject went to Montevideo, where he clerked in a store for his brother, Knud, one year, and then returned to Polk county, where he remained until he attained his majority. He then went to Beltrami county, on the Clearwater river, and took a pre-emption to land on that river, which land was not then surveyed. He located claims for

others most of the time for five years. He had bought a quarter section of land in section 19 of Vineland township at the age of fifteen years, his father assisting him in making the first payment, after which the land was made to pay for itself. After his father's death our subject bought a quarter interest in the estate, and he now controls a half section of elegant farming land and a timber claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Beltrami county. March 1, 1900, he bought a half interest in the only hardware store in the town of Neilsville. He also owns the corner hardware store building in Climax, Minnesota, and is now in business at Esmond, North Dakota, as stated.

Mr. Steenerson was married June 20, 1899, to Miss Sophia Thompson, of Valley City, North Dakota, formerly, formerly a resident of Houston county, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Steenerson are the parents of one child, Ellen Bergitta. Mr. Steenerson is prominent in village affairs, and was the second president of the village council of Climax and the first treasurer. He was identified with the reform principles of the People's party prior to its fusion with the Democratic party, and is now identified with the Republican party politically. In religious sentiment he is liberal.

#### WILLIAM D. ELLSWORTH.

William D. Ellsworth, the efficient and popular postmaster of Eveleth, is one of the prominent citizens of St. Louis county, Minnesota. He was born at Logansport, Indiana, in 1861.

Our subject's father, Richard Ellsworth, was a woolen mill owner. He was captain of the Ninth Illinois Volunteer Cavalry for four years during the Civil war, and served in the Army of the Potomac, and was of Scotch blood. Our subject's mother, Elizabeth (Rich) Ellsworth, was born in the state of New York, of old American stock. Her mother lived to the age of seventy-eight years, and died March 28, 1901.

Of a family of six children, three sons and three daughters, Mr. Ellsworth was the eldest. The family moved to Wisconsin when he was two years of age, and the father spent about fifteen years there in the woolen mill business. Our subject attended the city schools and high school at Waukau, and at the age of eighteen years left home and entered the employ of Bingham & Perrin, in Michigan, merchants and bankers. They handled railroad supplies and materials. After passing eighteen months in their employ he established a general mercantile business at Hunting, Wisconsin, in partnership with F. F. Green, and at the end of one year became sole owner, and continued this about four years.

In 1888 he burned out at Hunting, and then went

into the general merchandise business at Marengo, Michigan. He was among the pioneers of that town, and remained there until 1894. The following spring he went to Eveleth, Minnesota, and opened the third general store established in that town. He continued in business until 1897, when he disposed of his business and accepted the office of postmaster, receiving the appointment from President McKinley.

Mr. Ellsworth was married in 1881 to Miss Frankie Green. Mrs. Ellsworth was born at Chilton, Wisconsin, in 1863, and is a graduate of the high school of that city. She was engaged in teaching at Hunting at the time of her marriage. Her father, F. F. Green, was postmaster at Shawano, Wisconsin, four years and was government storekeeper four years at Keshena, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth are the parents of five children, four sons and one daughter, named as follows: Fergus R., born in 1883; Earl A., in 1890; Ida, in 1893; and Fay, in 1896, all of whom are living. Mr. Ellsworth is chief of the Eveleth fire department and has held that position four years. He has organized a company of twenty-five members, which is the best in northern Minnesota. Wherever he has resided he has taken a commendable interest in the affairs of his community, and was supervisor in Marengo township two years, and was also township clerk two years. He was deputy sheriff of Gogebic county six years under four different sheriffs and resigned that office to remove to Minnesota. He is a strong Republican, and has taken part in every campaign since he attained his majority. Mr. Ellsworth is a member of the Masonic fraternity and is now junior warden of Eveleth Lodge; member of K. of P., Eveleth Lodge, No. 144, and Modern Woodmen of America, No. 6217; member of Modern Samaritans, No. 7, of Eveleth.

#### JOHN A. ERICKSON.

While the early settlers of Kittson county did much creditable work toward the upbuilding of their locality, and aided in transforming a wilderness into a garden, it remains for the present generation to further the work and give to that region a reputation as a thriving district, which aims to furnish comfortable and peaceful homes for industrious and liberty-loving citizens. Among the younger men who have lived in that locality for some years, and have taken a place amid the ranks of prosperous agriculturists may be mentioned John A. Erickson. He, in company with his two brothers, conducts a model farm in Thompson township, and has a comfortable home in section 32. He is a man of broad mind, is energetic, and honest in his dealings, and is deservedly esteemed and respected by his fellow-

men. The farm which he cultivates is located on the banks of Two Rivers, and is one of the well-cultivated and well improved estates of that township.

Mr. Erickson was born in Sweden, January 11, 1868. The family of which he was the third in order of birth consisted of nine children, of whom but three are now living. The parents were Andrew and Annie (Anderson) Erickson. The mother died in 1881, and soon after her demise the family set sail for America. They arrived in Hallock, Kittson county, May 14, 1882, and the father entered claim to land and duly established his family on section 20 in Thompson township. He retired from active pursuits in 1897 and now resides in Hallock. Since his retirement from the farm his three sons have operated the land together. (A sketch of the life of Mr. Erickson's brother, C. A. Erickson, who farms in company with our subject, is found on another page of this volume). In 1896 Mr. Erickson erected a comfortable residence on the farm, and every appointment of the home bespeaks refinement and culture. Mr. Erickson has a knowledge of his calling obtained only through experience, and as he has been carefully observing the causes and effects of the various phenomena for many years in that special locality he is enabled to decide every movement of farm work with almost unerring judgment, and meets with the most pleasing results in his farming.

Mr. Erickson was married, in 1896, to Miss Jennie Skappel, a native of Wisconsin, of Norwegian descent. Mr. Erickson is one of the rising young men of his locality, and he takes a hearty interest in public affairs. He is a member of the township board, and is zealous in his work for the upbuilding and development of his community.

On another page in this work will be found the portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Erickson.

#### MILTON G. QUIGGLE.

As a prosperous farmer and gentleman of worthy citizenship, Milton G. Quiggle is well known to the people of Pelican township. He has been a resident of Ottertail county for the past quarter of a century and during that time has acquired a good property and an enviable name. His home is on section 34.

Mr. Quiggle was born in Wisconsin, October 2, 1856, and was a son of Phillip and Cloe (Humiston) Quiggle, both of whom were natives of Ohio. His father enlisted in the Civil war February 11, 1864, and served four months. When our subject was one year of age the family removed to Waseca county, Minnesota, in

1857, and in 1871 to Ottertail county, where the father took a homestead. There our subject completed his schooling, and in 1877 took land as a homestead for himself and began farming. He is now the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of land, of which two hundred acres is under plow, and the balance is pasture and meadow land. He has a complete set of good farm buildings on the place, and his home is well supplied with all the comforts of life. He has seven horses and fifteen head of cattle and engages successfully in diversified farming. He is the owner of a residence and two lots in the village of Pelican Rapids, and has acquired a good property through energetic efforts and good management.

Mr. Quiggle was married, August 20, 1882, to Martha Johnson. Mrs. Quiggle was born in Norway, January 6, 1864, and died April 30, 1885. Mr. Quiggle was married to a sister of his first wife, Hannah Johnson, September 2, 1886. Mrs. Quiggle was born in Wisconsin, September 2, 1866. To the first union one child was born, Addie M. To the present marriage the following children have been born: Edith L., Arthur W., Orrin J., Edna M., Ruth F. and Lottie J. Mr. Quiggle is a prominent member of the Congregational church and is a deacon of that denomination. He is actively interested in the welfare of his community and has served as supervisor of Pelican township and other town offices. He is a man of good mind and progressive in all ways and wields an influence for good in his community. In political faith he is a Republican.

#### GUSTAV FROHWERK.

Thrift and industry are the dominant traits of the children of the German Empire, and among the farmers and business men of the northwest they are found in a remarkable degree. One of the natives of Germany who has acquired a good property and an enviable reputation as a citizen, through the exercise of these characteristics, is Mr. Frohwerk. He has a model farm in Mary township, and resides on section 16.

Our subject was born April 8, 1854, and was a son of Mike and Leonora (Green) Frohwerk, both of whom were natives of Germany and passed their lives there. Our subject remained in his native land until he was fifteen years of age, receiving his education in the country schools. After reaching America he spent a year employed in a brickyard near Chicago, Illinois, and then removed to Wisconsin and worked in Fountain City several years. He later settled on a homestead claim in South Dakota, but success did not attend his efforts there and he then took up his residence on one hundred and sixty acres of land in Norman county, Minnesota.

He did his farming the first two years with oxen, and then traded the same for a team of horses. He has added to his possessions from time to time as circumstances permitted and is now the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of tillable land, on which he has a fine set of farm buildings and every convenience of modern farming. He has several horses for farm work and plenty of machinery. His barn is 36x42 feet, and he has storage room for several tons of hay. His average wheat yield is eighteen bushels per acre, but his crop was partially destroyed by hail in 1899. Despite losses from this and other causes he has made a success of his work and is now enjoying well-earned reward for his many years of toil.

Our subject was married to Mamie Eva Suntag, a native of Illinois, and a daughter of John and Barbara Suntag. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Frohwerk, who are named as follows: Lenora, Lillian and Julius. Mr. Frohwerk is a member of the Lutheran church, of which denomination he has been a life-long member. He is a man of progressive nature, and keeps pace with the times in all matters of a public nature. Politically he is a Democrat and is firm in his convictions, but does not seek public preferment, aiming to serve his adopted land in other ways. He is a thorough-going farmer, well versed in his calling, and highly respected and esteemed in his community.

#### OLE THORSTENSON.

Ole Thorstenson, foreman for the Wrenshall Brick Company, of Wrenshall, is one of the well known citizens of Carlton county, where he has resided for the past ten years.

Mr. Thorstenson was born near Guttenberg, in the central part of Sweden, in 1861. His father was a farmer by occupation and passed his life in Sweden. Of a family of seven children our subject was the fourth in order of birth, and he was reared on a farm and attended the common schools of his neighborhood. He remained at home until he was twenty years of age, when he came to America, landing in New York City. He went direct to St. Paul, where he worked for some six years and then spent some time in the woods. He also worked in Minneapolis in the brick manufacturing business and also in St. Paul. He located in Wrenshall, Minnesota, in 1891, where he assumed charge of the brick yard for M. F. Rusfeldt. The yard was established by Mr. Rusfeldt in 1889 as a small yard with horse power to run the machinery, and had a capacity of twenty thousand bricks per day. Mr. Rusfeldt took a partner in the spring of 1900 and the Wrenshall Brick Company was formed.

Mr. Thorstenson has remained foreman in

charge. The yard now has a capacity of fifty thousand bricks per day or five million per annum. Mr. Thorstenson is thoroughly competent to operate the plant and under his guidance the work has continued for some years and the business is now in a flourishing condition. Aside from his management of the brick yard Mr. Thorstenson is engaged in farming and is the owner of a small tract of land from which he derives a good yearly income. He is industrious and enterprising and has met with success in his business.

Mr. Thorstenson was married in 1893 to Miss Mary Johnson. Mrs. Thorstenson was born in Norway and came to America with her parents in 1885. Her father, Lars Johnson, is a farmer of Carlton county, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Thorstenson are the parents of five children, namely: Anna E., Esther E., Oliver E., Nora Maria, and Ruth E. T., all of whom were born in Wrenshall. Mr. Thorstenson is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees. In political faith he is a Republican, and is interested deeply in the welfare of his community, but does not seek public office.

#### LEWIS GARDEN.

Lewis Garden, one of the well-known business men of Gary, is a pioneer settler of Norman county, and has become thoroughly identified with its advancement and development. He is the efficient postmaster of that thriving town and enjoys the confidence and esteem of his associates. He is a man of thorough business training, and is possessed of unbounded energy and business tact and well merits the success which he enjoys. His portrait is shown upon another page of this volume.

Our subject was born at St. Peter, Minnesota, February 20, 1872, and was the oldest in a family of seven children born to Ole L. and Mary (Dahl) Garden, both of whom were natives of Norway. His brothers and sisters reside with the parents in Minnesota, with the exception of one sister, Mrs. H. B. Lanager, who is a resident of Climax, Minnesota. When our subject was but six years of age he removed by ox team overland to Norman county with his parents, and the family settled in Bear Park, and the father entered claim to land there as a homestead. Our subject was reared on the home farm and assisted with the work of the place when he was but a young boy, and he remained at home until 1896, in which year he went to Gary, Minnesota, and entered upon the duties of bookkeeper and clerk in the mercantile establishment of Waramiger Brothers. He remained in their employ about a year and gained a thorough practical knowledge of business principles, and then became a member of the firm of Rishoff Brothers & Garden, and he



has prospered in this line. The firm is well-known throughout that locality and enjoys a good patronage. Mr. Garden was appointed postmaster of Gary, February 13, 1899, and is faithfully discharging the duties of that office.

Our subject was married, June 13, 1899, to Gena Rishoff, a native of Ottertail county, Minnesota, and came when a child to Norman county. They are the parents of one child, Bernice Evaline, born August 20, 1901. Mr. Garden is prominent in local affairs and has been called upon to serve his community in various offices of trust, and has discharged the duties of his position with fidelity, gaining the confidence of those with whom he has to do. He has served as justice of the peace one term, and in political matters takes a leading part, serving as secretary of the Republican club in 1894. He is a regular attendant of the conventions of his party and is a staunch worker for the principles which he advocates. He is a consistent member of the Lutheran church and has a host of friends in Norman county.

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#### ANDREW SWANSON.

Andrew Swanson, residing on section 21, of Black River township, is one of the earliest settlers of Red Lake county. He and Swan Anderson went to Minnesota together and are now the oldest settlers living in the township. Mr. Swanson is proprietor of one of the highly improved and cultivated farms of that region and has accumulated a valuable property by his energy and good management.

Andrew Swanson was born in Markaryd, Sweden, June 24, 1855, and is the youngest of three living sons born to Swen and Karen (Jenson) Person. His father was an extensive land owner in the old country and possessed about six hundred acres of land. On this farm our subject was reared and he received a good common school education in his own language. In 1874 he came to America whither a brother had gone five years before, and he joined his brother at Ft. Lee, New Jersey. He remained there about a year and from there went to Michigan where he worked in the woods and in the saw-mills. He went to Dodge county, Minnesota, in the summer of 1877 and the following spring went north to the Red River valley. In March, 1878, he and Swan Anderson took a team at Crookston and drove up to Black River township, Polk county, where they met Christ Seigfred, the pioneer settler of the township, who is now deceased. Our subject filed claim to the land he now occupies and the following spring went to improve the farm. He had about six hundred dollars which he invested in an ox team and a log shanty 12x14 feet and he started a bachelor's

abode, working his farm and that of Mr. Anderson also. Mr. Swanson has met with unbounded success and is now the owner of 480 acres of valuable farm land, upon which he has placed good improvements. He has a deep well and windmill for feed grinding, etc., and uses modern appliances and machinery. He built a comfortable log house in the early years there, which was supplanted by a modern dwelling in 1896, in which he now resides and is surrounded by all the comforts of farm life.

Mr. Swanson was married in 1884 to Miss Louisa A. Balquist, a native also of Sweden. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Swanson, namely: Oscar; Albert, deceased; Rosie; Ellen; Esther; Theodore; Arthur and Walter. Mr. Swanson was a Farmers' Alliance man and he became an early supporter of the Populist party, and his energetic efforts did much to organize the party throughout his locality. He has attended county and state conventions and is an active worker for party principles. He is public spirited and has held numerous offices of trust, including township treasurer, which position he has filled continuously since the organization of the township. He is a man of good principles and has gained the confidence and esteem of his fellows. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

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#### LEWIS N. QUAM.

Lewis N. Quam, residing on section 26, in Spring Prairie township, is a prominent and prosperous farmer, and one of the pioneers of that locality. He is one of the few early settlers who have remained in Clay county, and despite the losses and discouragements which came to him he has prospered, and is accorded a prominent place among the substantial farmers of Spring Prairie township.

Mr. Quam was born in Steele county, Minnesota, October 25, 1857, and was the fourth in a family of ten children born to John N. and Anna T. (Lysne) Quam. The parents were natives of Norway. The father died in 1892, but the mother is still living.

Our subject was reared on a farm and received a liberal education at Augsburg Seminary. The family settled in Kandiyohi county, Minnesota, in 1879, and a short time afterwards our subject went to Montana, where he tried his fortunes in the placer gold mines. He returned to Minnesota in October, 1882, and in June, 1883, located in Clay county. In the fall of that year he secured the farm which he now owns. He possesses five hundred and sixty acres of land and is engaged almost exclusively in stock raising. Aside from the stock kept on his farm, he runs a summer herd. The



estate is well watered and is admirably adapted to this line of agriculture. He has a comfortable home, and has placed valuable improvements upon the place.

Mr. Quam was married in 1885 to Miss Carrie Arneson. To this marriage ten children have been born, namely: John A., Agnes M., Laila C., Harry E., Ralph, Matie (deceased), Nina, Andrew L., Neil and Sophia. Mr. Quam is a gentleman of intelligence, and is an active worker for the interests of his township. He assisted in the organization of Spring Prairie township, and was chosen first chairman of the township board. He became associated with the Alliance movement and was later identified with the Populist party, and is an earnest worker for reform principles. He has been diligent in upbuilding the school interests of the township, and is an exemplary citizen, and one who enjoys the esteem of his fellow men.

#### SAMUEL SHERMAN SARGEANT.

Samuel Sherman Sargeant, a prominent farmer and the county surveyor of Todd county, has been a resident of Todd county since 1865, where he owns a fine farm of two hundred acres in section 29, of Round Prairie township.

Mr. Sargeant was born in Cleveland, Ohio, April 6, 1852, a son of Samuel and Mary (Parmelee) Sargeant. His father was born in Connecticut, and his mother in Maine, and to them were born nine children. Samuel Sargeant was a merchant in Cleveland, Ohio, where he dealt in looking glasses, picture frames and similar goods. In 1857 he moved with his family to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and two years later settled on a farm near Delhi, Wisconsin. The following year he went to Blue Earth county, Minnesota, and was living on the Watonwan river, twenty miles south of Mankato, at the time of the Indian outbreak. In 1864 he secured a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Round Prairie township, which is now the home of S. S. Sargeant. Mr. Sargeant had two brothers, J. H. and Joseph, in the Union army during the Civil war, and both settled on homesteads in the same section with their father, where J. H. still resides, but Joseph died in 1880.

Samuel S. Sargeant was reared to farm work and secured a fair education in the public schools at Long Prairie, Sauk Centre, and in the high school at Minneapolis. He acquired a practical knowledge of surveying, and in 1882 became deputy county surveyor under C. H. Ward. The following year he was elected county surveyor, serving three years: in 1896, in 1898 and in 1900 was again elected to the same position, the duties of which he has met to the public satis-

faction. For four years he taught school in Todd county.

Mr. Sargeant was married September 28, 1885, to Miss Susie M. MacCarahan, daughter of William and Cynthia (Matthews) MacCarahan. Her parents were born in Ohio and Mrs. Sargeant is a native of Indiana. To this union have come seven children: Harry W., Grace E., Mary C., Ruth F., Harland Mac, Donald S. and W. Wesley.

Mr. Sargeant has at various times filled the most of the town offices. For several years he was chairman of the town board, has been justice of the peace for several years, was town treasurer, and is treasurer of school district No. 1, an office he has filled for twenty years. He owns most of the homestead on which his father settled twenty years before, and has added one hundred acres to it. He does his own farming, has twenty head of cattle and a pleasantly shaded residence. The house was built on the site of the log cabin which sheltered the family from 1865 to 1873.

Walter Sargeant, a brother of Samuel S., married Sadie Harsh and is a near neighbor with his family of seven children. Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Sargeant belong to the Baptist church of Long Prairie, and his oldest sister, Fannie, is the wife of the pastor of the church, Rev. C. W. Woodruff. His sister Grace, the youngest of the family, died at Rockton, Illinois, in 1896.

#### OLOF C. OLESON.

The Red river valley affords an opportunity for a man of well balanced mind and ambition to acquire a good home. This is especially true of the agriculturists of that region, who have found it one of the most productive of the northern countries. Norman county, Minnesota, is directly in the path of this wonderful valley and her agriculturists add to the wealth of the region by the development of the natural resources. Many of these men are well-to-do and are energetic and influential citizens and occupy a high place among the developers of the country. Of this number the gentleman above named deserves special mention. He has spent his entire life in that region, is widely known, universally respected and esteemed, and has by his perseverance and good judgment made a success of the calling of a farmer. He operates a fine estate of over five hundred acres, and resides in section 24, range 49, in Lee township.

Our subject was born in Becker county, Minnesota, August 28, 1871, and was a son of Christian Oleson, and Maria (Rask) Oleson, both of whom were natives of Norway.

The father went to Norman county in 1879 and purchased a tract of land consisting of five

hundred and twelve acres in Lee township, and at the age of nineteen years our subject went to his father's farm and assumed charge of the estate. He attended school in Becker county, at Lake Park and Detroit, and received a good education in the high school of the last named place, after which he began his duties as manager of the home farm. He now has three hundred and twenty acres of land under cultivation, and devotes the balance of the farm to pasture, meadow and timber. The barn on the place is 44x60 feet, and has ample shelter for thirteen horses and twenty-eight head of cattle, which Mr. Oleson keeps, and has a large loft for hay. The residence is built on the banks of the Red river and is surrounded by a grove of native trees. A good supply of the best machinery facilitates the work of the place, and altogether the farm provides a home of great comfort. Mr. Oleson engages principally in grain raising and in 1891 raised twenty-eight bushels of wheat to the acre and forty-five bushels of oats.

Our subject is a gentleman of excellent character and is a consistent member of the Lutheran church, and is active in the work of that denomination, and is a member of the Lutheran League. He keeps abreast of the times in public affairs and is identified with the Prohibition party politically, and is an earnest worker for reform principles.

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#### OLE THOMPSON.

The typical farmer of the Red river valley is a man of deeds rather than words. Schooled by hardships which he has endured, he knows charity. His lonely life far from companions and neighbors, has taught him the value of friendship. The best blood of both the old and new worlds came to the pioneer, and gentlemen by nature and disposition, if not by accident of birth, the men of the valley have exercised a hospitality straight from the heart.

Ole Thompson is one of the pioneers of Kurtz township, Clay county, and is a man who has had much trouble as his portion, which, while it has impaired his health, has added a charm of kindness to a character ever noted for its generous impulses.

Mr. Thompson was born in Hole, Norway, and is a son of Toger Torgerson Tangevik and Henag (Swendathe) Tangevik. The father died when young Ole was eight years old, and in 1861 the mother, with five of her children, including the subject of this writing, crossed the ocean to join other members of the family, who had previously settled in Mitchell county, Iowa.

Ole Thompson was employed in Wisconsin and Iowa for a time, and about the close of the war settled in Hope county, Minnesota. In the

spring of 1869 he came into the Red river valley in company with Jan. Rice and family, making the journey with ox-teams. They stopped with relatives of the Rices, who were living near the present site of Breckenridge, where they secured a pony and cart, and explored the valley to the north, and Mr. Thompson filed on the land where he is found at the present time, the main attraction then being that it was near the site of the promising village of Burlington, a "boom" village, long since a matter of history. On this place Mr. Thompson put up a house of basswood logs, 12x14 feet, and roofed with elm bark.

In the fall of 1859 Mr. Thompson was married in Polk county to Miss Julia Larson, returning with his bride to pass the winter in the vast wilderness. In those years many of the old settlers were compelled by the necessities of the situation to do a kind of hotel business, and Thompson Station became a landmark in the country. The first land which he broke was sowed to buckwheat and garden vegetables. Mr. Thompson made many interesting experiments in the years following in wheat raising, but his largest yield and most profitable crop was potatoes.

Mr. Thompson put up a large frame house in 1872 to accommodate the growing tide of incoming travelers, hauling the lumber from Benson, a hundred and forty miles distant. In 1881 he put up a large frame barn, which even at that late day was a subject of much curiosity and interest in the valley.

Mr. Thompson now owns a four-hundred-acre farm, and his present residence, which is brick-veneered, is the only one of the kind in the town, and is a very tasty and attractive home.

Mr. Thompson is not educated in the English language, two weeks' schooling being all that he ever had, but he has learned by experience and observation and has filled several town offices. He has the following family: Lewis, William, Tilden, Ole, Gilbert, Olina, Gina and Matida. Mrs. Thompson died in 1894.

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#### CHRISTOPHER P. LOE.

Christopher P. Loe, a farmer of prominence in Clay county, resides on his farm in section 2, Georgetown township, where he owns an estate of two hundred and eighty acres of valuable land.

Mr. Loe was born in Trondhjem Stift, Norway, July 25, 1854. He was the youngest in a family of three children born to Peter and Ragmild (Nelson) Loe, both of whom are now living in Clay county, Minnesota. Our subject was reared in his native land and for the most part followed a sea-faring life in his youth. He also

learned the carpenter's trade. He served one year in the army and then hired a substitute and in 1879 started out on a trip for the purpose of seeing more of the world. His intention was finally to settle down in his own land. He came to Goodhue county, Minnesota, and during the fall of 1879 worked at carpentering in Moorhead, Minnesota. During the winter he attended school in that city. He made his home in Moorhead until 1881, when he located in the village of Georgetown and worked at his trade. In 1883 he formed a partnership with T. H. Brokke, and opened a general merchandise business at Perley. This business he conducted with success for two years. He then sold out his interest and purchased the farm on which he now resides. He has a pleasant home, and has surrounded himself with conveniences and comforts found only in connection with modern farm life.

Mr. Loe was married in 1884 to Miss Elise Anderson. Mr. and Mrs. Loe became the parents of seven children, named as follows: Ragna, Olaf, Alfred, Hilda, Conrad, Annie, William and Stella. Mrs. Loe died September 9, 1901, of consumption. Mr. Loe is a prominent man in the political affairs of his community and county, and is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party. He has served many years as a member of the township board, and is held in high esteem as a man of worth and reliability. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and whatever success has attended his efforts is due to his perseverance and native ability, as he is in every sense of the word a self-made man.

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#### HOGAN MARTINSON.

Among the younger members of the farming community of Svea township, Kittson county, who have made a success of agriculture, may be mentioned Hogan Martinson. This gentleman is one of the early settlers of that locality, and since taking up his residence there has acquired a good property and an enviable name. He has followed farming throughout his career and is well versed in the most approved methods of conducting general farming. He possesses three hundred and sixty acres of land, and annually cultivates from four to five hundred acres of land. His home is in section 6, of Svea township, where he enjoys the comforts of rural life.

Our subject was born in Sweden, April 15, 1866, and was the fifth in a family of nine children born to Peter and Ellen (Hoganson) Martinson. His father came to America about 1874 and his family joined him two years later and the family settled in Nicollet county, Minnesota. There our subject was reared and in 1881 the father settled in Kittson county and a year later our subject moved to the new location. He

farmed in company with his father and also rented land for himself in Skane township until 1891, when he entered a homestead claim to the farm which he now owns and cultivates. He has prospered and on his home place has erected substantial farm buildings and otherwise improved the property, and is well paid for his labors during the past ten years, being one of the well-to-do and widely known farmers of his township. His own lands do not furnish sufficient acreage for his labors and he rents additional land each year and altogether supervises the work of a farm of about five hundred acres. He is well versed in his calling and uses modern machinery for conducting the farm and makes the best of the times and seasons. He is persistent and industrious and these together with his foresight and honest dealings make him prominent as an agriculturist and citizen of true merit. He is also giving attention to the raising of stock.

Our subject was married in 1892 to Miss Betty Mattson. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Martinson, who are named Herbert F., Martin E. and Ella Irene. Immediately upon taking up his residence in Svea township Mr. Martinson became an influential leader of his fellows, and he has continued in favor and enjoys the confidence of those who know him. He has served on the township board since his early residence there, and is an ardent worker for the advancement of public interests and the elevation of society and commerce. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and in political faith is a Republican. He stands firmly for party principles, but does not seek public office, and has a host of friends in his community, who accord him well-merited words of praise for his life and labors in Svea township.

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#### ERIK HAGLUND.

