

township, having served as school clerk for twelve years and having helped to organize school district No. 40. Mr. Stordahl was one of the organizers of the creamery, the Farmers Elevator and the Farmers State Bank at Hendrum.

On April 9, 1883, in Hendrum township, Norman county, Carl J. Stordahl was united in marriage to Hansene Nygaard, who also was born in the kingdom of Norway and who had come to this country with her parents, Peter and Eunetta (Moen) Nygaard, both natives of Norway, the family arriving in 1882. Three years before the father had come to Minnesota and had bought a tract of land in Norman county, where he made preliminary preparation for the coming of his family and had then gone back to Norway and had brought his family here, establishing his home on his new possessions. Peter Nygaard was trained as a carpenter in his native land and even after coming to this state did much carpenter work, in addition to carrying on his farming operations. He is still living, now making his home with his son in Halstad township. His wife died in February, 1915. They were the parents of eight children, seven of whom are still living. To Mr. and Mrs. Stordahl nine children have been born, namely: John O., who is cashier of the State Bank of Shelly; Joseph, who, since he was ten years of age had been working for G. T. Ingberg and others at Hendrum and who recently moved with his family to Montana; Gilma, wife of Halvor Skagy, cashier of the State Bank at Tyler, North Dakota; Olga, wife of Anton Opgardt, a merchant at Halstad; Cora, who is engaged as a professional nurse at Bismarck; Hilda Josephine, who is at home, and Arthur, Victor and Eddie, also at home.

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#### PETER AMBUEL.

The little mountain republic of Switzerland was the native land of many of the sturdiest settlers who have come to this country to establish their homes in a larger democracy, and among these is Peter Ambuel, a prosperous farmer living in Mary township, Norman county, and the owner of four hundred and twenty acres of fine farming land, two hundred acres of which lies in Mary township, forty in Wild Rice and one hundred and eighty in Hegne township. He was born on October 3, 1854, a son of David and Vema (Held) Ambuel, both of whom came to America, bringing their family with them, and settled in Wisconsin. For a number of

years the former lived in Wisconsin, but he sold his holdings there when he came out to Norman county, Minnesota, where he made his home with his son, Peter, the subject of this review. The father's death occurred about eleven years ago, after he had reached the ripe old age of eighty-three years, a substantial and valuable pioneer of the great Northwest. After the death of David Ambuel, the mother then went to live with her daughter in North Dakota, where her death occurred in 1912, when she was eighty-four years of age. To these parents were born five children; those besides the subject of this sketch, who is the second in order of birth, being: John L., living in Borup, Norman county; Davie, single; Martin, married and living in Polk county, Minnesota; Paul, married and a farmer in North Dakota; Anna, the wife of Henry Puhler, living in North Dakota, and Lizzie, who married August Netting and is also living in North Dakota.

Peter Ambuel was reared in the old home in his native land of Switzerland, and when he was but seventeen years of age accompanied his parents to the new world. Here he settled with the family in Wisconsin, where he gave of his time and his best effort to the development of the farm which his father acquired in that state until 1879. In that year after he had reached the age of twenty-five years, he left the parental roof and went westward into Minnesota, settling in Norman county. Immediately after he arrived in these parts, he took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Mary township. Since the land was all new and uncultivated, his Swiss thrift and industry stood him in good stead in adding the needed improvements to his holding. In the plowing he used oxen for one year, but now he uses the most recently improved farming machinery in his agricultural operations; is remodeling the old farm house and is replacing all the original buildings by modern, substantial new ones. Mr. Ambuel has been so successful in his farming that he has been enabled at various times to add to his holdings until they now comprise four hundred and twenty acres of as good farming land as can be found in the county.

On December 17, 1882, Mr. Ambuel returned to Wisconsin to claim as his bride Barbara Engel, who was born in Wisconsin, September 28, 1858, a daughter of Anton and Christain (Weber) Engel, both of whom are now dead, the former having been a landowner and farmer in that state. To Mr. and Mrs. Ambuel nine children have been born, namely: Christina, deceased; Verena, the wife of George Shaffer, who lives one mile east of the old home place; David, who is married; Anna, deceased; Anton, at home; Lizzie, deceased, and Lizzie, Martin and Arthur, at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ambuel are devoted members of the Lutheran church, and according to the precepts of this denomination they have reared their children. Politically, Mr. Ambuel is independent. Despite his very busy life on the farm, he has had time to devote some of his energies to the civic affairs of the community, and has served as township supervisor for a number of years.

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### JOHAN MATHIAS MALME.

Johan Mathias Malme, a well-known and substantial farmer of Halstad township, Norman county, where he owns and operates a fine farm of two hundred and ninety acres, was born in Romsdalen, Norway, on September 11, 1862, a son of Knut Olson and Ellen Arnesdatter (Malme) Malme. Both of the parents were born on the Malme farm, near the point that later was the birthplace of their son, Johan, in Norway, and there they grew to maturity, married and reared their family. The mother died in Norway, and the father, wishing to spend the rest of his days among his children in the New World, came to America in 1903 and made his home with his son, Johan, until his death occurred in 1915. Knut and Ellen Malme were the parents of nine children, namely: Ole, who has remained living in his native Norway, in Trondjhem; Andreas and Gertina, who are dead; Johan M., the subject of this review; Berit Martha, who still lives in From, Romsdalen, Norway; Karen, Knut A. and Carl, all living in Norman county, Minnesota; and Karen, who is deceased.

Until he was twenty-five years of age, Johan Mathias Malme remained on the old home place in Romsdalen, Norway, where he acquired a common-school education and later attended an educational institution equivalent to the American high school for six months. During this time he learned the carpenter's trade, which stood him in good stead when he came to this country. The fact that so many of his countrymen had come to Minnesota and had here become comfortably situated, induced in him the desire to follow them, and in 1887 he came. In the latter part of February of the year of his arrival he located in Ada, the county seat of Norman county, and there began working at the carpenter trade. Three years later, in 1890, Mr. Malme, in partnership with Knut Strain, bought one hundred and sixty acres of land which was not very well improved, since the tract had on it only a log house and a small grove of poplar and willow trees, but they began to improve the holding. In 1892, Mr. Malme bought his partner's