

Winneshiek county has ever been the scene of Henry Olson's business activities. Early in life he began assisting his father in his mill and was thus engaged until twenty-six years of age, when, thinking to find farming a more congenial field of occupation, he bought land in Pleasant township upon which he established his home. He is now the owner of three hundred and sixty acres located on section 3, Pleasant township, and section 35, Highland township, upon which he carries on general agricultural pursuits. Under his careful guidance the place has been highly developed and is a well improved property, equipped with all modern conveniences and accessories for facilitating farm labor. Mr. Olson is systematic in his methods and follows progressive measures, and as a result has been most successful in his agricultural pursuits.

It was on the 29th of September, 1886, that Mr. Olson was united in marriage to Miss Mary Stoen, a native of Winneshiek county, who was born in Highland township, October 12, 1858, and has always resided in this county. Her parents, H. H. and Carrie (Bergs) Stoen, were natives of Norway, where the father was born July 16, 1831. He made the voyage to America in 1850, making his way first to Wisconsin, but shortly afterward came to Winneshiek county, Iowa, spending the remainder of his life on a farm in Highland township. He died August 6, 1910, and his wife passed away in October, 1907, at the age of eighty-five years. They were the parents of six children, namely: H. H., residing on the old home farm in Highland township; Isabelle, the wife of Ole Bidne, of Decorah; Mrs. Olson; Tosten, deceased; Ole, who has also passed away; and Julia, who married Thomas Jerry, of Highland township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Olson were born three children, Perry, Hattie and Julia.

The religious faith of Mr. Olson is that of the Norwegian church while his political allegiance is given to the republican party. He has served as township trustee and school director, and, being public-spirited in citizenship, works earnestly for the development and growth of his native country. An active life in which has been manifest diligence, perseverance and thrift has found material reward in a gratifying degree of success, while high principles and honorable dealings have won for Mr. Olson the confidence, respect and good-will of all with whom he has come in contact.

#### PETER A. ROCKSVOLD.

An excellent farm of two hundred and forty acres on sections 11 and 14, Glenwood township, pays tribute to the care and labor bestowed upon it by its owner, Peter A. Rocksvold, who is numbered among the leading farmers and stock-raisers of his part of the county. It was upon this farm that his birth occurred January 15, 1874, his parents being Anton and Anna (Chase) Rocks-void, both of whom were natives of Norway. The father was a lad of eleven years when he accompanied his parents on their emigration to the new world and the mother came with her parents when about fourteen years of age. Anton Rocksvold devoted his entire life to farming and stock-raising and became the owner of one hundred and forty acres of land now in possession of his son Peter. He passed away in 1886 at the age of forty-two years, while his wife survives and