railroad land at $6 an acre, but with no rebate, and later bought more at $8 an acre. His father, whose name was also Henry H. Oberg, came to Polk county in 1883 and took up a homestead on which he died two years afterward. On the death of the father this land passed into the ownership of the son.

When the township was organized in 1883 it was named in honor of Martin Sands, its first settler. Mr. Oberg was township treasurer and assessor at different times. After cultivating all his land in this township for a number of years he began renting parts of it to his sons, and in 1915 he had six farms worked by them. About 1895 he erected the house which is now on his home place, and which is one of the best in the northern part of the county. The farm has a flowing well 160 feet deep, which furnishes more water than is needed, and there is a large drove of Shorthorn cattle of good strains on the place at all times. Mr. Oberg divided his land among his children and moved to Alvarado in 1914. He has five children, all unmarried, and working together. They are Hilma, Albert, Oscar, Emma and Selma.

The mother of these children died in 1907, and in 1912 the father contracted a second marriage which united him with Miss Thea Olson. They have one child, their son, Henry Melvin, now (1915) two years old. The parents are members of the Kronsvinger Norwegian Lutheran church, in Esther township, which Mr. Oberg helped to organize and of which he was one of the trustees for many years. He has always taken an active interest in the affairs of his township and rendered it every service devolving on a good citizen, and its residents hold him in high esteem for all he has done.

HAYES BROTHERS.

James C. and Samuel C. Hayes, who are associated in business as partners and are almost inseparable, although they maintain separate homes on opposite sides of the main road leading through their land, are among the most extensive, enterprising, progressive and successful farmers in the Red River valley. They cultivate with great energy and in the most approved present-day methods over 2,000 acres of land, and have a great deal more which will be brought into productiveness within a short time. Their land is in Sections 9 and 16, Hubbard township, three and three-quarters miles northeast of Neilsville, five and a quarter miles southeast of Climax and twenty-two miles southwest of Crookston.

The brothers were born, reared, educated and married in Union county, Pennsylvania, and began their business careers as lumbermen in the timber camps of their native state. They have been partners from their youth, and have succeeded broadly because of the unity of effort that has directed their business ability and enterprise. James' life began July 6, 1844, and Samuel's June 13, 1847. Their father was a lawyer and a surveyor, and he, his father and one of his sons served Union county, Pennsylvania, as county surveyors each in his day. After some years of anxiety and discontent in the practice of law the father of James and Samuel abandoned it because of his scruples in connection with some requirements of the profession, but continued to give his neighbors and friends free legal advice.

The progenitors of this Hayes family's American branch came from the North of Ireland and settled in Pennsylvania in 1727. They were of Scotch ancestry and Covenanters in religion, and the members of the family now living are zealous adherents of the faith of their forefathers, all belonging to the Presbyterian church. The members of the family have been patriots in this country for generations, too. Four of them were commissioned officers of the Continental army during the Revolution, three of them being captains and the fourth a lieutenant. James C., during our Civil war, served nine months in the Army of the Potomac and the rest of three years in the United States navy as a common sailor.