The Red river valley offered many inducements to the early settler, but those who took advantage of the same also endured hardships and privations of which the present settlers know little. The present thrift of that region is in most striking contrast to the land as the pioneers began labors there, and due credit should be given them for the rapid development and growth of the country. Stalwart men went to that desolate locality and with nothing more to urge them on than the hope of a comfortable home in the course of some years, they went at the work of developing the farm lands and have become permanent and worthy citizens. Many of these settled in Kittson county, and a fair share of the wealth of the county is credited to Thompson township. The gentleman above named has a fine estate in section 24, of this township, and owns and operates four hundred and thirteen acres of valuable

land. He is a pioneer and is well known and most highly esteemed as a farmer and citizen.

Mr. Haglund was born in Herridalen, Kalanda, Verland, Sweden, October 11, 1855, and was the third child and eldest son born to Andrew and Kari (Larson) Anderson. He resided in his native land until 1880, and then emigrated to America and located in Crookston, Minnesota, and there worked for a former friend, Ole Erickson. He had no means with which to pay his passage to America and borrowed the sum sufficient to get to Minnesota. He went to Kittson county in 1881 and entered claim to the land which he now owns as a homestead farm, and in 1882 he went to the place and built a shanty thereon. He then went to the woods and worked in the pineries four seasons, passing his summers on his farm. He and Peter Anderson lived together five years. Mr. Haglund bought an ox team in 1884 and then settled down to the development of his farm. He has since continued to prosper and he now has one of the best improved places in the township. His residence, erected in 1899, is a handsome structure, one of the finest in the county, and is modern in architecture and finish. The appointments of the home evidence refinement and culture of the occupants and every comfort is provided for the family.

In the accumulation of this property Mr. Haglund has had an able helpmeet and companion in the person of his wife, to whom he was married in 1887. Mrs. Haglund bore the maiden name of Christina Anderson. She was a dressmaker by occupation and she and her husband have labored together for the accumulation of their valuable property and the comforts of a home. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Haglund, who are as follows: Anna C., and Lewis, deceased. Mr. Haglund is a man of broad ideas and is prominent in educational work. He is now serving as school treasurer. Politically he is a Republican and stands firmly for the principles of his party.

Portraits of Mr. Haglund and his family are shown elsewhere in this volume.

#### ALBERT L. NUTTING.

Albert L. Nutting, a prominent farmer and respected citizen of Marshall county, makes his home on section 2, of Parker township. He and Mr. Parker, after whom the township was named, are the oldest settlers of the township.

Mr. Nutting was born in Somerset county Maine, August 8, 1854. He was the fifth in a family of eight children born to Prescott and Sarah (Rogers) Nutting. The Nutting family has been known in a Maine history for many generations past. Our subject was reared on the farm until 1876, when he went to the lumber

woods of Wisconsin, and in 1880, in company with Mr. Parker, of whom mention has been made, arrived in Marshall county, Minnesota, in the spring of that year. They took adjoining claims and built a shanty 12x14 feet, on the line of their land, and began housekeeping. They worked their farms in partnership until 1895. During the first five winters of his Minnesota residence Mr. Nutting returned to Wisconsin and worked in the woods. He has met with success in his farm operations and is now the owner of four hundred acres of the most valuable land in the county, highly cultivated and equipped with many improvements.

Mr. Nutting was married in 1890 to Miss Mary Sinclair. Of this marriage five children have been born, namely: Sarah M., deceased; James S.; Chester A.; Stella and Margaret. Mr. Nutting was formerly a Farmers' Alliance man and early joined the Populist forces. He is, however, exclusively an agriculturist and not in any sense a politician. He is a Master Mason and a member of the A. O. U. W.

#### JAMES D. McCORMACK.

James D. McCormack, secretary and general manager of Rutledge Lumber and Manufacturing Company, at Rutledge, Pine county, is a native of Prince Edward Island, Canada, where he was born on a farm in 1859. His ancestors had long been established in Canada, and came originally from Scotland. Donald McCormack, the father of James D., was engaged in the mercantile business previous to the birth of our subject and later took up farming. James D. McCormack was the oldest child in the family born to the second marriage of his father, and was reared on the farm, where he received a common school education. His boyhood was acquainted with hard work, and at the age of twelve years he left school to make his own way in the world. For a time he worked on the farm, and then clerked in a general store, acquiring a fair knowledge of business. When he was twenty-two Mr. McCormack came to Minnesota and spent three months at Minneapolis, and a year and a half in the Manitoba country. After his experiences in the British northwest he came back to Minnesota, and secured a position with Brennan & Finlayson at Rock Creek, Pine county, where after nine months spent in the office, he was put in charge of the outside business, which consisted of a saw and planing mill. When this establishment was closed in the fall of 1886, Mr. McCormack secured a position at Finlayson, taking charge of the saw and planing mills of D. M. Finlayson & Company. This was a very responsible position, as the company had over a hundred men on their rolls in the winter season,

and more than half as many in the summer time. Mr. McCormack continued with them until in October, 1892, when the business was closed. In Rutledge he has charge of the plant of the Rutledge Lumber & Manufacturing Company, which has a capacity of about one hundred and twenty thousand feet a day. Adequate planing mills handle this output, and an extensive general store furnishes all supplies. This plant began business in the summer of 1892, and is the largest and most complete establishment which Mr. McCormack has ever had in his charge.

Mr. McCormack was married in 1887 to Miss Walton, who was born in Malone, New York, and comes of an old American family. To this union has come six children. Mr. McCormack holds to the Republican party, though he is not a politician. He is a member of several fraternal societies, and is among the earlier settlers of Pine county, where for eighteen years he has been engaged in the lumber business. His family are in Rush City, where they have lived since 1893, and where he spends such portion of his time as he can take from his labors in Rutledge.

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#### EDWARD T. REED.

Edward T. Reed, ex-superintendent of the Cloquet public schools, is a young man of more than ordinary intelligence and ability. He is an author of considerable note, and a most pleasing orator.

Mr. Reed was born in River Falls, Wisconsin, September 15, 1872. His father, Edwin S. Reed, was born in Rhode Island, and was of an old American family. He was a school teacher and newspaper man. He served in the Civil war. The mother of our subject, Josephine (Claggett) Reed, was born in New York state. Her people were among the pioneers of Wisconsin and settled there in 1840.

Edward T. Reed was the second in a family of six children, and he was reared in his native town. He attended the public schools and graduated from the River Falls high school in 1891, and on that occasion was chosen class poet. He entered the University of Minnesota in the fall of 1891 in the scientific course and graduated in 1895 with the degree of B. S. While attending there he was editor of the college weekly, *The Ariel Journal*, during the senior year. He was the founder of the *Minnesota Magazine*, published by the students of the university. While there he gained reputation as an orator and represented the college in numerous oratorical contests, including Anoka and Fergus Falls. He was chairman of the literary committee for class day, and composed the senior class play entitled, "Olympia Up to Date." He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity. During 1896

he attended Harvard College, taking special studies in English, and he there received the degree of A. B. He took up newspaper work in 1897 and was engaged on the *Minneapolis Tribune*, and later was associate editor of the *River Falls Journal* for two years. In February, 1898, he was elected superintendent of the Rushford, Minnesota, public schools, and held the position two years. He was elected to his present position as superintendent of the public schools of Cloquet in the fall of 1900. He ably and faithfully performed his duties in this capacity and was a popular official. While engaged in newspaper work he was a contributor to several periodicals, the *Inter Ocean*, *Indianapolis Journal*, *Boston Transcript* and others. Some of his poems were published in *Frank Leslie's Magazine*, *Munsey's Magazine*, the *Argus* and the *Philosopher*. In the spring of 1898 Mr. Reed published a book of his short poems, "Inland Windfalls." This is the first bound volume from his pen and is a work of which he may be justly proud. Many flattering press notices of the book were published at the time by some of the leading dailies. His second book of poems, "Lyrics," was published in 1901. Only about one hundred copies of the book were printed for the author and the circulation is limited among his personal friends. Some of the poems are descriptive of frolics with his associates at picnics and parties. The book also contains other pleasing poems, noticeable among them "The Sons of Uncle Sam."

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#### CLIFFORD W. BAUMBACH.

Clifford W. Baumbach, cashier of the First National Bank of Wadena, Wadena county, is a young man of excellent business capabilities and has successfully conducted the affairs of the institution with which he is connected. He is a gentleman of excellent education, enterprising and industrious and has a host of friends in Wadena county.

Mr. Baumbach was born in Ogle county, Illinois, August 14, 1871, the village of Ashton being his birthplace. His father, W. R. Baumbach, was a merchant in early life, and later turned his attention to the banking business and became president of the First National Bank of Wadena.

Of a family of three children our subject was the second in order of birth. He passed his boyhood, until nine years of age, in Illinois, and then removed to Wadena county, Minnesota, with his parents in 1880, the father being associated with the firm of Baumbach & Meyer in the general merchandise business. This business was discontinued in 1885, and the Wadena Exchange Bank, a private institution, was established. The bank was operated thus for seven



years and in December, 1892, was incorporated as the First National Bank of Wadena, with the following gentlemen as officers: W. R. Baumbach, president; Frank Willson, vice-president; C. W. Baumbach, cashier; and E. J. Austen, assistant cashier. The bank has continued under this management to the present, and is now in a flourishing and prosperous condition and is one of the stable banks of that region. It has the largest capital surplus and largest deposits of any incorporated bank in the county and conducts an extensive business. It is the pioneer bank of Wadena and has passed many years as one of the foremost.

Clifford W. Baumbach grew to manhood in Wadena and attended the high school of that city and graduated from the Curtis Business College. He was appointed bookkeeper of the Wadena Exchange Bank in 1890, and the same year was promoted to the office of assistant cashier, and in December, 1892, upon the incorporation of the First National Bank of Wadena, he was elected cashier. He has held the office continuously since that date, and much of the present prosperity of the bank is due to his faithful services and good management of the intricate affairs entrusted to his keeping. His systematic work, promptness and honest dealings have placed him among the foremost business men of Wadena county.

Mr. Baumbach was married in 1894 to Miss Bertha M. Bigham. Mrs. Baumbach's parents are residents of Trempealeau county, Wisconsin. Mrs. Baumbach is a lady of excellent education and rare accomplishments, and has followed the profession of teaching in Wadena. Mr. and Mrs. Baumbach are the parents of two daughters. Mr. Baumbach has always taken a commendable interest in the affairs of his township and locality, and is recognized as one of the leaders. He has served as treasurer of the board of education, filling the office for a number of years, and is an earnest supporter of advanced educational methods and ideas. He is a Republican politically and has been identified with the principles of that party since reaching his majority.

#### FRANKLIN C. RICE.

Franklin C. Rice, who enjoys the distinction of being one of the oldest settlers of Hubbard county, and the founder of the town of Park Rapids, has acquired valuable properties in that region, and is one of the influential and deservedly esteemed citizens. His home is in Park Rapids, where he owns considerable real estate, and he is also the owner of a tract of five hundred acres in Hubbard county.

Mr. Rice was born in New York March 4, 1834. His parents, Benjamin, Jr., and Marv (Maltby) Rice, were natives of New York. Our

subject was reared in his native state and attended the common schools there and in 1855 removed to Iowa, where he engaged in teaching. In 1857 he, in company with a brother, laid out and founded the village of Rice Villa, Mitchell county, Iowa, and erected and operated a grist and sawmill. He also engaged in the mercantile business and remained in business there until 1867, when he disposed of his interests and moved to Osage, Mitchell county and, in company with two brothers, established a flour mill. He remained four years and then sold his interest and went to South Dakota, founding the town of Dell Rapids, Minnehaha county. He erected a flour mill there and operated the same until 1873. He was also superintendent of schools in Minnehaha county. He returned to Iowa in 1873 and traveled as representative of the Osage Roller Mills, of Osage, Iowa. He went to Minneapolis in 1878 and engaged in the real estate business there until 1881, when he removed to Hubbard county, Minnesota, and became the owner of several hundred acres of land on the banks of Fish Hook river. He and a brother erected the first saw and gristmill in Hubbard county and laid out and founded the village of Park Rapids. The Great Northern Railroad was completed from Wadena to Park Rapids August 1, 1891. Mr. Rice conducted the first celebration on that day. His nephew, C. F. Rice, was the first postmaster in Park Rapids, taking his office in 1881. Aside from his farm of five hundred acres Mr. Rice owns his residence, valuable real estate in the city of Park Rapids and he owns a fine business house on the main street of the town, and also has real estate in the village for sale. Mr. Rice conducted the first Fourth of July celebration in Park Rapids, and suggested the name for the town.

Mr. Rice was married in 1861 to Frances C. Wells. Mrs. Rice was born in New York December 6, 1838. Mr. Rice has always taken an active interest in the religious, social and financial welfare of his community, and is probably one of the best known and most highly esteemed men of Hubbard county. When the county was divided from Cass county in 1883 he was appointed register of deeds and in 1898 he was elected probate judge of Hubbard county and served in this capacity efficiently two years. He is a charter member of the First Baptist church at Park Rapids.

He is a Republican in political sentiment and stands firmly for his convictions, but lends his influence for good local government, regardless of party affiliations. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

At the time Mr. Rice settled here he at once observed the needs of railway facilities and at once cast about for the quickest and most practical way to obtain such privileges, and accord-



ingly, in 1885, he effected the organization of a railway company, known as the Wadena & Park Rapids Railway Company, the object being to build a railway line from Wadena to Park Rapids and other points in the state. This line was completed to Park Rapids August 1, 1891, as stated heretofore. The road has been a success and materially aided in the development of this part of the state. Mr. Rice took an active part in the organization of Hubbard county in 1883. The county was named in honor of Governor L. F. Hubbard.

#### JOSEPH GAUGLER.

Joseph Gaugler, a well-known and much respected resident of Humbolt township, Clay county, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1851. His father, Joseph Gaugler, was a farmer all his life, and came to the United States in 1852, bringing his family with him, and settling at Sauk City, Wisconsin. He was a pioneer in that county, and came in so early that Milwaukee was the trading point for the section of the country where he established himself.

Joseph Gaugler was reared and educated in that region, attending the Sauk City schools, where he received a very good education. He remained at home until he was twenty-one years of age, and was reared to hard farm work. The family lived five years in Dane county, Wisconsin, and then moved to Buffalo county in the same state. Mr. Gaugler was married in Glenco, Wisconsin, to Miss Frances Agle, a native of Milwaukee, though of German parentage. The Agles were old settlers of Buffalo county, and there her father was killed at an early day. Joseph and Frances Gaugler are the parents of the following children: Joseph, who is dead; John; Minnie is a teacher; Mary is a dressmaker at Helena, Montana; George; Henry; Frank; Lena; Louis; Francisco; Roman; Clements and Ralph.

Joseph Gaugler ran a farm from the time he was of age. For five years he had charge of the old homestead near Sauk City, when his father returned to it, and there he died. Mr. Gaugler carried on the farm for his family until 1880, when he came to Clay county, Minnesota. He had made an exploring trip into Clay county the previous year; on his second visit he took a pre-emption claim near Barnesville, where he put up a shanty, and lived a year or two, when he moved into Barnesville, where he was engaged for the next nine years in the carpenter trade. For a year he rented a farm, and in 1892 bought his present farm, which consists of a half section. In 1898 he put up his present neat and attractive residence, as well as his ample barn and granary. He has an abundant supply of farm machinery, and in the past years has engaged extensively in

threshing. In 1872 he began in debt for his farm and the machinery with which to operate it. By hard work, energy and unbounded industry he has won out in good shape, and has made a decided success of farming. To-day he is ranked among the leading farmers of the county, and is greatly respected by those who know him well for his many good qualities and manly character. In politics he is independent, and has been chairman of the town board nine years. For several years he has been school clerk, and takes a very active and leading part in township affairs. He belongs to the Catholic church.

Mr. Gaugler bought his farm for twenty-two hundred dollars in 1892, and sold it for seven thousand and forty dollars in 1901. His personal property amounts to about two thousand dollars. The family will spend the winter in Barnesville, while Mr. Gaugler makes an extended visit in Wisconsin. On his return the family will finally locate in the extreme northern part of Minnesota, where they have many friends, and where Mr. Gaugler's manly and upright character will make him very welcome in any community.

#### FRIDHEM EVANGELICAL SWEDISH LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AUGUSTINA SYNOD.

Fridhem Evangelical Swedish Lutheran Church of Augustina Synod, located in Hallock, Kittson county, is one of the most prosperous congregations of the state, and is in charge of Rev. Laurence P. Lundgren. The congregation was organized in 1886 by Rev. S. G. Swenson, and the first congregation numbered about twenty-five communicants. A church edifice was erected in 1887, and Mr. Swenson remained in charge until 1890. This building was the first Swedish church in Hallock. The present pastor assumed charge of the congregation in 1892.

Rev. Laurence P. Lundgren was born in West Gothland, Sweden, March 2, 1851, and he and one living sister constitute the family of Andrew and Birgitta (Anderson) Anderson. He is the only member of the family residing in the United States. He was left fatherless at the age of three years, and the rudiments of his education were received from his mother. She, too, died when he was sixteen years of age, and a year later, in 1869, Mr. Lundgren went to Carver county, Minnesota. For the next eleven years he led a roving life, working at any odd jobs until he acquired sufficient means to push on to other locations, and thus traveled through most of the states of the Union. He taught a parochial school in 1879 and 1881, at West Union, Carver county, Minnesota, in 1880 entering Gustavus Adolphus College and attended there. He also taught parochial schools, and preached until 1891. He grad-

uated from Gustavus Adolphus College, a member of the first class that took A. B. degree, in 1890, and in 1892 was ordained in Lindsburg, Kansas, and began his work at Hallock, where he has since devoted his life to the work of his faith. Aside from Fridhem church in Hallock he has charge of the Red river congregation, eleven miles southwest of Hallock, and also Saron congregation, seven miles east of the town. In 1896 he organized Sichar congregation, fourteen miles northeast of Hallock. All of these congregations have church edifices and two of them are completely furnished. The home congregation numbers one hundred and forty communicants, which shows a marked growth, and the Red river congregation numbers two hundred, an increase of over fifty per cent. The work has all been under the supervision of our subject, and he has met with most remarkable success in his endeavors in Kittson county. For five years he has served as president of the Red river district of the denomination and has organized six congregations. He has a modern residence in Hallock and enjoys the comforts of a happy household and home.

Mr. Lundgren was married, in 1896, to Miss Alma H. Lund. Three sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lundgren, and are named as follows: Carl L., Evdor A. and Harry F.

Portraits of Mr. Lundgren and his family shown elsewhere in this volume will be duly appreciated by the members of the congregation and by their many friends throughout the state.

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#### GILBERT O. MOEN.

The early settlers of Norman county deserve special mention in reviewing the history of that region. They have transformed a wild tract into a thriving garden spot and have brought order out of chaos and a prominent place among this number is accorded Gilbert O. Moen, who resides in section 31, of Bear Park township. He is a native of Norway, and was born December 27, 1844. Since taking up his residence in America he has manifested the true spirit of American progress and civilization and has aided materially in producing the present solid prosperity of his locality.

Our subject's father, Ole Amanson, was born in Norway, and his mother, whose maiden name was Carrie Larsdatter, is a native of the same country. Mr. Moen remained in his native land until he attained his majority and then set out for America to seek what might be in store for one of energetic spirit and willing mind. He went direct to Calmer, Iowa, where he remained a year and was employed at farm labor while a resident there. He then went to Albert Lea, Minnesota, where he remained ten years and then

purchased a farm in Fræborn county, Minnesota. This tract he later sold and removed to Norman county, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land. He built a log house and log barn and has continued his residence there since that date. He is now the fortunate owner of three hundred and twenty-five acres of land, of which two hundred and fifty acres is tillable and the balance is pasture, hay, and timber land. He has erected a complete set of substantial buildings on the place, including a comfortable residence, good barn and other necessary farm buildings. These are surrounded by a fine grove of trees, which add to the beauty and value of the place. Mr. Moen keeps about fifteen horses and a dozen or more cows and has made a success of general farming in Norman county.

Our subject was married in 1869 to Annie Hanson. Mrs. Moen was born in Norway in 1850, and was a daughter of Hans Hanson, a native of Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Moen are the parents of the following children: Caroline Maria, Ole, Henry Olai, Carrie Olava, Laura Amelia, Peter Alfred, Minnie Justina, Gustaf Adolph, Henrietta, Clara, Albert Milford and Norman Manford. Three died in infancy. The family are members of the Lutheran church and are most highly esteemed and respected in the community in which they make their home. Mr. Moen is prominently identified with local movements of public nature and has served as chairman of the township board of supervisors and has otherwise lent his influence for the upbuilding and advancement of his community. He is a gentleman of liberal ideas, and is identified with the movements of the Populist party and is a staunch advocate of reform principles. He is a gentleman of excellent character and is deservedly popular with his fellows.

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#### FRANK KEMPFER.

Frank Kempfer, one of the leading old settlers and prominent citizens of northern Minnesota, and a competent official of Lake county, has made his home in Two Harbors since its origin.

Mr. Kempfer is a native of Quebec, Canada, and was born at New Carlisle, in 1860. His father, R. H. Kempfer, was a general merchant and was of German origin. His ancestors took part in the Revolutionary war and were among the earliest American settlers. On his mother's side our subject inherits English blood, his maternal grandfather, Langler, being a native of Devonshire, England. Mr. Kempfer is the fourth child in a family of nine children, and was reared in the province of Quebec, where he attended the common schools. At the age of twenty years he came to the United States and

located in Duluth in the fall of 1880. With Duluth as headquarters he worked in the woods, lumbering and driving for three years. He then removed to Tower, where he remained seven years. His was the only log camp in that region when he arrived there. He footed it up the old Vermillion eighty-six miles, and there engaged in sawmilling and cruising. He tramped all over these parts and became thoroughly familiar with the region. In 1891 he returned to Duluth and during the winter of 1892-3 worked for the Duluth & Iron Range Railroad as packer. He then served as chairman two years, and in this practical school learned the science and art of civil engineering, and was placed in charge of construction work in March, 1901.

Mr. Kempffer was elected county surveyor in 1898 and re-elected in 1900 and is now serving his second term. He also does considerable work for the railroad company, devoting all his time to civil engineering and surveying. In 1901 he was elected assessor of Two Harbors and Lake county. He has proved an efficient public servant, and has performed his work with marked ability.

Mr. Kempffer was married in 1892 to Miss Mattie Babcock. Mrs. Kempffer is a native of Vermont, and of old Yankee stock. Her father, Frank Babcock, is a contractor and transfer man in Duluth. To Mr. and Mrs. Kempffer five children have been born, named as follows: Floyd Austin, Frank Ernest, Howard, Harold Morrison and Gertrude A., the two first named born at Duluth and the three latter born in Two Harbors. Mr. Kempffer is an ardent Republican and is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is classed among the prominent old settlers, having located here before a single town site had been surveyed on either the Missabe or Vermilion ranges.

#### CHARLES A. BRENDemuEHL, Sr.

The BrendemuEhl family of father and sons came to Clay county in an early day, and settled on Buffalo river near the center of Kragnes township, where they have maintained their home to the present time. From a condition that closely bordered on poverty when they arrived in the valley, they have by strictly agricultural pursuits become very affluent, each member of this remarkable family being characterized by financial ability of a high order. Each one is just as noted also for his strict honesty, his manifest integrity and his upright career.

Charles A. BrendemuEhl, Sr., the head of the family, resides on section 22, of Kragnes township, his home being on the west bank of the river, and his farm consisting of one thousand acres of the best land of the valley. He was born in Prussia, June 20, 1834, and was the oldest

member of a family of six children born to Christian and Fredrika (Rohde) BrendemuEhl. The parents removed to this country in 1844, and made their home on a farm near Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Mr. BrendemuEhl had but a limited education, and spent but two months in an English school. When he became of age he struck out for himself, bound to see the world. For some years he was largely employed in boating and rafting on the Mississippi river, and in Ohio and Illinois. During this period he also made an extended journey up the Missouri river, and in 1865, in company with a brother, opened a general store at Rochester, Minnesota. Hearing from a brother, who was at Moorhead, of the wonderful possibilities of the Red river valley, he journeyed thither in March, 1878, and purchased four hundred and eighty acres. The following summer he brought up teams and other necessary farming outfit, and with his son William broke up one hundred and twenty acres. While they were engaged in this work they camped out nights, and spent the summer in thoroughly frontier style. The next spring he brought his family out and established them in a sod house, 10x16 feet, which was their home for some three years. Mr. BrendemuEhl harvested for his first crop one thousand six hundred bushels of wheat, as well as sufficient oats to feed his stock. In 1881 he built a frame house 16x20 feet, with kitchen addition. This was their home for some five years. One January night, with the thermometer forty degrees below zero, it caught fire, and for a time the family was sheltered again in the sod house. Soon, however, was erected a small frame house. This was the home of the family until the present time, Mr. BrendemuEhl waiting to build more substantially until he could afford the expense. He built, in 1901, a substantial residence with a brick basement, hard wood floors, and all the conveniences of the up-to-date modern farm house, at a cost of about three thousand dollars.

So large a farm requires as large a barn, and Mr. BrendemuEhl has one to fill the bill. It is 60x95 feet, with a brick basement, and is the only one of the kind in the northwest. He is an extensive land owner, and in 1895 owned over one thousand nine hundred acres of land. That year and in the preceding year he raised over twenty thousand bushels of wheat. As his sons married and set up for themselves he deeded each of them a handsome farm, thus reducing his acreage, but he still owns one thousand acres. Of late years he has given considerable attention to fruit, and now has some very thrifty apple and plum trees. In politics he is a Democrat, and in religion a member of the Lutheran church. For eighteen years he was chairman of the town board.

Mr. Brendemuehl was married, in 1865, to Miss Mina Fink, a native of Milwaukee, and of German descent. To this union have come the following children: Clara, who married Earnest Watten, and is living in California; William, who is a farmer in Kragnes township; Frederick, a Kragnes township farmer; Charles, a Kragnes township farmer; Annie; Albert, who is dead; August, at home; Henry, a student of the North Dakota Agricultural College; Minnie and Lillie.

### JOHN B. DESMARAIS.

John B. Desmarais, the oldest living settler of Red Lake county, resides on his farm in Lake Pleasant township, where he is surrounded by the comforts of modern life. Mr. Desmarais is not only the oldest living settler, but is one of the very first to locate in the county, his arrival being ante-dated but a few days by such men as Jervais and Bottineau.

Mr. Desmarais was born in the Province of Quebec, Canada, October 21, 1846. He was the eldest of six children born to John and Louisa (Cherbono) Desmarais. When he was but seven years old the family removed to Massachusetts, where our subject was employed in the cotton Mills. The family then returned to Canada, but a year later returned to Massachusetts and then went to Rhode Island, where our subject was employed as spinner in the woolen mills. September 19, 1862, he enlisted in Company I, Twelfth Rhode Island Volunteer Infantry, and his first battle was that of Fredericksburg. He was then detailed on patrol duty in Kentucky. There he took part in a sharp skirmish with Morgan's men. After about ten months of service he was mustered out and again returned to his trade. An uncle, who was a pioneer of the region about St. Paul, brought reports of the agricultural future of Minnesota, and with his family and parents he went to Hennepin county, where he rented land. There he met Bottineau and heard of the wonders of the Red Lake river country. He planned to go there with Bottineau in the spring, but the latter got the start of him by ten days. He, however, reached there April 22, after a perilous journey. He traveled by prairie schooner, with the legend "Red Lake Falls Colony" painted on the side. On reaching the Wild Rice river he met a settler who told him the river could not be crossed. He remained with this man two days and was royally entertained. He then drove down the river fifteen miles to McDonald's Crossing, through almost impassable swamps. He found that crossing impracticable, and he there took a car to Crookston. From Crookston he drove to Red Lake Falls, following a single wagontrack until it was lost, finally locating Bottineau's camp by the smoke. Here

he was regaled with a supper of sturgeon. He filed on section 27, adjoining the present city of Red Lake Falls. This he farmed for two years and selling out in the spring of 1878, homesteaded the land where he now lives. He now owns three hundred and twenty acres of land, and has one of the finest farms in the state of Minnesota.

