

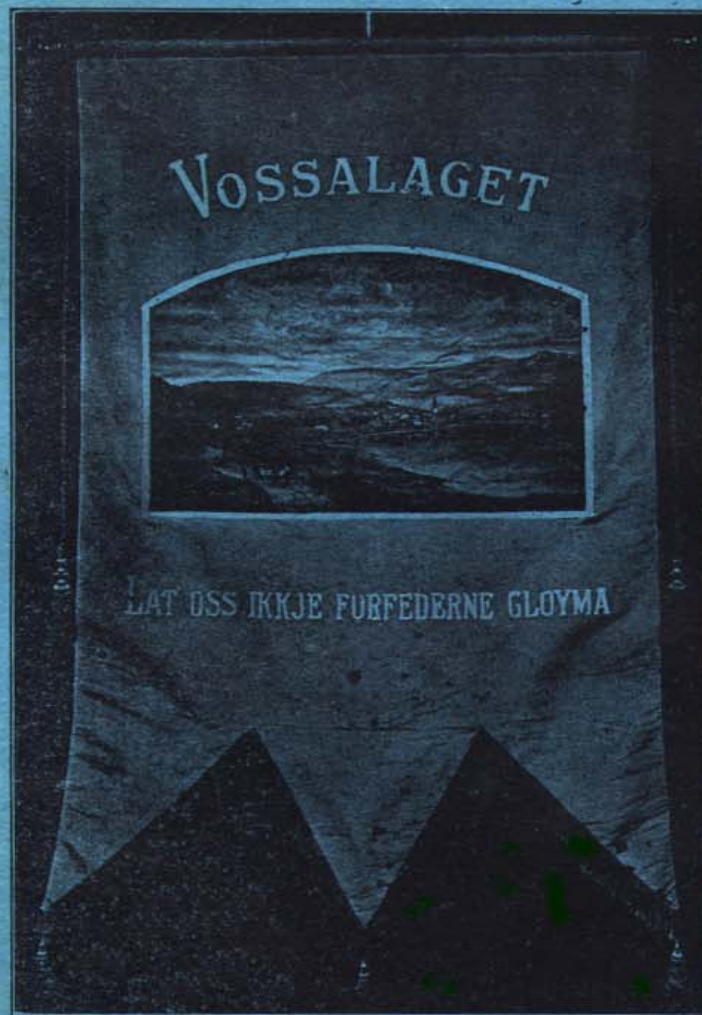
No. 1.

6te Aarg.

VOSSINGEN

ORGAN FOR VOSSELAGET.

Fortsettelse af det ældste bygdelagsorgan i Amerika. 1857—1860.



MADISON, WISCONSIN, 1924.

VOSSINGEN

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Fortsættelse af det ældste bygdelagsorgan i Amerika. 1857—1860.

K. A. RENE, Redaktør.

No. 1 Madison, Wis., April 1924 6te aarg.

VOSSINGERNE I MADISON.

Den 8de marts liavde det lokale vosselag i Madison sit aarsmøde og en festlig tilstelning. Der var et ganske godt fremmøde, om end det daarlige veir gjorde det vanskeligt for mange udenfor byen at være tilstede.

Den nye bestyrelse blev John G. Pedersen (Hosaas), formand, John Herheim, viceformand, L. O. Havey, kasserer, og Lars A. Kløve, sekretær. En komite valgtes desuden til hjælp ved møderne. Dennes medlemmer blev O. J. Horvei, jr. Poynette, Wis., Mikkel Bystøl, Mt. Horeb, Nils Spilde, Deerfield, hvis hustru er Voss, samt Lars Murkve, Stoughton, Christina N. Kvale, Mrs. Martha Væte Hanson, Mrs. L. O. Havey og Mrs. Gulleik Pederson (Shelvik) alle af Madison.

Efterat den lille forretning var ekspederet, blev der taler, sang og musik. Pastor O. J. Preus af Spring Prairie blev først kaldt frem. Han var opvokset paa Spring Prairie nær formand Pedersons hjem og var jevnaldrende med dennes børn. Han var da blit godt bekendt med vossingerne, hvilket havde haft til følge, fortalte han, at han ikke kunde tænke paa at tage nogenanden til hustru end en vosskepige, og en saadan fik han da ogsaa fat paa. Forresten havde han hørt tale baade om "knivavossar" og slige, som hjalp sig uden kniv i gamle dage; men selv havde han fundet, at vossingerne her i landet havde i rigt maal brugt sine evner i det godes tjeneste, hvad han haabede, at de ogsaa vilde fortsætte med.

Næste taler var advokat K. N. Nelson, der ogsaa havde en vosskehustru men var selv halvt sogning og halvt gudbrandsdøl. Han fik stemningen op ved endel sandfærdige historier, blandt andet om sogningen som vilde have moro paa vossingens bekostning, men som i al gemytlighed fik svar paa tiltale. Sluttelig omtalte han betydningen af vore sammenkomster, ved hvilke man kunde mindes vort folks betydelige virke og sunde karaktertræk og bruge fædrenesproget, hvad der ikke alene var til fornøjelse, men ogsaa til uvurderlig nytte og gavn.

VOSSINGEN

ORGAN FOR THE VOSSELAG

Continuation of the oldest bygdelags newsletter in America. 1857—1860.

K. A. RENE, Editor.

No. 1 Madison, Wis., April 1924 6te aarg.

THE VOSSINGS IN MADISON

On March 8, 1924, the local Vosselag in Madison had its annual meeting with festive arrangements. It was quite well attended but the poor weather made it rather difficult for many from out of town to be present.

The new board of directors consists of John G. Pedersen (Hosaas), president, John Herheim, vice president, L. O. Havey, treasurer, and Lars A. Kløve, secretary. In addition, a committee was elected to help with the meetings. Its members are O. J. Horvei, Jr. Poynette, Wis., Mikkel Bystøl, Mt. Horeb, Nils Spilde, Deerfield, whose wife is vossing, as well as Lars Murkve, Stoughton, Christina N. Kvale, Mrs. Martha Væte Hanson, Mrs. L. O. Havey and Mrs. Gulleik Pederson (Shelvik) all of Madison.

After a little business was taken care of, there were speeches, songs and music. Pastor O. J. Preus of Spring Prairie was first called upon. He had grown up on Spring Prairie near president Pedersen's home and was the same age as his children. As a result, he was well acquainted with vossings, which were his companions, he said, which had the result that couldn't think of marrying anyone but a vossing girl, and that he did. Previously, he had heard of both "knife vossings" and those who survived without knives in the old days, but he himself had found that in this country the vossings, to a great degree, had used their talents for accomplishing good and he hoped that they would continue the same.

The next speaker was attorney K. N. Nelson, who also had a vossing wife but he himself was half sogning and half gudbrandsdaling. He livened up the audience by telling some truthful anecdotes, among others about the sogning who wanted to have some fun at the expense of a vossing, but in all congeniality got tit for tat. In closing, he discussed the meaning of our meetings in which we could remind ourselves of our people's considerable work and sound characteristics and we could use our fatherland's language, which wasn't only pleasurable but also of invaluable benefit and nourishment.

Formand Pedersen omtalte det venskab og den hjælpsomhed som karakteriserede de første nybyggere og nævnte om, hvor vidt enkelte af de gamle slægter, saasom Fadnesslægten, var spredt ud-over staterne. Saa paakaldtes Odd K. Glimme, der gav en vosseskrone tilbedste. Den 89-aarige Knut Henderson Løne talte lidt om gamle og nye tider. Redaktøren mindede om "Vossingen" og vosse-historien som alle maatte støtte som bedst. "Dovre" mandskor sang nogle numre mellem talerne. Mrs. B. N. Nelson gav ligeledes et par sangnumre tilbedste. Miss Johnson (af Grimestad-slægt), spillede nogle stykker paa piano. Sluttelig serveredes forfriskninger.

* * *

Af vossinger, som tidlig gjorde sit indtog i Madison, har enkelte her i skriftet allerede været nævnte, og andre vil maaske senere komme paa tale. Nu vil vi gjøre et flygtigt besøg hos vore derværende vosselagsmedlemmer. Den fornemste af dem har ogsaa været omtalt nemlig høiesteretsjustitiarius Aad J. Vinje, som har sit kontor i Kapitoliet; ligeledes skattekommissær A. J. Myrland, der dog helst regner sig for nordlænding. Gaar man nogle kvartaler nedover øst Mifflin Street fra Kapitelet, saa finder man Nils Anderson Kvale (Guldfjerdingen), der nu er den, som længst har boet i Madison. I en aarrække har han været i postvæsenets tjeneste, men har nu trukket sig tilbage. Hans hustru, som var født paa Koshkonong, er datter efter Knut J. Hylle. De har en værdifuld eiendom hvor de lever; alle børnene er gifte.

Paa øst Wilson Street ikke fuldt saa langt fra Kapitoliet har Odd Knutson Glimme sin juvelerforretning, og er kanske den vossing, som er lettest at finde. Han satte sig til der omkr. 1906. Før var han i Whitewater, Wis. Hans hustru, Anna, er datter efter Nils Anderson Folkedal, som i flere aar opholdt sig paa Skjærve, Voss, før han i 1856 kom til Amerika og der blev gift med Christina Eriksdatter Rio (Williams), som er hendes mor. Glimme har sit hjem paa East Johnson Street og eier foruden dette ogsaa andre eiendomme i byen og paa landet.

I samme omkreds af Kapitolet bor paa østsiden Nellie Wilson paa Hancock St. Hun er fra Skorve i Evanger. Paa vestsiden omtrent samme afstand bor hendes søskendebarn Martha Andersdr. Væte (Hanson) som er eier af et par husbygninger der. Begge er enker. Christina Nilsdr. Kvale (Tykkebygden) tjener hos byens rigeste nordmand Magnus Swenson.

Paa hjørnet af øst Wilson Street og Baldwin St. har Lars Anderson Gavle et hus. Han er ugift; men hos ham bor Ole Sjurson Vinje, som ogsaa er Vossestrænding. Hans hustru er Johanna Eriksdr. Rekve, og han kan saaledes ogsaa tages med blandt Vangsojningerne. Han har været lagerbetjent, gaardbruger

President Pedersen discussed the friendship and neighborliness that characterized the first pioneers and mentioned certain old families, like the Fadness lineage, that were spread out over the states. Then he called on Odd K. Glimme, who giftedly told a Voss story. The 89 year-old Knut Henderson Løne talked for a while of old and recent times. The editor reminded everyone about "Vossingen" and the Voss history and asked everyone for support. "Dovre" male choir sang some numbers between the talks. Mrs. B. N. Nelson likewise sang a couple numbers beautifully. Miss Johnson (of Grimestad-family), performed on the piano. At the end, refreshments were served.

* * *

Some of the vossings, who were in Madison early, have been written about in this paper already and others will in turn be discussed. Now I want to make a diligent visit with our present members of Vosselag. The most prominent of them has also been written up, namely Supreme Court Justice Aad J. Vinje, who has his office in the capitol; likewise A. J. Myrland, in spite of counting himself from Nordland. If one walks some blocks down East Mifflin Street from the capitol, he finds Nils Anderson Kvale (Guldfjerdingen), who is the one who has lived in Madison the longest. For years, he had been in service with the Post Office, but now he has retired. His wife, who was born on Koshkonong, is a daughter of Knut J. Hylle. They have a valuable property where they live; all the children are married.

On East Wilson Street, not as far from the capitol, Odd Knutson Glimme has his jewelry business. He is the vossing that is easiest to find. He started here about 1906. before that, he was in Whitewater, WI. His wife, Anna, is a daughter of Nils Anderson Folkedal, who was at Skjærve, Voss, for several years before he came to America in 1856 and married Christina Eriksdatter Rio (Williams), who is her mother. Glimme has his home on East Johnson Street and in addition has several other properties in the city and out in the country.

On the east side of the same area of the capitol, lives Nellie Wilson on Hancock St. She is from Skorve in Evanger. At about the same distance on the west side lives her cousin, Martha Andersdatter Væte (Hanson), who owns a couple of apartment buildings there. Both are widows. Christina Nilsdr. Kvale (Tykkebygden) is in service for the city's richest Norwegian, Magnus Swenson.

Lars Anderson Gavle has a house on the corner of East Wilson Street and Baldwin St. He is unmarried, but Ole Sjurson Vinje, who also is from Vossestrand, lives with him. His wife is Johanna Eriksdatter Rekve, so he can be counted among the Vang-sognings. He has worked as a stockman, farmer, and mechanic and is considered

og mekaniker og har forstaaet sig paa at bli en velstandsmand.

I næste hus paa E. Wilsen St. bor Lars Meland, som har drevet med forskjellig slags arbeide, mest med jordbrug. Han er gift med Thorbjør Arhelleren. Hos dem bor Thorbjørs børn af første ægte-skab Knut og Lars Nelson, og Anna (Mrs. Foss). Knut er maler, og Lars er snedker.

Nogle kvartaler længere i øst bor paa Williamson St. Anna Nilsdtr. Rekve (f. Gjerme), som var gift med Knut Sjurson Rekve, der døde forrige aar i Canada. Hun flyttede med børnene efter mandens død til Madison, hvor flere af hans slægtninge bor. Et kort stykke fra hende har svigersøsteren Britha Eriksdtr. Rekve sit hjem. Hun var gift med Anfin Sjurson Rekve, som døde for mange aar siden. Sønnen Sandford har været guvernørens chauffeur. Brithas og Johanna Vinjes bror Anders Erikson Rekve bor sammen med Lars Torgerson Brække (Guldfjerdingen) paa S. Dickinson St ogsaa i nærheden. Anders har arbeidet med forskjelligt, mest paa et mekanisk værksted. Han er ugift. Lars Brække, som nu i mange aar har været enkemand, har hele tiden drevet paa Gisholt værkstedet, som maskinist.

Paa Rutlege St. i dette strøg bor Arne Larson (Prestegaard) som i en liden menneskealder har været jernstøber paa Gisholt værkstedet.

Naar man gaar over Yahara elven, saa er Riverside drive den første gade paa østsiden. Der har Nils Olson Grimestad bygget et par prægtige huse, solgt det ene og bor i det andet. Han er plastrer og kontraktør, og er gift med en pige fra søndre Norge. I nærheden bor ogsaa hans tante Julia Johnson, som før var Guri Andersdtr. Grimestad.

Næst til Riverside Drive er Clemons Avenue. Der bor Lars Nilson Brække (Vossestranden) i eget hus paa et hjørne, som veifarende ikke kan undgaa at se. Han foretrækker at kalde sig Lewis Nelson. Han har for det meste arbeidet paa et af byens værksteder. Hans hustru er fra Sogn. Fra Clemons Ave. strækker Helena St. sig mod øst. Der har Kolbein Skjervheim, (som kalder sig Benny Sherven) bygget sig et vel indrettet hjem. Han har været jordbruger, værkstedsarbeider og i det sidste drevet med cementarbeide. Paa gadens anden side bor svigersønnen Johannes Herheim, som et cement-kontraktør og gjør det vist godt som de fleste vossinger. Længer borte i gaden har Knut Mørkve et prægtigt hjem. Han har længe arbeidet paa et værksted, men driver nu en elevator i en af byens store forretningshuse. Hans hustru er fra Bære i Raundalen.

Et kvartal nord for disse bor paa Winnebago St. Lyding Olson Havey, som rigtignok er født i Amerika, men er lige interesseret vossing for det. Navnet Lyding er svensk siger han, opkaldt efter

to be a well off man.

In the next house on E. Wilson St. lives Lars Meland, who has been involved with various kinds of work, mostly farming. He is married to Thorbjør Arhelleren. The children from Thorbjør's first marriage, Knut and Lars Nelson, and Anna (Mrs. Foss) live with them. Knut is a painter, and Lars is a carpenter.

Some blocks further east on Williamson St., lives Anna Nilsdtr. Rekve (néé Gjerme), who was married to Knut Sjurson Rekve, who died last year in Canada. She moved to Madison after her husband's death, where several of his relatives live. A short ways from her, her sister-in-law Britha Eriksdatter Rekve has her house. She was married to Anfin Sjurson Rekve, who died many years ago. Their son, Sandford, has been chauffeur for the governor. Britha's and Johanna Vinje's brother Anders Erikson Rekve lives together with Lars Torgerson Brække (Guldfjerdingen) at S. Dickinson St. also nearby. Anders has worked at different things, mostly in an auto shop. He is a bachelor. Lars Brække, who has been a widower for many years, has worked the entire time at the Gisholt Corp. as a machinist.

Arne Larson (Prestegaard) lives in this neighborhood on Rutledge St. For less than a generation, he has cast iron at Gisholt Corp.

When one goes over the Yahara River, then Riverside Drive is the first street on the east side. Nils Olson Grimestad has built a couple of grand houses there, sold one and he lives in the other. He is a plasterer and contractor and is married to a girl from south Norway. His aunt, Julia Johnson, the former Guri Andersdatter Grimestad lives in the vicinity.

Next to Riverside Drive is Clemons Avenue. Lars Nilson Brække (Vossestranden) lives there in his own house on the corner where a driver could hardly avoid seeing it. He prefers to use the name, Lewis Nelson. He has mostly worked at one of the factories in the city. His wife is from Sogn. From Clemons Avenue, Helena St. goes toward the east. There Kolbein Skjervheim, (who uses the name Benny Sherven) has built a organized home. He has been a farmer, factory laborer and lately he has worked with cement. His son-in-law, Johannes Herheim, lives on the other side of the street is a cement contractor and is doing well as do most vossings. Farther along the street, Knut Mørkve has a magnificent home. For a long time, he has worked in a factory, but now he is an elevator operator in one of the city's office buildings. His wife is from Bære in Raundalen.

A block north on Winnebago St., lives Lyding Olson Havey, who properly was born in America, but nevertheless, is an interested vossing for all that. The name Lyding is Swedish, he says, named for a

en god kompagnon, som hans far Ole Olson Hæve mistede netop før sønnens fødsel. Lyding Havey har været jordbruger i flere stater, men er nu eiendomshandler og eier vistnok flere huse i byen.

Lidt længere fremme svinger man fra Winnebago St. ind paa Attwood Ave. Der i 2det hus har Guri Clausdr. Væle, som er gift med Olaus Nyborg, i lang tid havt en bageriforretning. I andet hus derfra bor for nærværende Lars Anderson Kløve og hustru, som er fra Gjerstad, Han har været cementarbejder, gaardbruger og nu mekaniker. Forresten har han været heldig i eiendomshandel og spekulerer nu paa for anden gang at bygge sig et nyt hus, hvortil granden allerede eies.

Fra Attwood Ave. gaar Rusk St. østover der bor Rognald Larson Grove i eget hus og hjem. Han arbejder ogsaa paa et mekanisk værksted. Hans hustru er fra Skjelvigen (Stranden). Hun har to brødre, Gulleik og Sivert, som bor nogle kvartaler derfra paa øst Washington Ave. Gulleik Pederson Shelvik er snedker, violinmager og eier af hus og hjem. Hans hustru er fra Sogn. Sivert P. Shelvik er tegneingeniør paa Gisholt værkstedet, opfinder og pa-tenteier. Han har eget hus, men bor nu hos broderen Gulleik, da han for et aars tid siden mistede sin hustru.

Længere øst paa samme gade bor Styrk Sjurson Rekve, der har drevet som handelsreisende og butikbetjent. Han er gift med Julia Nilsdr. Lee fra Deerfield. De eier, et pent hjem og har landeieendomme andre steder. Gamle Sjur Anfinson Rekve var en tid hos dem, men er nu hos datteren Mrs. Hermandson paa Spring Prairie. Paa 7de St. nær Styrk Rekve bor Ole Larson Vinje (Vossestranden). Han er snedker og byggede sig forrige aar et nyt hjem. Hans hustru er Eli Andersdr. Flatlandsmoen.

Tager man nu i sydlig retning til Milwaukee street, saa findet man der efter en kort vandring John G. Pederson (Hosaas) omgiven af to om ikke tre gifte døtre. Først satte svigersønnen E. N. Nelson og hustru Amelia G. sig til der paa et stort stykke land. Saa fik datteren Brita, da Mrs. Prescott, nu Mrs. Nelson (Skutle) en hustomt af landet. Hendes første mand, en sønnesøn af Anders Prestegaard, døde i krigstjenesten. Ifjor byggede Pedersen sig eget hus der i nærheden og flyttede til byen. Før var han gaardbruger paa Spring Prairie, hvor han ogsaa var født. Han er søn efter Godskalk Pederson Hosaas, en af de første pionerer der. Hans hustru er af Fadnesslegt. En anden datter er Mrs. Bergo.

