seven and a half cents a day. In 1860 he moved to Pierce county, Wisconsin, and there for two years he worked at farm labor. In 1862 he changed his residence to Freeborn county, Minnesota, where he bought and improved some land and then sold it to advantage, and after passing one winter in Ottertail county, he brought his wife and six children, of whom Ole O. was the oldest and then twenty-two, to Polk county in the spring of 1871, traveling in wagons and driving his cattle along. Peter O. Satermo and Ole Jevning, then unmarried, accompanied the family on this trip.

Before reaching this county, however, Ole O. left the party and returned to Freeborn county, finding his parents in their new location on July 4 the next year, they having reached it on June 10. The father took up a homestead in Section 14, Vineland township, on which E. O. Estenson, the youngest son of the family, now lives. The parents passed the remainder of their lives on this farm, the father dying on it at the age of seventy-six years and six months and the mother at the extreme age of ninety years and eight months. Their six children are all living except one. Peter O. lives on his homestead adjoining the home place. Ingeborg is the wife of Ole Jevning, a sketch of whom appears in this volume. Elizabeth married Peter O. Satermo and died in 1914. Esten O. owns and cultivates part of the old homestead, and Maret is the wife of Ole O. Stortroen and lives on another part of the old family farm.

Ole O. Estenson homesteaded in Section 23 half a mile south of his father's place and has since bought eighty acres in addition to his homestead and forty more farther out on the prairie. His home farm of 240 acres borders on the Red river and is three miles northwest of Climax. He had no money when he located on his homestead, but he, Mr. Satermo and Mr. Jevning united in building log houses on their three places and plowing five acres of each. They did no outside work except cutting cord wood for the Hudson Bay company's boats on the Red river, and to the men in charge of these they also sold beef, butter and other supplies, there being no other market for them. His first crop, which was harvested in 1872, was 200 bushels of wheat, a large yield for the acreage seeded. He got some live stock from his father but he lived as a bachelor for three years, his mother doing the housework for him as well as for her own household.

In 1875 Mr. Estenson was married to Miss Pauline Hanson, a daughter of Evan Hanson, who came to this county from Freeborn in 1874, and whom Mr. Estenson had known in Freeborn county. Five children have been born of the union: Emma, who is the wife of Martin Strommen and lives near her parents; Helmer, who is a resident of Climax and has a sketch in this work; Peter, who is cultivating the home farm, and who married Miss Josie Ellingson and has two children, Celia and Ordin; Ida, who married Severt Rostvet and resides at Newburg, North Dakota, and John, who is living with his parents and is a bachelor. He assists in the work on the farm.

Mr. Estenson has about 180 acres of his land under cultivation. He keeps a good deal of live stock, including cattle for beef and cows for milk and butter, and raises large crops of wheat and oats. During the last four years he has also devoted about thirty acres to potatoes with excellent results. He built his present dwelling in 1907 and the other improvements were made at different times. When the time came for the organization of Vineland township he was one of the most active men in the work, and he has served one term as county commissioner. His associates on the board were Messrs. Frederick, Jarvis, Higdem and Salverson, and during his term the old court house, which stood on the site of the present one, was built. The county was then several times as large as it is now, but he has not held any other position in its government. He was one of the founders of the Vineland Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company in 1885 and has been the treasurer ever since. He was also one of the founders of the Climax Co-operative creamery in 1903 and has been the manager ever since.

In his political affiliation Mr. Estenson has been a Prohibitionist from the organization of the party. He is a total abstainer himself and firmly opposed to the manufacture and sale of intoxicants as beverages. He does not use tobacco and never hunts, although the