Mr. Desmarais was married in 1866 to Miss Delina Miner. Of this marriage thirteen children were born, eleven of whom are now living: Delina, deceased; Henry; John; Philip; Mary; Delia; William; Madore; Napoleon, deceased; Louis; Parmelia; Arthur and Emily. Mr. Desmarais is a Republican and a member of the Roman Catholic church. He has been one of the leaders in his township and county since his arrival. He helped to organize the townships of Red Lake Falls and Lake Pleasant, and served as supervisor seven years. He was active in the movement for county division. Of all those who formed the little circle of pioneers our subject is the only living member.

### GEORGE F. MEYER.

George F. Meyer, a thorough business man of Grand Rapids, Itasca county, Minnesota, is credited with that enterprise and public spirit which has done so much to develop his city.

Mr. Meyer was born at Manitowoc, Wisconsin, in 1854. His parents were Gerhard and Mary (Brinkman) Meyer, the former a native of Hanover, who came to America in 1847, and the latter, also a native of Germany, who came to America prior to her marriage.

Mr. Meyer is the second in a family of three children and was reared in the city, attending the public and Lutheran schools, where he received a practical education. He speaks and writes the German and English languages with fluency. At the age of fourteen he entered a hardware establishment, where he learned the hardware and tinner's trade, serving three years as an apprentice. He then worked in Manitowoc four years, and at the age of eighteen started on a tour of the United States. He visited many of the central and northern states, arriving at Grand Rapids in 1875, when there were but two buildings in the town. He located at Aitkin in 1877, and followed his trade two or three years. He went into business in that town in 1881. He visited Missouri in 1883, but returned to Aitkin and continued in business there until 1887. In that year he located permanently at Grand Rapids. In 1895 he established a real estate business, and in 1898 opened a grocery store. He has made a decided success of these various enterprises, and is now engaged exclusively in the real estate business. He owns practically all the

town site lots that are vacant, and in addition one thousand acres of farm land in the county, within six miles of Grand Rapids. He was for a time interested in the State Bank of Grand Rapids, and was a director for three years. He was one of the organizers of the company to secure the water privileges, and to establish a pulp and paper mill. The corporation was known as the Grand Rapids Water Power and Boom Company. It was through the efforts of this company that the mill was established in 1900.

Mr. Meyer was married in 1884 to Miss Josephine Nolan. Mrs. Meyer was born in Ohio, the daughter of Nickola Nolan, a mechanic of Irish birth. To Mr. and Mrs. Meyer two children have been born, George W. and Jerome H. Mr. Meyer is a Republican. He has been president of the village board and a member of the city council several years. He was chairman of the township board and school director for a long period. He has attended numerous conventions and taken an active part in the political affairs of his county and state. His election as president of the village council was to secure city water works, and through his efforts the obstructions placed in its way were overcome and these valuable improvements secured to the city.

#### JOHN S. LUTES.

John S. Lutes, assistant superintendent of the Biwabik mine, resides at Tower, St. Louis county, Minnesota, where he occupies a prominent position among the business men and enterprising citizens of that village.

Mr. Lutes was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, in 1873. His parents were George W. and May E. (Steven) Lutes, the former of German descent and the latter of Welsh extraction. The father was superintendent of Lock No. 3 on the Monongahela river. He served two years in the Civil war and was killed in 1893 in a railroad accident at Elizabeth, Minnesota. The mother is still living at the old home in Pennsylvania and the other members of the family are still employed on Lock No. 3.

Mr. Lutes was the fourth in a family of nine children, was reared in Pennsylvania and given a common school education. He then attended the California State Normal School for one and a half years and finished his education in the Western University of Pennsylvania, where he spent two and a half years. He was then employed for two years in the office of the Pennsylvania Title and Trust Company as clerk. In 1895 he removed to Minnesota and located at Biwabik in June of that year, and was employed as bookkeeper in the Biwabik mine. This is the largest mine in that region and is classed as one of the largest in the state. He became thoroughly

acquainted with the workings of the company, and in 1898 was made assistant superintendent, which position he now occupies.

Mr. Lutes was married in October, 1897, to Miss Julia Turtney. Mrs. Lutes was born in Canada and is of German descent. She was reared in Minnesota, where she taught music for three years previous to her marriage at various places in Vermilion and Missabe ranges. She is an accomplished musician. Mr. and Mrs. Lutes have one child, Theodore H. Mr. Lutes is a Republican and has occupied various public positions in the community. He was elected village recorder in 1898 and is still serving in that capacity. He was elected county treasurer in 1897, which office he now holds. He was among the early business men of that region and has done his share in developing his county and town.

#### MRS. MARY A. CANNING.

Mrs. Mary A. Canning, widow of the late Hon. Charles Canning, has an extensive estate in sections 24 and 25, range 49, in Hendrum township, Norman county. She has charge of this estate entirely, and her executive ability is well known. Her farm produces a good income, and is well equipped with modern conveniences and improvements and is one of the pleasantly located estates of that region.

Our subject was born in Ireland, October 15, 1858, and was a daughter of James A. and Annie (Wright) Anderson, both of whom were natives of Ireland. Mrs. Canning remained in her native isle until she was twenty-two years of age, when she came to America, landing at New York City. She remained there two years and then turned her face toward the western states and settled in Iowa. In 1883 she was married to Hon. Charles Canning. Mr. Canning was born in Ireland, April 6, 1842, and was a farmer, and grain buyer at Duluth, Minnesota. He came to Norman county from Iowa, where he obtained land and began the development of a farm, and died thereon, in Hendrum township, April 8, 1894. He was, for some six years, in the grain business in Duluth. He was one of the first settlers of Hendrum township, and became prominently identified with its early history, and in his demise Norman county lost an enterprising and public-spirited citizen, and the family lost a kind husband and father. He was state representative in the Fifth district of Minnesota, in 1884, and while a member of the legislature did very efficient work for the advancement of his community and the country at large. He was chairman of the county board of commissioners for several years, and had a host of friends. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Canning, as follows: Sarah A.; James H.; and George H., deceased.



Since the death of her husband Mrs. Canning's brother, James Anderson, has managed the estate for her, and the farm, consisting of eight hundred acres, has steadily increased in value and been brought to a high state of cultivation and improvement. There are five hundred and twenty acres under plow, and the rest of the land is devoted to pasture and timber. The home is comfortable in every particular and is built on the banks of the Red river of the North. A good barn is built on the place and a flowing well is one of the features of the farm.

Mrs. Canning is a lady of refinement and is well educated and capable. She is a member of the Presbyterian church at Hendrum, and has many friends in every denomination. Mrs. Canning has quite extensive realty holdings in the city of Duluth, and also seventy acres of land five miles from Duluth. Mr. Canning was one of the leading men of Norman county and well known throughout the state.

Mr. Charles Canning, noted above, was the son of Henry Canning, of Dungiven, county of Londonderry, Ireland. Henry Canning had a family of five sons and five daughters. Charles, the fourth child, was born April 6, 1842.

The Cannings were originally a Warwickshire family. One George Canning went to Ireland as agent of the Worshipful Company of Ironmongers in 1814. His son, William, was killed in the Irish rebellion of 1641. His grandson, George Canning, Esq., of Garvagh, was prominently connected with the siege of Derry. No less than three peerages have been conferred on his descendants for their services to the British nation. He is the ancestor in common of Lord Canning, Lord Garvagh and Lord Stratford de Redcliffe. The Canning family has contributed to recent British history three striking and illustrious characters, the brilliant George Canning, prime minister, Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe, and the late Lord Canning, son of the premier, who was viceroy of India at the time of the mutiny.

The present subject of our sketch, Mr. Charles Canning, left Ireland in the year 1866, locating in Boston, where he remained for five years. He then went to Iowa, and in 1878 settled on his farm at Hendrum. In 1883 he married Miss Mary A. Anderson. She was also of Irish parentage, and from the union were born three children: Sarah, George and Henry, George dying in infancy.

Mr. Canning's political career began in 1884, when he was elected as representative from the Forty-fifth district. He was then a Republican and ran on the same ticket with James G. Blaine. He served in the legislature of 1885, and about this time began to accept some of the views of the Farmers' Alliance. He could have been nominated again in 1886, but would not accede to the

demands made that he pledge himself to support all Republican measures. In 1888 the Alliance nominated him for congress in the Fifth district, the Democrats also endorsing him; although defeated, he ran between five and six thousand ahead of Cleveland. Mr. Canning did not affiliate himself with the Alliance because of any personal ambition or desires. He was a thorough student of politics and his choice was made on what he believed to be right. Once decided he was aggressive and stood by his principles like a man.

In the legislature his voice was always heard in defense of the rights of the farmers, he himself being of that class and therefore thoroughly acquainted with the justness of their demands. As a member of the grain and warehouse committee he spent his efforts to give the farmers a free market and equal and reasonable railroad rates. His tall, commanding figure and determination gave him great influence in the halls and his slight accent added variety to his earnest delivery.

Among the valued illustrations to be found in this volume will be the portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Canning, occupying a prominent place.

#### FRED E. GIESE.

Fred E. Giese, well known among the newspaper men of northern Minnesota, is editor and business manager of the Akley Independent. The popularity and financial success of this paper is largely due to his ability and good management.

Mr. Giese was born at New Ulm, Minnesota, March 28, 1872. His parents were Fred and Sarah (Huuse) Giese, the former a native of Germany and the latter born in Pennsylvania.

When our subject was but three years old the family removed to Marshall, Minnesota. Here he attended the common schools and learned the printer's trade, entering the office of the New Messenger, where he worked for twelve years. In 1891 he went to St. Paul and on the breaking out of the war in 1898 enlisted in Company E, Thirteenth Minnesota Rough Riders, and was sent to the Philippines. He was in the service eighteen months, returning to St. Paul October 23, 1899. There he remained until Aug. 15, 1900. In the latter year he located in Akley, and went into business with a partner under the firm name of Scheers & Giese, publishing the Akley Independent. This paper wields a wide influence, its subscription list running more than five hundred. It is a well gotten up paper, its news columns always bright and interesting, and its advertising business has been placed on a paying basis.



Mr. Giese was married March 28, 1900, to Lena M. Hoffman. Mrs. Giese was born in Germany March 14, 1877. Of this union one child has been born, Eugene L. Mr. Giese is a Republican and has been active in the public interests. He belongs to the I. O. O. F. and the M. W. of A. He served as national guardsman of Minnesota, receiving an honorable discharge in 1900.

#### CHARLES BENNER.

Charles Benner, a well-to-do farmer of Winchester township, Norman county, resides on section 6, where he has spent the past thirteen years in the pursuit of agriculture.

Mr. Benner was born in Wisconsin January 1, 1867, and was a son of Nicholas Benner. His father was a native of Germany and was a mason by trade. The mother of our subject was also born in Germany. Of a family of four children our subject was the third in order of birth. The family moved to Minnesota when he was but three months of age and settled in Hennepin county. He was reared on a farm and continued his residence there until he was fifteen years old, when the family removed to Norman county, in 1882. Our subject had received a good common school education and at the age of twenty-one years he purchased his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres and started farming for himself. He had no means with which to push forward the improvement of his farm, but he persevered and has accumulated one of the best properties of his locality. He has a complete set of good farm buildings and has all machinery necessary for successful farming. He has a fine grove around his residence and some fruit trees, and engages in grain raising almost exclusively. He has one hundred and forty acres under cultivation and the rest is devoted to pasture.

Mr. Benner is actively interested in all local affairs and has served as road supervisor nine years and one term as constable. Politically he is a Populist, and is a firm supporter of the principles of that party. He is one of the early settlers of Norman county, and has aided materially in its growth and development.

#### PETER F. BENSON.

Peter F. Benson, one of the pioneers of Marshall county, Minnesota, has a pleasant home in Augsburg township. He is an agriculturist by occupation and by trade is a carpenter, and many of the buildings of his locality are the result of his handiwork. He is given a high station as a citizen and has earned his way to success by energetic efforts and honesty.

Mr. Benson was born in Weberod, Sweden,

August 24, 1856, and was the sixth of a family of seven children born to Bengt and Matta (Johnson) Frie, both of whom are now deceased. At the age of sixteen years he was apprenticed to the carpenter's trade, and learned this in a thorough manner. He served two years in the Swedish army and then decided to settle at Stockholm at the carpenter's and joiner's trade, but finally changed his plans and came to America with his cousin in 1880, arriving in New York May 14. He began work at his trade in Tama City, Iowa, for the railroad company. The free lands of northern Minnesota drew him hither and he filed claim to his present farm in June, 1882, and of the remaining settlers he is numbered among the earliest. He had but seventy-five dollars and to become able to make improvements on his farm he went to work at his trade and was employed in his own and neighboring townships. He has purchased land from time and is now the owner of five hundred and twenty acres of valuable land, on which he has placed valuable improvements, including a comfortable dwelling and he has a good start toward success. For nearly twenty years he has pushed forward and his pleasant home on section 10 evidences his energy and business ability.

Mr. Benson was an active Farmers' Alliance man, and since the organization of the Populist party he has done effective work for that organization. He is active in township affairs, and has advanced all matters pertaining to the educational movements of the township where he makes his home. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church. Mr. Benson was married in 1883 to Miss Mary Nord. To this marriage nine children have been born, namely: Minnie E., Frank B., Lillie A., Bennie F., Annie M., Roy A., Otto F., Edward W. and Allen C.

#### EDWIN J. WHEELER.

The Wheeler Land Company during the few years of its existence has become one of the best known land concerns of the Valley, and stands at the head of the real estate firms of Moorhead. No institution has done more to induce settlement of the valley by special agents, and by a vast quantity of advertising literature relative to this country and its resources, than the Wheeler Land Company. Its management believes in advertising, and advertises on a most extensive scale. In their office at Moorhead six employees are kept busy the year through, and the agents of the company are numerous.

At the head of this company is Edwin J. Wheeler, a thorough business man in every respect. He was born in Faribault, Minnesota, April 6, 1867, and is the oldest son of Gideon and Harriet (Hendricks) Wheeler. He remained

at home until of age, and then began life for himself as clerk in a general store at Blue Earth, where he was employed until 1891. That year witnessed his first independent business venture, in the opening of a general store at Fairmount, and it was at Fairmount that the Wheeler Land Company was organized in 1896, and a branch office opened at Moorhead. In 1898 Mr. Wheeler came to Moorhead, and the following year the company was reorganized and incorporated with a capital stock of thirty thousand dollars, Edwin J. Wheeler being president, F. B. Herbert, vice-president, and John M. Dahlby, secretary.

Mr. Wheeler is a Republican, and is well known in the fraternal world, being a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Modern Brotherhood of America. A portrait of Mr. Wheeler appears on another page of this volume.

Mr. Wheeler was married in 1892, to Miss Helen Evans, by whom he has had two children, Percy and Lewis. Mrs. Wheeler was born in Muncie, Indiana, and is a daughter of Lewis D. Evans, now a resident of Moorhead, and a traveling representative of the Wheeler Land Company.

#### NELS H. LOFTHUS.

Nels H. Lofthus, residing on section 30, in Sletten township, is one of the pioneer settlers of Polk county, Minnesota, and during his residence there has become well known as a progressive agriculturist and a man of exceptional business ability. He has earned his way to the front by his hard labor and honest dealings and well merits his success and the esteem in which he is held.

Mr. Lofthus was born in Numedal, Norway, July 28, 1852. He was the oldest child and only son of four children born to Helliik and Berget (Kjome) Lofthus. The family emigrated to America in 1867, settling in Clayton county, Iowa. A year later they removed to Winneshiek county, and a short time afterward made a permanent home in Winnebago county, where our subject was reared and educated. He attended the common schools several winters and became familiar with the English language. In the spring of 1882 he fitted up a prairie schooner and after journeying twenty-six days landed in Polk county with his family and all his personal property. He remained about a year at Fertile, with his brother-in-law, meanwhile looking over the Red river valley, and visited North Dakota. About a month prior to the opening of the reservation he "squatted" on the land which he now owns. He has given much attention to stock farming, and has confidence in the dairy interests of Minnesota. He lived in a log house in the

early days and patiently awaited the coming of the railroad to that region. For about three years he had control of a country store at Sletten, which was established in 1895. In March, 1901, he and his son established a general store at Buzzle postoffice in Beltrami county. Mr. Lofthus has met with success in his financial ventures and is classed among the prosperous men of his locality.

Mr. Lofthus was one of the organizers of Sletten township, and was one of the first to be elected justice of the peace. He has served as township clerk for over ten years, and takes an active and commendable part in all local affairs. He is a Republican politically, and is a member of the Lutheran church. Mr. Lofthus was married in 1880 to Miss Margaret Henderson. Of this marriage nine children have been born, namely: Carl H., Bernhard A., Martin, Tina, Albert, Nellie, Mabel, George and Edwin.

#### ANDREW D. ELLEFSON.

Andrew D. Ellefson, a leading business man and respected pioneer of St. Louis county, resides in the village of Ely, where he has met with success in a financial way.

Mr. Ellefson was born in Norway, in the city of Bergen, in 1861. His father, E. Ellefson, was a mason by trade, and worked at that occupation throughout his life in his native land.

Andrew D. Ellefson is the third child in a family of four children, and was reared in the city, attending the schools until the age of fifteen years. He then went to sea, and followed the life of a sailor on the ocean for three years. He visited various parts of the world, among them Quebec, and the principle cities of England and finally came to America at the age of nineteen. He first located in Illinois at Kansas station. He worked on a farm for some time, and then went to Kansas City, where he worked at the mason's trade. He went to Michigan and after working at his trade for a time, entered the employ of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, working at various points in Canada for four years. He then went to St. Paul, Minnesota, and with that city as headquarters, worked at lumbering and on log drives for two years. He went to Tower in 1887, and to Ely a year later, and in the latter place opened up a saloon, erecting a building 24x84 feet. He was a pioneer of the village, there being but three or four houses in the place at that time. He has met with success in his business and enjoys the respect and confidence of the community. He is a Republican and has been active in public affairs. He has served three terms in the city council.

Mr. Ellefson was married to Miss Emma S. Norman, a native of Finland, who came to Amer-

ica with her parents when a child. The family located at Ishpeming, Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Ellefson are the parents of five children, named as follows: Emil, Edith, Edel, Erthol, Elden; all born at Ely.

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#### EUGENE LABINE.

Eugene Labine, who resides on section 3, Bloomer township, is one of the leading farmers of Marshall county. He owns an estate of six hundred and forty acres of land on Middle river. He is influential in his community and is held in high esteem by all who know him.

Mr. Labine was born in the province of Quebec, Canada, August 18, 1857. He was the second child and oldest son of Modest and Ozine (Demaris) Labine, both now deceased. During the summer of 1879 our subject joined his father, who had homesteaded a tract of land in Bloomer township, and soon thereafter homesteaded a tract on section 14, of that township for himself. He began its improvement by erecting a log house 16x20 feet. Here he lived alone until his marriage, in 1884. He met with success in his farming, and from a capital of two hundred dollars has acquired a fine estate, to which he has added by purchase four hundred and eighty acres of railroad land. In 1884 he erected a fine residence on the farm, which he now occupies. His estate is one of the most valuable in the township and his home is equipped with all modern conveniences, including steam heat. His house is finished throughout in hard wood.

Mr. Labine was married in 1884 to Miss Elizabeth Odette, a native of Wisconsin and of French descent. Of this marriage nine children have been born, namely: Emma, Fred, Edward, Josephine, William, Frank, Albert, Charles and Emory. Mr. Labine is a Democrat and has taken an active interest in local affairs. He is chairman of the board of supervisors in his township and attends all conventions of his party. He is a member of the M. W. of A. and of the Roman Catholic church.

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#### PHILIP EAMES.

Philip Eames, a prosperous farmer of Detroit township, Becker county, resides on his estate in section 28. He is regarded as one of the leading agriculturists of the county.

Mr. Eames was born August 20, 1858, in England. His father, William Eames, and his mother, whose maiden name was Sarah Littlemore, were also natives of England. When our subject was fourteen years of age he came to America, first locating in Saunders county, Nebraska, where he lived for three years. He then

returned to England and after a stay of three years again came to America and located in Becker county, Minnesota. He purchased land in section 28, Detroit township. He has met with remarkable success, and is now the owner of ninety acres of valuable land, all under improvement, and equipped with a good residence, fine barn and all necessary machinery and stock. His estate is supplied with an abundance of good water.

Mr. Eames was married in 1880 to Amelia Motley. Mrs. Eames is a native of England and was born September 8, 1858. Of this marriage four children have been born, namely: Alice Gertrude, Moplie May, Elizabeth Sarah and Belgetta, deceased. Mr. Eames is a Populist, and is a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and of the United Workmen. He and his family belong to the Episcopal church at Detroit City. Mr. Eames has achieved success in his business by close application, energetic efforts and good judgment.

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#### OLE PAULSON.

Farmers of the Great Northwest are not content to settle down to life on a small tract, when a limitless waste is but a short distance away. The farmers of Kittson county who went there when the country was new have conquered extensive tracts and conduct farming on a scale hardly imagined by their brother of the east. In the New England states it is a rare occurrence for a man to own such extensive farms as greet the western visitor, and this fact, now well established in the East, has called many men to the thriving districts of Minnesota, the Dakotas and the far Northwest. But it is not alone men of eastern habitations who have sought homes in this region, for some have taken up their abode but a comparatively short distance from their former locations, in order to increase their acreage and expand their fortunes. Among this latter class may be named Ole Paulson. He is a prosperous farmer on section 27 of Red River township, and went to his new home from Goodhue county, Minnesota. He is the most extensive agriculturist and land owner of the township, and his farm covers over eleven hundred acres of land. A portrait of Mr. Paulson will be found on another page.

Our subject was born in Sweden August 2, 1848, and was the second in a family of five children born to Carl O. and Kerste (Olson) Paulson. The mother died when our subject was about seven years of age, and the family emigrated to America in 1869, and made their home in Goodhue county, Minnesota. Our subject was reared to farm labor and later followed railroad work, and when circumstances permitted

purchased land in Goodhue county. This tract proved too small for his industrious nature and executive ability and in the spring of 1881 he went to Kittson county in search of a favorable location. In the fall of that year he and his brother, Peter Paulson, took their personal property to Kittson county and began farming in partnership, both taking land on the banks of the Red River valley, which extends to the river. Here they lived together and prospered together until the death of the brother, which occurred June 26, 1899. Charles Paulson, another brother, came to Kittson in 1882 and took a homestead in Red River township, and died here in 1886. Our subject has placed modern improvements on his home farm, including a good residence, a substantial and commodious barn, extensive granary room, and such other buildings as complete the farm, good fences, and altogether the farm is one of the most presentable in the township.

Mr. Paulson has furnished his home comfortably and well, and this is presided over by his sister, Mrs. Andrew Jackson. Mr. Paulson has met with remarkable success as an agriculturist, and is widely known in his calling and also as a worthy citizen, devoted to the advancement of his community. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church. Politically he is a Republican and stands firmly for party principles, but does not seek public office, and lends his influence for good government, national and local.

#### WILLIAM MERRILL.

William Merrill, one of the leading business men of Two Harbors, Lake county, Minnesota, has achieved success and prominence in business circles through his ability and progressiveness.

Mr. Merrill was born in Wisconsin in the city of La Crosse, May 4, 1871. His father, Joseph S. Merrill, was a lumberman, and a native of New York. He was of old colonial stock of Scotch origin. He served as a soldier in the Civil war. Our subject's mother, whose maiden name was Vina Akinson, was a native of Canada.

William Merrill was the youngest of a family of four children and was reared in Wisconsin, spending his youth in the various parts of that state. His father was a sawmill owner and William spent much of his time in the lumber woods, though he managed to obtain a practical education in the common schools. When he was eighteen years of age he began working for himself. He followed railroading for some time, serving in the capacity of brakeman, expressman, baggageman, etc., at different periods. He remained in the service of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Railroad for six years. In the spring of 1895, when he was twenty-four

years old, he went to Two Harbors, and entered the service of the Duluth & Iron Range Railroad, for which he worked about one year. In 1897 he visited the Pacific coast, returning in 1899, having spent a portion of that time working on the Great Northern road in Dakota and Montana.

On his return to Two Harbors, in 1899, Mr. Merrill went into the liquor business. He attended bar for a short time, and in the fall of the same year opened up for business on First avenue in Two Harbors, in partnership with T. A. Bury. In June, 1900, he opened his present place of business, in partnership with E. W. Howard. They erected a building 25x60 feet, and put in one of the finest stocks to be found at the head of the lakes. Mr. Merrill has recently purchased his partner's interest and is now sole proprietor. His place is one of the finest in northern Minnesota, the partitions and fixtures being of quarter sawed oak, with a bar of mahogany.

Mr. Merrill was married in 1900 to Miss Annie Miller, of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, daughter of Peter Miller. Our subject is a prominent secret society man, being a member of the Knights of Pythias, Knights of the Royal Arch, and the Improved Order of Red Men.

#### FRED B. ROSSOM.

Fred B. Rossom, a progressive business man and prominent citizen of Virginia, St. Louis county, Minnesota, is classed among the earliest settlers of northern Minnesota.

Mr. Rossom was born in Sweden in the southern part of that kingdom, in 1867, on a farm. His father died when our subject was two weeks old. Soon after the entire family removed to Ortondorf, Germany, where our subject grew to manhood and received his education in the village school. In 1885 he came to America and settled at St. Cloud. There he worked in the stone quarries for some time, then went to Duluth, and later was employed by the Howe Lumber Company, of Tower, for six years. He began working for this company in 1887 as cook, a trade he had learned in Germany. He also accompanied surveying parties through the ranges. With one of these parties he visited Virginia in the interest of the Virginia Improvement Company, and he and General P. W. Scott were the first men on the town site of the present city of Virginia. They surveyed the town May 8, 1892, and lots were put on the market September 17. In October of that year Mr. Rossom started the first boarding house in the town, erecting a building 20x40, two stories high. Here he fed as high as one thousand people per day and never less than five hundred. On Christmas day he sold out to Nels Anderson Landstrom. He then

opened a hotel and saloon in Virginia in 1893 and on June 17 of that year lost hotel and three other buildings by fire, together with all his furniture and equipments, aggregating six or seven thousand dollars. On August 14 of that year he opened a saloon, which he conducted until August, 1897. He then opened a meat market in Eveleth, where he did a prosperous business and built up a large business. He removed his family to that place September 8, 1899. He purchased the electric light plant at Montevideo from James Kirk, of Minneapolis. He run this establishment for eight months and then sold out with a net gain of three thousand dollars. July 1, 1899, he opened a saloon in Virginia, and on June 7, 1900, the same was destroyed by fire, together with his dwelling house and three of his adjoining buildings. The loss sustained was from eight to ten thousand dollars. After this fire he opened a saloon, putting up a building 25x60 feet. His business has succeeded, and his progressive and enterprising spirit has always served to help him over financial reverses. He purchased a residence, which he has refitted with electric lights and all modern improvements, making it probably the finest in the city. The greater share of his success has been acquired in land speculations, though he has many investments in various lines. He is the owner of the McGinnis Hotel at Eveleth and also holds one thousand acres of land in Lac qui Parle county, Michigan.

Mr. Rossom is a Republican and has been prominent in the public affairs of his county and state. He has attended every county convention as a delegate since 1892, as well as state and congressional conventions. He has held many local offices and in 1901 was chosen by his party as candidate for county commissioner. He is considered as one of the leading political men on the ranges.

#### HANS T. OLSON.

Hans T. Olson, one of the leading business men of Pelan and the efficient postmaster of that thriving town, is a pioneer of Kittson county, Minnesota, and has aided materially in its development. He is well known and universally respected as a citizen and business man.

Mr. Olson was born in Norway June 20, 1850. He was apprenticed to the blacksmith's trade when fifteen years of age and worked at his trade until 1882, when he came to America. He here continued at blacksmithing in various parts of the country and in the spring of 1884 went to Kittson county and took land in section 26, township 160, range 45. He invested his scant savings in cattle and also opened a blacksmith shop on his place. He was on the outskirts of the settlement at that time, and he had but a half dozen neighbors and no white peo-

ple had as yet settled in Roseau county. Amid these lonely surroundings, and with the trials and hardships of frontier life to bear he went at his task of developing a farm and building up a trade in his line of business. This he finally succeeded in doing, and he has become one of the well-known characters of that region. Stores were established at the present site of Pelan in 1895 and Mr. Olson purchased forty acres adjoining the townsite, and onto this property he removed the postoffice. He began dealing in farming implements in 1898, and he has built up a good trade in this line and met with success in Kittson county.

