a mile back from the main road running through this locality, is a native of Norway. When he came to the United States he located in Renville county, Minnesota, where he was variously employed for six years, then took up a homestead which he converted into a good farm.

In 1878 Mr. Christianson came to Polk county and took a pre-emption claim on the land on which he now lives, which is the southeast quarter of section 18, Sullivan township. He was accompanied to this county by his present brother-in-law, Ole Rice, and Mrs. Rice, the mother of Ole. Mr. Rice took a pre-emption claim on the northwest quarter of section 18 and his mother a tree claim on the east half of the northeast quarter of that section. Ole Rice lived in this county about twenty years, then moved to Oregon. His mother died here, and her tree claim became the property of her daughter, Mrs. Christianson. Mr. Christianson, who is now living retired from active pursuits has sold a large part of the land he once owned, and now owns only his original farm, the cultivation of which he supervises. When his son Christian married he gave him 160 acres.

Grasshoppers destroyed the crops of Mr. Christianson in Renville county, so he hooked up his ox teams and drove to this county for a new start and a better opportunity for advancement. His first home here was a crude dugout on the banks of the Marais, but this was soon succeed by a log house, which lasted until he built his present abode. To his first marriage was born one child, his son Christian Amundson, who was named according to the Scandinavian custom. Mr. Christianson’s first wife was Miss Gena Rice. She died in 1897. His second marriage, in 1903, was to Ingeborg Ollestad, whose son John by a former marriage, is making his home with them. Mr. Christianson is a devout and zealous member of Grand Marais Lutheran church.

Christian Amundson, the only son and child of Amund Christianson, was born in Norway September 9, 1868, and at the age of eighteen years came to Polk county, Minnesota. In 1898 he was married to Miss Sena Hotvedt, a sister of the late Peter A. Hotvedt. At the time of his marriage he bought his present farm of Ole Rice and the tree claim which belonged to Ole’s mother first and Christian’s stepmother afterward, the tree claim being the tract on which he is now living. He had in addition the 160 acre farm in Northland township, five miles north of his home, which once belonged to his father.

Mr. Amundson completed the house on his farm begun by Ole Rice and put up all the other buildings on the place. He has since bought another farm of 160 acres, which adjoins his home farm and is cultivated in connection with it, the whole body of 400 acres being treated as one farm. His principal industry is raising wheat, oats, barley and flax. In 1915 his crops aggregated 7,000 bushels. His farm lies along the Marais river and is one of the choice ones of the valley. It contains a grove of stately trees planted by Mrs. Rice and her son Ole.

For ten years Mr. Amundson has served as township supervisor, and he has long served as a member of the school board. His religious connection is with the Grand Marais Lutheran church, of which he was one of the trustees for a number of years. He and his wife are the parents of six children, Eleanora, John, Alice, Harold, Clara and Clarence.

JAMES McDONALD.

Cultivating with enterprise and skill 560 acres of land in one body, only part of which lies in his home farm, James McDonald, of section 32, Nesbit township, is doing as much as almost any other man to aid in promoting the industrial and commercial power of Polk county and minister to the general welfare and progress of its residents. He was born in County Frontenac, province of Ontario, Canada, December 6, 1853, and in the spring of 1876 came to Blue Earth county, Minnesota. During his first summer in this