When the lumber trade showed signs of exhaustion in Pennsylvania James C. Hayes sought a Western field of operation in the same line, as neither he nor his brother had any early inclination to farming. He was induced by an editor friend at Pembina to come to the Red River valley in 1878, and the next year his brother Samuel joined him here. They bought a section of railroad land in the town of Hubbard at $7.50 an acre, with the usual rebate of $3 an acre for breaking and cultivating, and on this land they located in 1881. They had only $2,000 between them, but James also took up a homestead in Reis township and Samuel a pre-emption claim in Liberty township. They had some live stock and farming implements, but were not well supplied for extensive farming operations, and had several years of difficulty in the business.

In hard years they suffered from crop failures and other losses, and were unable to make the stipulated payments on their land. But they found the railroad company generous in its accommodations, and now have none but words of praise for James J. Hill and his policy in selling land and encouraging settlers. They also found the Polk county banks liberal in spirit and action, and they also commend the bankers of this county highly. They have been large borrowers from the banks and have always been promptly accommodated.

Soon after locating here the brothers bought all of School Section 16, in Hubbard township, which gave them an aggregate of 2,480 acres, 240 acres of which are devoted to raising hay.

The specialty of the Hayes brothers is grain, and they have adhered to raising it from the beginning. Their crop in 1915, which was lessened one-third by the wetness of the season, amounted to 25,000 bushels. They have their own elevator on the farm and it has a capacity of 40,000 bushels. Seven men are employed by the month during parts of the year and three throughout the year, while twenty are required during the threshing season. The brothers plow with a gas engine and use it also in threshing, and they also use forty horses in their work, although they have a great deal of money invested in first-class modern machinery.

James C. Hayes was married in his native county in 1884 to Miss Mary Glover, who is also a native of that county. They have had three children, but lost them all in their childhood. Samuel C. Hayes was married in Pennsylvania in 1893, to Miss Ella Burn of Harrisburg, in that state. They have no children. The brothers have always been warmly and serviceably interested in the progress and development of Polk county, and have been potent factors in making and keeping up the good roads for which Hubbard township is noted. They are well pleased with Minnesota and desire to live in no other place.

KENN BROTHERS.

The firm of Kenn Bros., leading and extensive in its agricultural operations, and well and favorably known all over Polk county and those which adjoin Polk, is composed of Alexander, James Drummond, John Ramsey and Edmund Kenn, sons of the late James and Christina (Barnett) Kenn, who have their headquarters on Section 23, Grand Forks township, on a farm on which their father located in 1878. The father was born in Aberdeen, Scotland, and became a resident of this county in the spring of the year last named. He emigrated from his native land some years earlier and was married in Canada, to Miss Christina Barnett, who was born in Scotland and brought across the Atlantic in her childhood.

At the time of their marriage the father was forty and the mother was twenty-eight. Robert Anderson, a friend of the family, was living in the Red River valley soon afterward, and he induced the Kenns, who were farming in Canada, to come to where he was and seek a better opportunity for advancement in a new region with all its possibilities still to be developed.

Mr. Kenn traveled by rail to Fisher, the end of the