Mr. Olson was married in 1887 to Miss Sophia Christianson. Three children have been born of this marriage, namely: Henry, Annie and Charles. Mr. Olson is an ardent Republican and has done much to promote the interests of that party. He is a member of the I. O. G. T.

#### HON. JOHN D. KNUTESON.

Hon. John D. Knuteson, a public-spirited citizen of Polk county, manager of the Farmers' Elevator at McIntosh, and leading farmer and old settler, is a well-known character in northern Minnesota. His public services have endeared him to the members of all parties without distinction.

John D. Knuteson was born near Stovanger, Norway, June 21, 1851. He was eldest of a family of four children, two sons and two daughters, born to Daniel and Martha (Johnson) Knuteson Risvold. The family emigrated to America in 1862 and settled in Dane county, Wisconsin. In 1864 they removed to Goodhue county, Minnesota, where they farmed three years and then located in Waseca, Minnesota. Our subject was reared and educated in the common schools and in the Norwegian College. In 1883 he removed to Polk county and filed a homestead claim to a tract of land in section 4, King township, where he now resides. In the spring of 1884 he removed his family to his new home, and for the first few years they endured the hardships and trials of frontier life. He was practically without means, and forced to rely upon his own labor for the support of his family and the development of his estate. Crookston, fifty miles distant, was the nearest market, until the building of the Northern Pacific, which made a station twenty miles distant. Farming was not profitable until McIntosh was built. Mr. Knuteson is now the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of farm land, two miles from McIntosh, where he has a pleasant home, surrounded by all the conveniences and comforts of modern life.

Mr. Knuteson assisted in the organization of

King township and was its first assessor. He was an active Farmers' Alliance man and assisted in its organization in his locality. He later supported the Populist party and was active in its interest, and in 1893 was chosen as representative in the state legislature. He was very active and influential in obtaining appropriations for damages to sufferers in the Red river valley, and his work in that direction was most effectual. He was re-elected in 1895, as an evidence of the esteem in which he was held. Mr. Knuteson is a thorough business man, and his honest methods have won him a host of friends. He took charge of the Farmers' Elevator in McIntosh in 1900, and is secretary of the Kingston Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company, of which he was one of the organizers, and is also a director and shareholder in the general store at McIntosh, known as the Farmers' Supply House. He has also advanced the interests of dairy and stock farming in his county.

Mr. Knuteson was married in 1879 to Miss Dorethea Amundson. Of this marriage five children have been born, namely: Annie J., Carl L., Oscar D., John W. and Henry O.

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#### JOSEPH SMUK.

Joseph Smuk, an active and enterprising business man of Ely, St. Louis county, has done his share in developing and opening up to civilization this section of northern Minnesota.

Mr. Smuk was born in Austria in 1861. His father, George Smuk, was a farmer. Our subject is the fifth in a family of nine children, grew up on the farm and received his education in the common schools. At the age of twenty years he left home and went to work for a man, selling chestnuts on the streets of Wien, a city of a million and a half people. He soon began business on his own account and continued thus for two years. He came to America in 1884, landed at New York City, and went to Calumet, Michigan. He worked for a time in the copper mines and then went to L'Anse, Michigan, where he worked as a section hand on the railroad. He then worked a short time in the woods of Michigan, first cutting cordwood and later at a saw-mill. He returned to Calumet in 1887 and after a short period in the copper mines went to Tower, Minnesota, in October, 1887. He worked at odd jobs there for about two years and in August, 1890, located in Ely and opened a boarding house. He conducted this several years and in the meantime acted as soliciting agent for the P. T. Brownell Meat Company. In December, 1892, Mr. Smuk went to Biwabik and opened a saloon in partnership with John Bartol. The partnership continued one year, when Mr. Smuk took charge of it himself. In 1896 he returned to

Ely and opened a saloon on First avenue. He disposed of this and in 1898 established another saloon on Sheridan street, and in the old boarding house, which he had purchased in 1890. He still owns a half interest in the building at Biwabik. He has been successful in his business ventures, and is now agent for the Iron Range Brewing Association, of Tower, and is the only man who has handled their goods successfully in Ely.

Mr. Smuk was married at Tower in 1888 to Miss Annie Butala. Mrs. Smuk was born in Austria and came to America in 1888. Six children have been born of this marriage, five of whom are still living: Joseph, deceased; John, Joseph, Mathea, Jacob, Stephen. In political views Mr. Smuk is independent. He was elected alderman of the third ward in the spring of 1901. He is a member of the Austrian Societies and treasurer of one of them. He and his family worship at the Catholic church.

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#### NELS ANDERSON.

Nels Anderson, proprietor of the finest and most commodious hotel in the range of country of northern Minnesota, located at Virginia, is a well-known pioneer of St. Louis county. He was born in Sweden in Warmeland, on a farm in 1860, and was the youngest in a family of eight children. He was raised on a farm and attended the public schools of his native land and when about thirteen years of age started for himself, since which time he has depended upon his own labor for a livelihood. He worked in the factories and in other places in his native land and at the age of twenty-two years came to America, landing at New York City in 1882. He went to Michigan and followed iron mining in that state and Wisconsin for two years and in 1884 went to Minnesota, working in the iron mines at Tower. He worked in the first mine operated at that place, and was in the employ of the Minnesota Iron Company. He followed mining about five years at Tower and also did considerable contracting.

In 1892 Mr. Anderson came to Virginia afoot from the Missabe range. There was but one camp in the town at the time and that was an exploring camp. In the fall of the same year our subject erected the Tower Hotel, the first hotel in the town. The building was 24x96 feet, and in June, 1893, this with contents was destroyed by fire, Mr. Anderson losing his entire property. He immediately rebuilt his hotel, making a three-story building and opened for business within eight weeks after the disastrous fire. He built up a successful business, but again suffered the loss of his building and furniture in June, 1900, by the same agency. After the sec-



and fire he again constructed a hotel building. This is a three-story brick structure, 50x70 feet, and is the largest and best equipped hotel in the town. It has water works and all modern conveniences, and has a capacity of eighty people. There was no railroad at Tower when Mr. Anderson went there afoot, and he has remained to make himself a good home and gain an enviable reputation as a business man and citizen.

Mr. Anderson was married in 1885 to Miss Christine Swanson, a native of Sweden. Mrs. Anderson was born in the same town as her husband and she came to America in 1883. Mr. Anderson is a Republican and is actively interested in all local affairs.

### FRANK J. PFEFFERLE.

Every city in the Northwest can trace its progress and development to the enterprise and public spirit of some of its citizens, and Fergus Falls is no exception to this. Among those who have contributed to the rapid growth and development of that city, as well as the general prosperity of Ottertail county, the present mayor of Fergus Falls, Frank J. Pfefferle, deserves a place in the front ranks. It is no disparagement to other well known citizens to say that without his influence, example and experience much would be wanting to the enviable name and place the city now maintains among the other cities of the great Northwest. We take pleasure in presenting a portrait of Mr. Pfefferle on another page.

Mr. Pfefferle was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, March 17, 1863. His parents were natives of Germany, and dwelt by the River Rhine, in their native land. They came to this country about the time of the opening of the Civil war, and his father served as a soldier in the Union army. After his military services had ended he came back to Cincinnati, and engaged in the hardware business, where he died when our subject was about four years old.

Frank J. Pfefferle was the youngest member of a family of nine children born to his parents. After the death of his father, the widowed mother brought her family to Wabasha county, Minnesota, where they lived several years. In 1877 the mother and her family came to Fergus Falls, and here they have remained to the present time, the surviving members of the family being Mr. Pfefferle, his mother, and two sisters. In this city Mr. Pfefferle attained to manhood, having secured his education in the public schools. For a time he clerked in a meat market, and partially learned that trade. For a number of years he was a clerk in the establishment of J. Austin, then one of the largest stores in the city, and when Mr. Austin became receiver of the United

States land office he took Mr. Pfefferle with him as his chief clerk, a position he very acceptably filled for nine years, covering the time the land office was located in this city.

Mr. Pfefferle was elected county auditor in 1880, and re-elected in 1882, serving four years in all, and making a most eminently satisfactory record. In 1884 he was appointed court commissioner by the two judges of the district court, and was re-elected to this position by the voice and vote of the people. At the present time he is filling that position to the marked satisfaction of the people.

Mr. Pfefferle was elected to the city council in 1897, and again the following year. In 1899 he was elected mayor of the city of Fergus Falls, population nearly seven thousand, and re-elected in 1900, and is now serving in that capacity. As mayor his administration has been marked by many improvements in its financial affairs. At the end of his first term as mayor the city treasury had a surplus of twelve thousand dollars, while public improvements had been in no way neglected. His policy has been in every way liberal and has resulted in placing Fergus Falls among the leading cities of the Northwest.

In local affairs Mr. Pfefferle takes an independent attitude. He was one of the first Democrats ever elected to office in Ottertail county, and was one of the youngest men to fill the mayor's chair in Fergus Falls. He has taken an active interest in public matters. In 1885 he opened a land office in Fergus Falls, which he still conducts.

Mr. Pfefferle is well known throughout the county and in northwest Minnesota. He is one of the early settlers of Fergus Falls, having been a resident of that city prior to the time when she had any railroad facilities. Mr. Pfefferle also takes interest and pride in farming, and has several farms of his own which he oversees personally.

### OLE G. MARUM.

Ole G. Marum, classed among the self-made men of Polk county, is engaged in the pursuit of agriculture in Sletten township, where he has a pleasant home on section 4.

Mr. Marum was born in Bergen Stift, Norway, March 3, 1855, and was the fifth in a family of six children born to Johannes and Matte (Overbo) Marum, both of whom are now deceased. At the age of fifteen years, in 1870, our subject joined his eldest brother, Peter, in America, the latter having been in this country for some years previous to that time. Ole G. Marum went to Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he worked for a time and later secured a farm of eighty acres. He went to Polk county in 1884, and filed a claim to land in section 4,

of Sletten township. His start at farming there was a team of horses, four cows and about one hundred dollars in money, and with this limited means he made a start at farming in Sletten township. He threshed two seasons in Goodhue county to raise money for his living while improving his estate. He remained there until 1890, when he removed to section 9, of Sletten township, purchasing land there. In 1899 he purchased land in section 4, of the same township, and returned there, where he has remained to build up a good home and is known as one of the prosperous men of his locality. He is the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land and has surrounded himself with all the comforts of rural life and enjoys well merited success.

Mr. Marum was married in 1880 to Miss Susanna Overbo. Mr. and Mrs. Marum are the parents of six children, namely: Tilda; Gertrude; John; Andrea, deceased; Anna and Andrew. Mr. Marum is a Populist in political sentiment, but takes little part in public affairs, giving his attention almost exclusively to his farm work.

#### FREDERICK ZIESKE.

Frederick Zieske, manager of the Farmers' Elevator at Garfield, and a prominent farmer of Ida township, Douglas county, Minnesota, is recognized as a man of enterprise and public spirit. He is president of the Garfield Creamery Association, with its valuable plant in the village of Garfield.

Mr. Zieske was born in the state of Minnesota, on his father's farm in McLeod county, May 22, 1872. His parents were Wilhelm and Wilhelmina (Bourke) Zieske, both natives of Germany. They were married in McLeod county, Minnesota, and became the parents of seven children, six of whom are now living.

Frederick Zieske attended the public schools of his native county, and assisted on the home farm until sixteen years of age. He then went to Meeker county and found work at various occupations until he was twenty years old. In the meantime the father had purchased a large tract of land in Ida township, Douglas county, to which the family had removed, and where the father died in 1891. A year later our subject joined the family at the homestead, and became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of choice farming land, formerly a part of his father's estate.

Mr. Zieske became associated with the Garfield Creamery Association in 1898, became a leading stockholder and was made president of same. This enterprise is in a flourishing condition, and by honest methods and good business management is rapidly expanding its interests. In 1900 Mr. Zieske took charge of the Farmers'

Elevator at Garfield, and being a grain expert and a reliable business man, the business, under his management, is growing in volume.

Mr. Zieske is particularly happy in his domestic affairs. Mrs. Zieske, whose maiden name was Alta Fleet, is the daughter of Charles and Rebecca Fleet. The father was a farmer of McLeod county, and is now deceased. The mother still resides on the old homestead in McLeod county. To Mr. and Mrs. Zieske three children have been born, namely: Charles W., Jesse and Georgia. In political faith Mr. Zieske is a Republican and attends all county conventions of his party, as well as state conventions. He is a member of the A. O. O. H., and with his family worships at the Presbyterian church.

#### OLE J. BRAMSETH.

Ole J. Bramseth, a well-known farmer of Vineland township, Polk county, is recognized as one of those energetic pioneers who have developed northern Minnesota. His home is on section 33.

Mr. Bramseth was born in Trondhjem, Norway, October 13, 1849. His parents, John and Johanne Bramseth, came to America in 1869 and took up their residence in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, where the father worked in a sawmill a few months. The parents then removed to Houston county, Minnesota, where they remained until 1871. Three years after his parents reached America our subject followed them, having been preceded by his brother the same year. In that year Mr. Bramseth started out to find land further west, going by ox team to the Red river, this being the first section opened for settlement. He looked over several townships in search of a suitable location and finally went to Baker county, where he worked on the railroad in the neighborhood of Lake Park. In the fall of the same year he went into northern Dakota, and worked on the railroad as far west as Casselton. On returning to Moorhead he took a contract for supplying cord wood to the railroad company at Valley City. In the meantime he had selected a fine claim and had prepared to build thereon, when he discovered that it was on an odd section, which belonged to the railroad company. In June, 1873, he filed on a claim in section 28, Vineland township, erecting a small log house, where he lived alone until Christmas. At that time our subject was married to Miss Hattie Gjermundson. Mrs. Bramseth is a native of Norway, and to this marriage the following children have been born: Johanne, Eliza, Gilbert, Andrew, Annie and Olga. Mr. Bramseth continued to reside upon his homestead in section 28 until the year 1887, when he sold the farm and purchased an eighty-acre tract in section 33,

Vineland township, where he has since made his home. Mr. Branseth is a Republican and a member of the Scatvold congregation of the Lutheran church. He was among the first pioneers of the region and was often lost on the prairies in winter and endured many hardships peculiar to frontier life. He was the first pathmaster in the township, and has served as school director.

#### THOMAS WARD.

Thomas Ward, one of the most successful agriculturists of Todd county, Minnesota, resides in his pleasant home in Hewitt township.

Mr. Ward was born in England, January 1, 1844. His parents, David and Elizabeth (Colley) Ward, were also natives of England. At the age of seven years our subject came to Canada, where he remained for twelve years, attending the common schools, and he also took a course in Victoria College, at Coburg, Canada. He then went to the state of New York and after a short time to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he resided for three years. He then went to Brown county, Minnesota, where he took a homestead, proved it up and farmed for seven years. He then sold it and purchased his present home in Todd county, Minnesota, in 1876. His farm operations have proved successful and he is the owner of five hundred and twenty acres of land, one hundred and seventy-five of which is under cultivation, the remainder being timber and pasture land. He also owns five acres in the village of Hewitt and has a fine residence thereon. He owns also a gristmill in the village and is regarded as one of the prosperous and prominent citizens of the county. His residence is valued at two thousand dollars.

Mr. Ward was married in 1868 to Susan Freeman. Mrs. Ward was born in Tennessee, October 26, 1850. The following children have been born to this union: James, Richard H., David, Mattie, Thomas, Nettie C., Charles and Clifford. Mr. Ward is a Republican. He held the office of county commissioner for four years, being chairman of the board for three years. He was also justice of the peace and mayor of the village. He is a member of the Masonic lodge at Wadena, and with his family worships at the United Presbyterian church.

#### MARTIN BESANCON.

Martin Besancon, a prosperous farmer of section 33, Donnelly township, is one of the well-known pioneers of northern Marshall county. He has resided there for many years and has accumulated a fine property and enjoys the respect and esteem of all who know him.

Mr. Besancon was born in France, August

13, 1834. He was the second of a family of five children born to Franck and Jane (Bonfils) Besancon, both of whom are now deceased. Until he was twenty years of age our subject remained on his father's farm, and in the fall of 1854 he came to America, arriving at New York December 7. He worked in the woods of Pennsylvania for five years, when he returned to his native country and enlisted in the French army in the spring of 1860. He served seven years. The service took him to Africa in 1862, where he served four years in the province of Algiers. He was discharged in 1867 and returned to his home. After passing the winter there he again came to America, in 1868, stopping at Buffalo, New York. He went to Connecticut and there worked as collier. In the fall of 1884 he joined his brother in Marshall county, and a year later he purchased his farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He now has a comfortable home, and is surrounded by all the conveniences which go to make modern farm life a pleasant one.

Mr. Besancon was married in 1868 to Miss Catherine Bonhotal, who died in 1892. Of this marriage six children were born, four now living, namely: Eugene H., township clerk and manager of the home farm; Edward, deceased; Alfred, farmer of Marshall county; Ulysses; Albert; and Rosie, deceased. Mr. Besancon is chairman of the township board, and in 1884 he was elected county commissioner for the third district. He is a Republican politically and he has played an active part in public affairs of his community.

#### JOHN FINNEY.

John Finney, a prosperous farmer living on section 28, St. Vincent township, is one of the pioneers of Kittson county, Minnesota. He is an extensive land owner and, with one exception, the oldest settler of the township.

Mr. Finney was born in county Dublin, Ireland, June 24, 1833. He was the second of a family of three children, his parents having died while he was yet in his childhood. He entered the family of Mr. Daly, who brought him to America, and he lived in Brooklyn until fourteen years of age. He then started out to work for himself, going to Missouri, where he worked on a Missouri river steamboat. In 1861 he located on a farm in Clayton county, Iowa. He remained there until 1878, when he went to McGregor, Iowa, intending to take a boat south, but the first passing boat was going up the river, so he went aboard and went up via the Red river to St. Vincent. That place had been described to him as the metropolis of the valley, but he found it to consist of but one log shanty, owned by a halfbreed. He took up land on the Joe river, passing the summer with his family at Emerson,

Canada. He erected a frame house, 12x16 feet, on his place, and there passed the winter, his only neighbor being Alex Turner, the oldest settler of the township. Our subject had a little money, which he invested in an ox team, and began developing his farm. He met with some success, and soon after purchased additional lands, which he also improved and now is the owner of a fine estate. His landed possessions aggregate eight hundred acres and he is regarded as one of the leading agriculturists of the county.

Mr. Finney was married in 1861 to Miss Sarah Lightfoot. Of this marriage the following children have been born: Betsey, Edward John, Nelson George, Emery and Edna. Mr. Finney is a Democrat and has taken an active part in the public affairs of the county. He has served five years on the county board and was a member of the first board of supervisors of Vincent township.

#### CHARLES W. MILLER, M. D.

Charles W. Miller, M. D., a leading member of the medical profession in northern Minnesota, enjoys an extensive practice in St. Louis county, his principal office being in Virginia.

Dr. Miller was born in Lincoln, Illinois, in 1862. His father was of Scotch parentage, and practiced law in Illinois. He also served four years in the Civil war, entering as private and being mustered out as colonel of a Tennessee regiment.

Dr. Miller was the youngest in a family of three children, was reared and educated in the public schools and entered the Ohio State University in 1881. He graduated from the classical course in 1885 with the degree of B. A. He next entered Starling Medical College, graduating therefrom with the degree of M. D. in 1884. He then entered St. Francis Hospital at Columbus, Ohio, where he remained one year. In 1889 Dr. Miller went to Wisconsin, and was appointed physician for the Iron Belt Mining Company, the Atlantic Mining Company and several smaller concerns in Gogebic range, and practiced there until 1893. In February of that year he visited Virginia and in the autumn established the Virginia Hospital, in partnership with Stuart Bates. This partnership continued until July, 1898. Our subject in the meantime maintained offices at Commodore and Franklin Mines and was interested in lumbering and other lines of business. He has built up an extensive practice and is well known throughout the range. He contemplates establishing a hospital in Virginia in 1902. He is now surgeon for the Iron Range Railroad.

Dr. Miller was married in 1894 to Miss May T. Corey. Mrs. Miller was born at Green Bay, Wisconsin, and is of Scotch blood, though the

family has resided in America from an early date. Her grandparents were natives of New York and were among the pioneers of Green Bay, Wisconsin.

#### HENRY SHAFER.

Henry Shafer, one of the leading farmers of Becker county, Minnesota, has a comfortable home on section 30, Spruce Grove township. He is recognized as a man of sterling worth and an agriculturist versed in all that pertains to his line of business.

Mr. Shafer is a native of the Kingdom of Hanover, now one of the German states, and was born on the farm in 1846. His father, Henry Shafer (the name was formerly spelled Schaefer, but was changed to its present spelling by our subject), was a weaver in his native land. The mother, Josephine Button, was born in Germany, and came to Canada with the family and settled in Ontario on a farm.

Our subject was the third in a family of eight children, and was reared on a farm. He received a limited education in the common schools. At the age of fourteen years he was left an orphan, his father having died, and a share of the support of the family devolved upon him. He worked on the farm for four years and then, at the age of eighteen, began to learn the carpenter's trade. When he was twenty years old he came to the United States and for two years followed his trade in Chicago. In 1868 he went to Mankato, Minnesota, and there worked at carpentering for about twelve years. In the meantime he had made a trip to Duluth and for three years worked in St. Paul. In 1883 our subject came to Becker county, took a homestead in section 30, Spruce Grove township, erected a small log cabin and began the work of clearing his homestead. He had but twenty dollars in money and no team. His supplies he carried on his back from Perham. For the first few years he was engaged in carpentering and was able to do but little toward the improvement of his land. In 1886, however, he purchased a yoke of oxen, and from that time the development of his estate was rapid. He met with little success at the first, having had bad luck with seed, and losing his first crop. However, his perseverance brought him unlimited success and his prosperity has been continuous. He now owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, one hundred and fifteen of which he cultivates, having cleared the same by his own personal labor. He has a good set of farm buildings, including barn and granary, and the estate is well supplied with water for all purposes.

In 1869 Mr. Shafer was married to Sophia Rader. Mrs. Shafer was a native of Germany, where her father, John Rader, was a laborer. She accompanied the family to America when

she was five years old, locating first in Toledo, Ohio, and later in Chicago, where she grew to womanhood and received her education. To Mr. and Mrs. Shafer five children have been born, three of whom are now living: George, Robert, William, Edward and Rudolph. Mr. Shafer is a consistent Republican, and has taken an active interest in public matters. He served on the school board continuously from its organization until three years ago. He has also filled the office of township supervisor.

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#### ALLEN G. BERNARD.

Allen G. Bernard, of whom a portrait is presented on another page, is one of the best known newspaper men of Minnesota. He is publisher and proprietor of the Walker Pilot and the Cass Lake Voice, his residence being at Walker, Cass county. He has followed this line of work during his entire career, is a man of intelligence and excellent business management, and has prospered in his chosen calling. His papers enjoy a large circulation and the plants are thoroughly equipped for newspaper work and the work of publishing is under the direct supervision of Mr. Bernard.

Our subject was born in England, July 28, 1850, and was a son of Louis and Hannah (Edwards) Bernard, both of whom were natives of England. He was reared in his native place and remained there until he was sixteen years of age. He went to Dover Academy in County Kent, and graduated after a four-years course. He then came to America and began mining and prospecting for gold in British Columbia, and later went to Vancouver's Island and clerked in a general store there for a short time, later purchasing the store and stock and operating the business until 1867. He then disposed of the same and went to San Francisco, California, where he remained but a short time and found the country not suited to his tastes and he returned to England. He stayed in his native country one year and then came to America a second time, locating in Ohio. He worked in the editorial department of the Cleveland Plaindealer, and in 1876 went to Lake Mills, Jefferson county, Wisconsin. He established the Lake Mills Spike in 1878, which was a successful enterprise and he conducted the newspaper business there five years. He then sold his interests in Wisconsin and went to Flandreau, South Dakota, and founded the Flandreau Herald, which paper he continued to publish two years. In 1887 he took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in McPherson county, where the city of Eureka now stands, and in connection with the land department of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, started the village

of Eureka. Mr. Bernard also established the Eureka Voice. He resided there and was engaged in business until 1889, when he went to Itasca county, Minnesota, and founded the first paper in the county, now the Grand Rapids Magnet. He continued there about eight years and in 1897 came to Walker and established the Walker Pilot. This paper now has a subscription list of eight hundred and is one of the leading papers of the county. The plant is valued at two thousand dollars and every equipment is of the best and most modern type. In 1899 Mr. Bernard became the founder of the Cass Lake Voice, and the paper has steadily increased in importance and now has a circulation numbering about six hundred. Mr. Bernard is proprietor of both papers and has made a success of his vocation.

Mr. Bernard is an influential citizen of his community, is intelligent, well educated, and earnest in his work and is possessed of active public spirit. He was appointed the first superintendent of schools of Cass county and in 1898 was elected to the office and served in that capacity two terms. Politically he is a Republican and has served as chairman of the Republican county committee. He is prominent in secret society circles and holds membership in the following orders; Masonic fraternity, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen of America, Order of Red Men, Knights of the Maccabees, and Modern Samaritans.

For two years Mr. Bernard was secretary of the Northwestern Editorial Association, was president one year, and is now chairman of the executive committee. When the Commercial Club of Cass Lake was organized he was honored by a unanimous election to the responsible position of president.

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#### PETER GRAVES.

Peter Graves, chief of police and interpreter of Red Lake reservation, is a man of learning and thoroughly versed in the ways of the native red men of the northwest. He resides at the reservation agency in Beltrami county, Minnesota.

Mr. Graves was born in Red Lake reservation May 10, 1870. His parents, Joseph and Elizabeth Graves, are natives of Canada and Minnesota, respectively. The mother was born on the Winnebago reservation. Our subject attended the schools on the reservation, remaining there until 1884, when he entered Jubilee College at Peoria, Illinois. He remained there but ten months, when he was transferred to Lincoln Institute, Philadelphia, from which school he was graduated. While attending the institute he played base ball as a member of the Middle



States League for one year. After his graduation he returned to Red Lake reservation and was appointed interpreter of the Red Lake agency, under Captain Mercer, of Leach Lake agency. In 1899 he was sent as a delegate to Washington, D. C., for the Red Lake reservation Indians, and acted as interpreter for the delegation.

Mr. Graves was married in 1891 to Mary Fairbank. Mrs. Graves was born on the Red Lake reservation, March 10, 1875. Four children have been born of this marriage, namely: John, Joseph, Isabella and William. In politics Mr. Graves is a Republican. The family worship with the Presbyterians. Mr. Graves was born and reared among the Indians and from his association with them is thoroughly competent to discharge the duties of his position as a United States government employe. He has seen both sides of life and is a man of learning and wide experience.

#### CONRAD KAHLER.

A rising young farmer of Ottertail county, resides on his estate in section 32, Gorman township. He was born in the township of Perham on his late father's homestead, June 2, 1872.

The parents of our subject, John and Sophia (Awalt) Kahler, were natives of Germany. The father came to America in 1858 with his parents, Frederick and Mary Kahler, the family locating in Michigan. Our subject's father had learned the trade of gardener in Germany, but settled down to farming in America. He went to Minnesota in 1867, residing in Minneapolis until 1870. In that year he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres on section 4, Perham township, Ottertail county. He was a man of education and for twenty years was an official of the township, being assessor and chairman of the township board. He was a Republican and a member of the German Lutheran church. His death occurred March 26, 1890. Mrs. Sophia Awalt Kahler came to America with her parents. Her father was a carpenter by trade. To John and Sophia Kahler eight children were born, five of whom are now living, namely: Conrad, Bernard, Louisa, Laura and Lillie. Mrs. Kahler, after the death of her husband, married John Provost and now resides in the village of Perham.

The farm which our subject now manages was homesteaded by his maternal grandfather, Carl Awalt. It is now the property of Mrs. Kahler, the interest of the children having been purchased by her. The buildings, however, are the property of our subject, who has erected them in recent years. The residence is a pleasant, spacious dwelling, picturesquely situated on the banks of Devil's lake, and is conveniently located as a summer resort for tourists, who come from

all parts of the country during the fishing season.