I dette strøg bor ogsaa Ole Erikson Fenne, der har sat sig op et hus paa Union street. Han har i det sidste arbeidet for Madison Paking Company. Hans hustru er af Flatabø slægt, født i Primrose, vest for byen.

Paa Dunning street længer i syd bor William Prescott, som er søn efter Anders A. Prestegaard,

good companion who his father lost just before his son's birth. Lyding Havey had been a farmer in several states but now is a real estate dealer and evidently owns several buildings in the city.

A little farther one turns from Winnebago St. in to Atwood Ave, and there in the second building, Guri Clausdatter. Væle, who is married to Olaus Nyborg, and has run a bakery. In the second house farther on presently live Lars Anderson Kløve and his wife, who are from Gjerstad. He has been a concrete worker, farmer and now, a mechanic. Previously, he was very lucky in real estate and is speculating for the second time to build himself a new house, in addition to the one he already has.

From Atwood Ave., Rusk St. Goes eastward and there lives Rognald Larson Grove in his own home. He works in a mechanical factory. His wife is from Skjelvigen (Stranden). She has two brothers, Gulleik and Sivert, who live a few blocks away on East Washington Ave. Gulleik Pederson Shelvik is a carpenter, violin maker and owns his own home. His wife is from Sogn. Sivert P. Shelvik is a draftsman for Gisholt Corp. And also invents. He owns his own house but now lives with his brother, Gulleik, since he lost his wife a year ago.

Styrk Sjurson Rekve, who has been a traveling businessman and a shopkeeper, lives a littler further east on the same street. He is married to Julia Nilsdatter Lee from Deerfield. They own a nice home and have land property other places. Old Sjur Anfinson Rekve lived with them for a while but now stays with his daughter Mrs. Hermandson at Spring Prairie. Near Styrk Rekve, on 7th Street lives Ole Larson Vinje (Vossestranden). He is a carpenter and built a new home last year. His wife is Eli Andersdr. Flatlandsmoen.

If one takes a southerly direction to Milwaukee Street, then after a short wandering one will find John G. Pederson (Hosaas) surrounded by two, if not three, daughters. First, his son-in-law, E. N. Nelson and his wife Amelia G. settled on a big piece of land. Then the daughter Brita, then Mrs. Prescott, now Mrs. Nelson (Skutle), got a building lot from the land. Her first husband, a grandson of Anders Prestegaard, died in military service. Last year, Pedersen built his own house there in the vicinity and moved to town. Before, he farmed at Spring Prairie, where he had been born. He is a son of Godskalk Pederson Hosaas, one of the first pioneers there. His wife is of the Fadness family. Another daughter is Mrs. Bergo.

In this area, Ole Erikson Fenne also lives, who had set up a house on Union Street. Recently, he has been working for Madison Packing Company (Oscar Mayer?). His wife is of the Flatabø family, born in Primrose, west of town.

On Dunning Street, farther south, lives William Prescott, who is the son of Anders A. Prestegaard,

nybygger i Deerfield. Han har været jordbruger, men som de fleste af disse naar de blir velstaa-ende, er han flyttet til byen. Paa samme gade længer i vest bor Mrs. S. Sørensen, som er født paa Utkvitno, men kom. ung til Amerika. Hendes mand, som er værksted arbejder, er ikke Voss.

Vi maa nu gaa nordover til øst Main street. Der i kvartalet 1900 bor først Peder Olson Bygd. Han er snedker og kontraktør. Hans hustru er født i Amerika og er ikke af vosseslegt. Et stykke fra dem bor Gulleik Henriksen Mugaas, som er maler. Han eier et noksaa stort hus, i hvilket han nu har boet i mange aar. Hans hustru er af tysk herkomst. Lars Røthe, som for det meste har arbeidet med jordbrug har nylig slaaet sig til i byen og bor ligeledes paa øst Main st. ikke langt fra kapitoliet.

Vi har nævnt etpar velstaaende gaardbrugere, som har bosat sig i byen. Til dem maa føies et par stykker til, nemlig, Torkel J. Opstedal og John Selheim. Opstedal er født nær De Forest, Wis., og har drevet som gaardbruger der, til han for nogle aar siden bosatte sig i Madison og har sit hjem paa vest Johnson street nær universitetet. Hans forældre var fra Øfstedal i Evanger. Hans hustru er datter efter Anna Christoffersdr. Graue, og Anton Nelson Meland (Sogning). — John Selheim var født paa Voss. Han har drevet som jordbruger paa Spring Prairie til for et aars tid siden, da han flyttede til byen. Han er en svoger af Nils Kvale, idet hans hustru Christina ogsaa var Knut Hylles datter. Hun døde for et par aar siden.

Sluttelig skal vi nævne et par som ikke netop nu er i byen, men har været der i lang tid. Torsten Anderson Lofthus (Kvernehaugen) kom til Madison i 1893 og har siden drevet der som snedker og kontraktør, indtil han for henimod et aar siden reiste til Bremerton, Wash., hvor hans halvbroder Endre driver som material-handler. Steffa Anfinson Hegle, som er gift med hans søster kom til Madison i 1894 og har vekselvis boet der og paa landet. Nu har han en stor gaard ved Vestport, 7 mil fra Madison. Blandt de vossinger i byens omkreds som vi oftest ser i Madison, skal nævnes Sivert Herheim, som er maskiningeniør i DeForest og broderen Ole cementkontraktør samme steds, samt dissers svoger Ole Skjervheim, som er gaardbruger 8 mil fra Madison nær Sun Prairie.

O. K. Takle og kompani, Albert Lea, Minn., holder paa at sprænge sine lader for at gjøre dem større. I 1900 begyndte Takle forretningen med 60 dollar. Nu viser opgjøret over 60,000; og saa har de nu sikret sig en uldvare fabrik for at det skal gaa endda hurtigere fremover. Men saa har han jo ogsaa selve formanden i Sognelaget hr. E. R. Hopperstad til kompagnon.

pioneer in Deerfield. He has been a farmer but like many like many, when they get better off, he has moved to town. Farther west on the same street, lives Mrs. S. Sørensen, who was born at Utkvitno and came to America when she was young. Her husband, who works in a factory, is not vossing.

Now we shall go northward to East Main Street. There in the 1900 block first there is Peder Olson Bygd. He is a carpenter and contractor. His wife is born in America but is vossing. A little past them, we find Gulleik Henriksen Mugaas, who is a painter. He owns a rather big house, where he has lived for many years. His wife is of German origin. Lars Røthe, who mostly was a farmer, has recently moved to town and lives on East Main Street, not far from the capitol.

We mentioned a couple wealthy farmers that have retired in the city. I have to add a couple more, namely, Torkel J. Opstedal and John Selheim. Opstedal was born near DeForest, WI, and farmed there until he settled in Madison a few years ago and has his home on W. Johnson Street, not far from the university. His parents came from Øfstedal in Evanger. His wife is a daughter of Anna Christoffersdatter Graue and Anton Nelson Meland (Sogning) — John Selheim and was born at Voss. He farmed at Spring Prairie until a year ago, when he moved to town. He is a brother-in-law of Nils Kvale, in that his wife Christina also is Knut Hylle's daughter. She died a couple years ago.

Finally, we will mention a couple who though not exactly now in the city, have lived here a long time. Torsten Anderson Lofthus (Kvernehaugen) came to Madison in 1893 and has worked as a carpenter and contractor until about a year ago, when he went to Bremerton, WA, where his half-brother Endre works as a material handler. Steffa Anfinson Hegle, who is married to his sister, came to Madison in 1894 and has intermittently lived here and in the country. Now he has a big farm at Westport, 7 miles from Madison. Among the other vossings in the area of the city that we see most often here in Madison are Sivert Herheim, who is a machine engineer in DeForest and his brother Ole, a cement contractor in the same place, as well as their brother-in-law Ole Skjervheim, who is a farmer 8 miles from Madison near Sun Prairie.

O. K. Takle and company, Albert Lea, MN, are enlarging their shop because of growth. Takle started the business in 1900 with \$60. Now they were showing a business of \$60,000, and have just purchased a woolen mill to grow even more rapidly. However, he has the president of the Sognelag, Mr. E. R. Hopperstad as his partner.

SLEGTSHISTORIE.

Oppe i Øvre Reppen, hvor gaardene Nesheim, Grotland, Fletre, Hefte og Leidal ligger, var folket for lidt over 100 aar siden, som det synes, omtrent alle i slegt med hinanden. Om de var ætlinger efter hersen Vigfus Kaaresens venner, Eeidar og Ivar, som man mener boede paa Nesheim i sagatiden, skal vi ikke sige; men nogen af forfedrene boede der vel ogsaa da. Her skal vi dog ikke gaa fuldt saa langt tilbage, men begynde med aaret 1792. I det aar den 5te dec. blev der paa gaarden Fletre holdt skifte efter Sylfest Bryngelsen Fletre og hustru Anna Monsdatter. De havde 8 børn, som alle da var ilive. Det var Begga, Brita, Mons, Bryngel, Ragnhild, Marita, Inger og Nils. Da mange af disses etterkommere har fundet veien til Amerika og der sat sine mærker, vil det vist være af interesse at stifte lidt nærmere bekjendtskab med dem. For visse nødvendige underretninger skylder vi især tak til I. D. Hustvedt, Cannon Falls, Minn., og L. Kindem, Voss.

Begga, som vistnok var eldst, blev i 1781 gift med Ole Vikingson Grotland og blev boende paa Grotland, hvor de drev hele gaarden og forblev til sin død. Ole blev nærpaa 100 aar gammel. De havde tre sønner, Viking, Sylfest og Nils. Gaarden Grotland blev delt mellem Viking og Sylfest. Nils reiste til Amerika.

Viking Olsen Grotland havde, saavidt vi kan forstaa, to sønner, Ole og Ivar, samt døtrene Begga og Anna. Ole eiede vistnok først gaarden Løken, Vossestranden, men byttede denne gaard i et brug af gaarden Rene og boede siden der. Det har været nævnt, at det var bedstefaren Ole Vikingson, som byttede gaardene; men det kunde ialfald ikke være han, som boede der. Ole, som boede paa Rene, havde en søn Viking, der blev gift med en fjern slegtning Guro Sylfestdr. Rene og kom til Amerika i 1867. De bosatte sig i Leland, Ill., hvor en datter Jennie endnu lever. Vikings mor hed Gunvor. Hun døde paa Rene i 1880. — Ivar reiste i 1844 til Amerika og var først en tid typograf i Chicago, den 3die norske typograf der, bosatte sig siden som farmer paa Skoponong, Wis., nær Palmyra, hvor hans søn Herbert endnu bor. En datter Ida bor i Omaha, Nebr. Begga blev gift med Ole Saude og fik gaarden efter forældrene. Efter en tid solgte de gaarden og reiste til Amerika, hvor de ogsaa bosatte sig som farmere paa Skoponong, Wis. Deres sønner Lars og Knut bor i Deerfield. Anguna blev gift med Bjarne O. Een og boede ved Mapleton, Minn. — Anna var vistnok gift med Ole A. Aga og bosat i Trempealeau County, Wis.

Sylfest Olsen-Grotland havde 4 børn: Ole, Bjarne, Begga og Synneva. Ole blev gift paa Voss med Kari Gjerstad og kom i 1854 til Amerika. En tid var han bosat paa Koshkonong, Wis., men reiste i 1860 til Trempealeau county og bosatte sig i Vossedalen nær

FAMILY HISTORIES.

Up in Øvre Reppen, where the farms Nesheim, Grotland, Fletre, Hefte and Leidal are located, over a hundred years ago, it seemed that almost everybody was related to each other. Whether they all were descendants of Vigfus Kaaresen's friends Eeidar and Ivar, who people say lived on Nesheim in the saga times, we won't say; but some of the forefathers also lived there then. We won't go so far back, but begin with the year 1792. That year, on the 5th of December there was the settlement of Sylfest Bryngelsen Fletre and wife Anna Monsdatter's estate on the Fletre farm. They had 8 children, all alive. There were Begga, Brita, Mons, Bryngel, Ragnhild, Marita, Inger and Nils. Since many of their descendants found their way to America and made their mark there, it would be interesting to provide them with more knowledge about them. For this required information, we owe especial thanks to I. D. Hustvedt, Cannon Falls, Minn., and L. Kindem, Voss.

Begga, who was oldest, married Ole Vikingson Grotland and lived at Grotland, where they farmed the entire farm and stayed all their lives. Ole almost reached 100. They had three sons, Viking, Sylfest and Nils. The Grotland farm was divided between Viking and Sylfest. Nils went to America.

Viking Olsen Grotland had, as we understand, two sons, Ole and Ivar, as well as daughters Begga and Anna. Ole, at first, owned the Løken farm in the Vossestrand, but exchanged this farm for a working in the Rene farm and subsequently lived there. It has been said, that grandfather Ole Vikingson traded the farm, but in any case, it was not he, who lived there. Ole, who lived at Rene, had a son, Viking, who married a distant relative Guro Sylfestdatter Rene and came to America in 1867. They settled at Leland, IL where a daughter, Jennie, still lives. Viking's mother was named Gunvor. She died at Rene in 1880. — Ivar went to America in 1844 and was first a typographer there, then he farmed at Skoponong, WI, near Palmyra, where his son, Herbert, lives yet. A daughter, Ida lives in Omaha, NB. Begga married Ole Saude and they got the parent's farm. After a while, they sold the farm and emigrated to America, where they also settled as farmers at Skoponong, WI. Their sons Lars and Knut live in Deerfield. Anguna married Bjarne O. Een and lived at Mapleton, MN — Anna evidently married Ole A. Aga and settled in Trempealeau County, WI.

Sylfest Olsen-Grotland had four children: Ole, Bjarne, Begga and Synneva. Ole was married at Voss to Kari Gjerstad and came to America in 1854. They lived at Koshkonong, WI for a while, but moved in 1860, to Trempealeau County and settled in Vossedalen near

Taylor. Han havde fem børn, af hvilke nogen endnu lever der. Bjarne forblev paa Voss en tid, men har vist endt sine dage i Bergen. Om Begga vides intet. Synneva blev gift med Knut Bryngelson Grove og boede der til sin død. De havde flere børn. Sønnen Bryngel reiste til Amerika.

Nils Olsen Grotland, f. 1801, kom i 1845 til Amerika, var de første aar i Chicago, blev der i 1849 gift med Ingeborg Haldorsdatter. Kvilekval og bosatte sig samme aar paa Skoponong, Wis. To aar efter flyttede han til Koshkonong, Wis., hvor han forblev til sin død. Hans Sønner er William og Henry Nelson, den første i Deer-field, Wis. Den anden bor i Whitewater og er velkendte af vossinger. Stedsønnen var senator Knute Nelson af Minnesota.

Saa maa vi tilbage til det første kuld. Brita Sylfestdatter Fletre blev gift med Bjørne Amundsen Hefte og blev boende paa Hefte til sin død. De havde 2 sønner, Amund og Sylfest samt en om ikke flere døtre. Sønnen Amund fik farsgaarden og boede paa Hefte til sin død. Han havde sønnerne Bjarne og John, — maaske flere børn. Brødrene blev gifte med søstre, — Bjarne med Synva og John med Herborg, døtre af Ole Thormodson Gjerdager og Gudve, datter af Eidsvoldsmanden Bryngel Gjerdager, og alle kom til Amerika. Bjarne Hefte bosatte sig som farmer paa Skoponong, hvor flere slegtninger blev samlet. Han reiste imidlertid i 1861 i borgerkrigen, hvor han døde 1864. Han stod i 28de Wis. regiment. Sønnen John boede paa Skoponong. Børnebørnene er flyttet til i nærheden af Burbank, S. Dak. Broderen John Amundson Hefte bosatte sig i Chicago og arbejdede i trykkeriet til John Wentworth og var den 2den norske typograf i Amerika. Den første var Erik E. Rude, som ogsaa var født paa Voss. John har 2 døtre, som lever. Den ene er Julia, som blev gift med Gjetle B. Nordheim og bor i Chicago, den anden med sin slegtning John Emerson og bor i Syd Dakota.

Sylfest Bjørneson Hefte blev gift med Ingeborg Tvinde og blev bosiddende paa Tvinde til sin død. Hans søn Bjarne blev i 1855 gift med Ingeborg E. Staup og bosatte sig straks efter paa Løne. Bjørnes sønner Ivar, Sylfest og Peder bor i Minnesota, ved Thief River Falls, og hans dattersønner er Anders, Erik og Bjarne Kindem i Minneapolis. Sylfest og Ingeborg Tvinde havde ogsaa en datter Brita, som blev gift med Ole Rødne paa Vossestranden, og Anna, gift med Nils K. Afdal, samt sønnen Lars, gift med Ingeborg A. Løne og bosat paa Løne.

Bjarne A. Hefte's datter blev gift med Ole Een og var mor til Bjarne Olsen Een, som ogsaa var med i borgerkrigen og senere bosat ved Mapleton, Minn., samt vistnok ogsaa Steffen Olsen Een som boede i Clay Co., Syd Dakota. Begge er døde.

Den næste, som skal nævnes af Sylfest og Anna

Taylor. He had five children of which none live there. Bjarne stayed at Voss and finished his life living in Bergen. Nothing is known about Begga. Synneva married Knut Bryngelson Grove and lived there all her life. They had several children. Their son, Bryngel went to America.

Nils Olsen Grotland, b. 1801, came to America in 1845 and was in Chicago the first years, then married Ingeborg Haldorsdatter Kvilekval in 1849 and they settled in Skoponong, WI that same year. Two years later, they moved to Koshkonong, where he stayed until he died. His sons are William and Henry Nelson, the first is in Deerfield, WI. The other lives in Whitewater and is well-known by the vossings. His stepson was Senator Knute Nelson of Minnesota.

Now we'll have to return to the first brood. Brita Sylfestdatter Fletre married Bjørne Amundsen Hefte and lived on Hefte all her life. They had two sons, Amund and Sylfest, as well as possibly several daughters. The son, Amund, got the family farm and lived at Hefte until his death. He had the sons, Bjarne and John, — maybe more children. The brothers married sisters, — Bjarne with Synva and John with Herborg, daughters of Ole Thormodson Gjerdager and Gudve, daughter of Eidsvoldsman Bryngel Gjerdager and all came to America. Bjarne Hefte settled as a farmer at Skoponong, where several relatives had grouped. In 1861, he went in the Civil War where he died in 1864. He served in the 28th Wisconsin Regiment. His son, John, stayed at Skoponong. The grandchildren moved to the vicinity of Burbank, SD. His bother, John Amundson Hefte, moved to Chicago, worked for John Wentworth Printing, and was the second Norwegian typographer in America. The first was Erik E. Rude, who also came from Voss. John had two daughters, who are alive. One was named Julia and married Gjetle B. Nordheim and lives in Chicago, the other with her relative John Emerson and lives in South Dakota

Sylfest Bjørneson Hefte married Ingeborg Tvinde and remained at Tvinde all his life. His son, Bjarne, in 1855, married Ingeborg E. Staup and he settled on Løne. Bjarne's sons Ivar, Sylfest and Peder live in Minnesota at Thief River Falls, and his daughter's sons are Anders, Erik and Bjarne Kindem in Minneapolis. Sylfest and Ingeborg Tvinde also had a daughter Brita, who married Ole Rødne from the Vossestrand, and Anna, married to Nils K. Afdal, as well as a son, Lars, who married Ingeborg A. Løne and stayed on Løne.

Bjarne A. Hefte's daughter married Ole Een and was the mother of Bjarne Olsen Een, who was also in the Civil War and later settled in Mapleton, MN, as well as Steffen Olsen Een, who lived in Clay Co., South Dakota. Both are dead.

