

inent people of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins are active members of the Lutheran church and take a deep interest in the social, religious and educational life of the town, where they are held in high regard and esteem. Mr. Wilkins has always taken a keen interest in the civic life of his home community, as has his father, who has served as assessor for many years, and has given efficient service on the school board. R. W. Wilkins is now a member of the local school board and is one of the progressive and prominent members. To him is due much of the credit for the establishment of the consolidated high school and for the erection of the splendid modern building which is the pride of the town and the surrounding country.

OSCAR STADUM.

One of the most progressive and promising of the younger farmers of Clay county is Oscar Stadum, of Tansem township, who has been contented to remain "under the roof that heard his earliest cry," which the poet Tennyson says is a privilege that we should all highly appreciate, for there are pleasures about the old home place that we cannot find elsewhere in the world.

Mr. Stadum was born on the farm on which he now lives in Tansem township, Clay county, August 25, 1888. He is a son of Andrew and Marie (Hoveland) Stadum, both natives of Norway. The father came to America when young in years and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota, his parents accompanying him. Marie Hoveland was also young when her parents brought her to America, the family locating in Iowa, later removing to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where her parents still reside. The Stadum family removed from Fillmore county to Clay county, the parents locating on the farm which is now owned by their grandson, Oscar, the subject of this sketch, and here they spent the rest of their lives, dying many years ago. Andrew Stadum helped develop this farm and here he spent the rest of his life, dying some time ago. He was the father of two children, Matilda and Oscar. After his death his widow remarried, her last husband being Ole Stoen, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work.

Peter and Marin Stadum, the paternal grandparents of the subject of this sketch, were natives of Norway, where they resided until about 1875, when they brought their family to Minnesota. They remained about two years in Fillmore county, then came to the farm of one hundred and sixty

acres which the subject of this review is now occupying. They developed the land from the wild prairie to a good farm, erected buildings and set out a large grove. Peter Stadum helped organize the local Norwegian Lutheran church.

Ole and Anna Hoveland, the maternal grandparents of the subject of this sketch, were natives of Norway, where they grew up and were married. They came to America in the seventies and after spending a few years in Iowa came to Minnesota, locating in Trondhjem township, Otter Tail county, where they took up a homestead embracing a quarter section, and there Mr. Hoveland died. His widow is still living in that township. They were parents of fourteen children. They helped organize the Norwegian Lutheran church there.

Oscar Stadum grew to manhood on the home farm where he has always lived. When he became of proper age he assisted with the general work on the farm during the crop seasons, in the winter time attending the district schools. The place consists of one hundred and sixty acres and he has kept the same under a fine state of cultivation and improvement, carrying on general and mixed farming, raising grain and live stock for the markets.

In 1912 Oscar Stadum was married to Ella Solum, who was born in Norway. She is a daughter of Hans Hendrickson and wife, natives of Norway, from which country they came to Minnesota when their daughter Ella was a child, and settled in Tansem township, Clay county. Ella later became the adopted daughter of Ole H. Solum, a biographical sketch of whom appears on another page of this work. Three children have been born to Oscar Stadum and wife, namely: Arnold, Margaret and Stella. Mr. Stadum is a Republican and is clerk of the school board in his district at this writing. He belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church.

OLE JENSON OLIN.

Before settling down to the orderly life of a farmer, Ole Jenson Olin had a varied career at various occupations in several states, including Illinois, Iowa, the Dakotas, Minnesota and Montana, and this notwithstanding that he is a native-born Swede, but has been a resident of the United States since he was twenty-one years of age. Mr. Olin was born in the kingdom of Sweden on February 8, 1862, a son of Jens and Buel (Hanson) Olson, both born in that same country, where they spent all their lives and where Jens