Conrad Kahler received a practical education in the village schools and was reared on the farm. He has devoted the greater share of his attention to grain raising, but since the establishment of the new creamery in the vicinity he is becoming more interested in dairy farming. He has made a success of agriculture, and is regarded as one of the coming men of the county.

Mr. Kahler was married April 6, 1896, to Mary Matz, daughter of Theodore and Julia (Schultz) Matz. Mrs. Kahler was born in Gorman township, Ottertail county, Minnesota. Of this marriage two children have been born, Angelia and Arthur. Mr. Kahler is a Republican and a member of the German Lutheran church.

#### DR. WILLIAM P. CLEVELAND, M. D.

Dr. William P. Cleveland, M. D., one of the pioneer physicians of Norman county, Minnesota, enjoys an extensive practice in Shelley and vicinity.

Dr. Cleveland was born in Maine, August 10, 1848. His parents were Dinsmore and Eliza (Bernard) Cleveland, the former a native of Maine, born September 12, 1820, the latter in Ireland, February 23, 1827. The father was one of the leading men of his state, and served in the state senate for seven terms.

Our subject was reared in his native state, attended the common schools until fifteen years of age, and then entered the high school at Skowhegan, from which he graduated. He then took a four-years course in the Bowdoin College, graduating with the degree of A. B. He then took a medical course in the same college, graduating in 1879, with the degree of M. D. He lived in his native state until he was thirty-one years old, practicing at Anson, Maine. He then went to North Dakota, arriving there August 8, 1879. He practiced in Traill county for about twenty years, having obtained the first physician's license issued in the Dakotas. In 1899 he removed to Shelley, Norman county, Minnesota, where he has since practiced with great success. He has the confidence and esteem of the entire community and is regarded as an experienced and thoroughly practical physician.

Dr. Cleveland was married January 5, 1878, to Sarah G. Pinkham, born in Maine, March 20, 1851. Of this marriage one child has been born, William Elmore, born in Traill county, North Dakota, May 8, 1881. He is now attending the Fargo College of North Dakota. Dr. Cleveland is a Republican and has been active in public affairs. For a number of years he has been chairman of the county board of health, and was county physician of Traill county for fifteen



years. Dr. Cleveland is the owner of a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Trail county, North Dakota, well improved and supplied with an abundance of water. He is one of the pioneers of the northwest, coming to North Dakota when there was no railroad within forty miles, all travel being by stage coach. He now has a modern residence with many conveniences and equipped with telephone, which connects with the neighboring towns for forty miles. Dr. Cleveland is a member of the I. O. O. F., Modern Woodmen of America and the Foresters.

### JOHN G. BERGQVIST.

John G. Bergqvist, a very successful brick-maker, who resides on section 3, of Moorhead township, is one of the oldest settlers of that part of Clay county, and one of the pioneers in the Red river valley. He was born in Smoland, Sweden, January 11, 1849, and was the fourth member of a family of seven children born to Magnus and Kasa L. (Petersdattler) Bergqvist, both of whom are long since dead. John G. and his brother, who is living in Fargo, are the only members of the family who have found a home in the United States.

John G. Bergqvist crossed the ocean in 1868, desiring to see the world to which so many of his country people had gone, before settling down to work for life. He came to Wisconsin, and found work in that state and also in Illinois and in Minnesota. When he left home it was in opposition to the wishes of his father who desired to keep his family around him, but the young lad borrowed the money with which to come, and his first ambition in this country was to earn enough to pay back the loan that had made him able to come. In the fall of 1869 he was employed on the Northern Pacific Railroad near Brainerd, but the work soon closed down, and provisions became scarce. Young Bergqvist decided to seek his fortunes farther on, and started on foot for Alexandria, with but a limited supply of bread and pork. From that point he pushed on to Moorhead, arriving at Job. Smith's shack, the present site of Moorhead, early in February of the following year, after tramping through snow, and a temperature of forty degrees below.

Mr. Bergqvist spent the winter with Mr. Smith, and filing on section 5, spent what remained of the cold weather in getting out material for a log house. He began farming in a small way, making potatoes his principal crop, but as the grasshoppers were very bad, he had to resort to railroad work to make a living. He still held to farming however, and presently got into wheat with good results. His farm became a part of the city limits of Moorhead, and he gradually became successful in affairs. In 1882

he built the First National Bank block, and about the same time engaged in the manufacture of brick, an article badly needed and much in demand in the valley. In 1895 Mr. Bergqvist met with unexpected reverses, involving a heavy loss, and from a position of affluence was reduced to peddling milk throughout Moorhead. He began life anew on the farm which he now owns, and with commendable energy started in to rebuild his fortunes. His efforts in this direction have been wisely directed, and he now owns one thousand forty acres of land, on which he operates an extensive brick-yard, and from which he yearly sells about two million brick, of good quality, and suitable to all building purposes.

Mr. Bergqvist is a self-made man in every respect, and his career has been marked by endless energy and perseverance. He is a Republican, and belongs to the Swedish Lutheran church. A portrait of Mr. Bergqvist will be found on another page of this volume.

### JOHN A. HEALY.

John A. Healy, leading liveryman and one of the enterprising citizens of St. Louis county, has his headquarters at Eveleth, Minnesota.

Mr. Healy was born in Oswego, New York, February 22, 1870. His father, Joseph C. Healy, was born in Canada, of Irish descent, and was a lumberman. Mr. Healy is the second in a family of seven children and at the age of eight years accompanied the family to Saginaw, Michigan, and his early days were spent in that place, where he obtained a common school education. At the age of fifteen he left home and worked in the shingle mills around Saginaw until twenty years old. During this time he visited the southern states, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas. He then went to Michigan and run a shingle mill for a year and a half. In 1892 he went to Minnesota and worked at his trade before the railroad was built to that point. He also opened a barber shop at Merritt. In the summer of 1893 he was appointed postmaster, being the second to serve at that place. In 1893 the town was destroyed by fire and the postoffice was discontinued the following year. Mr. Healy then went to Biwabik, and was assistant postmaster there for a year and a half. He then opened a meat market at Biwabik and in 1896 located in Eveleth. He became one of the first business men of the place and in partnership with Thomas Colgin opened a livery barn June 1, 1896. Mr. Colgin sold out his interest in August of that year and our subject became sole owner. The barn as then conducted was 24x70 feet. It has since been enlarged until its present dimensions are 40x116 feet. This is the largest livery barn in the county outside of Duluth, and is thoroughly equipped

with buggies, hacks and rigs, the best to be found in northern Minnesota.

Mr. Healy has prospered in his business and has various interests in the city and county. He does considerable teaming and contract work and deals in wagons, buggies and sleighs.

Mr. Healy was married in 1898 to Miss Kate M. Smith. Mrs. Healy was born in Lansing, Michigan. Her father, Samuel Smith, was a speculator and Indian trader. Mr. and Mrs. Healy have one daughter, Jessie. Mr. Healy is a Republican. He has been identified prominently with public affairs. He was postmaster at Merritt and held the office of president of the village board, as well as that of treasurer. He was census enumerator in 1895 at Biwabik, and has served two years as deputy sheriff of St. Louis county. He has represented his party as delegate at numerous county conventions. He is a member of the A. O. U. W., the M. W. A., the Improved Order of Red Men and the B. P. O. E.

#### CHRIS RASMUSSEN.

Chris Rasmussen, one of the best known and most highly esteemed citizens of Marshall county, Minnesota, resides on his valuable estate on section 3, in Sennott township. He owns four hundred and eighty acres of land and has acquired his possessions by dint of his own efforts and honest dealings, and well merits his success and enviable reputation.

Mr. Rasmussen was born in Tranekjan Ruckjoberg, Denmark, April 27, 1853. He was the oldest of a family of four children born to Rasmussen and Henrietta (Anderson) Mattsen. The mother died in 1859, and the father, who still survives, makes his home in his native land. Our subject worked out from his fourteenth year. He joined a party of friends en route to America in 1880, intending to pay a visit to this country and then return to his native land for permanent settlement. He worked in the sawmills of Wisconsin for two years and meanwhile, in September, 1881, he secured claim to the land which he now owns. The following spring he built a small shanty and worked out about a year. Then, in partnership with Nels Larson, he purchased an ox team and each of the partners broke thirty-six acres of sod. This was his first attempt at the development of his farm and he has continued his labors thereon and has now a valuable estate.

Mr. Rasmussen lived alone on his farm until 1888, when he was married to Miss Bertha Johnson. Four children have been born to this union, namely: Fred, Henry, Dorethea, and Andrew, deceased. Mr. Rasmussen assisted in the organization of his township and was one of the first township officers, and has held offices of trust

in his township almost continuously since that time. He is at present chairman of the township board. He is a Democrat politically, and is a member of the Scandinavian Lutheran church.

#### K. K. KNUDSON.

K. K. Knudson, a leading farmer and public-spirited citizen of Polk county, Minnesota, is the owner of valuable property in section 4, Bygland township.

Mr. Knudson was born in Christiansand, Norway, November, 1847. He was the eldest of a family of twelve children born to Knut and Marget Knudson. The family emigrated to America in 1859. They settled first in Wisconsin, where they lived fifteen years, the father purchasing land in Waupaca county. There our subject grew to manhood and received his education.

In 1873 Mr. Knudson visited Minnesota, and decided to take land in Polk county. He filed claim to a quarter of section 4, Bygland township, and set about putting it in cultivation. At the time of his settlement the country was in a wild state. He traveled as far as Moorhead by railroad, and then by boat to Frog Point. He suffered many hardships the first few years, but prospered in his business, and is now the owner of four hundred and thirty acres of the most valuable land in the county. His first wheat crop was marketed at Grand Forks, being conveyed by steamer.

Mr. Knudson was married in 1875 to Miss Bertha Isaacson, of Wisconsin. To Mr. and Mrs. Knudson twelve children have been born, nine of whom are living: Mary, now married; Knud; Martha; Tone; Berget; Nare; Osmund; Salve and Ole. Mr. Knudson assisted in the organization of the township, and was elected its first treasurer. He has been a member of the board most of the time since. He is a Republican.

#### PETER ENGELSTAD.

Peter Engelstad, residing in Rockbury township, is one of the most successful farmers and business men in Red Lake county, Minnesota.

Mr. Engelstad was born in Vang, near Hamar, Norway, December 8, 1857. He was the eldest of six children born to Even P. and Karen (Larson) Engelstad. The parents now reside near our subject's home. Peter Engelstad worked on the home farm in his native country until twenty years of age, and then invested his savings in a two-years college course. He was employed as bookkeeper for a time and then entered college at Hamar. Here he was married and the young couple soon after came to Amer-

ica, where our subject's parents had resided for about ten years. In July, 1882, our subject arrived in Dakota and joined his parents near Hillsboro. In March, 1883, he filed claim to a tract of land in section 14, Rockbury township. He constructed a log house, into which he removed with his young wife and all their personal belongings. He worked out about six years before he could begin farming on his own account to any extent. He devoted much attention to stock from the beginning and to this he attributes his success. His advancement has been marked and he is now the owner of a valuable estate. He keeps a large number of cattle and horses and has a well equipped farm for the stock business. He gives special attention to the dairy, and has made a reputation for his dairy products.

Mr. Engelstad was married in 1881 to Miss Matilda Kjos, a native of Norway. Of this marriage eleven children have been born, namely: Ludvig, deceased; Louisa; Christian, deceased; Axel; Maria, deceased; Paul; Mons; Vallborg; Lars; and Ola. Mr. Engelstad is a Populist and has been active in political affairs. He served eleven years as township clerk, has been a member of the township board and justice of the peace. He is a member of the M. W. A., Royal Neighbors and I. O. G. T.

#### THOMAS F. BRADY.

This name adorns the list of practicing attorneys of the Minnesota bar, and he is held to be one of the best attorneys in St. Louis county. He practices at the bar of the various counties throughout northern Minnesota, though his home and most extensive business are at Hibbing.

Mr. Brady was born in Houghton, Michigan, in 1868. His parents were Thomas M. and Margaret (Friel) Brady, the former of Irish birth and the latter a native of Maine. The father came to America when about eight years old. He served as captain of Company —, Fifteenth Michigan Infantry. He was probate judge in Michigan for four years and prosecuting attorney of Houghton county six years. He removed to Duluth, Minnesota, in 1892 and two years later to Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

Thomas F. Brady was the second in a family of four children, and was reared in the state of Michigan. He graduated from the Houghton high school in 1886, and from the law department of the University of Notre Dame in 1889. Admitted to the bar the same year he entered his father's office in Duluth, where he practiced until November, 1895. During this time he maintained offices at Grand Rapids and Duluth, practicing in both places. In 1895 our subject located at Hibbing and began the practice of his profession there in partnership with his father.

Their's was the first law office opened in the village of Hibbing, and our subject has been in practice here continuously since that time. He has been prominent in public matters, and was chosen as village attorney in 1895. He has served four years as township clerk and is serving his second term as village recorder. He is at present deputy clerk of the district court, his appointment dating January, 1901. He also performed the duties of deputy county auditor and deputy coroner. Mr. Brady is a Republican and has been chosen as delegate to numerous county conventions and is one of the most prominent Republicans in northern Minnesota. He enjoys an extensive law practice and is thoroughly respected at the bar of his state.

Mr. Brady was married in 1897 to Miss Annie Haben. Mrs. Brady was born at Saginaw, Michigan, and her parents are natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Brady have two children.

#### HARRISON C. D. NICKEY.

Harrison C. D. Nickey, a successful farmer of Todd county, Minnesota, owns two hundred acres of land in sections 36 and 13, Eagle Valley township. At the present time he rents his land and has his home in the village of Browerville. Mr. Nickey also owns a threshing machine outfit which is constantly engaged.

Mr. Nickey was born December 10, 1864, in Randolph county, Indiana, a son of John D. and Barbara (Sipe) Nickey, and secured his education through the common schools of Indiana and Todd county, Minnesota.

In 1876 his parents moved to Minnesota, and he was brought by them to Todd county, where he grew to manhood. As he grew up he helped his father in his farm work, and when he became a man he bought forty acres of land in section 36, of Eagle Valley township. By subsequent purchases he has added a quarter section to his original holdings.

Mr. Nickey was married March 29, 1888, to Cora Alice Goodman, a daughter of Jacob and Martha Jane (Limbert) Goodman. Her father is now conducting a sawmill at Bemidji, Minnesota.

A few lines relating to the Goodman family will be of interest in this connection. Jacob Goodman was born in Randolph county, Indiana, March 7, 1847. In the fall of 1878 he removed to Darke county, Ohio, and in March, 1882, came to Todd county, Minnesota. His father, Manuel Goodman was born near Fredericktown, Cecil county, Maryland, in 1805, being of German and Irish ancestry. Jacob's mother, Nancy Williams, was born in 1815 in Montgomery county, Ohio. Manuel Goodman and wife had five children: Elizabeth, John, Martha, Jacob and Will-

iam. One of these sons, John Goodman, at the age of eighteen years (in 1862) enlisted as a volunteer in Company G, Fifty-fourth Indiana Infantry, and participated in many of the most important battles of the Civil war, including Vicksburg. At Arkansas Post he took cold from exposure and died at Nashville hospital of quick consumption. He was buried at Louisville, Kentucky.

Jacob Goodman's wife Martha was born December 13, 1846. They became the parents of the following named children: George, born May 19, 1869; Mary, born October 10, 1873; Dora, born August 15, 1874; Sarah, born August 20, 1876; Anna, born September 21, 1878; Ed., born October 17, 1880; Edith, born March 5, 1883; and Emma, born November 5, 1888.

Mr. and Mrs. Nickey are the parents of three children: Guy E., who was born November 15, 1889; Jacob Lorenzo, born September 23, 1891; and Sylvia V., July 20, 1893.

The great-grandparents of Mr. Nickey were Samuel and Catherine Nickey. The former was born May 11, 1772, and died March 27, 1832; the latter was born May 27, 1780, and died February 17, 1861. They came from France and Germany, respectively, in the closing years of the eighteenth century and settled in Augusta county, Virginia. Her father was a soldier in the war of the Revolution, and her brother served in the war of 1812. To Samuel Nickey and his wife was born February 11, 1810, a son, Christian, who emigrated from Virginia to Ohio, in 1832, and thence to Randolph county, Indiana, in 1840, where he died March 15, 1890. His wife, Isabelle (Cooper) Nickey, who was born May 30, 1805, died in December, 1874, both being buried near Ridgeville, Indiana. They were married in 1830, and to them were born: John, who was the father of H. C. D. Nickey, and who was born in Augusta county, Virginia, March 27, 1831; Mary Ann, born in Greene county, Ohio, in 1832; Isabell C., born in 1835; James H., born in 1836; Samuel E., born in 1839; Greenbury B., born in 1841—all these being born in Greene county, Ohio; the following being born in Randolph county, Indiana: Harrison Clay, born in 1844; Esther M. and Rebecca J., twins, born in 1847. Four of the sons were soldiers in the Civil war, and Greenbury B. was the only one who failed to come home. He died of smallpox in the hospital at Nashville, Tennessee, in June, 1864. All the other members of this family are alive at this date (August, 1901).

John D. Nickey worked on his father's farm until he was eighteen years of age, and was educated in the Indiana schools. He was married June 2, 1852, to Barbara Sipe, a daughter of John H. and Mary Magdalena (Brubaker) Sipe. She was born September 16, 1837, in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, and was only five years

old when her parents, who were farming people, removed to Randolph county, Indiana.

John D. Nickey enlisted in Company A, Twenty-Second Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in 1865, and is in receipt of a pension. After the conclusion of the war Mr. Nickey returned to his Indiana farm, where he remained until the spring of 1874, when he removed to Todd county, Minnesota, and bought one hundred and sixty acres, situated in sections 36 and 13, in Eagle Valley township. He still owns the farm, but leaves it in the hands of a renter, and is living retired in the town of Browerville. He put up a sawmill on Eagle river, which is operated by water power. At old Hartford, a village now extinct, in Ward township, he had a store. In the organization of Eagle Valley township he took an active part, served as assessor two terms, and as justice of the peace seven years. He owns property in Browerville, and his wife in Sauk Centre.

Mr. Nickey belongs to the Masons and the Grand Army of the Republic, and with his wife commands the respect and confidence of the community to an unusual degree. They are the parents of the following children: Isabel, who was born March 9, 1857; Julia E., January 3, 1859; Rosetta C., July 25, 1861; William A., October 15, 1862; Harrison C.; Lilla M., May 9, 1866; Nannie A., August 29, 1868; and Samuel W. A., October 18, 1872.

Harrison C. D. Nickey is an active business man of a pleasant and genial disposition. In addition to his farming interests he owns property in Browerville, and during the fall and winter season has a force of men engaged with his thrasher and portable sawmill, doing considerable business in this and adjoining townships. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Nickey is a member of the Yeoman lodge, while Mrs. Nickey belongs to the Yeoman lodge and the Rebekah lodge. A portrait of Mr. and Mrs. Nickey will be found on another page of this work.

#### EUGENE LA FORCE.

Eugene La Force, a prosperous business man and prominent citizen of Two Harbors, Minnesota, is one of the earliest settlers of Lake county, and is widely known throughout that region. He was born near Montreal, Canada, in the town of Three Rivers in 1867, and was a son of Louis La Force. His father was of Canadian-French blood and was a native of Canada. He followed farming throughout his life and passed away at the advanced age of ninety-three years.

Our subject was reared in Three Rivers and attended the common schools there and also the college there. He started for himself at the age of thirteen years and followed farm work in

Minnesota with his brother. He then spent four years in the lumber woods and on the drive in northern Minnesota on the Mississippi river, and was in Brainerd, Aitkin, Little Falls and Duluth. At the latter place he worked on the tug boats and spent three years thus engaged, quitting the service as second engineer. He went to Two Harbors in 1888 and accepted a position with the Duluth & Iron Range Railroad as engineer on the coal docks. He was in the employ of the company twelve years, during which time he was fireman and nine years was engineer on the steam shovel, and had charge of a crew of workmen. He left the employ of the railroad company in 1900 to engage in the liquor business and opened a first-class saloon on the corner of First avenue and Cedar street April 1 of that year. He is also the owner of a fine farm three miles west of Two Harbors. This is a tract of eighty acres and is known as the Falk and La Force farm. Forty acres is under cultivation and good improvements are on the place.

Mr. La Force was married in 1889 to Miss Annie Tilander. Mrs. La Force is a native of Sweden and has lived in America since her childhood. Mr. La Force is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Royal Arch.

#### FATHER ALEXIS SHAUT.

Father Alexis Shaut, pastor of St. Joseph's Catholic church near Perham, Ottertail county, Minnesota, is a genial gentleman, an eloquent speaker and a man of commanding appearance. The church over which the Rev. Shaut presides stands near the old state road and is three miles south of Perham. It was erected in 1882 at a cost of eight thousand dollars and in 1892 was enlarged and improved, at an expense of three thousand dollars. The building is 75x100 feet, and the tower one hundred and ten feet in height. The congregation comprises about seventy families. The buildings consist of a comfortable priest's dwelling near the church, surrounded by shade trees, a parochial school, built of brick in 1900, replacing a former building, which was destroyed by fire, and the Sister' Home. The latter is presided over by the Lady Superior Sister Hilda, with two assistants and ninety pupils. St. Joseph's church was organized and a building erected in 1871 and forty acres of land donated thereto, and the present structure was erected in 1881. The following priests have officiated since its organization: Rev. J. Gregorewietchky, Rev. J. Hilbert, Rev. Julian Stroelke, Rev. J. Tomazin, Rt. Rev. Mgr. J. V. Buh, Rev. William Lange, Rev. William Wilkina and the Rev. Alexis Shaut.

The Rev. Alexis Shaut was born in Germany June, 1867, and came to America with his par-

ents when an infant. They settled in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and the father, who had been in the employ of the German government, now took up surveying and farming. Our subject was educated in the schools of Lancaster and later took a classical course at Notre Dame University, Indiana, and mastered theology at St. Meinrad Seminary in the same state. He was ordained there in 1895. He then traveled through the south and celebrated his first mass at Florence, Alabama, June 13, 1895, at which place his mother still resides. He was next called by Bishop Merty to St. Cloud, Minnesota, and was assistant at the Cathedral in that city and was thereafter transferred to St. Joseph's church in Ottertail county, where he has since officiated. He is highly esteemed wherever known and is a man of more than ordinary ability and an exemplary citizen.

#### EDWARD NORELIIUS.

Edward Norelius, a leading citizen of Isanti, Isanti county, Minnesota, enjoys distinction as being the first white child born in that town, where his birth occurred in 1860. He is well worthy of note also in a book devoted to the representative men of this region, for his strong and sturdy manhood, his unswerving integrity and industry have been no insignificant factor in the growth of the town. It is with pleasure that we present a portrait of him on another page of this work.

Peter Norelius, the father of Edward, a lifelong farmer, was born in Sweden in 1824, and came to this country while still in the prime of his life to be a pioneer in the settlement of Isanti county.

Edward Norelius was reared and educated on the frontier, where for many years the Indians were more plentiful than white people. He had much work to do, and secured his education in the old log-cabin school house. The first reapers were run by oxen, and the young lad put in many hours in driving them. At the age of nineteen he struck out in life for himself, and when he was twenty-one left home. He took part of his father's farm, and has cultivated it almost constantly to the present time. To this original tract Mr. Norelius has added somewhat extensively, and when he moved off in 1897 had a farm of three hundred and eighty acres, well provided with buildings, machinery and every requisite for successful farming in the northwest. His farming operations have been very successful, and attest his industry and thrift.

Mr. Norelius was married in 1881 to Miss Anna Lundquist. She was born in Isanti county, where her father, Daniel Lundquist, was a pioneer farmer. She died in 1885, leaving one child who survived her seven months. Mr.

Norelius was again married in 1887, to Miss Elizabeth Eastland. She was born in Isanti, where her father, Olof Eastland, had long been established. He was an old soldier of the war of the Rebellion, and was a pioneer in the settlement of Isanti county. To this union were born six children: Mabel, an infant unnamed, Florence, Rudolph, Evaline and Carl.

In 1896 Mr. Norelius removed to Washington county, Wisconsin, where he owned a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he spent two years, engaged in its improvement and in making it ready for the market. The construction of the Eastern Minnesota Railway, which built a station on the Isanti county farm of Mr. Norelius brought him back to Minnesota. In company with A. A. White, of St. Paul, he formed the town site company. The same year he opened a general store in the new town, to which was given the name of Isanti. He put up a building 16x30 feet in which he conducted business until December, 1900, when he moved his store into a new and larger building, which he had erected. This is 24x50 feet, and in it he has the largest stock of goods carried in the town.

Mr. Norelius is a Republican, and when the village of Isanti was incorporated in March, 1901, he was made the president of the board of village trustees. He takes much interest in the working of the party machinery, and has attended numerous county conventions as a delegate. In the Modern Woodmen of America and the Royal Neighbors he is an earnest and enthusiastic worker, and possesses many friends in the community, who esteem him alike for his sterling manhood, his industrious habits, and high moral character.

#### NICHOLAS SCHANTZEN.

Nicholas Schantzen, residing in Comstock township, Marshall county, deserves prominent mention in the pages of northern Minnesota's early history. He went to Polk county in an early day and is well known throughout that region as a worthy citizen and prosperous agriculturist. He resides on section 30, and operates a farm of four hundred acres, most of which is under cultivation.

Mr. Schantzen was born in Houston county, Minnesota, November 2, 1859, and was the oldest of seven children born to Frank and Anna (Fisch) Schantzen, both of whom are living near our subject at the present time. His parents were natives of Germany, and they became identified with Houston county in an early day and there reared their children. Nicholas Schantzen hired out for farm work at the age of sixteen years, and was thus engaged two years. In the spring of 1878 he went to the

Red river valley with a companion and they worked near Crookston. In the spring of 1879 our subject went with a party of emigrants in search of land, and the following summer he filed claim to a tract in Belgium township, Polk county. He worked at jobs of all kinds, doing some farming and some railroading and remained there until 1888, when he went to Marshall county and purchased the right and homestead claim to the land on which he now resides. He had a few head of stock and some farm machinery, but he borrowed the money with which to pay for his homestead right. There was a small log house on the farm, but no other improvements, and with no assistance our subject has placed valuable improvements on the same and is now the owner of one of the largest and best farms in his township.

Mr. Schantzen was married in 1883 to Miss Lena Lenhart. To this marriage six children have been born, namely: Anna, Frank, Elsie, Josie, Jessie and Lenora. Mr. Schantzen has taken a commendable interest in school and township affairs and with the exception of one year has served on the township board. He is a Democrat politically and is a member of the Roman Catholic church. He also holds membership in the Modern Woodmen of America.

#### JOHN McDONALD.

John McDonald, an enterprising and public-spirited business man of Grand Rapids, Itasca county, Minnesota, has demonstrated his capacity and established his reputation as a man of integrity and business ability.

Mr. McDonald was born in Canada on a farm, July 17, 1866. His father, John McDonald, was a farmer and a native of Ireland. Our subject's mother, whose maiden name was Marv Nicholson, was born in Ireland, and her marriage took place in Canada. She died March 30, 1898. Our subject is the seventh in a family of eight children, and received a limited education in his boyhood days. At the age of fifteen he went into the lumber woods of Ontario, and during five years there worked through all the departments of the lumbering business. He came to the United States at the age of twenty years and worked at the lumbering business four years with Minneapolis as his headquarters. In 1889, in partnership with Michael McAlpin, he began business in Grand Rapids. Their lot at the corner of Leland avenue and Third street was covered with a heavy growth of pine and their building was the first to be erected up from the river. They cleared the lot, and erected a building of brick, with good basement. The business has continued prosperous since that time. In 1898 our subject took charge of the Hotel Su-



perior, at Hibbing, which he conducted for more than two years with success. He returned to Grand Rapids in July, 1900. The firm also owns one hundred and sixty acres of land three miles south on Pokegama lake. Sixty acres of this land is under cultivation. Mr. McDonald has eighty acres of land, a portion of which is under cultivation and is equipped with a complete set of farm buildings and all necessary machinery.

