

## PAST AND PRESENT OF WINNESHIEK COUNTY 205

of Blair at Blair, Wisconsin; president of the Coon Valley State Bank at Coon Valley, Wisconsin; a director of the Trempealeau Valley State Bank at Taylor, Wisconsin, the State Bank of Bowman at Bowman, North Dakota, the Bank of Scranton at Scranton, North Dakota, the First State Bank at Mineral Springs, North Dakota; and president of the Hjerleid Homestead Company. He is thoroughly acquainted with all phases of the banking business and so directs his interests and activities that splendid results have accrued.

On the 1st of January, 1889, Mr. Hjerleid was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Hamre, a daughter of R. K. Hamre. Their children are Helene, Raymond and Gavin. The family attend the Lutheran church. Fraternaly Mr. Hjerleid is connected with the Masons and the Elks. He has always lived in the upper Mississippi valley and possesses the spirit of enterprise and progress which has been the dominant factor in the upbuilding of this section of the country. He possesses strong, sturdy qualities and admirable characteristics and his well spent life, in which his labors have been intelligently directed, has brought to him gratifying and commendable success. In his vocabulary there is no such word as fail and the methods that he has pursued have never been such as seek or require disguise.

## WILLIAM F. PILGRIM.

William F. Pilgrim is one of the younger men who is finding his fortune in the soil of Winneshiek county, owning a fine property of one hundred and sixty acres on section 14, Madison township. He was born in Clay county, this state, in February, 1875, and is a son of Charles W. and Nancy E. (Boyer) Pilgrim, of whom further mention is made elsewhere in this work. He was reared and educated in Winneshiek county, having come to this part of Iowa as a child, and after completing the course in the public schools of Ridgeway, supplemented this by a course of Valder's Business College in Decorah. He remained with his parents until he was twenty-five years of age and his father then gave him one hundred acres of land on section 14, Madison township. To this he afterward added a tract of fifty acres which he purchased from his brother and another ten-acre tract, owning today one hundred and sixty acres of well improved land. He has operated it since that time and upon it has made substantial improvements, erecting all of the buildings with the exception of the house. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Hog Buyers Company of Decorah and is well known and favorably regarded in business circles.

In January, 1900, Mr. Pilgrim was united in marriage to Miss Anna A. Elwick, a daughter of John and Mary (Johns) Elwick, natives of England. The father came to this country about the year 1863 and turned his attention to farming in Decorah township, operating an excellent property near Decorah for the remainder of his life. He passed away in 1907, having survived his wife one year. Mr. and Mrs. Pilgrim have adopted two children, Harold, aged twelve, and Mildred, aged nine.

Mr. Pilgrim is a devout member of the Methodist church and is a republican in his political beliefs. Fraternaly he is affiliated with the Masons and the