

with ox teams to Lansing, the nearest trading post, which was thirty miles away. As he prospered he became the owner of three hundred and seventy-eight and a half acres which he brought to a high state of cultivation. He was a progressive man and was one of the first to purchase a threshing machine, which he hauled from McGregor. For a number of years he carried on threshing profitably and won success in his various undertakings, becoming one of the prominent and substantial residents of Winneshiek county. He gave his political allegiance to the republican party and held a number of township offices. He was one of the organizers and builders of the Methodist Episcopal church and was a liberal supporter and a faithful member thereof. He passed away on the homestead farm on the 17th of April, 1882, and his wife died on the nth of October, 1892. They were the parents of fourteen children, of whom five are now living, namely: Edwin, of this review; Sarah, the wife of J. J. Kessey, of Forest City, Iowa; Isabella, who married J. J. Shervin, of Pleasant township; Lewis H., of Wadena, Minnesota; and Henry A., of Pleasant township.

Edwin Hover, the eldest in his father's family, was the only child born in Norway and was a little lad of three years when brought to the United States by his parents. His boyhood days were spent amid the pioneer conditions of a frontier district and consequently his opportunities for an education were limited. His practical training, however, was thorough, for at an early age he began working in the fields. Upon attaining his majority he wisely chose as his life work the occupation to which he had been reared and has since given his attention to agricultural pursuits. He is now the owner of two hundred and thirty-seven acres lying on sections 5 and 8, Pleasant township, a portion of this farm belonging to the old family homestead upon which his father located after his arrival in this county. It is in excellent condition, due to the well directed efforts of father and son, and is given over to general farming and stock-raising purposes, in both of which branches Mr. Hover is meeting with excellent success.

In 1868 Mr. Hover was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Maria Christian, who was born in Norway on the 17th of January, 1846. She was brought to the United States in 1857 by her parents, Christian and Anna Marie (Larson) Christianson, natives of Vardal, Norway, the father's birth occurring on the 20th of August, 1817, and the mother's on the 8th of January, 1821. The father was a farmer by occupation and was thus engaged until the time of his death, on the 6th of March, 1900. His wife survived until the 30th of July, 1905. In their family were eight children, two sons and six daughters. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hover were born nine children, as follows: Matilda, who was born February 5, 1870, and is now the wife of Edwin Quisel, a resident of Toronto, South Dakota; Clara Helena, born June 19, 1872, who is the wife of Edwin Nordheim, of Pleasant township; Amanda Elizabeth, who passed away in infancy; Edward H., who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume; Charles Elmer, born June 24, 1878, a resident of Newburg, Minnesota; Alice Sophia, born June 17, 1881, who is the widow of Albert Lodahl and with her daughter, Aletta Bernice, makes her home with her father; Lily Amanda, whose death occurred at the age of ten months; Idella Malvina, born February 14, 1886, who is a music teacher; and Alma Henrietta, who was born May 11, 1889, and engages in school teaching.

A man of much public spirit, Mr. Hover has never allowed personal affairs to monopolize his time and attention to the exclusion of participation in matters