Mr. McDonald was married in 1894 to Miss Annie Moony. Mrs. McDonald was born in Minnesota in 1868. She is of Irish parentage. Of this marriage two children have been born: Mary G. and Lusanna M. In politics Mr. McDonald is independent. He has taken a consistent interest in public affairs, and has served as village trustee and township supervisor. He has been elected a delegate to various county conventions, but has declined to serve. He is one of the pioneers of Grand Rapids, having located here before the building of the railroad.

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#### WILLIAM NEIL.

William Neil, whose portrait appears on another page, is a prosperous and extensive farmer of Todd county, Minnesota. He makes his home on section 3, Hartford township, where he has been established since 1867. Since that time he has increased his original homestead from one hundred and sixty acres to six hundred and eighty acres of as choice land as can be found in Long Prairie Valley.

Mr. Neil was born in Yetholm Mains, a village about forty miles south of Edinburg, Scotland, May 23, 1832. His parents were William and Hannah (Heimers) Neil. The father was a carpenter, and neither parent ever crossed the ocean. They had a family of nine children, two of whom died in infancy; the seven growing to adult age being, John, Hannah, Thomas, William, Jane, James and Robert.

William Neil secured some schooling in his native land, but from a very small boy followed the business of tending sheep on the Scottish hills with his trusty collie as his only companion. When he was twenty years of age he came to the United States, landing in New York. For some three years he lived in Bruce county, Ontario, Canada, where he worked at clearing land. In 1855 he went to Will county, Illinois, and was there engaged in farming and in sheep buying. He was engaged by General W. B. Arthur, general superintendent of the Illinois Central road, at the time, to take charge of his extensive farm near Champaign, Illinois. In 1866, desiring to become a land owner and farmer for himself, he came to Sauk Center, Stearns county, Minnesota, where he spent the winter. The

following spring he visited Todd county, and homesteaded a quarter of section 3, Hartford township, near the timber, in the beautiful valley of Long Prairie. From time to time he has bought additional land, and now owns a valuable estate of six hundred and eighty acres. Of this extensive tract, three hundred and fifty acres is devoted to grain, and about two hundred acres of which is fine meadow land.

William Neil was married in Cessford, Scotland, in 1853, to Miss Isabel Laidlaw. Her father, Robert Laidlaw, was land steward for the Duke of Roxburgh, and had charge of his extensive Roxburghshire estate. To Mr. and Mrs. Neil have come three children: Isabel is the wife of Frank Bassett, of Bowerville, Todd county; Abbie is the wife of Charles Hurtch, a farmer in Ward township, Todd county; and William, who married Luetta Sarff, a daughter of John Sarff, a farmer of Ward township, makes his home with his father on the old homestead, which he rents, and has a family of six children.

The Neil homestead is equipped with all the needed agricultural appliances and buildings of every kind for conducting a large and successful farming business.

William Neil is one of the wealthy farmers of Todd county, and much of his money came from sheep when they were a profitable investment. At one time he owned five hundred head of sheep, bought when the country was swept with sheep fever. Mr. Neil knew how to handle it, and he bought up sheep wherever he could find them, brought them to his place cured them, and out of the first clipping of wool made money enough to pay all the sheep had cost him. Mrs. Neil died in 1891, but he is still hale and hearty, and at the age of seventy is rounding out a life of peaceful industry surrounded by the children of his son, William: William, Irwin, Robert, Louis Oliver and Jennie O.

Mr. Neil has been a prominent figure in town affairs many years, having been supervisor and treasurer of the town through a long period of years; he has served on the school board and was made county commissioner by an almost unanimous vote, only one man voting against him. He was reared in the faith of the Presbyterian church, and in his politics is a Democrat.

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#### JOSEPH H. LABLANC.

Joseph H. Lablanc, a business man and land owner of prominence in Red Lake county, is a resident of Poplar River township. He has been active in the development of his community and enjoys the respect and esteem of all.

Mr. Lablanc was born in the province of Quebec, Canada, June 10, 1848. He was the sixth in a family of twelve children born to Greg-

ory and Marie (Chartier) Lablanc, both natives of Canada and of French descent. Our subject grew up to the age of maturity in county Comp-ton, worked on the farm and operated a sawmill for fourteen years. Among those who were ruined by reverses in the lumber business in 1881 our subject was a sufferer. He joined his brother in Polk county, Minnesota, arriving in Crookston with his family and effects on May 2, 1882. He located at once on the farm where he now resides, paying seventy-five dollars for the relinquishment and filing upon it as a homestead. He brought with him provisions for a year and sufficient money for a start. He cleared his farm and put it in a fine state of cultivation. In 1884 he began operating a sawmill, running it by steam thrasher power. In 1890 he purchased ninety acres of prairie land. In 1896 he removed his family to his son's homestead, while the latter operated the mill up to 1900, supplying most of the materials for the settlers. In 1900 our subject returned to his old home and took charge of the sawmill.

Mr. Lablanc was married in 1869 to Miss Luce Cormiere. Of this marriage seven children have been born, namely: Joseph, deceased; Urcer; Ada; Pulcherie; Joseph; Marie A., and Philips, deceased.

#### GEORGE HUNTER.

George Hunter, proprietor of the Tower Brewery, at Tower, St. Louis county, Minnesota, is an example of the thrifty and enterprising spirit that animates the business community of this section of Minnesota.

Mr. Hunter was born in Belfast, Ireland, March, 1855. His father, William Hunter, was a railroad conductor, and was killed in a railway accident. He served in the British army and spent the early part of his life in East India. Our subject is the fourth in a family of six children, was reared in a city where he received his education up to the age of twelve years, when he accompanied the family to England, locating in the northern part of the county of Cumberland. In 1878 he came to Quebec and later to Duluth, Minnesota. In the latter city he was employed as engineer in a sawmill until about the year 1885. He reached Tower, Minnesota, in the latter year and there engaged as engineer in a sawmill. He was then appointed as a member of the fire department of the village of Tower, where he served in the capacity of engineer for ten years. He then spent one year in the civil service as engineer. At the end of that time, in partnership with Samuel H. Owen and W. H. McQuade, he purchased the Tower Brewery. This enterprise was established in 1889, since which time it has been in continuous operation.

It has five acres of ground, ice house, bottling house, main brewery building and has branch wholesale houses at Sparta and Ely. It is one of the greatest enterprises of the city, and is the only brewery on the range. Its output in 1900 was three thousand barrels of beer, and this will be considerably increased for the year 1901. The enterprise has succeeded from the start.

Mr. Hunter is a Republican and has taken an active part in the political affairs of his town and county. During his service in the fire department he was city policeman for ten years. He has done his full share toward the development of his community, and is classed among the leading prominent citizens of northern Minnesota.

#### W. A. M. JOHNSTON.

W. A. M. Johnston, clerk of the district court of Crow Wing county, Minnesota, is one of the respected and worthy citizens of that region. Mr. Johnston was born on a farm in Ontario, Canada, in 1860, and was a son of William Johnston. His father was of Scotch blood and was a merchant in Canada. Our subject's mother was a native of Canada and was of Irish extraction.

Of a family of four children our subject was the third in order of birth. He was raised in the village and attended the common schools of Osnebrook, and later graduated from the high school at Hamilton, Ontario. He later went to Manitoba and in 1879 located in Winnipeg, where he was engaged as clerk in a dry-goods store until 1882. He then went to Brainerd, Minnesota, and followed the same occupation there for about ten years. He was appointed deputy clerk of the district court in 1892 and held the office until November, 1898. In the fall of that year he was elected to his present office and has proven himself a faithful public servant.

Mr. Johnston was married in June, 1900, to Miss Mable White. Mrs. Johnston is a native of Michigan, and her people are Americans. She is an accomplished musician and followed teaching of music previous to her marriage. Mr. Johnston is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and also the Order of Elks, Modern Woodmen of America and Order of Red Men. He is a staunch Republican and takes an active part in party affairs.

#### ASPEN OLSON.

Aspen Olson, a prosperous and well-to-do farmer of Polk county, owns a valuable estate in Bygland township.

Mr. Olson was born in Christiansand, Norway, January 13, 1848, the fifth child in a family of six children born to Ole K. and Kjarist Olson. The family emigrated to America in

1851, settling in Jefferson county, Wisconsin. There they lived seven years, and then moved to Waupaca county, in the same state, where they lived sixteen years. In 1874 our subject removed to Polk county, Minnesota. He came via railroad to Breckenridge, and then footed it to Grand Forks. That town consisted at that time of a raft lumber shack, banked up with sawdust, which the Hudson's Bay Company used for a storehouse, postoffice, etc. On the 14th of May, 1874, our subject visited the land he now owns and filed on a quarter of section 4, township of Bygland, during that month. In 1875 grasshoppers visited that part of the state, destroying vegetation.

Mr. Olson has been successful in his farm operations and is now the owner of two hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, a part of which is covered with a good growth of timber. He has been active in public affairs, and has served on the board of supervisors, and has also been a delegate to county conventions. In politics he is a Republican. He has given most of his attention to wheat growing, but is now turning a share of his labor to diversified farming.

Mr. Olson was married in 1873 to Miss Guro Knudson. She died November 17, 1888. The present Mrs. Olson became his wife September 13, 1900.

#### CLYDE WARD.

Clyde Ward, a prominent and successful business man of Pelican Rapids, Minnesota, is known throughout Ottertail county, and surrounding region as one of the most thorough-going real estate and land dealers in northern Minnesota.

Mr. Ward was born in Illinois, July 5, 1869. His parents were Francis L. and Anna (Stone) Ward, the former born in Illinois, and the latter a native of Iowa. Our subject was born in the village of Hampton, on the banks of the Mississippi river, and with his parents removed to Iowa, where they lived on a farm for twenty-five years. He attended the common schools and graduated from Iowa College in 1892. He then accepted a position with the Plano Manufacturing Company as traveling collector. He remained with them four years and then worked two years for the Deering Harvester Company. He went to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, in 1896, where he resided for four years and in 1900 opened up a real estate business in Pelican Rapids. He handles village and city property as well as farm and wild lands. He also does an insurance and collecting business. He owns an interest in four hundred acres of wild land also has a residence in the village of Pelican Rapids valued at one thousand dollars. He runs two teams in connection with his land business, and has made it a financial success.

Mr. Ward was married in 1900 to Miss Wilcox, a native of Iowa, born December 16, 1875. Mr. Ward is a Republican. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias, and also the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. and Mrs. Ward are members of the Congregational church.

#### ALEX. PATNODE.

Alex. Patnode, a leading farmer and enterprising business man of Red Lake county, resides on section 20, Gervais township, where he owns a pleasant home.

Mr. Patnode was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, November 25, 1858. He was the fifth in a family of fourteen children born to Joseph and Margaret (LaPonce) Patnode. The parents reside near our subject, and of the family of fourteen children eight are now living. When an infant our subject was taken to Clinton county, New York, where he grew to manhood. In 1881 the family went to Massachusetts, where our subject worked in the cotton mills one year. In the winter of 1881-2 the father went to Red Lake county, Minnesota, where our subject joined him in May and took up land in section 22, Gervais township. He farmed with his father and in 1888 purchased the land which he now owns. He has been successful, and is regarded as one of the leading farmers of the county.

Mr. Patnode was married in 1888 to Miss Maggie Allard, daughter of Moses and Modeste (Patnode) Allard. Her father is one of the oldest pioneers of Gervais township. Her mother is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Patnode are the parents of four children, namely; Louis M., Lydia, William and Blanche. Mr. Patnode is a Democrat and a member of the Roman Catholic church. He has been prominent in local affairs, and served five years as township clerk. He and his father were active in the organization and naming of the township. He has acted as school clerk and takes an interest in educational matters.

#### PETER M. PETERSON.

Peter M. Peterson, one of the thrifty and public-spirited business men of Stanchfield, Isanti county, Minnesota, whose name is intimately associated with the founding of that town, was born in Orsa, Sweden, in 1861, and is the only child of his parents who has lived to attain maturity. His father was a laborer who came to the United States in 1866. His name was M. A. Peterson, and he has kept himself upright and honest all through a long and varied career. On arriving in this country the family came directly west, and Mr. Peterson took up a homestead on section 22, Stanchfield township, Isanti county.

At the time of his arrival here there were only two or three families in this part of the county, and the nearest neighbors far away. The family lived in a log house of two rooms. Anoka was the point of supply, and the journey when made by oxen required considerable time. Nights would be spent in camping out on the road. Young Peter enjoyed this life, although he could secure but a limited education out of the poor schools of the time. The first school which he attended was held in a barn that was recently built. His father had poor health, and was crippled, so he could do but little, that being mainly light carpenter work, and much of the drudgery and labor of the farm early fell on the shoulders of young Peter M. Father and son were much together, and all their work was in partnership as long as the father lived. He died in August, 1891.

When he was twelve years old Peter M. Peterson spent a winter in the woods, and was married to Miss Anna Troolin in 1880. She was born in the same Swedish town as her husband, and is the mother of the following children, all of whom were born on the Isanti county farm: Levi, Andrew, Victor, Freddy, Erwin, Annie, Francis, Clair and Peter. The farm on which this family was born and is being reared consists of one hundred and twenty acres, of which about eighty acres are under active cultivation, and the remainder in pasture and meadow. There are good farm buildings, and all the needed farm machinery for its successful cultivation.

In 1887 Mr. Peterson and his father started a small store on their farm, which they conducted until 1899. The elder Peterson was appointed postmaster in 1877 and held the office until his death in 1891. In 1899 the postoffice was moved to its present location, and after the death of M. A. Peterson, Peter M. Peterson was appointed postmaster and he has held the office since and is the present incumbent.

Peter M. Peterson was in a sawmill from 1878 to 1883 in which he had a partnership interest. In 1899 he put up a store building 24x66, two stories high, in Stanchfield, in which he installed a general stock of merchandise, and farm machinery. He has won a good patronage, and is a success as a merchant.

Mr. Peterson is a Democrat, and was county commissioner from 1892 to 1896. For two years he was assessor, and has taken an active part in town and county affairs for years. He was the first to start the town of Stanchfield, and was the first to put up a building in it. In the inauguration of the starch factory he was very active, and was elected president of the same and may justly be called "the father of the town." The establishment of the Northeastern Telephone Company in Stanchfield and Cambridge was largely due to his efforts. This company was organized

in 1897, and he is its vice-president and one of its principal stockholders. A portrait of Mr. Peterson will be found on another page of this volume.

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#### ANDREW A. WASSEN.

Andrew A. Wassen, one of the pioneer settlers of Red Lake county, Minnesota, has a pleasant home on section 18, in Rocksbury township. He is one of the well-known men of his community and by his persistent labor and honest principles has gained for himself a valuable property and the esteem of his fellowmen.

Mr. Wassen was born north of Christiania at Rans Fiord, Norway, June 17, 1857. He was the oldest of a family of six children born to Andrew S. and Bertha (Hanson) Wassen. The parents are now living in Vernon county, Wisconsin, where they settled in 1867, upon emigrating to this country. The family had no means and our subject went to work at the age of eighteen years, after spending four winters in school. He went to Minnesota in 1881, and made entry claim to his land May 10 of that year. He hired some breaking done and then went to Ada, Minnesota, where he worked for some months. His wife joined him there the same spring and in the fall of the year they established themselves in a little log cabin on their farm, part of their present comfortable home. Sickness came upon him in the spring, but he finally tided over his losses and purchased an ox team and began the development of his farm. He has by his persistent industry and good management added to his original homestead claim and is now the possessor of two hundred and thirty-three acres of well improved land.

Mr. Wassen was married in 1877 to Miss Gura Johnson. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wassen, namely: Albert, deceased; Edward, deceased; Bertha, Alma, Mary, and Edward, deceased. Mr. Wassen assisted in the organization of his township, and served as a member of the board for three years, two years of which he was chairman. He is interested in educational matters in his district. Politically he is a Populist.

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#### CHARLES NOOTNAGLE, M. D.

Charles Nootnagle, M. D., is a practicing physician and owner of a fine farm of two hundred acres lying in sections 3 and 4, Brandon township, and is one of the most widely known and highly respected citizens of Douglas county, Minnesota. He is now living practically in retirement, though his skill is frequently demanded by his old patients. The farm is conducted by his son-in-law, Augustus Kappahn.

Dr. Nootnagle was born in Braunschweig,

Germany, March 15, 1829. His father, Fritz Nootnagle, was head forester on a German estate. His mother was Dorothea (Leo) Nootnagle. Both parents died in Germany, never having visited America. They were the parents of three children, Maria, who resided with her parents until her death, our subject, the only son, and Julia, still living in Germany.

Dr. Nootnagle was given a good education in his native land, finishing his studies at the college of Gutenberg. He then entered the German army and served three years, taking part in the war between Denmark and Holstein, from 1849 to '51 inclusive, and was promoted to a second lieutenant. He came to America with his wife in 1859, and located in Calumet county, Wisconsin. He purchased a forty-acre tract of land and followed farming for a time. He took up the practice of medicine in 1861, for which he had fitted himself in Germany, and has continued his practice for the past forty years with remarkable success. Notwithstanding his age he is a gentleman of fine appearance and well preserved. He has for the past few years endeavored to retire from practice and to enjoy his declining days among his grandchildren.

Dr. Nootnagle was married in Germany to Dorothea Wegener, his present life partner. They are the parents of four children, all living. Fred, proprietor of the Brandon House in Douglas county; Herman, a business man of Alexandria, and manager of the brewery plant formerly owned by Rudolph Wegener; Margareta, wife of Augustus Kappahn, manager of the home farm. She is the mother of six children. Charles, a leading physician in Minneapolis, Minnesota. In politics Dr. Nootnagle is a Republican.

#### HENRY F. ELFRINK.

Henry F. Elfrink, a well-to-do farmer of Marshall county, Minnesota, resides on his farm in Middle River township. He is one of the pioneers of the region and has done much toward its development.

Mr. Elfrink was born in Lake county, Illinois, April 12, 1851. He was the eldest of a family of seven children born to Gerhard and Caroline (Roper) Elfrink, the former a native of Prussia, and the latter born in Hanover, Germany. They emigrated to the United States and were married in Illinois, where the father farmed for many years. Our subject was reared on the farm and attended the public schools. On reaching his majority he went to Rice county, Minnesota, and worked on a farm and clerked in a store. He developed a farm in Rice county, but during the hard times in that section lost it. He loaded his stock and implements and started for Crookston, reaching that point with three

dollars and sixty cents. He remained in the vicinity of Crookston for two years and in the fall of 1881 filed a claim to the homestead where he now resides, and to which he removed his family in the fall of 1883. They lived in a shanty 12x16 feet and were almost alone in the wilderness. He was instrumental in the organization of the school district and the civil township and was township clerk for the first nine years. He has been very active in the development of all local interests and is well known throughout the county. He is a Republican, and is influential in his township.

Mr. Elfrink was married, in 1876, to Miss Thereby Reid. Mrs. Elfrink is a native of Indiana. Of this marriage the following children have been born: Henrietta A., now Mrs. K. Hanson; Horace, deceased; Esther; Georgie; Amanda; Carrie and Charles.

#### ADOLPH F. JOHNSON.

Among the truly self-made men of Kittson county may be noted Adolph F. Johnson. He went to that locality without means and is one of the present substantial farmers, and enjoys a good income from his well tilled farm. He has not only gained a good competence for himself, but has aided others in emigrating to the newly settled region, and his thorough appreciation of the opportunities afforded for honest industry to gain a footing has placed him among the foremost men of his calling. He has ever held out the hand of good fellowship and cheer to the stranger in his home, and with brotherly kindness and hospitality has enlarged his own life and made others appreciate his trustworthiness. He is one of the prominent men of Skane township, and resides in section 6, where he conducts a farm of six hundred and forty acres. A portrait of Mr. Johnson appears on another page of this work.

Our subject was born in Sweden, June 14, 1842, and was a son of Johannes and Anne M. (Johnson) Anderson. He came to America in 1867, and upon his arrival located in Goodhue county, Minnesota. He took up his residence in Kittson county in 1888, and purchased land and also filed claim to land as a tree claim, his present farm. He was in debt when he came to America, and this paid he then began to earn his home farm. He has had no assistance financially, and has prospered to a marked degree in his labors in Skane township. He has accumulated a fine property and comfortable home and has aided relatives in coming to the New World in quest of a fortune and liberty. He has erected a substantial and commodious residence on his home farm, and every comfort for his family has been provided. The finish of the house is mod-

ern in every particular and the furnishings are tasteful and evidence culture.

Our subject was married in 1875 to Miss Anna M. Miller, a native of Illinois, of German descent. Eleven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, of whom the following is a record: Hilma J., deceased; Reuben A., now residing at home; Esther A.; Adda D. and Edna E., twins, both deceased; Irvey C., deceased; Mabel G.; Victor E.; Vida E.; Ralph E. A.; and Ferdy L. Mr. Johnson is active in all affairs of a public nature and has aided materially in the upbuilding of his township. He is at present a member of the township board, and in serving as such contributes to the welfare of his fellowmen and is deservedly esteemed by all. He is a consistent member of the Swedish Lutheran church.

#### ANDREW S. DALEN.

Andrew S. Dalen, residing on section 10, in Georgetown township, is the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land and cultivates about a section. His extensive farming operations have resulted satisfactorily and he is among the substantial agriculturists of Clay county.

Mr. Dalen was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, in December, 1856, and was the third in a family of nine children born to Sever A. and Susan (Brekke) Dalen. The father died in Clay county, Minnesota, in 1886, and the mother survives and makes her home on the farm purchased by the father in the early days on the Red river. When our subject was but one year of age the family settled in Goodhue county, Minnesota, and as that country was then new he was reared to the life of a pioneer. In 1878 he and his brother Nels, now deceased, drove overland to the valley, arriving in Moorhead in June. They pushed north down the valley, viewing both banks for a distance of forty miles. The brother purchased land on section 6 and our subject homesteaded the land in section 10 which he now occupies. The brothers made permanent settlement in the fall of that year, our subject erecting a log house. They secured oxen and worked together as much as possible, living as bachelors for three years. Our subject's little log house was the first abode on the prairie. By 1889 he was the owner of a section of land and had erected a fine barn and frame residence on his farm and was fairly on the way to a fortune, when through his kindness of heart he was led to sign notes for others, and as a natural consequence his finances were greatly reduced. He has gone steadily onward, however, and despite these losses and failure of crops in recent years he has built up a good home and has been much more fortunate, through his industry and good management, than others of his neighbors who

have not been able to meet the reverses and losses which came to them. He had but one hundred and fifty dollars when he located in Clay county, and he is now classed among the substantial farmers of that locality.

Mr. Dalen was married in 1881 to Miss Bertha Olson. Mrs. Dalen died in 1890. Mr. Dalen was married to Miss Mary Olson in 1891. To this union four children have been born, namely: Selma O., Oscar E., Arthur M. and Stella G. Mr. Dalen is actively interested in local public affairs and has served for many years as chairman of the township board. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. In political faith he is a Republican.

#### CHARLES J. GULLEKSON.

Charles J. Gullekson is a native of Iowa and was born in Alamakee county of that state, February 14, 1856. His parents were natives of Norway and followed agriculture. Our subject's father prospered in Iowa and built up a nice home, but suffered severe reverses during the period of drought and chintz bugs. In 1879 our subject took up his residence in Polk county, Minnesota, and through his energy and business ability has accumulated a valuable property and is one of the leading men of Reis township.

Mr. Gullekson was accompanied by John G. Johnson (now his father-in-law). They made the trip overland by prairie schooner, a distance of five hundred miles, arriving at Crookston in the spring of 1879, and both took government land in Reis township, and were the first settlers on the north side of the river within the boundaries of that precinct. On his arrival our subject found himself the possessor of personal property comprising a wagon, two colts and three old paper dollars. His debts aggregated fifty-five dollars. Mr. E. O. Dahl loaned him two and a half dollars, with which to file his pre-emption claim, and two dollars with which to buy corn. As ready money was required to put in a crop, Mr. Gullekson went to work for the Great Northern Railroad upon its extension west from Fisher. He worked there several months, getting four dollars per day for himself and team. He did his first farm work by breaking up his land with his colts, but later traded one colt for two steers, and with these and the other colt for a team he continued the development of his farm. He has met with fair success and is held as among the most substantial and prosperous farmers of northern Minnesota.

Mr. Gullekson was married in December, 1879, to Miss Bertha Johnson, of Reis township. They are the parents of an interesting family of children: Charles Ellsworth, Amy Geneva, Ruth Winnifred, Roy Marvin, Ilet Ransom.



Miss Amy is in the Grand Forks school, where she is completing her literary and musical education. Charles, the eldest son, has been given a good business education in a commercial school.

Mr. Gullekson is a member of the Methodist church. He assisted in the organization of Reis township and has served as justice of the peace and member of the town board, which latter office he still holds. He has been active in political affairs, being a Populist of prominence, and has served as treasurer of the county central committee in the campaigns. He is held in the highest esteem by all citizens, regardless of party connections.

### JULIUS HEIER.

The prairie lands of Norman county as they appeared some twenty years ago seemed little fit for habitation, but the present thriving condition of the region has been accomplished by hard work and good judgment. Among the best farms of Rockwell township, that owned and occupied by Julius Heier deserves special mention. Mr. Heier is an early settler of that locality and has given his undivided attention to the high cultivation and improvement of his farm, and is now the possessor of four hundred acres of valuable land, his residence being located in section 1. He went to the new country in a covered wagon, when the land was wild prairie and has gained his fortune by earnest and honest work, and is deservedly held in high esteem by those among whom he has chosen his home.

Our subject was born on a farm in the southeastern part of Norway, September 27, 1851. His father, Christian J. Heier, was a native of Norway, and came to America in 1871. He was a farmer and blacksmith in his native land and since taking up his residence in this country has followed his trade and also is now engaged in farming in Wisconsin. The family joined him in America in 1875, with the exception of our subject, who had preceded them some two years.

Our subject was educated in his native land and since he was eleven years of age has earned his own way. He worked with his father at St. Paul in a brick yard and later a lumber yard soon after coming to America in 1873, and spent two years in that city, and then went to Olmstead county, where he remained two years. He next located in Rice county and worked one year and then followed farming for himself there three years. He went to Clay county in 1879 and entered claim to land there, which proved too wet for cultivation, and after losing three successive crops he went to Norman county in 1882. He purchased a tract of land and built a log house and log barn and began farming with oxen. Success attended him from the start and he added

to his acreage from time to time and is now in possession of a tract of four hundred acres, of which he has about three hundred acres under cultivation and engages principally in grain raising. His home farm is well supplied with buildings of a substantial nature and he has all machinery for the economical conduct of the farm and altogether has one of the best improved and equipped farms of his township.

Our subject was married in Rice county, Minnesota, in 1877, to Miss Moletta Grimsrud, a native of Norway. Mrs. Heier came to America with her mother in 1868. Her father, John Grimsrud, was a farmer in Norway and passed his life in his native land. Mr. and Mrs. Heier are the parents of seven children, who are named as follows: Christian J., Carrie, Albert, Julia, Selma, John and Mabel. Mr. Heier is prominent in public affairs of his township and county and has served as a member of the township board of supervisors three years. He was appointed county commissioner in 1891 and was elected to that office in 1892 and served one term. He and family are members of the Lutheran church and Mr. Heier has served as trustee and secretary of that denomination. He is a Populist politically, and has served on the county central committee of his party, and is actively interested in reform. A portrait of Mr. Heier will be found on another page.

### DANIEL H. HOCKLEY.

Daniel H. Hockley, one of the thrifty and energetic citizens of Skree township, Clay county, and a very successful farmer, was born in England, and is the son of John and Maria Hockley. He is the sixth member of a family of ten children born to them, and was reared and educated in England.

Mr. Hockley came to the United States in 1883, landing in New York City, and making his way at once to Glyndon, Minnesota, and took a pre-emption claim near Muskado, Clay county. He began farming and has made very commendable progress, so that he is known as a successful and representative farmer of the county.

Mr. Hockley sold out his pre-emption claim in 1886 and came to his present location, in section 4, Skree township. Here his first crop was a few acres of wheat, which yielded but six and a half bushels to the acre. He was not discouraged, however, but kept at work, and presently things began to come his way. At the present time he owns a farm of two hundred and eighty acres, of which about one hundred and seventy-five are under cultivation. His principal crops are wheat, flax and oats.