The next of Sylfest and Anna Fletre's children, is

Fletres børn, er Mons Sylfestson Fletre. Han blev i 1792 gift med Guro Ivarsdatter Leidal og boede en tid paa Fletre og senere paa Hefte. Hans hustru var af denne velkjendte Leidalslegt, om hvilken dei senere vil blive fortalt. De fik 3 sønner Sylfest, Ivar og Nils samt 3 døtre Ragnhild, Gjertrud og Marta. Sylfest blev gift med Anna Larsdatter Rogne, en søster af Ole Larson Rogne, pioneer ved Leland, Ill. og farsøster til Lars Pederson, i sin tid veikjendt skrædder i Chicago, og boede en tid paa Jeraldstveten, saa i Vivaaslien, hvorpaa han købte et brug i gaarden Øvre-Lid, Kvitlen. Efter at have boet der i mange aar, solgte han denne gaard og købte igjen et brug i gaarden Rene. Der var han bosat til sin død i 1880. Han havde døtre, Guro og Anna. Guro blev gift med førnævnte Viking Olsen Rene og kom til Amerika. Anna blev gift med Arne Sjursen Nygryten eller Vike. De fik i 1866 gaarden paa Rene, og boede der til Annas død i 1880. De fik børnene Sjur, Ivar, Sylfest, Knut og Anna, som alle kom til Amerika. Sjur var snedker og arbejdede en tid i Illinois og en tid i Madison, Wisconsin, men døde i ung alder i Madison, Wis. Ivar døde i den spanske krig, som andetsteds nævnt, Sylfest er farmer ved Eleva, Wis. Knut og Anna er i Madison.

Ivar Monsen Fletre eller Hefte var en tid bosat paa Jeraldstveten senere paa pladsen Kvernehaugen under Dukstad. Hans hustru hed Marjo. De havde ingen børn. Ivar var sølvsmed som flere af slegten.

Nils Monsen Hefte blev gift med Marta Kleivene og boede paa en plads under Hefte. Begge døde tidlig. Han havde sønnerne Mons og Anders samt datteren Guro. Mons blev gift med Maria Simonsdr. Kindem og reiste kort efter til Amerika. Var der jordbruger i mange aar i townet Chimney Rock, Trempe Co., Wis., men er nu paa Voss. Anders voksede op hos slegtninger paa Løne, blev gift i Aurland, Sogn, og var i mange aar bosat paa Aurlandsvangen, hvor han drev som snedker og bygmester. Havde sluttelig meget arbejde ved anlægget af Bergensbanen og døde under et ophold paa fjeldet. Guro var en tid hos onkelen paa Rene, blev siden gift med Nikolai Larson Ullestad. Hans far var fra Lødve, moderen af Jægerfamilien paa Vangen. Guro og Nikolai bosatte sig paa en plads under Kindem, hvor Guro endnu lever. De har 5 børn ilive. De fire er i Amerika. Lars, den ældste har været politimand i Odda, Hardanger, Eli er gift med Sylfest A. Rene og bor ved Eleva, Wis. Nils, Barbra (Mrs. Strom), og Nikolai d. y. bor i Minneapolis, hvor Nils er malermester. Nikolai var med i verdenskrigen. Martha er Mrs. Johnson og bor i Minnesota.

Ragnilda Monsdr. Hefte havde i lang tid sit tilhold paa Røte, hvor hun ogsaa døde. Datteren Olina tjente sidst paa Vangen og døde der for nogle aar siden. Gjertrud Monsdr. var gift, vistnok med en fra Gjerstad, som døde tidlig. Hun døde paa Enkehjemmet

Mons Sylfestson Fletre. He married in 1792 to Guro Ivarsdatter Leidal and lived at Fletre for a while, later at Hefte. His wife was from the well-known Leidal lineage, about whom more will be told later. They had three sons, Sylfest, Ivar and Nils as well as three daughters, Ragnhild, Gjertrud and Marta. Sylfest married Anna Larsdatter Rogne, a sister of Ole Larson Rogne, a pioneer at Leland, IL, and paternal aunt to Lars Pederson, in his time a well-known tailor in Chicago, and lived for a time at Jeraldstveten, then at Vivaaslien, whereupon he bought a working in the Øvre-Lid, Kvitlen farm. After having lived there many years, he sold this farm and bought a working at Rene. He stayed there the rest of his life. He had the daughters, Guro and Anna. Guro married the aforementioned Viking Olsen Rene and came to America. Anna married Arne Sjursen Nygryten, or Vike. They got the Rene farm in 1866, and lived there until Anna died in 1880. They had the children Sjur, Ivar, Sylfest, Knut og Anna, all of whom emigrated to America. Sjur was a carpenter, worked in Illinois, then Madison, WI, but died at a young age. Ivar died in the Spanish-American War (see no 4, 1923 5th year). Sylfest farms in Eleva, WI. Knut and Anna are in Madison.

Ivar Monsen Fletre or Hefte lived at Jeraldstveten a while, later at the Kvernehaugen place under Dukstad. His wife was named Marjo. They had no children. Ivar was a silversmith, as were several in the family.

Nils Monsen Hefte married Marta Kleivene and lives at a place under Hefte. Both died early. He had the sons, Mons and Anders, as well as the daughter, Guro. Mons married Maria Simonsdatter Kindem and went to America, shortly after. They farmed for many years in the town of Chimney Rock, Trempealeau. Co., WI, but are now back at Voss. Anders grew up with relatives at Løne, married in Aurland, Sogn, and lived at Aurlandsvangen for many years where he worked as a carpenter and builder. At the end, he worked on the Bergensbanen and died during a stay in the mountains. Guro lived with her uncle at Rene, but later married Nikolai Larson Ullestad. His father was from Lødve, his mother from the Jæger family at Vangen. Guro and Nikolai set up at a place under Kindem, where Guro is still living. They had five grown children. Four are in America. Lars, the oldest was a policeman in Odda, Hardanger. Eli married Sylfest A. Rene and lives in Eleva, WI. Nils, Barbra (Mrs. Strom), and Nikolai, Jr. live in Minneapolis, where Nils is a painter. Nikolai served in the World War. Martha is Mrs. Johnson and lives in Minnesota.

Ragnilda Monsdatter Hefte had her residence at Røte for a long time, where she also died. Her daughter, Olina was in service at Vangen and died there some years ago. Gjertrud Monsdatter was married, evidently with someone from Gjerstad, who died young. She died at the Widows

for ca. 35 aar siden. Martha Monsdr. var ugift og havde mest tilhold hos broderen paa Rene og døde endel aar efter søsteren.

Bryngel Sylfestson Fletre blev i 1794 gift med Anna Sjursdr. Øvre-Vinje og boede paa Fletre. Han havde sønnerne Sylfest og Sjur samt Datteren Synneva, om de var flere er os ubekjendt. Sylfest blev gift med en pige, som hed Gjertrud og fik farsgaarden. Han druknede i ung alder. Straks efter fødtes ham en søn, som fik navnet Sylfest efter faderen. Denne søn blev skolelærer. Hans mor blev gjengift med Haavard Lemme, en broder af Kirkesanger David Lemme paa Kløve og hos sidstnævnte fik Sylfest i 1854 sin første undervisning i lærergjærningen og var lærer i flere aar paa Voss. Senere tog han et kursus paa Voss lærerskole og var derpaa et aars tid lærer i Evenvik, men drog i 1865 til Amerika, og har saa-vidt vides været bosat i Story County, Iowa. Han var gift med Anna Hefte, en søster af uhrmager Bryngel Hefte paa Vangen (ikke i slekt med de andre fra Hefte) og har vist børn som lever i Iowa.

Sjur Bryngelson Fletre blev gift paa Voss og reiste i 1844 til Amerika. Søsteren Synneva var reist før, og et brev fra hende til broderen er i nr. 1 af "Vossingen" forrige aar. Sjur Fletre og hustru fik en søn, som det er sagt, fødtes paa havet. Han fik navnet Bryngel efter bedstefaren. Sjur med familie bosatte segg først paa Skoponong, Wis., nær sine øvrige slegtninger, som bosatte sig der, men flyttede senere til townet York, Green County, Wis., nær Blanchardville, hvor han boede til sin død. Sønnen Bryngel var den velkjendte Bryngel Sjurson Fletre, borgerkrigsveteran og velstaaende jordbruger samme sted. Han var to gange med i borgerkrigen. Først meldte han sig som 16-aarig gut i 15de Wisconsin regiment, men blev i 1863 syg og maatte sendes hjem. I 1865 deltog han atter i krigen og stod da som sergeant i 49de reg. Han var to gange gift; først med Eliza Landmark der fødte ham en søn, Sivert, og saa med Ellen Hanson. De fik 11 børn, som bor omkring Blanchardville, Wis. En datter er gift med Dommer O. A. Stolen og bor i Madison, Wis.

Ragnhild, som formodentlig var næst i rækken af Sylfest og Anna Fletres børn, var født 1770 og gift 1801 med Nils Vikingson Rykke. For nærværende haves ingen flere oplysninger om dem.

Marita Sylfestdatter Fletre blev gift med Lars Sætre, efter hvem hun levede som enke. Hvormange børn de havde, skal for nærværende ikke siges; men vi finder to i Amerika, som maa antages at være deres børn. Det er Erik Larson Sætre og søsteren Anna, som var gift med Henrik Monson Kaldestad. Erik Sætre og vistnok ogsaa søsteren og hendes mand kom til Amerika i 1839, og var muligens de allerførste nybyggere i nærheden af Lisbon, Illinois, hvor de boede til sin død. Anna døde i dec. 1858 efter-ladende en søn Mons. Erik var gift med Kari Johannesdr. Ulle-

Home about 35 years ago. Martha Monsdatter never married, spending most of her life with her brother at Rene, dying a number of years after her sister.

Bryngel Sylfestson Fletre married Anna Sjursdr. Øvre-Vinje in 1794 and lived at Fletre. He had the sons Sylfest and Sjur as well as the daughter Synneva; it is unknown if there were more. Sylfest married a girl, whose name was Gjertrud and he got his father's farm. He drowned at a young age. Soon after, a baby was born to him, who was named Sylfest after the father. This son became a schoolteacher. His mother remarried with Haavard Lemme, a brother of precentor David Lemme at Kløve and from him he got his instruction in teacher's education and was a teacher several years at Voss. Later, he took a course at Voss Teachers College and after that taught for a year at Evenvik, but left for America in 1865 and, as far as we know, settled in Story County, Iowa. He married Anna Hefte, a sister of watchmaker Bryngel Hefte at Vangen (not related to the others from Hefte) and certainly has children living in Iowa.

Sjur Bryngelson Fletre married at Voss and went to America in 1844. His sister, Synneva, had gone earlier, and a letter from her to her brother is in no. 1 of "Vossingen" last year. Sjur Fletre and his wife got a son; it is said, who was born at sea. They named him Bryngel, after his grandfather. Sjur and his family first settled in Skoponong, WI, near the rest of his relatives, who had settled there, but later moved to York, Green County, WI, near Blanchardville, where he spent his remaining days. His son, Bryngel was the well-known Bryngel Sjurson Fletre, Civil War veteran and well off farmer of the same place. He was in the Civil War two times. First, he enlisted as a 16 year-old in the 15th Wisconsin Regiment, but in 1863 he became sick and had to be sent home, but in 1865, he again participated in the war and served as a sergeant in the 49th Regiment. He was married two times; first with Eliza Landmark, who delivered him a son, Sivert, and then with Ellen Hanson. They had 11 children, who are in the Blanchardville, WI area. One daughter is married to Judge O. A. Stolen and lives in Madison, WI.

Ragnhild, who presumably was the next in line of Sylfest and Anna Fletre's children, was born in 1770 and in 1801, married Nils Vikingson Rykke. At the present, we don't have any more information about them.

Marita Sylfestdatter Fletre married Lars Sætre, after whom she lived as a widow. How many children they had, we can't presently say; but we find two in America, who can be assumed to be their children. That's Erik Larson Sætre and his sister, Anna, who married Henrik Monson Kaldestad. Erik Sætre and, no doubt, also the sister and her husband came to America in 1839, and possibly were the very first pioneers in the vicinity of Lisbon, Illinois, where they stayed the rest of their lives. Anna died in December 1858, leaving a son, Mons. Erik married Kari Johannesdr.

stad. Han døde i 1881 og hun i 1883. De efterlod sig 2 børn; Anna og John. Anna blev gift med Nils S. Nelson fra Skaanevik, som var med i borgerkrigen. De har været bosat i nærheden af Newark, Ill. Hvor Nelson endnu lever. Anna døde i 1913, efterladende mange børn. John blev gift med Alice Nelson og lever for nærværende i Westbrook, Minn. Hans søn er Pastor Lewis samme sted.

Inger Sylfestdr. Fletre var født 1775 og var ugift endda f 1800, berettes der. Maaske mere om hende senere.

Nils Sylfestson Fletre var født 1778 og døde allerede i 1800. Han havde dog været gift et par aar, om vi ikke tager svært meget fejl. Vi har grund til at tro, at han efterlod sig to børn: Sylfest og Gudve. Sylfest er den Sylfest Nilson Fanestøl, som vi omtalte i "Vossingen" nr. 1, 4de aarg. blandt dem som reiste til Kansas og var en af de første norske nybyggere der. Dennes søn Lars skrev nemlig som svar paa redaktørens spørgsmaal, at saavidt han vidste var bedstefaderen født paa Fletre eller deromkring, og at hans far Sylfest var et søskendebarn eller noget saadant til John Amundson Hefte i Chicago hos hvem de tog ind ved ankomsten dertil, hvilket stemmer forsaavidt at det var John Hefte's far og Sylfest, som var søskendebørn. Nils Fletre maa da efter sit giftermaal have boet paa Eggjareid i Raundalen, hvor hans børn var fødte. Gudve blev gift med Askel Skiple, og hendes børnebørn bor vistnok endnu paa Skiple. Sylfest var nok født 1798 og boede paa gaarden Fanestøl til han i 1857 drog til Amerika. I 1860 reiste han til Kansas og var bosat nær Atchinson i countiet af samme navn til sin død 1882. Se forøvrigt ovennævnte nummer af "Vossingen".

NOGLE ERINDRINGER OM LARS NELSEN NESHEIM.

Af I. D. Hustvedt.

Den mand, vi i særdeleshed har at takke for, at de gamle Amerikabreve, som er optagne i "Vossingen", blev opbevarede, er gamle Lars N. Nesheim. Da jeg tror at disse breve har været læst med interesse, saa tænker jeg, at der kunde være nogen, som ønskede at faa vide lidt mere om denne mands liv og virksomhed og vil derfor i det efterfølgende forsøge at fortælle lidt af det, jeg ved, og hvad jeg kan erindre om ham. Før end jeg begynder derpaa, vil jeg nævne lidt om gaarden Næsheim, som er en af de største og indtægtsrigeste gaardsbrug i Voss hovedsogn og udmærker sig ved sin skønne beliggenhed ved den nordre ende af det vakre og fiskerige Lønevand, hvori man kan se den stolte og majestætiske Lønehorg af speile sig. I nord og øst er gaarden med sine huse omkranset af en prægtig skov af furu og grantræer, der

Ullestad. He died in 1881, and she in 1883. They were survived by two children; Anna and John. Anna married Nils S. Nelson from Skaanevik, who is a Civil War veteran. They lived in the vicinity of Newark, IL, where Nelson lives yet. Anna died in 1913, leaving many children. John married Alice Nelson and, for the present, lives in Westbrook, MN. His son is Pastor Lewis of the same place.

Inger Sylfestdatter Fletre was born in 1775 and still wasn't married before 1800, it says here. Maybe there will be more about her later.

Nils Sylfestson Fletre was born in 1778 and died already by 1800. He'd been married a couple years by then, unless we're mistaken. We have reason to believe that he left two children: Sylfest and Gudve. Sylfest is that Sylfest Nilson Fanestøl, who we discussed in "Vossingen" no. 1, 1923, 4th year, with those who went to Kansas and were the first Norwegian pioneers there. Their son, Lars, you see, wrote, in response to a query by the editor, that as far as he knew his grandfather was born on Fletre or thereabouts, and that his father, Sylfest, was cousin to John Amundson Hefte in Chicago with whom they stayed on their arrival, which agrees with that John Hefte's father and Sylfest being cousins. Nils Fletre then must, after his marriage, have lived at Eggjareid in Raundalen, where his children were born. Gudve married Askel Skiple, and her grandchildren evidently still live at Skiple. Sylfest was born in 1798 and lived on the Fanestøl farm until he went to America in 1857. In 1860, he left for Kansas and lived at Atchison in the county of the same name until his death in 1882. See the issue of "Vossingen" named above for more.

SOME RECOLLECTIONS OF LARS NELSEN NESHEIM.

By I. D. Hustvedt.

The man, to whom we are indebted, that these old America letters, which are reproduced in "Vossingen", were preserved, is old Lars N. Nesheim. Since I believe these letters have been read with interest by many, I thought there might be some, who wanted to learn something more of this man's life and activities, and therefore, in the following, I will try to tell what I know and what I remember about him. Before I begin, I want to tell a little about the Nesheim farm, which is one of the biggest and productive in Voss and is distinguished by its superb position at the northern end of the attractive and fish-rich Lønevand (Lake Løne) in which one can see mirrored the proud and imposing Lønehorgi (Mount Løne). The buildings of the farm are ringed by a grand forest of fir and pine that also belong to the farm and are a source of income

tilhører gaarden, og er for dens eier en aarlig indtægtskilde ligesom den ogsaa tjener til at beskytte den mod veir og vind og give den en ligesaa lun som skjøn beliggenhed. Gaarden har fra umindelige tider tilhørt den samme slægt, og gaaet i odell og arv fra fader til søn. Dens opsidere har til alle tider været nogen af bygdens mest velstaaende bønder, ligesom de altid har udmærket sig ved en stille, bramfri og ordentlig vandel. Foraarsaget af endel dødsfald, og andre forviklinger, er dog gaarden nu, for nogle aar tilbage kommet ud af slægten og i fremmede hænder.

Paa denne idylliske gaard fødtes den 14de februar 1792 Lars Nelsen Næsheim og hans tvillingbroder Anders. De var i det hele otte søskende af hvilke Amund og Stephen var ældre end de to førnævnte og Nils, Styrk, Gjertrud og Sigvar var yngre. Amund, som var ældst blev udkommanderet i krigen i 1807 til 1814 og døde i denne. Dette havde tilfølge at Stephen, som den næst ældste blev odelsberettiget til gaarden, hvilken han ogsaa senere overtog og beboede i lang tid. Anders og Nels slog sig sammen og byggede sig et hus paa Næsheim, hvor de boede som ungarle, eller pebersvende, lige til sin død. Styrk blev gift med Syneva Een og var fader til min ungdomsven og skolekammerat Amund Rongve. Sigvor blev gift med Erik Lemme og Gjertrud med Ivar Bøe i Tykkebygden. Forældrene til de her nævnte søskende var Nils Næsheim og hans hustru Gjertrud.

Det var dog især om sønnen Lars, jeg havde tænkt at skrive. Da han var blevet voksen forblev han ikke længere paa Næsheim, men flyttede til sin søster og søstermand Erik Lemme og der paa gaarden Lemme havde han siden sit hjem saa længe han levede. Han skrev dog altid sit navn for Lars Næsheim. Lars var i mange henseender, hvad man maa kalde en original. Jeg hørte tale om, uagtet jeg ikke kan erindre de nærmere omstændigheder derved, at han, i sine yngre aar, skulde have været forelsket i en pige, og tænkt paa at gifte sig, men at hans forældre og søskende fik ham overtalt til at lade det være. Aarsagen til at hans slægtinge ikke ønskede at forbindelsen skulde komme istand var vel den, at han var søn af en rig og anset gaardbruger, og pigen kanske af nogen ringere afstamning. Dette faar nu være, som det vil, nok er det, at Lars blev aldrig gift og hørte man aldrig mere tale om, at han gjorde tilnærmelse til det smukke kjønn. Hans kjærlighed, sind og tanker tog en anden retning. Hans liv og lyst var først og fremst arbeide, men sine fristunder benyttede han til at forskaffe sig læse-stof, og da især viser og sange. Alle sang og visebøger, som han kunde faa fat paa købte han, og dem han kunde faa laane afskrev han ved at frakturere dem. Størstedelen af dem havde han vistnok lært udenad, saa han kunde synge dem.

Efterat udvandringen til Amerika var begyndt, og

for the owner of the farm and is also serves to protect against weather and winds and give a somewhat cozy and pretty location. The farm has belonged to the same family since time immemorial, and gone from father to son by odell and legacy. Its occupants have always been among the best-off farmers in the district, as they have been famous for their quiet, unostentatious life-style. Because of a number of deaths, and other occurrences a few years ago, the farm has left the family and is now in strange hands.

