

On April 21, 1874, J. J. Meighen was united in marriage to Catherine McGraw, who was born in LeSueur county, this state, daughter of Patrick McGraw and wife, pioneers of that county, who had settled there about 1858, and to this union three children have been born, Philip J., Mary Sophia and Alice Gertrude. Philip J. Meighen is now a prosperous practicing attorney at Minneapolis and the Misses Meighen, both of whom were graduated from the State Normal School at Mankato, are teaching school. The Meighens have a very pleasant home at Twin Valley and have ever taken an interested part in the general social and cultural activities of that place and of the community at large.

AUGUST DURLING.

August Durling, proprietor of the Twin Valley Roller Mills, president of the village of Twin Valley and otherwise an active participant in the affairs of that village and of Norman county in general, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of this country since he was nineteen years of age. He was born at Parup, in Skone, September 19, 1863, and grew up in his native Sweden, receiving there a high-school education and remaining until he was about nineteen years of age, when, in 1882, he came to the United States and proceeded directly on out to Minnesota, his objective point being Ada, county seat of Norman county.

For three or four years after his arrival at Ada, Mr. Durling worked on farms west and south of that place. During the following years he worked a two-hundred-acre farm in Winchester township, south of Ada, which he owned, and also farmed some rented land, and continued farming, spending portions of the winters in the pineries at Frazee and at Cromwell, until the spring of 1889, when he went farther west and became engaged working in the mines and smelters in Montana and Utah. He then proceeded on out to the coast and after a comprehensive tour of the cities of Seattle, Spokane, Portland, San Francisco and points in Colorado, he returned to Ada, in 1891, and there became engaged in the insurance business, continuing thus engaged for about a year, at the end of which time he was employed by the Thorpe Elevator Company as grain buyer for that company at Lee Station, in Polk county, where he remained until in July, 1894, when the company transferred him to their elevator at Twin Valley and he continued engaged as buyer for the Thorpes at that point until 1901, in which year he rented the

Farmers elevator at Twin Valley and began buying grain on his own account. A year later the Farmers Elevator Company resumed direction of that elevator and Mr. Durling continued as manager, in behalf of the company, for another year, at the end of which time he became engaged in the agricultural-implement business at Twin Valley and remained thus engaged for two years, or until the Twin Valley Roller Mills were built in 1903, he being part owner of the same, after which he gave his attention to the management of the mill. The next year, 1904, Mr. Durling became the sole owner of the mill and has continued to own and operate the same, having made it one of the most widely patronized mills in this part of the state. Mr. Durling has other business interests in Twin Valley and is one of the most enthusiastic "boosters" of that village. He was one of the organizers of the Citizens State Bank of Twin Valley and for about two years was a member of the board of directors of the same. He also has extensive farm-land interests in Norman county and is looked upon as one of the substantial citizens of that community. For several years he has served as president of the village council and in 1917 was again elected to that office, and has in other ways given of his time and energies to the public service.

In the year 1894 August Durling was united in marriage to Bertha Bergeson, daughter of Halvor Bergeson and wife, and to this marriage two children have been born, Arthur and Malvin. The Durlings are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church affairs, as well as in the community's general social activities.

HERBRAN ERICKSON.

Herbran Erickson, a farmer of Tansem township, Clay county, was born in Norway, October 11, 1859. He is a son of Erick and Sigrí (Herbrandson) Hanson, both natives of Norway, from which country they came to America in 1870, locating first in Winneshiek county, Iowa, remaining there one year. In June, 1871, they came up into Minnesota, driving an ox-team overland, bringing their household effects in a prairie schooner. The family of P. P. Solum came along with them, and these two families were the first to settle in the northern part of Tansem township, Clay county. Erick Hanson, the father, took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, the place on which his son Ole now resides, and there he and his wife spent the rest of their lives. The father later bought