children before coming to this country, the youngest of their seven being born in Polk county. The mother’s maiden name was Mary Johnson, and the children are Peter X., John, Annie, Johannes, Emil, Maria and William. Annie is the wife of John Strong and lives in Marshall county four miles from her father’s home. Maria is the wife of Lars Kleven and they are engaged in farming in North Dakota.

Emil, the fourth son of the family, has a homestead in Beltrami county, but he still lives at home with his parents and his brothers, all of whom are, like himself, unmarried. Peter, John and Johannes own 290 acres of land near the family homestead and they all work together, farming their own and their father’s land to the best advantage. Being progressive and studious young men, they apply to their farming operations the results of their study and observation and conduct them according to the most approved methods of the present day. They and their father usually vote with the Republican party in general elections, and they all take an active and serviceable part in the affairs of their township, being keenly alive to everything that is likely to improve conditions for it and its residents.

OLE H. BANG.

This enterprising, progressive and very successful farmer is probably the best known man in Northwestern Polk county, and his fine home on the bank of the Red River of the North, Section 17 and adjoining sections, Higdem township, is one of the most attractive and valuable in the county, and one of the most hospitable and popular rural resorts in this part of the country. It is one mile south of the county line, three miles south of Oslo and about twenty miles north of Grand Forks.

Mr. Bang was born in Valges, Norway, October 17, 1847, and came to the United States in the spring of 1869, locating at Madison, Wisconsin. He had lived in Christiania, the capital of his native land, and had there worked at his trade as a tailor until he saved enough money to bring him to this country and give him a start here. He had relatives at Madison, and worked at his trade and about that city three years, saving his earnings and getting ready for future undertakings of greater magnitude.

In 1872 Mr. Bang moved to Taylors Falls, Minnesota, and there during the next five years he carried on a prosperous merchant tailoring business. At the end of the period named he moved up the St. Croix valley to Grantsburg, Burnett county, Wisconsin, where he opened a general store on the $3,000 capital he had saved in his eight years’ work in this country.

While conducting his store he also bought tax titles in timber lands about thirty miles up the St. Croix river until he had acquired title to about two sections. The sale of such titles then being over, he began to cut the timber on his holdings, which he continued to do for three years. The land had been cut over but there was still timber standing on it amounting to about one million and a half feet, and Mr. Bang found cutting this very profitable. At the end of six years of storekeeping and timber cutting he found he had accumulated a capital of $15,000, and he determined to change his base of operations.

In 1883 Mr. Bang came to Crookston and bought the Scandinavian Hotel and saloon, then owned by Evan Overland, and in these he conducted a profitable business for six years. He then invested in 160 acres of his present farm on Red river, and located on it and began the improvements which have made his place so productive and valuable. He kept on buying land at low rates until he owned 2,000 acres, purchasing a whole section of school land at $6.50 an acre, railroad land at $9 to $18 and other land at $10 an acre. He has since sold all but 900 acres. He improved the whole body and made it productive, however, while he owned it, giving his whole time and attention to it and seeking no other occupation except for four years, during which he was associated in the