Clara Olson, a daughter of Ole E. Olson, of Higdem township, who came to Polk county in his young manhood. Mrs. Lind was born in Marshall county but not far from her present home. Two children have been born of the marriage, Matilda Caroline and Nicholas Oliver. All the members of the family belong to the Kongsvinger Lutheran church, of which Ole Lind is now one of the trustees, and in which his father has been active during the whole of his residence in this county. During seven years of the life of the late Thomas Hendrickson Mr. Lind was his partner in operating a threshing outfit.

STEENER KNUTSON.

Steener Knutson, father to the Steenerson family who have been prominent in the history and development of Polk county, was born in Telemarken, Norway, June 30, 1819, and was the only son of Knut and Annie Steenerson, of Berge, in Margedal, Norway. He was educated in the common school of that Parish and graduated as teacher from the Kvitseid Seminary, and taught school for several years in neighboring parishes. In 1844 he married Birgit Liefson Roholt, who was born March 30, 1821. They bought a farm named Roundal, but sold it in a short time and removed to another farm named Moasaas, which they owned and operated for several years, and finally sold out in 1851 and sailed for America.

At this time three sons had been born to them, Knute, Leif, and Christopher. He used to say his resolution to leave his native land was based upon economic conditions. His earthly possessions were small and there was little prospect of any increase in them, except in the item of children, in which line he had already made a good start. Reading about the opportunities in America and its free institutions, he desired to get there before his family would be so large and his purse so small that he would be unable to get away. This calculation proved quite correct, for when he arrived in Dane county, Wisconsin, he had just enough money left to buy a cow and a couple of two year old steers. Here he rented forty acres of land, and taught school in the neighborhood for a time. Finally, hearing of Minnesota Territory and its cheap lands, he decided to go there and locate a home. Leaving his family in Dane county, he reached LaCrosse and was told by Mons Anderson, a merchant there, that he could get a homestead north of what is now LaCrosse, and he went out to look at it, but thought the soil was too sandy; so he went on across the Mississippi into Houston county, Minnesota, and selected a homestead at Luna Valley. Here he hired out to cut cord-wood for some one at LaCrosse, and was cheated out of his pay.

One day, towards spring, he was walking across the Mississippi on the ice with an ax on his shoulder. The ice, being weak, broke under him and he fell in and in the struggle to get out the ax fell on his left hand and cut the middle finger clean off. This laid him up for the balance of the winter. When spring opened he was so far recovered that he was able to go to work and hired out to go on a raft from LaCrosse to St. Louis, which trip netted him fifteen dollars.

In 1853 the family joined him at LaCrosse and they settled down on their claim at Luna Valley. By this time the family had increased to four, another boy having been born and named Halvor. They came riding behind a yoke of oxen on a wagon, with wheels made of blocks sawed from a log. The names of the oxen were "Duke" and "Dime." The cow was also along, her name was Jevrei, meaning precious and she proved herself to be precious in fact as well as in name; she was the mainstay of the family for years, and was famous far and wide for the quality and quantity of her milk, and the fine calves she raised. On the trip on the raft to St. Louis he contracted the fever and ague and was laid up with the disease for nearly a year. When his wife told of these times and of the hardship endured it was enough to moisten the eyes of the most stolid. The country was full of