In 1896 Mr. Hockley had a yield of wheat at the rate of twenty-four and a half bushels to the acre.

Mr. Hockley has good farm buildings, and his place is in fine condition. He has eleven horses, including a fine driving team, and all the machinery the place requires for its successful operation.

In politics he is a Democrat, and takes an intelligent interest in local affairs. In 1891 he started in the sheep business and kept at it until he reached two hundred and fifty head, but owing to the ravages of dogs was compelled to sell them off.

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### JAMES A. WALLACE.

To the public officials of the county the people look for faithful discharge of duty and an active public spirit manifested under all circumstances, and in the present sheriff of Carlton county they have not met with disappointment. The subject of this review is now serving his second term in that capacity and he enjoys the confidence of all who know him as a result of his fidelity to the duties committed to him. He is an old soldier of the Civil war, and is a pioneer of Carlton county and has aided materially in its development and advancement in social and financial circles.

Mr. Wallace was born in Newburgh, Orange county, New York, in 1839. His father, Robert Wallace, was of Scotch-Irish descent, and was a native of Ireland. He came to America at the age of seventeen years and settled in the state of New York, where he followed the blacksmith's trade. The mother of our subject, Esther (Fleming) Wallace, was born in the state of New York and was of Irish ancestry. Her people were of the aristocracy of Ireland and were wealthy.

James Wallace was the eldest of a family of four children and was reared in the city of Newburgh. He attended the common schools and worked with his father at the blacksmith's trade four years and after learning the trade applied himself to carpentering. He mastered this trade also and followed the same thirty years. At the age of eighteen years he left home and started for himself at carpentering in Pennsylvania. In the spring of 1878 he located in Minnesota and many buildings in the different towns of Carlton county are the result of his handiwork. He later went to North Dakota and followed his trade at Fargo and Moorhead, and assisted in the erection of the first elevator in the last named town. In the fall he returned to Carlton and built many of the buildings of that city. In

the spring of 1881 he located in Cloquet and operated a mercantile establishment in that town until 1888, meeting with good success. He then moved to Thomson, Minnesota, and was postmaster of that office. In 1898 he was elected sheriff of Carlton county and removed to the town of Carlton, and in 1900 was re-elected.

Mr. Wallace was married in 1881 to Miss Isabelle Crawford. Mrs. Wallace was born in the north of Ireland, and came to America in 1879, and made her home with her sister in Carlton, Minnesota. Her father was first surveyor under Lord Belmont and he was also tax collector. He followed the occupation of farming also and at his death left considerable property. He visited America but spent his life in his native land. Mr. and Mrs. Wallace are the parents of two daughters, twins, Esther E. and Margaret L., born in 1883. They are now attending the high school in Carlton and are interesting and intelligent young ladies.

Mr. Wallace enlisted in Pennsylvania, February 10, 1862, in Company F, Fourteenth U. S. Infantry, and served three years. He enlisted as a private and received his honorable discharge after three years of active service with the rank of sergeant. His first engagement was at Bull Run, August 30, 1862, after which came the following: Antietam, Shepherdstown, Kearneysville, Leetown, Snicker's Gap, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg (three days), Mine Run, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Terico Ford, Hanover Court House, Petersburg, Weldon Railroad, Poplar Grove Church, Hatch's Creek and at Lee's surrender. He is a member of the G. A. R., Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Masonic fraternity. He has always been active in public affairs, and while residing in Cloquet served seven years as justice of the peace and six years as a member of the school board. He also served as justice of the peace and a member of the school board at Thomson and was twice village treasurer. He is a strict Republican politically and has attended county and state conventions of his party as a delegate and served on the Republican county central committee.

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### OLE G. MIDGAARDEN.

Ole G. Midgaarden, an enterprising and prosperous farmer of Moland township, resides on his farm in section 34, and is numbered among the first settlers of Clay county, Minnesota.

Mr. Midgaarden was born in Norway, September 2, 1849. He was the fourth child in a family of ten children born to Gunder T. and

Thorborg (Spockle) Midgaarden. In his seventeenth year our subject came to America and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota. In 1870 he accompanied a party, of which Ole Gunderson Thortvedt was a member, in an expedition to the Buffalo river valley, and in July of that year filed a claim to land in section 28, which he sold to Terry A. Gröver, mention of whom will be found elsewhere in this volume, and in 1874 our subject returned to Norway. He remained in his native land five years. Seven years after his departure from Buffalo valley he returned, in 1880, to find that a most marvelous change had taken place. Where land could be had for the asking a few years before he now found himself compelled to rent a farm. The country had been developed from a state of nature to that of an agricultural region unequalled by anything he had ever seen. Where he had once been able to take his pick of the valuable farm lands he now found it impossible to secure even a small tract with the means at his command, and it was not until 1891 that he was able to purchase the farm which he now occupies in section 34.

Our subject was married in 1882 to Miss Joraand O. Thortvedt, daughter of Ole G. and Thona (Saangdal) Thortvedt. To this union a family of three children have been born, namely: Thorborg Gundelia, Thekla O. and Godfred O. Our subject has been a man of public spirit and is well known throughout the county. He has always taken an interest in educational and church work, and has always been ready to respond to the demands of the community in any way in which he could serve. He was the first treasurer of Moland township.

#### WILHELM HAEBERLE.

Wilhelm Haeberle has by thrift and industry accumulated a very handsome property in a strange land, where he has displayed the manly qualities and substantial worth of his race and blood. He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, December 25, 1854, and was next to the youngest in a family of five children born to Melchior and Fredrica (Gessman) Haeberle. To-day he owns a fine farm in section 26, Elkton township, Clay county, Minnesota. A portrait of Mr. Haeberle appears on another page.

Wilhelm Haeberle and a brother are the only representatives of his family in the United States. In 1882, tired of working by the month for the pitiable wages his work commanded in Germany, and anxious to take advantage of the free farms still to be secured in the United States, Mr. Haeberle left Germany and came to the American shore. For about a year he was employed in Long Island and in the following July made

his way into Minnesota. Within a month he made his location as a homesteader on section 26, where he is found to-day, but it was not until 1886, that he was in a financial condition to settle down on his land and begin its cultivation free from the burden of debt.

Mr. Haeberle may be regarded as a striking illustration of a self-made man in every sense of the word. Thrown upon his own resources early in life, he has been compelled to make his own way in the world without a helping hand, and what he has and is comes from his own industry and character. He is a member of the German Lutheran church. In politics he is a Republican, and in agriculture a strong advocate of a diversified system of farming. Never is he willing to commit the folly of "putting all his eggs in one basket."

Mr. Haeberle was married in 1887, to Miss Mary Beck, who died in 1893, leaving two children, Henry and William. A second marriage was contracted by Mr. Haeberle in 1894, when he became the husband of Miss Christiana Weber. To this union have come Mary, Fred and Christiana Haeberle. Mr. Haeberle and his good wife belong to the better elements of the community and are highly esteemed by all who know their many good qualities.

#### STEPHEN E. TALLMAN.

Stephen E. Tallman was born on a farm in Erie county, Pennsylvania, in 1839, and comes of a family long identified with the industries of that state. His maternal grandmother was of German blood, but in the main the Tallmans have kept to the pure American strain since the settlement of their ancestors in this country some generations ago.

Mr. Tallman is the oldest of a family of seven children, and spent his later boyhood and youth in Minnesota, whither his family removed in 1850 to make a home in Washington county. There young Stephen attended for several winters a school in a log cabin, and at sixteen struck out for himself as an apprentice to the carriage-making trade in Hudson, Wisconsin. Returning to farming, he spent some two years in the cultivation of the soil, and in 1862 enlisted in the Union army, becoming a member of Company C, Seventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. This regiment assisted in quelling the Indian outbreak, and Company C was detailed to the hanging of the twenty-eight Indians at Mankato. In 1863 the Seventh Minnesota was a part of the forces with which General Sibley swept through Dakota to the Missouri river, compelling the submission of the hostile red men and bringing peace to the frontiers. Company C was left

in camp at Lake Jesse, Dakota, and three days after the main body of troops had moved on toward the Mississippi river orders came back for Company C to proceed to Devil's Lake. On the way there they overtook and captured the son of Little Crow. The regiment was encamped some time at Fort Snelling and in the fall of 1863 was ordered south to St. Louis, and in the spring of 1864 to Paducah, and later to Memphis. In the battle at Tupelo, Mississippi, Mr. Tallman was so badly wounded that he was sent to the hospital, where his injuries were found to be of such a character that he was detained in the hospital until May, 1865, and after Lee's surrender was mustered out at Memphis, Tennessee.

Returning to Minnesota, Mr. Tallman worked at carriage-making at Marine Mills, and in 1868 brought his wife and three children to Kanabec county, where he became engaged in business and where his home has been to the present time.

Mr. Tallman was married in 1862 to Miss Amanda Lawton, a native of Cattaraugus county, New York, where her parents had long been established, and her forefathers were of good old American stock. She came to Minnesota with her parents in 1857, and is one of a family of three children. Mr. Tallman and wife became the parents of eleven children: H. S., who has been deputy United States marshal for fourteen years; May E., who is dead, taught her first school in Mora, Kanabec county; Sylvester E. and Sylvia, twins; Helen; Alvie; Amanda; Grace; Elsie; and Willard, the first born, died in 1876.

Mr. Tallman settled at Brunswick, Kanabec county, in 1868, at a time when only three other families were in a wide neighborhood. Forming a partnership, he early engaged in lumbering under the firm name of Tallman & Company, and did building all over the county. In 1871 he built a sawmill where the first lumber produced in the county was sawed. Mr. Tallman was continuously engaged in lumbering up to 1885. In 1879 he built a flour mill at Brunswick, which was the first in this part of the state, and which he operated until 1896, when he closed it, as the local production of wheat was mostly diverted toward Mora and the railroad, and he was not prepared to undertake milling on a large scale.

Mr. Tallman was elected county auditor in 1878 and served six years, being among the earliest county officials. In 1881 he was elected clerk of the county court, a position he held four years, and was the first in the county to fill that position. In 1881 as clerk he drew up the bill for the organization of the county, which passed the legislature at its spring session in 1881. In 1882 he was elected register

of deeds, a position he held for four years. In the spring of 1886 he opened a sawmill at Mora, the first in the place, and the following year came back to Brunswick to continue his farming and the operation of the flour mill. Mr. Tallman established the Mora Times in 1881. The paper was printed at Rush City for a time and mailed to subscribers from Brunswick. In 1884 the office was moved to Mora, the name changed to the Kanabec County Times, and R. W. Safford taken in as a partner, who later became the sole proprietor of the paper.

Mr. Tallman has a good farm of eighty acres at Brunswick, where he is making good progress, and has become quite fore-handed. He is the oldest pioneer in the county, having been here continuously since 1868, and has done his full share of building and developing this part of the state. His position is that of a leading citizen of Kanabec county, and much credit is due him for his industrious and useful life. In his politics he was a Republican up to 1884, but since that time has been identified with the Prohibition party.

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#### ST. ANTHONY CHURCH.

St. Anthony church, the only house of worship in the village of Terrebonne, Minnesota, harbors about one hundred and fifty families, and is presided over by Rev. Father W. T. Roy. Rev. Roy's labors in that community have extended over some ten years and in this time has greatly increased the membership and has done very efficient work, and he now has many earnest and devoted followers.

St. Anthony church was established in 1880 by Rev. Father Champagne, a traveling missionary. He erected a modest small frame chapel 14x20 feet, which accommodated a congregation of about twenty-five families. The first resident priest was Rev. J. T. Dugal, who took up the work in 1883 and remained there one year. He was succeeded by T. A. Vandry, who also remained one year. From 1885 to 1887 the church was attended from Red Lake Falls. Father E. Theillon presided one year, during which time the little chapel was enlarged and more completely furnished. Father L. Feige labored there three years and in March, 1892, the present pastor took charge. Rev. Roy took great interest in the upbuilding of the church and worked energetically, although times were most depressing. The early chapel was a crude affair, into which the snow drifted in winter and which furnished little shelter from the summer rains. During four years of earnest work Rev. Roy planned the erection of a new edifice. In 1896 a building 37x92 feet was begun, which is still unfinished.

The pews, organ and altar are of modest finish, design and furnishings, and altogether the church is one of the most substantial of the county. The building is soon to be enlarged to meet the demands of the growing congregation, and the entire structure will then be handsomely decorated on the interior. The church is now practically free of debt, and under Rev. Roy's guidance is accomplishing much good work in the vicinity of Terrebonne.

Rev. Father W. T. Roy was born in Quebec, Canada, in 1842. He studied in the seminary of Quebec when he was eleven years of age, and later graduated from the University of Laval. He was ordained in 1867, and was parish priest in Quebec for five years. In 1872 he was called to the missions of Lake Superior, in upper Michigan, and this was his first visit to the States. He remained there until 1878, when he went to Minnesota and worked as a missionary, a few years in a place, until he was given his present charge. Since taking up the work in Terrebonne he has ever been awake to the interests of his congregation and the welfare of the church and his earnest labors have brought rich reward.

NOTE. Since the above was written Father Roy has been transferred to the charge of Lambert, twelve miles from Terrebonne. He was succeeded at Terrebonne by Rev. Father B. Puios, who made his classical course in Canada and came here from the diocese of Montreal.—  
EDITOR.

### JOHN DANIELSSON.

John Danielsson, one of the prosperous and highly esteemed farmers of Clay county, Minnesota, has a comfortable home in Moland township.

Mr. Danielsson was born in Kronsbergs Lan, Sweden, August 2, 1838. He left his native land with his wife in 1871, and they resided for a short time in southern Minnesota. He then secured a pony and an old buggy, and the few belongings of himself and wife were placed in this vehicle, and the wife riding and himself trudging along on foot they began the journey to Clay county. They neither understood or could speak English and their experiences on this journey were laughable as well as pathetic. They arrived at Glyndon in the summer time and our subject secured employment on the reception building, which the railroad company was erecting at that place for the accommodation of emigrants. By this work our subject provided for the winter and he also purchased a cow. He secured land on section 17, of Moland township, on which he built a sod house. After a season's patient labor he bought a yoke of oxen, and with these began the improvement of his farm. The result may now be seen in his broad, well-culti-

vated fields and comfortable surroundings. He is now the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of valuable land, and has gained his possessions by his own industry.

Mr. Danielsson was married in 1864 to Miss Johannah Peterson. To this union five children have been born, namely: Annie, Amelia, Oscar, Godfred and Emma. Oscar and Godfred are twins. Mr. Danielsson is a Republican and stands staunchly for the principles of that organization.

### PAUL I. WRANGELBORG.

Paul I. Wrangelborg, the present efficient mayor of the village of Evansville, Douglas county, Minnesota, and one of the most prominent business men of the place, has resided here for twelve years, since which time he has been associated with the best interests of his adopted town.

Mr. Wrangelborg was born in Sweden, November 25, 1848. His father, Isadore Wrangelborg, was an officer in the Swedish army. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Bertha Vrongel. The parents were natives of Sweden and passed their lives there. Our subject obtained his education in Sweden and learned the trade of machinist there, which occupation he followed there until he came to America in 1879. He worked in the factories of his native land as journeyman for a number of years and then became engineer on the coast steamers. He frequently thus came in contact with English speaking people and had acquired a fair knowledge of the language before he emigrated to this country. He had seen pictures of the falls of Niagara in his youth, and, as all the water falls he had seen in his own land were associated with factories, mills and machinery, he naturally thought he would find the same conditions when he reached America. He therefore secured a ticket direct from Stockholm to Niagara. Stopping at Buffalo en route he learned the conditions were somewhat different from his expectations and he deferred his trip to the falls until later. He found employment in the boiler shops at Buffalo and remained there one year. He then went to Red Wing, Minnesota, in 1880, and he found work as a harvest hand at three dollars per day. He had no trouble in securing a place as engineer for a threshing engine, as he held a chief engineer's certificate. The following seven years he run an engine for the Holmes City Flour Mill, in Douglas county. After a trip through the southern states, lasting a year, he came, in 1889, to Evansville and opened a machine and blacksmith shop in the village and conducted the same with success, employing two and sometimes three men to assist in the business. He sold out in the spring of 1901, and has



since turned his attention to the sale of agricultural machinery. He occupies the largest store building in the town, and has it well stocked with all kinds of farm machinery, buggies, etc.

Mr. Wrangelborg was married in 1883 to Miss Carrie Larson, of Holmes City. Three children have been born to this union, namely: Frida, Alexander and Garfield. Mr. Wrangelborg is a staunch reformer politically and was a delegate to the convention held in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1896. He was also a delegate to the Sioux Falls convention in 1900. He has been a member of the village council almost from the time of his coming to Evansville, which office he holds at present, and for the past eight years he has been president of the village. He is also chief of the fire department. In fraternal affairs he is a member of the F. & A. M.

#### ANDREW HATLEDAL.

Andrew Hatledal, a thrifty and successful farmer in Flowing township, Clay county, was born on a farm near Bergen, Norway, in 1869, and was brought by his parents, who were farming people, to the United States in 1871. They settled in Swift county, Minnesota, where young Andrew was reared and educated, with little opportunity for schooling, but with much familiarity with hard farm work and the privations of frontier life. He remained with his father until he was seventeen years old, and was then employed as a section hand on the Northern Pacific near Little Falls, for a year and a half. He spent one winter at Willmar, and in 1888 came to Grand Forks, North Dakota, and spent the summer of that year working on a farm. The ensuing winter was spent at Moorhead, and in the spring of 1889 he went back to Little Falls, but again passed the winter at Moorhead. At Castleton, North Dakota, he worked the following summer on a farm, buying a farm in section 8, Flowing township, Clay county, the same year. In the spring of 1892 he secured a homestead in section 34, of the same township, and there he put up a shanty and made such other improvements as were immediately necessary. He rented land in section 30 of the same township. In 1896 he disposed of his homestead, and two years later disposed of his farm in section 8. The same year he bought his present home in section 30, of Flowing township, and here he has a fine and well developed farm of one hundred and sixty acres. His house is 16x24 feet, with twelve-foot posts, and an addition 14x16 feet. The barn is 26x32 feet, the granary, 18x24 feet, with twelve-foot posts. He has a good supply of farm machinery, and is in a prosperous condition. He deals principally in wheat and flax, and has made a decided success of farming, though

in the first three years of his career in Clay county he lost fifteen hundred dollars.

In 1900 Mr. Hatledal went to Minneapolis and Great Falls, Montana, and while there started a cattle ranch ninety miles south of Malta, in company with Charles Norquist. At the present time the ranch has fifty head of cattle and six horses. It is in the active charge of Mr. Norquist.

Mr. Hatledal is a Republican and has served on the board of supervisors, taking always an active and helpful interest in the affairs of the community in which he lives.

#### NELSE L. NELSON.

Nelse L. Nelson, one of the pioneer settlers of northern Minnesota, resides in Lee township, Norman county, where he is engaged in milling. He is an experienced man in this line of business and is a valuable employee.

Mr. Nelson was born in Norway January 28, 1850, and was a son of Lars and Auganita (Larson) Nelson, both of whom were natives of Norway. He came to America at the age of seventeen years, locating in Columbia county, Wisconsin. After working there on a farm for two years he removed to Swift county, Minnesota, where he worked on a farm and also on the railroad for two years, and then took up his residence in Norman county. He was engaged seven years with a party of government surveyors and is thoroughly familiar with that section of the country. He then went to Moorhead, where he continued his residence for twenty-one years. He worked in the flouring mill for Bruns & Finkle Milling Company at that place, and became well versed in that line of business. He has a valuable residence property in Moorhead, near the center of the town. He went to Lee township in Norman county in 1889, and is now engaged in the gristmill with John Johnson on section 13.

Mr. Nelson was married in 1880 to Nellie Hanland. Mrs. Nelson was born in Norway March 17, 1861. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Nelson, as follows: Edward, Oscar, Henry, Antwin and Lawrence. The family are members of the Lutheran church. They are well known in their community and universally respected and esteemed. Mr. Nelson is a Republican in political sentiment.

#### CHRISTIAN ANDREASEN.

Christian Andreason, one of the leading farmers of Teien township, who resides on section 10, of that township, and whose postoffice is at Teien, Minnesota, was born in Norway, September 17,



1856, a son of Andreas Anderson and his wife, Johanna Helwick Erickson. The parents were both born in Norway, and came to this country in 1888. They died in Red River township in the fall of 1900, within two days of each other.

Mr. Andreasen, whose name appears at the opening of this review, is the second oldest member of a family of seven children, all of whom are living. He was educated in Norway, and for six years was a sailor on the ocean from that country. In 1879 he came to this country and settled at Crookston, Minnesota, where he worked for one year. In 1880 he came to Kittson county, where he took a homestead in Teien township, on which he now resides. His landed estate consists of four hundred acres of finely improved farm land, on which he raises wheat, though he is becoming an extensive cattle dealer, having now some seventy head on hand. He came in with nothing and has achieved a remarkable success.

Mr. Andreasen was married in 1881 to Dina Sophia Hansen, who was born in Norway in 1857. She died in 1882, leaving one daughter, Dina L. S. Mr. Andreasen was married again in 1885 to Marie Hemingson, who was born in Goodhue county in 1865. To this marriage were born nine children: Oscar, Hilma, Andreas, Elizabeth, Hannah, Harry, Elmer, Christian and Julia Marie.

Mr. Andreasen is a Republican and belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church.

#### SAMUEL HALLAND.

Samuel Halland, the senior member of the firm of Halland & Askgaard, proprietors of the popular department store at Comstock, Minnesota, was born in Christianna Stift, Norway, December 17, 1859, and is the fifth member of a family of nine children born to Nils and Gunhild (Gjeben) Halland. In 1880 he came to this country and worked for a short time in lumbering in Chicago. For some two years he was employed in Minneapolis, and in the fall of 1882 made his appearance in Fargo, North Dakota, where he had secured a position with the Fargo Lumber Company, which he retained for four years. He was also employed for the same time by the Gall River Lumber Company. In 1890 he formed his present business relations and the firm was the first to open a business house in Comstock. Mr. Halland was in active charge of the enterprise, which has greatly prospered under his careful management. In January, 1901, the store house was destroyed by fire, but very shortly the business was resumed in a new and handsome edifice, 44x90 feet, two stories high, with two stores in front. The upper part is occupied as an opera house. In the two stores

is carried a stock of twenty thousand dollars, and the entire outfit is new, modern and thoroughly up-to-date.

Mr. Halland belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church and for six years past has been treasurer of the township. He is a self-made man and may well felicitate himself upon a very successful career.

Mr. Halland was married in 1886 to Miss Annie Gilbertson, and to this union have come six children, Edwin, Hazel, Nellie, Clifford, Dagnes and Lillian.

#### FRANK C. GIBBS.

Frank C. Gibbs, a well known and highly respected resident of Humbolt township, Clay county, was born in Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin, in 1849, where his father, George Gibbs, was a noted master mechanic, and a very successful contracting builder. The Gibbs ancestry runs back to Dutch origin, but the wife of George C. Gibbs came of a pure Yankee stock. They were early settlers in Wisconsin.

Frank C. Gibbs passed his youth at Sheboygan Falls, where he attained his manhood, and received his education. When he was eighteen he started out in life for himself, and devoting himself to lumbering in northern Wisconsin, soon developed marked aptitude for that business. For eleven years he had several camps in operation, and employed over eight hundred men. One winter he had nine camps at work at once, and in this line became very successful.

Mr. Gibbs was married at Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin, in 1871, to Miss Charlotte Tainter. She was born at Menominee, Wisconsin, and her father, Captain Andrew Tainter, was an extensive lumberman in Wisconsin. He was born in New England, and came of a Scotch ancestry. Her mother was of the same blood. She attended college in Monroe, Michigan, and at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. Before her marriage she taught music successfully in Wisconsin. Captain Tainter was a very prominent lumberman in the Northwest. He owned an interest in several sawmills on the Mississippi river, and was a partner in Knapp, Stout & Company. He also had large steamboat interests on the Mississippi, and died very wealthy.

Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs have four children: James, who is a veterinary surgeon; Ruth; Louise, who is attending school; and Louis. These children were all born in Wisconsin, and have all marked musical tastes and ability.

Mr. Gibbs moved to Minneapolis in 1896, and there did some contract work for the Sugar Beet Company. In 1898 he came to Barnesville, where he was engaged in the livery business two years, when he sold out, and in the spring of 1901

bought a handsome farm in Humbolt township, Clay county. A creek of good water traverses it, and makes it a valuable place for stock purposes. At the present time Mr. Gibbs has under operation about two hundred and twenty-five acres of land. It is provided with a handsome country residence, and ample farm buildings, and is about three-quarters of a mile from the city. Mr. Gibbs is actively associated with local interests in Barnesville, where he belongs to the Red Men, and is numbered among the influential Republicans of the town. Upon his farm he has very fine thoroughbred horses, and is very much awake to the value of the best stock in this country. A portrait of Mr. Gibbs and his family will be found on another page.

#### HON. HANS JUELSON.

Hon. Hans Juelson, one of the best known men of Norman county, Minnesota, resides on section 10, in Sundahl township. He is the owner of an extensive estate and is an energetic and thorough-going agriculturist and well merits the success which has attended his efforts.

Mr. Juelson was born in Norway February 22, 1837, and was a son of Juel and Mary (Oleson) Helgison, both of whom were natives of Norway. He left his native land in 1850, with his parents, and the family settled in Wisconsin. Our subject had attended school in his native land, and at the age of thirteen years he started for himself, earning his way at farm work. He resided in Wisconsin seven years and then went to Moore county, Minnesota, and later to Wabasha county. He went to Norman county in 1879 and took a homestead, and is now the fortunate possessor of two hundred and forty acres of good land, on which he has placed valuable improvements. He has plenty of farm machinery and all the conveniences and comforts of modern farming, and engages successfully in diversified farming.

Mr. Juelson was married in Wabasha county, Minnesota, to Jennie Nelson, a native of Iowa. Mrs. Juelson died in Ottertail county, Minnesota, in 1871. To this union three children were born, namely: Mary, Julia and Nelse. Mr. Juelson was married to Ellen Iverson in 1872. Mrs. Juelson was born in Norway, November, 1843. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Juelson, namely: Sam, Carl, John, Clara, Emma, Hannah and Nora. The family are members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Juelson is a Populist in political sentiment. He is an influential citizen, and in 1892 was elected as a member of the state legislature. He has held the office of county commissioner of Norman county for nine years, and has also served as a member of his township board. Mr. Juelson enlisted for the

Civil war August 16, 1862, and was a member of Company C, Tenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He served until August 22, 1865. He went on Sibley's expedition to the Missouri river after Indians, and in September, 1863, went to St. Louis. He was engaged in the battle of Tupelo for several hours, and then went to Memphis, Tennessee, and was in the battle of Nashville, and later in the battle of Mobile under General Thomas. He took a steamer at Vicksburg for St. Paul, landing at Fort Snelling in August, 1865, and after one week there he was mustered out of the service.

#### PETER A. GRANDE.

Peter A. Grande, a very successful farmer at Ulen, Clay county, was born in Houston county, Minnesota, January 25, 1867, and is a son of Andrew P. Grande, who was born in Norway, where his wife, Annie P. Quale, was also born.

Andrew P. Grande left Houston county in 1871, and located his family on a homestead in Cuba township, Becker county. He had a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and in 1879 moved to Norman county.

Peter A. Grande was educated in the public school and remained in Norman county until 1892. That year he went to Grand Forks, North Dakota, where he bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he made a home until 1897, when he sold out and coming to Ulen, started a harness shop, having constructed the building for that purpose himself. Here he carries a choice stock of about two thousand dollars in value and does a general repair business. His harness is hand made, and its quality and price attract attention.

Mr. Grande was married in 1897 to Helga Peterson, who was born in Sweden September 24, 1880. He belongs to Ulen Camp, No. 5078, Modern Woodmen of America, and for several years has been a member of the village council. In religion he is a member of the Lutheran church. All his life he has been acquainted with hard work, and as he was reared on the frontier, he has lived in a log house and has driven oxen many an hour.

