About twenty-eight years ago, that is, in or about 1888, Mr. Peterson was united in marriage with Miss Anna S. Pederson, who was a native of Sweden. She died in 1907 leaving eight children: Peter S., who married Miss Lena Nelson and lives on a farm of 160 acres in Section 25, Higdem township, given him by his father; Oscar, who died at the age of twenty years; Hans, who married Miss Lydia Walberg and lives on part of his father's farm; Ragna, who is her father's housekeeper, and Albin, Harold, Joseph and Amanda, the last named being reared by another family. The father is a member and one of the trustees of Kongsvenger Lutheran church, two and one-half miles distant from his home. He is well known and highly esteemed in all parts of the township of his home.

THOMAS HENDRICKSON.

The late Thomas Hendrickson, who was for many years one of the leading farmers of Western Polk county, and who died on his little farm in Sandsville township June 30, 1912, was a native of Sweden, province of Vermland, where his life began December 22, 1855. He came to the United States with his father, Hendrick Leeden, and located with him in Renville county, Minnesota, where he lived until 1878, when he moved to Polk county and bought the southeast quarter of section 28, in Higdem township, to which he afterward added eighty acres which he purchased from the railroad company, and still later he also took up a homestead, which was the northwest quarter of section 26, Higdem township. On these tracts of land he lived until he retired from large operations and removed to a small farm in section 17, Sandsville township, on which he passed the remainder of his life.

Owing to a rule long in use rather generally in Scandinavian countries the children of a man take as their surname the father’s given name with the suffix “son” added. Thus this gentleman as the son of Hendrick Leeden became Thomas Hendrickson, and his children received the patronymic “Thompson” as their designation, and this all his sons and unmarried daughters still bear. They are alluded to in this sketch under that name.

Mr. Henderson developed his homestead and other land into good farming ground and improved his several tracts with good buildings, especially the homestead, on which he made his headquarters for many years. He had 400 acres in all in Higdem township, and when he moved to the Sandsville township farm, five and a half miles east, he turned the Higdem farm in section 28 over to his son, Henry Thompson, and the old homestead over to his son, Nels A. Thompson, whose sister, Miss Christine Thompson, keeps house for him as he is unmarried, although warmly interested in every phase of his township’s welfare and everything that ministers to its progress and further development.

The principal industry of the father on the farms was raising grain. He was also the first man to operate a threshing outfit in this section of the county, beginning his work in this line with horse power and continuing it with steam power for many years after that became feasible. For many years he was in partnership in the threshing business with H. H. Oberg, of Sandsville township, and they were also owners of imported Percheron stallions and gave a great deal of attention to improving the grade of horses in their part of Polk county and the adjoining country. In his later threshing activities he had Ole Lind as a partner.

Mr. Hendrickson covered a wide area as a thresherman and was best known to the people of the Northwest in that capacity. He served as treasurer of Higdem township for some time, and for a long period was one of the members of Kongsvenger Lutheran church, which stands one mile and a half south of his old home. When he located in this county he had no capital and his experience during his first few