Lars Nelsen Nesheim and his twin brother were born on this idyllic farm February 14, 1792. In all, there were eight siblings of whom Amund and Stephen were older than the aforementioned and Nils, Styrk, Gjertrud and Sigvar were younger. Amund, the oldest, was drafted into the war in 1807-1814 (Napoleonic War) and died in it. This had the result that Stephen, as the next oldest became the odell-heir for the farm, which he took over later and resided there a long time. Anders and Nils joined together and built a house on Nesheim, where they lived as bachelors, or pepper-swains, all their days. Styrk married Syneva Een and was father of my childhood friend and schoolmate Amund Rongve. Sigvor married Erik Lemme and Gjertrud Ivar Bøe in Tykkebygden. The parents of these herein named siblings were Nils Næsheim and his wife Gjertrud.

It was especially about the son, Lars, that I had thought about writing. When he was grown, he didn't stay on Næsheim, but moved in with his sister and her husband Erik Lemme and he had his home on the Lemme farm as long as he lived. He always signed his name as Lars Næsheim. Lars was, in many regards what people would call an eccentric. I have heard stories about, respecting that I can't remember the exact circumstances, that he, in his young days, was to have fallen in love with a girl, and was thinking of getting married, but his parents and siblings convinced him to leave her alone. The reason his relatives didn't want the union to occur was because he was the son of a rich and respectable farmer and the girl of somewhat humble extraction. Be this as it may, it's enough that Lars never married, and one never again heard talk of his approaching the gentler sex. His interest, mind and thoughts took a different direction. His life and desire, first and foremost, was his work in leisure time used to gather reading material, and ballads and songs. He bought all the songs and ballads he could get hold of and those he could borrow, he would copy by inscribing them. Most of them, he had learned by heart, so he could sing them.

After the emigration to America had begun, and

det begyndte at komme Breve fra de udvandrede emigranter, saa blev dette en ny opgave for hans energi og samlelyst. Han sparede ingen møie, men gjorde ofte lange reiser for at faa fat paa disse breve, enten som laan eller paa anden maade, saa han kunde kopiere dem. Disse kopier fik han saa indbundet i bøger. Den bog af disse breve, som jeg var saa heldig at faa fat paa, var vistnok en af de mindste af disse brevsamlinger; thi jeg husker godt, da jeg engang besøgte ham paa Lemme at han viste mig flere af disse bøger, som var meget større i format, og derfor ogsaa muligens i indhold, end den bog vi har.

Naar man saa betragter alt det arbeide, som Lars udførte med at samle og kopiere alle disse viser, sange og Amerikabreve, kunde man fristes til at tro, at han anvendte al sin tid hertil, og at dette var hans eneste beskæftigelse. Dette var dog langtfra tilfældet. Det var kun sine fristunder han anvendte hertil, ellers var hans tid optaget med jordarbeide, der bestod i at bryde op agerland og opkaste vandgrøfter, helst det sidste. Med saadant arbeide fortsatte han fra tidligt om vaaren til sent paa høsten, men han havde altid sine skrivematerialer med sig, saa hvis der kom en rigtig uveirsdag, saa det ikke gik an at arbeide ude, satte han sig til at skrive og kopiere. Uvirksom var han aldrig. Hans arbeidsfelt, som jordarbeider strakte sig over hele bygden, og da han var flink og dygtig i sit arbeide, og kanske var billigere end mange andre, saa havde han altid beskæftigelse. Om vinteren var han heller ikke ledig. Han havde om høsten faaet opgravet og samlet sammen en masse tæger, som voxte i fjeldmyrer, og af disse forarbejdede han mangeslags nyttige gjenstande, saasom ostetæjer, saabutter, soldbotner m. m.

Lars havde en god helbred; aldrig hørte man, at han var syg, endskjønt nakken og ryggen, af det bestandigt tunge og lutende arbeide, var blevet bøiet fremover, saa havde dog ansigtet ungdommens friske farve, endog efter at han var blevet meget gammel. Det som hjalp ham til at bevare sin helbred var, næst Guds bistance, at han altid var i godt humør. Altid var han glad og fornøiet og ingen sindsbevægelse kunde man mærke hos ham. Han syntes at se alt fra den lyse side. Dertil kom ogsaa, at han, bedre end mange, forstod at tage vare paa sin helbred. Altid nøktern og maadeholden saavel med hensyn til mad, som drikke, og altid holdt han sig med varme, rene og gode klæder. Han var saaledes ogsaa forsynet med vandtætte oljeklæder, som han, naar det behøvedes, trak udenpaa de andre klæder. Tillige var han ogsaa forsynet med et par gode støvler, som rak ham opover knæerne, de var rummelige nok til, at han kunde benytte flere par strømper. Paa den maade kunde han holde fødderne varme, uagtet han stod i vand og søle dag efter dag.

there started to come letters from the emigrants, this became a new task for his energies and collection passion. He spared no effort, often traveling great distances to get hold of these letters by one means or another and then inscribe them. He bound these copies into books. The book of these letters, that I was fortunate to obtain, was evidently one of the smaller of these collections of letters, because I remember well, visiting him at Lemme and he showed me several of these books, which were much bigger in format and therefore in content, than the book we have.

When one looks at all the work, that Lars completed, in copying and collecting all these ballads, songs and America letters, one would be tempted to believe that he devoted all his time to this and this was his only occupation. This was far from being the case. It was only during his leisure hours that he turned to these, otherwise he was taken up with earth work, which consisted of breaking up fields and digging ditches. He continued this work from early in the spring until late in the fall, but he always had his writing materials with him, so if there came a day of poor weather, when he couldn't work outside, then he would sit and write and copy. He was never idle. His work area, which stretched over the entire district and since he was capable and diligent with his work and maybe was cheaper than many others, he always had work. During the winter, he wasn't idle either. In the fall, he would dig up and collect a lot of root fibers, that grew in marshes, and from these he would manufacture many kinds of objects, such as cheese-baskets, seed buckets, herring pails etc.

Lars had a strong constitution; one never heard of him being sick, except his neck and back; the constant heavy and stooped labor, had bowed him over, even though he still preserved the childhood fresh coloring, even after he had become old. That which helped him keep his health, besides God's help, was that he always was in a good mood. He was always happy and satisfied and no excitement would bother him. He always looked at things from the brighter side. It also came from that he, better than most, understood caring for his health. Always temperate and moderate with regard to food, as well as drink, and he always kept warm, clean and in good clothes. He also was well-supplied with watertight oilskin clothing, which he, when it was needed, pulled on outside his other clothing. In addition, he had a pair of good boots that reached above the knees and were roomy enough that he could use several pairs of stockings. That way he could keep his feet warm, regardless of whether he stood in water and mud day after day.

Jeg tænker det var om sommeren 1853, eller kanske det var i '54, jeg husker ikke sikkert, hvilke af disse aar det var, at min fader leiede Lars Næsheim til at kaste op endel veiter, eller grøfter. Jeg var da 9 a 10 aar gammel, og da var det jeg først blev kjendt med ham, og det var ikke længe inden baade jeg og min broder Thorkel blev gode venner med ham. Ved sit venlige væsen og sin sang vandt han med engang vort venskab. Han kunde ogsaa undertiden fortelle os smaa eventyr. Saavel jeg, som Thorkel, søgte til gjengjæld at vise ham smaa opmærksomheder, saasom at plukke bær og give ham, og da kunde vi være sikre paa en sang, eller et eventyr, som paaskjønnelse. Det, han sang ved saadanne anledninger var ofte noget meningsløst, men vi smaagutter fandt det morsomt, f. ex. naar han sang: "Ekornet færo paa havsens-botten og vælte op store steina, laxen færo i furutop og gnaver barken af greina, eg laug og eg dat og drømte om nat; æg syntes mi visa var bag-vent sat." Hvor meget han sang, saa maa det dog siges til hans pris, at han aldrig sang noget, som var uanstændigt. Det kunde ofte være noget tul, men ellers var det uskyldigt, saa ingen kunde tage skade, ei heller anstød af at høre derpaa. En anden af hans yndlings-sange skal jeg her anføre et vers af:

"En vise om bjørnen jeg lyster at sjunge, vil nogen af Eder lytte til den? Jeg haver god stemme og rørende tunge, livligen vil jeg nu røre den, Og sjunge om den sorte skovkonge, som har ti mands styrke og tolv mands vid i sit bryst. Han vanker saa vide og ingen kan lide. Hans framfærd sommer, vaar eller høst."

Det var ikke nok med, at han søgte at laa fat paa alle de sange og viser han kunde opdrive, men hvis han havde hørt tala om nogen, som var lidt af en rimsmed, saa opsøgte han en saadan for at betinge, eller overtale ham til at forfatte en sang. Mærkelig nok befattet han sig aldrig selv med at digte, men han vilde andre skulde; gjøre det. Skolelærer Sylfest S. Fletre var en af dem han vilde skulde forfatte en sang. Sylfest efterkom ogsaa dette ønske, idet han digtet en sang, som var af passet saadan, som om den skulde være forfattet af Lars selv og om han selv. Dette blev da ogsaa en af hans mest yndede sange, og som jeg tror han sang oftere end nogen af sine andre viser. Som smaagut lærte jeg den fuldstændigt af ham ved at høre ham synge den, uagtet den var meget lang. Jeg har desværre glemt det meste af den, men jeg husker dog endnu de tre første vers, som jeg her skal forsøge at giengive. De lyder som følger:

"Jeg, Lars Nilsen Næsheim, en sangernes ven, jeg synger saa gjerne en vise, jeg synger mens tiden den løber fort frem, I sangen jeg finder en lise, jeg sang i det øieblik verden jeg saa, jeg synger, naar jeg ud af verden skal gaa, ja, hinsides graven jeg sjunger.

"Jeg synger om krig og om store uheld, Om

I think it was the summer of 1853, or maybe it was '54, I don't recall for sure which year it was, that my father hired Lars Næsheim to spade out some trenches or ditches. I was then 9 or 10 years old, that's when I first met him, and it wasn't long before both my brother, Thorkel, and I were good friends with him. His pleasant manner and songs won our friendship immediately. Now and then, he would tell us adventures. No wonder then, that Thorkel and I tried to remunerate him with small courtesies such as picking berries to give him, and then we could be sure to get a song or a fairytale as recognition. That, that he sang on such occasions was often meaningless, but we small boys thought it fun, for example, when he sang: "The squirrel traveled to the ocean's bottom and turned up big stones, the salmon traveled to the fir tops and gnawed the bark off the branches, I laid and I dreamt at night; I think my ditties were set backwards". No matter how much he sang, and this is to his credit, he never sang anything improper. Often it was plain foolishness, but otherwise it was innocent, so nobody could take indignation or offence from listening to it. I shall cite a verse of another of his favorite songs here:

"A refrain about the bear, I ache to sing, will none of you listen? I have a good voice and a moving tongue, now I want to use it briskly, to sing about the black king of the forest, who has ten men's strength and a breast twelve men's size. He roams widely and no one can pass. This is his conduct in summer, spring and fall".

It wasn't enough that he tried to get hold of all the songs and verses he could raise, but if he had heard of anyone who was good at rhyme, he sought him out to insist or persuade him to write a song. Remarkably enough, he never concerned himself about creating, but he was always after others to do it. Schoolteacher Sylfest S. Fletre was one of those he asked to write him a song. Sylfest complied with his request, in that it was so written as if it were written by Lars himself and about himself. This became one of his favorite songs, and I believe he sang this more often than any other of his ballads. As a small boy, I learned it totally from him by hearing him sing it, regardless that it was mighty long. I, unfortunately, have forgotten most of it, but I recall the three first verses yet, which I shall try to repeat here. They go as follows:

"I, Lars Nilsen Næsheim, a singers friend, I gladly sing a ditty, I sing though time passes quickly, in the song I find a solace, I sing in an instant, the world that I saw, I sing, when I shall leave this world, yes, from the other side of the grave I sing.

"I sing about war and the great misfortunes, about

dennem saa gjerne jeg synger. Nu vil jeg istemme en sang om mig selv, Kom lyt da, hvorledes den runger, Jeg ung haver været, nu gammel jeg er, Og Sangen den altid har været mig kjær. Mit arbeid med sang let har gledet.

"Sytten hundrede to og nitti aar, den 14de dag februari, Jeg fødtes til verden, der triller en taar, Man kaldte mig dengang den lille. Jeg voxed, mens tiden løb hastelig frem, Og tiltog i alder i forældrenes hjem. Fuldvoxen fra dem jeg bortvandret."

Naar Lars havde sunget denne sidste strofe, saa standsede han og gjorde den bemærkning: "Aa da reiste jeg te Lemme."

Ovenstaaende sang hvoraf disse vers er citerede. kaldte han Myrevisen. Han havde en anden sang, hvis indhold ogsaa var om ham selv hvilken han havde givet navnet Lars Visen, og var forfattet af skolelærer Haldor M. Nedkvitne. Af denne mindes jeg dog intet og kan derfor ikke anføre noget af den, men jeg forstod, at han syntes godt om den.

Om Høsten i 1861 var Lars Næsheim atter paa Hustvedt i længere tid for at grave og opkaste grøfter. Jeg lagde da mere mærke til hans arbeide end jeg havde gjort før. Han var da i sit 70de aar, men det var forbausende hvilket arbeide han kunde udføre paa en dag. Det viste sig at han havde en særegen øvelse til at udføre dette arbeide og saa benyttede han tiden godt. Som enhver kan skjønne, var det at opkaste grøfter et tungt og besværligt arbeide. Grøfterne kunde ofte være en 5 a 6 fod dybe og omkring 3 fod brede, og at grave sig frem i den haarde og ofte stenfulde jord var ingen barneleg. Værst var det dog naar store stene kom i veien, men Lars stod aldrig fast. Kunde han ikke finde en omvei, saa at vandet kunde faa udløb; thi det var dette det gjaldt om, saa havde han sine mineredskeer i beredskab og stenen var snart sprængt i stykker og al hindring bortryddet. Det var godt at forstaa, at han likte dette arbeide bedre end noget andet arbeide. Derfor sang han ogsaa i den før omtalte "Myrevisen", efterat han havde i et af samme, sunget et vers, der beskriver hans klædedragt, oljeklæder, sydvest, og søstøvler m. m.:

"Med denne mundering og spaden i haand og foden sit tempo mon gjøre, jeg vandrer til myren med fyrigste aand, vandgrøfter jeg mange opkaster. Og bøen jeg renser for stub og for sten, og tuer afhugger gjør bøen vel ren. Se dette gjør gamle Lars Næsheim."

I pekuniær henseende var Lars Næsheim vel stillet, saa det var ikke af trang, eller nødvendighed for livets ophold han paalagde sig saa haardt arbeide. Han havde arvet en hel del penge efter sine forældre, hvilken han havde udestaaende paa renter. Desuden fortjente han med sit arbeide mere end han trængte til sit daglige behov, hvilket overskud blev lagt til kapitalen, der saaledes øgedes aar for aar. Han var sparsom og forsigtig, men han brugte endel penge til at kjøbe bøger

them I want to sing. Now I want to start singing a song of myself, come and listen how it resounds, I have been young, now I am old, the song has always been my beloved. My labor is delightfully easy with songs.

"In seventeen hundred and ninety two, the fourteenth day of February, I was born into the world, there rolls a tear. People called me then the little one. I grew, while time ran by quickly, and increased in age in my parent's home. I moved away from them full grown, "

When Lars had sung this last stanza, then he would stop and make the remark: "Aw, then I went to Lemme".

The above song from where these verses are cited, he called The Marsh Song. He had another song, whose content was about himself that he has named Lars Visen, and which had been written by schoolteacher Haldor M. Nedkvitne. I don't remember any of it and therefore I can't cite any of it, but I understood that he liked it.

In the fall of 1861, Lars Næsheim was back at Hustvedt for a longer period to dig and shovel out trenches. I paid more attention to his work than I had done before. He was then in his seventieth year, but it was amazing, the amount of work he could accomplish in one day. It showed that he had a special technique to complete this job and also utilize his time well. As you can imagine, shoveling out trenches was heavy and difficult work. The ditches often were 5 to 6 feet deep and about 3 feet wide, and to dig forward in that hard and often stony earth wasn't child's play. The worst was when big stones got in the way; but Lars wasn't stopped. If he could find no alternative route to drain the water, for this was the purpose of this work, he had his mining tools, the stones were soon blown to bits and all impediments removed. You must understand, he liked this work, better than any other. Therefore, he also sang about it in the aforementioned "Marsh Song", and according to the same in one verse, he describes his costume; oiled clothing, Nor'easters and mud-boots and more.

"With these trappings and my shovel in hand, my feet somewhat in proper tempo, I wander to the marsh with an eager spirit, water trenches, I dig up many. I clean many meadows of stubble and stones, and chop down tuffets making the meadows clear. See, this is what old Lars Næsheim does."

Lars was well off in regards monetary matters so it wasn't from need or necessity for earning a living that he chose such hard work. He had inherited a great deal of money from his parents, which he had out at interest. In addition, he earned more by his jobs than he needed for his daily living, and the extra he added to the capital, that increased from year to year. He was prudent and saving, but he used a certain amount of money to buy books and paper and this he had good

og papir, men dette havde han god raad til, saa det gjorde ikke stort skaar i hans kasse.

Da jeg i 1864 holdt skole i det distrikt hvilket ogsaa gaarden Lemme tilhørte, og hvor Lars Næsheim, som før nævnt, havde sit opholdssted, saa besøgte jeg ham ofte. Alle de nye sange eller viser, som jeg kunde bekomme, og som jeg ikke troede han før havde bekommen, bragte jeg ham. Til gjengjæld laante han mig bøger. Han havde et værelse eller kammer for sig selv, stort nok til at rumme seng, ovn, et lidet bord og et par stole. Rundt væggene havde han sine boghylder, der rak fra gulvet op under taget og optog to af rummets sidevægge og var vel pakkede med bøger. Bøgerne var opstillede i den nøiagtigste orden efter deres indhold. Han havde mange gode bøger i sit bibliothek. Der kunde man finde religiøse, eller andagts bøger, historiske og videnskabelige værker, og skjønlitteratur af de mest kjendte norske og danske forfattere. Det meste bestod dog af, hvad man kan henregne til morskabslæsning dermed indbefattet sang, vise og eventyrbøger. Mange af hans sang og visebøger var saadanne som han selv havde kopieret, dermed ogsaa indbefattet hans Amerikabreve.

Da han blev gammel fik han den uheldige ide at han vilde holde auktion paa alle sine bøger og saaledes sælge dem, hvilket desværre ogsaa blev gjort. De blev naturligvis solgte for en spotpris, og saaledes spredte for alle vinde. Min broder Thorkel, som den tid var constitueret lensmand paa Voss og derfor ogsaa auktionarius fortalte mig i et brev derom, og han sagde, at det gjorde ham ondt, det skulde gaa den vei med Lars Næsheims bogsamling.

Da jeg i 1878, efter 10 aars ophold i Amerika besøgte Norge, saa besøgte jeg ogsaa gamle Lars Næsheim. Han var da i sit 87de aar. Han syntes fremdeles at være baade legems og aandsfrisk, men jeg forstod dog, at han havde tabt noget af hukommelsen. Da jeg spurgte ham, om han kunde erindre, hvor ofte jeg havde besøgt ham og laant bøger af ham den tid jeg holdt skole der i nabolaget, svarede han: Dette mindes jeg intet om, men derimod husker jeg godt den sommer jeg arbejdede hos din far, at Du og Thorkel plukkede bær og gav mig. Jeg synger endnu fortalte han mig, men jeg synger ikke nogen af disse letfærdige sange mere. Det er kun aandelige og opbyggelige sange, jeg nu synger, og folk her i huset fortæller mig, at de ofte hører mig synge om nætterne, og at de synes det er saa vakkert at høre det.

Hvor mange aar han levede efter den tid, kan jeg ikke angive. Jeg tror dog han blev over 90 aar og opnaede saaledes en høi alder.

Jeg vilde nødigt at nogen skulde faa det indtryk af, hvad jeg her har skrevet og fortalt om Lars Næsheim, at han var en mand uden nogen høiere interesse end at synge viser og grave i jorden. Den som kom i et fortroligt forhold og omgang med ham maatte snart

means for, so it didn't take a big slice out of his treasury.

