

Translated from 'Nordmændene i Amerika' by Martin Ulvestad
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Nobles County, Minnesota p. 111-112

Ole Gunderson and John Hoff, both from Nummedal, as well as Hans Nelson, Hans Jansen, Ole Petersen and G. Gullicksen were the first Norwegians in this county. They came from Iowa County, Wis. and settled in the vicinity of Adrian in 1872. Later in the year came T. Tengelsen, H. Hansen, C. Hansen, E. Hansen, H. Dahl, Gunder O. Joul (now in Minneapolis), O. Joul, P. Osburn, Ole Garness, H. Olsen, C. Olsen and K. Thompson. They dug dugouts and began growing wheat and oats. Their nearest marketplace was Worthington.

The first Norwegian in the vicinity of Ransom was Louis Larsen from Drammen. He came there in 1874.

The following account about 'Han Ola paa prærien' is claimed by the sender to be true - is a real occurrence, but it is printed with all possible reservation.

"It was the first autumn. Ola had erected a log cabin for his wife and the 4 children. But he still did not have a barn for his cattle, of which he had about a half a score. He was, however, frightened by these frightful Minnesota snowstorms and it looked like all his livestock would perish, for they stood bound in an open yard. But our Ole knew the answer, he sent his family to bed and brought all the livestock into the house. He, himself, sat on a three-legged stool by the stove, which he merrily kept going until the storm was over."

In Nobles County, there are 4 Norwegian churches and 6 congregations, 3 of them belong to The Lutheran Free Church, 2 to The United Church and 1 to The Norwegian Synod.

The well-known Captain Mons Grinager held a public office for a time after his return from the Civil War.

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