#### CARL LEPPER.

Carl Lepper, whose well-kept country home is in section 9, Flowing township, Clay county, attests careful and business-like farming, was born in Hessen, Germany, in 1876. Philip Lepper, his father, was a miller by trade, lived in Germany, where his life was spent. He served in the German army during the wars of 1866 and of 1870.

Carl Lepper is the oldest member of a family

of three children, and was reared and educated in Germany. When he was sixteen years of age he left his native land, and seeking a home in the United States, came to this country by way of Quebec. At Blue Earth, Minnesota, he began at the mason trade, which he followed for a time, and then worked out among the farmers for four years. His industry and thrift were marked, and in 1898 he had accumulated sufficient means to allow him to purchase, in partnership with an uncle, the north half of section 9, in Flowing township, Clay county, which was at the time raw prairie. Mr. Lepper put up a house 14x22 feet, with eight-foot posts. This structure was burned down in the winter of 1900-1901, and in its place was erected a house 16x26 feet, with fourteen-foot posts. The horse barn is 16x26 feet, the cow barn is 14x40 feet, the granary is 16x26 feet, and the machine shed, 14x16 feet.

Mr. Lepper operates one hundred and seventy acres, and does both grain and stock farming. He has twenty-eight head of cattle and seven horses. In politics he is a Republican, and in religion a member of the Methodist church. He has made his own way in the world and deserves much credit for the very substantial results that have come to his hard work and thrift.

#### SAM RUSTAD.

Sam Rustad, the popular and able grain buyer and lumber agent at Kurtz postoffice, in Clay county, is an old settler in the valley, where he enjoys a most creditable reputation, alike for his pushing and energetic business habits, kindly disposition and personal integrity. He was born in Worth county, Iowa, July 14, 1854, and was the second child and oldest son born to Swan and Anna (Eliason) Rustad, both of whom were natives of Norway. Mr. Rustad was reared on his father's farm and given a very good education, including several terms of seminary work. In the spring of 1887 Sam Rustad arrived at Fargo, North Dakota, slightly in debt. He sold machinery in Fargo and became a teacher in Cass county, North Dakota, in the days when school houses were not common. His first term was taught in a farm house. In 1879 he went to Bismarck, and spent a year along the Missouri river when he returned, and spent another year in clerking for the firm of Rustad & Company, a well-known house in Cass county.

In 1883 Mr. Rustad opened a general store in Kindred, where he remained about a year and then removed to Leonard. A few years later a fire destroyed everything he had, and without a cent he started in the world again. The following year he bought a half section of land in Clay county, and about that time entered the employ of the Gull River Lumber Company, at

Hickson, North Dakota. In 1895 he became connected with the Minneapolis & Northern Elevator Company and was given charge of the elevator, of which he is now the manager. In 1897 he was put in charge of the lumber yard, which is now owned by William H. White, of Fargo. Mr. Rustad is a Republican and belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and has been town clerk for four years.

Mr. Rustad was married in 1882 to Miss Valborg Hanson, and to this union have come three children: Theresa, Harriet and Axel. At the present time this family resides at Kurtz Postoffice, Clay county.

#### MRS. LENA HANSON.

Mrs. Lena Hanson, proprietor of one of the best farms of Fossum township, is numbered among the pioneer settlers of Norman county. Mrs. Hanson controls an extensive estate and has proven her ability as a business woman, and stands high in the community in which she makes her home.

Our subject was born in Norway February 20, 1855, and was a daughter of Hans and Carrie (Larsdatter) Peterson, both of whom were natives of Norway. She was educated in her native land and was married June 3, 1872, in Baker county, Minnesota, to Andrew Hanson. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson went from Baker county to Norman county, where they settled on a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres. After a residence there of seven or eight years they disposed of their property and removed to section 23, Fossum township, Norman county, where Mrs. Hanson still resides. They purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land and thereon built a small house and a small log barn, and began pioneering. The property has improved through Mrs. Hanson's management, and she now has a comfortable home, and has about two hundred acres of her farm under plow, and the balance is devoted to grass land and pasture.

Mr. Hanson died in Fossum township, Norman county, on the home farm, August 18, 1898. He was born in Norway March 24, 1848. To Mr. and Mrs. Hanson nine children were born, four of whom are deceased. The five living children are named as follows: Henry J., Ida M., Annie O., George O. and Alma I.

#### CARL HICKS.

Carl Hicks, who is a man of natural ability in business and the affairs of the world and who belongs to one of the prominent families of Clay county, Minnesota, has become well known in

the Red river valley, where his life has been spent since his early boyhood. Born in Sweden March 13, 1861, he came to the United States when nine years of age, and stopping a year or more in southern Minnesota, came to Clay county in 1871, in company with his brother and sister. His father, the well-known Hoken Hicks, for whom the village of Hickson, North Dakota, is named, had taken a homestead in Clay county as early as 1869.

The Hicks family began their career in this county under conditions of great hardship, and for some years were quite poor. The earliest recollections of Carl Hicks are of working days, when he played a man's part to the best of his ability. When he was but eleven years of age he was employed on the construction of the Northern Pacific Railroad in Dakota, and on his father's farm he learned to drive oxen and hold the plow. He had but a most limited schooling, attending only six months, and his education was largely obtained at the plow, in the fields and in contact with the world.

As a farmer he has been very successful, and he has not only developed and secured the half section on which he lives, but has come into the possession of fourteen hundred acres in the southern part of Clay county. Very recently he has purchased a timbered tract of nine hundred acres in Beltrami county, and is operating a planing and sawmill at Sabin, Minnesota. He has also lately purchased a lumber yard at Fargo, North Dakota, and in these various enterprises is proving himself a business man of far more than the ordinary ability. In politics he is a Populist and belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America.

Mr. Hicks was married in 1885 to Miss Maria Anderson, by whom he has had a family of six bright and promising children.

#### ALEXANDER E. OMAN.

Alexander E. Oman, one of the young and hustling business men of Grandy, Isanti county, Minnesota, was born on a farm in Dalarna, Sweden, in 1867. His father, Hans Erickson, was a small farmer, and held an official position. For twenty-five years he was a notary public and lived and died in Sweden.

Alexander E. Oman is the oldest member of a family of seven brothers, and was reared in Sweden. When he was nineteen years old he came to the United States, landing in New York City, and coming west to St. Paul, was variously employed for several years in different places. For a time he was in Milwaukee and went into Montana, where he was engaged in railroading several years. For three or four winters he was in the lumber woods, and in December, 1892, came to Isanti county. He bought a farm of

forty acres in Cambridge township, and of this place all but five acres was under cultivation. Until 1897 he was engaged in farming, putting up buildings, a house and barn and bringing the place up to a high state of cultivation.

In 1892 he was married to Miss Christine Rydberg. She was born in Sweden and came to the United States in 1881, her father being an old settler of Isanti county. To this union were born four children: Emma, Ruth, Clarence and Ethel,—all born on the farm, which now consists of eighty acres, with seventy under cultivation, and devoted to grain, corn and very largely to potatoes.

Mr. Oman was instrumental, with several others, in organizing the Grange Merchandise Company, at Grandy. This is a stock company, and is incorporated under the state laws, with Peter Johnson, president; Andrew Carlson, secretary; and L. G. Hill, Charles Mattson and E. J. Tillman, directors. Mr. Oman is manager of this very successful enterprise. They built a small store in 1897 a mile east of Grandy, and the following year moved their business to Grandy, where they put up a store building, 24x52 feet, and opened out with a fine line of goods, farm implements and about everything the neighborhood demands. Mr. Oman has been at the head of the enterprise almost from the beginning and has built up a fine business. He is now justice of the peace, and has won an enviable standing among the people of this county.

#### ALMER O. RICHARDSON.

Almer O. Richardson, a prominent farmer and stockman, who makes his home on section 22, Butler township, Ottertail county, was born December 15, 1856, on his father's farm in Howard county, Iowa. His father, the well-known and highly respected Dr. Josiah Richardson, of Perham, has been a practicing physician of prominence in Ottertail county many years. The wife of Dr. Richardson and the mother of our subject was Sarah (Jenks) Richardson. They were married in 1854 and became the parents of seven children: Almer O.; Jemie, who is dead; Lewis, who is dead; Lillian; Howard; Florence and Jeanette.

Dr. Josiah Richardson was born in Lowell, Massachusetts, and secured his education in Harvard University. For many years he practiced medicine and had a drug store in the village of Granger, Fillmore county, Minnesota, and also owned a farm across the line in Iowa.

Almer O. Richardson secured his education in the common school and in the Moravian Academy at Chaska, Carver county. At the age of sixteen he began teaching school, a calling which he followed for six years. He was married April

3, 1878, to Jennie McCullom, a daughter of Lauchlan and Jeanette (Robertson) McCullom, both of whom were natives of Scotland. They were residing in southern Minnesota at the time of the marriage of their daughter. Mrs. Richardson was born in Canada, where her parents lived for some years prior to their coming to the "States." To this marriage were born six children: Sarah, who is the wife of George Burnett; Harriet; Samisbury; Lauchlan; Elizabeth and Edwin. Mrs. Richardson died April 17, 1895.

When Mr. Richardson first came to Ottertail county he homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land, and after proving up on it he disposed of it and bought his present farm on section 22. In addition to his present place of eighty acres, he rents two farms, aggregating two hundred acres, on which he raises large crops of grain and hay. Here he has a fine herd of seventy-three head of graded cattle, almost a half of which are milch cows. He is gradually increasing his herd of cows, and disposes of his milk at the Paddock creamery, five miles away.

Mr. Richardson is a justice of the peace and has been called upon to fill various local positions from time to time, in which he has displayed both ability and public spirit. He has been assessor, town clerk and county commissioner. In 1890 he was elected to the legislature on a fusion ticket, and filled the place so satisfactorily to his constituents that he was again elected to the same position in 1892, and for a third time in 1894.

Mr. Richardson is associated with the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. He has always taken an active part in social affairs, is awake to local interests, and is highly respected by his many friends.

#### DR. CARLTON GRAVES.

Dr. Carlton Graves, one of the most successful medical practitioners of Aitkin county, is a pioneer settler of that locality and has resided in the town of Aitkin for nearly twenty years. Few men have gained a more extended acquaintance and none are esteemed more highly as a business man and citizen than Dr. Graves. He has interested himself heartily in all public affairs of his community and much of the prosperity of that locality is due to his efforts and his enviable reputation and business success are well merited. A portrait of Dr. Graves will be found on another page of this volume.

Dr. Graves was born on a farm in Herkimer county, New York, July 31, 1856. His father, William G. Graves, was of old Yankee stock, the family coming to America from

England. The family name was changed from Thurber to Graves. The great-grandfather of our subject was a sea captain. The family was originally of English and French blood. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Beecher, and her family was of English ancestry.

Dr. Graves was the youngest of a family of six children, and he was raised on the farm and attended the country schools. He later attended the Higher Schools, one of which was located at Clinton, New York. He began the study of medicine in 1875 in the office of Dr. Raynor, of Trenton, New York, and then attended the Medical School at Ann Arbor, Michigan, one year and for two years following studied with a physician and attended lectures in New York City. In February, 1878, he received the degree of M. D. from the Medical Department of the University of the City of New York, and he located at Zanesville, Indiana, where he practiced until the fall of 1878, and then spent a winter in New York at post-graduate work. He located at Stittville, New York, in 1879, and after practicing there a year and a half removed to Rolla, Missouri, establishing his office there in March, 1881. In January, 1882, he went to Webster, Dakota, and in June, 1882, took up his residence in Minnesota, and in August of that year opened his office in Aitkin. He was the first resident physician of the town and he has continued his practice there since that date. He is a man of excellent character, conscientious and well informed, and has met with unbounded success in his work. He is interested in farming and has opened several farms to cultivation, and is now the owner of a valuable tract adjoining the village of Aitkin. He is also experienced in the lumbering and logging business and has met with good results in every business venture.

Dr. Graves was elected treasurer of Aitkin county in 1886 and served one term. He served as coroner from 1884 to 1900. He was the second village recorder and was one of the organizers of the village. He was census enumerator in 1890. He was appointed postmaster in June, 1900, and is an efficient and popular officer and enjoys the confidence of all with whom he has to do. He takes an active part in village and county affairs and has been delegate to state, district and congressional conventions, and is the present chairman of the county central committee of the Republican party. He is local surgeon for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, and has served in this capacity since about 1888. There were but seven or eight families located in Aitkin when he became a resident

there, and he has done his full share in the development of the village and surrounding country.

### B. E. ERICKSON.

B. E. Erickson, who was born in the village of Dahlon, Sweden, in 1856, is one of the thrifty and representative citizens of Milaca, Mille Lacs county, and holds a leading position in that stirring community. His parents came to this country some fifteen years later than the coming of B. E., and settled in Milaca, where the father follows the carpenter trade.

Mr. Erickson is the third member of a family of six children born to his parents and was reared and educated in Sweden. When he was nineteen years of age he began for himself. He was early married to Miss Annie Anderson, who was also born and reared in Sweden. They have a family of three children, of whom the first two were twins, born in Sweden,—Erick and Annie; the other, Willie, was born in Minnesota.

Mr. and Mrs. Erickson remained in the home country some seven years after their marriage, where the young husband was employed as a carpenter. In 1882 they came to America, landing at New York, and made their way at once to Anoka, Minnesota, where they settled in the city, and Mr. Erickson was employed in a lumber yard. When he reached that city his available cash capital amounted to five cents, and he was very fortunate in being able to secure immediate employment. He remained at Anoka five years, and in 1887 came to Milaca, being among the very first to settle at that point, not a building being completed in the town at the time of his arrival. Here he worked in the lumber yard of Mille Lacs Lumber Company, their sawmill having been constructed that year. Mr. Erickson remained with this company five years, and in 1892 went into business for himself, establishing a real estate office, and dealing very extensively in farm lands. His methods attracted a large patronage, and it is said that he has sold more real estate in this county within the last three years than any other firm engaged in the line.

Mr. Erickson took his son Erick into the firm in 1898, and it now consists of B. E. Erickson & Son. In 1900 James was admitted to a membership in the firm.

B. E. Erickson is a Republican and has been one of the village trustees. He was here when the town was organized and it is said that he has brought more men into Mille Lacs county than any other man in the northern part of the county.

When he was with the Mille Lacs Lumber Company he was one of their trusted employes, and during the last two years of his connection

with that firm was foreman of the yard. The most of the time he did the scaling.

Mr. Erickson and his son are now building one of the finest business buildings in Milaca. It is situated on Third street, and is planned to be one of the finest real estate offices west of Minneapolis. The family residence is on First avenue, and the son occupies a handsome home on the adjoining lot. Mr. Erickson belongs to the Masons and the Modern Woodmen of America.

The younger Erickson is a bright and well posted man, who finished his education in Minneapolis. For three years he has been a member of the village council. When he was seventeen years of age he began as a clerk for the Faley Lumber Company, and remained in their office until he went into partnership with his father.

### AUGUST HICKS.

August Hicks, who is a successful and prosperous farmer in section 19, Holy Cross township, Clay county, where he owns five hundred and sixty acres of fine farming land, fronting on the Red river, was born in Wernmland, Sweden, October 20, 1858, and was the seventh member of a family of eleven children born to Hoken and Karin (Olson) Hicks. The father died in 1894, and the mother in 1899.

August Hicks came to this country in company with his parents in 1869. They stopped in Polk county, Minnesota, for a couple of years, and in 1871 came on to Clay county. Young August attended school in Polk county, but early applied himself to helping his father make a farm and a home for the family in the new country to which they had penetrated. In 1885 August and Carl began farming together in a small way, but in 1892 a division of the property, which had considerably increased, was made, and Mr. Hicks began for himself. The same year he built a barn 30x80 feet, and has become decidedly fore-handed. He may be fairly written up as a thoroughly self-made man. He is a Democrat and belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. In religion he is a member of the Lutheran church. Mr. Hicks has served on the town board for nearly twenty years, and during the most of that time has been chairman of that body. In the organization of the township he was efficient and active. Politically he has been prominent, and is one of the leading citizens of the town.

August Hicks and Marie Olson were united in marriage in 1892, and to them were born: Alida, Herbert, Oscar, Melvin, Elna and Albert. Mr. Hicks is the president of the Comstock and Holy Cross Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

It was on October 24, 1869, that Hoken Hicks



made his homestead filings, and on the 1st day of December following young August and the most of the family arrived in a covered wagon, after a trip of eight days, which is remembered by him as the crowning hardship of his life. The mercury went to fifteen below zero and the family almost perished. The last night out snow fell to the depth of six inches, and everybody had to keep moving all night about the camp in order to escape freezing.

### JOHN RASMUSSEN.

John Rasmusson, a popular and successful farmer of Viding township, Clay county, Minnesota, was born in Norway, just north of Christiania, in 1845. His father, who was a farmer, lived and died in Norway, and John was his third child. In all he had eleven children and gave them such preparation for life as his situation afforded.

John Rasmusson was educated in his native land, and when he was about seventeen years of age started for himself at farm work. For eight years he was employed at farm work by a widow in Norway and a long time had charge of her place. In 1870 he came to the United States, landing in New York and making his way west to Wisconsin. In that state he worked on the farm during the summer season and spent the winters in the woods. In 1877 Mr. Rasmusson made a trip to Big Stone lake, and the following year he located in Clay county, taking a homestead in section 6, Morken township, being the second man to homestead in that township. The first year he broke ten acres, and made his home with his neighbors while doing it. While he was opening up his farm he depended solely on oxen.

Mr. Rasmusson was married in 1880 to Miss Tena Lommland. She was born in Houston county, Minnesota; her father, Andrew Lommland, was an old settler in Clay county. She died in 1890.

Mr. Rasmussen was again married in 1894, Engeborg Weon becoming his wife. She is the mother of five children, Carry, Ellen, Christina, Elling and Severena.

The first house in which Mr. Rasmusson lived was of logs. In 1890 he sold his homestead and removed to his wife's land. This move did not please him, and presently he bought the homestead back, and now he and his wife own a half section of land, of which two hundred and ninety are under the plow. The most of his farming is given to wheat. He has been a Republican, but is now independent in politics. While he lived in Morken township he was called to the town board several times. At the present time he is a member of the Viding township board. Person-

ally he is a highly respected man, and very much respected by those who know him most intimately.

### ERICK J. GARDER.

Erick J. Garder is one of those rough and ready men who thrive so well in a new country, because they are ready to turn their hand to any kind of labor, always generous and social, but at the same time always energetic and hustling in business matters. His home is on section 3, Oakport township, Clay county. He owns a full section of land and annually farms about a thousand acres.

Mr. Garder was born in LaSalle county, Illinois, October 28, 1860, and is the second member of a family of five children born to his parents, James and Kjesty Janason, both of whom were natives of Norway.

When Erick J. Garder was but an infant his father settled in Mower county, Minnesota, where young Erick was reared and educated. Little attention was paid to his schooling, and he was bred to farming.

One spring, when Mr. Garder had become a stout and husky lad, he was sent to drive a herd of cattle into Clay county. He was a month on the road, and then, when he arrived in Clay county, he determined to make it his home, for several years being engaged as a farm hand in that section. Early in the '80s Mr. Garder secured land, but did not attempt farming for himself until several years had passed. For some three years he was superintendent of the C. B. Benedict farm. About 1888 he was married and began improving his own farm. From time to time he has added to it and owns a very fine property. He has made his way by hard knocks, and now may well congratulate himself on the very remarkable progress he has made, a result that may very largely be attributed to his own industry, brains and character.

Caroline Kragnes, who became the wife of Mr. Garder in 1888, bore him four children and died January 30, 1901. The children are as follows: Ovida, Arthur, Ernest and Roy.

### GEORGE NIEBERGALL, JR.

George Niebergall, Jr., is a prosperous farmer in Edna township, and resides in a good farm dwelling of his own construction. His farm consists of a hundred and twenty acres, in section 4, town of Edna, Ottertail county, and is one of the representative farms that have been reclaimed from the wilderness in recent years in this part of Minnesota.

Mr. Niebergall was born in Albany, New

York, February 16, 1855, and is a son of George and Elizabeth (Syge) Niebergall, both of whom were natives of Germany.

George Niebergall, Sr., was born February 20, 1825, and was reared to farm work. He came to this country in 1850, landing in New York August 7, where he remained some time, being employed as a carpenter and also in a pasteboard factory. After two years had passed he left New York and went to East Troy, Rensselaer county, where he was engaged in lumbering.

Mr. Niebergall was married February 5, 1854, at Sand Lake, Rensselaer county, New York, to Elizabeth Syge. To this union were born six children: George, Peter, Charles, Maggie, who died at the age of four years, John and Henry. In 1856 the parents of these children removed to Iowa, where they rented a farm, which became their home for fifteen years, and where they reared their boys. He came to Ottertail county, May 12, 1871, where he took up a homestead of eighty acres in section 18, Perham township. At a later period Mr. Niebergall bought one hundred and sixty acres in section 7, adjoining his homestead. He thus came to own two hundred and forty acres and this tract he still retains. His son Henry and family reside with him, and this worthy gentleman is passing his declining years in peace and comfort, the care and management of the farm devolving upon the son. Mrs. Niebergall, the mother of the above children, died April 27, 1889.

George Niebergall, Jr., attended the public schools in Iowa, and later worked upon his father's farm and in a neighboring sawmill until he reached his twenty-fourth year. In 1879 he came to Ottertail county, and secured a homestead of eighty acres in section 4, of Edna township, where he has since purchased an additional forty acres, giving him a good rich farm of one hundred and twenty acres. His has been a diversified farming, giving much attention to grain, but lately turning to the dairy as a true friend of the farmer. In the fall of 1880 he built a comfortable home on his farm and erecting other necessary buildings, soon brought his land to the front. A brother, Charles, has an adjoining farm of eighty acres, and as he is a single man he makes his home with his brother George. Naturally the farm interests of the two brothers run together.

George Niebergall, Jr., was married September 2, 1878, to Barbara Greenage, a daughter of John and Barbara Greenage, both natives of Germany. To this union were born a son and a daughter. Charles, the son, is engaged in teach-

ing. He was graduated from the high school at Perham. The daughter, Paulina, is an attractive young lady, and has received an excellent education. She resides at home.

Mr. Niebergall has been called on several times to fill various local positions in Edna township, where he has been supervisor a number of years, having served as chairman of the board and treasurer of the school board. He is a member of the Sons of Herman, and in politics is a Republican. Together with all his family he attends the Lutheran church.

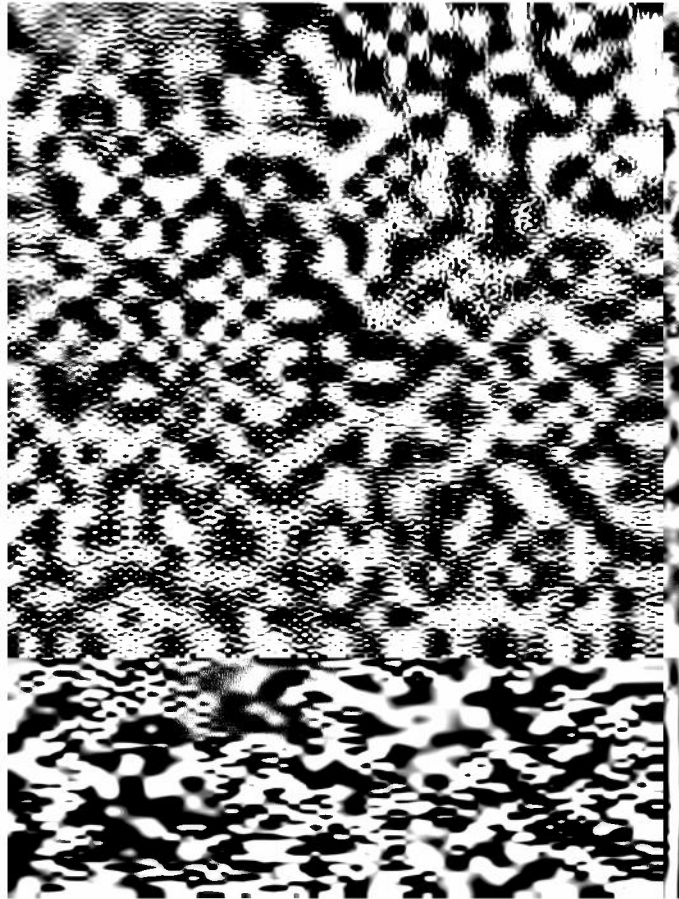
#### ANUN OLESON.

Anun Oleson, a thrifty and prosperous citizen of Morken, Clay county, Minnesota, was born in the west part of Christiana Stift, Norway, in 1862. The paternal Oleson was a farmer. He came to the United States in 1871 and died soon after his arrival in this country. His widow came to this country in 1876, landing in New York, and making her way at once to Glyndon, Clay county.

Anun Oleson received his education in Norway, and only attended school one month in this country. He and his mother were alone. She took land in Morken township, in section 32, and hers was the second tract taken up in the township. They put up a shanty, 12x14 feet, where they lived for many years. She had two cows and a sod barn. They worked hard and presently were able to buy a yoke of oxen, with which they farmed four or five years. Their first crop of wheat, ten acres, turned out twenty bushels to the acre. They always had good crops, and were prosperous from the beginning. Anun Oleson spent his winters in the woods and lived on the farm until the death of his mother, in 1899.

Mr. Oleson was married in 1890 to Miss Guanheld Nore, who was born in Telemarken, Norway, and came to the United States in 1881. Her father, T. C. Nore, is a farmer, and an old settler in Clay county. Mr. and Mrs. Oleson now have six children: Obert, Thomas, Amanda, Alvin, Lawrence and Geneva,—all of whom were born on the farm.

Mr. Oleson owns a half section of land, all of which is under cultivation, and has a house, 14x22 feet, with an addition 16x24 feet. The barn is 30x36 feet, the granary 26x18 feet. He has a good supply of farm machinery, and is extensively engaged in grain farming. In politics he is a Republican, and has been supervisor of the town, being chairman of the board several years.



BENJAMIN BORGERT.

BENJAMIN BORGERT, who is the efficient and popular postmaster at Browerville, Todd county, Minnesota, has been associated with the business interests of the village since 1874. He was born in Racine county, Wisconsin, June 22, 1854, and is a son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Potter) Borgert. His parents were born in the Province of Westphalia, Prussia, and emigrated to the United States in 1853, landing at New York, and coming west to Racine county, Wisconsin, where they bought land and engaged in farming as long as the father lived. He died in the fall of 1897. To them were born five boys and three girls. The three older children were born in Germany. Benjamin, being the first born in the United States.

Benjamin Borgert attended the Racine county schools and helped his parents with the work of the farm until he was eighteen years of age. Then he left home and made his way to Freeborn county, Minnesota, where he was employed as a farm hand for two years. In 1874 he secured a homestead of eighty acres in section 24, Ward township, Todd county. He improved the land, erected a good house, barn and other buildings, and increased his land to 232 acres. He was a successful farmer, but desiring to follow other avocations he sold his farm and moved into Browerville. There he built a business block, stocked it with furniture and was soon widely known as a reliable and trustworthy tradesman. In 1898 he sold the stock but retains the building, one room of

which he uses for postoffice purposes, having been appointed postmaster June 1, 1898. As a public official he is obliging and courteous, giving satisfaction to all. His wife assists him in the postoffice, which is one of the best on the rolls of the department.

Mr. Borgert bought 120 acres in section 10, of Hartford township, which he farms, assisted by hired help, and devotes his land to grain. It is his intention, however, very soon to work into cattle, especially cows, now that the village boasts a thriving creamery.

Mr. Borgert was married September 12, 1876, to Mary Baker, who died three years later. He was married to his present wife June 5, 1881. Her maiden name was Annie E. Kerr, a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Kerr, both of whom were natives of Germany, and are now dead. Mrs. Borgert was born in the city of New York, and was the only girl in a family of four children. Her two older brothers were both Union soldiers in the Civil War, and are now farmers in Todd county. Louis Kerr, her other brother, has an interest in the Pioneer Press at St. Paul.

Mr. Borgert had no children by his first wife; to the present marriage have come five children: Catherine, William H., Nannie, Robert and Allen. Mr. Borgert has been school director, assessor and for five years was supervisor. Since coming to Browerville he has served on the village board. He is a Republican, and belongs to the I. O. O. F., the M. W. of A. and the Yeomen.