

After he had remained there eight or nine years, he decided that a better opportunity awaited him down in Norman county, hence he sold out and bought one hundred and twenty acres in Bear Park township, this county, where he has since continued to live. With his wonted thrift and industry, he set to work to improve his new holding and now he has a well-cultivated farm and an excellent farm plant, comprised of good buildings and a comfortable farm home, where he carries on general farming very successfully and efficiently.

In 1875, Mr. Brunsberg was married to Johana Erickson, who was born in Sweden, a daughter of Erick Peterson and wife, and to this union have been born the following children: Ole, Martin, John, Albert and Emma, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Brunsberg are devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Rindahl and the former helped to build the church edifice of this congregation. They are also connected with all the good works of the community. In politics, Mr. Brunsberg has never sought after office, but he takes a good citizen's interest in the civil and political affairs of the community.

JACOB HURNER.

The swiss have ever been known as a liberty-loving and independent people. Switzerland has furnished an admirable example to many of the larger nations of the earth and her government and institutions might be emulated with profit by the kingdoms and monarchies whose subjects do not seem to be as fortunate as the Swiss. Among this nationality in Clay county is Jacob Hurner, a farmer of Spring Prairie township.

Mr. Hurner was born in Switzerland in 1852. He is a son of Jacob and Anna (Moser) Hurner, both natives of Switzerland, where they grew up, married and established their home, remaining there until 1873, when they immigrated to America, reaching here in the spring of that year, joining their son Jacob, who had preceded them to the New World in the autumn of 1872, locating in Nebraska. The father remained in that state until his death, after which the mother went to Oregon, where she died. To these parents six children were born, namely: Jacob, Emma, Albert, Louis, Fred and Alexander.

Jacob Hurner grew up in Switzerland and there he attended the public schools. He immigrated to America in the fall of 1872, single, and located

in Platt county, Nebraska, where he engaged in farming two years, then moved to Boone county, Iowa, where he worked out as a farm hand; he also followed his trade of blacksmith, which he had learned in the old country under his father, who devoted most of his life to blacksmithing. Jacob Hurner also took up a homestead in Platt county, which he improved and lived on until 1896, when he moved to Spring Prairie township, Clay county, buying the farm on which he still makes his home. He has prospered through close application and good management and, adding to his original holdings from time to time, he now owns three hundred and twenty acres of excellent land on which he has made important improvements, in fact, developed the land from the raw prairie to a high state of cultivation. His first one hundred and sixty acres, on which he has made his home, was railroad land. He has a good dwelling and outbuildings sufficient for all his needs. He has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. He has been one of the stockholders in the Glyndon Creamery since its organization.

Mr. Hurner was married in 1882 to Minnie Fritzmyer, a native of Iowa, where she grew to womanhood and attended the public schools. She is a daughter of Simon Fritzmyer and wife. Ten children, all surviving at this writing, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hurner, namely: Emma, Caroline, Anna, Martha, Sarah, Lydia, Fred, Paul, Ruth and Benjamin. Mr. Hurner has taken an active interest in local public affairs. He has been a member of the township board for many years, about thirteen in all, including the last seven years, and is still in office.

NELS N. MELVEY.

Nels N. Melvey, a well-known contractor, living at Moorhead, Clay county, was born in Norway, April 30, 1867. He is a son of Nels and Marie (Hagness) Melvey, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and resided until 1881, when they immigrated to America. After stopping a while in St. Paul, Minnesota, they went on to North Dakota, but not long thereafter located at Moorhead, Minnesota, where they established their home, the father following the carpenter's trade in that town the rest of his life. He and his wife belonged to the Lutheran church. They were parents of six children, namely: Nels N., Mollie, Marin, Sarah and Ingeborg, who died in early life, and Andrew, who is also deceased.