

Perry Kenyon was reared at home and by practical experience upon his father's farm learned the best methods of cultivating the fields and caring for the grain and stock, becoming before he was of age a practical and able agriculturist. He has never left the homestead, of which he now owns one hundred acres lying on section 27, Hesper township. Throughout the years he has steadily carried forward the work of improving and developing this property and is today the owner of a valuable, productive and well managed farm which everywhere reflects his careful supervision and untiring labor.

On the 28th of June, 1897, Mr. Kenyon was united in marriage to Miss Christina Eggen, who was born in Canoe township, this county, July 29, 1877, a daughter of Ole and Margaret (Reitan) Eggen, natives of Norway. The father passed away in Canoe township August 8, 1905, at the age of sixty-nine and his widow still resides in that locality. Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon have one son, Oscar Perry. Mr. Kenyon is a man of good business ability, which has won for him substantial success. Moreover, he is actuated in all that he does by a most honorable and upright purpose, and possesses those characteristics which command confidence and the good-will of his fellow men, and which place him among the highly respected and valued native sons of Hesper township.

JACOB E. GOSSMAN.

Jacob E. Gossman, who since 1889 has owned and operated the Pine Tree Stock Farm on section 16, Burr Oak township, is a native son of that part of Winneshiek county, born October 7, 1860. His parents, Anthony and Elizabeth (Snyder) Gossman, were born in Ohio, the former in Zanesville and the latter in Buckeye. The maternal great-grandfather of the subject of this review, Nicholas Snyder, was born in Germany and after coming to America served in the Revolutionary war, enlisting at the age of fourteen as a drummer boy and remaining in the army for seven years. On the paternal side also Mr. Gossman is a descendant of Revolutionary stock, his grandfather, Andrew Gossman, having come from his native Germany to America in colonial times. He served in the Continental army, having previously received an excellent military training in the fatherland, and he afterward followed the profession of an architect in Muskingum county, Ohio, to which he went as a pioneer. He had nine children, six sons and three daughters, of whom the father of the subject of this review and his brother Joseph are the only ones surviving. Anthony Gossman was born in Zanesville, Ohio, February 17, 1829, and his marriage occurred in that state about 1856. He and his wife resided in Burr Oak township, this county, until he retired from active life in 1895, when they removed to Canton, Minnesota. They are still residents of that state, making their home at New Richland. He is well known in Winneshiek county and throughout this section of Iowa, as he was one of the first men to secure land from the government in pioneer times. He and his wife became the parents of eight children: Jacob E., of this review; Mary E., who married John Ryan, of Canton, Minnesota; Louis E., a graduate of the law department of the Michigan State University and now municipal judge at Crookston, Minnesota; Leo A., who is