

relating to the public welfare, and his efforts in behalf of general progress have been potent factors in the growth and development of the community. He is a staunch supporter of the republican party and by reason of his personal worth has been called by his fellowmen to fill various positions of trust. For eight terms or sixteen years he served as township assessor, acted as trustee and also as justice of the peace for a number of years and also served as school director for some time. He was county supervisor for one term of three years and during his term of office the new courthouse was built. He readily cooperates in all movements and projects instituted for the betterment of his locality and the county at large, and his public-spirited course has won him a place of prominence and influence among his fellow citizens. Reared in the Methodist Episcopal faith, he is an active member and one of the pillars of that church, doing all in his power to further its influence. Mr. Hover inherited as a birthright many of the strong characteristics of the Norwegian race, and it is these sterling qualities that have brought him the well merited success which he now enjoys, while upright manhood and honorable principles have won in large measure the confidence and high regard of his fellowmen.

TORGER T. HOVE.

A finely improved and highly productive farm in Springfield township, Winneshiek county, pays tribute to the well directed efforts and business sagacity of Torger T. Hove. Like many other of Winneshiek county's successful agriculturists Mr. Hove came from the land of the midnight sun and possesses in large measure the sturdy qualities of character common to that nationality. Born in Norway on the 25th of April, 1851, he is a son of Thor and Mary P. (Boito) Torgerson, also natives of that land. The father brought his family to America in 1865, seeking the larger opportunities offered by the new world, and at once made his way to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he resided for one year with his brother. He then purchased a farm in Springfield township and later purchased other property, operating two or three places in Winneshiek county and becoming a successful agriculturist. In 1879 he became the owner of the farm upon which his son Torger T. Hove now makes his home and that property he continued to operate until his death, which occurred in 1892, while his wife, who long survived him, died in 1910.

Torger T. Hove, who was a lad of fourteen years when brought to America by his parents, had begun his education in the schools of Norway and this was continued in the district schools of Winneshiek county. In the meantime he was also receiving practical lessons on his father's farm which should later serve him in good stead, and upon laying aside his text-books he worked out as a farm hand, so continuing until 1879. In that year he was able, through the careful saving of his earnings, to purchase eighty acres which he improved and operated for seventeen years, and at the end of that time he bought the home place from his brother, a tract consisting of one hundred and nineteen and a half acres located on section 12, Springfield township. He at once applied himself to its further development, making many improvements upon the place including the erection