In 1864, I taught in the school district to which the Lemme farm belonged, and where Lars Næsheim, as mentioned before, had a place to stay, so I visited him often. All the new songs or verses that I could get, and which I didn't think he had gotten before, I brought to him. In return, he lent me books. He has a room or chamber for himself, a big enough room for a bed, stove and a little table and two chairs. Around the walls, he had his bookshelves that reached from the floor to up under the ceiling, filled two of the room's side walls and were completely stuffed with books. The books were arranged in the most exact order, according to their content. He had many good books in his library. There one could find religious, or devotional books, histories and scientific works, and fiction by the most eminent Norwegian and Danish authors. Most consisted of recreational reading which included songs, ballads and adventure books. Many of his song and verse books were those he had copied himself, thereby including his letters from America.

When he got old, he got the regrettable idea that he would hold an auction of all his books and sell them in that manner. Which unfortunately was done. Naturally they sold at a bargain prices and thus were spread to all winds. My brother, Thorkel, who was the appointed sheriff in Voss at that time and thereby the auctioneer, told me about it in a letter, and said it was just painful that it would happen that way with Lars Næsheim's book collection.

When, after being in America for ten years, I visited Norway in 1878, I visited old Lars Næsheim. He was in his 87th year. He seemed to be physically and mentally healthy, but I soon realized he had lost some of his memory. When I asked him if he could recall how I had often visited him and borrowed books at the time when I taught school in the neighborhood, he answered: I don't remember anything about that, but, on the other hand, I well remember that summer I worked for your father, and you and Thorkel picked berries, and gave to me. I still sing, he told me, but I never sing those frivolous songs any more. It's only religious and revival songs, that I sing now, and the people in the house tell me they often hear me singing at night, and they think that it is so nice to hear.

How many years he lived after that time, I don't rightly know. I think he became more than 90 years and reached an advanced age.

I only essentially wanted that some one would get an impression from what I have written to tell about Lars Næsheim, that he was a man without any higher ambition than to sing ballads and dig in the earth. Those who were familiar with him and associated

lægge mærke til, at han var en baade oplyst og kundskabsrig mand, saavel paa det aandelige, som timelige omraade, og ligesom han var en god og nyttig borger, var han ogsaa en from og oprigtig kristen. Sit barnlige sindelag beholdt han gennem hele sit lange liv, og ved sit venlige væsen vandt han mange venner og det ikke mindst iblandt de første udvandrere fra Voss, til Amerika. Dette kommer noksaa vel tilsyne i de mange og venlige hilsener, som de gennem sine breve sendte ham, ligesom han ogsaa vistnok flittigt korresponderede med dem. Han var desuden meget interesseret i, og gransket nøie alt, som stod i forbindelse med Amerika. Derfor var det vel ogsaa, at han afskrev saa mange Amerikabreve.

Han er nu for lang tid siden død og borte, men hans minde fortjener at bevares, saavel i sin hjembygd, Voss, som af Vosserne her paa denne side havet.

KONG SVERRES FÆRD TIL VOSS.

Af Knut Nygryten.

Midt i de nye tider og slegter skinner det svundnes glorie frem, siger digteren Welhaven; og det er saa sandt, som det er sagt.

Vi dvæler i tanken ved kong Sverre og birkebeinerne. Senhøstes 1177 var de atter paa farten for at udføre et af de mesterstreger, hvormed de er velkendte i historien. Tidligere paa aaret havde de ved et saadant sat sig i besiddelse af bispestaden Nidaros. Nu gjaldt det kongsstaden Bjørgvin; men naturen og de menneskelige kræfter havde dennegang sammensvoret sig for at stanse deres færd. Det lykkedes ogsaa, og der var nærpaa sat en stopper for deres fremtidige færder tillige. Men skjæbnen vilde det anderledes. Den havde i baghaanden for dem en mission, hvortil der krævedes al den staalsætning, som naturen eiede, og mænd, hvis hoder ikke blev fordreiet ved lykkesolens første glimt. Den vilde ved denne leilighed vise, at der ikke fandtes nogen aaben vei til kongsædet og de høie menneskelige maal, — en lærdom, som ikke var at forglemme.

En ny tid var i anmarch i Norge. De trediveaarige krige mellem høvdingerne efter Sigurd Jorsalafarers død i 1130 havde frembragt utaalelige tilstande, i hvilken egeninteressen og den dermed forbundne hensynsløse barbarisme florerede. Der var opstaaet en klasse mennesker, som nærmest var uden rettigheder i landet. De havde staaet under høvdinge, som var faldne under de mange kampe, og deres egen lovlige ret til liv og eiendom havde liden hjemmel hos de daværende magthavere. Ingen forstod sig paa eller lagde sig efter at forsone de modstridende elem-

with him would soon notice that he was both an enlightened and knowledgeable man, in the spiritual, as well as secular domain; just as he was a good, useful citizen, he was a pious and sincere Christian. His childlike attitude was maintained throughout his entire long life, and with his friendly appearance, he won many friends, not least among the first emigrants from Voss to America. This acknowledges the many and friendly greetings they sent him through their letters, which he evidently dutifully answered in his correspondence with them. Beside that, he was very interested in, and researched everything that was associated with America. Hence, it was reasonable that he copied so many America letters.

Now he is dead and gone, but his memory deserves to be preserved, in his home district of Voss as by the vossings here on this side of the ocean.

KING SVERRES EXPEDITION TO VOSS.

By Knut Nygryten.

Amid the new times and families, the past glory shines forth, says the poet Welhaven; and it is true, just as it was said.

We pause in our thoughts to consider King Sverre and the Birchlegs. Late in the fall of 1177, they were again traveling to carry out one of their operations, with which we are well-acquainted from history. Earlier in the year, it was such that they were in possession of the bishopric city of Nidaros (Trondheim). Bergen was now the capitol city; but nature and the general population had sworn union to halt their expedition. It so happened that there almost was a stopper for the progress of their maneuver besides. Nevertheless, fate was to have it otherwise. In reserve, they had an undertaking that required all the steely character that nature had, and men, whose heads weren't turned by the first sign of good fortune. This opportunity will show that there wasn't any easy road to the throne and their high human aspiration, — a lesson that wasn't to be forgotten.

A new era was coming to Norway. The thirty-year war between the chieftains after Sigurd Jorsalafarer's death in 1130 had created an intolerable situation in which self-interest and the following meaningless barbarism flourished. There had arisen a class of people in the country, who had almost no sense of justice. They had served under chieftains who had fallen in the frequent battles and their own legal rights to life and property had little weight with the present powers. No one understood or even attempted to reconcile the contrasting elements. The result

enter. Følgen var, at der var indtraadt hjemløshed, fredløshed og nød, som maatte bringe det til at ulme under overfladen, og foraarsage lovløse udforud snart her, snart der i bygderne. En kort tid i slutningen af 1160-aarene saa det dog ud til, at alt vilde stilne af. Men der var bare en stilhed før stormen — en storm, som kom til at skabe en ny samfundsordning, ihvilken lige lov og ret for alle skulde være de ledende principer.

Denne mission var det skjæbnet havde anbetret Sverre Sigurdson, Birkebeinernes nykaarede høvding, der han søgte at bane sig vei til landsstyret. Men den gyldne vei var stengt. Alle magtens midler var til at begynde med paa modpartens side. Den havde forsvarsværker, befordringsmidler, blanke klæder og vaaben; og alle forraadskamre stod dem aabne.

Mod dette kunde Sverre kun stille en flok udhungrede og fillede personer, der dog var i besiddelse af mænds mod og et par kraftige arme, og var fyldte af bevidstheden om sin ret til at kjæmpe for tilværelsen, den kamp, som ikke erkjender noget nederlag.

Sverre var prestelærd og var nylig vaagnet til bevidstheden om et stort kald. Han var kongebaaren, men opvoksen under andre indflydelser end de, som herskede i norske stormands kredse. Kommen fra udøerne kan man sige, at han var fremmed blandt sit eget folk, men netop ved denne uafhængige stilling kunde han med et friere blik beskue opgavernes løsning og slaa ind paa retninger, som var tidsaanden fremmed, men dog ledende til almenhedens nytte og gavn. Den gamle hærskesyge adel skjøjte, at den i ham ikke havde nogen velynder, derfor fik han føle hele vægten af deres fiendskab.

Saa naaede der rygter til oplandene, hvor han, efterat kongens navn var givet ham i Nidaros, havde søgt hen, at kong Magnus og hans fader jarlen havde forladt sit klippefaste Bjørgvin og begivet sig til Viken, hvor de samlede folk for at paagribe ham. Det saa da ikke lyst ud for Sverres lille flok. Fare truede paa alle kanter. Ingen vovede at undsjaa sig, naar den mægtige Erling Jarls bud kom. — Men faren har vist sig som livets salt. Den hærdet og besjælet, gjør beslutsom og skaber i det sunde menneske den djervhed, som er bestemt paa at vinde trods alt. Saa var det med Sverre. Han skimtede en mulighed for, at veien over Sogn til Bergen var aaben, og saa besluttede han at forsøge ved en rask manøvre at tage byen ved overrumpling, medens dens hærskere var borte.

De satte afsted, men veien var lang, og sogningerne var paa sin post. Rygtet gik foran, og saa blev der heftelser paa veien. I skrænterne af en brat kleiv i Lærdal samlede en bondeflok sig med rullende material ved haanden. De blev dog opdaget af Sverre, før de kunde gjøre den tiltenkte skade, men tiden var kostbar, og den lille stans gjorde skade nok. Den gav

was that there were outcasts, outlaws and poverty, which led to smoldering under the surface and caused lawlessness to break out, soon here, soon there, in the districts. For a while towards the end of the 1160 years, it looked liked it was getting quieter. However, this was just the calm before the storm — a storm, which would create a new organization of society, in which equal laws and rights for everyone would be the leading principles.

This was the mission that fate had entrusted to Sverre Sigurdson, the Birchlegs new leader, who sought the road to the country leadership. However, the golden path was closed. To begin with, the power was in the hands of the opposition. They had the defenses, transportation, shiny new armor and weapons and all the supplies they needed.

Against this, Sverre could only present a group of hungry and ragged people, yet they possessed a man's courage and two strong arms, and they were filled with the consciousness of their right to fight for existence; that fight, that doesn't recognize defeat,

Sverre was educated in the clergy and only recently became aware of his big calling. He was royal-born, and grew up under the influence of those who ruled in Norwegian chieftain's class. Having come from the outermost islands, he was not well acquainted among his own people, and this was exactly the position from which he could view the answer to the problem and he began in that direction, but that wasn't in the spirit of the times, that led to the needs and benefit of the common man. The old militaristic nobility realized that in him they had no benefactor; therefore, he encountered the entire force of their animosity.

The news reached up to the uplands, where it, after he had been crowned at Trondheim, reached him that King Magnus and his Earl father had left their rock-solid Bergen and moved to Viken, where they were raising people in order to attack him. It didn't look good for Sverre's little group. Danger was on every side. No one had the gall to flinch when the mighty Earl Erling came. — Danger shows a man's salt. It tempers and it shields, and makes one decisive and in the strong man creates the daring that decides on victory in spite of anything. That's the way it was with Sverre. He saw the possibility that the route over Sogn to Bergen was open, so he decided on a rapid maneuver to take the city by surprise, while the powers were away.

They set off, but the road was long, and the sognings were on guard. Rumors preceded him, and there were encumbrances on the way. On the edge of a steep cliff in Lærdal, a group of farmers had assembled with boulders ready. They were discovered by Sverre before they could do their intended harm, but time was valuable and this little delay did enough damage. It gave the sailors time

havmanden tid til at samle sit værn. Da man rak Lærdalsfjorden, laa der en flaaede og ventede dem; og fjorden var laast og luket.

Færdens held havde faaet et knæk, men endnu var der en udvei. Man kunde tage over fjeldene til Voss og derfra videre til Bjørgvin. Det var en besværlig vei; men der var intet valg, og prisen var veien værd, om færden lykkedes, Her gjaldt den gamle læresætning:

Kan du ei følge den lune dal, saa tag over fjeldet.
Vil du naa frem til ærens portal, saa kravl opad heldet.
Ei mange naar frem ad den slagne vei;
thi let den kan stænges.
Lad veien gaa over fjeld og hei
saa ofte det trænges.

De tog over fjeldene; men det skulde bli at gaa fra galt til værre. Kong Sverre vidste vel ikke, at Erling Skakkes slegt var i Hordaland. Han havde kanske heller ikke hørt om Olav den helliges advarsel til sine eftermænd, at han ikke holdt det raadeligt for nogen Norges konge at færdes mellem haugene paa Voss. Advarselen viste sig endda berettiget. Vossingerne samlede sig paa Vangen for at møde ham, og budstikken gik til Hardanger, Nord- og Søndhorland. Der blev en hærsamling uden lige. Folk kom drivende ad alle veie, siger sagaen. Man betenkte sig ikke paa at værne om hus og hjem. Naar rygten om fiender kom, var man straks parat. For folket her var vel denne fiende aldeles ukjendt, og den ansaaes vel for en almindelig røverflok, hvad sagnene ogsaa har villet have det til.

Sverre og Birkebeinerne kom sent om kvelden den 27de oktober ned over Tykkebygden, paa Voss. De lagde sig vel ind paa gaardene en stund; men et stød i luren Advake kaldte dem i graa-lysningen atter sammen. Bønderne stof ifærd med at sætte over Bodebroen (Baabroen). For Sverre var det vistnok straks klart, at denne vei ogsaa var stængt; men for at faa tid til at komme sig undaf paa en nogenlunde skikkelig maade, gjaldt det om at faa bønderne stanset. Da disse satte over broen, gjorde han et heftigt anfald og drev dem tilbage. Bønderne trak sig saa opover mod Lundervandet for at omgaa ham, og han maatte følge efter paa den anden bred. De vekslede skud over elven, indtil vandet skildte dem ad, siger sagaen. Derpaa besluttede Sverre at vende om og begive sig paa tilbageveien over fjeldene, hvilket iværksattes samme dag.

Men enten man gaar frem eller tilbage, saa kan ulykken være der. Den lod her ikke længe vente paa sig. Den vei, han var kommen, var ogsaa stængt. Sogningerne havde utvilsomt fulgt efter ham for om nødvendigt at hjælpe sine venner paa Voss, og de laa nu opi fjeldskarene ved Skjevlingen og Raukjeldo i

to get prepared. When they reached the Lærdalsfjord, there lay a fleet expecting them, so the fjord was closed and locked.

The expedition's luck had taken a knock, but there was an alternative. One could take the route over the mountains to Voss and from there farther to Bergen. It was a difficult route; but there wasn't any choice, and the reward was valuable, if the expedition succeeded. The old adage applied here:

If you can't travel the snug valley, go over the mountain.
To reach the errand's portal, toil up the hill.
If many go there by the beaten path,
it may be easily blocked
Take the route over the mountains and heights,
as often as you need to.

They went over the mountains, but things went from bad to worse. Evidently, King Sverre didn't know that Erling Skakke's relatives were in Hordaland. Maybe he hadn't heard about Saint Olav's (King Olav Haraldson) warning to his followers that it wasn't wise for any Norwegian king to travel through the mountains of Voss. The warning was still justified. The vossings assembled at Vangen in order to encounter him, and the assembly stick (method of communication in time of war. A stick passed from farm to farm) went out to Hardanger, Nord- and Sunnhordaland. There was a gathering of an army without equal. People came from all directions, say the sagas. People didn't just think of guarding their homes. When the rumors about an invader came, they were soon ready. People here didn't know who was coming, they were afraid of common bandits, which the sagas imply.

Sverre and the Birchlegs arrived late in the evening of October 27, coming down over the Tykkebygd at Voss. They rested at some farms for a while but the trumpet Advake called them together in the twilight. The farmers were in the process of crossing the Båbroen (a bridge across Voss River). Soon it was plain to Sverre that this route was also blocked, but in order to get time to escape in a reasonable manner, it was necessary to stop the farmers. When they started over the bridge, he made a vigorous attack and drove them back. The farmers retreated towards Lundevatn (Lake Lunde) to escape him; he had to chase them from the other bank. They exchanged arrows across the river until the lake water divided them say the sagas. Thereupon, Sverre decided to turn back and proceed on the return route, which was put into action that same day.

Whether one goes forward or backward, misfortune may be waiting there. They didn't have to wait long. The route they had come was also closed. The sognings, no doubt, had followed them to see if it was necessary to help their friends at Voss, and they now lay up in the mountain passes by Skjevlingen

Langedalen, hvor de havde samlet dynger af sten som endnu kan paavises, hvormed de agtede at modtage ham. Han betakkede sig for en slig modtagelse og trak sig i skymringen lidt længere sydover til Raundalselven ved gaarden Kløve. Maaske har han først tænkt at sætte over denne og drage til Hardanger; men her var dette ugjorligt. Det dybt liggende elveleie kunde man ikke komme over. Synet maatte vendes fremover mod Rastalien og Klyvet. Der stod bjergvæggene stængende iveien. Fra Arilds tid havde her været ufrænkommeligt ialfald med heste og kreaturer. Det saa da mørkt ud. Den truende Selheimsnut stod ogsaa da med sin brede ryg som en vogter for dalen. Den skummende elv drønnede ved dens fod; op i fjeldskrænterne til venstre laa fienden. Den kunde ogsaa ventes bagfra i hvert øieblik. Her var ikke tid til lang betænkning. Øiensynlig var dog Sverre forberedt paa slige muligheder. En bjergvæg kunde overstigtes med kunstige midler, og fjeldets sønner vidste at bruge dem. Sverre lod jernbolter slaas ind i fjeldrevnerne, og over disse lagdes træer og torv, hvorover hestene kunde føres. Det er den bekjendte Sverresti. De kom sig frem til Raundalen og stansede ikke, før de havde lagt Raundalseidet bag sig. Saa tog de den haardt trængte hvile i den lille dalsænkning, som endnu den dag idag kaldes Sverdalen efter Sverres leirplads.

Men det værste var endnu ikke udstaaet paa denne færd. Prøvelsens høieste stund kom, da det gik paa livet løst, og man ikke engang kunde kjæmpe derfor. Sne og kulde var i anmarsh, og det har stanset mangt et felttog. Det holdt paa at skulle stanse Sverres lille flok midt paa høifjeldet. Værre øieblikke kan man vel vanskelig tænke sig. Der kom op en storm af det slemme slag, som sjelden var indtruffet. Og mæge til snefald havde man neppe seet. De mistede alle sine heste — 120 i tallet — med forgyldt sadeltøj, kostbare klæder og mange andre gode ting. Deres mad slap op og de kunde ikke finde vand. I 8 dage smagte de ikke andet end sne og leilighedsvis bær, som groves frem under sneen. Stormen var saa sterk, at en mand kastedes overende og brækkede ryggen paa tre steder Naar bygerne kom, maatte man kaste sig ned og holde skjoldet over sig. Det blev saa mørkt af snefog og skodde, at man ikke kunde se frem for sig, og de 5 vevisere, som Sverre havde faaet med fra Voss, var i vildrede om veien. Man blev sluttelig saa medtagne af mødighed, sult og kulde, medens uveiret endnu rasede, at mandskahet holdt paa at skulle give op. Lidelserne blev for store. Haab og tro veiredes bort, og kun den ene tanke sysselsatte sindet: Hvorledes skal denne utaalige kval hurtigst kunne endes.

De fandt paa raad—det mest radikale man kan tænke sig. De raadslog sig imellem om, enten de skulde løbe udfor fjeldhamrene eller ligesom forfædrene bære vaaben paa hinanden.

Sverre hørte paa dem en stund, saa kaldte han dem

and Raukjeldo in Langedalen, where they had collected heaps of stones with which they intended to resist them. He said no thank you to such an encounter and retreated in the twilight farther south along the Raundal River by the Kløve farm. Perhaps he first considered crossing it and heading for Hardanger; but that was impossible. One couldn't cross the deep riverbeds. It seemed they would have to turn forward toward Rastalien and Klyvet. There the mountain walls were blocking their way. From Arild's time, it was impassable by horses and cattle, in any case. It looked very dark. The threatening Selheim's peak also stood with its broad back as a guardian of the valley. The foaming river was roaring at its foot; up to the left lay the enemy. They also could be expected from behind any moment. There wasn't time for prolonged study. Nevertheless, Sverre was obviously prepared for such possibilities. A mountain wall could be climbed with proper equipment, and the sons of the mountains knew how to use them. Sverre had iron bars pounded into the mountain cracks; then they laid branches and sod on these, so the horses could be led forward. This is the famous Sverre's Path. They reached Raundalen but they didn't stop until Raundalen was behind them. Then they took their badly needed rest in that little depression that yet today is named Svervalley after Sverre's campground.

