pressure tank to force the water to all parts of his house and barn and many other modern conveniences. A few years ago he sold the north half of the section to his son Norval, but in 1914 he bought an additional tract of 160 acres at $65 an acre, and he now cultivates all he owns. He helped to organize Northland township and obtained a good deal of employment from W. C. Nash, the first settler in it. In Sullivan township he has served several years as a member of the township board and the school board.

In 1883 Mr. Bolstad was married in this county to Miss Bertha Jacobson, who came to the Northwest with her father, Jacob Jacobson, and her married sister, Mrs. Anna Christlund, and took up her residence with them on a farm in Dakota. She afterward lived with her brother, Hans Jacobson, on his homestead in the northwest quarter of section 6, in Sullivan township, where his widow is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Bolstad have had four children, but only one, their son Norval J. Bolstad, is living. Their first born, Matilda, died when she was fifteen. Norval J. was born on the farm and has passed the whole of his life to the present time on it. He was educated in the local and the Grand Forks schools, and has now been operating his part of the home farm for two years. He married Miss Matilda Hoye, the daughter of Iver Hoye, who lives on the adjoining section. Three children have been born of their union, Joseph, Bernice and Florence. All the members of both families belong to the Grand Marias Lutheran church, of which John N. Bolstad is an original member and was one of the men who built the church edifice.

EDWARD LA BARGE.

Having come to the locality in which he now lives in the early days before there were any internal improvements in it and while it was yet largely in its primeval state of wildness, Edward La Barge, who is now one of the enterprising and prosperous farmers of Sullivan township, this county, was called upon to experience many of the hardships of frontier life, as was also his wife, but they endured them with patience and an unyielding determination to overcome all difficulties and make their way to independence.

Mr. La Barge was born at Hudson, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, January 10, 1861, and is a son of David La Barge, who located on a farm near Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, in 1849. The father converted his wild land near Fond du Lac into a good farm and some years later moved to St. Croix county in the same state. His son, Edward, remained with his parents until 1880, working on the home farm in summer and driving teams in the lumber woods and logs on the St. Croix river in winter. In 1880 he came to Polk county to get land for himself with only about $50 in money, but he bought the Southwest quarter of Section 9, Sullivan township, of the rail-road company for $750, and on it he has since made his home.

He broke up his land as rapidly as he could, boarding at a neighbor’s while doing it, and hiring some help in the operation. In the spring of 1881 he bought four horses, intending to push the improvement of his farm rapidly. But the land was low and wet, hail storms came and other disasters to his crops followed in almost continuous succession, so that some years elapsed before he raised any crops worth speaking of. During all this time the Grand Marais was often full of water and totally unbridged, and all who crossed it with teams were obliged to swim their horses, as the water was often twelve feet deep. Once, when Mr. La Barge was taking a seeder across it got tangled up in the heavy tall grass which grew in the Marais and the horses could not pull it out. He was forced to unhook his team and abandon the seeder, and it was not found until more than a month later when the water subsided.

Owing to his inability to raise crops for seven or eight years Mr. La Barge spent the winters in the Wisconsin lumber woods and used his teams there.