

Fiskum recalls many interesting reminiscences of the early days in this locality. The first time he took wheat to mill to have ground into flour, he was compelled to go to Alexandria, making the long journey in a wagon drawn by oxen, the time required being eight days.

HANS RASMUSSEN.

A pioneer of Norman county, where he owns a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres on which he carries on an advanced type of diversified farming, is Hans Rasmussen, born in the kingdom of Norway on December 5, 1852, the son of Martin and Helena (Halvorson) Rasmussen. His parents were both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity and married. Since several of their children had cast their lot with the agricultural interests of the New World, they, too, in 1877, came to America and located in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where they lived with their son, Matt. In the spring of 1882 this son brought his father and mother to Norman county, Minnesota, where they lived for a time with their son, Simon. Later, however, they made their home with the son who was mentioned above, and with him they remained the rest of their lives. Martin and Helena Rasmussen were the parents of five children, Hans, the subject of this review being the second in order of birth; the others are: Matt, now living in Anthony township, Norman county; Amund, living near Bemidji, Minnesota; Simon, of Norman county, and John, who is also a resident of Norman county.

When he was only seventeen years of age, after having received his common-school education in the land of his nativity, Hans Rasmussen, with no capital save rugged health and an indomitable spirit for making good in a new country, came to America and first located in Dodge county, Wisconsin, to which his brother, Matt, had preceded him. There he remained for twelve years, accustoming himself to the institutions and the ways of doing things in the New World, by working out for seven or eight years and farming the rest of the period. Finally, after he had accumulated sufficient resources to permit his acquiring a holding of his own, he came to Minnesota, in 1881, and bought two hundred and forty acres of land not far from Halstad in Anthony township, Norman county. Dominated by the desire to make the best of his farm, he immediately set about improving it, and now it is one of the best improved farming plants in all

Anthony township, being supplied with excellent and practical farm buildings, around which he has planted a grove.

On January 17, 1887, Hans Rasmussen was united in marriage to Bertha Jenson, also a native of Norway, daughter of Gunder Jenson. To Mr. and Mrs. Rasmussen have been born eleven children, Emlie, Martin, Gunda, Minnie, Helen, Ida, Gladys, Martha, Lillian and Evalyn, all of whom are living, and Gunda, who died at the early age of two years. Mr. and Mrs. Rasmussen are members of the Lutheran church, the former having helped to organize the East Marsh River church of that denomination, and in the teachings of this creed they have reared their children.

Aside from his activity on his fine farm, Mr. Rasmussen has wisely seen fit to connect himself with a very important co-operative business interest of his community, the farmers elevator, at Halstad, which he helped to organize; which interest indicates that he is alive to the needs of his neighborhood in better marketing facilities. He has been chosen by his neighbors to represent their interests as a member of the township board.

GILBERT KITTILSON.

From far-away Norway has come to the United States some of our best citizens and most successful men of affairs. We find former subjects of this peninsular kingdom occupying positions of honor and trust in nearly every part of our great domain. They have entered into the vocations common to our people, have made good in the same and are today honored and substantial men. Educated as they are to battle with the difficulties of life, they have come to a new country and amid new conditions with the determination to succeed in their life's work. Having lived in a land where the horizon of their opportunities is limited, they have come to a land where the field is broader, and have accepted the situation as an omen of success if rightfully used. Honest, frugal and industrious, quick of apprehension and possessed of a strong business acumen, they have succeeded where others have failed. Of this noble class of people who have left their native land and sought their future success in the state of Minnesota, it is well to mention Gilbert Kittilson, a successful banker of Borup, Norman county. He was born on November 3, 1876, and received his education in the schools of his native land, where he was reared amid the picturesque scenes of the homes of the early Norse navigators. He remained in the land of his birth until the year 1892, when he bade farewell to the scenes of his boyhood and sailed for