

own account. His place is appropriately named Evergreen Farm and is pleasantly situated on sections 17, 19 and 20, Glenwood township, not far from Decorah. To the original homestead of one hundred and eighty acres he has added by purchase until now two hundred and twenty-five acres are included within the boundaries of the farm which is one of the well improved properties of the district, the careful management bestowed upon it being indicated by its well tilled fields and the good grade of stock raised. In addition to his agricultural interests Mr. Odden is connected with the Decorah Ice Cave Creamery Company and is a director of the Decorah Farmers Cooperative Company.

On the 25th of May, 1898, Mr. Odden was united in marriage to Miss Elise Hotvet, who was born in Glenwood township, January 12, 1877, a daughter of Charles and Emma Hotvet, the former still a resident of Glenwood township but the latter now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Odden have five children, John Cornelius, Albert Theodore, Elmer Charles Ingeman, Arthur Gerhard Benjamin and Harold Melvin.

Mr. Odden voted with the republican party until the new progressive movement was instituted, since which time he has been allied therewith. He and his family belong to the Lutheran church and stand for progress and improvement along all the lines which affect the general interests of society. Steadily he has worked his way upward, improving the opportunities which have come to him, and his energy and persistency of purpose have made him not only a successful business man but also a valued citizen of the community.

HARTVIG ENGBRETSON.

A force in commercial progress in Decorah, Hartvig Engbretson, the foremost farm implement dealer in this city and connected with many other important enterprises, is one of the most public-spirited men of his locality. Not only, however, is he entitled to credit for what he has done in promoting commercial expansion, but the nation's thanks are due him for the valuable service he has rendered in the Civil war, participating in many sanguine conflicts during that period. A native of Christiania, Norway, he was born May 4, 1845, a son of Ole and Bertha (Fredrickson) Engbretson. Both were natives of Norway and the former a tailor by trade. They came to the United States in the spring of 1864, locating in Decorah, of which they became pioneers. The father worked at his trade in this city until his death, the mother also having passed away in Decorah on February 1, 1894.

Hartvig Engbretson attended the excellent schools of Christiania in the acquirement of his education and when eighteen years old came with his parents to the United States, making directly for Decorah, where they located. For seven weeks he worked there for a stone mason contractor and then enlisted in Company G, Ninth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, serving one year or until the close of the war. He saw much of active service, participating in the battles of Nashville, Kingston, North Carolina, and a number of sharp skirmishes during the campaign in Alabama. He was mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, and received his honorable discharge from the service at Clinton, Iowa, whence he