

They were married in Winneshiek county, and his remaining days were spent upon his farm in Highland township, his death occurring in 1882, when he was sixty years of age. Mrs. Peterson still resides with her son on the old home farm a half mile east of Highlandville. By a former marriage she had one child, Kate, now the wife of Peter S. Bidne, of Pleasant township. The nine children born unto Mr. and Mrs. John Peterson are: Louisa, the wife of Mons Askelson, of Highland township; Peter, who died in childhood; P. J., of this review; Ole, on the old home farm; Iver, who died in 1901, when about twenty years of age; Mary, the wife of Lars K. Bjorgo, of Highland township; Julia, of Chicago; Josie, at home; and Mary, who died in childhood.

P. J. Bidne was reared under the parental roof and continued upon his father's farm until 1889, when he secured a position in the Highlandville Creamery. He was thus employed for five years, on the expiration of which period he joined L. K. Bjorgo and M. J. Akre in purchasing the creamery. Subsequently Mr. Bjorgo sold his interest to his partners, who have since remained together in the business, owning an equal interest. Mr. Bidne is the butter maker, and the product of the creamery in butter amounts to one hundred and sixty thousand pounds annually, all of which is shipped to Chicago, where it commands the highest market prices owing to its excellence. They work for quality and not quantity and theirs is a model creamery, conducted in the most cleanly and sanitary way and according to the most improved modern processes, so that the products thereof find a ready sale. Mr. Bidne devotes his entire attention to the creamery business and is a busy, energetic and enterprising man.

In June, 1898, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Bidne and Miss Anna Akre, who was born in Pleasant township in 1875, a daughter of John and Martha Akre. In politics Mr. Bidne is a republican but has never been an office seeker. For three years he was school treasurer of the independent district and he is a member of the Big Canoe Lutheran church of Pleasant township. His life is guided by straightforward, honorable principles and his record as a business man and citizen commends him to the warm regard and unqualified confidence of those with whom he is associated.

THOMAS ENGBRETSON.

Thomas Engbretson, living retired in Madison township, making his home with his cousin, Ole O. Hove, is known as one of the early settlers in this vicinity and has long been numbered among its most progressive and representative citizens. He was born in Norway, October 20, 1843, and is a son of Engbret and Gro Thorson, also natives of that country, the parents never having come to America.

Thomas Engbretson crossed the Atlantic with the Hove family in 1866 and settled in Winneshiek county in June of that year. For a time he worked as a farm hand and then turned his attention to hauling cream, following that occupation for twenty-three years thereafter and becoming known as a reliable.