

## CHARLES J. CEDERBERG.

There came to our great western plains some three decades ago, "a youth to fortune and to fame unknown," Charles J. Cederberg, who, by perseverance and good management has become one of the progressive farmers of Highland Grove township, Clay county. He was born in Sweden, November 30, 1859, and is a son of Carl Cederberg and wife, fitting mention of whom is made in the sketch of August Cederberg, which appears on another page of this work.

Charles J. Cederberg grew to manhood in Sweden and there attended the public schools. He also attended school a while after coming to the New World, for which he set sail from his native shores when twenty-five years of age. He came directly to Minnesota, arriving in the village of Hawley, Clay county, in March, 1884. He worked as a farm hand in that vicinity for two years, during which time he made his home in Hawley. He saved his earnings and in 1886 purchased the farm on which he has since made his home, the place consisting of eighty acres in Highland Grove township. He has increased his holdings to two hundred acres, which he has brought up to a high state of cultivation and improvement, putting up an excellent group of buildings, and has been quite successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. Mr. Cederberg helped organize the Farmers Elevator Company at Hawley and was elected first president of the same, serving thus two years; remaining a director until 1917, and a heavy stockholder. He was also the second president of the company, which position he occupied two years, and did much for the successful growth of the same.

Mr. Cederberg was married on December 31, 1886, to Ingeborg Westberg, a native of Sweden, where she spent her childhood. She came to America about 1882, taking up her residence at Hawley. To this marriage two children were born, Jennie and Selma. In 1894 Mr. Cederberg was married again, his second wife being known in her maidenhood as Johanna Danielson, also a native of Sweden, in which country she grew to womanhood, immigrating to the United States in 1894 and coming directly to Hawley, Minnesota. Two children have been born to this second union, Alma and Alice.

Politically, Mr. Cederberg is independent. He helped organize the school district in which he resides and has been a member of the school board ever since. He was elected township supervisor in 1888 and has continued a member of the board ever since, with the exception of about

three years; chairman of the same during the past eighteen years, with the exception of the year 1916, when he was prevented from serving on account of illness. As a public servant Mr. Cederberg has always performed his duties in an able, faithful and highly acceptable manner, for he has at heart the best interests of his community, which he always seeks to promote in every legitimate way.

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### CHARLES B. ROMKEY.

Charles B. Romkey, a substantial and progressive farmer of Clay county, justice of the peace in and for Riverton township, former chairman of the township board, former treasurer of the school board, and in other ways identified with public affairs, is a native of the state of Iowa, but has been a resident of this part of Minnesota for more than twenty years. He was born on January 4, 1873, near Burlington, Iowa, a son of Conrad D. and Catherine Romkey, natives respectively, of Prussia and of Hessen Darmstadt.

Conrad D. Romkey had a somewhat varied career. When yet not more than a mere boy he was with Napoleon some few years before the final defeat of that great soldier. Another member of the Romkey family, a brother of Conrad D., had also military tastes and was one of Emperor William's body guards. Conrad Romkey immigrated to the United States in 1822, coming on to Defiance, Ohio, where he owned land and operated a boat yard for several years. In 1854 he moved to Iowa, had a fine farm of land and continued the work of the farm for the remainder of his active life. He was regarded as an excellent farmer and he and his wife were active and influential residents of the district in which they had made their homes. Both lived to good ages, Conrad Romkey dying in 1880 and his widow in 1909, both deaths occurring at Burlington, Iowa. Mrs. Romkey owned one-half of a section of land in Riverton township, Clay county. They were the parents of the following children: Frank C., deceased; John H., deceased; Edward W., married; Emma, married; Carrie E., married; Sarah, married; Anna, married, and Charles B., the subject of this sketch.

Charles B. Romkey was educated in the public schools of Iowa and was reared on his father's farm, where he helped in the labors of the same for several years. He is quite a machinist, having operated several threshing-machine outfits and assisted also in the contract work on the Northern