

in front of them they were startled. When we were gathered at Locust we appointed a committee of five men to go north the next day to see if the enemy was coming."

Here Mr. Wise concludes his narrative of a day's experiences in a boy's life in the early days of the Red man's sway in Winneshiek county, giving an idea of conditions as they existed in his youth and presenting to our readers an interesting incident.

BORGER HANSON.

From carpenter to the position of one of the foremost contractors and builders of Decorah is a wide step to take, yet Borger Hanson has reached that position without outside help or special advantages, through his own efforts, and is considered today one of the foremost citizens of his community and one of its most substantial men, being also connected with other important enterprises in this locality. Born on March 10, 1856, in the kingdom of Norway, he is a son of Hans Peter and Bertha (Schager) Nygaard, natives of Norway. The father followed the occupation of farming in the old country, where he passed away on January 2, 1871, but his wife subsequently came to the United States and made her home with our subject from 1886 until her demise in 1892.

Borger Hanson in the acquirement of his education attended the excellent common schools of his native country and subsequently went to Christiania, where he learned the cabinet-maker's trade. The opportunities and advantages of the new world appealing to him, he came in 1876, when twenty years of age, to the United States and located in Decorah, Iowa, where he engaged in building and contracting. There he remained for two years but in 1878 made removal to Fargo, North Dakota, where he was one of the first settlers to take up a homestead in the Red River valley, in Traill county. He became the owner of two hundred and forty acres and subsequently added to his ranch by acquiring another one hundred and sixty acres of school land. For seventeen years he gave his sole attention to the improvement and cultivation of his farm, remaining in that northern state until the fall of 1895, when he returned to Decorah to engage again in the contracting and building business. In 1910 he disposed of his North Dakota interests and now gives all of his time to contracting and subletting. He has built the gymnasium at the Luther College and superintended the carpenter work on the dormitory and built the hospital on the college grounds. Moreover, he has erected many residences in Decorah and country homes in Winneshiek county, his extensive business connections speaking well for his ability and integrity. As his means have increased he has become connected with other important institutions and is now serving in the third year as a director of the Decorah State Bank, while he is also a stockholder in the Winneshiek Hotel Company and the Farmers Creameries. He owns, moreover, five hundred and sixty acres of well improved land in northern Minnesota, which he rents and from which he receives a gratifying income.

In 1880 Mr. Hanson was united in marriage to Miss Nicoline Myrami, a daughter of Asle and Astrid (Nelson) Myrann, natives of Norway. The