

## JENS LARSON.

Jens Larson, a substantial and progressive farmer, the owner of large tracts of land in Clay county, former treasurer of the township school board, and otherwise identified with public affairs, was born in the kingdom of Sweden, but has been living in the United States for the past thirty years, having immigrated from his native land in 1887. He is the son of Lars and Anna Fireson, also born in Sweden and who spent their last days in that country.

Lars Fireson was educated in the schools of his native land, following which he engaged in farming and continued thus occupied during the years of his active life, his death occurring in 1902, when he had reached the age of seventy-seven years. His wife, Anna Fireson, died in 1912 at the advanced age of eighty-five years. They were the parents of the following children: Peter and John, living in this country; Torkel, who lives in Sweden; Johanna, the wife of Ingle Christianson, and who lives in Sweden; Marie, who married Nels Pearson and lives in Haver, Montana, and Jens, the subject of this sketch.

Jens Larson was educated in the schools of his native land and was reared on his father's farm, where he was an able assistant in the work of the farm. In 1887, he left Sweden and came to this country, locating in Clay county, Minnesota, where he settled in section 16, Hawley township. There he bought two hundred acres of land, which he continued to operate for several years and which he still owns. His first venture in farming in the new country proving successful, he continued to add to his land holdings and in 1902 he bought a tract of two hundred and sixty-seven acres in section 8, Hawley township. Mr. Larson and his sons now own among them about one thousand acres of the choicest land to be found in the township. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, having an excellent herd of Shorthorn cattle, and since the commencement of his operations he has been most successful, everything about his farms being in good order and condition. He has entirely remodeled some of the outbuildings and erected new ones, including potato storage accommodation and additions to the dwelling house. He allots about seventy acres to the cultivation of potatoes and is generally regarded as one of the progressive and substantial farmers of the township.

In November, 1889, Jens Larson was united in marriage to Anna (Thyssel) Tolson. Mrs. Larson had been married before, the first husband

being Andrew Tolson, who died in Clay county, Minnesota, in 1888. There were no children born to this union. Mrs. Larson was born in Sweden in February, 1867, and came to America twenty years afterward, in 1887. She was the daughter of Andreas and Emma (Helstrom) Thysell, both natives of Sweden, where the father died in 1901. The mother, who survived the father, came to America in 1906 to join her children, all of whom have come to this country except one, Albion, who still resides in Sweden; the others are: Anna, the wife of the subject of this review; August, who was drowned near Portland, Oregon; Tilda, the wife of John Larson, living near St. Cloud, Minnesota; Nels, who resides in Hawley, and Carl, living in Hawley township. Andreas and Emma Thysell were devout and conscientious members of the Lutheran church, rearing their children in that faith. Jens and Anna Larson are the parents of eleven children all of whom are living: Lewis, Edward, who owns eighty acres and rents a half section; Anna, Carl, Hilda, Selma, Clarence, Victor, Vendal, Oscar and Ida. Mr. Larson takes a good citizen's interest in the local civic affairs and in the general conditions of the community in which he lives. He served on the township board and as supervisor for ten years, and was treasurer of the school board for two terms. In these representative positions he rendered a good account of himself, serving the people with fidelity and ability.

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### JENS WINJUM, JR.

If the husbandman is fortunate enough to have the true vision of farming and starts out to make it a reality, he will certainly find this business a most profitable one. He will urge the backward acres of his farm into activity that will make them produce abundantly, keep a good grade of live stock and use the most modern implements. Such a man is Jens Winjum, Jr., of Goose Prairie township, Clay county.

Mr. Winjum was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, February 21, 1871, a son of Jens, Sr., and Margareta Winjum, both natives of Norway, where they spent their earlier years, finally coming to America and locating in Fillmore county, Minnesota. The mother died in 1905 at the age of sixty years. The father was twenty years old when he came to America, coming at once to Fillmore county, this state, where he worked out as a farm hand. He came up to Clay county in 1871 and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 12, Highland Grove township, being one of the pioneers of