The worst on this venture hadn't been endured yet. The test's highest hour came when they almost lost their lives and one couldn't fight it. Snow and cold were advancing and that had stopped many armies. It attacked Sverre's little flock in the middle of the high mountains. Only with difficulty can one think of a worse moment. A storm of the worst kind as is rarely encountered came up. People had never seen the like of the snowfall. They lost all their horses — 120 in number — with gilded tack, costly clothes and many other fine things. Their food ran short and they couldn't find water. For eight days they didn't taste anything but snow and occasional berries which were dug from under the snow. The blizzard was so bad that one man was thrown topsy-turvy and broke his back in three places. When the clouds came, people had to lie down and hold their shields over themselves. It got so dark from drifting snow and fog that people couldn't see in front of themselves, and the five guides that Sverre had gotten along from Voss were confused about the route. Finally, the soldiers were afflicted by weariness, hunger and cold, while the bad weather raged, so the men were about to give up. The suffering was too much. Hope and faith were worn away, and only one thought occupied their minds: How can this intolerable agony most quickly be ended?

They discovered a remedy—the most radical one can think of. They consulted among themselves, either they were going to off a cliff or, like their forefathers, use their weapons on each other.

Sverre listened to them a while then he called them around himself and made a speech to them, that in all its

omkring sig og holdt for dem en tale, der i al sin korthed og simpelhed maa betragtes som en af historiens mest bemærkelsesværdige taler. Han kunde isandhed optræde som kirkens saavel som det borgerlige samfunds overhoved. Han manglede ikke ord og heller ikke alene den værdighed og klarhed i stemmen, som trængtes; men ogsaa den klarhed i tanke, som satte ham istand til at vælge passende ord ved de rette anledninger, og bedømme tilhørernes aandelige tilstand. Han foreholdt dem hvilket galmandsværk, de stod i begreb med at gjøre; det var djævelens indskydelse og hedenske mænds eksempel, de vilde følge, sagde han. Saadant sømmede sig ikke for kristne folk, som skulde være ydmyge af hjertet og finde sig i de straffedomme, som Den Almægtige paalagde for deres synder. Han formanede dem til ved bønner at paakalde de helliges miskundhed og hjælp, afkrævede dem løfte om at gjøre dette ligesom han selv vilde gjøre det. Talen havde den forønskede virkning. Man afgav løftet med haanden paa sverdheftet og slag paa skjold. De sidste korte øieblikke var vundne, og de frelste følget, æren og kongeriget, som alt laa paa ødelæggelsens rand. Som for at give talen vegt, klarnede veiret straks op, og solstraalerne begyndte at strække sig legende henover de snedækte skrænter. Veiviserne saa, hvor de var, og snart kom de ihus, hvor Sverre fik slaet ild, og man fik den haardt tiltrængte varme og hvil, før man drog videre til den nærliggende bygd.

Fra historien kan man hente frem mange fremragende folkeførere; men nogen, som sætter Sverre Sigurdsen i skyggen, er det vel vanskeligt at finde. Hos ham synes de særlige egenskaber som omtanke, forsigtighed og selvbehærskelse, forenet med djervhed, mod og udholdenhed at have faaet en ligevægt, som neppe ellers kan paa vises. Ved enhver anledning var han istand til med uhildet dømmekraft at beskue de foreliggende opgaver og vælge det rette. For en saadan er det, som naturen selv bøier sig. Dette afsnit af hans begivenhedsrige liv var vistnok det mørkeste, og det har da en særlig betydning, ved at vise os, hvorledes en mand, der saaledes i fuldeste maal har sine evner under kontrol, kan lede, ikke alene sin egen skjæbne, men ogsaa andres i de mest kritiske øieblikke. Her gik de fra uheld til uheld, indtil de sluttelig kun var et skridt fra undergang, og dog beholdt han sit folks fulde anseelse og tillid.

Og billedlig talt, saa kan det nok hænde nogen hver, at de kan komme ud for skodde, storm og kulde, saa det isner til marv og ben. Man farer vild og gaar fra uføre til uføre, indtil det sluttelig er vanskeligt at vide, hvor det havner. Man skimter i synskredsen hvasseste eggen, svarteste stupet og strideste strømmen. Et skridt kan let tages for langt. Mismod og fortvilelse er gjerne en mere kjendt fornemmelse, end man vil vedkjende sig. Under saadanne omstændigheder kan man have

brevity and simplicity must be regarded as one of the most remarkable talks in history. He could, truthfully, perform as a religious and public leader. He didn't lack any words nor the dignity or clarity of voice that was required, which put him in a position to choose the appropriate words on the proper occasions. He asked them what kind of crazy man's work they were about to do, it was the influence of the devil and heathen men's example, they were about to follow, he said. They didn't look like Christians, who were supposed to be gentle of heart and pay for the penalties that The Almighty dispensed for their sins. He commanded them to assist with their prayer and called on the Lord's mercy and help, weakened them into doing as he, himself wanted it done. The talk had its desired effect. The men swore to it, with their hands on the hilts of their swords, and beat upon their shields. In the last instant, they were won over. That saved the group, the mission and the kingdom, everything that was on the brink of disaster. As if giving the speech meaning, the weather cleared, the sun started to peek over the escarpments. The guides told them where they were, some they got shelter in houses, Sverre started a fire and people got warmth and rest, before they set off to the next district.

People can cite many prominent leaders of the people, but anyone, who can put Sverre Sigurdson in the shadows, would be hard to find. In him, the special talents of thought, care and self-restraint combined with daring, courage and perseverance seemed to have found a balance that couldn't be found in others. At each instance, he was ready to with impartial judgment to view the presenting alternatives and choose the correct one. For someone like this, it's almost as if nature herself relents. This selection of his eventful life was most likely the darkest, and it has the special significance in showing us how one man, who to the greatest degree has his own qualities under control, can control, not only his own fate, but also others in the most critical instant. Here they went from misfortune to misfortune until they were one step from defeat, and then he kept his men's full respect and trust.

Cheaply said, it may occur to anyone that they get out of the fog, blizzard and cold, which freezes their bones and marrow. People go astray and go from adversity to adversity until they don't know where they'll wind up. In one's mind's eye, one glimpses the slipperiest edge, blackest depth and the most difficult stream. One step can be too many. Suspicion and doubt are likely more familiar sensations than one will admit. During such circumstances one would benefit from remembering

godt af at erindre kong Sverres prestelige skikkelse staaende paa høifjeldet, omgiven af en halvt fordærvet frossen skare, holdende en ildnende tale, der varmer om hjerterne og med magisk kraft vender, bevidsthed og vilje i den rette retning.

Og mærkerne om hans færd staar der endnu og taler sit mægtige sprog. Den veifarende stanser og lytter; og han føler noget af den ildnende begeistring, som maner til tanke og ægger til handling. Det toner i omgivelserne om "fædrenes bedrifter paa landet og paa sjøen", og de peger mod fremtidens trange stier, som kan være besværlige, men føre til store maal. Saaledes lød det i liernes susning ved Sverrestien:

Der for han den konge som løfted til hæder
sit folk af det brede lag;
Og tanken vil høines paa saadanne steder
i tro paa en værdig sag.
Om modgang vi møder, og hjertet end bløder,
vi tro paa en seirens dag.

Om veien end stænges af vildledte kjæmper,
vi baner en ny, der vi gaar.
Alt mismod og tvil vi af tankerne lempet
og gjør, som vi bedst formaar.
Vi husker paa lien, hvor Sverrestien
til minde om fremgang staar.

NAVNET KNUT.

Notre Dame Universitets Berømte "Football Coach".

Der var saa mange Knuter paa Voss, og alle staute karer. Havde de faaet navnet Knut saa var du sikker paa, at de udmærkede sig paa en eller anden vis. Der var nu "Storesmeden" paa Vangen*), Knut L. Rokne, alle vusser har nu hørt om ham.

Saa har vi havt mange gjæve vossinger her i Amerika, som har baaret navnet Knut. Og jeg vil bede vor redaktør, som ogsaa heder Knut, om lidt spalterum; saa vil jeg fortelle lidt om en vossing som heder Knut Rokne, som er sønnesøn-søn af storesmeden paa Vangen.

Knut Rokne var født paa Voss den 4de marts 1884, og kom med sine forældre her til Amerika i 1893. De bosatte sig i Chicago, hvor Knut voksede op. Hans fader Lars Rokne var

*) Storesmeden boede nok paa Rokne. Sønnen flyttede paa Vangen. — Red.

King Sverre's priestly behavior, standing up in the high mountains, surrounded by a half-destroyed frozen band, making a fiery speech, that warmed their hearts and magically turned consciousness and desire in the right direction.

Signs of his journey still stand there and speak with powerful voices. Passers-by stop and listen, and feel something of the inspired enthusiasm that urges to thought and incites for action. It echoes in the surroundings of the "forefather's activity at land and sea", and it points to the future's narrow paths, though they may be complex, lead to great treasure. Thus, it sounds in sougning of the meadows by Sverre's Path:

There goes the king, who promised to uplift
His people of the common class;
thoughts will be raised to such an extent
in faith in a worthy cause.
If opposition we meet, and the heart bleeds,
We believe in the day of victory.

If the end of the road is blocked by misled bands,
We'll make a new way, where we go.
All doubt and hesitation we cast from our minds
And do what we're most capable of
We recall that meadow, where Sverre's path,
our monument to our advancement, stands.

THE NAME KNUT

Notre Dame University's Famous "Football Coach".

There were many Knutes at Voss, and all were strapping fellows. If they were named Knut, you can be sure they would distinguish themselves, one way or another. There was the "Big-Blacksmith at Vangen*), Knute L. Rokne; every vossing has heard of him.

We have had many distinguished vossings here in America who have carried the name, Knut. I would ask the editor, who also is named Knut to spare me some space so that I could tell a little about the vossing named Knut Rokne, who is the great grandson of the big blacksmith at Vangen.

Knut Rokne was born at Voss March 4, 1884, and came with his parents to America in 1893. they settled in Chicago, where Knut grew up. His father, Lars Rokne, was a machinist, but

*) The "Big-Blacksmith" certainly lived at Rokne. His son moved to Vangen. — Ed.

maskinist, og døde for mange aar tilbage. Efter at Knut havde gaaet igjennem "common" skolen, gik han paa høiskolen, hvor han graduerte i 1906. Den samme sommer arbejdede han en stund som "fireman" paa en af de store baade paa Lake Michigan. Om høsten arbejdede han et par maaneder med at tærskede ude paa vestens prærier. Det samme aar fik han ansættelse i U. S. Post Departmentet som jernbane "postal clerk", og denne stilling indeholdt han i fire aar. Hans hu havde altid staaet efter mere skoleuddannelse, og da Knut havde været baade nøisom og sparsom, saa havde han nu sparet saa mange penge at han kunde begynde paa universitetet i Notre Dame, Indiana. Her graduerte han i 1914 med graden B. S. i kemi. For en tid var han lærer i dette fag. Men da han havde særdeles udmærket sig i gymnastik, blev han ansat som direktør i dette fag, og har udelukkende undervist i dette, og da især som "football coach". I dette er han en af de allerbedste i dette land. Knut har hele tiden været ansat ved Notre Dame universitet, og i nov. 1922 havde de en "Rockne Homecoming", ved denne skole, for at samle penge til en ny bygning. Byen var da pyntet med portrætter af Knut ifra den ene ende af byen til den anden, og en "byste" af Knut, som den bekjendte billedhugger Lorado Taft havde udført blev solgt til indtægt for dette byggefond. "Bysten" bragte \$239.00. Saa havde de faaet støbt 5,000 mineaturbilleder af nævnte byste, og disse blev solgte for \$1.00 stykket. I forrige sommer var Knut en stund paa Brigham Young universitet i Utah, hvor han underviste i en skole for saadanne "coaches", saa reiste han til Springfield, Mass., hvor han holdt en lignende skole og saa tilbage til Notre Dame hvor han ogsaa holdt en slig skole, og da havde han bare et par ugers ferie før universitetet igjen aabnedes.

Mange universiteter har prøvet at faa Knut Rokne som lærer ved sine skoler, men har ikke været heldige. Og nu har Knut sluttet forbund med Notre Dame paa en ti aars termin. Med undtagelse af Knut Nelson, saa er der vel ingen, som har været født paa Voss, der har været saa ofte omtalt i de store engelske blade, som Knut Rokne. Men naar vi husker paa at storesmeden paa Vangen var en af hans oldefedre, og Andres Reque, senere kaldt Andres Gjermo, var hans anden oldefar. (Andres var baade kjøgemester og talsmand) saa kan vi ikke undres om det blev "nokko te kar" af Knut Rokne.

Ja, navne Knut æ godt aa bæra.

J. L. R.

Mrs. J. S. Johnson, Bird Island, Minn., døde den 11te dec. 1923. Hun var af Horvei-slegt fra Evanger, og havde slegtinger ved Lake Mills, Iowa.

died many years ago. When he had finished grammar school, high attended high school, where he was graduated in 1905. That same summer, he worked as a fireman on a big boat on Lake Michigan. When fall came, he worked, threshing, on the prairies in the west. He got a job with the U. S. Post Office as a railroad postal clerk and he did this for four years. He had always yearned for more education and since he had been both prudent and modest, he had saved up enough money to start at the Notre Dame University in Indiana. He was graduated in 1914 with a bachelors degree in chemistry. He taught this science for a while. Since he has great talent in gymnastics, he was employed as the Director of Physical Education and exclusively instructed in this, especially as the football coach. He is one of the best in the country. Knute has always been employed by the Notre Dame University and in November 1922, they had a "Rokne Homecoming" at this school, in order to raise money for a new building. The city was decorated with pictures of Knut, from one end of town to the other. A bust of Knut, sculpted by the famous sculptor, Lorado Taft, was auctioned and the income used for the building fund. The bust brought \$239.00. Then 5,000 miniatures of the forenamed bust were cast and these were sold for \$1.00 a piece. Last summer, Knut was at Brigham Young University in Utah, where he taught a school for coaches. Then he went to Springfield, MA, where he had another "school", then back to Notre Dame for one more. He had only a couple weeks vacation before school started again

Many other universities have tried to hire Knut Rokne as a teacher at their school, but haven't had any luck. Now Knut has signed a contract with Notre Dame for ten years. Aside from Knut Nelson, no one born at Voss has received so much publicity in the American papers as Knut Rokne. But, if we recall that "The Big-Blacksmith" was one of his great-grandfathers, and Andres Reque, later named Andres Gjermo, was another great-grandfather. Andres was both a master-of-ceremony and orator, so it is no wonder that Knut Rokne became "something of a fellow".

Yes, the name Knut is good to bear.

J. L. R.

Mrs. J. S. Johnson, Bird Island, MN, died December 11, 1923. She was from the Horvei family from Evanger, and had relatives at Lake Mills, Iowa.

ET OG ANDET.

Ærede redaktør! — Netop nogle ord fra en bondekone fra Voss. Jeg skal ikke optage pladsen for meget.

Ja, endog bare navnet "Vossingen" er kjært, ikke at tale om indholdet. Jeg kan dog ikke hjælpe for andet end at sige en hjertelig tak til John Glimme for hans gode forklaring af Vosseturen. Jeg føler akkurat, som jeg har været hjemme og kommet ud af det svært billigt. Jeg var hjemme i 1914 og betragtede det gode gamle Norge med de stolte klippeborge med de følelser som ikke kan besvares af andre end dem, som har sit moderland kjært. Mrs. M. H.

Et dobbelt guldbryllup feiredes i Deerfield, Wis., den 23de sept. s. a. Det var William Nelson (Grotland), Vosselagets formand og hustru samt Lars Olson Grotland og hustru — hustruerne er søstre f. Gustavson — som i 50 aar havde nydt ægteskabets velsignelser. Et festmaaltid blev givet af børnene i kirkens forsamlingsrum, hvortil 85 gæster var indbudne. Da brudefolkene kom ind i kirken spilledes en brudemarch paa violin og piano. Pastor D. Borge fungerede som kjøgemester. Der var sang, deklamation og taler — alt paa bedste maade.

En lyshaaret vossing, John Riise, som skal have slegtninger paa Grimestad, Saude, Veka, Dagestad og Hellesnes, er cheffingeniør for Wellman, Seaver & Morgan Motor og Tractor Co.s Div. i Ohio skrives i "Hordaland". Efter at have gaaet paa middelskole kom han or omtrent 20 aar siden til Amerika; arbejdede først for Standard Oil Co., i New York med at rulle oljefad, men kom tilskade og begyndte som tegner paa en automobilfabrik. Her viste han et opfindergeni, som blev bemærket. Konstruerede blandt andet en tractor, som paa en udstilling i Kansas vakte stor opmærksomhed og menes at bli uundværlig for jordbrugere verden over. Han har ogsaa konstrueret et gearsystem, hvormed luftskibe drives. Han bor i Akron, Ohio, er gift og har 4 børn.

DØDSFALD I AMERIKA.

Mrs. Stephen Knutson, hvis pigenavn var Brita Nilsdr. Ure, døde i sit hjem nær Scarville, Iowa, den 2den sept. 1923. Hun var født paa Vossestranden den 9de nov. 1847 og kom i 7-aarsalderen til Amerika sammen med forældre og søskende. I 4 aar var de paa Koshkonong, Wis., saa endel aar i Winnesheik Co., Iowa, hvor hun blev gift og flyttede saa i 1871 til Winnebago county, hvor de omkring 1874 bosatte sig som nybyggere paa den gaard, hvorpaa de siden levede til sin død. Paa deres gaard byggedes Immanuel kirke, og de var blandt menighedens første medlemmer. Hun havde 11 børn af hvilke de 5 døde før hende, ligesom hendes mand.

ONE OR ANOTHER.

Esteemed editor! — Only a few words from a farmer's wife from Voss. I won't take too much room.

Yes, just the name "Vossingen" is precious, not to say anything of the contents. I can't help but say a hearty thank you to John Glimme for his excellent explanation of his Voss trip. I feel exactly as if I had been home, and I came out of it very cheap. I was home in 1914 and contemplated old Norway with its proud rocky strongholds with the feeling that can't be regarded as anything other than those, who hold their motherland dear. Mrs. M. H.

A double golden wedding was celebrated in Deerfield, WI September this year. They were William Nelson (Grotland), the president of the Vosselag and his wife as well as Lars Olson Grotland and his wife — the wives are sisters neé Gustavson — who for 50 years have enjoyed the blessings of marriage. A banquet was served in the church meeting room, to which 85 guests were invited. When the bridal couples came into the church, a bridal march was played on violin and piano. Pastor D. Borge functioned as master-of-ceremonies. There were songs, declamations and speeches — all of the best quality.

A light-haired vossing, John Riise, who has relatives at Grimestad, Saude, Veka, Dagestad and Hellesnes, is the chief engineer for Wellman, Seaver & Morgan Motor and Tractor Company's Division in Ohio, writes the "Hordaland". After having attended middle school, he came to America about 20 years ago, working first for Standard Oil Co. in New York by rolling oil barrels, but was injured and then started as a draftsman at an automobile plant. Here he demonstrated his creative ability, which attracted notice. Among others, he designed a tractor that attracted considerable attention at an exhibition in Kansas, and deemed indispensable for farmers all over the world. He also designed a gear system to power airships. He lives in Akron, Ohio, is married and has four children.

DEATHS IN AMERICA.

Mrs. Stephen Knutson, whose maiden name was Brita Nilsdatter Ure, died at her home near Scarville, Iowa, September 2, 1923. She was born at Vossestranden November 9, 1847 and at age 7, came to America together with her parents and siblings. For four years they were at Koshkonong, WI, then a number of years in Winneshiek County, IA where she married and moved in 1871 to Winnebago County, where in 1874 they settled as pioneers on a farm, where they spent the rest of their lives. The Immanuel Church was built on their farm and they were among the first members of the congregation. She had 11 children of whom five died before her, as did her husband.

Ole Larson Myrland, Mt. Vernon, Wis., døde den 23de jan. 1924. Han var søn af Lars Olson Myrland og hustru som kom til Amerika 1846. Moderen var en søster af Elling Eielson Sundve. Han var født ved North Cape, Racine Co., Wis. Broderen var den bekendte baptistprest Eiel Myrland.

