Polk county and purchased 160 acres of land southeast of the village of Fertile, paying $800 for the tract. He improved his land as much as he could, but as he was still compelled to earn his living by working for other farmers, his efforts in this direction for some time were limited. But he continued them until the spring of 1899, when he moved to the farm on which he now lives, and he has kept them up ever since, both on that farm and on all his other tracts. He now owns 1,240 acres of first-rate land improved with good buildings and constituting one of the most desirable and valuable homes in his township, all of which has been acquired by his own industry and thrift.

Mr. Hoffe was married in Grand Forks, North Dakota, in the spring of 1888 to Miss Sarah Dall, who, also, is a native of Norway. They have two children, their sons Nels and Peder O. The head of the house has served for some years on the township board and also as a member of the school board, and he is one of the directors of the Farmers’ State Bank of Fertile. He and his wife are members of the Synod Lutheran church.

WILLIAM HOLLEY.

William Holley was for a quarter of a century actively engaged in farming in Polk county, but since 1905 lived retired from active pursuits and making his home in East Grand Forks, until his death December 9, 1915. William Holley contributed a liberal share of enterprise and assistance in building up and developing this county, and won the lasting esteem of all who knew him by the uprightness of his life, his successful management of his own affairs and his cordial and helpful interest in the progress and enduring welfare of his locality.

Mr. Holley was born near Toronto, Canada, August 1, 1842, and remained there until 1880 progressively engaged in farming after leaving school. In March, 1880, he became a resident of Polk county, locating in Grand Forks township, where he purchased a farm of nearly eighty acres. He developed and improved this farm and made his home on it until the autumn of 1905, when he retired from business and changed his residence to East Grand Forks. His farm now comprises 240 acres and is all under cultivation and well improved with good buildings and all necessary equipment for its vigorous and systematic tillage according to the most approved present-day methods.

On February 6, 1877, Mr. Holley was married in Canada to Miss Margaret Wallace, of the same nativity as himself and born March 4, 1859. They had one child, their son William Henry Wallace Holley, who was born in Grand Forks township, this county, August 31, 1890. The parents were zealous and active members of the Presbyterian church, and the father always took a good citizen’s part in the work of pushing the progress of Polk county forward along all lines of wholesome development and seeing that its public affairs were wisely, honestly and economically managed.

OLE F. BRUUN.

Coming to the United States at the age of eighteen, with no capital but his resolute spirit, active mind, habits of industry and frugality and quick perception of opportunities for advancement, and using all his chances to better his condition to good advantage, Ole F. Bruun, one of the leading and successful farmers of Vineland township, this county, has accumulated a well-earned competency for life and raised himself to influence and general esteem among his fellow men by his sterling citizenship and useful services to his community. His career furnishes a striking illustration of the value of pluck, energy and persistency,