

# JOHN IVERSON.

Among the Norwegian Americans of Poweshiek county John Iverson is prominent, being the owner of a beautiful farm which he acquired through his energy and ability as an agriculturist and stock-raiser. He was born at Stavanger, Norway, May 20, 1862, and is a son of Iver and Bertha (Johanson) Iverson, both of whom were born in Norway and spent their entire lives in their native country.

John Iverson received a common-school education and at seventeen years of age began work on a fishing boat. However, he was not satisfied with the outlook in his native land, where wages were low and opportunities for advancement were limited. Accordingly, on May 12, 1882, he landed in America and soon came to Brooklyn, Iowa, finding employment as a farm laborer. He continued to work for wages for four years and then, in 1886, rented a farm in Sheridan township. Four years later he purchased land at his present location on section 22, Chester township, and is now the owner of a beautiful farm of two hundred and forty acres, which he has supplied with substantial buildings and all modern conveniences. His residence stands back about one hundred yards from the road in an attractive location, an evergreen hedge bordering the front of the premises and a roadway winding through a nicely shaded lawn to the house. It is one of the beautiful sights of the neighborhood and the appearance of the farm indicates a high degree of prosperity.

On the 14th of February, 1891, Mr. Iverson was united in marriage, at the Lutheran church in Sheridan, to Miss Letta Severson, a daughter of Severt Severson, a farmer of Norway. She came to America with an uncle left her parents never made the trip to this country. One child, Elmer S., has blessed this union.

Mr. Iverson is a man of fine tastes, as is shown by the appearance of his place and the care he takes in keeping everything in order about him. He believes that everything should be well done that is worth doing at all and accordingly he puts his best efforts into his work. He is a consistent advocate of education and was instrumental in establishing a school in Chester township, of which he has just cause to be proud. Religiously he adheres to the Lutheran church, in which he was reared as a boy, and in politics he votes in support of the republican party. He has not been a seeker for public office but has served as road supervisor of his township. His principal interests are centered in his family and his farm, and it is the general opinion of his friends that he is one of the model farmers of the county.



JOHN IVERSON AND FAMILY

## A Tribute To John Iverson

John Iverson was born near Stavanger, Norway, May 20, 1862.

In the early morning of Dec. 21, he quietly fell asleep, aged 71 years, five months and one day.

Mr. Iverson came to America, 30 years ago, Feb. 14, 1891. He was united in marriage to Letta Severson. To this union were born four children, three of whom died in infancy. Those who survived were son, Elmer, and wife, and son, his brother, Iver Iverson of Grinnell and Ed Iverson of Oregon, and two sisters living in Norway. His wife preceded him in death five years ago.

Funeral services were held at the Iverson home on Sunday afternoon, conducted by Rev. M. L. Winstler and his pastor, Rev. Mr. Stenby of Clear Lake. Two hymns were sung by Cecil Myers and A. H. Rumpke, with Miss Rumpke at the piano. "Beautiful Day of Somewhere" and "In the Garden." Rev. Mr. Stenby read the Scripture and gave a short talk. Rev. Mr. Winstler gave a talk and offered a prayer. Interment was in Hazelwood cemetery in the family lot.