* * *

Halstein Johnson Gilderhus, Stoughton, Wis., afgik ved døden den 26de nov. 1923. Han var født paa Vossestranden den 4de febr. 1836, blev omkring 1861 gift med Gjertrud H. Bidne, udvandrede med familie i 1867 til Amerika og bosatte sig i Stoughton, hvor han begynde i arbejde ved Mandts vognfabrik. I 1883 købte han et jordbrug og drev dette i 35 aar til han igjen flyttede til Stoughton for at tilbringe sin alderdom der. Hans første hustru døde kort efter ankomsten til Amerika, og i 1871 blev han gift 2den gang, da med Synva T. Dvergsdalen fra Sogn. I første ægteskab havde 3 børn, Ingeborg, Synva og John. Den sidste døde som barn. I andet 4 børn: Theodor, Karen, Samuel O. (død) og Helmer G.

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Pastor Nils Arveson, St. Olaf, Clayton Co., Iowa, døde den 11te febr. sidstleden. Han var født i Indre Amar, Haus Prestegjækl, Norge den 29de april 1857, og var søn af Arve Larson Fosse og hustru Brita Askelsdatter Lie, begge fra Bergsdalen, Evanger. I 1873 kom han til Amerika og opholdt sig i 3 aar ved Lisbon, Ill. hvor onkelen Anders Askelson Lie eller Opeland boede. Saa tog han i 1876 ind paa Luther College, Decorah, Ia., og blev udexamineret derfra i 1880. Studerede derpaa teologi ved Ohio-Synodens presteseminar og blev ordineret til prest i 1883, hvorpaa han antog kald fra Rowe, Pontiac og Gardner menigheder i Illinois, og senere fra andre som nævnt i no. 2 og 3 af "Vossingen" 5te aarg. samme aar indgik han i ægteskab med Brita S. Anfinson fra Big Canoe, Ia. De har faaet otte børn som alle lever.

* * *

Ole K. Tyssen, gaardbruger i Norway Township nær Lake Mills, Ia., døde den 18de jan. sidstleden. Han var født i Evanger den 4de sept. 1833 og blev gift der i 1855 med Brita Monsdatter Furness, som døde i 1900. De udvandrede til Amerika 1878 og bosatte sig samme aar paa gaarden i Norway Township, Ia., hvorpaa han senere forblev. Han efterlader sig tre søskende og sex børne-børn.

* * *

John A. Forde, Decorah, Iowa, der af "Vossingens" læsere vil erindres som forfatteren af flere interessante skisser fra Winnesheik Co., afgik ved døden i sit hjem den 23de febr. s. 1. af et slagtilfælde, han fik samme dag. Han var født paa Vossestranden den 19de dec. 1852 og var søn af Amund J. Førde, som med familie kom til Amerika i 1857 og samme aar bosatte sig paa en jordeiendom i

Ole Larson Myrland, Mt. Vernon, WI, died January 23, 1924. he was a son of Lars Olson Myrland and his wife who came to America in 1846. the mother was a sister to Elling Eielson Sundve. He was born at North Cape, Racine Co., WI. his brother was the well-known Baptist minister Eiel Myrland..

* * *

Halstein Johnson Gilderhus, Stoughton, WI died November 26, 1923. He was born at Vossestranden on February 4, 1836, was married about 1861 to Gjertrud H. Bidne, and immigrated to America with his family in 1867 and settled in Stoughton, where he started work with Mandt's wagon factory. In 1883, he bought a farm and ran this for 35 years, when he moved back to Stoughton to spend his remaining years. His first wife died shortly after their arrival in America, and in 1871, he married a second time, to Synva T. Dvergsdalen from Sogn. In his first marriage, he had three children: Ingeborg, Synva and John. The last died as a child. In his second, four children: Theodor, Karen, Samuel O. (dead) and Helmer G.

* * *

Pastor Nils Arveson, St. Olaf, Clayton Co., Iowa, died last February 4. he was born in Indre Amar, Haus Parish, Norway on April 29, 1857, the son of Arve Larson Fosse and wife Brita Askelsdatter Lie, both from Bergsdalen, Evanger. In 1873, he came to America and spent three years at Lisbon, IL where his uncle, Anders Askelson Lie or Opeland, lived. Then he matriculated into Luther College, Decorah, IA, and was graduated from there in 1880. Thereafter, he studied theology at Ohio Synod's minister seminary and was ordained a minister in 1883. he was called to Rowe, Pontiac and Gardner congregations in Illinois, and later as described in issue 2 and 3 of "Vossingen", 5th year, the same year he married Brita S. Anfinson from Big Canoe, IA. They have eight children, all who live.

* * *

Ole K. Tyssen, farmer of Norway Township near Lake Mills, IA, died last January 18. He was born in Evanger September 4, 1833 and married there with Brita Monsdatter Furness, who died in 1900. they immigrated to America in 1878 and settled that same year on a farm in Norway Township,, IA, where he stayed. He is survived by three siblings and six grandchildren.

* * *

John A. Forde, Decorah, Iowa, who "Vossingens" readers will remember as the author of several interesting sketches from Winneshiek Co., died at his home February 23, of a stroke he had received that same day. He was born December 19, 1852 and was a son of Amund J. Førde, who came to America in 1857 and settled on a property in

Pleasant Township, Winnesheik Co., Iowa. John overtog efter forældrene det gamle hjemsted og boede der, indtil han for et par aar siden flyttede til Decorah. Han var to gange gift, først med Tina Hjortland og efter hendes død med Martha Berge, som overlever ham. I første ægteskab havde to børn: Mrs. G. Arneson og Aubert Førde, og i andet 9 børn, af hvilke 7 lever, nemlig: Gerhard, Walter, Lloyd, Mrs. Nananfred, Magne, Ingolf og Mrs. Th. Arneson. Han overleves ogsaa af fire søskende: Ole Førde og Mrs. A. Grindeland i Warren, Minn., Mrs. J. Jøssendal og Mrs. Brick Arneson i Big Canoe, Ia.

* * *

Mrs. Martha Hand, De Forest, Wis., døde i marts maaned. Hun var født paa Voss og var datter efter Lars Pederson Gjerme, som med familie kom til Amerika i 1845 og bosatte sig paa Spring Prairie, Wis. Hun blev i 1875 gift med Jacob Hand og efterlader sig en søn Ole Leonard, som bor i De Forest.

* * *

Edvard Gilderhus, gaardbruger paa Vest Koshkonong, Wis.. døde den 4de marts s. l. og blev begravet den 7de. Han var en sønnesøn af Ole Knutson Gilderhus (Dyrvedalen), som kom til Amerika i 1839, og i 1844 bosatte sig paa det jordbrug, hvorpaa sønnen og sønnesønnen har boet.

* * *

Sjur Erickson, velkjendt kontraktør og bygningsmand i Chicago døde den 6te april i en alder af 66 aar. Han var født paa gaarden Arnetveit, Vossestranden, var gift med Anna Opheim og efterlader sig 9 børn: Martha, Anna, Ellen, Olav, Mabel, Alice, Erik, Agnes og Gjertrud.

* * *

B. L. Bolstad, N. Kimball Ave., Chicago, afgik ved døden den 16de april s. l. og gravlagdes paa Olive gravlund den 19de. Han kom til Amerika omkring 1880, blev gift i Chicago for 41 aar siden og efterlader sig foruden sin hustru Bella tillige en søn Byron og døtrene Mrs. E. Grosscup, Mrs. C. E. Christie og Mrs. Lee Hall. Desuden to søstre Mrs. Sina Miller og Mrs. O. O. Lawson. Alle i Chicago.

* * *

Ole Nelson Lee, den første nybygger ved Skagit elven nord for Seattle, Wash., afgik ved døden i sit hjem der den 29de marts i en alder af næsten 93 aar. Han var født i Raundalen, Voss, den 8de mai 1831 og kom til Amerika i 1855. Om hans lange og mærkelige livshistorie, saavel som om andre af familien, skal vi forsøge at berette en anden gang.

Pleasant Township, Winneshiek Co., Iowa. John took over from his parents on the old homestead and lived there until he moved to Decorah a couple years ago. He was married twice, first with Tina Hjortland and after her death, with Martha Berge, who survives him. In the first union, he had two children: Mrs. G. Arneson and Aubert Førde, and in the second, nine children, of whom seven are alive, namely: Gerhard, Walter, Lloyd, Mrs. Nananfred, Magne, Ingolf and Mrs. Th. Arneson. He is survived by four siblings: Ole Førde and Mrs. A. Grindeland in Warren, MN, Mrs. J. Jøssendal and Mrs. Brick Arneson in Big Canoe, IA.

* * *

Mrs. Martha Hand, DeForest, WI, died in the month of March. She was born at Voss and was a daughter of Lars Pederson Gjerme, who came to America in 1845 and settled at Spring Prairie, WI. she was married in 1875 with Jacob Hand and leaves a son, Ole Leonard, who lives in DeForest.

* * *

Edvard Gilderhus, farmer at west Koshkonong, WI, died last March 4, and was buried on the 7th. He was a grandson of Ole Knutson Gilderhus (Dyrvedalen), who came to America in 1839, and settled on the farm, in 1844, where his son and grandson have lived.

* * *

Sjur Erickson, well-known contractor and builder in Chicago died on April 6, at an age of 66 years. He was born on the Arnetveit farm in Vossestranden, was married with Anna Opheim and leaves nine children: Martha, Anna, Ellen, Olav, Mabel, Alice, Erik, Agnes and Gjertrud.

* * *

B. L. Bolstad, N. Kimball Ave., Chicago, died last April 16, and was interred at Olive Cemetery on the 19th. He came to America about 1880, was married in Chicago 41 years ago and leaves his wife, Bella, a son, Byron, and daughters Mrs. E. Grosscup, Mrs. C. E. Christie and Mrs. Lee Hall, beside two sisters Mrs. Sina Miller and Mrs. O. O. Lawson, all of Chicago.

* * *

Ole Nelson Lee, the first pioneer by the Skagit River north of Seattle, WA, died at his home March 29 at an age of 93 years. He was born at Raundalen, Voss, May 8, 1831 and immigrated to America in 1855. His long life, as well as about other members of his family, we shall try to describe another time

BREV FRA VOSS.

Det har været en sjelden fin vinter paa Voss iaar, omlag som i de gode gamle dage. Helt siden sneen kom i november har det været sneføre, og klart veir med sterk kulde har det været i flere bolker.

Man har da ogsaa forstaat at udnytte føret paa mange maader. Livlig skogtrafik og vedkjøring har det været. Ligesaa har skiløberne boltret sig i det herligste skiføre. Nu har vi slutten af mars; men endda ligger sneen overalt. Vi har like til de sidste dage hat over 20 kuldegrader, hvilket ikke har været tilfælde paa over 20—30 aar. Solen har dog faaet stor magt nu, saa det er ikke saa farligt, om det er noget koldt.

Vi haaper paa en god vaar og en varm sommer. Alt tyder paa, at vi skal faa det. De gamle mærker var lange haarde og kolde vintre og varme somre. I mange aar har vi nu hat milde vintre og kolde somre. Nu faar vi se om det slaar til.

Voss er og blir et livligt trafikcentrum. Arbeidet med Voss-Eidebanen nærmer sig nu Vossevangens grænser. Over vosseelven skal bygges en stor stenbro, og stationen paa Vangen skal udvides betydeligt. Gader og undergange skal anlægges, saa det tegner til, at bli store forandringer.

Flaambanen — det nye jernbaneanlægget fra Myrdalen til Flaam i Sogn — er nu paabegyndt. Det blir en kostbar bane. Den ligger i det vildeste fjeldparti fra Gravhalsen — Norges længste tunel — gjennom Flaamsdalen til Sognefjorden — for det meste i tunneller.

Sogn vil med denne bane faa direkte forbindelse med Bergensbanen og Kristiania. Det blir da i første række en turistbane. Men det har været stor uenighed om denne bane, da den blir saa altfor kostbar og sikkert aldrig vil komme til at svare sig.

Baade Voss-Eidebanen og Flaambanen vil faa ikke saa liden betydning for Voss.

Spøragsmaalet om Vangens udskillelse fra bygden vil faa sin afgjørelse paa fylkettinget i vaar. Her er sterk strid om denne sag, saa det er helt usikkert, hvorledes det vil gaa. Den raske udvikling, som nu foregaar gjør det til et stort spøragsmaal for Vangen at bli egen kommune. Kloakvæsenet, gadespøragsmaalet og mange andre ting kan ikke faa sin bedste løsning, før Vangen faar raade sig selv. Men det er et vanskeligt spøragsmaal.

Iaar er det flere institutioner, som kan holde jubilæumshøitid paa Voss. Voss Veksel og Landmandsbank kan saaledes holde 25-aars jubilæum. ligeledes Voss Afholdskafe, som ogsaa er 25 aar.

LETTERS FROM VOSS.

It has been an unusually fine winter at Voss this year, like in the good old days. Ever since the snow came in November there have been good snow conditions, and there has been clear weather with strong cold for several spells.

People ave been able to use these good conditions in several manners. There has been active woods traffic and hauling of wood. Likewise, the skiers have frolicked in the magnificent snow. It is the end of March now; but still the snow lies everywhere. Until the last few days, we have had below zero weather, which hasn't been the case for over 20-30 years. The sun is getting stronger now, but that's not so bad, if it is rather cold.

We hope for a nice spring and a warm summer. Everything indicates that we shall get it. The old ways were to have a long and cold winter with a warm summer. For many years now, we have had mild winters and cool summers. Now we shall see if it holds true.

Voss has become a lively traffic center. The work on the Voss-Eide spur is now nearing the border of Vangen. A big stone bridge is to be built over the Voss River, and the station at Vangen shall be enlarged significantly. Syreets and underpasses are to be constructed, all indicating big changes to come.

Flåmsbanen — the new railroad project from Myrdal to Flåm in Sogn — has been started. It lies in the wildest terrain from Gravhalsen — Norway's longest tunnel — through the Flåm Valley to Sognefjord mostly via tunnels.

Sogn will get a direct connection with the Bergensbanen and Kristiania. It will mainly be a tourist railroad. There has been considerable disagreement about this railroad, since it will be very costly and will never pay for itself.

Both the Voss-Eidebanen and the Flåmsbanen will have considerable significance for Voss.

The question of Vangen's separation from the township will be decided in the parliament this spring. Here there has been considerable debate about this matter, so it is uncertain how it will go. The rapid development that's going on now makes a big question of whether Vangen will be its own municipality. The sewer service, the street question and many other questions can't find their best solutions until Vangen can govern itself. It is a difficult question.

This year, several institutions shall hold anniversary celebrations at Voss. Voss Veksel and Landmandsbank (Exchange Bank) can have its 25-year anniversary. Similarly, the Voss Temperance Café, which is also 25 years old.

Ifjor kunde Voss Sparebank feire sin 80-aars dag. Og saa hadde vi da den store mindehøitid om kristendommens indførelse paa Voss.

Arbeidet med at samle midler til Voss gamlehjem gaar sin gang; men det gaar smaat. Det er blit mindre med penge mellom folk. Vi har faat nedgangstider paa alle omraader, saa det er ikke like til at samle ind frivillige bidrag til slige ting. Vi har da faaet noget over kr. 20,000 i rede penge, og lidt vokser det stadigt. Ifjor fik vi stiftet et kinalag, og noget af indtægten der gaar til gamlehjemmet. Vi haaber ogsaa atfaa større bidrag fra bankerne her paa stedet. Fra Amerika er det ogsaa kommet bidrag. Nylig mod-tog vi over kr. 100.00 fra John Glimme og vi haaber paa mere.

Paa Evanger vil nu bli reist et mindesmerke over Knute Nelson. Det skal staa paa en aaben plads like ved kirken. Det blir en stor bautasten med billede af Knute Nelson indfældt i stenen. Det er meningen, at mindesmerket skal afsløres den 4de juli iaar. Det har ogsaa været tale om at indkjøbe det hus, hvor Knute Nelson var født, saa det kan bli bevaret for eftertiden.

Som man ved blev Evanger herjet af en stor brand ifjor. Hele stedet blev saa godt som nedbrændt. Man fik saavidt reddet kirken. Nu har stedet reist sig igjen. Mange store nye huse er bygget; og flere kommer efter hvert. Reguleringen er smukt anlagt, og hele stedet blir ikke til at kjende igjen.

Nylig havde jeg brev fra Knut Henderson Løne. Det er en merkelig gammel mand. Hans hjerte slaar endnu like varmt for hjembygden.

Guvernør Ragnvald Nestos følger vi med stor interesse. Det er alle tegn, som tyder paa, at han blir en værdig arvtager efter Knute Nelson. Vi vossinger er stolte af slige mænd.

Dette i al hast.

Med hilsen,
A. Ullestad.

March 25de march 1924.

FRAA EKSINGEDALEN.

Gode Bladstyrar!

No hev du sendt meg "Amerika-Vossingen" tvo gonger. Fyr govor er det god skikk aa takka. Men kva skal eg takka med. Vossasogor! ja, va eg full vossing so var der vel inkvatt aa finna. Um eg fortel etter mor, so vert da beste burte. Det misser svipen og andi. Ho va og helst noko vand paa sogorna. Ho sagde best dei, som kunde syne Guds godleik, magt og æra. Eg hev set elder høyrte same

Last year the Voss Sparebank (Savings Bank) celebrated their 80th anniversary. We also had the big commemorative service for the introduction of Christianity into Voss.

The work of collecting means for the Voss Old Folk's Home continues, but it proceeds slowly. People don't have very much money nowadays. We have depression in all aspects, so it isn't easy to collect voluntary donations for such causes. We have collected some over 20,000 in available cash, and there is a small steady increase. Last year we formed a film club and some of its income goes to the nursing home. We hope to get larger donations from the banks here in town. Some gifts have also come from America. Recently we received over NKR 100.00 from John Glimme and we hope for more.

They have erected a memorisl ston for Knute Nelson at Evanger. It stands in an open area beside the church. It is a big monument with a picture and Knute Nelson set in the stone. It is the intention that the monument shall be unveiled on July 4 this year. There has also been talk about buying the house where Knute Nelson was born, so it may be preserved for posterity.

As is known, Evanger was razed by a big fire last year. Almost the entire place was burned down. They barely saved the church. Now it has been rebuilt. Many big new buildings have been built, and gradually there are more coming. The design is quite pretty and the place is hardly recognizable.125

Recently, I received a letter from Knut Henderson Løne. He is a remarkable old man. His heart still beats warmly for his hometown.

Governor Ragnvald Nestos' career is being follwed with great interest. All signs indicate that he is a worthy heir following Knute Nelson. We vossings are proud of men like them.

This in all haste.

Greetings,
A. Ullestad.

March 25, 1924.

FROM EKSINGEDALEN.

Good Paper Manager!

Now you have sent me "Amerika-Vossingen" two times. It's good manners to thank for gifts. But what shall I thank with. Voss tales! Yes, if I were full vossing, there would be something to find. If I try to tell acording to my mother, it would be best to ignore it. It would lack the touch and interest. She told those the best, that could show God's presence, power and esteem. I have seen or heard the same stories from others, but definitely

sogona ogsa av andre, men tykte hjamt dei hadde mist noko and og liv. Lat meg nemna ei liti segn um daa den store mannadauen kom til Voss. Engelen var kommen, som skulde vardsla. Er der ein Abraham, som Gud kan tala med elder ein Lot aa vardsla, so vert det gjort av Gud.

Ein vossabonde gjekk til skogs tidleg morgons. Mødte ein framande paa vegen. Dei kom i tale og spurte fretningar. Den framande fortalde baade um daudarsotti og anna. Sist sa han ken han va. "Dette er sidste dagen din i dette liv. Snu heim att og gjer deg ferig aa døy". Mannen so gjorde. Han samla husfolke sit, fortalte det som hadde hendt han, og fekk huset stjorna og fjelga, som til dan høgsta helg. Mot kvelden daa alt var fraa seg gjort, sette han seg i hogsetbenken og dødde. Sameleis vardsla engelen paa andre stader og, men dei tok ikkje alle imod bodskapen paa same maate. Som Gud lyt lata soli si skina baade paa retferdige og uretferdige, so lyt han og slaa ned til baae sidor, naar domstidorna lyt fremja rettferds sak.

