

Mr. Pederson is doing very well in his farming operations, being classed as one of the progressive farmers of the township.

On November 9, 1885, Aanen Pederson was united in marriage to Anna H. Werdahl, born in Goodhue county, a daughter of Ole H. and Aslaug Georgine (Wraalstad) Werdahl, both natives of Norway, who came to America unmarried, he at the age of about twenty and she when ten or eleven, in company with her parents, who settled in Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Werdahl later moved to Goodhue county, where they farmed and spent the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of nine children as follow: Andria, Anna, Halvor, John, Emma, Martin, Thea, Carrie and George, all of whom are still living. Mr. Werdahl served with the Union colors during the Civil War. To Mr. and Mrs. Pederson the following children have been born: Martha, Olena, Bertha, Hannah, Peder, Alma, Inga, Alfred and Norman, all of whom are living. The Pederson family are members of the Lutheran church and are warmly interested in all its good works, as well as in all community movements calculated to advance the best interests of the township at large.

JOHN LAMB.

The late John Lamb, a substantial retired farmer of Clay county, who died at his home in Baker in the spring of 1910, and whose widow is now living in the village of Downer, where she is conducting a hotel, was a native of Scotland, but had been a resident of Minnesota since 1872, he and his wife having come to this country immediately following their marriage in that year. He was born on a farm in Forfarshire on August 18, 1848, a son of John and Elizabeth Lamb, also natives of Scotland, the former of whom died in his native land and the latter of whom later came to this country and spent her last days in the home of her son, John, in Clay county. The senior John Lamb and his wife were the parents of ten children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the sixth in order of birth, the others being David, Charles, Ann, Margaret, James, Alexander, Mary, Jane and William. Ann Lamb married William Thompson, a biographical sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume.

Reared on the home farm in Scotland, the junior John Lamb grew up there a practical farmer and continued farming there until his marriage in



JOHN LAMB AND FAMILY.

1872, when he and his bride came to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, locating in the vicinity of Audubon, in Becker county, where Mr. Lamb bought a tract of railroad land and for eight years was there engaged in farming, one of the pioneers of that neighborhood. In 1880 he disposed of his interests in Becker county and moved over into Clay county, homesteading a quarter of a section two and a half miles northwest of Downer, at the same time buying a tree-claim right to an adjoining quarter section. He planted a fine grove on his homestead tract and put up a substantial set of farm buildings on the tree-claim quarter and began to develop and improve the half section, it not being long until he had one of the best farms thereabout. His grove of twenty acres flourished and is now one of the finest groves in the county, a distinctive landmark and a living monument to the foresight of the man who planted and encouraged it. Mr. Lamb was an excellent farmer and an appreciative breeder of good stock, keeping imported draught horses. He also took an active interest in local civic affairs and for twenty-five years served as treasurer of his home township. Some time before his retirement from the farm he increased his land holdings by the purchase of an additional forty acres in Elmwood township. Early in 1908 he built a comfortable house in the village of Baker and retired from the farm, he and his wife moving to Baker, where his last days were spent, his death occurring there on March 20, 1910.

About eighteen months after the death of her husband, Mrs. Lamb sold her residence property in Baker and for three years thereafter made her home in Barnesville, her son Arthur continuing to operate the old home farm. Mrs. Lamb then built a house in Downer and has since been conducting a hotel there. She was born in Scotland, Jean Vannette, a daughter of William and Barbara (Mann) Vannette, both natives of Scotland, who came to this country in 1880 and made their home on a ten-acre plot they secured on the Lamb farm, spending there the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom Mrs. Lamb was the third in order of birth, the others being Ann, David, James, Alexander, Margaret, Elizabeth, Mary, Johan, Alice and Katie. They, as well as the Lambs, were members of the Presbyterian church and their children were reared in that faith. To Mr. and Mrs. Lamb thirteen children were born, William (deceased), Alice (deceased), Margaret, Annie, Arthur, Lillie (deceased), Elizabeth (deceased), Robert (deceased), Josie, and David and two infants, deceased. As one of the pioneers of Clay county, Mrs. Lamb has many

interesting recollections of the early days of the settlement of the country in which she and her husband became homesteaders and there are few persons thereabout who have a more accurate fund of information regarding those days than she.

TORGER HAVELSON.

Torger Havelson, a native son of old Norway, who established himself of the fertile soil of Waukon township, Norman county, and is now the owner of one hundred and seventy acres of land, all of which is in a high state of cultivation except a ten-acre tract of timber, was born in Søndre-land, Norway, 1840, a son of Havel and Martha Havelson, who were both natives of Norway, where they spent their entire lives, the father a farmer and blacksmith there. The father and mother were the parents of six children, namely: Hans and Marin, both deceased; Christina and Helena, living; Marthia, deceased, and Torger, the youngest and the subject of this this review.

Torger Havelson received his only formal education in the public schools of Norway, but he acquired habits of industry and perseverance while helping the family in their common effort to cultivate the old farm. He was approaching the prime of his life when he decided to immigrate to America, the land of opportunity, and establish here his home among several of his friends and acquaintances who were here comfortably situated on the cheap and fertile land of the Northwest. He arrived on American soil in 1867 and he first located in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where, in order to acquire the necessary capital for setting up a farm plant, he worked as a farm hand and as a mason and plasterer, which trades he learned while he was a resident there. For nine years he remained in Winneshiek county and at the end of that period he came to Norman county, Minnesota, in 1878, where in the same year he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, the southeast quarter of section 22, Waukon township, and here he has since made his home, improving his holding. When he took his homestead, the land was raw prairie and he had no little difficulty in bringing it under cultivation, however, he finally succeeded and is now reaping the fruits of his labors by wresting the pent-up treasures from the docile soil which was formerly stubborn prairie sod. Here he has made all improvements, which include a comfortable farm home, substantial farm buildings and a beautiful grove. Some years ago, he purchased an additional tract, ten acres of valu-