

June 2, 1926

Biography of Ole P. Overby
--Kermit Overby

Ole P. Overby was born to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hendrickson of Ostmarken, Norway, August 22, 1848, where he grew to young manhood.

His schooling consisted of only twelve days a year. He was taught by an old man who traveled from home to home to teach the children.

When he was seventeen years old, his father died. After his father's death, he had to go into the woods to work for a year in order to help his brother earn enough money to support the family. He then worked as a carpenter making barrels, baskets, etc.

After he reached the age of twenty-three, he had to serve in the army each spring for four years.

In April, 1882, he married Anne Thoreson. The same year on the third of November, they sailed for America where there were greater prospects for a home of their own and a future for their family.

They spent their first winter in Moore County, Minnesota and on May 22, 1883, he started out from there with two other men. At Wheatland, North Dakota he got work for a month and earned nineteen dollars. From Wheatland he went to Mayville where he had friends from Norway.

Later he proceeded to Sheyenne Valley to look for work, but there was no work to be had, so he was compelled to return to Mayville again. Here he obtained work for himself and his wife on the farm of a bachelor. Mr. Overby spent the winters cutting cord wood and received half of the wood he cut.

After spending two years on this farm, they moved to Sheyenne Valley where they bought one quarter of land along with a log cabin 18x 11 feet. Four sons were born here during the eight years.

In 1892, they moved three miles west on the prairie. They homesteaded one quarter of land and bought another.. At this place they built a three room house. Here three girls were born.

In 1902, they again moved into the valley where they had purchased more land. The following year, the second son was taken sick and died.

The youngest was born at this new home in 1905 but died when but three and a half years old.

After many years of prosperity and happiness, Ole Overby passed away July 22, 1922.

Ole Pederson Overby

By Oscar D. Purinton, Clerk and Historian of the Old Settlers' Association.

Ole Pederson Overby, son of Peder Hendrickson Overby and Elie Erickson Overby, was born at Ostmarken Norway, on Aug. 22 1848. He grew to manhood in his native land. On Apr. 30, 1882 he married Anne Torsen.

Upon leaving Norway he went to Murray County Minn. He came with his wife to Griggs County in 1883, walking much of the way from the railroad, and settled on the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 22 Romness township. Having but little means at that time, he worked out among the settlers for three years, when he bought 80 acres of land and commenced farming. He had but poor success in the beginning because of the many obstacles to overcome in the then new country. He still resides on Sec. 22 in Romness township, enjoying the friendship and respect of the community. He has been honored with such township offices as road overseer, school director etc. Mr. Overby is devoted to the Church, and gives of his means and services, which at this time (Dec. 1913) he serves as sexton.