Umframnt hendingarne fraa bibelen fortalde ho best um dei truande vinerne fraa Hauge nedyver, vesser, sogningar og længer ifraa. Elling Eilson var ein af deim som hjamt var paa tale. Eg veit ei liti soga, attegangar i ymse blad og til ymse tider, som mor fortalde dei for med ogso um Elling Eielson. Medan han laag paa kne og bad til Gud fekk han hov høve til aa stela ei skaftlaus øks, som laag under benken og gjøyma henne i trøyelumma si. Soga er soleis gamal nok um ho vert prenta som ny. Mor fekk helsingar og fretningar fraa Elling Eielson etter han var faren til Amerika. Fraa Voss var ho kjend med ei Brita Ygre. Dei var komne til livet i Gud i ungdomsaari og hadde lese, songe, bede og grete ilag. Men vegene deira skuldest. Brita for til Amerika, Kari til Eksingedalen. Venskapen gløymde dei likevel ikkje. Eg minnest enno somt af brevi fraa Brita Ygre. I eit af desse var det fyrstegongen eg hørde gjete Abraham Lincoln. Eg skyner no betre kva man det var; men ogso daa tykte eg han maatte vera gjild. I desse brevi var han Edlend ofte nemd og alltid med helsing. Der Brita budde hadde dei eigong vorte paatekne av indianara. Dei smette seg av i eit gjøymsle, men det kunde ikkje ha berga dei, skriv Brita. Til det var det for ringt. Um det var der og den gongen Elling aaleina hadde gjenge mot ein slig røvarflokk, huksar eg inkje no aa segja vist. Men ei gong var det. Han kunde noko av maalet deira og var ein indianerarven. Det var noko ut i 70 aari mor fekk sista helsingi fraa Brita Ygre. Fraa Andres bror sin noko seinare. Han hadde kalla henne upatt i eit af barni "Klara". Ei av mor sina sogor hev fenge den versformi som her kjem:

felt they had less interest and life. Let me tell a little tale about the big pestilence that came to Voss. An angel had come in order to give warning. If there were were an Abraham for God to talk to, or a Lot to warn, it would be done by God.

A Voss farmer went out in the woods early in the morning. He met a stranger, on the way. They started to talk and asked about news. The stranger told both about the epidemic and other things. At the last, he said who he was. "This is the last day of your life. Turn towards ome and get ready to die". This the man did. He gathered his household and told them what had happened to him; he got the house cleaned up and the chores done, as if it were a holiday. Towards evening when all was in order, he sat on the high bench (master's seat at table) and died. Similarly, the angel of death warned other places, but they didn't heed the warning in the same way. As God shines the sun both on the just and unjust, thus He also will divide into two sides, when the judgement seat advances the cause of justice.

Rather than parables from the bible, she told about the devout vines from Hauge downward, vossings, sognings and further distant. Elling Eilson was one of those to whom she referred. I know a little story, repeated in various papers at various times, that mother told those who followed Elling Eilson. While he knelt and prayed to God, he had an opportunity to steal a handleless ax from under the bench and hide it in the pocket of his jacket. The story is so old it sounds almost new. Mother got greetings and inquiries from Elling Eilson after he had gone to America. She was acquainted from Voss with a Brita Ygre. They had found god in their youth and had read, sung, prayed and cried together. But their ways parted. Brita went to America. Kari to Eksingedalen. The friendship was not forgotten. I still remember some of the letters from Brita Ygre. I heard the first mention of Abraham Lincoln in one of these. I know better now, what kind of man he was, but still at that time I thought he must be dashing. These letters often mentioned Edland, and always with a greeting. One time, Brita had been attacked by Indians. They sneaked to a hiding place, but nothing could save them, wrote Brita. It was too bad. If this was the time that Elling resisted such a band, I can't remember and won't say for sure. But one time I recall, he knew some of their language and was a friend of the Indians. Mother got her last greetings from Brita Ygre far into the '70s. she got a letter somewhat later from Andre's brother. In childhood, he had called her "Klara". One of my mother's stories I have in verse form and here it comes:

Luthers lille katekisma.

Moto: "Den tunge boki".

Der sit ei mor millom sine smaa,
Som katekisma skal læra.
Ei segn um henne dei lyder paa
Og spyrja som børn kan gjera!
Dei undra seg paa den tunge bok
Som Luther upp av si lumma tok
Og bruka til Kristi æra.

Han kommen var i den store strid
Med paven um tru og sanning.
Ein trudoms holmgang er aldrig blid
Og Luther fekk pavebanning.
Mot Romarhandel med syndekram —
Drog Luther Kristus Guds retferd fram,
Paa Kristus hev Luther kanning!

I sanningsstrider med munn og penn
Det grunnarne er som vinner.
I Herrens ord me dei grunnar finn
Som samvitet i os binner.
Men paven brukte ei onnor gjerd —
Mot grunnar treiv han til eld og sverd.
Paa slike raader han spinner.

No stod det heilt til Guds viljes makt,
For Luther kan dauden lida!
Ein trudoms prøve det daa vart sagt,
Skal enda den ufredskvida.
Fraa Peters kyrkja ei vikt dei bar;
Det vegast skulde som skrevet var,
Fraa Luthers og pavens sida.

For paven kom dei med lass paa lass.
Hans skaal dei til marki læste.
Ho stod urikkande paa sin plass.
Mot Luther dei tongor kveste.
Der gjekk det ord, og det var vist rett —
So mange bøker hev ingen sett!
So spyrst det daa um den beste.

Luthers Small Chatechism.

Melody: "The Mighty Book."

There sits a mother amid her little ones,
the catechism they shall learn.
They listen to a tradition about her,
and ask as children do!
They wonder over that mighty book
that Luther took out of his pocket
and used for the glory of Christ.

He had come during the big conflict
with the Pope about faith and truth.
A religious duel is never gentle,
and Luther was excommunicated.
Dealing with Rome and its sinful trash —
Luther brought Christ God's justice forth,
Luther is knowledgeable about Christ!

In the fight for truth with pen and mouth,
The more logical are the winners.
In the Lord's word, we find reason
as the conscience in us promises.
However, the Pope used a different way,
he fought reason with fire and sword.
He depended on such devices.

Now it was completely in God's hands,
For Luther could be condemned to death!
A test of faith, that's for sure,
is the agony of dissension.
From Peter's church, they carried a message;
significant as it was written
from Luther's or the Pope's side.

They gave the Pope worry after worry.
They filled his bowl to the limit.
He stood his ground unshakeably
Against Luther, the weapons damaged.
There was the word, it was right —
I've never seen so many books!
it required the best!

Kvar er no Luther — Kvar er hans kram,
 Dei ropa med slag paa trumma —
 Daa steig han mitt utor flokken fram
 Og drog ei bok or ei lumma.
 Paa tomme skaali hans boki fell,
 Og skaali seig under dette fjell
 So langt som ho kunde komma.

Men paveskaali i veret for
 Og bokerne vinden blanda.
 Slik yvermagt hev det gudomsord,
 Som ofte vert vrent og vanda.
 Sin største siger det vinn den dag,
 Daa ord og tankar av alle slag
 Fyr retferdsdomen skal standa.

Anders Lavik.

—————
 VOSSASTRONDI.
 —————

Paa vegen fraa Voss og til Nerøyfjord ligg "Strondi"
 Og mangen en turist, som vida for kring londi
 vart gripen av bining og undring stor i aandi,
 naar han paa sin tur kring den vide jord saag Strondi.

Du skulde her vera ein sumardag paa Strondi,
 naar alt staar i bloming og beste lag paa Strondi.
 Daa er her so vent du det aldri trur paa Strondi
 Daa net so ei smilande pynta brur lig Strondi.

Og fjelli er skogkladd fraa dal til top paa Strondi;
 det finst snaut ein einaste nakjen krop paa Strondi.
 Dei alle er gronkladd fra deild til heid paa Strondi;
 og grorangen kjennest nok langan leid fraa Strondi

Som storste kjempa i vest-sudvest for Strondi,
 stend Lønehorg som ein kvitkladd prest aat Strondi.
 Og hine fjelli, lik Lønehorg paa Strondi
 stend trauste rundt som ein trufast borg kring Strondi.

Naar soli paa veg -yver himmelkvelv stryk Strondi
 av lauvkladde fjell daa i ynde stend vel Strondi
 Daa glitrar det gull og det glimar sylv paa Strondi
 Ja, her er natur som Vaarherre sjolv bles aand i.

Where is Luther now? — Where are his wares?
 They summon him by beating the drums —
 Then he appeared in the middle of the assembly
 and drew a book from his pocket.
 His book landed in the empty bowl,
 and the bowl resisted this evidence
 as much as it could.

But the Pope's bowl was destroyed
 and the books were blown away
 Such superiority won the trial by ordeal,
 As is often wrung and won.
 His greatest victory he won that day,
 when words and ideas of all kinds
 stood before the judgment day.

Anders Lavik.

—————
 THE VOSSASTRAND:
 —————

On the way from Voss to Nærøyfjord lies "The Strand".
 Many tourists that traveling widely in the land
 Were attacked by wonder and awe in their heads
 On their trip round the earth, saw "The Strand".

You should be here on a summer's day at "The Strand",
 when all's in bloom, the best time at "The Strand".
 It's so beautiful you won't believe it's "The Strand".
 Like a smiling decorated bride lies "The Strand".

Mountains are forest-clad, valley to peaks at "The Strand";
 You won't find a single bare tree on The Strand".
 They're all green-clad from edge to height at "The Strand".
 And the vegetation is known far from "The Strand".

The biggest defender southwest of "The Strand",
 stands Lønehorgi like a white-clad minister at "The Strand."
 And its mountains, like Lønehorgi at "The Strand".
 encircle like a trusty castle round "The Strand".

When the sun over the heavens strikes "The Strand"
 whose leaf-clad mountains favor the "The Strand".
 that shine like gold and gleaming silver at "The Strand".
 Yes, here is nature like Our Lord had in mind.

So mang ein Fagnaman up her ran paa Strondi.
Per Sivle, han va ein adelsmann i aandi.
Sjur Helgeland er ein meister, han, med handi;
for han er den gjavaste spelemann paa Strondi.

Ja, enno liver den gamle dygd paa Strondi.
for enno bur der ein skald paa Bygd paa Strondi.
Her er baa' liten og stor profet paa Strondi;
men folket flest, dei hev vanlegt vet paa Strondi.

Av vene gjentor ei mengd her gaar paa Strondi
med blanka augo og flette haar med baand i.
Du vert vel sæl um ei slik du faar i haandi!
Det er nok dei som royndi raar paa Strondi.

Og difor so hev eg so god ei tru paa Strondi,
at eg vil byggja og eg vil bu paa Strondi.
Den eine stad som meg gjere sæl er Strondi,
og ingen er her som svelt ihel paa Strondi.

Naar eg vert gamall av slit og kav paa Strondi,
naar døden kjem og vil slita av livsbandi,
naar Herren sjølv, som meg livet gav tek aandi,
daa vil eg finna ei roleg grav paa Strondi.

Knut Brekke i "Hordaland!"

NOGLE AF VORE ÆLDSTE

Den 6te januar s. 1. var Ole O. Skutle, Lake Mills, Ia. 89 aar. Mrs. Gudve Reque Nelson var 97 den 13de febr. Den 15de april var Bryngel K. Rokne, Wallingford, Ia. 91 aar. Næst kommer Knut Henderson (Løne), som blir 89 aar den 16de november. Desuden lever, saavidt vi ved, Ragnhild Olsdr. Honve, Northwood, Ia., og er omkring 90 aar. Ligeledes Styrk Anfinson Leidal, Wisner, Nebr. 88 aar. Magne Pederson Veisene (Sampson) Clitherall, Minn. omkring 84, Charles Larson Lødve, (Erickson) 83; Aad Pederson Løne 81. Flere er omkring 80 aar.

— Fhv. stortingsmand Mathias G. Dukstad, Voss, var 80 aar den 20de -jan. s. 1. og blev viet velfortjent opmærksomhed. I 1876 begyndte han sit lange virke i kommunestyret. I 1885 valgtes han til stortingsmand og tjente i 4 valgperioder. Han havde desuden flere andre tillidshverv af mindre betydning. Han har en bror John G. Sime, som bor i Albert Lea, Minn.

So many eminent people up here on "The Strand"
Per Sivle, he was noble in spirit.
Sjur Helgeland is a master with his hands;
he is the most gifted fiddler on "The Strand".

Yes, the old virtues live yet on "The Strand".
There's still a poet here at Bygd on "The Strand".
both large and small prophets are on "The Strand",
people mostly have common sense on "The Strand".

There are lots of pretty girls here on "The Strand",
with bright eyes and braided hair with ribbons.
You would be happy to have your hands on one!
They evidently are usual on "The Strand".

Therefore, I have so much trust in "The Strand",
that I want to build and live on "The Strand".
The one place that makes me happy is "The Strand"
and no one here starves to death on "The Strand".

When I'm old and worn out on "The Strand",
when death comes and ends my life,
when He who gave me life, takes my spirit,
Then I'll find a quiet grave on "The Strand".

Knute Brekke in "Hordaland".

SOME OF OUR OLDEST

Ole O. Skutle, Lake Mills, IA, WAS 89 years on last January 6. Mrs. Gudve Reque Nelson was 97 on February 13. On April 15, Bryngel K. Rokne, Wallingford, IA reached 91 years. Next comes Knut Henderson (Løne), who becomes 89 years November 16. As far as we know, the following are still alive: Ragnhild Olsdr. Honve, Northwood, IA, and is about 90 years. Likewise Styrk Anfinson Leidal, Wisner, NB 88 years, Magne Pederson Veisene (Sampson) Clitherall, MN about 84, Charles Larson Lødve, (Erickson) 83; Aad Pederson Løne 81. Several are about 80 years.

—Former stortings representative Mathias G. Dukstad, Voss, was 80 years, last January 20 associated with much attention. In 1876, he started his long service on the town council. In 1885, he was elected Stortings Representative and served four terms. In addition, he has served several other lesser positions. He has a brother, John G. Sime, living in Albert Lea, MN.

Marion Jane Settre, datter af Dr. O. M. Settre, Rice Lake, Wis., blev i januar maaned gift med Frank William Kuehl fra Fountain City, Wis. Han er Guvernør John J. Blaines privat-sekretær, og blir boende i Madison.

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Voss Sogelags skrift Vossebygderne for 1923 er udkommet og indeholder blandt andet en svært interessant artikel om gamle personsnavne paa Voss. Det vilde vist være bra, om ret mange vossinger her vilde studere disse navne, saa at de kunde give sine børn slige navne, som har været agtet og æret i hundreder af aar og med en historie bag sig, istedetfor, som ofte er tilfældet, lave sammen noget yankee-stof, som har en tvilsom mening og mere tvilsom vellyd. Der er en navneliste paa over 300 navne at vælge imellem. Mange af disse navne var ibrug for tusin aar siden og bruges endnu. Det ældste navn er kvindenavnet Signy. Det er et fint navn. Saa kommer Kaare, Ivar, Brynjulv, Eirik, Øystein, Astrid, Gyda, Odd, Tord, Torleiv, Hild, Helga o. s. v. I det 13de aarhundrede var navnet Sigurd (nu Sjur) mest brugt, siden Olav, Knut og Lars. Og af kvindenavne, Solveig, Ambjørg, Brynhild, Gunnhild, Gudrun (nu Guro) Ragnhild, Sigrid og andre, nu Anna, Ingebørg, Marta, Brita o. s. v.

* * *

I townstyrene paa Koshkonong sees netop indvalgt endel personer med vossenavne. J. C. Berge og N. C. Berge trustees i Deerfield; A. C. Erickson (halv voss) kasserer, Frank Howe (Hæve) ligningsmand; - Christ Egge (Ygre), supervisor i Christiana township.

Til Voss Gamlehjem er modtaget paa Voss fra Vosselagsmedlemmer i Amerika kr. 220.30, heri indbefattet \$5.00 fra A. C. Teien Dragston, N. D., som ikke er vossing. De øvrige givere er John Glimme, Lars A. Kløve, Bryngel K. Rokne, Nils I. Lødve, Halvard P. Ronve.

Til orgelet i Vangens kirke er modtaget til dato kr. 264.50. Mest er givet af John Glimme, nemlig kr. 109.00, Odd Fletre kr. 75.00. De øvrige er Lars A. Kløve, K. A. Rene og Tom Setre.

Knut Lodve, Evanston, Ill., har siden indsendt til kasserer Glimme \$5.00 for gamlehjemmet. Haaber at andre af medlemmerne gjør ligesaa. Der var svært faa Amerika-vosser, som deltog i mindefest-lighederne paa Voss ifjer. De fleste tænkte vel, at det vilde være ligesaa godt at giva et pengebeløb til disse formaal, og dertil indbydes nu alle og enhver. John Glimme kan expedere 5 og 10 dollarne videre til Voss saasnt de indløber.

Marion Jane Settre, daughter of Dr. O. M. Settre, Rice Lake, WI, was married in January with Frank William Kuehl of Fountain City, WI. He is Governor John J. Blaines private secretary. They will live in Madison

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The Voss Historical Society's publication "Vosse-bygderne for 1923" has come out and contains, among other things, a very interesting article about old person names at Voss. It would be nice if many of the vossings here would study these names, so they could give their children such names, that have been esteemed and respected for hundreds of years and have a history behind them instead of as often is the case, putting together some "yankee stuff" of dubious meaning and more dubious sound. There is a list of more than 300 names to choose from. Many of these names have been used a thousand years ago and are still used. The oldest girl's name is Signy. It's a fine name. Then comes Kaare, Ivar, Brynjulv, Eirik, Øystein, Astrid, Gyda, Odd, Tord, Torleiv, Hild, Helga, etc. In the 13th century the name Sigurd (now Sjur) was common, since Olav, Knut and Lars. For women, there was Solveig, Ambjørg, Brynhild, Gunnhild, Gudrun (now Guro) Ragnhild, Sigrid and others, now Anna, Ingebørg, Marta, Brita etc.

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In the town councils at Koshkonong, we see a number of Voss names. J. C. Berge and N. C. Berge trustees in Deerfield; A. C. Erickson (half voss) treasurer, Frank Howe (Hæve) assessor; - Christ Egge (Ygre), supervisor in Christiana township.

Voss Old Folks Home has received NKR 220.30 from Vosselag members in America including \$5.00 from A. C. Teien Dragston, ND, who is not vossing. The other donors are John Glimme, Lars A. Kløve, Bryngel K. Rokne, Nils I. Lødve, Halvard P. Ronve.

Vangens church has received NKR 264.50 to date for its organ fund. Most has been given by John Glimme, namely NKR 109.00, Odd Fletre kr. 75.00. The other donors are Lars A. Kløve, K. A. Rene and Tom Setre.

Knut Lodve, Evanston, Ill., has since sent \$5.00 to treasurer Glimme for the Old Folks Home. We hope the other members will do the same. There were very few American-vosings who took part in the commemorative festivities last year. Most evidently thought it would be just as good to give a sum of money for this purpose, and for that we invite each and every one of you. John Glimme will forward the five and ten dollars to Voss as soon as they come in.

“Vossingen”

udkommer om mulig 4 gange om aaret og koster \$1.00 pr. aar.

Enkle numre 35c.

K. A. RENE, Redaktør.

INDHOLD:

Vossingerne i Madison. Af Red.	Side 1
Slegtshistorie.	” 6
Nogle Minder om Lars Nilson Nesheim. Af. I. D. Hustvedt	” 10
Kong Sverres Færd til Voss. Af Knut Nygryten	” 16
Navnet Knut (Knut Rokne). Af J. A. R.	” 21
Et og Andet.	” 23
Dødsfald i Amerika. Af Red.	” 23
Brev fra Voss: Vangs Sogn. Af A. Ullestad	” 26
Brev fra Eksingedalen. Af Anders Lavik	” 27
Vossastrondi. Af Knut Brække	” 30
Nogle af vore Ældste, etc. Af Red.	” 31

VOSELAGETS EMBEDSMÆND:

Wm. Nelson, Formand,.....Deerfield, Wis.
R. A. Nestos, Vice-Formand,.....Bismarck, N. D.
K. A. Rene, Sekretær og Redaktør, 617 S. Brooks St., Madison, Wis.
John Glimme, Kasserer,.....3234 Hirsch St., Chicago, Ill.

Vossingens forudkomne 12 numre faaes for \$2.00.