a man to break and cultivate his land. In the spring of 1883 he bought a yoke of oxen and rented a piece of land in order to get a crop. The land was wet and the crop was poor, and the next year the frost injured his grain and it brought a low price. Many settlers left the neighborhood at this time but he determined to remain, and in a short time he began to prosper.

As soon as he was able he bought forty acres of railroad land at $6 an acre, and a little later another tract of forty acres at $10 an acre and still later forty acres more for which he paid $32.50 an acre. He also began to buy young cattle, but butter was only six cents a pound and eggs six cents a dozen, so he could not make much of his venture in this direction. His farm now comprises 280 acres and is registered on the county records as "Valley Home Farm" in English, "Dalhem" in Swedish. It has a fine grove or windbreak planted by Mr. Johanson in 1896, and the judicial ditch, No. 1, through Polk and Marshall and into Pennington and Red Lake counties, forming an outlet from Snake to Red river, passes his farm on the section line, although he had good drainage without this aid. He also owns ten acres of timber land on Red river.

Mr. Johanson was married in 1886 to Miss Elin Johanson, whom he knew in Sweden, her native land, and who came to this country to become his wife. They have four children: Elin, who is a senior in the Duluth Normal school and has been a teacher in Polk and Marshall counties; Hjalmar, Hilma and David, who are living at home. The members of the family hold membership in the Swedish Mission church. In relation to public affairs Mr. Johanson is independent, striving always to give his support to the candidates best qualified for the offices they seek. He is now in his twenty-fifth year of continuous service as township assessor, an office he does not desire but continues to fill from a sense of duty, and has been chairman of the school board for nineteen or twenty successive years, also one year town supervisor, one year road overseer and three years justice of the peace.

GEORGE KRONSCNABEL.

Having been a resident of Polk county for thirty-five years, with the exception of about eighteen months, during which he lived in Winona, Minnesota, and having been in business in Fertile since 1886, and all the time zealous and enterprising in the service of the community in various ways, George Kronschnabel, president of the Fertile Brick and Tile company, has proven himself to be a valuable citizen and a stimulating force for progress among the people of this section, and he is esteemed by them in accordance with the services he has rendered and is still rendering them and his sterling integrity as a man and fidelity and ability as a public official.

Mr. Kronschnabel was born in Cleveland, Ohio, June 14, 1857, the son of George and Mary (Klinghorn) Kronschnabel, who moved to Minnesota in 1862 and located in Carver county. The father died in San Antonio, Texas, in 1903, at the age of seventy-six years. He operated a sawmill for a number of years in Carver county, and his son George assisted him in the work. He was educated and grew to manhood in Carver county and there learned the trade of tinsmith. This trade was his regular occupation for about sixteen years, but other and better opportunities opened before him and he was prompt in embracing them and making them serviceable to his advancement.

In January, 1880, Mr. Kronschnabel became a resident of Polk county, and in 1886 he opened a hardware store at Fertile. He continued in this line of trade until 1898, since which time he has given his attention wholly to the manufacture of brick and tile and the management of his farm of 160 acres in the vicinity of Fertile, except what has been required by his position as director of the First State Bank of Fertile and as president of the village council,