a man to break up his land while he worked as a fireman on a Hudson Bay company boat on the Red river to support his family. He also did some blacksmithing, thereby working at the trade he had learned in his native land. Two or three years after his arrival here he obtained a yoke of steers and broke them, and by that time his farm was yielding a living for the family.

The elder Mr. Horker bought another tract of 160 acres two miles and a half east of his homestead and built the present dwelling house on the home place ten or twelve years after taking possession of it, the first residence of the family on the farm being a little log shack with a sod roof. He also set out a lot of trees which now make a fine grove. When he died his son Helmer, who was living on the homestead, took charge of it for his mother, who continued to operate it until she died except for three years, during which she lived in Grand Forks. When she died he bought out the other heirs, and now owns the whole place, on which he has built a new barn and made other improvements.

Mr. Horker’s principal industries are raising grain and live stock. He has seventeen head of high grade Percheron horses, twenty head of cattle and ten milch cows, the cattle all being Herefords of a superior strain. In 1907 he was married to Miss Martha Eidsness, a native of Norway. They have four children, Ella, Arnold, Harold and Stella. The father is a Republican in politics and a member of the township board and township supervisor.

PETER E. SWANSON.

For nearly eighteen years after coming to this county and settling down to build up for himself a new home in the American wilderness Peter E. Swanson, who now has a fine farm in section 22, Northland township, this county, wrestled with almost overpowering difficulties and encountered an almost continuous succession of disasters and discouragements. Yet he stuck to his purpose and the place on which he had determined to carry it out, with the result that he has conquered bad fortune and achieved a gratifying success. As the portion of the county in which he lives is flat and low, in the early years before there was any systematic drainage on a large scale in the neighborhood, water often covered a great part of his land for many months and he was unable to work it in time to raise a crop. When this condition did not prevail either frost or smut would spoil his crop, and he was no better off than in a wet season. At times he has had to walk in water waist-deep to get to his house when he was away from it. Since the judicial ditch was dug about 1898 the water has not troubled him and his crops have been good.

Mr. Swanson was born in Sweden October 13, 1839, and came to the United States and this county in 1880. He homesteaded on the southwest quarter of section 22, and was the second settler in that neighborhood, John Erickson, on section 14, two miles farther northeast, having come first. But Mr. Swanson was about three miles farther northeast than any other settler. What money he brought with him from Sweden was lost and he had nothing when he arrived here. He built a little log house, which is still standing, and in this he lived until 1915, when the present larger and more comfortable dwelling was put up. Other improvements were made from time to time as he was able.

During the first year of his residence in this county Mr. Swanson worked for other farmers in the summer and in the fall he cut hay, which he sold in Grand Forks at $3 to $4 a ton. He has always stuck to his farm, seeking no other business and no public life or official position of any kind at any time. He is a fervent member of the Swedish Lutheran church, which he helped to build about 1887.

Mr. Swanson was married and had an adopted daughter when he came to Minnesota. His wife died